

Agencies strive to reduce deaths

Emergency service agencies in Lane County want some help keeping heart attack victims alive.

The agencies are teaching area residents Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) in an effort to raise the survival rate of heart attack victims. CPR is getting the heart and lungs going again, after the attack.

The witness to a heart attack is the vital link in saving the victim, according to Lt. Gary Holt of the Eugene Fire Department. After receiving an emergency call it takes three minutes for firemen to reach accidents in Eugene. If the victim receives CPR during that three minutes the chances of survival rise dramatically, says Lt. Holt.

CPR is not always necessary or proper as first aid, so it's important that accident witnesses know the technique and its proper use, Holt says.

The Lane County program, called Community Pulse, is modeled after a Seattle program.

Free CPR classes are taught at Eugene and Springfield Fire Departments, Lane Rural Fire Districts and Medical Services, Inc.



Photo by Patrick Sullivan

Lt. Gary Holt, Eugene fireman, demonstrates the procedure taught to the public in an effort to reduce the number of heart attack deaths.

Auto accidents major cause of youth deaths

Government survey examines trends

WASHINGTON (AP) — Auto accidents are the leading cause of death of America's young people ages one to 24, the government reports.

Information from the National Center for Health Statistics shows that 20,279 persons between the ages of one and 24 died in auto accidents in 1975.

The next leading causes of death in this age group were homicide, which took the lives of 6,195; cancer, which took 5,219 lives; suicide, which took 4,736 lives; and birth defects, which killed 1,883.

A new Census Bureau report for

the same year shows auto accidents accounted for 65 percent of all accidental deaths among youths aged 15 to 24; 48 percent of all accidental death among youths aged 15 to 24; 48 percent among children five to 14; and 37 percent among children one to 4.

While the number of auto fatalities a year has dropped about 14 percent since 1974 when the speed limit was lowered to 55 m.p.h., auto accidents still remain the sixth leading cause of death for persons in all age groups,

according to Bobby Boaz, a spokesman at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) here.

One reason why car accidents are the leading killer of young people, Boaz said, is persons in this age group are not as susceptible to such problems as heart attacks, strokes and cancer which often hit older people.

Another reason, he added, is that many young people do not know their own tolerance for liquor or realize if they drink three cans of beer in a two hour period, they are probably legally drunk.

And a third reason is young people are less experienced drivers who sometimes take unnecessary chances.

Boaz said an estimated 46,700 persons died in cars in 1977 and half of all traffic fatalities are in some way alcohol-related.

Although he did not have figures on how many deaths in this age group were alcohol-related, a study done for NHTSA in 1974 of youths aged 15 to 18 showed half of the teenagers interviewed said they went to at least one drinking party a month and 61 percent of that group said they got drunk at least once a month.

About half of those who drink admitted to driving at least once or twice while drunk. And one-third of those interviewed said they had regularly — at least once a month — been passengers in cars whose drivers were intoxicated.

The census report, called "Characteristics of American Children and Youth: 1976," also showed white youths 15 to 24 years old had a mortality rate from auto accidents 72 percent higher than for youths of black or other races.

Urban experts explained white youths have more access to cars than other young people and tend to travel more on roads away from the urban centers where the death rates are lower.

Other highlights of the census report showed:

- There were 93.4 million young people in America under age 25 in 1975.

- 80 percent of the children under 18 lived in families with both their parents present.

- About 28.2 million children, or 46 percent of all children under 18, had mothers who were working or seeking work.

TODAY

EMU
Food
Service

**BEER
GARDEN**

4-7 p.m.

12 oz. glass 35¢
pitcher \$1.50/hotdogs 25¢
free popcorn

Free Entertainment By
**Grady Aldridge
& Dave Schaffner**

HEART THROBS

Get 'em
in by 1 p.m.
TODAY



Golden Greats from the Past—

JIMMY: How about some hot sauce on a cold winter night.

LISA: ROSES ARE BLUE,
Violets are red.
My back is cramped
Fix your bed.

Love, John

LUNGE—

Roses are red,
Violets are blue
If you lunge at me
I'll break you in two!
Happy Valentine's Day ... Love, Personal Defense

CHEESBURGER HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!
you tickle my pickle,
You french my fries,
And you toast my buns!