



Graduation for class of 2020

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Though it lacked the in-person fanfare of a typical graduation, the Wrangell High School Class of 2020 officially graduated last Friday evening, May 15. A small graduation ceremony was held on May 12, with seniors receiving their diplomas. A video stream was shown publicly on the 15th including slideshows of students, speeches from the faculty and student body. A parade through town was also organized after the video aired, where people could drive by the homes of the graduating students to congratulate them.

The welcoming address was given by Salutatorian Madison Blackburn. She wanted to thank everybody for joining the graduation ceremony via the internet. Even though they could not come together in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Blackburn said, she could not have asked for a better class or community to graduate with. Living in Wrangell has many benefits, she said, and having a tight-knit and supportive community is one of them. She also wanted to give thanks to the teachers and staff of the Wrangell School District.

"Throughout our entire educational career we have all had many different teachers who all had different teaching ways, but every teacher cared about us," Blackburn said. "Not only about our education, but the people we have



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY VINCENT BALANSAG

Graduating sister Skylar and Adriana Larrabee walking down the aisle during last week's graduation ceremony. In the background (left to right) are Superintendent Debbe Lancaster, School Board President Aaron Angerman, and Principal Jack Carney.

become."

Lillian "Jing" O'Brien provided the valedictorian address during the graduation ceremony. Like Blackburn, she wanted to thank her classmates, teachers, parents, and the wider community for all of their support, as well as to thank everyone for tuning into

Wrangell's first-ever online graduation.

"I truly appreciate each one of you for taking the time to celebrate this momentous moment in our lives despite the unprecedented circumstances we are all facing," O'Brien said. "While I never expected to make my speech to an empty room and a video camera, at least I won't know if nobody is laughing at my jokes."

During her speech, O'Brien recognized her co-valedictorians Kaylyn Easterly, Tasha Massin, and Laura Helgeson. She also shared several quips about how their "2020 vision" has not turned out the way they expected, and how this was certainly a year nobody will ever forget. She pointed out that they were the first class to have the luxury of wearing sweatpants in the comfort of their own homes while graduating.

On a more serious note, O'Brien wanted to reiterate thanks to all of the people in her life, and the wider community, for their support through the years. From fellow students to family members, to everyone else in town, Wrangell is a good place to get one's start in life, she said.

"There's a common saying, 'It takes a village to raise a child,'" O'Brien said. "In Wrangell this is proven over and over again. I'm so grateful to have grown up in a community that supports its youth in every possible way."

Jack Carney provided the commencement address. Carney is a long-time teacher and coach in the Wrangell School District, and currently serves as the interim principal. It has been a ride, he said, especially the past two months. He wanted the class to enjoy the culmination of their high school careers, but to also remember everyone else who helped them get to where they were now.

"Seniors, these last few weeks have

been a whirlwind, there are many emotions going on," Carney said. "You're probably a lot like I was senior year: Split between 'Who cares about graduation?' and 'Graduation is a really important step in life.' I personally didn't realize how important graduation was until I actually walked across the stage myself and I saw the look on my parents' faces. It was then I realized graduation wasn't just about me. Don't get me wrong, this is your day, you earned it, but it's also about those who sacrificed to get you here. It's their win, as well as your win."

Carney has had the opportunity to work with the Class of 2020 since they were in seventh grade, he said. The one exception amongst the class is senior Danika Doak-Smith, who Carney said he has known since sixth grade. Through that time, he has gotten to know each of them well and has developed many fond memories and funny moments with them. There are more inside jokes and stories with the graduating class than he would like to admit, Carney said.

"I've been there for many big moments," he said. "I got to see Kaylyn and Maddy cut down the basketball net after winning regions over at Mt. Edgecumbe High School in Sitka. Hunter and Jonah won five individual wrestling titles between them and each one was exhilarating to coach as I watched them walk off the mat. Cheering on Tasha and Kaylyn as we streamed the volleyball team's state finals games ... Trevor explaining a couple of weeks ago, maybe a month and a half ago, how he got around my bathroom break policy for the past five years. Me convincing Sean Gillen my nickname was the 'Bull Moose.' Or the time I had black dry erase marker smudged across my face during class



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY VINCENT BALANSAG

Coby Holder, class of 2020, showing off his decorated graduation cap.

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Graduation

Continued from page 1

and none of the kids would tell me what they were laughing about."

Along with a trip down memory lane, Carney had some advice for the future to

share with the graduates. How people react in a crisis situation says a lot about them, he said, and having the right type of leaders in place can determine how a group gets through that crisis. While the

Titanic was sinking, he said, there were people panicking and not helping. Others were getting lifeboats ready and guiding people to safety. Over a century later, Carney said, people know who was who in that situation. Students should remember, going forward with their lives, that history has its eyes on them. Crises are not an "if" but a "when," he said, and the graduates should be prepared to face them.

Carney also wanted to encourage the graduates to not waste their youth while they have it. There are many aspirations and future career goals amongst the 25 graduating students. He told the students to do everything they could to stay motivated and keep working towards their goals while they have the time and energy to do so. Invest in others, explore the world, and never stop learning, he

added. Whatever the future holds, Carney said that the graduates should never settle for mediocrity or doing "just enough" to get by. They should always do their best and set lofty goals, whatever they are doing.

Carney also encouraged the graduating class to be mentally tough and to never give up on their goals. There are many examples of mental toughness amongst the class, he said, where students pushed through difficult situations where nobody would blame them for quitting. Madison Blackburn was one such example, he said, with her fear of public speaking and still giving the salutatorian speech. After several years of not being able to play on the basketball team because of a heart condition, he gave as another example, Hank Voltz who went out onto the court for the first time

this year, where he immediately stole the ball and sank a three-pointer in the opening seconds of the game. Even the class pushing through the current pandemic to complete their senior projects and turn in scholarship applications was a good example of mental toughness. If the students can get through these hardships, Carney said they were glimmers of hope that they can handle any other hardships they come across in life.

"You're adults now, so I'm asking you to start adulthood right," Carney said, wrapping up his speech. "Build your lives on gratitude and forgiveness, these are some of the best ways to display true mental toughness. Like I've heard in a few graduation speeches before, remember you always have Wrangell to come back to."

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, May 21: Trevor Kagee, Madan Covalt, *Anniversaries:* Dustin & Devyn Johnson, Don & Betsy McConachie. **Friday, May 22:** Dante Nesbitt, Jim Abbott, Charley Murray-Young, *Anniversaries:* Nate & Alicia Stearns, Warren & Chloe Edgley. **Saturday, May 23:** Nicole Hammer, Logan Scott, Lori Baremore, Dennis Pavlina, Mia Wiederspohn. **Sunday, May 24:** Jana Barlow, Yvonne Reeve, Bucky Borge, Jordan Glass, Lillian Smith, Brandon Ellsworth, *Anniversary:* Lorne & Stephanie Cook. **Monday, May 25:** Scott Thomas, Chelsea Pollow, Guy Young, *Anniversary:* Jake & Alesha Jabusch. **Tuesday, May 26:** Judy Bakeberg, Shaleen Kuntz, Jesse Sumner, Israel Comstock, Jordan Veele. **Wednesday, May 27:** Amanda Johnson, Austin Dow, Aaron Comstock, Nola Walker, Tonia Ayers, *Anniversary:* Gene & Maggie Fennimore. **Thursday, May 28:** Debbie Torvend, Lucas Stearns.

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

Senior Center Meals Menu Delivery Only

Friday, May 22

Hamburger, Carrot Salad, F. Fried Potatoes, Fruit.

Monday, May 25

Closed. Memorial Day

Tuesday, May 26

Beef Stew, Fruit cup, Rolls.

Wednesday, May 27

Chinese Fruited Pork, Green Beans, Salad, Rice.

Thursday, May 28

Baked Rock fish, Brussel Sprouts, Carrot/Raisin Salad, Bread.

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

Senior van also available to transport seniors to medical appointments reasonable errands like collecting mail, getting prescriptions at pharmacies or other essential need items.

FERRY

May Sailings CANCELLED

Call 874-2021 for information or call 874-3711 or Toll Free 800-642-0066 for recorded information.



TIDES May 21-May 28

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
May 21	00:42	16.7	01:25	14.7	07:02	-0.6	06:58	2.7
May 22	01:13	16.8	02:01	14.7	07:33	-1.1	07:29	3.0
May 23	01:43	16.8	02:37	14.5	08:04	-1.4	08:00	3.3
May 24	02:13	16.6	03:13	14.2	08:37	-1.5	08:33	3.8
May 25	02:44	16.4	03:51	13.9	09:13	-1.3	09:10	4.2
May 26	03:19	16.0	04:33	13.5	09:52	-1.0	09:53	4.7
May 27	03:59	15.4	05:21	13.2	10:38	-0.5	10:45	5.1
May 28	04:48	14.7	06:20	13.2	11:30	0.1	11:49	5.2

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Jury duty for April - June: no trials for the month of April. You will be receiving notices in the mail in the next few weeks. Court number: (907) 874-2311.

Continuing Events

Online AA Meetings: North Star Group Meeting. Link to online meeting: www.zoom.us/j/722855768. Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:45 p.m., *Dial-in Number* (phone only): (346) 248-7799 / Meeting ID: 722-855-76, *Meeting Contact:* Eric H: (907) 720 3407.

The Way We Were In the Sentinel 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago.

May 20, 1920

The Wrangell School Board has decided to increase the faculty to six teachers next year. Four of them have already been elected. They are as follows: Miss May Crosno, principal; Miss Ann O'Connor, Miss J. O'Connor, and Miss Jessica Don Carlos. The board has decided upon a ten month's term. There will be 38 weeks of actual teaching, with one week of vacation at Christmas and another at Easter. It is reported that the committee appointed by the council to confer with the school board have decided to report favorably on the building of an addition to the schoolhouse. The addition will be 26x46 and will consist of two rooms separated by folding doors. One room will be used for school and the other for manual training.

May 25, 1945

Word has been received here by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Ferguson that their daughter, Carol, born and raised in Wrangell, has been promoted in the WACs to Lieutenant. To make it a happier occasion, Lt. Ferguson received her promotion on V-E day, cause for celebration itself. She is stationed in France doing specialized work in the WAC medical corps. In her letter Lt. Ferguson stated that

even though the war in Europe was finished, she expected to remain there some time yet, and indicated she would stay in the service. I'm going to see this war through to the complete finish, she told her parents.


May 21, 1970

Home on leave is Jack Oskolkoff. He is returning from two years duty in Japan. During the last year he has been to Vietnam twice, operating gunboats off the coast in Operation Market Time. The boats also were used as support fire for shore action. The ship he was on also participated in mine sweeping operations with other members of SEATO. He will leave Wrangell for

California on May 22.


May 18, 1995

With visits to the area behind them, including scheduled opportunities for citizens to witness interviews with the city council, it is expected one of three men will be ready to move to Wrangell after the council meets in executive session 7 p.m. today to name the new city manager. Finalists, who have been in town Wednesday and today, are Gary A. Lewis of Palmer, Gary Williams of Anchorage and William D. Jones of Ketchikan. Twenty-eight applicants originally applied for the position, vacated by Duane Gasaway's resignation in early March.



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
May 11	67	47
May 12	68	43
May 13	65	46
May 14	56	48
May 15	61	49
May 16	65	47
May 17	70	44
May 18	63	47



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
May 21	4:25a	9:05p	16:40h
May 22	4:23a	9:07p	16:44h
May 23	4:22a	9:08p	16:46h
May 24	4:20a	9:10p	16:50h
May 25	4:19a	9:12p	16:53h
May 26	4:17a	9:13p	16:56h
May 27	4:16a	9:15p	16:59h
May 28	4:15a	9:16p	17:01h

Reopen Wrangell Task Force holds business roundtable

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Reopen Wrangell Task Force hosted a roundtable discussion for local businesses last Friday afternoon, May 15, in regards to state mandates and how businesses will need to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic. In the meeting, members of the task force gave brief presentations on state health mandates and safety mitigation plans.

"I've been working with the local Emergency Operations Center for the last couple of months," said Jamie Roberts. "One of the duties I've been tasked with is staying up to date as best I can on the health mandates, and helping with interpretation, and answering questions that come in to our travel@wrangell.com when people are submitting mitigation plans."

Roberts said she was only going to cover certain state mandates that pertained to how businesses can operate in Alaska during the pandemic.

Mandate 10 covers state guidelines for interstate travel. Anybody arriving in Alaska from out of state is required to quarantine themselves for two weeks, Roberts said. Travel declarations must be submitted prior to arrival or upon arrival.

Businesses that are designated "essential service" or "critical infrastructure" must submit safety plans to the state. These plans must be sent to akcovid-plans@ak-prepared.com, and Roberts also added that plans can voluntarily be submitted locally to travel@wrangell.com for assistance.

Mandate 15 covers services by healthcare providers. During the pandemic, healthcare facilities can provide low-risk, routine-type services which require minimum PPE, she said. Examples she provided include chiropractors, pharmacists,

optometrists, and veterinarians. Surgeries can also be provided if delaying them is deemed to have a serious impact on the patient's life or livelihood. Patients may be required to obtain a COVID-19 test, as well, she added.

Mandate 16 is the "Reopen Alaska Responsibly Plan." Roberts said that this plan has five different phases of reopening the state economy, and is currently set to phase two. The plan aims to strike a balance between keeping people safe from the virus and keeping the state economy running. There are many different attachments to this mandate, she said, that list the conditions different types of business or activities can be conducted. Common to most of these attachments, Roberts said, is a six-foot social distancing requirement, face masks being strongly encouraged, a requirement for employers to provide hand sanitizer or hand washing stations, frequent cleaning of commonly-touched surfaces, and a requirement to put together a mitigation plan.

Mandate 17 covers independent fishing vessels. Captains of independent fishing vessels, not agreed to operate under a fleet-wide plan by a company, must sign a form agreeing to comply with a protective plan outlined in the mandate. This plan covers items like travel procedures, quarantine protocols, screening of crew, and on-board protective measures.

Kate Thomas followed this presentation with a summary of what mitigation plans are, and how businesses can go about putting one together. Every business, whether or not they are "essential" need a safety mitigation plan, she said, but only Critical Infrastructure businesses are required to submit them for state review. Independent Fishing Vessels are covered by Mandate 17 and do not require an inde-



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Fire at Panhandle Trailer Court

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

A trailer at Panhandle Trailer Court caught fire last Saturday morning, May 16. The fire department received the call at approximately 10:10 a.m. The trailer's resident, Norm Canaday, was reportedly inside the building when the fire broke out. Panhandle resident Duke Aitken said he and another neighbor, Dan Flickinger, helped Canaday escape the trailer by having him jump out the back door onto a mattress.

The fire was put out around 11 a.m. Fire Chief Tim Bunes said that Canaday was unharmed, but he was taken to the hospital for an evaluation. He also said he is unsure if the trailer is salvageable. The cause of the fire was unknown as of Saturday afternoon, but Bunes said they suspect it was caused by an electrical problem in the trailer. The fire department did not respond to requests for further comment as of press time, May 19.

pendent safety plan.

There are different requirements for what a mitigation plan needs to cover, depending on the business. Non-essential businesses need to cover social distancing requirements, hygiene in the business, staff and operations, cleaning and disinfecting protocols, and how they plan to manage a positive case of COVID-19. Essential businesses need to cover screening of personnel, self-quarantine plans, workplace protective measures, travel plans, plans for continued operations, and other items in their mitigation plan.

If an employee is suspected of having COVID-19, Thomas covered in her presentation, all dirty surfaces of the business must be cleaned with soap and water, and then disinfected with products that meet certain EPA requirements. Whoever is cleaning these surfaces should wear gloves and other protective gear appropriate for the cleaning

agent being used.

Before opening the meeting to questions, Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore covered some resources that businesses might find useful. The city has a COVID-19 web portal at www.wrangellcovid19.org, she said, where local businesses can find the latest information on the pandemic. The Alaska Travel Industry Association also has guidance on the virus at www.alaskatourism.org/coronavirus-guidance. The United Fishermen of Alaska also has information available. Rushmore said that there are a wide variety of financial resources for businesses at the local, state and federal level.

"Please like the City and Borough of Wrangell's Facebook page," Rushmore said. "That is where we will put any updates, we'll put them on the city's page."

During the Q&A section of the meeting, Joan Sargent of Is-

land of Faith Lutheran Church asked if there was any place to find signage to hang on their doors that businesses could use, stating people with potential symptoms of COVID-19 should stay away. Rushmore said that they would add that to the list of things for the task force to look into. Sargent also asked if they should be taking attendance at the church, to see who is showing up for services. Captain Dorianne Sprehe, with the Emergency Operations Command, said that it would be very helpful for contact tracing if the virus comes to Wrangell. It would help them be able to track down peoples' locations and who was potentially exposed.

Kem Haggard, with Harbor Light Assembly of God, wanted some clarification on some requirements. His church is not planning to open its doors to in-person services yet, he said, and part of the reason is a require-

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LOVE TO SHOP
LOCAL SELFIE
CHALLENGE

Spend \$50 at participating locations and receive a sticker. Take a selfie with your sticker and tag the Wrangell Chamber on Facebook, Instagram, or email your picture to stephanie@wrangellchamber.com to be entered to win a prize!

5/22/2020-5/24/2020

Every selfie with
you in your mask
will get a bonus
entry





WRANGELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE / 907-874-3901 / WRANGELLCHAMBER.ORG

Police report

May 11

Agency Assist: Ambulance.
Welfare Check.

Agency Assist: Hoonah P.D.
Gun Shots.

May 12

Animal Complaint.
Agency Assist: Burglar Alarm.
Harassment.

Agency Assist: Parks & Rec.

Traffic Stop: Verbal warning given for headlights.

Intoxicated persons.

May 13

Traffic Complaint: Speeding.
Agency Assist: Ambulance.
Trespass: Unfounded.

May 14

Traffic Complaint: Speeders.
Subpoena Service.

Traffic Stop: Verbal warning for display of license plate.

Agency Assist: Wrangell Medical Center.
Traffic Control.

May 15

Motor Vehicle Accident: Drivers exchanged info.
Traffic Control.

Traffic Stop: Verbal warning for speed.
Traffic Complaint: Speeder.

May 16

Welfare Check.
Agency Assist: Fire Department.
Traffic Complaint.

Child Endangerment.

Driving while license Suspended, cancelled, revoked.

Traffic Control.

May 17

Agency Assist: Ambulance.

Timothy Lawrence, 61, charged with Driving Under Influence.

Lolita Valerie Larsen, 52, charged with Assault I, II, III.

During this reporting period, there were 13 Agency Assist calls to the Airport.

GUEST COMMENTARY

To the Editor:

For most of us the COVID emergency “hunker down” has been a test of ingenuity, patience and endurance. Ingenuity has been needed to find new ways to occupy ourselves, exercise, get a haircut and celebrate important life and family events with loved ones. Patience and endurance have been needed as we wait for life to normalize. But sadly for some who have been restricted to a home with an abusive spouse or partner, these times have been dangerous and frightening.

Domestic violence does not go away and in some ways it exacerbates during times like these. But, throughout the COVID emergency shut-downs and still now, help for domestic violence victims is but a phone call or a text away. In emergencies the police are available by dialing 911; assistance and referrals are available by dialing 211; Alaska’s CARELINE is available at 877-266-4357; the National Domestic Violence Hotline is available at 800-799-7233 or 900-787-3224 TTY; the National Sexual Assault Hotline is available at 800-656-4673; and Report Abuse Alaska is available at 800-478-4444 or on-line at ReportChildABuse@alaska.gov. For anyone who might be at risk of more abuse for making a phone call for help, ADT Home Security has developed a mobile safety App for smartphones called SoSecure that they have made available free during the COVID emergency. This App allows a victim to silently SMS chat with ADT’s 24/7 professional monitors,

discreetly trigger an emergency alarm that permits ADT to pinpoint the users GPS coordinates, designate family or friends to receive alerts when the alarm is triggered, and to preset a time period after which emergency contacts will be notified.

For those who might be challenged in getting a ride to a safe shelter, the ride share company Uber has stepped forward to offer 500 free rides from now until the end of June to domestic violence victims to shelters such as AWAIC, STAR, Covenant House, Alaska Native Justice Center, Priceless, Victims for Justice and more.

For anyone with questions about this program feel free to call my special assistant Charlotte Rand at 907-269-5257. In August last year Governor Dunleavy restored \$759,000 to Alaska Legal Services Corporation as part of HB 2001 to fund that organizations assistance to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. As Attorney General I have also jump started the Department of Law’s pro bono program that features letting state attorneys volunteer time to assist victims, and also our collaborating with the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault (ANDVSA) to man the domestic violence and sexual assault hotline.

As a community we have a responsibility to care for and seek to protect our most vulnerable. Be aware of signs of abuse around you on your family members and friends. Black eyes; busted lips;



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

National Guard Fly-By

As a way of saying “thank you” to medical professionals, first responders, and teachers for all their work during the COVID-19 pandemic, the National Guard flew over several Alaskan communities on Friday, May 15. Pictured here is one of two C-17’s that flew past Wrangell’s city dock that afternoon.

red or purple marks on the neck; sprained wrists; bruises on the arms are things to notice and take into account. If you see these on friends or family, ask questions. Each of these can happen innocently. But, each is also a possible sign of domestic violence.

So, especially if you see them in combination or in repetition on someone you care about, you should ask questions. Alaska’s statistics on sexual assault and domestic violence are horrible. According to the Alaska Network on Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, out of every 100 women who reside in

Alaska 40 have experienced intimate partner violence, 33 have experienced sexual violence, and many have experienced both. Alaska has ranked No. 1 in per capita occurrence of sexual assault and domestic violence over the last several years.

This is pathetic and we need to change this situation. I am committed to making inroads on this issue. I hope you will join me and our fine attorneys at the Department of Law in working to make Alaska a safer place for all.

By Attorney General Kevin Clarkson

Business Roundtable

Continued from page 3

ment for having separate entrances and exits to the building. The way Harbor Light is built, it would be somewhat difficult to have everybody come in one

way through the building and exit through another. Kate Thomas clarified that this was not a very strict requirement for one-way traffic, but was meant to be put in place “where reason-

ably feasible.” Other questions covered in the roundtable included where businesses can acquire hand sanitizer, the potential expiration of interstate travel requirements,

and whether or not there is uniform signage for independent

fishing vessels to use on their boats.

Respond to the 2020 Census.

Every household has received an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census or will receive one soon. It’s easy to respond online, by mail, or by phone.

The census is your chance in help inform how much federal money is directed to your community.

2020CENSUS.GOV

Shape your future START HERE >

United States Census 2020

We remember those who gave so much

We Will Be Closed Memorial Day, May 25th

In gratitude to all of those who fought to secure our freedom and in memory of those who sacrificed their lives that we could live in peace, we will be closed on Monday, May 25th.

WRANGELL SENTINEL
205 Front St., P: 907-874-2301 E: wrgsent@gmail.com

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Planning and Zoning Commission holds various public hearings

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission met last Thursday evening, May 14, to hold several public hearings

on various items. The meeting opened with a discussion on the proposed relocation of a submarine cable. Communications company GCI is seeking to relocate an

underwater fiber optics cable, which runs from Ketchikan to Wrangell, to a new landing location on the island. This is because the Southeast Alaska Power Agency is planning to conduct submarine electrical line work where GCI's cable currently lands, near City Park. It was recommended by the commission, according to Aleisha Mollen with the city, that a proposal to relocate the cable to the Shoemaker Bay Park area be approved.

The first public hearing of the meeting was over a preliminary plat review of the Johnson/Harrison Subdivision. According to the meeting's agenda packet, Johnson Construction and the Harrison family are seeking to purchase land behind their properties from the Alaska Mental Health Trust. This survey and replat would subdivide the trust property and combine the purchased land with the existing lots. This preliminary plat review was approved by the commission.

There was also a preliminary plat review of the subdivision of Lot 2 of Trust Land

Survey 2018-11. This was requested by Brett Woodbury, who is seeking to also purchase land from the Alaska Mental Health Trust. This preliminary plat review was also approved by the commission.

After these plat reviews, the commission considered a conditional use permit request from Leif Larsson. Larsson is closing on the purchase of Lot 7BB and Lot 8BB of the Larson-Buhler Replat, according to the agenda packet, and he was requesting the permit for a single family residential dwelling, a guard quarter trailer, and for storage of goods and equipment on Lot 7BB. The commission decided to approve of the conditional use permit, on all items except for the security trailer. According to the agenda packet, this is because a previous office building in the area is currently being used for residential dwelling, and should be adequate to provide security for the storage area.

The commission then considered a request for a contract zone modification from Don Glasner. Glasner was seeking

to modify the contract setback requirements for a recently approved storage building. In a letter to the commission, Glasner wrote that after reviewing the approved location for this building, it was discovered that its proximity to two other structures on the property of Harbor View Storage would make it difficult to back boat trailers into the garage bays. He wanted the commission to allow the new building to encroach on the offset area by about 5 feet at the building's left rear corner, and 10 feet in the right rear corner. The commission, however, denied this proposed modification.

The final item on the agenda was a variance application request from Laurie Brown, who was requesting a height variance to allow an addition of a garage and two stories to her house. The requested variance, according to the agenda packet, would be up to a height of 30 feet, or a 5 foot variant. The commission decided to postpone its decision until the next meeting, wanting to wait for additional information.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Blue Heron

A Great Blue Heron stands by the waterline, near Campbell Drive. Now that spring has sprung, many birds have returned to Wrangell and the wider Southeast Alaska region with the warmer weather.

Economic Development Committee workshops financial assistance ideas

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Economic Development Committee met Tuesday afternoon, May 19, to workshop several financial assistance ideas they will be bringing before the borough assembly in the near future. With the COVID-19 pandemic ongoing, and the city expecting to receive money via the CARES Act to help with economic recovery, the committee has spent the past few meetings workshopping ways to assist people and businesses around the community. The committee had an extensive list of categories of financial assistance

they were considering bringing to the assembly, each with their own specific ideas.

For example, one such category was "food assistance." The EDC was considering setting up a grant program, valued at \$20,000 total, where entities that supply food to the public can apply for money to provide free meals or food boxes. Some examples of entities that could apply for this program would be the Salvation Army, restaurants around town, and the Senior Center. The committee decided that putting a cap of \$3,000 for each grant that the entities could apply for was a good, general

number to set things at for the workshop.

Another category they discussed was financial assistance for social service programs. This would be for Wrangell entities that offer family support services, counseling, and help for victims of abuse. Like the food assistance category, the EDC workshopped a \$20,000 grant program.

More widely, to offer assistance for members of the community itself and local businesses, the committee considered a wide variety of ideas. Some of these included extending a cancellation of fees and interest rates on late utility payments into the fall, a voucher program to help residents and businesses pay their utility bills, and stopping fees or interest rates on late moorage payments. The committee also considered a voucher program to incentivize local shopping and creating additional sales tax relief days.

The EDC also considered ways to incentivize safety measures during the pandemic. One idea of how the city could do this would be through a "cash for masks" program. Shoppers who take selfies of themselves shopping while wearing face masks, for example, could receive rewards of some kind from the chamber of commerce. Another idea the committee discussed was to set up a fund to help purchase and distribute PPE to businesses and visitors.

As this was only a workshop, no formal action has been taken. Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore said that these ideas will be brought before the borough assembly in their next meeting, next week.



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The Wiederspohn family at last week's Wrangell High School graduation. Left to right are Jenn, Hunter and Lee Wiederspohn.



Senior awards night via web conference

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Graduating students of Wrangell High School, school staff, and other community members came together via web conference last week for senior awards night. During the web conference, graduating seniors were informed of scholarships they had won.

"I'm excited to see who wins the awards today, and I want to remind you guys that even if you haven't applied for any scholarships yet there's still millions of dollars out there," Interim Principal Jack Carney said. "So if you don't win anything tonight that's ok. You can still apply, but the key is you got to apply."

The first award winners of the evening were Jing O'Brien and Kaylyn Easterly. They each received a \$12,000 merit scholarship from the UA Scholars Program. Addy Esco, with the school district, explained that the scholarship is offered to the top 10 percent of graduating students from every qualified high school in Alaska. The money can be used at any University of Alaska campus in the state.

The state of Alaska also offers the Alaska Performance Scholarship, which several WHS students qualified for this year. There are three different levels of scholarship money that can be awarded, depending on several requirements. These requirements include certain GPAs and studying certain curriculum in high school. There are usually also qualifying test scores for the APS but this requirement was waived due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The money that can be awarded ranges from \$2,378 a year, at Level 3, to \$4,755 a year, at Level 1. This year's qualifiers were Madison Blackburn, Tasha Massin, Easterly, O'Brien, Laura Helgeson, Austin Reid, and Wade Jack.

Seniors Trevor Miller and O'Brien received \$1,500 each from the Association of Alaska School Boards June Nelson Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was awarded to 15 seniors across all of Alaska, two of which went to these Wrangell students.

Three WHS students received scholarships from the Sealaska Corporation. Massin received a \$3,524 scholarship, Easterly received a \$3,000 scholarship, and Hank Voltz received a \$2,988 scholarship.

Trevor Miller earned the Tongass Federal Credit Union "Jumpstart Your Life" scholarship in the amount of \$1,000.

Easterly, Helgeson, and O'Brien each earned the Wrangell Pulp Scholarship this year, in the amount of \$20,000 over a period of four years. Helgeson also earned the Pat Roppel Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$5,000.

There were several awards given to students through scholarships managed by the school district itself. Blackburn earned a scholarship from the Freida Lust Trust Fund in the amount of \$100. Voltz earned the Alfred B. Ryll scholarship in the amount of \$100.

The Alaska Peace Officer Association Scholarship went to

Kody Paul in the amount of \$500. The Kiks.adi Scholarship went to Massin, in the amount of \$500. This is a fairly new scholarship, according to Winston Davies. It was established in 2019 to honor Wrangell women who have dedicated their time to the local native history and culture.

"Countless Wrangell women have quietly contributed to the culture and history, and have been a cornerstone of the native community," Davies said. "We hope that each of the graduates will continue to contribute to the Wrangell community today and in the future."

Wrangell's native community supplied several other scholarships, as well. The Alaska Native Brotherhood provided Voltz with a \$500 scholarship. The Alaska Native Sisterhood gave a \$500 scholarship to Easterly.

Both Easterly and Blackburn earned the Wrangell Teachers' Association Scholarship in the amount of \$500 each.

Trevor and Tate Miller both earned \$1,000 each from the Stikine Sportsmen Association.

The Wrangell Medical Center Health Careers Scholarship went to Easterly in the amount of \$1,000. It is renewable for up to four years.

The Colin Bunn Memorial Scholarship went to Trevor Miller and Voltz in the amount of \$1,000 each, and is renewable for a second year.

The Iverson Memorial Scholarship went to Trevor Miller and Blackburn in the amount of \$1,000 each.

Voltz earned a scholarship from the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$1,500.

Three students earned the

"Most Valuable Student Participant" scholarship from the Order of Elks. Blackburn, O'Brien, and Massin each received \$200. Another scholarship from the Elks Lodge, the Gregg Scheff Memorial Scholarship, went to Voltz in the amount of \$2,000.

O'Brien earned \$500 from the Wrangell Emblem Club. The Joel Wing Scholarship, also supplied by the Emblem Club, went to Trevor Miller in the amount of \$1,000. A third scholarship from the emblem club, the Allen Benjamin Scholarship, went to Helgeson in the amount of \$1,000.

The final scholarship awarded that night was the Anna Loftus Ream Scholarship. This scholarship was set up by the Ream family, in honor of their mother who grew up in

Wrangell. This year's scholarship of \$2,500 went to Helgeson.

"We are super proud of all of the hard work that you have put into this," Esco said, addressing the seniors. "I know it has required a great deal of effort on your part to put in lots of those essays, getting letters of recommendation, and lots of other things, but congratulations on that."

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Tasha Massin, class of 2020, celebrating her graduation from Wrangell High School.

PHOTO SUBMITTED BY
VINCENT BALANSAG



WHS graduate Kody Paul tosses his cap into the air.



Laura and Kara Helgeson about to begin their procession during the WHS class of 2020 graduation ceremony.



Tate Miller, after receiving his diploma, taking some roses for his family members during last week's WHS graduation ceremony.

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Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH
Fisheries columnist

Alaska to receive \$50 million from \$300 million fisheries relief funds in CARES Act

Giving COVID relief funds to the seafood industry and stepping on the gas for off-shore fish farming are two big takeaways from the executive orders and congressional packages coming out of the nation's capital.

Recent news that Alaska would receive \$50 million from the \$300 million fisheries relief funds in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was well received by industry stakeholders and it's likely to be followed by more.

A May 15 hearing called "COVID 19 impacts to American Fisheries and the Seafood Supply Chain" was scheduled by the U.S. House Natural Resources Committee to focus on the lack of assistance for harvesters and processors.

A bipartisan group of 49 House members also has pushed for at least \$2 billion for the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture to purchase domestically caught and processed seafood and to distribute it through food assistance programs, as the agency does for agricultural products.

Likewise, a group of 25 Senators is trying to get an additional \$3 billion for the seafood industry from the next relief package. A new bill called the Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions Act (HEROES) would add another \$3 trillion to overall relief assistance.

While it builds on the CARES Act, critics claim it does little for the seafood industry except to give NOAA another \$100 million to aid fishery participants.

Undercurrent News reported that President Trump called the HEROES bill 'dead on arrival' saying it contains too many unrelated priorities, such as expanding access to mail-in ballots.

Somewhat lost in the particulars about relief payouts is the federal government's renewed push and strict guidelines for expanding U.S. aquaculture.

The May 7 executive order by Trump that cut loose the first batch of fishing funds also calls for an update to the 2017 National Aquaculture Development Plan in order to "strengthen domestic aquaculture production and improve the efficiency and predictability of permitting."

It states that "more than 85 percent of the seafood eaten in the U.S. is imported" and outlines rigorous ways and timelines to turn that around.

It also designates NOAA as the lead agency for aquaculture projects from three to 200 miles offshore.

Among other things, the order calls for a "guidance document" within eight months that describes regulatory requirements for aquaculture

operations and identifies grant programs.

It also removes barriers to permitting and calls for a proposed U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "nationwide permit authorizing finfish aquaculture activities" within 90 days.

Within one year, federal agencies, fishery management councils and states are required to identify at least two "Aquaculture Opportunity Areas" suitable for commercial operations. And within two years of identifying those areas, agencies must complete an Environmental Impact Statement, and come up with two additional opportunities to be developed in the following four years. Finally, Trump's order calls for the establishment of a new Seafood Trade Task Force that will, within 30 days, create a new agency to promote American seafood internationally, resolve technical barriers to U.S. seafood exports, and support fair market access for US products.

(Suggestion: start with the seafood trade imbalance with Russia. Russia has not purchased a single pound of U.S. seafood since 2014, yet the value of Russian imports to the U.S. has grown 70 percent since 2014. The amount has tripled to nearly \$670 million since 2016.)

Tim Bristol, director of SalmonState, agreed with the need to maximize the value of our country's seafood industry, but called Trump's order "the wrong approach."

"It ignores the fact that America already has healthy wild fisheries generating billions of dollars in revenue and providing hundreds of thousands of jobs. We should be investing our resources in what we already have and better maximizing the value of our fisheries to American communities rather than displacing hard-working fishing families

with open-water feedlots and fooling ourselves into believing that farmed fish will solve all of our problems," he said in a statement.

Fish farming is banned in Alaska although growing shellfish and seaweeds is permitted. At a U.S. Dept. of Commerce hearing in 2018, Sam Rabung, director of the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game's commercial fisheries division, said: "I think it's safe to say that we're going to fight pretty hard to maintain the state's opt-out option and maintain the ability to prohibit

finfish farming off of Alaska."

Copper River salmon slump - It was slow going for the May 15 fishery at Copper River, which marks the official start of Alaska's salmon season. Just over 3,000 fish crossed the docks (1,491 sockeyes; 1,646 Chinook) by 337 deliveries in a 12 hour opener.

Prices tanked for the famous "first fish" that usually fetch the highest prices of the year. Fishermen reported a base of \$3/lb for sockeye salmon and \$6/lb or slightly higher for kings for starters.

That compares to record prices in 2019 of \$10 and \$14, respectively.

Instead of the usual diners at high end restaurants getting the first tastes, front line workers at Seattle's Swedish Hospital were the first to be treated to the prized fish the day after the fishery.






A partnership of Seattle chef Tom Douglas, Alaska Airlines, Trident Seafoods, Ocean Beauty Seafoods and the Copper River Marketing Association provided 200 salmon meals to the nurses, doctors,

Continued on page 11

SEARHC's Commitment to Wrangell during COVID-19

As our state continues to adjust to COVID-19 developments and mandates, SEARHC is actively monitoring its practices and services in order to continue providing a safe and secure environment.

Recent Activities in Wrangell

-  Performed more than 300 COVID-19 tests
-  Established an alternate COVID-19 testing site for staff and community members
-  Continued part of the local Incident Command System
-  Began prescription delivery and curbside pick-up service
-  Increased access to Telehealth and video appointments

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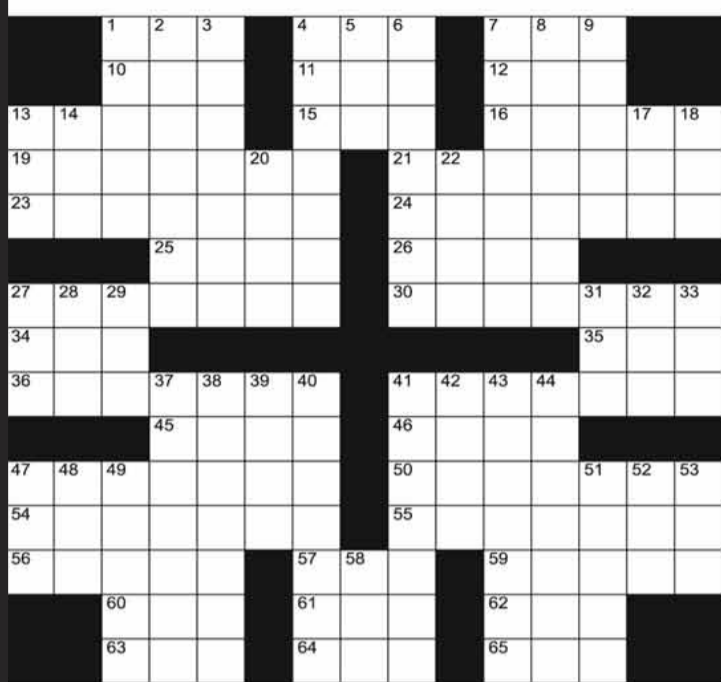


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Comics



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. It's now called Experian
- 4. You can draw it
- 7. Very fast aircraft
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Fifth note of a major scale
- 12. Biochemical abbreviation
- 13. Make somebody laugh
- 15. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 16. City in NE Morocco
- 19. Colorless gas
- 21. NE football player
- 23. A snake is one
- 24. Small spot
- 25. Inform
- 26. Republic of Ireland
- 27. Large statues
- 30. Documents about an individual
- 34. Helps little firms
- 35. Namibia's former name
- 36. Large insects
- 41. Thirsty
- 45. A well-defined track or path
- 46. One who utilizes
- 47. Plant-eating mammals
- 50. Not in tip-top shape
- 54. Alternate names
- 55. A part of a broadcast serial
- 56. City in central Italy
- 57. LOTR actor McKellen
- 59. Trees provide it
- 60. Men's fashion accessory
- 61. Type of screen
- 62. Snakelike fish
- 63. Possesses
- 64. When you aim to get there
- 65. Tooth caregiver

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Hit heavily
- 2. Italian rice dish
- 3. Some are cocktail
- 4. A citizen of Israel
- 5. Read-only memory
- 6. Passed by
- 7. Northern diving ducks
- 8. References
- 9. Iranian language
- 13. Swiss river
- 14. Woman (French)
- 17. Gov't department (abbr.)
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Ailments
- 22. Balkan Jewish appetizer
- 27. Reciprocal of a sine
- 28. Skywalker mentor __-Wan
- 29. Resinous secretion of insects
- 31. Similar
- 32. Female sheep
- 33. Cool!
- 37. Borders the Adriatic Sea
- 38. Flowers
- 39. It's sometimes upped
- 40. Immobile
- 41. Female body parts
- 42. Common request
- 43. Made a second thrust
- 44. Fell into deep sleep
- 47. Subway resident
- 48. Brew
- 49. The event of being born
- 51. Aspirations
- 52. Doctor of Education
- 53. Punk musician __ Dee Ramone
- 58. A subdivision of a play

Fish Factor

Continued from page 7 and other medical

professionals, reported SeafoodNews.com.

On May 17, the same group organized a Grilling for Good-will event in Ballard, featuring a special \$45 Copper River salmon meal for pick up with 100% of the proceeds donated to Food Lifeline.

Letter to the fleets - As thousands of boats head to the salmon grounds, everyone knows it's not business as usual. United Fishermen of Alaska has penned a letter to the fleets with a concise list of the new rules in place during the COVID plague.

Above all, you must know what is required of you and have a plan to implement the protocols, wrote UFA president Matt Alward of Homer, adding: "As a vessel operator, you are responsible for your crew's compliance with the mandate."

"We also need to understand if there's any local rules in the communities that we're fishing in, and on top of that, if some of the boat yards or harbors or even the supply stores and whatnot have their own rules that we should follow," Alward said in a phone interview. "If your crew's coming from out of state, it's important to have already figured out how and where you're going to quarantine and how you're going to get food and supplies without breaking quarantine. The quarantine part for those coming from out of state I think is by far the most important thing to really protect our communities and ourselves from bringing the virus in."

What about those who refuse to wear masks? Alward said contracts with his crew require that they follow all mandates and not doing so is grounds for termination.

"They don't have troopers running around making sure everyone's following this. It's really upon ourselves to self-regulate," he said. "If someone sees crew members from another boat running around town without masks and violating the rules, it's going to get the whole industry in trouble with the community. Fishing is a privilege, not a right, and we have to respect the community we fish in. The hope is everyone will comply."

Find the UFA letter and get COVID fishing updates at www.ufafish.org/

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB ANNOUNCEMENT HARBOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Wrangell Harbor Department will accept applications for the position of **Administrative Assistant** through May 26, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This is a permanent position with all City & Borough benefits, and is part of the IBEW collective bargaining agreement.

This position provides comprehensive administrative and accounting support to the Harbor Department. The Harbor Administrative Assistant plays a critical role in serving as one of the Harbor Department's primary interfaces with the public.

Applicant must be able to maintain records, process forms, and operate a personal computer with standard and customized software applications. Requires strong math skills and a general understanding of accounting principles to keep track of accounts, perform banking, and handle other transactions. Must be able to deal with a wide range of people, including situations in which individuals may be upset. Must be able to perform a variety of tasks with accuracy under the pressure of time-sensitive deadlines.

A High School Diploma or GED and office-related experience is required. A background knowledge of waterfront activities and vessels is desirable. Must have a valid Alaska driver's license or the ability to obtain one.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email to amollen@wrangell.com. Pay for this position starts at \$20.26 per hour DOE. Applicant must successfully pass a pre-employment drug screening and background check prior to employment.

The City and Borough of Wrangell is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Lisa Von Bargaen
Borough Manager

Publish: May 21, 2020

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION Port & Harbor Director PORT & HARBOR DEPARTMENT

The City & Borough of Wrangell is accepting applications for the position of Port & Harbor Director beginning April 29, 2020. This position is open until filled with the first review of applications beginning the week of May 26, 2020.

The City & Borough of Wrangell is seeking a leader for the Port & Harbor Department with a proven record of port & harbor management. Wrangell's Port & Harbor Department is made up on one port facility, 4 harbors, upland storage for boats, and a Marine Service Center (shipyard). Wrangell operates a 105-ton marine travel lift and a 300-ton ASCOM boat lift, the largest in Southeast Alaska. The Port & Harbor Director will have a crucial role in growing utilization of and revenue from the facilities in Wrangell.

This position plans, organizes, and manages all Port, Harbor, and Marine Service Center functions and operations in accordance with Title 14 of the Wrangell Municipal Code. Delegates tasks to employees and ensures that duties are performed safely and efficiently. Reviews Port & Harbor Department priorities; develops strategic plans, goals and objectives; evaluates and analyzes issues, and recommends and implements solutions; assures that all Port, Harbor and Marine Service Center plans meet state, and federal compliance regulations.

The position requires in-depth knowledge of all harbor regulations, functions, and operations. Requires supervisory skills and the ability to be diplomatic with a variety of people. Requires some accounting knowledge for budget preparation. Requires excellent oral and written communication skills and decision-making ability. Requires experience and thorough knowledge of marine vessel and facility maintenance procedures. Requires maintenance skills to perform a variety of carpentry repair tasks. Requires verbal interpersonal skills to work with Coast Guard and other related agencies. Requires an understanding of all marine regulations to ensure Harbor safety.

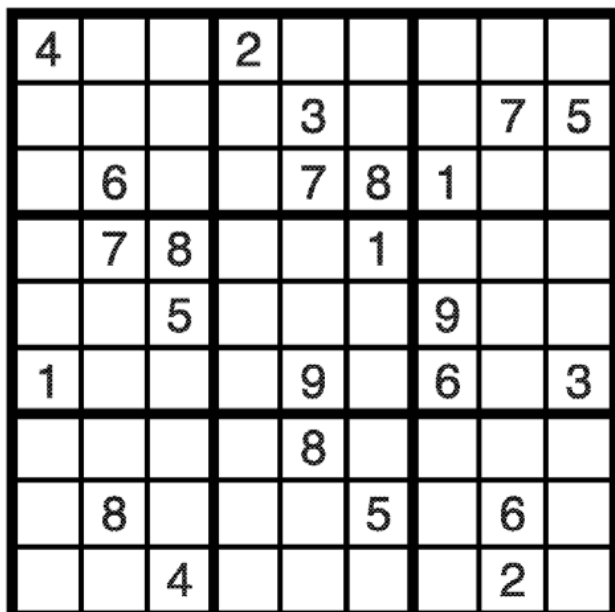
This is a full-time, salaried position with full benefits, paid at Grade 25 ranging from \$5363 to \$6769 per month. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs. Applicants must successfully complete a pre-employment criminal background investigation and drug screening. To be considered, submit an application, resume, and cover letter to Aleisha Mollen, PO Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email to amollen@wrangell.com.

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

Lisa Von Bargaen
Borough Manager

Publish: May 7, 14, 21, 28, 2020

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School board told the district has a hostile work environment

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell School Board met via web conference last Monday, May 18 and heard of several unethical and potentially illegal things happening in the district. Another person said the district had a hostile work environment.

David Macri was one of the speakers that evening. Macri was the district's former secondary school principal, before his resignation and being put on administrative leave in March of this year. Macri spoke in the meeting to say that there were several problems in the school district's work culture. He did not go into details, but he said there were several unethical and potentially illegal things happening in the district, and he wanted to apologize to the public for not reporting them while he was principal. He said that the public needed to ask various questions of the school district, such as why multiple key personnel have resigned in the past year? How does the school district have "two of the possibly highest paid teachers in the United States?" How can a principal-teacher be allowed to enjoy the benefits of teaching and the teacher's union, while also acting as principal?

"I am saddened to have been a part of the current state of affairs I am witness to occurring in the Wrangell School District," Macri said. "Please let me explain that while I knew these things were hap-

pening I dedicated myself to working them out. I wanted to be of assistance to a new administration, to be a team player, and to be a part of something that was pure and just, through collaboration, cooperation, and coordination, and teamwork. I now see the error of my way."

Brittani Robbins, IT Coordinator for the district, also shared some concerns with the school board. The district has a hostile work environment, she said, where administration has ignored or attempted to stifle complaints from employees. She also said that she has been made fun of for medical conditions she has, and has had her absenteeism and travel for medical needs discussed by staff without her presence, which she said goes against ADA regulations.

In a separate letter to the school board, also received in this meeting, Robbins outlined some concerns she has about the future of the district's technology department. The superintendent recently decided to dissolve her position as of May 22, she said, in an effort to save money. This cuts the technology department staff in half, she said, and would leave the technology director alone to handle the entire department's duties. Some of the duties she normally handles, outlined in the letter, include on-demand tech support, software maintenance, FY 20/21 quote requests from vendors, deploying new digital resources, ticket request management, device monitoring,

software and social media audits, computer lab maintenance, and much more.

"In a time when the world is changing so drastically and people are being forced to move to a digital style of learning, working, and living, it doesn't make sense to cut technology by 50%," her letter reads.

Diane O'Brien also spoke to share concerns about the technology department. She is concerned about how decisions are being made in the district. The decision to get rid of a technology assistant program, she said, was not discussed with the department or the building administrators. At a time when technology is more important than ever for delivering an education to students, it seems like a bad idea to eliminate half the IT staff.

"I understand that the position description does not even include what the present staff's responsibilities are," she said. "Minus one position, a litany of tasks that will not be performed, we will soon go from being the best at technology to the last in technology."

O'Brien also wanted to thank everybody in the district for their work in putting together this year's online graduation.

Ryan Howe spoke during the public comment section of the meeting. He wanted to say that, in his opinion, the school district did a good job handling distance education during the COVID-19 pandemic at the end of this school

year. It was a rough start, he said, with classrooms and teachers having to switch to online education suddenly, but he said he felt things came together very well by the end of the year.

"It was very chaotic to start, but I think in the end it wound up being a pretty positive experience," he said.

Following the public comments, the school board moved on to consider what steps need to be taken for the next school year. Superintendent Debbe Lancaster provided a brief presentation on "Alaska Smart Start 2020." Smart Start, she said, is meant to be a framework for how school districts can plan for the new school year in the midst of the pandemic. This framework was put together by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education and Early Development, according to information in the meeting's agenda packet. Basically, Lancaster explained, the school district needs to establish three separate plans for how to reopen and operate this next year, ranging from "low risk" to "high risk" frameworks.

"Just to kind of give you a little bit of a framework, low risk would be basically opening up as normal, on time, and having a few modifications," Lancaster said. "Maybe some masks available, definitely health precautions like washing hands all the time, that sort of thing, a little more spacing in between desks. High risk is basically what we're doing

now. We don't have students in the buildings and there's no congregate activity at all."

These three plans can be modular, too, according to the agenda packet. This means that portions of a "medium risk" plan, hypothetically, could be used as part of a wider "low risk" plan. Likewise, a portion of a "low risk" plan could be used in a wider "high risk" plan, depending on the situation. The three areas where the plans need to focus on are the conditions for learning, the continuity of learning, and the capacities for learning.

Lancaster said that some plans were already being brainstormed amongst staff at Evergreen Elementary School. Some of the ideas being tossed around include dividing the student body into different groups, and alternating which group comes into the buildings on different times of the day. There was also an idea to have a four-day school week, to allow the buildings to be thoroughly cleaned each Friday. Brainstorming on these plans will be ongoing, she said, but Smart Start is designed to be a framework for what the plans should look like.

During the meeting, the school board also appointed Jade Balansag to be the board's new student representative, approved of a memorandum of agreement with Michele Galla to deliver online courses, and approved of a four-year lease of iPads and other equipment for the student body in the total amount of \$178,563.

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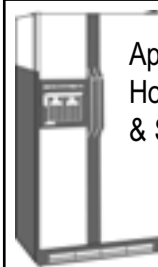


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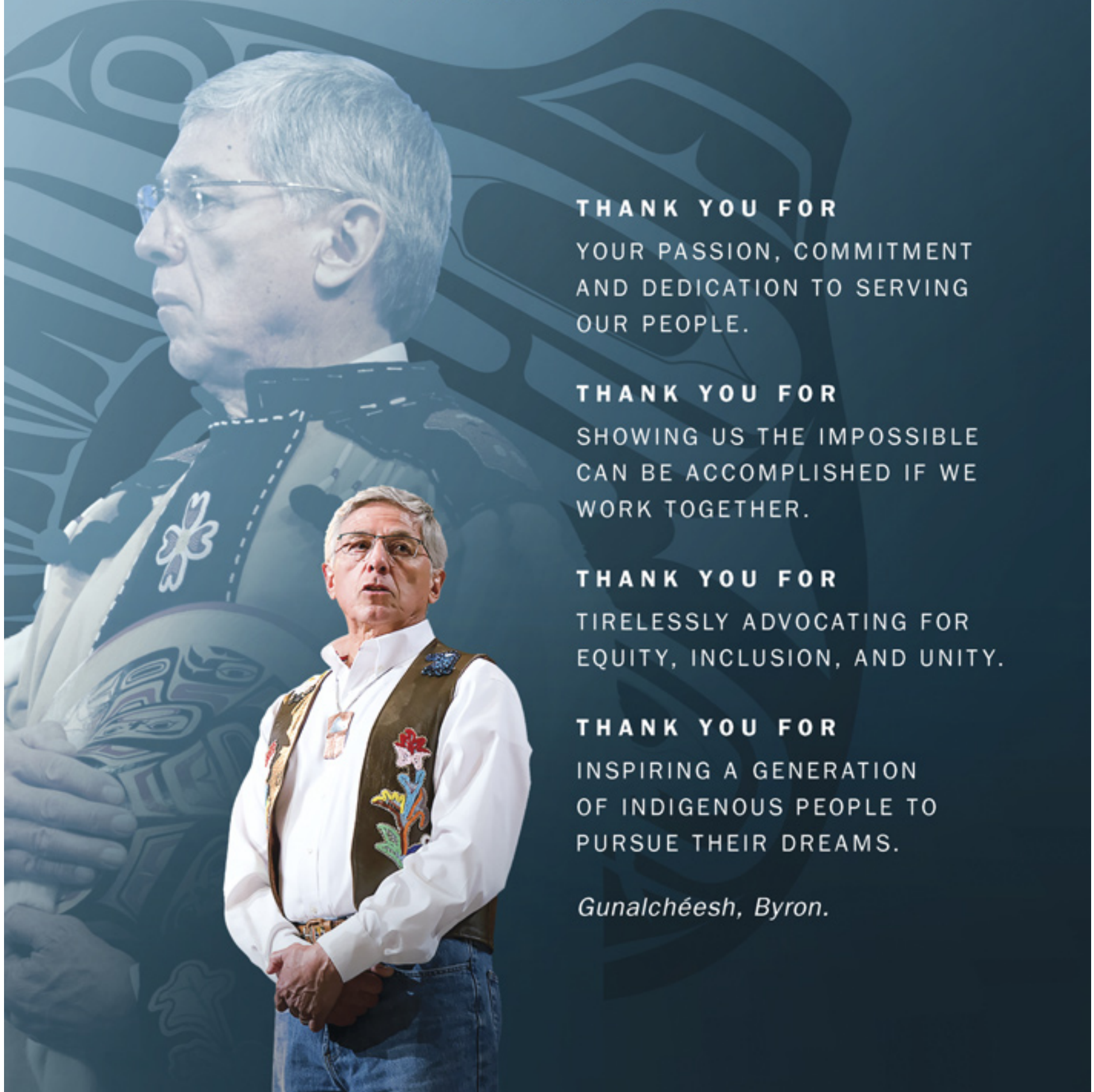
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Gunalchéesh

BYRON MALLOTT

Dux da neik, K'oo del ta'
April 6, 1943 – May 8, 2020



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR PASSION, COMMITMENT
AND DEDICATION TO SERVING
OUR PEOPLE.

THANK YOU FOR
SHOWING US THE IMPOSSIBLE
CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IF WE
WORK TOGETHER.

THANK YOU FOR
TIRELESSLY ADVOCATING FOR
EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND UNITY.

THANK YOU FOR
INSPIRING A GENERATION
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE TO
PURSUE THEIR DREAMS.

Gunalchéesh, Byron.



*Our condolences to his family
and to his clan, the Kwaashk'i
Kwáan of Yakutat.*