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**Photo Caption:** *2011 Kent County 4-H Exploring Award Winners: Front Row (left to right): Joshua Menard, Summer Davis, Christopher Wood, Noah Gardner Bowler, Jordan McKnatt, Sammy Brittingham, and Maci Carter. Back Row (left to right): Chris Baker, Delaware 4-H Foundation Director, Paige Wood, Dylan Bradley, James Wood, and Christy Vanderwende, Delaware 4-H Foundation Director.*

#### **4-H Recognizes First Year Members**

The Delaware 4-H Foundation recognizes the first year 4-H'ers that completed their Exploring 4-H Project Record Book. This year there were 14 first year 4-H'ers honored this year with a framed certificate. The recognition given by

this presentation encourages the 4-H'ers to complete a task they begin. These 4-H'ers continue to grow with the 4-H program and later in their 4-H career become Junior Leaders, and, hopefully, some of them will return in their adult life to become volunteer adult leaders.

The top first year 4-H'ers are selected from this group and receive special recognition given by the Ralph and Ann Clendaniel family and the Woodside Emeralds 4-H Club in memory of Holly Bishop. Assisting with the presentations were State Representative Bobby Outten and Delaware 4-H Foundation Directors Chris Baker and Christy Vanderwende.

Honorable Mention winners were:

Paige Wood, Create 2 Learn 2 Lead 4-H Club

Christopher Wood, Create 2 Learn 2 Lead 4-H Club

Third place winners were:

Hannah O'Hara, Houston Cardinals 4-H Club

Sammy Brittingham, New Horizons 4-H Club

Second place winners were:

Summer Davis, Houston Cardinals 4-H Club

Noah Gardner Bowler, Create 2 Learn 2 Lead 4-H Club

The winners of the Outstanding First Year 4-H Awards were:

Joshua Menard, Peach Blossom 4-H Club

Maci Carter, Peach Blossom 4-H Club

One additional award presented this year was to recognize the Outstanding Exploring 4-H member for the 4-H Military Program. The 2011 winner was Annie Marie DelVecchio of Dover, DE.

The recognition and awards program in the 4-H program encourages our young people to strive for excellence or, as our motto says, To Make The Best Better. If you would like to become part of this youth education program of the Delaware Cooperative Extension - University of Delaware as a member or volunteer 4-H leader, call the Kent Extension Office at 730-4000. The 4-H program is open to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, handicap, age or national origin.