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When is enough enough? Wine gaining ground as bankable liquid asset

■ Council's will look at wine tasting businesses

By **Amanda Rhodes**

Tribune Staff Writer

Wine tasting facilities are becoming a constant on Lincoln Avenue but is the growing number becoming a problem?

City Council will discuss just that during Tuesday's meeting.

The debate was brought before council during the July 7 meeting

after the planning commission had previously expressed concern that a single use commercial facility was taking over Lincoln Ave. and the adverse affect it could have on the community.

Mayor Chris Canning requested additional input from the planning commission on what is being done in similar communities regarding tasting room ordinances so that the council could draw more conclusions.

The planning commission met Aug. 12 to discuss possible options to present City Council.

Planning Commissioner Lynn Goldberg presented options and suggestions to council including Yountville's recent retail advisory policy that applies to businesses that have become over-represented.

In Yountville's case, it is also wine tasting rooms.

The city now requires that 25 percent of net floor be devoted to a secondary use that is distinct from the primary wine tasting use.

Goldberg said that Healdsburg

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■ Collector pledges fine wines for large cash loans

SPECIAL TO THE TRIBUNE

Highly collectible wine appears to have become a bankable liquid asset. In a July 26 story in the New York Times, Robert Frank, CNBC wealth editor, reported that wine is gaining ground as loan collateral.

As an example he offered Nick Gangas, a restaurateur and wine collector who has "pledged some of his finest French wines for large cash loans with generous terms."

Gangas has reportedly used \$300,000 worth of his Domaine de la Romanee-Conti, Chambertin and other wine to receive a loan of

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INSTANT WINE CELLAR DRAWING TOMORROW

Sharpsteen Museum's biggest fundraiser

■ Big crowd expected for chance to win wine, gift baskets

By **Amanda Rhodes**

Tribune Staff Writer

It's a chance to start your own wine cellar or replenish the one you already have all while helping support Calistoga's all volunteer run museum.

Sharpsteen Museum volunteers have been busy gearing-up and collecting donations since March for their one and only fundraiser held this year, the 27th Annual Instant Wine Cellar, on Saturday.

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PHOTO BY AMANDA RHODES

Sue Mauro and Kathy Bazzoli pack gift baskets for tomorrow's Instant Wine Cellar fundraiser.

New street signs point to memorial

■ American Legion pays for vet's memorial signs

By **Pat Hampton**

Tribune Publisher

A dozen new street signs point the way to the Calistoga Veterans Memorial, a project of the American Legion Post 231.

Jim Barnes, Post Adjutant, is having a dozen signs attached to street sign poles to point visitors to the memorial at Logvy Community Park. The club paid for the signs and public works is installing them; a few remain in the box until permission from the county and state is given for those signs not on city property.

"We have a lot of tourists coming to town who don't know about the veteran's memorial," Barnes said. "This will help get the word out."

Signs were bought for the same project years ago but because they

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New signage to direct people to the Calistoga Veterans Memorial.

The Instant Wine Celler, the Sharpsteen Museum's only annual fundraiser, draws a big crowd hoping to win wines and gift baskets. This year's event happens tomorrow at the Sharpsteen Plaza.

FILE PHOTO

