Birding opportunities take flight at the Fern Ridge Wings & Wine Festival

Bird watchers, wine lovers and nature enthusiasts are invited to the Seventh Annual Fern Ridge Wings and Wine Festival on Saturday, May 12, 2012. Celebrating International Migratory Bird Day, the festival includes kid friendly bird and nature walks, educational talks, children’s activities, kayak and canoe birding tours, wine tasting, music and more.

This year’s schedule is packed with wonderful events to explore the sights and sounds of the local wildlife and enjoy the delightful tastes of artisan wines. In the morning, join the festival at Perkins Peninsula Park near Fern Ridge Reservoir for a voyaging canoe tour on the lake, Native American storytelling, kid-friendly bird walks and more. Birding events will run throughout the morning and afternoon at a variety of locations around Fern Ridge, and most activities are free.

In the afternoon, Domaine Meriwether samples tastes of wine country. From noon to 5 p.m., enjoy food, wine, music and more. The “Winerys without Walls” return this year for more wine tastings from our regional wineries without traditional tasting rooms. Continue into the evening with wine tastings by Domaine Meriwether from 5 to 8 p.m. while listening to featured musical act “Coupe DeVille.”

The wine/music event costs $10 per adult and includes a souvenir wine glass and two complimentary tastes. For adults without glass it costs $5. Children are free.

The festival is presented by the City of Veneta, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Travel Lane County, Domaine Meriwether, Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce, Lane County Audubon Society, South Willamette Wineries Association, ODFW, City of Eugene Outdoor Program and many volunteers.

For more information please visit: www.wingsandwinefestival.com

Highway 126 Community Forum

Please join us for the final Community Forum to help identify the best and most viable option to improve the safety and function of Highway 126 between Veneta and Eugene. The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) will share results of further environmental screenings and cost analysis of the top choices from the previous forum.

The event takes place Tuesday, May 8, from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Elmira High School cafeteria, 24936 Fir Grove Lane, Elmira.

The preferred option chosen during the meeting will be forwarded to the Lane County Board of Commissioners, and to the Oregon Transportation Commission.

Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to info@highway126.org. For more information, please call 541-345-5091 or visit http://highway126.org/. ODOT is committed to ensuring access for all participants. This event will be held in a wheelchair accessible area. Interpreters, assistive listening devices, note takers, and customized materials can be provided when RSVP and request is received at least one week prior to the event.

Materials can be made available in alternate formats. To arrange for these services, please RSVP for the event at least one week in advance.

City fights cat breeding explosion

According to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), feral and stray cats produce about 80 percent of the kittens born each year. About 3-4 million cats end up in shelters each year and over half are euthanized.

To control the problem locally, the City follows the HSUS’s Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) program. Under the plan, stray and feral cats are humanely trapped and spayed or neutered by veterinarians. Kittens and tame cats are adopted into good homes. Healthy adult cats too wild to be adopted have one ear clipped for identification and are returned to their familiar habitat.

The City relies on residents to help reduce unwanted cats in our community. You can do your part by spaying or neutering your own pet.

The City’s website lists agencies that offer low cost spay/neuter programs at: www.ci.veneta.or.us. Under Departments & Services, click on animal control. The City invites residents to participate in the TNR program and has traps to lend. For additional information, contact Teresa 541-935-2191.
Veneta
Spring Clean-Up
Saturday, May 5, 2012
8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
5th Street & Bolton Hill

This city-wide clean-up is FREE OF CHARGE
and limited to residents within the City of Veneta.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE ACCEPTED:
- Yard debris
- Limbs
- Weeds
- Grass clippings
- Wood
- Tire (limit 4 per household; tires must be off rims)
- Metal
- Recyclables

Containers will be available for the shredding of personal documents
from Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Hazardous materials and household trash will not be accepted.
For more information, please contact Kyle @ Veneta City Hall,
935-2191 or visit www.ci.veneta.or.us

Take this opportunity to clean-up your home, your yard, your
neighborhood and our city streets.

This cooperative effort is brought to you by:
- The City of Veneta
- Sanipac