

NOMINEES from page 1A

According to Robert Orr, college and career adviser at Siuslaw High School, “Jess successfully combines academic ability with strength of character. She is honest, compassionate and patient — qualities that will serve her well in her chosen career. ... She is exceptionally mature, while also possessing the sensitivity to understand and accept life’s complexities.”

Future First Citizen Nominees
Brea Blankenship

Brea plans to study pre-med at University of Oregon or Southern Oregon University before choosing a medical field for grad school.

“I have chosen the medical field because it will allow me to continue to help people throughout my working life,” she said. “In addition, there will always be a need for healthcare professionals anywhere my life takes me.”

Brea has passions for sports, school and community involvement, and academic success. Her activities include cross country, track and field, basketball, Leadership class, Interact Club and the National Honors Society.

“Brea is honestly remarkable and I am impressed and in awe of how well she manages all of her school responsibilities while maintaining positive relationships with her peers, friends and family,” said Anna Moser, Siuslaw High School social studies teacher and Leadership adviser.

Elijah Blankenship

Elijah plans to attend Southern Oregon University to study business.

“I have always wanted to have a career that lets me work outside of an office and with my hands,” he said. “I am entrepreneurial by nature, so I plan to put my business degree to use and eventually own my business.”

He is heavily involved with volunteering, his three sports and his family — and is twins with Brea. He is also part of Interact and Leadership.

“Elijah is a responsible and respectful person,” said Gina Castro Brandt, CTE/STEM Regional Coordinator at the South Coast Education District. “He draws people to him. You can see by his transcripts that he is intelligent and works hard. He is a problem solver

and a dedicated student.”

Jacob Foskett

Jacob plans to attend Oregon State University and study business and engineering so he can ultimately open his own business. He also plans to enlist in the Oregon Air National Guard by the end of the school year.

“This program gives me the option to serve in our military, which is something I’ve wanted to do since I was a young boy, while going to college simultaneously. ... I chose this route for my future because I crave adventure and find joy in pushing myself out of my comfort zone,” he said.

Jacob is the team captain of varsity basketball and has coached youth basketball. He has worked throughout high school to earn money for his future and help his family.

“Jacob has developed a solid work ethic and proven he will stop at nothing to achieve the goals he has set for himself,” said Sean O’Mara, Social Science Department Chair at Siuslaw High School.

Maxwell Klump
Maxwell plans to attend Oregon

State University to study computer science.

“It’s one of the things I love the most. ... I started programming in fourth grade when I discovered Codecademy and I’ve never stopped,” he said.

Maxwell spends his time learning programming languages and computer concepts, winning coding challenges, teaching other students and helping in the classroom. He also is dedicated to his family and his mom’s business.

He is a member of the National Honors Society and has participated in codeORcreate participant. He hopes to bring back what he learns in college to show other students what they can do with computer science.

According to computer science and business teacher Edward Mielke, “Max has shown himself innovative, reliable and, above all, extremely capable. A true original, Max constantly expresses an energy and level of expertise and creativity that is more than a breath of fresh air on any tech team.”

Andrea Osbon

Andrea plans to attend school at Southern or Western Oregon

University to study mathematics, environmental science and teaching.

“Ever since I was young, I have been good at math and even enjoyed it. I hope to teach young minds about math and maybe change the way they look at it. ... A strong teacher is someone who is always there for their students and has a passion for learning,” she said.

Andrea’s activities include the Education Expo, being a peer tutor, track and field, National Honors Society and Outdoor School.

“Andrea was one of those students that worked hard and was conscientious about her class work,” said Thomas Shinn, US History Teacher/Yearbook Advisor. “She is a hardworking and dedicated individual that I feel lucky to have had in my class.”

The Florence Area Chamber of Commerce is working on nominations for the First Citizen of Florence and is determining if it will host the Siuslaw Awards this year. More information will be released as it becomes available.

For more information, visit, florencechamber.com.

Officials seek public input on proposal to change Oregon Dunes motorized vehicle decibel limits

CORVALLIS—Siuslaw National Forest officials are seeking public input on potential changes to decibel (noise) limits for motorized vehicles at the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (ODNRA). The goal of the proposed changes is to reduce noise impacts on neighboring communities while being more realistically attainable by riders.

The proposed decibel limits will also better align with State of Oregon regulations, provide consistency across motorized riding areas throughout the Siuslaw National Forest, and will be easier to enforce.

Based on years of monitoring, the sound limit

of 93dBA that was established in the 1994 ODNRA management plan has been found to be unachievable by most modern, non-modified off-highway vehicles. This decibel limit is also out of alignment with state regulations, limiting opportunities for coordinated enforcement efforts.

The preliminary proposal changes the decibel limit for front-engine vehicles from 93dBA to 95dBA and the limit for all other motorized vehicles from 93dBA to 97dBA. As most noise-level complaints have stemmed from vehicles registering



COURTESY PHOTO

over 99dBA, the new limit is expected to strike the balance between allowing motorized use while addressing concerns of visitors and residents.

“By raising the limit to better align with the state and being within the range

that is attainable by contemporary stock vehicles, we’ll be better able to work with riders on compliance and provide the enforcement necessary to manage the noise violations that most impact our neighbors,” explained Garrit Craig, deputy district ranger for the Central Coast Ranger District and ODNRA. “We encourage members of the public to review the project information and let us know what they think.”

Documents that describe the preliminary proposal, including Frequently Asked Questions, can be found at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=60053> in the Project Documents section.

Written comments on the proposal should be submitted electronically in common formats at <https://cara.ecosystem-management.org/Public/ReadingRoom?Project=60053>.

They can also be mailed to Siuslaw National Forest, 3200 Jefferson Way, Corvallis, OR 97331 ATTN: Katie Isacksen.

Comments should be submitted by June 15, 2021.



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