

City to sponsor farmer's market at the marina

BY CINDY YINGST
The Columbia Press

Warrenton could get its own farmer's market with fresh seafood, live music, hand-made crafts, food trucks and kettle corn.

Plans are for a weekly market from 3 to 7 p.m. Thursdays in the parking lot and grassy area at Warrenton Marina. It wouldn't compete with farmer's markets held in Astoria on Sundays, Seaside on Wednesdays and Ilwaco on Saturdays and could, in fact, provide an additional opportunity for vendors.

Get involved

To sign up for a vendor booth or for more info, call 503-861-3822.

Harbormaster Jane Sweet and marina assistant Jessica McDonald were brainstorming ways to increase the use of marina property and boost visitors throughout town when the idea came to them.

City leaders were enthusiastic. "It could explode," City Commissioner Rick Newton said. "It would just be terrible if we had another suc-

See 'Market' on Page 4

Envisioning possibilities in an unfinished neighborhood

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A community garden here, a cluster of cottages there, a courtyard ringed with tiny homes and a pedestrian path along the perimeter.

The possibilities for a cohesive new neighborhood seemed endless last week during a three-day design charrette, an opportunity for property owners and other interested people to come together with creative ideas and solutions.

The 19-acre Spur 104 project area, which runs from Ocean Crest Chevrolet to Home Depot, was rezoned earlier this year from low-density residential to commercial mixed-use.

The city hired SERA Architects, a design company, to manage the charrette and put the ideas onto paper.

"I want to stress that we have to not only balance the needs of the property owners, but also the neighbors," Warrenton's Community Development Director Kevin Cronin told those gathered Thursday evening. "We don't want to do pie-in-the-sky, but we also want to put a vision out there."

The charrette was in the former Fenton Grocery building, the historic brown building on Main Avenue in the heart of downtown and about a mile and a half from Spur

See 'Charrette' on Page 4



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Above: Spencer West of SERA Architects describes some of the options for development in the Spur 104 project.

Below: James Dutcher of Warrenton (foreground) and others wander through displays during the charrette.



Cindy Yingst/The Columbia Press

Music teacher Michael McClure leading the early morning band class earlier this school year.

Band hits a high note: 13 years as state champs

The Columbia Press

Warrenton High School placed second in the Oregon School Activities Association's annual band and orchestra competition last week.

It was the 13th consecutive year that the school has been in the top two.

"We are so proud of the hard work our students have put in this year," Principal Rod Heyen said. "We were, by far, the biggest and most inclusive student band in 3A. Congratulations Warriors!"

The 2019 OSAA statewide high school band and orchestra championships were held May 8-11 at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Warrenton has more than 200 students en-

rolled in band and orchestra programs, one of the few districts that offers the program to students as young as grade 5.

"They played their hearts out," said music teacher Michael McClure. On the selection they played, "it was the best they'd ever done."

Warrenton's choir placed sixth in the OSAA state choir championships, which were held the week before the band competition.

Perhaps the most impressive part is that Warrenton's program is noncompetitive. Any student who wants to play can participate. Some students start out the year unable to read music.

See 'Band' on Page 7