



# Tribune

A Carroll County 4-H Newsletter

October 2025

UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND  
EXTENSION

Carroll County Extension

700 Agriculture Center

Westminster, MD 21157

(410) 386-2760

M—F 8:00 A.M.—4:30 P.M.

[extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county](https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county)

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## Working with Neurodivergent Youth

Calling all UME Volunteers and parents to join us for an amazing opportunity to learn more on working with neurodivergent youth. Learn more about the ways youth process information, how to best diversify the ways you interact with youth and so much more! Kelly Bryant, 4-H Educator from Charles County, will be leading this exciting program and has many years experience working within this topic. The program will be held on **Wednesday, October 8th, 6pm at the Extension Office.**

Dinner will also be provided and the program will last about an 1 1/2 hours. This is a great night to come out and learn how we can better support the 4-H youth that we work with throughout the year! Register at: <https://forms.gle/43eJHbKCwNoUYKgm9>—Register by October 5th! The annual club leaders meeting will follow directly at the conclusion of this program at 7:30pm.

## Clover Halloween Party



Tricks and Treats are in store for the 2025 Clover Halloween Party! Fun games, crafts and some trick or treating will take place on **Friday, October 24th at 6pm at the Extension Office.** The 4-H Ambassador Team is taking the lead in providing a fun evening for all! Please RSVP by October 17th at <https://forms.gle/RawVSwfB4hkUiiNN9>

Clovers are welcome to bring a friend(s) with them to this event!

## National 4-H Week/Promotional Contest

Show your 4-H pride throughout National 4-H Week! Wear the color **green** or your favorite 4-H shirt during the week of October 5-11, 2025! National 4-H Week is a great opportunity for you to tell your friends about 4-H and how they can get involved.

4-H Clubs...don't forget that the National 4-H Week Promotional Contest will be taking place the first week of October. If your club is interested in participating in this contest by setting up a window display, table or a bulletin board, please let us know. You just need to find a local business/location that will let you set up a 4-H display. Please complete the link below with the name of the business, location address and the times your display can be viewed. After that, judges will come out and judge all of the displays! Displays must be ready to judged by **Mon., October 6th.** Register at <https://forms.gle/ccUWZ4cEK5kcv1dh8>



## 4-H Project Night—Fall Mystery Craft

The weather is changing and we are ready for fall to be here! We will be making a fun fall mystery craft at the **Extension Office on Friday, October 10th, 6pm**. It will be a fantastic and fun filled evening as we make a fall themed craft. There will be a \$20 cost for the class and will need to be paid to the Extension Office prior to the program. You must be 8 years old or older to register for this program. This class is full, but email Jennie (jchameli@umd.edu) to be added to the wait list.



## November 4-H Project Night

It won't be long before we are thinking of how to decorate for the holiday/winter months! We will be making a holiday or winter wreath that will add a sparkle to your home or a perfect gift! This 4-H Project Night will be held at the **Extension Office on Friday, November 14th, 6pm**. There will be a \$30 cost for the class which will need to be paid to the Extension Office prior to the program. Note - This day is designed for youth 8 years old and older. The \$30 fee must be paid prior to the program. Once you register, an invoice will be sent to you for payment. Checks can be made payable to CCEAB. If registering more than 1 youth, please fill out a separate registration form for each youth.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/qNH1F11nWq8MkQEF6>

## December 4-H Project Night—Gingerbread Houses

Join us for the last 4-H Project Night of 2025 and decorate a Gingerbread House! We will be holding the Gingerbread House night on **Friday, December 12 at 6pm at the Extension Office**. All supplies will be provided. Clovers, 4-Hers and their families are welcome to join in on the fun! You can partner up with a friend to create a house, a family can make one together or just make one for yourself. Each house will cost \$30 to build and decorate. A fun contest will take place with our Facebook followers voting on their favorite ones! Register early to reserve your spot.



Register at: <https://forms.gle/y1g1NxoHJfitQ8pL8>

## Welding Workshop



Welding Workshop is Back! Let's fire up the fun and build something amazing! The next Welding Workshops are officially on the calendar! We are teaming up with the Career and Technology Center to offer two exciting evenings with hands-on welding.

Friday, November 14: For beginners with little to no prior experience.

Friday, November 21: For those who have welded before or attended a previous workshop.

Each night will run 4:00 to 8:00pm, and a \$30 fee (cash only) will be payable at the door. Please register for only one workshop so more youth can participate. Spots are limited and expected to fill fast! You will be notified as soon as possible if you are a workshop participant or on the waiting list. Registration can be completed at: <https://forms.office.com/r/HhzXceS8nh>

## Project Records Due

Projects records will be due to the Extension Office on **Monday, December 1st**. 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 2025 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair, you **MUST** turn in a completed project record to be eligible for the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair: **ALL MARKET LIVESTOCK, RABBIT, POULTRY, HORSE, PHOTOGRAPHY AND GARDEN**. See the attached *Tips for Project Records for 2025* 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.

### Ambassador Service Project

The 4-H Ambassador Team is starting off the year strong and already kicking off their year with a countywide service project. They will be collecting soda can tabs (any type of aluminum tab will work from soup cans to pet food cans!) for the Ronald McDonald House Charities. 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 4-H events! Anyone is able to collect and donate, so think of places you might be able to put a collection box.

### Canned Food Drive Competition

Want to help your local community, while earning the coveted 1st spot in the 2026 fair parade for your club's float? As the holiday season approaches, the Ambassador Team is hosting their 3rd Annual Canned Food Competition between ALL Carroll County 4-H clubs! All non-perishable food must be dropped off at the Extension Office with a note of which club the food belongs to. A log will be kept by the office and each item counts as 1 point. The club that donates the largest number of canned goods will win the 1st spot for floats in the 2026 fair parade! The competition begins October 1st and will conclude on December 19th. Good Luck to all clubs and thank you for participating as we pledge our hands to larger service!



## National 4-H Leadership Trips

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Calling all Senior 4-H members! Here are some great opportunities for you to apply for National 4-H Leadership Trips for 2026! This opportunity to apply is for the following trips in 2026: National 4-H Conference (held in Washington D.C in April), National 4-H Congress (held in Atlanta, GA in November), Camp Miniwanca (held in Michigan in June), Virginia 4-H Congress and West Virginia 4-H Camp (both in June). These trips all focus on building leadership and lend more to the service side of the 4-H program.

There are specific guidelines for completing the following items such as how many pages each can be, type of font to use, spacing, etc. Please email Becky (bridgewa@umd.edu) for specific guidelines. Also, Becky is more than willing to work with you on these items and we have volunteers willing to help too! Just reach out as we have lots of amazing senior 4-H members who are great and should apply for these national trip opportunities! **A portfolio workshop will be held on Saturday, November 22nd at the Extension Office.**

If interested in applying, here's what you need to do:

1. Complete your 4-H Resume which is comprised of showcasing your leadership, citizenship and life skills.
2. Complete the 2026 Essay Question which is, "When faced with the potential of limited funding, how would you advocate to your community the value of funding the 4-H youth development program?"
3. Submit all requirements through 4-H Online by **November 15, 2025 (for National 4-H Conference consideration) and January 15, 2026 (consideration for remaining trips).**

## Senior Portfolio Workshop

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Thinking of applying for National 4-H Leadership Trips or the Senior Ambassador Team in 2026? Join us on **Saturday, November 22nd, 9am at the Extension Office.** You will learn all about creating your own 4-H resume and will have expert help in building your own resume during this workshop. This is also a great workshop to attend if you are planning to apply for scholarships for college as many 4-H scholarships require a resume as part of the application process.

Register at: <https://forms.gle/YWwEtiCgdBkX6mdH6>



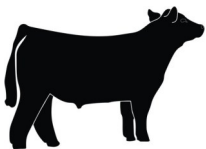
## Record Books

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It's a great time to start thinking about your 2025 record books! Record books are a great way to keep track of your 4-H career and highlight your accomplishments. The record book includes a junior summary, project records (which you already do), a 4-H story and a few more items. Record Book covers are available at the Extension Office for free. Record Books are due **Monday, February 2, 2026.** More information can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books>

## Clover Memory Books

Clover members are able to put together a Clover Memory Book (scrapbook) of their year in 4-H. Clover Memory Books highlight everything Clover members did throughout the year including pictures, ribbons, judging score sheets, etc. Guidelines for memory books can be found at: <https://extension.umd.edu/locations/carroll-county/local-4-h-youth-education/project-records-and-record-books> at the bottom of the page. Memory Books are due to the Extension Office by **Monday, February 2, 2026**.



## 2026 Market Beef, Dairy Steer and Commercial Heifer Weigh-In and Tagging

We have scheduled steer weigh-in for **Saturday, January 17, 2026 at the Ag Center TRP Building beginning at 8 AM until 11 AM**. Because of the location, all steers/heifers must be on a halter and reasonably broken! Market Animal Registration forms and AnSc Code of Ethics can be picked up at the Extension Office, from your club leader or email Becky (bridgewa@umd.edu) to have forms mailed to you. **Remember, the registration form is a 2-part form. You must turn in the form intact. Remember to sign the front, backs and inside of the form (3 total signatures for the 4-Her and 3 signatures for the parent/guardian).** Your copy will be given to you on the day of weigh-in. If you have questions, please call 410-386-2760. **Registration forms are due to the CC Extension Office by Monday, January 5th. Tag cost is \$2 per steer/heifer.** Please make checks payable to CCEAB.

*Castration Policy of the Maryland 4-H AnSc Program: All male steers, lambs, pigs and goats must be neutered and healed prior to 4-H weigh-in and tagging. The only exception would be animals that have obvious signs they have been banded, however, their scrotal sac is still intact.*

## 2026 Livestock Sale Requirement Update

An update to the requirements 4-Her's must meet in 2026 to be eligible for the 2026 Carroll County 4-H & FFA Fair Livestock Sale.

"Junior exhibitors and Novice 4-H/FFA exhibitors of any age in any species are **REQUIRED** to participate in one of the following. All other 4-H/FFA exhibitors are encouraged to participate in one of the following:

A. Attend 4—Carroll County Dairy Bowl, 4-H Livestock Judging, 4-H Dairy Judging or Livestock Skillathon practices.

B. **Must attend a Carroll County 4-H sponsored livestock workshop for a species exhibitor is showing from this list:** Beef Field Day, Swine Workshop, Swine Field Day, Sheep Workshop, Meat Goat Workshops, Sheep and Goat Field Day, Junior Stock Show or these additional opportunities hosted through Carroll County Extension (livestock/dairy roundup, veterinary science experience). Additionally, Dairy Steer exhibitors may attend a Dairy Workshop.

C. Other livestock related events must be approved by the Department Committee of the type of Species and the livestock sale committee prior to participation."

**The wording that is bolded is the change in which 4-H members need to attend a workshop for a species they are showing and cannot attend a species workshop of something they are not weighing in.**







## UME Volunteer Training

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If you are interested in becoming a UME Volunteer, please email Becky (bridgeway@umd.edu) to start the process. She will send an email with the requirements that must be completed as part of the on-boarding process.

You may register as a volunteer in 4-H Online, but until you complete all of the required trainings and background check, you are not certified to serve as an official volunteer for the 4-H program. The training can all be completely done from the comfort of your home.

### Volunteer and Teen Forum

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Are you 4-H Beyond Ready to Lead the Future? If so, then make plans to join the Maryland 4-H Program and others from across the state at this year's Volunteer and Teen Forum. The forum will be held in Ocean City, Maryland, November 14-16th. Registration for the event is \$120.00. Lodging is separate from the registration price. There will be 16 sessions, multiple activities and information sharing through the forum! Registration takes place through 4-H Online.

### Payment Policy Reminder

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**NEW POLICY in regards to payments for county 4-H programs.** We will be sending invoices to those who register for our programs that cost over \$5. As we plan programs, we work on making sure we can cover the cost of the supplies of the program and keep program costs as low as possible. We previously asked that families "pay at the door" for these programs. What we have been experiencing recently though is that some families are signing up for programs and then not attending without letting the office staff know of that change. We typically have 4-H members on a waiting list that would like to attend the program, but can't when we are unaware of someone not attending. Moving forward, if you register for a program that has a cost associated with it and do not show for the program, you are still responsible for paying for the program as supplies have already been purchased.

This is not a decision that we have made lightly. We do need to take into consideration the costs we are taking out of our program funds when individuals are a no call, no show for programs. We also need to consider the other 4-H members who would like to participate in the program, but are on a waiting list. Thank you for your understanding.

### Fair Reminders

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**Everyone** is welcome to participate in Fair Board meetings held at the Extension Office/Ag Center. The next meeting will be on **October 22nd at 7:30pm.**

**2026 Fair Dates— July 31—August 8, 2026**

**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

October 8	Working w/Neurodivergent Youth Workshop, CC Extension Office, 6pm
	Annual Leaders Meeting, CC Extension Office, 7:30pm
October 10	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
October 13	<b>CC Extension Office Closed</b>
October 24	Clover Halloween Party, CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 11	<b>CC Extension Office Closed</b>
November 14	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
November 15	National 4-H Conference Portfolio DUE, 4-H Online
November 22	Portfolio Workshop, CC Extension Office, 9am
November 27-28	<b>CC Extension Office Closed</b>
November 29	Holiday Kick-Off, CC Extension Office
December 1	4-H Project Records Due to Extension Office
December 6	4-H Project Record Judging, CC Extension Office, 9am
December 12	4-H Project Night, CC Extension Office, 6pm
December 25	<b>CC Extension Office, Closed</b>



## Carroll County 4-H Team

*Becky Ridgeway*

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Extension Educator  
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*Jennie Chamelin*

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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 2026 Carroll County 4-H/FFA Fair – ALL MARKET ANIMALS, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Garden and Photography (if exhibited at the 2025 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.**