DATE/ TIME OF RELEASE:  7/10/2019    11:55 am

NATURE OF STORY:  Oregon Country Fair Saturation Patrols

LOCATION:    Hwy 126, Territorial Hwy and Suttle Road, Veneta

DETAILS:

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office along with Oregon State Police, Eugene Police and Springfield Police will be conducting high visibility traffic enforcement patrols in the Veneta area during the 50th Anniversary of the Oregon Country Fair, held on July 12-14, 2019. Deputies, Troopers and Officers will be focusing on DUII enforcement, as well as speeding, seat belt, and distracted driving violations. Enhanced patrols begin Wednesday (July 10th) and will continue through Sunday (July 14th) as attendees remain in the area at campgrounds. The funding for the Lane County Sheriff’s Office enhanced patrols is provided through Oregon Department of Transportation Traffic Safety grants administered by the Oregon State Sheriffs’ Association, aimed at reducing the number of vehicle crashes and related injuries.

Annually, the Oregon Country Fair brings extremely high volumes of vehicle and pedestrian traffic to the area. Due to the resulting congestion in the area surrounding the Oregon Country Fair, speed limits have been reduced on Highway 126 and Suttle Rd. and posted as such. Restrictions are also posted for no U-turns and/or no parking along Hwy 126, Territorial Highway, Suttle Rd. and some additional roads in the area.

Drivers attending the event or traveling through the area should anticipate heavy traffic congestion. Flaggers will be present on Hwy 126 (near milepost 45) at the Fair’s main entrance and at Territorial and Suttle Rd. during peak times to control traffic flows through the area.

The Lane County Sheriff’s Office wants to remind drivers to slow down, wear your seat belt and drive sober without distraction.

The Oregon Country Fair has set up a Neighborhood Response Team to handle any community questions or concerns related to the fair, to include parking and noise complaints. The Neighborhood Response Team can be reached at 541-935-SITE (541-935-7483) beginning today.

Prepared by:  Sergeant Steve Sieczkowski