

RECORDS

New Oregon license plate to feature gray whales

County Works to increase road safety signage

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.

A new Oregon license plate, with the image of a gray whale mother and her calf, will be available at Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles offices throughout the state beginning on Feb. 1.

"This is a wonderful way to support marine mammal conservation on a local and even a global basis," said Bruce Mate, director of the Marine Mammal Institute based at Oregon State University's Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

The plate will cost \$40 to order or renew — \$35 of

that total will go to the OSU's Marine Mammal Institute for marine mammal research, graduate education, and public outreach.

People who have previously purchased vouchers for the plates may submit those at DMV offices in lieu of this fee. Those transferring new whale plates to an existing Oregon-registered vehicle will have some small additional fees to transfer new month and year stickers to the new plates.

DMV has ordered 10,000 of the specialized plates. The

first 20 numbered plates will go to the people who support the coast, including Oregon's coastal caucus of state senators, representatives, the governor and OSU President Ed Ray, who each paid for their own vehicles' plate changes.

The whale license plate legislative effort was led by Rep. David Gomberg of District 10 on the central coast, who championed the idea for several legislative sessions.

"Some of the proceeds from the plate sales will target marine mammal re-

search and education," Mate said. "The plates are a way that citizens can support marine mammal research at a very modest biannual basis and let other folks know about their interests, support and concerns for the coast as they drive down the road."

The program will support public outreach efforts, including the notable "Whale Watch Spoken Here," where OSU researchers annually train more than 100 volunteers to staff coastal viewpoints on 22 headlands along the Oregon coast.

POLICE LOG

Jan. 21

and wheels.

• An abandoned bike was found in the bushes on Cottonwood St.

• A stray pitbull was found on Patrick Loop

Jan. 22

• An individual reported hearing their neighbor shouting and then abruptly speeding off.

Jan. 23

• A woman on 8th St. found a Pomeranian on her front porch.

• An individual on Main St. reported that their son was being threatened by a subject over a set of tires

• A suspicious condition was reported at 6:29 a.m. when an individual saw someone wearing all black.

Jan. 24

• Three cell phones were turned into the police station after being found at Safeway.

• A suspicious vehicle was reported on Taylor St. when an individual saw someone sitting in the car wearing a hood over their head. The police ran the plates and found that there was a practice or game going on at the school and the parent was waiting for their student.



Jeannette Dean Howard
June 8, 1932 - January 25, 2019

Jeannette was born June 8, 1932 in Menard, Texas and was the 9th of 10 children. She married Lonnie Howard on June 3, 1950 in Bayard, New Mexico. Lonnie preceded her in death in 2007. They had three children, Paul Howard (wife Dorothy) of Cottage Grove, Janet Yearous (husband Paul) of Cottage Grove and Ray Howard (wife Marketa) of Prineville. They were also blessed with 6 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Nettie retired in 1995 from Klamath County School District where she worked as a bus driver and also in the school cafeteria. They moved to Cox Creek Road in Yoncalla where they lived until Lonnie's death. She moved into Magnolia Gardens shortly afterwards where she lived the last 9 years of her life. She very seldom missed a bingo game and spent her other free time reading and doing word search puzzles along with bible studies.

She was an avid crafter. She loved sewing, knitting and crochet as well as other numerous craft projects. She and Lonnie were very active in several black powder clubs. They spent much of their free time at black powder rendezvous camps competing in shoots. Nettie made all their costumes which were authentic dress for the time period. She was a very good shot as well, taking home many first place trophies.

A Visitation will be held from 7:00 - 9:00 PM on Friday, February 8, 2019 at Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, 123 S. 7th St., Cottage Grove, OR 97424. A Graveside service will be held at 11:00 AM at Yoncalla Applegate Cemetery, Yoncalla, OR. Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills.



Robert Joseph Venice
1937-2019

Robert Joseph Venice, 81, of Cottage Grove, OR, died January 20, 2019. He was born January 28, 1937 in Peru, Indiana, to parents Leonard and Mae Belle (Nelson) Venice. Bob graduated from Peru High School in 1955 and attended the University of Oregon. He served as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps.

Bob was a retired mail carrier for the United States Postal Service. He married his high school sweetheart, Becky Lou Reineke on December 31, 1960, and they celebrated 58 years of marriage. Bob enjoyed gardening, cooking, fishing, hunting, and traveling. He learned and spoke Italian, spent time with his grandchildren, volunteered for Meals on Wheels and St. Vincent de Paul Society. He was a kind, generous and warm man with a fun-loving sense of humor. Bob is survived by his loving wife, Becky; daughter, Theresa Venice-Hollriegel (Kuno) of Seattle, WA; daughter Maria McCandless (Stan) of Beaverton, OR; daughter, Angela Venice-Simmons (Chris) of Cottage Grove; daughter, Monica Venice of Cottage Grove; son Nick Venice (Shanna) of Cottage Grove; daughter Gina Buckel of Milwaukie, OR; sister, Mary Jo Tully of Peru, IN; sister Barbara Hayes of Mesa, AZ; sister, Judy Owen of Peru, IN; 9 grandchildren, Ashley Perkins, Brandon Perkins, Kyle Corso, Hannes Hollriegel, Anton Hollriegel, Jaxon Simmons, Jason, Shaelyn and Cassandra Venice. He was preceded in death by brothers, Leonard Venice, Jr., James Venice and sister, Janet Dixon. A memorial mass will be held at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church at 11:00 am on February 2, 2019 in Cottage Grove. Donations may be made to St. Vincent de Paul Society, 1025 N. 19th St., Cottage Grove. Arrangements are by Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

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Cathy (Rouse) Forgey
1962-2019



Cathy (Rouse) Forgey of Cottage Grove died on January 12, 2019 at the age of 56.

She was born in Denver, CO, on October 20, 1962, to parents Lynwood and JoAnn (Turvey) Rouse. She graduated from Creswell High School, and later received her Clown College Certification. She was manager of the Sud-N-Shine Car Wash and was also a Farrier for horses. Cathy didn't know a stranger and enjoyed doing many things. She was a rock hound, enjoyed her critters, hunting, fishing, camping, and anything to do with the outdoors. She liked gardening, swimming and full moon swimming. Time spent at the coast was her favorite place to be. She was a spiritual being, had lots of energy, and loved to dance. Cathy is survived by her mother, JoAnn Guth; stepfather, Vernon Guth; and father, Lynwood Rouse. She is also survived by son, Tristan (Mallory) Wolf; daughter, Kacey (Mike) Wolf; son, Sam (Sara) Scott; son, Charles (Nita) Scott; brother, Michael (Shawna) Rouse; sister, Sue (Tony) Kirk; sister, Cyndi Scott; brother, Shane (Becky) Guth; brothers, Steve and Shawn Largent; 8 grandchildren and ex-husband, Raymond Wolf. A Celebration of Life will be held at 12:00 PM on Saturday, February 9, 2019 at the Creswell Church of Christ. Please check Cathy's Facebook page for service updates. There is a Cathy Forgey Donation Fund opened at any Banner Bank. Arrangements are in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel in Cottage Grove.



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Nelson Wesley
1927-2019

Nelson Wesley, 91, passed away January 16, 2019. He was born June 27, 1927 in Finely Oklahoma.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 61 years Val Jean Wesley, son Michael (Mitch) Wesley, Mother Alice Watson (Choate), and Brother Buck Ishcomer both of Oklahoma.

He enjoyed early retirement traveling the U.S. visiting family, friends, camping, and fishing.

Nelson served in the US Air Corp from 1945 to 1948 as a Flight Mechanic/Staff Sargent on B17s and C47s. When the old planes came to town, he always went to see them. Nelson is survived by his sons Bryan and wife Cheryl, Mark and his wife Chana, and grandchildren Josh Wesley, Cassie Wesley and Michael Wesley, along with numerous nieces and nephews and a host of friends.

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