

Appeal Tribune

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Marion County kids win statewide contest

Calendar artwork winners showcase Oregon's agriculture

Christena Brooks Special to Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Two Marion County schoolchildren are among the 13 winners of a statewide art contest featuring Oregon's agricultural bounty.

More than 2,000 public, private, charter and homeschool students entered this year's calendar art contest.

This is the 17th annual competition run by Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation. The winning students were honored on Sunday, Aug. 26 at the Oregon State Fairgrounds.

For Marion County, Sara Serratos, of Silverton, and Pauline Green-Coons, of Salem, each won \$50 and a place in the pages of the foundation's annual calendar. Ten thousand copies will go out to Oregon educators and students.

Sara's sketch of artisan cheeses and Pauline's wa-

tercolor painting of tulips will grace the months of June and April, respectively.

To be considered for a prize, the young artists had to be kindergarteners through sixth graders last spring, and had to submit artwork featuring Oregon-grown commodities, such as seafood, hazelnuts, eggs, fruit, livestock, vegetables or field crops.

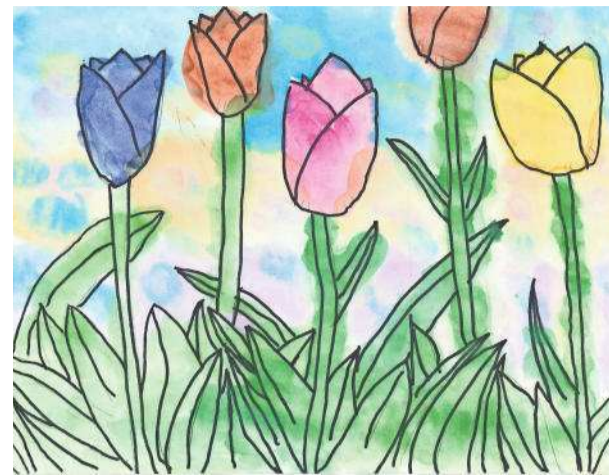
"I just love cheeses," said Sara, a fifth-grader at Victor Point School last year.

"There are endless interesting flavors, colors and shapes of cheese. As I researched different types of cheeses, I was surprised to learn that so many are made right here in Oregon. They seemed perfect for a picnic."

Pauline was a second-grader at Myers Elementary School last year.

Encouraging students to think hard about what

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This watercolor painting of tulips by Pauline Green-Coons, of Salem, is the April image in the calendar. PHOTO COURTESY OF PAULINE GREEN-COONS

Detroit park project a decade in making



Suzanne Cable, left, of the U.S. Forest Service, Detroit city councilor Debby Ruyle and Detroit Mayor Jim Trett stand on the Detroit Flats site where a \$2.8 million park project has been started.

BILL POEHLER/STATESMAN JOURNAL

\$2.8M effort seeks to transform, interconnect sites

Bill Poehler Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

DETROIT — A huge block of in the middle of a destination resort town looked abandoned.

Compared to the beautiful homes in the heavily forested area surrounding it, the fenced-in remnants of the former elementary and high schools in Detroit sat undeveloped for years with vegetation overgrowing around the rubble left over from when the buildings were demolished.

Not far away, the city's only free access point to Detroit Lake — Detroit Flats day use area — was overgrown and the riverbank eroded.

A collaborative \$2.8-million project between the U.S. Forest Service and Detroit 10 years in the making is transforming the sites into a park system joined by a walking trail.

In the past few years, Detroit has been through a

lot: droughts, wildfires and water quality advisories.

"It's a big plus for Detroit, and we need a big plus right now," Detroit Mayor Jim Trett said. "I think it's party time."

The schools in Detroit closed in the late 1990s and the students joined the Santiam school district in its schools in Mill City. The buildings remained mostly untouched for years.

In 2004, 2.69 acres of the school's site — essentially the elementary school location — was given to the city by the Santiam Canyon School District. The rest of the property was sold for home development.

It took years to tear down the elementary school buildings, and years more to figure out what to do with them.

"I think after the school closed, it was, 'What do we want to do with that?'" Trett said. "For us, a real prob-

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Mayor: In-N-Out set for Keizer Station

Whitney Woodworth Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Soon, Mid-Willamette Valley residents won't have to drive hours to get their fix of animal fries or a Double-Double.

In-N-Out Burger is set to open at Keizer Station, Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark told the Statesman Journal August 21.

The Irvine, California-based company hasn't set a date for the opening.

Clark said an In-N-Out representative met with City Council Monday to discuss the city's sign code, which clashed with the restaurant's signature aw-

nings and signage.

The representative Kori Seki thanked the city for its welcoming, friendly staff.

"Oregon is considered a new market for In-N-Out," Seki said during council meeting. "Only two restaurants — Grants Pass and Medford — have been open to date. The city of Keizer will be the third."

He told the council the building will have a classic In-N-Out look, with the arrow sign ubiquitous to California freeways and palm tree awnings.

After reviewing the code, city councilors agreed to change it for In-N-Out and all other Keizer businesses

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Oregon program honors oldest farms in operation

Associated Press

SALEM — An Oregon program honored the state's oldest farms in continuous operation at a ceremony August 25, including two farms that have been tilled for 150 years.

The awards reported on by the Capital Press also include a dozen farming operations that are a century old from all over the state, from populous Multnomah County to rural areas in Umatilla and Wasco counties.

Mullen Farms is one of two sesquicentennial farms designated this year by the Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program.

Founded in 1852, seven years before Oregon became a state, a farm in Saint Paul, Ore., is continuing to build on its legacy as a family operation.

"We are definitely a family farm," said Jerry Mullen, great-great-grandson of one of the farm's founders, Patrick Mullen.

Through the years, it has been important to every generation to keep the farm going and in the family, Mullen said. He never knew his dad, who died when Mullen was two years old, but Mullen spent a lot of time with his grandfather, Charles S. Mullen Sr., who taught him about the farm.

On the property is a house where Mullen's grandfather was born and lived for 101 years.

"It was important to my granddad especially that we kept the farm together," Mullen said.

Mullen recalled growing up on the farm mentioning how they had their own pigs, dairy and granary.

"I grew up with all that to self-sustain and then grow enough to make some cash," Mullen said.

Over time the farm has grown from 150 to 1,300 acres as the Mullen family has added other farms and land to the business. They now grow mainly seed crops and hazelnuts.

"We are doing everything we can do at this point to make sure it is a viable farm going forward," he said.

The other sesquicentennial farm honored this year is the Robinson Stillwell Taggart Farm in Dayton. It was founded in 1844 when Benjamin and Elizabeth Robinson came to the Oregon territory on a wagon train.

The farm is still in the family, though pieces of it were sold off during the Depression.

"(The farm) has been a source of pride for our family for generations," said John Taggart, the current owner of the farm.

The farm is leased to a couple who Taggart says he is close to and trusts. Taggart lives in Eastern Oregon and wants to keep the farm because of its history.

Also on the list are 12 newly designated century farms:

■ J.G. Kuenzi Farm, H.M.K., began in 1917 after the founder traded a smaller farm in Mt. Pleasant for the 217-acre farm near Silverton. The farm has grown different types of berries over the years, as well as grass seed, hogs and clover.

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An Oregon program will honor the state's oldest farms in continuous operation, including two farms that have been tilled for 150 years. Mullen Farms is one of two sesquicentennial farms designated this year by the Oregon Century Farm and Ranch Program. Founded in 1852, seven years before Oregon became a state, a farm in Saint Paul, Ore., is continuing to build on its legacy as a family operation. KELLY JORDAN/STATESMAN JOURNAL

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