

The Florence First Citizen Committee and the Florence Chamber of Commerce are pleased to announce the nominees for the 2024 Florence First Citizen. First Citizen nominees are people who place service above self, donating their time, expertise, and thoughtful energy to help make our community a wonderful place to live. Since 1967, the award has been presented to a Florence area resident who has modeled exemplary citizenship over the years through actions and service to the community. With our First Citizen Award, we honor those whose compassion and service uplifts all residents in our area and serves as an inspiration to others.

The three nominees for this year's First Citizen are Jenna Bartlett, nominated by the Florence Rotary Club, Dan Lofy, nominated by Jennifer Waggoner, and Bonnie MacDuffee, nominated by the Florence Arts, Culture & Entertainment (F.A.C.E.).

Jenna Bartlett, owner of Siuslaw Consulting Service, has served on numerous committees and organizations, including the Florence Chamber of Commerce, Rotary Club of Florence, Peace Health Foundation, Veterans Day Parade Committee, and the Boys and Girls Club. Through her leadership and active participation, she has helped raise funds to support youth and civic activities in our community. She received the 2018 Tourism Ambassador Award for her commitment to our community, and has served as a member of the Rhododendron Court Scholarship Committee. Her past work as the publisher and media relations for the Siuslaw News has helped Jenna connect people and organizations through her motivating and inspirational work ethic. Jenna continues to help with the Good Deed Project as being a soup chef for the Soup Brigade and supporting youth in our community with the Rotary Student Recognition program.

Dan Lofy has owned and operated Lofy Construction in the Florence Area for over 30 years. He has served on numerous boards and committees, including Helping Hands Coalition and the Florence Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Florence Rotary Club and has helped with numerous fund raising events in our community. Through his leadership and willingness to step forward with labor, talent, and materials, Dan has been instrumental in helping countless organizations and events to be successful, including building floats for the Rhododendron Festival Parade, assisting with transporting materials for the Soroptimist Food Baskets, and supplying labor and materials to help with repairs at the Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Florence Chamber, and SOS. Dan also is a driver for the Friends of Florence bus and provides bus maintenance. Dan also helps with cooking for community events and even taking on the role of Santa for Holiday events.

For over 22 years, Bonnie MacDuffee has served as a volunteer at the Florence Events Center. She has become a cornerstone for the success of the Friends of the FEC (now called F.A.C.E.) through her commitment and leadership skills. Bonnie has been instrumental in many successful community events, including the Florence Crab Crack, Ladies of the Elks Pie sales, FEC Winter Music Festival, and Florence Festival of Books. Through her unwavering commitment to the arts and community, Bonnie has been a cornerstone of the Arts in Florence as part of the FEC Art Gallery committee and

Dancing With Sea Lions art installation. Bonnie leads by example, and is a strong supporter of activities and fundraising of the Florence Elks, Florence Christian Church, Siuslaw Public Library, and Florence Food Share.

This year, the First Citizen Award will be presented on July 25th, 2024, at the Florence Chamber of Commerce Business Awards.