4-H Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Kate Olson

After her 1st year as a parent involved with 4-H with her daughter, Kate jumped in with both feet to volunteer on various sub-committees with the county Horse Project, namely, Happy Trails Horse Camp, South Camp, and Horse Show. or Happy Trails, Kate was super helpful on the 8 a.m. trail rides, accompanying whichever group was heading out at that time. During the one morning we both chose to ride, she rode well, help the kids when necessary, assisted the clinician, and was a great conversationalist. During non-riding activities, she was always available to help Angie Neumiller in any capacity. Happy Trails committee benefitted from Kate's time & talent. The same could be said about Kate during South Camp. She was instrumental in assisting the Camp Boss, Angie Bosworth, in whatever capacity she was needed. Kate provided extra eyes for the committee & solutions to issues. She worked hard, but played hard, too, so it was a good thing there was a parent ride night activity in which Kate could relax. We couldn’t have had Hippology or South Camp and trail support at Happy Trails without her. She has helped all year in any event she attended and never has to be asked. She sees where help is needed and jumps in. This is not a common quality in others. She’s truly a go to team mate.
4-H Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Kelly Pefley

I nominate Kelly Pefley as volunteer of the year for 13+ years. Kelly has had 5 children in the program. Kelly Pefley has served as a volunteer as many different committees or many years. Kelly has been on the 4-H Horse Executive officer team as the horse treasurer for many years she is very and constantly helping each committee have a successful event. Kelly is also the committee chair for the Spring Horse Clinic where youth learn skills and prepare for the horse show season for a variety of horse disciplines. Kelly was instrumental in Tack Swap as the public and non profit vendor committee chair and as the horse treasurer supporting the cashiers, deposits and so much more. Kelly has been influential as the camp cook at 4-H South Horse Camp for 60-70 people for 4 days. She works hard to provide safe, nutritious, and delicious meals. In additional Kelly has helped grow the 4-H Shooting Sports in archery and is one of few trained in the county to support and help youth aim for their goals.
4-H Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Angie Neumiller

I vote for Angie Neumiller. Angie wears many hats she is the 4-H club leader for Buckles and Bling one of the largest clubs in the county that serves livestock, horse and shooting sports youth. Angie is the horse summer overnight camp Happy Trails camp director where 40+ riders and their horses enjoy 4 nights of learning, fun and friends in a fun and welcoming environment. Angie is also the 4-H record book committee Angie has been the driving force behind the record book committee to encourage more youth to submit more record books that are more advance book and awesome awards to recognize their hard work. Angie is always willing to chaperone, feed, cloth 1-2 kids on top of her 3 own children. In addition, Angie is always helping youth find the right horse to use in 4-H even if it means they share her family horse or tack. This year Angie guided new youth through the horse show and horse camp experience with ease plus she took 17 youth to the clayton fair some have never shown livestock and she planned ways for all youth to feel special and included to make sure they had a positive experience. In addition Angie is asked to her share her professional career as a register nurse. During Covid restrictions Angie was working long hours to serve the Mead school district to follow local, state and federal laws. At the same time she was facilitating Spokane County Staff and 4-H Horse Project plan “covid safe” programs so youth could continue to do programing. Inconclusion Angie is a true leader in Spokane County 4-H. She is kind, welcoming, hardworking, fun and really smart. I nominate Angie as Spokane County 4-H Volunteer of the Year.
4-H Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Monica Denton

Monica Denton. You know Monica! Do I need to say more? Monica is a super star and a 4-H Horse Officer. She is Always there to help, volunteers at every single horse event she is available for, helps immensely and recruits HARD for tack swap volunteers, was the President’s "right-hand-woman," helping with calculating points for events, evaluating submissions, and overall helping into very late hours of the night. If you can think about a Spokane County 4-H horse event, Monica will have participated. She made sure to have all of the gear ready, steamed (ironed) and ready for the Senior State Performance portion, is helping to upgrade the materials for upcoming years and is a positive voice for all who compete in 4-H horse events. Monica is always on the phone with Cheryl or Kate or numerous people involved with Frog Hollow, a very large 4-H group. Whenever Monica has “free time,” she is doing something for 4-H. Always on her phone looking up something to help someone in 4-H. Honestly, try to think about anything 4-H horse related and try "not" to put Monica there, I'll bet you can't! She's going to hate seeing this in her email, but, oh well, that is another reason she should be Volunteer of the Year, she certainly doesn't see herself as deserving! But We Do!!!
4-H Volunteer of the Year Nominee: Cheryl Paz (Volunteer of the Year in 2020)

Cheryl Paz. Cheryl has changed our county 4-H in so many positive ways. The shows are so much more exhibitor and family friendly. She works so hard and gives up so much personal and family time for Spokane County Horse 4-H and does it all with a smile on her face. My family cannot thank her enough for the positive changes she has made and all of her hard work. Thank you Cheryl! Cheryl Paz! Cheryl helped us lots of times by answering questions at any time of the day. Specifically, dressage because we are so new to it. She also let us borrow a bit for English class when we had the wrong kind. Cheryl, she’s awesomely helpful, friendly, kind, knowledgeable... being very new to horses and brand new to 4h there was so much to learn. We appreciated her help in all ways! Cheryl Paz, she goes out of her way to make sure the kids are treated fairly and events are FOR the kids. She also helps when there’s a “situation” and drops everything to help a kid. No matter how busy she is, she goes out of her way to help. Countless times she has offered to help a 4H'er at their house if they are having a specific issue or want her feedback. She’s an asset to 4H and our community. Cheryl Paz puts in a lot of time and work into events even the ones that she is not a volunteer for. She is always willing to help you and encourage you.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: JJ Dodge

JJ Dodge He was always helpful, reading the girls dressage patterns to them, he did not get mad at his horse when it bucks, and did not give up, Jason Dodge: JJ works really hard training his horse, Levi. He is always helpful during set up of the horse shows & camps. And he never complains, and least I’ve never heard him complain out loud, but I sometimes don’t trust my own hearing! However, body language speaks volumes, & JJ does what is asked of him right away. JJ is also a great friend to lots of 4-H youth. But I know JJ has a life outside of 4-H with martial arts & after school sports. He is an all-around champion of a great kid. These are the reasons why I nominate Jason Dodge for Youth of the year 2022. I nominate JJ Dodge as youth of the year. JJ is a hard working youth. He always helps before and after the horse shows. He read dressage tests for many many many 4-H youth. He was gracious and brave to read infront of so many people and under pressure.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Lindsay Kuster

Battling several health issues, she missed over 90 days of school in the past school year, but with hard work and determination was able to finish the year with over a 3.95 GPA in advanced classes. She has participated and done well in many of the educational contests, held the Vice President position in her 4-H club, and after having to miss all of last years’ 4-H shows and the first 4-H show of this season due to her chronic conditions, was able to attend and successfully show at the 2nd 4-H show. She has fought for every moment away from home and I am very proud of her!
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Hayley Baker

Hayley is relatively new to horses, but always learning, has incredible try, and always thinks with the horse's best interest in mind.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Lauren Kuster

Even though we were competitors, she was a nice friend to me. She encouraged me to do my best. I was happy for her when she would win the classes because I could see how hard she works and practices.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Haley Neumiller (Youth of the Year in 2021)

Hayley N All the years I’ve known her as an older 4Her she’s been kind, helpful, encouraging to others and she has a great sense of humor in her pranks on Kate. Wish her the best at UW.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Saige Bosworth

Saige Bosworth encourages everyone and is always happy to help. She is always cheering on everyone.
4-H Youth of the Year Nominee: Stella Marsh

Stella Marsh I would like nominate Stella Marsh for Youth of the Year. Stella does much more for 4-H than one would know. Many know that she is active in the horse part of 4-H. Stella has been a gaming rider for years, but just this year, also added performance classes. Stella and her new horse Snip had a great first season together. They qualified for state in gaming and did well in Spokane County for performance. Stella additionally participates in most, if not all, of our horse project educationals, including, giving a public presentation at the state fair this year. What you might not know about Stella is she reactivated her old club. She did all the work including recruiting club members and all of the paperwork and documentation to get the club reactivated. Stella became president of her club and mentored many youths this year. Something else you may not know about Stella is that she represented Spokane county by going to Washington DC with Yeah 4-H. She learned how to teach in the subject of “healthy teen” and obtained the curriculum so that, once back in Spokane county, she can teach 4-H teens about being healthy. After her trip, Stella traveled to different elementary schools, two days a week, throughout the school year helping students and promoting 4-H. Even with all of this, Stella also is responsible for taking care of the “period boxes” at local libraries. They provide free feminine hygiene products to the community. Stella is so deserving of this award. Not only does she do all of these wonderful things to help the community, but she also is a good friend and helpful at horse shows and all other 4-H events. On numerous occasions, Stella let me, and others, borrow some necessary horse supplies without a second thought. Stella also never hesitates to help when it was needed. Stella is Well Deserving of the Spokane County 4-H Youth of the Year Award!