



Wrangell, Alaska  
May 24, 2018

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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8 Pages



PHOTO COURTESY OF VINCENT BALANSAG

## A real life adjustment

Wrangell High School's graduating class of 2018 adjust their tassels during Friday's ceremony. At commencement students start by wearing them to the right, then move them to the left after receiving their diplomas. Seventeen students in all received their sheepskins this year.

# Tribal members take field trip to Anan Creek

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

A group of Tlingit residents had a unique opportunity for an historical site visit with state archaeologists last week at Anan Creek, revisiting a traditional fishing ground.

Now known best for its bear observatory, what draws those bears is the creek's yearly run of salmon. This salmon run at Anan has long been a source of food for the nearby population as well, as attested to by the remnants of a tidal fish trap still near the creek on Sealaska Corporation lands. The United States Forest Service has logged a number of similar stake-based traps around the region, placed along tidal flats to trap fish within as the tide ebbed off.

For last week's trip USFS brought over two of its staff archaeologists from Petersburg, Jane Smith and Gina Esposito, to accompany a group of elders and associates of the Wrangell Cooperative Association. Around 20 people in all made the trek on May 17 to Anan, a site on the mainland just south of Wrangell Island. WCA tribal administrator Esther Ashton worked with USFS recreation director Tory Houser to arrange the trip.

"I had heard the tribal organization really wanted to go down there," explained Houser. "We put together a grant and got

the money together for our charter."

It was a two-year process to navigate, she went on, but funds to transport the archaeologists and send the whole group down were acquired. Unplanned but appreciated, it was a beautiful day to be out as well.

"We're super lucky we got this day," said Houser.

"I think it was just a good opportunity for us to get together with the Forest Service. We've had an awesome, collaborative relationship with them," said Ashton. "We tried to bring as many board members as we could, we brought employees, and we wanted to find a couple of tribal elders along to share what they knew."

"It was interesting, I haven't been down to Anan for years and years. Back in the 60s we were down there a lot," said James Stough, a member of the WCA Council. Participating in last week's visit, he explained the creek had been a mainstay for his family's subsistence fishing.

"My mother's mother used to take her back there," Stough recollected, close to 90 years ago. "From my understanding it was more of a summer place where they gathered and put up fish and gathered berries."

Arriving at the beachside site, the group explored the old trap setup. An-



PHOTO COURTESY OF WCA

Arthur Larsen holds up part of a stake eroded free from a fish trap near Anan Creek's tidal flats. The tool marks made from sharpening it to a point are still evident.

chored deeply into the soil, wooden stakes as big as five or six feet would be sharpened using stone adzes and arranged in a funneling line that led to a sort of corral. The exposed stumps of those at the Anan trap number in the hundreds, and Smith explained radiometric dating suggests the materials have been in use there for around 1,500 years.

"We can use archaeology to verify that," she said. "It's not just a historical

site. There's a really ancient, prehistorical component. People have been down there for thousands of years."

Of the 369 or so trap and weir sites currently known of around Southeast Alaska, a few sampled sites date to modern times, while the oldest stake found dates back 5,600 years. For context, that would put the trap site 1,000 years older than the first pyramids in Egypt. Most

Continued on page 8

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, May 24:** Lillian Smith, Brandon Ellsworth, Jordan Glass, Yvonne Bjorge Reeve, Bucky Bjorge, Jana Barlow. *Anniversary:* Lorne and Stephanie Cook. **Friday, May 25:** Guy Young, Chelsea Schoonover, Scott Thomas. *Anniversary:* Jake and Alesha Jabusch. **Saturday, May 26:** Jesse Sumner, Judy Bakeberg, Israel Comstock, Shaleen Kuntz, Jordan Veelle. **Sunday, May 27:** Cathy Cooper, Amanda Johnson, Ida Howell, Austin Dow, Aaron Comstock, Nola Walker, Tonia Ayers. *Anniversary:* Gene and Maggie Fennimore. **Monday, May 28:** Lucas Stearns, Debbie Torvend. **Tuesday, May 29:** Jeff Angerman, Wayne Kaer, Robert Baremore. *Anniversary:* Joe and Alexandra Rugo, Keene and Faye Kohrt. **Wednesday, May 30:** Draven Golding, Timothy Garcia. *Anniversary:* Rob and Dena McChargue, James and Brandy Castle, Walter Moorhead and Carol Ross. **Thursday, May 31:** Tristan Byford, Louise Shilts, Rose Sundberg, Miles Brown, William Shilts, Michelle Beaghoff.

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

## Senior Center Menu

### Thursday, May 24

Chicken with noodles, mixed vegetables, cabbage, pear & raisin salad.

### Friday, May 25

Memorial Day BBQ at Shoemaker, deluxe hamburger, sliced cantaloupe, carrot pineapple salad, macaroni salad (side dishes welcome)

### Monday, May 28

Memorial Day Closed

### Tuesday, May 29

Chicken noodle soup, 1/2 cheese & tomato sandwich, fiesta pork chops, baked sweet potatoes & apples, cabbage slaw.

### Wednesday, May 30

Moose meatloaf, steamed spinach, fruit slaw, mashed potatoes & gravy.

Please call Wrangell Senior Center at 874-2066 by 10 a.m. for reservations. Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

## FERRY

### Departures

#### Northbound

**Sunday, May 27**

Columbia 7:15 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 29**

Malaspina 3:00 p.m.

**Saturday, June 2**

Malaspina 11:15 a.m.

**Sunday, June 3**

Columbia 4:45 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 5**

Malaspina 4:15 p.m.

#### Southbound

**Thursday, May 24**

Malaspina 10:45 p.m.

**Monday, May 28**

Malaspina 4:15 a.m.

**Wednesday, May 30**

Columbia 7:30 a.m.

**Thursday, May 31**

Malaspina 8:30 p.m.

**Monday, June 4**

Malaspina 6:30 a.m.

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



## TIDES May 24 - May 31

### High Tides

### Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
May 24	9:49	13.9	10:24	16.3	3:38	2.9	3:48	1.6
May 25	10:53	14.4	11:12	17.1	4:45	1.5	4:47	1.7
May 26	11:48	14.9	11:56	17.7	5:38	0.1	5:38	1.7
May 27	....	...	12:37	15.3	6:23	-0.9	6:21	1.9
May 28	0:37	17.9	1:22	15.4	7:02	-1.5	6:59	2.2
May 29	1:14	17.8	2:03	15.3	7:37	-1.8	7:34	2.6
May 30	1:49	17.4	2:42	15.0	8:11	-1.7	8:08	3.2
May 31	2:22	16.8	3:19	14.5	8:43	-1.3	8:41	3.7

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Saturday, May 26

**Baby Raven Reads:** 10 a.m.- 12 p.m., Cultural Center. Alaska Native families with children up to age five are invited to join us for storytelling, songs, and other cultural and literacy activities. Families can enroll at the event. This week's theme is Salmon Boy. To enroll go to [goo.gl/pX8gDz](http://goo.gl/pX8gDz) or call SHI education office at 907-586-9219

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

## Continuing Events

**PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES:** Mid-day closure: M-F 1:30-3:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

### Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:

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

Water Aerobics:

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

Lap Swim:

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

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

2 Lane Lap Swim:

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

Lap/Tot Swim:

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

Swim Club:

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

Open Swim:

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

**Weight Room:** M-Thu 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m. F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m. S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

### MEETINGS

**AA Meetings:** Smoked Fish Fri 8 p.m.; Step Study Sat. 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Study Materials provided.

## The Way We Were

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

### May 23, 1918

The United States Food administration has set the prices for salmon as: Salmon taken by crews operating with company boat, gear, and fuel: Red Kings, 6c/lb; White Kings, 3c/lb.; Sockeyes and Cohoes, 25c/fish; Chums, 6c/fish; Pinks, 4c/fish. With crews operating independent boat, gear, and fuel: Red Kings, 7c/lb; White Kings, 3 1/2c/lb; Sockeyes and Cohoes, 30c/fish; Chums, 7c/fish; Pinks, 5c/fish.

### May 21, 1943

To extend its rifle range to 300 yards, men of the Wrangell unit will meet at the rifle range tomorrow to clear and prepare the new range. Women of the Legion Auxiliary will serve coffee and sandwiches. A full turnout of the Guard is ordered so that the work can be completed so that it can be put in service. Men in the community who are not members of the Guard are invited to come and help the Guardsmen.

### May 23, 1968

It looks like it will be six months before Wrangell gets a television system.

City councilmen this week appeared to be taking on a wait and see attitude toward allowing the opening of a cable television station here.

The reason: a United States Supreme Court case on the legality of taped television programs is scheduled for a decision in about a month.

Councilmen Tuesday heard a presentation by General Telephone Co. officials. It was the third firm that has submitted a formal proposal to the city to operate a television service.

The General Telephone officials estimated it would take

90 days to go on the air, if they got a city okay. They said they were only interested in operating in Wrangell if Petersburg would also take their service.

### May 20, 1993

Electricity could be made available to Wrangell West residents as early as autumn of 1994, City Council members were told at a public workshop Monday night.

Bob Martin, chairman of the Tlingit-Haida Regional Electric Authority (THREA), told the council and about a dozen citizens: "We'd like to do this project. I think it would be a good opportunity for us."

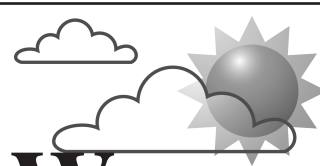
The project would involve installing power poles and lines from the end of the city's current service at about Pats Creek to the end of the Wrangell West subdivision near McCormack Creek.

After building the lines,

THREA would begin providing electricity for that area, purchasing the power from either the City of Wrangell or the Four Dam Pool.

The project became a possibility for THREA after it received a low-interest \$5.6 million loan in April from the federal Rural Electrification Act. The loan was granted for the expressed purpose of expanding electrical service to the Chilkat Valley in the Haines Borough, and to Wrangell West.

THREA supplies electricity directly to six Southeast communities: Hoonah, Angoon, Kake, Klawock, and Kasaan. In those communities they generate power with their own diesel plants, which would not be required at Wrangell West. In Yakutat and the Chilkat Valley, the authority has contracts to run the utilities in those areas.



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
May 14	52	46
May 15	55	44
May 16	59	42
May 17	64	41
May 18	66	46
May 19	60	44
May 20	57	46
May 21	54	50



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
May 24	4:22 am	9:08 pm	16:46h
May 25	4:20 am	9:10 pm	16:50h
May 26	4:19 am	9:12 pm	16:53h
May 27	4:17 am	9:13 pm	16:56h
May 28	4:16 am	9:15 pm	16:59h
May 29	4:15 am	9:16 pm	17:01h
May 30	4:13 am	9:18 pm	17:05h
May 31	4:12 am	9:19 pm	17:07h

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# Fourth royalty candidates unfurled for coming competition

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

This year's candidates for Wrangell's Fourth of July Royalty competition were announced at the Stikine Inn during a meet and greet Monday.

Three young people will be running during next month's competition, which raises money both for themselves and for the annual Independence Day festivities. The competition stands out from others in recent years with the inclusion of two candidates for king, and for including already-graduated students.

For example, Robbie Marshall graduated from Wrangell High School back in 2014, leaving for University of Alaska Southeast in Juneau.

"I went to college for two and a half years, and I was going towards a mathematics degree," he explained. "But I

unfortunately had to come back due to lack of funds. And so this will kind of get me that start money I need to get back into college. End game, I want to be a school teacher, a math teacher."

Graduating from WHS last week, McKinley Bosdell intends to earn an associates degree at Portland Community College, pursuing her bachelors from there.

Her goal by competing this year is "to collect money so I can move down to Oregon and go to college there to be an American Sign Language interpreter. ...I'd like to give back to the community," she added. "It feels like this community has given a lot to me so it just feels right to give back and raise a lot of money for next year's Fourth of July."

Candidate Draven Golding will be turning 19 next week, and is running to raise funds for

life's next step.

"I want to run so I can get enough money for my next adventure," he explained. "I don't want to move and worry about a job right away. I want to have some money in case my main plan goes wrong or whatever, and I also want to have some funds for schooling and whatnot. ...I will probably go into community college, because it's just a bit cheaper. I'm thinking about aviation, up in Everett maybe. ... I guess it all depends on how the journey goes. I really want to fly planes in Juneau, or maybe even helicopters. Or maybe even work on them, like in mechanics. I just want to be surrounded by it."

Running food booths throughout the month of June and selling tickets up until the July 4th holiday, the candidates will be competing to see who can raise the most. An additional booth structure was added at the downtown pavilion to accommodate all of the competitors this year, and the participants can expect to put in a lot of hours over the coming five weeks.

They will have help, at least. Marshall's ticket manager will be Katrina Ottesen, while his food manager will be Janell Stutz. Helping run the booth and the advertising will be Greg and Tammi Meissner. And supporting the venture, Marshall's sponsors will include Cabin Café, Grand View Bed & Breakfast, White Enterprises, Breakaway Adventures and the Bay Company.

"We've got a lot of great dinners and lunches kind of planned out. A lot of specials from a lot of locals. We've got a

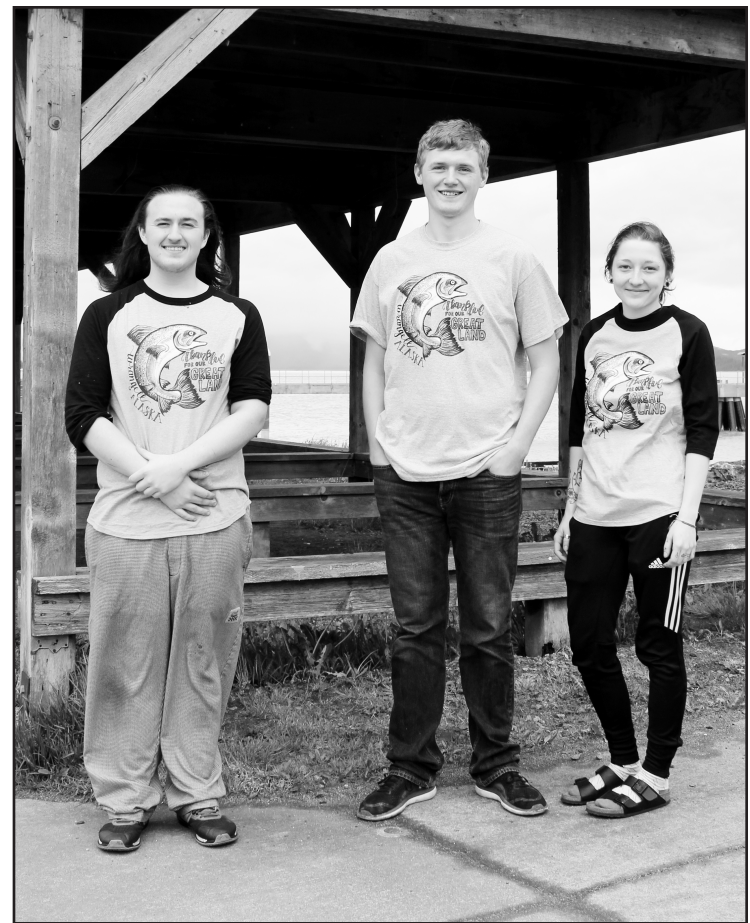


PHOTO BY Dan Rudy

**Draven Golding, Robbie Marshall and McKinley Bosdell sport this year's shirts for Wrangell's July 4th celebrations. The three are vying to be crowned in the celebration's annual royalty fundraiser.**

lot of rummage sales planned out, and we'll be doing a lot of events around the summer solstice," he said.

Bosdell will be supported by food manager JoDee Howell, while Michael Howell will be her ticket manager. Bosdell will be sponsored by Harbor House, Dave's Welding and Repair, JP's Welding, John Taylor and Sons, and Jamie and Rolland Howell.

She said there would be "a lot of yummy food, that's for sure. And events, I believe we're going to have a silent auction at the bank towards the end of the month."

Golding would be supported by food manager

Shawna Bunes, ticket manager Aleisha Mollen, and with advertising by Betsy Golding. His sponsors are Stikine Inn, BW Enterprises, DC Auto-Marine, Bunes Electric and the F/V Mandy J.

"We have a few silent auctions at First Bank and possibly other banks," Golding said. "We are going to have a few car washes on Saturday throughout the month of June. Throughout the week, we're going to have like a taco Tuesday kind of thing, and like a healthy Wednesday."

All three candidates maintain support pages on Facebook.

Please join us in honoring our military service men and women!

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- Alaska Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2111
- 501st Airborne (Logan Post 1)
- 501st Airborne Association
- 488th Airborne (Logan Post 1)
- 488th Airborne Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4111
- 488th Airborne Veterans Memorial Fund
- Wrangell Veterans League Post 6
- 1st of Wales American Legion Post 26
- 1st of Wales VFW Post 12111

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**May 24 and 25, Wrangell Medical Center**

Call 907-228-7688 to schedule an appointment.

**PeaceHealth** [peacehealth.org/outreachcalendar](http://peacehealth.org/outreachcalendar)

## Police report

### Monday, May 14

20 Day ex parte domestic violence protective order.

Report of theft/fraud.

### Tuesday, May 15

Dog at large.

Agency assist: Brown bear killed at 6 mile.

Domestic/verbal.

Arrested: Wilson Boon, 29: Charges of DVPO violation, 2 counts, criminal mischief V, unlawful contact, violation conditions of release, 2 counts.

### Wednesday, May 16

Road debris: Truck driver given warning.

Inmate incident.

Citizen assist: Unlocked vehicle.

Harassment.

### Thursday, May 17

DVO paper service.

MVA.

### Friday, May 18

Welfare check.

Paper service: Trespass notice.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for expired tags.

Citations issued: Devan Harding, 25: Operating vehicle with expired registration and driving without proper license.

Suspicious activity unfounded.

Found property cell phone: Returned to owner.

Summons service.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for faulty equipment.

Unsecured premises.

### Saturday, May 19

Gunshots/fireworks: Fireworks set off at graduation celebration at City Park. Verbal warning given.

Citations issued: Keven Stutz, 56: Operating ve-

hicle with expired registration and failure to provide proof of insurance.

Agency Assist: Intoxicated person.

Agency assist/line crew: Power outage.

Civil standby.

Citations issued: Kristina Woodbury, 39: Operating vehicle with expired registration.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for out of state plates.

Citations issued: Jennifer Shilts, 40: Operating vehicle with expired registration and failure to provide proof of insurance. Verbal warning to park vehicle until title straightened out.

Citation issued: Steven Johnson, 35: Operating vehicle with expired registration.

Citation issued: Lorena Cano, 51: Operating vehicle with expired registration.

Citation issued: Brooke Leslie, 32: Operating vehicle with expired registration.

Traffic Stop: Verbal warning for out of state plates.

Citation issued to David Brindle, 51: Operating vehicle with expired registration.

Agency assist.

Citations issued: John Garlock, 55: Operating vehicle with expired registration, failure to provide proof of insurance, and driving without a valid license.

Suspicious activity.

### Sunday, May 20

Report of burglary/theft.

Citizen report of DUI.

Agency assist: Injured eagle, eagle flew off before officer's arrival.

During this reporting period there were two EMS call outs and one animal complaint.

# Walker makes stop into Petersburg for May 17 festival

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

PETERSBURG - Gov. Bill Walker stopped in Petersburg for a brief visit Friday, making the rounds for meetings and taking some time to participate in its Little Norway festivities.

"It's perfect. I can't complain about a day like today," Walker commented, noting the afternoon's cloudless sunshine. He had attended Petersburg's distinctive festival before, but this year's trip was his first since being elected as governor four years ago. "I came down obviously to meet with various folks, but I was also in the parade. It was a great parade, one of the best in the state."

After the Alaska Legislature reached a compromise on the coming year's budget earlier last week, Walker has 20 days to review it before signing it. He anticipated it will be receiving his signature with no problems, saying, "When it gets to me I will."

On lending his support for additional funding that would make it possible to ship remaining material left from Wrangell's Byford junkyard cleanup, Walker explained his decision had been influenced by the community's concerns.

"There was input from different groups that came to see me in Juneau, some with the tribal organizations, and some from city folks or borough folks," he said. "We threw it out there to see if it would get funding, and by golly it did."

On the previous session, he reflected on legislators' coming together.

"I think it went well. I think a couple things were different this year from prior years. Some said there would be nothing happening this year because it's an election year, so they're not going to do anything. Last year there were 32 bills that were passed and it was about 200-plus days in session," he said. "This year it was 117 days and 113 bills passed. So it was about half the time and almost three or four times the work that we got done."

After several years of budgets with significant deficits that drew from reserve accounts, Walker noted this year was different.

"I think they knew they were getting to the bottom of the last account that they could draw from and they had to make a decision about the earnings, and so they did that," was one. "The second thing is, towards the end of the session, they stopped having press availabilities. They stopped talking about each other and started talking to each other, and I think that helped as well."

A hole of around \$700 million remains in this upcoming year's budget, something yet to be addressed. However, Walker felt the state was on its way.

"We have to see where we are on oil prices. That certainly has an impact on what we do and how close that's going to come. But the nice thing is we've fixed

80 percent of the problem, so we have a 20-percent problem now. So rather than, the worst we had was \$3.7 billion deficit, now it's \$700 million. Still a big number - a huge number - but still I think more manageable than what we had before. So it could be a combination of things. We will continue to look at ways at reducing the cost of government, more efficiencies, et cetera. But then the price of oil will impact it as well, and then we'll see what makes sense as far what other kind of revenue is out there. What will be fair to Alaskans is what we're most concerned about."

With this year's budget, concluding June 30, a gap remains in the state's ability to compensate Medicaid claims. "There's about a \$20 million shortfall, which is considerably less than what we had last year, as far as a shortfall," Walker said. He said the state would try to manage compensation to providers, and that some will have to wait for a three-week period before full funding is available again on July 1.

Walker touched on several other issues during his interview.

On transboundary mining issues with Canada and water quality: "Lt. Gov. (Byron) Mallott has been working on that part of it. We do meet regularly with the government of British Columbia and the federal government on transboundary issues, recognizing that what they do in their mines impact our waters, so we're very sensitive to that. It's



PHOTO COURTESY OF BERETT WILBER

Gov. Bill Walker tries his hand at the herring toss during Petersburg's Little Norway Festival last Friday. Marking "Syttende Mai," or May 17, the holiday celebrates the adoption of Norway's first constitution in 1814.

an ongoing process with them."

On shortfalls in returning king salmon and restrictive measures on fishing: "We watch it closely. We had to make some tough decisions on closures, and certainly involving king salmon. But it really comes down to maintaining the constitutional mandate for managing for sustained yield. When the fish are low-return, we had to make some tough decisions on that."

And on lobbying for changes to federal management of sea otters: "We certainly have talked to folks in the federal government about that, our delegation about that. That's a significant impact

Continued on page 5

## Letters to the Editor

### To the Editor:

It is with a sad and heavy heart I write this. As much as it is horrible it does need to be shared in the community of Wrangell.

The Presbyterian Church of Wrangell has been an open door, 24-7, sanctuary for all who come. For whatever the need, whenever the need, the doors have been open. That time, a time of innocence maybe, has come to an end.

About two weeks ago the vacuum and the microwave left the church through unknown means. Last night a person or persons came in and violated the trust of those open doors breaking locks on locked doors, making a general mess, the TV and DVR were even in a box by the door as if they were coming back. Down to the taking small soaps that we have for guests who use the showers.

There is nothing physical of any value in the church that will ever meet the needs of the above-mentioned person(s). While the person(s) are unknown to us, we do care. We do pray that you receive what it is that you need. Your deep down needs, not the small physical petty needs. But we are sad. Sad that now, there are going to be locks on our house of worship, a place of sanctuary.

Wrangell is a wonderful town overflowing with

resources for anyone with any need. If it is funds for food or housing, it's usually available in some form. Sanctuary from violence, it's covered. Help with addictions, of all kinds; there is an outpouring of resources. I will not list all the resources here in this letter. Call the police department anytime (they are there to help); call any pastor, the hospital, SEARHC, your neighbor. Call before you act again in such a way that takes away so much from so many.

**Nettie Covalt, Pastor  
First Presbyterian Church of Wrangell**

### To the Editor:

Memorial Day is another holiday to have cook-outs and play. We may even put out the flag of our country.

I do hope we take time to reflect about the sacrifice both men and women have given to the freedom and security of our country. Let us also not forget the sacrifice of family and friends whose loss of loved ones they have had to endure.

We have a lot to be thankful for and I hope we do not take what we have for granted.

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7 pm each night  
May 18-20 &  
May 25-27

Tickets: \$5 for 12 & under, \$7 for 13 & up  
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# Ortiz reflects on compromise budget as session ends

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The 30th Legislature drew its latest session to a close earlier last week, pushing forward a budget deal that would tap into earnings from Alaska's Permanent Fund to draw down its spending deficit from the billions to around \$700 million next year.

Back home in Ketchikan, independent Rep. Dan Ortiz of District 36 thought the package left something to be desired, which under the circumstances was a good thing.

"I feel it's a good example of a good compromise budget," he reflected. "Nobody really got everything that they wanted, but it reflects give and take on both sides, both bodies, all four caucuses."

The House and Senate were able to reach agreement on the operating and capital budgets for the coming fiscal year, which begins July 1. As of this printing, both items were being examined by the office of Gov. Bill Walker for signature, likely sometime next month.

"I felt like the capital budget was good for the region," said Ortiz.

One example was inclusion of \$5 million into the Department of Transportation's facility maintenance account for the state's ports and harbors, reestablishing the fund for future projects. Wrangell's Shoemaker Bay Harbor is the latest to benefit from the program, with a like amount being matched by city reserves and bond money to rebuild its aging floats later this year.

Wrangell also benefited from an additional \$5 million the capital budget allotted to its ongoing

Byford yard site cleanup. Coming from the Department of Environmental Conservation's spill response fund, the money may be enough to allow transport of remaining contaminated soil to be barged off-island, rather than heading to a local monofill site. The additional funding had been requested of the legislature by Walker, after receiving input from the local tribal and city governments.

"I took my lead from the governor's request, as well as from the assembly's letter," said Ortiz. He acknowledged the development has its pros and cons, on the one hand avoiding a sensitive monofill site selection but on the other costing the state big, around \$17 million in all. The local economic impact the project would have had will also have been redirected elsewhere, since the material will instead be transported.

"I know it didn't make everybody happy, but I think in the end the fact that we're going to get the material off the island in the long run is going to be good for Wrangell, good for the community," said Ortiz.

Two late additions to the year's budget will see wider benefits.

"In terms of the budget itself, the fact we were able to kick in \$78 into the (base student allocation) formula per student, that's going to help the community of Wrangell, it's going to help out communities across the state," he said.

Formerly an educator, Ortiz noted the BSA had been flat for the past few years' budgets, and felt that an increase was overdue.

"It needed a bump and I was

glad to see that," he commented. It was his expectation the BSA would see a bigger bump upward again next year.

"It was good to get the \$20 (million) in the Marine Highway budget," Ortiz added, a late addition to the capital budget. "It gives the Marine Highway System some certainty, and will allow them to meet their scheduled obligations."

One potentially contentious measure passed by both chambers this year was Senate Bill 26, which allows legislators to tap into earnings from the Permanent Fund. Following a percent-of-market-value approach, up to 5.25 percent of the fund could be drawn from the fund, to be divided between operational spending and individual dividends.

"It's going to be more like a 4.3 percent (draw), because it's based on a rolling average," Ortiz pointed out. He would have preferred to see the draw rate set at 5 percent rather than 5.25, but within three fiscal years that rate is scheduled to decrease. "That makes it more sustainable and more likely that we'll be able to maintain and grow the value of the fund as we go forward. That's important to me."

The budget still has a sizable hole in it, to the tune of \$700 million. However, a recent rise in petroleum prices has been heartening for the state's financial outlook.

"If oil prices continue in their upward rise, that will help to close the gap even more," said Ortiz. "After that, we're going to have to continue to look at agency spending and see if we

can find some places to do some trims."

Though a compromise budget was reached this year, next year's session will bring with it renewed differences over the direction of state spending and new revenue creation.

"Obviously, we still have our differences. But I think there's a recognition that it was in everybody's interest to finish earlier this year, and it was in everybody's best interest to compromise and give in some from our most desired ones to recognize the needs of everyone in the state and come up with something that will work for everybody, and I think we came close to

that," said Ortiz.

As with other members of the House, 2018 is an election year for Ortiz, who intends to run to retain his seat. No primary candidates are currently listed on the Division of Elections website, with the last day to file for inclusion on the August 21 primary ballot June 1.

Ahead of this year's general election, Ortiz anticipated paying Wrangell and other constituencies a visit this summer.

"I plan to walk the community," he said. "I'm looking for feedback on what we've done so far in the legislature since I've been there." He was elected in 2014.

## Walker

Continued from page 4

on fisheries here, no question about that. We're seeing what we can do to broaden the definition of what can be done with the pelts, some of the options available."

Elected in 2014, Walker faces reelection this year with plans to run.

"It's tough for me because I'm so focused on doing my job I was hired to do," he said. "We're involved in that process, but my goal is to get as many things done in the event I'm not here. I don't want to look back and go, 'Gosh, I wish I'd done this or done that.' So I'm pretty busy trying to do all the things that I think are left to do."

Running previously on a joint ticket with then-Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mallott, the two will appear again together, but in this year's Democratic Party primary.

"I'm still running as an independent, always will be," Walker stressed. "But this year, as a result of litigation filed by the Democratic Primary, they can allow independents to run on their primary as an independent. It's very unique, I don't know of any other place in the country that has it that way."

Of his lieutenant governor, he said: "It's really been phenomenal. We got to know each other on the campaign trail, and when we discovered we loved Alaska more than we loved partisan politics that allowed that to happen. It's been an amazing relationship with Byron Mallott."

Walker concluded his trip to Petersburg with a barbecue at the mayor's house, before taking off again the next morning.

"It's a good gathering of folks, and fantastic seafood - it doesn't get any better than Petersburg seafood," he said. "And then after that tomorrow I'm going to China for 10 days. It's called 'Opportunity Alaska,' a lot of seafood representation on this trip about Alaskan seafood opportunities in Asia."

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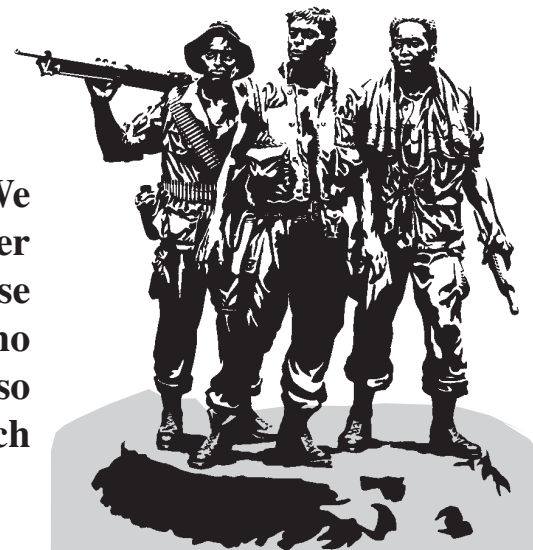
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WRANGELL SENTINEL

# Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH  
Fisheries columnist

## Scoping meetings held over past year in Alaska communities represent history of how generations of families adapt to fishery changes

The way that fisheries are managed determines the daily tempo for fishing families' lives. Managers set the dates and times...the when's and where's and who's ... and the amounts that fishermen can catch.

What happens to fishing families when any of the rules change? A new federal study aims to find out.

"Those things are important for fishery managers to consider and try and integrate into their decision making, because there really are universal themes as far as how management changes have affected families," said Marysia Szymkowiak, a social scientist for NOAA Fisheries based in Juneau.

Over the past year, Szymkowiak has held scoping meetings in communities across Alaska to learn the impacts of fishing changes. The results, she said, will represent a history of how generations of families have adapted with the implementation of limited entry and catch share programs, and now with the decreasing abundance in certain key fisheries.

"We're getting into the thousands of years in terms of cumulative experiences and knowledge of Alaska's fisheries," Szymkowiak said. "It's a wealth of information that we haven't tapped into, and I feel so privileged to be able

to talk with people who share heartfelt stories about families and the things that are built from that experience."

The project emerged from a 20 year review Szymkowiak co-authored about impacts of the halibut and sablefish fisheries that in 1995 switched from being open to all to an Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) system that gave shares of the catch to fishermen based on their historical participation.

"One of the things we heard was the different impacts on women who participated prior to IFQs," Szymkowiak said. "One said the new program made the halibut season too long and she could no longer participate because it conflicted with her responsibilities as a mom."

Limited access to fisheries is a main theme voiced in scoping meetings, combined with environmental concerns affecting the stocks.

"For some families there is less of a buffer when a stock declines in terms of their ability to diversify within fisheries," Szymkowiak said. "This can really lead to stress within families, having to seek other employment, and can really change the social fabric of fishing communities."

Another theme, she said, is a strong sense of resilience and values that go beyond the economics of going fishing.

"In terms of shaping young people and creating a work ethic and a sense of place and community. There is a cross generational participation in fisheries that is really unique," she added.

A final Fishing Families scoping meeting is set for Kodiak on June 4, after which Szymkowiak will begin compiling a report on the findings. Questions? Contact Marysia.szymkowiak@noaa.gov

**Nearly \$500 for a Copper River king** - Alaska's salmon season got off to a slow and drizzly start on May 17 at the first opener at the Copper River. The low catches by more than 500 gillnetters pushed prices to unprecedented levels.

The Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game's 'blue sheet' of daily catches showed totals of just 3,000 king salmon and 2,000 sockeyes taken during the 12-hour opener.

Bill Webber, a 51-year veteran highliner of the famous fishery, ended up with 10 king salmon and six sockeyes by closing time.

"It's not a great start to the season," Webber said aboard his F/V Paradigm Shift while waiting for a slack tide to turn.

If the fish tickets match the reports from the grounds, Thursday's opener could be one of the slowest starts to the

Copper River season since record keeping began 40 years ago, said Jeremy Botz, regional manager for ADF&G in Cordova.

The slim early catches had customers scrambling to source enough Copper River salmon for their "first fish of the season" celebrations, many promised within 24-hours of the salmon being caught. That pressure pushed prices to record levels.

"The price wars are definitely going on due to the low production," Webber said, adding that early price reports were \$8.50 per pound for sockeyes and \$13 a pound for king salmon. That compares to \$8 and \$11, respectively, during the first opener last year.

The salmon prices ticked upwards all day, skyrocketing to \$10.65 per pound for sockeyes and \$15.65 for kings shortly after the 7pm closure, "with a \$0.65 dock bonus everywhere," said a spokesperson for Alaska Wild Seafoods.

"This opener is taking the cake on fish prices so far," Webber added.

Alaska Airlines made its first delivery of 16,000 pounds salmon to Seattle by early Friday morning. The airline celebrated its 9th annual Copper Chef Cook Off on the SeaTac tarmac, where chefs compete to prepare the best salmon

Continued on page 7

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### Tongass Long-Term Sustainable Cabin Management Strategy

#### Meeting Notice



Please join the Wrangell Ranger District at the Nolan Center on Thursday, May 31, 2018, at 7 p.m. to gather community input into the development of a Long-Term, Sustainable Cabin Management Strategy. The Tongass National Forest is developing this cabin management strategy in order to be responsive to changing uses and budgeting challenges, while ensuring the Forest continues to provide for high-quality cabin experiences. Your input is vital to this process. For more information, contact Corree Delabrué at 907-874-2323.



*The USDA Forest Service is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

**Publish: May 24, 2018**

### CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB ADVERTISEMENT Temporary Water Treatment Plant Light Maintenance Water Department

The City and Borough of Wrangell will accept applications for one position entitled Temporary Water Treatment Plant Light Maintenance until May 31, 2018.

The Water Department is currently seeking an applicant to fill one position of Temporary Water Treatment Plant Light Maintenance. This position will assist in the day-to-day maintenance at the water treatment plant. The position is full-time, temporary that will work forty hours per week for approximately four to six months.

Applicants must have a valid driver's license and have knowledge of light maintenance.

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

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Lisa von Bargaen  
Borough Manager

**Publish: May 10, 17 and 24, 2018**

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# Fish Factor

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recipe - in this case a 31 pound king salmon donated by Trident Seafoods.

With the high prices at the end of opening day, that single "first fish" had a value of more than \$485 at the Cordova docks.

The Copper River salmon prices will drop off sharply after the early season hoopla fades, but the region's famous fish will maintain some of the highest prices into the fall. The forecast calls for a Copper River harvest of about 950,000 sockeyes and 19,000 kings for the 2018 season.

### Football sidelines fish -

The North Pacific's oldest and most popular marine trade show has been sidelined by Thursday night football.

"Folks that have been with us for a long time know that holding Pacific Marine Expo at the CenturyLink Field Event Center in Seattle means that we have to come second to the NFL," said Denielle Christensen, event organizer for Diversified Communications.

The trade show, now in its 52nd year, has traditionally been held in November at the CenturyLink center the week before Thanksgiving. Last

month organizers learned that a Thursday night game of the Seattle Seahawks versus Green Bay would spike those dates.

"Century link has been an excellent partner to us," Christensen graciously added. "When they called us, they knew we were not going to be happy with our options. But they have always been clear with us that NFL and sports in general is their primary business."

The Expo team canvassed customers about holding the event either during Thanksgiving week or right before Christmas.

"Most folks wanted us to stay closer to the usual time in November. So we've ended up at the Sunday, Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week, which is November 18, 19 and 20."

Christensen said she does not expect the date change to dampen Expo enthusiasm.

"I don't think it will have a particularly large impact on the exhibits or attendance just because of the loyalty this show has built up over the years. People really love it," she said.

Pacific Marine Expo is rated as one of the nation's top trade

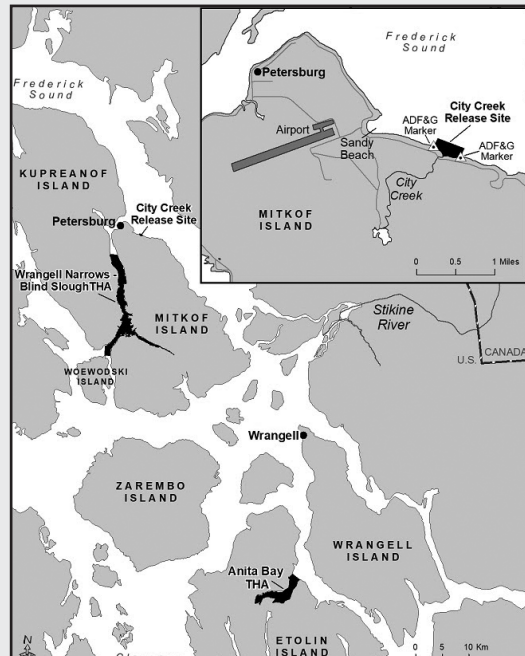
## Sport fishing for kings opening in nearby hatchery areas

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced Tuesday some sport fishing opportunity for hatchery-produced king salmon will soon start in areas near Petersburg and Wrangell.

From June 1 - July 31 several terminal harvest areas will be open to sport fishermen.

In the Wrangell Narrows and Blind Slough THA, bag and possession limits for residents and nonresidents alike will be limited to two kings at least 28 inches or greater in length, and two kings less than 28 inches long. The area is that portion of the Narrows south of Martinsens's dock at 56° 46' N. latitude, and north and east of the northern tip of Woewodski Island. The waters include the freshwaters of Blind Slough upstream of a line between Blind Point and Anchor Point. King salmon caught by nonresidents in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

Opportunity will also be open in the Anita Bay THA, or the waters south and west of a line from Anita point to 56° 14.26' N. latitude, 132° 23.92' W. longitude. Bag and possession limits here for all participants will be one king salmon 28 inches or greater in length. Nonresident annual limits continue to apply in this area.



Near Petersburg, the marine waters adjacent to City Creek between markers posted on the Mitkof Island shore and seaward to a line approximately 250 yards offshore will be open to sport king fishing, and includes the freshwaters of City Creek. The bag and possession limit here will be one king salmon of any size. King salmon caught by nonresidents in this area do not count toward the nonresident annual limit.

For information contact ADFG management biologist Patrick Fowler at 772-5231.

shows and last year it attracted visitors from 40 states and 24 countries. Visit [www.pacificmarineexpo.com/](http://www.pacificmarineexpo.com/)

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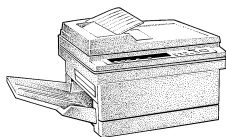
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# Tribal

Continued from page 1

tested sites were built between 2,250 and 1,500 years ago, however.

Another way to observe sites like Anan is through the use of soil augurs, handheld tools which pierce the earth and pull up several-inch cross-sections. Esposito said a revealing find at a fish camp such as the one they were visiting is its shell midden - old piles of discarded fish bone, crushed shell and charred sediments that have long since been covered with time. The layering of this material can under closer scrutiny help indicate how long the site has been in use.

"That shows us that people were at one time harvesting shellfish, living on that site either as a campsite or, as we saw

today, maybe village-sized," Esposito said of the midden they found. She said that further ashore there are indications of large berms and other apparent modifications to the land, features which would be interesting to examine on a longer visit.

"Quite a lot of berries were growing at that site," she noticed.

Coupled with the evident stakes, Smith thought it seemed like Anan had been an important local fishery.

"There are thousands of stakes out there. So it also speaks to the breadth of the economy. There's a lot of people working at that site 1,500 years ago," she commented.

The group only stayed into the afternoon, returning to the

harbor at around 4.

"It was a real nice day to do it," said Stough afterward. "I think everybody enjoyed themselves. It was a little bit of Native history not a lot of people know about."

One intent of the grant and the trip is information exchange, and Smith explained the elders' input was valuable to her work. Stough said his interest in traditional food and preservation methods had been rekindled by his daughter's work with local youth several years ago.

"I enjoyed it. It was fun to teach the kids how to salt and dry fish," he said. "It was an exchange program. We had kids from Kake that came down. They taught us how to take care of seals and seal oil."



PHOTO COURTESY OF WCA

James Stough inspects the remnants of a tidal trap set up by Tlingit fishermen near Anan Creek, during a trip last Thursday. The site visit was arranged by the Wrangell Ranger District and Wrangell Cooperative Association.

## Windstar cruise line returns to Southeast after 20-year break

As estimates for cruise ship tourists this year seem set to break records in Alaska, a new vessel will be making Wrangell a port of call this summer.

Fresh from a six-month tour of Asian waters, the 212-passenger ship *Star Legend* will be arriving for the day this Friday. It will be the first of nine passes through Southeast for the vessel this summer, and the first season Seattle-based company Windstar Cruises will have operated in the state since its sailing ship *Wind Spirit* departed its waters in 1998.

Windstar public relations director Mary Schimmelman explained the company's return to the Last Frontier reflects a change in its fleet.

"It's been the addition of these all-suite yachts," she mentioned. The *Star Legend* is one of the company's newer additions, joining the fleet in 2015.

Schimmelman explained the company has been conservative with its deployment since then, but that this year Windstar has decided to branch back out into new areas. The company mainly caters to the small-scale luxury market, focusing on what its clientele would consider to be "authentic destinations."

"We had a huge amount of feedback from our guests," she said. "They overwhelmingly said 'Alaska.'"

During the coming summer, Schimmelman said the vessel will be prioritizing stops into smaller coastal communities like Wrangell, including Metlakatla, Haines and Prince Rupert.

*Star Legend's* most recent excursion had been the western Pacific, making three circumnavigations of Japan and traveling the Southeast. It re-

ceived an upgrade in Singapore's drydocks that would better suit it to Alaskan exploring, allowing for kayak launching and other recreational activities.

For its first Wrangell stop, the *Star Legend* will be pulling up tomorrow morning at 9 a.m., taking off again at 5 p.m.

The Cruise Lines International Association Alaska this year expected around 1.16 million visitors to arrive in the state by cruise liner, up from just over a million in 2017. While the majority of these will be making their way to Juneau, the uptick is noticeable in other communities in Southeast.

"We're getting a few more here and there," noticed Cyni Crary, Wrangell Chamber of Commerce's executive director.

Tourism represents a growing share in the local economy each year, with visitors coming on medium and smaller scale cruise lines but also making their way to town independently. While such visitors traditionally have benefited the local charter and outfitting sector, Crary said the Chamber would like to encourage visitors to try more unplanned activities on their visits as well.

"One thing that we're doing is we're building a display board that's going to go out there by the dock," she said, complete with a map of the town and travel brochures. The Chamber will also post a greeter down by the dock to welcome visitors, answering any questions and providing directions as needed.

Ashton said one of the more interesting finds had been one of the stake ends, which had been freed from the soil through natural processes. Examining it closely, she said the tool markings were still visible after so many years.

"It was pretty amazing to see," Ashton said.

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