

Laundromat fire in Seaside threatens neighboring businesses and homes

No injuries reported

By R.J. MARX
The Daily Astorian

SEASIDE — A fire at the The Laundry Mat Wednesday night led to the evacuation of neighboring buildings on South Roosevelt Drive, including Coast Hardware and Kiosco Mexicano.

Seaside resident Desiree Palmer said she was standing on her back deck at about 8:30 p.m. when she smelled “something like burning firewood.”

“I said to my daughter, is that white smoke coming from the Chevron station? And sure enough, you could see huge billows of smoke,” Palmer said.

A neighboring 26-unit apartment complex was evacuated for more than an hour as firefighters sought to prevent the spread of fire.



R.J. Marx/The Daily Astorian

Firefighters responded to a fire in Seaside Wednesday night. The cause is under investigation.

No injuries were reported. The cause is under investigation.

Mary Freiberger stood among the residents waiting to return to their homes. “We heard a loudspeaker: ‘Residents, you need to evacuate,

the building in front of you is on fire,’” she said.

Cyrus Knox, a Gearhart resident, was driving by when he said he saw smoke billowing from what he thought was an apartment.

He said he saw flames in the rear of The Laundry Mat. He went to check on a friend in Kiosco Mexicano.

“Everybody was all right,” he said. “But they could have lost the whole building. It’s all connected.”

The fire brought a response of between 35 and 40 firefighters and emergency responders, Seaside Public Information Officer Jon Rahl said at the scene, including firefighters from Seaside, Cannon Beach, Gearhart, Hamlet, Lewis and Clark and Warrenton.

Some crews had been conducting weekly drills at the time of the blaze.

County selects firm for housing study

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

A comprehensive study to examine housing needs countywide is moving forward.

A majority of the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners Wednesday night selected the Portland-based firm Johnson Economics/Angelo Planning Group to analyze current and future housing needs as well as recommend how communities might ensure a supply of affordable and workforce housing. Astoria, Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach have contributed money to conduct the study.

The firm projected the study could take around six months to complete. The projected total cost is \$73,967. Each city contributed \$10,000 and the county contributed \$50,000 for the work for a total of \$100,000. The steering committee, made up of representatives from across the county and the cities, agreed to keep the leftover funds in reserve in case

they want to add on to the scope of work later.

“We may not spend the whole \$100,000,” County Manager Cameron Moore said.

A majority of the commissioners approved the contract, but Commissioner Lianne Thompson abstained from voting because she was not guaranteed a seat on a technical advisory committee that will provide feedback and receive updates from the firm throughout the project’s duration.

Other commissioners and Moore said it was early to talk about who would be included on the committee. Moore said the county will want a representative, but he believed it was beneficial to wait and hear from the consultants about what kind of skills and backgrounds should be involved. He said he hoped some of the steering committee members would continue to be involved.

Thompson wouldn’t budge, saying her vote was “contingent” on being included on the future advisory committee.

Astoria man allegedly robs bank Wednesday

The Daily Astorian

An Astoria man allegedly robbed the U.S. Bank in Astoria Wednesday morning.

Craig Francis Haberman, 65, was described by police as a known customer of the Duane Street branch.

Police said he did not use any weapons in the robbery just before 10 a.m. and fled with an undisclosed amount of money.

Haberman was arrested about an hour after the robbery at the Columbia Inn on Marine Drive. The money was recovered.

Haberman is charged with third-degree robbery. He is also facing a federal crime of bank robbery.

“Astoria police would like to commend the staff at U.S. Bank for their quick actions and professionalism in their response to a serious incident,” the police said in a statement.

New Washington state tsunami maps show ‘shocking’ flooding

By TOM BANSE
Northwest News Network

The worst-case scenario for flooding from a tsunami along the Pacific Northwest coast just got even worse.

Washington’s Department of Natural Resources, with help from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, remapped the maximum tsunami threat from Grays Harbor down to the Columbia River mouth.

Chief Hazard Geologist

Corina Forson said updated science about the offshore Cascadia fault zone produces a bigger surge.

“There are places in Ocean City where you have 50 to 60 feet of inundation modeled from this map,” she said. “It is quite shocking. That’s on the outer coast if you’re standing on the shoreline.”

Forson said the biggest difference from previous maps published in 2005 is that the tsunami waves penetrate higher upriver and into creek valleys. As before, all of Ocean Shores, most

of the Long Beach Peninsula and downtown Aberdeen and Hoquiam could be more than 6 feet under water.

Forson’s takeaway is that low-lying coastal areas should be thinking about vertical evacuation structures.

“This is really a tool to push for vertical evacuation structures and informing residents of the hazard where they live,” Forson said Wednesday. “Our next step is working with local emergency managers and planners to update the evacuation routes and edu-

cate the community on where the best place to go to evacuate is.”


Forson said both the earlier and the new tsunami inundation maps assumed a magnitude 9 earthquake, but the newer modeling produced a bigger movement of the seafloor at the Cascadia Subduction Zone, yielding a bigger tsunami. The first waves would arrive at the southwest Washington coast about 15 to 20 minutes after the earthquake.

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT:
DailyAstorian.com

Clatsop Post 12
Good Friday - March 30th
Tuna Fish & Noodle Casserole
\$8.00 • 4pm until gone
Karaoke Dave at 6pm

April 1st
Easter Sunday
Brunch 11am-1pm or until gone
Bingo at 3pm

ASTORIA AMERICAN LEGION
1132 Exchange Street • 325-5771



Leinassar Dental Excellence
Trusted, Caring and Affordable Dental Care


Hear what loyal and new patients alike are saying...

Professional, friendly, put me at ease during a very invasive procedure. Up to date on the latest in technology. I and my family are certainly going back.

I heard Dr. L in the next room with a family, making the children laugh. He was so gentle and kind that the little ones weren't afraid of him or whatever procedure they were having at all.

What a find!

- Anonymous



JEFFERY M. LEINASSAR
DMD, FAGD

503 325-0310 • 1414 Marine Drive, Astoria
www.smileastoria.com



THE BOARDWALK
AT THE SHILO INN SUITES OCEAN FRONT RESORT



EASTER BRUNCH BUFFET

Make your Reservations Today!

WWW.SHILORESTAURANTS.COM
503.738.9571

30 NORTH PROM, SEASIDE, OR 97138



ADULTS 32.95 | SENIORS 28.95
CHILDREN 14.95 | MILITARY 28.95

Sunday, April 1st - Buffet 9am-3pm - Dinner 5pm-close

LIMITED TIME OFFER
DOUBLE YOUR POWER

→ PURCHASE A ←



GENERAC
Automatic Standby Generator and receive a
FREE INVERTER GENERATOR
\$500 VALUE!



Quiet, Compact and Easy to Use

AND THAT'S NOT ALL!
Renaud Electric Power Systems will also include a \$699.99 Generac 7 year Parts & Labor Extended Warranty at no additional cost for a total Value of \$1,199.00!

Renaud Electric POWER SYSTEMS

Contact Renaud Power Systems for complete terms and conditions
www.RenaudElectric.com 360-423-1420