



Wrangell, Alaska  
November 23, 2017

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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8 Pages

## Wrangell court temporarily closed over air concerns

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Until further notice is given, the clerical offices and courtroom at the Wrangell Public Safety Building have been closed down temporarily.

The closure began Monday morning, with the Alaska Court System citing air quality concerns for staff using the premises. The space is rented from the city, which maintains the entire facility and surrounding property.

"We've got some water issues that need to be addressed," explained Neil Nesheim, area court administrator for the First District Court.

He said ACS was also arranging to have a contractor on site "as soon as possible," and the court offices' reopening date would depend on their impression.

"The court system wants to make sure everything is done properly," he said.

The building itself has been experiencing issues with its roof and siding for a long time, with spot repairs made over the years but a larger-scale replacement topping the borough's list of capital improvement projects for this year. Its window fixtures and siding were identified as needing replacement at least 13 years ago.

Most recently, in August one judicial officer's office had to be



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

**The Public Safety Building at the start of Zimovia Highway is in critical need of repair, with seepage and leaks from the roof and siding causing a whole bevy of problems. On Monday the Alaska Court System announced it would be closing its offices there for the foreseeable future, until air quality issues related to a decayed wall are resolved.**

vacated after a combination of water damage and a carpenter ant infestation were discovered to be affecting its outer wall. City staff opened up the drywall, revealing mold and wood rot which would need to be fixed. The office was cordoned off, and a specialist contractor brought in to inspect the damage. Public Works has since scheduled repairs to take place over the weekend, coordi-

nating with ACS as recently as last Friday.

Public Works director Amber Al-Haddad explained the interior work would be a permanent fix, as the framing issues can be addressed from the outside at a later date. She had expected a short closure of court offices this week while workers replaced affected materials.

The troubled structure houses

Wrangell's fire and police departments, its Department of Motor Vehicles office, courthouse and local jail, and is critical to emergency and disaster response coordination for the area. As such it has become a top priority among city projects.

At its last estimate in October, city staff's revised estimation placed rehabilitation of the Public Safety Building at \$549,633. To help pay for the

project, the city would put the building forward as a candidate for Community Development Block Grant funding, a competitive program sourcing \$2.4 million of Housing and Urban Development funding each year into Alaskan communities.

Use of the funds is tightly regimented, with a number of criteria having to be met to be eligible for the program. CDBG funds may not be used for improvements to either the courthouse or police department, as those services fall beyond the scope of the program. The Volunteer Fire Department facilities would be covered as a separate item costing \$294,273, with a minimum match on the part of the city estimated at \$137,408.

The rest of the facility needing repair would cost under \$255,000, to be covered by the city. Whether or not the city will be able to offset total costs with CDBG funds may not be known until the spring.

During the interim, court business will be handled elsewhere, with scheduling depending on availability in Petersburg and Ketchikan. With the Wrangell office closed, case-related questions can be taken by either the Petersburg Court at 772-3824 or the Ketchikan Court at 225-3195. Questions related to administration can be taken by Nesheim at 463-4753.

## Hospital submits letter to assembly on partnership

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Following talks earlier this month with the city, the hospital board drafted a letter requesting that it move forward with finding a third party partnership.

At their November 15 meeting, Wrangell Medical Center governing board members discussed the pros and potential cons of partnering up with another organization. A major reason for considering the move is seeking out project support for construction of a new medical facility, an elusive goal for much of the past decade.

Among the board's more immediate concerns is maintaining cash flow to the hospital. During its mid-month meeting in October the board was informed WMC coffers had been at breaking point, having less than a week's cash on hand available for day-to-day expenditures. It costs roughly \$28,000 a day to keep the facility running, and an emergency loan from the city in the amount of \$250,000 was approved to help stabilize its finances.

During his monthly report last week, WMC chief financial officer Doran Hammett explained the hospital had \$629,000 cash-on-hand, or about 22 days' worth.

Around half of that was the loan amount from the city, meaning actual operating cash levels were closer to 13 days' equivalence.

"Which is a bit higher than the end of last month, about 11 days," he added.

Problems with billing were partly to blame for the reduction in cash flow since the summer, but a greater problem to WMC's compensation model is the age of its building and equipment. Because it is a critical access hospital, a special designation recognized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, it receives special remuneration from those federal services for the depreciation in value in its assets. The building itself has not offered any depreciation to draw from for some time, Rang explained, and what depreciation the hospital has been drawing has been derived from its few pieces of newer equipment.

One of the arguments put forward in favor of a new hospital building is its value, and its contribution to revenue as a result of depreciation.

But patient revenue itself has been down this year, with the net value eight percent lower than was seen at this time last year. Cost savings have helped offset

this somewhat, also about five percent below budget. Savings with staff costs have also been seen through rescheduling and the use of agency hires, whose benefits are not covered by the hospital.

Hammett reported the hospital is expecting an influx of money at year's end, with \$278,594 due back from Medicare as estimated in the cost report portion of its annual audit.

While the hospital's financial stead for operations seems to have stabilized somewhat, it would likely be unable to cover the costs of building a new facility, according to a feasibility study put out earlier this month. Consultants had assessed draft plans and estimated a new, fully equipped facility would range between \$41 million to \$52 million to construct, depending on how it would be constructed. Over a stretch of 30 years, with interest the final price tag would be more than double that. At a workshop with city staff and the Borough Assembly on November 6, it became apparent a great deal of help would be needed to finance the project.

"The city was not real comfortable taking on that amount of debt," said Rang.

Talk at the meeting led to the suggestion of bringing in a third party, either to assume operations at the municipally-owned hospital or to share in costs and administration. One early candidate suggested for such an arrangement was Southeast Alaska Rural Health Consortium, which earlier this spring acquired Wrangell-based clinical provider Alaska Island Community Services. Present at the workshop, SEARHC chief operating officer Dan Neumeister indicated to the Assembly his organization could be interested in a partnership.

Though the city owns the hospital, as its independent governing body, the WMC board was tasked with coming up with a direction it would like to take in what such a partnership would entail.

"What we have here is an open topic for discussion," said Patrick Mayer, recently elected the board's president.

Members discussed a draft letter addressed to Mayor David Jack and the Assembly, which would recommend the hiring of a consultant to draft a recommendation based on the hospital's operational needs and finances.

"The relationship should include re-

Continued on page 8



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, Nov. 23:** Linda Bjorge, Earl Benitz, Caitlin Olson, Laura Davies, Arlene Wilson, Michael, Morgan, Doug Thomas, Ron Schmohl, Sherina Meltzer. **Friday, Nov. 24:** Maggie Fennimore, Laurie Barker, Dustin Phillips, Tily Feudner, Kyle Penney, Derek Fitzgerald. **Saturday, Nov. 25:** Neva Nolan, Bryan Ottesen, Bianca Smith, Derin Floyd, Sean Curley, Shawn Howell, Janet Bunes, Joel Smalley, Clay Hammer, Terra Hoyt. **Sunday, Nov. 26:** Alyssa Southland, Leslie Richards, *Anniversary:* Per and Neva Nolan. **Monday, Nov. 27:** Lovi Brock, Kerry Byford, Rhiannon Wiederspohn, Gus Brock, Cinda Stough. *Anniversary:* Dennis and Carmen Pavlina, Jon Cornelius and Jenifer Davies. **Tuesday, Nov. 28:** Hailey Cook, Judy Taylor, Evi Fennimore, Kaden Comstock. *Anniversary:* Levi and Kathy Dow, Scott and Becky Thomas, John and Karen Morse, Paul and Victoria Southland, Iver and Diana Nore. **Wednesday, Nov. 29:** Frank Grossardt, Shelton Eklund. **Thursday, Nov. 30:** Ben Bowman, Kogen Brown, Nala O'Brien, Barbara Neyman, Warren Edgley Jr.

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

## Senior Center Menu

**Thursday, Nov. 23**

Closed for Thanksgiving.

**Friday, Nov. 24**

Halibut, brussels sprouts, WW rolls, Texas coleslaw.

**Monday, Nov. 27**

Halibut chowder, tomatoes, rockefeller honey mustard slaw.

**Tuesday, Nov. 28**

Spaghetti with meat sauce, steamed zucchini, tossed salad, garlic bread.

**Wednesday, Nov. 29**

Roast beef with gravy, mashed taters, green beans, romaine and radish salad.

**Thursday, Nov. 30**

Chicken cacciatore, buttered noodles, sweet peas, honey orange salad.

Please call Wrangell Senior Center at 874-2066 by 10 a.m. for reservations. Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

## FERRY

### Departures

#### Northbound

**Saturday, Nov. 25**  
Kennicott 6:30 a.m.  
**Sunday, Nov. 26**  
Columbia 4:45 p.m.  
**Tuesday, Nov. 28**  
Kennicott 6:45 p.m.  
**Saturday, Dec. 2**  
Kennicott 7:00 a.m.

#### Southbound

**Friday, Nov. 24**  
Kennicott 4:00 p.m.  
**Monday, Nov. 27**  
Kennicott 7:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday, Nov. 29**  
Columbia 9:30 a.m.  
**Friday, Dec. 1**  
Kennicott 11:45 a.m.

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



## TIDES Nov. 23 - Nov. 30

	High Tides		Low Tides		AM	PM	AM	PM	Ft
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft					
Nov.23	3:38	13.2	3:08	14.2	9:00	4.9	9:37	0.9	
Nov.24	4:22	12.7	3:49	13.3	9:46	5.4	10:23	1.6	
Nov.25	5:15	12.4	4:45	12.5	10:44	5.8	11:17	2.2	
Nov.26	6:20	12.5	6:03	11.8	11:54	5.8	.....	.....	
Nov.27	7:25	13.1	7:28	11.9	0:18	2.6	1:09	5.1	
Nov.28	8:21	14.2	8:40	12.6	1:23	2.7	2:20	3.7	
Nov.29	9:10	15.4	9:40	13.7	2:25	2.5	3:21	2.0	
Nov.30	9:54	16.7	10:33	14.7	3:22	2.1	4:13	0.0	

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, Nov. 23

**SAIL Class:** 10:00 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 a.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

*Is the attendance at your meeting or event low? Call Adrienne 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 gChurch 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.

### POSTED FUEL PRICES

#### WRANGELL

L N M: \$3.80

Alpine Mini Mart: \$3.80

#### PETERSBURG

SE Island Fuel: \$3.69

Petersburg Motors: \$3.62

Unleaded gas prices posted  
Monday, November 20

## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Nov. 13	42	34
Nov. 14	39	35
Nov. 15	35	28
Nov. 16	30	25
Nov. 17	37	26
Nov. 18	37	28
Nov. 19	30	27
Nov. 20	33	28

## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Nov. 23	7:38am	3:29pm	7:51h
Nov. 24	7:40am	3:28pm	7:48h
Nov. 25	7:42am	3:27pm	7:45h
Nov. 26	7:44am	3:25pm	7:41h
Nov. 27	7:46am	3:24pm	7:38h
Nov. 28	7:47am	3:23pm	7:36h
Nov. 29	7:49am	3:22pm	7:33h
Nov. 30	7:51am	3:21pm	7:30h



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WRANGELL SENTINEL

# Report: Alaska Marine Highway System should increase rates

KODIAK, Alaska (AP) \_ A report by Alaska's Southeast Conference calls for the state marine highway system to increase its ticket prices.

The recommendation is part of a 25-year plan that Gov. Bill Walker asked the conference's stakeholders to put together for the struggling Alaska Marine Highway System, the Kodiak Daily Mirror reported Thursday.

The major part of the plan is to turn the marine highway into a public corporation. The system's Reform Steering Committee is pursuing legislative changes to make that happen.

Stakeholders estimate rate increases could produce a

21 percent decrease in the system's expenses \_ partly through the automation of certain tasks currently performed by employees \_ while only dropping revenue by 14 percent.

There are no reasonable scenarios for the system to recover all expenses through revenue, according to the report.

Stakeholders said that if the system cut prices, it wouldn't increase ridership \_ making a rate decrease not viable. This contradicts what the public has said at community meetings, though.

``A frequently cited suggestion was that a reduction

in fares would produce sufficient additional ridership to more than compensate for the loss in revenue," according to the report. ``This belief is contradicted by the price elasticity data."

Stakeholders' recommendations to improve ridership include a comprehensive marketing plan to ``recover travelers lost due to the recent scheduling and performance issues," a new and modernized fleet of vessels, automated terminals and a multi-year contract between the state of Alaska and the impending marine highway public corporation.

# Report: Management, labor issues complicate ferry service

KODIAK, Alaska (AP) \_ A report by an Alaska regional development organization indicated that the success of the state ferry service could hinge

## Trooper report

November 14

Erik Vocolka, 34, of Wrangell, was contacted by Alaska Wildlife Troopers regarding his license. Investigation had determined Vocolka purchased a 2015 resident hunting and fishing license after receiving a resident hunting license from another state within the previous 12 months. Vocolka was issued a \$310 citation in the District Court in Wrangell for giving a false statement on a license application.

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on repairing the troubled relationship between its management and labor force.

The Southwest Conference found that the relationship was strained, inefficient and ineffective, causing financial problems for the Alaska Marine Highway System, the Kodiak Daily Mirror newspaper reported Friday.

``Management and labor need to have a realignment so they're working toward a common goal," said Robert Venables, executive director of the organization.

The Southwest Conference is trying to transform the ferry

service into a public corporation and wants to address the problems. Its report said the main concerns were dealing with the numerous unions involved in operating the service and the resulting web of contracts.

The report outlined a number of problems following a series of meetings between organization officials and ferry service representatives. They included a complicated hiring and scheduling process for new employees, independent and vessel-specific labor contracts, a high crew turnover rate, grievances not resolved in a timely manner and a

complex payroll system.

John Whiddon, a Kodiak City Council member who is on the Southwest Conference's steering committee, said the troubled relationship is a problem that branches into different areas. He said all the contracts need to be revisited.

``Obviously, there's still a need for the ferry system. The current model is just not working," Whiddon said.

The report calls for simplifying processes and found that many of the issues could be solved by reducing the number of unions.

## Court report

November 14

Brett L. Woodbury, 47, was given a suspended entry of judgment after pleading guilty to Failure to Stop for School Bus, a Class B misdemeanor. Judicial Officer Leanna Nash ordered that the defendant pay \$150 in fines and surcharges with \$100 suspended. Woodbury has been placed on six months' probation, after which if the court deems the period has been completed successfully a judgment of guilt will not be entered, and the proceedings dismissed.

Leroy Jonathan Hughes, 55, was given a suspended entry of judgment after pleading guilty to Driving with License Canceled/Revoked/Suspended for DUI, a Class A misdemeanor. Judicial Officer Leanna Nash ordered that the defendant pay \$150 in fines and surcharges with \$100 suspended. Hughes has been placed on six months' probation, after which if the court deems the period has been completed successfully a judgment of guilt will not be entered, and the proceedings dismissed.

## Police report

Monday, Nov 13

Citation issued to Brett Woodbury age 47, for driving through school bus red light.

Concerned Citizen: Report smell of burning plastic: UTL.

MVA: Officer responded.

Parking complaint.

Tuesday, Nov. 14

Found property: Phone found in road: Owner picked up.

Lost cell phone.

Lost wallet.

Found Property: Debit card turned in: Owner notified.

Suspicious person: Officer responded.

Citizen Assist: Caller reported their car broke down: Officer assisted.

Citizen report of DUI: Unfounded.

Wednesday, Nov. 15

Nothing to report.

Thursday, Nov. 16

Citizen Assist: Bar check.

Traffic: Parking: Warning given.

Agency Assist: Public Works.

Friday, Nov. 17

Suspicious incident.

Agency Assist: Officer responded.

Suspicious smell: Bad plastic smell: Person asked to put rags in garbage instead of burning.

MVA: Person reported another driver slid into them.

Person reported they ran out of gas and will move vehicle.

Dog with porcupine quills: Chief removed quills.

Paper service: Two summons served.

Traffic: Parking.

Traffic: Parking.

Child dispute: Officer responded to call.

Parking: Vehicle blocking entrance to dock: UTL owner.

Saturday, Nov. 18

Traffic Stop: Vehicle in ditch: Officers on scene.

Report of ¾ eaten deer in front of garage with wolf or dog tracks around it.

Concerned citizen: Person walking across street and may get hit: Officer responded.

Dog Complaint: Warning given to owner.

Sunday, Nov. 19

Welfare check: 911 requested officer check on individual.

Report of Criminal mischief.

Report of Assault.

Found item: Card turned in: Owner notified.

Civil trespass: Request officer to remove individual from residence.

There were four ambulance calls and one dog call this week.

## THANK YOU

Thanks to all who helped with the service for Harry Sundberg, especially the Elks and my granddaughter Briana Schilling.  
Mrs. Rose M. Sundberg

## Wrangell Senior Apartments

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Your dedication, professionalism and caring concern for our patients and residents make this recognition possible!  
~ Robert Rang, CEO, Wrangell Medical Center

www.wrangellmedicalcenter.org



## SSRAA - Nominations for Appointed Seats



Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc. Board of Directors is soliciting nominations for the following appointed positions:

- Chamber of Commerce
- Native Corporation
- Municipal
- Processor
- Public at Large (2 Seats)
- Sport Fish
- Subsistence

These are two year terms beginning in January 2018. Nominations must be in writing and submitted to SSRAA, 14 Borch Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 by December 1, 2017. For further information call Liz Jones at the administration office (907) 225-9605 or email: admin@ssraa.org.

## Correction

In last week's issue of the Sentinel, the mayor's selection of SEAPA board alternates was misreported. Voting members will be Stephen Prysunka and Clay Hammer, while alternates will be city finance director Lee Burgess and city manager Lisa Von Barga. They begin their duties at the power agency's first board meeting of the 2018 calendar year, on a date still to be determined.



# Obituaries:

## Kaye M. Taylor, 77

Kaye M. Taylor, 77, a resident of Mount Vernon, Washington and former Wrangell resident, passed away at her home on Nov. 1, 2017.

Kaye was born on Feb. 13, 1940 in Beloit, Wisconsin, the daughter of Lester and Darlene (Polglaze) Buckwalter. She was raised and obtained her education in Beloit, graduating from high school with the class of 1958.

Her parents separated when she was a child and her mother later married Harold Kelton, who was a loving step-father.

She worked for Avis Car Rental in Atlanta, Georgia and for the Lighthouse Travel Agency in Boca Raton, Florida.

She met Robin Taylor in Seattle and they were united in marriage in Sedro-Woolley, Washington in 1976. For the next 30 years they made their home in Wrangell and Juneau, Alaska and Kaye worked as an insurance agent and then in Robin's law office in Wrangell. For many years she was the director of the Mental Health and Alcohol Rehabilitation Program for the State of Alaska. The Taylors returned to the Skagit Valley in 2007.

She loved to entertain and was a phenomenal hostess. She enjoyed traveling, and accompanied Robin on many of his political trips throughout Alaska,

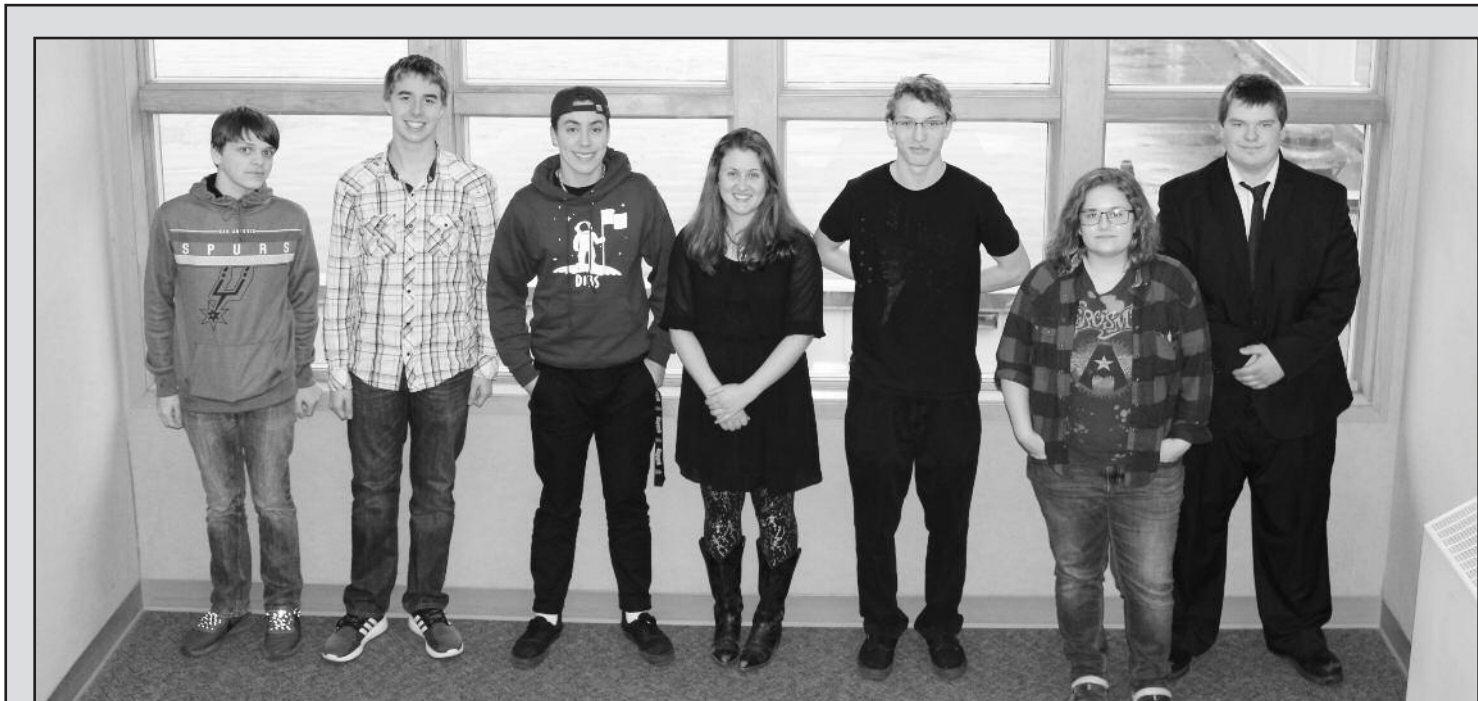


PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

## Several dramatic entrants

From left to right, making up this year's Drama, Debate & Forensics team at WHS are Max Voltz, Erik Ottesen, Jean-Luc Lewis, program director Sierra Reill, Devin Till, Morgan Torvend and Levi Padgett. Competing in Haines November 10 and 11, Till excelled in his dramatic interpretation of Batman's "The Killing Joke," while Till and Voltz took home a fourth place win for their duo interpretation of "Riddles in the Dark," a scene from The Hobbit. "It went great, everyone did really well," Reill commented. The team's next meet is on December 8 in Sitka.

and playing the slot machines hoping for the big payout.

She is survived by her husband, Robin, of Mount Vernon; step-son, Robin Taylor and wife Michelle of Bellingham, Washington; step-daughter, Tracy Crowley and husband Robert of Redmond, Washington; step-grandchildren, Anya and Rachel Taylor and Mitchel and Duncan Crowley; step-father, Harold Kelton of Zebulon, North Carolina; step-brothers, John Kelton

of Zebulon and Robert Kelton of Miami, Florida and their families; mother-in-law, Jessie Taylor of Sedro-Woolley; sister-in-law, Patricia Churchill of Mount Vernon and numerous nieces, nephews and extended family.

A Life Celebration service will be held on Wed., Nov. 29, 2017 at 1:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Wrangell with Pastor Jeanett Covolt officiating. A fellowship will follow at the Wrangell Elks Lodge. Share

memories of Kaye and sign the online guest register at [www.lemleychapel.com](http://www.lemleychapel.com).

Memorials in honor of Kaye

are suggested to Hospice of the Northwest or do a 'Pay it Forward' gesture for someone in her name.

## Reflections

A film about the life of Baha'u'llah, Prophet and Founder of the Baha'i Faith, will be shown on Fri., Nov. 24, at 6 pm in the Stikine Fireview Room. This is a follow up event in recognition of the 200th anniversary of His birth, held October 20. The purpose is to acquaint people with His life and teachings as they impact our modern world. The evening will begin with a potluck dinner. Everyone is welcome. Activities will be provided for children.

Wrangellites joined millions of others around the world in celebrating this event. Our program featured a traditional welcome, a Yupik dance - the Reindeer Herding Song, a prayer in Tlingit, a performance by members of the Stikine Strings, and music sung by children who attend weekly spiritual education classes open to all. The program ended with a delicious buffet and time to socialize.

A few short videos were shown that illustrate principles of the oneness of humankind and the

unity of religions. Baha'i communities in Wrangell and elsewhere offer neighborhood-based programs that enable participants to gain insights and practical experience for planning and working together to improve our lives. Activities include classes for chil-

dren, junior youth spiritual empowerment groups, study circles for older youth and gatherings for prayer, all with a focus on learning to be of service to others.

**Kay Larson, member of the Wrangell Baha'i community**

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## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Harborlight Assembly of God

Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.,  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. 874-2244

### St. Rose of Lima, Catholic Church

Sunday Masses 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
Enrichment in Faith- All are welcome, 10:00 a.m.  
874-3771 or 305-0654

### St. Philip's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m., Church School 10:00 a.m.  
874-3047 or 874-4480

### First Presbyterian

Worship Service 11 a.m., 874-3534

### The Salvation Army

Sunday Worship, 11 a.m., Sunday School 10 a.m.,  
874-3753

### Island of Faith Lutheran Church-ELCA

Worship Service 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship,  
Faith Walking Saturday 10 a.m., 874-2743

### Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Priesthood Relief Society & Primary at noon.;  
Sunday School 11 a.m.; Sacrament 10 a.m.,  
874-3976 or 3778

### Wrangell Community Church of God

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m.; 874-3964

### Bible Baptist Church

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.;  
Sunday Worship, 11 a.m. & 6 p.m., 874-2069

### Wrangell Seventh-day Adventist Church

Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.;  
Young People & Adult Study, 9:30 a.m., 874-3039

### Baha'i Faith

Study circles, children's and youth classes,  
devotional meetings call 874-3521  
for information

Presented for all religious faiths of Wrangell in respect to their devotional influences and public services in our community.

**Bobs' Supermarket**



Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

**WRANGELL SENTINEL**

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# Volleyball team takes second at regions, headed to state

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

After a rollicking three days in Petersburg for Region V, the Lady Wolves volleyball team will be headed to State next weekend.

Twelve Wrangell students headed to the tournament, seeded third among their division's teams after a hard-fought season.

"Everybody got to step onto the court over the weekend," said Jessica Whitaker, Wrangell's head coach.

Her girls began their tournament against Haines on November 16, starting off with a strong 25-9 win. The second match came out more closely at 25-18, with Haines reversing those scores in a third-match win of its own. The series ended with a Wrangell victory, after finishing 25-11.

The next afternoon Wrangell faced Craig, with the Lady Panthers historically the team to beat at regionals. Facing each other previously, Wrangell had

come off with a win at the Juneau invitational in October, while Craig would win after a five-match slog at home the following week.

In Petersburg last week, the teams first run-in of the tournament concluded with a sweep for Craig. It won the first match over Wrangell 25-16, the next 25-15, and the third 25-8.

Heading to the back bracket, Wrangell met Metlakatla Friday evening. After a close opening match the Lady Wolves won 25-21. Metlakatla returned with a win of its own at 25-15, with Wrangell winning the next 25-13. It concluded the game with a decisive 25-9 win in the fourth match.

Wrangell moved on next to face Klawock early Saturday. As with the game against Metlakatla, Wrangell won a closely contested opening match 25-22. It won the second match as well, 25-19, before Klawock stayed afloat with a win of its own at 25-17. The fourth match ended up being the final with a 25-20



SUBMITTED BY BILL SCHWAN

**Taking the scenic route through town on the back of a fire truck, the girls from Wrangell High School's volleyball team get a triumphant return from Region V in Petersburg over the weekend. Taking second place overall, the Lady Wolves secured their first trip to State in over a decade.**

Wrangell win.

Emerging with another shot at the title, that afternoon Wrangell met Craig for a rematch. The Lady Panthers began with a 25-21 win, but Wrangell responded with a win of its own, 25-18. Gameplay continued with the teams exchanging point for point, win for win. Wrangell lost the third match in a close 22-25 conclusion, before winning the next 25-16.

In the fifth and final match, play went into overtime as the scores met the 15 mark. Whichever team won would secure a berth to the state-level championships and get the opportunity to play an unbeaten Petersburg team for region leader.

"It was a nail-biter all the way through," said Jaime Cabral, Petersburg High School's activities director. "That match was probably the match of the weekend."

"All five games were very close, point for point. They could've gone either way," Whitaker said. "We played them plenty this season, we knew what we had to do."

Cleaning up on its passing

and serving over its earlier performance, the Wrangell team finished up with the win, scoring 17 points over Craig's 15. The girls cemented a spot at State, the team's first time attending since 2006.

"We're all just very excited," said Whitaker, who has been coaching for Wrangell the past 10 years. The trip to State will be a first for her, too.

It was not quite time to celebrate yet, with a final game against Petersburg scheduled for Saturday evening. Except for some non-conference losses in Juneau, the team had come through the regular season undefeated.

Wrangell had come close to breaking its streak when hosting the Lady Vikings the previous weekend. But Petersburg ended up sweeping the team in three, winning matches to Wrangell's 19, 13 and 15 points.

Whitaker had been proud of her team's performance, and their berth at State was seen as the product of the players' hard work. "The girls played exceptionally well," she said.

A number of awards were distributed to Wrangell players

as well. Making the All-Conference Team were sophomore Kaylyn Easterly and junior Helen Decker. Noted for their behavior on and off of the court, senior Anna Allen and freshman Terra Hoyt were both recipients of the Sportsmanship Award. And for grades, Allen, Kayla Hay, Kiara Meissner, Krissy Lockabey, Erin Galla and Bethany Comstock all were named to the All-Academic Team.

The weekend was a good one for the program, and rather than being a successful end to its season presented an opportunity to further compete with the state's best teams.

"I think it's great. Every year it seems like we're getting more and more kids involved," commented Trisa Rooney, Wrangell High School's activities director.

After taking the holiday weekend off for Thanksgiving, the team will be headed up to Anchorage for the Alaska School Activities Association 3A/4A State Championships, co-sponsored by First National Bank of Alaska. Wrangell's first match is scheduled for November 30 at 10 a.m.

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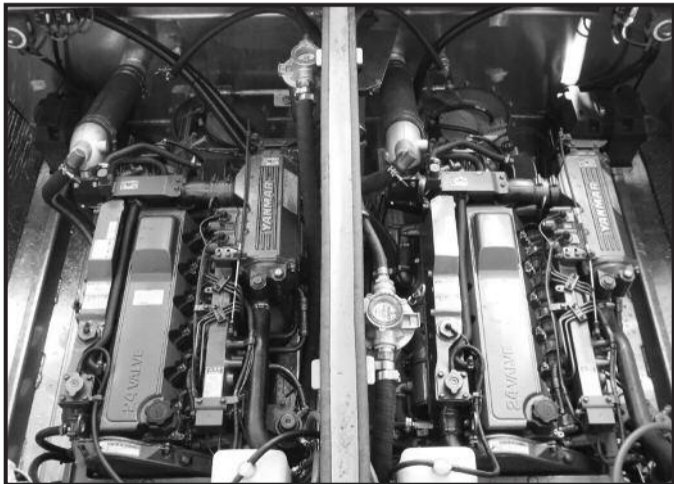
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### Wrangell Sanitation Department GARBAGE COLLECTION SCHEDULE for the Thanksgiving holiday week

- Garbage normally scheduled for pick-up on Thursday, November 23rd will be collected the previous day, on Wednesday, November 22nd.
- Garbage normally scheduled for pick-up on Friday, November 24th, will be collected the following Monday, November 27th.

Because two trucks may be running on these altered collection days, garbage may be collected earlier than normal. **Please ensure that your trash cans are on the roadside by 8:00 a.m.**



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# Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH  
Fisheries columnist

## Summit to build fisher skills

The biggest year classes of Alaska fishermen are phasing out of the business and fewer young cohorts are recruiting in. The Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit has convened over a decade to help stanch that outward flow, and facilitate a future for fishing leaders.

The average age of a commercial fisherman in Alaska was 50 in 2014 compared to 40 in 1980. At the same time, the number of Alaskans under 40 holding fishing permits fell to just 17 percent, down from nearly 40 percent of total permits across the state.

The Summit coming up this year Anchorage, provides three days of fast paced networking and skill-building for newcomers to fishing and those considering the occupation as a career, although everyone from "graybeards to greenhorns" are welcome to attend.

"Age is secondary to what we are trying to accomplish and that is getting folks oriented to the whole suite of fisheries aspects from management to markets, as well as a real solid hit on looking critically at their business model," said Torie Baker of Alaska Sea Grant in Cordova, which hosts the Summit.

"If you're thinking about diversifying your operation or getting into another fishery or upgrading, we have a lot of great folks who come and help us with all aspects of the business parts of it," Baker said.

Besides business, the Summit focuses on Alaska's role in world seafood markets, the latest science affecting fisheries and the regulatory process, which features a mock Board of Fisheries meeting.

"We actually assign roles and have folks get up there and practice public speaking, and we bring in people who play those roles in real life," Baker said,

Networking with industry professionals and fishing peers is always one of the most popular Summit draws.

"People get totally new perspectives about fisheries across the state," Baker said. "Just for salmon alone, there are 26 districts from Ketchikan to Kotzebue, and our longline fisheries are all over the place. It is an eye opener for these folks to get together, compare notes and challenges and aspirations."

Fishermen's concerns have changed over time, she said, and based on recent exit surveys, it is the environment that is now drawing the most interest.

"There is definitely a sensitivity in the oceanography and physical processes going on out there. That's the source from which this all comes," Baker said. "We're working with hunter/gatherers who connect the dots every day in their lives and livelihood."

The Alaska Young Fishermen's Summit is set for December 6-8 at the Dena'ina Center. Cost is \$125 for registrations before Dec. 1 (\$150 after) and travel scholarships are available.

**Salmon watch** - The world's biggest sockeye salmon fishery keeps getting bigger. The red run next year at Bristol Bay is projected at 51.3 million fish. That would produce another whopping catch approaching 40 million, 18 percent higher than the 10 year average and 41 percent more than the long term mean.

Last year's sockeye run to the Bay was in the all-time top five, with record surges to several rivers, especially on the west side. And more of the same is predicted.

Area manager Tim Sands said he believes recent warmer winters are providing better conditions for baby salmon.

Continued on page 7

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### CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL In-House and Public Announcement ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION RECREATION COORDINATOR PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The City and Borough of Wrangell is recruiting for a Recreation Coordinator to join the Borough's Parks and Recreation Department.

The Recreation Coordinator assists and supports all functions of the Parks and Recreation Department, with primary duties including facilitating activities of recreation programs, program development for youth and adults, program promotions and participant recruitment, supervising aquatics activities and lifeguard staff, swim lesson instruction and supervision, daily income reconciliation, weekly cash deposits, attendance tracking, reservation management and participation in policy and procedure updates. The position requires the knowledge and ability to plan, implement and evaluate recreation programming for all ages. The Recreation Coordinator also acts as the evening shift supervisor for the Recreation Facility and Swimming Pool, which necessitates a general knowledge of national lifeguard standards, best practices, and facility operations.

The position will appeal to a candidate who thrives in a fast-paced, collaborative, and team-centered work environment and enjoys interacting with community members, families, and children. The successful candidate will have experience that demonstrates strong organizational skills with an ability to navigate and/or to learn common programs such as; Microsoft Excel, Outlook, Word, Adobe Acrobat and the departments Recreation Management software. The position also requires strong customer service skills and abilities including during times of high workflow. An aptitude for solving programs autonomously and efficiently will serve as an asset to the successful candidate.

Preferred education and experience include a high school diploma or equivalent, ability to gain a Lifeguard and Water Safety Instructor certification upon hire and two years of recreation programming management or a position closely aligned with the duties, responsibilities and skills required. This position may serve as the Acting Parks and Recreation Director in Directors absence.

This is a permanent 30 hour a week position with full benefits, paid hourly (overtime-eligible) at Grade 12 ranging from \$17.73 to \$24.63 per hour. Some overtime may be authorized and/or required. The full job description and employment application can be found online at [www.wrangell.com/jobs](http://www.wrangell.com/jobs).

To be considered, submit a cover letter, resume, and completed employment application via e-mail to [clerk@wrangell.com](mailto:clerk@wrangell.com), or in person to City Hall, 205 Brueger St., Wrangell, AK 99929. **Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.**

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

Lisa Von Barga  
Wrangell Borough Manager

Publish: November 16 and 23, 2017

### Legal Notice of Opportunity to Object Opportunity to Object to the Sonar Cabin Replacement Project

The Wrangell Ranger District has released the Sonar Cabin Replacement Environmental Assessment (EA), draft Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). These documents are available online at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=47136>. Hardcopies are available for review at the Wrangell Ranger District. The proposed action for the project would replace the Sonar Cabin, on the Wrangell Ranger District, Tongass National Forest. The Responsible Official for this project is Beth G. Pendleton, Regional Forester. Additional information regarding this proposed project can be obtained from: Robert J. Dalrymple, Wrangell District Ranger, 525 Bennett Street, PO Box 51, Wrangell, AK 99929-0051, 907-874-2323 (phone), 907-874-7595 (fax), email [rdalrymple@fs.fed.us](mailto:rdalrymple@fs.fed.us).

This proposed project is subject to a pre-decisional administrative review (objection) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subparts A and B. Objections will be accepted only from those who previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project either during scoping or other designated opportunity for public comment in accordance with 36 CFR 218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project unless based on new information arising after designated public comment opportunities.

Individual members of organizations must have submitted their own comments to be eligible to object; objections received on behalf of an organization are considered those of the organization only. If an objection is submitted on behalf of a number of individuals or organizations, each individual or organization listed must meet the eligibility requirements (36 CFR 218.5(d)). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Incorporation of documents by reference in an objection is permitted only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). Minimum content requirements of an objection are identified in 36 CFR 218.8(d) and include: objector's name and address with a telephone number if available (signature or other verification of authorship must be supplied upon request); identification of the lead objector when multiple names are listed, along with verification upon request; name of project, name and title of the responsible official, national forest/ranger district of project; sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed project objected to, specific issues related to the project, how environmental law, regulation, or policy would be violated, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection; and statement demonstrating the connection between prior specific written comments on this project and the content of the objection, unless the objection issue arose after the designated opportunity for comment.

The Reviewing Officer is Chris Iverson. Send objections to: USDA Forest Service, ATTN: Chris Iverson, Reviewing Officer, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, EMC-LEAP, Mailstop 1104, Washington, D.C. 20150, Fax: (202) 649-1172, Phone: 801-625-5605, email: [objections-chief@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-chief@fs.fed.us)

Written objections, including any attachments, must be filed (regular mail, fax, email, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Reviewing Officer within 45 days following the publication date of this legal notice in the newspapers of record. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered objections are 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a format compatible with the current version of MS Word. It is the responsibility of objectors to ensure their objection is received in a timely manner (36 CFR 218.9).

The publication date in the *Juneau Empire* and the *Alaska Dispatch News*, newspapers of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection of this project. Those wishing to object to this proposed project should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender.

Publish: November 23, 2017



# Alaska Fish Factor

Continued from page 6

“Early ice-out, late ice-in... having extra growing time in those higher, upper lakes made those fish healthier, bigger, and more competitive when they got to the ocean,” Sands told KDLG in Dillingham.

Biologists admit that predicting Bristol Bay sockeye runs is

a tricky science. This past summer, for example, 42 percent more fish returned than projected, yielding a 37 percent higher catch.

Using salmon data from nine river systems in five districts, Bristol Bay managers have had a mean error of 14 percent in harvest forecasts since 2001.

See a complete breakdown for 2018 Bristol Bay salmon runs at KDLG.

**Projections for pink salmon** next summer at Southeast

Alaska are less robust. Managers at the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game are forecasting a catch of 23 million humpies, below the 10 year average of 38 million fish. Biologists said abnormally warm water temperatures may have reduced fish survival and are driving a sense of “uncertainty.” Pink salmon that went to sea from 2014-2016 returned in numbers below expectations and below recent odd/even year averages, managers said.

**Man-made salmon** is proving to be a flop for investors. AquaBounty, the makers of genetically modified Atlantic salmon, admitted they may never make a profit as they seek to raise \$20 million from the sale of its company stock.

Seafood Source reports that AquaBounty made the comment in its U.S. Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) filing earlier this month. The decades-long lab project to create faster grow-

ing genetically modified salmon has caused ‘significant losses’ the company said in its filing, and they expect to continue losing “for the foreseeable future.”

AquaBounty shares on the NASDAQ were at \$5.18 in early November down from over \$20 in January.

The first batch of so called Frankenfish was sold to undisclosed supermarkets last summer, most likely in Quebec. The company reported that five tons of GM salmon were shipped from its farm site in Panama, generating \$53,000 or roughly \$4.82 per pound. No one besides AquaBounty knows where the GM fish were sold, and no labels are required to alert customers what they are buying.

AquaBounty said it plans to produce 1,300 tons of GM salmon annually (nearly 3 million pounds) starting next year.

The U.S. gave a nod in 2015 to the “safety” of eating Frankenfish making it the first GM animal approved for human

consumption, but it has yet to make it to American markets. More than 80 U.S. grocery chains and restaurants, including Costco, have stated they will not sell the GM salmon.

**Hats off to highliners** – Two Alaskans have merited National Fisherman’s prestigious Highliner of the Year awards: George Eliason of Sitka and Bruce Schactler of Kodiak.

Both have spent decades in the wheelhouse and on deck, but it is their work beyond the fishing grounds that sets each year’s chosen Highliners apart.

For Eliason, it was due to his years of dedication in finding ways to help young fishermen afford to have careers in local longline fisheries.

Schacter was recognized for the years of heavy lifting he has done on writing and advocating on legislation to benefit seafood marketing, along with helping to expand global feeding efforts with Alaska seafood.

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# Legal workaround possible for crime reform bill

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – While constitutional questions swirl around a crime bill recently passed by the Alaska Legislature, the director of the state Department of Law's criminal division thinks the courts will work out a solution.

John Skidmore said courts will find a way to interpret the law in a way that avoids constitutional issues, KTOO radio reported.

But Tara Rich, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska, believes the courts will invalidate a provision dealing with Class C felonies. She also expects legal challenges if Gov. Bill Walker signs the bill, SB54, which he said he intends to do.

The bill was prompted by concerns raised by the public and law enforcement following a criminal justice overhaul passed by lawmakers last year. Critics saw the overhaul as too soft on crime.

The ACLU of Alaska had warned legislators that a provision of the bill added in the House would make presumptive sentence ranges for first-time Class C and Class B felonies the same. The group said this would violate due process requirements.

The ACLU of Alaska also said the concept of

graduated offenses is to ensure more serious crimes are sentenced more harshly. Class C felonies are a lesser class of felony.

Skidmore had flagged the issue as problematic before the Senate approved the House version last week. He said Tuesday that judges could use what are known as benchmarks to avoid constitutional issues.

"Instead of the Legislature giving specific sentencing ranges, the courts step in and provide a sentencing range within what the Legislature has already given them," he said.

Judges, for example, could set a benchmark at the low end of the range for C felonies.

Rich expects lawsuits if the bill becomes law because a lawyer for anyone charged with a first-time Class C felony would seek to plea bargain, and negotiations for that plea would depend on how judges interpret the law.

The ACLU of Alaska also has concerns with a provision affecting the length of sentences for people who commit Class A misdemeanors for the second time and for those who commit disorderly conduct.

# Hospital

Continued from page 1

tention of a level of oversight by the Borough Assembly," it offered, "such that the relationship may be altered if it becomes apparent that the community is not receiving the appropriate level of healthcare services."

"I think the council is really apt to looking at a third party that would be joining in with us," was the impression of Don McConachie, a board member who sat in on the workshop discussions.

The board would have some options moving forward, either negotiating with a single provider like SEARHC or else shopping around with a request for proposal to other healthcare providers.

"We have a relationship right now with SEARHC," McConachie noted. From his outsider's perspective, he said its merger with AICS appeared to have gone smoothly for both parties. "If that was the case, it should be something we should possibly pursue."

Fellow board member Olinda White wanted to know more about how an agreement between SEARHC and the hospital would look, particularly in ensuring that WMC remains a community facility.

"I would just hate to see certain things stop," she said, such as chemotherapy. On the other hand, she acquiesced that with its greater organizational size, SEARHC could also bring new services to the community.

"They have a substantial footprint in Southeast Alaska," said Mayer. Beyond its reach, he felt SEARHC was "well-positioned financially" to assist the hospital's goal of constructing a new facility.

Rang said some of these questions would be answered in the next phase, or the hiring on of a consultant. After discussing potential costs and suggesting some changes to the letter's phrasing, members voted unanimously in favor of the document. It will next be considered by the Assembly at its meeting next month.

# State takes mining concerns to State Sec. Tillerson

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Officials in Alaska want the U.S. State Department to raise with the Canadian government concerns about the impacts of British Columbia mining on waters that flow across the border.

Gov. Bill Walker, Lt. Gov. Byron Mallott and Alaska's congressional delegation also asked Secretary of State Rex Tillerson to determine if the concerns should be brought to a special international commission.

The commission gets involved when asked to do so by the national governments.

The congressional delegation made similar requests under the Obama administration and found the response to be lacking.

The State Department in October 2016 said it was working with other federal agencies to determine what Canada's national government was doing to address U.S. concerns and committed to identifying the best way forward. Sen. Lisa Murkowski called the department's response a positive step but said more needed to be done.

In their letter to Tillerson this week, the Alaska officials said they are encouraged by how en-

gaged the provincial government in British Columbia has been with the state. But they said they also see a complementary federal role.

# Thanksgiving drive serves up dinners for over 200 people

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Meals have been brought to 74 families' tables for Thanksgiving this week through the efforts of a local charity drive.

The annual Thanksgiving basket drive organized by the Wrangell Ministerial Association has for each of the past sixteen years provided traditional meals to hundreds of residents. Donations of cash and goods from community members are pooled together to assemble turkeys, dressing, vegetables and other sides for a family feast.

Don and Bonnie Roher, Damon and Eva Roher, and Mike and Jennifer Bates this year packed and distributed the goods, in time for the holiday last Friday. Don Roher estimated this year's collection pulled together \$4,219 worth of food, much of it from local businesses.

"We couldn't have done it without the great generosity of our two local grocery stores," he said.

Beneficiaries are often nominated by friends or neighbors, and the volunteers contact recipients to let them know a meal is coming their way. "A lot of families adopted families," Roher said. Of the 74 households receiving parcels, there were 218 people between them. Some were single-member homes, others full families – of those selected, 86 were children.

Sometimes the meal comes as a surprise.

"There was one highlight that really made my day," said Roher. One resident new to the community came to collect her turkey. She was about to leave when Bonnie Roher told her there were some more bags to take with her.

"When she looked in those bags and saw what was there, she grinned from ear to ear," Don recalled, grinning himself.

Once the meals had been either picked up or delivered, Roher estimated a case and a half of food had been left over. That and whatever cash is left over will go to the local Salvation Army for its own basket drive before Christmas. That drive kicks off next month, and will be providing both meals and toys to area families.



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