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WRANGELL SENTINEL

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Plant supplier shutdown cuts into garden choices

BY BECCA CLARK
Sentinel reporter

It's officially spring and almost gardening season in Wrangell, but Sentry Hardware and Marine won't be able to provide the plants they usually do this year, nor will IGA.

The stores' supplier, Skagit Gardens, of Washington state, announced in February it was going out of business by the first week of April after 57 years in operation.

There will be no plant starts, vegetables

or hanging baskets at Sentry this year. However, there will be trees and shrubs.

Typically, Sentry starts getting plants in the last week in April, and the February announcement from their supplier didn't leave them enough time to get plants for this spring. Sentry has been providing plants to the Wrangell community for 30 years.

IGA also got its plants from Skagit and will not have their regular supply this spring. The store will have some bulbs, hy-

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U.S. Capitol Christmas tree will come out of the Tongass

BY MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

This year's U.S. Capitol Christmas tree will come from the Tongass National Forest, only the second time an Alaska tree will light up the official spot.

Known as "The People's Tree" (reflecting the nickname for the U.S. House of Representatives, "The People's House"), it will stand on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

The only previous Alaska tree, a spruce, came from the Chugach National Forest in 2015. The tree has been selected each year

since 1970 from a different national forest.

Brandon Raile, the project's Forest Service spokesman in Alaska, said the tree will be cut down in late October or early November and go on a tour across the country as the tree is hauled from Alaska to Washington, D.C., which should take approximately two weeks, depending on logistics.

"It depends on the location of the tree and the transportation to D.C.," he said. "Tree health is the top priority, keeping the tree in top condition as we go across the country."

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PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

One bunny came a day early

Violet Churchill, 2, searches to fill her basket with eggs during Saturday's Easter egg hunt on the Nature Trail at Volunteer Park. The day-before-Easter hunt attracted several dozen searchers, and was sponsored by Wrangell Real Estate. The Elks Lodge sponsored the traditional Sunday Easter egg hunt at Muskeg Meadows Golf Course.



PHOTO COURTESY TRUE NORTH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

A piece of slate, fashioned as a net sinker, was found last year during ground work at the former Wrangell Institute property which is being developed for a residential subdivision. Archaeologists believe the item could be from prehistoric times.

Potentially prehistoric artifact found on land of former Wrangell Institute

BY BECCA CLARK
Sentinel reporter

A blue plastic baseball, part of a wooden clarinet, a glass Horlicks malted milk bottle, a 1938 Mercury dime and a net sinker made of slate, potentially from prehistoric times. All these items were discovered on the property of the former Wrangell Institute during archaeological monitoring completed last fall.

The borough is developing the property of the former Bureau of Indian Affairs boarding school into the Alder Top Village (Keishan-gita.'aan) subdivision and plans to offer 20 residential lots for sale this summer.

The Wrangell Institute operated from 1932 to 1975, a period during which thousands of students, high school and elementary school aged, were sent to the boarding school just upland of Shoemaker Bay.

The borough worked with the State Historic Preservation Office during clearing work to develop the property into the residential subdivision. The borough was obligated to have an archaeologist on site

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Fairbanks educator hired as middle/high school principal

BY MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel reporter

An experienced Fairbanks educator who has dreamed of moving to Southeast for years will finally achieve his goal when he starts work in August as the new secondary school principal in Wrangell.

Greg Clark will be the new principal for the high school and middle school. He was among 16 applicants and chosen from three finalists. The school board approved the contract and Schools Superintendent Bill Burr hired Clark on March 18.

He will replace Jackie Hanson, who is leaving at the end of the school year.

"Coming to Southeast Alaska has been my goal since 27 years ago when I first moved to Alaska," Clark said. He moved from the outskirts of Portland to Fairbanks for college to study wildlife biology because tuition was cheaper. "I always planned on moving to the coast, so I guess it's finally going to happen,"

He added that one reason he loves the coast is that he is an avid fisherman. "I always make the joke here in Fair-



Fairbanks educator Greg Clark has been hired as principal for Wrangell's middle school and high school.

banks, 'You know, there's places you can fish year-round, why am I in Fairbanks?'"

Clark is completing his first year as assistant principal at Lathrop High School in Fairbanks. Before that, he served in the same position at Tanana Middle School in the same district. At Lathrop, he has been focused on disciplinary and counseling actions for troubled kids.

He sees the Wrangell job as an opportunity to concentrate less on discipline and to get

more involved on a broader scale, including working with teachers and students to increase career and technical education opportunities for students.

In his 16 years as an educator, Clark has worked in many roles in addition to administrator, including safety assistant, and a teacher in science, math and career and technical education. He is also a board member and Interior region representative of the Alaska Society for Technology in Education, as well as a trainer with the Teaching Through Technology (T3) program.

The only time that Clark has been through Wrangell was when he drove a truck to Fairbanks from the Lower 48 and stopped in town aboard a state ferry, but he hopes to visit before the big move. His wife, daughter (a Lathrop student) and son will not be coming with him for the time being. "Right now, I'll be the only one heading down," he said. "Me and my dogs."

Clark expects his move to take place in mid to late summer. He will start the job in August.

Senior Center Menu

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

Thursday, April 4

Lasagna, Italian vegetables, apricot salad, french bread

Friday, April 5

Mulligatawny soup, chef salad with egg and cheese, roll, fruit

Monday, April 8

Shelf-stable meal delivered on Friday, April 5

Tuesday, April 9

Country pork stew, broccoli cauliflower salad, roll

Wednesday, April 10

Sweet and sour sauce over ham balls with buttered noodles, spinach, marinated zucchini with tomatoes

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

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

Ferry Schedule

Northbound

Wednesday, April 10

Hubbard, 12:45 p.m.

Friday, April 12

Kennicott, 4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 19

Kennicott, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 26

Kennicott, 3:45 p.m.

Southbound

Monday, April 8

Kennicott, 6:45 a.m.

Monday, April 15

Kennicott, 6 a.m.

Monday, April 22

Kennicott, 6:15 a.m.

Wednesday, April 29

Kennicott, 7:15 a.m.

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

Tides

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
April 3	08:26	13.3	10:09	12.6	01:53	6.7	03:08	1.7
April 4	09:52	14.3	11:01	14.3	03:31	5.6	04:21	0.7
April 5	10:58	15.6	11:46	16.1	04:46	3.6	05:17	-0.4
April 6	11:54	16.9	05:42	1.3	06:04	-1.2
April 7	00:26	17.7	12:45	17.8	06:30	-0.8	06:46	-1.5
April 8	01:05	18.9	01:32	18.1	07:14	-2.5	07:26	-1.3
April 9	01:43	19.6	02:18	17.9	07:56	-3.5	08:04	-0.6

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

April 3, 1924

Joe Mahoney and Dick Nuckols killed a huge gray wolf at Smuggler's Cove recently just as the animal was about to attack Mahoney. They had been at the Helm Bay Mining Company's property and while on their way to town were forced to stop at Smuggler's Cove on account of a storm. While out on the beach after a mess of clams, Nuckols saw a gray wolf sneaking up back of Mahoney with murder in his eye. Having his gun by his side, Nuckols immediately grabbed it and fired, hitting the wolf in the foreleg. This attracted the attention of Mahoney, who seized his gun and brought the

wolf to the ground. The animal was a very large one and evidently at the point of starvation.

April 1, 1949

Wrangell's territorial legislators James Nolan and Doris Barnes helped make the enviable record of achievement set in the 19th territorial Legislature. Nolan headed the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, which was instrumental in balancing the territorial budget and putting through a basic tax program. Mrs. Barnes was a member of that committee and also chair of the Committee on Territorial Institutions. Through their joint

efforts, the \$11,000 in Wrangell school bonds were canceled. Nolan authored the measure which frees municipal power plants from paying the territorial motor fuel tax. Mrs. Barnes sponsored the bill which permits cities to levy a sales tax up to two percent after a vote of the people and at the same time fixes the limit of property tax in municipalities at two percent.

April 3, 1974

Routine maintenance work on the Mill Creek, Pats Creek, Kunk's Creek, Anan Creek, Aaron Creek, Wrangell Reservoir and Rainbow Falls trails will be done this summer by the U.S. Forest Service,

according to Division Supervisor Knox Marshal. The work is scheduled to start sometime in May and will be done by local men as much as possible. Work on the Pats Creek trail will include the sweeping out of a trail from the end of the road to the creek in addition to the trail from the beach to the lake. It is planned to do a small amount of repair work in the Wrangell Park, such as building a new bridge across the creek and fixing the broken tables and damaged shelters.

April 1, 1999

Wrangell's students are now riding the "world's most modern conventional school

buses," says the owner of those vehicles. Etolin Bus Co. has just purchased two new Blue Bird school buses with such recent safety and comfort features that only one other district in the state has a similar vehicle. Company owner Greg McCormack notes that many of the new features enable drivers to concentrate more efficiently on driving and safety. A sloping hood makes these new buses immediately identifiable. It allows the driver a better view of students walking in front of the bus. Attached to the front bumper is a gate that swings out as the stop arm comes out and forces students to stop and wait for oncoming traffic.



ALASKA AIRLINES CLUB 49 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

BRAVE is hosting the I Toowú Klatseen (Strengthen Your Spirit) program from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays through May 9, at the community center. The empowering, confidence-building program for grades 3-5 incorporates Southeast Alaska values, running and a sense of community to help kids learn what it means to strengthen their spirit. Free, for kids of all cultures, physical abilities and backgrounds. Participants will be provided with healthy snacks, running shoes, an ITK T-shirt and a water bottle. Register online at tinyurl.com/witk2024.

NOLAN CENTER THEATER, no movie this weekend; "Dune: Part Two" coming April 12-14.

BRAVE will meet at 2 p.m. Thursday, April 11, at the library. Open to everyone in person or online at <https://washington.zoom.us/j/93896331255>.

CHILI COOK-OFF 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 13, at the Nolan Center. Individual entries or businesses are welcome; prizes will be awarded. Sign up by April 10 by calling The Salvation Army, 907-874-3753, or stop in at the Nolan Center or KSTK. Admission: \$5 per person. This is a fundraiser for The Salvation Army food pantry.

"**THE PRINCESS BRIDE**" 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at the Nolan Center. Free. Presented by Island of Faith Lutheran Church as part of its retro-movie program. The concession stand will be open.

LITTLE LEAGUE VOLUNTEERS needed for coaching, umpiring, scorekeeping, concessions, running the pitching machines, field upkeep and more. Little League is underway and ends June 15. To volunteer, call or text Brianna Schilling at 907-305-0282.

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

COMMUNITY MARKET 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the Nolan Center. \$10 a table for vendors. Register with jarnold@wrangell.com or awade@wrangell.com, or call 907-874-3770.

STORY TIME AT THE LIBRARY, 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays through April 26. Come enjoy the stories, crafts and snacks at the Irene Ingle Public Library. Call 907-874-3535.

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

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

- **OPEN GYM VOLLEYBALL** 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Mondays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Fridays at the community center gym. Wear sporty clothes and gym shoes. For ages 14 and up. Drop-in rates apply.
- **OUTDOOR CHALLENGE** through April 28 is built to encourage consistent movement, with a goal of completing at least 30 minutes of exercise 5 to 7 days per week. This challenge is for people of all fitness levels. The participant who completes the most workouts will win a six-month pass to the Parks and Recreation facility; prizes donated by local businesses will be raffled off at the end of the challenge. For ages 14 and up. Registration required for this free activity.
- **PRIVATE SWIM LESSONS** 12:30 to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday with Darren Shilts. For ages 4 years and up. Parent or guardian of kids ages 4-6 will need to be on site for the lesson. Fee: \$40 per lesson. Registration required.

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WEEKLY FARE SALES



FREIGHT FOR LESS

It's time to start thinking of July 4th royalty contest

BY LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The Fourth of July is three months away, and the start of ticket sales for the annual fundraising raffle is still eight weeks away, but the chamber of commerce figures it's not too early to start asking who wants to volunteer for this year's royalty competition.

The royalty contestants sell tens of thousands of \$1 raffle tickets that pay for the community's Fourth of July fireworks, festivities and events. They get to keep a portion of their sales for all their hard work, using the money for college or anything else.

Ticket sales start May 31 and close July 3.

The prize drawing will be held July 4. The chamber is still discussing this year's prizes, said Tommy Wells, the group's executive director. Last year's three winners received cash prizes of \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000.

Anyone interested in the royalty competition can pick up an application packet at the chamber offices in the Stikine Inn.

Contestants must be at least 14 years old, and they need an adult to sign on as the person in charge, plus a food manager and a finance director, Wells explained. All of the managers must be at least 21 years old.

If the contestant is at least 18 years old, they don't need an adult to sign as the person in charge, he added.

Past royalty contestants sold most of their raffle tickets at food booths downtown, offering a varied menu all month long in June. Contestants need a state-issued temporary food service permit and at least one

person in the booth must have a state-issued food handlers permit, Wells said.

There is no firm deadline to apply for the royalty contest, he said, but with so much advance work, planning, lining up sponsors and arranging a crew and volunteers, anyone interested should pick up the information packet and start making plans soon.

"A candidate who begins later than everyone else will, naturally, be behind, so the sooner they register their intent and complete the necessary paperwork, the sooner they can begin making preparations," Wells said last week.

"We're hoping we get more than one candidate," he said.

The chamber, which organizes the annual holiday celebration, has confronted tight finances in recent years amid a downward trend in ticket sales and rising costs. The nonprofit organization reported before last year's Fourth that its expenses had exceeded revenues the past six years, draining the chamber's reserves.

After record ticket sales in 2016 of \$126,408, when two contestants competed for the crown, sales have declined, with just one contestant in many years. Ticket sales by a single contestant totaled \$53,704 in 2023 and \$56,260 in 2022.

The borough assembly last year authorized an additional \$25,000 to help the chamber cover its Fourth of July expenses as the organization worked to cut spending and bring in additional sponsors to help cover the costs of many of the events.

The assembly appropriated \$22,000 to \$27,000 per year to help pay the chamber's general operating budget in fiscal years 2021, 2022 and 2023, but did not include any direct contribution to the chamber for the budget year that ends June 30.

Wells said the chamber intends to ask the assembly to include a contribution in the borough budget that will be drafted later this spring for the fiscal year that starts July 1.



PHOTO BY MARK C. ROBINSON / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Comfortable bedtime reading

Librarian Sarah Scambler hosted a pajama story time at the Irene Ingle Public Library on March 27 where kids and parents were invited to come in their PJs to listen to her perform songs like "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" and "Baby Beluga," and read bedtime stories like "Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site," "The Going to Bed Book," "Good Night, Little Blue Truck" and "How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?"

Federal aid available to individuals with uninsured damages in landslide

BY BECCA CLARK
Sentinel reporter

Federal financial aid made available by a presidential disaster declaration requested by the Wrangell Cooperative Association is now available for people who suffered economic damages from the Nov 20 landslide.

The assistance includes grants for home or vehicle repairs, temporary rental assistance, replacing essential personal property and loss of subsistence foods, as well as medical, dental and funeral expenses.

The assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency is not available for damages covered by insurance, state disaster relief payments or other programs. However, if losses or damages go beyond assistance from other sources, or the expenses are excluded from other payments, FEMA assistance may still be available.

The assistance is available to anyone affected by the landslide in the community, Native and non-Native.

Anyone who has already registered for the state's disaster assistance program must also reg-

ister with FEMA to determine if they are eligible for additional funds.

Individuals can apply for the federal aid by calling the Alaska Helpline at 866-342-1699 between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, or apply online at disasterassistance.gov or by using the FEMA mobile app.

Long-term disaster loans are also available to businesses of all sizes, private nonprofit organizations and homeowners and renters to pay for repair or replacement costs not fully covered by insurance. The loans are offered through the U.S. Small Business Administration, and people can visit www.sba.gov/disaster, call 800-659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information.

The federal disaster declaration, issued March 15, also gives individuals and businesses more time to file this year's income tax return. Taxpayers now have until July 15 to file federal tax returns and make payments.

The IRS automatically provides filing and penalty relief to taxpayers with an IRS address of record in a disaster area. Taxpayers do not need to contact the agency to get this relief.

No starter plants

Continued from page 1

drangeas and lilacs which they were able to purchase through their regular produce supplier.

Much of Southeast Alaska also used Skagit as a plants supplier, so many businesses around the region are in the

same position as Sentry and IGA.

Mike White, Sentry manager, said they are trying to find another supplier for next season, but it's too late to do anything this year.

But finding another supplier has been challenging, White said. A lot of companies don't want to deal with transport to Alaska, he said. White also noted that suppliers need to be in the general Seattle area, otherwise plants won't survive the barge journey.

Laura Ballou, of Oceanview Gardens in Wrangell, is trying to do the best she can to provide extra plants last minute. She said she was planning to put together around 100 hanging baskets this year and has now increased her production to 150 baskets, which is the most she can do in the space she has.

Ballou noted that in the flower business, orders are typically placed with suppliers in October for the next spring.

She said if stores can't find another supplier, Oceanview Gardens would be willing to expand and build another greenhouse to supply more plants to

the community.

Ballou said her best advice to people who want plants this year is to grow their own. It's still early enough to plant seeds, she said.

She recommended plants like lettuce, broccoli, cabbage and kale. She also recommended flowers like pansies, petunias and violas. Ballou said these plants are generally easy to grow and don't require any special equipment — just water and sunshine.

Ballou mentioned that another option for plant starts is to purchase through the online supplier, Azure Standard, which gets delivered to Jamie Roberts in town once a month.

Oceanview Gardens has been operating in Wrangell for five years. Laura and her husband operate the farm and grow vegetables for the Stikine Inn Restaurant, strawberries, and over 2,000 peonies and tulips a summer that can be purchased at Midnight Oil.

She said that they are hoping to expand in the coming years and provide produce through community-supported agriculture.

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Stop serving up PFD as a sugary dessert

BY LARRY PERSILY
Publisher

Alaska faces a seriously long list of long-term serious problems.

Our population is aging, people are not moving here fast enough to replace those who leave, too many employers lack enough workers to fully staff their operations, and the state's finances are as stable as oil prices — which is to say not.

State funding for K-12 education is frozen in time from the past decade.

We maintain our deteriorating public buildings about as well as a teenager cleans their room.

And we seem in a contest to see which is in shorter supply in our communities — new housing or child care services. No matter which one wins the title, Alaskans lose.

Thankfully, we have the Permanent Fund, which, through its earnings, provides the largest single source of general purpose revenue for public services in the state budget.

Yet, with the Permanent Fund, we also have the Permanent Fund dividend, the largest single source of political divisiveness since Adam and Eve started arguing whether apples should be regulated.

I am starting to think the dividend is Alaska's political equivalent of comfort food. We know it's not healthy to keep eating over-size portions, but we can't help ourselves.

Such as the cooks in the House Finance Committee last week. The \$2,272 PFD in the draft budget unveiled by the kitchen leadership was unhealthy enough — it would overspend state revenues while ignoring multiple statewide and community needs that belong in the budget.

But then some pastry chefs on the committee tried to amend the budget to inflate the dividend to about \$3,500, which would have required overdrawing on the Permanent Fund or draining the state's budget shock absorber account dangerously close to bottoming out at

the next financial pothole.

The effort to serve up a \$3,500 dividend, a favorite dessert of Gov. Mike Dunleavy, ultimately failed. But the committee still needs to finish its budget work and the spending plan still needs to go to the full House for a vote, at which time it will be open to amendments to bring back the dessert tray.

And while the battle over the amount of this fall's dividend will continue until the Legislature adjourns in mid-May, there are several proposals in the House that would permanently alter the fund and Alaska's fiscal future — and not in a good way.

One proposal would ask voters to put the dividend in the state constitution, which is the last place you would want a political virus. Talk about a ransomware attack.

Another House bill is intended to remove the PFD from the annual legislative appropriation process, making it an automatic annual transfer. It's similar to setting up an autopay on your credit card, regardless of whether you can afford it.

Doubling down on two bad ideas at the same time, a House bill would direct the Permanent Fund to put billions of dollars of real money into a mirage. It would direct the fund to invest in a 25% stake in the proposed Alaska North Slope gas pipeline project. I suppose we should be happy it's not a 50% stake.

The most recent indigestible idea served in the House would allow Alaskans to opt out of receiving the annual dividend if they would rather get \$5,000 a year for three years. It's like a game show: Door No. 1 is guaranteed money you can take with you and then leave the state, while the prize behind Door No. 2 could last for future generations, if you trust Alaskans not to mess it up.

House members would do better to just close the door on unaffordable and irresponsible dividends.

EDITORIAL

Sen. Murkowski shows bravery with her honesty

Few Republicans are willing to publicly stand in front of the Donald Trump bandwagon as it speeds along toward the party's nomination for a third run at the presidency. Many are too afraid of angering his passionate supporters and losing their next election.

They see opportunity in climbing aboard his wagon, even if they think the guy driving the horses through political badlands shoots first and never asks questions, or forgiveness. They stick with him, even if they think the wheels may fall off as he bounces through his self-made potholes.

They are afraid he will turn on them if they question his leadership, his crass and antagonistic style, his deceit and meanness.

Thankfully, Alaska's senior senator, Lisa Murkowski, now in her 22nd year in Congress, is willing to speak her mind. Not that she is ever going to change Trump's mind, but her honesty gives hope that someday more of her fellow Republicans will speak up, too.

The senator did not call Trump names, or insult his manliness, or question his attire, or make fun of his heritage or anything similar to the nasty, personal insults Trump throws at anyone who does not support his candidacy, Murkowski simply said, "I wish that as Republicans we had a nominee that I could get behind."

"I certainly can't get behind Trump," she added in her comments to a CNN journalist March 24 in Washington, D.C.

The senator's position is nothing new; she has spoken out against Trump since he instigated the Jan. 6, 2021, riot at the Capitol intended to block the certification of Joe Biden's election as president.

Murkowski was one of seven Republican senators who voted to impeach Trump for his role in that shameful day.

"What happened on January 6 was ... an effort by people who stormed the building in an effort to stop an election certification of an election. It can't be defended," she said in the CNN interview. Trump, however, not only defends the rioters as "patriots," but talks of granting them pardons if he wins election in November.

Despite her lack of love for Trump, Murkowski is still a Republican, but an open-minded one, willing to put country before personality, the law before politics.

And just to clarify, she doesn't think much of Biden repeating another term in the White House. "I'm very discouraged to see a rerun of the 2020 campaign between these two deeply flawed candidates," she said in a written statement the day after her CNN interview.

She speaks her mind, honestly. That's a rare quality in politics these days. Alaskans should be proud of her.

Wrangell Sentinel

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Alaska fishing industry needs help from federal and state governments

The fishing industry has been a significant economic driver in the Southeast region for many years, and its importance has only grown over the past two decades.

As a public official for the past decade, I have been working hard to support the industry, and I will continue to do so. Unfortunately, the recent collapse of salmon prices worldwide, due to Russia's actions to fund its war efforts in Ukraine, has caused serious challenges to our Southeast Alaska commercial fleet and the industry as a whole. Therefore, support from various entities is crucial during this time.

I am a co-sponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 14, which

urges Congress to improve competitiveness and resiliency in the seafood industry. This means, among many things, establishing a seafood office at the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Alaska's seafood should be included in the national conversation on food security and supply chain concerns and should be afforded the same financial opportunities as other American food producers.

Additionally, I feel it's essential to support Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute funding and other marketing efforts to promote Alaska-caught fish to American consumers. Retailers stocking up on Russian fish and competitors like Norway ramping up their marketing efforts pose challenges that need to be addressed to ensure the success of the Alaska fishing industry.

I will also be seeking ways

to help the processing industry modernize its operations in order to remain competitive with evolving consumer preferences.

At the state level, the purchase of a remote-operated vessel by the Department of Fish and Game will be of significance to the charter and commercial industries in our district. After advocating for the ROV for years, we were able to secure funding during last year's budget process, and a habitat survey is expected to take place in the northern part of Southeast this year.

The underwater vehicle is a great tool to help better manage our fisheries, and hopefully someday soon a biomass survey of rockfish can happen in the inside southern Southeast waters.

Rep. Dan Ortiz

Christmas tree

Continued from page 1

About eight to 12 candidate trees throughout the Tongass will be evaluated by regional Forest Service personnel, Raile said.

"There are very specific criteria for the trees," he said. "We're looking for 65- to 80-foot-tall trees that have that good, classic-quality Christmas tree shape. And in an area that is as accessible as possible. We don't want to be cutting roads back to get to these trees, so we're looking for things that we can fairly easily get to."

Raile said the Architect of the Capitol is expected to visit Alaska in July to select the tree.

The Forest Service announced its selection of the Tongass on March 27.

There will be several "companion trees" also coming from the Tongass that will likely be transported via a

more expedient method such as air travel, one 25-footer that will go to the U.S. Department of Agriculture headquarters, and two 12-footers that will go to the offices of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Forest Service chief in Washington, D.C.

The Forest Service Alaska Region has partnered with nonprofits Society of American Foresters and Alaska Geographic to create a conservation education campaign tied to the project, educating people nationwide on Alaska's national forests and the multi-use mission of the agency, and will also support the tour across the country.

To learn more about the U.S. Capitol Christmas tree, go to uscapitolchristmastree.com.

The Juneau Empire contributed reporting for this story.

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**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

If any such Tuesday shall fall on a legal holiday as defined by the laws of the State of Alaska, the meetings scheduled for that day shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding day which is not a holiday. Separate notice for the regular assembly meetings shall not be required. There will be no regular meetings the second Tuesday in July and August and fourth Tuesday in December.

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

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

Publish April 3, 2024

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
LEGAL NOTICE**

Pursuant to the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, Borough Charter, Sec. 4, public notice is hereby given that the following ordinance listed by title only has been adopted by the Borough Assembly. Such ordinances are currently on file in the office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected upon request.

a. Ordinance No. 1052 of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, amending Section 5.14.025, Annual Review and Approval of Fee and Rate Schedule required, in the Wrangell Municipal Code

b. Ordinance No 1053 of the Assembly of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, amending Sections 16.08.030 – Applications, 16.10.030 – Applications, and 16.12.040 – Sale of Real Property or Tidelands, and establishing a new process for these rates and fees in the Wrangell Municipal Code by adding the fees to the established fee and rate schedule

c. Resolution No. 03-24-1848 of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, approving the amended fee and rate schedule for Permits and Applications.

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

Publish April 3, 2024

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

During the Regular Assembly Meeting of Tuesday, April 9, 2024, starting at 7 p.m. in the Wrangell Borough Assembly Chambers at 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska, there will be a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the following item(s):

- a. A Resolution of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, approving the conveyance of the Old Wrangell Medical Center and Real Property as described as Lot A, Block 54 of the W.M.C. Replat, Parcel 02-031-351, Zoned Open Space, to Wayne Johnson, DBA Wrangell Heritage House Development, LLC, and to apply WMC 16.12.012 – Disposition of Real Property for Economic Development Purposes for a fixed amount of \$200,000 for the purpose of demolishing the Old Wrangell Medical Center.
- b. A Resolution of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, approving the Tidelands Lease to Channel Construction, identified as Lots 7 and USS3000, of the USS 3534 Subdivision, zoned Waterfront Development according to Plat 29-20, for the purpose of constructing two shops for equipment and other
- c. A Resolution of the Assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, approving a Short-Term Tidelands Lease to Channel Construction, identified as a portion of the Lot PSS, of the USS 534 Subdivision, zoned Waterfront Development according to Plat 29-20, for the purpose of using the existing shop for parts storage and working on repairs to construction equipment.

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

Publish March 20, 27 and April 3, 2024

Annual community cleanup sweeps through town April 20

By **MARK C. ROBINSON**
Sentinel reporter

The time is coming once again for residents to help clean up the town, with Wrangell’s annual community cleanup scheduled for Saturday, April 20.

The spring cleanup includes volunteers picking up as much trash around town as possible. The event will start at the Evergreen Elementary gym at 8 a.m. and continue until noon, when there will be a free lunch. Free trash bags and disposable gloves will be provided and there will be drawings and cash prizes for volunteers.

After the bags and gloves are handed out, volunteers can head out and clean up along streets, roads and parks, anywhere in town. Organizers ask that everyone return their trash bags to the collection site at the school, where dumpsters and borough crews will be waiting to haul them away.

Longtime organizer Paula Rak asks that participants not fill up bags with garbage from their own yards or garages.

“I think it’s an amazing thing,” Rak said. “I think that if people are conscious of the litter, then they won’t contribute to the problem.”

“The community cleanup strengthens community bonds, promotes a litter-free environment and instills a sense of pride in the appearance of the commu-

nity,” IGAP technician Kim Wickman said via email.

Wickman annually coordinates the cleanup with Rak. The Wrangell Cooperative Association has been assisting with the event through its Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (IGAP) since 2017, but the event itself has been going on for decades.

“I moved here in November of 1980 and the Lions Club was already doing it,” Rak said. “They did the event for a couple of years. First prize was pizza, second prize was burgers and third prize was fries.”

She added that during that first year she participated in the cleanup, the weather was good and 30 volunteers showed up. However, it rained the following year, and only six arrived to help.

When Rak and others took charge of the event in the mid-1980s, they decided to provide more substantial cash prizes. Every trash bag turned in earns a ticket, and every ticket drawn will earn \$5 for the winner. Rak held a bake sale on Friday morning, March 29, at City Market to raise money for the cash prizes. “Some people will just drop off money, and that works too.”

Rak said there has been some criticism of providing cash incentives to cleanup participants and that people should do it out of civic duty. However, she felt that it motivated people, especially

kids, to get involved and help make Wrangell cleaner.

“Last year was a great success, and the weather played a crucial role. It was a clear and beautiful day,” Wickman said. “With the help of about 75 volunteers, we filled approximately six dumpsters and had three to four pickup trucks filled with large garbage items such as tires, a mini-fridge and a mattress delivered directly to the transfer station.”

For more information on the cleanup, call Wickman at 907-874-4304 or Rak at 907-874-3824.

Chili cook-off will warm up spring appetites and raise money

By **BECCA CLARK**
Sentinel reporter

Get out your crockpots, The Salvation Army is hosting a chili cook-off April 13 at the Nolan Center from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m.

Anyone is welcome to register to compete with their favorite chili recipe. Chilis will be tasted by three judges and members of the community. The judge’s favorite and the community favorite will each win a cash prize, said Capt. Chase Green of The Salvation Army, though the amount hasn’t been determined yet.

If you’re not competing, be sure to arrive to the event hungry. Community members will vote for their top three choices for the best chili.

Contestants must register for the event by April 10. Call The Salvation Army (907-874-3753), KSTK (907-874-2345) or the Nolan Center (907-874-3770) to sign up.

Wrangell hasn’t seen a chili cook-off since before the pandemic, and Green saw an opportunity to bring the event back to town. Previous chili cook-off events were hosted by KSTK and the Nolan Center.

The last chili cook-off saw almost 30 competitors, a number that Green said he is anticipating again this year.

The event will be a fundraiser, though Green said the main purpose of the event is to bring the community together. Admission to the event costs \$5 and proceeds will go to The Salvation Army food pantry.

“Chili not only warms people physically, but it warms their hearts too,” Green said, adding that spring is the time of year for people to get out and enjoy each other’s good company and food.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the estate of Timothy Douglas Heller, Notice to Creditors is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims will forever be barred. Claims must be filed with the court (Case No. 1WR-24-00005PR) or be presented to:

Alisa Bowman, Personal Representative
c/o McQuillan & Hohman Law, LLC
821 N Street, Suite 101
Anchorage, AK 99501

Publish March 27, April 3 and 10, 2024

**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
PUBLIC NOTICE
to Purchase Borough-Owned Property**

Notice is hereby given that an application has been received to purchase Borough-owned property.

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission has reviewed this request and voted to approve the request to move forward with the sale of the six lots.

Any person wishing to protest this request to purchase the proposed Borough-owned property described as:

Lots 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 9 of Subdivision Plat Block 54, according to Plat No. 68-81 (behind old Wrangell Medical Center), Zoned Open Space and requested by Wayne Johnson.

... must file a written protest with the Borough Clerk, no later than April 4, 2024, at 4 p.m.

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

A Public Hearing will be held on April 9, 2024, during the Regular Assembly meeting that will begin at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Assembly Chambers. If you wish to comment on this request to purchase Borough-owned property, please arrive before 7 p.m. and sign up under Persons to Be Heard.

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

Publish March 20 and 27, and April 3, 2024

WRANGELL
REAL ESTATE

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movetowrangell.com

Police report

Monday, March 25
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for failure to stop at stop sign.
 Found property
 Citizen assist.

Tuesday, March 26
 Threats.
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Report of possible intoxicated driver.
 Order to show cause.
 Citizen assist.
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for speeding.

Wednesday, March 27
 Dog complaint.
 Disturbance.

Thursday, March 28
 Arrest for violation of conditions of release.
 Criminal mischief.
 Parental issue.

Friday, March 29
 Brandishing a weapon:

Unfounded.
 Civil matter.
 Traffic stop: Warning issued for no headlights.

Saturday, March 30
 Arrest for driving under the influence.
 Dog complaint.
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for no valid driver's license and speeding.
 Agency assist: U.S. Forest Service case, referred to state trooper.

Sunday, March 31
 Suspicious circumstance.
 Agency assist: Municipal line crew.
 Violation conditions of release.
 Report of reckless driving: Unable to locate.
 Arrest: Violation of conditions of release.

Divers start underwater work to install anodes on harbor pilings

By **BECCA CLARK**
Sentinel reporter

Work has begun to install 830 corrosion-preventing anodes on the pilings in Heritage Harbor and the Marine Service Center.

The anodes are pieces of oxidizing metal that protect the steel pilings and piers from underwater corrosion. During a routine check of the pilings last year the borough discovered that anodes had never been installed during construction of Heritage Harbor in 2009.

The Marine Service Center boat haul-out pier and T-dock also were not fitted with anodes when they were designed and constructed.

The total project is estimated to cost \$931,000, funded by the Port and Harbors reserve.

A crew of divers with Juneau-based Global Diving and Salvage arrived March 27 and began work on the installation March 29. The

project is estimated to take 28 days, said Harbormaster Steve Miller.

Work began at the Marine Service Center, and four divers will work seven days a week for 12 hours a day until the project is finished.

Depending on other work going on at the Marine Service Center, Miller said the divers may move back and forth between there and Heritage Harbor to make the most efficient use of their time.

Miller said they don't anticipate needing to move any vessels for the project as the crew is used to working in harbors and around boats.

Miller said he is unsure why the anodes weren't installed during the original construction, but that it was likely to cut costs. Heritage Harbor was constructed mostly with grant money, which often adds extra pressure to stay within the budget, he said.

Installing anodes will help preserve pilings for an added 20 to 30 years, Miller said.

Murkowski reiterates she cannot support Trump

By **IRIS SAMUELS**
Anchorage Daily News

Alaska Republican U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski has made headlines again with comments on her unwillingness to vote for former president Donald Trump, which puts her in an ever-shrinking group of GOP members opposing the party's presumptive nominee for president.

"I wish that as Republicans, we had a nominee that I could get behind," Murkowski told a CNN journalist in a brief hallway interview posted online on March 24.

"I certainly can't get behind Trump," Murkowski added. Her comments triggered stories on a number of national news sites.

On March 25, Murkowski said in a statement to the Anchorage Daily News that she remains a member of the GOP, after her comments to CNN prompted speculation that she had not ruled out leaving the party.

"I have been a Republican

my entire life and continue to be despite our party's nominee. My statements last week echoed what I believe is on many Americans' minds — we are navigating uncertain and challenging political times. I'm very discouraged to see a rerun of the 2020 campaign between these two deeply flawed candidates," Murkowski said in a written statement.

Murkowski is one of a small group of Senate Republicans who have been open about their opposition to Trump's 2024 presidential run. The group also includes Susan Collins of Maine, Mitt Romney of Utah, Todd Young of Indiana, and Bill Cassidy of Louisiana.

Her comments in the CNN interview were in line with Murkowski's long-standing position on Trump. Murkowski was quick after the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the U.S. Capitol to call on Trump to step down, and was one of only seven Republicans to vote for his impeachment at the

time.

Even before then, Murkowski has distanced herself from the far-right wing of the GOP. In 2010, she won her seat in a write-in campaign after a tea party Republican beat her in the GOP primary. In 2022, she beat a Trump-backed Republican opponent in a ranked-choice election.

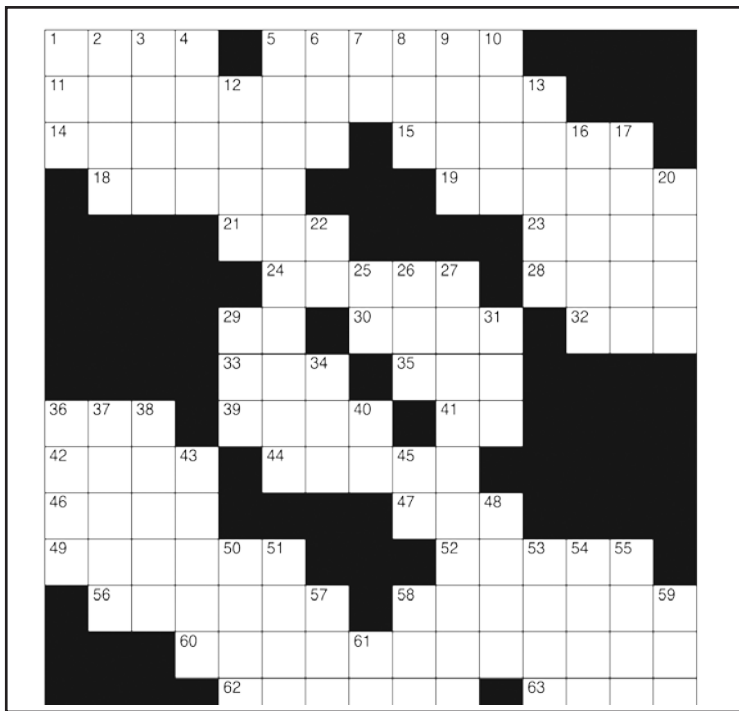
Ahead of the 2022 election, Trump campaigned against Murkowski, speaking in support of Republican opponent Kelly Tshibaka at an Anchorage rally.

In 2016, both Murkowski and Alaska Sen. Dan Sullivan called on Trump to drop out of the presidential race after the GOP nominee boasted in vulgar language about forcing himself sexually on women.

"I just regret that our party is seemingly becoming a party of Donald Trump," Murkowski answered when asked by the CNN reporter if she was considering leaving the Republican Party to become an independent.

Crossword

Answers on page 8



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A minute amount (British)
- 5. Mystical or magical
- 11. Shortening
- 14. More satisfying
- 15. Other side
- 18. Philippine island
- 19. More unnatural
- 21. Mutual savings bank
- 23. Famed designer Chanel
- 24. Makes less wild
- 28. At some prior time
- 29. The cops who investigate the cops
- 30. Immune system response
- 32. Distress signal
- 33. Engine additive
- 35. "No Scrubs" trio
- 36. Very fast airplane
- 39. A reward (archaic)
- 41. Commercial
- 42. Spots where golfers start
- 44. Polite form of address (Indian)
- 46. French river
- 47. Reduce the light
- 49. Blood-sucking fly
- 52. A way to categorize
- 56. Procrastinates
- 58. Tall slender tower
- 60. Where researchers work
- 62. Office of the Pope
- 63. Office furnishing

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Possesses
- 2. American Board of Orthopedic Surgery
- 3. Ancient Syrian city
- 4. Clip
- 5. In a way, misleads
- 6. Human gene
- 7. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 8. Lizard genus
- 9. Parasites that invade the skin
- 10. Took apart
- 12. Mild yellow Dutch cheese
- 13. S. California town
- 16. Suffix plural
- 17. Painting technique
- 20. Small Eurasian deer
- 22. Mr. T character
- 25. Microsoft
- 26. Shock therapy
- 27. Able to be sold
- 29. A doctrine
- 31. These three follow A
- 34. Pulse
- 36. Quantitative fact
- 37. Doctor __: children's book author
- 38. Hebrew calendar month
- 40. Designated hitter
- 43. Norther Poland village
- 45. A passport is one form
- 48. Hand (Spanish)
- 50. Hit with the open hand
- 51. Actor Idris
- 53. Shakespeare's nickname "The __"
- 54. Northern U.S. lake
- 55. Marvin and Horsley are two
- 57. Soak
- 58. Partner to cheese
- 59. Expression of disappointment
- 61. College dorm employee

Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



CLASSIFIED

HELP WANTED
 Now hiring in Petersburg: Executive Director for Working Against Violence for Everyone (WAVE). Are you passionate about creating safer communities and ending violence? WAVE is seeking a dynamic Executive Director to lead our mission-driven organization. Responsibilities include strategic planning, fundraising, staff management and community engagement.

Ideal candidates will have a proven track record in nonprofit leadership, advocacy and a commitment to social justice. Join us in making a difference. Closes April 19. Apply at www.petersburgwave.org/careers

will require working Saturdays. Valid Alaska driver's license, must be able to lift 50 lbs., forklift experience a plus, starting pay is DOE. Position starting in April. Stop by Johnson's for an application.

HELP WANTED
 Johnson's Building Supply is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **Lead Warehouseman:** Duties include checking in freight, stocking inventory, scheduling and making deliveries to customers, helping customers pull materials, and counter sales. Full-time position, will require working Saturdays. Valid Alaska driver's license, must be able to lift 50 lbs., forklift experience a plus, starting pay is DOE. Position starts immediately.
- **Customer Service:** Duties include counter sales, freight handling, customer deliveries, stocking and inventory. Full-time position,

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

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

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House passes bill to make church vandalism a felony

By the Alaska Beacon

Vandalism directed at a church or other property used by a religious organization would become a felony in Alaska if legislation passed by the state House of Representatives becomes law.

The House voted 35-5 on March 20 to approve House Bill 238, from Anchorage Rep. Andy Josephson, sending the bill to the Senate for further debate.

"I think it's rational to say that when you commit harm to a house of worship, it should be more serious" than a misdemeanor, Josephson said.

He said the defacement of a church draws "community-wide reaction and response" because it affects an entire congregation. If a single business is vandalized, it affects fewer people.

Josephson said 42 states penalize church vandalism more heavily than vandalism of something like a park bench. "I want to join those 42 other states."

One of the "no" votes was Juneau Rep. Sara Hannan, who said she was dissatisfied that the bill treats church vandalism like a property crime. She would have preferred that it be considered a hate crime.

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

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
 NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

Notice is hereby given that the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska will receive sealed bids for the construction of the **WRANGELL AIRPORT AIRFIELD LIGHTING BACK-UP POWER CONNECTION** project. The WORK generally includes mobilization, electrical service equipment, underground electrical systems, cabling, wiring, panelboard and other improvements necessary to provide for a backup power generator connection.

Sealed bids will be received by the City and Borough of Wrangell, Post Office Box 531, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, or located at the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, until 2 p.m. prevailing time on May 1, 2024 and publicly opened and read at that time.

The Contract Documents are available in electronic format and can be downloaded from the City and Borough of Wrangell website (www.wrangell.com) under the Bids and RFP's section.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive any informality in a Bid, or to make award as it best serves the interests of the OWNER.

Mason Villarma, Borough Manager
 City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish April 3, 10 and 17, 2024

**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
 NOTICE INVITING BIDS
 CITY PARK PAVILION REPLACEMENT,
 DESIGN-BUILD**

Notice is hereby given that the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, will receive sealed bids for the **CITY PARK PAVILION REPLACEMENT, DESIGN-BUILD** project. Work consists of all activities necessary to design and construct the City Park Pavilion Replacement Project reflected in the contract documents. The work generally includes mobilization, concrete foundation, timber-frame construction, roofing, fireplace and other improvements. The Owner's Estimate for all work is approximately \$115,000 to \$125,000.

Sealed bids will be received by the City and Borough of Wrangell, Post Office Box 531, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, or located at the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, until 2 p.m. prevailing time on April 12, 2024, and publicly opened and read at that time.

The Contract Documents are available in electronic format and can be downloaded from the City and Borough of Wrangell website (www.wrangell.com) under the Bids and RFP's section. Downloading Contract Documents from the City and Borough of Wrangell's website requires registration with the Borough Clerk to be placed on the Plan Holders List and to ensure receipt of subsequent Addenda. Failure to register may adversely affect your proposal. It is the Offeror's responsibility to ensure that they have received all Addenda affecting this Solicitation. To be registered, contact the Borough Clerk at 907-874-2381 or at clerk@wrangell.com

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive any informality in a Bid, or to make award as it best serves the interests of the owner.

Mason Villarma, Interim Borough Manager
 City and Borough of Wrangell

Publish March 27, April 3 and 10, 2024

**STATE OF ALASKA
 DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
 DIVISION OF FORESTRY & FIRE PROTECTION
 KOSCIUSKO EAST TIMBER SALE**

Notice of Timber Sale under AS 38.05.945 & AS 38.05.035(e). The State of Alaska, represented by the Alaska State Forester of the Department of Natural Resources, does hereby notify that the Division of Forestry & Fire Protection (DOF) is offering the following commercial timber sale for competitive sealed bid: Kosciusko East (SSE-1384-K).

The DOF is offering the State timber sold under AS 38.05.120 as described and represented by the Kosciusko East Timber Sale Forest Land Use Plan.

The Kosciusko East Timber Sale is located within the Southeast State Forest on Kosciusko Island, near Edna Bay, Alaska. The sale is located on the south side of Kosciusko Island with limited road access. The sale includes approximately 186 acres in eight harvest units composed primarily of old growth timber. The saw-timber proposed for harvest is Sitka spruce, western hemlock, and western redcedar. The estimated No. 3 sawlogs and better within the sale are composed of 6,767 MBF of old growth saw timber and an incidental amount of young growth saw timber. Another 970 MBF of No. 4 sawlogs and (net) utility grade wood is estimated in the harvest units. Removal of the No. 4 sawlogs and utility grade logs is optional.

The term of the contract is three years. The purchaser is required to deposit a performance bond with the State for an amount of \$100,000.00 at the time of signing the contract.

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources hereby gives notice that it is in the best interest of the State to offer this timber sale by a competitive sealed bid process. To qualify bidders must, prior to the bid opening, not be in breach of any prior timber sale contract, and must submit a copy of their current Alaska Business License. The Business License copy may accompany the sealed bid. The sealed bid shall be on forms provided by the Division of Forestry, marked on the outside of the envelope with the timber sale name and number, addressed to the Southeast Area Office, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213 Ketchikan, Alaska 99901 and will be accepted until **2 p.m.** prevailing time, **April 22, 2024**. Sealed bids may also be presented in person to the Southeast Area Forester before the bid opening. All bids must be in the physical possession of the Southeast Area Forester before the bid opening. Bidders are responsible for ensuring their complete bid package is delivered on time.

For a bid to qualify, prospective bidders will be required to submit a 5% bid deposit of the total bid value. The State reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Unless all bids are rejected, the sale will be awarded to the responsible qualified bidder offering the highest total bid value for the timber on the sale. The State also reserves the right to waive technical defects in this advertisement in the best interest of the State. The minimum acceptable total bid price for the timber is **\$641,098.00**.

If bidding as an agent for an individual, partnership, or corporation, the agent must submit with the bid a notarized power-of-attorney authorizing such agency. No agent may represent more than one principal, or bid in competition with the agent's principal.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Alaska Division of Forestry	Contact:	Greg Staunton
2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213	Phone:	(907) 225-3070
Ketchikan, AK 99901	Email:	greg.staunton@alaska.gov

Copies of the prospectus are available for review at the Division's Area Office in Ketchikan and on the State Online Public Notice System at <http://notice.alaska.gov/214720>.

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 help with bidding should contact the Division of Forestry at 907-225-3070 to make any necessary arrangements.

Publish March 27 and April 3, 2024

