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Ordinances target illegal dumping in harbor trash bins; would impose fine

BY LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The dumpsters at Wrangell's public harbors are for boat owners only and for their household trash only — but that hasn't stopped people from tossing in waste oil, fishing nets, appliances and even a Volkswagen Beetle cut into pieces.

"It's been bad forever," Harbormaster Steve Miller said last week.

In an effort to stop or at least reduce the illegal dumping, the port commission on Thursday, Feb. 1, voted unanimously to recommend assembly approval of a new ordinance to explicitly prohibit throwing non-harbor and non-port related trash into the dumpsters.

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Haul it yourself



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

TK's Mini Mart owner Alesha McHolland now has two U-Haul trucks available for rent at her store. See story Page 5.

Scientists wire up Mount Edgecumbe to measure volcanic activity

BY JAMES BROOKS
Alaska Beacon

Sitka's Mount Edgecumbe volcano is wired.

On Jan. 26, the Alaska Volcano Observatory announced the completion of a new instrument network intended to measure the activity of a volcano that could be awakening after a period of dormancy.

The network includes four seismic stations and four sites that measure the way the ground is deforming as magma

moves deep below the volcano. Since April 2022, the movement of that liquefied rock has caused hundreds of small earthquakes and raised concerns that Sitka, 15 miles away, could soon be near an eruption.

That's still an unlikely scenario, and the new instruments — many installed last summer and evaluated over the winter — will keep track of the risk.

"It does have some signs of unrest — there's signs that there is magma that's come into the

system very deep. We're talking 6 miles below the volcano. And so we want to be sure to be monitoring it as best we can," said Hannah Dietterich, a research geophysicist for the U.S. Geological Survey at the Alaska Volcano Observatory.

Mount Edgecumbe, a scenic, Mount Fuji-like volcano visible from Sitka, Alaska's first capital city, hasn't erupted within written history, but Tlingit oral tradition notes some eruptions about 800 years ago, and the original name of the peak is L'ux Shaa, or "blinking mountain."

A 2010 research paper noted

evidence of an ash eruption about 1,150 years ago, including deposits in Sitka Sound. A similar eruption "may pose significant risk to local population centers," the authors noted.

After a series of small earthquakes in 2022 drew attention to the volcano, experts reviewed satellite radar measurements from as far back as 2014 and concluded that ground near the mountain was bulging outward at a rate faster than seen at any other volcano in Alaska.

That growth has since slowed.

"The deformation rate has

slowed in the last year, especially in the second half of 2023," Dietterich said.

The new instruments will help track any future changes in the volcano. Precise ground sensors mean that scientists can get hourly changes in the shape of the ground near the volcano instead of waiting days or weeks for less-accurate satellite measurements.

Seismic instruments installed near the volcano will give precise recordings of earthquakes smaller than magnitude 1. Before the new installation, the

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Tribes seek formal recognition in reviews of Canadian mines

BY JOAQLIN ESTUS
ICT (Indian Country Today)

A group of Southeast Alaska tribes has petitioned Canada to recognize their right to have a voice in how transboundary lands and waters are treated — they're asking to be recognized as participating Indigenous nations in Canada's review process for resource development.

The latest issue is the proposed reopening of the Eskay Creek open-pit gold and silver mine near the headwaters of the Unuk River, which empties into open water about 55 miles northeast of Ketchikan. The mine site is about 80 air miles east of Wrangell.

Vancouver-based Skeena Resources has proposed reopening the mine. The company completed an economic feasibility study of the project in November.

Eskay Creek, which operated from 1994 to 2008, is one of several proposed and operating mines located on or near major rivers that cross the Canadian-U.S. border in Southeast Alaska. Canadian recognition as a participant in the review process would give the Alaska tribes the rights to be consulted on Eskay Creek and other mining projects.

The seven tribes behind the petition are the Ketchikan Indian Community, the Organized Village of Saxman, Petersburg Indian Association, Craig Tribal Cooperative Association, the Organized Village of Kasaan, Klawock Cooperative Association and the Hydaburg Indian Association. They sent their petition for recognition to the head of British Columbia's Environmental Assessment Office on Jan. 30.

The seven tribes are members of the Southeast Alaska Indige-

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Mat-Su borough assembly advises residents to arm themselves due to lack of state troopers

BY AMY BUSHATZ
Anchorage Daily News

A new Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly resolution urges residents to own weapons and ammunition to compensate for limited local law enforcement in Alaska's fastest-growing region.

The action, which doesn't have the power of law, reflects ongoing discussion in the region about the lack of borough policing powers as the state troopers struggle with continued staffing issues that have left the local trooper detachment with roughly 20% of its positions unfilled.

Unlike Anchorage, which has lost residents overall for the past nine years, Mat-Su has steadily grown. The borough population reached over 111,000 residents in 2022, the most recent year for which state data is available. Between 2010 and 2022, the region gained almost 23,000 residents.

The borough does not have police powers — residents do not pay taxes for borough police — leaving it to state troopers to cover the region.

The resolution, sponsored by assembly members Ron Bernier and Dee McKee, was approved unanimously by the assembly at a Jan. 16 meeting.

"Every eligible resident residing in the borough is encouraged to maintain a firearm, and

ammunition thereof," it states. The resolution, which also asks firearm owners to learn about safe weapon use and maintenance, does not define who is an eligible resident. It does not create any laws.

Bernier, whose district covers Susitna Valley communities including Willow and Trapper Creek, said he sponsored the language to encourage residents to protect themselves.

"You should have the right to stand up for yourself and take care of yourself and your family first and your community," he said during the meeting. "There's going to be times where things are going to get real. You all should be prepared."

At issue is a longstanding law enforcement staffing challenge across a borough that's roughly the size of West Virginia. While the cities of Palmer and Wasilla have their own police forces, the borough does not.

Multiple people spoke against the resolution during public comment at the meeting. Several expressed concern it could lead to lawlessness.

"Seriously, what is the point of this?" said DJ McBride, a Caswell Lakes resident who spoke at the meeting. "This leads down the road to vigilantism and allows people to think that they can take the law into their own hands, rather than call the troopers."

Senior Center Menu

Open for in-person dining. Must be fully vaccinated.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Chili, steamed zucchini, cornbread, fruit salad

Friday, Feb. 9

Tamale pie, steamed spinach, apricot salad, biscuit

Monday, Feb. 12

Closed. Shelf-stable meal delivered on Friday, Feb. 9

Tuesday, Feb. 13

New England clam chowder, tomato and tuna sandwich, honey mustard coleslaw

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Moose venison and rice soup, Brussels sprouts, carrot and raisin salad

Call the senior center at 907-874-2066 24 hours in advance to reserve a seat at lunch or to request delivery.

The senior van is available to take seniors to medical appointments, errands such as collecting mail, getting prescriptions or other essential items.



ALASKA AIRLINES CLUB 49 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

STATE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE will be in Wrangell on Thursday, Feb. 8. Immunizations, birth control and STD screening, well-child exams for kids up to age 6, TB screening and medication, Narcan kits and medication disposal bags will be offered. The Public Health Center is in the Kadin Building, 215 Front St. Call 907-723-4611 to make an appointment in advance so the nurse knows what immunizations to bring.

NOLAN CENTER THEATER No movies this weekend. Next weekend: "Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom."

FREE TAX RETURN PREPARATION every Saturday through April 13 at the Nolan Center classroom. Open to everyone, regardless of age. IRS-certified volunteers will prepare and e-file your return for you at no charge. By appointment only. Call Paula at 907-874-3824 or 907-305-0309.

PAPER ROSE-MAKING CLASS 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 10, at the Irene Ingle Public Library. Bring a hot-glue gun if you have one. All ages welcome. Call 907-874-3535.

SHROVE TUESDAY 5:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, at the Nolan Center. Island of Faith and St. Philip's Episcopal Church present a Shrove Tuesday pancake dinner from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., followed by a showing of "Jesus Christ Superstar" beginning at 6:45 p.m. Everyone welcome.

ASH WEDNESDAY 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 14, at the downtown pavilion. Pastor Sue Bahleda of Island of Faith Lutheran Church will be available for those who would like to receive the imposition of ashes. Island of Faith will also hold an Ash Wednesday service at 7 p.m. Feb. 14.

KNOTLESS NETTED BASKET WEAVING, with a presentation 6 to 7 p.m. Friday Feb. 16, at the library, open to the public, with the class 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 17 and 18, at the community center multi-purpose room. Registration required for the class; \$20 per person for materials. Space is limited, call the library to reserve your spot at 907-874-3535. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at the community center multipurpose room. Tiaras, dessert and backdrop for pictures will come with purchase of a \$35 ticket. Flowers will be available for purchase. Fundraiser hosted by Wrangell Burial Assistance.

WATERCOLOR PAINTING, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 17, at St. Philip's parish hall, with Michael Bania. No fees but donations are welcome for supplies. 16 spaces are available. Call Michael at 907-978-7717 to reserve a spot.

HOSPICE OF WRANGELL annual meeting and awards presentation at noon, Monday, Feb. 19, at the Catholic Church Father Jerry Hall. Light lunch will be provided. All are welcome.

MIGRANT EDUCATION FAMILY LITERACY NIGHT 5:30 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 20, at the Nolan Center. "Night at the Museum" is open to all migrant education students and their families.

HOMEBUYERS / BUILDERS and FINANCIAL LITERACY SYMPOSIUM, 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Nolan Center, hosted by the borough. No fee to attend. Contact Kate Thomas at 907-874-2381 for more information.

GET YOUR DUCKS IN A ROW 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24, at the Episcopal Church parish hall. Hospice of Wrangell presents a series of speakers on end-of-life planning. Light lunch served. No charge, open to all.

STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY, 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays. Come enjoy the stories, crafts and snacks at the Irene Ingle Public Library. Call 907-874-3535.

VIRTUES MATTER activities for children, 2:35 to 4 p.m. Wednesdays at the elementary school music room. An interfaith effort hosted by the Baha'is of Wrangell and open to all. For more information and to register, call Kay Larson, 907-209-9117, or email wrangell@akbnc.org.

WRANGELL PARKS and RECREATION is offering multiple activities to get your body moving. For more information on any of the activities and more visit www.wrangellrec.com or call 907-874-2444.

YOUTH OPEN GYM 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the community center gym for ages 0-10. \$3 for first child, \$2 for second, \$1 for third child, fourth plus is free. Bring clean gym shoes or take shoes off in the hallway.

WATER AEROBICS 10 to 11 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the swimming pool for ages 18 years and up. \$5 drop-in fee, \$3 senior discount or facility punch card.

WINTER WORKOUT CHALLENGE through March 31 is built to encourage consistent movement, with a goal of completing at least 30 minutes of exercise 5 to 6 days per week. This challenge is for people of ALL fitness levels. The participant who completes the most workouts within the challenge dates will win a six-month pass to the Parks and Recreation facility; prizes donated by local businesses will be raffled off at the end of the challenge. For ages 14 and up. Registration required for this free activity.

Ferry Schedule

Northbound

Friday, Feb. 9

Kennicott, 8:45 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 16

Kennicott, 4:15 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 23

Kennicott, 8:45 p.m.

Friday, March 1

Kennicott, 4:30 p.m.

Southbound

Monday, Feb. 12

Kennicott, 8 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 19

Kennicott, 6 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 26

Kennicott, 7 a.m.

Monday, March 4

Kennicott, 1 a.m.

Listings are scheduled departure times. Call the terminal at 907-874-2021 for information or 907-874-3711 for recorded information.

Tides

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Feb. 7	10:31	16.4	11:48	14.2	04:15	5.3	05:14	-1.4
Feb. 8	11:23	17.6	05:11	3.9	05:58	-2.7
Feb. 9	00:29	15.5	12:12	18.6	06:00	2.5	06:39	-3.5
Feb. 10	01:09	16.6	12:58	19.0	06:45	1.2	07:18	-3.7
Feb. 11	01:47	17.5	01:44	18.9	07:30	0.2	07:57	-3.3
Feb. 12	02:24	18.0	02:29	18.2	08:15	-0.4	08:36	-2.4
Feb. 13	03:03	18.1	03:16	16.9	09:02	-0.5	09:16	-0.9

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

Feb. 7, 1924

Wrangell's Town Team triumphed over their rivals, the American Legion, in a fast and rough basketball game at the rink on Tuesday night, 25-12. The game was played as a benefit for the high school team which was leaving the next day for Seattle. Nearly a hundred dollars was garnered from the game. Speed once more won out over brawn when the two teams met. The floor work of Scribner, the 230-pound fairy, Totts Lewis and Mickey Prescott was too much for the big men on the Legion

team. The first half of the game was close and exciting, but in the second half the strain began to tell on the Legion and baskets rained on them.

Feb. 4, 1949

Contrary to an article appearing in last week's Sentinel, the A. Wells Sawmill did not change owners, but was leased by Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bernardo for a six-months period, with an option to buy. John Hurn will operate the mill as manager, with about four men employed there. New equipment has

been installed, including a planer and edger. Hurn hopes to be able to cut 6,000 to 10,000 board feet of lumber a day. Most of the lumber will be cut for local use, with back orders being taken care of first. Anyone having his own logs to cut may have them made into lumber at the mill. For full information or lumber orders, call Francis Bernardo at The Club or see John Hurn at the mill.

Feb. 6, 1974

Gasoline prices were at a record high in Wrangell this

week after the most recent of a series of increases since the nationwide fuel crunch began to make itself felt here last fall. At both the Union 76 and Standard Oil retail outlets in town, gasoline was selling for 61 cents a gallon for regular and 64 1/2 cents for high-test gasoline. The prices followed a series of jumps that began last October when Wrangell motorists were buying their fuel at 49 and 51 1/2 cents respectively for regular and high-test.

Feb 4, 1999

Wrangell residents took a medical high-tech step forward this past week when the Wrangell Medical Center received the gift of a bedside arrhythmia monitoring system. The new system will allow nurses to continually monitor a patient's heart from the nurses' station. Marquette Electronics, the primary developer of electronic monitoring equipment in the world, has made a first-time donation of the system, valued at around \$30,000, to the medical center as a humanitarian gesture.

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Peratrovich Day event set for Nolan Center the evening of Feb. 16

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The Tlingit & Haida Community Council and Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp No. 1 are co-hosting an event to commemorate Elizabeth Peratrovich Day on Friday, Feb. 16, at the Nolan Center.

It's been several years since a communitywide event was held in Wrangell to honor the Tlingit civil rights advocate who successfully pushed for the nation's first anti-discrimination law in Alaska in 1945.

Though events were held at the schools in past years, Sandy Churchill, ANS Camp president, said she has been wanting to do more to honor and remember the late civil rights activist.

"I hope there's a good turnout," she said.

The event is open to the public.

The evening will start with a 5 p.m. potluck. "Just bring whatever," Churchill said. The ANS Camp will provide frybread tacos.

Several speakers will talk about the history of Elizabeth Peratrovich and the struggles for Alaska Natives to win their rights. The speakers will be on Zoom, as part of a statewide presentation organized by the Alaska Native Sisterhood Grand Camp.

A silent auction will follow the speakers to raise money to send Wrangell youth to attend the Sealaska Heritage Institute's biennial Celebration, scheduled for June 5-8 in Juneau to honor and celebrate Southeast Alaska Native culture.

"We'll have a lot of homemade gifts," including jewelry and quilts, Churchill said. "I'm also hoping we'll collect a few gift certificates from local businesses" for the fundraising auction.

Anyone who wants to donate for the auction can call Churchill at 907-305-0888 or Laura Larsen at 907-660-7118.

The evening will end with traditional Native dances.

"We'll probably put out the blankets," to collect money for children to attend Celebration, Churchill said.

As president of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, Peratrovich traveled around Alaska, urging residents to support a territorial anti-discrimination bill that would put an end to government-sanctioned segregation. She was born in Petersburg in 1911 and lived in Sitka, Klawock, Ketchikan and Juneau, where her family had moved so that they could be more involved in territorial politics.

In 1943, an anti-discrimination bill was introduced to the all-white territorial Legislature but failed on a tie vote.

It was reintroduced in 1945. Sen. Allen Shattuck contended that the bill would "aggravate rather than allay" racial conflict, according to territorial Gov. Ernest Gruening's autobiography. Shattuck asked his colleagues: "Who are these people, barely out of savagery, who want to associate with us whites with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind us?"

Peratrovich responded in her public testimony: "I would not have expected that I, who am barely out of savagery, would have to remind the gentlemen with 5,000 years of recorded civilization behind them of our Bill of Rights."

The Anti-Discrimination Act passed after her testimony.

Peratrovich died of breast cancer at age 47 on Dec. 1, 1958. The state Legislature in 1988 designated Elizabeth Peratrovich Day.

Borough will proceed with \$25 million grant application to rebuild downtown harbors

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

Though the initial estimates have come in higher than the maximum grant amount, the borough will proceed with seeking \$25 million in federal money to rebuild the Inner Harbor, Reliance and Standard Oil floats.

The cost estimates for the entire project range from \$26 million to almost \$34 million, mostly depending on whether the work includes heavier-duty, custom-designed floats.

The borough will seek the maximum \$25 million available under the federal grant program — Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity, or

RAISE. There is \$1.5 billion available this year under the highly competitive nationwide program administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation under the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

In its application, Wrangell will commit to coming up with the balance needed to fully fund the project, Interim Borough Manager Mason Villarma said Friday, Feb. 2. That could be with a revenue bond, repaid by harbor fees, though the borough will continue seeking additional federal and state funds to cover the higher costs, he said.

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PHOTO BY GRANT ROBINSON / OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Wrangell Mayor Patty Gilbert was the governor's guest at his State of the State address Jan. 30 in Juneau. Gov. Mike Dunleavy introduced Gilbert, who was sitting in the gallery during the joint session of the state House and Senate.

Governor honors and thanks Wrangell in State of the State

Gov. Mike Dunleavy invited Mayor Patty Gilbert to attend his State of the State speech at the Capitol on Jan. 30, introducing her during his annual address to a joint session of the Alaska Legislature.

His remarks follow:

"This past fall, just before Thanksgiving, tough times came to Wrangell. On the evening of Nov. 20, a massive 450-foot-wide landslide engulfed homes, blocked the road and cut off power lines.

"Despite the wind, the rain, the cold and the dark, the community sprang into action. Fishermen maneuvered their boats to cast light onto the disaster area. Volunteers and first responders braved the harsh conditions and plowed through the mud searching for survivors.

"Thankfully, they were able to rescue Christina Florschutz, who'd been trapped in the slide and miraculously survived into the next day. Tragically, six of our fellow Alaskans perished: Christina's husband Otto, and the entire Heller family of Timothy and Beth and their three children Kara, Mara and Derek.

"Words are never enough to express our grief when a disaster like this strikes as it has before and unfortunately will again. But even in the worst disasters, our communities are home to good people who do their best to recover and rebuild.

"Wrangell is just that kind of place, and Mayor Patty Gilbert is here to represent her community. She'll be the first person to tell you that she doesn't deserve any credit for the actions of those who rushed headlong into danger. Mayor Gilbert may not have ended up covered head to toe in mud like those first responders and volunteers, but their spirit is with her tonight.

"Mayor Gilbert is originally from Omaha, Nebraska. She was a teacher all over the country and even in Venezuela. She and her husband began their Alaska adventure in Cordova, where he was a hospital administrator and she worked for Prince William Sound Community College. They eventually made it to Wrangell, where she continued teaching for another 23 years.

"Along the way, she served two terms on the city council and then on the borough assembly. She's president of the WMC Foundation, which raises funds to pay travel expenses for Alaskans who need treatment for cancer. She also helps raise money for student scholarships in health careers.

"Mayor Gilbert gives back to the community that has given her so much, and we're glad she's here tonight.

"Mayor, will you please stand and be recognized on behalf of the great Alaska community you serve and represent? Thank you."

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Alaska’s attorney general working for the wrong state

BY LARRY PERSILY
Publisher

The U.S.-Mexico border is a humanitarian disaster, with U.S. Border Patrol agents taking custody of upwards of 200,000 people a month trying to cross a line in the sand, river, desert shrubs or razor wire in search of a better life.

The numbers are staggering — for the burden it imposes on U.S. border cities, on federal agents, and on the immigrants caught up in the political war of a U.S. election year.

A bipartisan group of U.S. senators worked hard to find solutions to tighten the border, only to watch as presidential candidate Donald Trump called on his fellow Republicans not to work with Democrats to solve the problem.

It’s not that Trump likes immigrants — far from it. He just doesn’t want Democrats and President Joe Biden to share in finding a solution. Trump sees border security as a winning theme for his election campaign and doesn’t want anything to get in the way of his selfish self-interests to be the one who saves America.

Texas Republican Gov. Greg Abbott is pouring even more flammable material over heated emotions by picking fights with the federal government over border barriers, land access, arrest powers and more, while busing and flying immigrants to Democrat-controlled cities and states to dump the problem on their doorsteps.

Abbott, who loves publicity as much as Trump does, is locked and loaded for a court fight with the federal government over the state’s insistence that it has a right to string razor wire at the border.

Alaska has sided with Texas in that legal fight. Alaska Attorney General Treg Taylor on Feb. 1 announced he had joined Republican attorneys general from 26 other states in a letter to the Biden administration, supporting Texas. “Alaska stands with Governor Abbott and the people of Texas as they hold the line,” Taylor said in his press release.

A week earlier, Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy joined two dozen other Republican governors in support of Abbott’s decision to ignore a U.S. Supreme Court order allowing federal agents to remove razor wire strung up by the state of Texas along the border.

Suspiciously coincidental with all the partisan politics around border security, Alaska’s attorney general on Feb. 2 attended an unannounced, closed-door briefing in the state Capitol, limited to members of the Republican-controlled House majority coalition. Taylor, along with the Alaska National Guard commander, told lawmakers that some Alaska Guard troops would be going to the border to help with security.

Judging from comments by House members who attended the briefing, some thought that Alaska Guard troops would be boarding a plane to help with Abbott’s Operation Lone Star, a mobilization of Texas forces and other troops from Republican-led states to guard the border.

The Alaska National Guard the next day explained the 49th state is merely responding to a somewhat routine federal request for 20 troops and a couple of helicopters, not augmenting Abbott’s army.

What’s troubling is that the attorney general, who really has nothing to do with the Alaska National Guard, would think he needed to attend a one-sided, closed-door partisan briefing on sending troops to the border. Taylor’s misleading private legislative briefing came just three days after he publicly and strongly announced his support for Texas in its battle over razor wire. No wonder some legislators in the room thought — even supported — the idea that Alaskans would stand with Texans at the border.

Taylor’s apparent effort to score political points with House Republicans was either purposefully misleading or sadly irresponsible — or both. It was riding the coattails of anti-federal, anti-Biden election-year politics for the benefit of the attorney general’s own political stature.

Any effort to say it was simply a misunderstood briefing is dishonest. The private meeting played politics and stirred up emotions — for no good purpose for the state of Alaska.

A few days earlier in his State of the State speech, the governor talked of the state motto, North to Alaska. Too bad his attorney general is looking south to Texas to score political points.

EDITORIAL

National group works with Forest Service for new cabins

Alaskans often like to complain — a lot, and loudly — about national groups sticking their noses and opinions into the workings of the 49th state. So, it’s only fair to extend a “thank you” when a national group puts up its money and time into doing something Alaskans like.

The National Forest Foundation, chartered by Congress in 1992 as the official nonprofit partner of the U.S. Forest Service, is partnering with the federal agency to rebuild the popular public-use cabin at Anan Bay and, in an even bigger undertaking, building new cabins throughout the Tongass and Chugach national forests.

Among those new cabins will be the Little Lakes cabin, on a Forest Service Road near the Long Lake Trailhead, about a 25-mile drive from downtown Wrangell. Design work is underway, in collaboration with the Forest Service, and the plan is for construction in 2025.

Using a combination of federal money allocated to the Forest Service in Alaska and some of its own funds raised from donors, the National Forest Foundation is looking to put up about 25 new public-use cabins in the Tongass and Chugach forests over the next few years. More than half of the new cabins will go into the Tongass, including several in the Wrangell and Petersburg area.

“This project is the single biggest public-use cabin expansion in Alaska in 50 years,” the foundation rightfully proclaims. Anyone who has tried to book a popular cabin or wondered why there are not more available would agree that 25 is a welcome number.

The first new cabin went in last year in the Chugach, with half a dozen new or rebuilt cabins planned for this year, including Anan Bay.

It’s the first time the foundation has embarked on building recreation cabins in Southeast Alaska. The Forest Service leads the site selection, planning and design work, and the foundation leads the contracting and construction side of the effort.

The partnership is committed to using local wood and local contractors whenever possible. And in another acknowledgement of local opinion, most of the new cabin sites will be accessible by car or a short hike — an important point for people without a boat or the money to charter one.

This is one national group that Alaskans should welcome — and thank for its work in the 49th state.

— Wrangell Sentinel

Harbor grant update

Continued from page 3

The grant application deadline is Feb. 28. The borough held a public meeting Jan. 31 at the Nolan Center to review preliminary designs and cost estimates prepared by PND Engineers, which has done a lot of work on Wrangell harbors.

Grant award decisions are expected this summer. If Wrangell does receive a RAISE grant, it would proceed with more detailed design and engineering work and would not need to find additional funding for the full financing package until it went to bid on

the construction work.

The downtown harbor basin floats are about 60 years ago, according to discussion at the Feb. 1 port commission meeting.

The borough has applied for federal funds for the project since 2019.

The preliminary plans presented to the public last week would increase the number of moorage spaces for 34-foot and 40-foot vessels, increase maneuvering space in the aisles and between float fingers, maximize space for skiffs under 24 feet in length, and provide new electrical

hookups at boat stalls, new lighting and water utilities to the floats.

The work would also include new ramps, steel pilings, dredging and expanded parking areas.

The lower-cost estimate would cover manufactured floats consisting of timber decking and framing built on pipe pontoons.

The higher-cost estimate for the three harbors would include a heavier-duty timber and “polytube” float design of foam-core fully encapsulated by polyethylene cladding.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Assembly should ensure fairness in utility billings at new accessory dwelling units

The question for the Wrangell borough assembly is how many utilities will be free to owners of accessory dwelling units. The ordinance is not clear on what utilities will be billed.

The recently passed accessory dwelling unit ordinance does not state an answer to this question.

The assembly gives the normal government response, which is ignore the question and walk away.

Toughen up and get a backbone, assembly members. It is your job to be transparent and honest about the content of ordinances you pass. Silence is no answer.

Bill Gaines

Correction:

The Sentinel incorrectly reported Jan. 31 that high school seniors Kayla and Mindy Meissner are cousins. Kayla is Mindy’s aunt.

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Mini Mart now has a couple U-Hauls for rental

By MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

TK's Mini Mart, located near the Wrangell Medical Center, now has two 15-foot U-Haul trucks for rent.

Owner Alesa McHolland said she had been approached by a U-Haul sales representative who wanted to rent space at her store's location to park the trucks; the arrangement to offer rentals evolved from there.

On Jan. 31, McHolland walked across the parking lot to show where the U-Hauls are stationed next to the freight vans that the Mini Mart uses for storage. "I actually rented (one truck) out for the first time the other day," she said.

She said the trucks aren't currently meant to be used for long-haul or out-of-town trips. "They're just for local rentals. I can probably arrange for out-of-town rentals, but it takes time."

The trucks measure 15 feet long at the top of the cargo area, and a little more than 12 feet long on the cargo bed and about seven feet wide and more than six feet high inside.

Residents can go online to the U-Haul website at uhaul.com to reserve trucks for rent, or stop by the Mini Mart and if the trucks are available they can rent them then and there. "It's probably better in advance," McHolland said.

The rate is \$29.95 a day plus 79 cents a mile. The rental truck must come back in the same condition as when it left, including the same amount of gas in the tank.

Tribes and transboundary rivers

Continued from page 1

nous Transboundary Commission (SEITC). The Wrangell Cooperative Association is also a member of the commission, which is challenging mining operations in the Stikine River watershed too.

Canada's constitution requires its government to consult with Indigenous peoples on projects impacting their ancestral lands.

Guy Archibald, the Southeast tribal commission's executive director, said the Canadian Supreme Court in 2021 considered whether Aboriginal people located outside Canada can assert Aboriginal rights under the Canadian Constitution. "The court found that those rights extend to people that are no longer residents in Canada who have traditional ties to territory that's within Canada," Archibald said.

"So Canada has to respect the territories as they were at the time of European contact. And at the time of European contact (in 1741), the entire Unuk watershed was a recognized territory of the Tèikwèidi clan. And seven of our tribes are the successors of the Tèikwèidi. There's a direct line between the clan and the federally recognized tribes," he said.

"If SEITC succeeds, it would be the first time in history that a U.S.-based tribe is granted participating Indigenous nation status in Canada," Timna Axel, Earthjustice's public affairs and communications strategist, said in an email.

Earthjustice, a nonprofit environmental law organization, is representing the tribes in their effort.

Also in the tribes' favor, she said the United Nations Inter-American Commission on Human Rights "recently recognized that Canada's persistent refusal to consult with Alaska Native tribes on large-scale mining development along the transboundary watersheds could violate international human rights."

Louie Wagner Jr., who is Tsimshian and Tlingit, told the commission on Sept. 26, 2018, that his family has been the hereditary steward of the river for thousands of years.

"As caretakers, our family's crest can be seen marked on painted pictographs at the mouth of the Unuk River, as well as at points upstream. The crest has been tested and is thousands of years old," Wagner said.

Mining in transboundary river watersheds has the "possibility of erasing salmon runs, eulachon (fish) runs, erasing the wildlife that is usually flocked and thriving on that river and our culture and our traditions of harvesting, sharing and celebrating," said Lee Wagner, who is Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian, and the assistant executive director of the Southeast tribal commission.

ICT is an independent, nonprofit, multimedia news enterprise that covers Indigenous peoples. The Sentinel contributed reporting for this story.



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Singing is allowed in the library

Head librarian Sarah Scambler invites kids and parents to sing along as she performs "Baby Beluga" during story time at the Irene Ingle Public Library on Friday, Feb. 2. The morning story time started last week and runs from 10 to 11 a.m. every Friday at the library. The first week included Scambler reading "Clifford the Big Red Dog" and "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" for children and their parents.

Bill would tighten resident definition for fishing, hunting, trapping licenses

By SEAN MAGUIRE
Anchorage Daily News

A bill from the House Resources Committee would tighten residency requirements for Alaska sportfishing, hunting and trapping licenses.

Community groups have raised concerns that a gap in state law allows people who don't live year-round in Alaska to claim residency to harvest fish and wildlife with cheaper licenses and higher catch or bag limits. The measure, introduced by Sitka Rep. Rebecca Himschoot, would align requirements to renew those licenses with requirements to get a Permanent Fund dividend.

Like the dividend, applicants would need to have lived in Alaska for more than half of the past year to renew their resident license, unless they had an allowable absence like attending college, serving in the military or traveling out of

state for medical care.

Himschoot said renewing a license would remain a self-certification process. The change would be with enforcement. Officers would now have a criteria to ensure the angler, hunter or trapper is fulfilling their residency requirement, she said.

State law does not have a good definition of what is needed to maintain Alaska residency to harvest fish and game, she said. There are no requirements for time spent in Alaska each year to get resident benefits, and a person could claim a boat or storage unit is "a domicile" to maintain residency, she said.

Maj. Aaron Frenzel, deputy director of the Alaska Wildlife Troopers, said the state's current residency rules mean "there's not much we can do for enforcement."

The problem of enforcement was brought to Him-

school's attention by Kurt Whitehead, a Klawock resident and owner of a fishing lodge. He said he knows of people who return to Prince of Wales Island for a few weeks each year to exploit the state's lax rules.

"When they come back to the state, it's to whack and stack as much fish and game as possible," he said.

The Sitka and Petersburg borough assemblies passed resolutions in support of Himschoot's bill — alongside multiple fish and game advisory councils and hunting and fishing groups. They argued that Alaska's fish and game resources should be protected for residents and that the state is missing out on revenue.

Resident licenses and tags are substantially cheaper than those for nonresidents. An

Alaskan pays \$60 for an annual sportfishing and hunting license, a nonresident pays \$260; a nonresident pays \$1,000 for a brown bear tag, a resident \$25.

Some species and harvest methods — such as dipnetting — are reserved for Alaska residents. Bag limits can also be substantially higher.

Himschoot argued that resident privileges should be reserved for those people who spend the bulk of the year in Alaska.

Fish and Game Commissioner Douglas Vincent-Lang on Jan. 24 said he wasn't aware of a widespread problem of people exploiting residency rules but supported discussing how they can be enforced.

Nikiski Sen. Jesse Bjorkman is supporting a companion bill in the Senate.

Sitka volcano

Continued from page 1

nearest instruments were in Sitka, and precise calculations were difficult.

"Often, the earthquakes you get at a volcano aren't usually the ones that anyone feels," Dietterich said. "When we have more seismometers on a volcano, we're able to see any movement of fluid or magma, or even faulting — structural things that can produce very, very small earthquakes."

That sensitivity means "we're much more able to essentially detect eruption precursors," she said.

Last summer, scientists also investigated reports of gas bubbling from the ground near the volcano. They took samples and submitted them for review, looking for signs that the gas was associated with magma deep underground.

"They just got the helium results this week," she said Jan. 27, "It looks like there's no strong evidence for a volcanic signature to any of the gasses." If there had been a signature, that could have been a sign of a path between the surface and magma deep underground, increasing the likelihood of an eruption.

In addition to providing early warning for Sitka, the new instruments will offer some research opportunities as well. Alaska's active volcanoes are generally located west of Anchorage, where the Pacific tectonic plate is sliding beneath the North American plate in what's known as a subduction zone. Edgecumbe, now the easternmost monitored volcano in Alaska, is near a transform fault, where the plates are sliding past one another. Less is known about volcanoes along transform faults, Dietterich said.

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VALENTINE'S DAY

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Student will strip and repaint weathered wall for senior project

By MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

In 2017, two high school seniors worked together to help create outdoor artwork meant to educate and forge a lasting bond with participating younger students. Now, almost seven years later, another high school senior will strip it away.

Nate Rooney chose for his senior project to remove the weathered mural at the Parks and Recreation community center outer stairwell opposite the swimming pool. The wall art features hand-crafted cutouts of salmon fastened to a painted wall resembling the ocean. He plans to remove the cutouts, then take off the remaining paint and recoat the wall entirely in one solid color.

The mural was originally completed in 2017 as the joint senior project of then-high schoolers Alex Angerman and Karl Torgransen. The seniors worked with a summer program at Parks and Recreation to engage the artistic skills of elementary school students.

While learning the biology and environmental role of salmon, the grade schoolers painted 62 wooden stencils of colorful salmon shapes that were then attached to the sea-colored wall.

Parks and Recreation Director Lucy Robinson said the wall art was beautiful when it was first put together. "We just didn't have a maintenance plan for it."

Lacking necessary weatherproofing, the wall and salmon fell prey to the elements over the years. Cracks formed in the wall. The textured, turquoise paint meant to evoke an ocean backdrop has been flaking off, while the top of the mural is tinged with rust stains from the metal railing above.

"That wall's in terrible shape," Rooney said.

The bright colors of the many salmon shapes have faded to gray and white. The high school senior showed where each had some sort of small spike attaching it to the wall. "I'm not sure how they got these things on, though. It's not a bolt. I don't know if it's a nail."

Once a lifeguard at the pool, Rooney mentioned to Robinson earlier this school year that he was trying to decide on his senior project, so she suggested the removal of the mural. He's still focused on gathering all the materials needed for the project and plans to start once the worst of the winter weather has passed,



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Nate Rooney stands in front of the aging outdoor mural at the community center that he will remove and then repaint the wall for his senior project.

working with Parks and Recreation staffer Lane Fitzjarrald.

Rooney anticipates that the toughest aspects of the assignment will be removing the salmon shapes, as well as the repainting the wall, keeping track of weather forecasts in hopes that it doesn't rain before it fully dries.

However, he is looking forward to one part of the job. "The pressure washing, that's going to be pretty fun," he said. "I've used them before, but I've never used them consistently on a big wall like that. ... It's a decently sized wall."

His background provided him with the experience needed for the project. "My dad owns a commercial fishing boat," he said. "Every so often, he'll bring it out of the water and we'll pressure wash the bottom. Or the back deck sometimes needs to be pressure washed, just smaller projects like that."

After graduation, Rooney is considering learning a vocation like welding or diesel mechanics at a trade school such as Northern Industrial Training in Palmer.

Besides hanging out with friends, Rooney has appreciation for others who were present during his high school years. "I'll definitely miss all the teachers," he said. "They helped push me through everything."

One thing he won't miss is having to get up early for class.

Alaska at risk of losing federal money due to delays in food stamp program

By CLAIRE STREMPLE
Alaska Beacon

Alaska's Department of Health risks losing federal funding for its food stamp program, warned a letter from the United States Department of Agriculture on Jan. 30.

It said the department is out of compliance with federal standards for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) due to what the letter described as "inefficient and ineffective administration."

The Department of Health has struggled to manage a backlog of crisis proportions that began in 2022 and has left tens of thousands of Alaskans waiting months for critical food aid.

Health Department Commissioner Heidi Hedberg has said the backlog was caused by a cyberattack, outdated computer systems and a huge influx of paperwork after the state

ended its public health emergency that had more people eligible for food stamps and eased the verification requirements.

However, sources inside and outside the state agency have said the problem traces back much further and that chronic understaffing and deep workforce cuts in 2021 are to blame.

Hedberg said the Division of Public Assistance has whittled the backlog down to 3,500 applications and is on track to be caught up by the end of February — and that is their primary focus.

In December, Gov. Mike Dunleavy proposed spending an additional \$8.8 million on 30 additional full-time employees to process applications at the Division of Public Assistance and \$5 million to bolster supplies at the state's food banks.

The SNAP application process should include an ap-

plication form, an interview with the applicant and a process to verify the applicant is eligible. The federal government allowed Alaska's overworked

Continued on page 8

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Lady Wolves lose two against Haines squad

By MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

The girls varsity basketball team lost twice at home to Haines on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 1-2.

The Lady Bears beat the Lady Wolves in a tight game on Thursday, 46-39, and then Haines came back even harder the second night, soundly defeating Wrangell 61-43.

Lady Wolves head coach Christina Good felt her team had their best game of the season on Thursday. "I felt like they really played well as a team," she said. "They really had that chemistry as a team and worked really hard at both ends for rebounds, offensively and defensively, and they put up a lot of really good shots. It was just a very clean game."

"We just didn't get those shots to fall," she added.

However, Good noted that the following night was much different. They didn't have the rhythm from the first game, coming out flat. They looked like a completely different team. "Friday night ... it wasn't as

clean. It was just really slow. The girls just seemed confused, didn't know what to do."

She also admitted her players had too many turnovers, upon which Haines was quick to capitalize. "That's what killed us, our turnovers," she said. "Our passing was not very good. We did some good things. We had a couple of really good plays here and there, but overall turnovers are what got us."

The coach observed that the players have yet to find their footing. "We are a young team," she said. "We have a girl on the team that's never played. ... Some girls haven't played in, like, two years. So, our talent pool and the levels are just so drastically different. We're trying to get a good group in there that can just play well together."

In the first game, the top scorer was freshman Alana Harrison with 20 points, followed by junior Aubrey Wynne with 8 points. On Friday, Harrison was once again the team's top scorer with 12 points, followed closely by senior Kayla Meissner with 11 points.



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Della Churchill looks for a way to get the basketball around Ashlyn Ganey of Haines in action at the Wrangell gym on Friday, Feb. 2.

While Good said her team was missing the speed of freshman guard Hailey Cook, who's on vacation, she had praise for junior Addy Andrews. "She's just a very good hustler. She

brings the tempo up for us." The Lady Wolves will next host Metlakatla on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 9-10. Despite their formidable talent, Good believes the key to overcoming

the MissChiefs in a rematch is shutting down the effectiveness of several of their key players. "We have to play our game and we can't get sucked up in theirs."



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Boomchain Loucks tries to outmaneuver the defense put up by Haines player Phoenix Swaner on Friday, Feb. 2. The Wrangell Wolves won twice against the Glacier Bears on Thursday and Friday.

Boys varsity scores two wins at home against Glacier Bears

By MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

The Wolves' varsity boys basketball team won two games at home against the Haines Glacier Bears despite losing their star player to injury halfway through the first game.

Starting a day earlier than originally scheduled, Wrangell hosted Haines on Thursday and Friday, Feb. 1-2. In the first game, the Wolves defeated the Glacier Bears 68-50. Then on the second night, the Wolves scored another decisive win, 57-36.

The junior varsity team got a split, winning their first game 33-30 but losing the second 27-22.

Wolves' head coach Cody Angerman said his team knew going into both games that Haines was better than their record showed. "We weren't taking them lightly. They've got kids that can really shoot the ball."

Angerman described junior Wrangell's Daniel Harrison as "a monster in the first half," when he scored 22 points Thursday. However, he sustained an injury that kept him benched for the game's second half as well as the next night.

Angerman said the other team members took the opportunity to step up. "You're not just proud that you won, you're proud that you played hard."

The players can't expect to shoot the ball well every game, the coach said, which is why they drill on teamwork, layups and defense. "When you get your first win, and see how much harder

you played, you see this is how we need to play in every game."

Junior Kyan Stead was the top scorer Thursday with 25 points, while junior Lucas Schneider, sophomore Boomchain Loucks and senior Keegan Hanson contributed valuable scoring as well as defense.

In Friday's game, junior Trevyn Gillen had 14 points and Stead had 12 points.

"Lucas Schneider and Keegan Hanson did well defensively both nights," Angerman said. "Lucas handles pressure pretty well; he's figured out what he's good at."

Angerman also praised Hanson's defense and rebounding. "Keegan gets the ball quite a few times, as well as Trevyn."

In the JV games, the top players included sophomores Ben Houser, Timothy Pearson and Brody Knecht; freshman Aadyn Gillen played well in the second game. Angerman appreciates any opportunity for his JVs to play and get much-needed experience. "The JV is pretty important to our program," he said.

The Wolves will next host the Metlakatla Chiefs on Feb. 9-10. Despite last month's losses to the team, Angerman believes his squad is ready for a rematch. "I think we've got to try to limit their possessions and rebounds, make sure we're getting easy buckets and not just relying on scoring. If we can put all those things together, I think we can beat them, for sure."

Food stamp program

Continued from page 7

Division of Public Assistance to pause interviews as an onslaught of post-pandemic recertifications caused its backlog to surge. When its backlog ballooned again this fall, Alaska's Department of Health suspended the interviews to speed up its recertification process for benefits, even though the USDA told it not to do so.

The state informed the USDA that it would continue its interview waivers in late November and the USDA repeated

its denial in early December.

USDA insists on interviews because they ensure households receive the correct amount of benefits and that the household is income eligible for the aid. The letter pointed out that this step is critical in Alaska, where the payment error rate is the highest in the nation.

Commissioner Hedberg told legislators that the division is authorizing food stamp recertifications without verifying the information in the applications if that information is not readily available. The

federal agency's letter warned this is also against the rules and is likely contributing to the state's high rate of overpayments.

USDA Regional Administrator Jesus Mendoza Jr. warned that the violations could result in a suspension or "disallowance" of the federal funds the state uses to maintain the program. Further, he wrote that if there has been a major, systemic error in the state's processing, it could leave Alaska on the hook to reimburse any overpayments.

He told the Department of Health it must immediately resume interviews for SNAP applications or recertifications and start verifying required information. He gave the department 14 days to do so.

In an email, Hedberg said the Department of Health has not yet responded to the letter.

The Alaska Beacon is an independent, donor-funded news organization. Alaskabeacon.com.

Employee takes over gift shop business from owner

By MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

Described on their website as “a small, woman-owned gift shop and handmade bath and body store,” ownership of River’s Mouth Trading Co. recently changed hands. One of its employees, Elizabeth Johnson, who has been with the store for about six months, has taken over the business.

Since opening in the fall of 2022 in the Churchill Building on Front Street, the shop has become a popular destination for residents. “We have lots of

locals that come in regularly for the products that we make,” said previous owner Kelly Ellis. Johnson grew up in Wrangell and left for a time after high school graduation to attend college in Juneau. “And then COVID hit and so I came back,” she said.

Johnson was ready to learn new skills, including running a business, learning how to make the various products as well as how to market them. She thought she would be better served with on-the-job training rather than learning in a school

setting.

The shop carries hundreds of items, many of them handcrafted. The merchandise is always changing; some of the products include soaps, lotions, jams, syrups, loose leaf teas, artwork, pottery, crystals and jewelry. Ellis said she will continue to create items for the shop. “And I’m teaching Elizabeth to do it as well.”

One type of homemade bath item that Johnson likes to create are sugar scrubs, made from natural sugar and nourishing oils, which can be used to

exfoliate the skin. “We got some that are for lips and some that are for body,” Ellis said. “The lip ones are completely edible, so sometimes kids just buy them and eat them because they taste really good.”

“It is a gift shop, but it’s very local,” she added. “Not everything is made here, but the majority is made here, and you can find something, one-of-a-kind and unique, and support local artists.”

Johnson wants to serve residents so that they don’t feel like the shop is just for tourists.

She hopes to continue to expand the scope of the business, offering more merchandise like yoga accessories, as well as provide more access for homegrown artists to offer their work on consignment.

“We bring in new artists all the time, anytime we can,” Ellis

Continued on page 10

Dunleavy supports Texas in battle over border razor wire

By JAMES BROOKS
Alaska Beacon

Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy has joined 24 other Republican governors in support of Texas Gov. Greg Abbott’s decision to ignore a U.S. Supreme Court decision allowing federal agents to remove razor wire installed by Abbott’s administration along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The statement was published hours before Dunleavy spoke to a joint meeting of the Alaska and Juneau chambers of commerce and called for more immigration to Alaska.

He said the arrival of Ukrainian immigrants to Alaska has been a good thing.

“I know there are some folks that believe Alaska is just fine at 700,000 (people), maybe better at 600,000 or 500,000. I would challenge you on that,” Dunleavy said. “Most economic systems, most societies, are driven by demand, and the more demand you have, the more business activities or services are delivered,” the governor said.

“America is in competition for people. Alaska is in competition for people,” Dunleavy said.

Dunleavy’s office did not respond to questions on Jan. 26 seeking more information about the governor’s position on immigration. In the past, Dunleavy has criticized unauthorized immigration.

A Jan. 25 statement, published by the Republican Governors Association, was signed by every Republican state governor except the governor of Vermont.

“We stand in solidarity with our fellow governor, Greg Abbott, and the state of Texas in utilizing every tool and strategy, including razor wire fences, to secure the border,” it said in part.

Federal officials have sought the removal of Texas’ fences, which have contributed to the deaths of at least three people.

The Supreme Court ruled on Jan. 22 that the federal government may remove the fences. The federal government had asserted its primacy over immigration issues. Texas has disregarded the court decision and continued to install more fencing while blocking federal officials from accessing the border area.

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CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

During the Jan. 23 Regular Assembly Meeting, the Borough Assembly approved writing-off delinquent account balances and sending them to collections. To avoid getting sent to collections, listed individuals below must pay their account balance in full prior to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28.

UTILITIES							
Account #	Name	Current	30-60	60-90	90-120	120+	Balance
10930-08	Allen, Lorraine	\$15.24	\$15.24	\$15.24	\$15.24	\$1,774.99	\$1,835.95
10360-27	Ambrose, Calvyn F	\$5.32	\$5.32	\$5.32	\$5.32	\$627.49	\$648.77
13177-02	Anderson, Jannette G	\$2.01	\$2.01	\$2.01	\$2.01	\$254.86	\$262.90
10464-28	Barcelo, Sherry A	\$6.07	\$6.07	\$6.07	\$6.07	\$737.09	\$761.37
12343-11	Bartlett, Darryl J	\$2.56	\$22.38	\$2.38	\$2.38	\$301.07	\$330.77
13896-03	Berglund, Hilary C	\$0.80	\$0.80	\$0.80	\$0.80	\$115.84	\$119.04
14079-04	Berglund, Hilary C	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$0.37	\$59.13	\$60.61
12085-28	Boakes, Spencer	\$1.43	\$1.43	\$1.43	\$1.43	\$205.15	\$210.87
12403-09	Coddington, Bob	\$1.05	\$1.05	\$1.05	\$1.05	\$145.32	\$149.52
10361-39	Coicochea, Cory M	\$2.62	\$2.62	\$4.33	\$184.84	\$114.09	\$308.50
12327-14	Crandall, Justin S	\$6.30	\$6.30	\$6.30	\$6.30	\$753.49	\$778.69
11622-06	DeLong, Lonny	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$4.99	\$794.36	\$814.32
13162-24	DeLong, Lonny	\$2.04	\$2.04	\$2.04	\$2.04	\$272.76	\$280.92
14073-06	Duncan, Elmer G	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$1.44	\$172.12	\$177.88
11681-14	Emens, Cary	\$6.15	\$6.15	\$6.15	\$6.15	\$797.07	\$821.67
12458-05	Emens, Cary	\$1.95	\$11.50	\$11.41	\$11.33	\$207.89	\$244.08
12080-23	Foster, Kelly	\$0.58	\$0.58	\$0.58	\$0.58	\$82.77	\$85.09
11018-12	Gadd, Caleah	\$4.63	\$4.63	\$4.63	\$4.63	\$569.02	\$587.54
10145-08	Garcia, Victoria	\$1.44	\$7.77	\$158.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$167.22
10642-25	Gillen, Matthew	\$9.90	\$29.72	\$9.72	\$9.72	\$1,166.50	\$1,225.56
10049-03	Goodman, Robert	\$0.54	\$0.54	\$0.54	\$0.54	\$69.00	\$71.16
11432-03	Goodman, Robert	\$3.06	\$3.06	\$3.06	\$3.06	\$392.92	\$405.16
11446-01	Griffis, Daniel	\$6.83	\$6.83	\$6.83	\$6.83	\$837.90	\$865.22
10323-12	Hale, Jacob O	\$1.04	\$1.04	\$1.04	\$1.04	\$127.48	\$131.64
11012-06	Howell, Nicholas	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$0.23	\$26.39	\$27.31
11012-07	Howell, Nicholas	\$1.53	\$1.53	\$1.53	\$13.08	\$164.00	\$181.67
10196-17	Johnson, Debrah D	\$6.24	\$6.24	\$6.24	\$6.24	\$804.00	\$828.96
11770-01	Joseph/Estate, Johanna	\$2.79	\$2.79	\$2.79	\$2.79	\$346.37	\$357.53
10124-03	Keith, Paula	\$2.91	\$2.91	\$2.91	\$2.91	\$378.07	\$389.71
10461-41	Krages, Thomas	\$1.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	\$1.10	\$130.59	\$134.99
10461-38	Larsen, Nels J	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$0.76	\$93.35	\$96.39
10450-41	Lemma, Matthew W	\$4.04	\$4.04	\$4.04	\$4.04	\$519.55	\$535.71
11005-10	Lewis, Nicholas D	\$7.64	\$7.64	\$7.64	\$7.64	\$999.55	\$1,030.11
10325-31	Loomis, Christina R	\$4.09	\$4.09	\$5.83	\$185.99	\$284.32	\$484.32
12058-21	Martin, Adrian J D	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$0.38	\$45.53	\$47.05
12018-11	Mathieu, Jason Devyn	\$2.58	\$88.31	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.89
10247-03	Mickey, Diane R	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$180.30	\$185.98
14013-06	Nestle, Kevin	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$1.42	\$177.73	\$183.41
13178-25	Notley, Theresa Marie	\$8.06	\$9.16	\$9.16	\$9.16	\$957.75	\$993.29
10368-25	O'Connor, Dominique	\$5.96	\$5.96	\$5.96	\$10.34	\$718.96	\$747.18
10464-26	Oglend, Pamela	\$15.09	\$15.09	\$15.09	\$15.09	\$1,987.39	\$2,047.75
10462-35	Oyler, Barry J	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$3.02	\$385.77	\$397.85
11592-42	Richter, Connor M	\$3.20	\$3.20	\$3.20	\$3.20	\$428.19	\$440.99
12141-04	Ridgeway, Jennifer D	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$0.20	\$22.39	\$0.00	\$22.99
10247-05	Rincon, Colleen R	\$5.87	\$5.87	\$5.87	\$5.87	\$695.68	\$719.16
11015-11	Rue, Bill	\$7.37	\$26.46	\$58.27	\$212.90	\$568.79	\$873.79
12360-09	Saunders, David	\$13.35	\$13.35	\$13.35	\$13.35	\$1,609.72	\$1,663.12
12353-22	Sims, Benjamin	\$0.37	\$42.02	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$42.39
10940-09	Smith, Chris L	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$247.77	\$255.77
13323-08	Steinbrueck, Steven R	\$4.78	\$4.78	\$4.78	\$4.78	\$622.06	\$641.18
12353-21	Templin, Donald C	\$0.28	\$0.28	\$0.28	\$0.28	\$36.14	\$37.26
10195-11	Tennant-Miller, Monica	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$0.89	\$117.01	\$120.57
10140-13	Van Evey, Rick	\$1.21	\$1.21	\$1.21	\$1.21	\$151.75	\$156.59
14260-01	Vertical Bridge Development LLC	\$1.74	\$1.74	\$1.74	\$1.74	\$215.78	\$222.74
12327-13	Watts, Jonathan E	\$0.78	\$0.78	\$0.78	\$0.78	\$127.63	\$130.75
12018-10	Williams, Reginald K	\$2.41	\$2.41	\$2.41	\$2.41	\$280.97	\$290.61
11621-11	Zeutzius, Andrew J	\$4.69	\$5.79	\$17.15	\$17.15	\$613.12	\$657.90

Police report

Monday, Jan. 29
 Disturbance: Verbal.
 Agency assist: Department of Transportation.
 Agency assist: Borough line crew and Public Works.
 Agency assist: AP&T.
 Agency assist: Road debris.
 Stolen property.

Tuesday, Jan. 30
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Trespass.
 Dog at large: Returned to owner.
 Agency assist: Hoonah Police Department.
 Dog complaint.
 Welfare check.

Wednesday, Jan. 31
 Diesel spill.
 Gas leak: Unfounded.

Thursday, Feb. 1
 Agency assist: Department of Transportation.

Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Agency assist: Office of Children's Services.
 Bear complaint.

Friday, Feb. 2
 Traffic: Citation issued for failure to stop for school bus.
 Traffic complaint: Golf cart.

Saturday, Feb. 3
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Agency assist: U.S. Forest Service.
 Dangerous play.

Sunday, Feb. 4
 Traffic stop: Verbal warning for driving habits.
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Agency assist: Hoonah Police Department.
 Agency assist: U.S. Forest Service.
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for speeding.

River's Mouth new owner

Continued from page 9
 said, adding that those kinds of constant additions change the flavor of the store.
 The new store owner is also interested in expanding the store's book selection, which currently features some local authors and vintage books, including books by Ellis' mother Christi Slaven, who also provides pottery for the shop. "Everyone should read," Johnson said. "You can buy books on Kindle and online and other things, but it's so nice to have a paper copy and where do you go to buy books here?"
 Ellis still owns and runs River's Mouth Resale, the thrift store in the back of the same building, and remains available to provide guidance and assistance whenever possible. "It's a really long transition," she said with a laugh. "There's no hurry, I'm not going anywhere. ... I'm right here to help."



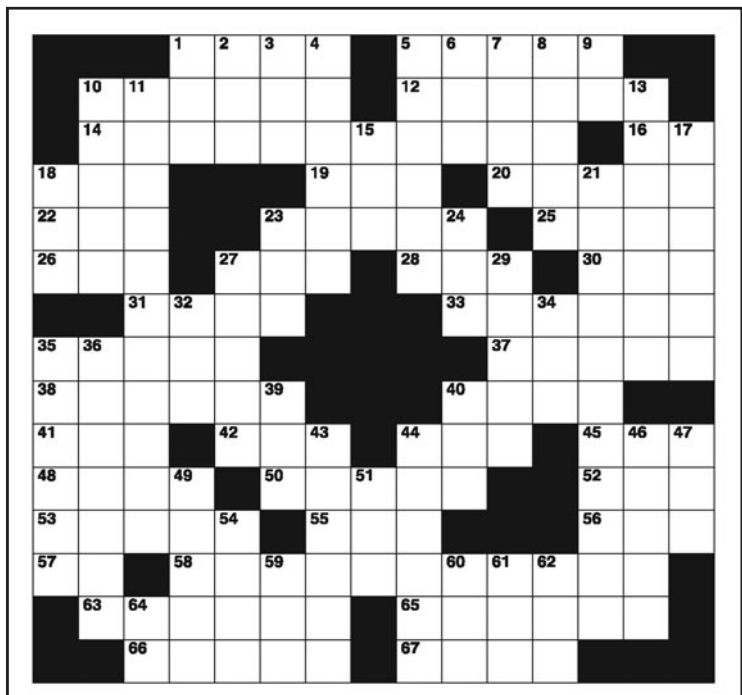
PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Elizabeth Johnson (right), the new owner of River's Mouth Trading Co., stands with Kelly Ellis, the former owner, who is helping with the shop's transition to her former employee.

call the store at 888-508-3824 or visit the website at riversmouth.com, or email Johnson at lizanne@riversmouth.com.
 River's Mouth Resale is at the rear of the same location, open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday from October to May; phone 907-874-4095.

Crossword

Answers on page 12



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Gene type
- 5. Persian male given name
- 10. Type of protection
- 12. Cloud
- 14. One who returns to life
- 16. Gym class
- 18. General's assistant (abbr.)
- 19. Baby's dining accessory
- 20. Enchantress
- 22. Prefix denoting "in a"
- 23. Spiritual leader
- 25. Cavities
- 26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 27. Foot (Latin)
- 28. Sweet potato
- 30. Pharaoh of Lower Egypt
- 31. Land
- 33. More inquisitive
- 35. Dog breed: __ Apso
- 37. Stood up
- 38. Direct and uninhibited
- 40. Authorless
- 41. Blocking type of drug (abbr.)
- 42. Retrospective analysis (abbr.)
- 44. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 45. Macaws
- 48. Actress Remini
- 50. Polynesian wrapped skirt
- 52. City of Angels hoops team (abbr.)
- 53. Fitzgerald and Baker are two
- 55. Bowling alley must-have
- 56. A way to cool down
- 57. Ethnic group in Asia
- 58. A way to alter
- 63. Set of five
- 65. Removes from the record
- 66. Dummies
- 67. Set period in office

CLUES DOWN

- 1. DC Comics superhero
- 2. Brew
- 3. Play
- 4. Single-celled animals
- 5. Rough to the touch
- 6. Small island (British)
- 7. Often noted alongside cons
- 8. Preparation of rootstock
- 9. Atomic #44
- 10. Egyptian unit of capacity
- 11. About secretary
- 13. Particular groups
- 15. Poke fun at
- 17. Make certain that something occurs
- 18. Financial term
- 21. Justify
- 23. Arbiter
- 24. 007's creato
- 27. Czech name for Prague
- 29. Groans
- 32. American time
- 34. No seats available
- 35. __ Stahl, journalist
- 36. Cleft lip
- 39. Talk incessantly
- 40. Expresses atomic and molecular weights (abbr.)
- 43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
- 44. Curdled milk
- 46. Running competitions
- 47. A team's best pitcher
- 49. Carthaginian explorer
- 51. World-renowned city
- 54. Most common Japanese surname
- 59. The bill in a restaurant
- 60. They __
- 61. City of Angels football team (abbr.)
- 62. Distinctive practice
- 64. One quintillion bytes

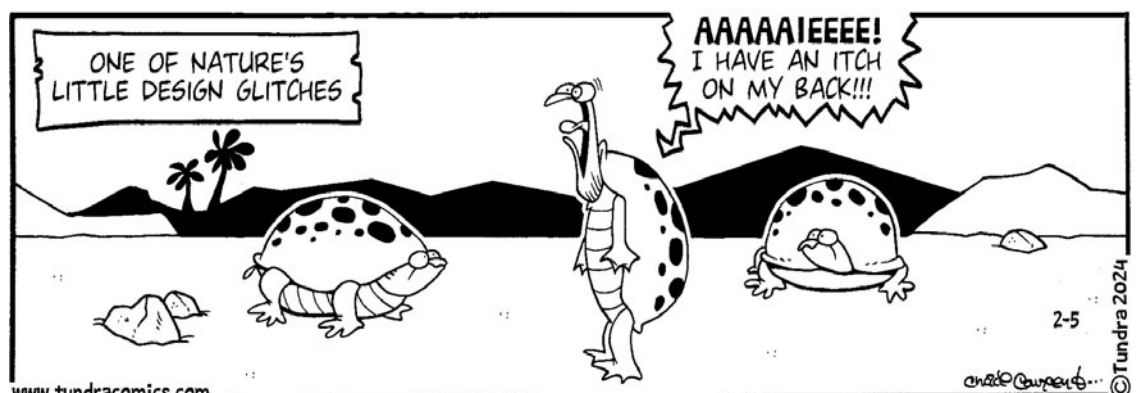
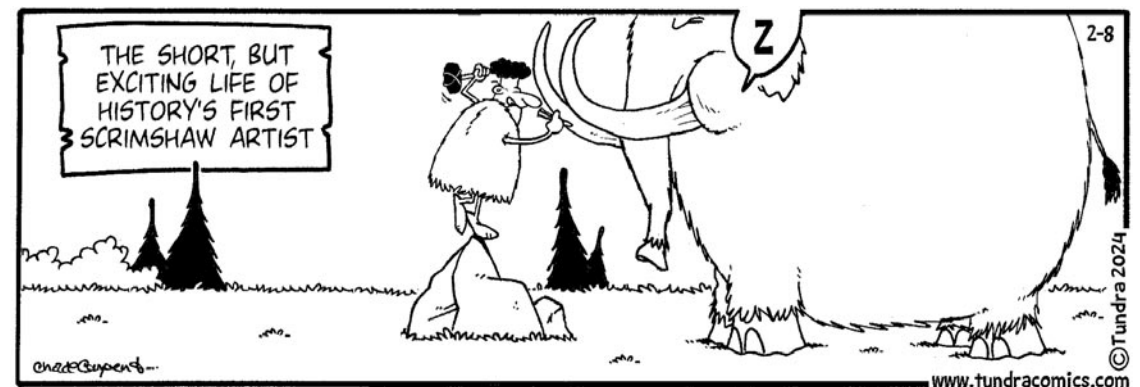
Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED

Wrangell Public Schools is accepting applications for the following positions:

• **Secondary School Principal** for the 2024-2025 school year: The principal will provide leadership to ensure high standards are met and oversee compliance with district policies, success of instructional programs, and operation of all campus activities. Minimum Qualifications include: Alaska Type B Administrative Certification with appropriate endorsements; knowledge of thorough understanding of school operations; working

knowledge of curriculum and instruction; skill in evaluating instructional programs and teaching effectiveness; skill in managing staff, operations, projects and budgets; strong organizational, communication, public relations and interpersonal skills. This position provides leadership for a Grade 6-12 school campus; guides instruction and supports an effective learning environment; oversees the implementation of standards-based curriculum; coordinates services which support student growth and development; provides for staffing and professional

development to meet student learning needs; uses assessment and evaluation information in making decisions; communicates with diverse groups and individuals with clarity and sensitivity; acts in accordance with established laws, policies, procedures, good business practices; understands the influence of social, cultural, political, and economic forces on the education environment and uses this knowledge to serve the needs of children and families; facilitates the participation of parents and families as partners in education; demonstrates high ethical standards and dedication to the profession.

• **Facilities and Maintenance Director:** The primary function of the Facilities and Maintenance Director is to plan, organize, direct and participate in the maintenance and operations of school district facilities and grounds. This position is also responsible for short- and long-range facilities planning to include major maintenance needs, capital construction, budgeting and forecasting. The Maintenance Director approves all purchases at the division level, obtaining final approval from the Superintendent. This position has independent judgment and decision-making authority. Minimum Qualifications include: High

School Diploma or equivalent, minimum of five years in building maintenance crafts and operations; Alaska driver's license or ability to obtain one. Desired qualification is successful supervisory or management experience; knowledge of basic principles and practices of building maintenance crafts and operations such as electrical systems, building automation systems, hydronic heating systems, oil-fired boilers, HVAC systems and fire sprinkler systems; organizational leadership abilities in complex organizations; and budget preparation and financial forecasting. This is a 12-month, full-time position with benefits, including Alaska State Retirement (PERS & SBS, health insurance, life insurance and PTO). Salary is \$62,820 to \$89,743, DOE. For more information and a detailed job description, please contact the District Office at 907-874-2347. Anticipated start date is soon as possible, but no later than April 1, 2024.

• **Paraprofessional:** This is a part-time, 9-month classified position working 5.75 hours per day. Salary placement is on Column A of the Classified Salary Schedule. Job duties include but are not limited to working with students individually and in a small group settings in Special Education at Evergreen Elementary School. A high school diploma or equivalent is required. An associate degree,

equivalent credits or the ability to pass the para pro assessment is also required. Start date as soon as possible.

• **Middle School Volleyball Head Coach:** This is a part-time contracted position coaching volleyball for students in grades 6 through 8. Knowledge of volleyball is required; coaching experience is preferred.

For more information and detailed job descriptions, please contact the District Office at 907-874-2347. These positions are open until filled.

It is Wrangell Public School District policy to not discriminate based on age, race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

FREE

Recycled newspapers. Stop by the Sentinel to pick up some.

FREE ADS

Do you have something to sell? Having a garage sale? Looking to buy something? Classified ads for individuals and community groups are free in the Sentinel. Contact Amber at 907-874-2301 or email wrgsent@gmail.com.

LETTERS WANTED

Do you have an opinion that you would like to share? Send us a typed or clearly written letter up to 400 words with your phone number and we will get it published in the paper. Contact Amber at 907-874-2301 or email wrgsent@gmail.com.

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

During the Regular Assembly Meeting of Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2024, starting at 7 p.m. in the Wrangell Borough Assembly Chambers at 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska, there will be a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the following item(s):

a. Petition to Rezone Lot 5, Block 1, according to Plat 83-11 of Wrangell Island West, zoned Rural Residential, changing the zoning district from Rural Residential 1 (RR1) to Rural Remote Unit (RMU) requested by Christian Ryll.

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish Feb. 7, 2024

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the City and Borough of Wrangell Code, Sec. 3.04.080, notice is hereby given that the regular assembly meetings of the assembly shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month and shall begin at 6 p.m.

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 assembly meetings shall not be required. There will be no regular meetings the second Tuesday in July and August and fourth Tuesday in December.

If a work session is scheduled preceding the regular assembly meeting, publication shall be made on the website and posted at City Hall and the post office that the regular assembly meeting shall begin at 7 p.m.

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish Feb. 7, 2024

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VESSEL DOCUMENTATION

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the estate of Harold Marshall Snoddy, Notice to Creditors is hereby given that Elizabeth Perman has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. Pursuant to Alaska Statute Title 13.16.450, all creditors are hereby notified to present their claims within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims will forever be barred. Claims must be filed with the court (Case No. 1WR-23-17PR) or be presented to:

Elizabeth Peterman
PO Box 695
Wrangell, AK 99929

Publish Jan. 31, Feb. 7 and 14, 2024

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

During the Jan. 23 Regular Assembly Meeting, the Borough Assembly approved writing-off delinquent account balances and sending them to collections. To avoid getting sent to collections, listed individuals below must pay their account balance in full prior to 4 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 28, 2024.

Name	HARBOR					Balance
	Current	30-60	60-90	90-120	120+	
Allen, William	247.17	243.57	240.03	236.53	1868.83	2826.13
Barker, Justin	0	0	0	0	3283.54	3283.54
Berglund, Hilary & Eric	18.22	17.96	17.7	17.44	1179.7	1251.02
Botsford, Tristan	256.07	252.33	249.39	245.76	1136.38	2139.93
Duncan, Elmer	0	0	0	0	3795.61	3795.61
Easterly, Wayne	761.8	1126.47	104.07	102.55	3341.65	5436.54
Far West Vessels	109.43	1096.45	1136.98	1120.41	943.75	4407.02
Gerard, Steve	321.72	317.03	312.42	307.76	1218.02	2476.95
Gore, Matthew	22.51	22.18	21.86	21.54	1457.42	1545.51
Grey, Russell	10.87	10.71	10.56	10.4	703.81	746.35
Hergert, Doug	14.94	16.91	19.13	21.29	805.52	877.78
Jenkins, James	10.23	10.08	9.94	9.68	662.38	702.31
Jenkins, Josh	10.88	10.74	94.84	72.27	557.92	746.65
Lindsey, Patrick	75.77	74.67	73.58	72.51	4905.28	5201.81
Mundt, Corey	645.49	644.83	644.09	649.35	1963.39	4547.15
Shiple, Marie	6.96	9.78	12.55	15.3	436.37	480.96
Stevens, Mark	138.71	136.69	134.74	132.74	2594.26	3137.1
Watts, Jonathan	22.76	22.43	22.1	21.78	1323.23	1412.3
Young, Brett	14.47	18.63	22.31	24.91	617.37	697.69
Zarro, Alberto	1.43	1.41	1.39	1.37	92.54	98.14

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF JOB OPENING Borough Manager

The City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, is looking to hire a dynamic, motivated individual to be our Borough Manager. This is a full-time, permanent position with all City and Borough benefits.

Wrangell operates under an Assembly-Manager form of government. The Assembly and community expect you to chart the path forward toward new opportunities and growth. Come join us as we continue our journey.

Preference is given to candidates who hold a degree from an accredited four-year college or university, with a master's degree in public administration or business administration. A combination of related education and/or municipal experience may be considered.

For a complete job description, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office at 907-874-2381 or email clerk@wrangell.com, or visit the Borough website <http://www.wrangell.com/jobs>.

Please send a cover letter, detailed resume and references to: City and Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, or fax (907) 874-2304, or email clerk@wrangell.com.

This position will be open until filled, with the first review date of March 1, 2024.

Publish Jan. 31, Feb. 7, 14 and 21, 2024

Harbor dumpsters

Continued from page 1

A second ordinance, which also won unanimous port commission support, would set the fine for violations at \$150.

The ordinance would make clear that the dumpsters are for port and harbor users only, "strictly prohibiting the dumping of hazardous waste, oil products, gasoline, large commercial fishing gear, construction debris, furniture and any other bulky or dangerous items," according to a summary Miller presented to the port commission.

"In the past, we have pulled out refrigerators and even a Volkswagen Bug cut into pieces," he said in an interview the day after the port commission meeting.

Miller explained the VW — minus the engine — was cut into one- and two-foot chunks and dropped in a harbor dumpster about eight or nine years ago.

"We still have people who put entire refrigerators in there," which requires borough workers to tip over the dumpster on its side so that they can pull out the heavy appliance, he said.

As much as a refrigerator is heavy and bulky, it's nothing compared to the 2,000 pounds of cement bags dumped in a harbor

trash bin several years ago, Miller said. The garbage truck couldn't lift the dumpster. Workers had to step in and remove the bags to lighten the load.

People also dump construction debris, including Sheetrock, into the bins. Miller noted that few boat repair projects use Sheetrock.

The Port and Harbors Department maintains trash dumpsters at Shoemaker and Heritage harbors, and at the Reliance, Standard Oil, Inner Harbor and Fish and Game floats.

Rope and fishing nets are among the biggest problems for the borough's garbage trucks, getting tangled up and making trouble for the moving parts of the pickup-and-compact truck, Miller said.

He described the ongoing problem as "no common sense on what belongs and what doesn't belong."

In addition to supporting the ordinances to focus on illegal dumping and impose the fine, the port commission discussed the deterrent effect they expect from the surveillance cameras that are being installed at all of Wrangell's port and harbor facilities — including cameras pointing at the dumpsters.

Port commissioners agreed that if people know they are being watched, maybe more of them "will put two and two together and save themselves some money" by taking their trash to the borough transfer site on the north end of the island where the fees are far less than a \$150 ticket.

The proposed ordinances will be scheduled for a public hearing if the assembly decides to proceed with considering the changes in borough code.

NEW PUMP-OUT STATION AT SHOEMAKER HARBOR

In other action at last week's port commission meeting, members unanimously supported using \$7,500 of borough funds to match a \$22,500 federal grant to pay for installation and maintenance of a sewage pump-out station for vessels at Shoemaker Harbor.

The pump-out station would be in addition to the existing facilities at Heritage Harbor and Reliance floats, Miller said.

The new Shoemaker sewage station would be for vessels only; there already is a pump-out hookup for RVs at Shoemaker and Heritage harbors, he said.

The pump-out site at Shoemaker was stubbed in years ago for a sewage connection to the borough system, Miller said.

"I'm really glad there was forethought there," Port Commissioner Chris Bunes said.

The resolution to spend the local money required for the federal grant will go next to the assembly for approval.



PHOTO BY MATT HENSON

It's a comfortable chair

Maren Johson enjoys her time in the captain's chair aboard the Pike, an 87-foot U.S. Coast Guard patrol boat. The Petersburg-based vessel was in Wrangell and opened for a few hours for tours by schoolchildren and the general community at the Inner Harbor on Thursday, Feb. 1.

State employee drops candidacy for Southeast seat in the Alaska House

By KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

Robb Arnold has withdrawn his candidacy to represent Ketchikan, Wrangell and Metlakatla in the state House.

Arnold wrote in a statement to the Ketchikan Daily News on Thursday, Feb. 1, that he had ended his campaign.

Under state law, Arnold could not continue in his job as a chief purser for the Alaska Marine Highway System and run for state office for the same time. It appears he was unaware of the law when he announced for the Legislature in December to challenge incumbent Rep. Dan Ortiz in District 1.

Alaska statute says that, with some exceptions, a state employee "who seeks nomination or becomes a candidate for state or national elective political office shall immediately resign any position held in the state service."

Representatives of the state Division of Elections and Department of Law both confirmed that the statute would apply to Arnold as an employee of the state ferry system.

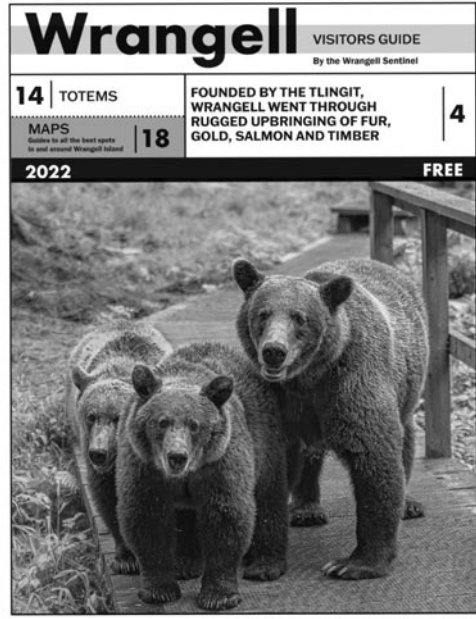
The Division of Elections does not check whether candidates are state employees, and candidate filing materials do not indicate that state employees may need to check with their supervisors before declaring their candidacy, according to Lauri Wilson, supervisor for the division's elections office in Juneau.

Arnold announced his resignation as a candidate for the state Legislature after learning of the law from the Ketchikan Daily News.

Arnold, a Ketchikan resident, ran unsuccessfully for the school board in 2022 and 2023 and for the city council in Ketchikan in 2023.

The Wrangell Sentinel and Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau are working together to create a visitor guide showcasing all that Wrangell has to offer!

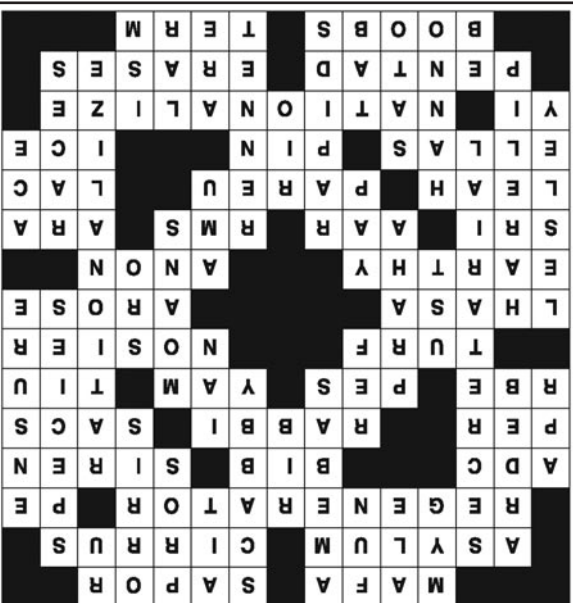
The guide will be available online year-round, in addition to 10,000 high-quality printed copies to mail out, take to trade shows and hand out to spread the word of Wrangell as a great tourist destination.



There is no increase from last year's ad rates. The deadline to reserve your ad space is March 1.

Call or email Amber at the Sentinel today to ask about advertising in the guide.

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