



Wrangell, Alaska  
September 21, 2022

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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## Borough works to reduce need for property taxes to repay bonds

By LARRY PERSILY  
Sentinel writer

Officials believe the borough can cover the entire annual debt payment on \$3.5 million in school maintenance bonds by taking advantage of strong sales tax revenues and higher federal aid payments — without turning to property taxes.

State lease payments for the community's jail and investment earnings from Wrangell's \$10 million permanent fund savings account could help reduce the tax cost of the other bond issue on the Oct. 4 municipal election ballot — \$8.5 million for rebuild and repair to the rot-damaged Public Safety Building — according to Mason Villarma, borough finance director.

Assuming the numbers work out as planned, the Public Safety Building bonds would cost an estimated \$224 a year in property taxes on a \$200,000 home, according to calculations prepared by City Hall for the ballot question.

Actual property tax bills each year depend on several factors: A property's assessed valuation, the borough assembly-approved annual spending plan, other revenues coming into the borough's general fund checkbook, and the property tax rate adopted by the assembly.

Voters may approve one, both or neither of the bond issues on the ballot.

Sales tax revenues are at an all-time high for the borough, providing additional funds that could go toward repaying the school repair bonds without touching property taxes, Villarma said.

For the fiscal year that ended June 30, the borough collected \$3.53 million in sales tax receipts, more than \$900,000 ahead of the conservative budget estimate of a year ago. Sales tax revenues have increased each year since 2017, particularly in the past couple of years as people had a lot of federal pandemic relief money to spend and as inflation drove up prices for goods and services.

In addition, the borough can use federal money to help repay the school bonds, Villarma said. Wrangell this year received substantially more money than last year from a federal program that compensates municipalities for untaxed land. In Wrangell's case, that was \$1.171 million this year under the Secure Rural Schools program, a big jump from \$796,000 the previous year for tax-exempt federal land in the Tongass National Forest.

Most of the federal money goes to the school district each

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## Remembering royalty

Retired teacher recalls lunch with Queen Elizabeth II

By MARC LUTZ  
Sentinel editor

A nine-course lunch in 1965 left an indelible mark on the memory of a young teacher from Denver.

Queen Elizabeth II died on Sept. 8 at the age of 96, but she left an historical legacy that included a meal with Jacquie Dozier. Though it was just an afternoon in the 70-year reign of Britain's monarch, it profoundly affected Dozier and created a memory to last her lifetime.

Dozier, now retired and living in Wrangell, began her teaching career at the age of 19. She was born in Michigan, made her way to Illinois for a time, and moved to the Denver area when she married her first husband, John Halbert. She taught in Colorado long enough to teach the children of the children she first taught.

During her time in Denver, she was selected to be a part of a teacher exchange program, taking 18 educators from across the United States to teach for a year in the United Kingdom. In exchange, 18 teachers in the U.K. came to the U.S. to teach.

Dozier, then in her late 20s, was assigned to teach in a school on the Isle of Wight, located on the southern edge of Britain in the English Chan-



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Jacquie Dozier looks over the journal entry about her time in 1965 as an exchange teacher in Britain. Dozier and the other teachers from the U.S. in the exchange program went to Buckingham Palace in London to have lunch with Queen Elizabeth II and the Queen Mother.

nel. The headmaster, Mr. Taylor, vehemently protested an American teacher being assigned to his school, she said.

Despite Taylor's protestations, Dozier was assigned to his school that had a faculty of six teachers, four of which were women. When Dozier found out she and the other 17 teachers from America would be having lunch with the queen, her British colleagues became very excited. That excitement increased when it was revealed that Dozier had

the special honor of presenting Queen Elizabeth II with a bouquet of flowers.

"Consequently ... I was being taught how to curtsy, how to properly bow down and give the flowers to the queen," Dozier said. "They were so pleased and so excited that this was happening."

When the day came to have lunch with the queen and Elizabeth Angela Marguerite Bowes-Lyon — better known as Queen Mother — Dozier remembers being in awe of Buck-

ingham Palace and feeling the weight of the history behind it.

"We were taken through the gardens and escorted into the palace to meet the queen. We were escorted past the guards (Beefeaters). All of this was most impressive. It isn't a new palace, so it's very historical but very beautiful. It had a lot of armor along the walls as you go in."

The teachers were escorted into the dining room to a long table, with nameplates placed

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## Wrangell without ferry service the last three weeks in January

Sentinel staff

Wrangell will be without ferry service from Jan. 10 to Feb. 3 under the fall/winter schedule released by the Alaska Marine Highway System last week.

The rest of the seven months covered by the schedule includes a weekly stop in each direction in Wrangell, with the bonus of a second northbound and southbound sailing one week a month when the ferry travels only as far south as Prince Rupert, British Columbia, instead of the longer round-trip voyage to Bellingham, Washington.

The three-week break in service to Wrangell in January is scheduled as the Kennicott goes into winter overhaul and the Matanuska comes back to work after its winter shipyard work.

"Initially, the department intended to bring the Columbia back into service to cover service gaps during overhauls, but it has decided the most dependable option will be the continued utilization of the Kennicott and the Matanuska throughout the winter months," the ferry system said in its schedule announcement

on Sept. 14.

The Columbia has been out of service for three years for overhaul work, to save money and, most recently, when the state was unable to hire enough crew to staff the vessel for service during the busy summer season.

The ferry system is continuing its service to Prince Rupert one week a month from October through April after restarting the popular route this summer. Service to the Canadian port city was suspended in 2019 due to Canadian and U.S. customs issues, requiring a new security protocol at the ferry terminal.

Travelers can go online to dot.alaska.gov/amhs to make reservations through April.

The state made several changes to the fall/winter schedule, based on public comments received on the draft released last month. Even with the changes, however, some communities still will have stretches without service, such as Kodiak, which will go without a ferry for most of January and all of February.

Haines and Skagway will be without ferry service for four

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## Court says Metlakatla tribe can fish outside reserve boundaries

By ERIC STONE  
KRBD, Ketchikan

A federal appeals court has ruled that Metlakatla tribal members shouldn't need state permits to fish in waters they've traditionally relied on — even outside their reservation's boundaries. The decision is a major victory in the tribe's decades-long fight for fishing rights.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals' 28-page opinion on Sept. 8 is broad and unambiguous: The 1891 law that created Metlakatla's reservation gives tribal members the right to fish in areas near Ketchikan and Prince of Wales Island, outside the boundaries of the Annette Islands Reserve.

"We hold that the 1891 Act reserves for the Metlakatlan Indian Community an implied right to non-exclusive off-reservation fishing in the areas where they have fished since time immemorial and where they continued to fish in 1891 when their reservation was established," wrote Senior U.S. Circuit Judge William Fletcher.

Metlakatla Mayor Albert Smith called the decision in the lawsuit against the state "a very well-reasoned and strongly worded opinion."

"Today is an important day

for the community," Smith said in a statement. "It is the right we all knew existed but a right that we unfortunately have had to fight to protect. With this opinion, we are an important step closer to preserving this right for our future generations."

The ancestors of Metlakatla's Tsimshian people relocated from their former home in British Columbia in the late 19th century at the invitation of the U.S. government. In 1891, Congress passed a 101-word statute creating the Annette Islands Reserve "for the use of the Metlakatla Indians."

That law doesn't specifically mention fishing rights. But the tribe argued in its 2020 lawsuit that Congress intended the Annette Islands to be a permanent, self-sustaining home for the tribe — and that that wasn't possible without the ability to fish outside the reservation's marine boundaries.

They pointed to past court precedents and 19th-century historical records of Metlakatla residents fishing in places like Naha Bay near Ketchikan and Karta Bay near Prince of Wales Island.

U.S. District Court Judge John Sedwick sided with the state of Alaska and dismissed

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## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Wednesday, Sept. 21:** Terry Bunes, Keely Good, Adam Messmer, Jason Rak.

**Thursday, Sept. 22:** Lorne Cook, Terri Henson, Braidyn Daiva Young; Anniversary: Terry and Janet Bunes.

**Friday, Sept. 23:** None.

**Saturday, Sept. 24:** Barbara Angerman, Ken Hazelton.

**Sunday, Sept. 25:** Roberta Floyd, Lanny Hamley, Kendra Hazelton, Daniel Kirschner, Lisa Nikodym, Mariah Speers, Riley Walls, Hadley Mae Wiederspohn.

**Monday, Sept. 26:** Calen Young.

**Tuesday, Sept. 27:** Morgan Petticrew, Kristin Schwerin; Anniversaries: Willie and Deveril Bloom; Josh and Tosha Toombs, Darren and Emily Wickman.

**Wednesday, Sept. 28:** Michael Brock, Sue Brown, Patrick Mayer, Allen Rooney; Anniversaries: Wayne and Kathleen Harding, Jake and Rachel Harris.

## Senior Center Menu

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

**Thursday, Sept. 22**

Liver and onions, tomatoes Rockefeller, creamy coleslaw, buttermilk rolls

**Friday, Sept. 23**

Baked chicken, peas and carrots, tossed salad, cornbread

**Monday, Sept. 26**

Pork chop suey with rice, spinach salad with mandarin oranges

**Tuesday, Sept. 27**

BBQ beef on a bun, mixed vegetables, potato salad

**Wednesday, Sept. 28**

Clam chowder, tomato turkey and cheese sandwich, honey mustard coleslaw

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

**Friday, Sept. 23**  
Matanuska, 6 p.m.  
**Friday, Oct. 7**  
Kennicott, 7:45 p.m.  
**Wednesday, Oct. 12**  
Kennicott, 12:01 a.m.  
**Saturday, Oct. 15**  
Kennicott, 2:30 a.m.

### Southbound

**Monday, Sept. 26**  
Matanuska, 7:45 a.m.  
**Monday, Oct. 10**  
Kennicott, 7 a.m.  
**Friday, Oct. 14**  
Kennicott, 9:30 a.m.  
**Sunday, Oct. 16**  
Kennicott, 11:30 p.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
Sept. 22	12:04	14.1	11:54	15.2
Sept. 23	....	...	12:37	15.1
Sept. 24	00:34	16.0	01:08	15.9
Sept. 25	01:10	16.5	01:36	16.6
Sept. 26	01:45	16.6	02:03	17.0
Sept. 27	02:19	16.5	02:30	17.3
Sept. 28	02:54	16.1	02:58	17.3
			AM	PM
			Time	Ft
			05:40	1.1
			05:51	3.9
			06:15	0.3
			06:26	2.6
			06:45	-0.3
			06:59	1.4
			07:14	-0.5
			07:30	0.4
			07:42	-0.5
			08:01	-0.5
			08:11	-0.1
			08:34	-0.1
			08:41	0.6
			09:10	-1.2

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

**WRANGELL MARINERS' MEMORIAL** will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 6:15 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, to celebrate completion of the first round of mounting memorial plaques at the site.

**WRANGELL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE** 2023 community birthday scholarship calendar fundraiser is underway. \$5 per listing for an anniversary, birthday or an in-memory-of listing. All proceeds go to scholarships for Wrangell High School graduates. Deadline for listings is Oct. 3. Call 907-874-3901.

**PARKS and RECREATION** youth basketball registration is now open. Season begins on Sept. 26 for grades K-1, second and third, and fourth and fifth and will be held in the community center gym. Weeknight practices and games. Register online at [www.wrangellrec.com](http://www.wrangellrec.com) or call 907-874-2444.

**STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY**, 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays starting Oct. 7. 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.

**NOLAN CENTER THEATER** "Spider-Man: No Way Home," (re-release), rated PG-13, at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 4 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children under age 12, for the action adventure fantasy film that runs two hours and 48 minutes. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

**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](http://www.wrangellrec.com) or call 907-874-2444.

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

## Continuing Events

**PARKS and RECREATION** [www.wrangellrec.com](http://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

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

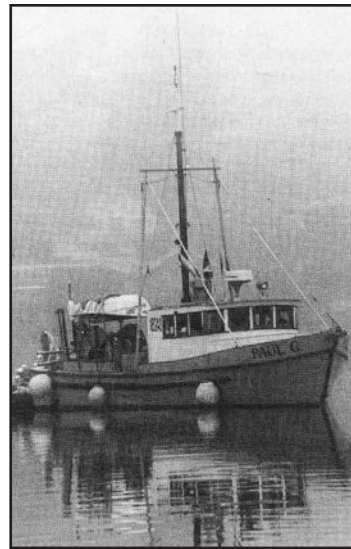
## The Way We Were In the Sentinel 100, 75, 50 and 25 years ago.

**Sept. 21, 1922**

The Wrangell Parent-Teacher Association held its first meeting for the school year last Thursday night. There was a good attendance. Several matters pertaining to the welfare of the school were discussed. Two musical numbers by an orchestra comprised wholly of members of the W.L. Gross family were greatly appreciated. Charles W. Hawkesworth, superintendent for the Bureau of Education for Southeast Alaska, was present, and upon invitation made a short talk which was full of helpful remarks. Mrs. M. O. Johnson read an excellent article dealing with parents' responsibilities. At the close of the business session the association held a reception for the teachers, and a social hour was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. Refreshments were served by the social committee.

**Sept. 19, 1947**

Two moose were brought in so far this week from the Stikine



**SENTINEL FILE PHOTO**

In this Sept. 18, 1997, photo, Lee Bouma's Paul G. was tied up to the workfloat in the middle of Reliance Harbor for repairs to its gillnet.

by lucky hunters. Both animals were large, weighing well over 1,000 pounds. The first part of the week Al McKibbin brought in the first one and yesterday Frank Miller and Mrs. Miller arrived in town with the second. The Millers were on the river only a day to get their prize. Mr. Miller said it was a prime animal, shot at Paradise Lake. They got a five-gallon can of fat from the animal. Anyways, there are two families in Wrangell whose winter meat problems are practically solved.

**Sept. 22, 1972**

Funds to help Wrangell build a community swimming pool will be sought by the Southeast Alaska Community Action Program, according to members

of a citizen group seeking the facility. Mrs. Kay Prescott, acting chairman of the group, said she was encouraged by the response of more than 35 persons who showed up for a swimming pool meeting Sunday night at St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Petersburg City Manager John Bowers addressed the session, reviewing Petersburg's efforts which resulted in opening there last year of an Olympic-size indoor pool built of aluminum. Bowers said the Petersburg facility cost just over half a million dollars and was financed by \$202,000 in general obligation bonds payable over 18 years, city and school contributions and pledged sales tax revenues. "If you could come and see what use our pool is getting, you'd be amazed," Bowers said. He said the pool gets heavy use from the public and also is being utilized by the schools for training and competition programs.

**Sept. 18, 1997**

As the incense began to rise, and the Russian words of the Lord's Prayer were heard, tears welled up as the first Russian Christian Orthodox service in over 50 years began Sunday morning in St. Rose of Lima Church. Father Eugene Bordukosfsky, Archpriest from Sitka, wearing the traditional Orthodox robe, officiated the ceremonies. Several of those attending had been baptized into the Orthodox faith over 75 years ago in their birthplace, the Pribilof and Aleutian Islands. The Bourdukosfskys live in Sitka where he also officiates the services in St. Michael's Church and presides as Dean of the Orthodox Church in Southeast.

## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Hours
Sept. 21	6:33a	6:50p	12:50h
Sept. 22	6:35a	6:47p	12:45h
Sept. 23	6:37a	6:45p	12:40h
Sept. 24	6:39a	6:42p	12:36h
Sept. 25	6:41a	6:39p	12:31h
Sept. 26	6:43a	6:37p	12:26h
Sept. 27	6:45a	6:34p	12:22h



# Program combines physical fitness and cultural values

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

Exuberant shouts resounded in the Evergreen Elementary gym last Thursday night as a group of nine young runners, between the third and fifth grades, bounded into the room for another session of I Toowú Klatseen, a running program for youth that combines athletic activity with Tlingit language learning and cultural education.

The group settled into a circle to learn about the Tlingit subsistence lifestyle, healthy foods and the importance of having respect for the plants and animals we eat. Kim Wickman, a program volunteer, instructed the students to avoid waste by harvesting only what they need. When picking blueberries, she told them, remember to leave "one for the bear, one for the crow, and take one for me." Then, the group warmed up for an evening of running and games.

The program's name translates to "Strengthen Your Spirit," and its curriculum is intended to foster both physical endurance and inner strength. Participants meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays each week as they learn lessons, engage in discussion, and train for a 5k fun run.

Wickman, an IGAP technician at the

Wrangell Cooperative Association, teaches the curriculum, Marc Lutz, editor of the Wrangell Sentinel, handles the athletic activities, and Virginia Oliver, Tlingit language teacher and culture bearer, brings her knowledge and Tlingit fluency to the program. All of the coaches and educators are volunteers.

When the 10-week program kicked off in Juneau and Sitka 2014, it was geared specifically toward boys, aiming to promote nonviolence, provide positive male role models, and teach Southeast Alaska tribal values. Founders saw it as "a means of domestic violence prevention," explained Maleah Nore, an adverse childhood experiences specialist who was instrumental in implementing the program in Wrangell.

However, as the program has expanded to communities across Southeast, its focus has shifted to include all children. "Any child could benefit from the connection to community, resilience, culture and place," said Nore. "It doesn't have to go by gender."

The same philosophy applies to children's cultural backgrounds. While the program teaches Southeast Alaska Native values and Tlingit language, Native and non-Native kids participate in its les-

sons and activities together. "Land and people go together, and we are on Native land," said Nore. "You don't have to be Native to benefit from that knowledge."

The program's design allows every child to share their unique cultural values. In one I Toowú Klatseen activity, participants bring an object from their home to present to the group. For Native kids, Nore explained, that object might be a drum, but for others, the object could be representative of Russian or Finnish heritage.

Wickman appreciates how I Toowú Klatseen offers a variety of activities that cater to different children's strengths and interests. "Some of our runners are very strong when they pack firewood or handle their little brother," she explained, "while others are very strong when they're creative, when they use their brains for artwork or stories that they're telling." The program's definition of "strength" values both sets of skills equally.

Nore also sees a tie between the physical and intellectual strengths the program fosters.

Nore hopes that the program will continue in Wrangell, though no definite plans have been made for next year. This

year's program will last for eight more weeks. I Toowú Klatseen participants and their parents have opted into an evaluation that will collect data on the program's effectiveness. The evaluation seeks to determine whether kids feel more connected to their communities after participating in I Toowú Klatseen, whether the program has connected them with trusted adults they can turn to, and whether their views on the meaning of strength have changed.

Nore hopes that the data collected from the evaluation will help secure more funding for the program, which could be used in the future to pay coaches. In Wrangell, I Toowú Klatseen was funded by the Wrangell Cooperative Association.

As the program neared its close last Thursday evening, the runners were engrossed as Virginia Oliver told the story of the skilled Tlingit carver and hunter Natsilane. Abandoned by his devious brothers in law, Natsilane discovers an underwater sea lion village, then struggles to get back home to his wife.

Does Natsilane ever make it back to his village, asked Dima Aleksieva.

You'll have to wait until next week to find out, Oliver responded.

## Otter attacks swimmer in Sitka, biting at his feet

By GARLAND KENNEDY  
Sitka Sentinel

As he neared the end of an ocean swim just south of Sitka earlier this month, Dean Orbison felt a pain in his foot and thought he'd kicked a rock. But when the pain recurred, he stopped to look around and was startled by what he saw. A river otter was in hot pursuit and biting at his feet.

"I was about 50 yards from the boat on my way back and I felt something bite at my foot and I turned around and thought, 'That was weird.' But I didn't see anything. I thought I must have just kicked a rock, because I was in a really shallow rocky place. ... I swam two more strokes and then I got another bite and I thought, 'Ow, that's a bite. Something's biting me,'" Orbison remembered.

"And so I swam a little faster. And the third bite grabbed my foot enough where I kicked to throw it off my foot. And when I kicked it up into the air, I could see, 'Jeez, that's an otter!'"

Orbison, of Sitka, is an experienced open water swimmer, and had taken advantage of Friday's good weather to motor across Sitka Sound to swim in Leesoffskaja Bay. Then the otter attacked.

"All the time this was going on I was screaming at it, and then I swam more to get to the boat and he bit me a fourth time," Orbison said. "A boat that was in the bay there heard me screaming and so they came by to see what was going on and that, I think, scared the otter away."

In all his years in the water,

Orbison had never had an issue with otters or sea lions, but suspects that this time he swam too close to the animal's den.

"The otter situation was surprising to me. I figured that, you know, an otter would be curious, but I didn't think anything would ever attack me. But this otter genuinely attacked me."

He figures that he "likely swam right next to the otter den and it was a mother and she said, 'I'm going to protect my young,' and so she attacked me. That's all I can figure that happened there. And so in the future, I just won't swim quite so close to shore."

After the incident, he climbed back aboard his boat and initially believed the animal had done no damage. That changed when he took his wetsuit booties off and found them full of blood.

"When I got back to town, I thought I really ought to go get this checked out because I might have rabies or something," he said. As a precaution he was started on the rabies vaccine, which is a series of shots over 14 days.

Orbison said he is not worried about future otter attacks.

"It's really rare and I'm not at all concerned about it ever happening again," he said. "The solution is not to not swim, but don't go quite so close to shore. I mean, I was right on the shore. And I was in really shallow rocks."

He said it hurt to walk in the days just after the otter bites, but he's recovering well and expects to swim again soon.

"I know the spot, and so I'm going to go back and see if I can trap it this winter," Orbison said.

## Hunter bags first moose after trying 15 years

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

Last Thursday afternoon, Tanner Thomassen, 27, shot Wrangell's first moose of the season on Andrew Island in the Stikine River. The moose is also Thomassen's first — he has been trying to bag one since the fifth grade, and after 15 years of effort, he was finally in the right place at the right time.

"I was in a tree and I saw a calf," he said. "I thought that was all there was, so we were ready to crawl down the tree and go down to another spot." Thankfully for Thomassen, he stayed put long enough to see some bushes rustling and an antler emerge. He grunted at the moose to get it to turn, and inspected its antlers to ensure that the shot was legal. "I knew it was right then or he was going to turn his head and I was never going to see him again."

Thomassen's dad, Steve, and his son, Wyatt, were also part of the hunting party. Steve Thomassen recalled his son saying that the shot was pure reflex and that he "didn't even feel (himself) pull the trigger."

It took about six hours for the family to get the moose back to their house. They used a chainsaw winch to drag the animal approximately 2,000 yards to their boat for the run back to town.

Thomassen is relieved that he successfully completed his moose hunt. "Now we can enjoy the rest of the season and go trout fishing," he said. "We were going to do that anyway, but there's a lot less pressure now."



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Tanner Thomassen bagged the first moose of the season, hauling it out of his boat at Reliance Harbor last Friday. His son, Wyatt, joined him in the hunting party.



## 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**

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

# They love their phones far too much

By LARRY PERSILY  
Publisher

I promise, this will be the first and only column I write that makes fun of how people behave in Washington, D.C.

Well, maybe I'll write another one someday if I see something that is so silly it's worth sharing with readers. OK, I guess then it's pretty likely there will be another, but I absolutely, positively promise this will be the last one that laughs at people and their addiction to so-called smartphones.

I don't know why we call them smartphones when they make people act so dumb.

I arrived in Washington, D.C., last week to start my new job as a staffer for Alaska's member of the U.S. House, Rep. Mary Peltola. As I got off the plane and walked through the airport terminal, I remembered the moment

when I arrived here 15 years ago to start work in the Alaska governor's office in Washington.

I had stepped into the airport restroom and was startled, no, actually amazed, to see some guy standing at the urinal, with one hand steadying his aim and the other hand holding a phone to his ear, carrying on a conversation while he carried on his other business.

I thought, maybe this isn't how people really behave here. Maybe this guy was a fluke of nature as he was answering nature's call.

Later, in a meeting with state officials, I related my airport restroom story. An Alaska department commissioner quickly said, "Oh, I do that all the time. In fact," he said, looking across the table at a female state official, "I've done that on calls with you."

She said she didn't want to know any more

and would try to get the bathroom image out of her head.

I relate this story as a build-up to what I saw in my first week on the new job, walking the halls of the U.S. House office buildings. No, no one standing at the urinal while on a phone call, but it seemed everyone in the halls, on the stairs and escalators, heading into the food court, had a phone to their ear, or bud things in their ears, or thumbs frantically texting. At least it seemed a frantic blur to me.

I used to worry about drivers on the phone, distracted as they had their mind somewhere else. But now, I can see I should be more worried about masses of people walking around in oblivion, texting on the phone, staring at the screen, thumbing away at the keys, unaware or unconcerned that they are about to run over a pedestrian.

All the while holding hot coffee in their other hand.

At least new cars have radar or some other system that beeps and flashes when the driver is about to drift into another lane or pull too close to the car ahead. Congressional staffers have no electronic proximity detection system that I can see, no side mirrors, no video cameras feeding images into their phone as they walk.

They just walk and talk and text at the same time, as if everyone else is supposed to see the hazard and get out of the way. I worry about those cups of hot coffee.

My advice: Don't stand next to a guy talking on his phone at the urinal — he may be distracted and miss. And steer away from people who walk and text, especially the ones carrying coffee. Either way, you could get wet.

"I used to worry about drivers on the phone, distracted as they had their mind somewhere else."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Vote no on bond issues, use borough staff to start repairs

At the current time, I am opposed to the bond measures and associated tax increase that are on the municipal election ballot.

We could and should spend at least a year applying our current workforce to doing maintenance and repair to see what we can accomplish out of pocket. There is a lot we can do to improve our infrastructure without great expense or obligation (bonds). We can look at bonding for additional work at a later date, while improving the quality of life for our community immediately.

We need to ask: Do we really want to increase a tax, expense or fee for services at this time? Do we really want to put further financial burden or indebtedness on our citizens and businesses now.

Our industries and citizens in town are already burdened with inflation, the rising cost of materials, increased cost of shipping, rising cost of water and electrical services, insurance costs going up, fuel costs going up, stores (groceries) up 10% to 20%, moorage, dockside utilities increases — and some of us are still recovering from COVID-19 restrictions and financial losses. We're trying to put our businesses back on track.

In short, everything but wages and resource prices are up. Again, ask yourself, do we really need to add more expense to our businesses and citizens?

I read in our local paper in the past two weeks that our leadership is proposing a possible property tax increase to repay the general obligation bonds. Separately, the paper reported the borough is planning to reassess properties in town, which could increase property taxes. I don't believe we should do that to our citizens and businesses at this time. I personally know of properties that have increased in value between 33% and 400%. I can assure you they are not looking forward to still more property taxes increases.

Here's one suggestion we could do now. We could pay out of pocket to have our crews remove the black mold from our schools and municipal buildings.

I am sure everyone in town has watched it grow for the past five years. Black mold is not healthy to live with. Even the strain at the bottom of toxicity aggravates allergy and respiratory problems. The strain with elevated toxicity can affect neurological function in youthful brains. Simply by pressure-washing with fungicide and painting we could better the environment we live in and protect our students better.

Repairing the exteriors will also have the added advantage of getting a better look at what needs to be done and making a safer environment for our students and citizens at the same time. We can revisit borrowing

for more major repairs at a later date — but start now.

In closing, I am opposed to the bond issues on the municipal election ballot.

Let's not panic, as leadership tends to do here. We need to get up and be self-sufficient as we can. Get Wrangell back to work and support our local businesses.

Mike Lockabey

### Democrats ignore reality in statements about change

In his letter to the editor of Sept. 14, John Morse alleges former President Donald Trump is a fascist dictator whose attempted "installation" by MAGA culprits fortunately failed Jan. 6, 2021. Morse also thinks MAGA does not make sense because "America is still great." If that is the case, why have top Democrats starting with former President Barack Obama insisted that America must fundamentally change? Change to what? G. Orwell's utopia "1984" where contradictory statements like "war is peace, freedom is slavery and ignorance is strength" are the norm?

It seems to me the past two years that U.S. Democratic party policy is more like following Orwell's 1984 script instead of the U.S. constitution and democracy. Only that would explain why Vice President Kamala Harris, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas and others can declare our southern border safe and closed while the

EDITORIAL

## Vote yes on mill property

Wrangell should vote yes on Oct. 4, giving the borough permission to sell or lease the former 6-Mile sawmill property — if a private developer steps forward.

This isn't a final vote on a development plan, and any sale or lease would require borough assembly approval, a public hearing and a lot of public information. This is a let's-be-prepared vote to save time in case the borough receives an offer. It would allow borough officials to negotiate a sale or lease and present it to the assembly for a public hearing and consideration without having to wait for the next election.

The borough purchased the waterfront property in June for \$2.5 million, looking to preserve the parcel intact and hoping to attract private investment and economic development for the community. The intent is to recoup the borough's investment, get the property back on the tax rolls as soon as possible, and create jobs. To do that, the borough needs voter permission.

There is no cost to residents of voting yes on the ballot measure. The cost could be a lost opportunity if the borough has to hold on to the property any longer than needed.

## Good move on ferry pricing

The Sentinel often criticizes state ferry system management for bad decisions. But now it's time to praise them for a good decision.

Dropping the "dynamic pricing" structure for ferry service this fall and winter, October through April, is the right thing to do. There was nothing dynamically well-liked about the 3-year-old pricing system that added a surcharge of 5% to 50% on passenger, vehicle and stateroom ticket prices on popular sailings.

The state was trying to run the ferry system like an airline, charging more as the ships fill up. Unlike an airline, which offers multiple flights a week and travelers can book the lowest fares, the ferry system serves many smaller communities, such as Wrangell, just once a week, limiting the options for travelers looking for a cheaper sailing.

Acknowledging that the fall/winter schedule, which takes effect Oct. 1, was late in arriving, and also acknowledging that its service has fallen short of dependable in recent years, the Alaska Marine Highway System decided to drop the pricing surcharge for now.

Ferry officials said dynamic pricing can work when travelers are able to plan ahead, but conceding it's unreasonable to add that steep surcharge while not providing reliable service and with just two weeks notice of the fall schedule.

Good for them to see the problem and put the fare surcharge aside. It was a dynamic stinker that overburdened Alaskans just for the sake of boosting revenues from travelers with few options.

— Wrangell Sentinel

U.S. Border Patrol reports a record number of encounters with people entering the U.S. illegally on the U.S.-Mexico border in fiscal year 2022, averaging about 200,000 a month. Or President Joe Biden saying that we experienced zero inflation in July, while our grocery prices grow in front of our eyes.

To quote Orwell: "Every record has been destroyed or falsified, every book rewritten, every picture has been repainted, every statue and street building has been renamed, every date has been altered. And the process is continuing day by day and minute by minute. History has stopped. Nothing exists except an endless present in which the Party is always right."

Ivan Simonek

## THANK YOU

### Sharing Our Knowledge conference was a success with the community's help

The members of the Sharing Our Knowledge organizing committee extend our gratitude to all those in Wrangell who helped us in the production of a conference that exceeded our fondest hopes.

This was the 11th Sharing Our Knowledge conference since 1993, which we have endeavored since 2007 to hold every two years.

In Wrangell, beginning Wednesday, Sept. 7, with the "Warming of the Hands" ceremony of welcome at Chief Shakes House and concluding on Sunday, Sept. 11, with a visit to Anan Creek, roughly 250 people participated as audience or presenters, all sharing their

knowledge of the indigenous cultures of Southeast Alaska.

We had doubts that accommodations could be found for all who traveled from out of town, but Wrangell rose to the occasion. We have heard only praise for the community, and the common sentiment that our conference in Wrangell was the best any of us had attended: ever, anywhere.

Thank you to the Wrangell Cooperative Association and the community of Wrangell for the warm welcome we all received.

The Organizing Committee  
Linda Belarde, Cindy DeWitt,  
Joaquin Estus, Sergei Kan,  
Brooke Leslie, Peter Metcalfe,  
Alfie Price, Virginia Oliver,  
Bob Sam, Barbara Searls,  
Mathew Spellberg, Alice Taff

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# Bonds repayment

Continued from page 1

year as the borough's contribution to the operating budget, but some could go toward repaying the bonds, too, Villarma said.

The nationwide municipal aid program has been around for several decades, growing out of logging battles in Oregon in the 1980s, as a way to help communities cope with the economic loss of timber industry closures.

While seeking voter approval to borrow \$3.5 million toward repairs at all three schools, the borough and the school district also will request \$6.5 million in state funding to complete the long list of needed repairs, explained Tammy Stromberg, the district's business manager.

The district is hopeful it can get a priority listing on the Alaska Department

of Education's annual ranking of school maintenance projects statewide. The department submits its list for legislative funding each year, and the higher the ranking the better the odds of making the cutoff for that year's state dollars.

But even a high ranking does not guarantee funding. Gov. Mike Dunleavy vetoed two-thirds of the funding appropriated by the Legislature for this year, leaving those districts that lost out to try again next year.

Wrangell's school buildings are three and four decades old, and need new siding, roofs, windows and boilers, ventilation system improvements and more, Stromberg said.

"It's going to cost money eventually," she said. "It's one of those pay now or pay more later."

Villarma estimates the borough would have to pay about 4% interest on the bonds, working out to a debt service payment of \$258,000 a year for 20 years to be covered as part of the municipal budget.

The bonds for "major renovation of the high school, middle school and elementary school will not require an increase to calendar year 2023 property taxes," the ballot measure says.

"Interest rates like this won't come back for a long time," Stromberg said, referencing higher borrowing costs in the years ahead as the Federal Reserve raises rates to slow down inflation.

Wrangell paid off its last school bonds more than three years ago, leaving the borough clear of debt.

It's been 16 years since Wrangell embarked on a major maintenance program

for its school buildings, Stromberg said. During that time, the district has tried to piecemeal the work.

The Public Safety Building, also more than three decades old, needs a lot of the same work as the schools — roof, siding, windows, heating and ventilation system and other improvements to the structure that suffers from water damage and rot.

The borough's financial plan is to cover most of the debt service on the bonds by taking advantage of significantly higher lease payments by the state for the jail at the Public Safety Building, Villarma said, and using more of the investment earnings from Wrangell's \$10 million permanent fund savings account.

In addition, the borough would continue looking for state and federal grant funds to help pay for the work, he said.

# Queen's lunch

Continued from page 1

where each would sit. Dozier was in a place of honor just to the left of the queen, who sat at the head of the table. Next to Dozier was Queen Mother, who had visited Denver many years before and loved Colorado.

As Dozier and her colleagues waited for the royalty to arrive, they stood at the table, with servants dressed in black coattails standing behind their seats. The queen and her mother entered shortly after.

Dozier recalls the queen being "very regal and very dignified, very gracious."

At the time, the queen was 39 years old, still somewhat young in her reign. Dozier had no idea at the time she would become the longest reigning monarch in Britain's history.

The queen welcomed the teachers, saying she hoped their year in her domain would be a

most pleasant one.

"There was a prayer said and I presented the flowers to the queen," Dozier said. Then, she recalled with a chuckle, "I did somewhat lose my balance curtsying to the queen. I would have been ashamed for my ladies who worked so hard for me. That shows you the honor they had for the queen. But (the queen) did help hold my arm, just sort of reached under the flowers and held onto my arm and steadied me until I regained my balance. Nobody realized that but me. I realized that this probably happened to her quite often and she was aware and ready."

The queen indicated the guests could take their seats. The servants pushed their chairs in as they sat. Both the queen and her mother were delighted that Dozier had been assigned to the Isle of Wight, considered to be a garden spot of Britain. Dozier and Queen Mother spoke for a

bit about Colorado and teaching until the next challenge arrived.

"Our silverware went as far as my arms could go in either direction," Dozier said. "I watched the queen for which service to pick up. I'm sure she knew this was happening ... because she would pick up the one from where it was and it was usually far down, and she would sort of hold it so we could see all the way down the table. The first (course) was a little fish. The little fork at the end of the line of silverware was the proper fork for that fish."

Dozier said Queen Mother "twinkled with laughter over the silverware" confusion. And she was impressed with Queen Elizabeth's considerate nature as she "was thinking of all of us and realizing that we Americans are not used to all of this."

As each of the nine courses were served, a different wine was poured with each course. The

glasses were filled as quickly as they were consumed. Soon, the meal ended and the queen stood to bid farewell to her departing guests, who were led back out.

"The whole affair was over before you could take it in," Dozier said. "It's one of those enormous experiences that I will certainly never forget."

Dozier does not have a television in her modest apartment on Bennett Street in Wrangell, and didn't hear of the queen's death when it was first broadcast. Instead, her daughter called her, knowing the news would affect her.

"She ended her reign in honor and recognition of the good she had done and in holding England together despite all of these things," Dozier said, becoming a little choked up. "Even all those things, like with Diana, she held her dignity and the people held their love for her."

In her time teaching on the

Isle of Wight, the queen's lunch was certainly memorable, but so too was an incident in which she had left the window open overnight in her classroom. She came to work the next morning to find her room filled with seagulls.

"Needless to say, I couldn't have my class come in, so I rushed all these seagulls everywhere I could to get them out the windows," Dozier said, chuckling at the memory. "Of course, seagulls leave messes. Finally, I got everything cleaned up and brought the class in, and went back and by my desk there was one large seagull egg."

Despite Taylor's bristling before Dozier arrived at his school, he had changed his mind about her as she readied to return to the U.S.

"And my headmaster, Mr. Taylor, who had not wanted me at all, told me as I left that I was welcome back anytime I could come," Dozier said.

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# Typhoon leaves behind extensive flooding in Western Alaska

Anchorage Daily News

The remnants of a massive Pacific typhoon that battered a thousand-mile stretch of Western Alaska dissipated Sunday morning, with floodwaters dropping and communities assessing damage from one of the worst storms on record.

The storm left a trail of wreckage across coastal Alaska, with flooding, telecommunications outages and damage to buildings and infrastructure including roads, docks, seawalls and village runways.

As of Monday morning, there were no reports of deaths, serious injuries or people missing, said National Weather Service meteorologist Kaitlyn Lardeo.

No additional communities reported damage on Monday, Lardeo said, and the storm was continuing to weaken. The weather system is what's left of what was Typhoon Merbok, which formed farther east in the Pacific Ocean than where such storms typically appear.

Parts of Kotzebue were flooded late Saturday and into Sunday morning, with residents of some low-lying parts of town sheltering elsewhere overnight. As of Sunday afternoon, there were no reports of evacuations in Kivalina and Deering, and "no other communities in the Northwest Arctic Borough have reported any major impacts," said Tessa Baldwin, Director of Public Safety at the Northwest Arctic Borough Department

of Public Safety.

Farther south, water levels dropped throughout Sunday in communities at the mouths of the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers, Norton Sound and the Seward Peninsula.

According to Gov. Mike Dunleavy five communities are known to be "severely damaged": Hooper Bay, Scammon Bay, Nome, Newtok and Golovin.

Even communities that did not get the worst of the impacts are contending with major problems in the days ahead. Unalakleet, Elim, Hooper Bay and Golovin are facing water issues. Hundreds of people sheltered at the school in Hooper Bay over the weekend, including residents of nearby Kotlik, according to public radio

station KYUK. Most of the fishing boats in Chevak are gone, according to reporting by KYUK and Alaska Public Media.

"There's a lot of impacts all across the region. We understand that there's damage to residences, that there's damage to infrastructure in many communities and the recovery process is going to be widespread," said Jeremy Zidek, spokesman for the state Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

One of the issues facing state emergency responders is that telecommunication coverage in some communities was inconsistent throughout Sunday, dropping out because of impacts to infrastructure or loss of local power sources.

# Researchers find 11,000-year-old fish weir off Prince of Wales Island

KINY radio, Juneau

A team of scientists exploring an underwater region of southern Southeast Alaska has discovered what might be the oldest stone fish weir ever found in the world.

The existence of the fish trap, which is thought to date to at least 11,100 years ago, was confirmed earlier this year by a group of university academics and Sunfish Inc., a robotics company specializing in undersea exploration and inspection.

The scientists, in partnership with Sealaska Heritage Institute, are using artificial intelligence to explore ancient, submerged caves in the region and

to seek evidence of early human occupation.

The age of the weir, which was found in Shakan Bay on the west side of Prince of Wales Island, pushes back Native occupation of the region by more than 1,000 years, said Rosita World, Sealaska Heritage Institute president, noting previous scientific studies have confirmed that Indigenous people lived in Southeast at least 10,000 years ago.

"It further substantiates the great antiquity of Native people in Southeast Alaska. It also demonstrates that Native people had acquired knowledge about salmon behavior and migrations, then developed the

technology to harvest a significant number of salmon," Worl said.

Stone weirs, or tidal fish traps, were typically low arched walls made of boulders and sited across gullies. The weirs were built so that during high tide, the fish would swim over the stone walls, and as the tide ebbed, the fish would be trapped behind them, allowing fishers to catch them with nets, spears and other means.

Fish weirs — which also were made of other materials, such as reeds or wooden posts — were commonly used around the world in ancient times, and other stone weirs have been documented in Southeast Alas-

ka. However, this is by far the oldest one ever found, and it is the first one ever confirmed underwater in North America.

The structure was first found in 2010 by use of side-scan sonar technology, which detects and images objects on the seafloor. Scientists suspected the vague image to be that of a stone weir, but mostly due to funding constraints, the team was not able to confirm their hypothesis through underwater exploration until earlier this year, said Kelly Monteleone, an archaeologist at the University of Calgary.

Monteleone said the actual age of the weir was determined to be approximately 11,100 years, but she anticipates that

upon further investigation they'll find evidence in Southeast Alaska that dates the structure to at least 16,000 years ago. Monteleone added that the plan in moving forward is to explore underwater caves within the same region.

"In Southeast Alaska, there's been a ton of amazing finds in caves, and so we have sonar data to help narrow down where the caves are," Monteleone said.

"Next year we'll be going back ... so we'll learn more about sea level change and sea level rise and we're hoping that we find more archeology."

The Juneau Empire contributed to this report.

# Ferry service

Continued from page 1

weeks — after the first week in January through the first week in February.

In building the schedule with a limited number of vessels due to winter maintenance on the ships, the ferry system said, "service has been added to accommodate coastal communities' special events to the greatest extent practicable."

In past winters, with the fleet stretched thin, mechanical breakdowns created significant gaps in service for some communities. "The department will also contract supplemental service if needed to cover service disruptions," the marine highway system reported last week.

The state last winter contracted for private vessel operations to smaller communities served out of Juneau when the Mata-

nuska was late coming out of winter repair work.

For this fall and winter, the ferry system decided to drop its "dynamic pricing" structure that imposed a surcharge on passenger, vehicle and state-room fares on popular sailings. The pricing plan has been in effect the past three years, adding 5% to 50% to ticket prices, depending on the percentage of a ship's capacity that is already booked.

"Returning to flat rates will provide relief to our customers as we work to improve," John Falvey, Alaska Marine Highway System general manager, said in a prepared statement earlier this month.

# Fishing rights

Continued from page 1

the case in February 2021, saying the 1891 law and the historical context didn't imply that Congress granted the tribe off-reservation fishing rights.

But the appeals court disagreed.

"The key question that the Ninth Circuit resolved in Metlakatla's favor was whether Congress in 1891 granted, when they established the reservation, also granted the community the right to fish on a non-exclusive basis in waters outside the reservation," attorney Christopher Lundberg, who's part of the team representing Metlakatla Indian Community, said in a

phone interview.

The appeals court sent the case back to the district court for further consideration, but Lundberg said the major legal question has been resolved.


Alaska Department of Law spokeswoman Patty Sullivan in a written statement called the decision "perplexing and disappointing."

"The panel went out of its way to decide legal issues that were not before it, misconstrued facts and misapplied the law. We expect more from our courts, especially when dealing with important decisions that affect the livelihoods of many Alaskans. Allocating our fishing resources to ensure we are meeting our constitutional obligations ... is a delicate balance."

She said the state is evaluating whether to appeal the case.




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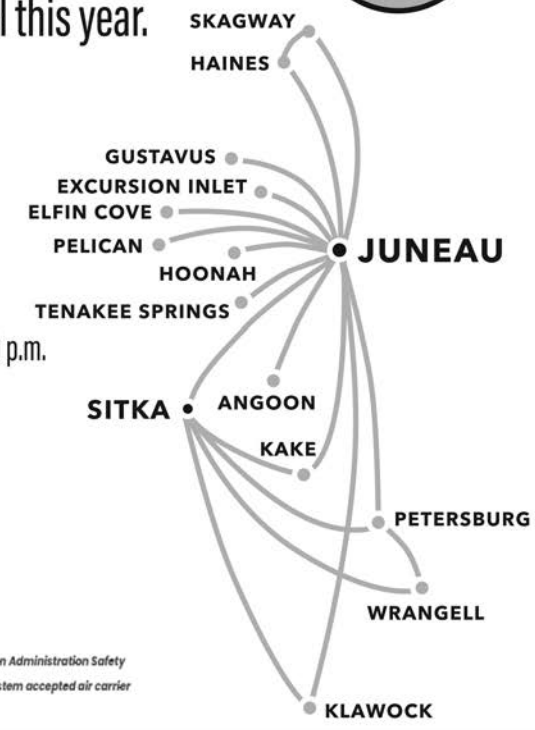
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# SENTINEL SPORTS

## Wrangell boys take second place at Ketchikan cross country meet

*Sentinel staff*

The Wrangell High School cross country boys team placed second at the Ketchikan Invitational at Ward Lake last Saturday.

Sophomore Daniel Harrison once again led the Wolves, coming in fourth place overall with a time of 16:44.91. Harrison was outpaced by just over a second by Sitka's Trey Demmert, who placed third at 16:43.20. First and second place went to Sitka's Silas Demmert and Annan Weiland, respectively.

Wrangell's Boomchain Loucks placed ninth at 17:40.25 out of 88 runners, followed by Devlyn Campbell in 10th place at 17:41.07, Ethan Blatchley in 11th at 17:41.95, Elias Decker in 15th at 18:17.04, Ian Nelson in 19th at 18:30.93 and Randy Churchill in 29th place at 19:19.94.

Assistant coach Mason Villarma said the results were the best performance in Wrangell High's cross country program history.

"We lost to Sitka, who is poised to win the (Division) 3A state title. Daniel Harrison broke the program record with a 16:44.91. Boomchain Loucks is currently the best freshman in the state with his 17:40 at Ketchikan," Villarma said.

The boys team placed second with an overall time of 1:28:05, with Sitka placing first with an overall time 1:25:21. Wrangell bested teams from Juneau's Thunder Mountain, Haines, Petersburg, Juneau-Douglas, Kake, Klawock, Metlakatla, Craig, Hydaburg, Ketchikan, Mt. Edgecumbe and Skagway.

On the Wrangell girls team, Mia Wieder-spohn placed 39th out of 66 runners with a time of 26:13.26. Miranda Ridgeway placed 60th at 31:36.54.

"They have trusted the process and workouts without hesitation," Villarma said of the runners. "You can really sense their excitement and their will to achieve more."

## First-place finish and personal bests highlight Ketchikan swim meet

*Sentinel staff*

The Wrangell High School swim team competed in two meets at the Ketchikan Invitational competition last weekend, with junior Jack Roberts leading the team with a first-, second- and fifth-place finish.

Competing against eight other high schools from throughout Southeast, Wrangell's swimmers had many personal bests and cut down their times significantly, coach Jamie Roberts said.

"I'm proud of their performances," she said. "They posted some nice times for an early season meet. They are excited to see what they can do with nine more days of work in the pool."

Roberts said the team had six personal-best times and three relay-best times. "In several events, the swimmers came very close to their personal bests."

Results from both meets:  
Alisha Armstrong: 50-yard

freestyle, 31.56 and 31.58; 100-yard freestyle, 1:09.88; 100-yard backstroke, 1:31.75 (personal best).

Carter Hammer: 50-yard freestyle, 34.80 and 36.07; 100-yard freestyle, 1:24.25 (personal best) and 1:23.96 (personal best).

Max Lloyd: 50-yard freestyle, 27.33 (personal best) and 27.51; 100-yard freestyle, 1:02.56 (personal best) and 1:03.94.

Jack Roberts: 50-yard freestyle, 23.43; 100-yard freestyle, 50.70; 20-yard individual medley, 2:11.18; 100-yard butterfly, 56.83.

Nate Rooney: 50-yard freestyle, 28.75; 100-yard freestyle, 1:09.33 and 1:08.89 (personal best)

Men's relay team (Hammer, Lloyd, Roberts and Rooney) competed in four relays: 200-yard medley relay, 2:22.02 (personal best) and 2:19.63 (personal best); 200-yard freestyle relay, 1:54.82 (personal best) and 1:55.06.



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Parks and Recreation Department Director Kate Thomas stands next to the new Rogue system in the community center weight room. Thomas said staff was able to consolidate equipment to open more floor space for mobility exercises.

## Parks and Recreation add exercise options with new equipment in the weight room

BY MARC LUTZ  
*Sentinel editor*

It's taken a few years of requests and planning, but the community center weight room finally has new equipment, freeing up valuable space and increasing safety.

Two metal frames allow users to do pull-ups, triceps dips, landmines, seated rows and many other exercises, helping to create targeted workouts.

A survey was conducted to identify the value of each piece of equipment in the weight room before the upgrade was made. Free weights were unanimously chosen as the most used items. However, the space in the weight was crowded by various machines providing only one type of workout per unit.

"We started doing some research, trying to identify a rig system that would allow for a variety of movements and consolidate some of that single-use equipment into a more dynamic unit," said Kate Thomas, director of Parks and Recreation.

Thomas said she and staff talked with Jack Carney, the high school wrestling coach and weight room instructor. A similar configuration of equipment has been used in that facility for four years, giving students a chance to try out and evaluate it.

Eventually, Thomas said they settled on Rogue, a popu-

lar brand for box-style weight equipment.

"They had a lot of accessories, great customer service representatives and a decent price point for us," she said. "We started talking to them about what our cores needs were, and they made this recommendation to us."

Rogue designed two box-style rigs connected by cross-members, which have pull-up bars, a matador dip unit, a hanger, landmine connector for press-ups and lateral body movements. The boxes allow for deadlifts, upright rows, squats and other exercises. There is a seated row options and adjustable triceps and lateral pull-down bands. There is also an adjustable bench and two different styles of weight bars: A 33-pound Bella bar and a standard Olympic 45-pound bar.

To increase the free-weight options, a couple 60-pound and 75-pound weights were purchased with the new setup.

"We removed the singular bench press unit, the dip and pull-up and ab unity because all that stuff is consolidated with the new equipment," Thomas said. "Then, the only other piece of fixed-weight equipment that was eliminated from the circuit was a hamstring curl. It was the lesser-used of the four leg units."

In all, the cost was \$8,000 for all the new equipment, which

was covered in this year's budget, Thomas said.

"We're stoked. We got the best bang for our buck," she said. "(Rogue) helped us design what is the most usable structure. We put a lot of thought into it. We had public hearings, discussed it at the advisory board level, communicated all along the way with the borough manager. It really was an all-hands-on-deck team (project)."

Though the new equipment frees up a lot of space and allows for safer movements, Thomas said weight room users should still be aware of their surroundings.

"I think it's important for the general public to remember that this facility is small," she said. "It's used by a variety of folks. It's important to be conscientious of other users when you're in this area. ... You still have to lift within your means to safely set and lift the bar."

Thomas said there has been a lot of positive feedback since installing the equipment, with people telling her they see the potential for a few more exercises than before.

"People are super-jazzed," she said. "One quote that stands out to me is one person said, 'I'm so glad this is happening. Winter is coming and I'm not always excited about winter, but now I am.'"



Out of respect for our local Stikine River moose hunters, the following member companies of the Stikine River Jet Boat Association will NOT be operating jet boat tours on the Stikine River for any cruise ship days after September 13.

*Happy Hunting!*

Alaska Waters • Alaska Peak & Seas  
Summit Charters • Alaska Charters & Adventures  
Muddy Water Adventures

**CITY MARKET INC**  
**Winter Hours**  
**Starting September 19th**

**Monday - Saturday**  
**9 a.m. to 6 p.m.**

**Sunday**  
**Closed**



# Robbins wants to encourage students and families to stay in Wrangell

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

Brittani Robbins is running for borough assembly to bolster Wrangell's economic development and stem the out-migration of families and youth from the island.

Robbins, 37, is executive director of the chamber of commerce. She has one year of experience in public office as a member of the school board. She was elected to the board last October and intends to keep her seat if elected to the assembly.

As a school board member, Robbins said she advocates for students and for non-certified staff, whose jobs are not governed by negotiated contracts with the school district. She also chairs the school board's budget committee.

"Wrangell is not in a great trajectory right now," she said, and concern for the borough's economic future is one of the primary motivators for her candidacy for assembly. She identified "money" — the borough's financial viability — and "sustainability" — Wrangell's ability to maintain its population — as the two primary issues facing the community today.

Robbins has several ideas for improving the borough's financial prospects. She believes that advertising the former hospital property more aggressively and to a wider audience would allow the borough to find a buyer and



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Brittani Robbins wants to serve on the borough assembly, in addition to her work on the school board.

begin collecting property tax revenue, though she is not yet certain of the shape this advertising effort should take. "I don't necessarily have an idea," she said. "I just want it to go away."

The borough spends nearly \$100,000 per year on heat, power and insurance for the building, which has not attracted any bids since it was put on the mar-

ket in June.

She also advocates developing the former Wrangell Institute property, which the borough has owned since 1996. The borough has been waiting on a wetlands fill permit to develop the property. After that, roads and utilities for a residential subdivision on the entire property would cost a few million dollars.

Exploring new tourism revenue streams is a high priority for Robbins. Though she believes cruise ships are an important element of Wrangell's economy, she would like to see the borough invest in alternative forms of tourism. Fishing lodges and fishing tours, like those in Ketchikan, would encourage tourists to stay in Wrangell for longer. "That's an opportunity we're not capitalizing on," she said. "We have great fishing."

Fishing tourism would allow the borough to bring in more revenue without changing its fundamental character to appeal to out-of-towners.

She also hopes to influence how the borough allocates the funds it already has. "Community members, myself as well, see things that really need to be fixed that aren't getting fixed while other things are getting fixed ... that could definitely have waited," she said. However, she declined to provide specific examples of the projects that she would prioritize and deprioritize in office.

"I have thoughts and ideas," she said, "but I need to learn the whole before I can see."

Another issue Robbins hopes to address is population stability. Her concerns reflect recent demographic data, which shows that Wrangell's core population is aging, while youth and families are not moving in to lower the

Continued on page 9

# Angerman to push for day care, community outreach in assembly bid

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

Alex Angerman, CARES Act coordinator for the Wrangell Cooperative Association, is running for borough assembly to improve community outreach and foster youth engagement in municipal government.

"The community oftentimes feels like they aren't heard," she said, and she hopes to use her assembly seat to provide a voice for the rising generation.

She believes that the borough should increase its social media presence to better connect with the community, and has been actively fielding questions about her political stances on the Wrangell Community Group Facebook page. She also hopes to launch an outreach program at the high school that would encourage students to get involved in municipal government.

In her role as CARES Act coordinator, Angerman connects

tribal members with pandemic resources. She also serves on the borough planning and zoning commission and is pursuing a master's degree in teaching at the University of Alaska Southeast. She does not have experience in elected office.

Selling or leasing the former hospital property is not a high priority for Angerman. Though she is "open to anybody's ideas on it," she thinks that the borough should keep the land "on the back burner" if it is not purchased. Attempting to demolish the building would be a money pit. "I don't see it as a pressing issue," she added. Insurance, heat and electricity for the building costs the borough almost \$100,000 yearly.

Lack of access to child care, however, is a high priority for Angerman, who called the problem a "community emergency." Opening a day care, she explained, would benefit not only working families but the entirety of Wrangell. It would

create jobs and allow a greater number of parents to join the workforce.

Angerman is not yet certain of how she would like to see a day care implemented. She hopes that the borough can partner with the WCA or SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium to fund and staff the project.

While she doesn't think the borough should directly fund housing, she would support selling or leasing land to private developers specifically for housing projects.

Regardless of how the borough ultimately develops its lands, Angerman plans to push for sustainability. "I care deeply about the environment," she said, and has tried to steer the planning and zoning commission toward more environmentally friendly development options instead of logging, which can harm mammals' habitats and degrade waterways.

Though Angerman identified



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Alex Angerman is seeking a three-year term on the borough assembly.

several key challenges facing care and funding, she takes on the Wrangell economy, including shortages of housing, child

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# David Powell wants more borough land in private ownership

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

After seven years on the borough assembly, Bay Co. manager David Powell is running for another three-year term. Powell's desire to get land out of the borough's hands was what first motivated him to pursue an assembly seat, and he is running again in hopes of seeing his goals completed.

If elected, his primary focuses will be selling or leasing the 6-Mile mill property, which the borough purchased this summer, and the former Wrangell Institute property, which was the site of a federally operated Native boarding school from 1932 to 1975. "Land is my biggest thing," he said. "I've always been trying to push the city to sell any lands, get them on our tax rolls."

Now that a ground survey of the Institute property has been completed, Powell hopes that the borough can begin to sell or lease portions of the property within the next year or two. He would like to see the land turned into housing units and a gas station for the convenience of people living out the road.

The development cost for streets and utilities for 20 residential lots on the Institute property was estimated over a year ago at around \$2 million.

His plans to develop the property have fallen through in the past — he once supported building a new boarding school through the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program, though he now admits that the project was "a pipe dream."

He'd also like to sell the former hospital property, an asbestos-contaminated building which costs the borough almost



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

David Powell is running for reelection to the borough assembly.

\$100,000 in yearly maintenance, heat and insurance. Since the building has attracted no bids at its current \$830,000 asking price, Powell supports getting it off the borough's hands at whatever price a buyer would be willing to pay — even if that means giving it away for free.

"With SEARHC, we basically gifted the land for that," said Powell, referencing the SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium's deal with the borough to create the Wrangell Medical Center. Powell would support "just about gifting the land to somebody if they could come up with a plan and get as many jobs as SEARHC has been doing."

The last piece of land Powell wants to

see developed is the former 6-Mile saw-mill property. Though the Port Commission discussed using the land for tourism during their meeting last month, Powell would prefer to see the Wrangell barge ramp moved out to 6-Mile and the valuable downtown property that the barge ramp currently occupies used for tourism. "I will try to steer them more into tourism over here in town."

Regardless, he hopes the borough can diversify its development at 6-Mile by selling or leasing the land to a variety of buyers in a variety of industries.

Powell's desire to make the Institute, hospital and 6-Mile properties taxable is motivated in part by concern for the

borough's finances. The borough has only recently started saving money to replace pieces of its infrastructure in case of emergency, and Powell hopes that it will continue to shore up its accounts by raising utility rates in accordance with Wrangell's growing infrastructure costs.

Letting utility rates stagnate, Powell said, was "a terrible way to run a business. Because the borough is a business. It's a government, but it's still a business. You still collect money and you still put money out."

Though Wrangell is experiencing a housing shortage, Powell does not believe the borough should play a role in generating housing projects. He opposes government competition with private industry. However, he thinks the borough should consider offering child care, since limited access to care continues to be an obstacle for working families in the area, including some of Powell's employees. "Unless somebody steps up and does it privately, I think that would be a good idea for us to start looking in different avenues," he said.

Powell intends to vote yes on the bond issues on the upcoming Oct. 4 municipal election ballot, which would pay for repairs to the schools and Public Safety Building. The buildings' need for maintenance has "gone too far," Powell said, and though he doesn't like the prospect of raising taxes, he doesn't see an alternative. "We have to have (repairs) or two, three years down the road it's going to probably be double."

He is one of three candidates running for two seats on the borough assembly. Alex Angerman and Brittani Robbins are also competing for three-year terms. The top two vote-getters will win the seats.

## Robbins

Continued from page 8

average age.

Wrangell has the highest percentage in Alaska of senior citizen residential property tax exemptions per total population, according to 2021 state data. School enrollment has dropped steadily from 550 in the mid-1990s to about 300 before the pandemic hit, settling in around 250-260 last year and this year.

Robbins believes that internships in borough government could encourage Wrangell high schoolers to stay in town and support the community. "How many of our youth would be able to be an economic development director?" she asked. "How many would be able to be a

city manager?" Jobs like these, she explained, require training, knowledge and passion. Getting youth interested in borough government would prepare them to step into these roles and increase the likelihood that they'd make Wrangell a permanent home in the future.

Robbins declined to disclose how she plans to vote on the bond issues that will be on the Oct. 4 municipal election ballot to pay for repairs to the school buildings and Public Safety Building.

She is one of three candidates running for two seats on the borough assembly. Alex Angerman and David Powell are also vying for three-year terms. The top two vote-getters will win the seats.

## Angerman

Continued from page 8

optimistic view of the borough's future. "I'm not necessarily worried about the economy of Wrangell," Angerman said.

She believes that much of the borough's financial struggles are attributable to the pandemic and to natural economic "ups and downs" that towns experience. "If you look forward and you look in the past, it's always going to change," she said.

Wrangell's demographic data shows a steady decrease in school enrollment since the 1990s and a steady increase in the percentage of the population that are senior citizens exempt from property taxes on their homes. The borough's population has decreased 13.4% since 2010 while the state population grew 2.6% and the national population grew 7.3% in the same period, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Angerman plans to vote yes on the bond issues on the Oct. 4 municipal election ballot, which would pay for repairs to the schools and Public Safety Building. She believes that supporting the bonds is a matter of community safety and said the borough should "put in the effort" to repair its public buildings.

Despite an unsuccessful run for school board last year, An-

## Senior Center foundation in need of repair from rot

By CAROLEINE JAMES  
Sentinel reporter

One of the foundational wooden beams under the Senior Center is rotting and will have to be repaired, according to Borough Manager Jeff Good. "There is no immediate threat to life and safety," Good explained, but he hopes to address the problem quickly. "The more you wait with rot, especially with wood, the worse it gets."

He plans to hire an engineer to assess the damage and design a solution, but he does not yet have details about how soon this assessment will take place. "We typically work with a couple of engineers," said Good, but since none of them are Wrangell-based, he will have to coordinate with them to determine an assessment timeframe.

The borough has been aware of the need to fix the foundation, but has delayed repairs because of the high volume of other maintenance needs in the community. "It's an ongoing problem," Good said.

Though the borough will hire an engineer to assess the problem, Good hopes that the Senior Center can fund the actual repairs using grant money. Once the engineer arrives, Good explained, he or she will provide a cost estimate and the center's grant application will move forward from there. "Catholic Services has grants they can go after from being a nonprofit," he said. "We'll have to look."

Catholic Community Service operates the programs in the borough-owned building.

The borough assembly will have to approve any repair or assessment spending.

# We Are Hiring!

Join Our Healthcare Team in Wrangell, AK

Apply today at <http://aramarkcareers.com>  
and search: SEARHC  
For any questions contact Ed Dorner at  
[Dorner-Edward@aramark.com](mailto:Dorner-Edward@aramark.com)

Full-Time and Part-Time Positions Available:

- Food Service Director
- Cooks
- Sous Chef
- Baristas
- Food Service Supervisors
- EVS Workers
- Food Service Workers



# Lawyer provides direction on estate planning, protecting assets

By MARC LUTZ  
Sentinel editor

What to do with someone's property when they die can be a complicated task involving beneficiaries, a ton of paperwork and the court system. But it doesn't necessarily have to be.

Liz Smith, a Juneau-based lawyer specializing in estate planning, gave a presentation last Wednesday to help clear up the often confusing world of wills, asset protection and long-term health care decisions.

Twelve people of various ages attended the presentation at Irene Ingle Public Library, listening as Smith gave a broad overview of planning options, then inviting attendees to ask questions.

"It's something we need to take a look at because we have that mixed family situation," said Loretta Rice, who sat in on the presentation. "It's good to know what can happen. It gives me a good direction to go."

Along with the legal ins and outs with blended families, Smith covered the differences in wills and living trusts, and when naming a conservator might be a necessary step to take.

Many times, she explained, people don't have a plan in place, so their assets end up in

probate, which can take anywhere from 12 to 18 months minimum and include several costs.

"The default plan for most people is probate," Smith said. "Probate is a court process to transfer title to any assets in your name upon death to whomever is going to inherit."

Smith said the process doesn't tend to be too challenging in Alaska as it doesn't have an estate tax, though residents are subject to the federal estate tax — but that only applies to estates of more than \$12 million.

Since starting her practice in 2019, Smith said she's helped — or is currently helping — 300 clients. She decided to focus on estate planning because she didn't want to work in conflict. She also wasn't comfortable with hourly billing.

"Many attorneys bill by the hour," Smith said. "I found that really frustrating. You lose control as a client. You don't know if your question is going to take them five minutes to tell you the answer or five hours. And what will be the bill at the end?"

It was also a challenge from an attorney perspective trying to get to know clients, she said. People tend to hold back when



Attorney Liz Smith, an estate planning specialist based in Juneau, presented a seminar in Wrangell last Wednesday, explaining the various kinds of plans people can use to make sure their wishes are carried out.

PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/  
WRANGELL SENTINEL

they think they're being billed by the hour.

No matter if clients are setting up a will, living trust or some other plan, Smith said the biggest problem is a lack of follow through. She used her grandparents' planning as an example of good estate planning management.

"They set up a plan and they followed through regularly," Smith said. "They met with their attorney as life changed, as their children's circumstances change, and they kept it up to date. They also brought in my aunt, who was eventually the executor, to

meet with the attorney."

When her grandparents died, Smith's aunt grieved "but the administrative part was easier for her. She had already built up a relationship with that attorney, at least to know who she was dealing with and built some trust."

Smith likened estate planning to a living document, which should change as a person's life changes. Her office provides free reviews every three years to make sure everything is up to date in her clients' files.

It's a process that shouldn't be put off, but Smith has heard a variety of excuses as to why people do procrastinate. Some believe they have plenty of time, others don't know where to begin, some are afraid of tackling the topics of death or incapacity or believing they don't have an estate to plan for.

"People's sense of whether they are 'rich' or 'poor' often has little to do with how much they actually have, but some people think they do not have

enough to plan for," Smith said.

Aside from what happens to someone's stuff when they die, Smith said it was important to consider what happens with a person's health care when they are unable to make those decisions for themselves. That can include long-term care. Alaska is the most expensive state for monthly costs in long-term care.

"Even if someone has done well for themselves, they're going to be out of money fairly quickly," Smith said. Making health care decisions by choosing a guardian or power of attorney before something like occurs will ensure a person still has control over what happens to them.

Smith recommends people consult an attorney for estate planning, though she said they can certainly do it themselves.

"That's what this is all about, just some basic education that you can decide what you want for your family," she said. "An attorney can't tell you what you want for your family."

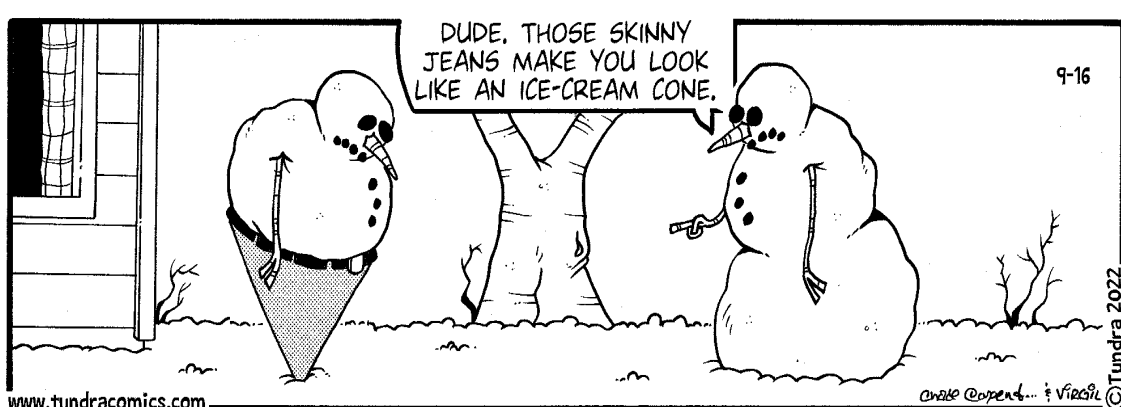
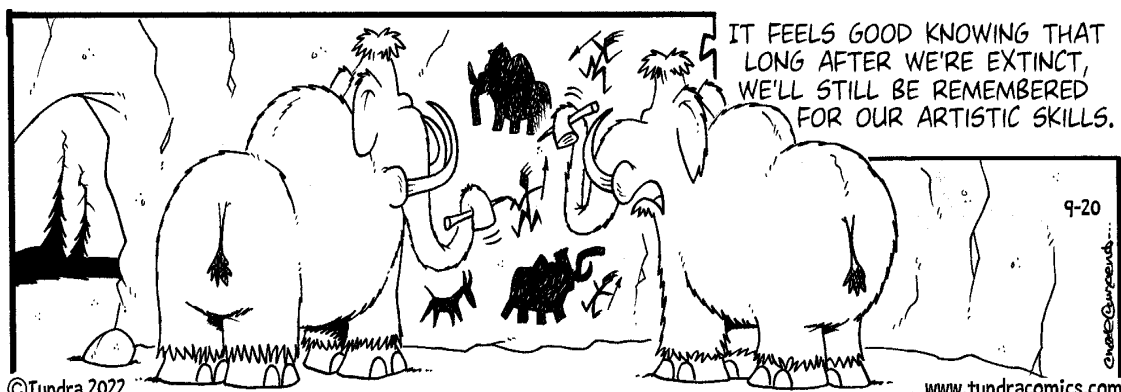
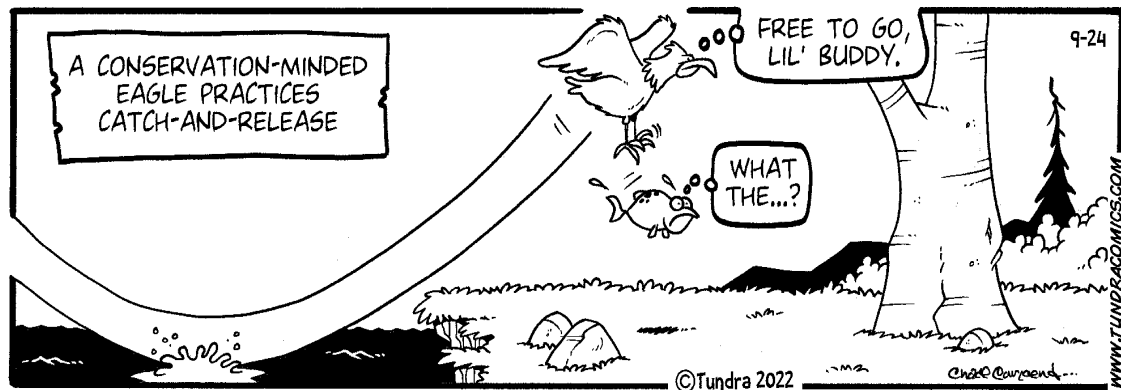
## Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



## Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



## Police report

**Monday, Sept. 12**  
Agency assist: Hoonah Police Department.  
Reckless driving.  
Agency assist: Petersburg Police Department.  
Disturbance.  
Motor vehicle accident.  
Agency assist: Petersburg Police Department.  
Traffic stop: Verbal warning for no tail lights.  
Motor vehicle accident.

**Tuesday, Sept. 13**  
Assault: Domestic violence.  
Agency assist: Ambulance.

**Wednesday, Sept. 14**  
Disturbance: Arrest for assault.  
Scam.  
Found property.  
Traffic stop.

**Thursday, Sept. 15**  
Agency assist: Ambulance.  
Agency assist: Harbor Department.  
Found property.  
Traffic stop.  
Speeding complaint.

**Friday, Sept. 16**  
Agency assist: Fire Department.

Papers served.  
Reckless driving.  
Four-wheeler complaint.  
Agency assist: Municipal line crew.  
Traffic stop: Citation issued for failure to provide proof of insurance, and a verbal warning for failure to stop at a stop sign.  
Traffic stop: Citation issued for failure to provide proof of insurance.  
Intoxicated person.

**Saturday, Sept. 17**  
Courtesy transport.  
Civil issue.  
Disturbance.  
Citizen assist.  
Hazardous play.

**Sunday, Sept. 18**  
Citizen assist: Vehicle unlocked.  
Welfare check.  
Welfare check.  
Noise complaint.  
Threats.  
Suspicious activity.

There were seven subpoenas served, three abandoned vehicles and three dog complaints during this reporting period.

### CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

During the Regular Assembly Meeting of Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022, starting at 6 p.m., there will be a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the following item(s):

- a. Ordinance No. 1023 of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, amending Sections 3.05.020, Order of Business, and 3.05.050, Teleconferencing, of the Wrangell Municipal Code.

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

Publish Sept. 21, 2022



## CLASSIFIED

### HELP WANTED

Wrangell Public Schools is accepting applications for the following extracurricular positions:

- High School Head Wrestling Coach
- Middle School Boys' Assistant Basketball Coach
- Middle School Assistant Volleyball Coach

- Freshmen Class Adviser
- Sophomore Class Adviser
- Junior Class Adviser
- Elementary Student Council Adviser

Contact the district office at 907-874-2347 for more information. Positions are open until filled. It is the Wrangell Public School District's policy to not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color,

national origin, sex or disability.

### 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.

### CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

For the upcoming City and Borough of Wrangell Regular Election of Oct. 4, 2022, the following ordinance applies:

**2.16.030 Write-in Candidates and Write-in Votes.** Individuals who fail to file a declaration of candidacy but wish to run for office as a write-in candidate must file with the borough clerk a letter of intent no later than 5 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election (Sept. 30, 2022) in which the candidate plans to participate.

Write-in votes cast for individuals who do not file a letter of intent will not be counted.

In order to vote for a write-in candidate, the voter must, in space provided, write in the candidate's name as the candidate's name appears on the letter of intent filed with the borough clerk. In addition, the voter must mark the oval opposite the candidate's name.

Stickers shall not be used.

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

**Publish Sept. 14, 21 and 28, 2022**

### 1 Bedroom Apartment available at **Mountain View Manor**

Independent Living  
Retirement Community.

Applications welcome  
for qualifying seniors,  
age 55+.

**Call 907-772-3345  
for an application.**



### ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF FORESTRY

#### Notice of Intent to Claim Abandoned Timber Property

In accordance with Alaska Statutes 45.50.210 through .325, it is the intent of the State of Alaska to claim all abandoned timber property in the waters and on the tidelands of the State of the east side of Etolin Island from Canoe Pass to Olive Cove (including Brownson and other islands), Thomas Place to Blake Channel on Wrangell Island. It is the intent of the State to make the claimed timber property available for salvage under 11 AAC 71.005 through .910, Timber and Material Sale Regulations.

Parties wishing to comment may do so to the Alaska Division of Forestry, 2417 Tongass Ave., Suite 213, Ketchikan, AK 99901, phone 907-225-3070. Comments must be received within 30 days following the first date of this notice to receive consideration.

Greg Staunton, Southeast Area Forester  
Department of Natural Resources

**Publish Sept. 7, 14 and 21, 2022**

### CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

ABSENTEE VOTING for the Regular Borough Election, to be held Oct. 4, 2022, begins on MONDAY, Sept. 19, 2022, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, at City Hall.

Qualified Voters may vote an Absentee Ballot until Monday, Oct. 3, 2022, at 4 p.m. for the Regular Borough Election.

For those voters who cannot VOTE ABSENTEE IN PERSON, you may submit an application to have your ballot mailed or faxed to you.

Please stop by the Borough's Clerks Office to apply.

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

**Publish Sept. 14, 21 and 28, 2022**

### CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE City Board and Committee Vacancies

Persons interested in serving on the following City Boards and Committees, please submit your Letter of Interest to the Office of the Borough Clerk, City and Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929. You can also email your Letter of Interest to the Borough Clerk at: clerk@wrangell.com.

Deadline for Letters of Interest is 4 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2022, for the following vacancies:

- Planning and Zoning Commission: Two seats, for 3-year terms
- Parks & Recreation Advisory Board: One seat, for 3-year term
- Wrangell Convention and Visitors Bureau: Two seats, for 2-year terms
- Economic Development Committee: Two seats, for 3-year terms
- Investment Committee: One seat, for 1-year term

Appointments will be made at the Oct. 11, 2022, Regular Assembly meeting. A copy of the code chapter for any of the above boards and commissions can be obtained by contacting the Borough Clerk's Office or viewed at the City's website at www.wrangell.com

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

**Publish Sept. 21 and 28, 2022**

### CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that on the 4th day of October 2022, in the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, a Regular Local Election will be held for the purpose of voting on the following Borough Official positions and propositions.

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Borough Mayor:    | One seat, for-2 year terms                             |
| Borough Assembly: | Two seats, for 3-year terms                            |
| School Board:     | Two seats, for 3-year terms                            |
| School Board:     | One seat, for 1-year unexpired term until October 2023 |
| Port Commission:  | Two seats, for 3-year terms                            |

#### PROPOSITION NO. 1

#### Ratification of Ordinance 1029

General obligation bonds for major renovation of middle school, high school and elementary school

#### PROPOSITION NO. 2

#### Ratification of Ordinance 1030

General obligation bonds for major renovation of Public Safety Building

#### PROPOSITION 3

#### Ratification of Ordinance 1031

Sale and/or Lease of the 6-Mile Zimovia Highway (former Mill Site Property)

The polls for said election will be open at 8 a.m. on the said day and will close at 8 p.m. on the same day.

Each voter must have the qualifications prescribed by state law. A qualified voter shall vote only once per election and shall exercise that right at the polling place established in the designated Wrangell Precinct (James and Elsie Nolan Museum/Civic Center) and in which he/she resides within the borough boundaries of the City and Borough of Wrangell.

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

**Publish Sept. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2022**

### STATE of ALASKA ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF FORESTRY SOUTHEAST AREA OFFICE Whale Pass Timber Sale (SSE-1378-K) Draft Forest Land Use Plan

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry (DOF), gives formal notice per AS 38.05.945 that the Division proposes to adopt a site-specific Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) under AS 38.05.112 and the administrative standards of AS 41.17.060 for the commercial timber sale: Whale Pass Timber Sale (SSE-1378-K).

This timber sale is located on Prince of Wales Island, within the City of Whale Pass. The timber sale area is found within Sections 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27, Township 66 South, Range 79 East, Copper River Meridian (CRM). The sale area is found within the Petersburg A-4 USGS quadrangle. The main access for this sale area is from the existing Prince of Wales Road System.

The harvest units total approximately 292 acres and contain approximately 5,000 MBF of timber. This volume will be sold under provisions of AS 38.05.115 or AS 38.05.118, in the form of one or multiple sales. The sale(s) will require in-state manufacture and will be negotiated contract(s).

The FLUP is intended to provide the best available information regarding the proposed timber harvest on 292 acres and the management of other non-timber uses in compliance with AS 38.05.112 and AS 41.17.060, and must be adopted by the DOF before the proposed activity can occur. This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale. Those decisions have been made previously in the May 13, 2022, Best Interest Finding and are not appealable under this FLUP.

The public is invited to comment on the FLUP. Comments should be mailed to the Alaska Division of Forestry, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213, Ketchikan, AK 99901. Comments must be received at the Division of Forestry office no later than Oct. 17, 2022, in order to be considered in the adopted FLUP. To be eligible to appeal the adopted FLUP a person must have provided written comment by Oct. 17, 2022.

For more information or to submit comments contact:

Alaska Division of Forestry  
2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213  
Ketchikan, AK 99901  
Greg Staunton  
Phone: (907) 225-3070

Email: greg.staunton@alaska.gov

Copies of the FLUP are available for review at the division's Area Office, the division's website along with the community libraries in Thorne Bay, Craig, Whale Pass and Ketchikan, and at the State Online Public Notice System at <http://notice.alaska.gov/208122>.

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

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# U.S. Senate candidates show their differences on issues

By MARK SABBATINI  
Juneau Empire

The three candidates for U.S. Senate in November's general election shared familiar political stances on Southeast Alaska issues during an hour-long forum at the Southeast Conference in Ketchikan on Sept. 13.

Incumbent U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, a Republican, emphasized accomplishments such as securing billions in federal infrastructure funds largely designated for ferries; Republican challenger Kelly Tshibaka attacked President Joe Biden in nearly every answer and called less federal intrusion the path to regional growth; and Democratic challenger Pat Chesbro focused on education and workplace development as keys to boosting the area's future viability.

Questions from some of the estimated 300 attendees at the conference focused on future federal funding for the Alaska Marine Highway System, fisheries, vocational education, affordable power for small communities, housing and land access, tribal relations and mariculture.

The one-minute candidates were allocated for answers didn't allow for nuanced details, but all three managed to

convey distinct areas of emphasis even when they agreed on general goals.

Their preferred areas of focus were illustrated when asked about their approach to boosting the region's mariculture.

Murkowski said the industry "is a happening place to be and it's something I have long put muscle behind" with efforts including advocating for federal grant funds.

Tshibaka criticized Biden for environmental actions such as seeking to reimpose the roadless rule in the Tongass National Forest and said she wants to "address strangulation by regulation."

Chesbro, noting the local oysters and shrimp served at one of the conference's events, said she wants to focus on "renewable things that will help with food security that is also an issue. We have so much potential and also potential for our universities to do the research."

Ferry and regional transportation issues were among the most contentious of the forum, due largely to Tshibaka accusing Murkowski multiple times of working to advance Biden's interests rather than Alaska's, and Murkowski near the end of the forum finally responding di-

rectly by stating her challenger's comments were neither factually nor politically true.

Murkowski took credit for securing \$1 billion for "essential ferry service" in rural areas as part of the bipartisan federal infrastructure bill. She said the infrastructure bill also includes significant amounts for other state transportation projects including roads and bridges in Southeast.

Tshibaka said "the Biden administration has decided we will get no new roads from the infrastructure bill," which Murkowski called "absolutely not true," and accused the incumbent of voting to confirm administration officials who presided over actions such as "keeping millions of acres of land locked up."

Chesbro, thanking Murkowski for her efforts to secure ferry funding, said a thriving marine highway system needs a successful partnership with the state. The Democrat also returned to her consistent theme of education, noting growth in transportation and related industries is dependent on a skilled local workforce.

"We need to develop renewables by the site, what's available there," she said, referring specifically to power genera-

tion in regional communities. "We also need engineers and others to help develop that."

Chesbro's advocacy for boosting vocational training was shared by Tshibaka, with some differences in approach. The Republican challenger said she favors federal assistance for technical colleges and block grants for education "where the dollar follows the child rather than the system," so a student could get credit for fishing or a mining internship.

All three candidates tried in their closing remarks to claim personal ties to conference attendees. Murkowski noted she was born in Ketchikan, grew up in Wrangell and Juneau, and "I'm not going to insult you folks by relying on partisan talking points ... (with) no basis in reality."

Tshibaka said the region "can inspire with our tourism," but "we have to have leadership that won't be bullied or controlled by D.C. insiders."

Chesbro, acknowledging she's an outsider from Fairbanks, said Southeast issues too often get overlooked by state officials living outside the region. "I appreciate that you've challenged my brain today to learn a lot more," she said.

## Buzz Kelley quits U.S. Senate race after finishing in distant fourth place

By MARK THIESSEN  
Associated Press

ANCHORAGE (AP) — A little-known candidate for the U.S. Senate race in Alaska has suspended his campaign, hoping not to divide the GOP vote during the general election by throwing his support to a fellow Republican backed by former President Donald Trump.

Buzz Kelley, who finished fourth in the primary race, said his motivation for suspending the campaign on Sept. 12 came after Republicans Sarah Palin and Nick Begich lost to Democrat Mary Peltola in the special general election for the state's U.S. House seat left vacant with the death in March of U.S. Rep. Don Young.

"After the Peltola victory, the divide-and-conquer of Sarah and Nick, I don't want to be any part of that for the Senate race," Kelley told The Associated Press.

"I feel like Kelly Tshibaka is the best shot, and so (I am) asking anybody who supported me or my ideas if they can now throw their support behind Kelly Tshibaka," he said. Others in the race are incumbent U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, also a

Republican, and Democrat Pat Chesbro.

Alaska voters in 2020 approved a new voting system in which party primaries have been replaced by an open primary. The top four vote-getters regardless of party affiliation move on to the general election, in which ranked choice voting is used.

Under ranked voting, ballots are counted in rounds. A candidate can win outright with more than 50% of the vote in the first round. If no one hits that threshold, the candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated. Voters who chose that candidate as their top pick have their votes count for their next choice. Rounds continue until two candidates remain, and whoever has the most votes wins.

Murkowski received 45% of the vote in the primary, followed by Tshibaka with 39% and Chesbro with 7%. Kelley finished fourth with 2% of the vote.

The timing of his campaign suspension was on purpose, Kelley said. Had he dropped out by the Sept. 5 deadline, the fifth-place candidate would have replaced him on the general election ballot. "I didn't want to muddy the water, so now there's only three candidates in the race," he said.

## Dunleavy opposes federal student loan forgiveness

By MORGAN KRAKOW  
Anchorage Daily News

Gov. Mike Dunleavy has joined a group of other Republican governors in signing a letter to President Joe Biden opposing a recent move to forgive some student loan debt to eligible Americans.

Biden announced his administration would relieve \$10,000 to \$20,000 in federal student loan debt for recipients making less than \$125,000 individually or \$250,000 as a household.

In the Sept. 12 letter, Dunleavy and 21 other governors asked the president to withdraw the plan and criticized it as being burdensome to taxpayers and Americans who did not attend college or seek out an advanced degree in favor of an "elite few." They also questioned whether Biden has the authority to for-

give student debt.

"At a time when inflation is sky high ... your plan will encourage more student borrowing ... and drive up inflation even further, negatively impacting every American," the governors wrote.

A spokesman for Dunleavy said the governor, who is running for reelection, had no further comment on the letter. Asked for a copy of the letter, spokesman Jeff Turner told the Daily News to submit a public records request to obtain it. Multiple other governors who signed the letter posted it in full to their websites.

Both of Alaska's Republican U.S. senators have previously criticized the debt forgiveness plan. In a series of tweets last month, Sen. Dan Sullivan said the plan "undermines the work ethic" of people who had already paid off their loans and said Biden's move was a political one in response to his approval ratings. Sen. Lisa Murkowski, also up for reelection this year, said the plan would add to the national debt, doesn't recognize those who already paid their loan debt or help those who will take on new debt in the future.

There is disagreement among economists about the plan's potential for driving up inflation and its overall impact on taxpayers.

About 67,000 Alaska borrowers owe some amount in federal student loans, according to the federal government. Some Alaskans have said the forgiveness will allow them to focus more on the future, allowing them to save for retirement or go onto an advanced degree debt-free.

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