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CARROLL COUNTY 4-H TRIBUNE - SEPTEMBER 2026

THANK YOU!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who participated and volunteered at the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair! This event would not have been possible without the wonderful and dedicated volunteers that give back so much to the Carroll County 4-H members and their families. Next time you see one of these volunteers, thank them for all that they do for the 4-H program and the fair!

FAIR T-SHIRT THANK YOU

Please take a minute to write a "Thank You" note to Bowman's Feed & Pet for sponsoring the blue fair t-shirts for the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair.

All 4-H and clover exhibitors received one of these shirts at packet pick-up. Thank you notes can be sent to: R.D. Bowman's & Sons, Inc. 107 Englar Rd. Westminster, MD 21157.

NATIONAL 4-H WEEK/PROMOTIONAL CONTEST

Show your 4-H pride throughout National 4-H Week! Watch our Facebook Page with more information! National 4-H Week will be held October 4 - 10, 2026!

4-H Clubs... don't forget about the National 4-H Week Promotional Contest held during National 4-H Week. If your club is interested in promoting 4-H through a window display, table top or bulletin board display, please let us know! You just need to find a local business/location that will let the club set up a display! Make sure to complete the link below, so we know where displays can be found for judging! This does count as a fair contest for your club for the 2027 year! All displays must be up by Monday, October 5th for judging to take place!

To register your club promotional display please complete the information found at: <https://forms.gle/E5FMTNgDCWNca4vq5>

CLAY HANDBUILDING: CREATE YOUR OWN WIND CHIME!

Get ready to get your hands messy and your creativity flowing! In this two-part series (8 years old and older), you'll learn how to build, design, and decorate your very own clay wind chime using kiln-fired clay. In the first session, you'll learn fun handbuilding techniques like pinch pots and slab work to shape your wind chime. Then, in the second session, you'll add your own personal style with colorful ceramic glazes. Your finished wind chime will be fired in a kiln and ready for pick-up about one week after the second class. Participants must attend both classes to complete their project. Come and create something unique that you can hang up and enjoy at home!

This is a two-part series held on September 30th from 5:30pm - 8pm and October 14th from 6pm - 8pm. Registration is now open for **Clay Handbuilding: Create Your Own Wind Chime** at <https://forms.gle/21AhZq1JoLkgCzBw5>

CHEF ACADEMY

Chef Academy promises to be a fun night(s) of learning the basics of cooking skills! 4-H members 8 years old and older will be able to participate in the new program focusing on learning different skills in the kitchen! You can participate in just 1 or multiple Chef Academy workshops offered this fall.

The second of this 6-part series will focus on making Crockpot Meals! 4-H members will learn how to make a few different crockpot meals that they will take home and freeze. These prepared meals can be cooked later at home for their own families to have for dinner. We will be able to sample the crockpot meals that we prepare to freeze during the workshop too.

The program is limited to the first 12 who register. The Chef Academy - Crockpot Meals Workshop will be held on Friday, October 16th from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. The cost is \$40 cash/check or \$41.63 for online payment and includes all ingredients.

Registration is now open for Chef Academy - Crockpot Meals at - <https://forms.gle/PmxYFtm6vt3RcvVH8>

Hold the following dates with registration to follow in the next Tribune for the remaining Chef Academy Classes:

October 30th - Homemade Pizza

November 6th - Quick Breads

November 20th - Homemade Pasta

December 11th - Holiday Desserts



SENIOR PORTFOLIO WORKSHOP

Are you a senior in high school and thinking about applying for all of those scholarship opportunities next year? How about a 4-H member between the ages of 13-18 for 2027 that wants to apply for the senior ambassador team? If you can answer “YES” to either of the above questions, than make plans to join us on **Wednesday, October 14th, 6pm at the Extension Office. We will provide pizza for dinner too!** This is a great opportunity to start putting together your 4-H resume for scholarships and the senior ambassador team. Just bring a laptop with your or we can provide one if needed! We will work through your 4-H, school and other activities to help you build a 4-H resume to help you apply for scholarships or ambassadors!

Registration can be completed at: <https://forms.gle/Jq4QDRiDkZf2JeY38>

CLOVER HALLOWEEN PARTY

Tricks and Treats are in store for the 2026 Clover Halloween Party! Fun games, crafts and some trick or treating are all planned for our clover members! Everyone is encouraged to wear their Halloween costume. You're welcome to bring a friend with you too! The Clover Halloween party will be hosted by the 4-H Ambassador Team and held on **Friday, October 23rd, 6pm at the Extension Office.**

Registration can be completed at: <https://forms.gle/utfWQ625qTPwnmea7>

AMBASSADOR SERVICE PROJECTS

The 4-H Ambassador Team is kicking off the **2nd Annual Soda Can Tabs Service Project** for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. Any type of aluminum tab will work from soup cans to pet food cans. Tabs can be dropped off anytime from now until the end of the year at the Extension Office. The hope is that we will be able to deliver the tabs to the Ronald McDonald House and provide families a 4-H experience while there. Be on the lookout for collection boxes at different 4-H events. Anyone is able to collect and donate, so think of places you might be able to put a collection box!

Also, don't miss out on the Ambassador's **3rd Annual Canned Food Drive!** The team is now collecting any type of non-perishable food through the end of the year! Food items will be donated to local food banks in the county. The club that donates the most non-perishable items will win the 1st spot in the 2027 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair Parade, right behind the Ambassador Team!



LIVESTOCK SALE CHECKS

As a reminder, don't forget that if you sold in the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair Livestock Sale that you will need to provide a couple of items in order to pick up your check. You will need a 1 page (8 1/2"x11") Thank You advertisement, which can be emailed to thankyou@carrollcountyfair.com, along with your thank you letter (addressed and stamped or a copy that you have already mailed to your buyer). There are 4 options to pick up your checks this year:

Extension Office Pick-Up - 9/23 (5:30-7:30pm) or 9/28 (5:30-7pm)

Memorial Park in Taneytown - 9/24 (6-7:30pm) or 9/29 (6-7:30pm)

PROJECT RECORDS DUE

Projects records will be due to the Extension Office on Monday, November 30th. Check with your club leader to see when your records are due to them. RECORDS WILL NEED TO BE SIGNED BY YOUR CLUB LEADER! If you participated in/exhibited in the following at the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair, you MUST turn in a completed project record to be eligible for the 2027 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair: ALL MARKET LIVESTOCK, RABBIT, POULTRY, HORSE, PHOTOGRAPHY AND GARDEN. See the attached Tips for Project Records for 2026 for additional information.

Note—Records that are submitted and are identical from the same households will be returned to 4-Hers to re-do. Remember, that each project area (art, crafts, foods, woodworking, etc.) are considered separate projects and will not be accepted if turned in on the same project record form.

Please follow this link to the Carroll County Extension website for the correct project records: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books>

PROJECT RECORD - COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENT REMINDER

All project records that are completed will be held to meeting all standards, including the communication section. Remember that 4-Hers must present a speech or demonstration to 3 or more people not related to them to meet this requirement. This is a speech or demonstration the youth has given, not something they attended. The speech and/or demonstration MUST be related to the project. You cannot use a speech about Crafts for your Market Beef project record. You also cannot use a Market Beef demonstration for your Market Swine project record. Your communication MUST BE RELATED TO YOUR PROJECT AREA! You MUST also include all information on when you gave the speech/demonstration, including a TITLE (don't write FAIR), location, and type of communication. Don't forget that participating in programs such as skillathon, bowls, and judging programs count toward this requirement. If you have questions, please contact the Extension Office at 410-386-2760.



FAIR REMINDERS

Everyone is welcome to participate in Fair Board meetings held at the Extension Office/Ag Center. The next meeting will be on September 23rd.

2027 Fair Dates— July 30 - August 7, 2027

Too many ribbons? Don't throw them away. If they are in good shape, drop them off at the Extension Office and we will recycle them for next year. Ribbons should not be wrinkled, written on or missing strings. We cannot accept State Fair ribbons.

DATES TO REMEMBER



September 10-13	Maryland State Fair (Dogs, Dairy Goats, Engineering Contest)
September 18	Chef Academy (Breakfast), CC Extension Office, 6pm
September 30	Clay Handbuilding Workshop, CC Extension Office, 5:30pm (Part 1)
October 4—10	National 4-H Week
October 12	CC Extension Office CLOSED for Columbus Day
October 14	Senior Portfolio Workshop, CC Extension Office, 6pm
	Clay Handbuilding Workshop, CC Extension Office, 6pm (Part 2)
October 16	Chef Academy (Crockpot Meals), CC Extension Office, 6pm
October 22	Annual 4-H Club Leaders Meeting, 7pm
October 23	Clover Halloween Party, CC Extension Office, 6pm
October 25	Trunk or Treat, CC Ag Center, 2pm
October 30	Chef Academy (Homemade Pizza), CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 6	Chef Academy (Quick Breads), CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 11	CC Extension Office CLOSED for Veteran's Day
November 20	Chef Academy (Homemade Pasta), CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 26-27	CC Extension Closed for Thanksgiving
November 30	Project Records DUE to Extension Office
December 4	4-H Warehouse Sale, CC Extension Office (more information to come)
December 6	Project Record Judging, CC Extension Office, 9am
December 11	Chef Academy (Desserts), CC Extension Office, 6pm

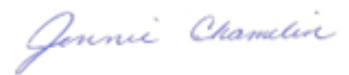
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The Carroll County 4-H Website. Find the Tribune online, plus other forms and information for youth and leaders.
<http://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county>

The MD 4-H Youth Development Website, news & information from all over the state, plus forms and information for youth & volunteers. <http://extension.umd.edu/programs/4-h-youth-development>

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Tips for Completing Project Records

Here are some tips and helpful hints as you work on your project records.

Don't forget that the following project records are required to show at the 2027 Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair – ALL MARKET ANIMALS, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Garden and Photography (if exhibited at the 2026 county fair.)

(Items in green are REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION)

Remember to EXPAND on all of your answers. The more detailed responses you give help the reviewers understand your projects and what you learned and achieved through them.

- 1. What goals did you set for your project this year and did you achieve them?**
 - a. Explain three different goals you had for your project and expand on how you did or didn't achieve them.
- 2. What were four things you learned from completed this project this year?**
 - a. Juniors and Intermediates – You only need to list 2 things you learned from your project.
 - b. Seniors – Need to list 4 things you learned from your projects
- 3. What is one thing you would like to improve or do differently with your project next year?**
 - a. What is something that you want to improve on your project next year? Give an example on what you want to do differently on with your project.
- 4. What I learned as a result of using this life skill...**
 - a. Under each section (Head, Heart, Hand, Health) write the life skill you are using from the life skill wheel.
 - b. Juniors and Intermediates need to write 1 life skill for each section. You will have one life skill for Head, one for Heart, one for Hand and one for Health.
 - c. Seniors need to write 2 life skills for each section. You will have two life skills listed for Head, two for Heart, two for Hand and one for Health.
- 5. Project Activities**
 - a. Everyone needs to list project activities in how they relate to your project. This can be attending the Mid-Winter Blahs, Livestock Workshops, Quality Assurance, County or State Fair.
- 6. Project Communications**
 - a. Everyone **MUST** have some type of communication related to their project that you have given to at least 3 people who are not related to you.
 - b. Example – If you are filling out a project record for Photography your communication needs to be something relating to Photography and not a speech related to building a birdhouse.
- 7. Project Exhibits**
 - a. Everyone must have exhibited their project at some event. This can include County or State Fair, a community or school event.
 - b. List all exhibits separately. This includes all classes to be listed separately (example – Market Hog – you would list, Market Hog, Showmanship and Rate of Gain on 3 separate lines, not all together).
- 8. Project Financial Section (General Project Records)**
 - a. List all expenses related to your project and put a value on them, even if your parents paid for them, they still have a value associated to them.

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- i. Even if you bred your own market livestock project, there is still an associated value to that animal. What would you have sold it for or what was market value at the time you would have bought a market project?
 - ii. Example – If you baked a cake, you would list your ingredients (Sugar, Flour, Chocolate, etc. and the cost \$13.50)
 - b. Income includes any premium checks you have received for your items. Remember to keep your copy of your premiums from the fair, this will tell you what your premiums were for each item you entered at the fair.
- 9. Supplemental Piece**
- a. If you are completing a General Project Record a supplemental piece can be included. This is one additional piece of paper (8x11) attached to the end of your record. This can be a picture with a couple sentences written about your project or a story, crossword puzzle, etc. It needs to be something that related to your project.
- 10. ANIMAL PROJECT RECORDS**
- a. **Market Livestock Project Record Forms**
 - i. Table 1 – Information of Project Animal – This is **REQUIRED** to be completed. Make sure to fill in all information related to your animals. All animals you tagged should be included on this table, even if you didn't show them. Remember to bring your totals down to the total line.
 - ii. Table 2 and 3 – Include information on what you fed your animals and the cost of feeding those animals, along with other expenses you have had with your project including bedding, equipment, etc.
 - iii. Table 4 – Health and Veterinary Expenses – Everyone should have something listed here. To show at the fair you had to have health papers, which would be listed on this table.
 - iv. Table 5 – Sale Animal Income – List the information related to any animals you sold. This can be from selling at the fair or private sales.
 - v. Table 6 – All Other Income – Include any other income from your animals. This could be premium monies, selling wool or hides, etc.
 - vi. Financial Summary – Add up all of your income and expenses to see you have a profit or loss from your project.
 - b. **Poultry/Rabbit/Horse/Dogs Project Records**
 - i. Make sure to fill out tables related to your animal information, along with each table that related to your project. If you didn't do something in the project (Example – Didn't sell eggs), just put N/A in that table, so the project record reviewers know you didn't just skip the table.
 - ii. Include a supplemental piece that showcase your project!

Make sure to have **ALL SIGNATURES** (4-H Member, Parent and Club Leader) a 4-H Educator will sign off on the forms when they are considered complete.

Also, if you have siblings that participate in the same projects, make sure your records are DIFFERENT. If they are the same, they will be returned to be redone.