



# INDEPENDENCE

## 4 - H

April 2023

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### 4-H Pledge

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

### Important Upcoming Dates:

Apr. 16: County Fashion Revue

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 Apr. 29:  
 Apple Blossom Parade

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 May. 7: Sonoma Co. 4-H  
 ChickenQue

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 Jul. 10 - 15: 4-H Camp I

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 Jul. 17 - 22: 4-H Camp II

## President's Message

Wilder Larrain

Happy springtime everyone,

At our next meeting, we will be holding our club elections. We hope that all members will be able to attend the general meeting. The candidates will be giving their speeches. Afterward, all club members will have the opportunity to cast their votes.

I want to congratulate all the candidates for participating in the election process. By doing so, you are already improving your leadership skills. Whether you win or lose, you will have gained experience with public speaking and enriched our club by sharing your ideas.

Many fun 4-H events are happening in April, Fashion Revue will happen on April 16th. I hope that some of our members chose to participate in this event. Even if you didn't participate, everyone is invited to watch the fashion show at 1:30 at the YAL Center.

On April 29th, our club will be participating in the Apple Blossom Parade. If you have not already signed up to participate, there is still time to do so. You can wear your whites or you can dress in a way related to one of the projects you do. I can't wait to see Joey in his chicken costume. The parade begins at 10:00, but we will meet around 9:00.

On April 30th at 1:00, there is a Sonoma County 4-H Teen Event called Cruising Around the World. It is for kids 13-18 years old. It will be held at the YAL center. Tickets are \$20.00. Contact Lisa Schuldt at 707-974-8759 for more information.

Don't forget to buy your Chicken Que tickets and sign up for your shifts. Chicken Que will happen on May 7th.

4-H Camp is now enrolling kids. This camp is so much fun! Quinn, Harman, and I will be leaders in Camp 2. We really hope to see more Independence 4-H members there.

Sincerely,  
Wilder



# Community Club Leader's Letter

Beth Craven

Spring Greetings Independence 4-H,

While the winter rains seem continue to fall, we can see the evidence of spring in the longer days, the daffodils and blossoms on the trees. Spring is when 4-H kicks into high gear. This month we have the continuation of regional presentation days. Some of our members have already participated and won awards. Fashion Revue, a very fun event, takes place on April 16th. You should attend, just to watch. We will round out the month by walking in the Apple Blossom Parade to share how awesome Independence 4-H is with the rest of the county. Bring your 4-H and project pride.

In another way, the seasons are changing too, as Bonny and I contemplate our departure from regular club life. I'm astounded to realize my family has been members of Independence 4-H for 12 years. Where has the time gone? In those years we have learned so much about our county, our community, and ourselves. As a newcomer to Sonoma County, 4-H was my introduction to the character of our county. My kids' activities guided me. I am thankful for all the adults who committed to being project leaders and I owe a huge debt of gratitude to the women who have led our club those 12 years.

Parents, as you travel into the future of Independence 4-H with your children I encourage you to allow them to lead the way. The last few years have been hard for youth leadership with Zoom and health protocols to manage. Now that we are back in person, I think it is important that the kids take control again. They may not do the job as effectively as an adult, and that is ok. It is exactly the point of 4-H.

One of my favorite quotes is "Anything worth doing is worth doing poorly." Let the kids make a mess, especially if they are having fun. And you can keep that quote in mind when are considering volunteering to help the club. I look forward to participating in the remainder of the 4-H year with you all.

All the best,  
Beth





## Community Service Corner

Leo McDonell

Thanks to all who made creative drawings on paper placemats for Ceres (a place in Sebastopol that prepares free healthy meals and delivers them to people who are recovering from serious illnesses) at the March meeting. We dropped them off at the Ceres kitchen next to the fire station. They put them in as a surprise with the meals they deliver, to add some extra happiness.

This month we are going to try to help out migrating Monarch butterflies by providing them with habitat plants at our homes. You don't need to bring anything to the meeting for this community service activity. We will have two different types of native milkweed seeds for you to take home and plant, and we will learn a little bit about these butterflies.

## Vice President of Programming Officer Spotlight

Quinn Craven-Pittman

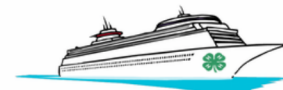
The Vice President of Programming is one of the bigger roles on the executive board. The main role of the VP of Programming is to fill the programming part of each general club meeting. Most of the time this will be by bringing in a guest speaker. You are also responsible for helping the corresponding secretary get contact info so they can write a thank-you note to the speaker. The VP of Programming also is in charge of leading the meeting when the president is absent. Of course, this position is on the executive board so you have to participate in executive board meetings. I would recommend that whoever gets this position be at least 14 years old, and you can't be afraid to reach out to people. As with all executive board positions they are a great opportunity to learn and grow as a person. I can't wait to see who runs for the position at the end of this year. Good luck!

### Sonoma County 4-H Teen Event Cruising around the World



From the moment you step board the Four-Leaf Clover Cruise Ship, you will explore Mexico, Italy, Japan, Scotland and Hawai'i through music, entertainment, and cuisine. Experience these countries with hands on activities and demonstrations. Your passport awaits you to join your fellow teen 4-H members from Sonoma County (13-18 years old). You'll collect stamps and photos from your excursion at each port. There is no better way to meet other 4-H Teens but to set sail on this adventure. Casual Cruise Attire.

Registration is required by filling out the google form [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQL5inLOY26EHSPK390Alqv1E6t28oRcGX04c4r5K4GdV7DvFKs/viewform?usp=sl\\_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQL5inLOY26EHSPK390Alqv1E6t28oRcGX04c4r5K4GdV7DvFKs/viewform?usp=sl_link)



Admission is \$20 per passenger payable to Sonoma County 4-H and mailed to 133 Aviation Blvd #109, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Please register by April 22nd

Your registration will be confirmed by receiving a boarding pass and entry onto the ship.

Departure Date: April 30, 2023  
Boarding Time: 1:00pm  
Departure Port: YAL Center

For more information please contact: Lisa Schultdt, 707-974-8759, [penngrove4h@gmail.com](mailto:penngrove4h@gmail.com) or Dana Justus, 707-477-0416. We are looking for adult volunteers to help with this event.



## Regional Presentation Day

Jackson, CA & Antioch, CA

Camille Maddocks and Clay McDonell

This month I was grateful for the opportunity to present at Regional Presentation Day, held on March 25, 2023, in Jackson, California. I had earned a blue award at our local County Presentation Day and therefore was invited to compete at a regional level. The event in Jackson was one of many event locations throughout our state, 47 youths attended. Presentation Days support 4-H youth in practicing and improving their public speaking skills.

My presentation was an Interpretive Reading of a very special poem titled “My Sister’s Horse,” written by my great uncle, Vince Pedroia. Not only did I present, but I also sat and listened to all other presentations given by fellow 4-Hers.



Back in February, I attended the county presentation day along with multiple other Independence 4-H members. I was lucky enough to win gold, which meant that I qualified to go to Regional Presentation Day. I chose to go to our local event in Antioch. When we got there, I was a little nervous that the judges would be harder on the presenters since it was a step up from the county level, but it all worked out. The evaluators were very supportive and seemed genuinely interested in our topics. There were more than thirty people there, and they even had a kitchen serving cheeseburgers!

My presentation was an Engineering talk about the bike chain cleaner that I am designing along with two other peers at my school. We are creating a bike chain cleaner that is always mounted to the user's bike and keeps their drivetrain functioning smoothly without them having to devote a large amount of time to maintenance. In my presentation, I talked about the design process we were following, what our product looks like now, what improvements we are making, and what market there is for our chain cleaner.

Because I won gold at regionals as well, now I have the opportunity to represent our club at State Presentation Day along with Camille. It was a great experience that helped me improve my public speaking and visual presentation skills and let me show a group of people the project that I have been working on. I also encourage everyone to give it a try next year!

-Clay



Presentations varied from what you need to raise ducks, the process of hatching chicks, how to make a paper airplane, 3D printing, and how to draw a duck. I was successful in receiving gold and am excited to represent our club in May at State Presentation Day at UC Davis. Competing at this level is new to me but I am enjoying practicing my public speaking skills. I am learning not to always compare myself to others, to practice and practice, all the while having fun. Next year I hope you take the opportunity to “HAVE THE COURAGE TO COMPETE!” I highly recommend that you attend Presentation Day next year!

-Camille

### GENERAL MEETINGS

Oct, Nov, Jan, Feb, March, April & May.  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
from 6:30-7:30

Sebastopol Center for the Arts / Veterans  
Building  
282 South High Street.  
(Sept. & Dec. @ YAL)

Interested in submitting your  
articles/photos to the newsletter?

Email  
[chellemc@sonic.net](mailto:chellemc@sonic.net)  
and  
[stephinezhiyi@gmail.com](mailto:stephinezhiyi@gmail.com)





# Independence 4-H 2022-23 Officers

## Newsletter Editor

Stephanie Wang

## Sergeant-at-Arms

Caleb Harriman  
Madeline Smith  
Hannah Van De Mark  
Gracie Herman  
Alice & Claire Pederson  
Jeffrey Balich-Shaw  
Claire Ball  
Wyatt Jones  
Adelyn Maddocks  
Phoenix and Thorsen  
Heartt-Johnson  
Lucina Garcia-Garner

## Store Manager

Hannah Van de Mark

## Photographer

Camille Maddocks  
Claire Pederson

## Historian

Camille Maddocks

## Prize Bin

Claire Pederson  
Ash Hobbins

## Host

Adelyn Maddocks  
Camille Maddocks  
Hannah Van De Mark

## Executive Board

Wilder Larrain ----- President  
Quinn Craven-Pittman -- Vice President of Programming  
Joey Harriman ----- Vice President of Membership  
Clay McDonell ----- Treasurer  
Abbey Casey ----- Recording Secretary  
Camille Maddocks ----- Corresponding Secretary  
Leo McDonell ----- Civic Engagement Officer  
Harman Gill ----- Healthy Living Officer

## Junior and Teen Project Leaders

Quinn Craven-Pittman --- Archery & Outdoor  
Adventures: Camping  
Abbey Casey ----- Spring: Arts & Crafts  
Harman Gill ----- Robotics  
Caleb Harriman ----- Birds: Backyard Chickens  
Ash Hobbins ----- Jewelry Making  
Sierra Hobbins ----- Baking  
Wilder Larrain ----- Leadership  
Leo McDonell ----- Mountain Biking  
Claire Pederson ----- Outdoor Adventures: Hiking

## Open Positions

- Junior Project Leaders
- Teen Project Leaders
- Club Reporters
- Song and Rec Leaders
- Sergeant-at-Arms



## Calendar

Apr. 8, 10am - 1:00 pm ----- Archery  
 Apr. 8, 2:00 - 4:00 pm ----- Dog Obedience & Agility  
 Apr. 12, 6:30 - 7:30 pm ----- Club Meeting  
 Apr. 16 ----- County Fashion Revue  
 Apr. 16, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm - Outdoor Adventures - Hiking  
 Apr. 17, 5:00 - 7:00 pm ----- Backyard Chickens  
 Apr. 22, 2:00 - 4:00 pm ----- Dog Obedience & Agility  
 Apr. 23, 10:00 - 11:00 am ---- Arts & Crafts Project  
 Apr. 28 ----- State Field Day Registration  
 Deadline

Apr. 29 - 30 ----- Apple Blossom Festival  
 Apr. 29 ----- Apple Blossom Parade  
 Apr. 30, 4:30 - 6:00 pm----- Executive Board Meeting  
 May. 2, 7:00 - 8:00 pm ----- CCC Meeting  
 May 7 ----- Sonoma Co. 4-H ChickenQue  
 May 10 ----- Due: 4-H Higher Ed. Scholarship  
 Applications  
 May. 10, 6:30 - 7:30 pm ----- End of Year Club Meeting

For more information, go to our [Club Calendar](#)