The Clover Post

To enrich education through diversity the University of Idaho is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication or program information or reasonable accommodations need to contact the Dianne Hobbs at 287-5900, 5880 Glenwood St, Boise, ID 83714, one week before the scheduled event.
From a young age, Allen was fortunate enough to be positively mentored and guided by many caring adults in his life: parents, teachers, coaches, and other youth leaders. These positive experiences drive Allen to provide the same transformational opportunities for more youth. He is thrilled to be joining UI Ada County Extension in providing these positive youth development opportunities through the 4-H program!

Allen first began working with 4-H as a volunteer club leader in Utah as a student in college. As he focused his studies on youth development within the Department of Recreation Management with a minor in Nonprofit Management at Brigham Young University, he was inspired to volunteer in community youth programs. While in Provo, Allen was hired on as a site coordinator for the Utah County 4-H Mentoring program. There he enjoyed successfully managing volunteer mentors and their mentees and recruiting members into the program. He completed his Bachelor’s degree at BYU in April 2015 and shortly after accepted an opportunity to study for a Master’s degree on a research assistantship at Texas A&M University in the Department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Sciences. While there, he studied youth program quality and structuring experiences within Texas 4-H. Some of Allen’s accomplishments include collaborating with other local organizations to create engaging “special interest” clubs that introduce kids to outdoor activities, STEM activities, healthy eating, sports, and more. He has also volunteered extensively with various youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America as a Cubmaster and Cub Scouts Den Leader. He is a certified NASP archery instructor, and graduated from Texas A&M University in December 2017.

Allen is inspired by 4-H’s commitment to “learn by doing” and getting kids outdoors, as well as by Richard Louv’s book *Last Child in the Woods*. He has a passion for positive youth development, creating memorable experiences, outdoor education, helping others through meaningful service, and building relationships of trust. He is a California native from Merced, the “Gateway to Yosemite”, and grew up going to the beach and hiking and camping in the mountains. He enjoys spending time with his beautiful wife and children, as well as bird watching and rock climbing.

**Meet and Greet!**

*Everyone is welcome* to come and meet the new 4-H Extension Educator on Thursday, January 4th, 6 p.m. There will be refreshments served. We hope to see 4-H leaders, members, and families come by and meet our newest 4-H representative!
Upcoming Events!

Ambassador Retreat

Ambassador retreats are open to all 4-H members who have completed the 6th grade. If you would like to learn more about representing 4-H in your community as a 4-H Ambassador then this retreat is for you!

There are four different retreats held during the course of the 4-H year. Each retreat will focus on a different part of the 4-H pledge. You are welcome to go to any of these retreats!

The Southern District Retreat is February 2-4 in McCall. This year the retreat will cover the 4-H Heart. The weekend will include inspiration, sharing, and leadership development. Learn to improve your life and other people’s lives. Register using your 4-H Online account.

Other retreats include:
- **Northern Retreat**: January 13-15
  Post Falls, ID
  Topics: 4-H Head

- **Central District**: March 16-18
  Albion, ID
  Topics: 4-H Hands

- **Eastern District**: April 20-22
  Inkom, ID
  Topics: 4-H Health

Idaho Horsemanship Award

The Idaho Horsemanship Award is a test of knowledge and skills in horsemanship. This award is a two part contest consisting of a written test and a riding performance test.

This contest is open to youth ages 14 and up (as of January 1, 2018) and not more than 19.

Applications are available at the Extension Office and are due by February 2 to the Ada County Extension Office.

Baking Project

If you want to learn about baking you can jump right in with this class starting January 5!
- Fridays, January 5 to February 9
- 6 to 8 pm
- Capital High School 8055 W Goddard
- $25 for 4-H members ($40 for non-members - this includes $15 membership fee)
By: Madison Koetsier
Birds of a Feather 4-H Club

Tis the Season to be thankful and merry. This winter you can expect to see a lot of 4-H kids showing their thankfulness and merriness as they volunteer with various projects throughout the Treasure Valley. You may have already seen several 4-H club members participate in the Rake-Up Boise event this November. Volunteering in events, such as Rake-Up Boise, is part of the 4-H experience. Other volunteering opportunities 4-H clubs are doing this winter include: Toys-for-Tots, Coats-for-Kids, Shoveling driveways, Adopt-a-Family, Shop-with-a-Cop, Saint Alphonsus Wreaths, and more.

4-H club members are willing to spend their spare time volunteering to better their communities and help others. They are also spending their money to buy items that are needed by others. The 4-H motto is to make the best better, and that is exactly what is being done this winter season.

4-H members especially wish to bring joy to less fortunate children, and some of the ways that they achieve this is by donating coats, toys, and time to bring these children a very merry Christmas.

But volunteering is not just for 4-H kids; it is something we can all do to make the Treasure Valley a better place. So go out and shovel your neighbor’s driveway to make their day, or spend some time donating some toys or coats to the less fortunate. After all....Tis the Season!
Information

Shooting Sports Certification

If you would like to teach shooting sports you can become certified in up to two disciplines!

- March 2-4
- Caldwell/Emmett
- Archery, pistol, rifle, and shotgun
- $60 for one or $85 for two disciplines
- Registration deadline February 16

All 4-H leaders must be 4-H certified to teach shooting sports. The Ada County Leader’s Association offers scholarships to leaders for this training.

If you can’t make this training there is another offered in Moscow.

- March 31
- Moscow
- Archery and rifle
- $75
- Registration deadline March 16

2018 Weigh In Dates

**Beef:** March 3, 2018
Treasure Valley Livestock Auction

**Swine:** May 10, 2018
Expo Idaho

**Sheep:** May 17, 2018
Expo Idaho

**Goat:** May 17, 2018
Expo Idaho

4-H Leader Requirements!

We’ve noticed that many 4-H volunteers have not watched the “Minor Protection” video. All chaperones, fair supervisors, and leaders are required to watch this video annually.

If you have not watched the video yet and want to watch a different version then join us at 6:30 pm on Thursday, January 4! This will be shown before the scheduled leader meeting.

This video does not count as a training. This video is required by the university.

To Make the Best Better
October/November 4-H Calendar

January
1 Office closed
4 Meet and Greet new 4-H Extension Educator, 6 pm, Extension Office
4 Watch the Minor Protection Video (for annual leader requirement), 6:30 pm
4 Leader’s meeting, 7 pm, Ada County Extension
11 Endowment Board meeting, 7 pm. Location TBA
13-15 Northern District ambassador retreat, Post Falls
27 Counselor training

February
1 Leader’s meeting, 7 pm, Ada County Extension
2 Application due for Idaho Horsemanship award
2-4 Southern District Ambassador Retreat, McCall
8 Endowment Board meeting, 7 pm, location TBA
10 Livestock judging contest, Twin Falls
16 Registration deadline shooting sports trainings Caldwell
17-19 KYG, Boise
19 Office closed
20-23 Written test Idaho Horsemanship award
24 Counselor training

Mark Your Calendar! Important 2018 Dates!

4-H Adventure Camp:
       June Kids Camp: June 21 to 24
       Teen Camp: July 9 to 13
       August Camp: August 3 to 6

Western Idaho Fair: August 17 to 26
       Fair Orientation: July 19
       Interview Evaluations: August 13 and 14
       Market Sale: August 21

Endowment Board Scholarships:
Due 30 days before the event unless otherwise noted. The scholarship forms are available at:
   http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/county/ada