

Please stand by for an important county message

Clatsop County Emergency Management will conduct a countywide test of the ClatsopALERTS! emergency notification system Friday, Nov. 30.

The test will occur between noon and 3 p.m., and will go out to all residential and business landline phones, as well as to all cell phones and email addresses whose users have registered for ClatsopALERTS!

ClatsopALERTS! is designed to provide residents with immediate information and warnings about storms, floods and tsunamis, water contamination, missing persons, road closures and other events.

In the event of these or other scenarios, ClatsopALERTS! will issue recorded voice or text messages, alerting people that there's an emergency and providing important response information.

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City considers changing status of two properties



Above: Warrenton Kia has asked to buy a triangular shaped parcel the city owns that makes up a piece of Kia's car lot that's farthest left in the photo.

Left: A stream runs through property on Southwest Ninth Street that the county wants to turn over to a land conservancy.

Cindy Yingst
The Columbia Press

The Columbia Press

Two potential property transactions were on the agenda Tuesday night.

One piece the city might sell to a local auto dealer and the second involves placement of county-owned property into a land conservancy.

Warrenton Kia approached the city about purchasing a parcel that's owned by the city but is leased to the business as part of its new vehicle parking area.

Warrenton Kia pays \$225 per month to lease the triangular-shaped parcel, which runs along Highway 101 south of Marlin Avenue.

"We basically own a piece within a large puzzle," Mayor Henry Balensifer said. "I'd rather put it back on the tax roll."

City Commissioners voted unanimously, with Commissioner Mark Baldwin absent, to hire an appraiser to determine real market value.

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Warrenton Warming Center finds itself homeless this winter, develops new plan

The Columbia Press

Warrenton won't have a warming center with cots and blankets on the coldest nights this winter, but those needing help still can find it.

Volunteers with Warrenton Warming Center have developed more of a helping network this year to meet the needs of homeless residents where they are.

"There's a lot of things changing this year," said Darlene Warren, board president. "This would be our full-on open time if we were doing an overnight lodging this year."

For the past two years, Warrenton Warming Center has operated out of Calvary Assembly of God Church on

South Main Avenue. But the church has a licensed day care now and those who may have criminal records can't mix with young children.

"We don't have a facility we can operate out of," Warren said. "But we know there's still a need."

Volunteers spent the summer regrouping and working on ways to help those who need it most.

Their plan this winter is to take help directly to those who are struggling.

They're helping support Calvary Assembly of God's soup kitchen, which runs from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesdays, the same day the adjacent food bank is open.

J&S Appliance donated a freezer to the county food bank, which the



Warren

How to help

Donations can be sent to Warrenton Warming Center, PO Box 174, Warrenton OR 97146. To volunteer, call 971-601-0884.

If you need help

Contact the group through its Facebook page or call 971-601-0884.

warming center was able to move to the church at 1365 S. Main for use in the soup kitchen. The church also is a place to pick up clothes, blankets and other supplies donated to the warming center.

The group also is working with Astoria-based Riverfolk, the VFW Auxiliary, Warrenton-Hammond Healthy

Kids and Thankful Hearts, the group that has put on the annual community Thanksgiving dinner.

"The key to it is being consistent so homeless people know where we're at," Warren said.

While Warrenton Warming Center is nonsectarian and nondenominational, its mission is to provide a warm, safe place with food, love and support, based on principles of the Good Samaritan story found in Luke 10:25-36 of the Bible.

The group recently helped a couple who'd been stranded in the area to get home to Austin, Texas, and is helping a woman with stage 4 cancer, who'd been evicted from her home, by delivering clothes and warm food to her. They're looking for a toaster oven for her.