Umatilla County Fair Announces 2023 Fair Court NEWS RELEASE

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Below you will find a courtesy copy of a news release by the Umatilla County Fair office. Please feel free to forward to others who would be interested in this information. If you have any questions, please direct them to the Umatilla County Fair Office at **(541)** 567-6121 or email to fair@umatillacounty.gov

Thanks to the recruitment efforts of the current UCF Court, their Chaperone Rebecca Manning and a heavy social media push, the interview panel had eleven applicants to consider! Out of the eleven applicants, nine of those were from Hermiston. The Fair Board met recently to work on ways to attract more participation from throughout the county next year.

The decision was not easy because there were several qualified applicants. Fair Board Elect Robbie Curry commented, "This was the toughest decision I've had to make during my first year as a Board Member".

So a hefty congratulations to the following ladies:

2022 Princesses and 10th grader Ashlynn Cutburth of Hermiston, has been accepted to continue on the Fair Court for 2023! Her return and willingness of her family to once again commit to this level of support for the UCF is indicative of who Ashlynn is and what she has contributed to the Fair in 2022! We look forward to having her assist returning Fair Court Chaperone Rebecca Manning, with guiding the 3 new princesses throughout the year!

Introducing 2023 Princess and Hermiston 10th **grader, Ainsley McCann.** Ainsley has shown at the Umatilla County Fair since the fifth grade and has participated in other 4-H events such as archery and the dog show. She is now her Chapter's FFA Treasurer as well as her cheer club Team Captain. As a Fair Court Princess, she hopes to meet some Ag Industry leaders and help the younger generations create their own fair memories.

Introducing 2023 Princess and Hermiston 9^h **grader, Selena Cuellar.** Selena has shown dairy heifers for the past 4 years and 2023 year will be her first year showing market beef. As a 4-H member, she won Grand Champion Showman at the 2022 fair! She enjoys being a part of 4-H and FFA as well as dancing on the 2019 Oregon State Champ dance team. She looks forward to strengthening her leadership skills on the Fair Court as well as interacting with her community and sharing her excitement for the UCF!

Introducing 2023 Princess and Hermiston 11^h grader, Annikah Perez. Annikah has participated as a 4-H member at the UCF since 2015, with projects such as showing market lambs, food science and public speaking. She is an active FFA member and is working on her market steer projects. She was inspired by the Umatilla County Fair Court as a young girl and would like to share that level of impact with future generations.

Rebecca Manning of Pendleton will continue to lead the Fair Court through 2023 in her fourth year as Fair Court Chaperone. She continues to help grow the Fair Court program and has made a lasting mark on the Umatilla County Fair. Her husband Ryan is equally responsible for her success as Chaperone because of his own involvement and support in helping her reach such heights.