



HERMISTON FFA CHAPTER

600 S. First Street, Hermiston, OR 97838

Greetings Oregon FFA!

Whenever I smell freshly baked goods or hear fireworks, I am suddenly transported to sunny Southern California in the land of Mickey Mouse and Tarzan's Treehouse: Disneyland. Disneyland is genuinely my happiest place on earth. I have experienced floods of emotions during my time spent at the parks. From deep belly laughs and tears, both happy and sad, most of my memories are filled with cheer and magic. But, I have one distinct frightful flashback at the Haunted Mansion. As a ten-year-old boy, seeing the spiky gates and feeling the eerie vibe, no part of me wanted on that ride. No matter how much my family would eagerly drag me to the entrance, I would dig my heels into the ground to stop them. Then, one day my mom decided to trick me. We were going to wait in line for the "exit" to see my brother and dad get off the ride. I quickly realized there was no line for the exit right as we entered the building. I then *ran*. I ran so fast I passed the gingerbread man on my way out!



I finally got away, but a friendly janitor stopped me, "This is Disneyland, young man. Why are you crying?" Before catching my breath and controlling the tears, my mom caught up to us and explained everything. The man chuckled and then handed me a Mickey Mouse sticker. He told me that nothing could hurt me as long as I had this sticker with me, not even the ghosts, and proceeded to reassure me that, "Courage is the only magic worth having." I thanked the man, and we headed back to the ride. My mom turned to me and asked if I was now ready to ride it. Without hesitation, I turned and said, "Nope." She laughed, and we found our way back to the bench.

The next day, something had changed. I had this feeling that I could take on the world, and a fire was burning bright inside of me. I looked down at the sticker on my badge then headed towards the Haunted Mansion. We rode the ride, and I have to admit I was screaming on the inside, but once we got out, I realized I had conquered my fear. Since I received that sticker, I vowed that whenever I encounter someone scared or nervous to do something, I would be right there next to them along the way, helping them in any shape or form that I could, the same way that janitor did for me. He showed me that a few kind words and something small, like a sticker, could change someone's life.

I have carried this story with me throughout my time in FFA. I try to shine my light and brighten someone's day in every way possible. So I challenge you, Oregon FFA: whenever you meet someone in their version of the Haunted Mansion, in need of someone to help them get through it, be their janitor. Share some encouraging words that will make a long-lasting impact on their life. Oregon FFA, it is with great excitement and anticipation that I announce my candidacy for the 2022-2023 Oregon FFA State Officer Team! As we go through this next year, let's make Oregon FFA the happiest place on earth!

Respectfully,

Grant M. Hills
Hermiston FFA Chapter Treasurer

***“Courage is the resistance of fear,
mastery of fear; not the absence of fear.”***

-Mark Twain

<p><i>Freshman</i> 2018-2019</p>	<p><i>Sophomore</i> 2019-2020</p>	<p><i>Junior</i> 2020-2021</p>	<p><i>Senior</i> 2021-2022</p>
<p>Degree Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greenhand <p>Activities/Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Soils CDE ● Greenhand Leadership Conference ● Blue Mountain District Leadership Camp ● General Knowledge CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2nd team ● Parent Member Dessert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Earned Greenhand degree ● District Ag Sales CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2nd Beg. team ● District Parli Pro and Creed CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1st Parli Pro Beg. team ● Sectional Parli Pro and Creed CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4th Parli Pro Beg. team ● State Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3rd Ag Issues team ● Chapter Banquet ● Football Concessions ● Greenhand Initiation ● Ag in the Classroom ● Cow-calf pair SAE <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Milton-Freewater Junior Show ● Umatilla County Fair ● NW Farm Supply Steer Jackpot ● Desert Classic Jackpot 	<p>Degree Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter <p>Activities/Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Soils CDE ● District Rituals CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3rd Alt. team ● Blue Mountain District Leadership Camp ● General Knowledge CDE ● Parent Member Dessert <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Earned Chapter degree ● National Agronomy CDE-31st ● Alumni Auction ● Football Concessions ● Steer SAE ● Christmas Wreath Fundraiser ● Plant Sale ● District Convention <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pendleton Jr Livestock Show <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6th in judging ○ Reserve Grand Champion Hog ○ Reserve Grand Champion Showman ○ Outstanding Hog Exhibitor 	<p>Degree Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter <p>Activities/Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● District Soils CDE ● Parent Member Dessert ● District Ag Sales CDE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1st Adv. team ● Chapter Banquet ● Football Concessions ● Greenhand Initiation ● Ag in the Classroom ● Market Steer SAE ● Oregon WildFire Relief at the State Fairgrounds ● State Convention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 1st Ag Issues team ● National Ag Issues Qualifying Team ● Ran for Chapter Office ● Elected Chapter Treasurer ● State Nursery CDE - 1st ● Blue Mountain Flag Football Competition ● Chapter Officer Retreat ● Living To Serve Conference ● Market Steer SAE ● Umatilla County Fair ● Umatilla County Fair Auction Volunteer <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Umatilla County Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 6th in Livestock Judging ○ 3rd in Confirmation Class ○ 3rd in Showmanship ● NW Farm Supply Steer Jackpot ● Desert Classic Jackpot ● Northwest Regional Preview Jackpot ● Job at Dutch Bros 	<p>Degree Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter <p>Office Held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chapter Treasurer <p>Activities/Awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Practiced Soils CDE ● Parent Member Dessert ● Blue Mountain District Leadership Camp ● District Rituals -2nd ● Blue Mountain District Dance ● Hermiston FFA Chapter Officer Christmas Party ● Fall Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Corn Maze ● Winter Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ice Skating ● District Convention ● Job Interview CDE- 4th ● Football Concessions ● Market Steer SAE <p>Other:</p> <p>Job at Osmin Farm</p>

