OCTOBER 2026

GROWING UP GREEN

Cabarrus County 4-H Newsletter



Pictured Above (Left to Right):
+ 4-H youth Aashna teaching about 4-H forestry at the annual Cabarrus county CREEK WEEK FEST.
+ 4-H Wildlife youth learning about water quality and it's impact on our environment.
+ 4-H Youth Therese instructing youth and adults making painted tea towels at 1:30 pm Mon. club.
+ Nadia promoting 4-H electric programs at ECHS Museum during Homeschool Days!

In the News

Veteran's Day

Veteran's Day is approaching! This is a perfect chance to add something special to your project record book. Highlighting civic engagement shows judges you're a well-rounded 4-H'er who cares about your community. Consider how you can honor our veterans this November 11th.

November County Council

Our next County Council Meeting is Thursday, November 19th at 6pm. At this meeting, we will have our elections for 2027 County Council, We will also learn about flag etiquette and make cards for veterans. Please be on the lookout for our candidates. Each club will get one vote per position. A club representative must be present in order for the club to vote in the election.

Dinah Gore Food Challenge

Are you a youth who loves to cook, get creative in the kitchen, and learn about healthy eating? Then the Dinah Gore 4-H Healthy Food Challenge, hosted in partnership with NC State University, is the perfect opportunity to put your skills to the test!
Cabarrus County 4-H will host an interest meeting in January. — more details to come!
This exciting contest challenges teams of three to four 4-H members to work together to create a nutritious dish that serves three people. Teams will be given a predetermined ingredient, food category, and access to a locally-sourced pantry. Once the ingredient is revealed, participants will have 40 minutes to prepare their dish, clean up their workspace, and get ready to present their creation to the judges.
During their presentation, teams will discuss:

- Their dish and how it was prepared
- The health benefits of their chosen ingredients
- The nutrients their dish provides to the body

The competition is open to 4-H members ages 8–18, divided into the following age groups: 8–10 years old, 11–13 years old, 14–18 years old
The Dinah Gore 4-H Healthy Food Challenge is a fun and educational way to build cooking confidence, teamwork skills, and nutrition knowledge — all while showcasing creativity in the kitchen!

IN THIS ISSUE

UPCOMING EVENTS

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

COMMUNITY SERVICE

VOLUNTEER LEADERS

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Opportunities for Youth

Our 4-H program continues to grow, and we are continually seeking new learning opportunities for youth to discover and develop both personally and professionally.

Local Government

Local High School youth can join the Cabarrus County Youth Commission to take an active role in the community and learn more about what local government brings to their lives.

Apply at Application
https://forms.cabarruscounty.us/Forms/Youth-Commission-Application

Especially seeking members from J. M. Robinson, Homeschool, Mt. Pleasant High School, and A.L Brown

Teen Leadership



https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHhqXdg3mKzyC3h3FUk-lMTEMnCJCBCeirrnj1GDOXgoLeXg/viewform

Cloverbud Club

Youth ages 5-8 are invited to join us on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month at the Cabarrus County Extension Center from 6-7 p.m. Youth participate in a short business meeting and a fun hands-on activity selected by members.

4-H GROWS HERE

Adult Volunteer Needs

With growth comes new needs for adult volunteers. If you have time, passion and energy to give to the program, we would love to have you. See Molly if you are interested. Here are a few roles needed:

1. Blind Shots Club Leader
2. Archery Coach
2. Entrepreneur Club Leader
4. Rifle coach



HOLIDAY IDEAS!

Now might be the best time to start planning for summer camps! Does your youth want to go to camp or Congress? Why not gift them a 4-H experience for an upcoming celebration - Birthday, Christmas, etc? 4-H Experiences come in all sizes - from Cloverbud Camp to Congress - there is something for everyone. Talk with Molly about reserving your spot with a $100 deposit!

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Community Service

County council attendees in September made over 250 sandwiches for distribution in our community. Great job!!



ACHIEVEMENT NIGHT... WHY ATTEND?

Join us for the 2026 Cabarrus County Achievement Night. Stay tuned for the date, location, and theme announcement.

Over the past four years, I've heard many 4-H members ask about Achievement Night—what it is, what we do, and why it matters. Here are five reasons you won't want to miss it:

1. **Celebrate Cabarrus County 4-H:** Join us in reflecting on our achievements in 2025.
2. **Get Recognized**: Celebrate your hard work in areas like educational competitions, livestock judging, expressive arts, leadership, and more!
3. **Make Connections:** Meet fellow Cabarrus County youth you may not typically interact with.
4. **Discover Opportunities:** Learn about the exciting programming Cabarrus County 4-H offers throughout the year.
5. **Show Your Gratitude:** Thank those who have positively impacted your 4-H journey, including club leaders, junior leaders, and fellow 4-H'ers.

We can't wait to see you there!

Join us for the Fur & Feathers Club meeting on Monday, October 26 at 6:00 PM at Farm & Fleece Alpaca Ranch (4401 Miami Church Rd, Concord, NC 28025)! Club members will get the chance to meet the alpacas and learn more about caring for these unique animals, as well as wool production. It will be a fun evening learning about alpacas and the fiber industry!

See more info on our website

https://cabarrus.ces.ncsu.edu/categories/4-h-youth-development/

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Mark Your Calendars!

October 26, 2026 - Fur and Feather 4-H Club 6PM

November 7, 2026 - SC VLA Fall Day - for volunteers

November 19, 2026 - County Council Meeting/Civic Engagement Project/2026 Elections

November 16, 2026 - Creative Minds 4-H Club :30-3PM

November 14, 2026 - Youth Market

December 10, 2026 - County Council - Winter Fest 6PM

December - 2027 4-H Planning Committee

December 12, 2026 - Youth Holiday Market

January 2027 - 2026 projects and portfolios due

4-H "Move"mber

Get outside for at least 60 minutes for at least 4 weeks in November. Add this to your Healthy Lifestyles 4-H project or make your own fun challenge between you and your fellow club members. November is a great month to move!



CABARRUS COUNTY 4-H

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NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
N.C. A&T STATE UNIVERSITY
NC STATE UNIVERSITY

Youth Livestock Corner!
By: Sarah Newman

2026 Cabarrus County Livestock Show a Resounding Success!

The 2026 Cabarrus County Livestock Show was a tremendous success! This year, 112 youth exhibitors showcased more than 250 animals at our new location, the Cabarrus Arena & Events Center. The show celebrated the hard work, dedication, and passion of local youth while highlighting the importance of agriculture and the strong community that supports it. A huge thank you to all the exhibitors, families, volunteers, and sponsors who helped make this year's show a success!

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