

Local Business Report

Q3 2026

**Strong Jobs, Bright Futures, Thriving Communities.
Powered by Balanced Growth.**

Made in Cabarrus Display

At the Annual Summit in August, the Cabarrus Economic Development Corporation (EDC) displayed a showcase of products manufactured in Cabarrus County entitled, **Made in Cabarrus** with the tagline **Made in Cabarrus. Made by our people. Building opportunity for everyone.**

It gave attendees a closer look at the diversity of the county's manufacturing base while highlighting something equally important: the people, skills, and career opportunities behind the products made here.

Participating companies included Safewaze, Corning Incorporated – Midland, Ketchie Inc., Eli Lilly and Company, Complete Design & Packaging, Vulcan Materials Company, Legrand, Celgard, Perdue Farms, Momentec Brands, and Hendrick USA Technical Solutions.

The display underscored that what's made in Cabarrus County is more than a product. It's an opportunity. Every product made in Cabarrus County represents an opportunity for someone in our community to start a career, build new skills, and move forward.

Cabarrus EDC looks forward to continuing engagement with manufacturers to grow the display and to promote workforce development in Cabarrus County. For those who were unable to attend The Summit, follow the **Made in Cabarrus** companies on our social media (Facebook & LinkedIn).



COMPANY VISITS

CELGARD



SAFEWAZE



GRAND OPENING



WHEELHOUSE

RIBBON CUTTING



**WESTROCK
COFFEE**

legrand®

SECOND VISIT

For manufacturers that would like to meet with the EDC, please see our contact information on the second page.

Retail Lab Returns to the Cabarrus Center

The Cabarrus Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship is excited that the Retail Lab Boot Camp is back for a Fall 2026 cohort! Retail Lab is designed for early stage entrepreneurs building a retail business. Whether you're still developing your idea, preparing to launch, or already running a newer business, the program can help you take the next step.

Retail Lab welcomes brick-and-mortar retailers, e-commerce businesses, food and beverage brands, and retail service businesses. Businesses may be located elsewhere, but preference is given to those serving Cabarrus or Rowan County. This fall, a new group of entrepreneurs will come together for six weeks of hands-on sessions focused on the challenges that come with building a retail business.



The Fall 2026 cohort began Wednesday, October 14, and meets at the Cabarrus Center on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Learn more about Retail Lab and meet previous Retail Lab graduates at cabarruscenter.com/retail-lab.

RESOURCE HIGHLIGHT:

The Small Business Community Impact Fund

Offered by The Hurt Hub at Davidson College through a grant from the Duke Energy Foundation, community members are encouraged to apply for a microgrant and hands-on consulting built for small business owners in the region.



Additional details and qualifying requirements can be found at hurthub.davidson.edu/the-small-business-community-impact-fund.

Small Business and Entrepreneurial Activity

Small Business Support (July - Sept)

22

Company
Meetings

9

Inquiry Intake
Forms

Fueled by
Flywheel

Staying connected with our manufacturers helps the Cabarrus EDC to anticipate your needs, remove barriers to growth, and support continued competitiveness. If you have questions or need specific support, please reach out to the Cabarrus EDC team - we are here to help!



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