

Lancaster seeks appointment as Council's youngest

BY JON STINNETT
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Ask Henry Lancaster why he's seeking appointment to the Cottage Grove City Council, and he talks about his family.

"We've been here for almost 500 years," said Lancaster, 20. "We fled to this continent after we lost the British crown in the Rose War."

Lancaster said the historic battle between the Lancaster and York families for the throne helps him believe in his own abilities.

"They had to accomplish a lot to become king," he said. "It lets me know that I can accomplish things, too."

Last fall, at-large City Councilor Heather Murphy announced her intent to resign from the Council. Four candidates subsequently filed for appointment to her position; they'll each be interviewed before the Council's

Monday, Jan. 25 meeting, and should Lancaster win the appointment, officials at City Hall say he'll be the youngest in recent history to serve on a Council that has gotten dramatically younger in recent years. (Council rules state that a candidate must be 18 years of age and must have resided in their ward for 12 months.)

For Lancaster — who will vie for the position with former Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council director Pam Reber, radio personality Kenneth Roberts and IT consultant Greg Ervin — a conversation with Oregon Senator Floyd Prozanski led him to believe that a young voice might be just what the City Council needs. His family history speaks to centuries of ambition, which comes across in much of what Lancaster says and has already

Please see LANCASTER, Page 10A



photo by Jon Stinnett

Henry Lancaster displays his family's coat of arms. Lancaster, 20, would be the youngest City Councilor in recent years if appointed.

Temporary marijuana tax: what dispensaries need to know

A temporary 25-percent tax is now in effect for all recreational marijuana products sold at medical marijuana dispensaries through Dec. 31, 2016. The tax is applied to the retail price of the recreational products. Dispensaries must list the retail price and total tax separately on customer receipts.

"Dispensaries can set whatever price they choose for their products, but the price must be set up front and the law requires consumers be issued a receipt showing the price and tax they're paying," said John Galvin, manager of the Marijuana Tax Program.

Right now, medical dispensaries are the only facilities authorized to sell recreational marijuana products. Their sales are currently limited to flowers, leaves, immature marijuana plants, and seeds. Medical marijuana remains untaxed.

Dispensaries must register with the Department of Revenue before remitting payments or filing returns. This allows the department to create a tax account for them. About half of the dispensaries (140 out of

284) publicly listed as recreational marijuana retailers with the Oregon Health Authority, have not registered.

Payments are due monthly starting in February. Returns are due quarterly. Returns for the first quarter are due by May 2, 2016. Subsequent returns will be due at the end of the month following the end of the quarter.

On Dec. 31, 2016, dispensaries must stop selling limited recreational marijuana products. After that date, only retailers licensed through the Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) may sell recreational marijuana products. OLCC started accepting license applications last week. Its goal is to start issuing retail licenses by late 2016.

The permanent, 17-percent tax on the sales price of all recreational marijuana products will take effect once a facility is licensed. Cities and counties can decide whether or not to adopt an additional local tax of up to three percent on retail sales. Revenue is not involved in the collection of local marijuana taxes.

Fiddle to host multimedia Vietnam doc

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Mark C. Waszkiewicz and Lea Jones have contrasting political outlooks and approached the Vietnam War from two very different perspectives. Together, though, they've crafted a four-part multimedia experience that explores the war and the young men who fought it from many unflinching angles.

On Saturday, Jan. 23, Waszkiewicz, a Cottage Grove resident and Marine Corps veteran of two combat tours in Vietnam, will join Jones, a conscientious objector, to present "Vietnam: An Inner View" at the Axe & Fiddle Pub downtown. Jones said the presentation, which will include a film, live original music from its soundtrack, readings from Waszkiewicz's memoir, "Welcome to the Jungle" and slides from the photo book "1000 Yard Stare" combine to portray life behind the scenes in a war zone and examining the effects of combat on those involved.

"It's an eyes-wide-open look at every-



photo by Mark Waszkiewicz

Soldiers fly over the Meade River in one of Mark Waszkiewicz's award-winning photographs.

day life in country," Jones said. "People who come and see it are riveted. It's a

Please see VIETNAM, Page 10A

Groups issue call for community volunteers

Local organizations in search of local involvement

Beds for Freezing Nights needs volunteers to staff emergency warming shelters this winter. More information is available at: www.freezingnights.com.

The City/Chamber of Commerce **Graffiti Rapid Response Team** needs volunteers. Those seeking to enlist can call Team Captain Marie Longfellow at 541-942-5658.

The **City Library and Community Center** is recruiting 'twens and teens to assist with daily operations and special events. Those interested can call 541-942-1185.

Cottage Grove Community Sharing seeks office volunteers

most days from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Those seeking details can call 541-942-2176.

Cottage Grove area Habitat for Humanity needs volunteers for projects and staffing the ReStore. Those interested can visit www.habitatcg.org or call 541-767-0358.

Oregon Aviation Historical Society needs volunteers to index historical documents and host museum hours. Call DJ at 541-767-0244.

Harrison School SMART readers seek volunteers to read to children. For information, call 877-598-4633 or go to www.getsmartoregon.org

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