

THE RECORD

Health report shows suicide in Lane County higher than national average

Lane County Public Health (LCPH) has released its first comprehensive suicide report. The report, "Suicide in Lane County 2000-2016: Trends, Risk Factors and Recommendations" details the circumstances of deaths by suicide to provide insight and recommendations for all Lane County residents on what they can do in their personal and professional lives to help prevent suicide in the community.

"Effective suicide prevention requires the involvement of the entire community," said Lane County Public Health Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Promotion Coordinator, Roger Brubaker. "This report serves the first critical step in making a difference: Awareness."

Suicide is a serious public health issue. In Lane County, the rate of suicide is 50 percent greater than the national average.

1,079 Lane County residents died by suicide between the years 2000 and 2016.

Here are a few important findings on suicide in Lane County:

- 1-in-4 deaths by suicide was a veteran
- Over 60 percent of men who died by suicide never sought mental health treatment before taking their life
- Over 50 percent of deaths by suicide involved a firearm
- 90 percent of deaths occurred among people 25 years and older
- 1-out-of-3 people who died by suicide had a substance use problem

LCPH offers training opportunities for people in the community to provide them with the knowledge and skills they need to identify people at risk and connect them with life-saving resources. LCPH urges the community to reduce

the stigma around suicide by talking about it.

It is safe to discuss suicide and doing so can provide those at risk and those bereaved by suicide with a sense of relief.

Let them know that help is available and it's okay to ask for support.

If you or someone you know is thinking of suicide, please call: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

To view the report in its entirety, visit: www.lanecounty.org/PublicHealthData

LCPH offers help and hope through its suicide prevention program. Resources for training, facts, warning signs, how to help, and more are provided.

For more information about Lane County Suicide Prevention Program, visit www.preventionlane.org/prevention-topics/suicide-prevention.

Caddy McKeown to visit Mapleton, Upriver communities to discuss issues

State Rep. Caddy McKeown will be hosting a series of public meetings on Oct. 12, in towns east of Florence. The tour will begin in Mapleton at 10 a.m., travel through Swisshome, Deadwood and Walton, and end in Noti at 5 p.m.

These events are open to

the public, with an opportunity for community members to ask questions and pose issues for discussion.

• 10 to 11 a.m., Mapleton: Mapleton Grange, 1088 E Mapleton Rd

• 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Swisshome: Swisshome Evangelical Church, 13266

Highway 36

• 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., Deadwood: Deadwood Community Center, 91792 Deadwood Creek Rd

• 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Walton: Halfway Café, 18921 OR-126

• 5 to 6 p.m.: Noti, Noti Pub, 22506 Noti Loop Rd.

County properties smoking, tobacco free starting Oct. 1

Beginning Monday, Oct. 1, smoking and tobacco use, including e-cigarettes, will be prohibited at all Lane County-owned or -leased properties.

"By moving to tobacco- and smoke-free facilities and

grounds, we can not only support employees' wellbeing, but also create a healthier and safer environment for community members who visit our buildings," said Lane County Commissioner Pat Farr.

The change comes after a deliberate process with public input earlier this year.

Lane County joins 10 other Oregon counties and organizations in going tobacco free.

Fall burning to begin in Siuslaw National Forest

The onset of cool, damp fall weather is allowing firefighters to begin fall burning activities in the Siuslaw National Forest. This includes burning piles of debris and limbs that have accumulated throughout the year from timber sales and large-scale restoration projects.

All burning will be administered and overseen by trained firefighting personnel.

Each controlled burn follows a preapproved burn plan that takes into account weather, humidity, fuel type and vegetation moisture to ensure the burn will be successful and safe. Burn plans identify — or prescribe — the best conditions under which trees and other plants will burn to get the best results safely.

Prescribed fire specialists compare conditions on the ground to those outlined in burn plans before deciding whether to burn on a given day.

Slash piles are typically lit during damp conditions by fire personnel then monitored or patrolled over several days as they consume material before going out.


Pile burning operations are planned on the Central Coast Ranger District, as

well as the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, over the next two months as conditions allow.

Members of the public may encounter smoke associated with these burns.

If unsure whether smoke

or a fire is from a planned pile burn or controlled burn, citizens can contact their local fire department or the Central Coast Ranger District at 541-563-8400 for more information.



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BIRTHS

CUMPER—A boy was born to Robin Cumper and Andrew Bilbrey, of Florence, on Sept. 19, 2018, at PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center-River-Bend.

BROWN—A girl was born to Nicole Boggs and Coleman Brown, of Florence, on Sept. 18, 2018, at PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center-River-Bend.

WEATHER DATA

DATE	HIGH	LOW	RAIN
Sept. 18	62	37	0.00
Sept. 19	64	36	0.00
Sept. 20	67	41	0.00
Sept. 21	66	43	0.05
Sept. 22	65	47	0.06
Sept. 23	64	43	0.00
Sept. 24	65	37	0.00

Rainfall Week: 0.11"
 Month: 0.46" Year: 36.86"

Courtesy of Roger Cunningham