



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



The Gazette

The Monthly Newsletter of UNH Cooperative Extension's
4-H Youth Development Program

February 2004

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1. A Word from Wendy...

How do we stop the whirl wind of too much to do and not enough time to do it. While conducting performance reviews or visiting with volunteers, I pick up little tid bits that might help you through your day. Some will work for you and some will not. Let's take a peek into the **tricks of the trade in NH 4-H Youth Development:**

- Provide a column, news release, or picture to the newspaper at least once a month about positive youth development and relate it to things that are happening in your 4-H youth development program. The goal is to have 4-H in the newspaper more than at fair time.
- Provide all organizational leaders with volunteer screening packets. Encourage when a new member joins the club or group, they automatically give the parents the screening packet. The sales pitch is "Someday you might want to drive kids on a club tour, or chaperone at Eastern states, or conduct a community service project with the club. If you are already screened, you can jump in at any time." This has proved to be an effective, not threatening approach.
- Have a folder in a desk drawer, or on your computer labeled **Success**. When you are talking on the phone with an alumni, parent, volunteer or youth, and they tell you *Because of my experience in 4-H I.....* write it down and drop it in the folder this will help provide more impact statements and give you ideas for folks to feature in news articles, annual reports etc. plus you will know where to find it when needed.
- Remember April is the month to recognize volunteers for their work in your program and community. Think now how to do the recognition. Start writing handwritten notes now (collect them and mail them during National Volunteer week) It is not so hard if you write a few each day. Have 4-H'ers do some radio tapes or cable TV programs about how the volunteers have helped them succeed in 4-H.
- Have a few Blue Ribbons around. Present one to your office assistant when they have successfully sent in the Blue Ribbon data base update, ES237 or other wonderful Blue Ribbon reports.
- Speaking of ES237 - most of you have your numbers by early summer. Catch the data base up then and send to Michele before the fall fair crisis.
- Take a few minutes each day and read an article, visit a new web site or review a curriculum you have sitting on your shelf. This shot in the arm could provide a news article, something to share with co-workers, or the basis for the next volunteer training experience you offer.

If you have tricks of the trade - send them in for future Gazette use or if you need tips, send in the topic. I could use a few tips on cleaning off my desk.

Wendy

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In the Granite State

2. National 4-H Conference Update

We finally have our National Conference volunteer chaperone! After much thought and consideration Merrimack County Volunteer Leader (and Teen Council Volunteer Advisor) Jill Dailey was asked to accompany the delegation to National 4-H Conference in Washington DC, March 18-23, 2004.

The delegates who will be attending National Conference are Devin Bates, Merrimack County; Becky Davis, Rockingham County; and Joy Somers, Rockingham County. The look of Conference will change a little this year with the slimmed down schedule. The delegates will arrive on Thursday evening and leave the following Wednesday morning. The consulting groups are being replaced with professional development seminars and the share fair has been eliminated for lack of time. Aside from these obvious changes, the goals are much the same and the delegates will still be traveling to Capitol Hill to meet with our NH Congressional delegation.

Once again, congratulations to our delegates and to our volunteer chaperone for all their hard work and dedication to the 4-H program.

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3. 4-H Spaces Conference Returns in April

Mark your calendars for April 24, 2003, from 8:30 am to 4:30pm for the annual 4-H Spaces Conference. The Conference will take place at the Cooperative Middle School in Stratham, NH.

The energy of this conference is so contagious! Youth 9 and older, and adults who work with youth, are invited to come learn and work together, meet others and try something new. The conference features a variety of 90 minute "hands on; heads on" workshops that focus on the realms in the 4-H Spaces Curriculum.

- The first session of the day focuses on Outer Space with science and technology topics. Inner Spaces topics that cover areas of personal development are in the second time period.
- Session 2: (after lunch) the sessions target Shared Space with an emphasis on global and environmental topics.
- Finales of the day are in Special Spaces to wrap up the conference in a fun manner.

Participants can pack their own lunch or pre-order & pay for pizza with registration. The program booklet and registration will be finalized soon. Please spread the word and encourage others to come explore the spaces around them at this special conference.

For more information call Rick Alleva or Lynn Garland at 679-5616.

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4. Youth Involvement In Community Planning and Assessment

An in-service session was conducted today on Youth Involvement In Community Planning and Assessment. Co-led by the team of Michele Gagne, Lauren Bressett, Penny Turner and myself, we focused on various participant experience, models, resources and plans for involving youth as partners in community development efforts. This topic is gaining significant national momentum (see recent article in December, 2003 Journal of Extension) and dovetails with many of our Youth, Family and Community efforts through UNHCE in NH, including Community Profiles, Youth-Adult Partnership, coalitions, advisory groups, 4-H clubs, and the other ways important ways we may involve youth as partners in our work. As part of this day, I shared a list of web site links that relate to youth involvement in community development. While not exhaustive, the list includes a diversity of some real good resources for both adults and youth.

Folks at the in-service requested that I share an electronic version of the list, with hyper-links, if possible. The attached file is in Word and I believe all the links work. Let me know if you need for me to provide any more information or work on the list.

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Youth Involvement in Community Development

Website Link Resources

Resources for Professionals and Interested Parties (some with youth oriented links and opportunities):

Forum for Youth Investment - <http://www.forumforyouthinvestment.org/>

The Forum is dedicated to “increasing the quality and quantity of youth investment and youth involvement by promoting a ‘big picture’ approach to planning, research, advocacy and policy development...” Founded by Karen Pittman and Merita Irby, a wealth of resources can be found here. Sign up for their great email newsletter to keep up with most recent developments in the field.

Funders Collaborative On Youth Organizing - <http://www.fcyo.org/>

Group of foundations and practitioners advancing Youth Organizing (defined as Community Organizing + Youth Development) “as a strategy for youth development and social change.” Recently published a great series on Youth Organizing, including annotated bibliography, that can be downloaded from their website.

What Kids Can Do - <http://www.whatkidscando.org/>

Great site with lots of information and examples of ‘powerful learning with a public purpose’ from across the country. They promote ‘challenging learning and achievement’ for adolescents, documenting efforts that “challenge young people intellectually, enlist their help with real problems, nourish their diverse talents, support their perseverance, and encourage their contributions as citizens.” Many great youth action efforts and related resources are here--worth browsing all around.

The John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities - <http://gardnercenter.stanford.edu>

Named for the founder of Common Cause, they sponsor the Y.E.L.L. effort (Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning) at Stanford University. A manual for “supporting community youth researchers” and a “youth mapping annotated bibliography” are available free for downloading in their resources section.

Youth On Board - <http://www.youthonboard.org>

“Youth on Board helps young people and adults think differently about each other so that they can work together to change society.” An ‘Organizational Assessment’ tool based on their publication “14 Points: Successfully Involving Youth in Decision Making” is available to download for free.

National Community Youth Mapping - <http://www.communityyouthmapping.org/Youth>

“Community Youth Mapping (CYM) is young people and adults canvassing their neighborhoods in search of places to go and things to do. Simply put, CYM is data collection for young people, children and families, by youth.” A project of the AED Center for Youth Development and Policy Research, you can view searchable community maps developed by youth in communities across the country. See Pinellas County, Florida for a 4-H developed project.

The Freechild Project - <http://freechild.org/index.htm>

“The Freechild Project seeks to build active democracy by engaging young people in social change, particularly those who have been historically denied participation.” An amazing amount of information on involving youth in social and community action efforts is available on this site. It serves as a fine example of youth-adult partnership with nationwide youth advisors . See also their “FireStarter Youth Power Curriculum” drawing on new/cooperative games and positive strategies for engaging youth available to download for free.

Teen Empowerment - <http://www.teenempowerment.org/home.html>

Fine example of youth leadership and community action via school and community-based efforts in Boston area. A national ‘points of light’ program has provided intensive training and employment for hundreds of ‘youth organizers.’ Skilled youth identify community needs and social concerns, while recruiting youth and adult partners to mobilize and sustain efforts. A new book, Beyond Icebreakers, will be published in 2004.

The Institute for Youth Development - <http://www.youthdevelopment.org>

Funded through the US Dept. of Health and Human Services’ new “Compassion Capital Fund” to provide training and capacity building grants to ‘faith and other community based organizations.’ Provide national training on how to access federal dollars for youth programming (next area training in Portland, ME in Sept. 2004). Nice manual on writing federal youth grants available to download for free.

Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development-

<http://www.theinnovationcenter.org>

The folks who brought you the recent Youth-Adult Partnership (YAP) Curriculum. The Innovation “connects thinkers and leaders of all ages to develop fresh ideas, forge new partnerships, and design strategies that engage young people and their communities.” Historic link to national 4-H, now a program of the Tides Center. Links to other youth involvement resources, with free and reasonably priced materials available.

America's Promise - <http://www.americaspromise.org/index.cfm>

National initiative spearheaded by Gen. Colin Powell emphasizing the “Five Promises: Caring Adults, Safe Places, Healthy Start, Marketable Skills, Opportunities to Serve.” Materials available for the asking, great newsletter with grant links and more (often republished in Clover Corner News). Many states, such as Maine, have promoted this model for mobilizing community volunteers on behalf of youth development.

YouthBuild USA - <http://www.youthbuild.org>

National model program emphasizing youth development and community building. Founded in NYC some 22 years ago, and now receiving major funding through U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. Youth 16 to 22 years old who have dropped out of high school participate in a year of education and vocational skill building as they construct housing for low income and homeless families. Also exploring youth and technology projects, and ‘diploma’ schools through Gates foundation support. Great model of youth leadership, with national alumni network and very effective advocacy.

Youth Action Net - <http://www.youthactionnet.org> National and international focus “to connect, inspire and nurture present and future young leaders...It is a space where youth can get up-to-date information, resources and tools to strengthen their work.” Developed by the International Youth Foundation, see also link to the Make a Connection effort with Nokia Corp. Awards available for youth age 18 to 24 for ‘social entrepreneurial projects.’

Search Institute - <http://www.search-institute.org/>

Training and community mobilization utilizing as a basic framework their “40 Developmental Assets...as a basic which are positive experiences, relationships, opportunities, and personal qualities that young people need to grow up healthy, caring, and responsible. Created in 1990, the framework is grounded in research on child and adolescent development, risk prevention, and resiliency.” Their work has been utilized to educate and organize many communities and state-wide efforts (e.g, Maine).

CYD Journal – <http://www.cydjournal.org>

Promotes “youth and adults working together in partnership to create just, safe and health communities...” Published by the Heller School at Brandeis Univ. in partnership with the NAE4-HA. Soon moving from CYD Journal to Journaling CYD via web based publication.

**Resources and Opportunities for Youth Involvement
(and some for their allies)**

Start Something - <http://startsomething.target.com>

Tiger Woods Foundation and Target Corporation partnership offering a very adaptable, experiential curriculum (both online interactive and pizza box based) for youth ages 8 to 17. Focus on leadership, goal setting and completing a worthwhile project. Sign up as a teacher and get some great materials and stuff for free! Youth can apply for a scholarship (\$100 to 5,000) to further achieve their personal goals/dreams upon completion.

Youth Venture - <http://www.youthventure.org/>

“Empowers young people ages 12-20 by providing them all the tools necessary to create civic-minded organizations, clubs or businesses.” A national network of young people, media opportunities and up to \$1000 seed money available to help youth ‘launch’ their efforts. Grew out of Ashoka effort supporting social entrepreneurs around the world. Recently expanded outreach in New Hampshire.

Youth In Action and the Global Youth Action Network/Taking It Global -

<http://www.youthlink.org/>

Links to two sites: Youth in Action, a Foundation of America project based on success of National Youth Conventions. \$1000 awards provided for youth leaders as part of National Youth Service Day. The Global Youth Action Network connects youth organizations and through partnership with Taking It Global (<http://www.takingitglobal.org>). TIG provides an on-line community, bringing “young people in more than 200 countries...to collaborate on concrete projects addressing global problems and creating positive change.” A Global Gallery posts artistic expressions that support cross-cultural understanding. Pretty exciting use of technology for global community youth involvement!

Tolerance.org: Mix It Up - <http://www.tolerance.org/teens>

From the Sothern Poverty Law Center’s educational effort to “fight hate and promote tolerance.” This is a teen link to Mix It Up--supporting “the efforts of student activists who are willing to take on the challenge of identifying, questioning and crossing social boundaries.” Youth can apply for \$250 ‘Mix It Up’ grants for youth led projects. Materials and ideas, including online curriculum, for educators also available at www.tolerance.org.

Listen Up! Youth Media Network - <http://www.pbs.org/merrow/listenup/>

A PBS site “to help youth be heard in the mass media, contributing to a culture of free speech and social responsibility.” Tools for youth media development, opportunities for funding, sharing and recognizing youth voice in media.

Center for Youth As Resources - <http://www.yar.org>

Providing resources for youth led service-learning projects, including identification of needs, skill development and mobilization of resources. Promoting ‘youth as grantmakers, youth-led community service, and youth-adult partnership in governance.’”

Do Something. - <http://www.dosomething.org/>

Promoting youth involvement in service projects, utilizing their experiential ‘five step process for creating community change: see it, believe it, build it, do it, reflect.’ Long term and short term projects and challenges for youth focused on community building, health and the environment. Do Something Brick Awards of \$5000 scholarships plus \$5000 for continued community work for youth 18 and under available.

Youth Action Net - <http://www.youthactionnet.org/>

See above description....

What Kids Can Do – <http://www.whatkidscando.org/>

See above description...

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5. Teen Conference Update

The 2004 Teen Council is busy planning this year’s Teen Conference which is scheduled for Sunday, June 27 to Wednesday June 30, 2004. The conference will feature a wide variety of fun and educational workshops designed to captivate as well as educate. The conference theme is “Defining Tomorrow Together.”

Advisors Dotty Burrows, Jill Dailey and Michele King are enjoying working with this diverse and dynamic group of youth to develop logos, plan workshops, and decide on the types of community service projects they would like to offer.

The workshops to be included in this year’s conference are as follows:

Full Day Workshops:

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|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| AHA CPR Certification Course | Horse Industry Overview |
| Boston Museum of Science | New England Aquarium |
| Browne Center Ropes Course | Self Defense |
| Canoeing | Shooting Sports |
| Dance Intensive | Whale Watching |
| Forestry | |

Half Day Workshops; Morning:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Cooking 101 (cooking for college) | New Fire Technologies |
| Food Packaging Technology | Radio Station Technology |
| Interior Design | Sports Medicine |
| Job Search with NH FirstJob.com | Stock Market Simulation – Bull & Bears Wild Ride |
| Leadership – What’s your color? | Ultrasonography & Female Reproduction of Dairy Cows |
| Money Management | |

Half Day Workshops; Afternoon:

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Anyone Can Sing! | Photography |
| Basketball | Rodeo Excitement |
| Basket Weaving | Ultimate Frisbee |
| Break Dancing | Video Editing |
| Comedy Improv | Wreath Making |
| Jewelry Making | |

In addition the participants will be able to choose from several different community service projects going on around campus. They will be doing a campus clean-up, helping clean and organize at the Child Care Development Center, making quilts for Davids House or helping ATEC make switch kits for children with disabilities.

The Councils favorite event, the banquet, will take place in the Granite State Room with a buffet dinner and featuring a luau theme and speaker/juggler/entertainer Randy Judkins. No doubt it will be a fun filled 4 days which will leave the delegates with memories that will last a lifetime.

The registration fee is \$165.00 with additional fees for some workshops. The full brochure will be out early in March. If you have any questions, please call Michele King at 862-2199.

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☺ ***Your Input Needed*** ☺

6. North East Regional Leader Forum

We have just been officially informed that the 2005 NE Regional Leader Forum will not be hosted by the District of Columbia. Up until last week their program leader had confirmed it was being held regardless of rumors. This is no longer the case. The NE State 4-H program leaders are discussing what should be the plan. Please react to the options currently on the table:

- Skip 2005 and evaluate the possibility of an every other year forum
- Have each state move up a year, that would mean NJ in 2005 and NH in 2006. My guess is this will depend on the contract status of NJ with a site.
- Could NH host in 2005? - fast work but a group always uses the time they have to plan.
- Other ideas

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7. Northeast Regional Leader Forum Issue #2:

This year, the scholarships for NERLF were paid out to delegates prior to delegates actually attending the conference, as has always been our tradition. Unfortunately because many of the registration forms were not submitted with the scholarship requests, we gave out full scholarships to a few folks and then found out they were only attending the conference part time. Additionally, two others did not attend at all and we were forced to contact them to ask that they return the scholarship to the 4-H Foundation.

Obviously, one step we can take is to not issue scholarships to anyone who has not submitted all of the required paperwork (request form, W-9, and NERLF registration form). However, given the amount of time spent un-necessarily by the state 4-H staff and business office to remedy these problems, it seems that a simple solution would be to issue these scholarships as a refund rather than an advance.

Please let us know your thoughts as to the advantages/disadvantages of changing the way these scholarships are distributed.

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8. 4-H Membership- Policy re-wording in the following manner:

1.3-1 Membership

4-H membership is open to all youth who are 5-18 years of age as of January 1 of the current program year regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, disability, sexual orientation, familial status, economic status, marital status or veteran’s status. 4-H age is an individual’s age on January 1 of the current program year. The following age groups apply:

4-H Clover bud Members ages 5-7

4-H Junior Members ages 8-13

4-H Senior Members ages 14-18 * if the member is in secondary education beyond the age of 18, they may remain in 4-H until they complete secondary education.

My question is should we have an intermediate age group that is 12-13 to coincide with our state level policy for 12 year old participation. Would this make a clearer picture? It would read:

4-H Clover bud Members ages 5-7

4-H Junior Members ages 8-11

4-H Intermediate Members ages 12-13

4-H Senior Members ages 14-18 * if the member is in secondary education beyond the age of 18, they may remain in 4-H until they complete secondary education.

Please respond to the group on the addition of the intermediate category. Comments and thoughts.

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Blue Ribbon Tip of the Month

9. A Big Thank You to the seven counties who responded so quickly in getting their updated data files in to the state office for the statewide database. I am getting the sense that people are much more comfortable about finding and moving their Blue Ribbon data files now that we are using that procedure more often.

When you are sending me your data files (assuming you are sending all of them) you are also creating a *back-up file* which is on your hard drive, and also then stored in the State 4-H Office.

To create a back-up file that you could easily access if you were to lose all that data (the unthinkable), simply save that same WinZip file on a disc or CD.

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Opportunities Unlimited

10. Working Steer Reminders:

- Tillers International Applications are due to the State 4-H office by Feb 20. As of Feb 18 we've only received one application. If you know of others, please ask they forward them right away.

Changes for Qualification for ESE and Classes for 2004:

You all received the updated Working Steer packet from Maryann (1/23/04). Please look it over carefully as there are changes to the age breakdowns for classes, the age of youth eligible for ESE and the requirement for weight a team must pull.

- Fitting and Showing Age breakdown:
 1. Senior Teamster - 14-18 years old January 1, 2004
 2. Intermediate Teamster - 11-13 years old January 1, 2004
 3. Junior Teamster - 8-10 years old January 1, 2004
 - ESE - Only 4-H members 12 years old and over by January 1) this year with proper approval forms are eligible for the Working Steer ESE Show.
 - Weight - Seniors and Intermediates will be expected to pull half their team's weight at the Merrimack County Working Steer show and 60% of their weight at Stratham and/or Cheshire.

The updated packet will be on the web as soon as the new web page migration is finished.

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The National Scene

11. National Paintball Policy Statement

There has been a current national exchange about the involvement of 4-H clubs, groups or activities around paint ball. For your information here is the policy statement made by the national 4-H Shooting Sports committee. I have not heard that this is a concern in New Hampshire, but I certainly think the rationale used by the shooting sports philosophy is valid. Here is the national 4-H Shooting Sports Committee policy on paint ball

Paintball Policy - 12/06/03

The purpose of the 4-H Shooting Sports Program is to promote youth development through the safe and responsible use of Archery equipment and firearms. Pointing any type of firearm including air guns, laser guns or laser sighting devices at any person or any humanoid or tombstone target is inappropriate and dangerous.

Therefore the National 4-H Shooting Sports Committee is unequivocally opposed to such use in the 4-H program.

Jeff Goodwin, 4-H & Youth Specialist, P.O. Box 443015, University of Idaho, Moscow, Idaho 83844-3015, Phone (208) 885-6965, FAX (208) 885-4637

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Odds and Ends

12. How to Find a State 4-H Youth Development Staff Member?????

As I travel the state, I often hear it is hard to catch up with the members of the state 4-H youth development staff. To help you out log on to Netscape and refer to the UNHCE Intranet tab on the left hand side of your screen. Click on UNHCE staff schedules. When the page comes up use the drop down arrow and select campus 4-H. Most of the time this is a pretty accurate picture of where you can find the state staff. We update it weekly. Obviously things come up and plans change, but that should help you in most cases.

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13. 2003 YRBS DATA AVAILABLE

Survey results, trend analyses, and the 2003 Aggregate School Wide Report are now available online at: <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/HealthHIVAIDS/hivproducts.htm>

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Pearls of Wisdom

“Talk Success, think success, act like a success, look like one.”
Orison Swett Marden

“An idea can turn to dust or magic depending on the talent that rubs against it.”
William Bernbach

“Our doubts are traitors and make us lose the good we oft might win by fearing to attempt.”

William Shakespeare

“Don’t ever confuse motion with progress”
Hadley’s Law

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It's A Date...

(Deadlines are in Bold Print)

March 2004

TBA Teen Conference Registration Information sent to counties

- 1 Wayne Rich Scholarship Applications due to State Office**
- 1 Eastern States Trustee 4-H Scholarship Applications due to Moiles House.**
- 7 Teen Council Meeting, Merrimack Co. Office**

- 13 NH State Horse Quiz Bowl & State Dairy Quiz bowl - Thompson School UNH**
- 15 Horse Judging/Hippology Contest Entries Due**
- 18-23 National 4-H Conference, National 4-H Center
- 23 Teen Council Meeting - Merrimack County Office**

April 2004

- 1 Approval Form Deadline for Horses qualifying for ESE**
- 3 4-H Horse Judging/Hippology Contest - Location TBA**
- 9 Dairy Judging Entries due to Equine Center**
- 12 Blue Ribbon Files due to Moiles House for Statewide Database Update**

TBA Family & Consumer Sci Trip newsletter information mailed to counties.

- TBA Teen Conference Registration/Payment /Forms due to Counties**
- 18 Teen Council Meeting, Merrimack County Office**
- 24 Annual SPACES Conference - Cooperative Middle School Stratham**

May 2004

- 1 - Bear Hill Camp Opens**
- 1 - Approval Forms for llamas, dogs, working steers, dairy cattle, beef heifers going to ESE and horses not going to ESE (NOTE: earlier deadline for horses and beef steers going to ESE.)**
- 1-2 4-H Dairy Judging Contest (tentative)
- 3 State Activities Day Entry Reports and Judges names due at Moiles House**
- 3 State Activities Day Photography and Poster Entries due to Moiles House**
- 3 Horse Show Program Book Ads due to Equine Center**
- 5 Fashion Revue Scripts due to Dotty Burrows**

- 7 Teen Conference Registrations and all paperwork due to State 4-H Office**
- 8 Bear Hill Camp Work Day
- TBA Sheep & Wool Festival - Hopkinton
- 14 Horse Enrollment & Previous Show data due - NH Horse Show Quotas**
- 16-21 Northeast Regional 4-H Shooting Sports Workshop
- 17 4-H Foundation Golf Tournament, Canterbury Woods Country Club
- 21-23 Family Weekend and Bear Hill 4-H Camp
- 24 Rain Date - 4-H Foundation Golf Tournament
- 25 Fashion Revue Garment being judged due to Moiles House**