

STEUBEN COUNTY

4-H AWARDS PROGRAM



October 17, 2026
Howard Community Building
Avoca, NY

2026 4-H ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT

Welcome

Pledge to the American Flag – Barnyard Bandits 4-H Club

Presentation of Awards

Jenny Groen, 4-H Program Leader

Stephanie Waters, 4-H Program Educator

SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Howard Community Building – for use of facilities.

4-H Leaders and parents who contribute in many numerous and different ways to the achievements of the 4-H members!!

Thank you, 4-H Volunteers,! ... 4-H volunteers make a difference in the lives of the 4-H youth in Steuben County! 4-H volunteers do this by using wood, thread, needles, saddles, cows, yeast, flower, sawdust and nails to create magic in the lives of youth and you are very good at what you do! The 4-H staff thanks you and salutes you!

Thank you notes are very important!! Please write a thank you note to each sponsor of your awards to show them your appreciation. Thank you!

4-H Leader Recognition

In recognition of all you do for the Steuben County 4-H Program!!!

4-H Leaders Are Special People! They are the backbone of the 4-H program, inspiring young people through their dedication, integrity, and example. Their actions and values leave a lasting impact, teaching youth the importance of kindness, fairness, responsibility, and service. Great leaders understand that helping young people grow in confidence, character, and life skills is more important than any ribbon or award. Tonight, we proudly recognize our 4-H leaders for their outstanding volunteerism, commitment, and the difference they make in the lives of our youth. This year, we'd like to recognize those who have volunteered for 10 and 20 years. When your name is called, please stand to be recognized. In your club packet is an award in appreciation for your years of service.

5 Year Volunteers

Jack Potter
Kat Potter

20 Year Volunteers

Penny Kephart

In addition to our wonderful volunteers listed above, tonight, we also have the humble honor celebrate something and someone truly extraordinary.

Seventy-five years of service is more than a milestone—it is a legacy.

For three-quarters of a century, this remarkable volunteer has invested their time, talents, and heart into the lives of countless young people. Through changing generations, evolving programs, and thousands of 4-H experiences, they have remained a constant source of encouragement, wisdom, and support. The impact of 75 years cannot be measured in meetings attended or projects completed. It is measured in the confidence built, the leaders inspired, the lives changed, and the traditions carried forward because one person chose to keep saying "yes" to serving others. On behalf of every 4-H member, family, volunteer, and staff member whose lives have been touched by your dedication, thank you. Your commitment embodies the true spirit of 4-H, and your legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

Please join me in recognizing and celebrating an incredible 75 years of volunteer service.

75th Year Leaders

Phyllis Rathbun

2026 ANIMAL SCIENCE CLOVERBUD AWARDS

This recognition is for those Cloverbuds who exhibited their project animal at the 2026 4-H Showcase and turned in a record for that animal by the deadline. Please come forward to receive your award!

Dairy Cattle- Anderson Vetter

Goat- Jan Waters

Horse- Skylar Chase
Colton Cicon

Poultry- Kolton Cummings

Rabbit- Macie Brewer
Travis Brewer
Payton Brown

Sheep- Kolton Cumming

Beef- Sawyer McDonald

2026 CLOVERBUD MEMBER GRADUATION

Recognition is given to our Cloverbud members who were seven years old as of January 1, 2026, have completed a project and have graduated from the Cloverbud Program because for the 2025 – 2026 project year they will be a regular member! Please come forward when your name is called!

Bath Trailblazers:

Skylar Chase
Grayson Wallace

Country Clover:

Ryan Volino

Country Bumpkins:

Raelynn Lamphier

Canisteo Valley 4-H Stars:

Kolton Cummings

Willing Workers:

Leah Hitesman
Emelia Schubmehl

FIRST YEAR ANIMAL SCIENCE PROJECT COMPLETION

Award Sponsors: Country Crossroads Feed & Seed, TSC Bath, & TSC Hornell

First year project completion awards are given to 4-H members who have completed their first 4-H Project Record, as a regular member for that species. Please come forward to receive your award.

Poultry Projects

Nicholas Cummings
Morgan Rook
Mya Walker

Dairy Goat Projects

Carli McCallum
Marie Landry
Raelyn Wheaton

Horse Projects

Maggie Fodge
Adalynn McDonald
Raelyn Wheaton

Swine Projects

Abigail Harrison
Lincoln Vetter

Beef Projects

Adalynn McDonald
Wyatt Chase
Abigail Harrison

Cavy Projects

Nicholas Cummings
Matthew Sabins
Marc Shook
Rachel Shook

Meat Goat Projects

Austin Bush
Madeline Slayton

Rabbit Projects

Matthew Grimaldi
Morgan Rook

Sheep Projects

Isabelle Folckemer
Keegan Folckemer
Lincoln Vetter

Dairy Cattle Projects

Evelyn Button
Jason Cross
Matthew Grimaldi
Lincoln Vetter
Jenica Lewis

Dog Project

Mya Walker

Dog Program Recognition Awards

Sponsored and presented by Jackie Knoll

Payton Adriance
Alice Hargrave
Xavier Parsons

Caroline Slayton
Madeline Slayton
Mya Walker

Special Record Awards

Each year one record is chosen from each project area to receive a special award for being the best overall record. Please come forward to receive your award.

Leadership – Caitlyn McKinley **Citizenship**- Caitlyn McKinley **Youth Building** –Marie Landry **Sewing** – Eleanor Cook **Vegetable Gardening** – Eleanor Cook **Flower Gardening** – Ezekiel Cook **Breeding Gilt** –Alice Hargrave **Dairy** –Joshua Place **Beef Breeding**- Abigail Waters **Dairy Goat** –Karoline Dininny **Dog** –Payton Adriance **Horse** – Raelyn Wheaton **Cavy** – Grace Potter **Poultry** – Mya Walker **Market Chicken** – Caroline Slayton **Market Hog** –Wyatt Chase **Sheep Breeding** –Keegan Folckemer **Market Lamb**-Lincoln Vetter **Market Turkey** –Addison Brewer **Market Rabbit**-Natalie Brewer **Market Baked Good**-Natalie Brewer **Market Goat**- Natalie Brewer **Rabbit** – Natalie Brewer **Meat Goat Breeding** –Natalie Brewer **Shooting Sports** –Natalie Brewer

Outstanding Record Award

The following awards are sponsored by Farm Credit East. Those who received the special record award for each animal species are then put together & evaluated by the board of Farm Credit and a top record is chosen. After reviewing all of this year's top records, they elected to recognize the best records and an honorable mention record as well. These records were selected based on completeness, neatness, accuracy, and the knowledge displayed by the 4-H member. Additionally, Chasin' a Dream Farm has sponsored an engraved padfolio to the recipient of the best record.

Best Record: **Raelyn Wheaton**

Honorable Mention: **Joshua Place**

Superior Participant Award

This award recognizes a youth that participates in multiple projects throughout the year and submits records for each of these projects. Selection is based on the number of records submitted, the quality of each record, and knowledge and skills gained and displayed through the completion of each project.

Recipient of \$100:

Natalie Brewer

2026 Showcase Recognition

The following awards were presented at the 2026 4-H Showcase. We would like to take a moment again to recognize these outstanding achievements. Please stand when your name is called.

2026 Steuben 4-H Showcase **Supreme/Best in Show Exhibition Animal** **Awards**

4-H Supreme Champion Dairy Goat- Karoline Dininny
4-H Reserve Supreme Champion Dairy Goat- Abigail Place

4-H Supreme Champion Dairy- Joshua Place
4-H Reserve Supreme Champion Dairy- Evelyn Button

4-H Supreme Champion Gilt- Alice Hargrave
4-H Reserve Supreme Champion Gilt- Alice Hargrave

2026 Steuben 4-H Showcase
Grand/Reserve Market Project Awards

4-H Supreme Champion Sheep- Trinity Daley
4-H Reserve Supreme Champion Sheep- Trinity Daley

4-H Supreme Champion Meat Goat- Audrey Waters
4-H Reverse Supreme Champion Meat Goat- Raelyn Wheaton

4-H Supreme Champion Beef Heifer- Trinity Daley
4-H Reverse Champion Beef Heifer – Wyatt Chase

4-H Best in Show Rabbit – Dryden Dickerson
4-H Reserve Best in Show Rabbit – Alice Hargrave

4-H Best in Show Cavy – Isabelle Folckemer
4-H Reserve Best in Show Cavy – Alexis Hurd

4-H Best in Show Poultry & Waterfowl – Mya Walker
4-H Reserve Best in Show Poultry & Waterfowl – Alexis Hurd

4-H Dog Versatility Award – Madeline Slayton
4-H Dog Reserve Versatility Award- Payton Adriance

4-H Horse Supreme High Point Award – Raelyn Wheaton
4-H Horse Reserve High Point Award-Madeline Slayton

Grand Champion Market Turkey- Wyatt Chase
Reserve Champion Market Turkey- Addison Brewer

Grand Champion Market Chicken Pen- Addison Brewer
Reserve Champion Market Chicken Pen- Addison Brewer

Grand Champion Market Rabbit- Natalie Brewer
Reserve Champion Market Rabbit- Natalie Brewer

Grand Champion Beef- Lincoln Vetter

Grand Champion Market Meat Goat- Audrey Waters
Reserve Champion Market Meat Goat- Audrey Waters

Grand Champion Market Lamb- Lincoln Vetter
Reserve Champion Market Lamb: Isabelle Folckemer

Grand Champion Market Hog- Lincoln Vetter
Reserve Champion Market Hog- Abigail Harrison

Grand Champion Market Baked Good – Maddux Wager
Reserve Champion Market Baked Good – Claire McKinley

2026 4-Her of the Day Award at 4-H Showcase

Thursday – Cayden McKinley
Friday – Trinity Daley
Saturday – Carter McKinley

2026 STEUBEN COUNTY 4-H HORSE SHOW HIGH POINTS

Our High Point and Reserve awards are based on points earned at the June 4-H qualifying horse show and the Steuben County 4-H Showcase. These awards represent a year of equine sportsmanship and also require participation in a Horse Educational activity. When your name is called please come forward to receive your award.

Maggie Fodge & Buddy

NOVICE ENGLISH RESERVE HIGH POINT
NOVICE WESTERN HIGH POINT
NOVICE GAMES RESERVE HIGH POINT
NOVICE VERSATILITY HIGH POINT

Adalynn McDonald & One Lone Wrangler

NOVICE HUNTSEAT HIGH POINT
NOVICE WESTERN RESERVE HIGH POINT
NOVICE GAMES HIGH POINT
NOVICE VERSATILITY RESERVE HIGH POINT

Caroline Slayton & Sparky

WALK/TROT WESTERN RESERVE HIGH POINT
WALK/TROT GAMES RESERVE HIGH POINT

Madeline Slayton & Star

SENIOR ENGLISH HIGH POINT
SENIOR WESTERN HIGH POINT
SENIOR GAMES HIGH POINT
SENIOR VERSATILITY HIGH POINT

Raelyn Wheaton & Dallas

WALK/TROT ENGLISH HIGH POINT
WALK/TROT WESTERN HIGH POINT
WALK/TROT GAMES HIGH POINT
WALK/TROT VERSATILITY HIGH POINT

PACIFIC COWBOY MEMORIAL AWARD

The “Pacific Cowboy” Memorial Award is presented to the horse/rider combination with the most points over the most divisions in a single show season. “Cowboy” was a paint gelding who began his show career in Steuben County 4-H and competed for the next 12 show season with his girls. Together, he and his riders earned nearly 500 breed association points in everything from halter to dressage, western pleasure to over fences. “Cowboy” passed away very unexpectedly at 19 years old, only a few days before his first show of the season.

The VonHagn family sponsors this award not only to honor Cowboy’s memory, but to honor the accomplishment of another 4-Her who has worked tirelessly to train, care for, and compete with their horse; who in the process, have developed a wonderful partnership with one another. The plaque will be housed in the CCE Office, so please be sure to leave it with a 4-H Staff person prior to leaving.

2026 Recipient: Raelyn Wheaton & Dallas**County Project Champion Awards**

Each year 4-H members are selected in a variety of project areas as county project winners based on their achievements in that project for the year. If a project record was required for the project including citizenship, youth building, clothing and textiles, leadership, vegetable gardening, flower gardening and all animal science projects then the record must have been completed to be eligible for project champion. County Project Champions are listed on the easels and are in the program available on our website or hard copy upon request.

Food & NutritionProject Champion

Caitlyn McKinley
Caroline Slayton
Madeline Slayton
Maddux Wager
Raelyn Wheaton

Honorable Mention

Cole Meacham

Market Baked GoodsProject Champion

Addison Brewer
Natalie Brewer
Maddux Wager

Honorable Mention

Claire McKinley

Food Preservation

N/A

Clothing RevueProject Champion

Amelia Gleason
Gwen Hargrave
Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention

Alice Hargrave

Sewing

Project Champion

Abigail Barrett
Eleanor Cook
Caroline Slayton

Honorable Mention

Marie Landry
Madeline Slayton

Wearable Art

Project Champion

Natalie Brewer
Marie Landry
Claire McKinley
Cole Meacham
Grace Potter

Honorable Mention

Annabelle Woodcock
Skylar Woodcock

Child Development

N/A

Fine Arts

Project Champion

Clara Longwell
Olivia O'Brien
Lydia Walker

Honorable Mention

Addison Brewer
Natalie Brewer
Evelyn Button
Marie Landry
Ella Longwell
Rhys Meacham
Maddux Wager
Lydia Walker
Mya Walker
Audrey Waters

Hobby Crafts

Project Champion

Addison Brewer
Eleanor Cook
Maggie Fodge
Maddux Wager
Lydia Walker
Mya Walker

Honorable Mention

Ainsley Wallace

Communication and Expressive Arts

Project Champion

Claire McKinley
Austin Bush

Honorable Mention

Cole Meacham
Rhys Meacham

Visual Arts/Photography

Project Champion

Caroline Slayton
Maddux Wager

Honorable Mention

Madeline Slayton
Audrey Waters

Robotics

Project Champion

Maverick Ives
Carter McKinley
Maddux Wager

Honorable Mention

Zane Lewis
Camdyn Simpson
Cayden Simpson

Environmental Education

Project Champion

Maddux Wager

Leadership

Project Champion

Mattie Deussenbery

Olivia Feely

Amelia Gleason

Gwen Hargrave

Claire McKinley

Honorable Mention

Alice Hargrave

Caitlyn McKinley

Cayden McKinley

Grace Potter

Public Speaking

Project Champion

Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention

Marie Landry

Olivia O'Brien

Caroline Slayton

Welding

Project Champion

Grace Potter

Wood Science

Project Champion

Austin Bush

Preston McDonald

Lydia Walker

Horticulture

Project Champion

Madeline Slayton

Maddux Wager

Honorable Mention

Caroline Slayton

Lydia Walker

Entomology

N/A

Shooting Sports

Project Champion

Nicholas Cummings

Christopher Landry

Audrey Waters

Honorable Mention

Natalie Brewer

Cianna Dunning

Maddux Wager

Tractor Operation

Project Champion

Joseph Housworth

Cayden McKinley

Honorable Mention

Jay LeCrone

Samuel Rumsey

Dairy

Project Champion

Josh Place

Evelyn Button

Honorable Mention

Jason Cross

Matthew Grimaldi

Jenica Lewis

Caroline Slayton

Madeline Slayton

Dairy Knowledge

Project Champion
Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention
Alice Gerow
Marie Landry
Caroline Slayton
Audrey Waters

Dairy Goat

Project Champion
Karoline Dininny
Abigail Place
Raelyn Wheaton

Honorable Mention
Marie Landry
Carli McCullum
Mia McCullum

Goat Knowledge

Project Champion
Karoline Dininny
Abigail Place
Raelyn Wheaton

Honorable Mention

Dog

Project Champion
Payton Adriance
Xavier Parsons
Caroline Slayton
Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention
Alice Hargrave
Mya Walker

Dog Knowledge

Project Champion
Madeline Slayton
Caroline Slayton

Honorable Mention

Horse

Project Champion
Madeline Slayton
Raelyn Wheaton

Honorable Mention
Wyatt Chase
Maggie Fodge
Adalynn McDonald

Horse Knowledge

Project Champion
Jaiden Corbitt
Caroline Slayton
Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention
Maggie Fodge

Market Chicken

Project Champion
Addison Brewer

Honorable Mention
Abigail Barrett
Wyatt Chase
Madeline Slayton
Audrey Waters

Market Turkey

Project Champion
Addison Brewer
Wyatt Chase

Honorable Mention

Poultry Breeding

Project Champion
Mya Walker

Honorable Mention
Austin Bush
Jedediah Casler
Landen Greenwood
Alexis Hurd

Waterfowl Breeding

Honorable Mention
Alexis Hurd

Poultry Knowledge

Project Champion
Caroline Slayton
Alexis Hurd

Honorable Mention
Madeline Slayton

Rabbit

Project Champion
Isabelle Folckemer
Keegan Folckemer
Matthew Sabins
Audrey Waters

Honorable Mention
Payton Adriance
Addison Brewer
Sophia Brown
Jason Cross
Alice Hargrave
Aimee Hurd

Market Rabbit

Project Champion
Natalie Brewer

Honorable Mention
Sophia Brown
Audrey Waters

Cavy

Project Champion
Isabelle Folckemer

Honorable Mention
Alexis Hurd
Grace Potter

Small Animal Knowledge

Project Champion
Audrey Waters

Honorable Mention

Beef Breeding

Project Champion
Wyatt Chase
Trinity Daley
Abigail Waters

Honorable Mention
Abigail Harrison
Adalynn McDonald
Preston McDonald
Raelyn Wheaton

Dairy Feeder Steer
N/A

Market Beef Steer

Project Champion

Honorable Mention
Lincoln Vetter

Market Heifer

N/A

Meat Breeding Goat

Project Champion

Audrey Waters
Raelyn Wheaton

Honorable Mention

Addison Brewer
Natalie Brewer
Austin Bush
Jedediah Casler
Aimee Hurd
Alexis Hurd
Grace Potter

Market Goat

Project Champion

Audrey Waters

Honorable Mention

Natalie Brewer

Market Hog

Project Champion

Wyatt Chase
Lincoln Vetter

Honorable Mention

Abigail Harrison

Swine Breeding

Project Champion

Alice Hargrave

Honorable Mention

Karoline Dininny

Sheep Breeding

Project Champion

Trinity Daley

Honorable Mention

Taylor Corey
Aimee Hurd

Market Lamb

Project Champion

Lincoln Vetter

Honorable Mention

Isabelle Folckemer

Livestock Knowledge

Project Champion

Alice Hargrave
Madeline Slayton

Honorable Mention

Wyatt Chase
Marie Landry
Caroline Slayton
Audrey Waters

Achievement

Achievement Project Champion Selection is based on an individual's accomplishments within the project year. Individuals in any 4-H project area are eligible for this award. When your name is called, please come forward to receive your award.

Project Champion

Karoline Dininny – Blue Ribbon Roundup

Alice Hargrave – Willing Workers

Madeline Slayton – Wheeler Busy Bees

Maddux Wager – Country Bunch

Raelyn Wheaton – Boots & Clover

Twin Tier Poultry Club Award

Sponsored by the Twin Tier Poultry Club

One recipient is chosen each year to receive the Twin Tier Poultry Club Award. This award is presented to a 4-H member who has shown specific interest in the 4-H poultry project and is chosen from nominations of the eligible members and based on their completion of their 4-H poultry or waterfowl record. This individual has participated in the Poultry exhibition project for the first time this year, diving in headfirst and exhibiting and attending other local shows in addition to the 4-H Summer Showcase. This year's recipient is:

Nicholas Cummings

4-H on Display

This year clubs were asked to set up a display during National 4-H week. The displays were set up to raise awareness of the 4-H programs offered across Steuben County. Displays are evaluated on accuracy, creativity and visibility. We ask that any members and leaders present with us tonight please come forward to accept this award. This year's recipient is:

Barnyard Bandits 4-H Club

STATE PARTICIPANT RECOGNITION

The following awards are to recognize Steuben County 4-H Youth who represented the program at various New York State 4-H Competitions & Leadership Roles. When your name is called, please come forward to receive your award.

Cloverbud Exhibits at State Fair were:

Macie Brewer
Travis Brewer
Skylar Chase

Colton Cicon
Ezra Cook
Kolton Cummings

Benjamin Newberry
David Newberry
Jan Waters

Payton Adriance – State Fair Dog Show
Abigail Barrett – State Fair Youth Building
Addison Brewer – State Fair Youth Building
Natalie Brewer – State Fair Youth Building
Sohpia Brown – Shooting Sports State
Championship
Austin Bush – State Fair Youth Building
Evelyn Button – State Fair Youth Building
Wyatt Chase – Shooting Sports State
Championship
Eleanor Cook – State Fair Youth Building
Jaiden Corbitt – State Horse Bowl; State
Hippology; State Horse Judging
Nicholas Cummings – Shooting Sports State
Championship
Karoline Dininny – State Fair Dairy Goat Show;
State Goat Judging; State Goat Product ID; State
Goat Knowledge Olympics; State Milk Production
Contest; State Goat Fitting Competition

Maggie Fodge – State Fair Youth Building; State
Horse Bowl
Isabelle Folckemer – State Fair Cavy Show; State
Fair Rabbit Show
Keegan Folckemer – State Fair Rabbit Show
Alice Hargrave – State Fair Swine Show; Empire
Swine Scholarship; State Livestock Skillathon
Hudsyn Higgins – Shooting Sports State
Championship
Aimee Hurd – State Fair Teen Leader; State Fair
Cavy Show; State Fair Rabbit Show; State Fair
Meat Goat Show; State Fair Sheep Show
Alexis Hurd – State Fair Teen Leader; State Fair
Cavy Show; State Fair Rabbit Show; State Fair
Meat Goat Show; Career Exploration Focus
Assistant; STAR Teen Planning Committee
Member
Christopher Landry – Shooting Sports State
Championship

Joshua Landry – Shooting Sports State Championship
Marie Landry – State Fair Youth Building
Clara Longwell – State Fair Youth Building
Ella Longwell – State Fair Youth Building
Caitlyn McKinley – State Fair Youth Building
Claire McKinley – State Fair Youth Building, Career Exploration Focus Assistant
Cole Meacham – State Fair Youth Building
Rhys Meacham – State Fair Youth Building
Olivia O’Brien – State Fair Youth Building
Xavier Parsons – State Fair Dog Show
Abigail Place – State Fair Dairy Goat Show; State Goat Product ID; State Milk Production Contest; State Goat Fitting Competition
Joshua Place - New York Animal and Agricultural Leadership Program
Grace Potter – State Fair Youth Building
Morgan Rook – Shooting Sports State Championship
Matthew Sabins – State Fair Cavy Show; State Fair Rabbit Show

Caroline Slayton – State Fair Youth Building; State Fair Dog Show; State Cynology; State Fair Poultry Show; State Poultry Science; State Avian Bowl; State Hippology; State Horse Bowl
Madeline Slayton – State Fair Youth Building; State Fair Horse Show; State Horse Bowl; State Hippology; State Horse Judging; State Horse Communications; State Livestock Bowl; State Dairy Bowl; State Dairy Challenge; State Fair Dog Show; State Cynology; State Fair Meat Goat Show
Maddux Wager – State Fair Youth Building; Cupcake Challenge; Shooting Sports State Championship
Lydia Walker – State Fair Youth Building
Mya Walker – State Fair Youth Building
Audrey Waters – State Fair Youth Building; State Fair Rabbit Show; State Rabbit Decathlon; State Fair Meat Goat Show; Shooting Sports State Championship
Raelyn Wheaton – State Fair Youth Building; State Dairy Goat Show; State Goat Judging; State Goat Product ID; State Goat Knowledge Olympics; State Goat Fitting Competition

National Contests

Steuben County 4-H is proud to recognize youth who have earned the opportunity to represent our county and New York State at national 4-H competitions. To support families and help make these opportunities more accessible, the 4-H program provides financial assistance to offset a portion of travel and participation expenses, ensuring more youth can benefit from these exceptional learning and leadership experiences. Please come forward to receive your award.

National Horse Bowl

Madeline Slayton

Behind the Scenes

This award is presented to deserving 4-H members that have done a lot of work “Behind the Scenes” and may not have received recognition. This is not only for work done at the 4-H Showcase but throughout the 4-H project year. This year’s recipients have been working “behind the scenes” at several 4-H events, county or club level that they were involved with. Each recipient has worked in a leadership role either in county or state events, helping plan, coordinate and guide activities for younger participants. Receiving a \$25 award this year are:

Natalie Brewer
Claire McKinley

Friend of 4-H Awards

4-H is proud to recognize a local business for their exceptional support of our program. In every successful youth program, there are people and businesses behind the scenes who quietly and consistently show up — not for recognition, but because they believe in investing in the next generation. The Annual Steuben County Friend of 4-H Award recipients were selected from a list of nominees throughout Steuben County and are presented to individuals and businesses who have excelled in their dedication to the Steuben County 4-H Youth Development program through the years and have earned the respect of 4-H members, families and leaders, as well as the community.

Friend of 4-H Individual

This award goes to an individual who recognizes the hard work, dedication, and countless hours our youth put into their projects. More importantly, he understands that 4-H is about more than animals and projects. It is about teaching responsibility, building confidence, and preparing the next generation for the future. He believes our youth are our future, and without people willing to guide, encourage, and invest in them, our agricultural community would face a difficult road ahead. Since purchasing the former Lamb & Webster location in Woodhull, he has been a tremendous supporter of our 4-H Animal Market Sale. Whether we need equipment, an extra hand, or someone willing to share their knowledge and experience, he is always willing to help. On behalf of Steuben County 4-H, thank you for your generosity, your support, and your belief in our youth and the future of agriculture. Thank you for being a Friend of 4-H!

Please join me in recognizing and thanking- **Justin Romance of Larry Romance & Son, Inc.**

Friend of 4-H Business

This award recognizes a Friend of 4-H for outstanding support of the Steuben County 4-H Program over the past two years. Through collaboration with this program, students have designed and created animal pens for the 4-H Summer Showcase, providing valuable hands-on learning opportunities while helping enhance the experience for 4-H youth and families. By connecting career and technical education with community service, this partnership has provided students with meaningful real-world experiences while strengthening opportunities for the next generation of 4-H exhibitors. This collaboration demonstrates the power of community partnerships and a shared commitment to supporting youth development, agriculture, and hands-on learning.

Please join me in recognizing and thanking: **GST BOCES Coopers Plains Campus Welding Program**

Spirit of 4-H Award

This award is presented to dedicated 4-Hers who exemplifies the true spirit of 4-H through their enthusiasm, commitment, and willingness to go above and beyond for their fellow members and the community. These individuals consistently demonstrate a passion for service, eagerly stepping up to support various club activities, assist fellow 4-H members, and engage in community projects.

**Marie Landry – Wheeler Busy Bees
Grace Potter – Steuben Explorers
Maddux Wager – Country Bunch**

“I Dare You” Leadership Award

William Danforth was a successful businessman who dared young people to achieve their highest potential to influence others through lives of leadership and service. As a civic leader, he helped found the American Youth Foundation in 1925. The belief then, as it is today, is that each individual can make a difference. He was delighted to see talents developed and potential fulfilled. His challenge to all was to “be your own self and at your very best all of the time”. The “I Dare You” Leadership Award recognizes those who, with little encouragement, are ready to see themselves as leaders. We hope that the 4-H program instills this same challenge to 4-H members. This award is presented to:

Keegan Folckemer – Steuben Explorers

Outstanding 4-H'er Award

Each year, we proudly recognize our Outstanding 4-H Members, celebrating the dedication and achievements of our youth. This year's award recipient has truly embodied the 4-H motto, “To Make the Best Better.” Through their commitment to clearer thinking, greater loyalty, larger service, and better living, they have exemplified the core values of the 4-H program. Their growth and contributions reflect the spirit of 4-H, inspiring their peers and positively impacting our community. We are thrilled to honor this exceptional individual for their hard work and passion! This year's award is presented to:

**Claire McKinley – Boots & Clover
Madeline Slayton – Wheeler Busy Bees**

4-H members who participated in the following events are receiving their appropriate sticker on their certificate which is in your club packet:

REGIONAL DAIRY BOWL

REGIONAL LIVESTOCK SKILLATHON

REGIONAL HIPPOLOGY

REGIONAL HORSE BOWL

REGIONAL HORSE COMMUNICATIONS

Honor Secretaries

The secretary of a club is a very important member, as he or she keeps the records of the club's business meetings, projects and special activities. The secretary must send six of the monthly reports to the CCE Office by the 10th of each month.

Club Seals of Achievement

A 4-H club can apply each year for a Seal of Achievement to be placed on the club's charter. The application can be found in the 4-H secretary's book. The requirements are easily met:

The club must hold 6 or more meetings and the secretary must keep minutes in the official secretary's book.
Every member must be registered in the County CCE 4-H Office in at least one project.
At least 60% of the club members must satisfactorily complete their project.

The following clubs applied for and are receiving seals of achievement.

Willing Workers Jr. Club

Willing Workers Sr. Club

Community Service Recognition

Special community service recognition is given each year to members who complete charitable service projects in their town or area. After completing a community service project, leaders are asked to please indicate members who completed the project and return the Community Service Record to the CCE Office at any time throughout the year. Listed below are the independent members and the clubs that had members complete a community service project. This year over 200 members completed at least one community service project. Each 4-H member who completed a community service project has it designated on their certificate which is in their club packet.

Barnyard Bandits
Bath Trailblazers
Blue Ribbon Roundup
Boots & Clover
Country Bumpkins

Country Bunch
Country Clover
Steuben Explorers
Willing Workers
Wheeler Busy Bees

4-H on Display Recognition

4-H clubs and independent members from throughout the County are invited to prepare 4-H displays or promote 4-H at local community events including being in area parades, setting up a table with information about 4-H at local events, setting up a window display at an area business during National 4-H Week or anytime throughout the year. The displays can include any aspect of 4-H. When you have done a 4-H display please indicate on the 4-H on Display Record, listing the members who completed the project and return to the CCE Office.

Bath Trail Blazers

Boots and Clovers

Country Clover

Club and Independent Member Completion Awards

Club and independent member completion certificates can be picked up at the end of the evening. Members completing 1st, 5th, and 10th year in 4-H if they have completed a project have received a special gift addition with their completion certificates.

Announcements



4-H Pledge:

I pledge: my HEAD to clearer thinking
my HEART to greater loyalty
my HANDS to larger service, and
my HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world

An **“AWARD THANK YOU”** to those evaluators of members’ records!

THANK YOU to Howard Community Building for the use of their facilities.

Also, a **BIG THANK YOU** to 4-H Leader Parents and Volunteers who contribute in many numerous and different ways to the achievements of the 4-H members!!

Thank you notes are important!!

Please write a thank you note to the sponsor of your awards.

Thank you 4-H Volunteer Leaders!! 4-H volunteer leaders make a difference in the lives of the 4-H youth in Steuben County. 4-H volunteers do this by using wood, thread, needles, saddles, cows, yeast, flowers, sawdust and nails to create magic in the lives of youth and you are very good at what you do! **The 4-H staff thanks you and salutes you!**