

Stayton High to hold multi-class reunion



SPECIAL TO THE STAYTON MAIL

Stayton High School alumni enjoy a relaxing evening at an all-class reunion.

ANNETTE UTZ
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Take out the school yearbooks of yore and dust off some old memories. It's time for the 6th annual Stayton High Pioneer Park potluck all-class reunion.

The event will be held from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 26, at Pioneer Park, on the corner of 7th Avenue and Marion Street, Stayton. All Stayton High School graduates are invited to attend. Bring lawn chairs, table service, beverages, and a favorite potluck dish to share. Friends and family are welcome.

The Class of 1971 has hosted this event for the past six years.

"This all started in 2011 when we were having our 40th reunion at the Santiam Golf Course," reunion organizer Patty Neuenschwander Keeton said. "The class of '81 was also having their 30th reunion there at the same time and we all had so much fun we thought, 'We have to do this more often.' We generally have about 25 to 35 people attend. We've had people there from the class of '45 and we already have people attending this year who have just graduated. It's very casual and a great chance to catch up with old friends or meet some new ones."

For more information, contact Keeton at 503-510-5221.

Apple Tree supply drive is ending

CHRISTENA BROOKS
SPECIAL TO THE APPEAL TRIBUNE

Thursday, Aug. 17 is the last day to "pick an apple" and donate school supplies to the estimated 1,000 school children in the Silver Falls School District whose families cannot afford them.

Silverton Together's Apple Tree School Supplies Drive is underway at more than 50 local participating sites.

To donate, simply visit an "apple tree" at a site, "pick an apple," and buy the listed supply or make the listed financial donation. School supplies can be dropped off at any participating site, while financial gifts should be delivered to Silverton Together, at the Silverton Community Center, 431 S. Water Street.

In total, the needed supplies include 3,110 pencils, 100 sets of headphones, 19 scientific calculators, 551 glue sticks and much more.

A finale party is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 29, at which the fundraiser's participants will give school principals the donated supplies. Students will receive them at school when classes begin.



STATESMAN JOURNAL FILE

Volunteers with the 2012 Apple Tree School Supplies Drive carry boxes of donated school supplies to principals' cars.

While rare, two bats have tested positive for rabies this month in Marion County

JUSTIN MUCH
STAYTON MAIL

After a family living in the Shaw area found a bat in their home earlier this month, a bat that subsequently tested positive for rabies, Marion County Environmental Health issued a notice.

County health officials say that bats are the most common mammals known to carry rabies in Oregon. Consequently, you don't want them inside your living quarters.

"Because there is a risk of bats transmitting rabies to people and their pets, it is important to keep bats from entering living spaces," Marion County Health Officer Karen Landers said.

The family in Shaw found the bat in a bedroom where two adults and a child slept. Although it wasn't clear if anyone had been in contact or bitten, health officials advised they take precautionary measures.

"They found the bat flying around and trapped the bat in a coffee can and called Environmental Health," Marion County Environmental Health Program Supervisor Richard Sherman said. "I told the family they needed to consult with their primary care physician."

Finding rabid bats is not a frequent occurrence: an Oregon Health Authority map depicting all rabies-positive animals determined this year shows two bats found in Marion County and one each in Benton, Douglas and Deschutes counties, along with a cat in Lane County.

OHA spokesman Jonathan Modie cited broader statewide statistics from 2000 to 2016 that reveal 2,243 rabies tests were administered for bats over that 17-year period with 189 – 8.4 percent – testing positive.

Two years ago a bat found inside a Silverton home tested positive for rabies according to county health officials. That bat, which was tested July 20, 2015, was the fifth bat to test positive for rabies in Oregon that year, but the first in Marion County since 2012.

Both 2017 Marion County rabies-infected bats were found in August.

"We have a number of bats brought into our office each year generally in late summer," Sherman said. "If the bat has bit a person or the potential exists of a bite we will have the bat tested, otherwise the person who has the bat can pay to have it tested at OSU Vet Diagnostic Lab."

Sherman said finding one or two test positive in the county is about par for any given year.

"If the bat is out and about during daylight or is found on the ground is an indicator that they may be ill," Sherman added.

Bats are found throughout Oregon, and they serve a valuable purpose.

"Bats are extremely useful to the environment; they feed on insects at night and only a small percentage are rabid," Sherman said.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife officials agree.

An ODFW informational web post among its "Living with Wildlife" pages imparts:

"Less than 1/10 of 1 percent of all bats are believed to carry rabies. Infected bats are rarely aggressive and soon die of the disease. Nonetheless, always avoid contact with any bat. If you are bitten or scratched by a bat, or any other wild animal, or have any contact with the animal's saliva, report it to your doctor and local health authority immediately. Capture the bat, if possible."

Underscoring the rarity of rabies, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention states on its "Bats and Rabies" informational page:

"Rabies in humans is rare in the United States. There are usually only one or

two human cases per year. But the most common source of human rabies in the United States is from bats. For example, among the 19 naturally acquired cases of rabies in humans in the United States from 1997-2006, 17 were associated with bats. Among these, 14 patients had known encounters with bats. Four people awoke because a bat landed on them and one person awoke because a bat bit him. In these cases, the bat was inside the home."

While it is rare, it's also unwelcome.

As Landers stressed from the top, the best medicine is prevention – keeping bats out of living spaces. See this story at AppealTribune.com for tips on how to deal with bats.

Church Directory

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
303 N. Church Street Silverton, OR 97381
Phone: (503) 873-8656
Pastor Leah Stolte-Doerfler
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Service time 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Available

Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA
Free Saturday Lunches
500 N 2nd Street
Silverton, OR 97381
(503) 873-2635
Sunday, Worship 11am
www.trinitysilverton.org
trinitysilverton@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S CHURCH
Pastor: Fr. Philip Waibel
575 E. College St. 503-845-2296
Weekday Mass 6:50 a.m.
Saturday Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.
Sunday masses 7:30 a.m., 10 a.m., and 12:30 p.m. (Spanish Mass) at St. Mary Parish. Mass for Holy Rosary Mission at Crooked Finger is at 10:00 a.m.
Confession: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST COMMUNITY CHURCH
Pastor Jose Galvez
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1159 Oak Street 873-8568
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