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Brew-property plan announced by Whitney

From Staff Reports

An outdoor amphitheater, an interactive "water feature," labyrinth, a playground for children, flower gardens and a native botanical garden are being planned on the site of the former Sheridan Brewing Co. and adjacent land.

The proposal was announced this morning in a news release from Patrick Henderson, executive director of Whitney Benefits.

Whitney Benefits last September purchased 2.8 acres of the former Sheridan Brewing Co. site off Alger Street for \$325,000 from the city of Sheridan.

The balance of the original 3.59-acre site was transferred earlier last year to the Sheridan Senior Citizens Center for future expansion.

The Senior Center started work this summer building an expanded parking lot on its share of the property.

Whitney Benefits since its purchase of the brewing company property has purchased additional property in the area and will use the land to develop a comprehensive park project to be called Whitney Commons.

Other features will include the first cabin constructed in Sheridan County, public bathrooms, park benches, decorative lighting, walking paths, bicycle trails and open spaces, according to the release from Henderson.

Henderson was out of town this morning and could not be contacted.

The release stated the purpose of developing Whitney Commons "is to create an environment pleasing to the mind, body and senses while enhancing the aesthetic aspects of the area."

The development plan was based on input from meetings with other organizations in the county including the Sheridan County YMCA, Sheridan County Fulmer Public Library, the Senior Center, the city of Sheridan, Whitney's board of trustees and other local residents.

The release said the aim is to provide a multiuse park that can be used for programs and recreation by the YMCA, Senior Center and library as well as residents.