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(Image: 2009 Master Showmanship Recipient Katherine DeWitt of Accord, NY)

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Ulster County 4-H Youth Program Announce 2009 Master Showmanship Recipient

Katherine DeWitt, 15 years old of Accord, NY was awarded the 2009 4-H Master Showmanship title for this years Ulster County Fair on Sunday, August 2. DeWitt qualified for the contest by excelling in Senior Master Showmanship in the areas of Dairy Cattle and Dogs which enabled her to advance to the final competition which included showmanship for Dairy Cattle, Goats, Sheep, Poultry, Dogs, and Rabbits. Katherine has been showing cows since the age of 6 and a member of Ulster County 4-H since the age of 8. She is the daughter of Janet and Meade DeWitt of Accord.

DeWitt attends Rondout Valley High School and is a member of the National Honor Society. Upon graduation she plans to pursue an education in Animal Science at Cornell University, and plans to attend veterinary school to become a large animal veterinarian.

Katherine is very active at her familys farm, Domino Farm in Accord, where she owns 15 registered Jersey cows. Each year, Katherine shows her award winning Jerseys and other breeds at the Ulster County Fair. In 2007, she won a national award from the American Jersey Cattle Association, placing 6th in the nation for amount of milk produced by a youth-owned Jersey. In 2008, she received First Place for Herdsmanship along with several other state level awards at the New York State Fair in Syracuse. In June 2009, Katherine was crowned Dairy Princess of Ulster County to represent the number one agricultural industry in New York State. Her responsibilities as Dairy Princess include a wide range of public relations activities that promote the dairy industry and raise awareness of the health benefits of dairy products.

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.

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