



Cindy Yingst/The Columbia Press

Above: Site director Nettie-Lee Calog and library patron and volunteer Zach Fukuda, 15, look over the automated receipt he got after checking out his books.

Below: Stickers, such as a cactus for western and a heart for romance, indicate each book's genre.



Introducing the brand new automated library

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Warrenton Community Library began a new chapter this month.

New computers. New library cards. New shelving. And, finally, automation.

There's a website now where patrons can look up books and -- just like Fred Meyer and Walmart -- have their selections ready for pick up without having to walk up and down the aisles.

And then check out "Answerland," a reference service on the website that's linked to librarians across the state. They're available to provide research guidance 24/7.

"It's just come such a long way from Hammond," said Nettie-Lee Calog, the li-

To learn more

The library's new hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. The new website is warrentonlibrary.org.

brary's site director.

The former library was housed in a small building in Hammond until structural problems required the city to find a new location. In the summer of 2017, the library moved downtown to a larger more accessible site.

"It's still kind of a work in progress," Calog said. "Have you ever remodeled your house and lived in it? That pretty much sums it up. I haven't been

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City could put up a parking lot to increase business traffic

BY CINDY YINGST
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The top downtown projects that should be completed using special tax money include placing power lines underground, building a parking lot, and renovating the public pier at Warrenton Marina.

Those were the top three choices selected Wednesday afternoon by members of the Warrenton Urban Renewal Advisory Committee.

The seven-member panel advises the city's Urban Renewal Agency, which currently is made up of the five city commissioners.

The agency is tasked with spending money raised within the boundaries of the urban renewal district -- primarily downtown Warrenton -- on projects deemed most likely to revitalize downtown.

The agency was responsible for the major overhaul of Warrenton Marina during the past decade. And several additional urban renewal projects are in the works, including a plaza-like park with landscaping at all four corners of the four-way stop and a façade improvement grant program.

The request from city officials to prioritize the next set of projects will help determine what will be accomplished in the next three years.

The undergrounding of utilities along South Main Avenue "is a carrot to try to find a partner," Community Development Director Kevin Cronin told committee members.

The street falls under the jurisdiction of Oregon Department of Trans-

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Regatta court includes two from Warrenton High

Two Warrenton High School students are among the four young women named to the 2019 Astoria Regatta court.

They are Serena Moha and Mara Dowaliby from Warrenton High School, Kayla Helligso of Astoria High School and Caitlin Hillman from Seaside High School.

One of them will be crowned queen on the first day of Regatta, which will be held Aug. 7-10 at locations throughout Astoria and Warrenton.

Serena serves on the Student Council and participates in the National Honor Society, CommuniCare Club, drama, and band. Other activities include track, cross country, and dance. After graduation, Serena plans to attend a four-year

college majoring in civil engineering.

Mara is a junior at Warrenton High School, the youngest of four girls, and a lifetime resident of Hammond. She enjoys spending time with her family, being outdoors, writing, and golfing. At school, she is a member of CommuniCare, National Honor Society, and is vice president of the Student Council. She is a longtime member of the Viking Nordic Dance Group, as well as Vasa Lodge 215. Mara has a passion for service and leadership and hopes to become a pediatrician.

Kayla is from Astoria High School, where she is involved in the Business Leaders of Tomorrow and Commu-

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Serena Moha



Mara Dowaliby



Kayla Helligso



Caitlin Hillman