

CLATSOP COUNTY FAIR

FAIR-LY PHOTOGENIC



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

Thousands of people attended the Clatsop County Fair in Astoria last week. The event featured live music, 4-H competitions, entertainment and a wide variety of rides and games. Find more photos online at DailyAstorian.com



LEFT: The barn at the fairgrounds in Astoria was full of animals and their human owners for the 4-H competitions. RIGHT: People marveled at the rides and games at the fair. BELOW: Children and adults took advantage of the rides.



Bill could stabilize the crab fishery

Extends agreement between three states

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

Dungeness crab fishermen can heave a sigh of relief.

A bill that advocates say will lead to much-needed stability for the West Coast's valuable Dungeness crab fishery passed the U.S. Senate Friday and now heads to the president's desk for signature into law. The bipartisan bill permanently extends a tri-state agreement between Washington state, Oregon and California to manage the multimillion-dollar fishery.

"The Dungeness crab fishery is an economic pillar of our coastal communities, supporting thousands of fishing and processing jobs," U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Washington, who introduced the bill in 2014, said in a statement. "By preserving the tri-state agreement, we can sustainably manage our crab fisheries for many years."

West Coast Dungeness crab is unique in being one of the few fisheries on the ocean

See CRAB, Page 7A

Port seeks to protect airspace

Agency concerned about development near Astoria airport

By EDWARD STRATTON
The Daily Astorian

WARRENTON — The Port of Astoria is looking to change Warrenton city code to protect the space around the Astoria Regional Airport from potential development.

Airport Manager Gary Kobes recently laid out a proposal by a subcommittee of the Port's Airport Advisory Committee to replace a section of the Warrenton code with a public use airport zone developed by the state Department of Aviation.

"Over time, one of the problems with airports is encroachment of developments around critical areas of the airport," Kobes said. "The zone change part would deal with keeping at bay inappropriate uses like residential uses below the traffic pattern and around the approaches."

He said the Port is also trying to establish a Department of Aviation-model safety and compatibility overlay zone to protect the six approaches to runways from obstacles such as trees that can force pilots to approach from a higher altitude.

See PORT, Page 7A

A personal perspective on highway vehicle accidents

Starr responds to wrecks on Highway 30

By JACK HEFFERNAN
The Daily Astorian

In 1993, Al Starr was involved in a serious car crash and injured his neck. At just 34 years old, he believed his working days might have been over.

"You play the hand you're dealt," Starr said. "I didn't think anyone would hire me."

That turned out to be true, but Starr discovered his road back to the workforce a few



years later when he founded a company called Affordable Towing and Repair. Now operating in its 17th year, it responds to accidents on U.S. Highway 30 from Astoria to Knappa.

"Now I'm a workaholic again," Starr said.

Starr, 57, of Astoria, has lived in Clatsop County his entire life. He washed trucks out of high school, but the accident left his neck partially

disabled. Now a veteran at accident scenes, Starr is able to analyze situations, including when a person may be going into shock, rather quickly.

"Some of the stuff that happens brings me back to old memories," he said.

Tight schedule

Starr keeps a dispatch radio handy that indicates when he must respond to an accident. When a call comes in, he puts all other tasks aside.

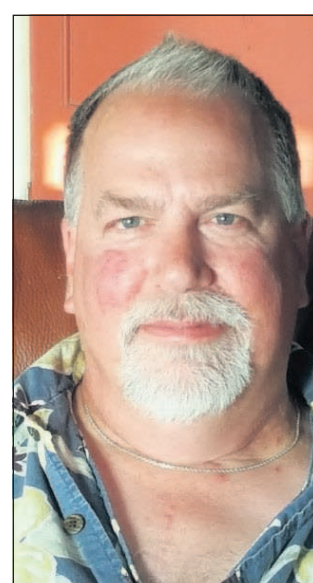
"Everybody wants something every second," he said. "You run a pretty tight schedule."

Though he used to receive at least a couple of calls a

week, the quantity of wrecks Starr responds to has subsided a bit. He theorized the heavier traffic in the area nowadays may be limiting the number of high-speed collisions.

Starr has developed relationships within the Astoria Police Department, Oregon State Police and Clatsop County Sheriff's Office. He once even allowed police to train in the yard where he stores wrecked cars.

One of their main priorities is that of their main priorities is to open the road to traffic as soon as possible, Starr said. As the years have flown by, they've



Al Starr

See STARR, Page 7A

