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Willamina Hosts Community **Future Visioning Workshop**

Last Tuesday, Oct. 1, the City of Willamina held a Vision workshop to hear what community members see for the future of downtown Willamina. Prior to the workshop, attendees were treated to an Oktoberfest dinner and an apple pressing demonstration, which meant free fresh apple cider.

The workshop, led by Cayla Catino and Erubiel Valladares of Rural Development Initiatives (RDI), introduced an interactive

way for the crowd to envision a view of the Willamina downtown of the future.

Each person picked items from the stage and table, laden with things such as Lego bricks, colorful rocks, toy coins, plastic fruit, straws, and a range of other random items, to build a display of what made them happy.

Individuals were then put into teams to share their personal views and work together to create a team display that would

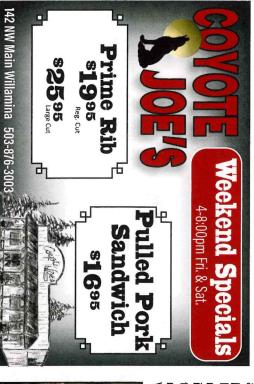
represent the centerpiece of their small community and present their vision to the rest of the communities in the room. As each team announced their display, Cayla took notes on a display board with keywords used in the presentation.

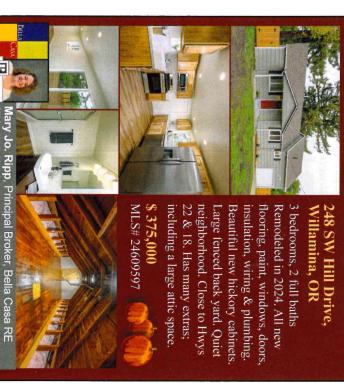
At the end of the workshop, a flip chart full of community members' ideas prompted a more detailed discussion about Willamina's future.

The workshop concluded with a second meeting set for 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 7, 2024, at Swan Hall. The members of RDI will review the flip board and prioritize the feedback given during the workshop to allow the community to discuss the vision of Willamina in more detail.



Cayla Catino of RDI presented the workshop specifications during the Community Vision Event hosted by the City of Willamina last Tuesday, Oct. 1.







Katie Kendall (standing in back), owner of Swan Hall and long-time Willamina community supporter, discusses with the group thoughts and ideas about the future of Willamina's downtown.



Somaya (middle) and another young gentleman bob for apples during the Oktoberfest dinner and apple press event last Tuesday at Swan Hall, prior to the Vision for Willamina workshop.

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