

2013 Leg Up Award Winner

Michelle Wright – Hanover County

This year's Leg Up Award Winner was nominated by an adult leader who has watched this 4-Her face numerous challenges. This 4-Her struggled to cope with their father's six year battle with cancer, all while learning to care for a barn full of horses, show them in hand, and eventually learning to ride and drive. Despite several bumps in the road, this 4-Her managed to train and prepare their project pony to compete in the driving division at the Virginia State 4-H Horse Show this year, while raising money for her entry fee through the Horse Show Hero program. Sadly, their father passed away on August 3rd of this year, but this 4-Her continues to work hard to maintaining their grades, participate in varsity sports, and help their club leader care for the horses. Please join me in congratulating this year's Leg Up Award Winner – Michelle Wright of the Hanover County Rocky Ridge Riders!

2013 Connie Collier Scholarship Winners

Delaney O'Donnell – Orange County - \$1200

Caitlin Schoemmell – Chesterfield County - \$1200

This scholarship is made possible through contributions given in memory of Constance "Connie" Collier (1946-2010). Connie spent countless hours over her lifetime to improve and promote the equine industry in Virginia, but her biggest passion was supporting youth involved in the 4-H Horse Program. Among her good works, Connie served as a 4-H Horse Club leader in Henrico County, Treasurer of the Virginia State 4-H Championship Horse and Pony Show and also played a key role in the drill team division's growth and improvement. Connie was also a Virginia 4-H alumnus and was an exhibitor in the early years of the Virginia State 4-H Championship Horse and Pony Show. Through this scholarship, we hope that Connie's lifetime commitment to the 4-H Horse Program will live on and inspire current and past exhibitors to give back to the Virginia 4-H Horse Program.