

## Middle Mile Project to Bring Gigabit Speed Internet to Veneta

Thanks to ongoing economic development efforts, a \$35,000 Business Oregon grant, and support from Lane County Economic Development, design for the “Middle Mile Project” has begun, said Veneta City Administrator Ric Ingham. That means the

City of Veneta could be a “gigabit fiber” or “advanced broadband” community by this summer.

The project will connect Veneta to Eugene’s broadband fiber network. Made up of glass or plastic threads that transmit information in

pulses of light, broadband is up to 20 times faster than traditional coax cable. It is also more reliable, and allows more users to simultaneously access the data.

Once the Middle Mile connection is complete, an “open access” connection would enable

Internet Service Providers to more easily roll out fiber within the Veneta-Fern Ridge area. That phase is known as the “Last Mile,” where the Internet reaches the end user at businesses, agencies, homes, and schools.

*(See “Gigabit Speed” on page 2)*

## Spring Events

Mark your calendar for a series of annual events to honor community volunteers and celebrate our environment.

On Thursday, April 19 at 7:00 p.m., the Kiwanis Club of Fern

Ridge and the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce will host the 52nd Annual Distinguished Service Awards at Applegate Elementary School in Crow. Recipients are honored based

on nominations from their fellow community members and admission is free.

Veneta Elementary School will host its yearly Earth Day Celebration on April 23 from 11:00

a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The fun and educational event appeals to all ages and features approximately 20 booths with hands-on demonstrations from bees to recycled art and

*(See “Spring Events” on page 2)*

## Spring Business Showcase Coming to Deep Woods

On Saturday, April 28 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., the Veneta Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce will host the Second Annual Spring Business Showcase at Deep Woods Events Center, 89980 Territorial Hwy., Elmira. The event will highlight nearly 40 businesses, representing the wide variety of products, businesses, and services available in the Veneta-Fern Ridge community.

According to the

Chamber, the Showcase provides outstanding networking opportunities as well as artisan and craft products and a wide range of food and beverages. KOCF 92.5 Fern Ridge Community Radio will broadcast live from the event.

Businesses can still register until April 13, by calling Corum Ketchum at the City of Veneta or emailing him at [cketchum@ci.veneta.or.us](mailto:cketchum@ci.veneta.or.us)

CIVIC CALENDAR April 2018 All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted		
1	Easter Sunday	
3	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
4	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
9	City Council Meeting followed by Urban Renewal Agency meeting	6:30 p.m.
11	Economic Development Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m.
16	Coffee with Lane County's Sgt. Sieczkowski and City of Veneta Public Works Director, Kyle Schauer - Ixtapa Restaurant, 24965 Territorial Rd., West Lane Shopping Center	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
19	Municipal Court	8:30 a.m.
22	National Earth Day	
23	Earth Day Celebration Veneta Elementary, 88131 Territorial Rd.	11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
23	City Council Meeting	6:30 p.m.
27	National Arbor Day	



## Gigabit Speed

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Increasing local Internet speed and reliability is part of the City's broader economic development initiative, Ingham explained. "The Veneta City Council put a new emphasis on economic development about three years ago, focusing on growing and retaining local businesses and better positioning us to attract new businesses. Broadband is a key component of that effort."

Access to affordable and reliable high-speed broadband is said to be critical to U.S. econom-

ic growth and competitiveness, enabling the Internet to be used in new ways, such as telework (working from home or telecommuting), increasing business productivity, and expanding access to healthcare and education services.

"Having gigabit fiber, or advanced broadband, will potentially attract new employers and enable existing employers to expand," Ingham added. Already, First Call Resolution has indicated that an alternative, or redundant fiber route would

enable them to bring on new employees and customers, he said. Area schools could also benefit from the increased speed and households would have more choice of providers for Internet, phone, and television services

"The Middle Mile connection will help with the City's goal of growing our economy from the inside," added the City's RARE (Resource Assistant for Rural Environments) Participant Corum Ketchum. "The project will bring a resilient broadband route to

Veneta so that the Internet doesn't go down in an ice storm or because of an accident. It will also help us connect to the growing tech movement and benefit from ongoing regional development efforts."

The City is partnering with Lane Electric Co-Op, which will install the new fiber on existing poles. According to a City of Veneta document, Lane Electric will also use the fiber to put in place its first smart grid program.

## Spring Events

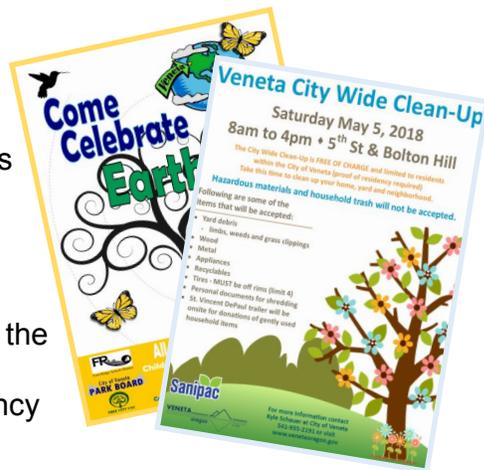
(Continued from page 1)

activities sponsored by the City of Veneta Park Board, local artists, and others.

Finally, on Saturday, May 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at 5th and Bolton Hill Rd., the City of Veneta will partner with Sanipac for the Annual

Veneta City Wide Clean-up, providing free disposal of common yard waste items; recycling of metals, appliances, and as many as four automobile tires (off the rim only) per household; and personal document shredding. A St. Vincent DePaul trailer will also

be on hand for donations. Hazardous materials and household trash will not be accepted. The event is free to residents within the City of Veneta (proof of residency required).



## Downtown Street Work to Begin

The City of Veneta has awarded a contract for construction and street improvements to be complete by June 30. The project consists of roadway and utility improvements on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street between Broadway Avenue and Dunham Avenue. Im-

provements include asphalt surfacing, subgrade reconstruction, concrete sidewalks, new ADA ramps and driveways, storm water system improvements, and infrastructure for future street lighting. The work is part of ongoing downtown

improvement projects funded in part by the Urban Renewal Agency and aimed at bringing downtown streets to City standards to attract businesses to the area. Traffic will be detoured throughout the project, with notice and arrangements made for local

residents. For questions about this project contact the City of Veneta Public Works Director Kyle Schauer at 541-935-2191 or email [kschauer@ci.veneta.or.us](mailto:kschauer@ci.veneta.or.us)

# Veneta City Wide Clean-Up

Saturday May 5, 2018

8am to 4pm ♦ 5<sup>th</sup> St & Bolton Hill

The City Wide Clean-Up is **FREE OF CHARGE** and limited to residents within the City of Veneta (proof of residency required)

Take this time to clean up your home, yard and neighborhood.

**Hazardous materials and household trash will not be accepted.**

Following are some of the items that will be accepted:

- Yard debris
  - \* limbs, weeds and grass clippings
- Wood
- Metal
- Appliances
- Recyclables
- Tires - **MUST** be off rims (limit 4)
- Personal documents for shredding
- St. Vincent DePaul trailer will be onsite for donations of gently used household items



**Sanipac**

VENETA

oregon

inc. 1962

For more information contact  
Kyle Schauer at City of Veneta  
541-935-2191 or visit  
[www.venetaoregon.gov](http://www.venetaoregon.gov)

# The Veneta - Fern Ridge Chamber

PRESENTS

# LOCAL BUSINESS SHOWCASE

Join us in celebrating our 2nd annual **Spring Business Showcase!** Come meet local business leaders and enjoy the wide variety of goods and services available in the Veneta - Fern Ridge community.

**Businesses can register online:** <http://bit.ly/2oIxWcD>

Or speak to Corum Ketchum: [cketchum@ci.veneta.or.us](mailto:cketchum@ci.veneta.or.us) - 541-935-2191

*Note: We are no longer accepting direct-sales or multilevel marketing businesses*

We will have food carts, entertainment and drinks on site, including local favorite Buzz Burger! KOCF 92.5 will be providing radio coverage, with live music throughout the event.

Saturday, April 28th | 1 pm to 5 pm

Deep Woods Events - 89980 Territorial HWY

Elmira, Oregon

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

