

'BE the Whale' art winner announced

Florence artist and River Gallery owner Jan Jagoe awarded a \$1,000 art scholarship to Brooks Jones, a Utah high school student, for her pen and ink drawing of a southwestern willow flycatcher.

The "BE the Whale" project targets all types of endangered species, with a different animal chosen to represent each state. Jones, from Herriman High School in Salt Lake City, Utah, received the scholarship in December 2015.

Paris Meyers, from Crescent Valley High School in Albany, Ore., received a scholarship in December 2014 for her watercolor of a humpback whale.

Jordan Merz from Bonners

Ferry High School in Bonners Ferry, Idaho, received a scholarship in May 2015 for her graphite and charcoal drawing of a Woodland Caribou.

The ocelot has been chosen as this semester's endangered animal.

Siuslaw Middle School students have joined forces with Jagoe to promote her endangered species project, which awards \$1,000 scholarships to high school art students nationwide.

The Siuslaw School District will now receive 10 percent of the funding received by the "BE the Whale" project, to be divided between the elementary school, middle school and



COURTESY PHOTO

High school student Brooks Jones receives a \$1,000 art scholarship from Jan Jagoe.

high school. The funds will be distributed to classroom teachers and staff to buy needed school supplies and equipment.

In addition to the 10 percent of the gofundme account going to Siuslaw School District, a portion of all proceeds will be donated to various endangered species projects across the

country. Donations to help support this program can also be made at Oregon Pacific Bank, 1335 Highway 101, P.O. Box 22,000, Florence, OR 97439.

Checks should be addressed to the "BE the Whale" donation fund, which continues as additional funding becomes available.

Pictures of the winning art-

work and information about the project can be found on the project website at www.bethewhale.com, "BE the whale" on Facebook and at The River Gallery in Old Town Florence.

Promotional items such as T-shirts and coffee mugs are available on the website and at the gallery.

FLORENCE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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Sunday, May 1, 2 p.m. at Florence Events Center
Performance Guests: FloTones, Encore Dancers, CROW Kids, Siuslaw High School Chamber Choir

Mapleton Kindergarten Round-up set for May 10

Mapleton Elementary School will hold its annual Kindergarten Round-up on Tuesday, May 10, for all children in the Mapleton School District who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1.

Parents and their upcoming kindergarten students should

plan to attend school beginning at 5:30 p.m. Students will have a chance to meet their fellow students, and parents will receive helpful information about kindergarten.

Bring your child's birth certificate, immunization records and social security card to the

Round-up.

Knowing how many kindergarten students to expect in the fall is extremely important. If you know of a student who will attend kindergarten in the fall and is unable to attend the Round-up, call Mapleton Elementary School at 541-268-4471.

Districts from 1A

At the Western Lane meeting, Burright advised moving into the "planning and implementation phase" of the IGA.

"I think we need to continue with the planning," said Board Member Dick Childs. "We're not committing to the proposed IGA, as we don't know enough yet about it to know which way to jump."

Longtime Board Member Anne Stonelake remained unsure.

"I'm still not convinced, and I would like to see us stand alone and hire a district manager," she said. "I'm willing to go a little farther here, but we have to have a hammer time."

The Western Lane Board also voted to move forward. One member was absent from each board: Woody Woodbury from Siuslaw Valley and Bob Sneddon from Western Lane.

Western Lane Board President Mike Webb said, "Let's work carefully, make sure we set this up right so it doesn't set up to fail, give you the tools to make it work and be committed to that."

He and Stonelake volunteered to join a committee comprising of board members from each district, representatives from each district's unions and associations, Burright, Langborg and Julie Brown, who provides finance and human resources to both

districts through an IGA started in December.

Moving forward, Burright, Langborg and Brown will present a framework to the committee, similar to an IGA draft already provided to both boards.

"The next phase involves exploration, further research, planning and implementation. The boards will direct us from there," Burright said.

"It's very step by step," Langborg said.

As for the timeline, Langborg said that nothing is definite. Both districts are involved in planning their budgets, and other factors might involve waiting to implement the IGA until after the fiscal year begins. The budgets may have to reflect a change in personnel services.

"We're exploring to see if this works. We would need to create a system that is based on efficiencies," Langborg said.

After Western Lane approved the step forward, Stonelake thanked the directors for their work so far.

"You have given us a lot to work on, and I appreciate everything you've done," she said.

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WORD ON THE STREET

May is National Burger Month, and to celebrate, Siuslaw News is introducing the new Burger Card. Stop by the office at 148 Maple St. for details.

What is your favorite kind of burger?

"For me, a burger isn't a burger without bacon. Lots of bacon. And cheese. Plus some barbecue sauce. Then again, if it just had bacon and nothing else, I'd be OK with that."
 —NED HICKSON, SPORTS EDITOR

"From avocado to zucchini, there are a lot of great burger toppings out there. My ideal burger would have blue cheese and bacon. There's just something about that combination that I love. And french fries, of course."
 —CHANTELLE MEYER, REPORTER

"My favorite hamburger has to have grilled onions. I first had one when I went to a destruction derby in Portland with my dad when I was 8 years old. I'll never forget it!"
 —JACK DAVIS, REPORTER

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