



Wrangell, Alaska
November 14, 2019

WRANGELL SENTINEL

Volume 117, Number 46

Oldest Continuously Published Newspaper in Alaska

8 Pages

\$1.50

Diverse opinions voiced at Roadless Rule meeting

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Forest Service has been hosting numerous public meetings across Southeast Alaska, recently, to share information on proposed changes to the Roadless Rule and to take comments from the public. One such meeting was held in Wrangell last Wednesday, Nov. 6. As readers may know, the Roadless Rule was put in place by the federal government in 2001 as a way to protect undeveloped parts of national forests. It prohibits road construction, repairs, or timber harvests inside of "inventoried roadless areas." According to Ken Tu, who led the discussion at the meeting, there are 58.5 million roadless acres in the United States. 15.5 million of these are found in Alaska, and the Tongass National Forest is home to 9.2 million roadless acres. This is 55 percent of the entire Tongass, according to Tu's presentation.

"In January of 2018 the state of Alaska petitioned [the Secretary of Agriculture [Sonny Perdue]] to exempt the Tongass National Forest from the Roadless Rule, citing the need for increased economic development opportunities," Tu said, providing a brief history of the



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Ken Tu, with the Forest Service, led the main presentation on the Roadless Rule on Nov. 6. He discussed the history behind the ruling, why the Tongass was being considered for exemption, and what alternatives have been suggested.

current situation. "In August 2018 the Forest Service issued a notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement."

A draft of that environmental impact statement was made available in October of this

year. A 60-day public comment period was also opened, which is currently ongoing. The draft EIS proposes six alternatives. Alternative one keeps the 2001 Roadless Rule in place for the Tongass, meaning that the status quo will continue as it has

for several years. Alternative six, the "preferred alternative," would be a full exemption. According to Tu, this would open all 9.2 million roadless acres in the Tongass to potential timber harvest or road construction. However, he also said that

land management activities in the forest would still be guided by the Forest Service's 2016 Tongass National Forest Plan.

In between Alternatives one and six, four other alternatives have been proposed. Each is unique, and protects and exempts different areas of the Tongass. For example, Alternative two would remove about 113,000 acres from their roadless designation, but would add back 133,000. Alternative three would open up some areas to timber harvests but would maintain roadless area protections as much as feasible. Alternative four would provide "significant additional timber harvest opportunity," according to the presentation, but would keep the Roadless Rule protections in place for scenic areas and watersheds. Alternative five would remove almost 2.3 million acres of roadless area for "maximum additional timber harvest opportunity."

Along with proposing alternatives to the current Roadless Rule, Tu said that the draft EIS examined potential effects each alternative could have on different aspects of life in Southeast Alaska. Every alternative except Alternative one would have a minimal adverse effect, Tu's presentation pointed out. No alternative is expected to impact the fisheries industry in the area, but Alternatives three through six could have minimal negative impact to the visitor industry. On the flip side of the coin, Alternatives three through six would have a beneficial impact to the forest products industry.

After the presentation, the floor was opened for a Q&A session and a hearing to gather testimony from Wrangell's subsistence users. Several of the questions were about the six alternatives, why Secretary Perdue had preferred a full exemption, and whether or not these six alternatives were the only ones available. There is some wiggle room on the alternatives, the presenters said, but that is up to Secretary Perdue.

Several diverse opinions were also voiced during the meeting. Meredith Trainor, with the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council, said that getting rid of the Roadless Rule was just an attempt to reclaim the past, when the timber industry was booming in Southeast Alaska, and not really looking towards the region's future.

"In the regional economy of

Veterans Day assembly held at Wrangell High School

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Wrangell High School hosted a special assembly on Tuesday, Nov. 12, for Veteran's Day. Wrangell veterans were escorted into the gymnasium by members of the Wrangell Wolves wrestling team. The third grade class from Evergreen Elementary opened the ceremony with the Alaska Flag Song and the Wrangell Song, which was followed by the presentation of the colors by Girl Scout Troop 26. The high school choir sang the National Anthem and student Jing O'Brien led a moment of silence.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Felix Villarma and his wife, Verda, being escorted into the Veteran's Day assembly at Wrangell High School. Felix is a veteran of the U.S. Navy.

The assembly was filled with more music by the choir and high school band. Several middle school and high school students also read excerpts from historic speeches by presidents and generals. There was a second moment of silence, too, dedicated to the fallen of World War One. Last Monday, Nov. 11, marked the 101st anniversary of World War One coming to an end.

The approximately 15 veterans present at the assembly were also asked to stand as the song of their respective branches was played, receiving applause from the crowd. The assembly was brought to a close with a Taps medley by the band.

"Students, you think I'm old? Those gentlemen make me look like I'm very young," Principal David Macri said at the close of the assembly. "They know a little bit more than I do, trust me. Take your time to get to know these folks."

Continued on page 8

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, November 14: Jake Mork, Brent Mill, Tai Brown, Dalton Reeves, Barbara Hommel, Jordan Bunes. *Anniversary:* SLR 73. **Friday, November 15:** Dick Angerman, Steve Ramsey, Floyd Ramsey. *Anniversary:* Laura & Winston Davies, Ryan & Rhonda Edgley. **Saturday, November 16:** Lorri Angerman, Fred Angerman, Jr., Hannah Armstrong, Connor Guggenbickler. *Anniversary:* Jack & Terree Pino. **Sunday, November 17:** Kelsey McGee, Carol Snoddy, Talon Churchill, Cody Angerman. **Monday, November 18:** Jackie Dailey, Ann Phillips. **Tuesday, November 19:** David Joseph, Madison Robinson, Debra Larabee, Kimberly Cooper. **Wednesday, November 20:** Kayla Gillen, Rodney Taylor, Clayton Smalley, Sue Guggenbickler, Minnie Kalkins. *Anniversary:* Dick & Barbara Angerman. **Thursday, November 21:** Kevin Stutz, James Shilts, Jr., Michelle Villarma, Mike Whelan, Kyler Angerman, Trevor Miller.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, November 14

Turkey Pot Pie, Vegetables, Romaine Salad, Herb Biscuits

Friday, November 15

Sweet Sour Ribs, Green Beans, Romaine Salad, Rice

Monday, November 18

Pineapple Lemon Chicken, Fruit Slaw, Vegetables

Tuesday, November 19

Pot Roast with Fixin's, Fresh Fruit, Biscuits

Wednesday, November 20

Pork or Venison Chop Suey, Salad, Rice, Vegetables

Thursday, November 21

Liver and Onions, Tomatoes Rockefeller, Coleslaw

Please call Wrangell Senior Center at 874-2066 by 10 a.m. for reservations.

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

FERRY

Departures

Northbound

Friday, November 15

Malaspina 2:45 p.m.

Friday, November 22

Malaspina 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, November 26

Malaspina 12:15 p.m.

Saturday, November 30

Malaspina 12:30 am

Friday, December 6

Matanuska 3:45 p.m.

Friday, December 13

Matanuska 8:45 p.m.

Southbound

Monday, November 18

Malaspina 04:30 a.m.

Monday, November 25

Malaspina 04:30 a.m.

Friday, November 29

Malaspina 05:00 a.m.

Monday, December 2

Malaspina 05:30 a.m.

Monday, December 9

Matanuska 03:30 a.m.

Monday, December 16

Matanuska 08:00 a.m.

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



TIDES Nov. 14 - Nov. 21

	High Tides		Low Tides					
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM		
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
November 14	1:42	15.0	1:24	17.0	7:11	2.6	8:46	-1.7
November 15	2:19	14.5	1:56	16.7	7:44	3.2	8:24	-1.5
November 16	2:59	14.0	2:33	16.1	8:23	3.8	9:07	-1.0
November 17	3:45	13.5	3:17	15.4	9:10	4.5	9:58	-0.3
November 18	4:42	13.1	4:14	14.4	10:08	5.1	10:57	0.5
November 19	5:52	13.0	5:32	13.5	11:22	5.3
November 20	7:07	13.6	7:05	13.3	0:05	1.0	12:47	4.8
November 21	8:13	14.8	8:27	13.8	1:17	1.3	2:09	3.4

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, November 14

Special School Board Meeting: Evergreen Elementary School, Room 101, 6:30 pm.

Thursday, November 21

School Board Work Session: Evergreen Elementary School, Room 101, 6:00 pm.

School Board Meeting: Evergreen Elementary School, Room 101, 7:00 pm.

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

Continuing Events

PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES: Mid-day closure: Monday-Friday 1:30-3:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class: M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m.
Water Aerobics: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Lap Swim: M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
TuTh 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sa 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

2 Lane Lap Swim: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Lap/Tot Swim: MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

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

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

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

S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

AA Meetings:

North Star Group Meeting. St. Philip's Church. Tuesday: 7 p.m., Thursday: 8 p.m., Friday: 8 p.m.

The Way We Were

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

November 13, 1919

A branch of the American Legion will be organized at the Gymnasium on the evening of November 19. The American Legion is an organization of American veterans of the world war. It was first organized in Paris March 15 to 17, 1919 by a thousand officers and men, delegates from all the units of the American Expeditionary Force. To be eligible for membership one must be a soldier, sailor or marine who served honorably between April 6, 1917 and November 11, 1919.

November 10, 1944

The Dorcas Endeavor this week organized their local branch of Post War Relief.

Acting upon President Roosevelt's recommendation it is planned to have clothing that is clean and in good condition, representative of American standards, sorted, sized and carefully wrapped, ready for shipment to the needy people of the warring nations just as soon as war shall subside sufficiently.

Suitable clothing may be left at the parsonage of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, where it will be sorted and

wrapped, ready for shipment.

November 13, 1969

Mrs. Joan Fisher, Mrs. Dorothy Doane and Mrs. Donna Philbrich were en route home for them bridge party about 11:30 pm on Nov. 5 when near the three mile area, a medium size black bear decided to cross the road and was bumped, none too gently but the left front fender and hood of Mrs. Fisher's Volkswagen. The car stopped dead in the road, but Brer Bear continued his slightly interrupted journey and disappeared off the road into toward the beach. The only injuries besides the front of the car and the posterior of the bear were Mrs. Dona's bruise knees. Rod Redston from the Alaska Fish and Game checked the area the next day and the bear didn't stay around to press charges.

November 17, 1994

Veteran's Day was commemorated with two community dinners in Wrangell. Friday's recognition was at the Elk's Lodge and a Sunday evening dinner was held in the American Legion Hall.

Speaker at the American Legion celebration was editor of The Wrangell Sentinel, Dr. Allen

Bird, a retired Air Force officer who also served in the Army as enlisted. He spoke "In the Defense of Defense," saying that even the Bible points out that Jesus recognized the need to defend ourselves.

Wrangell High School sophomore Jerry Campbell told of his attendance at Boy's State in Juneau during the past summer and October Curtis, a senior, related events of her visit to the Far East, which included a tour of Hong Kong and mainland China.



The Addams Family

Rated PG • 1hr 26mins
Animation, Comedy, Family

Showtime

Fri. Nov. 15 - Sun. Nov. 17
7pm each day

Call Ottesen's True Value Hardware for all your building & special order needs.
Featuring:
Atrium Windows,
Snap-Loc Roofing,
Treated &
Untreated Wood

Phone 874-3377
Fax 874-3549
e-mail: ottesenstruvalue@ak.net

Ottesen's
BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value.

Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Nov. 04	52	46
Nov. 05	49	40
Nov. 06	45	40
Nov. 07	47	42
Nov. 08	48	41
Nov. 09	46	36
Nov. 10	39	34
Nov. 11	42	36

Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Nov. 14	7:20a	3:44p	08:24h
Nov. 15	7:22a	3:42p	08:20h
Nov. 16	7:24a	3:40p	08:16h
Nov. 17	7:26a	3:38p	08:12h
Nov. 18	7:28a	3:37p	08:09h
Nov. 19	7:30a	3:35p	08:05h
Nov. 20	7:32a	3:34p	08:02h
Nov. 21	7:34a	3:32p	07:58h

Court report

Oct. 25: Tangles Ray Hilton was arraigned on charges of assault in the fourth degree, criminal trespass, and criminal mischief. A request for a court appointed lawyer was granted, and he was released on his own recognizance. A calendar call hearing was scheduled for Nov. 19.

Oct. 29: Joel Franks was arraigned and given a bail hearing for charges of assault in the third degree and violating conditions of release. An omnibus hearing was scheduled for Nov. 12. A calendar call was scheduled for Jan. 21, 2020, and a viral was scheduled for Jan. 27, 2020. His bail was continued at \$500.

A minor offense trial was held for Tanner Thomassen, on a charge of not properly displaying license plates, decals, or permits. He was found guilty, and was ordered to pay a fine of \$75, plus a \$20 police training surcharge.

A minor offense trial was held for Valerie Nakamura, on a charge of having dangerous dogs. The defendant failed to appear, and she was ordered to pay a fine of \$200, plus a \$20 police training surcharge, as well as court fees.

Diane Bloom was arraigned on charges of assault in the fourth degree. She was appointed a public defender, and was given standard conditions of release. A calendar call was scheduled for Jan 21, 2020, with a trial scheduled for Jan. 28, 2020.

Cooper Seimears was arraigned on charges of violating conditions of release. He was released on a \$5,000 cash performance bond, and was given standard conditions of release.

Elizabeth Bullard was arraigned on charges of driv-

Police report

November 4

Verbal Dispute: Both parties separated.

Citizen Assist: Unlock vehicle.

Report of Theft.

Agency assist: MVA

Summons service.

Report of threats.

November 5

86'd letter served.

Internet Phishing.

Agency Assist: AST.

November 6

Warrant Arrest: Failure to Appear. Andrea Marrero, 26.

Disturbance.

Courtesy Transport.

November 7

Welfare Check.

Four subpoenas served.

November 8

Citizen Assist: Unlock vehicle.

November 9

Citizen Assist: Unlock residence.

Agency Assist: TSA

Suspicious person.

Disturbance: Person escorted off plane.

Two subpoenas served.

November 10

Three Traffic Stops.

Two subpoenas served.

During this reporting period there were four EMS calls and four animal complaints.

ing under the influence, driving with a cancelled/revoked/suspended license, and violating conditions of release. She was appointed a public defender. A calendar call was scheduled for Jan. 21, 2020.

Nov. 5: Nicole Lupro was arraigned on charges of a probation/parole violation. A status hearing was scheduled for Jan 21, 2020, and an adjudication hearing was scheduled for Jan. 28, 2020.

Scott Curley was arraigned on charges of Assault 4. A representation hearing was scheduled for Nov. 19, and a calendar call was scheduled for Jan 21, 2020. Curley was released on his own recognizance, and agreed to have no contact with the alleged victim.

Lynn Marks was arraigned on charges of driving

with a cancelled/revoked/suspended license. She was released on her own recognizance and agreed to not drive without a proper license or insurance. A calendar call was scheduled for Jan 21, 2020, and a trial was scheduled for Jan 28, 2020.

Nov. 6: A felony first appearance was made for Andrea Marrero, charged with fraudulent use and access of a device, and theft. An appearance bond was imposed at \$500. Among the typical conditions of release, she agreed to obey all local, state, and federal laws, to appear at all hearings, to not depart Wrangell without court permission, and to have no contact with the alleged victim. A preliminary hearing was scheduled for Nov. 15.

Port commission discusses changes to cruise ship fees, derelict boats

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Port Commission met for a brief workshop to begin discussions on two topics

that Harbor Master Greg Meissner said would be important for the future. One was on potentially changing the fees that Wrangell collects from cruise

ships, and the other was on how he could better handle derelict boats taking up space in the harbors.

A spreadsheet was given to

board members, comparing the fees that different Southeast Alaskan towns earned from visiting cruise ships. These fees could vary upon the size of the ship, how long it was staying, how many people were on board, and several other factors. Wrangell, for example, charges a dockage fee between \$1.03 and \$2.28 per foot of the cruise ship at City Dock. They also charge a port development fee, a lightering fee, and \$25 an hour for security. Compared to other towns, however, Meissner said that Wrangell was comparatively cheap for cruise ships.

"I took a ship like the Regatta, that's a ship we're all familiar with, and I said 'here's what it pays here,' 'here's what it pays in Juneau,' yada yada, to show you where we're at and the fact we've got room to move without scaring everyone away," he said.

Meissner said that it costs a ship like the Oceania Regatta, which carries about 684 passengers, approximately \$7,000 to dock in Ketchikan. In Wrangell, that same ship pays about \$2,500. If the port commission wanted to start building up money for future projects and maintenance, he said, they should consider finding ways to increase the cruise ship fees.

One idea that was briefly discussed was to bump up the dockage fee. This was not seen as a good idea, however, as Meissner pointed out that Wrangell's dockage fee was already higher than Ketchikan's. Another idea brought up was introducing a "passenger wharfage" fee, which Meissner described as a fancy way to describe a head tax on passengers. The commission also discussed potentially introducing a port maintenance fee that could help pay for future maintenance projects. Yet another idea brought up was potentially charging tour boat companies a seasonal fee for access to City Dock.

Commissioner John Martin mentioned that the cruise industry was growing in Alaska, and other commissioners agreed that they didn't want to scare off the cruise ships from Wrangell. Meissner pointed out that this was only the start of a discussion and no decisions would be made immediately. The soonest any new fees could be introduced was 2021, he said.

The second topic of the workshop was derelict boats taking up space in the harbors, and how best to deal with them. The way the rules are written now, Meissner said that the definition of "derelict" was a bit arbitrary. He wanted to tighten up the rules to make it more clean-cut and enforceable.

"My thought was why can't we make four simple classifications of vessels, and you have to be active in one of those?" he said. "Here we have commercial fishing boats, we have other commercial such as you guys, tugs, landing craft, things of that nature. We have recreational, and we have live-aboards. If you're not one of those, I'm not sure what you'd be other than a storage unit sitting there."

The commission seemed to like the idea of updating the rules about derelicts, but there was some discussion about insurance requirements. Several commissioners said that they would like to see proof of insurance being a requirement to get a spot in one of Wrangell's harbors. There were some questions about whether this could apply to boats only being docked for a short period of time, or boats that could be pulled out of the water on a trailer. The discussion continued for some time, but as this was a workshop, no final decision was made.

According to the city calendar, the port commission is scheduled to meet again on Dec. 5.



Friday, Nov. 22 @7pm
Nolan Center

- Feels like dinner theater
- Sounds like a house concert
- Looks like improv comedy

PARLOR IN THE ROUND \$20

Hometown Healthy Visiting Specialist Schedule

In addition to our outstanding local specialty Orthopedics, General Surgery, and Obstetrics & Gynecology teams, PeaceHealth is pleased to host specialty clinics in Ketchikan for your convenience. Get your expert specialty care close to home, call for your appointment today.

Dec 3-5	Oncology - Dr. Raish	907-228-8101
Dec 9-13	Urology Clinic - Dr. Schoenrock	907-225-7346
Dec 16-19	Pulmonology Clinic - Dr. Lam, Dr. Morison	907-228-7649
Dec 19-20	Cardiology Clinic - Dr. Beglin	888-739-2700
Jan 7-10	G.I. Clinic - Dr. Woods	907-228-8101
Jan 7	Oncology - Dr. Raish	907-228-8101
Jan 13-14	Cardiology Clinic - Dr. Liu	888-739-2700
Jan 13-17	Urology Clinic - Dr. Schoenrock	907-225-7346
Jan 27-30	Pulmonology Clinic - Dr. Thorson	907-228-7649



peacehealth.org/visitingcalendar

Nolan Center opens new shipwreck exhibit

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Nolan Center opened its newest exhibit on shipwrecks with much fanfare last Friday, Nov. 8. With food, wine, music, and special presentations, many people turned out for the grand opening. The exhibit, "Wrangell Remembers - Shipwrecks Close to Home, 1908-1952," features stories and artifacts of several Southeast Alaskan shipwrecks from the 20th century. Four ships are featured in this exhibit, The Star of Bengal, the S.S. Mariposa, the Princess Sophia, and the Princess Kathleen.

The Star of Bengal, 1908:

The Star of Bengal was built in 1874. It was purchased by the Alaska Packers' Association in 1905, to transport cannery workers and canned salmon.

The wreck occurred in the early hours of Sept. 20, 1908. The Star of Bengal was leaving Wrangell on the Sept. 19 with the assistance of two tugboats, which would guide the ship out to open ocean. Gig Decker, one of the guest speakers of the evening, said that the ship was carrying 52,000 cases of salmon and 111 Chinese and Japanese cannery workers.

As the day wore on, the weather grew worse. The tugboats were not strong enough to pull a heavy ship like the Bengal, and communication between all three was all but impossible. All of the ships were being pushed towards rocks near Coronation Island. Around 2 a.m. on Sept. 20, according to the exhibit, both tugboats cut the Bengal loose and headed for safety, believing that the ship had dropped its anchor to ride out the storm. According to the exhibit, the Bengal dropped anchor around 3 a.m., but with the storm they continued to wash closer and closer to the shore. She ran aground at 8:30 a.m. and had to be evacuated.

Not many people survived abandoning the ship. When one of the tugboats returned, they only found 27 survivors. None of the survivors were cannery workers, according to Decker, because they had been locked belowdecks and forgotten.

There was an inquiry into the sinking. The Bengal's captain, Nick Wagner, accused the tugboat captains of cowardice. Wagner was accused of sailing his unfit ship into a storm. Decker also added that he was accused of neglect and abandoning the cannery workers. All charges were eventually dropped, and the Bengal's sinking was declared an accident.

However, Decker takes issue with the official decision. In his personal opinion, he said he believes Wagner was only exonerated because of the influence the Alaska Packers' Association had at the time.

"They were the largest salmon canning operation in Alaska, had a lot of political clout, and I think exonerating Captain Wagner was a way to remove the responsibility from the Alaska Packers' Association," he said. "If Captain Wagner had been convicted, the Alaska Packers' Association could have faced some serious legal action."

S.S. Mariposa, 1917:

The S.S. Mariposa was built in 1883. It was sold to the Alaska Steamship Company in 1912. The ship served to transport passengers and cargo around Alaska and down to the lower 48.

The wreck occurred on Nov. 18, 1917. The Mariposa left Anchorage and was heading south, towards Wrangell. She was carrying 25,000 cases of canned salmon, 1,200 tons of ore, and 265 passengers. Around 3 a.m. on Nov. 18, the ship struck Straits Island Reef near Point Baker. All passengers were safely evacuated and taken to Wrangell on the ships Curacao and Ravalli. At 9:38 a.m., about six and a half hours after striking the reef, the ship sank with all its cargo.

"Both the Sophia and the Mariposa, wrecks I'd been on, look nowhere near like a ship anymore," said guest speaker Mike Kurth. "They're just a lot of steel plates and superstructure kind of all jumbled up. It's kind of hard to tell that they were ships."

Princess Sophia, 1918:

The display for the Princess Sophia is on loan from the State of Alaska museum, Crary said in a previous interview, and is the only portion of the exhibit not put together in-house. The Sophia was commissioned in 1911 for the Canadian Pacific Railway's "Alaska Princess Line" of cruise ships. During the first World War, several ships in the Princess fleet were recommissioned as troop transports. The Sophia helped get Alaskan soldiers south to Seattle or San Francisco.

The wreck occurred in October of 1918. The Sophia left Skagway on the night of Oct. 23, one of the last sailings south for the winter. Shortly after leaving the ship ran into heavy snow and wind, and was blown off course. In the early hours of Oct. 24, the ship struck Vanderbilt Reef. The impact raised the ves-



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

People looking around part of the Nolan Center's newest exhibit on shipwrecks. Director Cyni Crary said that the exhibit will be available to the public until the end of the year.

sel above the waterline on top of the reef. Several ships attempted to rescue those on board, but rough conditions hindered these efforts. On Oct. 25, the Sophia sent a radiogram stating they were taking on water. When the ship sank, it took all 343 people on board with it.

"Another sad thing about this story is, if you look at the dates, this ship was only six years old when this happened, so it was still fairly new," Kurth said.

Princess Kathleen, 1952:

The most recent shipwreck in the Nolan Center's exhibit is the Princess Kathleen. Also in the Princess fleet, like the Sophia, the Kathleen was built in 1924. She had a long career taking people around Southeast Alaska and the British Columbia coastline.

The wreck occurred on Sept. 7, 1952. It was the final cruise of the season, from Vancouver to Skagway. The Kathleen was carrying 425 passengers. Due to poor weather conditions, the ship was blown off course to port. The course was then corrected to starboard, but the chief officer failed to follow up with another order to return to the original course. This set the Kathleen towards the shoreline.

The ship ran aground at Lena Point, near Juneau, at 2:58 a.m. A hole had been ripped through the ship's hull, and everyone evacuated. By 11 a.m., the ship fully slipped off the rocks and sank. There was no loss of life.

"I'd say of the three wrecks that I've been on, the Kathleen is the only one that still looks like a ship when you go down on it," Kurth said.

More details on the stories of these wrecks can be found at the Nolan Center.

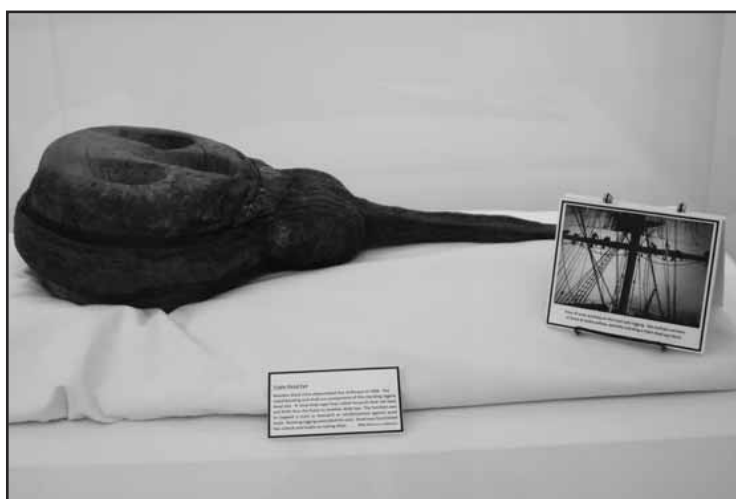


PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

A piece of the Star of Bengal on display at the Nolan Center.

EARLIER DEADLINE

Thanksgiving Week

All ads and letters
must be submitted to
the Sentinel by
FRIDAY, NOV. 22 at 5 PM

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

WRANGELL SENTINEL

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 1902
Published Weekly By: Pilot Publishing, Inc.
207 North Nordic Dr. , PO Box 930 • Petersburg, Alaska 99833
Phone 907-772-9393 • Fax 907-772-4871

POSTMASTER: send address changes to Wrangell Sentinel, P.O. Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929

Sentinel Staff:

Co Publishers Ron & Anne Loesch
News Editors..... Caleb Vierkant
..... Brian Varela
Front OfficeTrisha Schwartz
Production Ola Richards

The Wrangell Sentinel (USPS - 626480) is published every Thursday. Periodicals mail postage paid at Wrangell, Alaska 99929. Offices at 205 Front St., Wrangell, Alaska 99929; phone 907-874-2301; Fax 907-874-2303; email wrgsent@gmail.com; website: www.wrangellsentinel.com
© Copyright 2018

Subscription Rates

Single Copy.....\$1.50
Local.....\$46
Other Alaska.....\$62
2nd class/Lower 48 & HI.....\$70
First Class.....\$102



COURTESY OF JACK CARNEY

Liana Carney took first place in her division at the ACS tournament last week.

Wolves wrestlers take top 10 spots at ACS tournament

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Wolves went north to Anchorage last week for the annual ACS Denali Auto Glass Invitational Tournament. There were 33 teams competing in this tournament, making it one of the biggest tournaments Wrangell High School competes in. Wrangell finished the tournament in sixth place, with a total of 116 points. On the Wolves' Facebook Page, Assistant Coach Jack Carney said that while they took sixth overall, they were third place among 2A schools.

Individually, several wrestlers also made strong showings. In the Varsity 119 bracket, Jonah Comstock took third place. In the Varsity 125 bracket, Ryan Rooney took second place. In the Varsity 152 bracket, Hunter Wiederspohn took second place. In the Varsity 160 bracket, James Shilts took fifth place. In the Varsity 171 bracket, Rowen Wiederspohn took fifth place.

Liana Carney was the only female wrestler for Wrangell who attended the ACS tournament. She took first place in the Varsity 119G bracket.

She won by fall over Alysa Stigall, of Lathrop. In the second round, she won by fall over Tommy Tebbits of Noorvik. She then won matches against Leslie McCarty of Metlakatla in the quarterfinals and Grace Stigen of Colony High School. Finally, she won the first place match by fall over Autumn Poland of Lathrop.

Coach Carney mentioned that this was the second year in a row that Wrangell had three wrestlers become ACS finalists, and also the second year for an individual champion at ACS. Ryan Rooney was the 2018 individual champion for Wrangell.

The Wolves will be heading to Sitka on Nov. 22 and 23, taking a weekend off this week to rest and regroup for the second half of the season.

"We're very happy with how the team performed and have a better idea of what needs to happen to get everyone a little higher on the podium," Coach Carney said in a text message. "The season isn't even halfway over, so there is a lot of work to do still."

Strong finish for Wrangell at Klawock volleyball tournament

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's volleyball team travelled to Klawock last week, where they faced off against Klawock's home team, Craig, Petersburg, Haines, and Metlakatla. The team had a tough start, according to Coach Alyssa Allen, but they

were able to hit their stride and finish the tournament with several wins.

On Thursday, Nov. 7, Wrangell first went up in a best three-out-of-five set against Klawock. They lost the first two games at 24-14 and 25-8, respectively. The next two games were nail-biters, with

Wrangell winning with scores of 25-23 and 28-26. The final win, however, went to Klawock with a score of 15-4. Their next set of games against Craig went similarly. Wrangell won the first game at 25-16, but then lost the next two at 25-20 and 32-30. Wrangell won the fourth

game at 25-15, but lost the fifth and final game to Craig at 15-7.

Wrangell went up against Haines, Petersburg, and Metlakatla on Nov. 8. The Lady Wolves won the first two games against them, at 25-12 and 25-13. Haines took the third game with a score of 19-25, but Wrangell won the final game with a score of 25-15. The Lady Wolves' games against school rival Petersburg were close, but ended favorably. They won three games against

Petersburg at 28-26, 25-23 and 25-16. Their final set of games against Metlakatla were also big wins, at 25-13, 25-18 and 25-21.

Wrangell and Petersburg will be meeting again later this week, Nov. 15 and 16, for their annual senior nights. Wrangell will also be host to Regionals this year on Nov. 18-20.

"We're looking forward to being home Friday for senior night against Petersburg," Allen wrote on the WHS Volleyball Facebook page.

Dan's Dispatch - State Legislature Year in Review

By Representative
Dan Ortiz

As the House Representative for District 36, I'm writing to update you on some of the issues currently before the Alaska State Legislature. The 2019 legislative sessions were challenging - we continued to grapple with creating the budget, implementing a long term sustainable fiscal plan, and address declining revenue.

While we were able to hold fast on funding for departments like Fish & Game and Education, the Marine Highway System faced unprecedented cuts. During the interim, I have been focused on re-establishing the AMHS link to Prince Rupert. I will continue to push this issue until we see a long-term commitment by the Alaska Department of Transportation to keep Southeast connected.

New sources of revenue were not addressed, and funding for the budget continues to come predominately from our oil resources and a por-

tion of the Permanent Fund Earnings. I am an advocate for policies that will promote as large of a dividend as possible while maintaining funding for essential government services and allowing for growth in the overall value of the Permanent Fund itself.

Our democracy works best when people stay engaged and informed, so thank you in advance for your involvement. I've created a short survey that can be found online at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/2NFDXCH. It provides information on our current fiscal situation and will help better inform me as I make decisions for the district next year.

My number one priority is to make myself available to you in order to hear your concerns and viewpoints. Now is the perfect time to reach out - the Governor's budget will be published by December 15th and Legislative session will start on January 21st. As always, feel free to email me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@AKLeg.gov or call my office at (907) 247-4672.

Renee Roberts finishes in top 8 at swimming championships

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

High School swim team season has come to a close once again. For the second year in a row, Wrangell was represented by sophomore Renee Roberts at State. The Wrangell High School swim team has had a hard-fought season, one that Coach Jamie Roberts has pointed out has seen many improvements among the team.

There were 30 schools represented at the state tournament in Anchorage this past weekend, she said.

Renee competed in the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events. She finished in eighth place in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 25.71 seconds. In the 100-yard freestyle, she took seventh place at 55.73 seconds.

"I didn't get any personal bests at this meet but I'm okay with that, I guess," Renee said. "My goal was to make it into the top eight, and I completed that. That was exciting."

Coach Roberts said that the time difference between Renee's placement and first place in the 50-yard freestyle was only 1.18 seconds. In the 100-yard freestyle, the time difference was 3.14 seconds. She pointed this out to show just how close the races were, she said, and how strong the competition was for the swim team this year.

"It's a really tight field once you get into the top eight finishers," she said.

While the season has ended for the high school swim team, Wrangell's swimming club a separate organization, is just starting. The swim club will be heading to Petersburg this Friday for a meet, Coach Roberts said.



Renee Roberts

The Marine Bar & Hungry Beaver Pizza is for Sale

Thirty-nine years is long enough!
Asking \$950,000 but will consider all reasonable offers.
All equipment and land included.



Call for appointment 907-874-3620

Alaska Fish Factor By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

Alaska's 2019 salmon season worth \$657.6 million to fishermen, 10% increase from 2018 fishery

Alaska's 2019 salmon season was worth \$657.6 million to fishermen, a 10% increase from the 2018 fishery.

Sockeye salmon accounted for nearly 64% of the total value, topping \$421 million, and 27% of the harvest at 55.2 million fish.

Those are the lead takeaways in a summary from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game that reveals preliminary estimates of salmon harvests and values by region. The final values will be determined in 2020 after processors, buyers, and direct marketers submit their totals paid to fishermen.

Pink salmon were the second most valuable species representing 20% of the total dockside value at \$128.6 million, and 62% of the harvest at just over 129 million fish.

Chum salmon accounted for 10% of the value at \$63.8 million and 9% of the harvest at 18.5 million. Coho salmon contributed about 5% of the fishery value at \$29.6 million and 2% of the harvest at 3.8 million fish.

The Chinook salmon harvest of just over 272,000 was worth \$14.4 million to fishermen, the third lowest value since limited entry began in 1975.

Salmon prices for 2019 took a dip for all but sockeyes which averaged \$1.45 per pound, an increase from \$1.33. The average price for Chinook was \$4.48 per pound, down from \$5.98 in 2018. Cohos at \$1.15 dropped from \$1.34; pink salmon at \$.30 declined from \$.45 and chums at \$.49 took a big dip from the \$.78 paid on average last year.

The price drops, especially for pinks and chums, likely stemmed from the

huge Russian harvest that was expected to approach 1.8 billion pounds this year. That compares to a 2019 Alaska salmon catch of just over 872 million pounds.

Average salmon weights this year were 11.84 pounds for Chinook, up from 11.59 pounds in 2018. Sockeye weight of 5.24 pounds was down slightly from 5.26 pounds. Coho salmon averaged 6.77 pounds, down from 7.42; pinks averaged 3.27 pounds, down from 3.76 and chum weight at 7.07 pounds declined from 8 pounds on average.

At Southeast Alaska fishermen caught 32.2 million salmon valued at over \$101.8 million. That compares to 21.2 million fish valued at \$133.6 million in 2018.

Prince William Sound fishermen harvested 57.75 million salmon this valued at just under \$115 million. Last year's take was just over 29 million fish valued at nearly \$95 million.

At Cook Inlet, fishermen caught more than 4.3 million salmon valued at nearly \$23 million. That's a slight improvement over the nearly 3.3 million fish valued at \$18 million in 2018.

Bristol Bay fishermen had a total salmon catch of nearly 44.5 million salmon of which almost 43 million were sockeyes. The value of over \$306.5 million was a record and compares to 43.5 million fish worth \$281 at the docks in 2018.

Kodiak's salmon fishery produced 35.7 million fish valued at \$47 million. That compares to fewer than 9 million salmon worth \$27.8 million last year.

At Chignik, fishermen fared far better with a catch of 3.5 million salmon valued at \$8 million. Last year harvesters took

Continued on page 7



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Meet and greet with police chief candidates

City officials held a meet and greet for three police chief candidates at the Stikine Inn last Monday evening, Nov. 11. Wrangell has been searching for a new police chief since the retirement of Doug McCloskey, who was chief from 2003 to this year. Back in September, the assembly approved an increase to the job's pay grade in an attempt to draw more interest to the position. There were three candidates at the meet and greet (left to right): Thomas Radke of Kenyon, Minnesota, Eric Hurtado of California City, California, and Derek Bos of Brush, Colorado. All three men have experience as police chief, according to the assembly. According to city employee Aleisha Mollen, the candidates were given tours of city facilities and the opportunity to meet with the local police department, as well as a written and oral exercise before a mock assembly meeting planned for Tuesday, Nov. 12.

Classified/Legals

Public Notice

Darlene and Bruce Harding are once again sole owners of the property at 1104 Peninsula Street in Wrangell, Alaska. This property was formerly known as the Alaskan Sourdough Lodge owned and operated by Darlene and Bruce for 33 years and recently the Harbor House Senior Housing owned and operated by Shannon and Tori Bosdell for 2 1/2 years. Our current plans are to put the property up for sale as soon as we can clean-up their needless mess left behind. For more information, please email Bruce at akwoodbutcherwrg@hotmail.com

Published: November 14, 2019

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT KETCHIKAN

In the Matter of the Estate of:)
)
Michael P Nash)
Deceased) CASE No. 1KE-19-00140 PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Leanna Nash has been appointed by the Superior Court in Ketchikan, Alaska, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Michael P Nash. All persons or entities having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within (4) four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to the Personal Representative of the estate c/o Law Office of Brandon C. Marx, P.O. Box 6171, Sitka, Alaska 99835 or filed with the Superior Court in this matter.

DATED this 6th day of Nov, 2019 at Sitka, Alaska.

Brandon C. Marx
Attorney for Leanna Nash
As Personal Representative
Estate of Michael P Nash

Published: November 14, 21 and 28, 2019

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

WRANGELL MUNICIPAL LIGHT & POWER DIESEL ELECTRIC MECHANIC ASSISTANT

The Wrangell Municipal Light and Power Department will accept applications for the position of **Diesel Electric Mechanic Assistant** through November 19, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. This is a permanent position with all City & Borough benefits and is part of the collective bargaining agreement.

The Diesel Electric Mechanic Assistant assists the Diesel Electric Mechanic with maintaining and operating standby electrical generation facility. When regular duties permit or circumstances require, assists the Line Department as a ground person or equipment operator. Occasionally works with other City departments, assisting in special projects. This position performs scheduled or routine maintenance on diesel engines, generators, electrical switchboards, compressors, control systems, pumps and other related equipment as directed by the Diesel Electric Mechanic and assists with operating generators during scheduled and emergency outages.

The position requires knowledge of diesel mechanics and operations, generator operation, voltage regulators, AC generation control and protection systems, and safety standards and the expertise needed to conform to them.

This is a full-time, hourly position with full benefits, paid at Grade 19 with a starting wage at \$24.28 per hour.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Aleisha Mollen at City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email at amollen@wrangell.com.

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

Lisa Von Bargaen
Borough Manager

Publish: November 7 and 14, 2019

JOBS

CAREGIVER NEEDED in Wrangell. Job is for 5 days a week, 5 hours per day. Salary is \$20 per hour. For more details about the position, email jholtty147@gmail.com 6x11-21p30

BOATS AND MARINE IFQS AND FISHING PERMITS, Alaskan Quota and Permits LLC, 907-772-4000, 1-888-347-4437.....tfn1-3b15

SERVICES

COPIES: Black and white and color copies up to 11x17. Send us your files to print. The Wrangell Sentinel, 205 Front St. 874-2301.....tfnhdh

FAX SERVICES at the Sentinel. Send or receive faxes. Fax number 874-2303 tfndh



Need More Room? Sell Your Extra Stuff In The Classifieds.

P: 907-874-2301
Fax: 907-874-2303
Email: wrgsent@gmail.com

Fish Factor

Continued from page 6

just over 1,000 salmon (only 128 sockeyes!) worth less than \$4,000.

At the Alaska Peninsula and Aleutian Islands region, a bumper catch of nearly 21 million pinks in the southern district pushed the total salmon catch to nearly 27 million salmon valued at over \$49 million. Last year fishermen there took just over 6 million salmon worth more than \$29 million.

On the Yukon, fishermen took 561,644 fish, mostly chums, for a total fishery value topping \$2.5 million. That compares to over one million salmon valued at nearly \$4.7 million in 2018.

Norton Sound harvesters landed 381,124 salmon worth just over \$2 million at the docks. That compares to 540,796 salmon valued at \$4 million last year.

At Kotzebue, fishermen caught 493,340 salmon, nearly all chums, valued at over \$1.5 million.

That's down from 695,000 fish last year, worth nearly \$2.3 million at the docks.

Once again, there was no salmon fishing opportunity for fishermen at the Kuskokwim. The region's CDQ groups abruptly closed its plant at Platinum a few years ago. No buyer means no commercial salmon fishing.

Kodiak gets some crab - It's a go for Kodiak's Tanner crab fishery, albeit a small one - but better catches aren't far off.

The mid-January fishery will have a combined 400,000 pounds catch limit in two areas, the minimum to open a fishery. At average weights of 2.2 pounds, the fishery should produce 182,000 crabs. That's down from a harvest of 615,000 pounds last season.

Crabbers are tapping on the tail end of a big Tanner year class from 2013, said Natura Richardson, assistant area manager for the westward region at the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game office at Kodiak.

"The east side's going to have a 300,000 pound harvest and the southeast is going to have 100,000 pounds. And particularly on the east side, this definitely is fishing on the same crab that they've been targeting for the last two seasons," she explained. "We first saw this big cohort from 2013 in the survey, and that's what we fished on in 2018 and 2019. And 2020 is probably going to be the last hit on this specific cohort.

Despite the low catch, she said managers don't expect the fishery to go fast.

"We don't have any conservation concerns because there are so many mature crabs in the water that we still feel that we are leaving a good standing stock to reproduce," she said. (Only mature male crabs can be retained for sale.) "But because of that people are going to be seeing a lot of non-target crab and not as many legal crabs, so it is probably not going to be really hot and heavy with high catches per pot. I think that it's going to be a little bit more.

Looking ahead, the future bodes well for westward



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

SEARHC recognizes CNA graduates

A graduation ceremony was held at the Wrangell Medical Center for six new Certified Nursing Assistants. The CNA program is new, said WMC Administrator Leatha Mercurieff. These were not only the first CNA graduates in Wrangell, but within the entire SEARHC organization. The program will begin again for a new class in January of 2020.

"First I'd like to give congratulations to these wonderful women on their achievements," said RN and program instructor Katrina Ottesen. "These six individuals were the perfect people to make this pilot CNA program. From the beginning they rolled with the punches and adapted to the situations they were given."

Pictured here (left to right, from the back row) is Kathryn Betterton, Issabella Crowley, SEARHC Vice-President and WMC Administrator Leatha Mercurieff, Stephanie Foshay, Katy Shilts, Ottesen, Danika McGee, and Brittney Holder.

During the graduation ceremony, WMC Performance Improvement Manager Cathy Gross was also recognized for earning the 2019 Front-Line Staff Outstanding Performance Award. The medical center's Long Term Care facility also received a "most improved" award and SEARHC received a patient safety staff choice award.

region Tanners. Surveys have been tracking the biggest pulse of crab they've ever seen for several years, and the crabs seem to be growing faster than usual. It can take more than five years for the crab to grow to harvestable size.

"The next pulse in the water has definitely retained," Richardson said. "We saw them in the survey last year and again this year. So we have a lot of hope that they will continue to track through the population. They have survived at a higher rate relative to the previous 2013 pulse, so that definitely looks promising for future fisheries."

The big pulse of crab should enter the fishery within

a couple of years. Richardson agreed that the 80% cod crash in the Gulf last year might be a reason that the recruits are showing better survival, as cod eat lots of small crab.

Fisheries at Chignik and the South Peninsula will remain closed although the outlook for those regions appears hopeful.

Last season 82 crabbers dropped pots for Tanners at Kodiak. The statewide average price was \$3.94/lb.

By the way -- Tanner crab is spelled with a capital "T" because it is named after discoverer Zera Luther Tanner, commander of the research vessel Albatross which explored Alaska waters in the late 1800s.



**NORTHLAND
AUDIOLOGY**

& Hearing Services

HEARING CLINICS
November 4th & 5th
December 9th & 10th

Diagnostic Hearing Evaluations for All Ages by a
Doctor of Audiology

Latest Technology Digital Hearing Aids
Hearing Aid Repairs & Services
Industrial OSHA Screenings
Custom Hearing Protection & Swimplugs

907-789-6780
Most insurances accepted
including Medicare & Medicaid

**Southeast Alaska's ONLY Private
Audiology Practice**

We are HEAR for you!
Serving Southeast Alaska since 1993

Assembly adopts memorandum with Forest Service, accepts money for water treatment plant, continues discussion on dump truck

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The borough assembly met Tuesday night, Nov. 12, for their only scheduled meeting this month.

The meeting opened with a work session on Wrangell's local contractor policy. The policy was established in 2015, according to the meeting's

information packet, and the borough wanted to start the process of seeing what needed to be clarified, updated, and changed.

After the work session, the assembly got into their regular meeting to cover a wide range of topics. Three that stood out were a memorandum of understanding with the Forest Serv-

ice, the acceptance of money to go towards building a new water treatment plant, and an ongoing discussion about purchasing a new dump truck.

A memorandum of understanding was brought before the borough for approval regarding the MV Chugach. The Chugach is one of the last wooden Forest Service ranger boats around. It was constructed in 1925 and served in the region for 90 years. According to the information packet, the boat was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1992. The Chugach currently resides in Wrangell's boat yard, next to the Nolan Center. In 2016, the museum proposed to display the boat as an important part of the region's marine heritage. Since then, borough staff and the Forest Service have discussed ways to preserve and display the boat.

The memorandum of under-
Continued on page 8



Call me today to see how much you can save with Allstate's good student discount.

907-874-2359

Niccole Olsen
P-W Insurance
220 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929
inquiry@p-wins.com



Discount and insurance offered only with select company and subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Allstate Indemnity Company; Northbrook, IL © 2012 Allstate Insurance Company.

Roadless Rule

Continued from page 1

Southeast Alaska logging makes up less than one percent of either our jobs or earnings as a region, whereas tourism and fisheries make up well over 20 percent," she said.

Steve Prysunka, Wrangell's mayor and board member of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency, said that road construction could be a benefit as SEAPA begins looking for new sources of energy production. With recent concerns about Wrangell's power needs, and the current supply of hydropower, finding alternative sources of energy has been one of his priorities.

"We're looking at scaleable projects that allows us to add incrementally to our grid without making a huge commitment to another large-scale hydro project," he said. "Some of the sites are in areas that ... are cost prohibitive. We would have to fly in everything, versus constructing a road up to the sites."

Even during the subsistence hearing, there were differences of opinion on the Roadless Rule. The majority of testimony given by those present at the meeting were in favor of keeping things the way they were. One such testimony was given by Maria Byford. She mentioned that she had arrived late to the meeting because she was canning venison. She said that wildlife, such as deer, require

old growth forests for food and shelter. If these parts of the forest were opened to development, it could damage the subsistence lifestyle she and many others in Wrangell live.

"It is such a joy to be able to live a subsistence economy and we have been enjoying, the Tlingits, the natives, the Haida, we've all been enjoying a subsistence economy," Byford said. "I oppose [changes to] the Roadless Rule on the basis that we live in a subsistence society and this is very important to us."

This was not an opinion shared by everyone at the subsistence hearing, however. Wrangell resident DJ McConachie said that the logging industry was misunderstood. Years ago, he said timber had been an important part of Wrangell's economy. When it came to the Roadless Rule, he said that the focus needed to be on the people who had once benefited from logging.

"I want us to think about the people, the people that this affected," he said. "Many years ago there was 225 people working in our mill. That was 225 families here, that was jobs directly. This isn't the indirect job, this isn't going downtown and buying groceries, this isn't all the other trickle-down effects that everything has. So when we think about logging, I think we're putting too much emphasis upon the act. So that's why I think we need to



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Treats for sale at Christmas Bazaar

Harbor Light Assembly of God hosted their 37th annual Christmas Bazaar last Saturday, Nov. 9. There were many vendors set up in the Nolan Center, offering items ranging from Christmas decorations, to jewelry, to art pieces. There was also a used book sale to raise money for Wrangell Medical Center Foundation scholarships. Pictured here is Bella Ritchie, selling homemade desserts (and dog treats) at the bazaar.

think about the people."

A final decision on the Roadless Rule is expected to be announced in the summer of 2020, Tu said. The public comment period will close on Dec. 17. Comments can be made online at www.regulations.gov, via email to akroadlessrule@usda.gov, or by regular mail to USDA Forest Service, Attn: Alaska Roadless

Rule, P.O. Box 21628, Juneau, AK 99802.

For more information about the Roadless Rule and the Forest Service's work, visit www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=54511. A "story map" that allows people to see how the different alternatives may affect their local area can be found at arcg.is/1WOObPL.

N K ELECTRIC

Here to serve all your electrical needs

COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL

874-2770, #21633

Assembly

Continued from page 7

standing lays out the basics of the following plan: The Forest Service will loan the Chugach to the museum, and will design and fund site preparation and placement of the boat in a special cradle, for future display. They will also pay for a tent structure to cover the vessel. The borough, meanwhile, will seek grant money for the construction of a viewing platform and ADA compliant ramp to let the public view the boat. The borough would also agree to exempt the Forest Service from boatyard storage fees. There was some discussion over what the tent structure would look like and what the timeline is for the project, but the memorandum was approved by the assembly.

The assembly also accepted money from several sources that will go towards the eventual construction of a new water treatment plant. One source was a loan from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as well as a grant from them, in the amounts of approximately \$3.8 million and \$3.1 million respectively. The loan and grant were actually approved in 2017, according to the information packet, but the delay in approving their acceptance came from having to seek out additional money to completely fund the project. This came in September of this year, thanks to an almost \$3 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. All three of these sources of funding were approved, amended into the budget, and had their expenditure authorized. Borough Manager Lisa Von Barga said, after the meeting, that she hopes to see engineering begin for a new water treatment plant by mid-spring.

The last agenda item for the meeting also caused much discussion. Back in an assembly meeting on Oct. 24, Public Works Director Roland Howell sought up to \$80,000 to purchase a new dump truck. The borough's current dump truck is about 36-years-old, and recently broke down. Howell returned to the assembly with a proposal to purchase a used dump truck from Transport Equipment Inc. in the amount of \$49,900. The price and quality of the dump truck caused concern among some assembly members, though. The dump truck in question has 197,000 miles on it, plus an additional roughly 200 miles after a partial engine rebuild and other repair work. The discussion revolved around concerns of the quality of the dump truck, and whether or not the current dump truck could be repaired, and what options were available for dump truck rentals until the borough once again had an operational dump truck of their own. This went on for some time, until Assembly Member Patty Gilbert proposed an amendment. She suggested that the borough approve the purchase of the dump truck, but only after hearing back from the original dump truck's manufacturer about options for modifications or repairs. If this is possible, they will simply fix the current dump truck. If not, they will buy the other one. This amendment, and the motion, was approved by the assembly.

FirstBank supports
Southeast
Alaska!

In Honor of National Philanthropy Day—Nov. 15

Thank you to all the non-profits for the good work they do!

So far in 2019, **First Bank** has contributed **approximately \$187,000** in grants, community service awards, sponsorships, and donations to non-profit organizations throughout Southeast Alaska.

These include food banks, youth athletic teams, medical centers, high school choirs, community foundations, veterans' organizations, the arts, domestic violence shelters, and many, many more.

For information on how we might help your organization, visit our "Community Involvement" page online at www.FirstBankAK.com

FIRST BANK
The one who's here.

Member
FDIC
LENDER

AWARE
Alaska Discovery Foundation
Alaska Forest Association
Alaska Legal Services Corporation
American Legion
Community Connections
Craig Child Care Center
Craig Waverunners Swim Club
First City Homeless Services
Hannah's Place

HOPE
Irene Ingle Public Library
Juneau Alaska Music Matters
Juneau Community Foundation
Juneau Housing First Collaborative
Kayhi Choirs
Ketchikan Community Foundation
Ketchikan Pioneers' Home
Ketchikan Residential Youth Ctr.
Ketchikan Youth Initiatives
Ketchikan Youth Soccer League
Ketchikan/Saxman Senior Center
Love in Action
Mountain View Assisted Living
Mountain View Food Services
Peace Health Medical Center
Foundation
Petersburg City Schools
Petersburg Medical Center Foundation
Petersburg Paddle Battle
Petersburg Public Library
Petersburg Veterans Memorial Fund
Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce
Prince of Wales Voc/Tech
Sitka Babies and Books
Sitka Community Land Trust
Sitka Economic Development
Association
Sitka Homeless Coalition
Sitka Legacy Foundation
Sitka Sound Science Center
Sitka Veterans' Association
Southeast Alaska Food Bank
Southeast Alaska Independent Living
Southeast Island School District
Team Wrangell
The Glory Hall
The Salvation Army
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Women in Safe Homes
Wrangell Senior Center
Rainy Day Quilters
Ketchikan Killer Whales
First City Players
Prince of Wales Little League
Wrangell Mariners' Memorial
Sitka Youth Sports
Pioneers of Alaska
Midnight Suns Baseball
Blue Line Hockey Club

AND MORE!

DO NOTATE