The annual 4-H Fashion Revue and Talent Show will be held on Friday, March 13th at the Haywood County Extension Office, in the large conference rooms.

The show starts at 7:00pm with the Winter Sewing Class participants modeling the pieces they made this winter. Following the Fashion Show, we will have 4-H members showing off their various skills and talents. Light snacks will be served.

On Friday, March 6th at 5:30pm, we will hold the Sewing Social for all the Winter Sewing Class participants to come out and practice before the show. All participants are encouraged to come to show their handmade garment to their family and friends. Light refreshments will be served, so we are asking each family to bring a favorite snack. The social will be held at the Extension Office.

To sign-up for the Talent Show, call Nick at the Extension Office or drop by to pick up a registration form. This event is open to all youth ages 5-19.

Like the Fashion Reue, Cloverbuds (ages 5-8) will receive recognition for participation. Juniors (ages 9-13) and Seniors (ages 14-19) will compete for first through third places. First place from the Senior Fashion Revue and Senior Talent Show will be asked to compete at District and State 4-H events in June and July.
On April 2nd we will hold our first County Council meeting of 2009. The February meeting did not get rescheduled due to inclement weather. This is going to be a great meeting. Our 2009 County Council will preside over the meeting which will discuss the Centennial celebrations planned as well as any ideas you or your club may have. All clubs should be represented and will need to be prepared to give an update on their upcoming projects and events. Following the business meeting we will have a program that everyone can benefit from. We hope to get the Madison County 4-H Geocaching club rescheduled for this day. For those of you who don’t know what Geocaching is, it is like treasure hunting with modern technology. The use of handheld GPS units allows searchers to find hidden “treasures” left behind by other geocachers. It can be extremely fun and you get to learn how to use some valuable technology which can help in a possible job one day.

West District Teen Retreat

April 3rd-4th

Calling all Haywood County Teens. We have just received the registration information for the WD Teen Retreat.

This year’s retreat will be a little different than in years past. It will be held on April 3rd and 4th. That is a Friday and Saturday. We will be staying Friday night at the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly in Black Mountain and returning home Saturday evening around 7:00pm.

The theme for this year’s retreat is “We Are 4-H”. This will be the District youth celebration of the Centennial. There will be campaigning for District Officers, a carnival and party for the Centennial, Fun Shops, Talent Show and on the way home the district is stopping at Fun Depot in Asheville to play games.

The van will be leaving the Extension office on Friday, April 3rd at 4:30pm sharp.

The cost of registration is $55.00. The fee includes one t-shirt, one dinner, breakfast and lunch. Additional t-shirts can be purchased for $10.00.

If you are a County Council Member, District Officer (present or running for office), entering the Talent Show or if you bring a New Teen Friend for the weekend, your registration fee will only be $30.00.

Spring Break Programs

April 14th, 15th and 16th, 8:30am-5:00PM

Join us for some awesome field trips to learn about different types of plants and animals from near and far.

Tuesday, we will travel to the WNC Nature Center in Asheville to learn about some of the creatures from North Carolina. After that we will drive over to the NC Arboretum to see various plants and learn more about our environment.

Wednesday we load up to go to the Gatlinburg Aquarium to see the sites and sounds of the underwater world.

Thursday it’s off to the Knoxville Zoological Gardens for a full day at the zoo!

These trips are open to middle school students (6th-8th grades) and you can sign up for one trip or all three. You will need to bring your own lunch and additional spending money for goodies!

For prices and to sign up, please call Nick at 828-456-3575. Parents volunteers are also welcome and your trip will be free.
Haywood County 4-H Open House Centennial Celebration

Saturday, May 2nd

Tell your friends! Tell your neighbors! Spread the word about the 100th birthday of NC 4-H!

On May 2nd, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, we will be having an open house for the public to come out and see what 4-H in Haywood County has been over the years and what it is today. We want everyone to be present to help us show our community that 4-H is still building competent, confident, contributing youth through hands-on, experiential learning.

There will be club members to talk to and displays to look at; will have two 30 minute programs from past and present 4-Hers. All of our photos through the years will be out so we can all work together to identify them and we are collecting past 4-H projects, whether it be from last year or 1909, get it to us so we can display it. Four-H members will prepare snacks and volunteers will greet guests as they arrive.

What we need from you is just that, YOU! Sign up to come out and help prepare food, volunteer to stay with your club’s display, bring your 4-H project to show your accomplishments or just share your 4-H story with others.

If you have other ideas or to help plan this event, call Nick soon. Let’s set the stage for another hundred years of 4-H in N.C. 828-456-3575

District Leaders Meeting and Fair Share

Saturday, May 9th 10:00am-2:00pm

The West District Volunteer Leaders Association will be having their Spring meeting and Fair Share on Saturday, May 9th. It will be held at the Extension Office.

Come out to mingle with other volunteers from across the West District and share ideas from each other’s programs. This is a great time to meet other like minded 4-H adults that want to make a difference in the lives of today’s youth through 4-H.

Whether you are a new volunteer, or have been volunteering for a while, we encourage you to attend this meeting with us. We are fortunate to have the meetings held in Haywood County so the travel is kept to a minimum.

For more information contact Dan at 828-456-3575.

We look forward to seeing you there.

County Activity Day

Thursday, May 28th

The 2009 County Activity Day will be held on Thursday, May 28th at 4:30pm in the Extension Office conference room.

This day will be the county competition for presentations to determine who will go on to compete at District Activity Day on June 23rd in Buncombe County.

The County Activity Day is open to all youth ages 5-19. Our Cloverbuds, under the age of 8, will not compete, but we encourage them to come out and tell us about something they like.

All Juniors (9-13) and Seniors (14-19) will compete in various categories.

If you have something you are interested in or if you have already done a presentation for school, this is an opportunity where you can continue to work on your public speaking skills and also get recognition for your accomplishments.

For a list of all the categories, or if you need help, from getting started to making posters, call Nick and set up a time to meet. Remember to start your presentations early!

Being a good public speaker translates into a confident and presentable individual. It can have positive effects on careers and can also influence overall success in life.
Four-H is a community of young people, ages 5 to 19, across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H is about having fun, learning, exploring and discovering. In 4-H, young people make new friends, develop new skills, become leaders and help shape their communities.

More than 239,000 youth were involved in 4-H in 2008 through community or project clubs, special interest programs, school enrichment programs, in after school programs, and through our Operation Military Kids program. These youth live in cities, suburbs, small towns and rural communities.

Four-H gives youth a chance to explore their own interests - from photography to computers, from building rockets to raising animals. A list of 4-H projects is available online by visiting our 4-H Curriculum webpage. 4-H members go places from district retreats to camp, to state and national conferences. They learn to be outstanding citizens and excellent leaders.

In 4-H, youth learn life skills such as public speaking, decision-making, organizational/planning, leadership, teamwork, record keeping and communications skills.

To find out more about the Cooperative Extension 4-H Program contact Nick Reynolds, Extension Agent, 4-H Youth Development at (828)456-3575. Or visit one of the websites below.

Haywood County 4-H:
www.haywoodcounty4h.blogspot.com

North Carolina 4-H:
www.nc4h.org

National 4-H:
www.4-h.org/

NC Cooperative Extension Service
Haywood County Center:
http://haywood.ces.ncsu.edu/