

Pierre Toutain-Dorbec and his wife operate the Cannon Beach Hotel. How he got there, starting from a boyhood in Paris, involves warfare and art. He left France for Vietnam in 1968 as a photojournalist. His intended two months turned into 15 years, then 15 more years in India. At last he decided that he had had enough of photojournalism and returned to France to open a photography gallery.

At an opening, Toutain-Dorbec met Claudia, an American tourist who owned an hotel. One thing led to another and they married and moved to Oregon. "It was no problem,"

Toutain-Dorbec says, "I am used to traveling."

Their future plans include more traveling, and on each trip Toutain-Dorbec will do another photo story. And of course, there's the hotel. Toutain-Dorbec says, "We never know in life. Sometimes there are surprises, and I love Oregon."



County Commissioner Scott Lee has led an active life, sailing, fishing, farming and owning Bikes and Beyond in Astoria. Now there's a "for sale" sign in the window of his shop, a tip-off that he's planning some changes in his life.

"A classic liberal arts education taught me history and how to think and write," Lee says. "That and a loving family are the things that I have carried with me in my life." In 2018, he'll leave office and move on to something new: "It's a big world and life is short."

Lee says he plans to travel with his father, and "maybe get back into farming, or work for a nonprofit. I have a keen interest in peace, justice and environmental issues. With the skills I've learned, I think I'd be a real asset."

His constituents would agree.



Scott Lee

Debbie Twombly began life in the old St. Mary Hospital in Astoria. She grew up in Jewell, with a grammar school graduating class of four, the same four who entered first grade. She went to Portland State, and since then she's taught school for 26 years, read bedtime stories on KMUN for 33 years, and for the last 18 years hosted KMUN's Troll Radio Review.

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Twombly enjoys traveling outside the country, and she sees herself doing more traveling in the future. When she travels she visits and volunteers in schools ("a joyful thing"). She

says, "I like to get to know people and to make myself at home in a place."

Still, Twombly says, "I'm happy where I am. Astoria has always been an amazing place, and I love the way it has evolved."



Debbie Twombly, center, with her family in Jewell.

