

## **New 4-H Youth Development Educator Carroll County UNH Cooperative Extension Office**

The UNH Cooperative Extension Office in Conway has recently hired Claes Thelemarck as its new 4-H Youth Development Educator. Claes will fill the position held by Dotty Burroughs who retired last June.

As 4-H Youth Development Educator, Claes will be responsible for recruiting and training volunteers and leaders to work with youth in Carroll County through 4-H clubs, after school programs and special interest groups. 4-H is the youth arm of Cooperative Extension and seeks to help youth develop leadership and life skills through experiential learning opportunities. Program opportunities can include working in the arts, citizenship, environmental education, family and consumer sciences, healthy lifestyles, leadership, plant & animal sciences and of course our county fairs.

“I am really looking forward to working with youth and volunteer leaders to create and enhance learning opportunities for kids throughout the county.” says Thelemarck. He adds, “There are so many great resources throughout the county and within 4-H to help those looking for positive outlets for youth.”

Claes has worked in education for over 20 years working as the school and youth program coordinator for the Appalachian Mountain Club and as a teacher at Kingswood Regional Middle School and more recently at The Community School in South Tamworth. He has lived in Carroll County for 11 years and enjoys skiing and hiking in the mountains with his family.

If you have any questions about getting involved with 4-H clubs, starting or getting support for after school programs or other questions about youth development please feel free to contact him at the extension office in Conway at 447-3834.

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy.

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