

February 15-17, 2014

Volume 27

# KYG 2014 Making the Scene Newsletter



## Scene Selection:

Jeff Isom	2
Judicial Case	2
Bill 111	3
Bill 222	3
Bill 333	4
Bill 444	4
Bill 555	5
4-H License Plate	5
State 4-H Staff	6
Action Shots	7
Shea Saralecos	8
U of I 125 years	8
Lindstrom's Cookie	9
Social Media	9
Meet the Press	10
Crossword Puzzle	11
Life as a Page	12
Sponsors	12

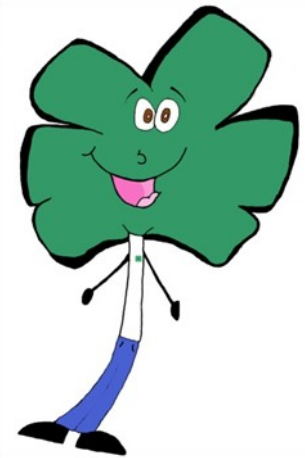
## Introducing: KYG Clover

Just like most plants Clover started out as a tiny seed. He lived in a potato patch on a farm in Boise, Idaho. He wasn't quite sure how he had been planted with the potatoes, but he was there. As much as he loved watching the potatoes grow he envied all the other clovers that had an extraordinary venue to gaze over. All the dreams of watching concerts, going to the fair, seeing animals, and most importantly seeing more of Idaho were the only things that kept him hopeful. Little did he know his dreams were about to come true very soon.

On a hot dry day in August, the farmer's children were getting ready for the fair. Betsy was in the middle of trying to get her steer, Daisy in the trailer, but Daisy wouldn't budge. Betsy didn't know what to do so she went inside the barn to try and get help from her older brother Roberto. While she was in the barn, Daisy wandered over to the potato patch to nibble on some grass that hadn't been cultivated. Then all of a sudden Clover heard a loud MOOO and heavy feet pounding the earth. Particles of dirt began to bounce off the ground and the earth began to move upward. Before Clover knew it he had been uprooted and was stuck to the bottom of Daisy's hoof.

It wasn't too long before the family arrived at the fairgrounds. Daisy was unloaded and guided to her pen before Clover realized where he was. He was at the fair! Of course he ran around looking at all the animals and other exhibits as quickly as he could. As he looked at all the exhibits one caught his eye, it was the Know Your Government (KYG) Conference. Well isn't that something he thought, kids from all around Idaho get the privilege to experience a judicial case and a legislative session hands on. What could possibly get better than that?

Before he knew it he was on his way to the KYG Conference. At the conference he witnessed 8th and 9th grade delegates having the time of their lives and all Clover wanted to do was find a way to publicize this spectacular event. But, how could he do this alone? He decided he needed to find a team to help him and who better than the KYG Reporters! Clover came to the reporters with high hopes and got exactly what he wanted! Now Clover is traveling all over Idaho to visit as many 4-H clubs and organizations as he possibly can. To keep track of his whereabouts he created an Instagram hash tag (#IDKYGclover) so everyone can see where he is, who he's with and to share his great adventures with all of you!



University of Idaho  
Extension

## Guest Speaker: Jeff Isom By Hailey Hampton

Jeff Isom, international motivational speaker, made an appearance this year at the 2014 Know Your Government 4-H conference. Mr. Isom has 27 years of experience in teaching and speaking on leadership, team building, personal growth, and creativity. He has delivered over 1000 workshops, speeches, and seminars to thousands of youth, and has spoken before delegates of the U.S congress. Hobbies include running, bike riding, traveling, and watching foreign films. Mr. Isom was excited to be able to come and speak at KYG because he grew up in Idaho, graduated from Boise State, and couldn't wait to interact with delegates. Mr. Isom is a former 4-H member himself; with his favorite memories being of assembling his steer's show box, attending 4-H meetings, and eating fair burgers.

KYG delegates enjoyed Mr. Isom's speech Saturday night and anticipated his after dinner activity. They were not disappointed! Mr. Isom brought them back in time with Dance Dance Time Machine. There, delegates were paired off in big groups while the KYG chaperones, from all the way back to the fifties, taught them dances

from their generation. Delegates learned how to twist, jitterbug, disco with the best of them and danced the night away to the hottest tunes of all time. Mr. Isom finished the weekend with an encouraging speech on new perspectives and praise for the delegates.



## Grand Theft by Possession of Stolen Property By Zoe Tuttle

It was on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at KYG High School when Principal Pat Smith discovered that the school had been burglarized. Smith started an investigation with the help of the high school's student resource officer, Terry Anderson. After a thorough search of the school, Officer Anderson found that 2 laptops had been stolen, as well as a couple backpacks and some drinks from the pried open soda machine. Rumors were being spread through the school on who had actually burglarized the school. Three names kept on being repeated; two students, Chris Matthews and Kelly Shepherd and a third person Lynn Johnson.

Johnson no longer attended the school and was rumored to have the laptops in his/her possession. Officer Anderson read Johnson her Miranda Rights and interviewed her on September 11<sup>th</sup>. Students Chris Matthews and Kelly Shepherd were interviewed later

that day with Principal Smith as their advocate because they were under 18. The interviews were successful, and witnesses were found. With witnesses, it will make the case easier to prosecute.

During the investigation, Matthews and Shepherd were willing to help and told Officer Anderson their side of the story. They both pled guilty and got a deal. Lynn Johnson, however, will plead not guilty. The court date is February 17<sup>th</sup>.

Defense Attorney Sarah Woodward says, "I don't know if my client is guilty or not but they shouldn't be charged with full grand theft. At best they're an accomplice. There is no motive."

Prosecuting Attorney Janey Clay says, "He/She was associated with those already found guilty and evidence at the house suggests that he, too, is guilty. This is a really good case to work with! "

## Bill 111: Emission Regulation By Hope Grasham

As we see industry and agriculture on the rise in Idaho, there has also been an increase in greenhouse gases. A greenhouse gas is a gas in the atmosphere that absorbs and emits infrared radiation. The primary greenhouse gases in Earth's atmosphere are water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone.

Bill 111 seeks to regulate the annual amount of greenhouse gases emitted by Idaho corporations, and would require a fine from any corporation exceeding their allotted amount of emissions as a penalty. This money would then be used to fund a statewide grant for environmental conservation projects.

The Earth absorbs some of the sun's radiant energy, reflecting some of it as light, and re-radiating the rest back into space as heat. Earth's surface temperature depends on this balance of incoming and outgoing energy, and if it becomes shifted, there will be global climate changes. An imbalance can also cause a decrease in air quality, extreme weather, rising sea levels, and it negatively affects agriculture, forestry, ecosystems, and wildlife.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) began regulating greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act on January 2, 2011, because the U.S. is responsible for 25% of the world's

total emissions. Idaho is one of the states with the lowest total emissions (47<sup>th</sup>), but Bill 111 would be one of the few statewide laws on greenhouse gas emissions.

Because the U.S. expanded during the Industrial Revolution, and its growth and economy depend on fossil fuels, many people are reluctant to put laws on emissions. Committee Chair Celine Knudsen says that "the environmental quality in Idaho has been degrading the past few decades, and it is a prevalent issue for our generation." She hopes that if this bill passes, these regulations will protect Idaho for future generations.

## Bill 222: Arts Education By Hailey Hampton

Bill 222 would require schools to take 10% of all student fees, such as sports, transportation, yearbook, and club fees, and to put that 10% back into art programs, such but not limited to, art, music, and creative writing. This bill would help smaller schools with failing art programs, but it faces a number of challenges. Mackay High School football coach Jack McKelvey stated, "I'm in full support of the art programs, but I believe that we should look for a different source of funding. Athletes pay fees in order to pay for gas and other team necessities. If we were to take money from that, we would have to raise the fees in order to cover our expenses, and that's not fair to the athletes." Another problem was

brought up by FFA adviser, Andie Wommack, "Anytime you take money from one program to another, you're going to have problems. Also, the bill may meet resistance from parents who pay the fees."

However, despite these issues, several people believe that the bill should be wholeheartedly supported. One of these supporters is Mackay Jr/Sr High School Principal, Jess Johnson, who said, "The various art programs are wonderful, and all students should have access to them. Student's should be encouraged to take as many of these programs as possible." While Mr. Johnson acknowledges the problems that may arise, he continues to support the bill, believing that the benefits outweigh

the drawbacks.

Studies show that children who play music or engage in other creative activities gain many lifelong benefits, such as better perseverance, increased average SAT scores, and better study habits. Allie Brown, sponsor of the bill, explains her reason for writing the bill, "I came up with this bill because I was an orchestra player and was very upset when they cut the orchestra program from my school. I did some research and discovered that music programs were falling apart all over the country. Music, Drawing, and other Arts mean a lot to me and I don't like seeing them being destroyed." This bill will be left in the hands of the 2014 KYG delegates.

## Bill 333: School Lunch Intake By Jordan Fielding

What do you think of when you hear the term “school lunch”? Ahh, you have heard of it before. School lunches affect many people, of which the majority of them are students. About sixty percent of students eat lunch from school on a daily basis. There are many people who complain about school lunches, and some of their complaints are; they aren’t filling, or healthy, and they’re just plain disgusting. Some positive reasons for school lunches are; it gives students who don’t get to eat very much at home a chance to eat nutritious food, and it’s generally cheaper. The cost for school lunch varies but the average would be just under three dollars, whereas if you go to the gas station or local convenience store, it could cost much more.

Another issue is that when kids leave the school and are in a big hurry to get back, accidents happen. Bill supporter Trevor J. Wells stated that he wished that school lunches were bigger. He believes that the average lunch is about 800 calories and is not quite enough to get students

through the day. Most students need something more to sustain them than the 800 calorie school lunch. Having a larger school lunch would help with the after school extracurricular activities by making students a lot less hungry and more alert.

Mitch Seitia exclaimed, “If you’re hungry throughout the day the day, it’s really hard to concentrate. In all reality school lunches are not cutting the mustard.” Jacob Brown stated, “The lunch proportions are fine, it just needs to be healthier. The food itself may be healthy, but it’s not healthy when the students don’t eat it.” As 4-Her’s where do you stand with your head, heart, hands, and health?



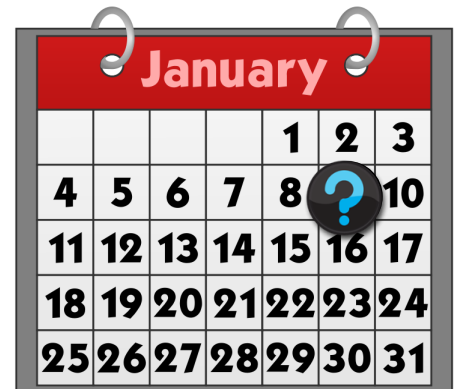
## Bill 444: Four Day School Week By Kate Hunter

Are you in favor of the four day school week? If so, join Brittany Jensen, the sponsor of bill 444. Having a four day school week is important to Brittany because she has tried both the five day and the four day school schedule.

The disadvantages to a four day week would be that parents, if they work five days a week, would have to find something for their younger children to do during the day, school days would be prolonged, and the school year would be longer than a normal school year. Although these reasons may cause students to dislike this bill, the advantages seem to outweigh the disadvantages. Weekends would be three days, which will save for both the school and tax payer. Bus drivers and teachers wouldn’t have to be paid for the fifth day and lunches would not have to be made. A block schedule would also be easier because the school could fit more and extended classes into the schedule. Sporting events could happen on Fridays without stu-

dents missing school. It’ll be interesting to see how this bill plays out on the floor of the Capitol building.

Shelbie Mitchell is against the bill and says, “Two-thirds of the kids need that Friday lunch and the elimination of a fifth day would lead to more homework and no sleep.” Lucy Hacking contradicts her statement saying, “An extra day would lead to more time for homework and extracurricular activities.”



## Bill 555: School Board vs. State By Erica Wood

Without a doubt, education is the foundation of our society. While many students groan at the word "school", it is the place where children are mentored to become responsible youth, and where followers are made into leaders. Education is the most important investment that a person can make so one would think that when dealing with education it should be handled with care and experience. This is why the chair for Bill 555, Katy Haight, decided to write her bill to ensure that School Board Trustees are qualified for the positions that they serve in.

Katy decided to chair this bill when her mother was elected to be a School Board Trustee. Katy saw how easy the process was, and she thought that the people who make important

decisions regarding our schools should be properly qualified and experienced especially when they serve on Committees. Section one of the bill states that each member of the Board of Trustees would be required to serve on at least one or more of the committees concerning either finance, curriculum, overall morale (extracurricular), or building maintenance.

Section two of the bill states that each member of the Board of Trustees would be required to attend board training for at least eight hours per year of their elected term. The third and final section of the bill states that a county official is required to attend a public school board meeting every three months, or as required or requested by board trustees. As stated

in the bill, "The purpose of this bill is to establish more requirements for board of trustee members as well as establishing committees to focus on certain areas of the school." Perhaps one feels that this bill may be asking too much of the School Board Trustees, however, these requirements will help School Boards be more qualified to make decisions for the education of today's youth.



## 4-H License Plates By Hope Grasham

Good news, 4-H supporters! Soon, we could have our very own specialty license plate. The 4-H license plate would look like a standard plate, but it would have a green clover in the left center and "To Make the Best Better" centered on the bottom.

The license plate initiative would bring increased program visibility for 4-H as well as increased funding to support educational events, enhance curriculum, leadership trainings, and other 4-H programming throughout Idaho. Unlike some legislative initiatives that increase taxes, the 4-H specialty license plate would give citizens the option to choose to support the 4-H program.

The bill (HB403) is being sponsored by Rep. Cindy Agidius of Moscow. On February 6<sup>th</sup>, it passed the House Transportation Committee with unanimous approval. It is scheduled for a full hearing before the House on February 17<sup>th</sup>, and then, if approved, will move to the Senate. It will go to the Governor for final authorization after that.

If they are approved during the 2014 session, you will be able to purchase the new 4-H license plates beginning January 1, 2015. The 4-H license plate will cost \$35 more than a regular plate, with \$22 of the money going to support 4-H. Every year, citizens with the specialty plate will pay a fee of \$25 on top of the registration fee.

It is hoped that this license plate will bring visibility and support to 4-H. You can contact your legislators to respectfully share your opinion on the new 4-H license plate, or cross your fingers until January 1, when hopefully you will be able to purchase your new 4-H specialty license plate.



## Meet the State 4-H Staff By Erica Wood

When we as 4-H members think about the adults that help make the state 4-H program a success, we often think first about the local leaders in our counties. However, we sometimes forget about the people that work behind the scenes, making events such as Know Your Government possible. We would like to introduce everyone who works for the State 4-H Youth Development Program.

### **Jim Lindstrom**

#### **4-H Youth Development Director**

- Statewide Leadership for 4-H
- Program Development and Funding
- Liaison to Idaho Friends of 4-H

### **Carrie Stark**

#### **Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist**

- Environmental Science
- Shooting Sports
- Animal and Plant Sciences
- Risk Management
- National Dairy Conference
- 4-H Club Management

### **Tim G. Ewers**

#### **Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist**

- 4-H Science
- Idaho 4-H Robotics
- STEM Programming Evaluations

### **Nancy Melville**

#### **Extension Associate**

- Volunteer Management
- Idaho State 4-H Leader's Association Liaison
- Adult Leadership Development

### **Claudine Zender**

#### **Extension Associate**

- International Programs
- 4-H Website
- National Trips
- Teen Conference
- Ambassadors
- Collegiate 4-H

### **Maureen Toomey**

#### **Extension Associate**

- CYFAR Project
- Idaho 4-H Afterschool
- Healthy Living
- Expressive Arts
- AmeriCorps VISTA

### **Erika Thiel**

#### **Extension Associate**

- Know Your Government Conference
- 4-H Online
- Engaging Youth, Serving Community
- Curriculum Management

### **Linda Gerber**

#### **Extension Associate**

- Operation: Military Kids
- 4-H Military Liaison

### **Will Boyd**

#### **Extension Associate**

- Idaho 4-H Robotics Training
- FIRST LEGO League
- FIRST Tech Challenge
- 4-H Science

### **Patrice Barrett**

#### **Financial Technician**

- 4-H Budget and Finance

### **Shana Codr**

#### **Administrative Assistant**

- 4-H Administrative Support
- 4-H Publications
- Scholarships and Awards
- Human Resources

We would like to thank the State 4-H Staff for all of their hard work. We recognize that without their dedication, our 4-H program would not be the success it is.

# ACTION SHOTS



## Development Coordinator Joins State 4-H Team By Jordan Fielding

Introducing... the newest person to come aboard the 4-H Team! Shea Saralecos is the new statewide 4-H fundraising coordinator. Shea grew up in Weiser, Idaho and graduated from the University of Idaho with a degree in Agricultural Economics. When she was young, Shea was involved in 4-H, and started 4-H with market lambs, home economics projects and also showed beef cattle. One fun fact is that Shea participated in KYG as a 4-H'er. Looking back, Shea states that she enjoyed the judicial workshop, where she was a defense attorney in the mock trial.

Shea believes that 4-H is vital to the state and she is always looking for ways to expand and enlarge its programs. In her position, Shea talks with 4-H supporters who believe in the goals of 4-H and matches them with areas to support. When she got this opportunity, Shea was excited to further extend her 4-H knowledge. She

really enjoys her job and looks forward to working with 4-Her's, volunteers, and staff.



## U of I Celebrates 125 Years By Kate Hunter

For 125 years, the University of Idaho has been serving Idaho. The university was founded in 1889 to fulfill the land-grant university mission which opened the doors of higher education to the citizens of Idaho. The university has grown from its' original 30 students to currently being the educational home for nearly 12,000 students with 2,400 faculty and staff. In addition the University of Idaho has become one of the nation's top research institutions, becoming an engine for educational and innovation and economic growth.

The University of Idaho, home of the Vandals, helps students to succeed and become leaders. Its land-grant mission furthers innovative scholarly and creative research to grow Idaho's economy and serve a statewide community. From its main campus in Moscow to 70 research and academic locations statewide, U-Idaho emphasizes real-world application as part of its student experience. U-Idaho combines the strength of a large university with the intimacy of small learning communities.

When asked what the University of Idaho has provided their students, alumnus, Erika Thiel, replied "it was a home away from home". Erika felt that the campus was located in an excellent city within which the university provided outstanding activities, as well as great classes to its students.

Idaho kicked off celebrating its 125 years of service with a social gathering on January 21<sup>st</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> in Boise. On January 30<sup>th</sup>, another birthday party was hosted in Moscow. Other celebrations will be held in Coeur d' Alene on July 24<sup>th</sup> and then in Idaho Falls on September 24<sup>th</sup>.





## Lindstrom's World Famous Cookie

2 cups butter	2 cups granulated sugar
2 cups brown sugar, packed	4 eggs
2 tsp vanilla	4 cups flour
2 tsp baking soda	2 tsp baking powder
1 tsp salt	5 cups oatmeal, blended
24 oz chocolate chips	8 oz Hershey Chocolate bar, grated
3 cups chopped nuts, (baker's choice)	



Measure oatmeal into a blender and blend to a fine powder. Cream butter and sugars; add eggs and vanilla. Mix together with flour, oatmeal, salt, baking powder and baking soda. Add chocolate chips, grated chocolate and nuts. Roll into 1" balls and place 2" apart on a cookie sheet. Bake at 375 for 10 minutes or until golden brown.

## Pros and Cons of Social Media By Hope Grasham

Whether you use social media or not, you probably see its effects every day. It could be that outrageous status your friend posted on Facebook, or the deal your mom got when she bought groceries with coupons from Twitter. However one uses social networks, they affect our lives more than we realize.

Sites like Tumblr, Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram have some very real advantages. You can connect with people from all over the world, your favorite companies, the government, or even just your best friend. Social media brings people together, and gives everyone a voice. But with this, there comes problems like cyber bullying, fake profiles, and the loss of face to face interactions. If you always use a messaging program to "talk" to people, you will never gain important communication skills, and you may miss some of the visual cues that go along with normal conversation.

As the obesity rate rises, it's

easy to see the connection to more social network use. Before the internet, most people's time was spent outside, doing chores, playing, or just reading a good book. But now, kids, teens, and even adults spend more time inside, online, and less time outside being active. This can cause vitamin D deficiencies and anti-social behavior.

But it's more than just obesity. According to scientists, greater social network use can lead to psychological disorders such as insomnia, ADHD, depression, or even addiction. Through the internet, there is more exposure to media ideals that can encourage teens to develop eating disorders. But, these sites can also provide a support group to people who need help through their disease, or feel alone as they go through a hard time.

One of the best parts of social media is that it is an easy way to get information out about important causes. The best example

of this was the use of platforms, like Twitter and Facebook, during the 2011 uprising in Egypt, Tunisia, and Yemen called the Arab Spring. Activists got information to citizens of other countries and used social media to unite the public and overthrow their oppressors. But it doesn't have to be a change as big as a revolution; it could simply be a community cause, such as raising money for a pet shelter or a family in need.

As are more types of social media developed, we have to remember to be careful. With negative effects such as developing a psychological disorder, stalking, or the spread of false information, it's reasonable to be cautious, but we also need to see the positive of social networks, like helping a good cause, finding new friends, and being able to research almost anything. Let's all be responsible users of social media.

# Meet the Press



*Cecilia Keogh-News Editor*

With five younger brothers and two younger sisters as her inspiration to be the best role model possible. She thrives on responsibility and being a leader. She is involved in Lady Warrior Basketball, Distinguished Young Women of St. Maries, National Honors Society, Student Council, Know Your Government, Ambassadors, etc.

*Matthew Wisinewski-Video Editor*

Is a twelve year member of the Gooding County 4-H program. He shares the country life with his parents and siblings and wouldn't trade it for the world. He also enjoys a wide variety of activities including, hunting, swim-team, showing livestock, and his occupation as a professional photographer.



*Hope Grasham*

Born in Moscow, Idaho and raised in St. Maries, Hope loves writing about herself in third person. She lives with her parents and younger sister on a farm in Kootenai County with their puppy Luna. In her free time she takes pictures and is always reading a good book.

*Erica Wood*

Is in the process of learning to speak the Spanish, Italian, and French languages and loves it! She loves learning about Ancient Egypt and dreams of becoming an Egyptologist. She is also an active member as well as the Secretary of the Bonners Ferry FFA chapter.

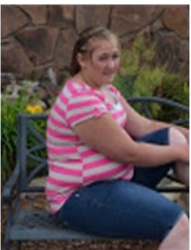


*Zoe Tuttle*

Lives in Nampa, Idaho and plays Lacrosse for the Skyview Lady Hawks. She has always loved the Little Mermaid and wishes that she could be a mermaid. Her favorite bands/musicians include The Wonder Years and Lana Del Rey. "Goofy pants are the best pants and music is the best medicine," says Zoe.

*Kate Hunter*

"A journey of a thousand miles began with a single step and each step has progressed me farther in my life." Born in Larime, Wyoming Kate enjoys playing volleyball and basketball. She also loves participating in lamb and horse 4-H projects.



*Jordan Fielding*

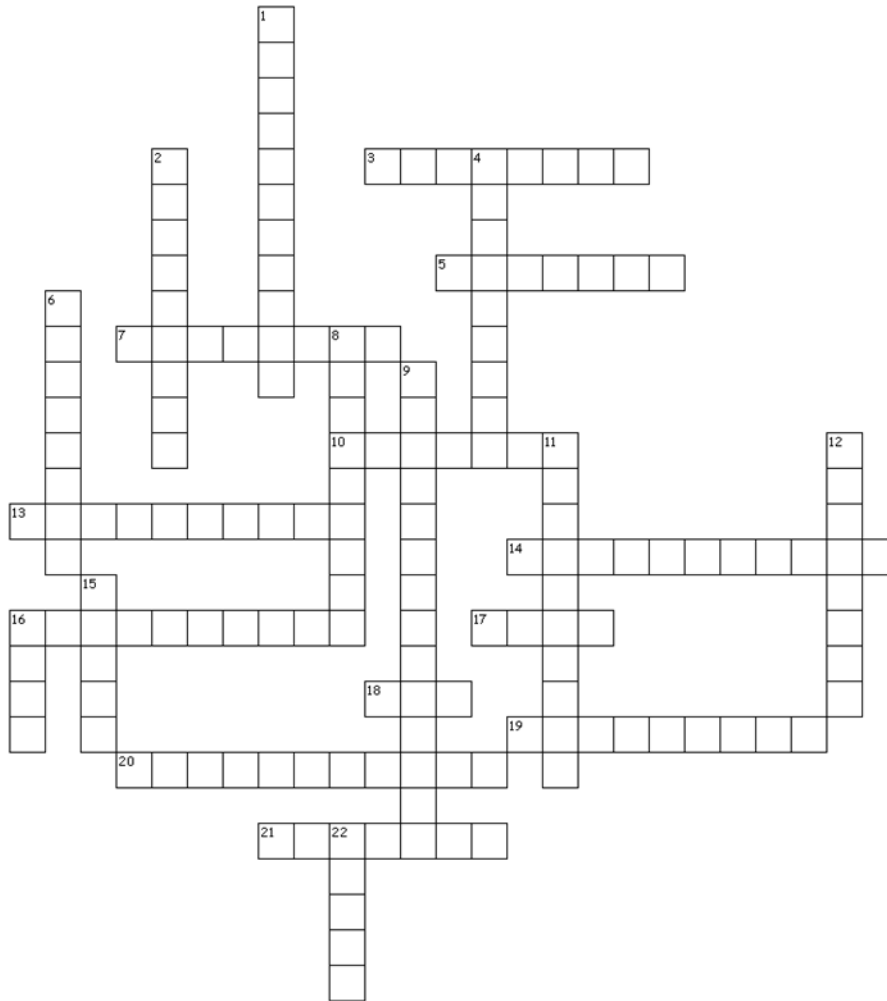
Once upon a time in a faraway place called Utah, Jordan was born to her lovely parents, she was their first child. Since then she has been joined by five obnoxious little brothers and one, sanity saving little sister. She has been involved in 4-H for eight years so far and plans to continue her career in 4-H.

*Hailey Hampton*

Hidden in the mountains of Mackay, ID she lives with her parents, two younger brothers, and a vast variety of pets including her sheep. She also enjoys reading, writing, running, and playing video games.



# Know Your Government Crossword Puzzle



## Across

3. Proof that gives a sign of the truth of something
5. An elected member of the Senate
7. Somebody given legal power
10. Building for law-making body
13. The persons or council which administer the laws of a state
14. Legal status of citizen
16. Building for law court
17. Duck's nose
18. Binding or enforceable rule
19. Group chosen to do task
20. The process of writing and passing laws
21. Somebody who gives evidence of an event

## Down

1. Assembly of lawmakers
2. Somebody who brings civil action against another
4. The accused party in a court case
6. Head of the executive branch
8. Government section responsible for enforcement of decisions
9. Somebody who speaks and votes on behalf of another
11. A writer of or voter on laws
12. Of or relating to the administration of justice
15. A senior official in court of law
16. Something examined or investigated esp. in court
22. Formal legal process

\*Answers may be found on the University of Idaho KYG Conference Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/UI4HKYG](http://www.facebook.com/UI4HKYG)

# Stepping Stones of the Future By Kortni Wells

The ascent of a ladder begins with the first step...until eventually the ladder touches the sky. Donny Osmond said, "If you're climbing the ladder of life, you go rung by rung, one step at a time. Don't look too far up, set your goals high but take one step at a time. Sometimes you don't think you're progressing until you step back and see how high you've really gone." This is how I view my experiences with the Know Your Government Conference, and how it set me on the path for my future.

Hi, I'm Kortni Wells from Cassia County. I started off as a delegate who observed things going on from the sidelines, discovering a grounding step for things to spiral upwards. My experiences truly began with that introduction into the world of KYG, the first step onto my ladder of opportunity.

In the beginning, I really didn't know whether my experiences of Know Your Government would truly help me in the future, other than helping me become a more responsible voting citizen at the rightful age. I cautiously took one step forward, and decided to try moving one step up and became a Reporter. I loved being able to showcase my personality and passion for writing,

while also trying my hand in a respective leadership role. A year later, I moved another rung upwards, returning as Reporter News Editor, and took my leadership endeavors to what I thought was the optimal level.

At the end of the Conference last year, I thought my government days had ended. A year later, here it is 2014. I recently finished my term serving as a Senate Page for the Idaho State Senate, and have almost reached the top of that little ladder I cautiously placed my feet upon four years ago. Being a Senate Page was one of the most joyful, fun and also hard experiences of my life.

A Senate or House Page is a hard-working, high school senior, who spends six weeks in the beautiful Idaho Capitol, working with Senators and Representatives from all over Idaho, who meet together three months out of the year to discuss bills, budgets for the state, and the overall welfare of the State of Idaho. Each Senate Page is assigned to a secretary and a chairman of different committees, and the majority of the six weeks is spent with their assigned secretaries and Senators, in a wonderful learning environment.

I had the opportunity to learn about the state government in its most natural habitat. The Idaho State Capitol provided me the opportunity to see the wonderful things that occur within the Capitol walls. I learned so much by shadowing my Senator and Sponsor, Senator Dean Cameron.

Being a Senate Page is an irreplaceable, once in a lifetime opportunity, that not every able-bodied youth in Idaho has the chance to experience. I count myself as one of the lucky forty juniors/seniors from our very own state of Idaho, who has experienced one of the best things the state has to offer, in the best place to do it.

Just as the quote mentions, there was no reason to look back and wonder if I have gone anywhere, because I know I have definitely progressed from where I started four years ago! My future plan is to enter either Brigham Young University-Idaho or Utah State and major in (can you guess?) Political Science or Journalism. There is a world of opportunities awaiting me, and all because of one courageous step into the Know Your Government Conference.

## 2014 KYG Sponsors

Northwest Farm Credit Services  
Idaho Grain Producers  
Association  
Idaho Potato Commission  
Idaho Friends of 4-H  
Red Lion Boise Downtowner  
United Dairymen of Idaho  
Idaho Law Foundation

Beth Kienitz-Carter  
Gary and Joya Hill  
Brent Olmstead  
Rep. George Eskridge  
Rep. Lance Clow  
Rep. Elaine Smith  
Rep. Carolyn Meline  
Rep. Julie VanOrden

Rep. Gary Collins  
Rep. Maxine Bell  
Rep. Marcus Gibbs  
Rep. Darrell Bolz  
Rep. Tom Loertscher  
Sen. Shawn Keough  
Sen. Steve Bair  
Sen. Dean Mortimer