

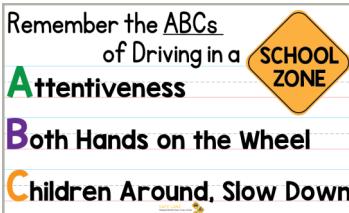
# City News

September 2021

## Walking, Biking and Driving - Back to School Safety

After over a year of remote learning and transitioning back into the classroom, classes at Fern Ridge School District are going back to in-person learning this fall. The Safe Lane Coalition (SLC) wants you to know that back-to-school time means preparing yourself and your kids for a safe route to and from school. Drew Pfefferle, the SLC Coordinator, says the SLC's goal is "eliminating vehicle fatalities and severe injuries caused by vehicle crashes."

The SLC is currently running an "ABCs of Driving



in a School Zone" campaign, focusing on reintroducing drivers and road users of all kinds to school zone safety. Those ABCs are: Attentiveness, Both Hands on the Wheel, and Children Around – Slow Down. Walking and biking students may be new to navigating our streets and those behind the wheel are responsible for driving safely – especially while in a school zone. Parents of students who walk or bike to school should practice their route with

(See "Back to School Safety" on page 2)

## September is National Preparedness Month

September is National Preparedness Month, which means it is time to take stock of your emergency supplies and plans. According to the City of Veneta's Management Analyst Cole Haselip, "National Preparedness Month is a set time to put a focus on security and safety. That allows peace of mind for the rest of the time."



Haselip says that wildfire is an immediate threat to Veneta and one where people can play an active role in prevent-

tion by building defensible space around their homes. It is also important to know the wildfire evacuation system and what each evacuation level means. Be aware of upcoming smoke hazards and use an N95 mask if you have to be outside in smoky conditions.

Having a Go Bag and emergency supplies for any emergency is a good first step in preparation. Visit the City website under "What's New" at [www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov), click on "Are you Ready for an Emergency?" Sign up for AlertSense, to receive emergency notifications via email, text, or voice call – staying informed is one of the first steps in being prepared!

## National Night Out Recap

Veneta's National Night Out on the first Tuesday of August, saw over 300 attendees come together to learn about community safety. The City of Veneta has lots of folks to thank for making it a successful event – Sanipac and Ignite Alliance Church for supplying and cooking 500 hotdogs, Kona Ice for coming out to serve cool treats, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church for providing parking, and KOFC for playing music. Thank you!

A HUGE thank-you to Fern Ridge Neighborhood Watch, Lane County Sheriff's Office, and the Veneta Sheriff's Deputies for making the event happen! Our deputies raised almost \$900 for the family of Amado Hernandez with their Deputy Dunk Tank. Deputies Davis, Hudson, and Lay took the plunge at least 180 times!



Also in attendance at the event were Lane Fire Authority, Veneta Park Board, Hope and Safety Alliance, and Veneta-

(See "Recap" on page 2)

| CIVIC CALENDAR<br>SEPTEMBER 2021                      |  |                       |
|---|--|-----------------------|
| All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted |  |                       |
| 1   | Park Board Meeting   | 4:30 p.m.             |
| 3   | Last Day Veneta Community Pool Open  | 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. |
| 6   | Labor Day  | Closed                |
| 7   | Planning Commission Meeting  | 6:30 p.m.             |
| 8   | Economic Development Committee Meeting                                     | 2:00 p.m.             |
| 13  | City Council Meeting   | 6:30 p.m.             |
| 15  | Municipal Court  | 8:30 a.m.             |
| 27  | Joint Meeting of City of Veneta and Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committees | 5:00 p.m.             |
|   | City Council Work Session on Transitional Housing Ordinance                | 6:00 p.m.             |

## Plastics Recycling

Elmira Grange and the Lane County Transfer Station on Bolton Hill Rd both take plastic recycling! The Grange accepts clean, dry, and label-free #2, #4, and #5 bottles, jugs, and tubs as well as #2 lids - make an appointment with Elmira Grange through their Facebook page.



Visit [www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov), click on relocation on the main page and then garbage and recycling for all your lane county recycling resources.



## Back to School Safety

*(Continued from page 1)*

them in order to point out safe places to cross streets and how to safely navigate sidewalks.

Understanding school zones and identifying safe crossing and walking spaces are important parts of this transition and parents of kids interested in using active transportation (cycling, scootering, etc.) should also be preparing their students for a safe route. Parents should teach their kids how to safely navigate streets and paths while on a bike/other active mode of transportation. This includes following traffic laws, knowing proper hand signals for turning,

**SAFE LANE**  
TRANSPORTATION COALITION

and identifying situations where getting on the sidewalk and walking their bike may be safer than being in the road.

While information on how to take the school bus is available on the Fern Ridge School District website, parents may also want to teach their students how to safely wait for the bus. Learning how to identify the correct bus, knowing where the bus will pick them up and drop them off, will make students more well-equipped to ride the school bus.

Remember to buckle up, wear your helmets, and have a safe and fun school year!



## Recap

*(Continued from page 1)*

Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce.

Next year, organizers hope to get more local agencies and groups involved. They also hope to provide even more educational opportunities. "We want it to be a fun event for both Veneta residents and our Sheriff's deputies who serve our community", City Administrator Matt Michel said. "We also want it to be an opportunity to learn about how to help each other stay safe in our homes and neighborhoods."

Those interested in doing more to connect to their community and public safety should look into the Fern

Ridge Neighborhood Watch group. On the City's website [www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov) look under Services at the top of the page, then Public Safety, click on Neighborhood Watch to see a map and contact information for current

Watch groups. You can contact a group near you or find out how to start one in your neighborhood.



## Flood Prevention and Leaf Pick Up

The City of Veneta would like to remind its citizens that Veneta Municipal Code requires residents to maintain their drainage ditches free of anything that may impede the flow of water. This may include garbage, natural debris, and/or seasonal plant growth.

The flow of water through these ditches and waterways is the key point: over-flowing drainage ditches result in flooding, and potentially damaged streets and yards.

It is also important to know that depositing any form of debris, including leaves and growth on sidewalks and driveways, in a drainage area or street is

a violation of Veneta Municipal Code Chapter 13.15.010 and may result in a fine. Veneta residents are advised to use their yard debris bins and proper disposal sites in order to deal with debris resulting from cleaning ditches or sidewalks and driveways.



The City of Veneta Public Works Department will start picking up bagged leaves that have been tied shut and left on curbsides starting October 5th. Leaves will be picked up on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week as time permits. Bags must have leaves only (no garbage or other yard debris)

## Request for our Community to Come Together for a Cause

The City of Veneta has a history of coming together to look out for each other and address our problems as a community.

The new variant of the COVID-19 virus has come to our town and has affected the livelihood of businesses again in a way that scares all of us.

The new strain of the virus seems to be much meaner than the previous strain. People from all over the country have avoided the previous strain, only to get sick or worse with this new one. In addition, this strain of the virus looks like it is going to be more of a threat to our precious children.

I am open-eyed to the controversy of vaccinations through-out our nation. However, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone who has not been vaccinated to consider our beautiful community—especially our young ones—and for that reason, if not for yourself, decide to get vaccinated as soon as you can.

Let's all do our part to keep our community as safe as we can.



Keith Weiss

Mayor of Veneta



# *Veneta* *Harvest Festival*

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2021**  
**10:00AM - 3:00PM ~ On W. Broadway Ave**

## **FESTIVAL EVENTS**

**10:00am - Vendor Booths Open, over 60 artisan and vendor booths!**

**Kid Zone**

**Kiwanis Kruise-In Car and Motorcycle Show - 150+ cars and motorcycles to see!**  
Come out to vote for your favorites!

- Motorcycles will be parked along 2nd near Broadway Ave
- Cars will be parked at 3 locations: Veneta Elementary School parking lot, Luther Lane and behind the Fern Ridge Service Center

**11:00am - Chamber of Commerce Chili Cookoff Judging**

**11:30am - Chili will be available for purchase**

**12:00pm - Scouts Tribute to 9/11, moment of silence near Lane Fire Authority booth**

**3:00pm - Harvest Festival Closes**

**This event will comply with the CDC mask wearing guidelines**

**Come Enjoy this FREE Outdoor Event!  
541-935-4555 for more info**



**Sanipac**



**Chamber of Commerce**  
*Veneta Fern Ridge*



**VENETA**  
oregon  
Inc. 1962



**EPUD**  
EMERALD PEOPLE'S UTILITY DISTRICT

