Greenhands show sale skills Wallowa Dam

By Kathleen Ellyn Wallowa County Chieftain

Heads up, agricultural companies: Enterprise FFA Greenhands came home from the Dec. 4 Ag Sales and Service Career Development Event in Baker with the top award.

In all, 11 schools in the FFA district competed in the event, which tests student skills in the areas of sales and selling, dealing with customer concerns, prospecting for new customers, understanding advertising, and telephone or-

Students who compete in the events must be able to think on their feet and be skilled at handling customers respectfully. Students choose a category they like to compete in. learn the skills required to work within that category and then demonstrate that skill by tackling a scenario they are given just five minutes before they perform.

For example, if they are demonstrating their skill in customer relations the scenario may be:

Joe comes into your store angry because he bought a hedge trimmer and the engine seized up. He wants his money back.

In this scenario the student has to go through a process of sympathizing with the customer and agreeing it's a problem, questioning the customer to find out what



The Enterprise High School FFA Greenhand Team took First place in the Ag Sales and Service Competition in Baker. Left to right, front row: Jalyn Barney, Shelby Moncrief, MacKiah Tarvin, Lexi Gassett and Deidre Schreiber. Left to right back: Karli Bedard, Dylan Marr, Justus Even and Riley Masters.

caused the problem, coming up with a solution that is satisfactory to both the customer and the company, asking for the receipt, and then trying to sell an additional product.

"The students are judged by actual business people," said Enterprise Vo-Ag teacher Stephanie Schofield. "Teachers draw from the community and bring judges with them. We have people from Banks, Coops, farms and ranches."

The Enterprise FFA Chapter Greenhands competed against nine other teams. The individual awards were as follows: Karli Bedard took first, and Lexi Gassett took second in Telephone Ordering; MacKiah Tavin took fifth in Sales Presentation; Dylan Marr took sixth and Jalyn Barney took eighth in Advertising; Justus Even took sixth and Shelby Moncrief took eleventh in Customer Relations; and Deidre Schreiber took fifth and Rilev Masters took thirteenth in Prospecting.

Enterprise also fielded an advanced team made up of Wade Isley, Darby Gassett, MacKiah Tarvin, Whitney Evans, Claire Beck, and Georgia Falk. They

placed sixth overall.

Enterprise teacher dials up a great idea

Schofield wins education award for repurposed pockets

By Kathleen Ellyn Wallowa County Chieftain

Enterprise Vo-Ag teacher Stephanie Schofield saw the craft project online and something just clicked.

"I thought it would work,"

What she'd seen was a crafter's idea for turning jeans pockets into a wall of little storage

Her modification of the idea was to repurpose the pockets and put students' cellphones in those instead of their jacket pockets.

With one wall of pockets she could eliminate much of the hassle of keeping students focused on their work instead of their

social life. "There's always problems with phones," she said. ways. But some students use their phones when the laptops are not connecting. And sometimes I let them use their phones (for things like studying Spanish vocabulary when they're done with classwork) because it's that kind of world we're in - a tech-

nological world." Phones would go in there at the start of class, she figured, and if there was free time students could ask to retrieve their phones, but the temptation would be clear across the room, rather than in their hoodie.

So, Schofield put out a call on the Enterprise FFA web page for seamstresses willing to make



Enterprise Vo-Ag teacher Stephanie Schofield took this simple crafting idea and turned it into an award winning solution to cellphones in the classroom.

the pocket panel.

"If you knew me, you would know I absolutely didn't make those pockets," Schofield said. "I just put on the Facebook page I needed that and it just showed

The late Nicole Wynn and Natalie Wilsey made the pocket panels.

Now that the pocket panels are up, all it takes to make the idea work is dedication and remembering the incentives, Schofield said.

The incentive is a prize.

"If they come in and put their phone in there at the end of class I draw a number and they get a raffle ticket and at the end of

the quarter I'll draw for a prize," Schofield said. "If I do my part and make sure I do the drawing at the end of the class it works really well."

So well, in fact, that she took the idea to the Oregon Vocational Ag Teachers Conference and submitted it in a contest called "Ideas Unlimited."

"Ag teachers from all over the state bring their ideas and do a little brief stand-up explanation and the teachers vote on the ideas," she explained.

Re-purposed pockets won and Schofield brought home

"I think the reason why it won is because very teacher has trouble with cellphones," Schofield said.

irrigation company withdraws water right application

By Eric Mortenson Capital Press

The irrigation company that owns the dam at Wallowa Lake has temporarily withdrawn a water right application that is part of its plan to pay for rehabilitating the structure by selling some of the water from its increased storage capacity.

Associated Ditch Companies Inc., formed by five irrigation ditch companies that originally built the dam nearly 100 years ago, will renew its application to the state Water Resources Department in 2016, project manager Dave Hockett said.

The decision is another detour in a long-running community argument. Federal inspectors, citing the possibility of a breach, have restricted the dam operators to storing about 72 percent of the water it could potentially hold. Associated Ditch Companies, or ADC, maintains that rehab work will allow it to reach the dam's previously authorized storage capacity, an estimated 12,000 acre feet more than is currently being stored.

The problem has been how to pay for the work, estimated to cost \$15 million. ADC has proposed selling about 4,200 acre feet annually of the renewed storage capacity to downstream users. Buyers might include other irrigation outfits, industrial users or community water systems, Hockett said.

Farmers and others in the Umatilla Basin are pursuing ways to recharge aquifers and have expressed interest in drawing water from the Columbia River for that purpose. In the past, they've mentioned increased flow that might come from the Wallowa River if the dam is repaired. The Wallowa flows into the Minam River, which joins the Grand Ronde River, then into the Snake and finally the Columbia.

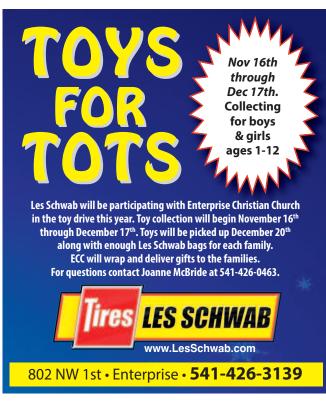
ADC's plan to finance the repairs by selling water is opposed by community members who believe the water should be retained for local benefit.

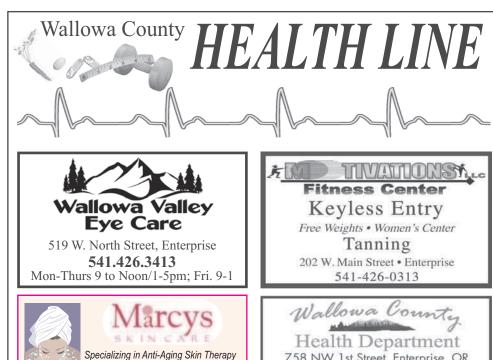


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- · Unlike mentors, CASA volunteers have legal standing so they can gather relevant information, talk to all related parties and make considered recommendations to the judge about the child's best interests.
- Children with CASA volunteers get more help while in the system and spend less time in foster care.
- Children with CASA volunteers do better in school and are less likely to be bounced from home to home.

How can you become a CASA?

Wallowa County CASA Program will be hosting a brief information session for anyone who would like more information about volunteering or making a donation.

For more information call 541-426-9411 or visit our website at www.oregonbhf.org

Join us on December 16th at 5:15pm at Building Healthy Families located at 207 NE Park St. in Enterprise.