

RELEASE DATE: Immediately

**4-H Teens Are Awarded for Their
Outstanding Leadership, Community
Service, and Life Skill Development**

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Katie Esty of Plymouth received the annual 4-H Governor's Trophy which was first presented in 1946 by Governor Dale. The trophy is presented to a senior 4-H'er for outstanding record of 4-H work excelling in civic and social activities, leadership and community service. Katie has been a Belknap County 4-H member for 5 years and has served as the Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer in the Hustlers 4-H Club in New Hampton. Katie's self confidence continues to grow each year. She looks for opportunities to teach techniques and assist younger members. The rabbit show judge commented that

Katie's willingness to help at the Belknap County 4-H Fair put her in a category where she rose head and shoulders over other young people. She is an outstanding youth that will soon be an outstanding adult!

Robinson W. Smith Livestock Trophy was awarded to *Kaitlyn LaChance from Laconia* for the outstanding quality, depth, and variety of her animal science projects. She has participated in the dog, rabbit and cavy projects increasing her knowledge for 6 years in 4-H. After the tragedy of loosing both her show dogs, she saved her money to purchase a puppy from a litter that she helped breed. Her projects have taught her to be patient, work toward your goals in life, and not to give up. She serves as an Officer in the Teen Leader Club and in her local 4-H group. Kaitlyn enjoys public speaking, community service, cooking, sewing, and the arts.



Andrew Benton from New Hampton was awarded the Jessie Wiggins 4-H Dairy Award. In the six short years that Andrew has participated in 4-H he has gained much knowledge in the dairy goat project, but also participates in various community service projects. Andrew helped start the first NH Youth Venture program in 4-H, the "Fresh Eats Wagon." Andrew grows his own fruits and vegetables and delivers them to families that don't have access to fresh foods. He has attended the 4-H Leadership Camp for 2 years where he increased his leadership skills. Andrew is an outstanding young person that excels in service to the community.

Congratulations to these young people that have demonstrated leadership, community service, and critical thinking skills through their animal science projects! These skills will last a lifetime.

Each of the young people nominated for 4-H Trophies have developed a record book to record their accomplishments and has completed a personal interview. 4-H provides many opportunities to practice workforce preparation skills, life skills, and work with peers and mentors that have similar interest. Call Becky Levesque at the 4-H office at 527-5475 for more information about joining the 4-H program.

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