

## Connecticut

### Bernice Assard - 4-H Leader, Retired Dairy Farmer & Master Gardener



Leader of the Bethlehem 4-H Busy Stitchers since 1956.

4-H Projects: Home Economics

4-H Honors:

Connecticut 4-H Volunteer Leader Award - honoring 20 years of service.

“4-H provides young people the opportunity to learn life skills in a low-risk environment. For my club members, it is not just learning to sew, but rather learning how to read, follow directions, and plan your time. 4-Hers learn the importance of doing your best, and having others provide feedback so that your best effort will be better next time. These skills remain valuable throughout a lifetime.”

Hometown: Bethlehem,  
Connecticut  
Nominated by: Litchfield County  
Extension System  
Year Inducted: 2002

Bernice Assard has been the leader of the Bethlehem 4-H Busy Stitchers since 1956. In 46 years, more than 100 girls have benefitted from her tutelage. The club has had as many as 30 members ranging in age from 7 to 19. Three daughters and 5 granddaughters have all kept her busy with 4-H. Every year, her Home Economics club embarks on a community service project. This year, they sewed aprons for a local soup kitchen. Members participate in the 4-H Fair and the Eastern States Exposition. Numerous young women from her club have been selected over the years for Citizenship Washington Focus, IFYE, and National 4-H Congress.



Bernice teaching a 4-H'er how to sew.