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2016 Umatilla County Fair Homemaker of the Year Teresa Veach of Hermiston

(Hermiston) It's not every year that we get to announce a Homemaker of the Year due to the very specific requirements that must be met in order to win the title. Scores are tabulated post-fair and it takes some time to catch up with the winner when things that were put off during fair and the surrounding weeks, resume promptly at its conclusion.

We finally caught up with Teresa Veach and were able to present her with her 2016 Umatilla County Fair Homemaker of the Year plaque. This is no small feat! The requirements are listed in the Open Class Home-Ec section of the UCF Exhibitors Guide as follows:

To qualify, a minimum of five (5) entries per Department are required in Textiles & Needlecraft, Clothing, Baked Foods and Food Preservation.

Disqualifications or dismissals of any kind, in any class of the 4 required Departments, will forfeit exhibitor's eligibility for this award.

Points will be based on the following ribbon awards:

Blue – 3pts Red - 2pts White – 1pt

Exhibitors must have at least three (3) Blue Ribbons in each of the required departments.

THIS AWARD MAY NOT BE GIVEN TO THE SAME PERSON MORE THAN TWO TIMES IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS AT THIS FAIR.

This year's recipient Teresa Veach grew up in southern Oregon and has lived in Hermiston for 28 years. She learned to bake early, taught by her mother who encouraged Teresa as a freshman, to take a semester of sewing, thus she has continued to make clothing for her parents, nieces and for herself. Her grandmother taught her how to crochet, beginning with a pair of Granny Square slippers. Teresa's mother has always canned and Teresa has for the last dozen years or so.

It was only a few years ago that she realized that "Open Class" meant that she could enter her items in the Umatilla County Fair, win ribbons and earn premiums. It was then that she picked up the Umatilla County Fair Exhibitors Guide and looked at the divisions and the words, "Homemaker of the Year" caught her eye and looked like a fun challenge that she could take on, so she got busy. This was the first year that she qualified with enough entries.

Teresa teaches middle school and high school Business and Math and we are proud to reward her for her participation in the Umatilla County Fair and are very happy to call her our 2016 Homemaker of the Year!
Congratulations Teresa!

