



# INDEPENDENCE

## 4 - H

February 2025

### Feb. Club Meeting:

February 12, 6:30 pm  
Sebastopol Center for the Arts

#### February 2025

14-17: Cloverdale Citrus Fair

#### March 2025

8: 10am-4pm North Bay Science  
Discovery Day

#### April 2025

13: Fashion Revue @ YAL Center  
13: Youth Poultry Showdown  
Online Registration Due  
26: 7th Annual Youth Poultry  
Showdown - Hessel Grange

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### President's Message

Abbey Casey

Hi everyone! I hope that you all had a great January and are looking forward to an exciting Valentine's Day. We have an interesting meeting coming up this month that will include fun activities such as card-making, a fruit taste-test, and hearing club member's presentations!

On the topic of presentations, we recently had our County's Presentation Day, and the turn-out was incredible. Several members from our club attended, and everyone did a wonderful job reciting their engaging presentations and practicing their public speaking skills. Congratulations to all who participated!

Lastly, I want to remind all of you that we are officially half-way through the 4-H year, which means it is a good time to start thinking about record books, if you are planning on completing one. But, if you are not planning on completing one, it is still fun to look back and see what you have accomplished through this program year.

I am excited to see you all at our meeting on February 12th, and I hope that this fun gathering will help turn this so-far gloomy month a bit brighter!





# Community Club Leader's Letter

Lindsay Maddocks

Hello Independence 4-H Club Families!

What a wonderful start to a new year! There is so much going on, and yet so much more to come. Thank you to all our club families who helped with the annual Goat Treecycling Fundraiser. It was a wonderful success with all the funds raised returning back to our club, for the benefit of our members and our club program. A very special thank you to Hannah Van De Mark, Kathleen Cochran, Esther and Jessica Hicks for organizing/leading the event this year.

Presentation Day was a huge success. Out of all the clubs in Sonoma County, Independence 4-H had the greatest number of presenters, taking home highest awards. I am so very proud of each of you for having the courage to attend and participate, congratulations!

Fun in February comes in the form of the earliest fair in California, the Cloverdale Citrus Fair ~ February 14-17. One of the smallest fairs in our county, it has a ton to offer the community. From a parade, to rides, livestock shows, entertainment, exhibits, food and art. This year's theme "The Good Ole Days". Make time to go and check out the fair. For those who are participating in still exhibits or plan to participate in showing, I look forward to seeing what everyone enters!

Remember, 4-H provides each of you an opportunity to enjoy their current interests and explore new ones. You might just be surprised where your explorations lead you. Have a fabulously fun February!

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## New Member Spotlight

Sonny Arnold

Hi my name is Sonny and this is my first year in 4-H. I like to play video games like Minecraft and play with my dog Churro. I also like to hang out with my friends at school and I like to rock climb at the climbing gym. I like 4-H because the dog showmanship project is fun and I am learning a lot.





# Goattreecycling

Ash Hobbins

Hello everyone! We recently had our annual goat tree cycling event, which is typically one of our biggest fundraisers. This year we collected trees all across Sonoma County. In total, we picked up 129 trees and raised over \$2800 for our club! Thank you so much to all of our incredible volunteers who passed out flyers, and/or drove around to pick up trees. And a big thank you to Kathleen for organizing it! This year was definitely a success, and I can't wait to see what next year brings for us!

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## Presentation Day

Abbey Casey

On February 1st, at the Youth Ag Leadership Center, we had this year's County Presentation Day, and it went fantastically for Independence 4-H. Over 10 members of our club attended, and though I was not able to watch everyone's presentations, I heard great things about all of them.

Presentation Day is an event that I have attended for 3 years now, and I highly recommend it for people of all ages. There are so many different kinds of presentations you can do, and they all will strengthen your skills of leadership and public speaking. This event can seem scary when first thinking about it, but after doing it for multiple years, I can strongly say that the benefits outweigh the negatives. When you have the ability to give a speech about something to a room full of people, you gain concrete life skills, such as the ability to share your opinions, the confidence to talk to strangers, and the necessary capacities to be a leader.

Even though it was pouring down rain at this year's County Presentation Day, many kids still attended and achieved more than they thought possible. Almost every Independence 4-H member that participated has been given the change to go to Regionals in March. Congratulations to all of you who attended!







**Wanted to rent:** 2-4 acres agricultural land in Sonoma County  
Local model airplane club is looking to lease 2-4 acres of land in an agricultural area of northern Sonoma County (e.g., Petaluma to northern county line). The ideal flying site would be a level 2-4 acre area used for parking, picnic tables, and take-off and landing zone. An additional area beyond this would ideally be a hay field, pasture, or vineyard over which we could fly without impacting agricultural activities. Club provides insurance, annual rent (paid every 6 months), and covers the cost of site maintenance.

Please contact [contact@wcflyers.com](mailto:contact@wcflyers.com) or call Kristin @ 949.294.4681

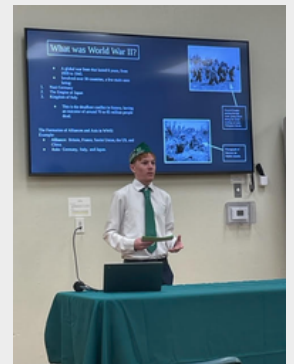
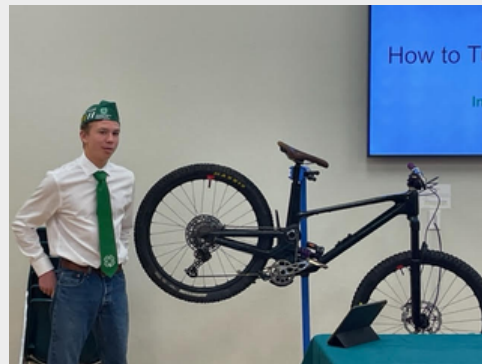
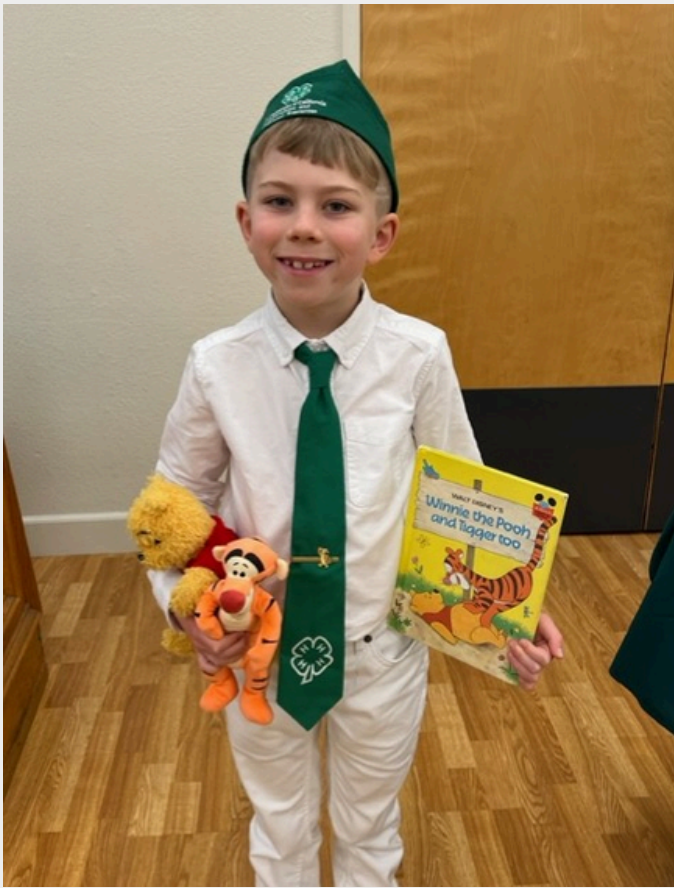
**Wanted:**

**Photographs of all our club members learning and having fun while doing all things 4-H.**

If you have photographs of project meetings, 4-H activities and events please email photographs to [independence4hclub@gmail.com](mailto:independence4hclub@gmail.com) so that we can include in monthly newsletters and year end photo album. Thank you!







## 4-H Presentation Day

### How to Adjust your Drivetrain

### Kallie-County Ambassador & Lisa

### Say Something





# Independence 4-H 2024-25 Officers

Newsletter Editor: Georgia Holland

## Prize Bin: Adelyn Maddocks

Enrollment information:  
contact [independence4hclub@gmail.com](mailto:independence4hclub@gmail.com)



## Open Positions for this year!

Sergeant-at-Arms

Host/Hostess

Historian

Reporter

Store Manager

Teen and Junior Leaders



## Executive Board

President ----- Abbey Casey

Vice President of Programming - Camille Maddocks

Treasurer ----- Sierra Hobbins

Secretary ----- Ash Hobbins

Attendance Secretary ----- Esther Hicks

Corresponding Secretary --- Hannah Van De Mark

Community Service Officer ----- Aidan Hobbins

Healthy Living Officer ----- Claire Pederson

## Message from the Editor

Just a reminder that if you have newsletter suggestions, questions, or submissions feel free to email me at [georgiaholland849@gmail.com](mailto:georgiaholland849@gmail.com) or talk to me in person at one of the monthly general meetings. Have fun at our February general meeting and don't forget to read next month's newsletter!!

For information about events and project meetings:  
Club Calendar



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.

