News you can use to get/keep you and your kids interested in STEM

NC Science Festival

http://www.ncsciencefestival.org/

A multi-day celebration showcasing science and technology. March 28-April 13 – check the website for events near you!

Hour of Code™

http://code.org/educate/hoc

Hour of Code™ is an opportunity for every student to try computer science for one hour. The link has instructions to set up that experience for them.

Raspberry Pi

http://www.raspberrypi.org/ and innumerable resources on the web, including books aimed at kids

A computer that's inexpensive enough and simple enough that anyone can use it for real programming, not just running programs written by "experts" (programs like games, word processors, or web browsers). It's only been on the market for a little more than two years, but there's a rich ecosystem aimed at both kids and adult hobbyists. The people behind it hope to encourage more experimentation and creativity that grabbed them as users of the simpler computers of the 80s.

Girl Develop It RDU

http://www.meetup.com/Girl-Develop-It-RDU/

Given the fast pace of technology change, no one learns all they need to know in school. This group, a local chapter of a national group, puts on classes for beginners and beyond on a range of technologies.

NCGSTEM Girls Collaborative

https://www.facebook.com/NCGSTEM

North Carolina Girls STEM Collaborative (NCGSTEM) brings organizations throughout North Carolina that are committed to informing and encouraging girls to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Follow them on Facebook and/or subscribe to their e-newsletter.

Other references

Jo Boaler, What's Math Got to Do with It?: How Parents and Teachers Can Help Children Learn to Love their Least Favorite Subject, Penguin Books, 2008.