

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

NATIONAL 4-H HALL OF FAME LAUREATES ANNOUNCED

4-H has announced the names of the sixteen individuals who will be inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame during a special ceremony to be held on Friday, October 7 at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame Class of 2016 Laureates who will be honored for excellence in citizenship, leadership, character and career accomplishments include: **Estella (Stella) Almeida, New Jersey**; Janet C. Burns Athanas, Alaska; Shirley R. Bond, Florida; Dr. James L. (Jim) Byford, Tennessee; L. Ann Domsch, Kansas; Lila Jeanne Eichelberger, Illinois; Dr. Stanley J. Lamendola, Louisiana; Dr. Eddie L. Locklear, National 4-H Council; John L. Loyd, West Virginia; Dr. Steve Mullen, NIFA/4-H National Headquarters; Linda Gould Nierman, PhD, Indiana; Marvin Olinsky, Ohio; Nancy Hottle Scheerbaum, Pennsylvania; Dr. Wendy J. Stivers, Kentucky; William Viar, NAE4-HA; and Dr. Kathleen (Kathi) E. Vos, Wisconsin.

Each laureate was selected for the National 4-H Hall of Fame because of his or her significant contribution to 4-H, the nation's premier youth development organization that serves over six million youth nationwide. 4-H programs in every state, U.S. territory and the District of Columbia as well as 4-H's three national partners...National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA); National 4-H Council and National 4-H Headquarters at National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA, nominate outstanding individuals for this honor.

The National 4-H Hall of Fame was created in 2002 as a 4-H Centennial project to recognize and celebrate those people who have made a significant impact on 4-H and its millions of members over more than 100 years.

"These individuals have touched the lives of many people, from 4-H staff and colleagues to thousands of 4-H volunteers and members throughout the nation," said Jeannette Rea-Keywood, Chair of the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

About the National 4-H Hall of Fame

In 2002, the National Association of Extension 4-H Agents (NAE4-HA), National 4-H Council and National 4-H Headquarters at the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), USDA created the National 4-H Hall of Fame during 4-H's centennial year. The National 4-H Hall of Fame was established to recognize 4-H volunteers, financial supporters, staff and pioneers who made major impacts within the 4-H movement at the local, state and national levels. Biographies and more information about inductees can be found on the National 4-H Hall of Fame website at <http://www.4-h-hof.com/>

About the 4-H Youth Development Program

4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization, serving more than 6 million young people across America annually with research based programs in leadership, citizenship, communication and life skills. For over 100 years, 4-H has connected the science, engineering and technology innovations of land-grant universities to local youth and families. 4-H National Headquarters at NIFA, USDA provides programmatic leadership for the U.S. 4-H Youth Development program. 4-H programs are offered in every county in the United States. For more information about 4-H, visit the national 4-H website at <http://www.4-h.org>