FruhlingFest returns Saturday

By Kate Miller

After a decades-long absence, FruhlingFest returns to Main Street in Warrenton Saturday, June 15.

FruhlingFest, translated to English from German, is "spring festival." The event will feature dozens of vendors, German food, live, and authentic German polka music, kids activities, a car show sponsored by Town & County Garage, and 5K run and more.

"People should travel from one end of Main Street to the other to see all that there is to see," said Stacey Blondin, with the Warrenton Downtown Association, the organization hosting the event. Registration for the run is at 7:30 a.m. at the parking lot at Warrenton City Hall. The run starts at 8 a.m.

The main event is 4-7 p.m. on Main Street, which will be closed to traffic.

Blondin said FruhlingFest will feature about 35 vendors. Also in attendance with activities or goodies for visitors will be Scenic Regional Library, the Warren County Historical Society, Kiwanis Club, Chef Lee Gustin, owner of Blue Anchor Coffee and Bistro; the Warrenton Fire Department and Long Row Lavender, Friedens United Church of Christ will have baked goods available.

The group is reviving the event for many reasons. One is to attract more people to the downtown area, Blondin said, to shop or consider establishing a business there.

"But the main goal is to bring people together downtown, which is the heart of our community, and the heart of our county," said Blondin. "That and to celebrate our German heritage. I don’t think people realize the extent of our German heritage."

German heritage will be part of the event’s food and activities. Gustin will be preparing a German feast. The 5K Run includes a costume contest. The best German heritage costume will be recognized. Members of the Warren County Historical Society will be at the historical Schowengerdt House.

Blondin said Warrenton was a college town that emergency officials from floodwaters. The Missouri River should continue dropping. The section of Highway 94 between Highways 47 and Highway U could reopen if water drops another 3-4 feet from where it was Monday morning, Daniels said.

But the information suggests the river could remain above what is considered minor flood stage for the rest of the season.

"The big issue we’ve got is the reservoirs that ultimately feed into the Missouri River... are full right now," Daniels commented. He said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers partly closed for FLOODED ROADS — A driver stops to see where water covers the portion of Highway 47, Friday, June 7. Parts of several roads in southern Warren County and Highway U closed due to flooding since late May, some of which remain block.