

Did You Know . . .

By Chief Matthew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



I recently had a citizen who lives out Keasey Rd (and I do consider the surrounding residents part of our community) talk to me about

vehicles cutting curves and crossing into on-coming traffic. They told me that they have almost been hit head-on recently by a vehicle entering their lane of travel. They implored me to get something done before someone gets killed.

This not an uncommon concern, in fact, I get weekly complaints from citizens about reckless vehicles, vehicles cutting the corners, and vehicle passing on the double-yellow lines.

Most of the concerns come from Hwy 47 but I do get a number of complaints from Keasey, Stoney Point, Scappoose-Vernonia, and Pebble Creek.

Please remember that the small amount of time that you save by speeding, cutting corners, or passing slower vehicles means nothing if you are in an accident. Many of these actions can cause other vehicles to be in accidents or spark road-rage incidents. The VPD

has been responsive to these citizen complaints and have been trying to increase our presence in the peripheral areas of Vernonia but, of course, our primary patrol area is inside the city limits. You can report reckless drivers to the VPD and we will attempt to handle the issue or contact the appropriate agency.

May 22 to June 4 will be the second Three-Flags Seatbelt Blitz in Oregon and Washing-

ton. The VPD will be participating with enhanced patrols. It is a fact that seatbelts save lives. The National average for seatbelt use is 83 percent with Oregonians coming in fifth in the Nation with a 93.3 percent usage rate. Remember that unbelted occupants are 25 times more likely to be ejected in a crash and the survival rate of an ejection is 1 in 4! Please buckle-up for your safety and the safety of your occupants!

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