

# Highland Hills student highlights Hermiston melons

## Dustin Sanders' artwork featured in agriculture calendar

BY TAMMY MALGESINI  
Hermiston Herald

A Highland Hills Elementary School student didn't have to look far for inspiration in entering the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom's annual Calendar Art Contest.

"I drew a watermelon because in Hermiston we are known for watermelons," Dustin Sanders wrote with his submission.

The youngster also drew and colored a sun because, he wrote, sunlight and water are needed to help watermelons grow. And Dustin, who is entering the fourth grade next week, should know because his family grew several in their backyard garden.

Mackenzie Juul, Dustin's third grade teacher, encouraged students to draw on their creativity during a classroom project. The statewide contest, open to students in kindergarten through sixth grade, asked for



Brittany Capell/Contributed Photo

Hermiston watermelon artwork by Dustin Sanders, a Highland Hills Elementary School student, is featured on the July page of the 2022-23 Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom calendar.

original artwork depicting Oregon's diverse agricultural and natural resource commodities. More than 2,100 entries were submitted.

Dustin's mother, Amanda Brown, wasn't aware of the special drawing — until receiving a phone call from the school, informing her that her son was selected as one of the winners. Brown said they decided to include the trip to the Classroom Calendar Art Contest reception as part of a blended family vacation.

Held Friday, Aug. 26 at the Oregon State Fair, everyone received free gate admission, she said. A total of 10 traveled to Salem to cheer Dustin on.

"I don't know how many kids entered but it was a pretty big deal," Dustin Sanders, the boy's



Brittany Capell/Contributed Photo

Dustin Sanders, 9, poses for a photo Friday, Aug. 26, 2022, during the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Calendar Art Contest reception at the Oregon State Fair, Salem. His watermelon artwork is featured for the month of July in the 2022-23 calendar.

father, said. "We all went to support him. It was pretty cool."

Jessica Jansen, AITC executive director, said in a press release the cover and each month

of the calendar feature student artwork. In addition, each day includes a fact about agriculture. Jansen said it is a great project for both students and teachers.

"It gives teachers an opportunity to discuss the bounty and beauty of Oregon agriculture and incorporate art into their classrooms," she said.

Each of the 13 winning students received \$50 and a certificate commemorating their achievement. In addition, their artwork will appear in the 2022-23 school-year calendar, is featured on the AITC website via [www.oregonaitc.org](http://www.oregonaitc.org) and remains on display at the Oregon State Fair, which runs through Labor Day — Monday, Sept. 5.

The cash prize, Brown said, provided lots of pocket money for Dustin to enjoy the state fair. She said he especially liked the Paul Bunyan Lumber Jack Show and riding a mechanical bull.

"I had fun going on a bunch of rides and going on stage and talking about my drawing," he said. "I'm thankful for my parents being there."

And Dustin even had enough money after returning home, his mother said, to splurge on a smoothie from Dutch Bros. Coffee. He still has a few dollars left and is pondering making a purchase on Amazon.

# UEC plugs in to community with donations, presentations

Hermiston Herald

Umatilla Electric Cooperative has been schmoozing with the community recently — distributing donations to a pair of nonprofit organizations and educational presentations with local students.

Matching \$5,000 donations were provided through a partnership with CoBank's Sharing Success Program, Weston Putman, UEC public relations manager, said in a press release. UEC board members on July 14 handed off checks to representatives from the Stanfield Community Center and Eastern Oregon Mission's Martha's House.

Each organization, Putman said, received \$10,000 and both will use the funds for building improvements.

The Stanfield Community Center serves as an activity hub in town, including hosting meals, fundraisers and holiday events. An outreach ministry of Eastern Oregon Mission, Martha's House provides temporary housing for homeless families.

A national cooperative bank based in Colorado, CoBank, through its Sharing Success Program, doubles the contributions of its members to charitable organizations. It has matched \$47,500 in UEC donations to area recipients in the past seven years.

"We greatly value our partnership with CoBank and their impact on not only their members but the communities



Weston Putman/Contributed Photo

Steve Meyers, Umatilla Electric Cooperative's member services administrator, discusses electrical safety with students on July 14, 2022, at the co-op's Hermiston headquarters.

served by their members," said Lisa McMeen, UEC vice president of administration.

### CO-OP SPARKS LEARNING WITH YOUTH PROGRAMS

In other UEC news, Putnam shared about the co-op's youth education efforts through summer programs. The co-op hosted 150 elementary students on July 14 at its Hermiston headquarters. Second graders plugged in with Hermiston School District's summer program learned about electrical safety from the public relations team.

While touring the yard, fleet specialist Mike Sallee shared about powerline safety, tools and equipment used in the industry. Students enjoyed climbing aboard a line truck.

And on July 29, fifth grade

students attending the Port of Morrow's Nuts, Bolts and Thingamajigs Camp visited the Boardman Operations Center. Participants learned about equipment and tools — including a hands-on activity with hot sticks — that crews use to operate UEC's infrastructure.

"We are very fortunate to have such great educational partners and to have the opportunity to show students the various careers available in the industry," McMeen said.

Umatilla Electric Cooperative was incorporated June 18, 1937, to meet the growing need for rural electricity in the area. UEC continues as a consumer-owned electric cooperative to serve its members. For more information, visit [www.umatilla-electric.com](http://www.umatilla-electric.com).

### IN BRIEF

#### Linebacker Club kicks off 2022 season

The Hermiston Linebacker Club is ready to kick off the 2022 season. The group huddles up on Thursdays at noon at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston.

Everyone is invited to attend and hear from coach David Faeteete. During the weekly luncheons, he gives a recap of the previous week's gridiron action and shares the game plan for the upcoming matchup. The Bulldogs will open the season at home against the Hanford Falcons on Friday, Sept. 2, 7 p.m. at Kennison Field.

Those planning to attend the Linebacker Club are asked to RSVP at least a day in advance to order meals. The cost is \$13 for members and \$15 for non-members.

Club membership is \$100 and prepaid lunches for the season is \$120. Any donations or leftover funds are donated to the football program. For more information or to RSVP, call Flora Larson or Sheron Vari-katt at 541-567-5215.



Kathy Aney/Hermiston Herald, File

Hermiston High School head football coach David Faeteete talks to his players during a timeout in a game March 19, 2021, against Kennewick. Faeteete will discuss weekly game plans during Hermiston Linebacker Club luncheons Thursdays at noon at Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, 1545 N. First St., Hermiston.

#### Bellinger's pours wine with music

Zac Grooms will strum some tunes during Wine Night at Bellinger Farms and Gourmet Shoppe.

The event is Thursday, Sept. 1, 5-8 p.m. at 1823 S. Highway 395, Hermiston. Wine tasting features pours from Coyote Canyon.

An Arlington native, Grooms plays original music and a variety of country covers. In addition, he is the frontman for Brewer's Grade Band, recognized as country band of the year in 2018 by the International Music and Entertainment Association.

For more information, search

[www.facebook.com/bellinger-farms](http://www.facebook.com/bellinger-farms) or call 541-567-5870. For more about Grooms, visit [www.brewersgradeband.com](http://www.brewersgradeband.com).

#### Library encourages adults to get crafty

The Hermiston Public Library is providing Adult Take 'n' Make Crafts on the first Thursday of the month.

The September craft features an apple sign. Pick up the free kit and instructions, while supplies last, Thursday, Sept. 1, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at 235 E. Gladys Ave. For more information, search [www.hermiston.or.us/library](http://www.hermiston.or.us/library) or call 541-567-2882.

—Hermiston Herald

# Church DIRECTORY

**Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church**  
565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
MASS SCHEDULES

Monday-Friday.....English 8:00am  
Tuesday-Friday.....Spanish 6:00pm  
SATURDAY.....English 5:00pm  
.....Spanish 7:00pm  
SUNDAY.....English 9:00am  
.....Spanish 11:00am  
.....Spanish 1:00pm  
.....Spanish 6:00pm  
Parish Office.....541-567-5812

**Iglesia Católica Nuestra Señora de los Angeles**  
565 W. HERMISTON AVE.  
HORARIOS DE MISAS

Lunes a Viernes.....Inglés 8:00am  
Martes a Viernes.....Español 6:00pm  
SABADO.....Inglés 5:00pm  
.....Español 7:00pm  
DOMINGO.....Inglés 9:00am  
.....Español 11:00am  
.....Español 1:00pm  
.....Español 6:00pm  
Oficina Parroquial.....541-567-5812

**First Christian Church**  
"Grow Your Faith Through God"

Sunday School...9:00 am  
Worship Service...10:30 am

**567-3013**  
775 W. Highland Ave., Hermiston

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
Saturdays  
Sabbath School.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship Service.....11:00 a.m.  
English & Spanish Services  
541-567-8241  
855 W. Highland Ave.  
Hermiston, OR 97838

**COME WORSHIP WITH US AT THE COUNTRY CHURCH**  
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Hermiston, OR

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541-567-6672

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Sun. Bible Classes.....10:00am  
Sun. Worship Service.....11:00am  
Sun. Evening Worship.....5:00pm  
Tues. Creation Club (Sept-May).4:30pm  
Wed. Prayer & Bible Study.....5:00pm  
[www.hermistonlmbc.com](http://www.hermistonlmbc.com)

**NEW BEGINNINGS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**  
Worship Service 10:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Pastor J.C. Barnett  
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700 West Orchard Avenue  
P.O. Box 933  
Hermiston, Oregon  
**541-289-4774**

**To advertise in the Church Directory, please contact Audra Workman 541-564-4538 or email [aworkman@eastoregonian.com](mailto:aworkman@eastoregonian.com)**

## PET OF THE WEEK

### MEET SKIPPY!

Skippy is a young Chihuahua that loves to play with dogs his size. Skippy is doggy door trained. Skippy likes to play with cats, sometimes chases them, not to hurt but to play. Skippy loves to sleep with his humans. He will be a good lap dog if there are no other dogs to keep him busy. Skippy is good with kids, he does mouth play so young kids need to be aware of that. He loves toys! Will carry them around and play.

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[www.oregontrailvet.com](http://www.oregontrailvet.com)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, animal shelters need our help more than ever. Please donate to your local shelter, or offer to foster an animal in need.

If interested please go to [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) and fill out an application. If you are not able to adopt, but would like to foster or donate, visit [fuzzballrescue.com](http://fuzzballrescue.com) or you can mail in donations to Fuzz Ball Animal Rescue, PO Box 580, Hermiston, OR 97838

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