



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Ulster County

10 Westbrook Lane
Kingston, New York 12401-2928
t. 845.340.3990
f. 845.340.3993
ulster@cornell.edu
<http://counties.cce.cornell.edu/ulster>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Jude DeFalco
Marketing and Production Assistant
845-340-3990

Ulster County 4-H Youth Program Announce 2008 Master Showmanship Recipient

Christopher VanAken, sixteen years old of Stone Ridge, NY was awarded the 2008 4-H Master Showman title for this years Ulster County Fair on Sunday August 3. VanAken qualified for the contest by excelling in Senior Master Showmanship in the areas of Beef and Dairy Cattle which enabled him to advance to the final competition which included showmanship for Beef and Dairy Cattle, Goats, Sheep, Poultry, Dogs, and Rabbits.

VanAken attends Rondout Valley High School and plans to pursue an education in Dairy Production and Business Management at Cornell University after graduating in 2010. He has been a member of 4-H since he was seven years old and has a strong interest in dairy farming. VanAken along with his sister Aubrey, also a 4-H member grew up on the family's dairy farm in Stone Ridge which consists of seventy dairy cows.

4-H Master Showmanship encourages mastery with a variety of animals and recognizes excellence in showmanship. Judges score each 4-H Member on their showmanship skills which includes handling and their knowledge of the species. The highest composite score earns the title of Master Showman.

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities