

Work to Begin on 8th Street this Spring

The City of Veneta will decommission two aging asbestos and concrete water mains, replace them with a single 12-inch water main, and then repave 8th Street between Dunham Ave and Bolton Hill Rd this spring. “The water mains to be replaced are from the City’s original water system, so they’re nearly 60

years old,” explained Public Works Director Kyle Schauer. One of them has been breaking down and causing the east lane on 8th Street to sink for years. “The asphalt can no longer be compacted because the water main is brittle, especially at this age,” he added.

“The work is part of the City’s Pavement Preservation Plan and will not include such capital improvements as curbs, gutters, sidewalks or bike lanes,” he continued. “Once the water work is complete, 8th Street will see pavement improvement but no infrastructure improvements.”

During the water main replacement, drivers can expect a single lane to be closed, with traffic controlled by a flagger. Access will be even more limited while the paving work is being done. The project should be complete by mid to late summer.

Veneta City Council 2019-2020 Work Plan

The Veneta City Council and staff have drafted a two-year work plan, reaffirming the Council’s goals and outlining staff action items and timelines for priority projects. In conjunction with those goals, City

staff has identified project highlights.

Community Development Director Kay Bork and staff will work with the City Engineer and consultant to create a stormwater design manual tailored to

Veneta’s specific needs. State agencies recently funded a project to develop a template that small cities can customize. “We’re currently following best practices of the Portland Stormwater Manual and modify-

ing the template manually to fit the local soil conditions, slopes, and water tables,” explained Bork. “We’ll use the updated manual to guide the construction of new stormwater

(See “Work Plan” on page 2)

Springtime Traditions

Mark your calendar for a series of annual events to honor volunteers, celebrate springtime traditions, and care for our environment.

On Thursday, April 18 at 7:00 p.m., the Kiwanis of Fern Ridge and Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce will host the **53rd Annual Distinguished Service Awards** at Elmira High School. Recipients are honored based on nominations from their fellow community members and admission is free.

The City of Veneta Park Board and the Kiwanis of Fern Ridge will host Veneta’s **33rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt** on April

20 at 10:00 a.m. at Veneta Elementary School. Organizers have a full schedule of activities for kids of all ages. See enclosed flier for more details.

Celebrate **Earth Day** at Veneta Elementary School on April 22 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with fun and educational events for all ages sponsored by the City of Veneta Park Board, local artists, and others.

On Saturday, April 27 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m., the Veneta-Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce presents the **Third Annual Spring Business Showcase** at Deep Woods Events Center, 89980 Territorial Highway in Elmira. Highlighting

(See “Springtime” on page 2)

CIVIC CALENDAR

April 2019

All meetings held at City Hall unless otherwise noted

2	Planning Commission Meeting	6:30 p.m.
3	Coffee with Lane County Sheriff's Office Sgt. Sieczkowski and City of Veneta Mayor Keith Weiss at Robbie's Window Box Caffe', 88267 Territorial Rd., Fern Ridge Shopping Center	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
3	Park Board Meeting	4:30 p.m.
8	City Council Meeting - Urban Renewal Agency meeting immediately following	6:30 p.m.
18	Municipal Court - City Hall	8:30 a.m.
20	Easter Egg Hunt - Veneta Elementary, 88131 Territorial Rd. (See enclosed flier)	10:15 am to 12:00 pm
22	National Earth Day 	
22	Earth Day Celebration - Veneta Elementary, 88131 Territorial Rd.	11:00 a.m. to 2:25 p.m.
22	City Council Meeting 	6:30 p.m.
26	National Arbor Day	

Work Plan

detention and treatment in the future.” The draft manual is anticipated by May 2019 and ready for adoption June 2019 or sooner.

Bork has also prepared a Request for Proposals (RFP) to enlist a consultant to draft a 20-year Parks and Open Space Master Plan for the City. The current plan was adopted in 1998 and many of its goals have been achieved. Drafting of the new plan should begin in May and be completed in summer 2019 for adoption in the fall.

This spring, Public Works Director Kyle Schauer will present the City Council with options for Perkins Road recon-

The City Council's primary goals for 2019-2020 are:

- 1) Generate community and economic development opportunities for business and industry to retain and create jobs;
- 2) Improve community safety through enhanced community policing, emergency preparedness, and code enforcement efforts;
- 3) Promote parks and recreation projects and improvements that support healthy and active lifestyles for all ages;
- 4) Urbanize city streets in order to improve bicycle and pedestrian connectivity and continue to develop multi-use paths for the betterment of the community;
- 5) Increase community awareness of City issues and public engagement opportunities.

struction. Based on those decisions, the City could request bids this spring, with construction to follow shortly thereafter.

Management Analyst Jenna Boyd will engage a consultant to amend the Urban Renewal Plan

boundary and explore increasing the maximum indebtedness, among other projects. An RFP for a consultant was issued in January and adoption of the plan should be complete by November 2019.

“The two-year work

plan is a living document, so staff will update timelines and budgets as needed,” explained Boyd. “It is an important tool for mapping out projects and priorities not only for the City and Council but also to share with the community.”

Coy

On March 4, Pat Coy was appointed to the Veneta City Council, filling a vacancy created when Councilor Keith Weiss was named Mayor. Coy will complete former Councilor Weiss' four-year term that runs through Dec. 2020.

“The City had two outstanding candidates to consider,” said Mayor Weiss. “After interviewing both, we selected Coy based on his many years of experience working with our City and the community in many capacities.”



Coy moved to Veneta 25 years ago to manage Ray's Food Place. Since

retiring from Ray's nearly 19 years ago, he's been active in the community as an Associate Pastor at Olivet Baptist Church, played a key role in the formation of the Fern Ridge Service Center, chaired the Kiddie Pool Committee, served as Executive Director of Mid Lane Cares, been a leader in Kiwanis and much more.

“I'm thankful to serve, because I feel like I have something to give and something to add,” said Councilor Coy. His priori-

ties include parks, roads, and public safety. Coy has been married to his wife, Helen, for nearly 46 years. They have three daughters and seven grandchildren.

The Veneta City Council consists of a Mayor and four Councilors elected from the City at large. Coy now joins Robbie McCoy, Thomas Cotter, and Calvin Kenney as Councilors. The Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, meetings are open to the public.

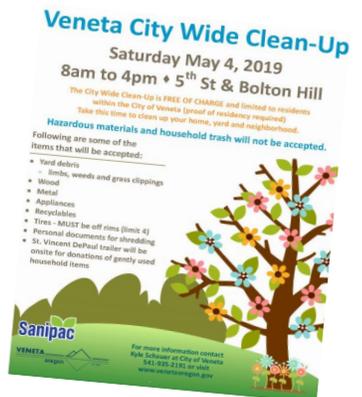
Springtime

over 40 diverse businesses, this is the area's premier networking and public event. For more information, visit veneta-works.org/showcase.

And on Saturday, May 4, 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 **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. See enclosed flier for more details.



City's Free Spay/Neuter Program Builds on Success

In an effort to improve the lives and reduce the number of feral and stray cats in the area, the City of Veneta has been providing free Trap-Neuter-Release (TNR) services since 2014. With the spring breeding season on the horizon, the City will continue the program within City limits in 2019.

Feral and stray cats are trapped, spayed or neutered, ear-tipped to mark them as altered, and returned to their original territory, provided they do not face imminent risk. Whenever possible, adults and kittens that can be readily

socialized are offered for adoption.

The importance of this program is hard to overstate. In its first year, the City altered 332 cats, 219 of which were breeding age. Of those, 242 were feral and 90 were strays, with 205 of them females. An average cat could have as many as eight kittens

per litter and three litters per year, for up to 15 years. Thus, one female could produce more than 360 kittens in her lifetime, and a single pair of cats



and their offspring could literally produce hundreds of thousands of kittens.

The TNR program is bending that curve. In 2018, the City altered 21 females and 22 males, including 17 kittens. All kittens were socialized, spayed or neutered, and adopted into new homes.

These declining numbers and program costs show the program is effective. In its first year, the City spent \$18,000 in PetSmart Charities grant money to fund TNR. This year, the Veneta City Council

voted to continue the program at a cost of just \$6,500. Veneta Veterinary Hospital and Willamette Animal Guild have agreed to continue performing those procedures.

If you or someone you know has a stray or feral cat or kittens and needs information on this free service, or you would like to volunteer with trapping, transporting, aftercare and foster care, please contact Teresa Warrick, Code Enforcement at Veneta City Hall, 541-935-2191 or visit the City's website at www.venetaoregon.gov

Raj Vable Joins City's Economic Development Team

The City of Veneta continues to advance its economic development initiative with the addition of half-time Venture Capitalist Raj Vable. A successful entrepreneur, Vable helped to launch Young Mountain Tea, which sources tea from rural India. The startup creates new jobs in rural communities while improving wages in a sustainable industry. Vable brings that experience to Veneta, where he will help entrepreneurs develop the skills and access the capital they need to turn a concept into reality or scale up their existing start-up company.

It all fits into the "Veneta Economic Development Strategy: Five-Year Action Plan," which articulates the City's role in economic development and serves as a blueprint to help the City target eco-

economic development programs. "The 'Plan's intent is to help create new economic and employment opportunities in the community," explained City Administrator Ric Ingham. "We'd like to see more jobs created locally so our residents don't have to commute out of the area." About 80 percent of Fern Ridge area residents commute to Eugene/Springfield for work, shopping, or entertainment, costing the area an estimated \$3 million in lost retail spending that could stay locally.

For the past 18 months, RARE Participant Corum Ketchum has been spearheading the City's economic development initiatives. "The City is enthusiastically working to build a culture of entrepreneurship and creativity to create opportunities in Veneta-Fern Ridge," added

Corum. "And bringing Raj onboard is another step toward that goal."

Vable comes to Veneta through the Oregon RAIN program, which supports rural entrepreneurship by bringing resources to small communities. RAIN has already helped residents of Florence, Oakridge, and Lowell to turn hobbies into full-time businesses, launch new products, and find help to support their start-up companies.

He has already begun to meet with local business owners. "We're off and running!" Vable exclaimed. "We've already hosted three events and met with 11 entrepreneurs." He sees great potential in the area. "I first recognized it at the Holiday Bazaars last November," he continued. "There are so many active small businesses that just need an opportunity to

have their work seen. My job is to create the connections between those businesses and the buyers at retail stores." He will also help business owners to find the financing or investment necessary for long-term growth as well as learn the business skills they need to package their ideas into a form that will translate into a viable company.

"I'm excited to work with area entrepreneurs to learn their goals and create a roadmap to help them get there," he concluded. Interested individuals can reach Vable at raj@oregonrain.org or Corum at the City of Veneta 541-935-2191 or cketchum@ci.veneta.or.us



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SATURDAY, APRIL 27
DEEP WOODS EVENTS
1 PM TO 5 PM
FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

INFO AND REGISTRATION :
VENETAWORKS.ORG/SHOWCASE



NOW 92.7!

Come join us for the 33rd annual



VENETA
EASTER
EGG HUNT



SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 2019
Veneta Elementary School
11:00 AM

Storytime begins at 10:00 am.

Ages 1 - 10



Bring a Basket

Check Eggs for Prizes!
Rain or Shine

City of Veneta
PARK BOARD



ADA Accessible Event - For more information call City Hall at 935-2191 www.venetaoregon.gov

Veneta City Wide Clean-Up

Saturday May 4, 2019

8am to 4pm ♦ 5th 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



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For more information contact
Kyle Schauer at City of Veneta
541-935-2191 or visit
www.venetaoregon.gov