

Appeal Tribune

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 2018 ■ SILVERTONAPPEAL.COM

PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Silverton explores funding parks, pool

Researchers plan to create survey to gauge residents' thoughts on municipal spaces

Christena Brooks Special to Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Silverton residents pay for parks and the pool with a patchwork of fees and taxes that area voters may be asked to consider sewing up into a new parks and recreation district that would include out-of-town residents.

Whether the Silverton area should create a separate taxing district extending past the city limits to pay for parks and recreation is a question that urban and rural residents can begin answering later this year.

If the City Council votes next month to go forward with a \$25,000 feasibility study, members of the public can begin submitting formal comments as soon as this summer.

"This is a community decision, and we want as much participation as possible," said Silverton City Manager Christy Wurster.

Researchers from Portland State University plan to create focus groups and an online survey to find out what Silverton-area residents do and don't like about municipal parks, which services they use, and how they'd like them to grow.

"Right now, residents within the city proper are the ones paying for all these services – with the pool levy, park fee and general fund – and, to me, that's patently unfair when it's certainly not just the people who live in the city limits who use those facilities," said Mayor Kyle Palmer.

State law allows communities to vote to form any of 28 different kinds of "special service districts" dedicated to taxing and funding targeted services such as fire, library, hospital, irrigation, air quality and other programs.

See **FUNDING**, Page 2A



The Silverton City Council will vote next month on whether or not to move forward with a \$25,000 feasibility study. The study would measure what residents do and don't like about municipal parks, which services they use, and how they'd like them to grow. JUSTIN MUCH/STAYTON MAIL

Church's cottages a catalyst for criticism



A sign across the street from St. Edward's Episcopal Church in Silverton protesting the church's proposal to add temporary housing for homeless. BILL POEHLER | STATESMAN JOURNAL

Silverton stands divided over proposal to aid homeless

Bill Poehler Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

SILVERTON – A church in Silverton is proposing to build cottages in its parking lot to temporarily house homeless women.

The proposal by St. Edward's Episcopal Church is far from becoming reality, but is already raising support and backlash.

"It's literally the least we can do, but it's a start," Sarah White of Silverton Warming Center said at a public meeting Thursday.

The program in Silverton is being modeled on what Episcopal Church of the Resurrection of Eugene has been doing the past five years.

The four proposed cottages would each shelter one single woman over the age of 18. The women would be referred by agencies and be able to pass a background check.

The women would have to comply with a code of conduct including no drinking, smoking or doing drugs, submit to a urine analysis and set and meet weekly goals.

"The goal that we have for our pilot program is to have four women transition to permanent housing in the first year," said Rev. Shana McCauley of St. Ed-

"I think this is a worthwhile humanitarian gesture, but I am concerned about the lack of infrastructure."

Chris Cooper, a Silverton resident, regarding the proposal by St. Edward's Episcopal Church to build cottages for homeless women

ward's.

The buildings would measure 8 feet by 8 feet, have a bed and a desk.

But they would not have plumbing, power, heating or air conditioning.

The church would remodel and section off part of its kitchen and a restroom for use by the women. That area would have its own lock and be available to the cottage residents 24 hours a day.

"I think this is a worthwhile humanitarian gesture, but I am concerned about the lack of infrastructure," said Chris Cooper, a Silverton resident.

How many homeless currently reside in Silverton

See **COTTAGES**, Page 2A

Tulip festival a great way to celebrate springtime

Abby Luschei Salem Statesman Journal
USA TODAY NETWORK

Professional photographers and self-proclaimed Instagram models rejoice – the 34th Annual Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival is back in business.

Spring means bright colors, rain and sunshine, which are all featured in this festival, along with 40 acres of nearly 120 varieties of tulips and daffodils.

Festivalgoers can admire the flowers, take photos or participate in special events throughout the entirety of the festival, which will be open daily through Sunday, May 6.

The festival was set to close April 30 but has been extended because the flowers are at full-color later than expected.

For photographers and social media enthusiasts, the Tulip Festival creates the perfect natural backdrop. Landmarks on site include the Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm's windmill and pink tractor. Mt. Hood is visible from the fields.

Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm encourages the use of the hashtags "#woodenshoetulipfarm," "#tulip-fest2018" and "#woodenshoefarm" when posting to social media.

It's not just a place to take photos; there is also a calendar full of events.

Daily and weekend events

Festivalgoers can visit the tulip field, display beds, Wooden Shoe Gardens, take a tram or hay wagon ride, go to the children's play area and take photos on the photo cut-out boards, which are all included in the price of admission.

For an additional cost, you can take a six-minute ride around tulip field on the Cow Train for \$3 and a 10-15 minute slow, cushioned ride through the tulips on the Field Train for \$5.

All daily activities are available on Saturdays and Sundays with the addition of:

Wooden Shoe Making Demonstrations: Head to the Wooden Shoe Maker Tent to see shoes made in action, try some on if you feel inclined.

Steam Tractor Demonstrations: If the weather allows, catch a glimpse of the tractors driving through the fields.

Crafter Market Place: Visit the marketplace to find items including scarfs, household goods, purses and garden pieces, available every weekend, select vendors open daily.

Local Balloon Artist: If the weather permits, get a balloon animal near the children's play place.

See **TULIP**, Page 2A



The Wooden Shoe Tulip Fest outside Woodburn, as seen on April 15. The festival continues through May 6. ANNA REED/STATSMAN JOURNAL

Former students at St. Paul Church plan to hold reunion

Silverton Appeal Tribune

A reunion of former elementary school students from Saint Paul Catholic Church will take place at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 19, at the church in Silverton.

The reunion will be for those who graduated the

eighth grade at Saint Paul in 1967 and 1968.

Those in attendance will tour the former school building, which was adjacent to the church, and be followed by lunch at a restaurant in Silverton to be determined.

The school opened in 1960 and closed a few years after the 1968 class graduated.

Online at SilvertonAppeal.com

News updates: ■ Breaking news ■ Get updates from the Silverton area

Photos: ■ Photo galleries

Vol. 137, No. 18

Serving the Silverton Area Since 1880
A Unique Edition of the Statesman Journal



Printed on recycled paper