

STANFIELD

Idaho homicide suspect taken into custody

East Oregonian

A suspect in a Lewiston, Idaho, double homicide was taken into custody Tuesday in the parking lot of the Pilot Flying J Travel Center in Stanfield.



Carlin

According to the Lewiston Police Department, Richard Allen Carlin, 73, was involved in an altercation Tuesday morning that left two people dead and another man severely injured with a stab wound in the back. As of Tuesday evening, Lewiston Police said the third victim was hospitalized in serious but stable condition.

Lewiston Police issued a call for agencies around the Northwest to keep an eye out for Carlin's red Toyota

Corolla with Idaho plates, noted that he was likely headed south and warned that he could be dangerous.

Not long after the warning went out, Stanfield Police Chief Bryon Zumwalt was out on patrol in an unmarked pickup and spotted a car matching the description exiting off Interstate 84 into Stanfield.

After Carlin pulled into the truck stop parking lot, Zumwalt said officers approached the vehicle while Carlin was still inside and arrested him about 10:30 a.m. without incident. Zumwalt said Carlin was not alone in the vehicle, and that his female passenger was not a suspect in any crime.

"She had no involvement or knowledge of his crimes,

and had just gotten a ride from the suspect," said Zumwalt in a press release.

Carlin was arrested on a warrant and detectives from Lewiston were on their way to Umatilla County, Zumwalt said. Carlin was transported and booked into the Umatilla County Jail, Pendleton.

Lt. Jeff Klone with the Lewiston Police Department said police do not believe the killings were random, and they think Carlin knew the victims. Names of the victims have not been released pending notification of next of kin, but Klone said the victims were all adults.

Klone said Carlin is a registered sex offender, but he did not know about the man's specific history with the Lewiston Police Department.

He said at this time, police don't think there are any other suspects at large.



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

A Stanfield Police officer takes photographs of a vehicle that was driven by double-homicide suspect Richard Carlin of Lewiston, Idaho.

PENDLETON

Parks smoking ban goes into effect

East Oregonian

On Friday, Pendleton parks became tobacco-free zones.

The parks' tobacco ban went into effect that day, meaning cigarettes and other forms of nicotine consumption are no longer allowed in those public spaces.

According to an FAQ published by the Pendleton Parks and Recreation, the ban includes cigarettes, e-cigarettes and smokeless tobacco. The ban applies to all parks property, meaning people can't bypass the ban by smoking in their cars.

Other smokable substances, like marijuana or methamphetamine, will remain illegal to use in parks

and other public spaces.

After a six month "education period" ends on April 17, the city will begin enforcing the ban. Although the Pendleton Police Department will be able to cite people caught using tobacco in parks, the FAQ states "issuing citations is not the goal of the ordinance." Citizens can report people using tobacco in parks to parks staff or the police, but those calls won't take precedence over more immediate needs with law enforcement.

Tobacco is already banned in parks in Umatilla County and the city of Umatilla, in addition to 17 other cities and counties across the state.

Hermiston seems

unlikely to follow suit any time soon. During the Hermiston City Council's Sept. 25 meeting, councilor Jackie Myers reported to the council that the city's parks and recreation committee had discussed the topic of a smoking ban in city parks and the committee did not plan on putting together anything for the council to consider.

"There wasn't a whole lot of interest, and one that was extremely opposed to (a ban), so currently we don't have any recommendation on that," she said.

The rest of the council did not comment or express any disagreement with the committee's lack of interest in pursuing a ban.

HERMISTON

Venuworks to run EOTEC starting 2018

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

The Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center board has approved a deal for VenuWorks to run the facility starting Jan. 1, 2018.

The venue management company will get \$9,000 a month plus a commission on the sale of naming rights and other sponsorships.

The board voted unanimously during a special meeting on Tuesday to authorize board chair Byron Smith to sign the contract negotiated with VenuWorks as soon as some final tweaks to the legal language are added.

For its base management fee, which will be in addition to payroll costs for a general manager and operations staff, VenuWorks will provide financial administration, event booking, marketing, sales and event production assistance. Interim manager Nate Rivera said VenuWorks

had requested a base fee of \$10,000 with a 3 percent cost of living increase each year, but agreed to \$9,000 and a 2 percent annual increase. They also wanted to start Jan. 15 but have agreed to start on Jan. 1. The EOTEC board wanted a three-year contract but the final agreement was for a five-year contract with the opportunity for a no-cause exit after three.

"In any contract you don't get everything you want," Rivera said. "We made some concessions, but both of us felt this was reasonable."

Smith said payments by the city of Hermiston and Umatilla County will be adjusted as needed to meet the obligations of the contract. During a presentation at EOTEC's Nov. 3 meeting, VenuWorks estimated that under its management the facility would operate at a \$116,350 loss for the first year, a \$93,362

loss the second year and the city and county could go back to their regular \$75,000 per year contributions after that. The company operates fairgrounds, convention centers and other event facilities around the country, including the Toyota Center in the Tri-Cities.

On Tuesday the board also took time to compliment the new wheel line donated by Elmer's Irrigation and Valmont N.W. in time for the Hermiston Farm Fair, which will take place at EOTEC Nov. 29 through Dec. 1. The line will help irrigate the winter wheat planted for dust control on the southwestern portion of the property used for overflow parking during the Umatilla County Fair.

"You might be from Eastern Oregon if you think a wheel line looks nice," board member Kim Puzey joked.

EOTEC's next meeting is scheduled for Dec. 29.

HERMISTON

New sushi restaurant opens Friday

By JADE MCDOWELL
East Oregonian

After nearly a year of signs promising it will "open soon," Shiki Hibachi Sushi in Hermiston really is opening Friday.

The Japanese restaurant will offer sushi, tempura, bento meals and a variety of other Japanese foods, along with beer, wine, liquor and Japanese sakes. Some seats will feature an up-close cooking show right in front of the grills.

"Just come in and explore and experience," manager Zoe Zhou said.

She said Friday will be a soft opening. While there will always be some issues to work out in the first week or two of a new restaurant's opening, she expects the transition will go smoother than most since the staff have been working shifts at Shiki Hibachi Sushi's Walla Walla and Kennewick locations.

"All our chefs and workers have been in training at our other locations so when they come in they will be prepared and know what they are doing," she said.

At the time they signed the lease for the space on the corner of Highway 395 and Elm Avenue — the busiest intersection in Eastern Oregon, according to the Oregon Department of Transportation — there were no other Japanese restaurants in Hermiston, but Kobe Hibachi Sushi opened up shortly thereafter and Shiki Hibachi Sushi wanted to make sure it was offering something different.

Zhou said the restaurant took so long to open because they were concerned about doing things the right way. She said it took time to custom-design decor and kitchen equipment and ship the pieces over from Japan, and navigating liquor license laws and other Oregon regulations for the first time lengthened the process too.

She said she and fellow manager Pin Jiang were excited and nervous to open. The two have extensive experience in the restaurant industry, which for Zhou has ranged from being a server in her family's restaurant at age



EO file photo

Shiki Hibachi Sushi will open its doors for the first time Friday at 1240 N. First St., Hermiston.

14 to owning her own restaurant in Ellensburg, Washington. She said customer service is especially important to her, and she encouraged people to drop in and ask questions and check out the place even if they aren't eating there that day.

"I don't want it to be just a business relationship with my customers — you come, you have dinner, you pay me, you leave," she said. "I want to do better than that."

If people want to bring a

large party or get one of the six seats in front of the hibachi cooking tops, Zhou suggested they make a reservation.

The restaurant at 1240 N. First St. opens its doors for the first time "about" noon on Friday, Zhou said, but normal hours will be 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Friday, 12:20-10:30 p.m. Saturday and 12:30-9 p.m. on Sundays. For more information or to make a reservation call 541-303-1558.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Sophie Grant
Senior – Heppner High School

Sophie Grant is the daughter of Greg and Virginia Grant. Sophie is the vice president of national honor society, senior class vice president, a member of Future Business Leaders of America and was vice president of the ASB. Sophie has a 4.0 GPA and is a great role model at HHS. She participates in volleyball - (1st team all-league), cheer, basketball and golf - (1st team all-state). Sophie volunteers at Pioneer Memorial Physical Therapy and works at Breaking Grounds Coffee in her spare time. Sophie plans to attend Pacific University and major in Biology while planning to pursue a career as an optometrist.

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