

The Newsletter of the  
City of Veneta

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# City News

## ***Election features city council and mayoral positions***

National candidates and issues may dominate the headlines in the run-up to voting day this year, but local voters will have an opportunity to shape Veneta's City Council and support the Fern Ridge Library.

Candidates will run for mayor and two city council positions in the November 6, 2012 General Election. Each position is for a four year term commencing January 2013 and ending December 2016.

Mayor Pro-Tem Sandra H. Larson will be seeking election for a full term as Veneta's mayor. Thomas G. Laing and Victoria Hedenstrom are running to fill open council positions.

"This is the first time since I've been with the City that we've had a candidate running for each vacant position," says Assistant City Re-

cordor Darci Henneman. "It's nice to see members of the community getting more involved and filling these important positions."

The City Council appointed Larson to her current position on July 23, 2012 to finish the term of former mayor Sharon Hobart, who resigned for health reasons.

After 19 years of service, City Councilor Marion Esty will not seek reelection. Esty, who was first appointed to the council in December 1993, served five terms, including a stint as council president from 2009 to 2010. She decided not to run for office in order to devote more time to the library and seniors committees she serves on.

"Marion Esty has done more than just talk about how much she loves

Veneta, she's shown it," says City Recorder Chris Workman. "Over the last 20 years she's volunteered her time and efforts to make Veneta a better place to live, work and play – a better place to call home."

The upcoming election will also give local voters a chance to show their support for the community library. The Fern Ridge Library District will place a local option levy (ballot number 20-204) on the ballot. The measure asks voters to approve a levy of \$.25 per \$1000 of assessed property value for a term of five years.

This is the same amount as the current local option levy, passed in November, 2008. The funds are needed to pay for day-to-day library services.

## ***City of Veneta begins winter leaf pick-up this month***

The City of Veneta will begin picking up bagged leaves left at curbside starting October 1, 2012.

Leaves will be picked up on Tuesday and Thursday of each week through the end of January 2013.

Bags are to contain leaves only,

no garbage or other yard debris. Bags must be tied shut.

As an alternative you may place leaves in your Yard Debris Roll Cart provided by Sanipac or use them for mulch or compost for gardens and flowerbeds. Citizens are asked to

help reduce flooding by not raking leaves into gutters or storm drains.

Depositing leaves or other debris in a drainage way is a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 13.15.010 and citizens will be cited for noncompliance.

## ***City Park Board presents tree-themed seasonal events***

Veneta's urban forest not only helps provide the City with its comfortable environment, it is an important part of the community identity. Since its certification in 2010 by the Arbor Day Foundation, Veneta has been one of 55 Tree City communities in Oregon.

In addition to providing activities for the community members and raising community awareness of local parks, the Park Board serves a dual function as the City's Tree

Board, playing an advisory role on tree-related issues, assisting in carrying out urban forestry program goals and promoting environmental stewardship within the community.

As part of this mission, the board organizes a yearly tree planting event to enhance a particular neighborhood with trees donated by local lumber mills.

On September 29, the Park Board participated in the annual Veneta Harvest Festival. The board's table

featured trivia about trees in order to educate residents about the natural habitat in local parks. Children participated in leaf tracing and identification for prizes.

Last year the board organized the planting of a Holiday Tree at Luther Ln. and Territorial Hwy. On December 6 the board will once again organize the Holiday Tree lighting, as part of the annual Veneta Light Parade sponsored by the Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce.