

HERMISTON

Vet science team wins state competition

Members will head to National FFA Convention & Expo

By **GEORGE PLAVERN**
East Oregonian

As the Hermiston High School football team prepares to battle for a state championship Saturday, another HHS team has already proven top dogs in Oregon.

The Hermiston FFA veterinary science team — composed of senior Dylan Westfall, juniors Adriann Stewart and Isel Tejada Urenda, and sophomores Kennedy Baker and Jenna Wallace — took first place out of 21 schools that competed Saturday, Nov. 18 in state competition, hosted by HHS.

Westfall also claimed the top individual score in the state, on what was his 18th birthday. Baker and Wallace each had top-10 scores, at sixth and eighth, respectively. All five members will now put their skills to the test at the 91st National FFA Convention & Expo, Oct. 24-27, 2018 in Indianapolis.

Leah Smith, Hermiston FFA advisor, said she was not surprised to see her students win, but knew it wouldn't be easy.

"Vet science is definitely one of the most difficult career development events we prepare for," Smith said. "They put in countless hours (of preparation)."

There are six parts to the vet science event, each of which requires extensive memorization and quick thinking. The first section consists of hands-on demon-

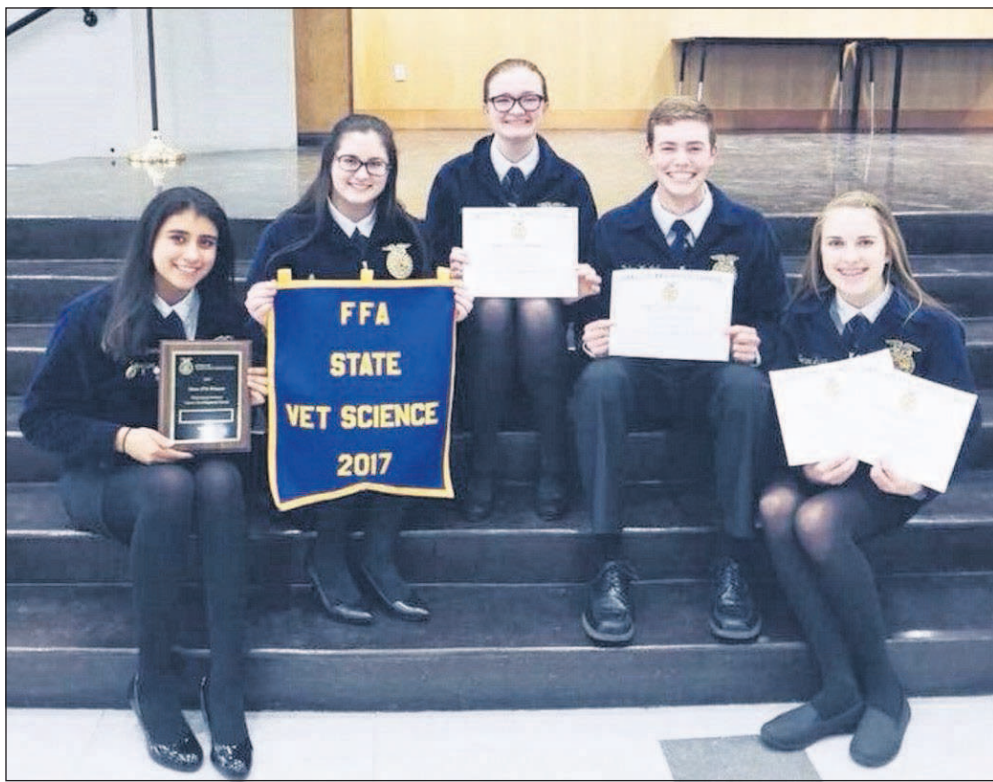


Photo contributed by Hermiston School District
The Hermiston High School FFA veterinary science team took first place during the state competition Nov. 18 at HHS, and will compete at next year's National FFA Convention & Expo. Team members are, from left: Isel Tejada Urenda, Adriann Stewart, Kennedy Baker, Dylan Westfall and Jenna Wallace.

strations for handling and clinical procedures, such as giving a shot or applying a muzzle. Out of 45 possibilities, the students are given four tasks to perform in front of the judges.

From there, individuals must take a 50-question multiple choice test, a 10-question math exam, written exam and identification exam which includes different animal breeds, equipment and parasites. Finally, the team comes together for a 10-15 minute presentation, complete with props. For its presentation, the Hermiston team focused on the Veterinary Feed

Directive, a set of regulations under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for use of antibiotics in animal feed.

Wallace said the team spent weeks practicing every day at the school until 9 p.m.

"It's a lot of preparation," she said. "You just have to remember that, if you push through, it will probably make you a better person."

The victory was especially sweet, Tejada Urenda said, since the team was actually robbed of the chance to participate in last year's event, which was held in Sutherlin though icy roads kept Hermiston from making the five-hour drive.

"We were excited for the chance to compete," Tejada Urenda said. "It was just really exciting to see all the hard work and dedication pay off."

The Hermiston FFA agriculture sales team also competed at the state contest Nov. 18, placing eighth out of 20 schools. Team members included Wallace, along with Deven Hofbauer, Blake Betz and Joseph Knight. Individually out of 83 students, Wallace placed fourth overall.

Contact George Plaver at gplaver@eastoregonian.com or 541-966-0825.

Idaho murder suspect fights extradition

By **JAYATI RAMAKRISHNAN**
East Oregonian

An Idaho murder suspect who was arrested in Stanfield will remain in Umatilla County for at least the next few weeks as he fights extradition and attempts to stay in Oregon for his trial.

Richard Carlin, 73, was arrested at the Stanfield Pilot Flying J Travel Center shortly before noon Tuesday after being reported fleeing and accused of killing his ex-wife and daughter in Lewiston, Idaho, and leaving his grandson badly injured. He has been charged with being a fugitive from justice in Oregon, and is wanted in Idaho for two counts of first-degree murder one count of attempted murder.



Carlin

The victims were identified by Lewiston Police as Carlin's ex-wife Raetta Dee Carlin, 72, and their daughter, Michelle Lynn Carlin, 50. Both had signs of blunt force trauma and strangulation, though the results of autopsies are pending.

Jonathan Michael Spaeth, 20, Michelle Carlin's son, was treated for knife wounds to his back and hands at Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center and has been released.

Richard Carlin appeared via video from the Umatilla County Jail on Wednesday

before Umatilla County Circuit Court Judge Dan Hill. Carlin requested a court-appointed lawyer.

"First of all, I don't want to be sent back to Lewiston," he told Hill. "If I get sent back, there's no way I'll get a fair trial."

Hill set bail for Carlin at \$1 million, as requested by the District Attorney's office.

There will be a case management hearing for Carlin on Dec. 11 at 3 p.m. at the Hermiston Circuit Court, and a hearing on the governor's warrant on Jan. 8, 2018, at 3 p.m.

Carlin, a registered sex offender in Idaho, was reported by Lewiston Police to be running from a crime scene about 5 a.m. Tuesday where officers found two dead and another injured.

Stanfield Police Chief Bryon Zumwalt was in an unmarked police vehicle about 11 a.m. Tuesday, and spotted a car that fit the description of Carlin's exiting Interstate 84 at Stanfield. Officers approached Carlin at the Pilot truck stop while he was still in his vehicle and arrested him without incident. Carlin had one passenger, a female, in the vehicle with him, but Zumwalt said she was not a suspect.

Contact Jayati Ramakrishnan at jramakrishnan@eastoregonian.com or 541-564-4534

Cause of death determined in Lincoln City case

The former Hermiston woman who died in Lincoln City last week drowned, according to the Lincoln City Police Department.

Jean Beck, a 51-year-old mother of four, went missing Thursday, Nov. 16 and was found in a canal near her hotel the next day.



Beck

The police and major crimes team investigated, and with the autopsy evidence determined she did not die under suspicious circumstances and there were no signs of foul play.

Beck had lived in Hermiston until June, when she moved to Gresham. While in Hermiston, Beck became known for her work as an autism advocate and was a member of the Hermiston board of Realtors.

A family friend has set up a GoFundMe page to raise money for funeral expenses, and to help support Beck's four children, and there is a funeral service for Beck on Saturday, Nov. 25 at 1 p.m., at New Hope Church, 1350 S. Hwy 395, Hermiston.

Pendleton man injured in Washington crash

A Pendleton man was transported to a Kennewick hospital Wednesday after crashing his vehicle on Interstate 82.

Michael L. Adams, 23, of Pendleton was taken to

Trios Southridge Hospital in Kennewick following the wreck. A Washington State Patrol press release stated that Adams' SUV left the freeway and struck the right guardrail near milepost 125 about, 12 miles south of Kennewick. Alcohol and drugs were not involved in the crash, according to police.

Adams was cited for second-degree negligent driving.

Echo toy run revs up holiday spirits

ECHO — The deafening roar of motorcycle engines will soon rumble in downtown Echo as participants gear up for the Echo Toy Run.

While shopping Black Friday sales, Al Sells hopes people will pick up a few toys or gifts for the 14th annual event.

Former owners of the Echo Saloon started the event to help brighten the spirits of sick kids during the holiday season. Sells has continued coordinating the annual tradition of delivering toys to Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston.

The group will gather Saturday, Dec. 2 on Main Street Echo. Kickstands are up at noon for the ride into Hermiston. People are encouraged to bring a new unwrapped toy to deliver.

As the effort has revved up, it has expanded well beyond the holiday season. Nick Bejarano, director of marketing and communications at Good Shepherd, said hospital staff can give toys to children throughout the year. The gifts often help in reducing anxiety during hospital visits.

Those who don't ride a motorcycle can bring toys prior to the noon departure or take up the rear of the pack as the group



Staff photo by Tammy Malgesini

Al Sells leads the pack during the 2009 Echo Toy Run. In its 14th year, the group will gather Dec. 2 in downtown Echo and deliver toys to Good Shepherd Medical Center in Hermiston.

rides into Hermiston. Also, toys can be dropped off at the hospital administrative offices, 610 N.W. 11th St.

For more information, call Sells at 541-571-1820 or Bejarano at 541-667-3460.

Coast Weekend wants your best shot

The annual Coast Weekend Photo Contest invites residents of Oregon and Washington to send their best shots.

The contest is open to photographers of all skill levels. EO Media Group staff at *The Daily Astorian* will choose the top three entries. Photos must be submitted online by Sunday, Dec. 18. Voting for people's choice begins Monday, Dec. 18.

The winners will receive gift cards. Also, the top 25 will run online at www.coastweekend.com, with the first 10 appearing in

the *Coast Weekend's* Jan. 4 print edition.

To upload photos, visit www.coastweekend.com/cwphotocontest.

Theater offers sensory-friendly flicks

HERMISTON — The lights are up a little and the volume is down for special screenings of "Thor Ragnarok" and "The Star."

In conjunction with The Arc Umatilla County, the sensory-friendly shows can be viewed Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at Hermiston Stadium 8 Cinema, 355 W. Theater Lane. Tickets are \$5.

A nonprofit organization, The Arc advocates for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. They offer activities to help in connecting the community and expanding opportunities for people with disabilities.

For more information, call

541-567-7615 or visit www.facebook.com.

McFundraiser benefits Highland Hills

HERMISTON — McTeacher's Night will raise money for the Highland Hills Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization.

School staff will man the Hermiston McDonald's counter Tuesday, Nov. 28 from 5-7 p.m. at 1320 N. First St., Hermiston. All tips and 15 percent of the sales will benefit projects and activities at Highland Hills in Hermiston.

For more information, call 541-667-6500 or visit www.facebook.com.

Altrusa reaches out to community

PENDLETON — A fun-loving group that gives back to the community is seeking new members.

Altrusa International of Pendleton invites the public to enjoy dinner and learn more about projects and activities the group is involved with. The free gathering is Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 5:30 p.m. in the Bamboo Room (lower level) at Pendleton Center for the Arts, 214 N. Main St. Members will be on hand to answer questions.

The international organization, whose focus is to work together to create better communities, recently celebrated its 100-year anniversary. The Pendleton club was chartered in 1938.

For more information, call Pat McClintock at 541-276-9189.

Briefs are compiled from staff and wire reports, and press releases. Email press releases to news@eastoregonian.com

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