



Submitted photo

Volunteers are dwarfed by Japanese knotweed growing at Necanicum Forest Habitat Reserve.

Invasive plant taking over reserve

North Coast Land Conservancy seeks volunteers for an assault on Japanese knotweed. The invasive plant has spread widely in the Necanicum Forest Habitat Reserve east of Seaside.

The nonprofit group plans an eradication activity from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, April 17.

Knotweed is a robust weed native to Eurasia. It was widely planted in logging camps and along headwater streams in the 1900s but now has invaded riverside forests throughout Oregon's North Coast.

The conservancy has been working to rid Necanicum Forest Habitat Reserve of

Club offers dike hike Wednesday

Angora Hiking Club will lead a Warrenton dike hike at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 3.

Amanda Gladics, an assistant professor with Oregon State University's fisheries program, will lead the dike hike. The easy guided walk includes information about Warrenton Marina's commercial docks and the Ski-

knotweed for several years.

To help, or to be included on email lists for future work parties, contact Stewardship Director Melissa Reich at melissar@nclctrust.org or call her at 503-738-9126. She'll provide directions to the site and additional details.

Participants should wear gloves and work boots. The conservancy will supply the tools. Bring water and snacks or lunch.

There is no potable water at the site and no toilets. Dogs are not allowed.

For more details and a link to information about controlling knotweed on your own property, visit NCLCtrust.org.

panon River Loop Trail.

Participants should meet at the Warrenton Marina office, 550 N.E. Warrenton Harbor Place.

For more information, contact organizer Kathleen Hudson at 503-861-2802.

A second, more strenuous hike is scheduled for April 13 on the Washington Discovery Trail in Ilwaco.

One local elk may dislike spring tradition

Warrenton resident Liane Bogh was all ready for spring and purchased some blooming flower baskets to hang outside her house.

"Recently, I arrived home hopeful to see my spring flowers blooming from my hanging wire baskets," she writes. "I was disappointed to have found my baskets torn up and on the ground next to the evidence dropped by the suspected thief."

And one of the baskets was missing entirely.

"After asking some of my Fort Stevens neighbors if it had turned up anywhere, my suspicions were confirmed," she wrote. "Fortunately, the regretful culprit is expected to drop his horns along with his new jewelry soon."

The photo was taken by Bogh's neighbor, Scott Andros.



Dooger's, Wendy's and more business news

Dooger's Seafood and Grill announced on its Facebook page this week that it plans to close its popular restaurant in Youngs Bay Plaza.

The final day of operation is May 27.

The restaurant has teetered on closure several times since opening in 2004. Another restaurant in the chain closed in Cannon Beach in 2012, leaving two Dooger's, one in Seaside and one in Long Beach, Wash.

The Warrenton restaurant's manager, Brad Campbell of Hammond, died in September. ***

Wendy's Restaurant has announced its ribbon cutting will take place at 3:45 p.m. Tuesday, April 9.

The long-anticipated hamburger joint expects up to 170 transactions per hour at its 2,400-square-foot restaurant in the Warrenton Highlands shopping center. ***

The owner of a Nicaraguan food cart has asked the city to allow him to operate in the vacant lot between City Hall and

what will become the new Arnie's Café in downtown Warrenton.

"I'm a big fan of food carts," Mayor Henry Balensifer said. When he'd heard the man was looking for a place to locate, he suggested Warrenton instead of Astoria, which has many food carts.

"Food sources feed off other food sources," Commissioner Rick Newton said.

"Food carts seem to be a little more pedestrian friendly," which fits in nicely with improvements the city is trying to make downtown, Commissioner Pam Ackley said.

She made a motion Tuesday night to have city staff enter into lease negotiations with the food vendor.

The fire department would continue to use the lot for training. ***

The county granted Columbia Memorial Hospital an extension this week on its due diligence period for 7.7 acres of land in the North Coast Business Park.

The hospital plans to build a

neighborhood clinic and eventually move its clinic from the Warrenton Highlands shopping center.

The hospital offered to purchase the property for \$463,200, or \$60,000 per acre. The closing date was to have been March 31, but has been extended until June 30.

The hospital is working with the city of Warrenton regarding its intended use complies with the property's current industrial zoning. ***

Fibre Federal Credit Union, which announced in October that it planned to open a 3,250-square-foot branch next to Walmart, is seeking a branch manager and support staff.

The company purchased the 1.12-acre parcel for a TLC branch last year for \$878,169.

TLC is a division of Fibre Federal, which is based in Longview, Wash.

The branch will have a two-lane drive-up, a drive-up automatic teller machine and an open "teller pod" layout. It's expected to open later this year.