

WBA to fund façade improvements and look at Harbor Drive

The Columbia Press

Warrenton Business Association approved a program Wednesday night that will help businesses pay for improvements they make to the outside of their buildings.

The city's Urban Renewal Agency has a similar program – façade grants -- but it applies only to businesses located within the urban renewal boundary, which is primarily along Main Avenue and parts of Harbor Drive.

"I think a business anywhere in Warrenton ought to be able to use urban renewal funds," WBA board member Roxanne Morinville said.

Using WBA funds to cover those outside the district is a good way to accomplish that.

The WBA is a committee appointed by the Warrenton City Commission to develop ways to improve the city's business climate and expend money collected through the city's business license tax.

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It's a win for Warrenton's library

By CINDY YINGST

The Columbia Press



Above: Library Director Nettie-Lee Calog checks in books Wednesday from Lawanna and Ed Chase while others wait in line to check out books and movies.



Left: Nayna Matayas, 8, talks about his selections with Library Aide Rebecca Graham on Wednesday.

A library that has limped along for years will join the modern world with passage of the levy Warrenton voters approved Tuesday.

"Obviously, we're very excited," said Kelsey Balensifer, chairwoman of the city's Library Advisory Board. "Members of the board and the Political Action Committee put in a lot of hard work."

They knocked on more than 1,000 doors, launched a Facebook campaign and put up a website explaining what would be done with money raised through the levy.

"It will be a huge, huge improvement as far as levels of service," she said. "Warrenton Community Library's staff and volunteers already have done so much with so little."

The vote, which has not yet been certified, was 656 votes in support of the levy and 527 votes opposed, or a win of 55.45 percent.

"I'm so relieved," said Nettie-Lee Calog,

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Photos by Cindy Yingst

Counties join forces to entice residents to be 'Hometown Tourists'

Pacific and Clatsop counties are known throughout the region for their tourist attractions, but many residents haven't visited the sites in years.

Hometown Tourism Days is the solution.

Dozens of local sites have joined forces to share free or reduced admissions or other special deals on Nov. 10 and Nov. 11 to encourage their neighbors to see what they have to offer.

Here's a list of the special activities available for the seventh annual Hometown Tourism Days.

PACIFIC COUNTY, WASH.

- Northwest Carriage Museum, 10

a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, 314 Alder St., Raymond. Fifty percent off admission and 10 percent discount in the gift shop.

- Pacific County Historical Society Museum, noon to 3 p.m. both days, milepost 54 on U.S. Highway 101 in South Bend. Free admission.

- Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, daylight hours both days, milepost 24 on U.S. Highway 101 (no dogs beyond the parking lots). Free admission, free guided walks on the Art and Cutthroat Climb trails.

- Cranberry Museum, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, 2907 Pioneer Road, Long Beach. Free admission.

- World Kite Museum, 11 a.m. to 5

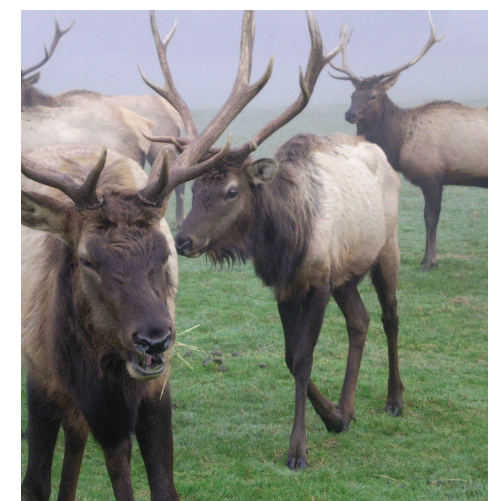
p.m. both days, 303 Sid Snyder Drive W., Long Beach. General admission discounted from \$5 to \$1.

- Long Beach Peninsula Visitor Bureau, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days, 3914 Pacific Way, Seaview. Free canvas bag filled with information about local sites to anyone mentioning "Hometown Tourism."

- Cape Disappointment State Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Ilwaco. Free park admission and \$5 admission to Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center.

- Columbia Pacific Heritage Museum, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, 115

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Elk munch on grass at Jewell Meadows along Highway 202.