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WRANGELL SENTINEL

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End of an era as Randy Oliver returns for one last logging show

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

One of the most highly anticipated events in Wrangell's Fourth of July celebration is the Chuck Oliver Logging Show. The contest harkens back to Wrangell's days as an important part of the timber industry in Southeast Alaska. Formed in 1975 by Chuck Oliver, who was then working with Alaska Lumber & Pulp, the logging show drew people from all over to Wrangell. The contest offered numerous events for participants to show off their skills, according to a 1975 paper in the Wrangell Sentinel's archives. The events included axe throwing, "ma and pa" bucking, axe cutting, speed climbing, log rolling, and several others.

"Back in the late '70s, early '80s it was a three-day event," said Randy Oliver, Chuck's son. "There was like 18 or 19 events that would span over three days. Logging was prevalent back then, there was 23 camps around Wrangell, this being the sawmill and the hub. So for Fourth of July this town would swell to 5,000 people."

While the hey-days of the timber industry in Southeast Alaska are in the past, the logging show has remained an integral part of Wrangell's summer. The Oliver family has participated in the organizing of the competition off-and-on since it was first started, Randy said. However, part of the logging show's tradition will come to a close this year. Chuck



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

A photograph from 2018's Chuck Oliver Logging Show.



David Charles "Chuck" Oliver



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

Al Brock participating in the very first Chuck Oliver Logging Show in 1975. According to a 1975 article in the Wrangell Sentinel, Brock took first place in Power Saw Bucking, Axe Cutting, Under Cutting, and was also named "All-Around Logger."



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

John Ellis taking part in an axe-throwing competition during the original Chuck Oliver Logging Show, back in 1975. According to a 1975 article in the Wrangell Sentinel's archives, Ellis would take first place in the Spring Board portion of the competition while partnering with Chuck Oliver, the competition's founder.

passed away in March, at the age of 90-years-old. Randy said that this, the 45th annual logging show, would be his last.

"We've had a lot of fun, and it's a lot of work, I'll tell you right now it's a lot of work," Randy said. "If I lived here I would continue to do it until I just couldn't do it any more ... But I'm based out of Anchorage, because I moved up there to take care of my mom and dad. My mother's 90, my dad was 90, she just turned 90. So I'm there taking care of them, that's why it's been so difficult."

Randy reiterated how the logging show has been a mainstay of Wrangell's Fourth of July celebration, and it will continue to do so even without his direct in-

volvement. He said that Wrangell resident Tom Roland will be taking over for him as of next year. This year's logging show is meant to be a tribute to Chuck, he said, and it is lining up to be a very good competition. This year will see events like axe chopping, power saw bucking, axe throwing, the rolling pin toss, and much more.

"When this started back in the '70s, it was my dad's vision to teach the youth in the community what logging was like in the old days, so they could see it how it was then and how it is kind of now, and that was part of the reason we married the two together. You got hand pulled crosscut saws and then you have chainsaws, too."

This year's Chuck Oliver Logging Show will begin after the Fourth of July parade, with signups starting at 12:30 p.m. at City Dock. There is an entry fee, and a waiver will have to be signed before participating. There will be plenty of cash prizes and other awards to compete for. Randy added that they would be auctioning off two commemorative prints by Kitty Angerman during the event, to raise money for the chamber of commerce.

"This is more than just me, there's a lot of people who donate things to help us with the show," Randy said. "They donate time, and it's kind of a thankless job, but like I said, it's a mainstay."

Birthdays & Anniversaries

The Sentinel extends its best wishes to the persons listed on the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Community Scholarship Birthday Calendar.

Thursday, June 27: Harry Sundberg, Trey Torvend. **Friday, June 28:** Penny Allen, Allison Rolf, Rip Draper, Ginny Helgeson, Laura Demerjian Meyerhoff, Robbie Rooney, Kendall Kaer, Elaine Torvend, Landen Gillen, David Powell. **Saturday, June 29:** Jim Tuttle, Lucas Shilts, Janice Kalkins, Amber Sumner. *Anniversary:* Scott & Tamara Eastaugh. **Sunday, June 30:** Verda Villarma, Trixie Bennett, Tedi Sims. *Anniversary:* Jim & Penny Early. **Monday, July 1:** Emily Mason, Lauren Helgeson, Susan Neff. **Tuesday, July 2:** Charlie Kirschner, Jaci Maddox. *Anniversary:* Jeff & Dawn Angerman, Curt & Jonna Kautz, Andre & Caity Shafer. **Wednesday, July 3:** Colin Anderson, Lacey Churchill, Christian Kaer. *Anniversary:* Roy & Nancy Guthrie, Roland & Donna Larsen. **Thursday, July 4:** Gail Rilatos, Alesha Cooper, Bill Massin, Alexandra Bennett, Madelyn Davies, Ryan Edgley. *Anniversary:* Floyd & Sue Ramsey.

If you would like to add a birthday or anniversary at no charge please call the Sentinel at 874-2301.

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, June 27

Baked Chicken, Peas, Sunshine Salad, Rice

Friday, June 28

Beef Burritos, Black Beans, Spanish Rice, Fruit Slaw

Monday, July 1

Ham & Bean Soup, Tomato Slices w/ Cottage Cheese, Cornbread

Tuesday, July 2

Tuna & Noodles, Steamed Spinach, Honey Mustard Coleslaw

Wednesday, July 3

French Dip Sandwich, Oven Fried Potatoes, Danish Salad

Thursday, July 4

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAY

Please call Wrangell Senior Center at 874-2066 by 10 a.m. for reservations.

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

FERRY

Departures

Northbound

Saturday, June 29
Malaspina 7:15 a.m.
Sunday, June 30
Columbia 6:15 p.m.
Tuesday, July 2
Malaspina 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, July 6
Malaspina 12:00 p.m.
Sunday, July 7
Columbia 4:45 p.m.

Southbound

Thursday, June 27
Malaspina 10:30 p.m.
Monday, July 1
Malaspina 4:00 a.m.
Wednesday, July 3
Columbia 7:00 a.m.
Thursday, July 4
Malaspina 8:00 p.m.
Monday, July 8
Malaspina 8:15 a.m.

Arrival times may vary. Call 874-2021 for verification or call 874-3711 for recorded information.



TIDES June 27 - July 4

	High Tides		Low Tides		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
June 27	9:34	11.7	9:50	14.8	3:11	3.7	3:03	3.8
June 28	10:35	12.3	10:36	15.6	4:11	2.4	4:01	3.9
June 29	11:29	13.0	11:20	16.4	5:04	1.0	4:55	3.7
June 30	12:19	13.8	5:51	-0.5	5:44	3.5
July 1	0:02	17.2	1:05	14.5	6:34	-1.7	6:30	3.1
July 2	0:45	17.8	1:49	15.1	7:16	-2.7	7:14	2.8
July 3	1:28	18.3	2:33	15.5	7:58	-3.3	7:58	2.6
July 4	2:12	18.4	3:17	15.8	8:40	-3.4	8:44	2.5

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Saturday, June 29

McCloskey Retirement Party: American Legion Hall, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Is the attendance at your meeting or event low?
Send information for Roundup to wrgsent@gmail.com or call 874-2301.

Continuing Events

PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES: Mid-day closure: M-F 1:30-3:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class: M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m.
Water Aerobics: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Lap Swim: M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
TuTh 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sa 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
2 Lane Lap Swim: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Lap/Tot Swim: MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Swim Club: M-F 3:15-5:15 p.m.
Open Swim: M-W 5:30-7:00 p.m. F 6:30-8:00 p.m. S 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Weight Room: M-Thu 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m. F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m. S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

AA Meetings:

North Star Group Meeting, St. Philip's Church. Tuesday: 7 p.m., Thursday: 8 p.m., Friday: 8 p.m.

The Way We Were

In the Sentinel 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago.

June 26, 1919

Post Office Inspector P. L. Neill was aboard the Admiral Evans Monday returning from a tour of inspection as far to the Westward as Kodiak. While the vessel was in port the Sentinel reporter approached Mr. Neill for news. The inspector said: "I am going to recommend a gas boat mail service between Petersburg, Wrangell and Ketchikan to supplement the steamer service. There are several of the larger boats which do not call at Wrangell and Petersburg." Commenting further on local conditions the Inspector stated that the Post Office Department greatly appreciates the efforts of Postmaster Stedman and the cooperation of Steamship Agent Leo McCormack, which enables Wrangell to have a better mail service at present than would be possible if these two gentlemen did no more than is required in order to hold their positions.

Since the Postal Department has been shipping its mail by freight it has been necessary to get the mail into the dock warehouse before 5 o'clock in the afternoon, if a vessel was sailing that night.

June 30, 1944

The 1944 cannery season officially opened in Wrangell yesterday when the Farwest Wrangell cannery started operations as the first fish from the Stikine were brought in.

The river area, which originally was scheduled to open July 1, was opened three days earlier on recommendation of Frank Hynes, a fisheries commissioner for Alaska when he arrived in Wrangell and granted requests of local fishermen. This includes trolling and gill netting.

A crew of about 12 started operations in canning at the Farwest yesterday but it was expected that more would be added if the run warranted it. But, at least, the annual cannery season in Wrangell is open, officially, with steam up in the Far-

west Wrangell boilers.

June 26, 1969

City Health Officer David W. Dale, M.D. and Alaska Division of Public Health Officials reported in a joint statement Tuesday that there have been several cases of hepatitis in Wrangell during the past few months.

"The few number of cases reported cannot be considered an epidemic and there is no reason for anyone to avoid attending community functions and public gatherings," Dr. Dale stated.

However, Dr. Dale and Division of Public Health officials stressed that good personal hygiene decreases the spread of this disease.

Gamma globulin has been given to family contacts of the Hepatitis patients to help protect them from the disease.

The State Division of Public Health Sanitarian stated that city water has been thoroughly disinfected and safe to drink, even though it may be colored.

June 30, 1994

Two Wrangell Pathfinders recently completed what could be the hardest part of earning their cycling honor by peddling bicycles 50 miles back into town from Tom's Creek.

It would have been a challenge on a nice paved highway

but was even more difficult because of terrain and weather. The first 35 miles routed the cyclists over a mountainous, winding, one lane logging road. Two miles were mud and rock under construction and the final 11 miles were asphalt. Thurston drove a crew cab pickup behind the bikers in case of breakdown and the other drivers were spaced ahead and in the middle of the strung-out riders for safety. Several times during the day black clouds gathered and showered the riders with heavy downpours.



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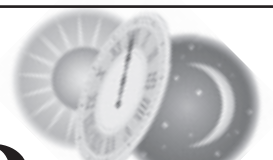
SHOWTIMES:
FRI. JUNE 28 - SUN. JUNE 30
7 PM EACH EVENING

Next weekend: Aladdin



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
June 17	57	51
June 18	54	49
June 19	62	46
June 20	67	49
June 21	63	47
June 22	55	51
June 23	60	51
June 24	62	49



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
June 27	4:03 am	9:38 pm	17:35h
June 28	4:04 am	9:38 pm	17:34h
June 29	4:04 am	9:38 pm	17:34h
June 30	4:05 am	9:37 pm	17:32h
July 01	4:06 am	9:37 pm	17:31h
July 02	4:07 am	9:36 pm	17:29h
July 03	4:07 am	9:36 pm	17:29h
July 04	4:08 am	9:35 pm	17:27h

Borough recognizes Chief McCloskey, discusses water situation

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Wrangell Police Chief Dough McCloskey was honored by the borough assembly last Tuesday night, in recognition of his upcoming retirement. McCloskey came to Wrangell in 1992, after a career as a police officer and as a Merchant Marine with the Coast Guard. He joined the local police department in 1992 as a police officer, and was appointed chief of police in 2003. He has served as chief since then, for the past 16 years. As he has announced his intention to retire, the assembly made a proclamation to recognize him for all his hard work, and for the time he has volunteered around the community.

"I'd like to also add that Doug is responsible, people may not remember this, but Doug was responsible for bringing to our community the police boat, the vehicles, literally hundreds of thousands of dollars of grants," Mayor Steve Prysunka said. "We appreciate everything he's done."

After recognizing McCloskey, the assembly got involved in a discussion about the city's water situation. Lisa Von Barga provided the assembly a summary of events from the SEAPA meetings that took place in Wrangell last week. In short: A reimbursement package was approved for Wrangell and Petersburg, the wholesale power rate was set at 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour, and no future power

sales to Ketchikan are anticipated this year. Locally, Von Barga said that Wrangell's water reservoirs are currently well supplied. However, she said that the forecast is calling for several days of hot, sunny weather. This hot weather is also coming in the middle of crab season, and the city's seafood processors are requiring large amounts of water for their businesses. She encouraged everyone to be water-wise and try to conserve wherever possible for the near future.

Prysunka asked about the city's water treatment plant, and its efficiency levels. He said that the treatment process requires 175 gallons of water to produce about 306 gallons of water for public use. He wanted to know if that was a common rate, and if there was anything that could be done to increase efficiency. Rolland Howell, public works director, said that it was not very likely. "We've pretty much done as

much efficiency upgrades as we can, we just waste a lot of water, it's just a bad design," he said. "I think on a normal day we waste 200,000 gallons to make town consumption ... We can tinker around with stuff, but I don't think anything significant."

Assembly member Jim DeBord asked if there had been any headway on gaining grant funding for a new treatment plant, something that Wrangell has been working on for quite some time now. Prysunka said that even if grant money was approved immediately by the federal government, it would still be several years before a new plant was operational. In his opinion, focusing on making the current plant as effi-

cient as possible was a high priority. Lisa Von Barga added, at the end of this discussion, that a town hall meeting to discuss Wrangell's water situation would be rescheduled in the near future.

Other items covered in the meeting include approval of a contract with Meridian Systems for temperature control upgrades in the Nolan Center for \$32,523, approval of an insurance policy renewal with APEI in the amount of \$300,517.86, and approval of a contractor with SECON for water main improvements along Bennett Street in the amount of \$97,243, plus an additional 10 percent contingency fee that was added in an amendment to the motion.

Police report

June 17, 2019

86'd letter service.
Two traffic stops: Verbal warning for expired registration.
Citizen report DUI.
Citation issued to Randall Fordyce, 23. Expired registration and no proof of insurance.
Report of trespass.
Suspicious circumstance.

June 18, 2019

Citation issued to Charles Goldsbury, 61. Failure to provide proof of insurance and expired registration.

June 19, 2019

Dylan Franks: Violation of conditions of release.
Civil matter.

June 20, 2019

Two agency assist: Alarm.
Parking complaint.
Traffic complaint.
Suspicious circumstance.
Disorderly conduct.

June 21, 2019

Disabled vehicle.
Motor vehicle accident: Deer.
Animal: Dead raven.
Random breath test.
Violating conditions of release.
Summons service.

June 22, 2019

Two citizen assist: Unlock vehicle.
Report of harassment.
Citizen assist: No water.
Traffic stop: Citation issued to Chelsea Pollow, 35. Expired registration.
Subpoena service.


June 23, 2019

Citizen assist: Unlock door.
Child in need: Child was not in any immediate danger.
Missing person: Child walked to friends residence without permission.
Agency assist: Line crew.
Noise complaint.

There were no ambulance calls and one dog complaint this week.

**TIN CAN COUNTRY:
SOUTHEAST ALASKA'S
SALMON CANNERIES**

NEW BOOK with lots of information about Wrangell!!!
by Pat Roppel & Karen Hofstad.
Karen will be in Wrangell on July 3rd
so swing by for "Meet And Greet" and autograph signing downtown at the Wrangell Museum booth.



For more information and/or questions?
Call Karen 907-518-1400 or the Wrangell Museum at 907-874-3770.

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Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) Training Program

Spots are Available at SEARHC Wrangell Medical Center

Apply to Wrangell Medical Center's CNA training program today!
Orientation and training begins July 15 for qualified applicants.


If you would like to contribute to the greater health of our community and get paid while receiving certified nursing assistant training, we want to hear from you.

Apply online at searhc.org/careers or visit the Wrangell Medical Center and ask for Tammy White at the front desk.

Questions? Contact 907.874.7101



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Reflections

As we look forward to our family and community celebration of the 4th of July, Independence Day, it seems appropriate to reflect on the strength of the people that gave us the opportunities that America offers, the signers of the Declaration of In-

dependence. Can you imagine being one of 56 individuals to sign a document that would be your death sentence if your fellow countrymen didn't stand behind you and endanger their lives in a war against the mighty British empire? Upon where did

they draw that strength to be so vulnerable?

It is interesting to note that half of the Declaration's signers had training in colonial colleges containing heavy doses of theological and moral content. The primary goal of almost all colonial colleges was the training of ministers. Graduates went on to other professions such as law, medicine or Christian ministry. So, it is no wonder that these men often spoke and wrote of God, the Creator and the Divine in supporting their cause and each other. In a speech during a contentious moment at the Constitutional Convention, Benjamin Franklin, an essentially self-educated man, included the plea, "And have we not forgotten the powerful friend? Or do we imagine that we no longer need His assistance? I have lived, Sir, a long time and the longer I live, the more convincing proofs I see of this truth — that God governs in the affairs of men." The closing paragraph of the Declaration of Independence states, "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance of the protec-

tion of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor."

If you were faced with a difficult situation that would place you in a potential position of being criticized, ostracized or the extreme of being hung, as in the case of our founding fathers, as you acted to resolve it, where would your inner strength to act come from? Our founding fathers were regular people, with all-too-human quirks, personal-

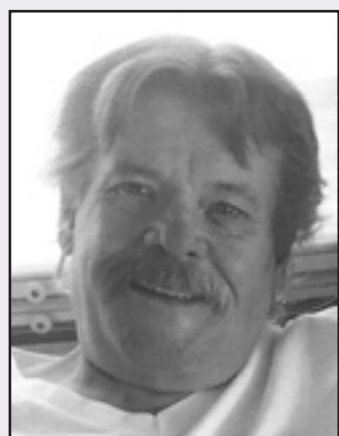
ity flaws, and family issues. In spite of their 'humanness,' they passed on an amazing nation of opportunity to us. But just as importantly, their example showed us that developing and helping our children develop strong cultural and spiritual values can give us the inner strength to be formidable, resilient individuals, leaders and community/nation builders.

**Joan Sargent,
Island of Faith Lutheran
Church**

Obituary: Jack Lee Fain, 61

Jack Lee Fain, 61, died on June 10, 2019 at Wrangell Hospital with his wife standing by him.

He was born on July 8, 1957 in Crescent City, California to Clara and Jack Fain. He had one brother, Tom, and a sister, Karen.



Jack Lee Fain

He also had seven children he raised by himself.

He loved working with cars; tearing them apart and putting them back together, like a big puzzle. Jack also loved gardening and trout fishing. When he was a teenager, he was a Golden Glove boxer.

His parents and a sister preceded him in death.

He is survived by his brother, Tom, tons of kids, grandkids, nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, and uncles.

Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

Hello people of Wrangell; this is the latest update on my lawsuit against the hiring managers and some members of the city council. This week I have been inundated with several bundles of filed information from their lawyer in Anchorage. These I have filed answers to, however the city of Wrangell has insisted upon joining the defendants. So it is my question to we the people, the taxpayers of Wrangell, is this wise? The best use of our tax dollars. They bought a boatlift from the EU ignoring a competitive bid from an American company, and then spent more on the ground controls at the last minute. Now they have spent \$300k on 2 used electric generators from North Pole instead of buying them from the US government or Army Corp of Engineers surplus for a fraction of the cost. What is a few thousand dollars sits not like they are spending their money.

Kipha Valvoda

To the Editor:

There are many things here in Wrangell we have to be thankful for and one of them is how we as a community take care of our Elders. As a retirement community for many longtime residents, we have Senior Housing, two grocery

stores that deliver groceries, and the hospital that provides long term care. Also, we have a great place for seniors to socialize and have lunch or have meals delivered if they are disabled. In addition, we have David in the Senior Van, picking up the disabled, going to the hospital for physical therapy for those in recovery from injuries or surgery. He is cheerful and a safe driver dedicated to making people laugh and smile.

I needed a ride and called the Senior Center. David was here promptly and due to so many pick-ups, I rode with him and realized what a valuable service he provides to our small community. However, last week, I was coming out of the Wrangell Public Library and there was the senior van with a police car lights flashing. I was stunned knowing what a considerate and safe driver David is. After hobbling out on my crutch, I sat down and heard the police officer give David a warning regarding registration. Everyone on the bus wondered why the fanfare when the busses are parked at the Public Safety Building and a note or friendly conversation would suffice.

We respect our Elders, which is the culture of Wrangell and we need to ask ourselves what

has happened to protect and serve.

Loretto Jones

Early Deadline for 4th of July Week



We will distribute the Sentinel on **Wednesday, July 3rd**

Deadline for all ads and letters to the Editor **Friday, June 28th**

WRANGELL SENTINEL

P.O. Box 798, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, 205 Front Street
(907) 874-2301, Email: wrgsent@gmail.com
Website: www.wrangellsentinel.com

Hometown Healthy Visiting Clinic Schedule

In addition to our outstanding local specialty Orthopedics, General Surgery, and Obstetrics & Gynecology teams, PeaceHealth is pleased to host specialty clinics in Ketchikan for your convenience. Get your expert specialty care close to home, call for your appointment today.

July 8-12	G.I. Clinic - Dr. Woods	907-228-8101
July 9-10	Oncology - Dr. Raish	907-228-8101
July 15-16	Cardiology Clinic - Dr. Beglin	888-739-2700
July 15-19	Urology Clinic - Dr. Schoenrock	907-225-7346
July 15-18	Pulmonology Clinic - Dr. Thorson	907-228-7649
July 22-26	Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic - Dr. Christensen	907-228-8101
Aug 1-2	Cardiology Clinic - Dr. Beglin	888-739-2700
Aug 6-8	Oncology - Dr. Raish	907-228-8101

PeaceHealth Medical Group

peacehealth.org/visitingcalendar

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Dan's Dispatch

By Representative
Dan Ortiz

The Alaska State Legislature adjourned last week, but before adjourning, the most significant accomplishment was the agreement to transfer \$10.5 billion from the Earnings Reserve Account (ERA) to the Corpus of the Permanent Fund. For the majority of legislators, including Senator Stedman and myself, it is a top priority to protect and enhance opportunities for the Permanent Fund to grow so that there will continue to be PFDs for Alaskans well into the future.

The Permanent Fund is comprised of the Corpus (also known as the Principal) and the ERA. The Corpus is non-spendable principal portion of the Permanent Fund; it can only be used for income-producing investments. The ERA is spendable, meaning it is available for appropriations as determined by the Legislature.

As of April 30th, the total value the Permanent Fund was 65.3 billion, with \$19 billion in the ERA and \$46.3 billion in the Corpus. The transfer of \$10.5 billion from the ERA to the "permanent" portion of the fund will make it more likely that the Fund's total value may reach \$100 billion within the next 15 years. There will be a 5.25% draw on the total value of the Permanent Fund itself (based on statute SB26) to pay for the distribution of the PFD and pay for a portion of state services, which will bring the ERA value to approximately \$16 billion, not including the agreed upon transfer.

In order to preserve the long-term value of the Permanent Fund, the non-



Dan Ortiz

partisan Legislative Finance Division and the Permanent Fund Corporation both recommend that the ERA draw is not larger than the 5.25% called for in statute. Larger unplanned draws would force the Permanent Fund Corporation to change the investment strategies for a significant portion of the fund away from long term high yield investments to short term cash flow-based investments. That would mean less growth potential for the fund itself.

The Governor, the Republican Minority in the House, and 10 of the 20 current Senate body want to draw an additional \$1.2 billion from the

ERA in order to pay for a 'full' PFD. A draw on the Permanent Fund of this magnitude would mean the fund would lose the potential of earning \$80 million dollars in one year of investment returns alone. A drop in the value of potential PFD's for future generations would be just one of the opportunity costs of receiving a 'full' PFD this year.

The desire to have an adequately funded budget and to preserve the long-term value of the Permanent Fund itself versus the immediate gratification of receiving a 'full' PFD this year is the only issue that is currently dividing the Legislature and is the reason for the second Special Session called for by the Governor. It will begin on July 8th. I would love to hear your viewpoints on this issue prior to the start of the session. Please email me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@AKLeg.gov or call at 907-247-4672 or 907-617-5116.

SEAPA board approves payment to Wrangell and Petersburg, sets wholesale power rates

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Southeast Alaska Power Agency held a two-day meeting in Wrangell last week, on June 19 and 20. The SEAPA board of directors consists of five voting community members and their alternates from Wrangell, Pe-

tersburg, and Ketchikan, which are the three communities the power agency supplies. During last week's meetings, the board agreed to pay the two cities of Wrangell and Petersburg almost \$850,000 in a reimbursement package.

The reimbursement plan was

to pay back the two cities for switching to diesel power back in February and March. SEAPA typically draws hydropower from Tyee Lake and supplies the power generated to Wrangell and Petersburg. However, due to drought conditions the water levels in Tyee Lake

dropped almost to their draft limit. On top of that SEAPA had also agreed to sell Tyee hydropower to Ketchikan, which was also facing hydropower shortages of their own from Swan Lake. With Tyee Lake at its draft limit, Wrangell and Petersburg went on diesel power for a while to conserve what water was left in the lake. SEAPA was originally scheduled to reimburse the two communities back in April, but the decision was postponed. Trey Acteson, CEO of SEAPA, said in a previous interview with the Wrangell Sentinel that they wanted the decision reviewed by auditors before the reimbursement was formally approved.

Despite the delay, the plan finally received final approval in last week's meetings. Lisa Von Barga, Wrangell's borough manager and alternate SEAPA board member, said that the total payment comes out to \$841,785.38, which will be divided between the two cities. This will help cover the cost of fuel, running the generators, and base overtime wages for the diesel run.

Von Barga added that during the meetings, the board looked at current lake levels and the weather forecast for the near future. Based on the information they have, she said that they do not anticipate any power sales south to Ketchikan this year. Power will still be moved back and forth between Tyee and Swan Lake in a "net

zero situation," she said, but that they are not planning to sell any excess power this year.

"When it makes sense to send power south, in order to help the efficiency of the system, that will be done, but an equivalent amount of power will be sent north back to Wrangell and Petersburg out of Swan in order to make up for that," she said.

The SEAPA board also set the agency's wholesale power rate for the next six months, July to December, at 6.8 cents per kilowatt hour. That is the price at which SEAPA sells power to its three cities. Von Barga pointed out that this is the same rate as in the past. SEAPA has not had a rate increase in quite a while, she said.

"It's been more than 20 years since SEAPA has had a rate increase," she said. "So you can imagine how unbelievable it is that an organization based on just annual inflation every year has been able to maintain its wholesale power rate for that amount of time. So that's very exciting."

Other items covered in last week's meetings include approval of a six-month budget for the remainder of the year, approval of a contract for a gangway and pier replacement at Swan Lake with Western Dock & Bridge LLC, continuation of a hydro-site analysis investigation with McMillen LLC, and approval of a contract with Electric Power Constructors Inc. for marker ball replacement.



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2019 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION - SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - "BACK TO OUR ROOTS"

Thursday, June 27th

5TH ANNUAL RED WHITE & BLUE FAIR

NOLAN CENTER CLASSROOM
 Drop off exhibits - June 27th
 Judging - June 28th
 Viewing - Saturday June 29th - July 3rd
 Pick-up exhibits - July 5th
 Chairperson: Wrangell Art Gallery

Saturday, June 29th

COMMUNITY MARKET

10:00 AM - 1:00 PM - Nolan Center

COLOR RUN

10:00 AM - CITY PARK
 10:00 am - Registration
 10:30 am - Start time
 Wear a white t-shirt and old clothing maybe even goggles! The color powder will be thrown and it's non-toxic.
 Chairperson: Jodie Howell
 Sponsored by: WMC Long Term Care

STIKINE STITCHERS

15TH ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY QUILT SHOW

QUILTS ON DISPLAY IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA FROM JUNE 28TH - JULY 9TH.
 Chairperson: Joan Benjamin

Sunday, June 30th

CRAZY CRAFT RACE

1:00 pm - City Dock/Summer Float
 Anything that floats except a boat!
 Must be on or in your flotation device!
 All participants must wear a life jacket.
 Chairperson: John Waddington

TONGASS TOUGHMAN TRIATHLON

6:00 am - 6:00 pm
 Beginning & Ending at the pool
 Chairperson: Nic Howell

Monday, July 1st

LOGGING SHOW SET-UP

10am - 3pm
 Please leave City Dock turnaround open and clear while the logging show is being set-up.
 Randy Oliver & Crew

WELCOME HOME PICNIC

6:30 - 9:00 pm - Shoemaker Park
 Potluck.
 Everyone welcome!
 Pudding Pie Eating Contest - cash prizes!
 Sponsored by: Wrangell IGA & Wells Fargo

Tuesday, July 2nd

Art Clark Scrap Fish Derby

11:00 am - Start time, City Dock/Summer Float
 Two Age Categories: 6-9 and 10-13
 Rules: No parents allowed on floats unless they are one of the volunteers. All children wear a life jacket at all times. Hand lines only. No rods or reels.

One hook per line, one line per person. Contestants must bait their own hook. Any kind of bait can be used. Bait will be supplied for children who do not have their own. Derby officials will decide any questions not covered by the rules and their decision will be final.
 Chairperson: Darian Gerald

TINY TOTS SCRAP FISH DERBY

1:30 pm, City Dock/Summer Float
 Ages 0-6 years. Safety Rules: All children must be accompanied by at least one adult. MUST WEAR A LIFE JACKET AT ALL TIMES. Hand lines only; bring your own bait (some bait, life jackets, and handlines may be provided bring your own if possible). PRIZES FOR ALL CHILDREN!
 Chairperson: Tessa Appleman

KSTK's 2ND ANNUAL OYSTER BAR

Noon - Until Sold out - The Pit Stop
 Raw or cooked or BBQ Pork Sandwiches.

AK AIR TICKETS DRAWING

2:00 pm - City Dock Turnaround
 Alaska Airlines Ticket Drawing
 Chairperson: ANSA

CANOE RACING

2:30 pm - City Dock/Summer Float
 All participants must wear PFD's. Prizes awarded for the male, female, and coed team of each. Many Race Categories
 Sponsored by:
 John Martin and Alaska Crossings

GREASED POLE

4:00 pm - City Dock/Summer Float
 Ages 10+ Waiver of responsibility must be signed by the responsible adult and a life jacket worn at all times. \$5.00 per try, PRIZE: One hundred dollar bill at the top of the pole... If you make it before you drop! Chaired by: Toni Marie Oliver

LIVE MUSIC

9:00 pm, Rayme's Bar, Trego

Wednesday, July 3rd

3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

9:00 am - 3:00 pm
 Kyle Angerman Playground
 Age: Middle School, High School and Adult
 Fee: \$10.00 CASH
 Registration and Payment:
 Pay and Register on the day of event!!
 Single elimination, winner takes all!
 Chairperson: Kaelene Harrison & AAU girls

TARGET COMPETITION

8:00 am - Noon at the Shooting Range
 Scores posted at Noon, prizes distributed after. Firearms and ammo provided. No personal firearms. Adults must accompany all minor participants. Eye and ear protection required for spectators and participants. No drugs or alcohol.
 Cash prizes! Cell# 626-428-0931
 Chairperson: Allen Rooney

BIG WHEEL RACES

1:00 pm - Covered Area
 Children ages 3+ can bring their own Big Wheels (some will be provided). Children and adults race against contestants of the same age and gender.- Cash prizes.
 Chairperson: Tawney & Isabella Crowley

TALENT SHOW

6:00 pm - Nolan Center
 Chaired by: Bonnie Ritchie & Abigail Bylow

CORONATION

7:30 pm - Nolan Center
 "Crowning of the 2018 Royal Court"
 Abby Gerald
 Royalty Chairperson: Jessica Whitaker

LIVE BAND, RAYME'S BEER GARDEN, FOOD & GAMES!

8:00 pm - Covered Basketball Court/ Track THE BAND TREGO
 Free bus rides from downtown pavilion to ballfield departing at 10pm. Rides back downtown immediately following fireworks. Buses will be parked by elementary school and leave 15 minutes after fireworks have ended.
 Thank you Alaska Vistas & Breakaway Adventures!
 Tipping Encouraged

FIREWORKS

Dusk (usually around 11 pm)
 Fireworks will be shot from the baseball field, a couple of fireworks will be shot to signal that the main display will begin approximately 10 minutes later.
 Presented by: Wrangell Volunteer Fire Department

Thursday, July 4th

INDEPENDENCE DAY FUN RUN/WALK/BIKE

7:00 am - Register at the pool
 7:30 am - Race begins at the crosswalk in front of the swimming pool and then proceeds to the ferry terminal, around the airport loop, back to Church Street, and onto the finish line at the crosswalk in front of the pool. (Distance: 5k) No entry fee. Anything goes. For more information call 874-2444
 Sponsored by: Wrangell Parks & Recreation
 www.wrangellrec.com

INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMUNITY

WORSHIP SERVICE
 9:00 am Wrangell IGA parking lot
 Pastors from churches in Wrangell are excited to start our celebration with a worship service.
 Chairpersons: Wrangell Ministerial Association

PARADE

11:00 am - Front Street
 Theme: "Back to Our Roots"
 2019 Grand Marshal: Citizen of the Year, Loretta Rice
 Floats gather on Campbell Drive at 9:30 am with the judging at 10:00 am (entrants after 10am will not be judged, but may participate).

Floats:
 Businesses/Organizations, Families, Churches.
 Other categories:
 Adult Costumes, Children Costumes, Bike/Big Wheel/Wagons, Wheeled Units, Marching Units, Horses and Pets (must be on a leash).
 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prizes for each category. Order of parade determined by chairperson.
 Chairperson: Aleisha Mollen

ROYALTY TICKET PULL

After parade In front of Nolan Center
 Winning tickets drawn for cash prizes:
 1st - \$4000, 2nd - \$3000, 3rd - \$2000, 4th - \$1000

PIE SALE

Starting in the morning... until pies are gone!
 Covered Area by Arctic Chiropractic office.
 Beta Sigma Phi & WMC Foundation

TODDLER GAMES

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm City Hall Lawn
 Candy Races: ages 0 to 4
 Ball Races: ages crawling to 4
 Running Races: 2 to 4 (time permitting) Prizes in each age group and category.
 Chairpersons: Barb & Jenny Neyman

JUNIOR OLYMPICS

12:30 pm - Lynch Street
 Ages : 4-8 years old - cash prizes!
 Water balloon toss, Tug-o-war, 50 yard dash
 Chaired by: White Enterprises

STREET GAMES

2:00 - 3:30 - Main Street
 Running Races: 50yd, 100yd, and 150yd dash; 3- legged races and Gunny Sack races.
 All games will be played in age groups from 5 to senior citizens and announced by the chairperson. Parents are asked to stay with small children during events.
 Cash prizes for each category.
 Chairpersons: Darian Gerald, Meissner & Ottesen families

EGG TOSS

4:30 pm
 Chairpersons: Darian Gerald, Meissner & Ottesen families

GAME BOOTHS AND FOOD VENDORS

Downtown Pavilion and throughout downtown. Enjoy!

ELKS LODGE EVENTS & BEER GARDEN

Friday, June 28, 6-9p:
 Welcome Home Luau Dinner
 Saturday, June 29, 6:30 - 8:30p:
 Regular steak night (reservations recommended)
 Turkey Shoot & Raffles.
 Sunday, June 30: Volunteer Set up Beer Garden/
 Cleanup day. Club closed
 Monday, July 1st, 3:00 p:
 Club opens, Free Family Bowling
 Tuesday, July 2nd, 3:00 p: Club opens,
 5:30 p: Benefit taco feed/ silent auction for Matthew Gillen & family
 Wednesday, July 3rd, 1:00 p: Club/Beer Garden.
 6:00 p: Vern's famous pig roast dinner.

4:00 - 8:00 p (register by 3:45pm)
 Horseshoe tournament
Thursday, July 4, 10:00 a:
 Club opens, Bacon Bloody Mary's & Mimosas.
 1:00 p: Beer garden opens.
 4:00 - 8:00p: NewYork Steaks. Pulltabs all day
Friday, July 5, 6:00-8:00 p: Regular burger night
Saturday, July 6, 6:30 p-8:30 p: Regular steak night

CHUCK OLIVER LOGGING SHOW

12:30 pm-Sign up:1:00 pm-Begin show, City Dock,
 Ages 18+, Entry fee is \$30.00 total for all events. A waiver of responsibility must be signed before participating. Prizes: 1st - \$75, 2nd - \$50, 3rd - \$25 per event. Events: Power Bucking, Axe Chopping, Hand Buck Single Jack, Choker Setting, Hand Buck, Idaho Style, Women's Rolling Pin Toss, Axe Throw (the target: a \$100.00 bill, donated by AK Vistas & Extended Stay).
 "All Around Logger" plaque and a \$500 cash prize will go to the contestant compiling the most points.
 "Bull of the Woods" plaque is to be awarded to the best sportsman of the show and MS170 Stihl chain saw.
 Chairperson: Randy Oliver, Co Chair: Thomas Rolland

BOAT RACES

4:30 pm - City Dock
 Categories: Limited, Unlimited, Jet Boat Slalom, & Rooster Tail. Register at City Dock between 2:30- 3:30 pm.
 CASH PRIZES
 Must be 18 or older & have all required equipment
 Must register. Information and rules:
 www.wrangellchamber.org/2019-boat-races.html
 ZERO tolerance for drugs and alcohol.
 Chaired by: Stikine River Racing

SONNY WIGG LOG ROLLING

Immediately following the Boat Races
Approx. 6:30 pm City Dock/Summer Float
 Ages 18+ Men and Women classes
 Entry fee: \$20
 PRIZES: 1st \$100, 2nd \$75, 3rd \$50 - each class.
 Top Eliminator: \$100 (between 1st place man & woman) Single elimination.
 Bring your own boots if possible, some may be available. A waiver of responsibility must be signed before any contestant may participate.
 The decision of the chairman will be final!
 NO ALCOHOL on the floats!
 Chairperson: Aleisha Mollen



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Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH *Fisheries columnist*

A new Alaska law has turned thousands of Alaskan fishing vessels into lawbreakers

A well-intended new Alaska law has gone awry from a botched roll out that has turned thousands of Alaskan fishing vessel, tender, barge and sport fish operators into lawbreakers.

Since the start of 2019, all vessels over 24 feet are required to be registered with the State at a Department of Motor Vehicles office. Previously, vessels that were documented with the US Coast Guard were not also required to register with the state. The registration costs \$24 and is good for three years.

"You need to get down to the DMV whether you're documented or not," explained Frances Leach, executive director of United Fishermen of Alaska. "If you're documented you have to register, and if you're not documented, you have to register and get a title."

The new rule stems from Senate Bill 92, the Derelict Vessels Act introduced last year by Senator Peter Micciche (R-Soldotna) and passed by the legislature. It is intended to help harbor masters and others track down owners of abandoned vessels.

But virtually no mariners know about the new registration requirement.

"We found out about it from a DMV personnel in Haines who told one of our gillnetters and he told me, and we both called the troopers and they didn't know anything about it," said fisherman Max Worhatch of Petersburg. "Later they got back to us and said it was indeed the law."

Worhatch, who is executive director of United Southeast Alaska Gillnetters, said he's directed queries to the Departments of Administration and Public Safety.

"Why weren't we notified?" he asked. "Nobody found out about this and nobody would've found out about this if we hadn't alerted people. There was no public notice, nothing."

The new law states that a derelict vessel prevention program shall, to the extent that general funds are available, establish education and community outreach programs. But the only outreach is coming from fishermen's groups, said UFA's Leach in a June 18 letter to Dept. of Administration Commissioner Tshibaka.

"Since becoming aware of this new law in late May, UFA has been working with the Department of Motor Vehicles and State Wildlife Troopers to understand how they intend to implement the requirements of the law," the letter says. "We have notified thousands of fishermen of the law's requirements through emails and social media posts. As far as we can tell, the commercial fishing industry, spearheaded by UFA,

is the only sector actively working to inform commercial fishermen of the new requirements, even though this affects thousands of non-commercial fishing boat owners around the state. Who is informing them?"

It adds, "As fishermen attempt to comply with the law's requirements they are discovering that many DMV offices are not ready to deal with the onslaught of this new bill."

Leach and Worhatch also point out that requiring vessel registration at a DMV adds an unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and is "reinventing the wheel."

"All the information on the DMV registration is available on a public database website at the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission website. Everything," said Worhatch.

UFA, which represents 36 fishing groups, requests a one year delay of the law "until all state agencies are better prepared and trained and adequate public notice and education are given prior to it going into effect."

That has the support of Representative Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins (D-Sitka).

"Running the DMV gauntlet is the last thing fishermen need to be thinking about as salmon season heats up," he said by email.

Kreiss-Tomkins voted against the new law, saying he was concerned that the bill, albeit well intentioned and addressing all too real a problem, would create more paperwork than it would solutions. "The fear about paperwork headaches is proving all too real," he said, adding that it "makes heaps of sense" for the existing CFEC database to do "double duty" and relieve the DMV of those headaches.

"If sound legislation will be forthcoming to this end, I'll certainly support it," he said.

As to the botched rollout, Kreiss-Tomkins said: "There seems to be critical mass concern. Everyone — the fishermen, the agencies — is climbing a learning curve, so to some extent it's understandable. I just hope that this recent attention can help everyone get on the same sheet of music."

Naknek does nets - Fishing net recycling is expanding to Naknek. Nicole Baker, founder and operator of Net Your Problem, plans to meet with net menders, processors, gear sellers and landfill managers in early July to begin formulating a program.

"These are people who have reached out to me or I have been communicating with over the last year or so," she said, adding that the recycling start up is set for next summer.

Baker, who is in Dillingham

for three weeks taking a class at the University of Washington salmon research camp, also has met with the local Curyung Tribe which has managed a net recycle program at the Dillingham Harbor since 2008.

Since 2017, Net Your Problem has shipped over half a million pounds of plastic fishing nets from Dutch Harbor and Kodiak for renewed life in Europe.

"They grind them up, melt them down and turn them into plastic pellets that they then resell to buyers of recycled plastics who turn them into water bottles, phone cases or whatever they choose," she said.

Other updates: nets are still being taken in at Dutch Harbor and Kodiak has a net drop off deadline this summer of September 1 due to shipping logistics. Petersburg will soon be sending out a container of nets collected by the Petersburg Indian Association.

The Haines Friends of Recycling has collected seven nets so far and more are being dropped off at the Net Loft. Juneau will be sending out a container of nets at the end of summer collected by the Recycle Works Group.

Fishing changes - Fishermen are closest to the changes brought by a warming climate and talking about it is a first

step in finding solutions. That's the thought behind The Nature Conservancy's second collection of audio stories in its Tidal Change series.

"If we are not talking about the problems or the challenges ahead, we're not going to start tackling them. This is a chance to generate conversation," said spokesman Dustin Solberg of Cordova.

The stories reveal a swirl of emotions. Here's a sampler:

"The environment is changing, undoubtedly. When I first fished there was a lot of ice and now most of the glaciers are receding," said Leonard Leach of Ketchikan who has been fishing since 1961.

"If this whole warming trend keeps happening my understanding is that jellyfish will really come back and that would be a detriment to our gillnetting and seining."

"The water's warmer and the fish get confused and they don't know when they're supposed to run," said Lia Cook, who fishes with her family at Bristol Bay. "It really affects the peak and the amount of fish that comes through because there is confusion in the school of when are we supposed to go and spawn and do all these things,"

Lauri Rootvik of Dillingham also spoke to the odd run timing at Bristol Bay.

"When I was a child it was the 4th of July run and it was

pretty predictable. It's not predictable anymore and it hasn't been for quite a few years," she said.

"Warm water produces more harmful algae blooms. It's not something that's coming, it's something that we are experiencing," said Bob Eder, a 45 year veteran of Dungeness crab fishing in Oregon. "In our industry there are people of all different political leanings but I don't know any fishermen who don't recognize climate change and the challenges coming."

Katrina Leary grew up at a fishing camp along the Kuskokwim River and called it "magical."

"It's really emotional when you realize your livelihood is being threatened and your kids might not be able to do this. Fishing really is our life. I couldn't imagine a summer without fishing and I hope I never have to."

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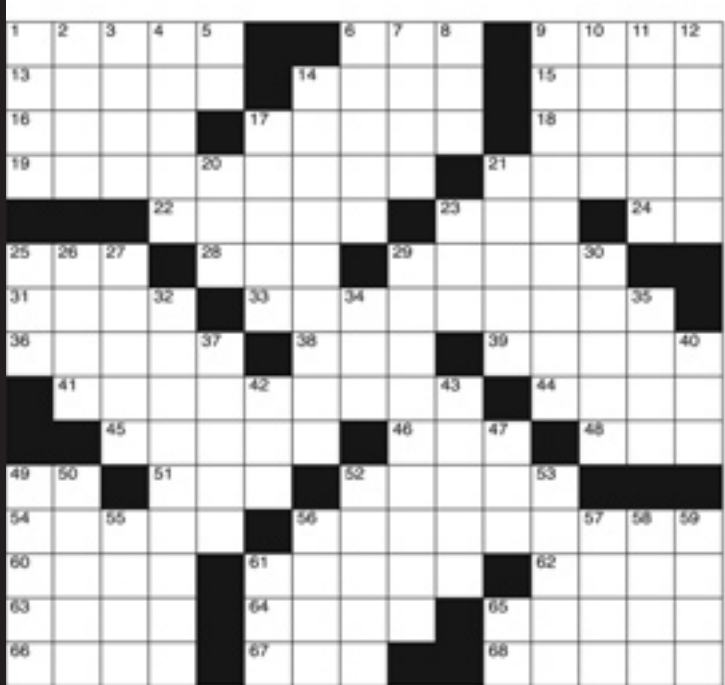
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Comics



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Stores
- 6. Worthless entertainment
- 9. Where scientists work
- 13. Pretty flower
- 14. A way to act
- 15. Double-reed instrument
- 16. Type of acid
- 17. Famed astronomer
- 18. Smooth, shiny fabric
- 19. Profited from
- 21. Secret clique
- 22. Infections
- 23. Crony
- 24. Teens go here every day (abbr.)
- 25. Suitable
- 28. Fresh Price of ___ Air
- 29. Ancient city of Egypt
- 31. Basketball move
- 33. Polished
- 36. There's a north and a south
- 38. Egg of a louse
- 39. Once-ubiquitous department store
- 41. Portray precisely
- 44. Thick piece of something
- 45. Period between eclipses
- 46. Indicates near
- 48. Investment account
- 49. England, Scotland, N. Ireland, and Wales (abbr.)
- 51. Beak
- 52. Void of skill
- 54. Walked back and forth
- 56. A display of passion
- 60. Geological times
- 61. Type of restaurant
- 62. Spacious
- 63. Edible seaweed
- 64. Utah city
- 65. Tropical tree
- 66. Nervous tissue compound
- 67. Body part
- 68. Muscles and tendons

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Draw out wool
- 2. Give someone a job
- 3. Chemical and ammo manufacturer
- 4. Footsteps
- 5. The Palmetto State
- 6. Books have lots of them
- 7. Diverse Israeli city
- 8. It's mightier than the sword
- 9. Confines
- 10. First month of the Jewish ecclesiastical year
- 11. Idaho's highest peak
- 12. Prevents from seeing
- 14. Determine time
- 17. Father children
- 20. Tab on a key ring
- 21. Dog genus
- 23. Peter's last name
- 25. Request
- 26. Walk heavily
- 27. Allowances
- 29. English football squad
- 30. Fish-eating aquatic mammals
- 32. South Pacific island region
- 34. Unaccounted for
- 35. Small taste of whiskey
- 37. Ventilated
- 40. Helps little firms
- 42. One of means
- 43. Fencing swords
- 47. Inches per minute (abbr.)
- 49. Turn upside down
- 50. S. African semi desert
- 52. Dutch names of Ypres
- 53. Instruct
- 55. Oily freshwater fish
- 56. Italian river
- 57. Sneaker giant
- 58. The men who man a ship
- 59. Some need glasses
- 61. Body part
- 65. Indicates position



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Summer Solstice block party

Fourth of July Royalty Contestant Abby Gerald and the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce held a summer solstice block party last Friday. July 21 was the summer solstice, which is the longest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. Wrangell got about 18 hours of daylight during the solstice, according to the daylight hours calculator at www.alaska.org. The block party consisted of food, games, and live music around the downtown pavilion.

Fourth of July talent show to also feature historical skits

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Fourth of July brings many fun events to Wrangell. From the logging show to the street games, it is hard to be bored in Wrangell the week of the Fourth. One event that people should be very excited for, according to Bonnie Ritchie, is the annual talent show.

The talent show has been a part of the Fourth of July Celebration for many years, Ritchie said, who has been chairman of the talent show since last year. This year the talent show will follow the celebration's wider theme of "Back to Our Roots," with short skits of Wrangell's history in between contestants'

acts. Anyone interested in local history will find it entertaining, she said.

There are no age restrictions for the contest. Winners will be declared in youth, teen, and adult categories with cash prizes for all the winners. Ritchie said that as of Thursday, June 20, there are about four or five acts signed up, aside from the skits themselves.

"We don't have a lot of people signed up but, other than the talent, we have a pretty exciting show lined up," she said.

More contestants are welcome to register, Ritchie said. Anybody wanting to showcase their talents can register by speaking to Ritchie, or by con-

tacting the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce at (907) 874-3901. She asked that registrations be complete before a planned dress rehearsal on July 2. Another reason she said that people should come out to the show is that the Fourth of July Queen coronation will take place immediately afterwards, while the show's judges deliberate. The talent show winners will be declared after the coronation.

"People should sign up because they have to have their talent seen," Ritchie said. "Don't hide your talent away, let it be seen, shine ... Be there, it's going to be great."

The talent show will take place on July 3 at 6 p.m. at the Nolan Center

Availability of Anan Wildlife Observatory permits

Visitors will soon be able to request the last of the daily permits for the Anan Wildlife Observatory this summer. There are four permits per day for the remainder of the summer meant to accommodate last-minute planning, and these permits need to be requested in person at the Wrangell Ranger District up to one week in advance. Requests must be made by filling out a form at the front desk, and individuals listed on the form must be physically present at the time of request (with the exception of family members only). Weekly requests will be collected by Mondays at 4:30 p.m. and awarded on Tuesdays by noon. If several requests are for the same day, a lottery for awarding reservation space will be held on Tuesdays at 9 a.m. If there is any space left, requests will be accommodated on a first come/first serve basis through the front desk during regular business hours (Mon-Fri; 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.).

The request schedule is as follows:

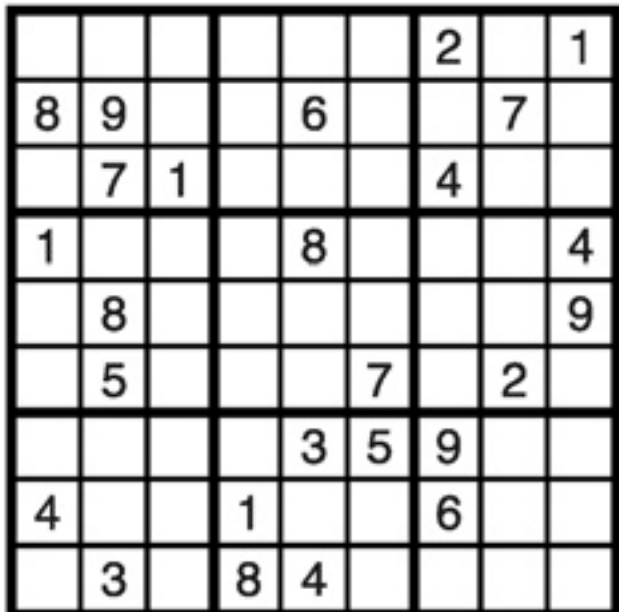
For permits to visit Anna July 5-9, requests will be accepted June 25-July 1. For permits to visit July 10-16, requests will be accepted July 2-8. For permits to visit July 17-23, requests will

be accepted July 9-15. For permits to visit July 24-30, requests will be accepted July 16-22. For permits to visit July 31-August 6, requests will be accepted July 23-29. Permits will be rewarded the Tuesday following each acceptance period.

The Wrangell Ranger District will be closed July 4 for the holiday. Permits are required from July 5 through August 25 to visit the observatory. Visitation outside of this time period does not require a permit. Information on the observatory, including site restrictions and a list of authorized guiding services can be found the Tongass National Forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/R10/Tongass/AnanObsrv>. For more information, contact the Wrangell Ranger District at (907) 874-2323.

The Anan Wildlife Observatory is located 30 miles southeast of the town of Wrangell. Anan Creek has the largest run of pink salmon in Southeast Alaska, which supports the high density of black and brown bears. The facilities consists of a covered viewing shelter, decks, photo blind, and an outhouse.

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Puzzle answers will be in the July 4 edition

Clint Kolarich, Wrangell's new district ranger

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

After the retirement of Bob Dalrymple earlier this year, Wrangell has been searching for a new ranger for their Forest Service district. As of last Sunday, that search has come to an end. Clint Kolarich, the new ranger, comes to Wrangell with an extensive background with the Forest Service.

"I was in the YCC [Youth Conservation Corps] when I was a junior in high school, and from there I went into seasonal firefighting," he said. "That was back in 1986. So I was off and on in seasonal firefighting up through the '90s. I finally got a permanent appointment in the early 2000s. I shouldn't say 'finally,' that's when I applied."

Back when he was a seasonal firefighter, he also worked as a contractor in residential construction. His first permanent position with the Forest Service was in New Mexico, where he worked as a fuels technician in the Cibola National Forest, near Albuquerque. From there, he moved to Montana, where he

worked in the Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest as an assistant fire management officer.

"It's all fire related but it was more on the planning side," Kolarich said. "Planning side meaning forest management, or vegetation management work. So I was, I guess you could say, the specialist or subject matter expert on the fire and fuel side of forest management planning teams."

From that assistant position, Kolarich said that he then went into working as an interdisciplinary NEPA team leader. This was a region-wide office for Region 1 in Montana, he said. The experience was vital for him moving into a district



Clint Kolarich

ranger position.

"District rangers are, let me think of the best way to phrase this, they're in my opinion one of the Forest Service's main interfaces with communities," he said.

When he felt he was ready to move into a district ranger position, Kolarich said that he wanted it to be in a rural community, preferably either in Montana or Southeast Alaska. There are a lot of similarities between the two areas, he said, and the rural lifestyle was one he really enjoys. There were job openings around Wrangell, Petersburg, and Prince of Wales all around the same time, he said, but he had a special feeling about the job in Wrangell.

"I would have been happy to end up

in any of those communities, but I'll tell you I kind of had a sixth sense that if I was going to be selected, it was going to be for Wrangell," Kolarich said. "I do have a friend in Montana who has a cabin here for a period of years, and I don't know why I felt like it would be Wrangell, but here I am."

Still settling into his new position, Kolarich said that his main goal for the near future is integrating himself with the Wrangell community. He is hoping to make friends in town, learn more about the community, and strengthen the ties between the city and the Forest Service.

"I want to learn. I want to learn about the community, about how the Forest Service, this district interfaces with the community," he said. "It seems that there are good relationships between the Forest Service and the community, and one goal of any ranger is not only to maintain those relationships but to look for opportunities to build upon those relationships. That would be a priority for me."

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CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION POLICE CHIEF POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Wrangell Police Department is accepting applications for the position of Police Chief beginning June 22, 2019. The position is open until filled. Review of each application for potential interview will begin immediately upon receipt.

The City & Borough of Wrangell is seeking a dynamic leader for the Police Department with a proven record of Community Policing. Wrangell is one of the safest communities in Alaska however, it still faces many challenges. The new Chief will play a critical role in spearheading joint agency efforts to strengthen the social fabric of Wrangell. Working with regional law enforcement to address issues common across Southeast Alaska will be a priority. Wrangell faces the statewide issue of officer turn-over. Bringing fresh solutions to the dilemma of officer recruitment and retention will be key. In addition to the City of Wrangell, the Borough encompasses more remote enclaves of residents – some only accessible by boat. Broader outreach to these areas while maintaining coverage in town will also be important.

This position plans, organizes, directs, and integrates all activities of the Police Department to protect life and property through law enforcement and crime prevention work. The Police Chief is a management position, responsible for the full scope of Police Department operations including patrol, investigations, corrections, public relations and community education. They will continuously analyze and evaluate operations and trends for assuring efficiency and adequacy of service, maintain professional discipline in the Department and assure that all employees are properly trained.

The position requires extensive knowledge and experience in all phases of police work including principles and practices of modern crime prevention, investigation, criminal identification, apprehension, rules of evidence, traffic control and safety, care and custody of prisoners, record keeping, and all other aspects of law enforcement and administration. Requires advanced knowledge of management and administrative practices and procedures required. Requires well-developed human relations skills to conduct negotiations, persuade others to a course of action, and to build an effective team through leadership and training.

The candidate must meet the minimum standards for Police Chief per the Alaska Police Standards Council as well as all of the requirements of the City & Borough of Wrangell's job description. A management certification under Alaska Police Standards or equivalent is required. Applicants must successfully complete a background investigation, medical and psychological examination, and drug screening.

This is a full-time, salaried position with full benefits, paid at Grade 30 ranging from \$6607 to \$8346 per month. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs.

To be considered, submit APSC form 3 (Personal History Statement), Authorization for Release of Information, resume and cover letter to Aleisha Mollen, PO Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email to amollen@wrangell.com. Applications will be accepted beginning June 22, 2019 until the position is filled. Review of applications will begin immediately.

The City & Borough of Wrangell is an equal opportunity employer.

Lisa Von Bargen
Borough Manager

Publish: June 27, July 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2019

Puzzle answers from June 20 Edition



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Tongass ToughMan triathlon this Sunday

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Nicholas Howell has a bit of a reputation as the guy around town who runs a lot. Last December he ran 100 miles in a single day to celebrate the new year. He said that he also competed in an Ironman triathlon down in California last year. Howell enjoys "ultra events" because it gives him the opportunity to test himself, and better his training and discipline, he

said. Now, he is giving other Wrangell residents the opportunity to see what it is all about, by organizing the Tongass ToughMan triathlon.

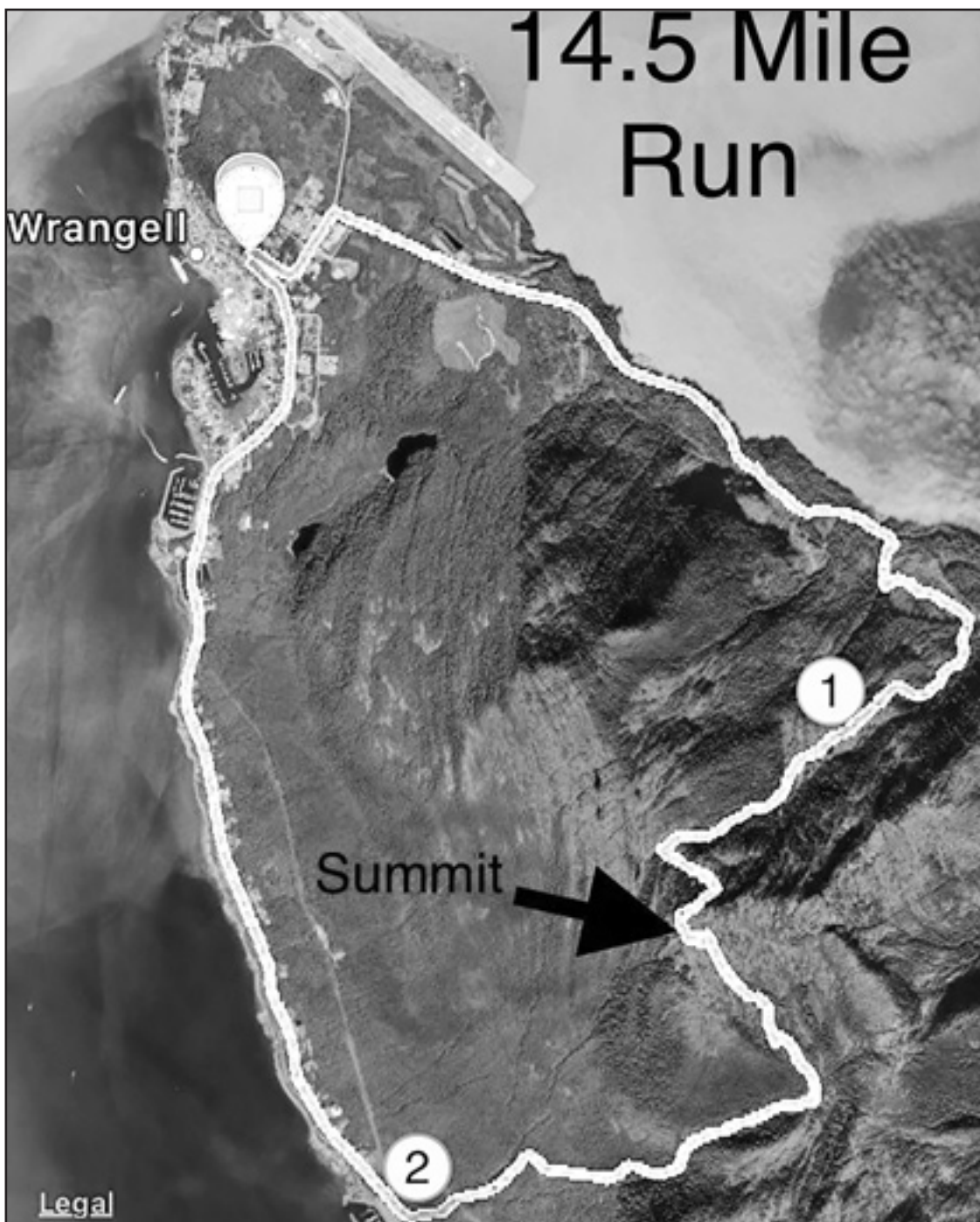
"For me, it's been a tool in life for a lot of things, and I just kind of wanted to pass that on," he said.

A triathlon is an event with three parts: Swimming, biking, and running. The Tongass ToughMan will begin at 6 a.m. on Sunday, June 30, at the com-



COURTESY OF THE TONGASS TOUGHMAN FACEBOOK PAGE

The biking route for Sunday's Tongass ToughMan triathlon.



COURTESY OF THE TONGASS TOUGHMAN FACEBOOK PAGE

The running route for Sunday's Tongass Toughman triathlon.

munity pool. There, participants will swim laps for 1.2 miles. This will be followed by a 56-mile bike ride, beginning at approximately 7 a.m. According to a route map on the triathlon's Facebook page, bikers will start

at the community pool, and will next bike counterclockwise around the airport loop road. Then they will go down Zimovia Highway, where they will turn onto Nemo Loop Road. After biking down Lower Salamander Road and back to complete Nemo Loop, they will bike back up the highway into town. The bike ride will be followed by a 14.5-mile run. T-shirts and medals will be waiting at the end of it all, Howell said. The run will start on Reid Street, above the community pool. Runners will go up Bennett St. to the spur road, where they will run out to Rainbow Falls. Runners will then climb the summit, and go back down on the other side of the trail. Next they will take Zimovia Highway back into town where the finish line will be in front of the community pool entrance. True to form, Howell ran the entire course twice on Monday, June 24, to raise funds for the event.

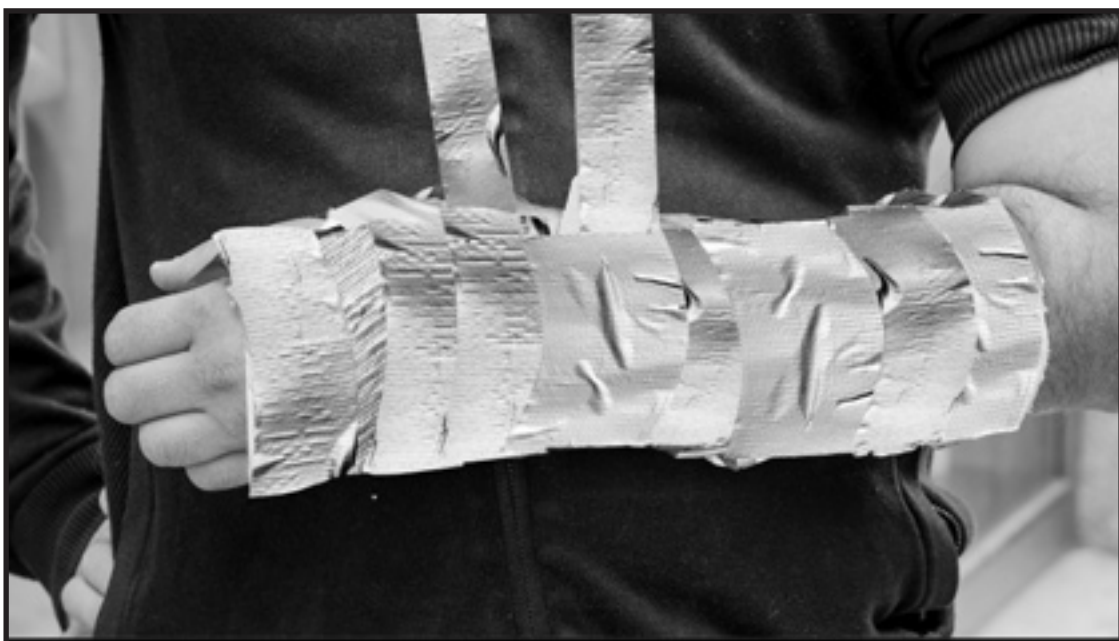
"I'm still looking for volunteers, they can contact me for that," he said. "There will be three aid stations. Two on the bike, which one of them you'll hit twice, so kind of three, and then one at the top of Rainbow Falls."

As of Friday, June 21, Howell said that 30 people had signed up. The majority of these people signed up as teams, with one person taking an event before tagging off to the next person. There are six solo participants, however, who Howell said will complete the entire triathlon themselves.

There will be a spaghetti dinner at the community gym on Saturday, June 29, free to everyone registered for the triathlon, to help them bulk up on calories before the big day with a fee for everyone else. Registration for the triathlon closed on June 15. However, Howell said that anybody still interested in participating or volunteering to help out should get in touch with him. Howell also had a request for the public to be aware and try to keep roadways clear for all the bikers and runners on Sunday.

"If you're going to watch, hopefully they can find a spot or pull over somewhere, and just kind of stay put for a while," Howell said. "That's what I'm trying to avoid is a lot of unnecessary traffic out off the pavement."

To learn more, visit "Tongass ToughMan" on Facebook.



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A whale of a tale: NOAA leads necropsy on gray whale near Channel Island

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Last Thursday, June 20, members of the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration, the Forest Service, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and local volunteers all converged on the beach of east Wrangell, near Channel Island, to dissect a dead gray whale that had washed ashore.

Kate Savage, once a veterinarian in Wrangell but now working with NOAA, said that an Unusual Mortality Event is occurring all along the Pacific Coast, from Alaska to Mexico. There have been over 150 dead whales reported this year, according to a report by NOAA. Savage said that she and other members of her team arrived in Wrangell late Wednesday afternoon, June 19, and were supposed to catch the afternoon flight out the same day as the necropsy. Time and tides wait for no one, as the saying goes, so the team worked through the day racing against the rising tide and their own schedules.

"Mainly what I'm thinking of is, there's a list going on in my head of the things that I would really like to get and how can I get to it," Savage said. "So on this one we're not going to get to any of the bones, so I just give up on that. But then it's like, okay, we need stomach content, so how do we get to the stomach?"

The dead whale is a 30-foot long male, Savage said. The time of death is unknown. It can be hard to tell when the carcass has been floating in the water for a long period of time, she said. Savage also added that it would be unlikely to get samples from some of the internal organs such as its liver or kidney, saying that a dead whale's insides can cook fast if it is a hot day.

What the necropsy team has focused on, according to Savage, is starting on the outside of the whale and cutting their way in. The whale's body was checked for external injuries that may point to its death. Finding none on the carcass, they began looking inside of it. They cut off a sample of its baleen, the filter-feeding "teeth" inside the gray whale's mouth, to see what it had been eating recently. They also cut away sides of its blubber, and began working to get samples from the stomach and lungs. NOAA and other organizations have been working to try and find why the mortality event is happening, but so far no concrete evidence has pointed to a single cause.

"The thought is maybe that foraging is a problem for these animals, that maybe they're malnourished," Savage said. "It's going to be kind of a long

haul, the ice extent in the Bering is super low, it might be on a record low last year and this year. I don't know if there's any indications that that's going to turn around, and that impacts a whole slew of different species ... But that being said, I have no idea what the cause of death is for these animals, so that's just my little theory. I'd be open to changing it if we had evidence of something different."

While NOAA was taking the lead on the necropsy, several other local organizations played important roles. The Forest Service provided logistical support for the necropsy, and several members also helped in the physical dissection and sample taking.

"I got on top of the whale and cut right down the middle so that we could start taking the blubber off the sides to expose the intestines and stuff," said Forest Service intern Matt Brodsky. "That was fun, I got a lot of gas in my face. That was great."

"When they told us that we were going to be helping with the whale I didn't even expect this," added intern Kelsie Alling. "I might do this once every 20 years."

While the necropsy was not as in-depth as she would have liked, Savage said that it was still a terrific research opportunity. She added that the Forest Service was going to leave the whale tied to the beach, and had set up cameras along the tree line to watch it. They wanted to see what kind of animals the carcass attracts, she said. Savage also asked that the public stay away from the carcass, as they do not want anything disrupted. Look, she said, don't touch.

"It would be really nice if they don't grab baleen, which is actually illegal. Don't come and take anything from this whale, which is at this point still illegal. I think the Forest Service will be checking it. What I'd really like to do is eventually see if there's any fractures, for example. As you can tell, based on the time that we have, that we're not going to get to the bony pieces, but later on," Savage said.

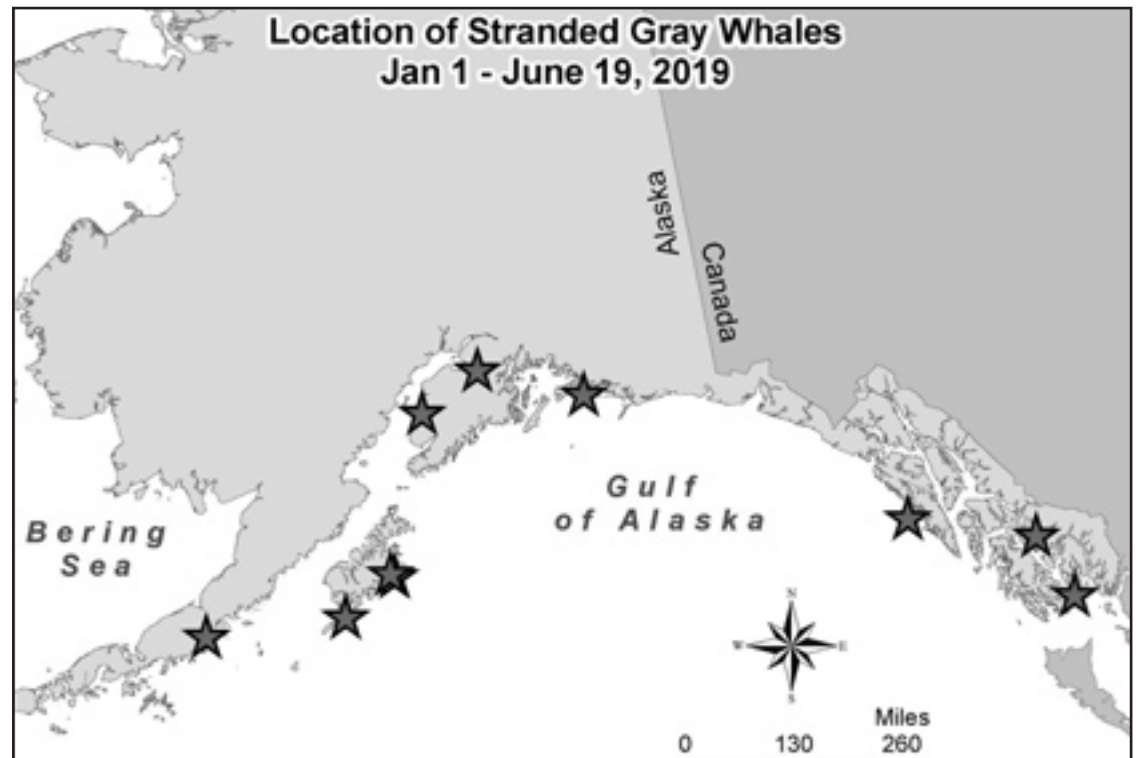
Savage said that it will take some time to fully look into the samples they have taken from the gray whale. In the meantime, the UME continues. A press release from NOAA on June 20 reported that another two gray whales were reported dead west of Sitka and south of Ketchikan. This brings the total number of gray whales dead in the UME in Alaska up to 10.

This is not the first time that a dead whale has appeared near Wrangell. According to Austin O'Brien, with the Forest Service, about a decade ago a humpback whale died in the area after getting tangled in a gill net.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/WRANGELL SENTINEL

(Right to left) Greg Roberts, Tory Houser, and Kate Savage work to get a sample from the stomach of a gray whale, which washed up onto a beach on Wrangell Island early last week.



NOAA PRESS RELEASE

A chart of all the gray whale strandings in Alaska this year. According to NOAA, there is an Unusual Mortality Event occurring along the Pacific Coast, from Alaska to Mexico, with over 150 dead gray whales this year.

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