

in Portland — will be behind the kit.

Sedona Fire, a stand-out favorite last year, is a five-piece rock band featuring the talents of Sedona Torres.

Headlining Friday night at A Mighty Thai is another returning act, Scratchdog String Band, a high-energy bluegrass group.

Singer-songwriters are also well-represented.

Austin-born Manzanita resident Sarah Barlow brings her cosmic country soul to A Mighty Thai on Friday and Saturday, and Hayley Lynn's quirky Americana-style originals hold forth at all three venues.

On Saturday night, The Resolectrics, a roots R&B band, play A Mighty Thai.

The Resolectrics' spokesman Tate Peterson echoed many artists playing this event as well as folks who plan to attend: "We've heard so much about the festival, and we're really looking forward to Manzanita."

Smaller footprint

The Manzanita Music Festival is a fundraiser for the Neahkahnie School District Music Program.

Last year, the organizers expanded the list of venues to include a large stage at a local baseball field.


Though the festival was a success, traffic and parking became a problem on U.S. Highway 101, and festival-goers had to be bussed to the field. This year's organizers had planned on using that venue until the stage production company pulled out unexpectedly.

Facing this roadblock, festival founder Beth Carter-Boyer chose to steer the festival back to its smaller, more intimate origins. She also scaled back the event from three days to two.

"We're going back to a festival with a smaller footprint," Carter-Boyer said. "The musicians and the crowd interact better, and it makes things more intimate and community-feeling. Last year was fun, but it was just too big, too complicated."

To keep the music playing, organizers teamed up with San Dune Pub owner Debra "Deb" Greenlee.

"I just want to see school kids have a chance to play an instrument or sing instead of turning to drugs and crime, so I decided to step up," Greenlee said.

"I cannot overemphasize what Deb's support means to this festival," Carter-Boyer said. 



Modern roots rockers The Resolectrics.

TIM LABARGE PHOTO



Manzanita Music Festival founder Beth Carter-Boyer, left, and Debra Greenlee, owner of the San Dune Pub and 2018 festival presenter.

COURTESY BETH CARTER-BOYER



Singer-songwriter Hayley Lynn will perform at this year's Manzanita Music Festival.

RON BALDWIN PHOTO