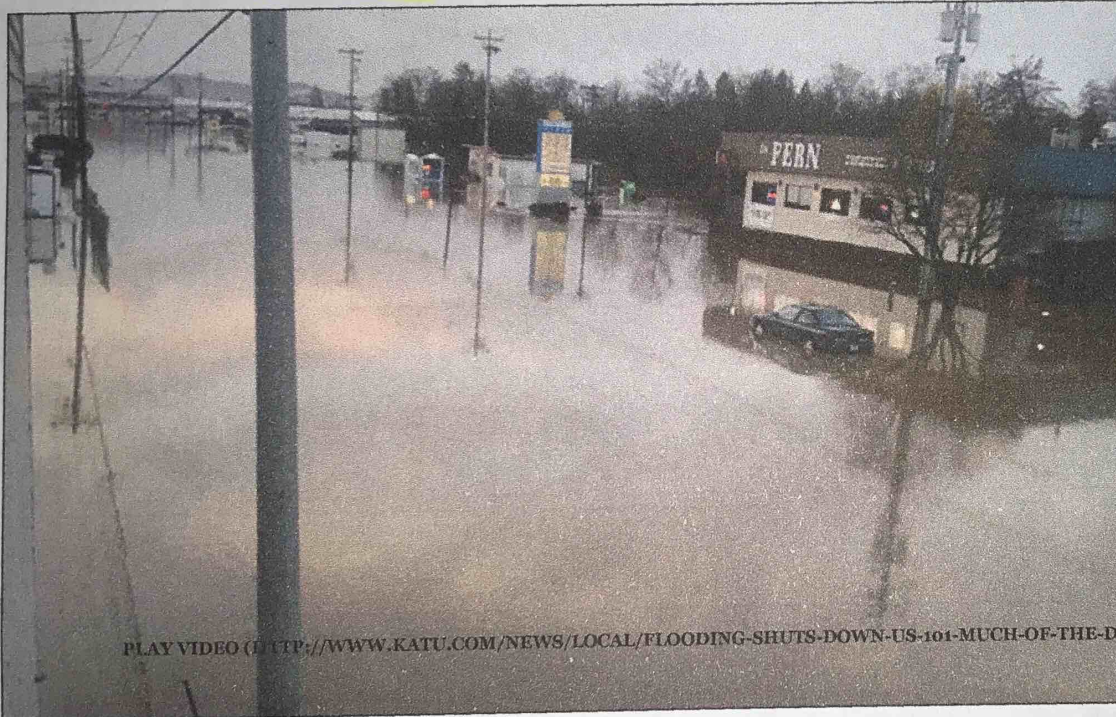


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Flooding shuts down U.S. 101 much of the day in Tillamook

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Tillamook. (Photo: Richard Miller)

TILLAMOOK, Ore. – Heavy rain Tuesday brought flooding Wednesday, shutting down U.S. 101 for much of the day.

"I look at it like we were fortunate that we didn't lose the bigger appliances," said Bill Mays, who works at Sa Bai Jai Thai restaurant on 101.

Mays opened the doors Wednesday evening to find four feet of water in the restaurant and thousands of dollars' worth of food ruined.

"We tend to dread it in the wintertime because the water can come up so fast," said Mays. "We have to make sure everything is picked up as best you can."

Up the street, Allen Johnson got to his auto repair shop at 3:30 in the morning, to find a few feet of water in his office.

He and two others worked on getting the water out of the business and clearing the mud from everywhere around them.

"It's kind of ironic to clean up a water mess with water," Johnson said.