

Umatilla County Fair Announces 2021 Fair Board & Fair Court

NEWS RELEASE

1/8/21

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.net

The Umatilla County Fair Board is happy to announce that **Andy Wagner** has been selected as a Fair Board Member Elect for 2021, with his official term as a voting member beginning in 2022. Andy was selected by a four-person interview panel containing current and past Umatilla County Fair Board Members and one Umatilla County Commissioner. He was officially appointed by the Board of Commissioners on Dec. 16, 2020. His outlook on preserving the fair's traditions for older generations and enhancing areas to attract younger age groups really aided in his interview. He spoke of his history of volunteerism in the entertainment area of the Umatilla County Fair and his participation as a 4-H and FFA exhibitor. The panel was further encouraged to hear about his serving on the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce Board, local Rotary Club and his involvement with coaching the county's youth wrestling groups as well as his position as a local business owner. Welcome aboard Andy!

The Fair Board would like to recognize Director **Luke Dynes**, who's term on the Fair Board ended on Dec. 31. Luke is responsible for greatly enhancing the Fair's parking plan after the move to EOTEC as well as creating the new Grand Champion Club- an exclusive, corporate VIP section of the Fair's main stage entertainment area. Luke's most defining contribution as a UCF Board member is the thousands of dollars that he was able to procure in fair sponsorships through his business relationships. He has also been a long time fair sponsor through his own businesses, Wyatt Enterprises, LLC Dynes Enterprises, LLC. In 2019 Wyatt Enterprises was one of five companies to sponsor childrens' gate admission, allowing children ages 10 and under to attend the Umatilla County Fair for free each day! Luke has vowed to always support the Umatilla County Fair and continues to help encourage others to support the fair in any way they can.

The Umatilla County Commissioners have extended all current Fair Board member terms by one year, due to the 2020 Fair cancellation. Current members-Steve Wallace, Steve Anderson, Bob Wolfe, John Eckhardt, Micheal Hampton, Doug Bennett and Mike Engelbrecht and Board Elect Andy Wagner.

The 2021 Umatilla County Fair Court has been selected. There were several applications received and interviews conducted and 4 ladies have been chosen to represent the Umatilla County Fair this year:

Returning 2020 Princesses Brielle Youncs of Pendleton and Keeva Hoston of Hermiston.

Despite the 2020 fair cancellation, the Fair Court was able to roll with the punches during the weekly changes with the Covid-19 orders and remained positive even with the cancellation of many of their appearances and events. All four ladies were integral in garnering support for the Youth Livestock Auction with their social media videos and behind the scenes community support. Although we say goodbye to 2020 princesses Kyleigh Sepulveda and Baylee Marshall, we are happy to have Brielle and Keeva returning as part of the 2021 team.

Introducing new 2021 Princess Alexis Bowen of Pendleton. Alexis has shown sheep in Open Class, 4-H and FFA at the Umatilla County Fair since she was 6 years old. She is on the varsity

swim team at Pendleton High school, she is currently the Pendleton FFA Chapter Treasurer and has been a member of the National Honors Society since the 6th grade. Alexis enjoys working on her Grandparents' farm, riding her horse, hunting, fishing and snowboarding. She volunteers for other county events but The Umatilla County Fair has always been special to her and she is looking forward to representing the fair as a fair court princess.

Introducing new 2021 Princess Madaline White of Pendleton. Madaline has shown sheep and submitted sewing projects at the Umatilla County Fair since 2014. She is currently the Pendleton FFA Chapter Secretary. Madaline enjoys participating in all of the county's junior livestock shows and mentoring others. Her growing flock of show lambs keeps her busy as she intends to produce club lambs for other exhibitors. She considers her role as a Fair Court Princess as a great way to continue to exhibit at the Umatilla County Fair while sharing her excitement for the fair with the upcoming generations of exhibitors.

Rebecca Manning of Pendleton will continue to lead the Fair Court through 2021 in the second year of her role as Fair Court Chaperone.

The 2020 Fair Appreciation Dinner will be held in May when more information about the 2021 Fair will be announced.

Umatilla County Fair and Farm City Pro Rodeo Dates-Aug. 11-14, 2021