

Wrangell, Alaska  
November 3, 2016

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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16 Pages



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

## Having a howling good time

The Ritchie family combine two famous fables during Monday's Early Trick-or-Treating, hosted by members of the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce. Hundreds of kids, parents and community members took part in the annual Halloween tradition.

## Local pot shop applications submitted

*Staff hiring and training to begin*

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Two license applications for a prospective marijuana retailer have been submitted to the state Marijuana Control Board for consideration.

The applications – for retail and cultivation – were submitted October 24 on behalf of Happy Cannabis, a business being developed by Wrangell restaurateur Kelsey Martinsen.

Renovating the former Thunderbird Hotel, the business will feature a retail area and a separate grow and process facility. Martinsen expects the business should not produce much additional traffic flow, or at least not more than it had done when it operated as a hotel. Signage would not be visible from Front Street, and customers would have to show valid identification before being admitted inside.

His applications are the first to be received by the MCB from the Wrangell area, after it began accepting them in February. Licensed cultivators have already begun producing in the state and the first cannabis retailer opened its doors last week in Valdez.

Martinsen would have filed sooner, but had to wait for zoning restrictions to be evaluated and revised by the city. The Planning and Zoning Commission had denied an initial attempt in April, due to the cultivation and processing activities necessary to the business not complying with then-current commercial zoning restrictions.

The commission subsequently updated its code and passed recommendations on to the Borough Assembly, which in turn approved the changes earlier last month. One of the requirements of the new zoning is that marijuana-related businesses have to seek a conditional use permit before setting up shop, allowing for public hearing prior to approval. Speaking Tuesday, Martinsen intended to file for a conditional use permit for the business.

While he still could have filed for a retail license, Martinsen had waited on the Planning and Zoning decision because the cultivation aspect had been key to his business model. Uncertainties within the budding industry have made the transport of stock

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## Wrangell hosts House debate ahead of election

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

As the year's campaign season nears its close on Tuesday, candidates for House District 36 came to Wrangell to participate in a public debate last week.

Held at City Hall on October 26, the forum was hosted by public radio station KSTK. Independent incumbent Rep. Dan Ortiz met with Republican challenger Bob Sivertsen. Constitution Party candidate Kenneth Shaw was also invited to the debate, but was unable to attend. All three candidates are from Ketchikan.

Speakers were given two minutes each for opening statements, as well as for responding to audience questions. In the time allotted, nine members of the audience had the opportunity to ask the candidates questions on policy positions.

One of the first to be asked was on rev-

enues, put to the candidates by Don McConachie Jr. "How would you bring in new revenue?" he asked.

Ortiz responded that a long-term solution would be to develop of mining, timber and energy projects, but that tougher sources would be needed for the short-term.

"In order to address the fiscal situation, we need a legislature willing to step up and make the tough votes," he said. "To me it was a dereliction of our duties that we didn't come up with anything for the state in terms of new revenue."

A variety of proposals were put forward by Gov. Bill Walker at the session's start, but legislators put forward a budget without taking them up.

"None of these are popular with the public," Sivertsen said of these options. Without further cuts or new taxes,

Sivertsen said tapping into the Permanent Fund would be the only alternative.

"I think everything has to be on the table," he said. Because the state is so vast, he argued it would be hard to find any one solution which would affect residents equitably. Sivertsen acknowledged the process of finding that solution will be a difficult one, but that sales and income taxes alone would generate only half a billion dollars or so.

"Taxes, I don't think, are the answer to new revenues," segued another audience member, Don McConachie Sr. "New revenues are new revenues which are built by private enterprise."

That in mind, he wanted to know how either candidate would support further development of state resources.

Sivertsen responded he would push for greater opportunities for resource

development, and supported putting some state forest lands into a trust similar to Mental Health. Supporting value-added activities for industry would also be crucial to focus on, "whether it's minerals, whether it's oil, or it's going to be with natural gas or timber."

Ortiz was also supportive of timber development as a long-term solution, but pointed to natural gas pipeline currently

Continued on page 3



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, November 3:** Arabella Nore, Kitty Angerman, **Friday, November 4:** Ethel Lund, Anny Newport, Claire Rooney, Ayla Harris, Edith Grover, Deano Barker, Shelby Smith, Jessica Byrd, **Anniversary:** Jeff and Pam Wiederspohn, **Saturday, November 5:** Glenda Gillen, Kaylauna Churchill, Jimmy Baggen, **Sunday, November 6:** Betsy Golding, **Monday, November 7:** Garrett Miller, Jean-Luc Lewis, Seth Nolan, Jayanne Scott, Pam McCloskey, K.D. Strasburger, Erik Gile, **Anniversary:** Steve and Yvonne Powers, **Tuesday, November 8:** Kevin Bylow, Jeremy Stolley, Taylor Carey, Gabriel Duguemin, **Wednesday, November 9:** Sawyer Rooney, Kimberly Szczatko, **Thursday, November 10:** Erika Hansen, Austin Sun, Alora Wigg, **Anniversary:** Jason and Megan Clark

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

## Senior Center Menu

### Friday, November 4:

1/2 Tuna sandwich, creme of tomato soup, apple and cabbage slaw

### Monday, November 7:

Beeferoni, steamed zucchini, tomato aspic

### Tuesday, November 8:

Salmon loaf, sweet potatoes and apples, spinach salad

### Wednesday, November 9:

A-1 Meatloaf, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, creamy slaw

### Thursday, November 10:

Moose stroganoff, peas and carrots, fruit cup

### Friday, November 11:

Closed for Veteran's Day.

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

## FERRY SCHEDULE

### Departures

#### Northbound

#### Saturday, November 5

Matanuska 5:45 a.m.

#### Sunday, November 6

Kennicott 4:45 p.m.

#### Tuesday, November 8

Matanuska 8:15 p.m.

#### Saturday, November 12

Matanuska 4:15 a.m.

#### Sunday, November 13

Malaspina 7:15 p.m.

#### Tuesday, November 15

Matanuska 9:00 p.m.

#### Southbound

#### Monday, November 7

Matanuska 7:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday, November 9

Kennicott 8:15 a.m.

#### Friday, November 11

Matanuska 9:15 a.m.

#### Monday, November 14

Matanuska 1:30 p.m.

#### Wednesday, November 16

Malaspina 7:00 a.m.

#### Friday, November 18

Matanuska 9:45 a.m.

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

## TIDES TABLE

November 3 - November 10



### High Tides

### Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Nov. 3	3:41	14.1	3:21	15.4	9:08	3.6	9:42	0.1
Nov. 4	4:17	13.4	3:53	14.7	9:43	4.3	10:21	0.7
Nov. 5	4:59	12.8	4:32	13.9	10:26	4.9	11:07	1.3
Nov. 6	4:51	12.3	4:23	13.1	10:20	5.5	11:02	1.9
Nov. 7	5:59	12.2	5:39	12.4	11:29	5.7	-----	-----
Nov. 8	7:12	12.8	7:09	12.4	0:07	2.3	12:48	5.3
Nov. 9	8:15	13.9	8:27	13.2	1:17	2.2	2:05	4.0
Nov. 10	9:08	15.3	9:30	14.4	2:23	1.8	3:11	2.2

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

### Thursday, November 3

**SAIL Class:** 10 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) free class is a strength, balance and fitness class for adults 65+. For more info call 874-3375.

**Healthy Eating Demo on Healthy Food Preparation:** 11:30 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Free class. Learn how easy it is to prepare healthy and delicious food. Samples will be available. For more info call 874-3375.

**Yoga:** 5:30 p.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

### Friday, November 4

**Burger Night:** 6 p.m. Elks. In Honor of Our Veterans a burger night will be sponsored by the Wrangell Emblem Club #87 and Wrangell B.P.O.E. #1595 for all present and past veterans. RSVP is appreciated.

### Monday, November 7

**Yoga:** 5:30 p.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

### Tuesday, November 8

**SAIL Class:** 10 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) free class is a strength, balance and fitness class for adults.

Is the attendance at your meeting or event low? Call Rachel at the Sentinel to have it placed here.

## Continuing Events

**PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES:** **Lap Swim:** M, W, F 6:00-7:30 a.m. & 5:00-6:00 p.m., M-F 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., S 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; **Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:** at the Pool: M, W, F, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; **Water Aerobics:** M, W, F 10:00-11:00 a.m.; **Family Swim:** F 6:00-7:00 p.m.; **General Swim:** M & W 6:00-7:00 p.m., F 7:00-8:00 p.m., S 1:00-2:00 p.m.; **Weight Room:** M-TH 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. **Extra 2 Lane Lap Swim:** M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

### OTHER MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

**AA Meetings:** Step Study, Mon 8 p.m., Tu. 7 p.m., Toss Off Th. 7 p.m., Smoked Fish F 8 p.m., at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Study Materials provided. Wed. M & M 12 p.m. at the Catholic Parish Hall, use back entrance.

**NA Meeting:** Wednesday, We Do Recover, 8 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall.

**Bridge Social:** F, 1 p.m. at th Island of Faith Lutheran Church 874-3440, 874-3507.

**Salvation Army Food Bank:** Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. For information or questions please call Major Michael Bates at 874-3753.

## The Way We Were

In the Sentinel 75, 50 and 25 years ago.

**November 16, 1916:** Victory of newly elected Democratic Congressman Daly celebrated in Wrangell. When Hon. Charles A. Sulzer realized that he had been elected to Congress it is doubtful if he was any more jubilant over the result than one of his Wrangell friends. Dr. Pigg, who has spent every spare moment of his time for the past three months boosting Sulzer, was just bubbling over with joy. He felt like celebrating, but the doctor never celebrates alone. He arranged a Sulzer ball for Saturday night at the Redmen's hall. He was not content to have present only those who had helped to elect Mr. Sulzer. A special invitation was extended to Wickershamites. The invitation was generally accepted, the Wickershamites being well represented.

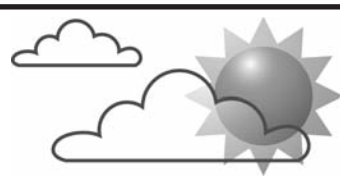
**November 14, 1941:** Democracy is on the march and with a united people girding themselves with a defense program ready to meet any eventual-ity it will continue to march ahead to victory for a free and just world, Robert C. Evans declared in an address which highlighted the Armistice Day-Defense Day celebration here Tuesday, which was sponsored jointly by the American Legion and the Wrangell Lodge of Elks. The day's program started with the patriotic program in the Coliseum theater Armistice Day morning with the Rev. Arnold Krone, Chaplain of the Elks lodge, presiding and concluded with a dance, given by the Legion, in the evening at the ANB hall, Chairmen Harry Williams of the Elks and Roy Dolan of the Legion arranging the joint observance.

**November 11, 1966:** Wrangell voting was down in Tuesday's election with snowy, blustery

weather prevailing. Wrangell Stikine voters cast 483 votes plus 18 absentee ballots for a total vote of 501. This was a drop from 691 cast in the 1964 election and the 650 cast in 1962. In Wrangell precinct No. 1, Republicans took the lead for all offices except U.S. Senator E. L. Bartlett who triumphed there as he did throughout the state. In the Stikine precinct former state senator James Nolan received a write-in for governor and councilman Al Ritchie, Sr., a write-in for secretary of state.

**November 14, 1991:** The Alaska Energy Authority has issued a warning to the Thomas Bay Power Authority: Clean up your act at the Tyee hydro project in 30 days or AEA will take control. In the wake of the inspection,

Thomas Bay has scrambled to comply with the AEA and project manager Warren Edgley has been relieved of his duties by "mutual agreement." An Oct. 22 and 23 AEA inspection of the Tyee Lake Hydro-electric Project left state officials less than enthusiastic about the direction the Tyee project is headed. The inspection was conducted by Afzal Khan, a manager with engineering, and Remy Williams, a senior operations engineer. Khan noted in his trip report, "Williams and I concluded that the Tyee Lake Project has not been operated and maintained in accordance with standard utility practices. if this mismanagement continues, the Tyee Lake Project will deteriorate and eventually major equipment failure will occur."



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
October 23	46	35
October 24	53	42
October 25	55	44
October 26	48	39
October 27	50	39
October 28	51	39
October 29	46	35
October 30	46	37



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Nov. 3	7:59a	5:03p	9:04h
Nov. 4	8:01a	5:01p	9:00h
Nov. 5	8:03a	4:59p	8:56h
Nov. 6	8:05a	4:57p	8:52h
Nov. 7	8:07a	4:55p	8:48h
Nov. 8	8:09a	4:53p	8:44h
Nov. 9	8:11a	4:51p	8:40h
Nov. 10	8:14a	4:49p	8:35h

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# House debate

Continued from page 1

in development that could boost the state's coffers.

A question posed by local contractor Otto Florschutz asked both candidates where they stood on additional contributions from the charter fishing industry, in light of the commercial fisheries tax. Currently charters are exempt from the same levies, which legislators last session attempted to raise across the board with H.B. 4006.

Both candidates were in agreement that there was a disparity, an impact of lobbying.

"I would support a fish box tax," Sivertsen responded. "For every box they're shipping out, we put a tax on it and let that go back into fishery enhancements."

"I agree with Bob (Sivertsen)," said Ortiz, noting he supports the recently-

announced increase on licensing of out- and in-state sport licenses, which will affect charter patrons. Ortiz was also in favor of discussing contributions by charters toward hatcheries, as other fisheries do.

Many points of the night's questions were approached by Ortiz and Sivertsen similarly. For instance, the candidates were in agreement about opposing the push to take the state off of daylight savings time. Both would also be supportive of devolving exemptions for elderly residents from property taxes to municipalities, in light of declining revenue sharing by the state.

Their primary point of difference was the importance of party affiliation, and whether it would be critical for the district's representative to be a part of the Republican-led majority.



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

**Rep. Dan Ortiz converses with local fisherman Gig Decker after last week's debate. Decker was one of nine audience members who had time for questions during KSTK's hour-long format.**



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

**Christie Jamieson speaks with House District 36 candidate Bob Sivertsen after his Oct. 26 debate with Rep. Dan Ortiz.**

Sivertsen put it to voters that it was, pointing out that Republicans have held the state's majority for over two decades. "We have no reason to believe that will change," he said. He contended he would be better placed if elected, as he would be included in the majority and included in its discussions when drawing up a budget.

In his remarks, Ortiz laid blame for budgetary inaction the last session on the House Majority. Appealing for re-election to the House, pointed to his bipartisan voting record.

"It's not about being Republican, or Democrat, or Independent, like I am," he said. On meeting with constituents from Hyder to Wrangell, he added, "I apply what I hear to my votes on the floor."

He went on to express confidence that a bipartisan majority can be formed which would include members from both major parties and unaffiliated representatives, better aligned to rural and coastal needs.

The candidates also differed strongly on a pair of questions, both directed toward their positions on Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump. A non-affiliated candidate who caucuses with the Democratic-led minority, Ortiz responded he could not conscientiously support Trump. He added he had "severe concerns" with Democratic Party nominee Hillary Clinton, and was considering voting for a third-party candidate this year.

"Donald Trump is not qualified to be president of the United States," he stated.

"I don't have an option, I'm voting for Trump. We can't afford another term of liberal politics that we've had," Sivertsen replied. He pointed to federal regulation stifling economic opportunities in the state.

"It's jobs that's going to turn this state around," he continued. "Prosperity is not measured by how well government is doing, but how our private sector is doing."

After the debate, the candidates met with audience members, some of whom had not had time to ask a question. The debate remained civil, and audience members seemed satisfied with their responses.

"I liked the response," Florschutz said afterward. "I think they recognize the inequity."

## Join us Nov. 8 in Voting for Lisa Murkowski for U.S. Senate

Woody & Peggy Wilson  
Jerry & Judy Bakeberg  
Clay & Holly Hammer  
Jeff & Dawn Angerman  
Harriet Schirmer  
Benn Curtis & Shirley Wimberly  
Keene & Faye Kohrt  
Gig & Julie Decker  
Becky & Gordon Rooney

Mercedes Angerman  
Robert & Brenda Rang  
Nancy & Frank Murkowski  
John Verhey & Sylvia Etefagh  
Kimberly Szczatko  
Georgianna Buhler  
Olga Norris  
Jason S. Beauty

## Police report

### Monday, October 24

Found Property – Bicycle.

### Tuesday, October 25

Report of Trespass.

### Wednesday, October 26

Report of Theft.

Civil Dispute – Officers responded to 911 call.

### Thursday, October 27

Report of Harassment.

Suspicious Activity.

Citation issued to Jenifer Gerald for Dog at Large and License Required. Owner picked up dog.

Citizen Assist – Caller needed building unlocked.

### Friday, October 28

Controlled Burn.

Courtesy Transport.

### Saturday, October 29

Secured Vehicle.

Agency Assist – Report of transformer sparking and smelling hot. Line Dept. notified.

Citation issued to Nikka R Mork, 29, for Failure to Show Proof of Insurance.

### Sunday, October 30

Noise Complaint.

There were two dog complaints, four missing dog reports and three ambulance calls during this week.

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## Court report

### Oct. 28

David M. McQueen, 19, was issued an electronic judgment for two minor offenses, failing to stop at a stop sign and driving too closely. The defendant pleaded no contest to the charges and was penalized eight points on his license and fined \$220.

**LISA**  
**MURKOWSKI**  
2016 U.S. SENATE

Paid for by Lisa Murkowski for U.S. Senate

# Senior school project acquaints students with voting

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

With this year's memorable general elections already underway and polls set to close on Tuesday, one local student has made a goal of including classmates in the process.

Wrangell High School student Draven Golding has decided to focus on the issue for his senior capstone project this year. With the cooperation of the city, school and Division of Elections, Golding will set up a table at the Nolan Center lobby on November 8, near to where the official polling will take place. His senior classmates and other students are encouraged to come by, casting "votes" using real forms and getting some practice with registration.

The idea came about during Golding's time in the Close Up program, which teaches local students about government and coordinates an educational trip to Washington D.C. In preparing participating students for the next year's trip, one of the current issues they discussed was the idea of lowering age limits to allow 16 and 17 year olds to vote.

According to advocacy group FairVote.org, encouraging younger people to vote increases civic participation in the long run, suggesting higher turnout rates and more conversations about different issues held around the family dinner table. Two Maryland communities have already lowered their voting age restriction, as have several European countries.

In the discussion, students

had mixed feelings about the idea, in part because some felt they did not have enough knowledge about different candidates and issues to make an informed choice. One student admitted he could not name Wrangell's mayor.

With his teachers' support, Golding thought it would be a good idea to get classmates more involved in the political process, walking them through registration and voting on Election Day from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"It's good to have, so younger kids can learn to vote," he explained.

He found support with teacher Jack Carney, who will bring his senior U.S. government class down to the Nolan Center to vote in Golding's mock election. Students in his world history and Alaska studies classes are also offered the opportunity to earn extra credit in exchange for their participation.

"Hopefully that'll encourage kids to get down and vote," said Golding.

Carney has also encouraged students to treat the exercise as they would a real election, researching the assortment of judges, state-level candidates and initiatives included on this year's ballot before casting their votes.

"We want them to be educated on the process, but we also want them to be educated voters," Carney said.

Students aged 18 or older can also take the time to register and vote in the actual election if they like and have not done so already. Those participating in Golding's project will go through the same process as

their parents, using registration sheets and ballots and official privacy booths.

As with a real election, ballots will be reviewed and counted the following day under the supervision of Wrangell's Close Up program coordinator, Sarah Merritt. To get the word out, in addition to contacting the local newspaper and radio station, Golding has put up fliers around his school and in town.

"I think it's important because you're voting for the next president of the United States, and depending on who's chosen that sets the course for the country," he explained. "Hopefully they come down and experience it for themselves."

On the city's end, clerk Kim Lane explained they would be helping the project by providing leftover city election supplies and two voting booths to use. She liked the idea, as it promoted involvement in civic processes from the get-go.

"We need to have them, as soon as they turn 18, come and register. They're the voice of the future," she said.

Lane and Merritt will help oversee the count-out, and will dispose of the documents afterward for privacy's sake.

In a similar vein, appearing on Alaska's ballots this year is a proposition to tie voter registration to Permanent Fund Dividend applications. The one would happen automatically with the other, while other forms of existing voter registration would also remain available. Advocates for the propos-

al suggest the change would make the voting rolls more secure and accurate, while promoting greater participation in the state's political processes. The state Division of Elections has estimated about 70,000 eligible residents could be added to the rolls in just one year with the change.

## Flu Shots at the Nolan Center

The Wrangell Public Health Center wants to make it easy to exercise your right to vote and to help protect yourself against the flu - at the same time. Come to the Nolan Center, at 296 Campbell Drive, to vote on Tues., Nov. 8 and between 4 and 7 pm, you can get free flu shots for the whole family, ages 6 months and up. Regular vaccine; preservative-free vaccine for children 6 to 35 months; and high-dose vaccine for seniors will all be available.

## All Harbor Users

In preparation for winter snow removal the Harbor Department is requesting that you clear **all** items from the floats and fingers around your vessel.

Leaving items on floats or other areas impedes snow removal and can be hazardous to other people. Please tuck your power cords, bowlines and water hoses under the bull rails or on your vessel to avoid damage from snow removal equipment.

*If you have any questions please contact the Harbor Department at 874-3736.*

**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3 and 10, 2016**

**RE-ELECT**

# Dan ORTIZ

INDEPENDENT ALASKAN House District 36



## Dan Ortiz: Endorsed by UFA and our local fishermen

- worked closely with the Walker Administration to secure disaster relief funding for our SE Alaskan Pink Salmon Fisheries
- fights to protect our valuable salmon runs from Transboundary Mining
- brings the State and fishermen together to sustain and enhance our fishing industry
- serves as a voice for our fishermen on the Fisheries Committee and the Fish and Game Finance sub-committee



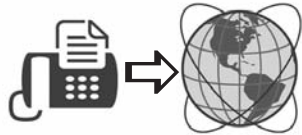
Thank you Gillnetter Clay Bezenek, Troller Charlie Piercy, and Seiner John Peckham for your generous support!

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# Stedman talks about state budget during campaign stop

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Stopping in town one last time before next week's election, Sen. Bert Stedman talked about the state's ongoing deficit woes, by far the largest issue the new set of legislators will be facing when they head into next year's session.

Speaking on October 27, he tried to put the scale of the deficit into perspective. While for readability's sake the amount is sometimes expressed in terms of "billions," he noted the full figure may come to between \$3,100,000,000 and \$3,500,000,000 this year – an awful lot of zeroes to consider. By the lower estimate, that amounts to around \$100 spent per second not being covered by revenues.

The Legislative Finance Division estimated in a report last summer, revenue for the state each of the past two years will have diminished to the point where under 30 percent of operating budgets are covered. Revenues started tumbling in the 2013 Fiscal Year (FY13), from a high point the previous year of \$9.5 billion to \$6.9 billion. From there began a progressive slide: to \$5.4 billion in FY14, \$2.3 billion in FY15, \$1.3 billion in FY16, and now an expected \$1.2 billion for this year.

During the surplus years, state budgets had climbed to a high of \$7.8 billion for FY13,

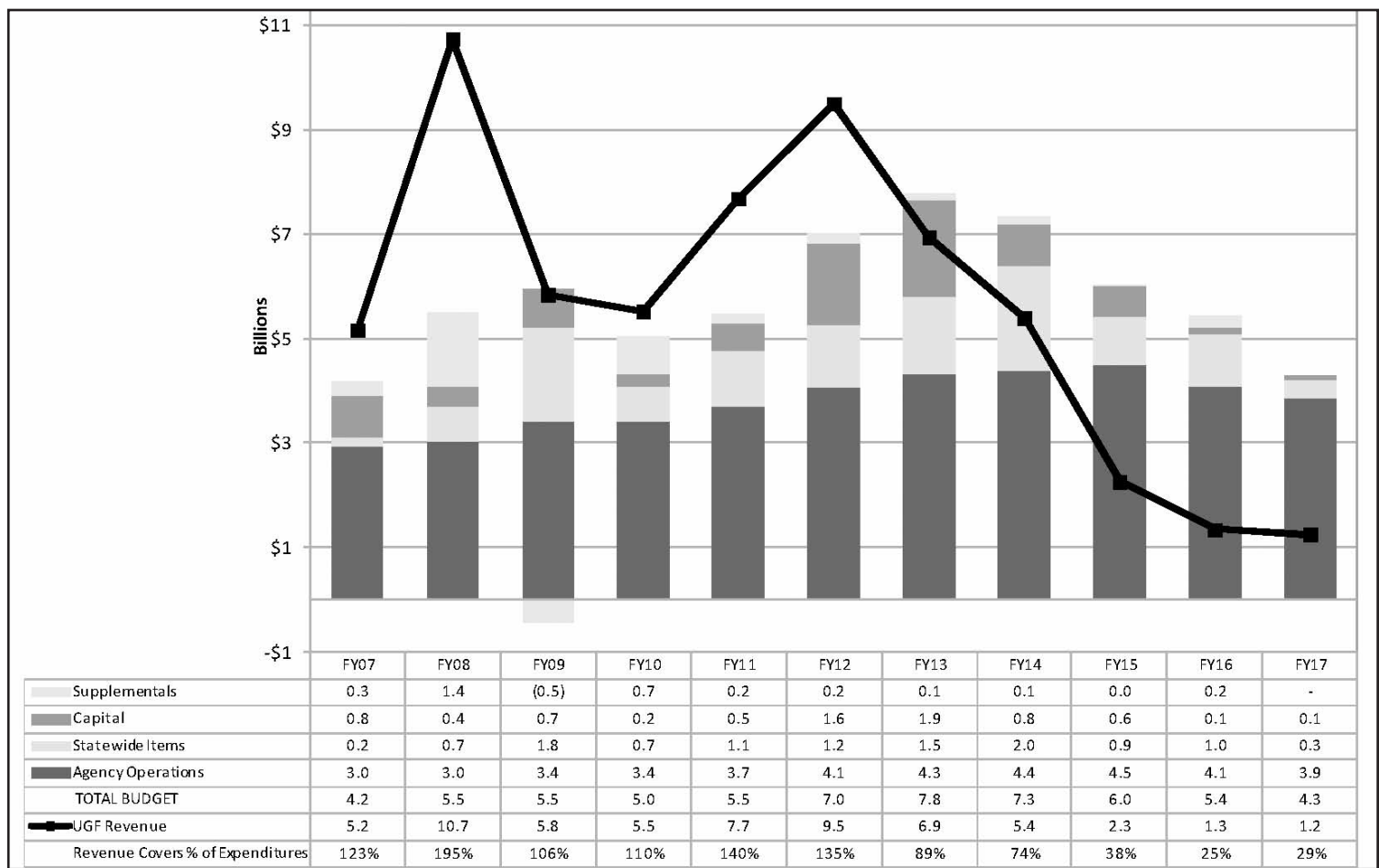


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALASKA LEGISLATIVE FINANCE DIVISION

In the above chart included in a Legislative Finance Division report from July, cuts to state operating budgets have dropped it back to 2007 levels. Despite these reductions, a sharp decline in revenues means only around a quarter to a third of the budget has been fully funded since 2015.

even as revenues had begun their downward dive. As it became apparent the oil prices state revenues largely depended on were tumbling for an extended period, legislators tried to keep pace with cuts to the budget. First the capital budget for FY14 was cut by nearly 60 percent from the previous year, though an increase in statewide items and agency operations kept overall cuts to only 22 percent. Since the start of FY14, all expenditures have been reduced by about 42 percent.

Further cuts in following years ended up reducing the budget to its lowest point since FY07, but revenues continued declining well ahead of that. The difference had to be paid using the Legislature's designated reserve accounts, the balances of which had fortunately grown along with revenue surpluses in preceding years.

The Statutory Budget Reserve and Constitutional Budget Reserve funds together stood at \$16.3 billion by July 2013, but subsequent withdrawals due to deficit spending have since drawn them down to an expected \$3.6 billion by the end of this fiscal year, next June.

"I expect the governor to put a budget on the table the 15th of

December with a deficit range of \$3.3 to \$3.5-billion," said Stedman. If that is the case, and without any new sources of revenue, both reserve accounts may be exhausted by the end of FY18.

"For all practical purposes the savings accounts are gone. They're zeroed out. And that doesn't pay off the \$1.2 billion in credits we owe," Stedman explained, referring to deferred oil and gas tax credits still owed to producers.

"So the inaction by the Legislature is making the situation worse, not better. We've reduced the operating budget the last couple of years, but we can't reduce it fast enough to fix the problem," he said.

Gov. Bill Walker put forward a package of items for new revenue sources to consider this year, but the State Legislature had not taken action on them by the end of its last special session. In June he had as a result vetoed \$1,290,000,000 from the draft budget legislators had put forward. Perhaps most acutely felt by residents, \$666,350,000 of this was cut from the annual Permanent Fund Dividend, with the undistributed amount remaining in its earnings reserve account (ERA). As a result, PFD

payments were capped to just over \$1,000 this year. The ERA will subsequently have grown from \$7.3- to \$9.2-billion by the end of this year, with that money remaining in reserve.

Among items legislators are expected to look into this next session is a reframing of the Permanent Fund, valued now at \$54,460,600,000. Currently 30 percent of petroleum royalties collected by the state go into the fund, from which a statutory net income is drawn for the ERA, going then from there to pay out annual dividends. To inflation-proof the reserve, a portion of the ERA goes back to the fund principal. On average, the Permanent Fund has grown by 3.2 percent each year since 1977.

A plan put forward for consideration to restructure the fund would set it up instead as a sovereign wealth fund, whereby half of petroleum royalties would go into the fund principal along with all production taxes. Earnings from the fund would then go into the ERA, which would in turn be used to help pay for budget expenditures. A "dividend" would still exist, funded instead directly through the other half of state petroleum royalties.

There are differing methods on how to best allot funds from the Permanent Fund to the ERA, such as drawing a fixed dollar amount or having a statutory percent of market value approach. Of these, Stedman pointed out his long-standing support for the latter approach, which he points out has worked for Sitka. A 4.5- or 5-percent rate would be manageable, in his view, which would be sustainable for the fund and would allow for its continued availability for future generations of Alaskans. This rate is in line with the LFD assessment, which recommended a 4.5-percent rate for an annual appropriation of \$2.4 billion between 2019 and

2045, with some assumptions.

Additional revenue for government spending would come from other taxes, which will be part of the coming political discussion. In conjunction with changes in revenue sourcing, Stedman favors continued reductions to the operating budget over a four- or five-year period. If the budget were cut at once to meet available revenue, he noted the government would only have enough to finance K-12 education.

"That's not a solution, that's just rhetoric," he said. "A lot of the positions that have been eliminated were positions that were never filled. There are more efficiencies that can come. There is not a lot of excess fat, so now we're going to be cutting into the bone, I guess. We don't have any choice."

He noted cuts could be more equitably made than they have been so far, citing as an example cuts to the Marine Highway System. Alaska's ferry budget has been reduced by 36 percent since FY14, which Stedman compared to the 17-percent cut for other Department of Transportation programs.

"The reason is it's a coastal issue, and coastal Alaska has basically been outvoted within the Legislature, due to our fracture of R&D composition ... and our population concentration in Anchorage, Mat-Su and Fairbanks. And when you put those two together it's deadly."

If reelected, Stedman hoped to see other coastal Republicans elected to the House in order to better place the region within the legislative majorities.

"So the sooner we take action and put together a solution, the better it will be for the state. And then we can come back in future years – the following year, and the year after that – and adjust it as we try to work our way through this mess," he said.

## CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

Pursuant to the City & Borough of Wrangell Code, Sec. 3.04.808, notice is hereby given that the regular assembly meetings of the assembly shall be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month. The meetings shall be held at 7:00 p.m., in the Assembly Chambers, City Hall, Wrangell. If any such Tuesday shall fall on a legal holiday as defined by the laws of the State of Alaska, the meetings scheduled for that day shall be held at the same hour on the next succeeding day which is not a holiday. Separate notice for the regular council meetings shall not be required. There will be no regular meetings the second Tuesday in July and August and fourth Tuesday in December.

Kim Lane, Borough Clerk  
City of Wrangell, Alaska  
Publish: November 3, 2016

# BOB SIVERTSEN For Alaska State House

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# Wrestlers take 4th in Ketchikan invitational

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's wrestlers made a good showing among teams included in this year's Bill Weiss Invitational, held in Ketchikan over the weekend.

"They really did well there," explained assistant coach Jack Carney. Included in the competition were larger schools such as Glenallen, which brought along some of their former state champions for the ride.

"We had some real stiff competition from Bethel," Carney noted.

Dawson Miller and Dillon Rooney both competed in the 160 bracket, with senior Miller finishing up in second. He pinned Hydaburg sophomore Guy Sanderson in the opener and bested Sydnee Kimber of Metlakatla by 7-2 decision, before proceeding by forfeiture to the finals. He competed against last year's third-placer at State, Glennallen's Caden Gerlach, who ended the match by fall in 4:26. Rooney placed fifth for the bracket, proceeding through the secondary with four wins and two losses.

Freshman Hannah Brown took second place for the girls 132 bracket, winning four of five matches in the round robin.

"I was proud of her for that," commented Carney.

Sophomore Elizabeth Johnson finished just behind her teammate in third for the bracket, finishing up three of her five rounds in wins.

**"T**hey really did well there. We had some real stiff competition from Bethel."

-Jack Carney  
Assistant Coach

Bracket winner Andrea Prince of Metlakatla took five for five, continuing an unbeaten streak for the season.

Jonah Comstock also took second for the 98 weight bracket, besting Ketchikan wrestler Dwight King in a 1:30 pin and taking a fall to Bethel student Diesel Geerds in 2:27 during a round-robin.

In the crowded 152 weight bracket, freshman Hunter Wiederspohn wrestled Kyler Sumauang of Sitka High School. Sumauang won the match-up by majority decision.

Caleb Groshong took second place in the 220-pound bracket, opening with a win against Hydaburg senior Traesean Miramontez and Bethel's Drew Pekar. In the final he faced Thunder Mountain junior Carl Tupou, who won the bracket by 5-2 decision.

For the 182 bracket, Darren Shilts came away with a third placement. After winning an opening match in a 2:30 pin, he

Continued on page 7

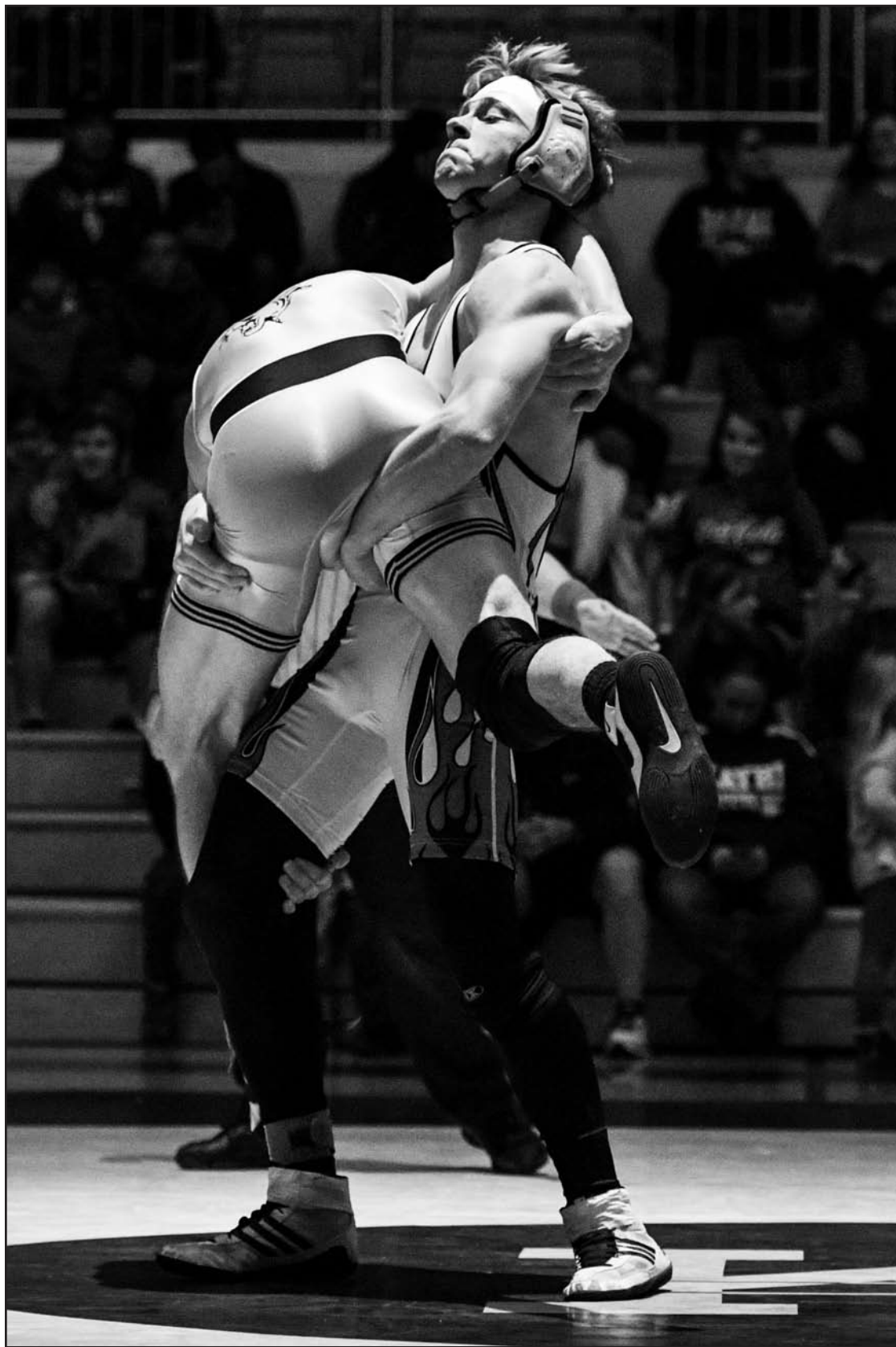


PHOTO COURTESY OF TAYLOR BALKOM - KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

Wrangell's Dawson Miller lifts up Glennallen High School sophomore Caden Gerlach during the 160-pound championship match of the Bill Weiss Invitational Tournament in the Clarke Cochrane Gym. Gerlach won by fall.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TAYLOR BALKOM - KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

Glennallen High School sophomore Caden Gerlach, top tries to put Wrangell's Dawson Miller into a headlock Saturday, Oct. 29, during the 160-pound championship match of the Bill Weiss Invitational Tournament in the Clarke Cochrane Gym. Gerlach won by fall.

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## Wrestlers

Continued from page 6

was sent into the secondary bracket after the next round. Shilts went on to finish his next match against Nicoli Bolshakoff of Ketchikan in a 4:05 pin, before besting Petersburg junior Brandon Ware by 4-2 decision in the final.

Jonathan Barratt came in fourth place for the 106. The junior won an opening pairing against Thunder Mountain's Ricky Ramirez, finishing in a pin in 2:46. He was then sent to the secondary after Ketchikan's Matthew Rodriguez won by sudden victory. Barratt went on to win one more in a 6-1 decision before finishing up to third-placer Connor Norman from Thunder Mountain in the final.

Classmate Ian Jenson also finished fourth for his 132 bracket. He won two by fall, first against Klawock freshman Ruben Hoppe and then against Hydaburg's Roger Dilipou. After heading to the secondary bracket following a 3-2 decision, Jenson picked up another win before a close final matchup with Troy Harris of Ketchikan, who won by 8-6 decision.

Seniors Sam Armstrong and Sig Decker both competed in the 145 weight bracket, with Armstrong finishing in fourth place. Armstrong opened with a pair of wins, against Glennallen's Paul Scott

and Ketchikan's Justin Albecker, before losing to Aaron Olsen of Bethel. Decker won his first match against Petersburg's Ethan File, before moving to the secondary bracket. He bested Scott and Metlakatla's Merrick Dundas before squaring off against teammate Armstrong. Armstrong won by forfeiture, and in the finals followed up to James Hepe of Klawock in a 7-0 decision.

Of the 15 teams participating in the tournament, Wrangell placed fourth overall, behind Ketchikan, Bethel and Glenallen.

"We definitely learned a lot," said Carney, which will be good preparation for the team's upcoming competition at the Anchorage Christian Schools Invitational this weekend. Featuring teams from schools around the state, the annual tournament features some tough competition and prepares teams for the rigors of state competition later in the season.

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# Lindbeck prevented from Wrangell visit by fog, talks policy

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

On the second-to-last week of the campaign trail, a contender for the state's only U.S. House of Representatives seat was making the rounds in Southeast last weekend.

Democratic Party candidate Steve Lindbeck was due to visit Wrangell on Saturday morning, but was unable to fly from Petersburg due to foggy conditions.

"Life in Alaska. We love it," he commented during an interview over the phone. "I'm really sad to miss Wrangell this time, but I'll get back."

Formerly the Alaska Public Media general manager and associate editor for the Anchorage Daily News, Lindbeck is one of several candidates running to unseat long-time Republican Rep. Don Young, who has represented the state since 1973.

Speaking of his campaign, Lindbeck explained he wanted to run because of the various economic challenges currently facing the state. He said the people he had met with on the trail were largely concerned about the state's finances and the econo-

my.

Asked about policies he would be supportive of to help in that regard if elected, Lindbeck pointed to several areas for improvement where the federal government could be of help. One was in infrastructure, not only with physical transportation routes or utilities but the state's broadband connectivity.

"We need to be able to give Alaskans the tools to go compete," he commented. "Obviously we have some work to do to get broadband infrastructure expanded so everybody can take advantage of the world through the internet."

Once connected, Lindbeck suggested residents would be better able to take advantage of the online economy, overcoming traditional hurdles to commerce posed by the state's geography.

"One thing I think we've learned about the internet is it's going to take creative, entrepreneurial people and they're going to dream up things you and I might not have imagined yet, but we need to make sure we have the infrastructure to do it. But also the educational infrastructure, so that Alaskans can learn the tools to be able to go compete."

Turning thoughts northward, Lindbeck also stressed issues facing Alaska's Arctic, such as that posed by climate change. Warming trends have been disproportionately affecting the region when compared to elsewhere in the world, and retreating ice coverage and thawing permafrost pose problems both to wildlife and the physical infrastructure.

The changes could afford opportunities as well as

problems – such as new openings for marine transportation – but would need to be properly researched and plotted out. There are geopolitical considerations as well, he said, for which an expanded Coast Guard presence, enlarged fleet of modern ice breakers, and ratification of the Law of the Sea Convention would be of advantage to the country's interests.

"In Southeast I suspect the biggest climate change issue we're wrestling with is ocean acidification," he acknowledged.

Another area of local concern Lindbeck addressed was that of Canadian mining developments near shared trans-boundary waters. Galvanized by the sizable tailings dam breach at the Mount Polley mine in British Columbia in 2014, local subsistence groups, tribal governments and commercial fishing organizations have united in pressing for greater oversight over the province's various projects.

"I think that's a really serious one, and I think we need to make sure the State Department pays close attention to that and argues on Alaska's behalf the dangers of the trans-boundary mines," Lindbeck said. "The fish live here. The mine may be in Canada, but the fish live here. This thing should be referred to the International Joint Commission."

He also expressed support for a moratorium on new permits until issues with current and decommissioned B.C. mines are resolved. "If I'm in Congress, I would really press for that," he said.

On the state's own mining operations, Lindbeck was supportive of responsible develop-

ment. He was opposed to the proposed Pebble Mine, a large but contentious project which was sidelined by the Environmental Protection Agency in 2014 prior to permitting.

"It's just the wrong mine in the wrong place. It's too big a threat to the Bristol Bay fishery," Lindbeck commented. "It's too bad, it would be nice if we could develop a prospect that rich and provide jobs in a whole bunch of communities. This I think is a good example of the hard work and struggle we need to make in Alaska as we consider development projects."

He was supportive of the federal government ceding additional regulatory oversight to the state, but noted that implicitly Alaska's government would need to make smart choices for that to happen. He noted to its credit six other large, but well-regulated mines which are doing well with modern regulatory regimes and oversight structures.

Lindbeck expressed support for the state's petroleum industries, but stressed that a diversification of Alaska's economy should be a priority. Currently the state depends on revenues and royalties tied to oil and production, providing up to 90 percent of the government's revenues. Sharp declines to the market value of oil have contributed directly to the state's multi-billion dollar deficits the past several years.

The candidate was supportive of increased support for the state's fisheries management and industry, citing a need to reauthorize the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management

Act. First issued in 1976, an expanded renewal of the act was introduced by Young last year and after passing the House awaits action in the Senate.

"In general, it's been a very good thing," Lindbeck commented. He pointed out the act's strength is its emphasis on sustained yield, a point which he felt has helped hold up its adoption. "That's something we settled in Alaska long ago, and that's something we need to bring the rest of the country up to speed on."

After his near-visit to Wrangell, Lindbeck was to head to Juneau afterward before continuing into the campaign's home stretch. Though early voting is already underway, Election Day polling is scheduled for November 8.

"I'd say the most important thing is that people are just feeling the economy is challenged in ways that we haven't seen, if not ever, then certainly not for a long time," he said. "Everywhere I go in Alaska, people say it's time for a change."

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the regular board meeting of the Wrangell Medical Center Board of Directors shall be held on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in the Nolan Center Classroom, Wrangell, Alaska. Separate notice for the regular Board of Directors meeting shall not be required.

Kris Reed  
Board Secretary

Wrangell Medical Center  
Publish: November 3, 2016

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# HALLOWEEN 2016

PHOTOS BY DAN RUDY



Residents of Wrangell's long-term care unit distribute goodies to trick-or-treaters at the hospital Halloween night. The tradition brings the holiday antics to the hospital, giving resident patients the chance to meet with neighbors and join in the fun

PHOTO COURTESY OF VINCENT BALANSAG



A trio of girls take a pause from collecting candy during Monday's Early Trick-Or-Treat, put on by area businesses.



A future senior citizen gets around downtown Wrangell on Halloween with the help of a little walker.



Children get their faces painted during Harbor Light's 15th Annual Harvest Fest at the community center. What with the good weather, a good crowd showed up as soon as it opened, partaking in an assortment of carnival games, having a jump on the inflatable castles, or enjoying hot dogs and other refreshments.

# Candidates from wild Alaska race face off again, sans drama

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Republican Sen. Lisa Murkowski faces a familiar opponent in her latest re-election bid: Joe Miller, who challenged the Alaska senator six years ago in a historic, roller-coaster race.

Miller, then a political novice, upset Murkowski in the 2010 primary only to see her win the general election with a longshot write-in campaign. It was the first time a U.S. senator had won as a write-in candidate since 1954.

This year's race has been less dramatic, with recent polls showing Murkowski with a big lead over a crowded field. A number of political observers consider her the overwhelming favorite, noting her organization, deep campaign coffers and name recognition.

Still, Murkowski is taking nothing for granted. She has been crisscrossing Alaska, playing up her seniority and reputation as a moderate and running issues-focused ads.

"I sit down with the Republicans. I sit down with the Democrats. And I work," she told reporters at her Juneau campaign office.

Murkowski irked some Republicans in denouncing Donald Trump after a

2005 video of him making lewd comments about women surfaced.

Pollster Ivan Moore said the benefit of speaking against Trump is greater than the cost since Murkowski draws support from across the political spectrum. But some Trump supporters may see it as the last straw and back Miller, he said.

Former U.S. Sen. Mark Begich, a Democrat, noted that in a year marked by polarizing presidential candidates and questions of voter turnout, a level of unpredictability remains. "The dynamics are different than I've ever seen in the politics in Alaska," he said.

Miller entered the race last month as a last-minute substitution on the Libertarian ticket.

Several Republican party officials resigned leadership posts to publicly support him. Democrats courted one of the independents in the race, immigration attorney Margaret Stock, but faltered in getting her on their primary ballot.

The eventual Democratic nominee, Ray Metcalfe, has feuded with party leaders who have done little to advocate his candidacy.

Miller believes he has a strong

chance, citing a level of excitement he hasn't seen in previous runs. He also unsuccessfully ran in 2014.

"It's the grassroots versus the ruling class," Miller said. "That's basically what this boils down to."

Miller said he skipped the GOP primary feeling assured that former Anchorage Mayor Dan Sullivan — no relation to Alaska's other senator of the same name — would challenge Murkowski. But Sullivan quit the race soon after the candidate filing deadline.

When Libertarian candidate Cean Stevens withdrew, Miller saw an opportunity to provide "constitution-loving, limited-government Alaskans" an alternative. He changed his party affiliation to run and said his beliefs fit with the Libertarian platform.

Scott Kohlhaas, a former Libertarian party chairman, said Miller and much of the party's leadership are too conservative. But another prominent Libertarian, Mark Fish, thinks Miller will be good for the party.

Ron Johnson, who resigned his GOP post to back Miller, is anti-abortion and opposes gay marriage. He worries the GOP has strayed from its conservative

principles and said Miller shares his values, "Republican values."

Johnson said people are frustrated. "I think that Joe can bring together a lot of the fringe," he said. "Now whether it's enough to get him elected? I hope so."

Murkowski said she didn't expect Miller to "find a flag of convenience" to enter the general election.

One of her biggest concerns is whether the nasty presidential race will turn off voters and keep them at home. Her message to supporters: "Please, please get out there."

Trish Mack of Anchorage says she is sick of the presidential race but plans to vote. She's concerned about rising health care and insurance costs.

The politically unaffiliated Mack is leaning toward Murkowski, seeing her as someone willing to listen and help. She didn't know who else was running besides Miller.

Congress must get its act together, Mack said.

While one person can make a difference, "one person can't pull a string and fix it," she said. "Everybody's got to get their heads together on this one."

## Long, curved, akimbo: Hope uncovered for bird beak deformity

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – Biologist Colleen Handel saw her first black-capped chickadee with the heartrending disorder in 1998.

The tiny birds showed up at birdfeeders in Alaska's largest city with freakishly long beaks. Some beaks looked like sprung scissors, unable to come together at the tips. Others curved up or down like crossed sickles.

Handel, a U.S. Geological Survey bird specialist, was sure the cause of avian keratin disorder would be found quickly: contaminated birdseed, a poison targeting spruce bark beetles, maybe some sort of bacterium or fungus.

Years went by. She found herself losing sleep over a mysterious ailment afflicting 6.5 percent of south-central Alaska's black-capped chickadees and 17 percent of the area's northwestern crows, more than 10 times what is normally expected in a wild bird population. Distorted beaks were spotted in lesser numbers of jays, woodpeckers and nuthatches 24 species in all.

Eighteen years later, after many possible causes were ruled out, Handel and other scientists from California and Alaska who tested beaks of affected birds found a previously unknown virus in every one.

"It's the strongest lead that we've got so far," Handel said.

Bird beaks have inner layers of bone covered by an outer layer of keratin, the same stuff as fingernails. The disorder affects the outer layer, stimulating the keratin to grow twice as fast as normal.

Chickadees look fragile but are one of the few birds to stay through cold Alaska winters. In the dead of winter, the small songbirds can lose 10 percent of their body weight overnight and must eat constantly during short daylight hours. Extended

beaks get in the way.

"They can't eat enough during the daylight hours to survive overnight, because they're metabolizing the fat they put on during the day," Handel said. "The other thing is that the poor little guys can't preen their feathers very well. You can imagine trying to comb your hair with a pair of 3-foot-long chopsticks."

They end up with dirty, matted plumage and feathers that no longer provide insulation.

"They've lost their little down coats for winter," Handel said. Some don't survive.

Over nearly two decades, researchers pursued multiple paths of research. Last year, Handel and fellow USGS researcher Caroline Van Hemert published a study showing an environmental contaminant, organochloride compounds, were found in affected birds.

But the amount was small and there was no obvious source, such as the selenium from agricultural drainage that caused beak deformities in California or PCB and other contaminants that affected birds in Great Lakes states in the 1970s.

The mysterious condition appeared only in birds 6 months or older, so it did not seem to be a birth defect. It affected chickadees, which live in the forest, and northwestern crows, which live in intertidal zones. But both birds are social, so it was conceivable they could transmit disease among their species.

The potential breakthrough came when researchers at the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco offered to apply advanced DNA and RNA sequence technology to bird beak samples.

Early in 2012, disease ecologist Maxine Zylberberg had an "aha!" moment. She found the

birds had RNA of a virus in the same family that causes the common cold and polio in humans and foot-and-mouth disease in cattle.

The previously unknown virus was in every sample of deformed chickadee beaks and in two samples of chickadees that did not have distorted beaks.

"After that, it was a lot of validation, going through and testing more individuals and seeing, 'Is this true?'" Zylberberg said.

Researchers are careful to

say the virus named Poecivirus after the black-capped chickadee genus has not yet been nailed down as the cause of distorted beaks.

"It could be that birds who have this disease are more susceptible to this common virus," said Zylberberg, now at the University of California, San Francisco, and lead author of a study published July 26 in *mBio*, a journal of the American Society for Microbiology.

To validate their findings,

scientists will grow the live virus in laboratory conditions. They also will work to determine whether the virus is in other bird species and how it is being transmitted.

In Britain, significant numbers of blue tits, a close relative of black-capped chickadees, have been observed with beak deformities. In all, 36 species with deformed beaks have been documented there.

"Now, with this genetic test, we have a way to see," Do those birds have the same virus or not?" Handel said.

## WHY I'M VOTING FOR BOB SIVERTSEN

I will be voting for Bob Sivertsen for our state House of Representatives and here are the reasons why. First, Bob has experience with a variety of issues, such as experience with local municipal issues through his service on the Ketchikan City Council, experience with energy issues through his service on the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) Board, and experience with senior issues through his service on the Alaska Pioneers' Home Advisory Board.

Second, Bob has the most likelihood of being in the majority caucus, whether it is a Republican majority or a bi-partisan majority. Having our representative in the majority is helpful to us in Wrangell.

Third, Bob has demonstrated leadership and people skills. I have seen Bob chair controversial SEAPA Board meetings and he has an excellent way of dealing with people fairly while also not shying away from difficult decisions or controversies. We need more of this kind of fair and honest leadership in Juneau.

I work with the Legislature on a regular basis. I am registered as a non-partisan. I vote for the person who I think will do the best job. I will be voting for Bob Sivertsen.

*Paid for by Julie Decker  
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## State raising fees for hunting, fishing licenses in 2017

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – The state Department of Fish and Game has announced that fees will increase for sport fishing, hunting and trapping licenses starting next year.

The agency's announcement Thursday comes as the result of a bill approved by lawmakers earlier this year. The law, which takes effect Jan. 1, was supported by conservation groups, sportsmen's organizations and the guiding industry, the department said.

Officials said it's the first time in 24 years that fees for Alaska hunting licenses will increase. Fees for fishing licenses haven't gone up in a decade.

Hunting licenses will cost Alaskans \$45 next year, up from the current \$25. Sport fishing licenses will increase from \$24 to \$29.

Nonresidents seeking an annual hunting license will pay \$160 in 2017, nearly double the current cost.

The department said the new licensing fees will be more "in line" with other states, and in some cases, will still be significantly lower than what people in other parts of the country are paying.

"The nonresident tag fees that are charged doubled with this bill. But even with that doubling, they're still in some cases less than what an out-of-state person pays in other states," said Maria Gladziszewski with the state Division of Wildlife Conservation. "Even with the increases, (the fees) are still definitely less expensive for residents and not out-of-line for non-residents."

Groups such as the Territorial Sportsmen, Kenai River Sportfishing Association, the Alaska Professional Hunters Association and the Alaska Outdoor Council were among those that advocated for the fee hike, Gladziszewski said.

"Basically sportsmen groups realized the need and started lobbying the state Legislature a couple years ago to say 'Hey, we want to pay for this. We want to continue the partnership to pay for what we use,'" Gladziszewski said. "It was in the tradition of sportsmen paying for conservation."

The money earned from licensing and permitting fees help support conservation initiatives in Alaska.

"The fee increases will enable the state to leverage tens of millions of Pittman-Robertson and Dingell Johnson federal aid dollars, which provide core management and conservation funding," Fish and Game said in a Thursday press release.



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# Fish Factor

by Laine Welch

Values of Alaska salmon permits have taken a nose dive after a dismal fishing season for all but a few regions.

"No activity for drift gillnet or seine permits in Prince William Sound...No interest in Southeast seine or troll permits...Nothing new in Area M (the Alaska Peninsula)," wrote Mike Painter of The Permit Master. And so it goes -

"With the lone exception of Bristol Bay and Area M it was a pretty grim season for salmon fishermen all over the state, and we are seeing that reflected in the declining prices for salmon permits and very low demand," said Doug Bowen of Alaska Boats and Permits in Homer.

On the upside, Bristol Bay drift permits have rebounded to the \$135,000 range after reaching a low of around \$90,000 last fall and spring. But at this point, there's not much interest.

"I believe there are fishermen who would like to switch out, say from Cook Inlet and go to the Bay, but it's tough to make that move," he said, adding that "Cook Inlet drift permits aren't selling; there are lots of them on the market for around \$50,000 and no action there."

A few years ago, Prince William Sound drift gillnet permits were fetching up to around \$240,000, but recent sales were in the \$130,000 range or lower.

"Those permits have dropped about \$100,000 in a year because they've had a couple of bad years in a row," Bowen said.

The story is similar for seine permits in the Sound, following a disastrous pink salmon year that came in less than 25 percent of the forecast.

"The market there is around \$150,000 and they were up over \$200,000 last year," he added. "We don't see much action on those, and there is no interest for Kodiak seine cards. You can see them listed in the low \$30,000 range but what it would take to actually sell one - my guess is it's something under \$30,000."

In Southeast, some permit values are not down quite as much as in other areas. Drift gillnets were priced at \$95,000 to \$100,000 last year, with recent sales at around \$80,000. Southeast seine permits, which a couple of years ago approached \$325,000, recently sold at \$160,000.

Bowen says it all adds up to very little optimism. "Several of these areas have had bad years back to back. If you add it all up, there's likely a couple hundred million dollars that did not show up in salmon this year. There's not money floating around in the

industry to buy permits, so we're seeing a depressed market in general."

He added that many stakeholders are worried about the future of Alaska salmon fishing.

"You hear people talking about the water temperature is too warm and the fish are swimming deep and going under the nets and around them, and there seems to be a lot of concern about the future, even in the near term," Bowen said.

One bright note: salmon markets are going strong so far and that could help to turn the tide.

"Sales have been brisk this fall," said Tom Sunderland, Vice President of Marketing and Communications for Ocean Beauty Seafoods. "We expect inventories to be low as we head into next season, and that should create some good market opportunities."

Bowen added that with low prices now for permits nearly across the board, it's a good time to buy.

**Farmed salmon flop** - Wild salmon is less nutritious because it burns up all its good fats and oils on its long journey to spawn. That's the startling claim by professors at Stirling University in Scotland in a study showing declines in omega-3 levels in farmed salmon due to increased use of plant based feeds. The statement brought a quick reaction from one Alaska expert.

"I laughed. It's a silly remark," said Scott Smiley of Kodiak, a retired professor and noted zoological expert in cell and developmental biology. "A friend who is a fish nutritionist asked if the Scottish researcher was a professor of medieval literature," he added with a laugh.

Smiley added that farmed salmon, like other living creatures, are what they eat.

"You can adjust the diets of farmed fish so that they have much more omega-3's. It's just a question of cost and it is relatively expensive to do," he explained, adding that most fish farmers now balance plant-based feeds with fish meal at critical times in the salmon's development.

Catching wild fish to feed farmed fish has fallen out of favor over the past decade, and that's forced fish farmers to find feeds sourced from plants or synthetics. The Scottish report said that in 2006, 80 percent of the average farmed salmon's diet in the U.K. was made up of oily fish; now it is just 20 percent.

But even with the lower omega levels, farmed salmon is still better for you than wild, the Scottish researchers concluded. One million smoked salmon meals are eaten in the U.K. every week, and salmon purchases there have increased 550 percent, according to the report that is in the journal Scientific Reports.

It's hard to tell which fish overall has the highest amount of omega-3 oils because levels vary by local populations, Smiley said.

"Herring off of Kodiak may have very high levels of omega-3's, but herring from some other place may have half of that. There is variation in natural populations that is really intense. And it totally depends on what they eat," he explained.

Farmed seafood is slowly gaining dominance over wild in Japan's retail stores and are now the centerpieces of the seafood section, according to Seafood Source. The shift is driven by national supermarket chains that want to plan large-scale promotions in advance

The foodservice industry has long preferred farmed seafood because costs and supply are more stable, allowing for more consistent menuing and prices. Now, Japanese retailers also want that stability.

Top fishing ports and fish favorites - Alaska claimed the top three fishing ports for landings again last year, and in fact, led all US states in terms of seafood landings and value at six billion pounds and \$1.8 billion, respectively.

That's according to the annual Fisheries of the US report for 2015 released yesterday by

NOAA Fisheries.

For the 19th consecutive year, Dutch Harbor led the nation in the highest amount of seafood landed at 787 million pounds valued at \$218 million. And New Bedford, MA again had the highest valued catch - \$322 million for 124 million pounds.

Most of that was due to the high price of sea scallops, which accounted for 76 percent of the value of the landings in New Bedford.

Kodiak ranked second for landings and the Aleutian Islands was number three, thanks to Trident's plant at Akutan, the nation's largest seafood processing facility. In all, 13 Alaska ports made the nation's top 50 list for landings and six were in the top ten, including the Alaska Peninsula, Naknek and Cordova.

In other highlights: Alaska accounted for nearly 98 percent of all wild salmon landings, with West Coast states making up the rest. The average dock price per pound for all salmon species in Alaska was 40 cents last year, down by half from 2014.

For halibut, the Pacific fishery accounted for all but 216,000 pounds of the total halibut catch. Average price to fishermen was \$4.86 a pound, compared to \$4.94 the previous year.

U.S. landings of king crab were 17.5 million pounds, valued at nearly \$99 million, increases of 5 percent and more than 15 percent, respectively.

Alaska is home to the most seafood processing plants at 151, which employed more than 10,000 people.

And for the third year in a row, Americans ate slightly more seafood at 15.5 pounds per person, adding nearly one pound to their diets. That's according to the National Fisheries Institute, which each year compiles the Top 10 list of favorites based on the NOAA report that was released this week.

The favorites remain pretty much the same, with shrimp topping the list - but consumption of that item has remained static at four pounds per capita.

Salmon again ranked second and Americans increased their intake by more than three percent to just under three pounds per person. That's due in large part to more availability and lower prices at retail.


Canned tuna held onto the third spot at 2.2 pounds, followed by farmed tilapia at nearly 1.4 pounds per person.

Alaska pollock ranked at number five at just under one pound per capita, slightly less than in 2014. Rounding out the top ten were Pangasius, cod, crab, catfish and clams.

The upward eating tick in the U.S. is good news from a public health perspective. Only one in 10 Americans follows the federal dietary guidelines to eat seafood twice a week. The global annual seafood consumption average is 44 pounds per person.

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 Independent  
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- ◆ Voted with Republican majority on resolutions calling for more Alaska management over Alaska lands controlled by the feds.
- ◆ Voted with Senator Stedman and House "Musk Ox" Republicans against the Republican majority for oil tax credit reform.
- ◆ Voted against the Republican majority to restore \$2 million in funding for the Alaska Marine Highway.
- ◆ Voted with Senator Stedman to oppose the Crime Reform bill in order to support Alaska Peace Officers and reject lenient sentencing for serious crimes.
- ◆ Voted with Senator Stedman and the Republican majority to give S.E. timber companies more access to State-owned land.
- ◆ Voted to reinstate 4.3 million in Cruise Ship Passenger Vessel Tax revenue for Wrangell and Ketchikan withheld in the House Republican majority budget.
- ◆ Voted to restore cuts to the Alaska Pioneer Home and Senior Income Assistance Programs called for in the original House majority budget.

Paid for by OrizAankhouse, 3204 South Tongass Ketchikan, AK 99901



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# Trump, Johnson added to online Alaska voter guide

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – Alaska election officials say information on Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump and Libertarian Gary Johnson have been added to the

online version of state's election pamphlet ahead of the general election.

The addition comes after neither the Trump nor Johnson campaign submitted biographical information, campaign statements or the \$300 fee to be included in the printed version by the Aug. 30 deadline.

Election officials said Friday the Trump and Johnson campaigns submitted the required payment and information by the Oct. 25 deadline for the online version.

Officials say the names of Trump, Johnson and several state candidates who missed the print deadline are included in the printed version, but not the biographical information.

The printed version does feature biographical pages for Democrat Hillary Clinton, Green Party nominee Jill Stein and other minor candidates, along with other down-ticket and state races.

All candidates will be on the Nov. 8 ballot.

## A Response to Former Rep. Wilson

In response to the 'Factual Fair' op-ed published in the Ketchikan Daily News and the Wrangell Sentinel by former Representative Peggy Wilson, I would like to address the real facts.

- I have been a registered independent/non-partisan for eight years, beginning six years before running for public office. Before that, I was a registered Republican or Republican Moderate for over 25 years and a registered Democrat for only eight months.

- Once I was elected as an independent, I was not invited into the Republican Majority. I did not simply choose to join the minority; I had no other choice.

- Prior to my being elected, and when asked the question of who I would caucus with, I said I would join whoever was in the best interest of District 36. The record shows that is exactly what happened.

- Because of the group I caucused with in my first term as your legislator, the following things were accomplished for District 36:

1. Restored a total of \$3.75 million to the Alaska Marine Highway system over two years, protecting Southeast from cuts approved by the Republican Majority.

2. Restored funds proposed to be cut by the Republican Majority to the Alaska Pioneer Home program and to the Senior Income Assistance program budgets.

3. Successfully restored over \$4.2 million in Cruise Ship Passenger vessel tax monies to the municipalities of Ketchikan and Wrangell after this money was withheld from the budgets first passed by the Republican majorities in the House and Senate.

4. Restored some of the proposed cuts to public radio stations, such as KRBD and KSTK, by the Republican majorities.

- I have a close working relationship with our Senator Bert Stedman. I regularly seek his advice and opinions on all the important votes that impact the state and/or District 36. My voting record closely resembles his, but I have not seen his partisanship questioned.

In closing, my position in the House has allowed me effectively advocate and vote for the best interests of District 36, and I will continue to do so if re-elected.

**Rep. Dan Ortiz**

*Paid for by: Ortiz4AKHouse, 3204 South Tongass Hwy., Ketchikan, AK 99901*

## Alaska shop set to offer state's first legal marijuana sales

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – A store in Alaska is set to be the first in the state offering retail marijuana sales, with its grand opening scheduled for Saturday in Valdez.

The planned opening of Herbal Outfitters will mark the first time it's legal to buy pot since voters signed off in November 2014. Alaska residents voted to allow people 21 and older to use pot recreationally.

Herbal Outfitters' general manager says people from around the state plan to make the trip for the grand opening.

The opening comes less than a week after the state's first marijuana testing lab got to work in Anchorage.

Herbal Outfitters owner Richard Ballow said Friday operators are calling the time of Saturday's opening "high noon."

## Comics

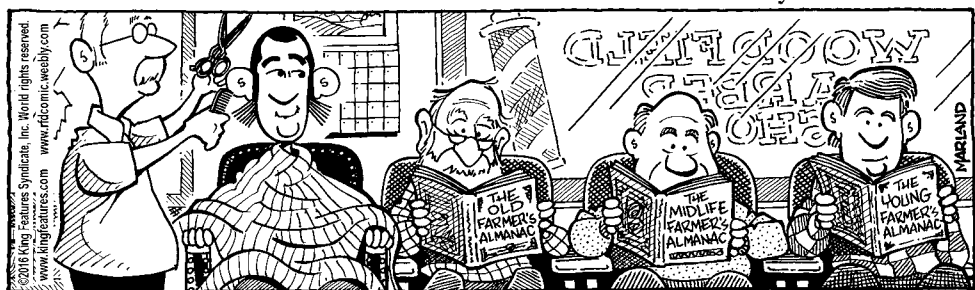
### Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



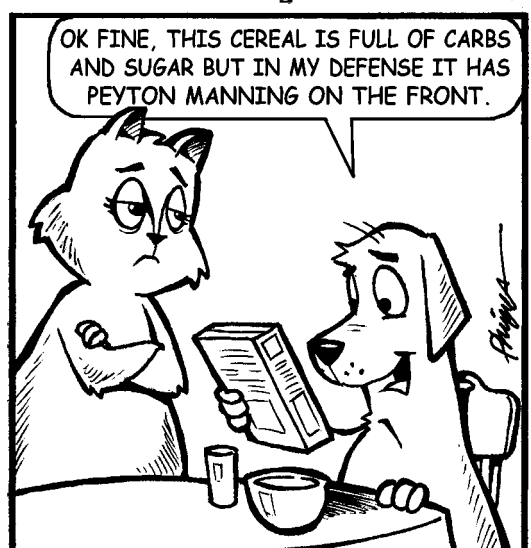
### R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



### Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

	6	8			4			
2				5				1
		3		7		6		
		3		4				9
		4	5		9	3		
7					2			1
	5			1				8
8					3	9		4
		6	2					3

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 High point
- 5 Dance syllable
- 8 Flabbergast
- 12 Fly high
- 13 Fond du —
- 14 Sea eagle
- 15 Multi-Grammy-winning gospel singer
- 17 Helps
- 18 Faux —
- 19 Inquire
- 20 Snob
- 21 With it
- 22 "Unh-unh"
- 23 Threw a party for
- 26 Kingston's island
- 30 Prayer ending
- 31 Space
- 32 Thy
- 33 Commemorative coin, maybe
- 35 Doctrine
- 36 Thanksgiving veggie
- 37 Two, in Tijuana
- 38 Capital letter key
- 41 Zodiac cat
- 42 Ernesto Guevara
- 45 Novice
- 46 "Lord of the Rings" cast member
- 48 Smell

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31			32			
33				34			35			
			36			37				
38	39	40				41		42	43	44
45					46			47		
48					49			50		
51					52			53		

- 7 Performance
- 8 "Will & Grace" actor
- 9 Small combo
- 10 Loosen
- 11 Egg container?
- 16 Incursion
- 20 Muppet eagle
- 21 Founder of a major auto company
- 22 Siesta
- 23 Online help page
- 24 Ostrich's cousin
- 25 Afternoon social
- 26 Cookie holder
- 27 Charged bit
- 28 Pool stick
- 29 Illustrations
- 31 Jewel
- 34 Tit for —
- 35 Hit the horn
- 37 Beelzebub
- 38 Put an end to
- 39 Stevenson villain
- 40 Decrease?
- 41 Queue
- 42 Hint
- 43 Group of cattle
- 44 Cupid's alias
- 46 Trail the pack
- 47 Evergreen type

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Puzzle answers on page 14

# Classified/Legals

**BOATS AND MARINE IFQ'S AND FISHING PERMITS, Alaskan Quota and Permits, 907-772-4000, 1-888-347-4437.....tfn1-3b15**

**FOR RENT PRIME DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL office space for rent in Kadin Building. Call Shirley at 874-3129.....tfn2-**

27b14  
**ONE AND TWO BEDROOM Apartments. No pets. 305-0619.....tfn6-9b8**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS NEEDED: LIGHT HELP, 2 hours a week, Senior Apartments #213, please call 305-0677.....2x11-10b15**

**THANK YOU TO THE WVFD, thank you for letting all the classes visit during Fire Prevention Week. Students and Staff at Evergreen Elementary.....1x11-3p**

**City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska  
NOTICE OF JOB OPENING  
BOROUGH MANAGER**

The City & Borough of Wrangell is accepting employment applications for the position of Borough Manager until November 11, 2016, 5:00 p.m.

Salary Range depending on experience  
\$80,184-\$111,093 with excellent benefits

The Borough is looking for a top executive and operations officer, accountable for accomplishing short and long-range business and program objectives. This is an appointed position. This position typically requires a master's degree in public administration, business, planning, and civil engineering or the equivalent and eight years of progressively responsible municipal experience. For a complete job description, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office at 907-874-2381 or email: clerk@wrangell.com or visit Borough website: <http://www.wrangell.com/jobs>  
Please send a cover letter, detailed resume and references to: City & Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, or fax: (907) 874-2304 or email: clerk@wrangell.com.  
**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3, 2016**

**CITY OF WRANGELL  
In-House and Public Announcement  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION  
TEMPORARY Laborers  
Nolan Center/Museum**

The Nolan Center/Museum will be accepting applications for Temporary Laborers, the deadline to turn in an application is November 18, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Duties will be assigned by the Nolan Center Director and may include both days, nights, weekends, indoor and outdoor work. Must have computer experience, some office skills, and be able to lift 50 pounds.

Applications may be obtained and returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929.

The City of Wrangell is an equal opportunity employer.  
Jeff Jabusch  
Wrangell City Manager

**Publish: November 3 and 10, 2016**

**City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska  
Public Hearing  
REVISED - PUBLIC NOTICE (to add item b)**

The Borough Assembly will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING at 6:30 p.m.**, in the Borough Assembly Chambers on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, on the following items:

**a. PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 927: AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE MINOR OFFENSE FINE SCHEDULE IN CHAPTER 1.20, GENERAL PENALTY, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE (second reading)**

**b. Request for a modification to a Contract Zone Agreement**, amending the site plan and expanding the proposed Light Industrial use storage facility from a one building facility to a two building facility on Lot C, Torgramsen-Glasner Subdivision, zoned Single Family Residential with a Contract Zone of Light Industrial, requested by Mr. and Mrs. Donald Glasner

Action on this item will be taken at the Regular Assembly Meeting that follows the Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.  
**The Public is encouraged to attend.**

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

**Publish: November 3, 2016**

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA  
PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) is seeking *Letters of Interest* to fill the upcoming vacancies to the SEAPA Board of Directors, which consist of:

**One (1) voting member and One (1) alternate member for Wrangell**

These vacancies are one-year terms from January 1 - December 31, 2017.

Please turn your Letter of Interest into the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, City & Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, **on or before 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 8, 2016.**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office at 907-874-2381, or email: clerk@wrangell.com

Appointments will be made at the regular Assembly meeting on November 8, 2016.

**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3, 2016**

**LEGAL**

Pursuant to the City & 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.

**ORDINANCE NO. 926**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF TITLE 20, ZONING, OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, TO ADD LICENSED MARIJUANA ESTABLISHMENT FACILITIES AS CONDITIONAL USES IN CERTAIN SPECIFIED ZONING DISTRICTS, AND TO UPDATE THE TEMPORARY AND SPECIAL ZONING ACTS TABLE**

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

**Publish: November 3, 2016**

**NOTICE**

Attention Fishermen using gear floats at Shoemaker Bay and In-town Harbor. **ALL** Gear, Pots, Nets etc need to be removed from gear floats prior to November 15th, 2016.

This includes all gillnets on the storage float off the south end of Reliance Float.

All gear, pots and nets remaining on the floats November 15th, 2016 will be disposed of by the Harbormaster.

**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3 and 10, 2016**

**Notice to Creditors**

Lee Byrd, of P.O. Box 46, Wrangell, AK 99929, has been appointed the personal representative of the estate of Margaret Byrd, formerly of P.O. Box 46, Wrangell, AK 99929. Creditors are hereby notified that they must submit a claim against this estate within four months of the first publication of this notice, or the claim will be forever barred. Claims must be submitted in writing to Lee Byrd, or the Court of 415 Main Street Suite 400, Ketchikan, AK 99901 referencing case number 1KE-16-133PR.

**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3, 2016**

**City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska  
REVISED - PUBLIC NOTICE - City Board and Committee Vacancies**

Persons interested in serving on the following City Boards and Committees, please submit your *Letter of Interest* to the Office of the Borough Clerk, City & Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929.

Deadline for Letters of Interest is **5:00 p.m., Wednesday, November 8, 2016**, for the following vacancies:

- Planning & Zoning Commission one - (three year term)
- Planning & Zoning Commission one - (unexpired term until October 2017)
- Parks & Recreation one - (three year term)
- Wrangell Convention & Visitors Bureau two - (three year terms)
- Economic Development Committee two - (three year terms)
- Economic Development Committee one - (unexpired term until October 2017)

If you have any questions on the duties and responsibilities for each board and committee, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office at either calling 874-2381 or emailing clerk@wrangell.com or stop by City Hall at 205 Brueger Street.

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

**Publish: October 20, 27 and November 3, 2016**

**King Crossword**

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

A	C	M	E	C	H	A	S	T	U	N	
S	O	A	R	L	A	C	E	R	N	E	
A	M	Y	G	R	A	N	T	A	I	D	S
P	A	S	A	S	K	S	N	O	O	T	
H	I	P	N	A	H						
F	E	T	E	J	A	M	A	I	C	A	
A	M	E	N	G	A	P	Y	O	U	R	
Q	U	A	R	T	E	R	T	E	N	E	T
Y	A	M	D	O	S						
S	H	I	F	L	E	O	C	H	E		
T	Y	R	O	L	I	V	T	Y	L	E	R
O	D	O	R	A	N	I	E	U	R	O	
P	E	N	D	G	E	L	W	E	D	S	

**Weekly SUDOKU**

Answer

9	6	7	8	2	1	5	4	3
2	4	8	6	3	5	7	9	1
5	1	3	9	7	4	6	2	8
6	3	2	1	4	7	8	5	9
1	8	4	5	6	9	3	7	2
7	9	5	3	8	2	4	1	6
3	5	9	4	1	6	2	8	7
8	2	1	7	5	3	9	6	4
4	7	6	2	9	8	1	3	5

**Castle Mountain Entertainment Presents**

**Deepwater Horizon**  
 Rated PG-13 • 1 hr 47 min  
 Mark Wahlberg, Kurt Russell  
*Action Drama Thriller*

**SHOWTIMES:**  
**Nov 4-6**  
**FRI • 7 pm**  
**SAT • 7 pm**  
**SUN • 7 pm**

Tickets: \$5 for 12 & under,  
 \$7 for 13 & up  
 Buy movie gift certificates  
 at the Museum gift shop  
 Check out more movie info at  
[www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)

## Southeast to be included in salmon disaster declaration

The governor's office last week announced the inclusion of Southeast Alaska in the state's request for a disaster declaration for the 2016 pink salmon fishery. Made October 26, the announcement was in response to a letter jointly issued by Reps. Dan Ortiz (I-District 36) and Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins (D-District 35) the previous week making the request. It follows a request in August made by Rep. Louise Stutes (R-District 32) for the state's fishery due to the sea-

son's poor returns. Statewide the harvest was considered the worst in nearly half a century. Harvest data compiled by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at the time of the letter's issuance had indicated revenue for Southeast's pink salmon fisheries had dropped by 36.1 percent from the five-year average. This falls within the eligibility threshold for disaster relief of 35 to 80 percent. The letter notes the request for disaster relief funding will

be given to the U.S. Secretary of Commerce for consideration, under dictates of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Disaster assistance is administered by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries. Assistance is covered under two statutes, Magnuson-Stevens and the Interjurisdictional Fisheries Act. In both cases a state governor or affected fishing community can request a fishery disaster deter-

mination by the Secretary of Commerce. If the Secretary determines that a fishery disaster has occurred, participants in the fishery are eligible for disaster assistance subject to appropriation of funds by Congress. In past years, disasters for Alaskan fisheries have been determined, such as the extended snow crab fishery from 2000 to 2008, and most recently the Chinook salmon fishery from 2011 to 2012.

## Juneau looks to secure funding for officer body cameras

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Juneau is seeking funding to

acquire funding needed to outfit the city's police officers with body cameras.

The police department has been testing different models of the devices for at least four years, but a lack of funding has kept it from implementing its own body camera program.

"This has been in the works here for years and years and years," police Chief Bryce Johnson told The Juneau Empire. "We've been working toward this for some time."

The city got help from the U.S. Department of Justice in September, when the federal agency awarded the department a \$25,000 grant to help purchase 40 body cameras. But in order to secure the funds, the city must put up nearly \$27,000 on its own.

The police department can cover about \$7,000 of the total, but is asking the Juneau Assembly to appropriate the remainder in asset forfeiture funds.

"Usually what we're talking about here is illegal drug money," Johnson said. "These funds are designed to pay for things like this. This is what we're supposed to be doing with them."

The department has used the money seized during arrests in the past to fund its school resource officer program and its K-9 unit.

The Assembly will decide on the funding proposal next week.

Even if the Assembly approves the funds, Johnson said the department would still

need about another year to determine the model of camera it wants to use and to strengthen its body camera policy.

Other police departments in the state have already equipped officers with body cameras, such as the Kenai and Kodiak police departments. Johnson acknowledged Juneau's slow pace in starting its own program but said the department could learn from some of the other agencies.

"We're not on the cutting edge here; we're not blazing the trail," Johnson said. "We are three or four years behind, but that's where we want to be. We can learn from other agencies' struggles."

Deputy City Manager Mila Cosgrove told the Empire on Friday that the Juneau manager's office will recommend that the Assembly pass the ordinance designating the funding for the city's body camera program.

"From where Rorie (Watt, the city manager) and I stand, this seems like a reasonable thing to do," Cosgrove said.

# Dan Ortiz

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# Shop Local....

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In fact, one Chicago study found that for every \$100 spent at a local business, \$68 remained in the city while only \$43 of each \$100 spent at a chain retailer.

*Information sourced from the Entrepreneur*

# Pot

Continued from page 1

difficult, and Happy Cannabis will at least initially be largely self-producing.

Together, applications for the retail and cultivation licenses cost Martinsen \$12,000 to file. He also intends to apply for a license to manufacture concentrated tetrahydrocannabinol – THC, the psychoactive compound of cannabis – in about four months time, once his stock of plants are more mature.

During the interim, Martinsen hopes to begin hiring and training staff for the new shop. Employees will have plenty to learn: In addition to obtaining the proper permitting they will have to know how to use the store's point of sale system as well as the state's tracking system.

"This tracking system, it's seed to sale," he explained.

The Marijuana Enforcement

Tracking, Reporting and Compliance system is in real-time, using serialized tags with barcode, human-readable and radio frequency identification tags attached to every plant, and labels attached to wholesale packages to track marijuana inventory. The MCB's site explains each tag is attached to a plant to facilitate tracking through different stages of growth, as well the drying and curing processes.

"That stays with the plant through its life cycle," Martinsen commented.

Once the applications are processed, requirements shown to have been met, and all is approved, Martinsen expects the process could be finished by February at the earliest, but will be prepared for any surprises.

"There's always another step," he said.

## Alaska looks to boost employment with grant money

ANCHORAGE – The state of Alaska has received a \$1 million grant to help bolster employment within the state's health care and aviation industries.

The U.S. Department of Labor grant will support apprenticeship programs, which the state hopes will encourage more companies to hire Alaska residents, The Alaska Public Radio Network reported. The programs combine on-the-job training with classroom instruction.

"We've gotta do everything we can, and apprenticeship just seems to provide a really good opportunity to get folks on the first ladder and beyond into these careers that are generally good-paying jobs, generally with benefits, and are a family-wage job," said Ed Flanagan, director of employment and training services for the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Flanagan said health care is particularly important to Alaska, as the field is expected to grow despite the state's economic struggles.

"Particularly community health workers, which is a new, emerging occupation to coordinate care, reduce costs and reduce readmissions to hospitals and just generally improve the system," he said.

The health care and social assistance sector is projected to add more than 7,000 jobs by 2024, according to data from the state labor department.

Flanagan said aviation indus-

try jobs can be localized within rural communities and help boost economies. "They're bringing them up to Kotzebue from Anchorage, two weeks on, two weeks off," he said. "Well maybe somebody in Kotzebue could be trained up through apprenticeship to have that job, and it would be a great local job in their own economy."

The Alaska Department of

Labor and Workforce Development is working with the state industry groups Alaska Primary Care Association and Alaska Air Carriers Association to expand apprenticeship opportunities.

The federal money is intended to reduce Alaska's unemployment rate, which was just below 7 percent as of September.

### Store Closing SALE

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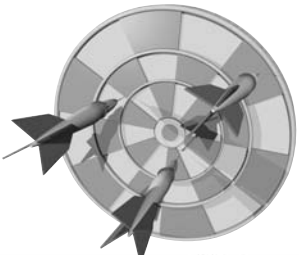
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