

The Newsletter of the
City of Veneta

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City News

Veneta begins building water pipeline

Construction crews from Pacific Excavation, Inc. began work on the E. Hunter Rd. portion of Veneta's water pipeline in late October.

Residents on E. Hunter and adjacent side streets will have access in and out of their property while the work is underway but should expect delays over the next two months, especially when work is proceeding directly in front of their homes.

During construction, E. Hunter Rd. will be closed to through traffic. Other streets on the route will be

closed in the same way as the project continues.

"We know it's going to be an inconvenience," says Veneta City Administrator Ric Ingham. "We're going to do our best to info the public and have construction proceed in a way that will have the least amount of impact possible."

The project starts at the water treatment plant in Veneta and ends at the intersection of Hwy 126 and Greenhill Rd. Because construction depends on weather and other factors, the order of pipeline sections to be built has not yet

been determined.

On October 24, the City hosted the first in a series of Neighborhood Meetings to provide updates on pipeline construction progress. The City encourages neighborhood and community members to attend these meetings to stay informed, ask questions and voice their concerns about the construction process.

Pipeline construction is projected to run through August or September of 2013. For project information, please contact Public Works Director Kyle Schauer at 541-935-2191.

Prepare for storm season

Fall weather was late in coming to Fern Ridge, but the rain has final set in. Considering the disruption that severe weather sometimes brings to the region, City of Veneta officials urge local residents to be prepared for power outages and other potential flood consequences with supplies such as canned food, bottled water, flashlights and sleeping bags.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides a 72-hour emergency kit checklist online at:

<http://www.ready.gov/build-a-kit>

A comprehensive guide to citizen disaster preparedness can be found at: <http://www.ready.gov/are-you-ready-guide>

According to the agency, "(E)ach family or individual's kit should be customized to meet specific needs, such as medications and infant formula. It should also be customized to include important family documents."

"We had a lot of people without power for a day or two," says City Recorder Chris Workman, of last year's January storms and flooding, which also closed roads in the region and cause millions in damage. "Now is a good time to prepare for something like that."

VISTA volunteer spearheads senior center effort

In many ways, Fern Ridge is a community defined by the efforts of a committed group of civic volunteers. Now, that community is welcoming a dynamic new member tasked with raising funds and building a volunteer network for the under-construction Fern Ridge Service Center in downtown Veneta.

While many Americorps VISTA volunteers are college-aged or young professionals, retired doctor John Baumann M.D., working in Veneta as part of VISTA's Oregon Asset Building Corps, has a wealth of experience in construction, fundraising and community involvement, gained in part by founding a wellness

center in Santa Barbara while he was Director of Health and Development



John Baumann, M.D.

Services at UCSB.

"He was so intrigued by our project that he decided to become a VISTA volunteer," says Associate Planner Kay Bork. "We interviewed 5 candidates and ended up hiring John be-

cause his eclectic background fit the position so well."

Baumann will be helping various volunteer organizations move into the service center once it is finished, as well as building a volunteer base to help run its programs and identify grants and other types of funding.

"I want to give back for all the blessing's I've received in my life," says Dr. Baumann, adding that the senior center exemplifies what a small community can do if everyone works together. "I have a passion for wellness and healthy aging and this is a wonderful opportunity to turn them in to something positive for Veneta."