

Sales taxes indicate businesses doing well

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Sales tax returns indicate the spring and summer of 2016 to have been one of the best on record for the local economy.

From April through the end of October Wrangell collected more than \$1,659,000, which is the most ever brought in during those two quarters – historically the city's busiest. When adjusted for inflation, only 2011 was a better season, but by only 0.7 percent.

The 2016 fiscal year as a whole came to a close on June 30, and returns for the year neared \$2.65M. This made it second only to FY15, which brought in \$2.68M in sales taxes, the crest of a rising trend since 2011.

While Alaska has no state-wide sales or income taxes, it allows municipalities to issue sales and use taxes on a wide variety of goods, rents and services. At seven percent, the City and Borough of Wrangell is tied with Kodiak for having the highest sales tax rate in the state. Proportionally it represents the largest source of revenue for the city's budget, nearly two-thirds more than property taxes for FY15, and greater than PILT, Secure Rural Schools, state revenue sharing and jail funding combined.

Sales taxes alone are an imperfect measure of the local economy, as in Wrangell sales amounts exceeding \$1,500 are exempted. Small sales and services which do not exceed \$200 per year in total are also exempted under Wrangell code. As such, total spending can be estimated to have been at least \$23.7M, but is likely considerably greater.

Which sectors of the economy the taxes come from and how they are faring are also difficult to tell, as municipal code protects information obtained from such returns. Speaking with local merchants, food sales have remained consistent over the summer compared to previous seasons, while retail has varied between vendors.

Another area for concern has been competition from e-commerce sales, with the variety and price of goods avail-

Continued on page 12



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Sharing the wealth

Dressed as a Ninja Turtle, Alyssa Howell and several bridesmaids dress up for the Turkey Trot 5K, an annual run put on each Thanksgiving morning by the running group Southeast Beasts. Braving the cold before the holiday feasting, participants often don costumes for the charitable run.

Hospital meets with Assembly over hospital construction

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's hospital administration and members of its advisory board met with the Borough Assembly on Tuesday evening to discuss the next steps for construction of a new building.

Wrangell Medical Center desires a new hospital facility in order to meet state and federal standards, in addition to the accompanying benefits to service and revenue such a move would bring. The planned location would be off of Wood Street, neighboring Alaska Island Community Service's clinic.

Progress on the project has taken several false starts over the past half-decade, including the scuttling of a \$24.7M loan through the Department of Agriculture's Rural Development office following a contentious recall election in 2012. The past two years have seen WMC awaiting a decision for predevelopment assistance by Foraker Group in Anchorage, a prospect which now appears unlikely.

Several design concepts had come from past efforts, but no consensus was ever reached on how to proceed. In his discussion with the Assembly, hospital CEO Robert Rang suggested that past plans should be discarded and the pro-

ject redesigned anew.

"To get the community's support it strikes me it would be best to start from scratch," he told them. Rang explained several benefits to this, including bringing down the overall cost of the project from the \$26M price tag it had previously carried, in part due to its planned size.

"I think we can probably downsize. I'm not sure where that number is, but I think that would be a good starting point," he said. The needs of a new facility could be around 40,000 square feet, up from the hospital's current 27,000.

Rang felt a good way to economize the new building's revised design would be to have multiple levels, reducing its overall footprint while still allowing expansion in areas the hospital would need, such as its long-term care unit, which was cited in its initial certificate of need request.

"My vision would be to have two floors. I think that would help reduce our cost as far as the amount of roof space that we would need. It would also allow us to separate the long term care home from the institutional part of the facility," he said.

He would still like to see the new hospital go next to AICS, as the two medical providers work closely together

and share services. A new WMC building would mirror the clinic's aesthetically, and be close enough to connect with a covered walkway.

"It needs to compliment it," Rang explained.

He would also like to see a more modern facility constructed, conforming to the needs and expectations of the healthcare industry. "On the hospital side of things, we need to have private rooms instead of shared rooms because of privacy and section control issues, the new standards that are expected of a hospital."

Currently WMC has eight in-patient beds, two to a room. Long-term care is certified for 14 beds, but with the community's aging population Rang pointed out there is a need for greater capacity; up to 18 or 20.

A modern facility would also need to take into account greater technological needs. A new facility would need a dedicated server room, sufficiently wired and cooled.

Rang explained a new building could mean additional positions as well: "If we went with the two-story model to separate LTC from the acute care portion of the hospital, there is going to be some minor additional staffing just to

make sure that we have adequate staffing on each individual floor." He estimated that could add two or three full-time equivalent positions.

Some of the cost for a new facility could also impact billing, which would boost hospital revenues and could help pay for construction.

"We're cost-based reimbursed, so whatever our costs that are associated – and that includes capital expenses – goes towards that. So Medicare and Medicaid, we would just raise our rates to cover some of that," Rang explained. He estimated both sources make up about 80 percent of WMC's revenue stream.

"That only covers a percentage," he added. At present the hospital operates on roughly \$12M per year, and brings in enough to cover those costs.

"It's going to require some kind of dedicated funding," commented Doran Hammett, hospital financial director.

Rang brought up different avenues for funding the city could possibly pursue, such as loans through USDA Rural Development at the federal level, or revenue bonds.

"There are other types of bonds too, but you have to be careful with that

Continued on page 3

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, December 1: Ethan Gassaway, Nickole Bunes, Scott Angerman, Todd Petersen, **Friday, December 2:** Chris Royster, Alyssa Allen, Lester Kuntz, Elmer Mork, **Saturday, December 3:** Chuck Traylor, Marilyn Mork, Kathy Blackburn, Erika Riley, Audrey McCandless, **Anniversary:** Chris and Kathy Blackburn, **Sunday, December 4:** Jared Allen, Stacy Altepeter, Mark Peterman, **Monday, December 5:** Ashlee Randall, Kimberly Powell, **Tuesday, December 6:** Brandy Castle, Monica Wedam, Jason Neyman, **Wednesday, December 7:** Mercedes Angerman, Twyla Nore, Kellen Peterson, **Anniversary:** Bill and Marlene Messmer, Ed and Janice Kalkins, Tom and Tedi Sims, Mike and Barb Rugo, **Thursday, December 8:** Vienna Powers, Bradley Eklund, Steven Smith,

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

Senior Center Menu

Friday, December 2:

Country fried moose steak, mashed taters and creamy gravy, squash, danish salad

Monday, December 5:

Potato soup, 1/2 ham and tomato sandwich, danish salad

Tuesday, December 6:

Moose spinach rice, carrot and raisin salad, brussels sprouts, hot roll

Wednesday, December 7:

BBQ chicken, mixed veggies, potato salad, bran muffin

Thursday, December 8:

Creole pork over rice, steamed spinach, zucchini and tomato salad

Friday, December 9:

Salisbury steak, boiled potatoes, broccoli, cabbage slaw

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

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

FERRY SCHEDULE

Departures

Northbound

Saturday, December 3

Matanuska 1:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 4

Kennicott 3:45 p.m.

Tuesday, December 6

Matanuska 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 9

Matanuska 10:15 p.m.

Sunday, December 11

Kennicott 5:45 p.m.

Tuesday, December 13

Matanuska 8:00 p.m.

Southbound

Friday, December 2

Matanuska 9:15 a.m.

Monday, December 5

Matanuska 5:15 a.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Kennicott 5:30 a.m.

Friday, December 9

Matanuska 7:45 a.m.

Monday, December 12

Matanuska 5:45 a.m.

Wednesday, December 14

Kennicott 6:00 a.m.

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



TIDES TABLE December 1 - December 8

	High Tides		Low Tides					
	AM Time	PM Ft	AM Time	PM Ft	AM Time	PM Time	Ft	Ft
Dec. 1	1:53	14.6	1:30	16.3	7:17	3.4	7:50	-1.1
Dec. 2	2:27	14.3	2:01	15.8	7:50	3.7	8:24	-0.7
Dec. 3	3:03	14.0	2:35	15.2	8:26	4.1	9:01	-0.3
Dec. 4	3:41	13.7	3:13	14.5	9:09	4.5	9:43	0.3
Dec. 5	4:25	13.5	4:01	13.7	10:01	4.7	10:31	0.9
Dec. 6	5:18	13.5	5:05	12.9	11:02	4.7	11:27	1.5
Dec. 7	6:21	13.8	6:26	12.5	-----	----	12:13	4.3
Dec. 8	7:26	14.6	7:50	12.7	0:30	2.0	1:28	3.2

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, December 1

SAIL Class: 10 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) free class is a strength, balance and fitness class for adults 65+. For more info call 874-3375.

Healthy Eating Demo on Healthy Food Preparation: 11:30 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Free class. Learn how easy it is to prepare healthy and delicious food. Samples will be available. For more info call 874-3375.

Yoga: 5:30 p.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

Saturday, December 2

Midnight Madness: 5 p.m. Upstairs at the Elks. Wrangell Emblem Club midnight madness upstairs at the Elks.

Monday, December 5

Yoga: 5:30 p.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

Tuesday, December 6

SAIL Class: 10 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) free class is a strength, balance and fitness class for adults.

Sunday, December 11

Wrangell Community Chorale Christmas Concert: 3 p.m. Nolan Center. The Wrangell Community Chorale's Christmas concert will be held on December 11, everyone is welcome.

Thursday, December 15

Christmas Tree Lane: Nolan Center. Come vote for your favorite Christmas tree in the Nolan Center at Christmas Tree Lane during regular museum hours until 2 p.m. on December 15.

Is the attendance at your meeting or event low? Call Rachel at the Sentinel to have it placed here.

Continuing Events

PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES: Lap Swim: M, W, F 6:00-7:30 a.m. & 5:00-6:00 p.m., M-F 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., S 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; **Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:** at the Pool: M, W, F, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; **Water Aerobics:** M, W, F 10:00-11:00 a.m.; **Family Swim:** F 6:00-7:00 p.m.; **General Swim:** M & W 6:00-7:00 p.m., F 7:00-8:00 p.m., S 1:00-2:00 p.m.; **Weight Room:** M-TH 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. **Extra 2 Lane Lap Swim:** M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

OTHER MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

AA Meetings: Tu. 7 p.m., Toss Off Th. 7 p.m., Smoked Fish F 8 p.m., Step Study Sat. 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Study Materials provided. Wed. M & M 12 p.m. at the Catholic Parish Hall, use back entrance.

NA Meeting: Wednesday, We Do Recover, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

Bridge Social: F, 1 p.m. at th Island of Faith Lutheran Church 874-3440, 874-3507.

Salvation Army Food Bank: Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. For information or questions please call Major Michael Bates at 874-3753.

The Way We Were

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

December 7, 1916: President Wilson recently signed a proclamation setting apart an area of thirty-eight acres within the Tongass national forest, Alaska, as the Old Kasaan national monument. The tract embraces the abandoned Haida Indian village of Old Kasaan, situated on Prince of Wales island, in South eastern Alaska, about thirty miles west of Ketchikan. The village of Old Kasaan was abandoned by the Indians about ten years ago, and among the relics which remain there are about fifty Indian totem poles, five or six of which are classed as exceedingly good specimens. In the deserted village there also remain eight large square buildings, which were originally constructed according to the peculiar plan of the Haida Indians, and which, it is stated by those best qualified to know, represent the best specimens of Haida architecture that now exist.

December 5, 1941: Ten men will answer Wrangell's second call under Selective Service for duty in the U.S. Army, it was announced by the Draft Board this week. While Wrangell was asked to furnish only eight men in this call, it was short on the first call and is calling two more to make up the initial quota. The men are scheduled to leave from here Monday aboard the Denali for Chilkoot Barracks.

December 2, 1966: Walter J. Hickel, Anchorage businessman, will be sworn in Monday, December 5, in Juneau as Alaska's second governor under

statehood. Hickel, a Republican, edged out Gov. Wm. Egan, Democrat, in Egan's attempt at re-election. Although Hickel takes office Monday and will start setting up his administration, the official inaugural and an inaugural ball will be held in Juneau on January 14.

December 5, 1991: The book is officially closed on wood waste penalties resulting from the mound of wood waste that became known as Mt. Seley. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has agreed to drop \$347,500 in fines to Alaska Pulp Corp. The fines accumulated as a result of wood waste permit violations at the Wrangell sawmill. A press release from APC said the fines were

dropped because of "extra environmental work" done at the mill. APC has agreed to pay \$7,000 to reimburse costs incurred by ADEC to oversee and monitor the mill's efforts to reduce excess wood waste at Mt. Seley. George Woodbury, APC vice president of timber operations, said, "We understand ADEC concluded that \$1.5 million of the mill's wood waste costs went beyond the terms of the consent order signed in April 1989 with former mill operator Wrangell Forest Products. Our added pollution prevention efforts and costs more than offset any potential fines." Woodbury said the mill has spent more than \$9.3 million over the past two years to remove the excess wood waste at Mt. Seley and other sites around the mill.



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
November 20	33	24
November 21	39	28
November 22	35	33
November 23	41	33
November 24	39	32
November 25	42	33
November 26	42	33
November 27	41	35



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Dec. 1	7:54a	3:19p	7:25h
Dec. 2	7:56a	3:18p	7:22h
Dec. 3	7:57a	3:17p	7:20h
Dec. 4	7:59a	3:17p	7:18h
Dec. 5	8:01a	3:16p	7:15h
Dec. 6	8:02a	3:15p	7:13h
Dec. 7	8:03a	3:15p	7:12h
Dec. 8	8:05a	3:14p	7:09h

Suspects found in boat burglaries in Reliance Harbor

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Local police were able to track down a number of items stolen from boats in Reliance Harbor during a search last week.

Two Wrangell residents are being charged with the crime: Aaron Howell, 20, and Laven Ritchie, 19. Each faces six Class C felony counts, including three of Burglary 2, theft of a firearm,

Theft 2, and tampering with physical evidence. Both men also face two charges each of Class A misdemeanors for theft and property damage. The initial charging documents were filed with the Alaska Court System on Monday.

The break-ins were discovered in the early morning hours of November 19, with several moored boats reportedly entered, one forcibly. After making

inquiries, Wrangell officers exercised a search warrant at a local residence on November 23, discovering a rifle and a number of other items reported missing.

"I was able to identify some things, maybe about half of what I lost," said Walter Moorhead, one of the boat owners affected by the thefts. His boat Sockeye had its door broken into, which Moorhead explained was probably the most expensive part of the theft.

"Luckily I have the wood shop, so I've been repairing that," he said.

Lieutenant Merlin Ehlers explained the find was the result of local tips and experienced policing.

"It's a cooperative effort," he said. "We always have to thank the community for any kind of help, because tips help make the case."

Moorhead said the break-in had been a first for him, though little items like gas or pieces of line have been lifted over the years. Since the incident he has received a lot of advice, including leaving the boat unlocked from here on out. Under the circumstances, he accepted it might have ended in the same outcome, minus the broken door.

Police report

Monday, November 21

Civil Issue.

Tuesday, November 22

Report of dog being hit.

Agency Assist: DOT report of slick roads.

Agency Assist: WMC.

Citizen Assist.

Wednesday, November 23

Agency Assist – Public Works notified of slick roads.

Vandalized Vehicle Reported.

Parking Complaint – warning given.

Possible Scam.

Animal Cruelty.

Reckless Driving – Driver has been warned and spoke with officer about icy road conditions.

Agency Assist – DOT notified of slick roads.

Thursday, November 24

Agency Assist – Public Works.

Agency Assist – DOT.

Traffic Stop – Verbal warning for driving without lights.

Friday, November 25

Citizen Assist: Unlock vehicle.

Arrested Doreen Feller, 50, on charges of Criminal Mischief in the fourth degree.

Saturday, November 26

Citizen Assist: Unlocked vehicle.

Agency Assist: Public works slick roads.

Citizen Assist: Person reported car in ditch.

MVA.

Sunday, November 27

Nothing to Report.

There were five ambulance calls and one dog complaint during this week.

"I'm still thinking on that one," Moorhead commented. People can report any additional information they may have at the station, or can call 874-3304.

WHIPPING POST MERCANTILE

located in the SNO Building

Tuesday December 6th, 12-6 p.m.



75 cents
on basic clothing
10% off
everything else

Store Hours
Tue.-Fri. 12-6p.m. Sat.12-4 p.m.
Phone: 660-7552


Wrangell Teachers' Association presents

Season's Readings

December 14,
6-7pm
Evergreen
Elementary

Join us for Christmas stories, cookies and fun!

Questions, contact Ryan Howe at the Elementary School.



Rewards that soar!



Visa Platinum Rewards

As low as **9.15%** APR

No annual fee! Earn reward points toward travel, gift cards and more when you use our credit card.



Visit our Petersburg office, call **907-772-2900** or apply at alpsfcu.org

APR effective 11/1/16, subject to change and approval. Federally insured by NCUA

Hospital

Continued from page 1

because then that limits the city's ability to borrow for other projects later," he cautioned. This includes general obligation bonds, which could hinder new projects for the city for two or more decades.

As for the current hospital building, it could be put to other uses, though not meeting requirements to be a medical center. Once WMC relocates to a new facility, the previous building would revert to the city's care. The building was largely built in the mid-1960s, and preventative maintenance on it has fallen since the prospect of a new building appeared.

"There were a lot of ideas kicked around, but nothing definite," Mayor David Jack said. Because of its size and layout, it may be suitable for an educational campus, or else be subdivided for office space or other businesses. But with its maintenance needs and utilities issues, another

option would be to include the cost of its demolition with that of the new facilities' construction.

Funds from the previous building effort are still available for use in preparing a design. Approximately \$1.2M of a prior grant remains ready to use through May 2017, though an extension could be secured if a plan were in place for its use. Rang explained it could cover expenses for hiring an architect and a project manager. Army Corps permitting and other certifications for the project are still up-to-date through the spring.

Assembly members agreed it would be best for the hospital to proceed with taking on a consultant to assess the situation before hiring an architectural firm, which can run up to 10 percent of total project costs and would likely exhaust the grant resources.

"Before you start spending, I think we should check things first," Borough Manager Jeff Jabusch noted.



Heading networking events this season?

Make sure you're ready to impress with a set of striking Business Cards! We've got a range of ideas.

WRANGELL SENTINEL

P.O. Box 798 • 205 Front Street • Wrangell, AK 99929
PH: 874-2301 • FAX: 874-2303
EMAIL: wrgsent@gmail.com

Obituaries:

Dianna Kay Gadd, 53

Dianna Kay Gadd, 53, affectionately known as Kay Kay passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 11, 2016 after a long battle with cancer surrounded by family and close friend Willa Franks. She was born to the late Chet Maleski, Sr. and Virginia Maleski on March 21, 1963 at Wrangell's old Bishop Rowe hospital.

Being the youngest, she was welcomed by seven brothers and only sister Sue. She enjoyed being with her family and her animals. She was a great cook

and enjoyed baking, gardening, crocheting, sport fishing and running the river.

She was preceded in death by her parents Chet Maleski, Sr. and Virginia Maleski, brothers Bob Stockman, Terry Stockman and Mike Maleski.

She is survived by husband Barre Gadd, Sr.; daughters Candace Grissom (Scott) of Juneau, Alaska, Carissa Maleski, and Caleah Gadd both of Wrangell; sons Mike Maleski of Wrangell, Barre Gadd, Jr. (Amanda) of Ketchikan and Johnathan Gadd of



Dianna Kay Gadd

Wrangell; sister Suzette Habig (Neil) of Wrangell; brothers Bill Stockman and family of Wasilla, Alaska, Chet Maleski, Jr. and family of Pasco, Washington, Dan Maleski of Kennewick, Washington and Mark Maleski and family of Juneau; grandsons Ian Maleski of Wrangell and Mason Grissom of Juneau along with several cousins, numerous nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

By Kay's request there will be a private memorial and spreading of the ashes at a later date.

Jeremy Anthony Neel, 24

Jeremy Anthony Neel, 24, the son of Emilie Hansen Turner and Mitch Turner and Daniel and Janice Neel, and brother of Bradley Neel passed away on October 3, 2016.

Jeremy was born on September 23, 1992 at Everett General Hospital. He was raised in Mukilteo, where he made his life's deepest connections. He attended Columbia Elementary School, Harbor Pointe Middle School, Kamiak High School and Edmonds Community College.

He had numerous jobs after



Jeremy Anthony Neel

graduation but most recently worked in the inventory department for Sea-Dog Line in Everett.

Jeremy battled with many health issues early in life, including childhood cancer. For many years, his family searched for treatment answers. After several surgeries and procedures, Jeremy was able to live a healthy life and overcome the medical challenges he faced.

Always there for a laugh and a hug, Jeremy was a deeply caring and compassionate person. Everyone who met him could feel his kind and calm soul, which often brought out the best

in people. Jeremy was never one to harm or shout but often diffused anger to make peace.

His love of animals was well known. He cared for and cherished his dog, Louis, with a heart bigger than anything else in the world.

Many will remember Jeremy for one of his greatest talents, his art. He produced daily sketches of humorous ideas and pop-culture references that were as proficient as they were detailed. Each creation of paper and graphite he crafted

improved the world through lighthearted and insightful caricatures. His drawings brought everyone around him joy and amazement, due to the hilarious spectacle that was his wonderful talent.

Jeremy is also survived by his maternal grandmother, Elsie Hansen of Wrangell and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to Forefront Innovations, 4101 15th Ave NE, Box 354900, Seattle, WA 98195-4900.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Watch out. It did happen here.

Several years ago I filled out carefully all the documents I was told would direct those in medical care to know how to meet my wishes in case of a medical emergency. I felt secure in the assurance that these legal directives would be followed. Because of several times when my daughter had not been advised that I was hospitalized we also had a special directive that she was to be called by the hospital of any occurrence putting me in their care.

However, I had such an emergency on Seward's Day and was taken to emergency by our able town crew. It was quickly recognized that with the ball completely out on my hip I needed to be medivaced. A friend coming through recognizing me checked in and I asked him to notify my daughter I was to be medivaced. He left her a text. As she was out, we proceeded with the process preparing Providence Hospital in Anchorage to receive me. A friend was able to accompany me and the small plane took off.

The hospital never called my daughter. When she received the short message my friend had sent she immediately sought information from the hospital. They replied they could not tell her where I was or why. Nothing... She returned with our legal documents and again requested information. She is my soul survivor and has accompanied me on several blue code heart attacks in recent years. Again she was adamantly refused and accused, in her becoming adjective with distress, of being threatening. She took her legal documents to the police who told her it would need to be settled in court. The notary signature

also held no weight.

It was almost two days before I was able to call out to her and let her know where I was and why. I had arrived at the hospital in the evening, prepared for surgery first thing in the morning, and another many hours before awaking in recovery. Then I was able to call my frantic daughter who came immediately to Anchorage.

The hospital has apologized to me but not to her. All papers were in proper order but ignored apparently due to fear of government regulations or fines. I feel a warning is needed to my neighbors. The hospital has written new directives they feel will solve the problem. The new directives are much longer, very detailed and contain no notice to consider them as priority. So I fail to see real correction.

Jacquelyn Dozier

To the Editor:

One high spot of voting in Wrangell is the plate of cookies that awaits you as you complete your civic duty. I love cookies, even if I'm not always crazy about elections.

Who pays for them, I asked. I saw no news coverage of people eating cookies in other venues during our recent vote-fest. Is Wrangell unique?

It turns out that our city/borough pays for cookies given out during local elections. But Sarah Whittlesey-Merritt has personally paid for the cookies for Wrangell's state/federal elections for many years. I don't know if Wrangell is unique in providing cookies, but I do know that it's one of the things that makes this such a great place to live. And vote.

Special thanks to Sarah.

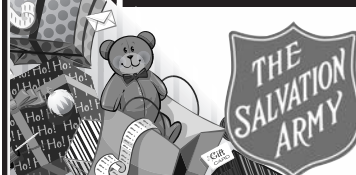
Alice Rooney

THANK YOU

We the family would like to thank the doctors and nurses and staff for the wonderful care and kindness shown to Kay Kay in her last days. We would also like to thank the community and friends for their love and support, flowers, monetary donations, cards and many trays of food. Thank you to Willa Franks for spending many hours with Kay and family. A big thank you to Sue St. Clair for being there when needed for Kay. Thank you to Krissy Smith for all that you have done for Kay. Special thank you to Kem and Susan Haggard and Don McConachie for all your prayers and support.

God Bless You All,
The Maleski and Gadd family

SALVATION ARMY Annual Christmas Food Assistance



DISTRIBUTION
December 19
611 Zimovia Highway
12:00 to 5:00 pm

We are in need of:

100 hams bone in or boneless, peanut butter, canned fruit, tuna, chili

Cash donations are accepted if you do not wish to shop for items.
Thank you Wrangell for your support and generosity to help those in need during the holidays.

Packing of boxes, **December 17, 10am to 2pm**
(we need 5-10 people)

4 volunteers are needed to help sort toys and bag them
December 17, 10am to 2pm
We need volunteers to stand kettles for 2 hour time slots.
Please call 874-3453 if you have questions or would like to help.
We need your help Wrangell!!

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

WRANGELL SENTINEL

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 1902
Published Weekly By: Pilot Publishing, Inc.

207 North Nordic Dr., PO Box 930 • Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone 907-772-9393 • Fax 907-772-4871

POSTMASTER: send address changes to Wrangell Sentinel, P.O. Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929

Sentinel Staff:

Co Publishers Ron & Anne Loesch
Reporters..... Dan Rudy
.....Jess Field
Front Office Rachel Coblentz
Production Ola Richards

The Wrangell Sentinel (USPS - 626480) is published every Thursday. Periodicals mail postage paid at Wrangell, Alaska 99929. Offices at 205 Front St., Wrangell, Alaska 99929; phone 907-874-2301; Fax 907-874-2303; email wrgsent@gmail.com; website: www.wrangellsentinel.com

Subscription Rates

Single Copy.....\$1
Local.....\$42
Other Alaska.....\$57
2nd class/Lower 48 & HI.....\$67
First Class.....\$96

Marine fabrication class launching new boats

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Students in Wrangell High School's marine fabrication class are putting the finishing touches on some new designs.

A longstanding program continued under current industrial arts teacher Drew Larrabee. The course gives high schoolers the opportunity to design and construct aluminum boats for themselves, applying the math and physics skills they've learned in the process.

Third-year student Brian Schwartz is welding the hull on a 17-foot jet scow of his own design, which should be finished by or during the upcoming Christmas break.

"The most important part is the tunnel," he explained, a channel at the stern which brings the heel of the jet intake to or just above the bottom of a boat. Along with the general shape of his boat, Schwartz explained the feature should allow for minimal draft, allowing travel in water as shallow as three inches. This would let him travel around more easily on shallower water, such as along the Stikine River and its interconnecting sloughs.

Senior student Reyn Hutten is putting together a more hybridized design, which she and her father hammered out over the summer by looking at other boats. She explained her boat – a snub-nosed scow with a v-bottom – should be well suited to inter-island hunting, allowing for easier landing and loading of game. At the time of Tuesday's interview, she was still adjusting the craft's design, reducing the size of its gunwale.

Students are helped through different stages by Larrabee, as well as by experienced students,



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

High school student Brian Schwartz welds the hull on his boat during marine fabrication class. Schwartz is one of eight students this year working on designs as part of the program.

professional shipbuilders and contractors. The design decisions are ultimately their own, and ideas take shape as the boats come together.

For Hutten, the process is a new one. She had taken welding last year, and has never built anything on this scale before.

"I built a birdhouse once," she noted. The boat build has pushed her to think more spatially as well, and Hutten is pleased with the challenge so far.

School senior Tarren Privett is putting the finishing touches on a 12-foot jet dinghy he started last year, which when finished should sport a Kawasaki 750 motor. It's the first he's ever built for himself, and Privett said the biggest challenge has been accounting for measurement differences as the design comes together.

"I built the intake from scratch," he pointed out. When finished, the boat should be able to run in as little as 1.5-inches of water, enabling travel in even shallower water.

It's similar to a design fellow senior Garrett Miller built last year. Also busy welding aluminum together in the shop Tuesday, he is putting together the frame for new benches as his capstone project. Using aluminum and synthetic materials, he is making them for use at the future mariners memorial at Heritage Harbor.

With plans at the ready, the new memorial is now in the fundraising stage, and Miller pointed out the Wrangell Port Commission has been looking for signs of community support in the project. Through his contribu-

tion, he hoped it would demonstrate interest in the memorial for potential donor sources. His benches will be finished sometime in January or February, well before shovels start making way for the new memorial.

"At least people will have somewhere to sit," he said.

"The pace of the boat construction this year is much faster than usual," Larrabee commented on the program. While this is largely due to the experience and wherewithal of his eight students, he noted the schedule has had to step up in part because of changes to the school day.

In recent years the high school has transitioned away from block scheduling to daily class periods, which has reduced class times and dropped courses from eight to seven each year. The changes

have also impacted participation in programs like marine fabrication and other industrial arts. Larrabee pointed out the schedule change has the effect of reducing 32 possible credits down to 28 over a student's four years. Twenty-six are required courses for graduation, meaning students have significantly less room to take on a greater variety of classes.

"My class enrollment is down this year," he said of marine fab. "We've actually had to adapt the shop to be more efficient."

Secondary schools principal Bill Schwan said he would be sitting down with teachers after January 1 to reevaluate the schedule as a whole, including the move from block scheduling. He also hopes to shift the enrollment process more toward an online format, and make it easier for students and parents to select classes.

"It's going to be driven by the kids, their needs and wants," Schwan said.

To that end, he said the timing of different classes would be closely looked at, to reduce potential conflicts and allow for greater variety.

"We're moving forward with visionary projects," he said, pointing out programming like electronics, robotics, three-dimensional printing and other skills. Schwan noted these were experiences kids can someday use in the workplace, something they should be encouraged to take part in.

"The sky's the limit as we look down the road," he said.


In the meantime, new technologies available at Larrabee's shop have been allowing students to adapt more efficiently. For his senior project next year, Mikel Smith plans to convert the marine fabrication's practical 3-D boat model into a Rhino-CAD program format. This would allow components of future students' boats to be cut out using the shop's computer numerical control (CNC) router, reducing the need for hand-cuts on aluminum.

Smith has been working with the CAD program since last year, and noted there are a number of commands to learn. A large manual comes with the program, but there are other ways to master it.

"How I learned is I just looked things up online," he pointed out, using instructional YouTube videos and online discussion pages to learn what he needs.

In the meantime, Smith was working out a design for his own boat by hand. Next year he plans to build an SJX 2170 jet boat, the features for which he will customize for more local uses like hunting.

Students in the program pay for their materials themselves, and the aluminum he will need will cost between \$3,000 and \$3,500. After the motor, bells and whistles are all added though, he anticipated the project will cost him about \$10,000 – a fraction of the cost of buying one off the lot, and with the added experience of building it himself.



The Gift That Keeps on Giving

Subscription Sale*

Subscribe to the Wrangell Sentinel between Dec. 1st through Dec. 30 and receive

10% off a 1 year renewal subscription or 25% off a new subscription

Regular Subscription Rates:
Local (and online only) \$42
Out of town (AK) \$57
Lower 48 & Hawaii \$67
6 Months (O.O.T) \$40

Online Subscriptions available to all paid subscribers

* Must mention this ad to receive sale price

Participate by buying a gift subscription for someone else or for yourself. It makes a perfect stocking stuffer! (We even provide a gift card on request)

<p>PURCHASER NAME</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street/Box No. _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes - I want an online subscription</p> <p>Email Address _____</p>	<p>GIFT NAME:</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street/Box No. _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes - I want an online subscription</p> <p>Email Address _____</p>
<p>GIFT NAME:</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street/Box No. _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes - I want an online subscription</p> <p>Email Address _____</p>	<p>GIFT NAME:</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Street/Box No. _____</p> <p>City/State/Zip _____</p> <p><input type="radio"/> Yes - I want an online subscription</p> <p>Email Address _____</p>

WRANGELL SENTINEL

205 Front Street, P.O. Box 798 Wrangell, AK 99929
Phone: 907-874-23019 • Fax 907-874-2303 • Email: wrgsent@gmail.com

Midnight Madness to ensue on Friday

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Thanksgiving leftovers about behind it now, Wrangell will be kicking off for the rest of the season's holidays tomorrow evening.

The Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Midnight Madness on Front Street, with the big tree lighting to start at 6 p.m. Wrangell Municipal Light and Power continued its tradition of bringing in the biggest tree it can find for Friday's lighting, provided this year by Donna Wellons. As with other years, decorations for the tree will have been hand-crafted by students at Evergreen Elementary School.

"We're really excited about that," explained Chamber president Christie Jamieson. The Chamber board met yesterday to finalize plans for the event, which will feature food, entertainment, and opportunities to pick out presents.

"It's a night to do your Christmas shopping," said Jamieson.

At noon the first of two bazaars will open up inside the Stikine Inn, with the other being held upstairs inside the Elks Club. At both, local crafters and vendors will ply homemade wares, art and other objects. Stores around town will also be keeping later hours for the evening, with various sales and specials being offered.

The arch gift-giver himself, Santa Claus, will be taking time from his busy schedule to meet with children after the tree-lighting, taking down last-minute gift ideas. For the first time, this year Saint Nick will be accompanied by Mrs. Claus, and the couple will be centered under the pavilion at the corner of Lynch and Front.

That section of street will be blocked off for pedestrians, with burn barrels and carolers completing the mood. Friday's weather may be calling for a



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Firefighters assist a local child trying the stair climbing machine during Wrangell's 2015 Midnight Madness. With boots outstretched and refreshments at the ready, the crew raised money to attend the Scott Firefighter Stair Climb in Seattle. Collecting aid for researching and treating various blood cancers, the event draws firefighters from around the world to climb the city's Columbia Center for charity.

cold rain that evening, so the fires and dry pavilion may come in handy.

"We just hope that the weather cooperates," said Jamieson. "Whether it rains or sleets or snows, we're still going to be out there, bundled up."

There will be things to warm folk up from the inside as well, with the Fire Department holding its annual Scott Firefighter Stairclimb fundraiser at the pavilion, dispensing popcorn, hot chocolate, and fried cheesy halibut balls. Before the lighting at 5:30 p.m., the high school's 2017 senior class will be dishing out hot crab salad and lumpia for its own annual fundraiser. Look for other food options out on Front Street as well, Jamieson said. "There'll be food galore."

There will be plenty of music as well, with half a dozen acts slated to play at the Stikine bazaar and downtown pavilion.

"Music all over the place," Jamieson commented.

Festivities will continue through 8 or 9 p.m., depending on turnout and the weather. The annual event is made possible through contributions by the Chamber's February dinners, and with donations from individual community members.

Next week, local schools will also be getting into the season ahead of their winter break. The high and middle schools' Christmas concert and art auction is scheduled for December 5, with the auction to begin at 6:30 p.m. and the concert to follow at 7 p.m. Proceeds from the event go toward new equipment and

materials for the schools' art program. Money raised from the past three years helped acquire a new kiln, which enabled a whole range of new projects for students.

The next evening at 7 p.m., students at the elementary school will be putting on their own annual concert.

In case more shopping is needed, area merchants will be participating in the Jolly Shopping sales event on December 9 and 10. A variety of specials will be on offer during the "buy local" drive, and shoppers can be included in a \$500 drawing to be held by the Chamber on December 12.

"It's just a real nice way to kick off the Christmas season," said Jamieson.

Christmas Tree Lane at the Nolan Center

Open for viewing and bidding during movie times and other functions

Thurs. Dec. 1st thru Thurs. Dec. 15th at 2 pm

This is the annual fundraiser for Hospice a non profit organization.

New dog sled race set for December

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) - A new 300-mile sled dog race slated for December can help qualify mushers for the Iditarod and Yukon Quest.

About 20 teams are expected to compete starting Dec. 17, depending on snowfall around Fairbanks in the next three weeks, reported the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner (<http://bit.ly/2gsOiOB>).

At least six teams have signed up for the Tolovana 300. The event will be the first 300-mile race for four of those teams.

Mushers will start near Fox and regroup at three checkpoints before the 85-mile push to the finish line.

Both the Yukon Quest International Sled Dog Race and Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race list the Tolovana 300 among their qualifying events.

"It's not so much an emphasis on who wins," said Fox musher Ken Anderson, who is helping organize the event. "It's my hope that teams come out of this really, really built up and just breathing fire for the next race."

Anderson said the new race will help fill a need.

"The 300-mile (races) are kind of a premium and they're filling up real fast," he said.

Yukon Quest 300 ran out of slots for mushers this year in two hours, a record.

Registration costs \$40.

A cash prize is unlikely for the top teams, but race sponsors may contribute products to award.

Castle Mountain Entertainment Presents

Trolls
Rated PG • 1 hr 32 min
Anna Kendrick
Animation / Adventure / Comedy

SHOWTIMES:
Dec 2-4
FRI • 7 pm
SAT • 7 pm
SUN • 7 pm

Tickets: \$5 for 12 & under, \$7 for 13 & up
Buy movie gift certificates at the Museum gift shop
Check out more movie info at www.imdb.com

Tips on Scams, Cons, Fraud, Phishing, Identity Theft

A Workshop on Senior Financial Security

Prevention. Protection. Safety.

TUESDAY
December 6
12:15 PM
Wrangell Senior Center

Presented by First Bank for Seniors or their Caregivers

FIRST BANK
The one who's here.
MEMBER FDIC

874-3363 for more information

MIDNIGHT MADNESS, FRIDAY, DEC. 2nd

Midnight Madness FRIDAY, DEC. 2

10% OFF
STOREWIDE

25% OFF
STUFFED ANIMALS



Stikine Drug
'A free enterprise business model'

222 Front St.
874-3422

Friday, Dec. 2nd
**MIDNIGHT
MADNESS**

Tree Lighting - 6pm

SANTA & MRS. CLAUS WILL BE
AT THE PAVILION FOR PHOTOS!

Shop Late · Shop Local

**MIDNIGHT
MADNESS
SPECIAL**

Friday
Dec. 2nd 1-8 pm

**ALL
FLAT PRINTS
20% OFF**

I ALSO HAVE
STOCKING STUFFERS
METAL PRINTS
ORIGINAL WATERCOLOR PAINTINGS

Alaska Coastal Art
BRENDA SCHWARTZ-YEAGER

5 Front Street 907-874-3508

MIDNIGHT MADNESS
Angerman's Inc
**&
STIKINE RIVER GIFTS & APPAREL**

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2ND
25% OFF STOREWIDE
SAVE ON EVERYTHING IN BOTH STORES!
(OFF REG. PRICE MERCHANDISE, EXCLUDING XTREATS)
SALE RUNS ALL DAY, STARTING AT 8:30 AM
OPEN FRIDAY 'TIL 10:00 PM

FACEBOOK.COM/ANGERMANS

Midnight Madness

BAZAAR

Friday, Dec. 2nd
Noon - Late
STIKINE INN

*The best local gifts from
Wrangell's finest!*

Fish Factor

by Laine Welch

Alaska seafood goes to roughly 120 countries around the world and competes in a rough and tumble commodities market. Looking ahead to next year, sales conditions are looking positive for Alaska salmon, with some mixed market outlooks for other main species.

Alaska produces more than 65 percent of our nation's wild caught seafood; seafood also is Alaska's top export to other countries.

Here are some highlights from the Alaska Seafood Industry Updates prepared each fall by the McDowell Group for the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute:

The value of Alaska seafood at the docks dropped seven percent from 2011 through 2015 to \$4.3 billion.

Salmon was tops for dockside

values for 2014 - 2015 at \$541 million, 29 percent of the value of all Alaska seafood catches. Pollock ranked second for Alaska seafood value at \$477 million, 26 percent of the total dockside value and 54 percent of the volume.

Alaska's total salmon supply picture for 2016 is down 58 percent.

Global farmed salmon production won't regain steam until 2019, and reports are circulating widely that the prized omega 3's are down by half in farm grown fish due to their plant-based diets.

At Bristol Bay, the preliminary value to salmon fishermen increased 66 percent, due to a big sockeye catch and higher prices.

Alaska salmon prices continue to increase at wholesale and the fresh market is growing stronger,

especially for sockeyes.

Markets for pollock, cod, flounders and other 'whitefish' are likely to remain steady, but with low prices.

Prices for king and snow crab are expected to set records, but will face stiff competition from Russian imports to the U.S., up 58 percent and 38 percent last year, respectively, valued at over \$220 million.

The halibut market is likely to remain flat, or may go down a bit after sustaining fishermen's prices in the \$6 to over \$7 per pound range all season.

Global currency markets remain challenging for seafood trade, but have improved.

A concern cited by the report is budget cuts to the commercial fisheries budget which shift the onus to fishermen and processors

to fund critical management projects through test fisheries.

Another is the ongoing U.S. food embargo by Russia, now entering its third year. For Alaska, the seafood shut-out adds up to a \$60 million hit each year, primarily from lost sales of pink salmon roe and Alaska pollock products.

Almost 90 percent of the king crab eaten in the U.S. comes from Russia, according to market expert John Sackton, much of it caught illegally. The U.S. also buys thousands of tons of pollock, cod and salmon from Russia each year.

"If Russia won't buy our seafood, we won't buy theirs," has been the way Alaska processors and crabbers hoped to hit back on the ban. They have been urging Congress and the President to enact a retaliatory ban on seafood coming into the U.S. from Russia, so far, to no avail.

Fish Gifts - The Salmon Sisters of Homer have partnered with Silver Bay Seafoods to get more Alaska seafood into the mouths of needy Alaskans. For every purchase of Salmon Sisters clothing, accessories or home goods, a can of salmon is donated to the Alaska Food Bank.

The canned fish is pink salmon caught by Silver Bay Seafoods' seine fleets at Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska.

"It's shelf stable, it's delicious and it is easy to get around the state," said sister Claire Neaton, adding that the food bank is supplying more than 60 Alaska communities.

"As fishermen we have constant access to Alaska seafood. We forget that it's not the case in the entire state. We wanted to share our salmon with other Alaska communities, and what better way to get our catch on their plate," she said.

The Give Fish Program is a "forever project." The team's first donation of almost 15,000 cans was distributed in late summer and they plan on another shipment for the holidays.

Look for Salmon Sisters goods at local gear stores and online.

Seafood Champs - The call is out for nominations for SeaWeb's 2017 Seafood Champion Awards. The awards recognize individuals and organizations in four categories: leadership, innovation, vision and advocacy. Nominees should demonstrate outstanding commitment to advancing seafood sustainability in the fishing, aquaculture, supply and distribution, retail, restaurant or food service sectors, or through conservation, science, academia or the media. Self-nominations are allowed. SeaWeb is a project of The Ocean Foundation. Find guidelines and nomination forms at www.seafoodchampions.org/. The deadline for nominations is Dec. 3.

B.P.O. ELKS #1595
 Meets the 1st and 3rd Wed.
www.wrangell-elks-lodge-1595.com
 Exalted Ruler Randy Oliver
 Visiting Elks always welcome



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Stikine Middle School's canned food drive

Eighth grader Alex Rooney spent his holiday weekend collecting cans from around town for Stikine Middle School's canned food drive. He collected 257 items, which will go to the Salvation Army for the group's annual Christmas baskets.

POSTED FUEL PRICES

WRANGELL
 L N M: \$3.46
Alpine Mini Mart: \$3.46

PETERSBURG
SE Island Fuel: \$3.59
Petersburg Motors: \$3.49
*Unleaded gas prices posted
 Monday, November 29th*

Call me today to see how much you can save with Allstate's good student discount.

907-874-2359

Nicole Olsen
 Petersburg Wrangell Insurance Center
 220 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929
inquiry@p-wins.com

Allstate
 You're in good hands.

Discount and insurance offered only with select company and subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Allstate Indemnity Company; Northbrook, IL © 2012 Allstate Insurance Company.

DON'T DANCE AROUND THE ISSUE!



CLASSIFIED ADS ARE A SMART ADVERTISING CHOICE

They cost as little as
\$9.00 for up to **15 words**.
40¢ for additional words.
 7% city sales tax additional.

Ask us about our classified ads!
 PHONE 874-2301
 FAX 874-2303
 The deadline for classified ads is
 12 pm Tuesday

Alaska turnout up slightly from last election

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Voter turnout in this month's general election hit 60.7 percent, up slightly from the previous presidential election in 2012.

According to the Division of Elections, turnout in 2012 totaled 59.6 percent. Over the past 20 years, turnout in presidential election years has been as low as 59.1 percent in 1996 and as high as 66.6 percent in 2004.

With ballot counting complet-

ed, Anchorage Republican Rep. Charisse Millett held off Democratic challenger Pat Higgins, winning by 95 votes. Millett served as House majority leader during the 2015 and 2016 sessions.

Higgins told The Associated Press on Monday that he accepts the decision of voters and does not plan to contest the results. He said he's pleased there will be a new coalition in charge in the Alaska House.

In other close races, Republican Rep. Louise Stutes of Kodiak edged nonaffiliated candidate Duncan Fields by about 200 votes.

Nonaffiliated candidate Jason Grenn beat Anchorage Republican Rep. Liz Vazquez by 180 votes. Democrat Justin Parish beat Juneau Republican Rep. Cathy Munoz by 195 votes and Republican Rep. Lance Pruitt of Anchorage beat Democrat Harry Crawford, a for-

mer legislator, by about 155 votes.

Division of Elections Director Josie Bahnke said by email that the target for certifying the election results is Wednesday.

While Republicans will hold 21 of the House's 40 seats when the next Legislature convenes in January, they will no longer control the chamber: Three Republicans and two independents have joined with

Democrats to form a new majority, in which Republicans and Democrats will hold leadership roles.

Members have said the new group was borne of a desire to tackle the state's multibillion-dollar budget deficit.

The Republicans who have joined are Stutes and Reps. Gabrielle LeDoux of Anchorage and Paul Seaton of Homer. Grenn and Parish also plan to be a part of the group.

N K ELECTRIC
Here to serve all your electrical needs

**COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL**

874-2770, #21633

Call Ottesen's True Value Hardware for all your building & special order needs.

Featuring:
Atrium Windows,
Snap-Loc Roofing,
Treated & Untreated Wood

Phone 874-3377
Fax 874-3549
e-mail: ottesenstruevalue@ak.net

Ottesen's
BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value.

Survey: Alaska teens drinking, smoking less

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – A new state survey shows fewer Alaska teens are engaging in cigarette, alcohol and drug use.

The Alaska Youth Risk Behavior Survey shows students across the state have reported declines in smoking, substance use, riding with an impaired driver, sexual activity and fighting. The results are compared to data from 2009, according to KTVA-TV.

The survey was compiled by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Education and Early

Development.

It shows around 11 percent of high school students reported smoking cigarettes in the last 30 days, compared to 18 percent of students in 2007.

Students who reported abusing prescription drugs totaled close to 15 percent, down from about 21 percent in 2009.

The survey did reveal increases in bullying and cyberbullying rates in the state, at about 23 percent and 18 percent, respectively, but both those statistics were in line with national rates.

There was also an increase in the number of Alaska students who avoided school because of safety concerns, and more Alaska students reported carrying a weapon to school than other students in the U.S.

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey is part of an epidemiological monitoring system used by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention since 1990, according to the state Department of Health and Social Services website. The survey was first implemented in Alaska in 1995.

\$180,000 donation to fund Craig emergency dispatch update

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) – The most populated city on Prince of Wales Island will be able to buy new emergency dispatch equipment with the Craig Tribal Association's donation of \$180,000.

The association gave the city the Federal Highway Administration's Tribal Transportation Program Safety

grant, the Ketchikan Daily News reported.

Craig Police Chief Robert Ely said the donation will boost operational ability.

A malfunction in the current system had fire crews responding to a hotel blaze in December 2015 on different frequencies.

"We had the fire department

from Klawock come over, and the system malfunctioned," Ely said. "We weren't able to do a patch, so basically the dispatch center has to do a heck of a lot more monitoring because if I'm talking on my frequency, and Craig Fire is on their frequency and Klawock is on theirs, you get a lot of bleed-over and you can miss a lot of

stuff." "With the new system, by pushing a couple of different icons, we're all on the same frequency. We're all talking to each other."

He said the upgraded equipment will mean emergency responders will not need to adjust radios to communicate when they arrive on scene.

Comics

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps

THAT TIME OF YEAR WE ALL HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR IS FINALLY HERE...

SKATING ON THE ICE AND PLAYING SOME HOCKEY!

ROOTING FOR YOUR FAVORITE FOOTBALL TEAM!

ENJOYING YOUR SHOWS WITH NO MORE POLITICAL ADS!!

R.F.D.

by Mike Marland

DAD... HOW COME WE DON'T PARDON OUR TURKEY LIKE THE PRESIDENT DOES?

OH, WE ASK FOR A PARDON EVERY YEAR, JUNE.

DARN THING ALWAYS COMES THROUGH TOO LATE!

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	5		9	3		4		
		7			8			1
9			5					3
4	2			3	7			
		8		2		6		4
	7		6		5		8	
2				1				6
	1			9	2	3		
		3	4					9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging

◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

© 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. HONK YOUR HORN OR SOMETHING AND LET THEM KNOW WE'RE IN A HURRY!

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Timber wolf
- 5 U.K. television option
- 8 Lily variety
- 12 Opposed to, slangily
- 13 Always, in verse
- 14 Mimicked
- 15 Get bigger
- 16 Banner
- 18 "— Street"
- 20 Leads
- 21 Edges
- 23 Adam's mate
- 24 Recklessly
- 28 Book after Joel
- 31 Sphere
- 32 "SNL" alumna Cheri

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13			14				
15				16			17				
18				19		20					
			21		22		23				
24	25	26				27		28	29	30	
31				32			33		34		
35			36		37			38			
			39		40		41				
42	43				44		45		46	47	48
49						50			51		
52					53				54		
55					56				57		

- 34 Debt notice
- 35 Seniors' dance
- 37 Vexing situation
- 39 By way of
- 41 Use scissors
- 42 Offering a nice view
- 45 Illegal steroid use, e.g.
- 49 Vertical space
- 51 Birthright barterer
- 52 Not working
- 53 Genetic stuff (Abbr.)

- 54 Matterhorn's range
- 55 Pinochle play
- 56 Affirmative
- 57 For fear that

- 8 Digestive aid
- 9 Widespread illness
- 10 Kelly or Hackman
- 11 Rhyming tributes
- 17 Payable
- 19 Venus de —
- 22 Old daggers for short
- 24 Bounce
- 25 Blunder
- 26 Especially
- 27 Baby-sitters, often
- 29 Partner of aah

- 30 Take to court
- 33 Personal (Pref.)
- 36 Paid heed to
- 38 Attraction
- 40 Atmosphere
- 42 Thin wedge
- 43 Relinquish
- 44 Buffalo Bill's last name
- 46 Capri, e.g.
- 47 Siestas
- 48 Sudden rush of wind
- 50 Individual

DOWN

- 1 Trails behind
- 2 Shrek is one
- 3 Life stories, for short
- 4 Ahead
- 5 Huge monster
- 6 Spelling contest
- 7 Rugged cliff

© 2016 King Features Synd., Inc.

Puzzle answers on page 10



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Kem and Susan Haggard, Don McConachie and Jacquie Dozier portray holidays in a skit about the simple meaningfulness of Thanksgiving, despite the commercialization of Christmas. The skit was part of "Giving Thanks to God," an event hosted by Island of Faith Lutheran Church on November 23.

Hamming it up a bit before turkey day

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA AT WRANGELL

In the Matter of the Estate of:)
)
 BRANDON R PETERSON)
 Person Who Died (Decedent))
 Date of Birth: 08/16/1977) Case No. 1WR-16-20 PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

You are notified that the court appointed Judith Peterson as personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the person who died are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims will be forever barred.

Dated: Nov. 8, 2016 Judith Peterson
 P.O. Box 124, Channing, MI, 49815

Published: November 17, 24 and December 1, 2016

Classified/Legals

BOATS AND MARINE IFQ'S AND FISHING PERMITS, Alaskan Quota and Permits, 907-772-4000, 1-888-347-4437.....tfn1-3b15

FOR RENT ONE AND TWO BEDROOM Apartments. No pets. 305-0619.....tfn6-9b8

PRIME LOCATION: Studio apartment or retail store space, w/d, partially furnished, private

patio. Contact 660-7509.....3x12-15p15

THANK YOU
 THANK YOU to whomever paid for my groceries Nov. 21. Merry Christmas to you and yours.....1x12-1p

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the regular board meeting of the Wrangell Medical Center Board of Directors shall be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the Nolan Center Classroom, Wrangell, Alaska. Separate notice for the regular Board of Directors meeting shall not be required.

Kris Reed
 Board Secretary
 Wrangell Medical Center
 Publish: December 1, 2016

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

Pursuant to the City & Borough of Wrangell Code, Sec. 3.04.808, notice is hereby given that the regular assembly meetings of the assembly shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. The meetings shall be held at 7:00 p.m., in the Assembly Chambers, City Hall, Wrangell. If any such Tuesday shall fall on a legal holiday as defined by the laws of the State of Alaska, the meetings scheduled for that day shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding day which is not a holiday. Separate notice for the regular council meetings shall not be required. There will be no regular meetings the second Tuesday in July and August and fourth Tuesday in December.

Kim Lane, Borough Clerk
 City of Wrangell, Alaska
 Publish: December 1, 2016

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry Southern Southeast Area Office Preliminary Written Finding under AS 38.05.035(e) and AS 38.05.945

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry, gives formal notice under AS 38.05.945 that the Division has made a preliminary decision under AS 38.05.035(e) regarding the sale of the following commercial timber sale: North Hollis Timber Sale (SSE-1346-K).

Before this sale may be held, the Director of the Division of Forestry will make a written final decision that the sale is in the best interest of the State. This decision will set out the facts and applicable policies upon which the Director bases his determination that the proposed timber sale will or will not best serve the interest of the State. The final decision is expected to be available to the public after **January 3, 2017**.

This timber sale is located on Prince of Wales Island, approximately one-mile north of the Inter-Island Ferry terminal, in Hollis Alaska. The legal description of the sale area within Sections 25, 26 and 35 of Township (T) 73 South, Range 84 East, Copper River Meridian. The sale area is found within the Craig C-2 Southwest and Craig B-2 Northwest USGS quadrangles. The main access for this sale area is through Alaska Highway System Klawock-Hollis Highway, Alaska Route 924 and the adjoining Aurora Drive Road.

The harvest unit is a total of 230 acres and contains approximately 4,500 MBF of timber. This volume will be negotiated and sold under provisions of AS 38.05.118 and/or AS 38.05.123, in the form of one or multiple sales. The sale(s) will require in-state manufacture and will be a negotiated contract.

The public is invited to comment on any aspect of the preliminary decision. Comments should be mailed to the Alaska Division of Forestry, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213, Ketchikan, AK 99901. Comments must be received at the Division of Forestry office no later than **January 3, 2017**, in order to be considered in the final best interest finding decision of whether or not this sale will be held in whole or in part. To be eligible to appeal the final decision a person must have provided written comment by **January 3, 2017**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS CONTACT:

Alaska Division of Forestry Contact: Greg Staunton
 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213 Phone: 225-3070
 Ketchikan, AK 99901 Fax: 247-3070
 Email: greg.staunton@alaska.gov

Copies of the preliminary decision are available for review at the Division of Forestry at the above address and at the Ketchikan, Craig, Petersburg and Wrangell Public Libraries and the State Online Public Notice system.

The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special modifications to participate in this review may contact the number above.

Greg Staunton
 Southeast Area Forester

Publish: December 1 and 8, 2016

City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska Public Notice

The Wrangell Port Commission Workshop and Regular meeting scheduled for December 1, 2016 **has been rescheduled and will now be held on Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:00 PM** in the Borough Assembly Chambers, regarding the following topic:

a. Long Term Lease Options - Marine Service Center

Sherri Cowan, Port Secretary
 City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish: December 1, 2016

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

L	O	B	O	B	B	C	S	E	G	O	
A	G	I	N	E	E	R	A	P	E	D	
G	R	O	W	H	E	A	D	L	I	N	E
S	E	S	A	M	E	G	U	I	D	E	S
		R	I	M	S	E	V	E			
H	E	A	D	L	O	N	G	A	M	O	S
O	R	B	O	T	E	R	I	I	O	U	
P	R	O	M	H	E	A	D	A	C	H	E
		V	I	A	S	N	I	P			
S	C	E	N	I	C	D	O	P	I	N	G
H	E	A	D	R	O	O	M	E	S	A	U
I	D	L	E	D	N	A	A	L	P	S	
M	E	L	D	Y	E	S	L	E	S	T	

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

8	5	6	9	3	1	4	7	2
3	4	7	2	6	8	9	5	1
9	2	1	5	7	4	8	3	6
4	6	2	1	8	3	7	9	5
5	3	8	7	2	9	6	1	4
1	7	9	6	4	5	2	8	3
2	9	4	3	1	7	5	6	8
6	1	5	8	9	2	3	4	7
7	8	3	4	5	6	1	2	9

“Letters To Santa”

Make sure Santa gets your wish list!



Hey Kids! It's time to write those special letters to Santa!

Old Saint Nick is anxious to find out what Wrangell boys and girls are hoping to find under their trees on Christmas morning. He's also interested in knowing your name, grade in school and your age.

Drop off your letters in Santa's Mailbox located in the Wrangell Sentinel office at 205 Front St.

Letters can also be mailed through the post office or emailed to the addresses below.

The Sentinel will publish Letters to Santa in the special Christmas Edition, Dec. 22th

Deadline for letters is Monday, December 12th at 5 pm

Note: Letters will be published on a “first in first published” basis, according to space available.

Letters are subject to editing.

Santa

P.O.Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929

or email us

at wrgsent@gmail.com

Salex taxes

Continued from page 1

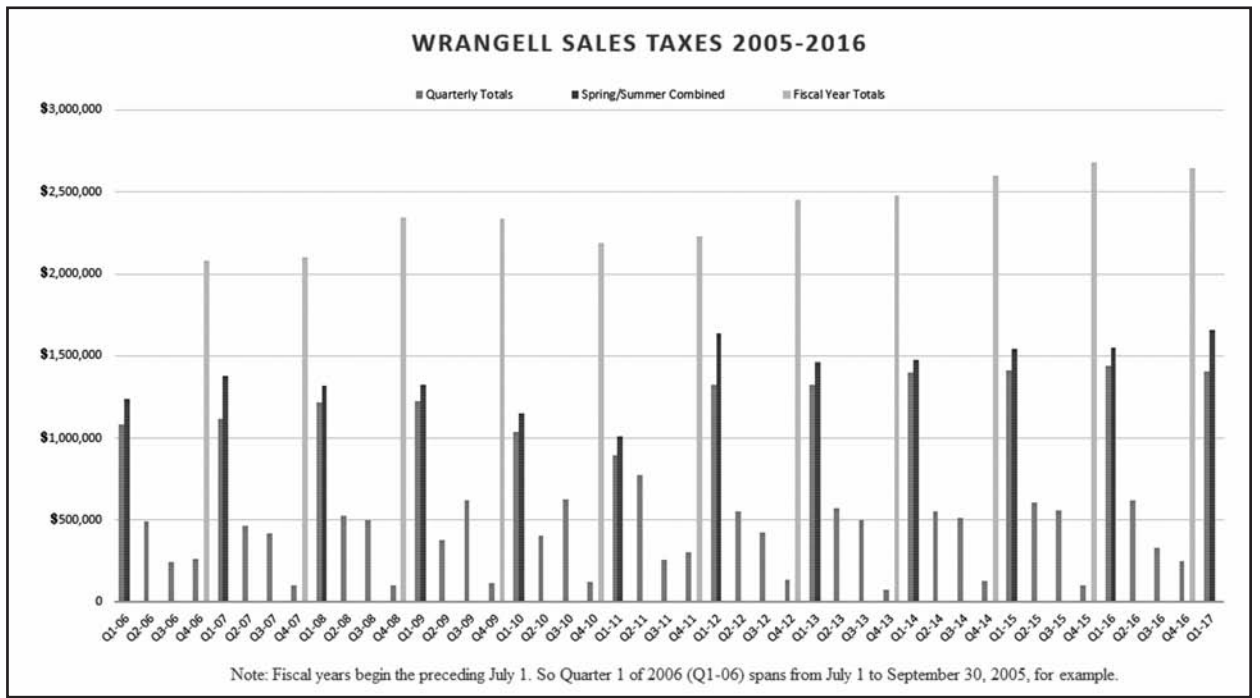
able through online merchants like Amazon and Ebay turning more consumers toward the internet. Through the use of tax free days and a “shop local” awareness campaign, the city and Wrangell Chamber of Commerce have tried to counteract the trend.

Chamber president Christie Jamieson hypothesized the gains may be the result of a more robust advertising effort, putting Wrangell’s name out at boat shows and industrial conventions. The establishment in recent years of contractors at the Marine Service Center, the addition of its larger lift, and the adding of new families to the area likely have had an impact on local sales as well.

“Our sales are pretty much on par with last year,” noted Brian Ottesen, manager at Ottesen’s True Value Hardware.

He pointed out that on the hardware end of things, sales for building materials have risen slightly over last year. This is consistent with an increase in building permits issued by the city, which rose by a fifth in 2015 over the previous calendar year, and has continued to climb into 2016.

The visitor industry has been enjoying successes regionally, with Southeast Conference reporting an increase in



SENTINEL ILLUSTRATION

Sales taxes collected by the City and Borough of Wrangell since 2006. Wrangell’s rate has been set at seven percent since 1991, except for a three-year stretch in the late 1990s when food was exempted due to the economic downturn.

Anchorage considers local sales tax

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – Anchorage officials could soon consider a proposal to bring a sales tax to the city.

Anchorage Assembly member Bill Evans is drafting the ordinance that calls for a 4 percent tax on goods and services. He said it will help diversify the municipality’s revenue stream and offset property taxes “dollar for dollar.”

“People have been pretty upset about the rising property taxes. There’s a limit to what I think you can bear in property taxes in a municipality this size,” Evans told Alaska Public Media on Tuesday (<http://bit.ly/2fE8zx1>). “So diversi-

fying the revenue stream, I think, makes a lot of sense, and takes in some people that currently aren’t paying taxes in Anchorage, people that are commuting here, tourists, things like that.”

Under the draft ordinance, essential goods such as food, rent, prescription medicine and gas would be exempt from the tax.

“I think one of the hardest hit groups right now are people that are the more or less ‘working poor,’ who have a house but that increasing property tax that they can’t get out from almost threatens their ability to keep their house,” Evans said.

The sales tax makes sense for

Anchorage, as property taxes in the city could begin to decline amid the state’s multibillion-dollar budget deficit, Evans said.

“It would be much more sensible to have at least a couple irons in the fire as far as how you determine your revenues,” he said.

Evans plans to bring the proposal before the assembly in December or January. If approved, the measure would go on the ballot in the April municipal elections, where it would need at least 60 percent of Anchorage voters’ support to pass.

The municipality has never had a sales tax. A 2006 measure to introduce one failed.

jobs by seven percent last year in September’s “By the Numbers” annual report.

“We’ve certainly had the most visitors that we’ve had since 2010,” said Rain Coast Data director Meilani Schijvens, who helped put together the report. Since then, the industry has grown region-wide by two- to four-percent each year, with 2016 estimates topping 1,000,000 cruise passengers for the year. Even more passengers are expected to arrive in 2017, showing the visitor industry has finally recovered from its post-recession decline.

An examination of local transient taxes in the Sentinel’s November 10 issue indicated visitor numbers remained strong in Wrangell this summer, rebounding from a slight dip in 2015 from high points in 2013 and 2014.

“We had the best year ever this year,” commented Jamieson, who also runs the Squawking Raven Bed and Breakfast.

“I would say the last few years have been coming back since six or seven years ago,” said Eric Yancey, who operates Breakaway Adventures. He noted an increase in domestic travelers as well, and estimated 2016 will have been one of the better years for his business.

Photo ads are a fun way to show relatives how the family has grown; they also make super additions to a holiday scrapbook.

*Wish friends, family or customers
“Merry Christmas” or say “Thank you” with an ad in
the Sentinel’s Holiday Greetings issue.*

Say Merry Christmas in a very special way

Choose from ready-made greetings or let us help you design your own from just \$22 and up.

*Deadline for advertising
is 5 p.m., Monday, December 12,
issue will be published December 22.*

Phone: 874-2301 • Fax: 874-2303
Email: wrgsent@gmail.com