



INDEPENDENCE

4 - H

September 2026

September Club Meeting

September 9th, 2026

6:00 pm Dinner

6:30 pm Business Meeting

Sebastopol Center for the Arts

September 2026

7: Labor Day

7: State 4-H Golden Clover Applications Due

16: 7pm Virtual Training for RETURNING Volunteers

17: 5pm Record Book Evaluation Night (YAL) 18-

20: Mendocino County Fair-Boonville

October 2026

1: 4-H Week Window Contest Entry Due

4-10: National 4-H Week

5: State 4-H Record Book Intent to Submit Due

5: 4-H Spirit Day (wear 4-H attire or green)

7: 6-9pm NEW Volunteer Training (YAL)

9: Nation 4-H Week - Window Display Judging

13: 7pm VIRTUAL Training-RETURN Volunteers

24: Achievement Night (YAL Center)

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President's Message

Georgia Holland

Hello Everyone! I hope you all had a fantastic summer and a smooth transition into the new school year. I am looking forward to a great 4H year with a strong new executive board, and a club filled with fresh and familiar faces. My name is Georgia, and I am so excited to take on the role as President for the 2026-2027 4H year. Lindsay, our amazing Community Club Leader, the board, and I, have been meeting over the summer to ensure that our general meetings run smoothly and make this year unforgettable, and I can't wait for you all to see and experience what we have put together.

Independence 4H is run by youth, for youth, to show them and their parents what 4H is all about, with upcoming hands-on community service opportunities, engaging presentations, and exciting projects. We plan to host some awesome fundraisers like our usual GoatTreecycling, and some new ones, the board has been wonderfully planning.

The September general meeting will be a blast, starting off with a provided meal, followed by some introductions, and short, fun filled informational presentations. We will all select which projects we want to participate in for the next handful of months, so prepare for a treat from our lovely project leaders. Please email me with any questions regarding the meeting or any inquiries you might have. We are going to start this year off strong, and I can't wait to see our Independence 4H family!





Community Club Leader's Letter

Lindsay Maddocks

Hello Independence 4-H Families,

I hope everyone had a spectacular summer and made unforgettable memories! A new school year and 4-H year has started. A warm welcome to new and returning families who will be joining us this year. The Executive Board has been hard at work creating a year focused on community engagement, learning and fun. As your Community Club Leader, I look forward to supporting you in creating new experiences, shared learning, and a ton of fun. This month, please remember to complete your 4-H online enrollment via ZSuite.

To all our Project Leaders, thank you for your continued commitment to our club and the learning opportunities you so generously share with our club youth. Project information will be shared with the club at our 1st general meeting. From projects, to presentations, to fundraising, and community service there will be many ways that you can participate this year. I encourage everyone to have the courage to participate!!! See you ~ Wednesday, September 9!

YAL BBQ

JoJo Holland

The YAL barbecue was a lot of fun. There were three of us there, talking about and displaying our creations from our woodcarving and linocarving projects. We explained our project to the many people attending the barbecue while we woodcarved, demonstrating what we did in our project. Overall, it was a lot of fun, and I hope we can have more people joining us next year!





What is the 4-H Pledge

As a good 4-H member

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking

My HEART to greater loyalty

My HANDS to larger service and

My HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world.

The 4-H pledge stands for the 4 - H's of the clover.

Each of the H's represent the focus of the 4-H youth development program.

The pledge is recited and is a commitment that a 4-H member makes.

Head stands for clearer thinking: focus on decision making, planning, organizing, and problem solving.

Heart stands for greater loyalty: We dedicate ourselves to our family, community and passions; with a focus on strong personal values, positive self, concern for others, cooperation, and communication.

Hands stands for larger service: for volunteering, community service, preparing for the world of work, and useful skills.

Health stands for better living: with a focus on healthy lifestyles and stress management.

Prize Bin

The prize bin is back this year! Points will be earned when you participate in club fundraisers, participate in community service activities, read the newsletter, attend County 4-H events and go above and beyond for all things 4-H. Points can be cashed in for incentive prizes.

Looking forward to a great year ahead!

22nd Annual Youth Agriculture and Leadership BBQ - Woodcarving Demonstration Table

A special thank you to Georgia Holland and Jojo Holland for taking the time to represent our club at the 22nd Annual Youth Agriculture and Leadership BBQ on August 29. Independently they set up our club's demonstration table, displaying our club's woodcarving project, and sharing with event guests the many benefits that hands-on learning provides our youth. Thank you Georgia and Jojo for sharing your time, talent, and leading by example.

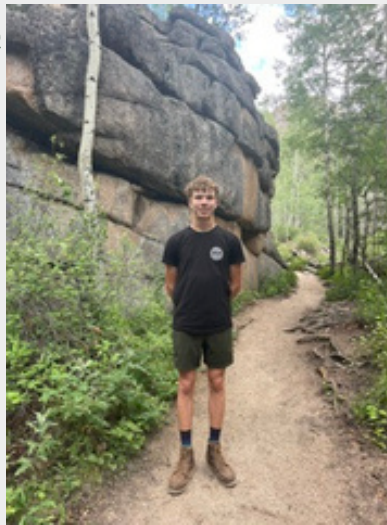


Summer Fairs

Camille Maddocks

Summer time is fair time and this summer we had three fairs! Marin County was July 1-5, the Petaluma Fair was June 18-21 and last but not least the Sonoma County Fair was August 7-16. All fairs had still exhibits, livestock events, and fun fair carnivals. This year I showed both my market lamb and breeding lamb at the Sonoma County Fair and it was a blast! The best part of the fairs is joining with other clubs and coming together as a community while having so much fun. If you didn't attend any of the fairs this year, I highly encourage you to come next year to join the fun.

Summer Photo Collage



September Shenanigans

The First Day of Fall!

Fall usually begins around September 22 or 23. It's called the autumnal equinox, when day and night are almost the same length!

Sunflowers Shine Bright!

September is a great time to see giant sunflowers in bloom. Some can grow over 12 feet tall, that's taller than two grown-ups standing on each other's shoulders!

Apple Picking Season!

September is one of the best months to pick crisp, juicy apples. There are more than 7,500 varieties of apples grown around the world!

Harvest Time!

Many farmers are busy harvesting crops like corn, pumpkins, grapes, and squash. It's one of the busiest and tastiest times of the year!

Animals Are Busy Too!

Squirrels spend September collecting acorns and hiding them for winter. They don't always remember where they put them, which helps grow new oak trees!



Independence 4-H 2026-2027 Officers

Enrollment Questions & Information

Contact

independence4hclub@gmail.com



Open Positions for this year!

Sergeant-at-Arms

Host/Hostess

Reporter

Store Manager

Teen and Junior Leaders



Executive Board

PRESIDENT-----GEORGIA HOLLAND
VICE PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMMING----CLAIRE PEDERSON
TREASURER-----BEN DEFFENBAUGH
RECORDING SECRETARY-----CAMILLE MADDOCKS
ATTENDANCE SECRETARY-----NICHOLAS BARD
CORRESPONDENCE SECRETARY-----ALICE PEDERSON
COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER-----JOJO HOLLAND
HEALTHY LIVING OFFICER-----HANNAH VAN DE MARK

Message from the Editor

Esther Hicks

Just a reminder that if you have newsletter suggestions, questions, or submissions feel free to email me at esthermhicks@gmail.com, or talk to me in person at one of the monthly general meetings. Have fun at all of are general meeting and don't forget to read the newsletters!!



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