

The Columbia Press

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Lumber mill to take student art on the road

The Columbia Press

The artwork of six Oregon high school students will be seen around the globe thanks to a new program sponsored by Hampton Lumber.

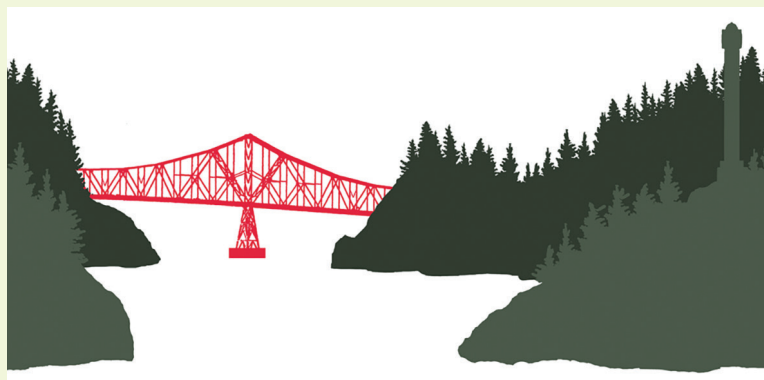
The company plans to use their graphic designs on the plastic covers wrapped around lumber that's hauled and delivered within the United States and internationally.

Winners of Hampton's art contest were Raymond Nairn of Warrenton, Morrigan Rice of Astoria, Kaylee Anderson and Temurbek Khusanov of Seaside, Rossi Nelson of Neah-Kah-Nie, Katherine Nevis of Banks, and DeSean Stafford of Banks.

"The arts have always been a priority for the Hampton family," said Kristin Rasmussen, Hampton's communications director. "With this contest, we wanted to create a unique opportunity for local students to showcase their work and articulate for the world what makes their community and local working forests so special. We were blown away by the skill and creativity of

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The art of Raymond Nairn (right), a student at Warrenton High, and Morrigan Rice of Astoria High, will be featured on Hampton trucks.



Next election season opens Wednesday

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Now that the primary election has passed, it's time to look toward November.

The next election season opens Wednesday, June 1.

That's the first day to file for those who'd like one of the council/commission seats in the town they live in.

In Warrenton, the seats of Mayor Henry Balensifer and Commissioner Rick Newton in Position 4 expire this year. Newton said Wednesday that he won't pursue his seat, but might switch and run for the mayor's spot.

In Astoria, the seats of Mayor Bruce Jones, Ward 1 Councilor Roger Rocka, and Ward 3 Councilor Joan Herman will be on the ballot.

In Gearhart, the spots of Councilor Kerry Smith in Position 1 and Councilor Brent Warren in Position 3 are up for re-election.

In Seaside, those on the ballot are seats belonging to Mayor Jay Barber, Ward 1 Councilor Steve Wright, Ward 2 Councilor Tita Montero, and Wards 3/4 Councilor At Large Dana Phillips.

In Cannon Beach, the seats of the mayor and two councilors are up for re-election.

Warrenton already has candidate information packets available at City Hall and on the city's website.

For more information, contact the city recorder or clerk for the city in which you live. Dawne Shaw, Warrenton's city recorder, can be reached at dshaw@ci.warrenton.or.us or 503-861-0823.



Balensifer



Newton

Warrenton is tax-friendly place for retirees, report says

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Warrenton is the seventh most tax-friendly place for retirees in Oregon, according to a recent study. Nearby Seaside and Tillamook also made the top 10 list.

SmartAsset, a financial technology company based in New York City, analyzed tax data in towns and cities across the United States, looking at things such as sales, property, income, fuel, and Social Security tax categories to find the most tax-friendly places.

The study analyzed each place on how financially favorable it was for retirees based on a theoretical \$50,000 annual income.

Brookings was No. 1 on the Oregon list with a 34.31 retirement tax friendliness index.

Tillamook was No. 2, followed by Seaside, Florence, Deschutes River Woods, Hood River, Warrenton, Ashland, Sheridan, and Grants Pass.

A Warrenton retiree with a \$50,000 annual income would pay \$9,026 in income tax, a 74 percent property

tax rate, nothing in sales tax, \$295 in fuel taxes, and no Social Security tax. Warrenton's "friendliness" index is 32.77.

"Our analysis assumes a retiree receives \$15,000 from Social Security benefits, \$10,000 from a private pension, \$10,000 in wages and \$15,000 from a retirement savings account like a 401(k) or IRA," the study's authors wrote.

"To calculate the expected income tax this person would pay in each

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