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ONE DOLLAR



Photos by Colin Murphey/The Daily Astorian

A participant in the annual FisherPoets Gathering performs at the Liberty Theatre.

## State Senate strips out federal business tax break

Provision was part of Trump tax reform

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Ousley drops out of state House race  
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By **CLAIRE WITHYCOMBE**  
Capital Bureau

SALEM — The state Senate on Friday passed a controversial bill that would prevent certain Oregon business owners from claiming a deduction included in the recent federal tax reform law on their state taxes.

But the bill could face a court challenge if passed by the House because critics contend the Senate origins of the legislation violate the Oregon Constitution.

Oregon's income tax code is largely based on the federal code. Tax deductions created by federal tax law are available on state tax returns unless those provisions are specifically disconnected

from Oregon law. The bill passed by the Senate would disconnect Oregon law from a federal deduction for owners of so-called "pass-through" businesses, whose business income "passes through" to be claimed on their personal income taxes.

Recent federal tax changes signed into law by President Donald Trump allow owners of those businesses — such as limited-liability corporations and S-corporations — to deduct up to 20 percent of their income from their tax return. The bill eliminates that deduction from Oregon income taxes.

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## POETRY ON DECK

**FisherPoets Gathering draws crowds over the weekend**

By **COLIN MURPHEY**  
The Daily Astorian

Several venues for the annual FisherPoets Gathering in Astoria had to turn people away over the weekend as the popular event saw standing-room only crowds. The event has steadily grown to include nearly a dozen locations for special events during the day and poetry readings, spoken word and live music performances in the evening. The event drew nearly a hundred poets, musicians and other performers this year.



LEFT: The FisherPoets Gathering created standing-room only crowds at several venues in Astoria over the weekend. RIGHT: Duncan Berry prepares to make a print using ink and a fish during one of several workshops during the festival. BELOW: The Labor Temple and Cafe was at capacity for Saturday's FisherPoets Gathering performances. See more photos online at DailyAstorian.com



San Diego Fire-Rescue Department

Hilda Lahti Elementary School's miniature fiberglass boat, Boat-A-Lahti, was launched several miles offshore earlier this month by lifeguards with the San Diego Fire-Rescue Department.

## Boat-A-Lahti heads to sea

Cross-cultural exchange with the Japanese

By **EDWARD STRATTON**  
The Daily Astorian

Hilda Lahti Elementary School's student-built sailing vessel Boat-A-Lahti has been launched into the Pacific Ocean. By Friday, the vessel made landfall on the Baja Peninsula.

The miniature fiberglass boat was one of two prepared

by students in Melissa Reid and Misty Lindstrom's third-grade class at the Knappa school in October. Another was sent to Japan late last year to be launched on the other side of the Pacific.

The students, along with several other classes in Oregon, are part of a project through the Columbia River Maritime Museum and Educational Passages, an organization that trades miniature boats around the world to spread knowledge of oceanography, sailing and culture.

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## Astoria Column is latest stop on park host's trail

Pynes has been the park host since May

By **JACK HEFFERNAN**  
The Daily Astorian

Inside a small cottage just a few feet away from the Astoria Column, Fred Pynes keeps a small, bronze sculpture called "End of the Trail." The art depicts a warrior hunched over with a spear loosely coddled in his right arm.

Pynes, 80, became the park host at the Column and moved into the cottage last May. From



just outside their door, Pynes and his wife, Pat, can see sunrises over Saddle Mountain and sunsets under the Astoria Bridge. Though it will likely be his final occupation, he plans to continue the volunteer role until he reaches the end of his own trail.

"It's just breathtaking up here," Pynes said. "I don't get tired of it."

After growing up in Eugene, Pynes played football and base-

ball at Idaho State. He then spent time with the Coast Guard before moving to Lebanon in 1965. For nearly 50 years, he worked as a restaurateur in the Willamette Valley town and volunteered at a local hospital after retirement.

The couple had been hoping to move closer to family members who live on the North Coast. But Pynes needed to find a way to occupy his time before agreeing to the move.

"They'd been trying to get my wife to come here, but they didn't know what to do with me," Pynes joked.

A family member eventually pointed Pynes toward the park host opening.

Job duties include opening bathrooms and walking the perimeter in the morning, making sure the site is adequately staffed and checking upcoming weather patterns and local events to anticipate higher traffic at the Column. In exchange for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the popular tourist site, he and his wife live rent-free at the one-bedroom, fully furnished cottage.

"I couldn't have planned it any better," Pynes said.

Other than the cottage, Pynes does not have much privacy. He has dealt with some people who noisily entered the



Fred Pynes

Fred Pynes and his wife, Pat.

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