

April 11, 2022

Moving Forward

It's the first week of April. Before I went to bed last night, I failed to close the window blinds, so, I awoke to a bright light shining in my eyes. It was way too early to get up. It felt like a sign that I should pay attention to.

Is it just me, or is the sun shining just a little bit brighter this Spring? Is it just me, or are the daffodils and tulips that have forced their way to the surface screaming that not only is Spring here, but that they're a little prettier this year? Is it just me, or is the air a little fresher this Spring? Is it just me, or are my neighbors who are pulling the big weeds that were the only thing to grow all winter, complaining less and whistling more this season? Is it just me, or are we all coming out of the darkness of the pandemic, feeling a sense of release, ready to get out of the house, and enjoy being with our family and friends?

It seems like the perfect time to plan that trip to the beach, or the mountains, or just to grandma's house to get that big hug we have missed the past couple of years. Go ahead! After 2 years of uncertainty, we deserve it!

As always, here in Veneta we have managed to be isolated for safety, but somehow supportive of each other through phone calls, messaging, social media, zoom calls, and just being considerate of each other.

In previous Mayor's Statements, I've asked for caution. I advised you to stay at home, and to not go out unless you absolutely had to. I even asked for you to consider getting vaccinated, if not for you, at least for your children. Now I want to encourage you to connect again, as I will be doing this Spring. It's a new season, and I continue to be proud to be your mayor.

As we go forward, here are a few local outings to get out and enjoy in your hometown:

- Saturday April 16th is the return of the annual City of Veneta and Friends Easter Egg Hunt. It promises to be bigger than ever with hundreds of big smiles from our precious children.
- Starting on Saturday, May 7th and running through the summer the Veneta Downtown Farmers' Market returns to W. Broadway with locally grown organic foods and artisan crafts.
- Saturday May 14th, the 60th Anniversary Veneta Celebration Run/Walk happens. Sign up to participate or, just come out to cheer on those who do.
- In mid-June the Veneta Community Pool re-opens!
- July 8, 9, & 10 the Oregon Country Fair returns with all it has to offer.

Is it just me, or do we have a lot to be thankful for in our small town and a whole lot to look forward to? Days are certainly brighter when you remember to slow down and appreciate them.

Keith Weiss, Mayor