

# Hermiston farmer places third in nation

Kristen Corpus captured third place in the national and first place in Oregon for the state yield awards in the 2016 National Corn Growers Association National Corn Yield Contest.

The Hermiston farmer achieved her winning yield of 339.623 bushels per acre in the No-Till/Strip-Till Irrigated category with DEKALB DKC62-08RIB Brand Blend corn.

In all, 7,972 farmers from across the United States entered the 2016 yield contest. Corpus along with other DEKALB winners were honored at the 2017 Commodity Classic in March in San Antonio.

The awards banquet included a private concert featuring country music star Josh Turner.

"It is exciting to see these farmers push the yield boundaries, and we congratulate them for their hard work and success," said Jesse Hamonic, DEKALB Asgrow brand lead, who presented a trophy to Corpus at the banquet.

In the 2016 contest, DEKALB farmers captured seven of the 18 national awards and 147 first, second and third place awards at the state level. The full list of DEKALB winners is available at [www.dekalb.com/yieldcontest](http://www.dekalb.com/yieldcontest).

# Four data centers approved for Hermiston

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**  
Staff Writer

A proposed data center campus near Hermiston took a big step forward Thursday during a land use hearings before the Umatilla County Planning Commission.

E-commerce titan Amazon — doing business through its subsidiary, Vadata — wants to build four new data centers along Westland and Cottonwood Bend roads, near interstates 82 and 84. The company already operates multiple data centers east of Umatilla, and two more campuses at Boardman.

The commission voted 7-1 to recommend the county rezone 120 acres of farmland to light industrial for Vadata. The Board of Commissioners will have final say on land use for

the data centers.

Gary Rhinhart, vice chairman of the planning commission, was the only one to vote against Vadata's request, saying he was frustrated with eliminating more farm ground to accommodate another industrial development.

"I have a problem with that," Rhinhart said.

Rhinhart also asked why the company did not consider locations on the east side of the county toward Pendleton, which has more available industrial land to sell.

Jim Footh, real estate manager for Vadata, said all campuses need to be connected by fiber optic cable, and Pendleton is simply too far from their existing data centers.

"The distance between the Pendleton and Herm-

iston areas is just too far for our connectivity," Footh said. "Unfortunately, that's just the nature of our business."

The Hermiston site has other advantages, Footh added, such as access to nearby high-voltage power lines. Amazon is also signed on to use Hermiston's regional water system, which will provide the roughly 400 gallons per minute needed to keep the computer servers cool.

Footh said the company is considering options to recycle cooling water for local farms, but did not have a specific proposal.

Each of the four data centers would run 24 hours per day and support up to 40 jobs. Footh said multiple campuses are


needed to create redundancy and avoid outages.

Several neighbors expressed concern about what the project will mean for their quality of life. Dan Burnam testified at the hearing, arguing the property could still be used as farmland if it had a water right. He also questioned what kind of buffer would be in place.

Mary Buckallew, who testified after Burnam, said she was worried about what a large industrial campus would mean for the neighborhood.

"It is a farming area," Buckallew said. "It's going to change the whole lifestyle."

The Umatilla County Board of Commissioners will hold another public hearing on the matter at 9:30 a.m. April 13.



## CHAMBER of COMMERCE

# HERMISTON

Put your money where your life is. Think local. Shop Hermiston.



[hermistonchamber.com](http://hermistonchamber.com)  
**(541) 567-6151**

Proudly sponsored by  
**ATKINSON STAFFING**



**Susan Rice**  
Northwest Comedian

## Administrative PROFESSIONALS DAY Luncheon

### APRIL 25th 11:45am

Doors Open at 11:30am

HERMISTON CONFERENCE CENTER

Tickets  
**\$20.00**

Table of 8  
**\$140.00**

(Save \$20)  
Available at Hermiston Chamber

UNIVERSAL REALTY | SIMPLOT GROWER SOLUTIONS | CI INFORMATION MANAGEMENT | HOMETOWN MORTGAGE

## New Members

- Lost Valley Farm Willow Creek Dairy**  
67500 Taggares Lane  
Boardman, OR (541) 481-0900
- 4 Seasons Painting Co. LLC**  
Hermiston, OR (541) 571-1885
- Maryhill Winery**  
Goldendale, WA (509) 773-1976
- Sno Road Winery**  
Echo, OR (541) 376-0421
- TEK Systems**  
Seattle, WA (206) 336-4432



chamber explorations

Hermiston Chamber of Commerce presents

## Country Roads of Tuscany

featuring Florence & 7 nights in Tuscany

For additional information contact

**Hermiston Chamber of Commerce**  
415 S. Hwy. 395, Hermiston  
**541-567-6151**

### 9 Days

Oct. 17, 2017







## Chamber Events

- Chamber Business Connection**  
Every Tuesday at 8:30am KOHU 1360am
- Latino Business Network**  
Wednesday, April 12th 9:00am
- Chamber Ambassadors**  
Wednesday, April 12th 7:15am
- Leadership Hermiston Class 20**  
Tuesday, April 11th  
Oregon State Capital, Salem OR
- Network Hermiston at BBSI**  
Wednesday, April 12th 5:30pm
- Administrative Professionals Day Luncheon**  
Tuesday, April 25th 11:45am

# KEEP IT LOCAL!

**P4 & More Computers**  
541-567-6562  
182 E. Main • Hermiston




541-567-6151  
415 S. Hwy 395  
Hermiston

**ELMER'S IRRIGATION, INC.**  
"Proudly serving & investing in the future of our communities"  
Hwy 395 • Hermiston  
541-567-5572

Complete Collection Service  
**CREDITS INCORPORATED**  
Licensed • Bonded  
No Collection • No Fee  
Tim Mabry  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
(541)289-9107  
[www.creditsinc.com](http://www.creditsinc.com)

**CAROLLEEN LOVELL**  
Certified Public Accountant, LLC  
541-567-1780  
[www.carolleenlovell.com](http://www.carolleenlovell.com)  
635 SE 4th St. • PO Box 747  
Hermiston, OR 97838



**Customer Service Is Our #1 Priority!**  
HOME • COMMERCIAL  
24 HOUR EMERGENCY

**Become part of the Keep It Local Shell by calling Jeanne Jewett at 541-564-4531 or Audra Workman at 541-564-4538.**

**American Printing**  
Since 1985  
541.567.8073  
53 W Beebe Ave, Hermiston, OR

**AFFORDABLE FAMILY EYEWEAR**  
Hermiston's Best Value in all Eyewear  
541-567-3790 • 541-567-3791 fax  
1045 N. 1st • Hermiston, OR  
-MARCIA LAMBERT-  
[www.affordablefamilyeyewear.com](http://www.affordablefamilyeyewear.com)

**OSOKLEEN**  
CLEANING & RESTORATION  
541-567-3781 • 1-800-238-1223  
905 Diagonal • Hermiston  
[www.osokleen.com](http://www.osokleen.com)



**UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE**  
750 W Elm Ave.  
Hermiston, Oregon

At UEC we aim higher than just being your electric service provider. We strive to meet the needs of our growing communities while offering products and services that help our members save money, conserve energy and natural resources.

**541-567-6414**  
[www.umatillaelectric.com](http://www.umatillaelectric.com)

Complete Collection Service  
**CREDITS INCORPORATED**  
Licensed • Bonded  
No Collection • No Fee



Tim Mabry  
President

461 E. Main  
Hermiston, OR 97838  
**(541)289-9107**  
[www.creditsinc.com](http://www.creditsinc.com)



- Temporary Staffing Services • Recruiting
- Human Resource Management
- Risk Management • Payroll Administration
- Worker's Comp Insurance

1055 S. Hwy 395, Ste 333 • Hermiston, OR  
(541) 567-9670 • Fax (541) 567-4427

251 NE Eldridge Drive, Boardman, OR  
(541) 481-2666 • Fax (541) 481-2239

**WWW.BARRETTBUSINESS.COM**