



Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

A woman walks past 14th Street and Exchange Street as snow blankets the ground on Sunday in Astoria.

Snow: Astoria received about 4 inches

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as not to miss the snow.

"I didn't like driving in it earlier," she said. "I did notice a lot of people were driving very politely, which I thought was really amazing."

Bateman, of Astoria, said he witnessed a driver who tried to avoid someone sliding into a parked car. But the trio said that, for the most part, they saw vehicles proceeding slowly and keeping their distance on the road.

Astoria received about 4 inches of snow; 5 inches piled up two miles east of town, according to the Portland branch of the National Weather Service. The Astoria Regional Airport's snowfall was measured at 2 inches.

Numerous accidents, stalled vehicles and downed

trees and power lines created treacherous driving conditions in parts of Clatsop County since Sunday morning.

U.S. Highways 26 and 30 saw about a dozen accidents alone. One accident involving several vehicles near Bradley State Scenic Viewpoint Sunday morning closed U.S. Highway 30 for about an hour until the Oregon Department of Transportation could clear it and plow the roads.

While Oregon State Police responded to fatal crashes in Forest Grove and Coos County, none have been reported in Clatsop County.

Coxcomb Drive and Eighth Street between Franklin Avenue and Grand Avenue in Astoria were both closed as vehicles had trouble navigating steep hills.

Closures

The Knappa and Jewell school districts announced that classes will be canceled on Monday. Astoria, Knappa, Warrenton-Hammond schools and Clatsop Community College started two hours late.

As the white blanket downtown gradually thawed into a gray slush, a group of men parading down Marine Drive made snowballs and slung them at each other on the sidewalk.

Jim DeFeo, owner of Astoria Coffee House & Bistro, said snowfall normally helps his business, as people move indoors to escape the inclement weather. But the Super Bowl, he said, cut down on the day's patrons.

Across the street, Dan Kennedy, a young man who said he is temporarily homeless, kept warm inside Godfather's

Books and Espresso.

A former student at Clatsop Community College and University of Oregon, Kennedy was already inside, writing in a notebook and researching the cosmos, when the first flakes fell.

"Now that I see the snow, I'm really glad I'm in here," said Kennedy, who planned to stay overnight in the Astoria Warming Center.

Buddy Kropp, a Godfather's bookseller, said the store had experienced the usual amount of foot traffic.

"We like it better than the rain at the moment ... We wouldn't like it all the time, but it's a nice change," Kropp said.

He added: "Because it's rare, it's wonderful."

— Jack Heffernan and Derrick DePledge contributed to this report

Hunters: Team will study Emily Reed wreck

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He does not salvage or excavate the wrecks he finds, explaining, "I am not a treasure hunter, I'm not out there looking for ships full of gold doubloons. I am an archaeologist."

A garbage collector

Dewey jokingly says that he is oftentimes referred to as a garbage collector because he finds other peoples garbage and lost things throughout the world.

According to Dewey, underwater archeology looks at shipwrecks and submerged land sites both historically and prehistorically, meaning Native American and the like. "Nautical archeology," he said, is not only about the ships, "it's about the information that connects us to our past and it's about maritime cultures."

Over the years, Hollywood has glamorized shipwrecks and treasure hunting in such movies as "The Deep," "Fool's Gold" and "The Goonies." But who really owns abandoned shipwrecks?

Up until 1988, divers could sneak around and salvage a few trinkets they found on abandoned shipwrecks. But due to the damage many historical wrecks received from salvaging, the Abandoned Shipwreck Act was signed into law.

Shipwrecks embedded in lands in which they lie belong



Submitted Photo

Wreck of the Peter Iredale at Fort Stevens.

to the state including rivers, lakes and up to 3 miles offshore.

Paperwork

An archaeological site, Dewey explains must be 50 years or older in Washington and 75 years in Oregon. He discourages treasure seekers from making a site claim for excavation due to the mass amounts of paperwork and the amount of money needed for an excavation. "It's expensive to claim an excavation site and by doing so many historical objects have been lost to private collections."

Sites around shipwrecks are as important as the artifacts. "If they had been lost into a private library, there would have been nothing left to see because the ship is gone," Dewey said, referring back to the wreck

with the containers. "So there is a good reason to leave artifacts where they lie."

The shipwreck of the Peter Iredale is the most visible and well-known wreck on the Oregon Coast. Located on Clatsop Spit, its skeletal structure towers above the wet sands during a low tide. Even though larger and more famous shipwrecks such as the Titanic and Peter Iredale are intriguing, Dewey said lesser-known ships that have wrecked in the region equally capture his attention.

One such wreck was found on the Seaside beach in November 2014. Three men were metal detecting in the dunes and uncovered a large piece of wood. Dewey investigated and sent his data and a drawing of a boat keel to the state's archaeologist. After much research, the state con-

cluded it was a 1950s trawler.

It didn't take long for the Colewort Creek boat to be identified. The abandoned boat was located in the Lewis and Clark National Historical Park and through word of mouth, a relative and a photo, the boat was determined to be a 1920s square-stern gillnetter owned by a local man who transported milk from a dairy farm to the Astoria market.

Future projects for the team include the Coastal Survey Project to examine the T.J. Potter, a side-wheel steamer built in 1888 in Portland. It traveled from Portland to Astoria and Portland to Ilwaco, Washington. In 1920, its license was revoked and it was abandoned on Youngs Bay where it was burned and salvaged for metal. The Potter remains on Clatsop County property.

The Silvia de Grasse, a lumber schooner that sank in Astoria in 1849 is located on the rocks off Pier 39. And, the C-Trader, another lumber freighter sank in 1963 and is located in the Columbia River near Buoy 20.

This summer, the team will study the Emily Reed wreck that ran aground in 1908 and is known to be located in Nehalem Bay. A 1700s wreck is rumored to be located in the southern harbor of Nehalem Bay and Dewey would like to take a look at it at a later date.

— Rebecca Herren

Lawsuit: 'It's a matter of cost-sharing'

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The county will still potentially be a big recipient of any settlement from the lawsuit. Of the 30 taxing districts in the county receiving timber tax revenues, 25 remained involved.

The board of Jewell School District, a timber tax-funded K-12 school in the middle of the Clatsop State Forest, took no action. The Port of Astoria Commission was the only major taxing district to vote publicly to stay in.

Clatsop Community College's board voted 4-3 the day before the deadline to opt out. But board member Esther Moberg's vote to opt out, submitted via email after she declined to attend the meeting and vote via teleconference, was rescinded as a violation of voting rules. The vote was ruled a tie, and the college was left in the lawsuit.

No sense in opt-out

John DiLorenzo, the lead lawyer for Linn County in the case, said all Clatsop County

did was give up money and any influence over the outcome of the \$1.4 billion lawsuit.

"It just makes no logical sense to me," he said. "But hey, you know what? It's their right to do it."

DiLorenzo said there's a misconception that the case is about changing timber policies, which he said would ultimately involve an extensive rule-making process or legislative action requiring public input.

"I know that passions are ... very much present as part

of this debate," DiLorenzo said. "But believe me; this case is all about money."

DiLorenzo said environmental and timber policies are created by and seen as beneficial to the entire state. But the costs of such policies not maximizing timber revenues, he said, fall more on rural counties that can least afford it.

"It's a matter of cost-sharing," he said. "Should rural Oregonians be the only ones who pay for the cost of a policy that benefits all?"



Edward Stratton/The Daily Astorian

In January 2016, Kerry Strickland, right, spoke about her son, Jordan, who battled drug addiction for years before overdosing on heroin. With Strickland is her daughter, Natasha Thompson.

Jordan's Hope: Stigma can be factor in preventable deaths

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Throughout a seven-year battle that included five stays in treatment centers, Jordan struggled with the shame that often comes with the disease, Kerry Strickland said.

Jordan's addiction and eventual death are part of a nagging problem with prescription painkillers and heroin in Clatsop County. Since 2014, 12 people have died from prescription drugs and heroin, county medical examiner JoAnn Giuliani said, the most visible local sign of an opioid abuse trend that has reached epidemic proportions nationally.

The faces of addiction are not necessarily the ones many people might picture. "The kids that you know are the ones using these drugs," Kerry Strickland said.

'Complete, incomprehensible demoralization'

The stigma that often complicates addiction can be factors in preventable deaths.

For Jordan, living in a small, rural town like Knappa

only added to the shame he felt. He was experiencing "complete, incomprehensible demoralization," his mother said.

"Being that jock guy and then being the town junkie, that's what people call it. That's a demoralizing blow," Kerry Strickland said. "He kept going into relapse because of the shame. Otherwise, maybe he would have gone to the doctor and said, 'Hey, I need help.'"

On Christmas Day in 2014, Jordan checked into his fifth treatment center, this time in Los Angeles. Moving to a new city, especially a large one, was helpful for him, Kerry Strickland said.

"The anonymity is amazing here," Kerry recalled her son saying.

After months of sobriety, Jordan seemed to be on the right path in his new home. He was working in construction and had begun dating. But during a trip to Las Vegas, Jordan and some friends decided to drink, his mother said, which eventually led to a heroin relapse.

By early July, he was found dead in his apartment of an overdose, just a couple of weeks shy of his 25th birthday.

'I just wanted to continue Jordan's battle and honor his memory by helping those who are still struggling.'

Kerry Strickland

mother of Jordan Strickland, who died from a heroin overdose in Los Angeles in 2015

W h i l e Giuliani is unsure whether the law will have much effect, she is hopeful it may at least save one life.

"I kind of have to look at the world that way, that even one is successful," she said.

Since seasoned drug users often have more experience in avoiding overdoses, the law may have the highest effect on younger, less-experienced users like Jordan Strickland.

"Those are the ones you hate to lose because it can be prevented," Giuliani said.

Jordan's Hope

In February 2016, Kerry Strickland — along with friends and family — created a nonprofit outreach organization called Jordan's Hope for Recovery. The motto: "Addiction is a disease, not a moral failing. No one has to suffer alone. No one has to die from this disease."

An affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, the organization hopes to act as a reference point and connect people with resources throughout northwest Oregon, southwest Washington and other regions of the Pacific Northwest.

A launch party will take place today at 6 p.m. in room 219 of Columbia Hall at Clatsop Community College in Astoria. The party will include the debut of a website — jordanshope.org — that will provide information about recovery and accept donations. Speakers at the event will be parents — like Kerry Strickland — who have lost children to addiction.

"I just wanted to continue Jordan's battle and honor his memory by helping those who are still struggling," she said.

Fear of arrest

While Jordan was found alone in his apartment, many heroin users consume the drug in groups, Giuliani said.

As the county medical examiner, Giuliani remains on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to investigate deaths.

In drug cases, Giuliani said that when someone overdoses, others are often hesitant to call 911 for fear of being arrested.

As a result, other drug users may attempt to revive