



INDEPENDENCE

4 - H

January 2025

Jan. Club Meeting:

January 8, 6:30 pm

Sebastopol Center for the Arts

January 2025

13: Youth Vine Pruning Practice-
Emeritus Vineyards, Sebastopol @
4pm

19: Presentation Day Entry Forms
Due

19: Youth Pruning Contest/Viticulture
Challenge @ 8:30am-Shone Farm

20: State Ambassador Application
Due for 25-26 term

26: Cloverdale Fair Entries Close ~
Online entries only this year

February 2025

1: Presentation Day at YAL Center:
9am-2:30pm

1: Farm Bureau Crab & Wine Fest:
Volunteer or Attend

1: Cloverdale Citrus Fair drop-offs
14-17: Cloverdale Citrus Fair

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President's Message

Abbey Casey

Hi all! I hope you guys had a very happy holidays and an amazing start to the new year. Our next meeting is coming up on January 8th, and its focus is going to be Presentation Day.

Presentation Day is an event that comes every year, where you speak about something you are passionate about in front of a group. There are many types of presentations you can do, ranging from an Educational Display Talk, where you make a poster and speak about it, to an Interpretive Reading, where you read a book passage and talk about your interpretation.

At first, Presentation Day can seem incredibly scary. Getting up and speaking in front of a large group takes a lot of determination and courage, but it is well worth it. Doing Presentation Day for the past few years has taught me a lot about public speaking and helped me in not only 4-H, but also in school, sports, and more.

It is also especially important to know how to use your voice to speak on your passions and stand up for what you believe in. So, if you are interested in taking this leap and doing Presentation Day, it is at the YAL Center on February 1st. Entry Forms are due by 11:59 pm. on January 19th, and if you need help with anything, you can come talk to the board or adult leaders at our next meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all on the 8th, and I hope you all have a relaxing rest of your winter break!





Community Club Leader's Letter

Lindsay Maddocks

Happy New Year Independence 4-H Club Families!

I hope you all enjoyed the holidays and time together with family and friends! As we ring in a new year, it's a great time to reflect on the past and look ahead with excitement to what awaits.

The past year has brought fun and new experiences for all. The start of our new 4-H year welcomed wonderful new and returning families to our club. It has been a joy getting to know each other, sharing in projects, new learning opportunities, events and community activities. Gathering together at our holiday party, sharing a meal, the fun games, and the showcasing of our club's Arts & Crafts project was a festive evening. A special thank you to Esther, Claire, and the Executive Board for organizing the party.

As we look ahead to a new year, I challenge each of you to make the best better. How can you make the best better? Look at some of the upcoming 4-H events that our members can participate in and challenge yourself. Get involved!

Presentation Day is a wonderful opportunity to introduce you to speaking in front of people. I know it can seem very scary, but communication is key to becoming a leader but more importantly it is about becoming yourself. To be able to express and share your ideas, thoughts, and opinions is how we share with the world who we are. Each of you has something special to share with others, so I challenge you all to have the courage to practice speaking at this year's event.

Our first fair arrives in February, the 133rd Annual Cloverdale Citrus Fair. Share your interests and talents with your local community. Get your creations ready: crafts, drawings, lego displays, photography, baked goods, woodcrafts, apiary and creative writing and so much more, can be showcased at the fair. Your creations do not have to be made in 4-H, they can be something you have done on your own or in school. I look forward to seeing what everyone enters!

As we welcome 2025, continue to believe in yourself, have the courage to try new things, get involved, and have FUN. Please remember that each of you has something very special to offer your club and community. Looking forward to sharing in new adventures in the year ahead!

Odd Cookie Bakery Thank You

A very special thank you to Ana Rodriguez of [Odd Cookie Bakery](#) for generously donating cookies to the Arts & Crafts December Project meeting. From cinnamon roll cookies, to snickerdoodle and dark chocolate, they were all very much enjoyed and appreciated. Address: 10000 Main St., Penngrove.



Goattreecycling

Hannah Van De Mark

Our Goat Tree-Cycling Fundraiser is underway. This is the club's largest fundraiser for the year. This year's goal is to raise \$4,000 which is approximately 200 trees. There's still time to sign up and volunteer to pick up trees with a truck or join with another family. Pick up the trees after the holiday season and deliver to goat farms the dates we need help are: January 8, January 11, and January 12. If you have any questions, please email katcor@gmail.com. Thank you for supporting our club!



New Member Spotlight

Ben Deffenbaugh

Hi, I'm Ben Deffenbaugh, 10 years old, and joined 4H a couple months ago! I love to read, currently reading the Percy Jackson series which is great! Also into Legos and Pokemon! I am on the Sebastopol Sea Serpents swim team and swim about 4 days a week.

Everyone has been really nice so far in 4H and I have enjoyed starting wood carving, legos and dog training projects! Also looking forward to Mountain biking!



Presentation Day Reminder

County Presentation Day is February 1st
Entry forms are due January 19th. [Entry Form](#)

4-H youth have the opportunity to practice their public speaking skills at this 4-H County event. Pick from a variety of categories that may interest you. The categories include a demonstration, a demonstration/illustrated talk, science or engineering presentation, informative prepared speech, persuasive prepared speech, impromptu speech, interpretive reading, or an educational display. Boosts your confidence and enhances your public speaking skills. For more information visit:

https://cesonoma.ucanr.edu/4H/Events/Presentation_Day/



20th Annual Saralee McClelland Kunde Memorial

**Sonoma County Youth Pruning Contest and
Viticulture Challenge**
**Sunday, January 19, 2025 8:30 am at
Shone Farm**


back-up date January 26th in case of rain

Open to Sonoma County Youth, 4-H, FFA
and High School Viticulture Students in the
following age brackets:
 Ages 9-10; 11- 12; 13; 14-15; 16-19

Pre-Contest Pruning Practice and
Instruction open to all: January 13th, 4pm
at Emeritus Vineyards

Individual and Team prizes for Pruning
Contest & Viticulture Challenge.

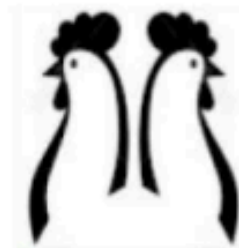
Register by January 11, 2025
 Entry form and Sponsorship info available
 on YF&R program page of SCFB website

Contest hosted by  **FYR**
 Sonoma-Marin YF&R





7th Annual Sonoma County Youth Poultry Showdown



Presented by Penngrove 4-H Club

Saturday, April 26, 2025 Check In: **7:00 a.m. - 8:30am**

Hessel Farmers Grange: 5400 Blank Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472

Activities Start: 9:00 a.m.

Registration Due Online or by Mail on April 13, 2025

Exhibitor Fee \$5; Entry Fee - \$2 per entry in each category

Must Pre-enter for all the categories below:

Photo Contest - Limit to 2 entries per youth. Photo taken by the exhibitor. Poultry related only. No photo larger than 8x10. No Frames. Should be presented on a matted board.

Poster Board- Educational - Limit to 2 entries per youth. Must be on poster board size: 24" x 36", or tri-fold presentation board. Poultry related subject only.

Decorated Egg - Limit 2 entries. 1 egg consists of one entry, Egg must be hard boiled or blown, Egg is to be adorned, decorated, painted, or inked. The outline of egg must be recognizable. Egg decoration must be created by the exhibitor.

Live Poultry Judging Contest - participants evaluate four live birds and rank them.

Breed Identification Contest - participates will identify the breed, class, variety and comb type (single bird).

Natural Egg Competition - 3 Eggs - Limited to 2 entries per Division 1 entry consists of a group of 3 eggs. Judging Criteria: Shell color (when breed standard has stated color, variation from this penalized), shape, texture, uniformity. Entries shall note the breed of eggs, non-standard (non-recognized by APA), mix or unknown ancestry. For Division descriptions please refer to entry form.

Bird Show- Large Fowl, Bantams, Duck, Geese and Turkey Division. Refer to entry form for details on divisions and classes.

Showmanship

Knowledge Quiz

Other possible activities

Entries and fees must be completed and paid by April 13, 2025.

Space Fee: Sale Cage \$10 per cage. Max 5 bantams or 3 Large Fowl per cage.



Independence 4-H 2024-25 Officers

Newsletter Editor: Georgia Holland

Prize Bin: Adelyn Maddocks

Enrollment information:
contact lmaddocks@outlook.com



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**

Open Positions for this year!

Sergeant-at-Arms

Host/Hostess

Historian

Reporter

Store Manager

Teen and Junior Leaders



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 or talk to me in person at one of the monthly general meetings. Have fun at our January 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.

