



INDEPENDENCE 4 - H

May 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:

FAIR ENTRIES (non-livestock)

Enter your creations!

May. 30: Sonoma Marin Fair Still Exhibits entries due online May 30

Jun. 30: Sonoma County Fair
Competitive Exhibits entries due online

President's Message

Wilder Larrain

Happy Spring Independence 4-H!

Our club has accomplished much this year and received some well-deserved awards.

As I look back on the year, I am left with many fond memories that I cherish. One of those is working with our fabulous Executive Board to plan our meetings and events. Thank you to Quinn, Joey, Clay, Abbey, Camille, Leo, and Harman. I also want to acknowledge our leaders who have guided us along the way. They volunteer so much of their time to help us develop as leaders and to make our club successful.

Our year is not over yet, though. We still have time to make more memories. The Chicken Que is almost here... You will get to enjoy some of the best chicken ever. Don't forget to bake and deliver your cake. Also, don't forget to sign up for your volunteer time. As your new Sonoma County 4-H All-Star Ambassador, I will arrive at the fairgrounds at 7:00 and will be there until closing time so I hope to see all of you.

We also have our May general meeting. It's an important one so please try to be there on May 10th at the Sebastopol Vet Center. Don't forget to bring something for our auction basket.

There is also still time to sign up for camp. Remember, Camp 2 is the best.

I am excited to see how our new group of leaders will thrive. Even though I have moved to a county leadership position, I will still be a proud member of Independence 4-H.

As my final message to all of you 4-Hers, I want to thank each and every one of you for making the best better. You have made my year as President one to remember.

Sincerely,
Wilder Larrain



Community Club Leader's Letter

Bonny and Beth

Hello 4-H Families,

Beth and I just wanted to tell you that it has been an honor to serve as your Club Community Leaders this year. We followed in the footsteps of Jill Wesselcamper and Mindy Wright, two amazing women who gave their all to 4-H. This year, Beth and I worked with other amazing women who made our club happen. Thank you to Lindsay Maddocks who handled our enrollment and coordinated our parade participants. Another thank you goes to Lindsay and Felicia Pederson for planning a festive holiday party. Thank you to Rosie Wu who handled the Projects. Thank you to Chelle McDonnell who set up our meeting dates, spearheaded the Goat Tree Recycling Project, organized many of our Community Service Projects, and assisted Stephanie with the newsletter. Thank you to Maria Casey who led the Gravenstein Apple Fair Parking Fundraiser and the Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser. Thank you to all of our wonderful project leaders. Thank you to all of the families who participated in our 4-H Events. Thank you to the Executive Board for giving your time and energy to plan engaging meetings and fun events. The success of our club is a group effort. As we move into the next year, I hope that all of you will think about ways that you can make the best better for our club. Beth will be following Quinn as he becomes more involved with his school's robotic team. Although Wilder is no longer on our club's Executive Board, she is now one of your Sonoma County 4-H All-Star Ambassadors. She will be representing 4-H at many of the county and state events. I will be assisting her as she takes on these new responsibilities. We hope that we will see many of you at those events too and we will continue to see you at our club meetings. Beth and I know we are leaving the club in good hands with Lindsay Maddocks and the other club leaders. The team looks forward to working with all of you so share your ideas and your enthusiasm, and let's see what we can make happen for our kids.

With Warmest Regards,
Bonny and Beth

Chelle McDonell is going to
be leading the Executive
Board next year!

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wilder Larrain

I am so happy to announce that...

Clay McDonell will be our new 2023-2024 President.

Camille Maddocks is stepping up to be our new Vice President of Programming.

Joey Harriman will remain as our Vice President of Membership.

Abbey Casey will be taking on the position of Treasurer.

Sierra Hobbins will become our Recording Secretary,

Claire Pederson will be our Correspondence Secretary,

Leo McDonell will remain our Civic Engagement Officer,

and Aidan Hobbins will be our Healthy Living Officer.

Thank you
to
Lindsay Maddocks
for volunteering
to be our 2023-24
Club Leader!



Community Service Corner

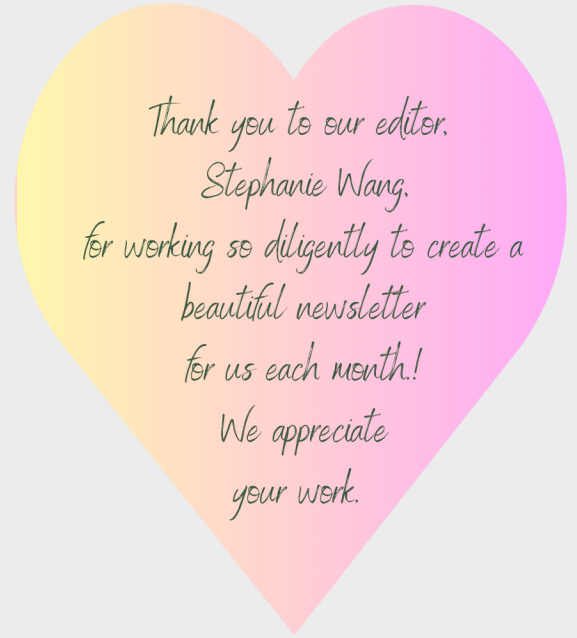
Leo McDonell

Last month we handed out seeds and information to plant local milkweed for monarch butterflies. It is all right if your seeds have not sprouted yet... we are waiting too! Since it is pretty warm, make sure you water them every day though.

This month's community service is for The Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County. Our Independence Owl Box wildlife project is working with the bird rescue. We are making cage liners for these birds at the rescue center. They just got some new owlets (baby owls). This is a really nice opportunity to help volunteers take care of these birds that are orphans or injured.

I hope you are feeling positive about all the help we've given to our human and animal communities this year in 4-H. Please give me your ideas for service in the next 4-H year. Maybe you would like to lead a service activity!

Chelle McDonell



*Thank you to our editor,
Stephanie Wang,
for working so diligently to create a
beautiful newsletter
for us each month!
We appreciate
your work.*

Healthy Living in Summer

Harman Gill

Summer provides the perfect opportunity for everyone to get outside and do outdoor activities. Here are some ideas besides swimming, camping, and biking, for having a healthy and fun summer.

1. Gardening: Start a garden and learn about growing your own fruits and vegetables. You can use one side of your backyard or just several pots. Find your favorite fruits, vegetables, or flowers, and start now. You will have beautiful plants to take care of during summer, and fruits to show off to your friends.
2. Develop a hobby: Start a hobby that will get you outside of your home. I personally feel photography is a great choice. When you play lots of video games, you get stuck inside. When you love to take photos, you want to go out and find your next object, such as people, buildings, streets, or animals. You can pick up photography at any age, and it's easy because all you need is your phone to start with.
3. Pick up trash: Whenever you are outside, on a trip at the beach or camping, picnicking or hiking, look around and take a few minutes to collect trash, to help reduce pollution to waterways and preserve our land.
4. Nature camps: Find a local nature-based camp, explore the outdoors, and learn about our local environment through hands-on activities. I recommend Camp Tule from Laguna de Santa Rosa, and Owl camps from Land Paths. If you are in high school, consider becoming a youth camp aid for those camps.

I hope some of these ideas can help you plan for a healthy summer and to make good use of your long break.





Apple Blossom Parade

photos by Ron McDonell & Robin Hobbins

We had a beautiful day at the Apple Blossom Parade, which is a much-loved tradition here in Sebastopol, representing 4-H, our club and our projects. We heard lots of shouts of "Yay 4-H!" from the spectators. Everyone loved the dogs, the wheelies and the decorated wagons!

Many thanks to everyone who represented our club in the parade, along with our friends from Goldridge!

- Jeffrey Balich-Shaw and Viki Balich
- Joey, Caleb and Jennie Harriman
- Gracie and Alison Herman
- Aidan, Ash, Sierra and Robin Hobbins
- Ahnicka Kjaer
- Adelyn, Camille and Lindsay Maddocks
- Clay, Leo, Ron and Chelle McDonell
- Lenore Ryan
- Hannah and Dan Van De Mark, Kathleen Corcoran
- Yitong Wang

A huge thank you to Lindsay Maddocks for kindly organizing the event so quickly - we appreciate you very much!



Interested in submitting your articles/photos to the newsletter?

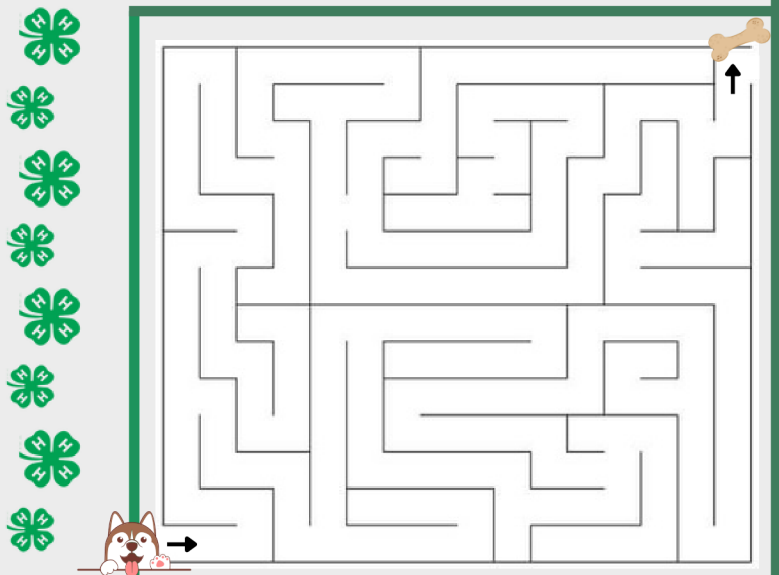
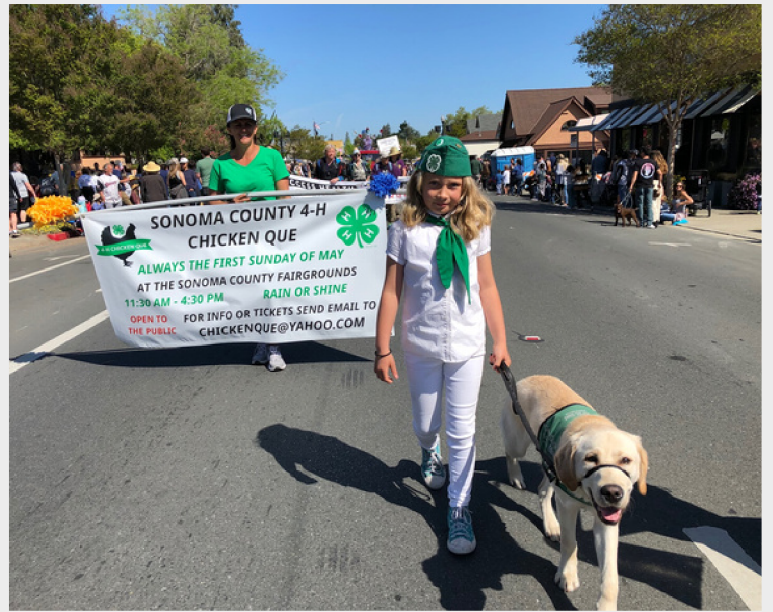
Email

chellemc@sonic.net

and

stephinezhiyi@gmail.com







Record Book Roundup

Are you interested in completing a record book this year?

If so, please connect with Lindsay Maddocks at LLmaddocks@outlook.com

There have been changes to the Record Book/Achievement Rankings as of July 1, 2023, and we will need to make sure that our club members are completing the correct record book forms this year.

Record books are due to County by 8/30/23 but our club would need them turned in by July 31, 2023, so that our club reviewers have time to review them.

Family Fun Auction Basket



Hi Independence 4-H Families,

The 4-H Foundation of Sonoma County which supports, promotes, and enhances our 4-H club is having their annual barbeque fundraiser in Fall 2023. The Foundation provides educational scholarships and grants to our 4-H clubs and members.

It's time for us to come together and do what we do best; support our 4-H youth!

Our club is creating a "Family Fun" themed basket to be auctioned off at the fall event. Our club will receive 50% of the winning bid! The gift basket will be created from new items donated by our club families or local businesses. Please donate your family's favorite game, experience, or review our Signup Genius list for some ideas.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090C48AAAF28ABFD0-family>

Even though Fall 2023 is some time away, our last general meeting of the year is May 10th so please bring your donation to our May 10th meeting or make arrangements with the following families for pickup of your item.

The Magee Family - heneveva@yahoo.com

The Maddocks Family - LLmaddocks@outlook.com

Your donation is greatly appreciated - thank you!





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

Photographer

Camille Maddocks
Claire Pederson

Historian

Camille Maddocks

Prize Bin

Claire Pederson
Ash Hobbins

Host

Adelyn Maddocks
Camille Maddocks
Hannah Van De Mark

Store Manager

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

May 7th 11:30am - 4:30pm ---- ChickenQue !
 May 10th 6:30 - 7:30pm----- Club General Meeting
 May 13th 10:00 - 1:00pm ---- Archery Project Meeting
 May 13th 2:00 - 4:00pm ----- Dog Obedience & Agility
 Projects Meetings
 May 15th 5:00 - 7:00pm ----- Backyard Chickens
 Project Meeting
 May 17th 5:00pm ----- Mountain Biking
 Project Meeting
 May 21st 10:00 - 11:00am ---- Arts and Crafts
 Project Meeting

May 27th ----- 4-H State Field Day
 at UC Davis
 May 27th 2:00 - 4:00pm ----- Dog Obedience & Agility
 Projects Meetings
 June 21 - 25 ----- Sonoma-Marin Fair, Petaluma
 July ----- 4-H Camps
 July 31st ----- Club Member Record Books
 Due to Club Leader
 August 3rd - 13th ----- Sonoma County Fair
 August 12th - 13th ----- Gravenstein Apple Fair
 September 13th ----- 1st Club Meeting 2023-24 !

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