



# THE DAILY ASTORIAN

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ONE DOLLAR

## DEADLIEST ROADS



Joshua Bessex/The Daily Astorian

A car drives by a roadside memorial along Highway 30 Wednesday.

## Highways 101 and 30 have had the most fatal crashes in Clatsop County over the past decade

By KYLE SPURR  
The Daily Astorian

U.S. Highway 101 and U.S. Highway 30 are the deadliest roads in Clatsop County.

The two routes have accounted for 39 fatal accidents in the past 10 years, according to data from the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The data, recorded from 2004 to 2014, shows a total of 68 fatal accidents in Clatsop County, resulting in 77 deaths. The numbers are slightly higher than neighboring Columbia and Tillamook counties.

The majority of fatal accidents in Clatsop County were caused by drivers traveling too fast for conditions and straddling or crossing the centerline. The data does not list alcohol or drugs as influences in the crashes.

U.S. Highway 101 saw 22 deaths from 20 accidents, while U.S. Highway 30 had 21 deaths from 19 accidents. U.S. Highway 26 had the third highest fatality

rate, with 15 deaths from 11 accidents.

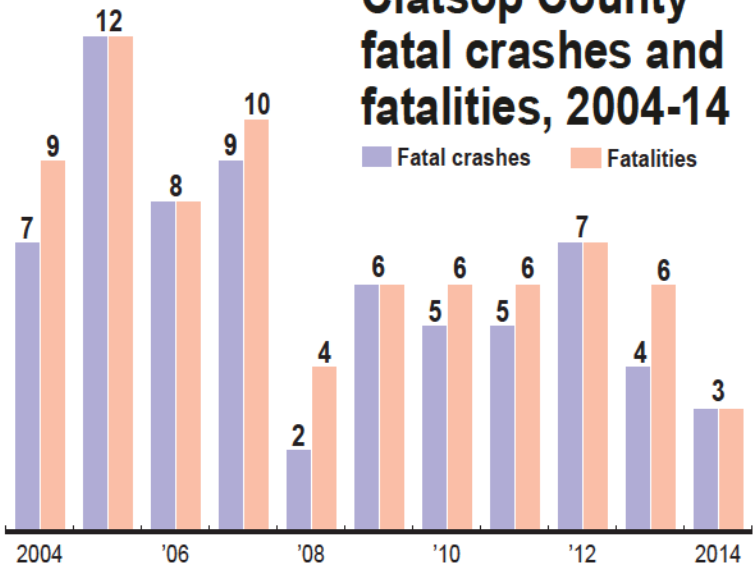
A total of five fatal accidents occurred on county roads and three happened on city streets in Cannon Beach and Seaside.

### Speed and inattention

Clatsop County Sheriff's Deputy Paul Williams said speed and inattention play significant factors in crashes, along with a lack of patience on the part of drivers.

A driver's frustration can lead to crossing the centerline, or driving too fast for conditions.

"The sad fact of the matter is it's the same reasons we have been



dealing with for decades," Williams said. "The one change we have probably seen over the last couple of decades is the lack of restraints was much more prevalent than it is today."

New seatbelt laws and advancements in the construction of vehicles have helped curb fatal crashes, he said.

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## REMAKING GREENHEAD

### Relinking 2,317-acre watershed with Willapa Bay

By KATIE WILSON  
EO Media Group

WILLAPA BAY, Wash. — It took 13 years, but the final piece of work to improve fish passage and habitat at Greenhead Slough outside of Long Beach is nearly done.

"(Willapa National Wildlife Refuge director) Jackie (Ferrier) and I are doing cartwheels because Greenhead Slough is finally getting done," said Key McMurry, of Key Environmental Solutions and the Washington Coastal Restoration Initiative, a group of salmon habitat conservation and improvement stakeholders and interest groups that lobbied for funding for the project since last year at the Washington state

Legislature.

"It's a huge project and it's the last remaining barrier in that whole watershed," Ferrier said.

Dump trucks and earth movers are at work now, replacing an existing culvert with a steel bridge and opening up over 18 miles of salmon habitat as a result. They will also realign the existing channel.

Greenhead Slough was modified in the 1940s by the Washington State Department of Transportation's rerouting of four streams along U.S. Highway 101. The old culvert, located downstream near the highway, was difficult for adult salmon to navigate. The tight

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Work continued Tuesday at Greenhead Slough on the south end of Willapa Bay, where a major tidal wetland restoration project is underway.  
Katie Wilson/EO Media Group



## Arctic-bound vessel leaves Oregon

Protesters had blocked icebreaker

By TERRENCE PETTY  
and DAN JOLING  
Associated Press

PORTLAND — Authorities used boats, personal watercraft, poles and their bare hands to remove protesters in kayaks and hanging from bridges who had tried to block a Royal Dutch Shell icebreaker bound for an Arctic drilling operation.

The Fennica left dry dock Thursday afternoon and made its way down the Willamette River toward the Pacific Ocean soon after authorities forced the demonstrators from the river and the St. Johns Bridge. Shell spokesman Curtis Smith said the Fennica was on its way to the Chukchi Sea where one of the energy giant's vessels started initial drilling operations Thursday night.

About a dozen North Coast residents watched as the Finnish-flagged icebreaker passed through Astoria early this morning. The state Department of Transportation closed the Astoria Bridge for about 20 minutes while the vessel moved down the Columbia River.

In Portland, several protesters in kayaks had moved toward the center of the river as the ship began its trip, but authorities in boats and personal watercraft cleared a narrow pathway for the Fennica.

Authorities also jumped into the water to physically remove some protesters who left their kayaks.

Sgt. Pete Simpson, a Portland police spokesman, said "a number of people" were detained and it was still being determined whether any would face charges.

## Raspberry Pi is mmm, mmm geek

College camp teaches students programming

By MCKINLEY SMITH  
The Daily Astorian

Astoria High School incoming sophomore Emily Elena held a plastic spoon of vanilla ice cream over a heat sensor attached to a credit-card sized computer: the Raspberry Pi.

She was testing to see whether the sensor she programmed was capable of detecting the spoon's temperature as the ice cream melted.

Eight students, Elena included, took part in a four-day camp this week put on through Clatsop Community College to introduce the young participants to programming using the Raspberry Pi.

None of the students had any prior experience with the two programming languages they used with the Raspberry Pi, according to Greg

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**2015 CLATSOP COUNTY FAIR**  
thru **AUGUST 1**  
For more information go to [www.clatsopfairgrounds.com](http://www.clatsopfairgrounds.com)

**SATURDAY IS THE LAST DAY OF THE FAIR**

Fair hours  
**10am-9pm**  
Carnival hours  
**Noon-9pm**

