



Survey will help WCA determine child care needs in community

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

Child care has been a pressing need in the community for some time, and the Wrangell Cooperative Association is hoping to address the issue at least in some part.

Starting last week, the WCA distributed surveys on bulletin boards around town, on its website and on Facebook. The survey will help the organization assess how great the need is.

"We're looking to assess the need in our community as a whole," said Esther Reese, tribal administrator for WCA. The organization is asking how many families need child care, what days of the week are needed, if there was a loss of child care during the pandemic and what curriculum parents think would fit best in the community.

Reese said they are also asking if there are parents willing to work in a child care facility.

Beyond the survey, WCA has been researching possible places to locate a child care facility, with one option being a classroom at Evergreen Elementary school.

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Running away with state

Cross country boys take first team title ever at state tourney

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

In relatively short season, the Wrangell High School boys cross country team went from training to champions.

The team won the Division III state title last Saturday at the ASAA/First National Bank Alaska Cross Country Running Championships in Anchorage, making it the first in the program's history.

Assistant coach Mason Villaroma predicted the runners had the potential to make history for the school after only a couple of meets earlier in the season. That prediction came true with the team coming in first place in the small schools division.

"I'm so proud of all these young men," Villaroma said. "Through their hard work, grit and discipline, they made history by bringing home Wrangell's first cross country state championship. It's also the first state title for any sports (program) since 1995, I believe."

Sophomore Daniel Harrison led his team as he has done through the past several meets, keeping in stride with the two top runners from Petersburg and Haines. Villaroma described Harrison's running as "tactical" in his approach.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MASON VILLAROMA

The Wrangell High School boys cross country team celebrates their victory as Division III state champions after the competition in Anchorage last Saturday. From left: Ian Nelson, Elias Decker, Boomchain Loucks, Randy Churchill, Devlyn Campbell, Ethan Blatchley, Daniel Harrison and assistant coach Mason Villaroma.

"Over the last two kilometers, Harrison broke loose and gapped the rest of the field to win his first individual 2A state title," Villaroma said.

Harrison finished in first place out of 82 runners with an overall time of 17:29.1 and an average pace of 5:38 per mile. He beat out junior Daniel Asperly of Petersburg and senior

Luke Davis of Haines for the title.

"It's super fun," Harrison told the Anchorage Daily

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Forest Service honors Anan bears with unique awards

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

The U.S. Forest Service spent last week showing that the wildlife at Anan Creek aren't your average bears.

From the chilliest to the chunkiest, the inaugural Anan Bear Awards were posted via Facebook from Oct. 3 to Oct. 7, honoring nine bears for their unique personalities.

Paul Robbins, public affairs offi-

cer for the Tongass National Forest, said the awards are modeled after the Katmai National Park and Preserve's Fat Bear Week held at the same time. In that event, National Park Service rangers put the bears' names into brackets like March Madness, and the public votes for their favorites.

For the Anan Bear Awards, the Forest Service office in Juneau is taking the photos and videos sent to them by the staff that works at Anan and creating awards based

on individual bear personalities.

Robbins said they liked the idea of Katmai's Fat Bear Week but wanted to highlight the experience of "Anan and what a great site it is. We wanted to bring Anan to them (the public) since they can't all come to it."

The Facebook posts have proven to be more popular than most, Robbins said, getting a lot of reactions, shares and engagement. "We absolutely encourage staff to get content with the phones or cameras so people can see what's going on."

Bears at Anan are known to have diverse personalities, which one way staff gets to know them, according to Tory Houser, staff officer with the Forest Service in Wrangell. "These guys (staff) are out there watching these bears all season. They have their own personalities — bearalities. They do these interesting things and (the awards are) an opportunity to bring those forward."

It's also an opportunity for the Forest Service to educate the public, said Joe Delabrué, wildlife biologist for the agency in Wrangell.

"Personality traits of bears are similar to humans," he said. "They can be fearful, joyful,

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Residents donate clothing to help families hit hard by Western Alaska storms

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

Several thousand people needed help after communities in Western Alaska were ravaged by the tail end of a typhoon in mid-September. Though the affected region is more than 1,200 miles away from Wrangell, residents here wanted to help however they could.

With icier months fast approaching places like Hooper Bay and Nome, cold-weather gear will be necessary.

"People called me and asked if we were going to do anything," said Jana Wright, Wrangell Cooperative Association staff member. Wright said she then called Tammi Meissner with the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska. "It was just a big collaboration."

From those inquiries, a clothing drive was held Oct. 5 at the WCA carving shed, bringing in far more donations than were expected.

"We didn't even expect this

much," Wright said, standing among tables piled chest-high with clothing and other items she and staff member Alex Angerman had already sorted. Bags at her feet were filled with brand new items. "This is all new stuff that was donated by Angerman's, still packaged up. It's gloves and hats and undergarments, socks and underwear."

Other donated items included new Xtratuf and Sorel boots and hand-sewn, fur-lined gloves and jackets.

Anny Newport brought in a few full bags of clothing. Though she wasn't aware of the typhoon and the flooding and damage it created, she wanted to help after hearing about the clothing drive. She believes being able to help out neighbors near and far is important. However, "If you find any money in any of the pockets, let me know," she joked.

Angerman said more than 30 people, businesses and organizations donated items.

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PHOTO MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

A black bear ambles toward Anan Creek along the U.S. Forest Service wildlife observatory on Aug. 13. Brown bears and black bears that visit the creek to bulk up on salmon through the summer months were featured in the Forest Service's first-ever Anan Bear Awards last week.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Wednesday, Oct. 12: Kathie Angerman, Perry Brink, Darian Meissner; Anniversary: Tony and Sue Ann Guggenbickler.

Thursday, Oct. 13: Karen Lockabey, Victoria Roberts.

Friday, Oct. 14: Dustin Johnson, Erika Seimears.

Saturday, Oct. 15: Anniversary: Kenny and Mariah Speers.

Sunday, Oct. 16: Bonnie Dermerjian, Craig Villarma.

Monday, Oct. 17: Rachel Angerman, Jonathan Bates, Charles Meissner Sr, Ryan Olson; Anniversary: Fred and Sumi Angerman.

Tuesday, Oct. 18: Ian Bunes, Mikee Lockabey, Kevin Neyman.

Wednesday, Oct. 19: Rob Davidson Sr., Duncan, Marco Garcia, Rian Guggenbickler, Paul Wickman; Anniversary: Chris and Jodie Guggenbickler.

Senior Center Menu

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

Thursday, Oct. 13

Chicken adobo, oriental vegetables, honey orange salad, rice

Friday, Oct. 14

Beef stew with vegetables, spicy fruit cup and roll

Monday, Oct. 17

Mac and cheese with ham, steamed zucchini, perfection salad

Tuesday, Oct. 18

Closed for Alaska Day

Wednesday, Oct. 19

Chinese fruited pork, green beans, waldorf salad, rice

Please call the senior center at 907-874-2066 24 hours in advance to reserve a seat at lunch at the center or to request delivery. The senior van also is available to transport seniors to medical appointments, reasonable errands such as collecting mail, getting prescriptions or other essential items.

Ferry Schedule

Northbound

Saturday, Oct. 15

Kennicott, 2:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 21

Kennicott, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 28

Kennicott, 2:15 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 4

Kennicott, 6:30 p.m.

Southbound

Friday, Oct. 14

Kennicott, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, Oct. 16

Kennicott, 11:30 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 24

Kennicott, 6:15 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 31

Kennicott, 7:45 a.m.

All times listed are scheduled departure times.
Call the terminal at 907-874-2021 for information or call 907-874-3711 or 800-642-0066 for recorded information.

Tides

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Oct. 13	03:41	14.9	03:29	16.4	09:12	2.7	09:49	-0.3
Oct. 14	04:20	13.6	04:01	15.3	09:44	4.0	10:28	0.8
Oct. 15	05:03	12.3	04:36	14.1	10:20	5.2	11:14	1.9
Oct. 16	05:59	11.3	05:22	12.9	11:06	6.3
Oct. 17	07:22	10.7	06:37	11.9	00:12	2.9	12:13	7.1
Oct. 18	08:52	11.0	08:20	11.7	01:28	3.5	01:49	7.3
Oct. 12	09:56	12.0	09:39	12.4	02:51	3.3	03:28	6.5

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

ALASKA DAY CARNIVAL from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday at the downtown chamber pavilion. Games, food, critter booth and Wrangell idol singing competition hosted by the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce.

CHILI FEED from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday at the downtown chamber pavilion hosted by the St. Frances Animal Rescue.

BOOK SALE at the Island of Faith Lutheran Church from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct. 22. If you have books you would like to donate for the sale, bring them to Island of Faith, 211 Second St., from noon to 6 p.m. Oct. 17 - 19.

FLU VACCINE CLINIC will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Oct 22 for ages 12 and up, sponsored by SEARHC. Patients are encouraged to pre-schedule a time slot but walk-ins are also welcome. The flu vaccine formulated for age 65+ will also be available. If you are unable to attend but would still like to receive your vaccination, or if you have a child under 12 years of age, please contact the clinic to schedule an alternate appointment date at 907-874-7000.

ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH from 1 to 3 p.m. Oct. 22 at the downtown chamber pavilion.

NOLAN CENTER THEATER no movie this weekend. Next weekend: "Woman King," rated PG-13, at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday for the action drama history film that runs two hours and 15 minutes. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children under age 12. "Beetlejuice," a 1988 movie rated PG, will be shown at 4 p.m. Sunday; the comedy horror sci-fi film runs one hour and 25 minutes for free. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

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.

DANCE FOR BABIES, TODDLERS and their FAMILIES on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. through Oct. 27. This free activity is hosted by The Salvation Army. Adults must be present. If you are interested in volunteering as a live musician (guitar, piano, etc.) to play some nursery rhymes, call 907-874-3753.

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

Want more attendance at your meeting or event? Send information for Roundup to wrgsent@gmail.com or call 907-874-2301.

Continuing Events

PARKS and RECREATION www.wrangellrec.com

Open swim is open by appointment, at reduced capacity. Locker rooms are available.

Arthritis class, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Lap swim, 6 - 7:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Lap/tot swim, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., weekdays, 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday

Open swim, 6 - 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday; 6:30 - 8 p.m. Friday; 1 - 2 p.m. Saturday

Water aerobics class, 10 - 11 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Weight room: 6 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 - 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 - 8:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Saturday

AA Meetings: North Star Group meets from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Philip's Episcopal Church.

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

Oct. 5, 1922

The following letter received by Mrs. Josephine Mason refers to work allotted to the local Red Cross women last spring for convalescent hospitals. Twenty-two suits of pajamas and 12 convalescent robes were made. For a few weeks a few women remained faithful to the work, sacrificing home and social duty that the work might be finished in the allotted time. "The report of production on your letter notifying us of your shipment, safely at hand. We want to tell you how very grateful we were for this wonderful work for our disabled men in Port Townsend Hospital. I think the men will be especially appreciative that this work was done in Alaska by your workers. Please believe that every garment will be delivered to some ex-servicemen

who is not yet getting his compensation and so has no means with which to buy such necessities."

Oct. 10, 1947

Frank Metcalf, newly appointed Territorial Highway Engineer as successor to the late Leonard Smith, stopped off in Wrangell today between planes. He looked over several proposed projects here with Mayor Doris Barnes and members of the city council before going on to Ketchikan on the afternoon plane. He expects to return here in a week or 10 days to spend some time making a closer examination of projects. Metcalf, a long-time Alaskan, is one of the best known engineers in the territory and has done much engineering work through this section of the country. He was appointed this week by Gov. Gruening and on his first official day in office visited Wrangell.

Oct. 13, 1972

On-again, off-again plans to pave the Wrangell airport are off again, the state disclosed this week. In a letter to Chamber of Commerce President Bob Wagner, State Director of Aviation Ed Granger verified what the chamber had been fearing - that surfacing has been omitted from a schedule of next summer for economic reasons. Wagner said neither the city nor the chamber had been made aware that the improvement project had been dropped. It was discovered

when a legal advertisement was published concerning the improvement plan, with the paving portion missing. The airport project, which also includes lengthening the runway from 5,000 to 6,350 feet, runway lighting and removal of a view-limiting "hump" from the runway's midpoint, is contingent on passage of state capital improvement bonds next month.

Oct. 9, 1997

Mark Galla has the distinguished title now of being the first man to shoot an elk in Southeast Alaska. He earned it on the first hunting day of the season on Etolin Island, and it was the first hunt for one of the herd planted there 10 years ago. Twenty five permits were drawn, five of which were raffled by several sports groups. After getting over the initial surprise in June of being drawn for the permit, Galla then discovered that his wife's name, Dee, had also been drawn. She plans to hunt in a week or two. The bull, approximately 6 to 8 years old, had a 6-by-6 rack and weighed around 1,000 pounds. Galla says it took five trips, including the trip in, to get all the meat and two men back to Wrangell. In an effort to develop a herd on Zarembo Island and some of the bordering islands, 50 Elk were planted there 10 years ago. The experiment has proved successful, with a herd now numbering 250 on the islands.

Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Hours
Oct. 12	7:15a	5:54p	10:38h
Oct. 13	7:17a	5:52p	10:34h
Oct. 14	7:20a	5:49p	10:29h
Oct. 15	7:22a	5:47p	10:25h
Oct. 16	7:24a	5:44p	10:20h
Oct. 17	7:26a	5:42p	10:15h
Oct. 18	7:28a	5:39p	10:11h

In-person library story time returns after pandemic interruption

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

When the days get chilly and the nights get longer, nothing says fall like curling up with a good book. Last Friday, for the first time in three years, Wrangell children were able to enjoy story time together at the Irene Ingle Public Library, instead of at home through Zoom rectangles.

Sarah Merritt, library services support and designated storybook reader, shared four autumn tales filled with pictures of colorful leaves and plentiful harvests as kids and their parents listened. Near the end of the fourth story, when the children started playing with the library's rainbow cushions, Merritt declared reading time over. "We've lost our audience," laughed library director Margaret Villarma as the children headed to the tables for crafts and snacks.

Villarma and assistant librarian Sarah Scambler both agreed that in-person story time is much more fun than the online alternative, but they will miss the accessibility that Zoom provided. They recalled a little girl from Juneau who would attend every single virtual story time without fail.

Though the in-person format may lessen the event's geographic reach, library staff are hopeful that attendance will return to pre-pandemic levels now that families can gather in the library.

Before the pandemic, said Villarma, story time sometimes attracted up to 20 kids. "We were almost thinking we'd have to do two separate ones," added Scambler.

Friday's story time was a manageable size — by craft time, six adults and eight kids had arrived to decorate fall wreaths with stickers. "(We're) getting our feet wet again," said Villarma.

As attendee Nicole Hammer helped Tylon Grant decorate his wreath, she recalled attending library story time when she was a little girl. "The Christmas events were always my favorite time of year," she said. Last week's fall story time was Tylon's first. He is part of the event's new generation of participants, since many children aged out during the pandemic.

Story time takes place every Friday at the library starting at 10 a.m. Upcoming themes include "Alaska," "Cookies," "Halloween" and "Dogs & Cats."



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Sarah Merritt reads a fall-themed story to the children and parents last Friday at the library's first in-person story time in three years.

Economic forum prompts discussion about WCA representation and racism

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

Wrangell's Native community is critical of last month's chamber-sponsored economic forum for its lack of tribal presentations on the agenda and the offensive comment of a speaker.

The chamber of commerce organized the five-hour session to spark a discussion about Wrangell's economic future and create a space for business leaders to share their perspectives. However, key players in Wrangell's economic landscape — particularly representatives of the tribal government — were not offered the opportunity to present.

Esther Aaltséen Reese, tribal administrator at the Wrangell Cooperative Association, attended the forum, hoping that it would offer a "chance to come together, talk about the current economic condition of our town, and ... improve that for the entire community." The event, however, proved "disappointing," she said.

The forum featured Borough Manager Jeff Good and Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore, doctoral student Ryan Naylor, state legislative candidates Jeremy Bynum and Dan Ortiz, fisherman Mike Lockabey, Salvation Army officer Jon Tollrud, California-based restaurant owner James Freeman and California-based business consultant Kevin Jones. Freeman owns property on the island and is a regular visitor; Jones is his associate.

No local business owners presented.

Reese described the lineup as "exclusionary" and pointed out the lack of tribal representation. Event organizers "didn't reach out to the tribe as one of the large drivers in our community," she said.

Freeman, the second-to-last scheduled speaker, made a comment during his presentation that some thought was racially offensive. Talking about the need for a strategic plan to avoid population decline, he said, "We can live where we are, we can stay being cowboys and Indians ... as the population dies away."

When confronted by WCA IGAP director Valerie Massie during the event and by Massie and Reese after the forum's con-

clusion, Freeman "became verbally combative," said Reese. She called Freeman's remarks "inexcusable."

"Language like this is a result of centuries of racism and continues to perpetuate stereotypes that have real-life impacts on Native communities," Reese said. "It was shocking to experience racism during an economic forum hosted on the land of the Shtax'héen Kwáan with tribal members and leadership present. (Freeman) refused to acknowledge that the comment was racist and continued to argue after the event."

Brittani Robbins, event organizer and chamber of commerce executive director, said in a written statement that the chamber "does not condone the use of language or terminology that is insensitive to any ethnic (or) racial group within the community or anywhere else, whether intentional or otherwise."

Freeman did not respond to a request for comment.

Though Massie's confrontation with Freeman was an emotional moment for her, she felt deep sadness throughout the

forum as the WCA's contributions to the community were overlooked. "It is often forgotten that there are two governing bodies in Wrangell," she said. "WCA doesn't do trash pickup or collect taxes, but it is still a whole other nation."

Through grant funds, the tribe has contributed \$2.8 million to pave borough roads, \$450,000 to maintain trails in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, \$300,000 to Forest Service roads to make traditional subsistence areas accessible, and \$86,000 for emergency medical services equipment. The tribe also uses its grant funds to make yearly contributions to the senior center and public library.

Some of the speakers, Massie suggested, were "not creating space for the people who are already working on those 'improvements' that they were talking about."

She acknowledged that running such as the economic forum can be challenging. "I know how it goes with organizing events. It's a lot easier to criticize things than to put them together," Massie said. "I do commend

Brittani for putting it together."

All of the event's nine speakers were either involved in the planning of the forum or invited to speak by Robbins, with the exception of state Rep. Ortiz, who was invited by co-organizer Lockabey.

Robbins said she sent out an invitation to the event to chamber members, including the Wrangell Cooperative Association, on Aug. 15. "I'm not sure what more reaching out I could do other than directly calling people," she said.

However, the invitation made no indication that the event was seeking additional speakers — it included only the time, date, location, ticket price and a reminder to RSVP. According to Reese, no one from the WCA was under the impression that forum organizers would accept their insights. "I would definitely have been a part of it if invited," Reese said in a written statement.

In a subsequent interview, Robbins explained that she did not ask a WCA representative to speak because she "thought it was more of a business-style

meeting" than an effort to see "how many groups can we include."

The chamber may put on another forum in 2023, Robbins said, and in the future she would review speakers' comments in advance and not invite political candidates during an election year. She would also not allow microphones at the event. "Some business people ... felt less comfortable asking questions and speaking up with a microphone there," she said.

Like Robbins, Reese wants the conversation about Wrangell's economic future to continue. However, moving forward, she hopes that the conversation will include "representation across the entire community," particularly members of the WCA, the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium and the local tourism industry.

"My hope is that something positive can come from this unfortunate event," she said in a written statement. "That education on systematic racism can occur, that positive change is made and we can move forward stronger as a community."

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Republican election deniers threaten democracy

By LARRY PERSILY
Publisher

It's not a headline I take lightly, but it's scary that almost 300 Republican candidates for U.S. Senate, House and key statewide offices around the country have denied or questioned the outcome of the last presidential election.

Not on the basis of proven facts but based on contrived conspiracy theories and marching orders from the candidate who lost the election because 7 million more voters cast their ballots for the other guy.

Almost 300 election deniers running for important offices is not an inconsequential or harmless number and many of them will win in November, influencing the conduct — and accuracy and fairness — of elections nationwide.

It's scary because I fear what will happen to the country if lies — which can spread like lice in an elementary school classroom through the bullhorn-amplification of social media — govern future elections.

Scary because no matter how many court decisions and how many Republican officials such as Alaska Lt. Gov. Kevin Meyer say otherwise, no matter how many truly independent audits verify the results of the 2020 presidential election, hundreds of Republican candidates are willing, even eager, to follow former President Donald Trump's yellow brick road to the land of make believe.

It wouldn't surprise me if Trump tried to take an inflated tax deduction for the road, falsely claiming it as a business expense.

Respect for the election process is what separates this country from so many other nations where elections fall far short of free and fair, where the losers march in the street to overturn the results, where intimidation and violence all too often determine the outcome — or certainly try.

Screaming that "we were robbed" by a bad call at home plate or a blown call on pass interfer-

ence is an all-American pastime. No harm, no foul to the country. It's just part of sports, like spilling beer and paying too much for tickets. But screaming that my candidate could have lost the election only if it was stolen is irresponsible and a threat to the rule of law, particularly when the losers want to rewrite the rules so that they can't ever lose again.

If a candidate loses, run again, but don't overturn democracy just to stay in power.

The count of 299 candidates who refuse to accept President Joe Biden's victory comes from a Washington Post analysis of public statements, social media posts and actions taken by 569 Republican candidates.

"Respect for the election process is what separates this country from so many other nations where elections fall short of free and fair."

Deny the credibility of the Washington Post if you want, but you can't deny what Trump says or the doubt it creates and the danger it presents.

While campaigning Oct. 1 in Warren, Michigan, Trump said, "I don't believe we'll ever have a fair election again. I don't believe it." He was campaigning in support of three election deniers running for governor, attorney general and secretary of state

(which runs elections in Michigan).

"Election denialism is a form of corruption," Ruth Ben-Ghiat, the author of "Strongmen: Mussolini to the Present" and a historian at New York University told the Post. "The party has now institutionalized this form of lying, this form of rejection of results. So it's institutionalized illegal activity. These politicians are essentially conspiring to make party dogma the idea that it's possible to reject certified results."

In Alaska, Republican Kelly Tshibaka, running against U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, is on the list of election deniers.

Alaska voters can stand up for democracy by voting for anyone but Tshibaka. Or don't vote. But please don't vote for a candidate who repeats a false claim just to be popular with a crowd that doesn't accept election facts.

EDITORIAL

Assembly should speak up about needed building repairs

Wrangell voters last week defeated a proposed \$8.5 million bond issue that would have paid for needed repairs at the almost 40-year-old Public Safety Building, which suffers from water damage, rot and other problems.

Despite general grumpiness around town over property taxes, borough spending, the economy and inflation, the defeat was not overwhelming. The proposition lost by just 65 votes out of 583 ballots cast, 44.4% to 55.6%.

That is not an insurmountable margin to overcome — and it is margin that the borough assembly needs to confront. Regardless of voter reluctance to commit to paying the repair bill, the building is in sad shape and still needs repairs.

The assembly should think of the ballot defeat as a temporary setback in the quest to repair the building and should think hard about trying again.

Wrangell needs a fire hall, police station, state court offices, jail and everything else housed at the multi-purpose facility. The state pays rent on the court offices and jail, which helps cover a large portion of the operating expense of the building and can go a long way to repaying the cost of repairs. In short, Wrangell has a good deal depositing up rent checks from the state, but further deterioration of the building could jeopardize that income.

In putting together another try at voter approval, the borough needs to present residents with more information on the particulars of the repairs and the costs, and just how the work would proceed: Would police offices, the fire hall, court and jail be moved into temporary quarters — and at what expense — or could the tenants remain mostly in place as contractors do their job in phases, working around the occupants?

Answer the complaints from voters who asked: If the building is in such tough shape, how come nothing was done earlier?

But more importantly, when the assembly tries again, the members should work a lot harder at explaining the need to voters. Though the assembly voted unanimously to seek voter approval for the repair bonds, members left it to borough staff to provide explanations at the only public meeting held on the ballot issue.

And while borough staff can only provide information on ballot propositions — not advocate for voter approval — assembly members can and should get out, speak up and advocate for the proposal.

If assembly members, all of whom won the public's trust and support in their election to the governing body, explained why the repairs are needed, why the bond issue is the best answer for paying the cost, and why they support the ballot proposition, maybe the question could pick up the 65 votes it needs and pass next time.

— Wrangell Sentinel

Bear awards

Continued from page 1

playful, social."

Delabrué said there are differences not only personalities, but in species as well. Brown bears are more aggressive, he said, and less willing to flee from threats. "At Anan, you can definitely see some differences in personality," he said. "Some bears tend to be more shy, while others are social and regularly come up to the deck. Some bears can be more stubborn than others by not wanting to move off the trail."

Delabrué said the quirkiest thing he's seen a black bear do is break a log loose and roll down a small hillside with it.

Some of the recipients of last week's awards were Scuba Sue, Twerp, Baloo Impersonator and one Houser said they lovingly refer to as "Circle Bear."

The week kicked off with Circle Bear receiving the award for fattest bear in honor of Fat Bear Week.

"Bears of the same species grow to different sizes and weights depending on quantity and quality of food," the Forest Service posted on Facebook with a photo of a black bear that was indeed very circular.

"The black and brown bears at

Anan don't reach the size of bears at Katmai National Park and Preserve, but the food sources our forest provides are just as important to them. Tongass National Forest fishery and habitat specialists work constantly to protect and improve the watersheds and ecosystems that make us the "Salmon Forest."

Scuba Sue received an award for best fishing style since she submerges herself. The post for her award pointed out that most bears do not like to get their ears wet. Twerp was awarded as the cutest bear and Baloo Impersonator was awarded as most chill bear. Baloo is a character from Rudyard Kipling's children's book, "The Jungle Story."

Approximately 40 to 60 black bears and 12 brown bears have been documented coming to Anan Creek to feed each season.

The awards and recipients this year are:

- Fattest bear: Circle Bear
- Best fishing style: Scuba Sue
- Cutest bear: Twerp
- Most chill bear: Baloo Impersonator
- Saddest bear: Too Early Black Bear
- Worst fisherman: Wolverine
- Best mama bear: Brown Bear Mom
- Safety first: Cautious Black Bear
- Laziest bear: Brown Bear Cub



PHOTO COURTESY U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Although "Unnamed Fat Bear" was crowned as the fattest bear for the Anan Bear Awards, Tory Houser of the Forest Service in Wrangell said staff all refer to the black bear as Circle Bear due to its round shape.

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Assembly certifies election results; Patty Gilbert sworn in as mayor

Sentinel staff

Patty Gilbert was sworn in as mayor last Thursday, and in her first days in office plans to "(continue) the heavy work." She hopes to revitalize the borough's economic development committee, support local businesses and promote new ones. "It'll be a full agenda," she said.

The borough assembly certified the election results last Thursday.

The ballot proposition to issue \$8.5 million in bonds for Public Safety Building repairs failed 259 to 324 in the Oct. 4 election. Since the building is still in need of costly repairs,

the assembly will "have to figure out where we go from here," said Gilbert.

The borough's two other ballot propositions both passed by wide margins. Voters approved issuing \$3.5 million in bonds for school repairs, 377 to 205, and approved giving the borough authority to lease or sell the 6-Mile sawmill property, 477 to 107.

In the only other contested election on the ballot, David Powell and Brittani Robbins, who received 430 and 378 votes respectively, will serve three-year terms on the borough assembly. Alex Angerman received 215 votes.

In uncontested races, Elizabeth Roundtree and David Wilson will serve on the school board for three-year terms, Esther Ashton will serve on the school board for a one-year term, and Winston Davies and John Yeager will serve on the port commission for three-year terms.

At the time of the election, Wrangell had 1,914 registered voters. There was a 26% turnout on election day with 498 votes. The canvas board last Thursday counted 104 absentee ballots, boosting the turnout to 31% with 602 votes.

This year's municipal election turnout was significantly higher than last year's 486.

Clothing drive

Continued from page 1

"Hannah's Place donated pajamas, blankets, baby clothes, hats and gloves," she said. "We're making a 'thank you' post for donors with a picture of everything that was donated."

River's Mouth Thrift Store also donated many items, including blankets. "I went over there, and they were like, 'Grab what you want,'" Wright said. "They're donating blankets and clothing and boots."

For those who couldn't bring donations to the carving shed, WCA staff scheduled pickups to collect items.

The WCA has received and sorted all the donated items they can take. Wright said they will send them to the Tlingit & Haida offices in Juneau, which is collecting donations from all over Southeast. All the items will then be shipped to Western Alaska for distribution to those in need.

Wright said the WCA is now looking for heavy-duty boxes to ship the items to Juneau.

Northwest Alaska was hit by more rough weather and high winds at the end of last week.

"They said winter is hitting really hard, really fast up there," Wright said.



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Piles of sweaters, blankets, pajamas and other warm clothing is organized and ready to be sent to Western Alaska communities dealing with last month's high winds and flooding. WCA employee Jana Wright said the Wrangell donations will be sent to the Central Council of Tlingit & Haida in Juneau, where they will be added to other donated goods for shipment.

Child care

Continued from page 1

Schools Superintendent Bill Burr said the idea to use a classroom came to him last spring and made sense since there are a couple classrooms being used as storage after the student population dropped.

"There was some thought that if we could share space, preparing kids for school, as well as having Head Start just across the street... the location was good all the way around," Burr said. Having a child care facility in proximity to the elementary school is also a good option, he said, as it can help acclimate young children to the school environment.

The Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska representatives who are experienced with setting up child care facilities visited Wrangell to assess the classroom site and give input on what would need to be done to ready it for children, Reese said.

"They're experts in this area," she said. "They're providing us with assistance with the facility itself and with the requirements."

Reese said WCA won't be able to determine how many children could be accommodated until the needs are determined. Infants would require cribs, which would take more space, so that could limit the number of toddlers and older children.

Another need in establishing a child care facility would be a kitchen for food preparation, Reese said. She said they are actively researching possibilities since there isn't a kitchen available at the school.

The survey can be completed online at wcatribe.org, on the WCA Facebook page or by obtaining a physical copy from bulletin boards at the grocery stores. Completed copies can be returned to a lockbox on the WCA office porch at 1002 Zimovia across from Alpine Mini Mart. The deadline to return the survey is Oct. 28.

"We were responding to the overwhelming need in the community and want to help," Reese said.

Cross country

Continued from page 1

News after the race. "I love these guys. Last year was a little bit rough for us but this year we got a new assistant coach, Mason Villarma. He ran at Gonzaga and so he got us trained really well. We just hammered it out. It turned out great for us. We have a really strong crew and it's tons of fun with these guys."

Five of Wrangell's seven runners finished in the top 10 in the division. Senior Devlyn Campbell finished fourth with a time of 17:57.7. Senior Ethan Blatchley finished sixth with a time of 18:15.2. Freshman Boomchain Loucks finished seventh at 18:20.8, and senior Elias Decker finished eighth at 18:27.9. Freshman Ian Nelson finished 14th with a time

of 19:13.5, and senior Randy Churchill finished 23rd at 19:54.3.

As a team, Wrangell finished in first place with an average time of 18:06.2 and a total time of 90:30.7, scoring 22 points. The boys beat out Haines, which had an average time of 19:01.4, a total time of 95:06.9 and a score of 39 points. Third place went to Unalaska with an average time of 20:58.1, a total time of 104:50.3 and 88 points.

"The team was a class act and represented their community well," Villarma said. "I'm hopeful the program will continue to build into a perennial powerhouse. I'd love to see a women's team represent Wrangell at state next year as well."

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Landers shares her new Wrangell-based novel with the community

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

From the slate-gray shores of petroglyph beach to the splash of the community pool's chlorine-filled waters, the sights and sounds of Wrangell star in Maryann Landers' most recent novel, "Alaskan Escape." Landers' readers and friends gathered at the Stikine Inn last Friday for a book signing.

"Alaskan Escape" is the fourth novel in Landers' Alaska Women of Caliber series, which follows Christian women's experiences with faith and family in Alaska. Landers based each of her "women of caliber" on a real-life woman whose story inspired her, though their accounts are fictionalized and embellished in the novels. For example, the second book in the series, "Alaska Calling," is semi-autobiographical, but unlike its protagonist, Landers has never used a shotgun to defend her daughter from a dangerous moose attack.

Previous novels have drawn their plotlines from family members' experiences and Landers' own experiences — "Alaskan Escape" was inspired by the story of a friend.

The novel centers around a woman named Grace — nicknamed "Amazing Grace" by her husband — who relies on her faith as she adjusts to life in Alaska. For Landers, the act of writing is intrinsically linked to faith — her work illustrates how God shapes the



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Maryann Landers signs a copy of her new self-published novel, "Alaskan Escape," at the Stikine Inn last Friday. The book is part of her faith-based Alaska Women of Caliber series.

narratives of her characters' lives.

In the world of storytelling, an "inciting incident" is a plot event that sets the rest of a story in motion. Harry takes the train to Hogwarts, Ariel relinquishes her voice to Ursula, Eve partakes of the fruit. Landers says that her inciting incident — the event that inspired her to start writing — was when she shot

her first moose in 2021.

"I'm a stay-at-home mom homeschooling my kids," she said. "My world was about this big, right?" She held her hands close together to demonstrate how small the scope of her home life sometimes felt. Participating in the hunt and taking a moose — both traditionally masculine activities in her

family — gave her the confidence she needed to pursue writing. "If I can do this, I can do things. ... I conquered something and there's so much in that that encouraged me."

Though Landers does not live in Wrangell anymore, the people and places Grace encounters in "Alaskan Escape" are drawn from the two years Landers spent on the island, from 2010 to 2012. Grace's family sees a sea lion at the dock and participates in the New Year's Day polar plunge — both scenes are based on Landers' Wrangell memories. Landers and her family live in Tok, near the Canadian border.

For those who have always dreamed of writing fiction but have never known how to begin, Landers has a message of hope. Self-publishing a novel is "doable," she said. "There are so many resources now to help writers. ... It has become an indie author world." She relies on self-publishing podcasts, plotting software, and her community of trusted readers for support throughout the writing process.

Fans of Landers have much to look forward to in the coming months. She plans to release a short Christmas story in November and is drafting another semi-autobiographical work.

"Alaskan Escape," along with the rest of the Alaska Women of Caliber series, is available on Amazon or on the author's website, maryann-landers.com.

Jiu-Jitsu provides benefits beyond self-defense — it's good for your health

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

Joint locks and compression locks might sound like the perils of getting old, but they are among hundreds of moves that are incorporated into Brazilian jiu-jitsu fighting.

Though the sport can seem intimidating to first-time students, a group in Wrangell is working to welcome newcomers and highlight the many benefits.

Jiu-jitsu was created over 100 years ago, originating from judo. Brazilian jiu-jitsu was created in the 1920s and has become one of, if not the fastest-growing martial arts in the United States. Meant for close combat, jiu-jitsu is a form of grappling, much like wrestling, that relies on submission holds and other maneuvers to best an opponent.

Though classes have been held at the community gym for some time, a seminar was held last weekend to encourage people to sign up. Professor Alexan-



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Professor Alexandra Peterson, a first-degree black belt in Brazilian jiu-jitsu, wraps her legs around student Hannah Baker and instructs students last Saturday in how to overcome their opponent.

dra Peterson, of Appleton, Wisconsin, came to town to instruct veterans and rookies alike.

The title of professor is given to those who have earned a black belt in jiu-jitsu. Peterson,

36, is a first-degree black belt with 18 years training experience. Before that, she trained in karate, giving her 27 years in martial arts.

Peterson was brought to

town thanks to a grant from the Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department. It was her intention to introduce new students, show them basic positions, give them the ins and outs of Brazilian jiu-jitsu and give them a starting point to jump into the regularly held classes.

It's a sport that is particularly appealing to women due to its style of self-defense and confidence building, she said.

"It's an amazing martial art for women," Peterson said. "The thing about Brazilian jiu-jitsu is that it's based on technique and leverage and efficiency. It's actually designed for a smaller person to be able to handle a larger, strong opponent that's attacking them."

For Peterson, after having been in the martial arts world for nearly a decade before discovering Brazilian jiu-jitsu in college, six months in the sport greatly increased her confidence in self-defense. "For me, it's just a lot of fun. It's a great sport. It's

a great community."

Bob and Hannah Baker, who moved to Wrangell from Wisconsin in June, are students of Peterson. Both quickly got involved with the local jiu-jitsu classes coached by Matt Nore. The Bakers began their jiu-jitsu journey four years ago when Bob decided he needed to make healthy changes.

"One day, I was like, 'I'm too fat. I need to do something to exercise,' and I typed 'martial arts near me' into my computer," Bob Baker said. "The closest gym to my house was a jiu-jitsu gym. I've basically been going every day of the week since."

The Bakers began the classes together. Since then, Hannah Baker, a laboratory manager at Wrangell Medical Center, has won multiple gold medals at International Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Federation sanctioned competitions. Bob Baker admits his wife is better than he is and jokes that he would never argue with her. Beyond the marital peace and weight loss, the sport has plenty of other benefits.

"I'm healthier," Bob Baker said. "It's helped me with my mental health a lot. It's a great way to get out all the stress I had from the day. It helped me to find a community to be a part of, especially when we moved up here."

Nore said the Bakers moving to town has helped the club expand when members can train. Classes are held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and on Saturday from 10 to 11:30 a.m. in the community gym. He's seen an increase in interest from women and more members makes training more competitive and fun, he said.

"You make new friends. You're sweating, so you release all these endorphins. You're increasing your flexibility and your knowledge," Nore said. "You have to think about how to get from this position to this position, which is why it's like a chess game. While you're doing that, your opponent is trying to counter you."

Bob Baker said the grappling aspect is what was most appealing about Brazilian jiu-jitsu as a

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Forest Service cabins project open to public feedback until end of month

Sentinel staff

The public can now provide comments on more than 50 cabin projects proposed by the U.S. Forest Service in the Tongass and Chugach National Forests. The comment period is open until Oct. 31.

A page on the Forest Service website found at bit.ly/3Cc8PPr allows visitors to review options where new cabins could be built, existing cabins fixed up and sites where existing cabins could be moved.

"We want to hear from the public about what they want to see," said James King, Alaska Region director of recreation, lands and minerals, in a statement. "Knowing which locations people prefer and what kinds of cabin features we can add to ensure a more enjoyable stay will help us make this effort a success."

Commenters have the ability to review the information on each proposed site through the use of an interactive map, leaving their feedback for each one. Seven sites in the area around Wrangell are being proposed,

including sites on Etolin and Zarembo islands and in Berg Bay.

Three new cabins are being proposed on Wrangell Island. The Turn Island cabin would be built near the Nemo Saltwater Access trailhead in Wrangell, offering year-round access to users. If approved, construction would be scheduled to start in 2024. The Little Lake cabin would be built near the trailhead for Long Lake and would begin construction in 2025. The Fools Inlet cabin would be built off the road system above Fools Inlet at the southern end of the island. It would begin construction in 2026.

Repairs are being proposed to the Middle Ridge cabin, which was built in 2009 as part of a log cabin construction training course. According to the website, the logs in the north-facing wall of the structure have started to rot and the wall needs to be reconstructed. If approved, that project would begin in 2023.

Although there is an existing cabin at Berg Bay, the Forest Service is proposing to replace the current cab-

in with a new, larger cabin reflecting requests from the public for a larger-capacity cabin.

The proposed project on Etolin Island would relocate the Anan Bay cabin, built in 1965, to Burnett Inlet on Etolin. According to the Forest Service website, "This project will deconstruct the historic cabin and deck and reconstruct it on an existing hardened site at Burnett Inlet. Here, users will be able to access the cabin by road and by boat. The cabin could also offer overnight refuge to long-distance paddlers. Relocating Anan Lake cabin would bring a less utilized cabin in a remote location to a more accessible location." That project would begin in 2026, if approved.

On Zarembo, the project being proposed is to relocate one of two Deep Bay cabins to Mustang Lakes. Since the cabins at Deep Bay can accommodate larger parties yet are barely used, the Forest Service has proposed moving one of those cabins to Mustang Lakes, which has closer road access and is closer to Wrangell. That project would start in 2026.

Jiu-Jitsu

Continued from page 6

martial art to him.

"We don't do any striking in jiu-jitsu. It's grappling. There isn't any punching or kicking in here," he said. "I got hit one time. That was enough. (I said) I'm going to do the fighting where we don't hit each other."

That said, many mixed martial arts competitors train in Brazilian jiu-jitsu to incorporate it into their fighting style.

Peterson said age isn't a limited factor either. She's trained people as old as 60 and as young as 6.

Even though most of the attendees at last Saturday's seminar were regular class members, there were two new people interested in learning more.

"You get a really interesting mix of all kinds of people that

train together," she said. "You get more white-collar IT guys, you get a nerdy group. You get blue-collar factory guys, police officers, firefighters, EMTs. And everybody is together in

this nice community."

Nore said one quote he read summed up jiu-jitsu perfectly for him: "Brute strength is subservient to knowledge, skill and technique."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SEARHC

The lab team is all smiles after the SEARHC facility in Wrangell was ranked among the top medical labs in the nation. Front row, from left: Kaylyn Easterly, Hannah Baker, Shari Rempp, Danielle Russell; back row: Cathy Gentry.

SEARHC lab receives perfect survey score from national accreditor

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

Doctors may get all the attention, hefty salaries and steamy medical TV shows, but they are not the only health care professionals who play essential roles in the real-life drama of a hospital. Laboratory teams work with pipettes and samples behind the scenes, performing the tests that doctors use to diagnose illness.

Patients at the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium's Wrangell Medical Center can rest assured that their test results are being processed with precision. The center's laboratory teams rank in the top one percent for quality lab services nationwide, according to the Commission on Office Laboratory Accreditation (COLA).

COLA, which performed an

on-site survey of Wrangell's facilities this summer, is a third-party accreditor that ensures labs meet federal standards. Well-operated labs are a crucial piece of a hospital's overall effectiveness - 70% of medical decisions depend on lab test results and between 40,000 and 80,000 deaths occur annually from preventable diagnostic errors, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

A COLA surveyor told Constance Stager, director of laboratory services at SEARHC, that she had given a perfect score to only one other lab in the last year. "Thanks to the diligent work of our lab teams, we are able to provide superior care to the Wrangell community," Stager said in a prepared statement.

Mat-Su bans voting machines in borough elections starting next year

By SEAN MAGUIRE
Anchorage Daily News

In what is apparently a first for Alaska, the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly passed an ordinance last week that will prohibit the use of voting tabulation machines for borough elections, starting next year.

The new Mat-Su ordinance, approved Oct. 4, caps off a months-long effort from a group of residents determined to ban the use of voting machines spurred on by false claims of election fraud. Last month, the assembly unanimously voted to use a hand-count to verify the results of the Nov. 8 borough election, but voting machines will still be used in the election.

Borough officials determined that it would be a "great risk" to stop using machines and mandate hand-counting for this year's borough election because there would be inadequate time "to properly prepare for a change of this magnitude," according to a memo filed with the legislation. Instead, those changes are set to be in place for the 2023 municipal election.

The new ordinance will require hand counting of ballots on election night at each of the borough's 41 precincts, with election workers calling results in, instead of counting taking place at the borough office in Palmer. Some assembly members raised concerns that transporting ballots before they are counted could increase the risk of vote tampering and fraud.

No other boroughs appear to have taken similar steps, according to the Alaska Municipal League and the Mat-Su borough clerk.

The changes will not apply to state or federal elections, which are run by the state Division of Elections.

Republican Lt. Gov. Kevin Meyer, who is the top elected official to oversee the state's elections, wrote an opinion piece in June to dispel "misunderstandings" about fraud and how voting works in Alaska.

"There continues to be misinformation that our Dominion equipment changes votes and reports fraudulent results - this is simply untrue," he said. "We do not use voting machines - rather, we utilize ballot tabulators that are not

connected to the internet and simply count the voted paper ballots."

Lonnie McKechnie, the Mat-Su borough clerk, issued a similar statement earlier in the year, describing the election integrity protocols in place. Those include only using paper ballots, locking systems on tabulation machines to prevent tampering and an overall election review process by the canvass board.

That did not reassure people testifying at the Oct. 4 assembly meeting who vehemently opposed voting machines and supported hand counts, with loud applause after each testifier. A common refrain was that the machines cannot be trusted.

Some echoed disproven conspiracy theories that fraud or hacked voting machines cost former President Donald Trump the 2020 election. The Matanuska Valley has long been a conservative stronghold in Alaska, and 85% of Big Lake voters cast a ballot for Trump two years ago.

Republican legislators in at least six states have introduced legislation to mandate hand-counting of ballots and ban voting machines. Similar debates have been going on at the county level, including in the battleground state of Nevada, where a legal challenge has been filed against a rural county that has moved to start hand-counting mail-in ballots two weeks before Election Day.

The lone vote against the Mat-Su ordinance came from assembly member Stephanie Nowers, who was heckled. Nowers said that "we're all on the same page" but she didn't want to "rush" to a vote. Instead, she called for another meeting in February to review how hand-counting had worked to verify this year's borough election results.

That idea was rejected.

Hoping to calm election fraud concerns, the lieutenant governor ordered an unprecedented audit of statewide results in 2020 to show that Alaska's voting machines were counting accurately. The audit had election workers hand-count each of the 361,400 ballots cast and they came up with a total of 24 votes that were different from the results certified by the Division of Elections.

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U.S. House candidates discuss fisheries issues at Kodiak forum

By IRIS SAMUELS
Anchorage Daily News

U.S. Rep. Mary Peltola's "pro-fish" message was met with scrutiny at an Oct. 4 candidate forum in Kodiak that focused on the commercial fishing industry.

Peltola was sworn in to the U.S. House last month after winning a special election to serve out the fourth-month remainder of the late Rep. Don Young's term. Peltola, a Democrat, now faces another election against Republicans Nick Begich III and former Gov. Sarah Palin, along with Libertarian Chris Bye, to determine who will hold Alaska's lone U.S. House seat for the two-year term that begins in January.

Peltola has made fisheries one of the issues she focused on during her two weeks in Congress before the House recessed on Sept. 30 until the November election. But in Kodiak — one of the few Alaska communities that depends on year-round commercial fishing — some were skeptical of her positions and whether they would be beneficial to the industry.

"I think there's a whole suite of people that don't consider her pro-fish. She's pro-subsistence and not really pro-commercial fishing," said Julie Bonney, executive director of the Alaska Groundfish Data Bank based in Kodiak. "I don't see her as pro-fish at all."

Peltola grew up commercial and subsistence fishing on the Kuskokwim River, where salmon stocks have collapsed in recent years. She pins that collapse partially on bycatch — fish that are harvested but are not sold or kept — by trawlers. Many trawlers that fish in Alaska waters are not based in the state, but some are based in Kodiak.

The candidates' personal experience with fisheries varies: Palin spoke about setnetting in Bristol Bay; Bye is a sportfish guide who lives in Fairbanks; and Begich was the only candidate on stage whose livelihood had not at any point depended at least in part on Alaska fish.

"My personal perspective is I want all of our fisheries to prosper. I want abundant stocks. I don't want to see any Alaska communities suffer," Peltola said. But Kodiak fishermen say that protecting one fishery or user group can come at the expense of others.

"It's a national sport here in Kodiak — this fish fight. And you can't come clean out of a fish fight," said Mike Milligan, a longtime Kodiak resident who ran in the special U.S. House race as a Democrat.

In Congress, one of Peltola's first actions was voting to advance the Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization bill out of the House Natural Resources Committee, of which she is a member. That bill would update how federally governed fisheries are managed, something Peltola says is needed given salmon stock declines driven by climate change and bycatch, among other issues.

"When I was growing up, abundance was kind of an understatement. When I was using the outboard to get to our fishing spot, you couldn't help but hit salmon with your lower unit on the way to the fishing hole," she said. "Well, that is not the story now."

But the bill as it is currently written is opposed by some Alaska fishermen. Bonney was one of several Alaska signatories on a letter written last month opposing the bill. The letter criticizes changes to language on bycatch that could, according to the letter, "very well lead to managers or the courts shutting down fisheries where bycatch cannot be eliminated."

Begich criticized a change to the bill introduced by Peltola

that would add two seats to the North Pacific Fishery Management Council reserved for Alaska tribal members.

Peltola said that in advancing the bill, she is "carrying forward" the legacy of her Republican predecessor, who died in March while negotiations on that language of the bill were ongoing in the Natural Resources Committee.

"The last time I spoke with Don directly was in November of 2021 and it was about the two extra seats on the council for Alaska Natives. He was in strong support of that," Peltola said. "The reason that this effort came about is because the process of working with the council works well for the biggest, the wealthiest and the most connected amongst us, but if you don't happen to be big and wealthy and connected, it is very hard to get any inroads in the council process."

At the forum, Begich, Palin and Bye all accused federal fishery managers of overreaching their authority. For the Republican candidates, it was an echo of their accusations in other realms, including oil and gas development, where they say the administration of President Joe Biden has stood in the way of new drilling projects.

Peltola — who has tried to position herself as a moderate — expressed more openness to working with the Biden administration on federal resource management.

"If we are not at the table, we are on the menu," she said. "Just saying no gets us shut out of the conversation, and without an Alaska representative who's willing to engage in these conversations, things are going to be happening to us and not with us or for us."

Despite some reservations from commercial fishermen, Peltola's eagerness to address fishery issues won over some in the crowd of over 100 that gathered in Kodiak to hear the four candidates.

Dan Ogg, a commercial salmon fisherman from Kodiak who also served as a Republican in the state House with Peltola, said that after listening to the forum, he had decided to support her.

"She's not a hatchet person going down one avenue. She'll listen, she'll work with other people," Ogg said. "So I don't think it's something that the trawl fisheries should be that worried about."

Wayward sea lion crosses the road in Valdez — twice

By MORGAN KRAKOW
Anchorage Daily News

An out-of-place Steller sea lion stopped traffic in the Prince William Sound community of Valdez last Friday morning, making for a memorable shift for patrol Sgt. Chad Clements with the Valdez Police Department.

Clements said officers began getting calls about a sea lion loose on land near the harbor at around 6:30 a.m.

Soon, they received a call that the sea lion had moved to the parking lot of an RV park near the local Captain Joe's Gas Station — even farther from the water than where it was initially spotted.

"It was like, 'All right, he's going the wrong way,'" Clements said.

The sergeant, along with a few other officers, went out to locate the sea lion. Police used their cars in an attempt to herd it toward the water, sounding their sirens every once in a while to move the wayward mammal along.

They could tell it was tired. "It took a while," Clements said. "I mean, he'd move

along and then he would kind of lay down."

It was Friday morning, around the time school starts, so it was busy in town. By the time officers shepherded the sea lion to the Richardson Highway, they had to halt traffic to allow for the lumbering behemoth to cross the street and get into the water.

"We did what we had to do for public safety reasons," Clements said. "And we wanted to make sure (the sea lion) didn't die, obviously."

Once the sea lion returned to the water, officers thought the encounter was over. But as the animal moved across the town's tidal flats, it returned on a different road, crossing over to the Valdez dry dock at the harbor. Officers once again had to coax the marine mammal back toward the water.

It was nice, Clements said, to finally see the animal enter the water.

Photos indicate the sea lion was likely a sub-adult male, ranging in age from 5 to 8 years old, said Kim Raum-Suryan, Steller sea lion coordinator with the

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration based in Juneau. At that point, they are developing a thick neck and getting bigger but aren't fully grown, and tend to be between 1,200 and 1,700 pounds, she said. When they're in their prime, adult males can reach weights over 2,000 pounds, Raum-Suryan said.

Sea lions making their way into Alaska towns is a rare though not unprecedented incident, she said.

The last time Raum-Suryan heard about this type of lost sea lion situation was in 2018 in Sitka, where community members spent four days trying to coax a scared Steller sea lion out of the forest and into the water. Ultimately, Raum-Suryan and others had to tranquilize the animal and took him back to the water via truck and front-end loader.

"I'm really happy to hear that the police department in Valdez was able to get this guy back into the water," Raum-Suryan said. "That's great news."



ALASKA MARINE HIGHWAY NOW HIRING!

AMHS is on the lookout for focused, hard-working individuals for several full time, year round professional and entry level positions within our organization. Positions are available throughout Alaska in our administrative offices, terminal locations and onboard our vessels. Many AMHS positions do not require any prior maritime experience to apply!

Some of the positions we are currently recruiting for are:

- Passenger Service Workers; Stewards & Pursers
- Unlicensed Engine Personnel; Oilers & Jr Engineers
- Licensed Deck Officers
- Able Bodied Seaman
- Marine Engineers

AMHS offers competitive starting pay along with progressive compensation plans for advancement to higher level positions. The State of Alaska offers a full benefit package including medical and dental insurance with optional family coverage, retirement benefits, vacation and personal leave that accrues with years of service.

Visit the employment page on our website for current positions open for recruitment and details on the application process.

FerryAlaska.com/employment

BERT STEDMAN

Committed to Southeast.

THE STEDMAN FAMILY'S COMMITMENT TO SOUTHEAST AND TO OUR WAY OF LIFE GOES BACK MORE THAN A CENTURY, BEFORE TERRITORIAL DAYS.

Great-grandfather Charley & Hettie Stedman homesteaded here in 1902 and was an early guide and shipwright. Born before territorial days was Ken Sr. The next two generations were born in the Territory, Ken Jr. and Bert. Bert's daughter was born in the State of Alaska.



PAST. PRESENT. FUTURE.



Charley & Hettie on the gillnet boat ROVER, He built in Kake Circa 1910



Ken Jr. commercial fishing Circa 1965

Ken Sr. on a Revenue Cutter in Wrangell Narrows Circa 1920



Two Russians flee across Bering Sea to avoid military service, seek asylum

By BECKY BOHRER
The Associated Press

Two Russians who said they fled their country to avoid military service have requested asylum in the U.S. after beaching their boat on St. Lawrence Island in the Bering Sea, Alaska U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski's office said last Thursday.

Karina Borger, a Murkowski spokesperson, by email said the office has been in communication with the U.S. Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection and that "the Russian nationals reported that they fled one of the coastal communities on the east coast of Russia to avoid compulsory military service."

Spokespersons with the Coast Guard and Customs and Border Protection referred a reporter's questions to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security public affairs office, which provided little information last Thursday. The office, in a statement, said the individuals "were transported to Anchorage for inspection, which includes a screening and vetting process, and then subsequently processed in accordance with applicable U.S. immigration laws under the Immigration and Nationality Act."

The agency said the two arrived in Gambell on Oct. 4 on a small boat. It did not provide details on where they came from, their journey or the asylum request.

Alaska's senators, Republicans Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, said the two landed at a beach near the isolated community of about 600 people on St. Lawrence Island.

Gambell is about 200 miles southwest of the Western Alaska hub city of Nome and about 50 miles from the tip of the Chukotka Peninsula in Russia's Siberia.

Sullivan, in a statement, said he has encouraged federal authorities to have a plan in place in case "more Russians flee to Bering Strait communities in Alaska."

"This incident makes two things clear: First, the Russian people don't want to fight Putin's war of aggression against Ukraine," Sullivan said. "Second, given Alaska's proximity to Russia, our state has a vital role to play in securing America's national security."

Murkowski said the situation underscored "the need for a stronger security posture in America's Arctic."

Gov. Mike Dunleavy on Oct. 5 said he did not expect a continual stream or "flotilla" of individuals traversing the same route. He also warned that travel in the region could be dangerous as a fall storm packing strong winds was expected.

It is unusual for someone to take this route to try to get into the U.S.

U.S. authorities in August stopped Russians without legal status 42 times who tried to enter the U.S. from Canada. That was up from 15 times in July and nine times in August 2021.

Russians also try to enter the U.S. through Mexico, which does not require visas. Earlier this year, U.S. authorities contended with a spate of Russians who hoped to claim asylum if they reached an inspection booth at an official crossing.

Permanent Fund board selects Revenue Department employee as its new chief executive officer

The Associated Press

JUNEAU (AP) — Acting state Revenue Commissioner Deven Mitchell has been chosen as the new chief executive of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp.

The announcement was made Oct. 3. The corporation said in a statement that the selection "is contingent on the successful negotiation of a salary and benefits package" and that a start date has not yet been set.

Mitchell has called Alaska's nest-egg oil wealth fund the state's "trump card" as a renewable source of revenue, the Anchorage Daily News reported. His message to the board was that he would not chase short-term cash yields, as the fund has been invested for long-term growth. He also said he doesn't see his role as second-guessing investment decisions made by the corporation's chief investment officer or as overriding his decisions.

Earnings from the fund traditionally have been used to pay annual dividends to residents. Since 2018, earnings also have been used to help pay for public services, providing the largest single piece

of state general fund revenues.

Mitchell, a 30-year Revenue Department employee, last month stepped down as the state's debt manager and executive director of the Alaska Municipal Bond Bank Authority when Gov. Mike Dunleavy appointed him to be the acting Department of Revenue commissioner.

Mitchell is poised to replace Angela Rodell, who was fired by the board last year. An Anchorage law firm hired by a legislative committee to investigate the firing released its final report last week, finding that the board used a "deficient" performance evaluation process, but that a loss of confidence was reasonable enough to fire her and that there was no credible evidence that Dunleavy was involved.

A recruitment company whittled the list of applications for the CEO position to 10 finalists. The board's hiring committee picked its five finalists last month and conducted interviews to choose its top three candidates to go before the full board for public interviews and the final selection process.

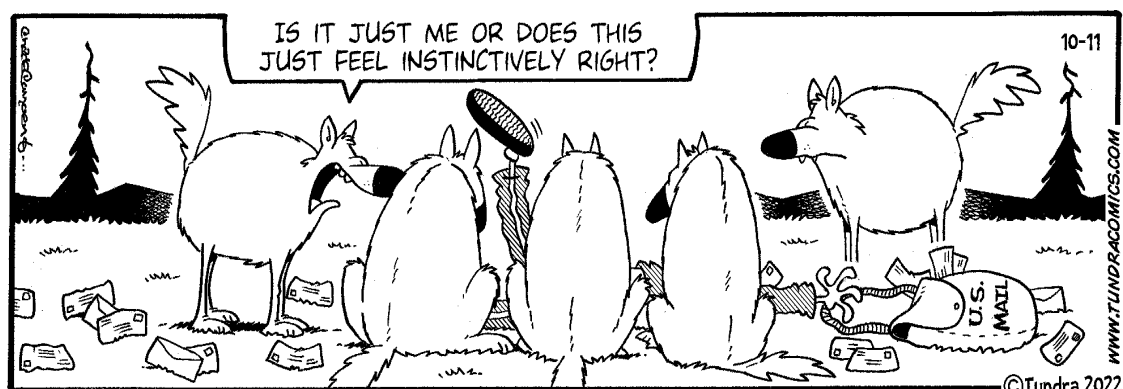
Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



Police report

- Monday, Oct. 3**
Parking complaint.
Agency assist: Alaska State Troopers.
Found property.
Traffic stop.
Curfew.
 - Tuesday, Oct. 4**
Criminal mischief.
Harassment.
Summons service.
Vehicle unlock.
Domestic violence: Paper service.
Dangerous play: Unfounded.
 - Wednesday, Oct. 5**
Agency assist: Pre-trial.
Citizen assist.
Agency assist: Harbor Department.
Trespassing.
Agency assist: Ambulance.
Disturbance.
 - Thursday, Oct. 6**
Welfare check.
 - Friday, Oct. 7**
Agency assist.
Harassment.
Noise disturbance: Barking dogs.
 - Saturday, Oct. 8**
Vacation check.
Dog complaint.
Traffic complaint.
 - Sunday, Oct. 9**
Agency assist: Line crew.
Agency assist: Harbor Department.
Traffic stop.
- There were two traffic stops with citations issued for failure to provide proof of insurance and five agency assists with the Hoonah Police Department during this reporting period.

John Tullis Sr.
passed away peacefully
surrounded by family
on September 28th in
Camas, Washington.
Obituary to follow at a later time.

ATTENTION SALMON FISHERS

The Board of Directors of the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc. seeks nominations for the following three (3) year seats:

- Seine - 1 Seat
- Gillnet - 1 Seat
- Power Troll - 2 Seats

Nominations must be in writing and include the permit holder's name, address, vessel name, phone number and a brief statement. Nominees must be "active" Southern Southeast Commercial Salmon permit holders. Permit holders should nominate person from their own gear groups.

SUBMIT NOMINATIONS TO:
SSRAA, 14 BORCH STREET
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA 99901
Or email: summerp@ssraa.org
For further information call (907) 225-9605
Deadline: 10/20/22

State reports 15th death this year of person in prison custody

By LISA PHU
Alaska Beacon

Prison reform advocates are calling on Gov. Mike Dunleavy's administration to order an independent review of the state Department of Corrections. The department recently reported its 15th death this year of a person in custody death.

William Hensley III, 34, died Oct. 2 at Goose Creek Correctional Center in Wasilla after a month in custody.

With this death, Corrections matches the highest number of in-custody deaths the department has seen in the past decade. In 2015, 15 people died in Corrections custody.

"These are people and they're dying at an alarming rate," said Angela Hall, founder of Supporting Our Loved Ones Group, which provides peer support for families of incarcerated people. "We're in the dark a lot of times about why these deaths are occurring."

Hall is also a member of the American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska's Prison Reform Action Network. Both Hall and the ACLU of Alaska want to see an independent review of the Department of

Corrections, similar to the administrative review then-Gov. Bill Walker requested in 2015, which found numerous problems contributing to deaths within the state's prisons and jails.

"You have to look at the system holistically because other conditions of confinement issues can lead to dangerous situations for incarcerated people and staff," said Megan Edge, communications director for the ACLU of Alaska and director of the ACLU of Alaska's Prison Project.

The ACLU of Alaska Prison Project, which launched last month, is developing a response plan.

"We are working with families whose loved ones have died in state prisons and jails and working to contact more. We are coordinating our efforts with other legal partners and community members. Together, we hope to find answers and develop meaningful solutions that put an end to the practices that have allowed 15 people, who were not sentenced to death, to die in the Alaska prison system," Edge said.

Dunleavy spokesperson Jeff Turner did not respond Oct. 4 when asked if the governor's office would consider conducting a review in response to the high

number of in-custody deaths.

While some deaths of people in incarceration is expected, Hall said what's been happening recently is different and concerning.

"It seems to be that a lot of these recent ones haven't been there very long and so we don't know what the cause is. It seems like there might be an issue with how people are being funneled into the jails and into the prisons, when they really probably need to be treated for health issues," she said.

Of the 15 deaths to occur in Corrections custody so far this year, several individuals have been in their 20s or 30s and died after only a short time in state care. Two deaths in August occurred after less than 24 hours.

From the time someone is initially arrested to when they're transferred to Corrections to being in Corrections care, Hall suspects there are issues that need to be addressed.

"We're not just supposed to ignore the fact that these folks may have some mental health issues or medical issues that need addressing, and not just stick them in a jail cell or a prison cell and ignore the fact that they may be really ill," she said.

Like several others to die in Corrections custody this year, Hensley was un-

tenced. He had been in custody since Sept. 1, according to the department's press release. About half the people in custody in Corrections facilities are unsentenced.

"This is really disturbing because these people haven't even been convicted and tried or sentenced for a crime, and here they are dying in custody," Hall said.

The Alaska State Troopers investigate every in-custody death and the State Medical Examiner's Office determines the cause. Citing confidentiality, Corrections does not release medical information.

In addition to the troopers, Corrections conducts its own confidential internal investigation "to determine the cause and circumstances surrounding the death as well as any related deficiencies in policies, procedures or practices," according to its death of prisoner policy and procedure.

Corrections remands close to 30,000 individuals each year, Betsy Holley, Alaska Department of Corrections public information officer, said in an email. "Many of whom enter our facilities with preexisting, and in some cases, very complicated medical, mental health and substance use related issues."

NOAA report sees opportunities and challenges for Alaska mariculture industry

By YERETH ROSEN
Alaska Beacon

Alaska has special opportunities for developing a thriving aquaculture industry, but also special challenges that stand in the way of such ambitions, according to a new strategic science plan issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The plan is intended to guide aquaculture-related research conducted over the next five years by NOAA's Alaska Fisheries Science Center.

The report focuses on "the development of shellfish and algae aquaculture, also known as mariculture." It adds, "This plan specifically includes shellfish (Pacific oysters, pinto abalone, king crab), other invertebrates (sea cucumber), and algae (kelp

and red algae)."

It considers ways that science can help achieve the ambitions championed by a state panel seeking to expand the industry. The Governor's Mariculture Task Force, established in 2016, set a goal of developing a \$100 million-per-year Alaska aquaculture industry within 20 years.

Doing so will require more research, public education and support for partnerships among government agencies, Indigenous communities, academia, in-

dustry and others, said NOAA's strategic plan. It identifies specific goals to accomplish those objectives.

There has been progress since NOAA issued the plan. A state-wide coalition of fisheries and economic development organizations, led by the Southeast Conference, last month won a \$49 million federal grant to help build up Alaska's mariculture industry.

The Alaska Mariculture Cluster, as the group calls it-

self, plans to set up a revolving loan fund for shellfish and seaweed production. The federal funding also will go toward job training programs, research and development, marketing, planning and tech-

nical support for green energy in the mariculture industry, and equipment and technology to help solve the challenges of building up hatchery and nursery capacity to create shellfish and seaweed seed.

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF JOB OPENING Harbor Maintenance/Security Harbor Department

The Wrangell Harbor Department will accept applications for the position of Harbor Maintenance/Security through Oct. 14, 2022, at 5 p.m. This is a permanent position with all City and Borough benefits and is part of the IBEW collective bargaining agreement.

The maintenance/security position is the first step of the multi-stage Harbor Department career path.

This position is primarily responsible for the operation, maintenance and inventory of all vessels utilizing the Harbor and Marine Service Center. Works independently or cooperatively with others under the daily direction and supervision of the Port director and Harbor lead. This position is a full-time hourly position with full benefits. Paid at Grade 13 with a pay range of \$19.30 to \$24.26. Employment is based on a successful background check and pre-employment drug screening.

A High School Diploma or GED is required. Must have a valid Alaska driver's license, valid TWIC card, and basic First Aid/CPR certification or the ability to obtain all within 6 months.

For a complete list of duties and responsibilities and job application may be obtained and returned to City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929.

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

Jeff Good, Borough Manager
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish Oct. 5 and 12, 2022

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE To Lease Borough-Owned Property

Notice is hereby given that an application has been received to lease Borough-owned property at the 6-Mile Deep Water Industrial Site (Old Mill Site), consisting of six acres, for the purpose of the continued effort for scrap metal recycling and barge dismantling.

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission and the Port Commission have reviewed this request and approved the request to move forward with the land lease.

Any person wishing to protest this application to lease the proposed Borough-owned property described as:

Six Acres at the 6-Mile Deep Water Industrial Site (Old Mill Site)

...must file a written protest with the Borough Clerk **no later than October 20, 2022, at 1 p.m.**

Written protests may be emailed to clerk@wrangell.com or delivered to 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, AK 99929. Any such protest shall state the reason(s) for the protest in detail.

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

Publish Oct. 5 and 12, 2022

CLASSIFIED

SHOES FOR SALE

New, never worn slip-on women's shoes. Both a brown and black pair available, both size 7.5, and comes with spray, \$40 obo. Lifts won't work on these shoes. Call Marline at 907-874-4414.

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.

BYNUM

State House

INVESTING IN PEOPLE

Our future depends on an education system that supports our community needs, strong vocational and trades focused programs should play a larger role. Let's work together to prepare our kids for Alaskan jobs.

PROTECTING OUR FISHERIES

Fishing has been an important part of Southern Southeast Alaska for as long as there have been people here. Protecting our fisheries and hatcheries will be one of my top priorities.

ENERGY IS OUR FUTURE

I have worked in energy and hydro-power generation for over twenty years. I understand that reliable and affordable electricity is vital for our growth. Renewable water-based energy is one of our most abundant natural resources. I will ensure Alaska continues investing in our communities and jobs through energy development.



Website:



Facebook:



Jeremy Bynum (907) 821-8683

Paid for by VOTE BYNUM P.O. Box 8683 Ketchikan, AK 99901

ALASKA VOTER ADVISORY

November 8 Statewide Election

The **NOVEMBER 8 GENERAL ELECTION** will use ranked choice voting.



THE NOVEMBER 8TH ELECTION WILL BE AN IN-PERSON ELECTION

with polling places open on election day 7am-8pm
elections.alaska.gov/election-polls

Absentee In-Person & Early Voting

begins October 24th. The list of locations is available at elections.alaska.gov/avo

RANKED CHOICE VOTING: HOW TO MARK YOUR BALLOT

Fill in only one oval per candidate, in each column.

You do not have to rank all the candidates, but it won't hurt your first choice candidate if you do.

State Senator District B					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Larry Doe (Registered Democrat)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mac Allen (Registered Republican)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Edna Mode (Undeclared)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tiffany Strait (Nonpartisan)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

MISTAKES TO AVOID

State Senator District B					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Larry Doe (Registered Democrat)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mac Allen (Registered Republican)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Edna Mode (Undeclared)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tiffany Strait (Nonpartisan)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you skip a ranking your next ranking moves up. Here, if your first choice candidate is eliminated, your third choice counts as your second choice and your fourth choice would count as your third choice.

State Senator District B					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Larry Doe (Registered Democrat)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mac Allen (Registered Republican)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Edna Mode (Undeclared)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tiffany Strait (Nonpartisan)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you give more than one candidate the same ranking, those rankings and later rankings will not count. Here, only your first choice counts.

State Senator District B					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Larry Doe (Registered Democrat)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mac Allen (Registered Republican)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Edna Mode (Undeclared)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tiffany Strait (Nonpartisan)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Your vote only counts once, even if you rank a candidate more than once. When a candidate is eliminated in a round, they are eliminated from all future rounds.

State Senator District B					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Larry Doe (Registered Democrat)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mac Allen (Registered Republican)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Edna Mode (Undeclared)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tiffany Strait (Nonpartisan)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you skip two or more rankings in a row only the rankings before the skipped rankings will count. Here, your first choice counts and the fourth choice would not count.

For more detailed information, sample ballots, and explainer videos, visit www.elections.alaska.gov/rcv.php.

