

### **Arapahoe County 4-H Foundation 2015 Scholarship Winners**

The 4-H Foundation funds three \$1,500.00 scholarships and one Arabelle J. Burnett Excellence scholarship of \$2,500 each year. Here are the recipients for the 2015 year.



*From left: Chloe Lind, Emily Connaughton, Hannah Urtz, Kayla Woodward*

**Kayla Woodward** will be receiving the \$2500 Arabelle Burnett Scholarship this year. Kayla will graduate from Bear Creek High School with a GPA of 4.530 and is ranked #1 in a class of 404. She is a 4 year member of the Fox Creek 4-H Club and will be attending University of Colorado Boulder for a degree in Integrative Physiology and then she plans to go onto medical school to obtain her life-long dream of becoming a pediatrician. She states that one of her greatest 4-H accomplishments and experiences was the opportunity to compete in the Consumer choices team competition at the 4-H National Western Roundup in 2013, receiving 3rd place overall in the competition. Her projects included sewing, cake decorating, scrapbooking and Decorate Your Duds. Kayla has served as club president, attended the Leadership Development conference in 2014 and served as a volunteer at the Colorado History Museum and is a member of the school Cross Country team. Through 4-H, Kayla has learned confidence, leadership skills, patience, perseverance, team work, and to set goals and follow through with projects to their completion. She looks forward to the challenges she will face in becoming a pediatrician - anything is possible with a positive attitude.

Three \$1,500 scholarships were given to the next three 4-H Seniors.

**Hannah Urtz**, an eight year horse project member of the Bit of Class 4-H Club, will be graduating from Littleton High School with a 4.475 grade average. She ranks 15 of 325 students in her class. She is undecided as to which college she will attend – Boston College or Colorado College but plans to study a combination of International Relations, Economics and English. Her career goal is to work for the United States Foreign Service as a diplomat and also write. One of her most rewarding experiences in 4-H has been working with the younger club members teaching them to ride and care for their horses. The

highlight of her years in 4-H was finally being able to have a horse of her own. As she says, "A young horse and a young rider are not exactly a match made in heaven." There were days when she felt as though she could not take one more spook, one more buck, one more failed pattern or trail course. The warm muzzle grazing the back of her head kept her coming back. She says she learned to be tenacious, patient, persistent and courageous. Hannah has participated in Speech and Demonstration contests, learning how to communicate more effectively and share ideas. Hannah is Editor-In-Chief of her school newspaper and serves as a fellow to BoldLeaders, an international education organization that works on leadership with youth all over the world. She is also President of Littleton High School's National Honor Society. Her community service projects include Meals on Wheels and Happy Dog Ranch.

**Chloe Lind**, a five year 4-H member, will be graduating from Eagle Crest High School and will be attending Tabor College in Kansas to major in Art and Biblical studies. Her goal is to get a teaching certificate and become a high school art teacher, a church leader and a part time missionary. Her major 4-H project was raising and showing rabbits. She also completed Veterinary Science, Photography, Sewing, Cake Decorating and Wildlife projects. Chloe's 4-H highlight was participating in the 2014 Creative Cooks Contest. She says this contest was a struggle as it was the first time she had competed and she had to work with and take advice from other members, those members being her younger sisters. She says she definitely reached her potential in this contest by learning how to take constructive criticism, persisting and trying recipes over and over, learning to love the result. They received a Grand Champion award also. The achievement she is especially proud of is her three Grand Champion Rabbit showman awards. The first year she did not have any competition, the second year there was only one other in the class and the third year she competed against multiple contestants and did not place. This was her wake up call, so the next year she worked and studied harder and ended up winning again. Her hard work paid off! Chloe's interests are art, tennis, school, sports, church and missions. She says her heart belongs to church and missions. One of her most amazing mission trips was to a Peruvian jungle village. She says the skills she has learned in 4-H will help her in college and beyond.

**Emily Connaughton** will be attending Colorado State University to study Computer Science. Her goal is to work as a computer programmer for non-profit organizations. She will graduate from Littleton High School with a GPA of 4.314 and is ranked 32nd in her class of 325. She is a seven year member of the Bit of Class 4-H club and currently serving as president. Emily has competed in the 4-H Speech and Demonstration contest each year by giving demonstrations, prepared and impromptu speeches. She has also helped younger club members with their riding skills and caring for their horses and volunteers at the Happy Dog Horse Ranch and Meals on Wheels. As a young 4-H member, Emily had an incredibly difficult time with her horse, it was young and not well trained and was constantly trying to buck Emily off, often times succeeding. Emily says she went home crying many times and was very close to quitting, but decided to stick with it. During the second or third year, at a small horse show, the horse was being very stubborn during the warm up. The class was called, Emily and the horse went around the arena, switching from one gait to the other and the horse performed absolutely perfectly. Emily had a real sense of pride, happiness and accomplishment, but she and the horse placed dead last in the class. She says she couldn't have been happier as all the hours of work had finally paid off in the fact that the horse had performed well in the ring. Because they had done so well in the ring, she did not even notice their poor placing. She often thinks back to this moment because it shows how much she had grown as a person. It showed that she had stopped comparing her success to that of others and that what really mattered to her was the hard work, patience and the success that came to her through these things.