



LUKAS EGGEN/Itemizer-Observer

Lileigh Deforest, 9, (left) and Savannah King, 13, paint ceramic mugs at Ash Creek Arts Center summer art camp.

Clay creations take a monstrous turn

Ash Creek Arts Center summer camp invites youths to create monsters

By Lukas Eggen
The Itemizer-Observer

MONMOUTH — Tofer Deforest was putting the finishing touches on his monstrous creation. Deforest had spent hours crafting a spider — a tarantula, to be exact — out of clay.

All that remained was to glaze it and show it the world.

Of course, Tofer, 9, had more personal goals.

“Teasing my sister about it,” Tofer said with a smirk. “She hates spiders.”

Tofer’s sister, Lileigh, made it clear what would happen if he tried anything.

“If that comes under my bed, it’s being ruined,” she said.

Tofer and Lileigh were part of the Ash Creek Arts Center’s summer art camp, held over four days on June 21-22 and June 28-29 at St. Hilda’s in Monmouth. An artist reception was held Friday evening.

This year’s theme was “Marvelous Monsters in the Mudroom.”

“I want to create a sense of community for these children,” Francie Zandol said. “I want to provide children



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Tofer Deforest, 9, hopes to scare his sister with his spider.

with good art experiences and encourage creativity.”

Zandol is one of the instructors for the camp, which helped spur a love of art — even among kids who had never considered themselves artists before.

“It’s actually really fun,” Savannah King, 13, said. “It’s really creative and great because we don’t have a lot to do during the summer. I had never worked with clay, but now I want to do more.”

Not everyone took the monsters theme in scary directions.

King was busy working on a special mug on Thursday. She also completed work on

cluded a griffin mug — inspired by Harry Potter — and a black cat mug to give to her grandparents who own two black cats themselves.

“It’s fun to play with (the clay) while it’s in your hand,” Lileigh said. “It’s really squishy.”

Zandol has made it a goal to help promote art with children and to get them excited to share their work. Seeing them proudly share their work is as rewarding for her as it is for them.

“I want to help kids give voice to their thoughts,” Zandol said. “You think they’ll do something, then take a project in a direction I couldn’t possibly have imagined. That’s what I love seeing.”

a book that had a special meaning.

“My book had a sunset, then flowers then a cherry tree to represent new beginnings,” Savannah said.

Lileigh’s clay creations in-

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ACADEMIC HONORS

WOU releases honor roll for spring

MONMOUTH — Western Oregon University released its honor roll and president’s list for the spring 2017 term. To qualify for the honor roll, students must receive a 3.5 to 3.99 grade-point average. Students on the president’s list have earned a 4.0 gpa.

Dallas — President’s list: Blake Thomas Bauer, Mitchell John Bollman, Teri Miklia Kathleen Bunnell, Nicholas Richard Burgess, Eric Johanan Frey, Naomi Shantrice Howe, Mitchell Edwin Laizure, Austin Joseph Marck, Jacob Tyler Martin, Maria Mei-Li McCarthy, Mariah Marcee McKechnie, Taylor Cai Person, Rebecca Marie Petrine, Julie Ann Postma, Megan Raschel Reynolds, Nicole Elizabeth Schrock, Tyler A Sommerfeldt, and Emilee Morgan White. Honor roll: Emmaly Sue Basaraba, Melissa L. Biery, Tyler Jacob Dankenbring, Kailie Glynn, Dennis-Collins, Eric Edward Fast, Melissa Garcia, Jennifer Dean Hasbrouck, Colby B. Kinkade, Makena Jo Linn, Lacey Marie McKelvie, Zachary Mckinster, Ronald Lee Miller, Kaitlyn Nicole Moran, Michelle Lyn Page, Olivia Marie Preciado, George Rotaru and Tyler Jerome Unger.

Independence — President’s list: Yadira Diaz-Rodriguez, Gayle Lee Jolley, Erick Roberto Martinez, Michelle Lyn Patterson and Raina Kae Smith. Honor roll: Francisco Blasio, Casey Brown, Cara Rayanne Caldwell, Charles Christopher Colvin, Nereida Garcia, Cambria Jean MacConaugha, Daniel Monroy Herrera, Jocelyn Stephanie Montano, Kaitlyn T. Noon, Stephanie Joanna Otis, Christy Nicole Richert, Tiffany Michelle Sullivan, Alejandra Vera-Oronia and John Arthur Wood.

Monmouth — President’s list: Dominic Groshong, James Martin Masnov, Amanda Quinn, Stephanie Eileen Saunders and Jamie Jolyn Smith. Honor roll: Sarah Jean Alvarado, Kristen Bonnie Brown, Lucas R. Castanon, Kyle Michael Wicks Freiling, Alexis Amanda Garcia, Elaina Joy Glasscock, Edgar Alejandro Lamas, Lauren Elizabeth Lozano, Erin Mathews, Meaghan Paris McGuyer, Tanner Howard Omlid, Victoria Padilla, Cody J. Peak, Eva Ronco, Brayde Eugene Rothe, Brandon James Simons, Katelyn Mary Spain, Tori Ann Stutzman, Cristian J. Urzua Rios and Emily Ruth Watson.

Willamina — President’s list: Taylor Amanda Gallatin.

REUNIONS

DHS Class of 1997

Dallas High School Class of 1997 will celebrate its 20th reunion at Rogue Farms from 6 to 9 p.m. on Aug. 5. On Aug. 6 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., classmates will meet at Dallas City Park for a family picnic. For more information and tickets go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/dallas-or-class-of-97-reunion-tickets-35530112523>, or on the DHS class of 1997 reunion group on Facebook.

CHS Class of 1972

Central Class of 1972 will celebrate its 45th class reunion on July 22 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Independence Riverview Park. No host; just come and visit. Hope to see you there.

MHS Reunion

Monmouth High School reunion will be July 16 at 11:30 a.m.

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West Valley Housing Authority will hold a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 beginning at 1:30 p.m. at 204 SW Walnut in Dallas, Oregon via conference call with regular attendees. An Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660 will be held immediately following the Regular Meeting.

Agenda for the meeting is posted on the Housing Authority website at www.wvpha.org. The location for the meeting is handicapped accessible. Please advise the West Valley Housing Authority if you need any special accommodations to attend the meeting. For information, please call 503-623-8387, TDD 1-800-735-2900.

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Special Guests this month:
7/13 - Grand Ronde CASA Program
7/13 - Family Building Program
Special Event at Summerfest Bounty Market (Academy & Main St)
7/27 - Republic Services compost give-away
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Tony Diaz • Unobtainium Food & Beverage

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Other vendors in July: Rosie's Scottish Goodies • Healthy Harvest - Micro Farm

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