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(Neb.)-Local 4-Hers Place At District Public Speaking Contest



By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 05/23/2013 08:37 AM

(Chadron)-Twenty-four 4-H members were awarded ribbons at the 2013 Panhandle Regional 4-H Public Speaking held recently. Each speaker prepared an original speech on an aspect relating to their 4-H involvement. The speeches had a wide variety of topics and highlighted the youths experiences in 4-H.

The Panhandle District Contest was held via the distance learning technology available throughout the region. Youth participated at sites in Chadron, Bridgeport and Sidney while the judges were located at a site in Scottsbluff. The distance learning technology allows youth to participate without traveling long distances and made it possible for many of the youth participating in the regional contest to also be involved in school functions that same weekend.

Representing Dawes County, Jacob Lemmon was one of two medal winners in the Intermediate Division (11 to 12 years of age) with his speech entitled "Clover 4-Hundred: The Right Track to Success". In the Junior Division (8 to 10 years of age), Tristan Hunter received a purple ribbon and Allyssa Snyder a blue ribbon.

Representing Sioux County, Taylor Remp received a purple ribbon in the Senior Division (13 to 18 years of age), Kodie Remp and Morgan Edmund received blue ribbons in the Junior and Intermediate Divisions, respectively.

In the Public Service Announcement (PSA) portion of the contest, 18 4-H'ers were awarded ribbons. 4-H members recorded a 60 second radio spot promoting 4-H using the theme, "Take the Lead."

In the Junior Division Skyler Edmund of Harrison was one of two medal winners. Jacob Lemmon of Chadron also won a medal, in the Intermediate Division. Chance Snook and Kane Wellnitz, representing Dawes County 4-H received purple ribbons.

The contests are sponsored by the Nebraska Rural Radio Network. In Nebraska, well over 400 youth participate in the Regional 4-H Public Speaking Contests annually. Only 15 speeches and 15 radio PSA's qualify for the state contest.

Former 4-H'ers said that participation in the 4-H Public Speaking program has helped them develop skills that have benefited them in high school, college and on the job. By learning how to present a speech youth develop organizational skills as well as communication skills. Being able to present ideas effectively also builds their confidence.

(Story courtesy UNL Extension, DawesCounty)