

Local road presents danger to drivers

Daisy Bain
Editor-in-Chief

Every time a person gets into a car, that person is taking a risk. Many factors can contribute to the potential danger imposed when driving, including driving on roads that are unfamiliar.

Maplelane Road is a county-owned road located in Oregon City that many students and staff live on or near. Recently, a Clackamas Print staff member was in an accident on Maple Lane, but he is not the only person who has had such misfortune.

Anne Donelson, grants officer for the college, lives on Maplelane with her husband Ron Oberg. She explained that dealing with accidents is a way of life for her.

"We have a system," Donelson said. "One of us gets the phone while the other goes to the road. We have attended at least 10 wrecks in the last five years."

According to the Oregon Department of Transportation's crash summary report, between 1997 and 2001 there were 32 accidents, including two that resulted in fatalities. Twenty-four people were injured. The accidents were split evenly between daytime and night, and just under 50 percent occurred during adverse weather conditions. Seventeen accidents occurred in dry weather and 15 in wet weather.

The speed limit on Maple Lane road is 45 MPH. Donelson worries that when drivers see the "end 45 MPH sign," they see it as a sign to go faster.



CORY PRICE Clackamas Print

Residents examine the damage done to Clackamas student Cory Price's Jeep after his accident on Maplelane Road. Questions have been raised as to the road's lack of guardrails.

"If you go a little too fast on Maplelane, there's no room for error. Once they hit the gravel, they panic and over-correct," said Donelson.

Donelson has witnessed one fatal accident.

"I heard the wreck. It didn't sound usual," she said, noting that normally when an accident occurs there is a lot of noise coming from the driver. "It was very quiet. The car flipped and the man was dead." Donelson was the first to arrive at the scene, and called 911.

Oberg, who works for Clackamas County, explained why he thinks there are no guardrails on Maplelane.

"When a car hits a guard rail, it bounces back and hits another car head on," said Oberg.

Oberg said that since there are so many fields and ditches, he would rather have the driver run into those than another car.

The city did put up reflectors in effort to diminish the potential danger on Maplelane.

"That was nice," said Donelson. "It may have helped."

One of the most disturbing wrecks Donelson said she has ever seen on Maplelane involved a mother who was drunk and her four-year-old daughter.

"I had to watch a police officer

tell a four-year old that he had to take her mommy to jail," said Donelson.

Nobody was hurt in that accident. Donelson continued by stating that more accidents happen in the summertime. Drivers feel confident and drive too fast, she said.

"When a wreck happens, roads are blocked and it becomes a hazard for others," she said.

Donelson and her neighbors continue to be ready for the next accident.

"We all know the sound and do our jobs," she said.

• See related story on page 4

Campus Incidents



All reports are taken from CCC's public safety incident logs. Summaries are edited for clarity, not content.

2-21-03

Talked with construction worker who saw white male acting suspicious and trying to enter two different vehicles.

2-21-03

Left notes to call Public Safety on the windshields of the two vehicles that were possibly tampered with. Nothing obvious appeared to be missing from the vehicles.

2-21-03

A white female reported a "rocket" (a device that has a miniature parachute in the end of it and has to be ignited) almost hit her as she was walking on the trails that run parallel to the track. She noticed that it came from a white male and small child who were "setting them off" by the track.

2-21-03

Talked with white male mentioned above. Told him he could not use the "rockets" on campus and that he almost struck someone with it. He wanted the rocket returned. Advised him to talk with the chief about claiming the "rocket."

Budget constraints force proposition of administrative cuts

It's not just money...

The face of budget cuts



LUKE MAHAN Clackamas Print

Daisy Bain
Editor-in-Chief

The college is facing a budget crisis, and in the midst of cuts from all departments the college may cut four administrative positions.

In the college president's Feb. 11 proposal, he suggested cutting the Director of Marketing and Community Relations. That position is currently held by Geoff Knapp.

Knapp has been working at CCC since September 2001. He has a dual Bachelor of Science degree in public

relations and journalism from Utica College of Syracuse University. Knapp never attended a community college and was pleased by what he saw at Clackamas.

"The personalization that is given here is remarkable. It was a stunning revelation to see what community colleges have to offer," Knapp said.

The purpose of Knapp's position is to develop and effectively communicate information, to accurately portray the college in favorable terms, and enhance student recruitment, college image and fundraising goals. He also assists in the design and completion of marketing and communication efforts.

"I manage a staff of seven, overseeing the website, publications, media

and marketing functions for the college," said Knapp. He describes his staff as "wonderful and talented people."

Knapp took over the position after the death of his predecessor, Korby Kirkpatrick in March 2001. His goal when he started was "to use all the best resources possible to tell the best stories that are to be told here," he said.

One of Knapp's first tasks at CCC was to assist in the completion of a brochure project started by Cheryl Hollatz-Wisly, Director of Student Leadership and Outreach. The collective efforts have resulted in the redesign of the college's program brochures to make them more effective for student recruitment. All the brochures were designed to align with the high schools' current CIM and CAM requirements. The brochures also now have a direct link to the college website for a more detailed description of each program offered at

CCC. The FYI that comes up on all the college's computers now has new links that are meant to heighten awareness about current events at the college.

"All are tactically placed to get key messages to our audiences," said Knapp.

One of Knapp's main goals on campus is "to let people know that we're here to help." He cited the athletic department as a perfect example.

"They make sure athletes are students first. You don't find that in a big university setting. There is a teaching/mentor situation when a student arrives here. It helps make sure each student is a success story," said Knapp.

Anne Donelson, grants officer for the college, has been working with Knapp.

"He is always a great cheerleader for the college. He can really see the possibilities instead of the liabilities," said Donelson.

Knapp fears that with state

resources taken away, faculty and staff may not be able to provide the same level of service as before.

"Something's got to give," said Knapp. "We're working with a very lean staff and budget. It's difficult to look at cuts as the only solution. We could be more resourceful."

"We all do what we have to do. I don't think anybody likes cutbacks," said Donelson.

Knapp has thoughts about getting together with the other community colleges for more buying power. He believes that if the college does this it can get significantly cheaper rates for printing, etc. He also suggested that the college consider corporate sponsorships as a revenue-generating mechanism.

"We are a huge force in this community," said Knapp.

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