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Crash fatalities up in Yavapai in 2014

By **SCOTT ORR**
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PHOENIX - The number of people killed in motor-vehicle crashes statewide was down 9 percent in 2014, according to the Arizona Department of Transportation's "2014 Arizona Motor Vehicle Crash Facts" survey, but ADOT's figures also show Yavapai County bucking that trend.

There were 774 fatalities on state and local highways and streets last year, compared to 849 in 2013.

ADOT reported 43 people killed in crashes in Yavapai County in 2014, which

is up from 40 in 2013. The majority of those happened in the unincorporated areas of the county.

The report highlights some interesting statewide trends:

- Single-vehicle crashes accounted for 17 percent of all crashes but also 37 percent of all fatal crashes.

- Crashes during daylight hours (6 a.m. - 6 p.m.) accounted for 72.5 percent of all crashes in 2014, nearly the same as in 2013.

- Friday was the peak day of the week for all crashes during 2014 with 18,759 crashes.

- The Thanksgiving weekend was the

deadliest holiday weekend on Arizona roadways last year, when 18 died. Nine people were killed in crashes over the July Fourth holiday weekend in 2014.

The report said the most common reason police cited drivers in crashes was "speed too fast for conditions."

"The drop in fatal collisions was positive, but sadly, there are 774 people who did not go home to their families last year," said Colonel Frank Milstead, director of the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

Alcohol-related crash deaths were

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By the numbers

Yavapai County

43 fatalities in 2014

40 fatalities in 2013

Arizona

774 fatalities in 2014

849 fatalities in 2013

Blast from the past

Folk Arts Fair continues today

By **JASON WHEELER**
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The past most definitely came alive on Saturday, June 6 with Sharlot Hall's 42nd Annual Folk Arts Fair, featuring the crafts, trades and amusements of days gone by.

At the Village of Traditions on the Sharlot Hall Museum's grounds there was spinning and weaving, gold panning and tin punching, along with weaponry presented by the

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At right: Bob Erb demonstrates atlatl to visitors at the 42nd Annual Folk Arts Fair at Sharlot Hall Museum Saturday.

Les Stukenberg/The Daily Courier



City: Phippen roundabout a 'safety project'

By **CINDY BARKS**
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PRESCOTT - Even though the commercial subdivision that was contemplated nearby never came to fruition, the City of Prescott still plans to move forward with a related roundabout intersection on Highway 89 near the Phippen Museum.

That choice has raised questions in the community recently, and is expected to be a topic of further discussion by the Prescott City Council on Tuesday, June 9.

On Friday, June 5, City Manager Craig McConnell maintained that the Phippen roundabout is still warranted, despite the fact that plans for the Centerpointe South project - once expected

to develop nearby - have since expired.

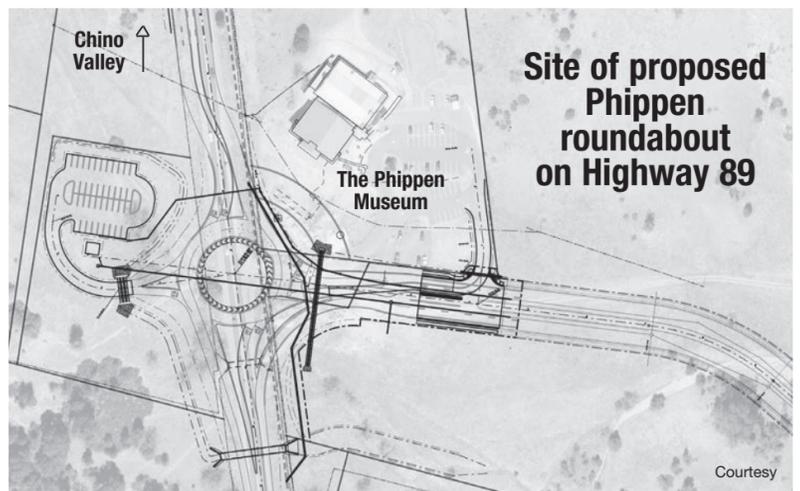
He pointed out that the roundabout project includes not just a safer entry point for the Phippen, but it also includes a new trailhead for the nearby Constellation Trails, as well as widening to four lanes of the stretch of Highway 89 between the roundabout and the Highway 89A interchange.

"We're recommending it be done now for those reasons," McConnell said.

The city's proposed budget for the 2015/2016 fiscal year includes \$2.5 million for the Phippen roundabout. Public Works Program Development Manager Steve Orosz says the project is expected to be under construction by mid-2016.

The May 28 presentation on the 2016 street-improvement program generat-

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Today's Weather

High 80° | Low 47°

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