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ONE DOLLAR



Photos by Danny Miller/The Daily Astorian

Astoria is concerned about the impact of vacation rentals on housing.

North Coast residents, officials fire back against vacation rental bill

Any home could be a rental

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

Several North Coast residents and public officials have fired back against a state Senate bill that would prohibit local governments from enforcing vacation rental regulations.

Introduced by state Sen. Fred Girod, R-Stayton, Senate Bill 621 would allow any home to become a vacation rental. The bill would still allow cities and counties to require people operating vacation rentals to register with the local government and pay the lodging tax.

In a public hearing on Tuesday in Salem, Girod said he believes the bill would help address a shortage of short-term housing for people in transitional parts of their lives, like a college student who needs a place to stay for a week between semesters or someone waiting to move into a new home.

The bill also aims to help more people use their home as a vacation rental to generate income, Girod said.

Although Girod has a second home in Depoe Bay, he said he doesn't intend to rent it out.

"Any way that an owner can make a few dollars to offset the cost is beneficial," the senator said.



Seaside City Councilor Tom Horning argues for local control over vacation rentals.

But the bill has met with significant opposition, with many on the North Coast writing that they feel the legislation would largely negate the controls cities have developed over the years to balance the vacation rental industry with the needs of full-time residents.

The bill would likely make local regulations like Astoria's homestay lodging policy unenforceable. The policy requires owners to be on-site when they have renters.

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'REASONABLE RESTRICTIONS ON SHORT-TERM RENTALS ARE ESSENTIAL TO PREVENT ASTORIA FROM SUFFERING THE FATE OF OTHER COASTAL COMMUNITIES WHOSE RESIDENTS ARE SLOWLY BUT STEADILY BEING DRIVEN OUT IN FAVOR OF COMMERCIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS.'

Mayor Bruce Jones

Hammond man gets 23 years for rape

Paiz was found guilty last week

By BRENNA VISSER
The Daily Astorian

A Hammond man convicted of rape and other sex crimes was sentenced Thursday to nearly 23 years in prison.

Mark Paiz Jr. faced more than a dozen sex crime charges in connection with raping one woman in 2017 and sexually abusing another woman in 2016, who, due to her mental condition, was not able to consent.

A jury last week found Paiz guilty of one count each of first-degree rape, first-degree sodomy, first-degree sex abuse and first-degree unlawful sexual penetration.

Prosecutors believe Paiz — who said he was 63 during the trial — is 65 years old. All four convictions are Measure 11 crimes that carry mandatory minimum sentences. His sentence likely means he will spend the rest of his life in prison.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Dawn Buzzard, who prosecuted the case, said the victims are left with emotional scars from his actions, but felt having Paiz go to prison for a long time would help.

"She has nightmares all the time about the defendant," Buzzard said, referring to one of the victims. "Her biggest fear is for him to find her again."

Paiz, who represented himself at trial, didn't comment on the sentence.

For one victim, the sentence means her fears can finally be put to rest.

"I'm glad he's doing time for what he did to me," she said after the hearing.

Paiz will be back in court later this month for a hearing concerning two counts of first-degree sex abuse and two counts of first-degree sodomy for allegedly having sex with a 9-year-old between 2013 and 2014.



Mark Paiz Jr.

Spring forward

Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.



AP

Fishery managers look at impacts to orcas

Whales depend on salmon for survival

By KATIE FRANKOWICZ
The Daily Astorian

Amid concerns about the future of endangered killer whales and in the face of a possible lawsuit by conservation groups claiming coastal salmon fisheries impact the orcas' chances at survival, federal fishery managers plan to further analyze the true impact of the fisheries.

What they find could lead to new fishing restrictions on the ocean for runs of salmon that return to critical areas like the Columbia River.

The southern resident killer whale population, which frequents Washington state's Puget Sound, relies



A young resident killer whale chases a Chinook salmon in the Salish Sea near San Juan Island.

Oregon State University

heavily on a diet of Chinook salmon. Over the past decade, the population

has declined from 87 orcas to a historical low of 74.

INSIDE

Scientists discover different kind of killer whale / A7

Future projections under current conditions paint a grim picture of steady decline and the killer whales are believed to be at high risk for extinction.

There are several bills in front of the Washington Legislature dealing with orca protection. Gov. Jay Inslee has said efforts to save the orcas are among his top priorities for the state's two-year budget.

"Everyone across the landscape needs to step up and we need to make sure, from the fisheries

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