

Independence 4-H

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President's Message

Mia Wesselkamper

Our community has been through a lot in the past few weeks- I am relieved to return to the normality of the 4-H routine. I am confident in our strength to recover from the shock of what we have just gone through, and what better way to encourage recovery than to give back to those in need! This will be a perfect month for our Redwood Empire Food Bank Community Service. As demonstrated, we never know when tragedy may affect our community, so ongoing support of these agencies keeps them prepared to jump into action.

Just last month we had the Pumpkin Patch Bake Sale, which is our primary fundraiser for the year. The event was a tremendous success. A huge thank you to Millie Wright and Siena Smith (and their wonderful families!) for their hard work in organizing this event as well as everyone who contributed baked goods or worked a shift.

I would like to remind you all that our club does not receive any regular financial support from the county or state to operate. Any fundraisers we participate in are incredibly important as they enable us to continue to offer activities (parties, support for various projects, expenses, etc.) throughout the year.

We are well under way in the 2019-2020 4-H year and I hope everyone is enjoying projects as well as general meetings. I will continue to remind you that if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please don't hesitate to talk to any member of the executive board or our Community Club Leader, Mindy Wright.

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.

Thanks So Much!

A huge Independence 4-H thank-you to all the families who baked goodies for our bake sale fundraiser. And fundraise we did, bringing in over \$1,100 over the two days! Special thanks to the families who helped staff our booth: The Asire Family, Buchanan Family, Craven-Pittman Family, Gill Family, Ginsberg Family, Herman Family, Hobbins Family, Koelemeijer Family, Larrain Family, LaRocca-Smith Family, Mills Family, Riley-Reed Family, Van De Mark Family, Wesselkamper Family and Wright Family. Kudos to teen committee chairs Siena Smith and Millie Wright for their leadership organizing the event, leading a baking demo at the Club meeting as well as a cupcake decorating meeting in preparation of the event. And huge thanks to Kristie LaRocca and Jill Wesselkamper for the extra time put in coordinating the event. It's a club-wide effort, and thanks to your help we met our fall fundraising goal!

Community Club Leader's Letter

For many of us, the highlight of November is Thanksgiving, a day we celebrate with friends and family and reflect on how much we have to be thankful for. And this month, many of us in Sonoma County have a lot to be grateful for. While the Kincadee Fire was horrific, the scope of loss was not nearly as devastating compared to what our region endured two years ago. Many families in our club were among the 180,000 Sonoma County residents who had to evacuate, and many who did not have to evacuate sat in houses for days without power. While very challenging, I think most felt grateful for the emergency planning and grateful the winds did not behave the same way they did in 2017. And most of all, grateful for the 4,957 fire personnel who fought this massive fire, ensuring not one life was lost. This Thanksgiving, Sonoma County has a lot to give thanks for.

That being said, homes were destroyed, residents have been displaced, and thousands of evacuees returned home to refrigerators full of spoiled food because of the power outages. While every November our club hosts a food drive for the Redwood Empire Food Bank, this year it's especially important to receive donations as the need is so great. The REFB has been setting up emergency distribution sites to help those who cannot afford to replace the food they lost from the fires and/or power outages. This is in addition to their annual work of providing meals to 82,000 Sonoma County residents. **So please be sure to bring your donations to the November 13th Club Meeting.** If you have time, taking your child door-to-door to collect canned goods can be a very rewarding experience, a way to let our young ones volunteer in the community. If you're having one of those hectic weeks (months?) don't dismiss the power of writing a donation check- for the rest of the year, the Gallaher Family is doing a dollar-for-dollar donation match. If you go that route, be sure to write the check out to Redwood Empire Food Bank and put Independence 4H Food Drive in the memo line.

In addition to the Food Drive, the Exec Board is planning a community service activity for the next meeting to help the displaced, so we hope you can make the meeting.

As we think about what we are grateful for this month, I just wanted to mention how grateful I am to be part of a club with such wonderful families who do so much for our community.

Take care and happy Thanksgiving!

Mindy

Redwood Empire Bank Food Drive (Community Service)

This year we will be continuing the club tradition of collecting food to donate to the Redwood Empire Food Bank. The Redwood Empire Food Bank provides 82,000 children, seniors, and adults with food, and meals in Sonoma County alone. 9.1 million pounds of fresh produce is offered through their programs. It takes over 50,000 pounds of food donated by their major food donors. Less than 5% of their food comes from food drives, so let's help!

*****Our most needed items*****

Tuna and Canned Meat • Peanut Butter • Canned Soups, Stews, and Chili • Rice and Dry Beans • Cereal • Canned Fruits and Vegetables • High Protein Granola Bars • Trail Mix/Nuts

Reminder: No glass • No perishable items • No open items • No homemade items • No items past their "use before" date

Please bring items to donate to our November club meeting.

Thank you,

Caleb, Joseph, and William Harriman

Save the Date!

February 1st, 2020:
County Presentation Day.

February 8th, 2020: Youth
Agriculture and Animal
Science Field Day with
Keynote Speaker Temple
Grandin.

April 4th, 2020: County
Fashion Revue.



The Golden Clover Project

Mille Wright

For this month's General Meeting program, I decided to reach out to Steve Danek. Steve is a part of Golden Hills 4-H. He and his club are organizing the Golden Clover Project. The Golden Clover Project is a 3-D printing project that is trying to make a giant 3-D printed clover. Individual 4-H clubs are joining the project. Each club will print one or two pieces of the 3-D printed puzzle. Each piece is being printed by LuBan software, an organization promoting STEM engagement in youth. Independence 4-H is so excited to participate in the project. For this month's program, Steve is going to come to our club and talk about all things Golden Clover and 3-D printing. I am so excited to participate in this project and am grateful for Steve to come to our meeting!

Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser

Millie Wright

The annual Independence 4-H Pumpkin Patch bake sale was a huge success this year! Every year, Independence 4-H puts on a bake sale to raise funds for the 4-H year. Because Quarry Hill Earth Day Celebration was canceled, we wanted to make the only bake sale with will do this year count. On October 19th and 20th, 4-H families came and volunteered at our lovely bake sale booth. We had everything from cookies and cupcakes to face painting. Everyone who signed up dropped off their baked goods on the 18th. That day, I organized a cupcake decorating event for all those dedicated cupcake chefs. I really liked that addition to the tradition because the cupcakes all looked uniform and sold really well. The Wrights and the Smiths, along with all the other 4-H families who contributed, made this Pumpkin Patch an event to remember! A big thank-you to everyone who participated.





My New Rabbit

Abbey Casey

About 6 weeks ago I got an adorable Hollad Lop. I named him Toby. I got him from a breeder in Napa. The rabbitry was called Berryessa Lionheads. They bred Lionheads, Holland Lops, and Mini Rexes. We drove about an hour to get him. He was living in a small cage, and the rabbit next door peed on him. He also had a sister, and I had to choose between the two. It wasn't that hard of a decision because Toby was amazing.

Even with his sad story of where he lived he also had a backstory. As a baby his sister could not drink his mother's milk, so she had to be bottle fed which led to them living in the breeder's house and running anywhere that they wanted. This is why it is hard for me now. Toby always wants out of his cage to run around my room, but what is even harder is getting him back in the cage. He is a snuggly rabbit if you are able to grab him, and he is also very fluffy.

My experience of getting a rabbit has been different than I imagined it to be. It is a lot of work. I have to check on him when I can to make sure he has enough water, hay, and to also make sure he is not too hot. I mentioned that he runs around my room, and that is because he lives in my room. Even though he lives in my room I try to let him out to be in his outdoor cage as much as possible. The outdoor one is not suitable for him to live in, but it is a great place for him to visit.

Overall getting a rabbit has been a great experience, and I will hopefully show him at a fair when we are ready. I really suggest a rabbit to the people who are looking for an animal to get for 4-H. They are really fun, and even though they are a lot of work you would have a great time.



Record Book Round Up

Record books are a rewarding way to track your growth and knowledge development in 4-H. They do require an investment of time, beginning with each family reading the Record Book Manual (RBM) to understand how the book is organized. To help 4-H'ers who are starting to keep a record book for the first time, we'll be highlighting a few activities in the newsletter every month that you can list if you attended that event. After each event, we will list the category it would most likely fit under, as explained in the RBM. This list will not be comprehensive, but hopefully assist your 4-H'er as they spend a little time each month as they reflect and record everything they did that month in 4-H.

For October:

Did you start a new project or attend a project meeting? Be sure you've started an Annual Project Report Page (Section 4) for each of the projects you are enrolled in, and write down the date, time and what you did at every meeting in those APR pages.

If you attended Achievement Night, list it in PDR 3, 4-H Events.

If you baked for the club Pumpkin Patch, or volunteered at the Pumpkin Patch, list it under PDR 5.

For November:

If you collect food from friends and neighbors and bring it to the club meeting for our Redwood Empire Food Bank Drive, record that under PDR 5, Citizenship and Community Service.

If you attend every club meeting, you will receive a 100% Attendance Pin.



Activity Corner

Feeling crafty and in a holiday mood?
Try making a felt and pinecone Thanksgiving turkey!

Tools & Materials: Scissors, Low-Temp Hot Glue Gun or Craft Glue, Pine Cones, Googly Eyes, Felt, Marker

Procedure

For the felt:

Trace your hand twice on the felt with a marker, and cut the outlines out.

(Optional) Trace around your finger, making it bigger than your actual finger. Cut this out.

Next, cut out a small triangle or diamond for the beak.

(Optional) For legs, draw two slender rectangles with 3 toes at one end.

(Optional) For the snood, trim a tiny teardrop-shape out of red felt.

Gluing:

Glue the two felt hands that you cut out together.

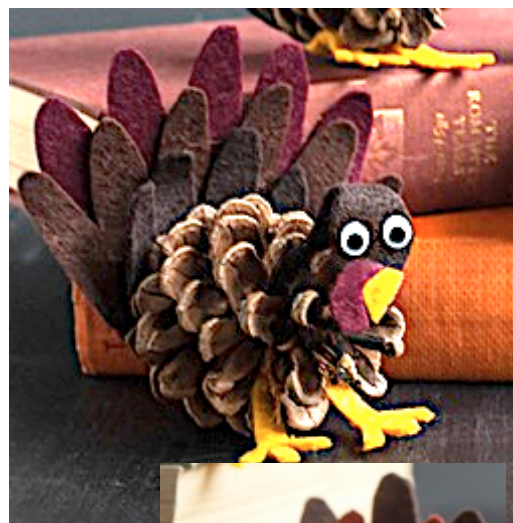
Glue 2 googly eyes on the front of the turkey, or on the neck if you chose to do one. Glue the snood on above the eyes and beak.

Glue the tail onto the back of the pinecone. This may take a few minutes to dry; make sure you add enough glue.

If you chose to do a neck, glue it into the pinecone. Otherwise, stick the beak and googly eyes directly on the front of the pinecone.

If you decided to do legs, glue them onto the bottom of your pinecone with the feet sticking out.

Your turkey is now complete!



Editor's Note

I am looking forward to beginning a new (and hopefully uneventful!) November. While some of us were more closely impacted by the Kincade Fire than others, the display of genuine support from the community was present, even as nerves frayed and anxiety levels rose. This is something I find very heartening. Preceding the fire was the Pumpkin Patch Fundraiser; it seems that it was a major success! The Food Drive is another important community service project, and very simple to participate in. As the holidays approach, some projects culminate- Thanksgiving marks the seasonal end to the Heritage Meat Turkey Project, a great venture that I have participated in for a long time. If **you** have a favorite project, be sure to share photos or experiences with the club! You can email them to me at buttercup.farm@yahoo.com and I will include them in the newsletter.

Sophia Ginsberg



Independence 4-H 2019-20 Exec Board/Officers

Mia Wesselkamper	President
Millie Wright	VP Programs
Satleen Gill	VP Membership
Rowan Craven-Pittman	Recording Secretary
Leo McDonell	Corresponding Secretary
Clay McDonell	Treasurer
Quinn Craven-Pittman	Healthy Living Officer

Junior/Teen Leaders

Lauren Asire (Cavies)
 Rowan Craven-Pittman
 (Archery, Outdoor Adventure)
 Iyla Kjaer (Wreath Making)
 Karissa Konezny (Soapmaking)
 Kathleen Larrain (Cooking)
 Mia Wesselkamper (Rabbits)
 Millie Wright (Cooking, Record
 Books)

Junior and Teen Leaders are always
 needed! If you would like to become
 one, please email Mindy at
mwright@sonic.net.

Editor

Sophia Ginsberg

Webmaster

Tyler Buchanan

Historians

Karissa Konezny
 Sierra Hobbins
 Abbey Casey
 Kailey Hobbins

Song & Rec Leaders

Lauren Asire
 Harman Gill

Prize Bin

Emily DeRutte

Reporters

- 1) Rowan Craven-Pittman
- 2) Satleen Gill
- 3) Leo McDonell
- 4) Quinn Craven-Pittman
- 5) Abbey Casey
- 6) Open
- 7) Open
- 8) Open
- 9) Open
- 10) Open

Store Manager

Siena Smith

Sergeant-At-Arms

Sept: Lauren Brady
 Sept: Kyle Brady
 Oct: Kasen Brady
 Oct: Abbey Casey
 Nov: Aiden Hobbins
 Nov: Sierra Hobbins
 Dec: Tyler Buchanan
 Dec: Alex Coconos
 Jan: Leo McDonell
 Jan: Claire Pedersen
 Feb: Emily DeRutte
 Feb: Wyatt DeRutte
 Mar: Isabella Graefen
 Mar: Hannah Van de Mark
 Apr: Open
 Apr: Open
 May: Open
 May: Open

Host/Hostess

Oct: Camille Maddocks
 Nov: Lauren Brady
 Jan: Tyler Buchanan
 Feb: Abbey Casey
 Mar: Open
 Apr: Open
 May: Open

Committee Chairs (4-H Members)

Fall Food Drive: Joseph and
 Caleb Harriman
Pumpkin Patch: Siena Smith and
 Millie Wright
December Holiday Party:
 Executive Board
Spring Egg Hunt: Kathleen
 Larrain
Apple Blossom Parade Float:
 Open
**ChickenQue Planning
 Committee:** Open

Note: if you see a position
 labeled "Open" in red that you
 would be interested in filling,
 please email Mindy and
mwright@sonic.net to secure
 your spot!