

Roadless Rule discussed in CVB meeting

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Roadless Rule is legislation from 2001 designed to keep roadless areas of the country off-limits from future development. According to the Forest Service's website, this legislation prohibits road construction, reconstruction, or timber harvesting on over 58 million acres of "inventoried roadless areas" in National Forest System lands. The Tongass National Forest, and the Chugach further north, are protected by the Roadless Rule. However, according to an Oct. 15 press release from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, this protection may soon disappear.

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture is seeking public comment on a draft environmental impact statement offering a range of alternatives to roadless management and a proposed Alaska Roadless Rule," the press release reads. "If adopted, the proposed rule would exempt the Tongass Na-

tional Forest from the 2001 Roadless Rule."

The Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau met to discuss this draft EIS. Brenda Schwartz-Yeager, bureau member, said that she wanted a discussion on the topic because it could potentially have an impact on local tourism. She wanted the bureau to determine their opinion on the subject so they could give the borough assembly a recommendation on what stance they should take.

"Our economy is being more and more upheld by the visitor industry and, in my mind, if this process continues to go the way it is that would mean kind of a big change to our local landscape, potentially, which would be, I think, somewhat incompatible with our current visitor industry," she said.

The draft EIS offers six proposed alternatives to the current state of affairs. Alternative one is simply to leave the Roadless Rule in place and keep everything as it currently is. Alterna-



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Trick-or-treaters

The Ritchie family went out for Halloween dressed as characters from the Wizard of Oz.

Jury announces verdict against one-time Assembly candidate accused of PFD fraud

By PETER SEGALL
Juneau Empire

After half a day of wrap-up and closing arguments, a jury found a former Assembly candidate guilty of two felonies related to Permanent Dividend Fraud.

Following the verdict, Loretto Lee Jones, 65, declined to comment.

The jury announced the verdict — guilty on one count of unsworn falsification and one count of theft, both felonies — after a short, three-day trial at the Juneau Superior Court in downtown Juneau.

The charges stemmed from Jones' 2016 PFD application, which prosecutors said was knowingly falsified as Jones had resided outside of the state for more than 180 days in 2015.

The amount Jones was accused of stealing was \$1,022. Falsification of PFD applications is a felony punishable by jail time or a fine of up to \$3,000, amongst other penalties, according to the Department of Revenue.

"She was gone all of January: 31 days," said Lisa Kelley, assistant attorney general representing the state. "She was gone all of September, she was gone all of October. Twice in 2015, Ms. Jones was absent from Alaska for more than 90 days and failed to

disclose that on her PFD application."

In her closing argument, Kelley tried to convince the jury that Jones had knowingly falsified her application and had thus stolen the money that came in her PFD.

But the defense argued that things weren't so simple. Defense attorney Deborah Macaulay of the Alaska Public Defender's Agency spent much of the morning asking Jones about her time outside of the state. Jones was indeed gone for long periods of time, Macaulay said, but there are allowable absences under certain PFD requirements.

Jones had worked at a number of jobs which took her out of the state, but her primary residence was still Juneau. Of particular focus during Friday's examination of Jones on the witness stand was her role as an ad-hoc safety instructor for the U.S. Coast Guard. That "gig" as it was repeatedly described, took Jones to Astoria, Oregon, for several months at a time.

The complication arose for Jones when she reported her absences which occurred in 2015 on her 2015 application. But those should have been reported on the 2016 application. The defense argued that this was all the result of a simple mistake on the part of Jones.

Alternative six, the "preferred alternative," fully exempts the Tongass from the Roadless Rule. This removes 9.2 million acres of inventoried "roadless" land from their protected status. It also converts 165,000 acres of old-growth and 20,000 acres of young growth timber lands to

potential harvesting. Alternative six also mentions that this will only apply to the Tongass. The Chugach National Forest would remain under the federal Roadless Rule. In between alternatives one and six are several other proposals, each with varying degrees of protections and

concessions. There were aspects of each alternative that bureau members said that they liked and disliked.

"Alternative four 'restricts harvest and road-building activities in scenic viewsheds,'" said Chris Hatton. "Why are we not talking about scenic viewsheds in these ones [other alternatives] when that can drastically impact?"

Opening up national forest lands to development could have some benefits, Bureau Member Brooke Leslie said. She mentioned that with proper maintenance, Wrangell could get a road looping around the entire island. That could be a benefit to the community, she said, and would also be a draw for tourists wanting to go around the whole island.

Carol Rushmore, economic development director, added that the CVB did not have to pick any single alternative listed to support. They could recommend certain aspects of each one, or point out parts of others that they were against.

The meeting continued for some time, with discussion ranging from how this could change the tourism industry, whether or not this would bring back the timber industry, and how some areas of the Tongass were simply impossible to develop because of the geography of the area. After a while, the bureau agreed that they simply did not have enough information to come to a firm opinion on the draft EIS. They decided to table the discussion until after the Forest Service held a public meeting in Wrangell, scheduled for Nov. 6.

On Thursday, Bobbi Scherrer, the PFD division appeals manager, testified about how the PFD application system actually works. Even he, Macaulay said, mixed up some of the finer details of the application process.

"The PFD experts testified and mixed up some of the requirements of the PFD," Macaulay said to the jury in her closing remarks. "Ms. Jones makes the same mistake and we're in court."

Additionally, the defense said, when Jones became aware she was under investigation by the Alaska Department of Revenue, she approached the department hoping to clear up the mistake.

At the time she was charged, Jones was running for a seat on the City and Borough of Juneau Assembly, a race she ultimately lost to now Senator Jesse Kiehle, D-Juneau.

But after roughly two hours of deliberation, the jury returned with a verdict of guilty on both counts.

Jones had previously violated the Landlord Tenant Act in 2017, and during her campaign for city Assembly, police were called to her home over reports of stolen campaign signs.

Jones' sentencing will take place in February.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, November 7: Pam McCloskey, K.D. Roope-Strasburger, Seth Nolan, Jean-Luc Lewis, Jayanne Scott, Frank Simpson, Garrett Miller, Erik Gile. *Anniversary:* Steve & Yvonne Powers.

Friday, November 8: Garbirl Duquemin, Jeremy Stolley, Taylor Carey, Kevin Bylow. **Saturday, November 9:** Kimberly Szczałko, Sawyer Rooney. **Sunday, November 10:** Lee Byrd III, Austin Sun, Marine Corps, Erika Hansen. **Monday, November 11:** Rob Dailey, Danielle Powell, DeAnna Villarma. *Anniversary:* Lucas & Lisa Messmer. **Tuesday, November 12:** Alan Frank, Ruby Brock, Andrew Feudner, Joe Stover. *Anniversary:* Ken & Krissy Smith. **Wednesday, November 13:** Levi Powers, Eleanor Larabee, Ken Lewis. **Thursday, November 14:** Jake Mork, Brent Mill, Tai Brown, Dalton Reeves, Barbara Hommel, Jordan Bunes. *Anniversary:* SLR 73.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, November 7

Meatloaf, Peas, Coleslaw, Mashed Potatoes

Friday, November 8

Ham & Bean Soup, Tomato Salad, Cornbread

Monday, November 11

CLOSED VETERAN'S DAY

Tuesday, November 12

Chicken Ala King, Broccoli, Fresh Fruit, Rice

Wednesday, November 13

Barbequed Fish, Vegetables, Sunshine Salad, Herb Bisquits

Thursday, November 14

Turkey Pot Pie, Vegetables, Romaine Salad, Herb Bisquits

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

Friday, November 8

Malaspina 4:45 p.m.

Friday, November 15

Malaspina 2:45 p.m.

Friday, November 22

Malaspina 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, November 26

Malaspina 12:15 p.m.

Saturday, November 30

Malaspina 12:30 am

Friday, December 6

Matanuska 3:45 p.m.

Southbound

Monday, November 11

Malaspina 05:15 a.m.

Monday, November 18

Malaspina 04:30 a.m.

Monday, November 25

Malaspina 04:30 a.m.

Friday, November 29

Malaspina 05:00 a.m.

Monday, December 2

Malaspina 05:30 a.m.

Monday, December 9

Matanuska 03:30 a.m.

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



TIDES Nov. 7 - Nov. 14

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
November 7	09:39	14.3	09:50	13.5	03:04	2.8	03:50	3.7
November 8	10:18	15.3	10:36	14.2	03:53	2.3	04:31	2.3
November 9	10:53	16.1	11:17	14.8	04:32	1.9	05:06	1.0
November 10	11:25	16.7	11:56	15.2	05:07	1.7	05:39	-0.1
November 11	11:56	17.1	05:39	1.7	06:10	-0.9
November 12	00:32	15.3	12:25	17.2	06:09	1.8	06:41	-1.5
November 13	01:07	15.3	12:54	17.2	06:40	2.2	07:12	-1.7
November 14	01:42	15.0	01:24	17.0	07:11	2.6	08:46	-1.7

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Saturday, November 9

MS Basketball Scrimmages vs. Petersburg

Tuesday, November 12

Veterans Day Assembly: HS Gym at 2:15 pm

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

Continuing Events

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

Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:

M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Water Aerobics:

M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Lap Swim:

M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

TuTh 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sa 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

2 Lane Lap Swim:

M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Lap/Tot Swim:

MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Swim Club:

M-F 3:15-5:15 p.m.

Open Swim:

M-W 5:30-7:00 p.m. F 6:30-8:00 p.m. S 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Weight Room: M-Thu 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m. F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m.

S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

AA Meetings:

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

The Way We Were

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

November 6, 1919

Armistice Day, Tuesday, November 11, will be observed in Wrangell by a short patriotic program followed by a dance at the Redmen's Hall. A special section will be reserved for returned soldier and sailors who are requested to appear in their uniforms.

November 10, 1944

On Saturday night, November 11, the American Legion will hold its annual Armistice Day dance at the A.N.B. Hall. Music for the dance will be furnished by Maki's orchestra.

Proceeds from this traditional American Legion observance of Armistice Day will go toward the purchase of phonograph records for soldiers, a project which the Legion has been promoting for some time. In the past it has been handled by collecting old records which were sold for scrap and new records purchased from the proceeds. Now the old records have no value and the new records are furnished from the funds raised for the purpose. The cost of a set of records is \$15. Tickets are now on sale at \$1.20 per couple, and the bigger the crowd, the more music to help keep up the morale of our soldiers.

November 6, 1969

Last weekend's storm caused extensive damage to Wrangell, tripping the city's power plant. Several trees were down across power lines leaving section of the city without power for up to 12 hours. Because of the power shortage Alaska Wood Products put their power plant to work for the city. The auxiliary power was delayed however, when the ground cable in front of the Wrangell Institute over heated and burned. New cable was to be strung to connect to the city. Sunday evening city employees with speakers were telling people to turn all unnecessary lights off and only keep their refrigerators and furnaces on. The Elementary School was closed for the day because there was not enough power to heat it. Many street lights were also turned off. The city light plant reports that their output will be dangerously low until they can operate the two Engersoll-Rand generators which will be put on

the line in about three weeks. Sunday's storm also caused damage to structures around town including collapsing a new house that was not finished.

November 10, 1994

That Alaska will receive a \$1 million grant toward construction of a new ferry is good news, Sen. Ted Stevens reports.

The grant is a result of Steven's language in the DOT Appropriations bill, which required the agency to give priority consideration to Alaska for a portion of the \$17 million set aside in the bill for the ferry construction nationwide.

Alaska is one of only 13 states that will receive grants, Stevens noted. Six of the states, with populations far greater than Alaska's will receive less than \$1 million. Only Michigan, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island and New York received grants of more than \$1 million.

Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Oct. 28	42	37
Oct. 29	45	39
Oct. 30	47	42
Oct. 31	45	39
Nov. 01	49	45
Nov. 02	50	45
Nov. 03	47	44
Nov. 04	52	46

Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Nov. 7	7:05a	3:57p	08:52h
Nov. 8	7:07a	3:55p	08:48h
Nov. 9	7:09a	3:53p	08:44h
Nov. 10	7:11a	3:51p	08:40h
Nov. 12	7:14a	3:49p	08:35h
Nov. 13	7:16a	3:45p	08:31h
Nov. 14	7:18a	3:44p	08:27h
Nov. 15	7:20a	3:42p	08:24h



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Convention and Visitor Bureau workshops “tourism best management practices” for Wrangell

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau met Monday, Nov. 4, to discuss potential “tourism best management practices.” This is something happening in Juneau, according to Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore. The tourism best management practices are a collection of guidelines and general rules that tourism-related organizations in the city agree to abide by. It was first put together in 1997, according to the 2019 TBMP document on the city of Juneau’s website, “to minimize the impacts of tourism in a manner which addresses both resident and industry concerns and enhances our visitors’ experience ...” Rushmore added that the TBMP has also helped improve communication between the community, the city, and the

tourism industry.

“So if there are concerns, people can call, complain, and that gets addressed within three days,” she said. “So that’s the idea, because tourism is growing, trying to just reach out to say ‘Hey, here’s some of the voluntary things that operators, service providers are willing to do, or will be doing, and if you have complaints let us know.’”

The bureau was meeting to discuss the possibility of putting together something similar for Wrangell. Juneau’s 2019 document was excessive, as Bureau Member Chris Hatton described it, and Wrangell wouldn’t need something so large. The name of the agreement was briefly discussed, as well. One name that was proposed by Bureau Member Brenda Schwartz-Yeager was “VIBE,” or Visitor Industry Best Experiences.

This was all a preliminary workshop to begin organizing the idea, so there was not much in-depth discussion. There were questions of how people could contact the city to file a complaint and who would be handling those complaints, but the main point of the discussion was what areas Wrangell’s potential “best management practices” would cover.

Some of the items brought up

included sidewalk and hiking trail use, a section about cruise ships, and even the need for an agreement on where to place sandwich board signs. It was also agreed that there should be something about tour boat operators agreeing to watch their wake, as well as some etiquette guidelines when traveling along the Stikine River. Tour buses

parking near City Dock and taking up space was another topic of discussion, as this has been a longstanding issue for the city.

The workshop lasted for about an hour. The bureau agreed to divide up portions of the Juneau document amongst themselves, and each person would review it and do their own research, then they would come

back and start forming a draft document of their own. Rushmore added that there would be several meetings with the public before any document like this took effect. The timeline agreed upon in the meeting puts the roll-out of a draft “best management practices” document by next spring. The bureau plans to meet again on this topic on Nov. 18.

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Roher family prepares for their final Thanksgiving basket handout

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Thanksgiving basket handout, organized by Don and Bonnie Roher on behalf of the Wrangell Ministerial Association, has been a longstanding tradition in the community. Thanksgiving dinner is typically an elaborate and somewhat expensive meal to put together. In a community like Wrangell, there are many families who need a little help when the holiday season rolls around. Beginning their tradition in 2000, according to Bonnie, the Rohers and other volunteers put together baskets of Thanksgiving dinners of varying sizes, depending on the size of the family it is going to.

“We expect to give out about \$5,000 worth of food,” Don said. “We expect to take care of 80 to 85 families. Our priorities are families in distress ... Then single parent families, then multiple member families.”

Counting the first year they started, Bonnie said that this will be the 20th Thanksgiving basket handout. It will also be the last one they are involved in. Don said they plan to retire this year. The ferry situation has caused them problems going south for the winter, he said, before the winter passes get filled with snow. While this will be the last basket hand-

out they will be involved in, both Don and Bonnie said they hope the tradition will continue.

“I hope somebody else will take it over,” Don said. “We’re looking for volunteers to take it over.”

The Thanksgiving baskets will consist of turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, pumpkin, evaporated milk, muffin mix, jello, corn, yams, and several other items. The baskets will be free, but Don mentioned that there is a cost to put the baskets together. Bonnie added that they are seeking monetary donations to help pay for the food. Checks can be made out to Harbor Light, they said, as Pastor Kem Haggard and his wife, Susan, are treasurers for the event. Volunteers are also needed for the day of the handout, as well.

“Anybody that wants to come in is welcome,” Bonnie said of the volunteers.

The handout will take place at Harbor Light Assembly of God, on Nov. 22 from noon to 6 p.m. Anyone wishing to receive a Thanksgiving basket, to volunteer, or to make a donation are urged to call the Rohers at (907) 305-0319, or to contact their local clergy for assistance signing up. The general deadline to register for a basket is Nov. 17, Don said.

I can help you make sure your coverage is up-to-date. Call me today.
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Police report

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| October 28, 2019 | area | Summons Service |
| Suspicious Activity: Un- | Criminal Trespass | Summons Service |
| found | Arrested: Cooper Seimears, | October 30, 2019 |
| Health and Safety check | 34, on charges of VCOR | Agency assist |
| Paper service: Stalking or- | October 29, 2019 | Report of Theft |
| ders | Random Breath Test | Civil Issue |
| Disturbance: Person left the | Indecent Exposure | Suspicious Activity |
| | | October 31, 2019 |
| | | Suspicious Incident |
| | | Theft |
| | | Welfare Check |
| | | Agency assist: Line Crew |
| | | Citizen Assist: Vehicle Un- |
| | | lock |
| | | Criminal Mischief |
| | | Noise Complaint |
| | | November 1, 2019 |
| | | Noise Complaint |
| | | Agency Assist: Public Works |
| | | Civil Standby |
| | | Drug Paraphernalia |
| | | Traffic stop citations issued |
| | | to Lynn Marks, 54, for driving |
| | | with License revoked and fail- |
| | | ure to provide proof of insur- |
| | | ance |
| | | Citizen Assist : Vehicle un- |
| | | lock |
| | | Agency Assist: OCS |
| | | November 2, 2019 |
| | | Disturbance |
| | | Agency Assist: Alarm |
| | | Agency Assist: Ambulance |
| | | requested |
| | | November 3, 2019 |
| | | Assault: Arrested Caleb |
| | | Marks, 19, on charges of As- |
| | | sault DV |
| | | Disturbance: Both parties |
| | | separated for the night |
| | | Disturbance: UTL gunshots |

EXHIBIT PREMIERE
FRIDAY, NOV. 8TH - 6:30PM
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S.S. PRINCESS KATHLEEN



S.S. MARIPOSA



STAR OF BENGAL



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Grocery store gets a facelift

Wrangell IGA, formerly known as Bobs' IGA, made their name change official by putting up new signage on Monday, Oct. 4. The grocery store came under new management last winter. Previously, it had been owned by Bob Robbins since 2000, who also managed the store for 11 years before that. Wrangell IGA is currently owned and operated by Mike Ward, Travis Bangs, and Caroline Bangs.

Obituary: Johanna Marie (Bradley) Joseph, 74

Johanna Marie (Bradley) Joseph, 74, passed away in Wrangell, Alaska on October 16, 2019 after a short battle with cancer.

She was born in Wrangell on February 20, 1945 to Henry Bradley and Theodosia ("Fanny") Nauska. She was Aleut and Tlingit (Raven, and Frog from the Sun House.)

Johanna lived and loved her whole life in Wrangell. She graduated from Wrangell High School, during which time she worked for the parents of her girlfriend, Linda Goodrich, in their restaurant.

She married Morgan Joseph, on June 25, 1966. They were married for 43 years, until Morgan's passing in 2009. They raised their two children, LeAnn and David here, where they went fishing and camping together. They also enjoyed going on family vacations.

After she was married, she cleaned for the Brig Bar for Lawrence Bahovec; and then cleaned rooms at the Thunderbird Hotel for Winston and Frances Davies. In the 1980s she started working at the Wrangell

Senior Center, first as a prep cook and dishwasher, but rose to head cook before retiring after over 30 years of service.

Johanna loved her family and especially her children and grandchildren. She would take every opportunity possible to be with them, cook for them, or go camping or otherwise go out with them.

She also had a passion to be out on her boat and loved to fish the Wrangell Salmon Derby. On Mother's Day one year she landed a 46.3 lb salmon. After her retirement, she fished as often as possible, went out with

friends and family, and caught the bug for traveling. On one trip, Johanna went to Spokane, WA and stayed with Rolland, and they went to a Shania Twain concert. That same year she went to Anchorage, and she and Dinah Martin went to see Toby Keith. the most memorable trip for Johanna was traveling to Unalaska with her sister, Anna, and daughter, LeAnn. That trip, in June of 2017, was made possible by the Aleut Corporation to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of Attu.

Johanna was very conscientious about celebrations and sending cards to everyone. If you were in her circle of family and friends, you could always count on getting a birthday or holiday card.

She was preceded in death by her parents Henry Bradley and Theodosia ("Fanny") (Stepetin) Nauska; husband Morgan Joseph; sisters, Lucille Fluetsch, Doris ("Dawn") Hutchinson-Stevens, Rita Perez, Louise Bradley, Alice Buchanan, Margaret Nauska; brother Thomas Nauska, and brother-in-law Paul Fluetsch.

She is survived by her daughter LeAnn (David) Bryner; son M.David (George) Joseph; sisters Anna (Tom) Conaster, Patricia (Bryan) Rosson; brother James (Sandra) Nauska; grandsons Rolland Wimberly, Ford Curtis and Curtis Wimberly; and by numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

She is survived by her daughter LeAnn (David) Bryner; son M.David (George) Joseph; sisters Anna (Tom) Conaster, Patricia (Bryan) Rosson; brother James (Sandra) Nauska; grandsons Rolland Wimberly, Ford Curtis and Curtis Wimberly; and by numerous cousins, nieces and nephews.

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Johanna Marie Joseph

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COURTESY OF JACK CARNEY

The Wrangell Wolves wrestling team at the Bill Weiss tournament in Ketchikan. Wrestlers Liana Carney and Hunter Wiederspohn were recognized as outstanding wrestlers during the competition.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

Pursuant to the City & Borough of Wrangell Code, Sec. 3.04.808, notice is hereby given that the regular assembly meetings of the assembly shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. The meetings shall be held at 6:00 p.m., in the Assembly Chambers, City Hall, Wrangell. If any such Tuesday shall fall on a legal holiday as defined by the laws of the State of Alaska, the meetings scheduled for that day shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding day which is not a holiday. Separate notice for the regular council meetings shall not be required. There will be no regular meetings the second Tuesday in July and August and fourth Tuesday in December.

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 7:00 p.m.

Kim Lane, Borough Clerk
City of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish: November 7, 2019

Wolves take fourth at Bill Weiss wrestling tournament

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

After the two-day Bill Weiss tournament in Ketchikan last week, The Wrangell Wolves wrestling team claimed fourth place. They garnered a total of 100 points during the tournament, ahead of eight other teams. Ketchikan High School took first place with 201 points, followed by Glennallen and Thunder Mountain. Individually, several wrestlers stood out with their performance during the competition.

Day one results, Nov. 1:

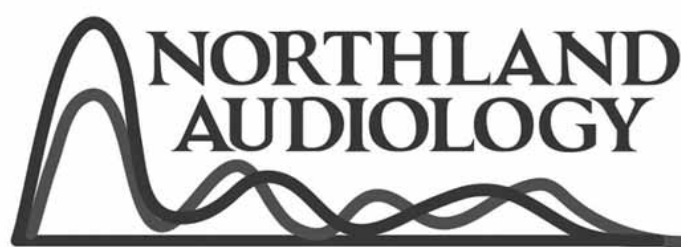
In the Varsity 103 bracket, Jacen Hay took third place. In the Varsity B 103 bracket, Devlyn Campbell took second place. In the Varsity B 112 bracket, Elias Decker took third place. In the Varsity B 119 bracket, Jonah Comstock took second place. In the Varsity B 125 bracket, Ryan Rooney took first place. In the Varsity B 130 bracket, Ethan Blatchley took first place. In the Varsity B 160 bracket, Hunter Wiederspohn took first place. In the Varsity B 285 bracket, Leroy

Wynne took fourth place. In the Varsity C 171 bracket, Rowen Wiederspohn took first place. In the Girls 112G bracket, CeAirra Glaser took third place. In the Girls 119G bracket, Liana Carney took first place. In the Girls 130G bracket, Jamie Early took third place.

Day two results, Nov. 2:

In the Varsity 103 bracket, Jacen Hay took fourth place. In the Varsity 119 bracket, Jonah Comstock took third place. In the Varsity 125 bracket, Ryan Rooney took first place. In the Varsity 152 bracket, Hunter Wiederspohn took first place. In the Varsity 171 bracket, Rowen Wiederspohn took third place. In the Girls 125G bracket, Liana Carney took first place. In the Girls 135G bracket, Jamie Early took third place.

Assistant Coach Jack Carney mentioned on Facebook, after the tournament, that wrestlers Liana Carney and Hunter Wiederspohn were recognized as outstanding wrestlers for their performance over the weekend. The Wolves will be heading to Anchorage for this week's tournament, on Nov. 8 and 9.



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Alaska Fish Factor By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

Roadless Rule getting pushback from fishermen, Native groups and coastal communities in Southeast

The federal government's plan to raze more roads through the Tongass National Forest is facing strong headwinds from fishermen, Native groups and coastal communities throughout Southeast Alaska.

Over 220 Southeast Alaskan fishermen signed a letter to the Trump Administration last week opposing the abrupt push to exempt the Tongass National Forest from a roadless rule in place for over a decade. The exemption would release more than 9 million acres from protection and open nearly 200,000 acres to logging.

The U.S. Forest Service made the announcement on October 15 that it is seeking a full exemption from rules that ban more road building in the nation's largest forest. Alaska would be the only state exempted from the current federal law.

The fishermen's letter, spearheaded by the Sitka Conservation Society and Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, was sent to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue telling him that fishing is the backbone of local economies and it relies on intact watersheds and salmon spawning grounds in the Tongass, which produces 80% of the salmon caught in the Southeast region.

The push has quickly generated support from other fronts.

The Skagway Borough Assembly passed a resolution last week in support of maintaining the roadless rule citing, among other things, the impact logging

could have on tourism.

"I wonder what happens to that experience when cruise ships are passing by clear cut areas, or when cruise ships dock in a port and people take a flight through an area that has been clear cut or a place that you used to be able to fish like I've done in Baranoff that you can no longer do because the stream has been compromised," said Mayor Andrew Cremata as reported by radio station KHNS.

Likewise, six tribal governments issued a joint statement condemning the roadless exemption. They include the Angoon Cooperative Association, Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, Hoonah Indian Association, Hydaburg Cooperative Association, and the Villages of Kake and Kasaan.

Their statement accused the federal agencies of ignoring the concerns of the tribes and said they were "deeply disappointed" by the process, according to the Juneau Empire.

The roll back of the roadless rules has the strong support of Alaska's congressional delegation and "every statewide elected official in Alaska supports an exemption from the regulation," wrote Senator Lisa Murkowski in a September 25 opinion piece in the Washington Post called "Why I support Trump's proposal to lift restrictions in the Tongass."

"The one-size-fits-all roadless rule is an unnecessary layer of paralyzing regulation that

should never have been applied to Alaska," Murkowski said, adding that the rule has hurt the timber industry and also affects "mining, transportation, energy and more."

"When combined with national monument and other natural-setting land-use designations, more than 13 million acres of the Tongass are already explicitly restricted from resource development or are required to be managed as roadless areas. That's nearly 80 percent of the forest," Murkowski wrote. "It is also critical to understand that all of the designations listed above, and all of the protections they afford, will apply to the Tongass regardless of what happens with the roadless rule," she added.

That doesn't convince Sitka fisherman Eric Jordan who was highly critical of the way in which the Forest Service began working on new rules shortly after Governor Dunleavy met with Donald Trump aboard Air Force One in July. (That meeting also resulted in the abrupt pull-back of protections for the Bristol Bay watershed by the EPA.)

"Their record is one of irresponsible top down management without listening to their constituents," Jordan said in a phone interview, adding that more people are actively meeting to make sure their voices are heard.

"People are taking notice of the draconian policies of this state and Trump's leadership and there's going to be consequences at the polls and in the courts," Jordan said. "There will not be logging activities that they are envisioning because we're going to tie it up in courts and demonstrations forever."

The Forest Service has so far received over 140,000 public comments on the proposed Tongass roadless rule with the ma-

ajority being opposed to the change.

Comments are being accepted through December 17 or by email to akroadless-rule@fs.fed.us/ Comments also can be sent to USDA Forest Service, Attn: Alaska Roadless Rule, P.O. Box 21628, Juneau 99802.

Halibut happenings - In a few weeks, the researchers who oversee and set the catch limits for the Pacific halibut stock will reveal how the fishery could play out next year. The interim meeting of the International Pacific Halibut Commission will take place Nov 25-26 in Seattle.

Nearly all of the documents related to the fishery are now posted including updates on the summer survey, minus stock assessments. That information will be revealed by November 22.

The Pacific halibut resource is modeled as a single stock and each year's survey is divided into 31 regions extending from Northern California to British Columbia and the far reaches of the Bering Sea.

From June through August, 18 longliners this year participated in surveys of nearly 1,370 stations, including 89 added to the Central Gulf of Alaska. The survey boats used 407,000 pounds of chum salmon as bait and caught nearly 860,000 pounds of halibut during the summer survey.

Most of the vessel contracts receive a lump sum payment plus a 10 percent share of the halibut proceeds. Data show how much the halibut fetched at all ports, ranging from \$3.71 a pound at St. Paul to \$7.76 at Cordova.

The total coastwide catch of Pacific Halibut for 2019 was increased by six percent to nearly 25 million pounds. Alaska's share was just under 20 million pounds, a three million pound

boost from 2018.

The catch numbers for 2020 will be revealed at the IPHC's annual meeting set for Feb. 3-7 at the Captain Cook Hotel Anchorage. The eight month halibut fishery opens in March.

Up next: Expo! The Pebble Mine will be the keynote presentation at Pacific Marine Expo set for Nov. 21-23 in Seattle.

"Pebble has gone from an Alaska issue to something that has really become important to everyone in the fishing and seafood communities. This is something that can impact a lot of people," said Denielle Christensen, Expo director. "A panel will look at the environmental impact statement, the science behind it and what this might mean. We've even including a chef who feels quite passionate about understanding what to communicate to consumers about the Pebble Mine."

Fishing safety also will be showcased - the U.S Coast Guard will advise about changing fishing vessel safety requirements along with crossing hazardous bars. Historically, such crossings have been one of the biggest risks inherent with commercial fishing in the Pacific Northwest.

"Responders are going to cover everything from understanding bar condition reporting, how and when to request a Coast Guard escort and what they can expect during an escort," Christensen explained.

Over 400 Expo exhibitors are expected at the CenturyLink Center in Seattle. Other events include a Fishermen of the Year contest, Highliner Awards, Fisher Poets, daily happy hours and the first leg of the Alaska Symphony of Seafood competition where the top winners will be announced.

See the Expo line up at www.pacificmarineexpo.com

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT WRANGELL MUNICIPAL LIGHT & POWER DIESEL ELECTRIC MECHANIC ASSISTANT

The Wrangell Municipal Light and Power Department will accept applications for the position of **Diesel Electric Mechanic Assistant** through November 19, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. This is a permanent position with all City & Borough benefits and is part of the collective bargaining agreement.

The Diesel Electric Mechanic Assistant assists the Diesel Electric Mechanic with maintaining and operating standby electrical generation facility. When regular duties permit or circumstances require, assists the Line Department as a ground person or equipment operator. Occasionally works with other City departments, assisting in special projects. This position performs scheduled or routine maintenance on diesel engines, generators, electrical switchboards, compressors, control systems, pumps and other related equipment as directed by the Diesel Electric Mechanic and assists with operating generators during scheduled and emergency outages.

The position requires knowledge of diesel mechanics and operations, generator operation, voltage regulators, AC generation control and protection systems, and safety standards and the expertise needed to conform to them.

This is a full-time, hourly position with full benefits, paid at Grade 19 with a starting wage at \$24.28 per hour.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Aleisha Mollen at City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email at amollen@wrangell.com.

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

Lisa Von Bargaen
Borough Manager

Publish: November 7 and 14, 2019

Classified/Legals

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WRANGELL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION is seeking a WCA Administrative Assistant and a WCA Receptionist Complete job descriptions and applications are available at the Wrangell Cooperative Association office @ 1002 Zimovia Hwy. Contact Esther Ashton at 874-4304 with any questions. Closing date: Open Until Filled 1x11-7b42

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Puzzle answers from Oct. 31 Edition

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Assembly meets to discuss open position at the library

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Borough Assembly organized a work session to discuss a recently vacated position at the Irene Ingle Public Library. There are three primary jobs at the library: Library Director, Assistant II, and Assistant I. The "Assistant II" position was recently vacated. It was proposed to promote Sarah Scambler, then Assistant I, up to the Assistant II position. This would leave the Assistant I position open, which the library planned to post as available and search for a new hire. However, several members of

the borough assembly expressed some concern about filling this position, thus prompting the work session.

"I want to be really careful, nobody's attacking the library," Mayor Steve Prysunka said. "We're just trying to make sure we have a full understanding."

There were a variety of concerns when it came to this job opening. Some of them included the Nolan Center having more operational needs and fewer staff than the library as well as the necessity of the Assistant I position in the first place. A third point of concern was in regards to the benefits

that position received.

According to an information packet for the meeting, Wrangell currently has a policy that permanent, part-time employees like the library assistants receive full-time benefits. The position comes with a salary of approximately \$17,000 a year, but according to the meeting's information packet can receive anywhere between \$5,000 and \$36,000 in benefits. This puts the total compensation cost the borough has to pay between roughly \$22 and \$53,000 a year.

"I have a problem with 21 hours a day [of work] and full benefits, bottom line," said As-

sembly Member David Powell. "If you don't work 30 and plus, you shouldn't get full benefits."

One solution was proposed by Assembly Member Drew Larrabee. He suggested that the assembly make both library assistant positions full-time, but then divide their work between the library and the Nolan Center. Library Director Margaret Villarma raised some concerns that the workload and schedules of both facilities could conflict, but Larrabee said that this would be an efficient use of city employees.

While Larrabee was empha-

sizing the need for efficiency, Prysunka was emphasizing sustainability. Anything that the assembly agreed to today would have to be realistic for the future, he said. With budget cuts at the state level impacting local budgets, he reminded everyone that they needed to be as conservative as possible with Wrangell's money.

"Given what I'm hearing and what I'm experiencing on the state level, I have really major concerns about downstream funding cuts that are coming our way through the state," he said.

Continued on page 8



Honoring & Celebrating Our Nation's Veterans

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Monday
November 11



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About Veterans Day

Veterans Day is observed every year on November 11th. Veterans Day evolved from Armistice Day, which was proclaimed in 1919 by President Woodrow Wilson. Armistice is when warring parties agree to stop fighting; Armistice Day recognizes the end of World War One when hostilities ceased on November 11th at 11 A.M, 1918 (11th hour, of the 11th, of the 11th month)

According to the Department of Veterans Affairs official site on November 11th, 1947 Raymond Weeks, a World War II veteran, organized a "National Veterans Day" parade in Birmingham, Alabama to recognize veterans of all wars.

This celebration may have helped influence Congress to change Armistice Day to Veterans Day in 1954 to recognize Veterans of all U.S. wars.

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COURTESY OF JAMIE ROBERTS

The Wrangell Swim Team at regionals, held in Sitka this past week.

Strong showing for swim team at regionals

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell High School Swim Team travelled to Sitka this past weekend for the Region V Championship. Coach Jamie Roberts explained in a summary of the meet that each swimmer could enter into a maximum of two individual and two relay events. The top eight swimmers of each preliminary event, held on Friday, Nov. 1, would advance to the regional finals on Nov. 2.

Preliminaries, Nov. 1:

Jacob Allen took 12th place in the 100-yard freestyle at 1:04.62. He advanced to finals in the 100-yard backstroke with a personal best of 1:16.04.

Jimmy Baggen took 10th place in the 50-yard freestyle at 25.35. He advanced to finals in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:12.75.

Paige Baggen took 13th place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:41.07. She advanced to finals in the 500-yard freestyle.

Carter Hammer took 14th place in the 200-yard freestyle at 3:17.75, and 19th place in the 100-yard freestyle at 1:30.09.

Laura Helgeson took 13th place in the 1000-yard freestyle with a personal best of 1:10.91. She advanced to finals in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:27.16.

Coby Holder took 16th place in the 50-yard freestyle at 29.37, and 17th place in the 100-yard freestyle at 1:12.37.

Wade Jack took 11th place in the 50-yard freestyle at 26.18. He advanced to finals in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:15.14.

Ashleigh Loomis took 16th place in the 50-yard freestyle at 32.56, and 14th place in the 100-yard freestyle at 1:10.98.

Tasha Massin took 20th place in the 50-yard freestyle with a seasonal best time of 37.00, and 19th place in the 100-yard freestyle at 1:36.12.

Aaliyah Messmer took 15th place in the 50-yard freestyle at 31.09.

Renee Roberts advanced to finals in the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle.

Of the 12 Wrangell swimmers competing in regionals this year, six made it to the finals.

Finals, Nov. 2:

Jacob Allen took 7th place in

the 100-yard backstroke at 1:16.37.

Jimmy Baggen took 4th place in the 100-yard breaststroke at 1:12.98.

Paige Baggen took 8th place in the 500-yard freestyle at 7:25.76.

Laura Helgeson took 8th place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:26.76.

Wade Jack took 5th place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a personal best of 1:14.53.

Renee Roberts took 2nd place in both the 50 and 100-yard freestyles with personal bests of 25.34 and 55.50, respectively.

Relay results:

The girls' 200-yard medley team took 5th place with a personal best of 2:24.36. The boys' 200-yard medley team took 4th place with a personal best of 2:11.49.

The girls' 200-yard freestyle

team took 6th place with a personal best of 2:07.76. The boys' 200-yard freestyle team took 5th place with a personal best of 1:48.59. Coach Roberts said that a highlight of this race was watching Wade Jack swim his leg of the relay at 24.92 seconds. Getting under the 25 second mark has been one of Jack's goals for two years, she said. She also added that Jimmy Baggen also swam under 25 seconds in his leg of the race, at 24.60.

In all, the team made 11 new personal best times and four relay team best times.

Laura Helgeson, Wade Jack, and Tasha Massin each earned the All Academic Award. Wade Jack and Renee Roberts also earned the Great Sport awards. Coach Roberts added that she wanted to recognize her senior swimmers: Laura

Helgeson, Tasha Massin, Wade Jack, Coby Holder, and Sean Rooney.

In order to advance to the state championship, Coach Roberts wrote in her summary, a swimmer needs to take first place in their Regional event or be among the top 16 fastest swimmers for their event in the State. The first four available spots in the state championship are reserved for the regional champions, she explained. The remaining 12 spots are awarded based on the time a swimmer finishes in the Regional finals. Wrangell has one swimmer heading to State this year. Renee Roberts, who went to State last year, will once again represent Wrangell in Anchorage this weekend. She will be competing in the 50-yard and 100-yard freestyle events. It will be a tough competition, she said, but she is excited.

Assembly

Continued from page 7

Powell pointed out that they were talking about a position during the workshop, and not a person. This was not against anybody, or taking away benefits from someone. It was better to figure out the situation now, he said, than to have to cut back on an employee's benefits later down the road.

After further discussion about the costs of the position and the feasibility of dividing that employee's workload, and even the necessity of that position at all, the assembly asked Borough Manager Lisa Von Bargen to put together several possible scenarios of what to do with the assistant position.



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