



**Kelli Carlson**

Kelli is the daughter of Ken and Jodi Carlson of Keenesburg, CO. She was a 13 year member of Magic Spurs 4-H and had market swine, sheep and lambs as some of her projects. She also did cake decorating and home environment. She is a freshman at Northeastern Junior College studying agriculture and business in the hopes of one day owning a feedlot of her own. She is currently active in Farm Bureau and Aggies.

She began her 4-H career in Cloverbud in 2003. She had two older sisters who both showed with their livestock and she was left to tend to their barn cats. She was finally able to become a 4-H member in 2006 and bought a steer and lamb to compete with in July. Each night she would work with her animals with the assistance of her parents and quickly learned that these projects were much more work than they seemed. Each year since, she began to become more independent with her projects and no longer needed as much help from her parents. Since her first year in her market projects Kelli had learned an enormous amount about the proper care and exercise that livestock need. While she showed market steers and hogs one year each, she showed lambs every year and was always interested in learning about the different species of show animals. By Kelli's last year in 4-H, she was able to purchase her own show animals and determine their show quality and keep them in an optimal weight class for each particular animal.

She was also fortunate to meet many lifelong friends through activities such as CWF, the Youth Hard Rock booth at the Weld County Fair and monthly meetings. In her group she was an officer for 5 years with positions such as secretary, treasurer, vice president and president her final year.

Kelli's 4-H journey was unforgettable and she is incredibly fortunate to have been a part of such a wonderful organization where she found her true passions as well as develop life skills that will be able to use in the future.

Kelli Carlson is the recipient of the Ben Wilson Memorial Scholarship