

On The Record

Lane County increases curve warning signs

Lane County continues to be among the counties with the highest number of annual traffic fatalities in the state. Most traffic fatalities in Lane County occur on rural roads or highways where excessive speed and distracted driving are especially dangerous on curving roads.

In an effort to increase driver safety and comply with new Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) standards, Lane County is in the process of upgrading curve warning signs on several of its roads.

“We know that most fatalities are roadway departures that involve excessive speed,” said Lane County Supervising Traffic Engineer Steve Gallup. “Making curves more visible — especially at night — can help us save lives.”

The upgrade includes more frequent use of reflective “chevron signs” at corners to better delineate the curve of the road. Signs like these have been shown to reduce fatal and injury collisions by 20 to 35 percent.

In 2015, 57 people died

in traffic collisions in Lane County; a 35-percent reduction would have resulted in 19 fewer deaths that year.

Examples of the upgraded curve warning signs can be found at:

- Deerhorn Road, especially from milepost 5.12 to milepost 5.93
- River Loop #2 at milepost 0.27
- North Fork Siuslaw Road, especially from milepost 2.02 to milepost 2.87

Transportation safety is a significant public health issue and priority in Lane

County. In 2017, Lane County joined the National Strategy on Highway Safety, known as Toward Zero Deaths, and adopted a countywide Transportation Safety Action Plan to proactively respond to fatal and severe-injury collisions.

Most fatal collisions are roadway departures involving excessive speed and are preventable.

More information about Lane County’s efforts to improve road safety can be found at lanecounty.org/towardzerodeaths.

New smartphone apps map out tsunami evacuation routes

A redesigned, free smartphone app showing Pacific Northwest tsunami evacuation zones is available from the Northwest Association of Networked Ocean Observing Systems (NANOOS) in partnership with the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI).

The NANOOS Visualization System (NVS) Tsunami Evacuation smartphone app

provides an at-a-glance view of tsunami hazard zones along the coasts of Oregon and Washington. Users can locate their current location on the map to see if they are in a tsunami evacuation zone, plan their own evacuation routes, download published evacuation brochures for the region and now, print and save customized evacuation brochures centered on an area of interest.

The free NVS Tsunami Evacuation app is available from the iTunes App Store and Google Play:

- iPhone: itunes.apple.com/us/app/nvs-tsunami-evacuation/id478984841?ls=1&mt=8
- Android: play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=tsunami_evac.nvs.nanoos.org.nvs_tsunami_android

Customized tsunami evac-

uation brochures can also be printed from the NANOOS interactive online portal (nvs.nanoos.org/TsunamiEvac). Learn more about tsunami preparedness at www.oregontsunami.org.

DOGAMI and the Washington Geological Survey have mapped the zones that would be inundated by a tsunami.

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SVFR seeks Budget Committee members

The Siuslaw Valley Fire & Rescue (SVFR) Board of Directors invite applications from residents interested in serving on the SVFR's Budget Committee.

Interested persons can obtain an application from the SVFR station located at 2625 Highway 101, or from the SVFR web site: www.svfr.org.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 15, 2019. After the review of applications, the SVFR Board will appoint members at their February 20 meeting.

Applicants must be registered voters residing within the SVFR district.

The SVFR district includes a 120-square-mile area.

SVFR protects the community with six fire stations, which are staffed with 45 dedicated volunteers who are supported by 11 full-time and 2 part-time employees, auxiliary volunteers, and 3 Community Support Team Members.

The Budget Committee is a standing committee of five members that sits jointly with the SVFR Directors to publicly review and revise the annual budget. The Budget Committee approves the budget and tax levy.

The budget then goes to the SVFR Board of Directors to be adopted.

Committee members serve three-year terms which expire on June 30.

A Budget Committee Member is expected to spend up to 20 hours that includes reviewing the budget and meeting 1-3 times from April through June each year.

The Committee may be called to meet again during the year in the event of a significant budgetary change.

For more information, contact Dina McClure at 541-997-3212.

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