

Tulip

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Additional activities: Jump tents, bungee jumper, pony rides, rock wall and zip line available depending on the weather, \$3 to \$7.

Tulip the Cow Meet and Greet: Give Tulip the Cow a hug as she wanders around the tulip fields, you can also take photos with her.

Paintball Gallery: Paint the tulips by taking a turn on the paintball shooter, \$5 for 50 paintballs.

Wine Wagon Farm Tour: Take a ride through the Iverson Family Farm and Tulips and Wooden Shoe Vineyards while enjoying two tastes and pairings, a glass of wine and get a take-home wine sippy cup, ages 21 and older only and space is limited to eight people per tour, visit woodenshoe.com for available weekends, times and more information. \$45.

Hot Air Balloon Rides: A few balloonists will try to come out to the tulip festival if the weather allows, depending on balloonists you can book full flights and tethered rides. For questions about flying contact the Hot Air Balloon Hotline at 503-877-4693, for flying and scheduling information visit woodenshoe.com to find contact information for balloonists.

Thursday, April 26

Pro Photo Photography Class: Canon and Pro Photo Supply representatives will give a hands-on lesson about techniques for landscape and

macro photography in the tulips fields, 8:30 to 11 a.m. \$30, register at prophotosupply.com.

Saturday, April 28

Muddy Paws Fun Run 3K/5K: Part of Dog Days, this 3K/5K run includes a shirt and proceeds go to Wigglin' Home Boxer Rescue, 9:30 a.m. registration, 11 a.m. run begins. \$35, \$10 extra for a dog bib, sign up now to guarantee a shirt.

Petal Puppies Fundraiser: Sign up for a photo shoot with your dog and a portion of the proceeds benefit Oregon Dog Rescue, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$40 to \$150, register at fuzzybuttpetphotos.com.

Tractor Spark Show: A light show with tractors doing tricks, 7:30 p.m., located by the tulip fields. Free with admission price.

Sunday, April 29

Petal Puppies Fundraiser: Sign up for a photo shoot with your dog and a portion of the proceeds benefit Oregon Dog Rescue, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. \$40 to \$150, register at fuzzybuttpetphotos.com.

Food and beverages

There can't be a festival without food, of course. Here are the options:

Mt. Angel Sausage Company: They will serve a variety of foods available daily, the full menu will be coming soon.

Loco Ono BBQ: This company specializes in BBQ pulled pork, chicken and smoked beef sandwiches available with or without coleslaw, available Thursday

If you go

What: Attendees can admire and take photos with 40 acres of nearly 120 varieties of tulips and daffodils, there are also daily, weekend and special events.

When: regular admission is 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily March 23 to May 6

Where: Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival, 33814 S Meridian Road, Woodburn

Cost: \$40 season pass, \$20 family car one day pass, \$5 day pass for ages 13 and older, \$15 for individual sunrise entrance pass, \$20 senior and 15-foot bus day pass, \$40 senior and 15-foot bus season pass, \$85 commercial bus day pass, \$50 school bus entrance day pass

Information: woodenshoe.com

Protecting your garden from birds



Gardening
Carol Savonen
Guest columnist

Question: Dear Carol, I am an avid vegetable gardener and have been growing food in my raised beds for about 3 years. This spring, I have put in peas, lettuce, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and parsley and cilantro. My problem is that in the spring, birds come into the beds and pull out and eat my peas, lettuce and even my broccoli etc. This problem seems to get getting worse each year. I love birds but they are driving me mad. What can I do about bird damage?

Answer: Your bird-in-the-garden problem is so familiar to me. Birds are the biggest problem in my garden.

The best way to deal with birds is to exclude them from your plants. You'll need to protect your tender young seedlings and transplants. Once plants get more mature, they will be less vulnerable to bird damage.

Here are some protection strategies that I have used over the years.

Prioritize what is most important

See **BIRDS, Page 3A**

Cottages

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is hard to track.

The most recent official count showed 11 homeless people living in Silverton, but there were 29 people who came to warming shelters in town this winter and the Silver Falls School District had 69 students who identified as homeless in 2016-17 school year.

According to Kenneth Houghton of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, there are 38 emergency beds designated for single women in Marion County.

"I would just say the homeless are here, you just don't see them," Silverton police chief Jeff Fossholm said.

The main concern from neighbors is how the influx of homeless would affect their community of beautiful homes with immaculate lawns.

"I know what happens when homeless people come into neighborhoods. I do not want homeless people living here," said Christine Rasmussen, a Silverton resident.

One neighbor of the church said he has had homeless people living outside of his house at different times and they didn't cause problems in the neighborhood.

And the church hosted 14 homeless

people last winter with no problems.

"The people who are concerned about this are coming from a beautiful place," said Silverton resident Summer Sheldon.

Former Silverton mayor Stu Rasmussen suggested an alternative to the church's plan.

He pointed out that many Silverton residents are older empty nesters with spare rooms in their homes.

Rasmussen suggested a room share or community-wide shelter program as an alternative to small shelters could be a better way to go about helping the homeless population.

"I'm surprised that we're not being more creative," Stu Rasmussen said.

"You're asking this neighborhood to take them in."

The Silverton City Council would have to approve a change in zoning to allow the church to have the pods.

The Planning Commission is working on the language of a proposed code change. The city council would then have to approve any changes.

"Code changes are not an easy thing to do," said Gene Oster, an insurance agent in Silverton. "This process is months, maybe even years getting to where we have these pods. Nothing is guaranteed, even if the city was to pass this."

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Funding

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Special districts, cities and the county can only tax residents up to a combined total of \$10-per-\$1,000 of assessed property value. When city leaders last discussed a parks and recreation district in 2014, Silverton residents were paying \$9-per-\$1,000, Wurster said.

Two decades ago, local voters denied a proposal to create a district with borders matching the Silver Falls School District, Palmer said. This time, all options on the table, even a district reaching out of town, he said.

Portland State's researchers will explore small, medium and large district scenarios. Because city leaders in Mt. Angel and Scotts Mills aren't joining the inquiry at this point, Wurster said, all three scenarios will likely be some combination of Silverton and its surrounding properties.

Examples of other districts can found throughout Oregon.

Chehalem and North Clackamas districts in the Newberg/Dundee and Milwaukie/Happy Valley areas, respectively, are examples of districts that include good-sized cities. North County

Parks and Recreation District in Nehalem, on the other hand, is mostly rural.

The Willamette Valley's largest cities, Portland, Salem and Eugene, run their parks, pools and recreational programming with general funds, supplementing with bond and levy measures, although the greater Springfield area has one of the state's oldest districts, Willamalane, formed in 1944.

In Silverton, Palmer said he's curious whether a parks and recreation district could develop the sports fields conceptually planned for a piece of property above Pioneer Village along Ike Mooney Road or improve the 2.8-acre Pettit Property next to the Oregon Garden.

A baseball coach for 23 years, he said he envisions such a district providing support and structure for the area's youth sports programs, which typically depend on the school district for playing space and volunteers for everything else. And Silverton Pool – dependent on successive tax levies to operate – might find permanent funding too, he said.

"We are not looking for something new to charge city residents for," he said. "Rather, we are looking for an option that would possibly be better for them financially, or at least equal to where they're at now."

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