

The Newsletter of the  
City of Veneta

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<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us/>

# City News

## Celebrations mark the change of season

This month Veneta hosts events heralding the end of a vibrant summer and the start of an equally colorful fall: the Veneta Harvest Festival and the final Fourth Friday Marketplace of the Veneta Downtown Farmer's Market.

This year's Harvest Festival happens September 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on W. Broadway from Territorial to Second St. after an 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. pancake breakfast at Yukon Jack's.

All proceeds from the festival and breakfast will be donated for the maintenance of the newly complete Fern Ridge Service Center, which will have a ribbon cutting ceremony at 10:30 a.m. followed by an open house.

Other Harvest Festival attractions include live music from various local artists, pie baking and chili cook-off contests, the burying of a time capsule, vendor booths, a special area with children's activities, a

car show and a fire truck from Lane County Fire District No. 1.

Mid Lane Cares is organizing this year's festival with support from the City of Veneta and sponsorship from SaniPac, Siuslaw Bank and Sherwood Pines Residential Care.

A summer's worth of Farmer's Markets comes to a close with the final Fourth Friday Market Place of the season, which will take place from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on September 27. Rockabilly band Atomic Junkyard will play during the market.

The Fourth Friday events have been a partnership between the Oregon Country Fair (OCF) the City and the Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce to offer special celebrations on the fourth Friday of each month and increase participation at the market.

According to Market Manager Marie Pickett, the events have been successful in drawing new visitors

to the market, including Fern Ridge Reservoir campers and local community members, thanks in part to help from the Kiwanis and other local service organizations.

The market has also succeeded in attracting new vendors and musicians. OCF-sponsored advertising has made the market such a desirable venue for regionally-popular musical acts that she expects musical performances to be a standard feature of all Downtown Farmer's Markets next year. Pickett says this year's Fourth Friday Markets will serve as a model for regular markets next year.

"We want to give a special thank you to Our Daily Bread, as a collaborator and supporter of the Fourth Friday events, for bringing local wines to the marketplace," says Pickett. "They showed themselves to be real community members; they really stepped up."

## Service Center Dedication

After years of planning and hard work by dedicated volunteers and staff members of the City of Veneta, the Fern Ridge Service Center (FRSC) opens this month with two events to mark this very special occasion.

The City will host a formal dedication on Friday, September 13 at 10:30 a.m. to recognize the partners that have helped fund and construct the service center. Then, during the Harvest Festival events on Saturday, the FRSC will have a ribbon cutting ceremony, open house and tours of the new facility starting at 10:30 a.m.

"The local partners started discussing this in late 2006," says City Administrator Ric Ingham, adding that the staff started submitting applications for a state Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in 2009 before receiving an award in 2011. "It has been a tremendous effort for our city staff to seek funds from the State of Oregon, primarily

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September 2013		Veneta Civic Calendar	September 2013
Date	Time	Meeting/Event	
2	Closed	Labor Day - City Hall Closed	
3	7:00 p.m.	Veneta Planning Commission Meeting - City Hall	
4	4:30 p.m.	Veneta Park Board Meeting - City Hall	
9	7:00 p.m.	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall	
		Urban Renewal Agency Meeting Immediately Following	
19	8:30 a.m.	Municipal Court - City Hall	
23	7:00 p.m.	Veneta City Council Meeting - City Hall	

## Do your backyard chickens comply with City code?

While backyard chicken coops have become a trendy item for homeowners in Portland, Eugene and other metropolitan areas, the City of Veneta reminds local residents to be aware of and in compliance with the City's land development ordinance before jumping on the bandwagon.

In recent months the City has received several nuisance complaints from residents who say that neighborhood dogs and cats have chased their chickens, according to Teresa Warrick, Veneta's code enforcement officer. However, Warrick says, most of the complaints have come from residents who are not legally allowed to raise chickens or other currently popular non-domestic livestock like mini-goats, rabbits and bees on their property according to the current municipal code.

According to Article Four of Land Development Ordinance 493, non-domestic livestock are only allowed in areas of Veneta zoned as Rural Residential or on one acre lots in areas zoned as Single Family Residential. Lot

size restrictions determine what kind of animals may be raised on a property of a particular size and "Animals, chickens and/or other fowl shall be properly caged or housed, and proper sanitation shall be maintained at all times."

"At this point our ordinances still only allow livestock on properties in single family residential zones of an acre or more," says Warrick. "If you are on a 6,000 square foot lot, you are not allowed to have chickens."

Currently, the City's staff is in the process of researching the issue of backyard livestock. After staff completes this task, the City Council may update or amend the land development ordinance to allow more backyard chicken raising where appropriate.

For more information on the City's current rules concerning animals within city limits, please review the land development ordinance online at:

<http://www.ci.veneta.or.us/pdf/ordinances/Ordinance493AdoptedJan252009.pdf>

## FRSC: new facility to house many services for seniors

through its CDBG funds."

Ingham said the City also wanted to recognize the vital contributions of the Ford Foundation, Scott Edwards Architecture, who designed the building and oversaw construction management, and the builder, Essex General Construction.

The new 7400 square foot building will host the Love Project Food Pantry, Fern Ridge Gleaners, Mid-Lane Cares and Lane Council of Governments (LCOG) Senior & Disabled Services, which provides Senior Connections, Senior Meals and Meals on Wheels, and Rural Medical Outreach, a new project taken on by Mid-Lane Cares.

## City of Veneta's Recreational Vehicle Parking Ordinances

With summer coming to an end, the City of Veneta would like to remind residents of the public safety concerns that arise when recreational vehicles, trailers and boats are parked and stored illegally. When parked or stored improperly, these objects make it difficult for driver's to see other vehicles and pedestrians. Additionally, they can make it difficult, sometimes even impossible, for emergency vehicles to maneuver through city streets.

The City of Veneta's Land Development Ordinance 493, Article 5, Section 5.01(6) allows residents to park and store motorhomes, travel trailers, fifth-wheel trailers and other recreational vehicles on private property as long as they are (1) not being used for human habitation, and (2) not being stored in the front of a resident's property.

Article 13 of the same Ordinance defines "front yard" as being adjacent to a street and to the front entrance of a building. This includes widened driveways and side ya

ards that are between the plane of the front door and the street.

Parking on a city street, right-of-way, alley or front yard

for the principal purpose of storing the vehicle is prohibited. Under the City's Municipal Code, Chapter 10.05.130 (3)(c): Recreational vehicles, travel trailers and boats cannot be parked on any public property, street, right-of-way or alley for a period longer than 72 hours, unless a permit is obtained from the City Administrator.

Vehicle owners found in violation of this code can be subject to a fine of \$50 - \$250 per day. Vehicles may also be tagged as an abandoned vehicle and eventually towed and impounded at the owner's expense.

These ordinances and codes

have been established to ensure public safety. If you have any questions on parking ordinances, please contact the Code Enforcement Officer at (541) 935-2191.

