

2016 Leg Up Award Winner

Colleen Chaplin – Fauquier County

Our leg up award this year goes to Colleen Chaplin of the Lucky Bits and Spurs 4-H Club.

Colleen was nominated by Sofia and Kelly Whealton from the Chincoteague 4-H Club. Colleen has 10 years of 4-H experience. She is a multi-disciplined rider, she's held every office in her club, inducted as an All-Star, and is also a Northern District Horse Council Teen representative.

It is the story of the 2015 Drill team competition that best demonstrates her worthiness of this award. When there was confusion about the first place designation, Colleen's leadership helped bring both teams together and diffused the tension and hurt emotions. Colleen even gave her 1st place ribbon to Sofia (who was on the other team) – an act of kindness that is still cherished today.

Colleen has touched many hearts and one very special one. We're very proud of you. Good luck at Virginia Tech and keep making the best better!

2016 Connie Collier Scholarship Winners

Libby Arnold – Prince William County - \$1200

Mattie Ruth Stanley - Dickenson 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.