

Arapahoe County 4-H Foundation 2014 Scholarship Winners

The 4-H Foundation funds up to three \$1,500.00 scholarships and one Arabelle J. Burnett Excellence scholarship of \$2,500 each year. All three recipients in 2014 were from the Strasburg area.



From left: Jessica Hej, Brooke Hanlon and Garrett Brockelman

Garrett Brockelman received the Ara Belle \$2,500 scholarship. He is a 7 year member of the Antelope Crossing 4-H Club and will be graduating from Byers High School where he has a GPA of 3.6 in advanced placement classes and ranks 4th in his class. He also plans to attend the North Eastern Junior college to study Ag Business and Animal Science and then transfer either to the University of Wyoming or Colorado State University. He is a consistently involved and committed 4-H member. Through 4-H, Garrett started a small lamb production business and has shown market and breeding lambs at the fair each year. He also worked with his father in helping establish an accounting and financial system. Garrett has actively participated in the County fair each year, has done project trainings in Shooting Sports, Leathercraft, Cowboy Ethics, held club offices, served on many committees, participated in County contests and mentored many new younger 4-H members. The highlight of Garrett's 4-H experience is the Shooting Sports project and becoming a teen leader for the Shotgun discipline. He will use this training to teach and mentor other 4-H members in the Shooting Sports project. Garrett has also been an active member of FFA, the National Honor Society and Future Business Leaders of America. Garrett attends the Byers Community Church and volunteers weekly at the Byers American Legion. He attributes his success in 4-H to his parents and leaders. The 4-H Foundation would like to congratulate these outstanding 4-H members and wish them success.

Brooke Hanlon is a nine-year 4-H member with the Champion Drive 4-H club. She will graduate from Byers High School this spring and plans to attend North Eastern Junior College to study Hippotherapy. I would like to read from Brooke's personal statement as a tribute to her 4-H career. "She states that she is a farm girl through and through and is a fourth generation family member raised on a working ranch raising commercial cattle. She says that without the family club calf sales and showing, she would never have stumbled upon her future career. As an eight year old 4-H member she showed the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion steers at the Arapahoe County Fair and with the proceeds she received from the sale of the steers, she purchased her horse "Tommy". She then attended an equine camp at CSU with Tommy and discovered the Hippotherapy program and she knew immediately what she planned to do with her life; Hippotherapy which is horseback therapy for handicapped people." In order to pursue this career she will need degrees in equine science and physical therapy along with specialized Hippotherapy courses. She will transfer to either Texas Tech or CSU to complete her studies. While a 4-H member, Brooke also showed swine, sheep, horse, and excelled at sewing with the help of her Grandmother, Donna. She has participated in Junior Leaders, served on the Junior Livestock committee, attended Citizenship Washington Focus and participated in county contests. Brooke received a \$1,500 dollar scholarship.

Jessica Hei, a member of the Antelope Crossing 4-H Club, will graduate from Thunder Ridge High School and plans to study Psychology and Art at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her career goals are to become either an art therapist or an art teacher. By studying art and psychology she feels that she will have the basis to help others while also doing what she loves through art. She started a small photography business this past year. Jessica has only been a member for four years but has excelled in leadership roles and mentoring younger members. Her 4-H projects have included goats, beef, photography, Portfolio Pathways, and Sketch Book Crossroads. Through helping friends and younger members at her first county fair she realized that 4-H wasn't all about the ribbons or prizes; rather, it was about the genuine relationships that grow between people when they all see that they enjoy the same thing and how hard work makes them proud. In 2012, Jessica received an award that no other person has achieved, a perfect livestock record book. This year Jessica submitted a jewelry sculpture in a Scholastic art competition and received the Gold Key Award. Her sculpture went on to be displayed at the Denver Art Museum for a month. The highlight of Jessica's years in 4-H has been being able to help others learn and excel in what they do. Jessica also received a \$1,500 scholarship.