



Photos by Katherine Lacaze

The Wreck of the Peter Iredale is a popular historical attraction on the Clatsop Spit at Fort Stevens State Park.

Town offers a wealth of recreation, historical attractions

BY KATHERINE LACAZE

If you stayed on U.S. Highway 101, it would be easy to mistake Warrenton for little more than a collection of big box stores and fast-food options.

As with most locations, however, venturing off the main highway leads you to not only well-known recreation sites like Fort Stevens State Park and Lewis and Clark National Historical Park, but also hidden gems where you can stop for a meal, enjoy the peaceful Skipanon River or go shopping. From its wide expanse of beaches to

its connection to the Corps of Discovery's expedition, Warrenton offers more than initially meets the eye.

Places to explore

Where Warrenton shines is in its abundance of natural and historical attractions. On the Clatsop Spit near Fort Stevens, you can see the remains of the four-masted Peter Iredale, which wrecked off the Oregon Coast en route to the Columbia River in 1906.

See Page 9



Visitors can take a ziplining tour over the beautiful natural landscape of the North Coast.

Morning activity: Explore Warrenton's historical roots

BY ALYSSA EVANS

If you're interested in learning about Clatsop County's history, Warrenton is a great spot to start. Once you're in town, you'll likely want to stay longer than a morning.

Warrenton is best known for two incredibly historical spots: Fort Stevens State Park and Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. Both parks offer a combination of history that you can view while visiting the park, as well as through other channels, like videos.

If you're interested in learning about the county's military history, check out Fort Stevens. The park is home to a number of batteries which were used in World War II. Much of the batteries are available to view still, with a handful of portions roped off for visitor safety.

While you're in Fort Stevens, you can also visit a small assortment of beaches, one of which includes the Wreck of the Peter Iredale, which came ashore in 1906. The wreck is just one of the North Coast's many shipwrecks.

Over east is the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park. The park features a great deal of information about Capt. William Clark and Capt. Meriwether Lewis' local travels with the Corps of Discovery. The group's winter quarters at Fort Clatsop are available to visit. In addition, the park offers an audio walking tour of the park.

A photo gallery and films about Lewis and Clark are available at the park's website, nps.gov/lewi/.



Warrenton is steeped in the history of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.