

Accidents: Happen more often near Astoria on U.S. Highway 30

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After a 2016 survey, the state determined speed limits on the roadway are sufficient, said Lou Torres, a spokesman for the Department of Transportation. The statistics show 36 percent of accidents on the stretch are caused by excessive driving speeds relative to speed limits or weather and traffic conditions. That can create issues on the winding 5 miles that pass Tongue Point.

“There are certainly curves, and people are picking up speed as they leave the city,” Torres said. “People are certainly in a big hurry these days, and we’re definitely seeing a jump in crashes.”

Highway 30, much like U.S. Highway 26, sees a lot of congestion because there are few roads leading to the coast, Torres said. While the terrain is tricky, the number of serious accidents on the highway does not meet the state’s threshold for a major road overhaul, which would



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Above: Cars pass each other on Highway 30 east of Astoria. Below: Signs indicate lower speed regulations along the curves of Highway 30 near John Day Park east of Astoria.

be expensive due to geographic barriers like streams and hills. Instead, the state searches for potential minor fixes such as additional rumble strips and curve warning signs.

“We kind of have to play with the hand we’re dealt with, so to speak,” Torres said.



NATIONAL NEWS

Civilians kill gunman after three shot at Oklahoma restaurant

Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — A gunman opened fire inside an Oklahoma City restaurant during the dinner rush, wounding a woman and two girls before two armed citizens shot him dead outside, police said today.

The suspected gunman, 28-year-old Alexander Tilghman, was armed with a pistol when he entered Louie’s On The Lake around 6:30 p.m. on Thursday. A 39-year-old woman and two juvenile girls were shot and wounded, while an unnamed man fell and broke his arm while fleeing, according to a statement from police.

Tilghman was then shot dead outside the restaurant by two citizens identified by police as Juan Carlos Nazario and Bryan Wittle.

All four victims were reported in good condition Friday, according to Oklahoma City police Capt. Bo Mathews. A suspected motive for the shooting hasn’t been released.

Dennis Will said his daughter and granddaughter were among those shot. Talking with reporters outside the hospital where the shooting victims were taken, Will said his daughter called him after the shooting and said they had been shot while entering the restaurant for a birthday dinner.

A woman who answered the phone at the home believed to belong to Tilghman’s mother declined to comment when contacted by The Associated Press. Telephone and text messages seeking comment from Nazario and Wittle were not immediately returned.

The Hal Smith Restaurant Group, which owns the restaurant, released a statement saying the restaurant will be closed Friday and counselors will be available to employees and customers.

Police: Male student behind Indiana middle school shooting

Associated Press

NOBLESVILLE, Ind. — A male student opened fire at a suburban Indianapolis middle school this morning, wounding another student and a teacher before being taken into custody, authorities said.

The attack at Noblesville West Middle School happened around 9 a.m., police Chief Kevin Jowitt said at a news conference. He said investigators believe the suspect acted alone, but didn’t detail what happened or the severity of the injuries to the victims, who were taken to hospitals in Indianapolis. The identities of those involved weren’t immediately released.

Indiana University Health spokeswoman Danielle Sirilla said the teacher was taken to IU Health Methodist Hospital and the wounded student was taken to Riley Hospital for Children. She didn’t know the seriousness of their injuries.

After the attack, students were bused to the Noblesville High School gym, where hundreds of parents and other family members arrived to retrieve them.

Eighth-grader Chris Navarro said he was inside an auditorium when he counted hearing 16 gunshots about a minute before the bell rang for the change in classes.

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