

THE SOUL OF CENTRAL OREGON

BEND

MEET OUR

OLYMPIC
hopefuls



30 WAYS TO
WINTER LIKE
A LOCAL

UPHILL SKIING | MIND BODY FITNESS | SCHOOL OF ROCK

THE *soul of* CENTRAL OREGON



JAEL & JOSIAH CRUIKSHANK

SIBLINGS + YOUTH LEADERS

Elected Western Region Vice President for the National Future Farmers of America Organization (FFA), Bend's Jael Cruikshank follows in the footsteps of her brother Josiah, who held the same office in 2021–2022. The Oklahoma State University student earned the national honor during the 98th National FFA Convention & Expo in Indianapolis, where a record-breaking 73,000 members gathered for the event. Representing more than 1 million students nationwide, Along with five co-officers from across the United States, she will help shape the future of agricultural science education and youth leadership. "I'm excited for the opportunity to serve others and to listen," Cruikshank said, "and to pour myself into a community that has poured so much into me."



LEVI WATERS

*YOUTH ENTREPRENEUR
+ ROCK CLIMBER*

At age 17, Levi Waters was the first high school student to present in the history of the Bend Venture Conference. A rock climber and self-taught coder, Waters engineered ClimbGrade, an innovative app that uses AI to rate the difficulty of climbing routes. By analyzing photos of climbs along with an athlete's height, weight and wingspan, the app offers a mathematically consistent and reliable rating system. A Caldera High School senior, Waters' idea earned him a cash award from the Economic Development for Central Oregon at the 2025 conference to expand the project. Balancing school, athletics and a part-time job, his goal is clear: to make climbing safer, smarter and more accessible for everyone—one route at a time.



AMY SNOW, PA-C

AWARD-WINNER + VOLUNTEER

After opening Snow Dermatology in March 2025, Amy Snow, PA-C took her expertise on the road, traveling hundreds of miles to offer free acne care to teens in underserved rural towns through her nonprofit Project Happy Face, a commitment fueled by the look on patients' faces after receiving care. "Their eyes show a sparkle of hope," she shared, "and I'm reminded that this work isn't just about access to dermatology, it's about humanity and building community." Snow also partners with OHSU's Knight Cancer Institute to provide skin cancer screenings and is active with Volunteers in Medicine while serving her patients near and far. She was awarded the Society of Dermatology Physician Associates DermPA of the Year 2025 and the Oregon Medical Association 2025 Physician Associate-Citizen of the Year.