

Heppner TSA makes good showing at competition

Middle school chapter off to impressive start



Above: Middle school participants (front) Casey Fletcher, Brinley Dompier, Aimee Doherty, Madelyn Nichols, Hanna Palmer, (back) Kael Osmín, Jason Rea, Logan Angell, Jordan Spaulding and Kevin Rhea. Below: High school participants (front) Elijah Fetter, Bryan Fowler, Kai Arbogast, William Lutcher, Trent Smith, Daichi Walter, Caitlyn Scrivner, (back) Carson Brosnan, Ethan Homgren, Kane Sweeney, Gibson McCurry, Leo Waite, Tim Gould and Charles Cason. —Contributed photos



Heppner TSA (Technology Student Association) started a middle school chapter this year.

“Both the middle school and high school chapters did an outstanding job at the Oregon TSA Competition Thursday, Dec. 10, at BMCC,” said Heppner TSA advisor Dave Fowler.

Twenty-six Heppner students competed in six events. The event attracted more than 70 students from schools in Umatilla and Morrow counties.

Heppner results for the

competition were:

Middle School: Structural Design—first place Madelyn Nichols and Hanna Palmer, second place Aimee Doherty and Brinley Dompier, third place Jordan Spaulding and Casey Fletcher. Flight—first place Gavin Robinson. Mass Production—first place Jordan Spaulding, Jason Rea, Casey Fletcher and Gavin Robinson, second place Kevin Rea, Kael Osmín and Logan Angell.

High School: Structural Design and Engineering—first place Kai Arbogast

and Daichi Walters, third place Tim Gould and Kane Sweeney. Flight Endurance—first place Bryan Fowler, second place Elijah Fetter. Manufacturing Prototype—second place Kai Arbogast, Bryan Fowler and William Lutcher.

The event wasn't only about competition; it was also about giving back. For Mass Production and Manufacturing Prototype, students research, design and build 20 toys, which are then divided up among the teams to take back and donate to charity.

Episcopal diocese elects new bishop

PENDLETON—Fr. Patrick Bell was elected the seventh bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon Saturday, Dec. 12, at Church of the Redeemer, Pendleton.

Kim McClain, president of the diocese's standing committee, said Bell was one of three finalists from a pool of 16 applicants. A search committee narrowed the field down to three candidates.

McClain said, “All of the candidates had Eastern

Oregon roots and experience and all were so well qualified. We would have done well with any one of the three.”

McClain said Bell's background lends itself to his new position—he is a seventh generation Eastern Washingtonian, hailing from a long farming tradition, and his first Episcopal parish was in Ontario, OR.

“Fr. Bell understands rural life in the Pacific Northwest. We think he will make a really good bishop,”

McClain said.

The bishopric of Eastern Oregon is a half-time position; Bell said he will be in the diocese two weeks a month and maintain his residence in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

The diocesan moved to Cove from The Dalles in Oct. 2013.

Bell will be consecrated April 16. McClain said the site has not yet been determined. For information please contact Eastern Oregon's diocesan office at 541-568-4514, ext. 1, or email diocese@episdioe.org.



Fr. Patrick Bell

Feathered friends bring unexpected color to winter yards

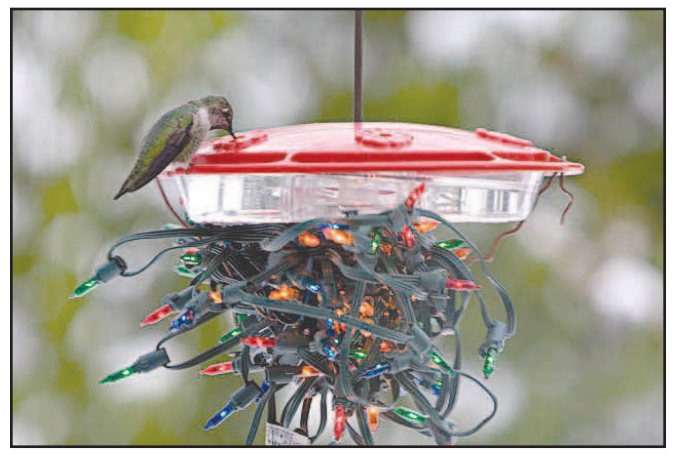
Local residents are seeing some unexpected color in their winter thanks to hummingbirds that have apparently decided to winter over in the area. At least three Heppner residents have reported hummingbird sightings in their yards, even during the recent cold snap that plunged temperatures into the teens.

“It was such a surprise,” said Anna Schwarzin of Heppner. “That silly thing just flew in front of me like, ‘Lady, I’m hungry!’”

Hummingbirds in winter apparently aren't as uncommon as some might think. One western species, coincidentally known as Anna's Hummingbird, is a year-round resident of the Pacific coast from northern Baja as far north as southern British Columbia. Other hummingbird species that might not be common winter visitors may also be late migrants or may have gotten pushed off course by a storm.

While it doesn't seem like the chances of survival would be very great, experts say the little birds are sturdier than they seem, able to conserve energy or change their diet to survive. However, according to the Seattle Audubon Society, there also are several ways to ensure their success.

-Don't mess with the



One way to keep nectar from freezing is to wrap Christmas lights around the feeder. —Photo courtesy of the Seattle Audubon Society

mix. Though increasing the sugar may help prevent freezing, experts recommend staying consistent with a 1:4 mix. A simple recipe of one part sugar and four parts water, mixed in a pan, brought to a boil, and then removed from heat and cooled.

-Have two feeders and rotate them. The mix will begin to freeze around 29 degrees. Rotating the feeders throughout the day will keep the fluid moving and available to the birds.

-String Christmas lights around the feeder; the ambient heat can be just enough to keep things thawed (depending on how cold it gets). Or hang a trouble light near the feeding station, or from the bottom of the feeder.

-Duct tape a hand warmer to the feeder. They

emit heat for approximately seven hours.

-Try plumber's heat tape. The wattage of these tapes is very low and does not draw a lot of energy.

-Don't stress too much about the welfare of the hummingbirds. Hummingbirds are capable of reducing their body temperature at night and conserving their energy. They roost in trees and shrubs and do not use nest boxes or bird houses. They need a lot of sucrose (nectar) during the day to keep them going, especially in the cold. Continuing to offer nectar is a way in which we can assist them.

With a little care, we can keep these cheerful visitors safe and warm as they bring an unexpected touch of summer to the bleak winter landscape.

Sheriff's Report

-Continued from PAGE EIGHT

October 29: -A person at Irrigon skate park advised of a male left at the skate park; the male was in a wheelchair and was very disoriented—he was speaking with his hands but the caller could understand him. The male had a hospital band on. Morrow County Sheriff's Office and Boardman Ambulance responded and transported the male to Good Shepherd Hospital.

-A female in Irrigon advised MCSO that her car locked automatically with her keys and baby inside. MCSO and Boardman Lock and key responded and unlocked the car.

-MCSO was advised that Lance Sanchez, 34, currently serving a sentence with Oregon Department of Corrections, was served an Irrigon Justice Court Warrant for Failure to Pay Fine on Theft II.

-A caller advised that seven or eight cows were out at the turnoff to Blakes Ranch; they were black with white ear tags. MCSO determined Blakes Ranch is open range. No action was taken.

-An employee at Boardman Select market advised MCSO that he was having an altercation with a shoplifter. Boardman PD responded and arrested Paul Alan Lienig, 42, for Theft III.

-MCSO was advised that a vehicle ran a stop sign at Irrigon and was now parked at a residence. A deputy responded and made contact with the driver, who advised they did not run a stop sign. The driver received a warning.

-MCSO received a report that a female was seen driving her vehicle into town. MCSO arrested Amanda Suzanne Vaughan, 41, for Theft III and Violation of a Release Agreement. Sheriff was released on her own recognizance at the sheriff's office.

-MCSO received report of cows out on Highway 74 near Lone. MCSO was

then advised that good Samaritans were able to corral the cows in a pasture down the road. The highway was clear.

October 30: -A female in Irrigon advised Morrow County Sheriff's office that she spoke to her husband yesterday and hadn't heard from him since; she requested MCSO to attempt contact with him.

-MCSO advised being out at Sub Zero Restaurant in Irrigon with mail on the ground.

-A female in Heppner advised she rents to two subjects and the male subject had been having some anger issues that day. The caller advised the male subject did damage to the female's car and charged at her several times. He had not assaulted the female but his temper escalated in the morning. The female had called the landlord worried he was going to do something to the residence. The female was at work at the time and not in harm's way. The owner of the home requested to have the male trespassed from the residence. MCSO responded.

-MCSO was advised of a car that ran into a light pole behind a school in Irrigon. The driver was a juvenile. MCSO and the driver's father responded and at the father's request the vehicle was towed.

-MCSO took a theft report regarding some sheds that had been broken into in Heppner.

-A caller at the fish hatchery in Irrigon advised there was a deer that ran into the fence and was now deceased. The caller had thought it was alive and needed dispatched, but while the caller was on the phone the deer took its last breath. The caller advised they could take care of it on Monday.

-MCSO received a report from a person in Boardman who advised that within the last week someone broke into the storage trailer and stole things in and around the property.

The caller advised there were also tools lying around that they used to break in. MCSO took a report and took the incident under investigation.

October 31: -Morrow County Sheriff's Office received report from a woman in Heppner who said a subject threatened to beat up her fiancé and then refused to leave. MCSO responded.

-MCSO received report that Umatilla Police Department arrested Kevin Ricardo Melendez, 21, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Giving False Information to a Police Officer and Resisting Arrest. He was lodged at the Umatilla County Jail with \$2,345 bail in full.

-MCSO received report of a vehicle parked alongside of the road on Willow Creek Rd with a flat tire and open door. No one was at the vehicle.

-MCSO received report of a cell phone taken out of a vehicle on Wyoming Ave. in Irrigon. MCSO later learned that the phone was not stolen; a child had it.

-MCSO received report from a man at Toms Camp Rd., Boardman, who said he had a goat at his house that didn't belong to him. He said he had the goat tied up and wanted someone to come get it.

-MCSO received report from a subject in Irrigon who said he had gotten a strange call from a female on his phone for the city. The female said she needed police on Columbia.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman who said a dog, possibly a boxer, that didn't belong to her was at her house. A deputy attempted to catch the dog, but it was skittish and ran off.

-MCSO received report of a rifle found in the Irrigon wildlife area.

-MCSO received report from a woman on Green St. in Heppner who said that her wife was just hit by their neighbor and requested deputy contact. MCSO responded.

Season's Greetings

From Our Family To Yours!



Heppner
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Designed by
Sienna Newhouse, Age 9,
Clarkston, WA.
She was the winner of
our annual Holiday
Design Contest.

Member FDIC