

2009 PORTRAIT

**BEST
EVER**



BEST MECHANIC



BEST T-SHIRTS



BEST GELATO

BEST LAWN
(background)

SOUVENIR EDITION OF THE BEAVERTON VALLEY TIMES AND THE TIMES, SERVING TIGARD, TUALATIN AND SHERWOOD

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THE BEST LAWN IN BEAVERTON

What Beaverton resident hasn't driven down TV Highway heading west and once they hit Murray, looked off to the left at the beautiful Romanesque building and said, "Now that's a nice lawn?" Usually, the next question for drivers is: "What is that place anyway?"

That gorgeous lawn is part of a larger 43-acre campus and is home to Valley Catholic School, Maryville Nursing Home and 75 Sisters of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon. This Beaverton community is a Roman Catholic religious order of women formed nearly 125 years ago. Up until the 1960s, the big green space was used to harvest wheat, helping support the Sisters and their ministries.

Valley Catholic School is a private, Catholic, co-ed school system serving more than 1,000 PreK-12 students. Babies and toddlers are also cared for at Valley Catholic Early Learning School. The college prep high school recently earned an award for its excellence in math and science. The Siemens Foundation and the College Board named Valley Catholic High School as the best advanced placement program

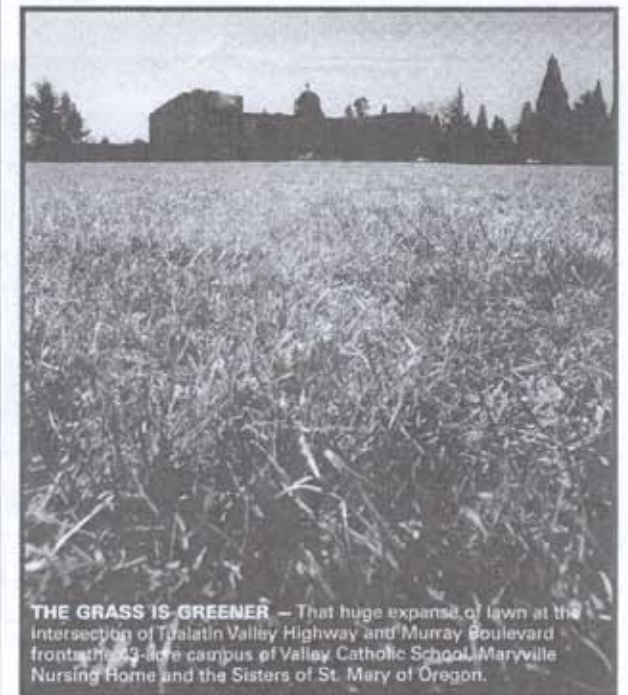
in Oregon for 2009. The award is only given to one school in each state per year. Valley Catholic was chosen for having the winning combination of the most number of students who took the AP math and science tests with the highest performance scores.

The science proficiency on campus was also noted by OMSI and Intel in 2008 when they named Valley Catholic Middle School as the Best Science Research Program in Oregon. The school was also proud to help produce a student who earned the best science fair project in an international competition. At Valley Catholic Elementary School, all students are required to learn violin in fourth grade. Anyone in the community can come to campus to take private music lessons at Valley Catholic Music School.

For 45 years, Maryville Nursing Home has consistently been a top-rated, nationally recognized senior care facility. Maryville is licensed for intermediate and skilled nursing care providing for 155 men and women who need ongoing, caring attention.

To learn more about all the ministries of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, go to www.ssmoministries.org.

— Karen Crandal



THE GRASS IS GREENER — That huge expanse of lawn at the intersection of Tualatin Valley Highway and Murray Boulevard fronts the 43-acre campus of Valley Catholic School, Maryville Nursing Home and the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon.

JAIME VALDEZ/Times Newspapers