

# Independence 4-H

## *In this Issue:*

• Editorial -	2	• 4-H Elections -	5
• Jan. Science Pod -	2	• Hydraulic Pump -	5
• CCL Letter -	3	• Arts & Crafts Project Pictures-	6
• Jan. Community Service Pod -	4	• Activity Corner -	7
• Jan. Communication Pod -	4	• 2020/21 Exec/Officers -	8
		• Calendar -	8



## President's Message

*Mia Wesselkamper*

We are well on our way in 2021! The Executive Board is working hard to plan out the rest of this year and also gathering ideas for next year.

February marks the time of year to start thinking about our annual club officer election again! Leadership is an important part of 4H and leadership positions are available for every age group. From Sergeant-at-Arms to President, each position has responsibilities at both the individual and family level. That is why it is important that you discuss your potential candidacy plans with your family to make sure they are on board. Leadership positions are a great way to grow your involvement in the club and develop valuable new skills.

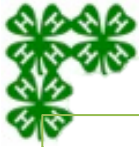
Spring and summer are typically busy times for 4H. This year undoubtedly looks different. From the Chickenque to the summer fairs, we are faced with another unusual 4H season. Please keep an ear out as we update you on how these events have adapted to COVID restrictions and how you can stay involved remotely. As always, please let any of us know if you have any questions, comments or concerns. We love to hear from you and get a better sense of what is working and what you want to see happen.

### 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.*

Be sure to stay tuned for (temporarily virtual) Independence 4-H events and activities at [https://www.independence4h.com/!](https://www.independence4h.com/)

For up-to-date information on local and statewide 4-H events during these chaotic times, feel free to browse <http://4h.ucanr.edu/>.



## Editorial - Satleen Gill

Have you ever heard of 4H Presentation Day? It is a great opportunity to practice your public speaking and communications skills while earning credit points for your 4H Record Books. Last Friday Night, I had just completed my first ever presentation for Presentation Day. I spent a couple of weeks creating a presentation on jewelry designs for the Sonoma County 4H Fashion Revue and memorizing my presentation. Before my turn to present, I was really nervous but once I started, things got pretty easy and I was able to communicate with the evaluators and audience exactly as I had planned. I also had one more presentation the next day (last Saturday morning) and it went really well. I shared an interpretive reading on William Shakespeare's *Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*. I think that this event is perfect for everybody, those who are good at public speaking as well as those who want to improve or practice. I really hope to see more of you participating next year as it is a great opportunity for 4H members. To those who presented this year, I bet you did amazing!

Staff Box:

### *The Independence 4H Newsletter*

**Editor:** Satleen Gill

**Reporters:** Leo McDonell, Clay McDonell, Wilder Larrain, Phoenix Heartt-Johnson

*The Independence 4H Newsletter is published eight times a year on the second Sunday of the month except for January and Summer. All opinions are the reporters and do not necessarily reflect other members of Independence 4H. If you would like to submit an article, send your idea to [satleengill@yahoo.com](mailto:satleengill@yahoo.com). General questions about the club can be sent to the Club Leader, Mindy Wright, at [mwright@sonic.net](mailto:mwright@sonic.net).*

## January Science Pod - Leo McDonell

Last month, the science pod studied hydraulics and made a hydrolift. It was made out of wood with multiple syringes full of water. The syringes connected to a platform with tubes. It was surprising the amount of weight you could lift with a small amount of effort. We also watched a video in hydraulic lifts. Hydraulics are used for many things in the real world such as excavators, car lifts and heavy equipment.





## Community Club Leader's Letter

Hello 4H Families!

Have you seen our 2021 club photo in this month's newsletter? It makes me smile to see all our club members in their new pod shirts and participating in our monthly general zoom meetings.

With all the uncertainty that COVID has brought us, it is often hard to find things to smile about. A lot of events have been canceled, and the status of this year's Chickenque and Camps are still up in the air. But Presentation Day did happen last weekend, and the Cloverdale Fair is happening on President's Day Weekend. And Fashion Revue is happening in April. It's not the same, that's for sure, but a lot of people are working very hard to keep these events alive. I can only imagine the amount of extra time and effort those organizers have had to put in to make these events happen this year. It would have been much easier to wait until this pandemic is behind us, but they did it for our 4-H members. We can do our part by participating in these events, even if just as spectators. Try to head up to Cloverdale this weekend to drive through the fair and see the exhibits and enjoy some fair food. Or sign up for Fashion Revue—there are categories for all ages, and even a category that requires no sewing.

Even on a club level, so much has had to change because of COVID. And we are so fortunate that our exec board was willing to meet the moment. I want to take a moment to thank them on behalf of the club. Mia, Emily, Wilder, Clay, Rowan, Leo, Quinn and Millie have added a tremendous amount of work to their plates in order to ensure that every club member could participate in a project and that our Zoom meetings would be engaging and interactive. They have been flexible with their job descriptions and added a whole new component to their work with the creation and implementation of the pod projects. And their parents deserve a shout-out too—while exec board parents are always engaged in the club, this year those parents have been the “driving force” (literally!) to ensure project supplies get to all our families. We've also been very fortunate to have this newsletter to keep communication solid between meetings. Thank you so much to our editor Satleen for her work producing our monthly newsletter!

Lenore, Hilary and Maria were all able to come up with creative ways to run their projects this year, and I know their project members have enjoyed those projects! Thanks also to Lindsay, our Volunteer Enrollment Coordinator, who handles all the registration for families and project leaders. And to Jill for the incredible amount of time she put in this year seeing the shirts to fruition, as well as her regular behind-the-scenes work for our club. We are a lucky club to have such a high level of involvement and investment from our families. Now that is something to smile about!

-- Mindy

P.S. One last thing to smile about--while it's too early to tell what we will be able to do as a club in May, we are cautiously optimistic that we will be able to meet in person or do another drive-thru. So please note the change of time for our final May meeting in anticipation of this: Wednesday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.



## January Community Service Pod - Clay McDonell

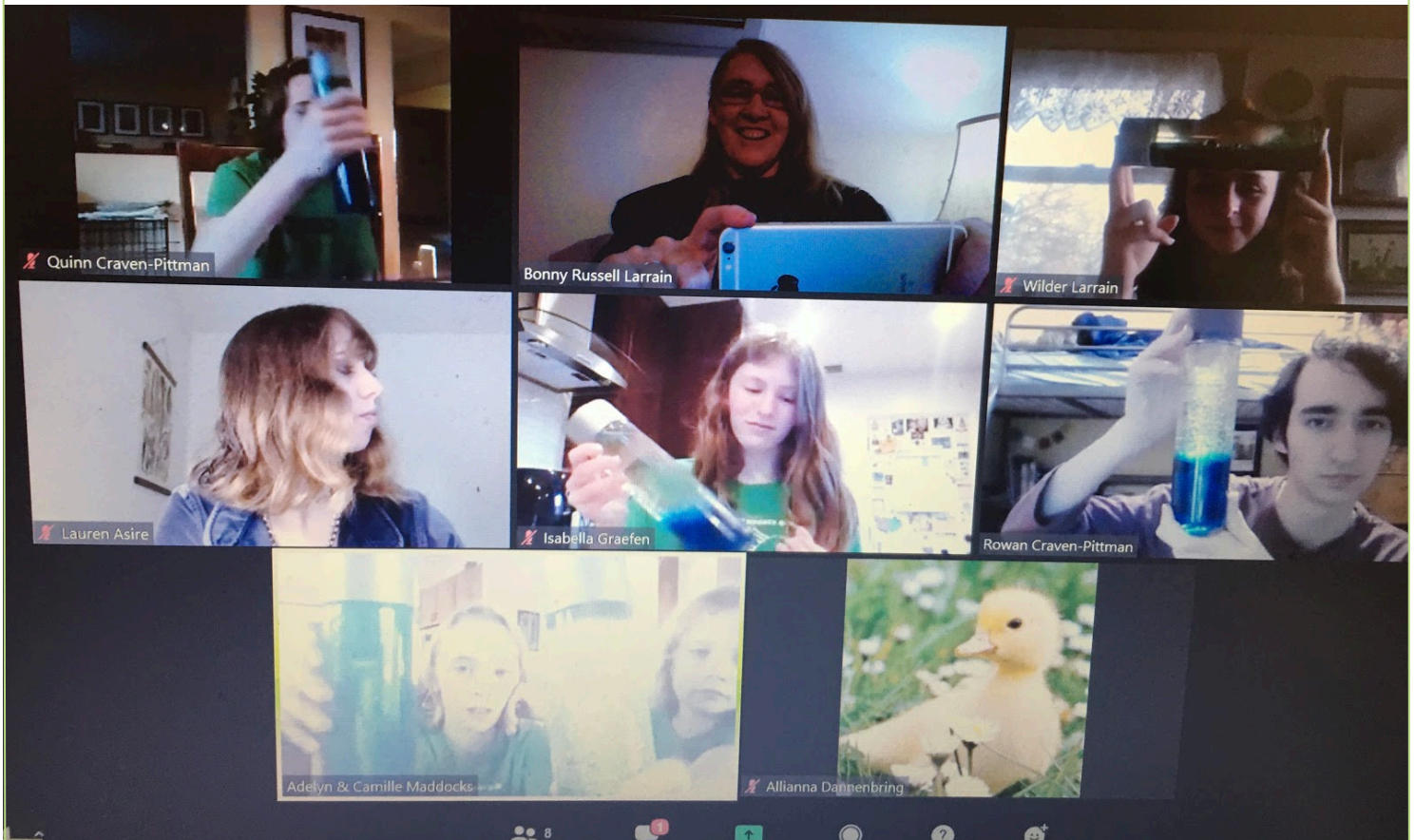
In January, our community service pod's theme was random acts of kindness. We gave our pod members a random acts of kindness list that Millie and I made. They will work on this and report back at the next meeting. During the meeting, we also made paper flowers to give to someone out of kindness. Kindness is a win-win because it makes the giver and receiver feel happy. During covid many people feel isolated, so even a small act of kindness can make a big impact on someone's life. This coming meeting we are planning a random acts of kindness bingo game.

## January Communication Pod - Wilder Larrain

The Arts/Communication Pod started off the New Year in a really fun way. Together we made an ocean in a bottle by combining water, oil, and food coloring. We created some beautiful blue waves.

We then moved on to a discussion of Presentation Day. I explained that Presentation Day gives 4H members a chance to share ideas and practice their public speaking skills. We talked about the many different types of presentations that could be done. These include demonstrations, illustrated talks, science or engineering, educational displays, informative speeches, persuasive speeches, impromptu speeches, and interpretive readings. There is also an opportunity for groups to do 4H Fun Skits or cultural arts performances. Rowan and I shared our personal experiences with the group. Rowan told about his speech on Murder Hornets and I told the group about my persuasive speech on plant-based diets. Quinn encouraged our members to give it a try.

After that, we shared the art that we had created in the last month. Adelyn and Camille did some amazing work with trees. I shared a color wheel I had created using several different mediums. Rowan and Quinn shared some of their drawings. We can't wait to see the artwork that is being created now at our February meeting.





## 4H Elections - Wilder Larrain

Each year our 4H club has an election to vote for the officers for the following year.

At our March meeting, we will be accepting nominations for the following officer positions:

President

Vice President of Programming

Vice President of Membership

Treasurer

Recording Secretary

Corresponding Secretary

Healthy Living Officer

Community Service Officer

Some of the Executive Board positions are reserved for the senior and intermediate 4H members because they require more advanced skills. Also, the officers have an additional meeting every month along with extra responsibilities.

There are also other club positions that we need to be filled. They are as follows:

Editor

Store Manager

Webmaster

Historian

Song and Recreation Leader

Prize Bin

Reporters

Sergeant-at-Arms

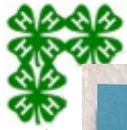
Host/Hostess

If you are new to 4H you might want to start with the Sergeant-At-Arms position. You can lead our club in the pledges. It's really fun to have a job in 4H, but it does require extra time and work. If you are considering any of these positions, talk it over with your family. If you are elected to a position, your parents will need to be involved too. As a family, decide which job might be the best fit for your family. Then we encourage you to take part in the election.

---

## Hydraulic Pump - Phoenix Heartt-Johnson

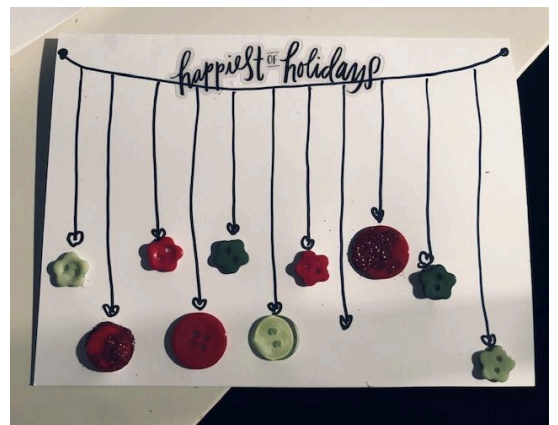
Yesterday I built a hydraulic pump in the 4H Science Club. We got a kit. When it was time for the meeting, we watched a video on hydraulic pumps. Mia, our science teacher, helped us get everything ready. It was very hard to get the string connected to the platform. There are two syringes that you connect to a plastic tube. Then, we filled the syringes with water. We connected the other side of the tube to the top of the other syringe. When we pushed the first syringe it filled the other syringe and lifted up the platform. It is one of my favorite experiments. I like the 4H Science Club a lot.



Arts & Crafts



Project Pictures

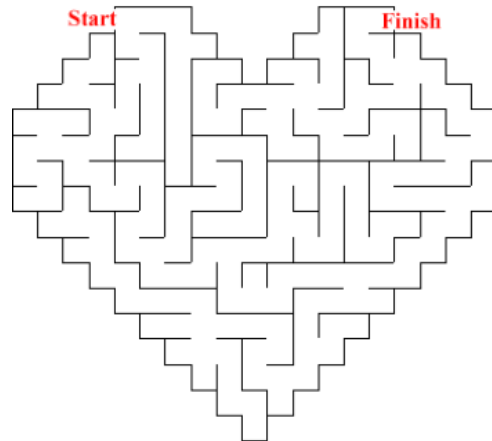
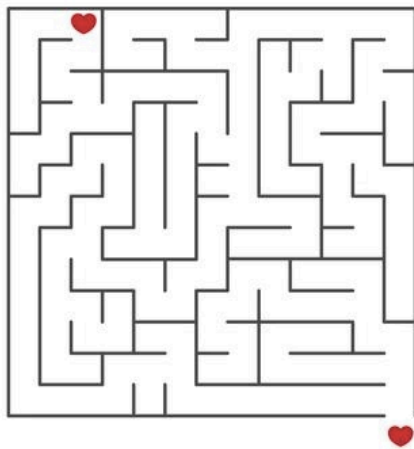




# Independence 4H 2020-2021

## Activity Corner

### Craft Project: Valentine's Day Mazes!!





## Independence 4-H 2020-21 Officers

### **Executive**

Mia Wesselkamper	President
Kathleen Larrain	VP Programs
Emily deRutte	VP Membership
Rowan Craven-Pittman	Recording Secretary
Leo McDonell	Corresponding Secretary
Clay McDonell	Treasurer
Quinn Craven-Pittman	Healthy Living Officer
Millie Wright	Community Service Officer

### **Prize Bin**

Claire Ball  
Camille Maddocks  
Hannah Van de Mark

### **Reporters**

- 1) Kathleen Larrain
- 2) Leo McDonell
- 3) Quinn Craven-Pittman
- 4) Rowan Craven-Pittman
- 5) Open
- 6) Open
- 7) Open
- 8) Open
- 9) Open
- 10) Open

### **Editor**

Satleen Gill

### **Webmaster**

Lauren Asire

### **Song & Rec Leader**

Harman Gill

### **Sergeant-At-Arms**

Kasen Brady  
Kyle Brady  
Camille Maddocks  
Hannah Van de Mark

### **Store Manager**

Iyla Kjaer

### **Host/Hostess**

Kasen Brady  
Jojo Holland  
Camille Maddocks

## **Calendar**

February 5 to 7<sup>th</sup>: Sonoma County Presentation Days

February 10<sup>th</sup> at 4pm: Monthly Club Meeting on Zoom, followed by pod project meetings.

February 12 to 14<sup>th</sup>: Cloverdale Citrus Fair

March 12<sup>th</sup>: Fashion Revue Entry Deadline