

THE DAILY ASTORIAN

145TH YEAR, NO. 150

DailyAstorian.com // MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2018

ONE DOLLAR

Astoria names Spalding as new police chief

Veteran lawman has served as interim chief

By **KATIE FRANKOWICZ**
The Daily Astorian

Geoff Spalding, who has led the Astoria Police Department

as interim chief for the past five months, will come out of retirement to take on the role permanently.

City Manager Brett Estes announced that Spalding, the retired chief of the Beaverton Police Department, has agreed to become the city's next police chief.

"I am honored to be able to continue to work with the

men and women of the Astoria Police Department," Spalding said in a statement. "This is a quality department that is highly regarded by our community."

Spalding, 60, has been the interim police chief since late August, an agreement that was intended to last six to nine months after former police chief and assistant city man-

ager Brad Johnston suddenly announced his retirement.

Estes said he did not bring Spalding on as interim chief with the intent to hire him, but said that after seeing how Spalding has engaged with the community and the police department it seems like a natural fit.

See **SPALDING**, Page 5A



Geoff Spalding is Astoria's new police chief.

Colin Murphey/
The Daily Astorian

Custom cool



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian
Stephan Eiter and Lucy Barna of Astoria Maker Industries work in the Van Dusen Building in downtown Astoria.

Astoria Makers provides glimpse into their space

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

Late last year, Astoria Maker Industries purchased the Van Dusen Building from The Harbor, a regional advocacy group for victims of sexual and domestic violence.

The group held a first event in the building, a concert, over the weekend in a corner suite where local crafters will eventually sell what they create in the nascent makerspace.

See **MAKERS**, Page 7A



Lucy Barna puts a fresh coat of paint on a window sill in the Van Dusen Building in Astoria.

Newenhof praised for a life of purpose

City Lumber co-owner described as kind, quiet and devoted

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

Greg Newenhof, the co-owner of City Lumber who was restoring the landmark Flavel mansion in Astoria, has died. He was 61.

Locals who knew Newenhof described him as a kind, quiet and devoted person always willing to help but never seeking notoriety. His



Greg Newenhof

See **NEWENHOF**, Page 5A

Chamber honors volunteers who make an imprint

A lifetime legacy award goes to Snow

By **EDWARD STRATTON**
The Daily Astorian

Julie Flues of the Columbia River Maritime Museum and Gary Dick of Pacific Power took home the Astoria-Warrenton Area Chamber of Commerce's two citizen of the year honors at the group's 145th-annual banquet Saturday.

Flues, membership and communications manager for the maritime museum, was presented the George Award by Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear. Named after a saying, "Let George do it," the award has gone to more than 130 Astoria-area volunteers since 1960. LaMear lauded Flues' good nature and work in many different aspects of the community.

See **CHAMBER**, Page 7A

Volunteer firefighter stays close to home in Cannon Beach

Avila is also a student

By **BRENNA VISSER**
The Daily Astorian

CANNON BEACH— Firefighters have always had a steady presence in Silvia Avila's life.

Born and raised in Cannon Beach, she would get to know them as they would stop in for coffee at her job at Cheri's Cafe & Cannon Beach Cookie. She even remembers putting on firefighting gear herself as a kindergartner during a school field trip to the fire station.

But perhaps where she



was most intimately familiar was at her aunt's house, when firefighters and paramedics responded when her cousin's seizures would get out of hand.

"I felt very helpless. I wanted to change that feeling, because I wanted to be able to help," Avila, 19, said. "That's where my passion progressed from."

Moments like these inspired her senior Pacifica project at Seaside High School, where

she chose to volunteer at the fire station and enroll in Community Emergency Response Team training.

Even as her project came to a close, her passion for medicine and the desire to help led to her eventually becoming a Cannon Beach volunteer firefighter herself the spring of 2016.

"I guess they just couldn't get rid of me," she laughed.

A year later, Avila now splits her time between volunteer firefighting and studying EMT and paramedic studies at Lane Community College in Eugene with her brother, who also is a volunteer firefighter.



Brenna Visser/The Daily Astorian
Silvia Avila at the Cannon Beach fire station.

See **AVILA**, Page 5A

