



# CITY OF SILVERTON

SPRING 2018

## Mayor's Corner

### Tell Us What You Think

Our city, our community, and many beyond, lost a great friend on March 11 with the passing of Silverton resident Jennie Messmer.

Jennie had a long history of government service, particularly to our area as she had served as the interim City Manager of Mt. Angel, and was a member of the City of Silverton Budget Committee recently. During her career she held various positions in support of Oregon's municipal government industry including Member Services Director for the League of Oregon Cities, Executive Director of the Local Government Personnel Institute, and most recently as the Executive Director of the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG).

She held administrative positions for the City of Klamath Falls and served as the interim City Manager for several cities in addition to Mt. Angel. She was a friend to Silverton and was always willing to offer her knowledge in pursuit of better governance. In 2016, in her capacity with the MWVCOG, she led our City Council through the lengthy recruiting process that resulted in our hiring of Christy Wurster as our city manager. During that time, we came to rely on Jennie's expertise and the sense that she was not just trying to help us find a city manager, she was trying to help us find the right city manager.

For all those who knew Jennie, or simply want to pay their respects to a wonderful lady who loved this community, a Celebration of Life will be held at the Mt. Angel Festhalle on April 14 from 1-5 p.m. Thank you, Jennie, for your service to Silverton.

Those words remind me how important it is to take advantage of the expertise, passion, and commitment to our future that is exemplified by so many of our residents.

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## Silverton Volunteers Contributed 8,000 Hours to City in One Year

First established by Presidential Proclamation in 1974, National Volunteer Week has continued each year. This month the City of Silverton would like to recognize and honor the citizens who worked so hard all year long to enhance the Silverton community. Volunteerism brings neighbors together where there is a common goal that connects us in a way that creates relationships that build and strengthen the community as a whole.

During the past 12-months over 300 individuals dedicated more than 8,000 hours of their time through the city volunteer program to make this community a better place to live. Here is a partial list of the projects volunteers have recently dedicated to the city:

**The City Council** is composed of a mayor and six councilors. Additionally, there are of more than **50 citizens who serve on 10 committees**. These volunteers spend countless hours studying city issues, solving problems, and look at the opportunities that face local government.

Each year during April, more than **200 seniors from Silverton High School** dedicate one day to help make their community livable by spreading bark dust and pulling weeds in Silverton parks, around City Hall and at the Community Center, Silverton Senior Center, the Oregon Garden, and other locations.

Many **Silverton service clubs** including the Silverton Garden Club and Zenith Women's Club maintain landscape areas and the Lions Club works



Silverton High seniors have a tradition of spending an April day sprucing up the city.. FILE PHOTOS COURTESY OUR TOWN

at the Silverton reservoir. These clubs work each

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# City Budget Process Begins

The budget process followed to prepare the City of Silverton's budget complies with local budget law established by the State of Oregon. Oregon's Local Budget Law does two important things:

1. It establishes standard procedures for preparing, presenting and administering the budget.

2. It requires citizen involvement in the preparation of the budget and public disclosure of the budget before its formal adoption. To give the public ample opportunity to participate in the budget process, a Budget Committee is formed. To view Budget Committee members visit the City's website at <http://www.silverton.or.us/393/Budget>

The City's fiscal year 2018-2019 budget process began in January with staff developing revenue estimates and cost projections. The goals are to maintain current levels of service and to fund capital improvement projects based on council goals, capital improvement plans and citizen requests.

The results are compiled into the preliminary budget document and presented to the Budget Committee for its deliberation and approval. The Budget Committee consists of an equal number of citizens and Council members. After approval of the budget by the Budget Committee, the information is presented to the City Council for adoption, levying taxes and approval of the appropriation authority.

The fiscal year 2018-19 Budget Calendar is now online at <http://www.silverton.or.us/DocumentCenter/View/4968>.

The first Budget Committee meeting will be held May 15, 6 p.m., in the Council Chambers, 421 S. Water St. The city has a vacancy on the Budget Committee. Residents interested in serving on the committee should contact the City Clerk, 503-874-2216. For information on the budget process contact the Finance Department at 503-873-5321.

# Map Your Neighborhood Grows

The nationwide program to facilitate readiness during an emergency event has gathered considerable interest, but volunteers are needed to help make it happen in every neighborhood. A Map Your Neighborhood introductory meeting is scheduled for April 19, 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at the Community Center, 421 S. Water St. It is open to anyone who would like to know more about forming a neighborhood group or may be interested in spreading the word.

Currently operating in more than 40 states, the program is designed to improve disaster readiness at the neighborhood level during the hours or days before first responders arrive. Council goals were generated to create awareness of the program, including developing a list of volunteers to introduce the program to community groups.

To date there have been 10 Silverton neighborhoods that have implemented the program representing more than 300 households.

Meetings are a great opportunity to discuss emergency preparedness and the City's emergency plans, especially the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Silver Creek Dam Emergency Action Plan. It also provides the opportunity to meet your neighbors.

Information about the program and other emergency preparedness planning can be found on the City's website at <http://www.silverton.or.us/189/Emergency-Management>. To schedule a meeting with your neighbors contact us at 503-874-2204.

# RECYCLE RIGHT

MIXED RECYCLING

**Metal | Metal**  
Steel (tin) cans | Latas de acero (estaño)  
Aluminum cans | Latas de aluminio

**Paper & Cardboard | Papel y Cartón**  
Junk Mail | Correo no Deseado  
Greeting Cards (no foil or glitter) | Tarjetas de felicitación (sin aluminio o glitter)  
Magazines | Revistas  
Newspaper | Periódicos  
Phone Books | Libros telefónicos  
Paperback Books | Libros de tapa blanda  
Paper Bags | Bolsas de papel

**Plastics | Plásticos**  
Bottles | Botellas  
Jugs | Gallones

EMPTY CLEAN DRY  
VACÍO LIMPIO SECO

# Doggie Delight



## Temporary New Home for Dog Park

The City of Silverton is making improvements to the dog park located at the west end of Silverton adjacent to the Skate Park and Silverton Senior Center.

During the closure, pet owners can exercise and socialize their pets at a temporary off-leash location adjacent to the Eugene Field School property located at 410 N. Water and A streets. Areas for both large and small dogs have been established at this fenced location which includes a drinking fountain and doggie bag station. All dog park rules still apply.

The improvements to the 52,000 square foot west end park started in March and will last through the summer, or until new grass is properly established.

The rehabilitation project is focused on improving the turf at the park and adding large wood chip areas to allow for drier play time for Fifi and Fido. The end result will be more functional areas for dogs and their owners to enjoy.

For more information and updates on the project, please visit [www.silverton.or.us/dogparkproject](http://www.silverton.or.us/dogparkproject).



Dale Miller

## Dale Miller Joins City Staff as Building Inspector

The City of Silverton Community Development Department hired Dale Miller as the new Building Inspector. He comes to Silverton after serving as an intern at the city of Newberg and as a Department Supervisor at Home Depot.

Miller has been in the building industry for 27 years working in residential and commercial construction. He will perform inspections and plan review with the scope of the residential inspector and plans examiner certifications while he completes his Oregon

Code Certification course. He will complete the Chemeketa Building Inspection Technology program in June. "Dale will be a strong addition to our team, and we are looking forward to working with him," said Daryl Jones, the city's building official.

### Silverton City Council



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### Silverton City Hall

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**Community Development Director Jason Gottgetreu** 503-874-2212  
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City Manager  
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# Mayor From page 1

Whether its residents like Ms. Messmer, with specific professional experience, or the neighbor around the corner who brings perspective and value to our conversations, what's always been true is even more true today – your City Council works best when we have the benefit of citizen involvement.

Several recent City processes have brought together residents and experts alike, who together are helping to address burgeoning issues in our community.

For many months the Task Force on Homelessness and Affordable Housing has been meeting to brainstorm the need in our community, as well as the best way to put together the resources that may already exist. This group consists of local activists, experts in the field, and representatives of the organizations that have long provided help to those in need. As a result of these discussions, new relationships have been built, new movements have been started, and existing groups have begun to broaden their scope. The focus is not to make Silverton a destination for the homeless, but to provide help to the 30 or so “invisible” homeless citizens already in our community, over 90 percent of whom are longtime Silvertonians or natives. The discussion brings out different emotions in different people. I agree with those who feel that it's not an area that city government is most qualified to take on, but no harm can come from exploring the ways that we can help our own people find their way to a safer and better life.

This process has also included examining ways that we can make housing more affordable. While supply and demand will always be the main drivers of housing prices, there may be ways we can make it easier for our own children and our elderly population to stay in our community. These are both demographics that bring such value both for today and into the future that it's a shame when they are forced to leave Silverton in order to survive. Neither of these issues are unique to our community. Both represent challenges for many Oregon cities.

As we focus on the many issues that our community is facing, including ways that growth can help pay for itself and how to preserve the nature of Silverton, we need your voices more than ever.

Visit a City Council meeting or work session. Submit your thoughts in writing to [publiccomment@silverton.or.us](mailto:publiccomment@silverton.or.us), or feel free to email me as well at [kpalmers@silverton.or.us](mailto:kpalmers@silverton.or.us).

In addition to this column, I also post regular updates and briefs of council meetings or other relevant city information at [www.facebook.com/silvertonmayor](http://www.facebook.com/silvertonmayor). In addition, both the city and the police department have facebook pages that help inform the public about what's happening in our city.

# City Volunteers

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Spring to revitalize the entrances to Silverton by planting beautiful spring flowers at each entrance. This act of volunteerism truly makes Silverton the Garden City.

In July, **Eagle Scout Troop #485** reached out to the City to help them launch a program in an effort to contribute to their community. More than 20 Scouts spent a total of 483 hours completing a trail enhancement project at Silverton Reservoir.

In August 2017, thousands of visitors came to Silverton to view the long awaited Solar Eclipse. When the Eclipse was over and all the visitors left our wonderful city, **29 volunteers came forward to organize a clean-up day**, for a total of 30 plus hours. These dedicated volunteers picked up garbage around the parks and city streets.

**Community volunteers** spend countless hours working with Silverton neighborhoods and giving evening presentations on one of the City's Emergency Operations program called Map Your Neighborhood. To date volunteers have donated over 100 hours working with this program.

More than **50 Rotary volunteers** designed, built and installed the “Community Notice Sign” in Lewis Street Park; installed the Peace Pole in Town Square Park, planted 17 new trees in Pioneer Park and (as of this publishing) will have installed two new ADA swings in Coolidge McClaine Park.

**One dedicated volunteer** spent five hours standing at a crosswalk helping the Police Department with their crime prevention program.

Other projects volunteers com-



pleted throughout the city include painting the Main Street bridge, designing and installing Historical Plaques, the children's Mosaic Fountain in Coolidge McClaine Park, the Silverton Fire District who provided life jackets by Silver Creek, and in partnership with the Pudding River Watershed, volunteers pulled ivy at city facilities and along Silver Creek.

The City Council and staff would like to thank all of the service club volunteers as well as each and every individual volunteer for their valuable and selfless time who instill a greater sense of identify and pride in our community.

We recognize that there may be numerous volunteers that we haven't included on this list. We appreciate their support and willingness to serve our community too!

## City Calendar

*Meetings are held in the Silverton City Council Chambers 421 S. Water St. unless otherwise noted.  
\* Denotes meetings available on SCAN TV*

### APRIL

- April 2 – **Urban Renewal Agency** 6:30 pm  
**City Council** 7 pm \*
- April 16 – **City Council** Work Session 6 pm \*
- April 17 – **Environmental Management Committee** 3 pm

### MAY

- May 7 – **City Council** 7 pm \*
- May 8 – **Planning Commission** 7 pm
- May 10 – **Environmental Management Committee** 6 pm
- May 15 – **Budget Committee** 6 pm
- May 17 – **Budget Committee** 6 pm
- May 21 – **City Council** Work Session 6 pm
- May 22 – **Budget Committee** 6 pm
- May 28 – **Memorial Day** City Offices Closed

### JUNE

- June 4 – **City Council** 7 pm \*
- June 12 – **Planning Commission** 7 pm
- June 18 – **Urban Renewal Agency**  
time TBA  
**City Council** Special Meeting  
time TBA
- June 19 – **Environmental Management Committee** 6 pm

