

Historical Seaport to Make "Major Announcement" This Month

Local News

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ABERDEEN, Wash. - The Grays Harbor Historical Seaport Authority will make a major announcement regarding the future of the Seaport Landing project at the Grays Harbor Chamber of Commerce "After Hours" event this month. Seaport Landing is the tall ship maintenance facility and tourism destination planned in South Aberdeen on the Chehalis River. The public waterfront facility will be the permanent home port of the Lady Washington, the Official Ship of the State of the Washington, and Hawaiian Chieftain. And it will be a regional heritage tourism hub serving communities on Washington State's Pacific Coast. Details of the announcement will be made available at the After Hours event scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 9 at the Historical Seaport's headquarters, 712 Hagara St., Junction City.

At the After Hours event, the Historical Seaport will also officially launch its "500 @ \$500" campaign for the next phase of the Seaport Landing project. The goal of the 500 @ \$500 campaign is to raise local funding to match grants and to prepare the site for public access. Donors can pledge the entire \$500 amount, or pledge in increments of \$50, \$100 or \$250. Historical Seaport staff will be available to accept pledges using the Seaport's online 500 @ \$500 pledge tool, which is now available at the Seaport website, www.historicalseaport.org. The funds will be used to clean up the Seaport Landing site and ensure safe public access. They will also be used to install public restrooms, fund a public design process and preliminary architectural work. Pledges will also demonstrate strong community support as the Historical Seaport works with foundations, governments, and corporations to secure grants and other funding. During the "After Hours" event, the Historic Seaport facility will have four stations explaining various Historical Seaport activities, including tall ship education programs and current activities in the Spar Shop, such a new mainmast and foremast for the tall ship Zodiac. A 117-foot log will be turned on the Seaport's tracer lathe, which is believed to be the largest in North America. The public is invited to attend the After Hours event. Admission is free. Both of the Seaport's tall ships are currently in California conducting ambassadorial activities on behalf of Grays Harbor County: Lady Washington is in Sausalito; Hawaiian Chieftain is in Sacramento.