

Student wins statewide ag art award

By Spokesman staff

Redmond fifth grader Olivia Griffith, a student at Tom McCall Elementary, was selected as one of 13 winners in a statewide annual calendar art contest sponsored by Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom.

Olivia's artwork was selected among 2,116 entries submitted to the contest, which showcases diverse agricultural and natural resource commodities.

Olivia's artwork featured a Black Angus cow in a field and can be viewed on the January 2022 page of the calendar.

"We have a lot of beef cows in Oregon and the Sisters Mountains in the background represent the Central Oregon region where I live," said Olivia.

The 13 students selected to be featured in our 2022-2023 calendar received a \$50 award and a certificate. The winning artwork is displayed on the Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom website and at the Oregon State Fair, which runs through Labor Day in Salem. Calendars are free to Oregon teachers, and can be ordered for \$4 on oregonaitc.org/shop.



Olivia Griffith, a student at Tom McCall Elementary in Redmond, was one of 13 winners in a statewide annual calendar art contest sponsored by Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom.



Photo courtesy Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom

Olivia Griffith, a student at Tom McCall Elementary, was one of 13 winners in a statewide annual calendar art contest sponsored by Oregon Agriculture in the Classroom.

Drazan campaigns for governor at Smith Rock

Gubernatorial candidate gives clear support to Oregon agriculture

BY NICK ROSENBERGER

Redmond Spokesman

Labor Day Weekend is the traditional kickoff of the fall campaign season.

Christine Drazan, the Oregon Republican candidate for governor, got a head start on Thursday, Sept. 1 at Smith Rock Ranch, where she spoke to a few hundred attendees and rallied for change in Salem.

Much of the event focused on agriculture, water rights, and pushing back against government control.

Drazan emphasized her support for law enforcement, free markets, low taxes, addressing affordable housing and declaring a state of emergency for the homelessness crisis.

"We cannot turn a blind eye to the homeless crisis in our streets," she said. "We have to provide compassion and accountability."

Household names in the Central Oregonian political sphere also showed up to support — including Deschutes County Commissioners Patti Adair and Tony DeBone, along with Redmond city councilor and mayoral candidate Jay Patrick.

Drazan noted the support she has received from Vikki Breese-Iverson, minority leader of the Oregon house of representatives; Tim Knopp, R-Bend; and Deschutes County Commissioner candidate Phil Henderson.

The November election will be a three-way battle for the open governor's seat between Democrat Tina Kotek, independent Betsy Johnson and Republican Christine Drazan.

"Look at the people on your left, look at the people on your right," Drazan said. "This is the

winning team. It's not people sitting around a coffee shop in Multnomah County. It's the people here tonight, fighting for the future of our state."

Some of those in attendance agreed with Drazan on limiting government overreach.

Jim Crouch of Tumalo defined himself as a "conservative, not Republican." Crouch started a construction business in 1972 and said he received "nasty" letters from the government saying they'd throw him in jail unless he made changes. He was audited six times and disliked the amount of government involvement on his business.

"I didn't want to rely on the government to provide for me," he said.

Matt Cyrus, the Deschutes County Farm Bureau president, also spoke. Cyrus said the current Oregon legislature failed to cooperate with the agricultural community to address concerns.

"We need to change the governor to somebody that we can work with and somebody who will support agriculture," he said.

JoHanna Symons, owner of Symons Beef Company and co-founder of Perfect Balance USA, spoke about water rights. She blamed "radical environmentalists" for strategically abusing the Endangered Species Act and causing irrigation issues for agriculture in the Deschutes Basin.

Symons emphasized that she's supportive of the Endangered Species Act when enforced properly, but felt that has not been done for the Oregon spotted frog.

Symons, whose ranch is located in the North Unit Irrigation District, said the irrigation district's general manager and board of directors voluntarily decided to give up water to benefit the frog. Because of those demands, Symons said



Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

Christine Drazan, Oregon's republican candidate for governor, speaking at a fundraiser at Smith Rock Ranch outside Terrebonne on September 1.

that means "basically, our reservoir is gone after the winter-time release."

According to Symons, her operation produces enough beef to feed 300,000 people a year. If operations like hers falter, she is worried about the nation's ability to feed its citizens.

"The Deschutes Basin seems small, but across the board we have a huge national and international footprint on food," Symons said.

Drazan also touched on both local and international concerns that tie to Oregon agriculture.

"On day one I will tear up Kate Brown's executive order on cap and trade," she said. "I will veto bad bills that are written to advance a progressive global agenda that harm Oregonians."

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Nick Rosenberger/Spokesman

Crowds gather to listen to Christine Drazan, Oregon's republican candidate for governor, speak at a fundraiser at Smith Rock Ranch outside Terrebonne on September 1.

Kiwanis R'Oktoberfest set for Sept. 17 at Wild Ride

Event features music, food and includes a silent auction to raise funds to benefit youth projects

Spokesman staff

The 14th annual Redmond Kiwanis R'Oktoberfest Celebration will be rocking downtown Redmond on Saturday, Sept. 17, at Wild Ride Brewing from noon to 10 p.m.

The Kiwanis version leans into the rock and local food scene, and organizers said it is only slightly inspired by German-style Oktoberfest. Admission is free.

More than 25 craft beers and ciders will be on tap at the family-friendly event.

Energy Youth Basketball, the event beneficiary, will coordinate the chil-



Colby Brown / Spokesman file

FILE — The 2016 8th Kiwanis Oktoberfest at Wild Ride Brewing Company. This year's event is set for Sept. 17.

dren's activities including bouncy houses, hoop shooting, cornhole and face painting.

Live music will be provided by the Mark Mobley Band from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., and Cheyenne West and

Silverado will perform from 6 to 9:30 p.m.

Other entertainment includes

a grain toss and stein hoisting for adults.

The silent auction will go online again this year to support Kiwanis youth projects in the Redmond community. Those projects include education scholarships, Jericho Backpacks and Camp Sunrise.

Energy Youth Basketball Club is a nonprofit that works to provide first through eighth-grade girls and boys in the greater Redmond community with an opportunity to develop basketball skills and teach character-based life skills through sports. EYBC is a volunteer organization made up of invested community members who have extensive backgrounds in basketball and youth athletics.

Learn more and register your child for the upcoming season at www.energyhoopclub.com.