

Toastmaster earns additional award

James Perry, Distinguished Toastmaster, recently earned another Competent Communicator Award.

Perry has been a member of the Siuslaw Tale Spinners for many years and continues to enjoy being a part of Toastmasters International.

"I have received several CC awards after receiving my Distinguished Toastmaster and I enjoy repeating the basic projects as it helps me keep focused on improving various aspects of public speaking," said Perry. "You can always improve and I welcome the evaluator's comments on speeches as they often point out things I may have overlooked."

"Being a Toastmaster is a

life changing experience as it helps you gain more confidence in public speaking and helps make you a better communicator."

The Tale Spinners will also be holding an open house at the end of April at the Siuslaw Public Library. Everyone is invited to attend to see what Toastmasters has to offer.

The Siuslaw Tale Spinners meet every Wednesday at 5:30



COURTESY PHOTO

Distinguished Toastmaster Jim Perry

p.m. at the Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue station, 2625 Highway 101. Meetings are open to the public.

Judge

from 1A

I believe that offenders should receive penalties that are the least onerous needed to achieve a change in behavior. I believe that neighbors should receive assistance in working out difficulties. I believe judges should not feel they are superior to the parties that appear before them.

What do you see as the upcoming priorities?

Brissenden: 1. Education: As I have traveled around Lane County these past several weeks, I have been struck by how few people have the foggiest idea what a Justice of the Peace does. We in the justice system need to do a much better job of educating people about what we do that has a huge impact on their lives and well-being.

2. Mediation: All state trial courts around the state use mediation in at least some types of civil proceedings. I believe it is time to explore options to bring this effective process to our Justice Court.

3. Criminal prosecution: No criminal prosecutions have been filed in Lane County Justice Court for years. Meanwhile, rural citizens of Lane County report a lawless environment where they live. Some say we will never convince county government to increase rural patrols or staff Justice Court with a prosecutor. I say this should change.

Woodbury: Swift, fair and equitable resolutions to the disputes brought to the court. A Justice Court is a county operated limited jurisdiction court. It has authority over violations, misdemeanors, civil and small claims issues.

I believe in informing the parties of their options and encouraging negotiation with the intent of resolving the conflict for their mutual benefit. In certain instances, the law is very specific concerning penalties and judgement.

What is your background in community involvement and law enforcement?

Brissenden: I have served on the boards of Eugene Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and the Cottage Grove Family Relief Nursery, and as a member of the Lane County Domestic Violence Council and its Steering

Committee. I was appointed to and served on the Oregon Advisory Council on Child Abuse Assessment, the Human Rights Committee of the Fairview Training Center and the Eugene Civilian Review Board.

I was a deputy defense attorney for Marion County for six years and a city prosecutor in Eugene and Florence for a total of five years.

Woodbury: I am currently or have sat on the following boards: Florence Food Share for two years; Florence Area Chamber of Commerce for seven years, including chamber president and vice president; The Good Deed Project Foundation, current president; Florence Urban Renewal Agency for five years; and Siuslaw Valley Fire and Rescue as current vice chairman and budget committee member for four years.

I am an active community volunteer with the following organizations: Florence Habitat for Humanity, Siuslaw Outreach Services, Florence Area Humane Society and Mapleton Food Share.

How do you connect with Florence?

Brissenden: Over the last 18 years, I've spent an increasing amount of time in Florence; now, I am here more than anywhere else. I meet and speak with new people here all the time, both informally and at

organized gatherings. More importantly, I've worked with community partners to adjudicate matters of importance to the Florence community.

I listen to, teach, strive to motivate and administer consequences to Florence citizens who struggle the most in this community — to survive, fight addiction, be responsible and be humane. It is here that I apply the community values that form the basis for our laws.

Woodbury: I am involved daily with our residents and visitors. Between connecting with people in my store, Grocery Outlet, I am out in Florence daily, socializing, serving as a volunteer and supporting our local economy.

Two other candidates for Justice of the Peace, Rogers and Rosinbaum, declined to respond. The following information was taken from their applications for the county position.

Rogers received an associates of applied science degree in medical assisting/X-ray from Pioneer Pacific College in Wilsonville, Ore. He also worked as a correctional officer at the Arizona Department of Corrections and as a small business owner.

Rosinbaum is an information technology engineer and currently sits on the Siuslaw School District Board of Directors.

Loan

from 1A

to take part in the revitalization of our community," Green said. "There's definitely an air of excitement in the city of Florence for plans of growth and renewal, and as a local community bank we are proud to be a part of that."

Green and marketing coordinator Ellen Huntingdon presented the loan program to the Florence Urban Renewal Agency on March 23 and the proposal was met with positive support.

"I consider this program to be

a great step forward in helping our community with economic development," said Florence Mayor Joe Henry. "I think this program will greatly complement the ReVision Florence streetscape project, and Oregon Pacific Bank should be commended for creating it."

Urban Renewal chairman and Florence City Councilor Joshua Greene also supported the new loan program.

"The first impression you make as a visitor is important. Florence has put into place policies for economic development and public art, both of which are driven by aesthetics," Greene

said. "The Highway 101 ReVision Florence will draw investment and new development. These short-term small business loans offered by a local bank for the express intent of beautifying our community is a big step in realizing this vision."

For more information about the loan program or to obtain an application, contact Mike Webb at 541-902-8715, email him at mike.webb@opbc.com, or visit Oregon Pacific Bank's Florence branch, 1355 Highway 101, and ask about the Florence Economic Development Loan Program.

TLC

from 1A

Melton chose Shore Acres due to the beauty of the Japanese-style flower gardens that are a large portion of the park.

"I've been wanting to go to Shore Acres for the last 16 years, and every time we try to go it's been raining so we never go," she said. "It's stupid to put something off, so just do it. So that's when my husband and hospice got to

thinking and got me down there."

Burright said, "It's a respite and a chance to get out of the house and go to a destination patients are longing to go to."

Ambulance staff enjoy the outings as well. Burright said the team even sang to Melton about "tender loving care."

"Our people get a big thrill out of interacting with people this way. They enjoy helping," he said.

He also knows the TLC

trips have a lasting impact.

"Darlene passed away several days after her trip. The family is very appreciative that she got this chance," Burright said.

For more information on Western Lane Ambulance District, go to www.westernlaneambulance.com.

For more information on PeaceHealth Home and Hospice, go online to www.peacehealth.org/peaceharbor/services/Home-Health-and-Hospice.

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