

Premarq Center break-ins similar to Astoria burglaries

The Columbia Press

Four businesses in and around the Premarq Center and two businesses at Warrenton Highlands shopping center were burglarized early Tuesday.

“We are reviewing evidence and any surveillance video that may have been captured,” Police Chief Matt Workman said. “We are not sure if this is related to a series of similar business burglaries in Astoria the morning prior, but the method of entry is the same.”

In all of the burglaries, thieves gained entry by breaking a window or a glass door.

On Monday, thieves focused on Astoria, breaking into three restaurants: Silver Salmon Grille, Wet Dog Café, and Himani Indian Cuisine. Those break-ins were reported about 6 a.m.

“We know the suspect entered the Silver Salmon and Himani Indian Cuisine and we do not believe they gained entry into the Wet Dog Brew-

See ‘Break-ins’ on Page 2

Port puts its hopes in revived boatyard

BY CINDY YINGST

The Columbia Press

The revitalization and marketing of the Port of Astoria’s boatyard could be the next step in the agency’s financial health plan.

Port commissioners on Tuesday unanimously approved applying for a grant from Business Oregon for a boatyard expansion feasibility study. They’re asking for \$45,000 and the port would provide a \$15,000 match.

“We’re going to look at getting a bigger lift, some buildings, more infrastructure out on Pier 3 and to improve the mooring basins to attract more fishing vessels,” said Matt McGrath, the port’s deputy executive director.

The port is looking for ways to bring in more money.

From 2014 to 2019, a log exporting business used most of Pier 3 and brought about \$1.5 million to the port each year, about 17 percent of the port’s revenue. But shifting international trade patterns, a U.S. trade war with China, and op-

erational constraints made logging commerce less feasible at the Port of Astoria.

“The port has since struggled to replace this revenue loss,” port officials wrote in the grant application.

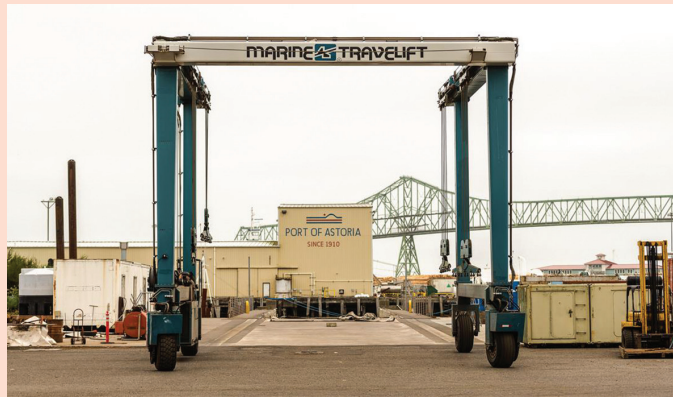
“This is one of those deals where, from a vision per-

Top: The commercial fishing vessel Pacific Gem of Aberdeen, Wash., gets some work done at the Port of Astoria’s boatyard.

Left: The marine hoist in front of one of the port’s buildings.

Photos courtesy Port of Astoria

See ‘Boatyard’ on Page 6



West’s oldest golf course standing proud with Top 100 magazine listing

The Columbia Press

Gearhart Golf Links has been named by Golf Magazine as one of the top 100 value courses in the United State. Those on the list can be played for under \$150.

“This is kind of a big one because, well, there’s lots of lists out there and any are great to be on,” said Jason Bangild, general manager at Gearhart Golf Links. “Lists from Golf Digest and Golf Magazine, they’re the best. This is definitely one

of the better ones.”

Bandon Crossings Golf Course is the only other Oregon park in the rankings. Bandon came in at No. 61; Gerhart ranked No. 98.

Both courses have a distinctly temperate marine climate, but slightly less wind as they aren’t directly on the ocean. The sandy soil also allows for good winter playing conditions, important as most of the coast gets about 60 inches of rain each winter.

Rates are seasonal in Gearhart, ranging from \$60 to \$100.

Links golf is fairly rare in

that most of the action is on the ground instead of in the air, Bangild said. Parkland courses are inland, greener and include lots of trees. Desert courses are similar.

“Links is the oldest and purest – built on sand dunes on the link between ocean and usable land,” Bangild said. “You find them all over Ireland, England and Scotland. ... It’s a firm, fast, rugged landscape. Ruggedness and vastness, when reigned in, are among the most beautiful settings you

See ‘Golf’ on Page 4



Gearhart Golf Links was one of two courses in Oregon to make Golf Magazine’s top sites under \$150 list.