



## Capitol Christmas Tree gets a big send-off for journey to Washington

By SAM PAUSMAN  
Sentinel senior reporter

If you weren't at the Nolan Center on Saturday afternoon, you must have been out of town.

It seemed all of Wrangell piled into the center to witness the blessing of the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree. Led by the Wrangell Cooperative Association, the event was moved indoors after a persistent storm turned a cloudy afternoon into a rainy one.

The event was attended by folks from Wrangell, folks from throughout Alaska and folks from Washington, D.C. Even Smokey the Bear made a surprise appearance. Kate Thomas, the borough's economic development director, played emcee for the afternoon, and introduced WCA Tribal Administrator Esther Aaltséen Reese to begin the event.

Reese explained some of what makes this year's tree special. She cited the tree's logo, noting the work of Mike Aak'wtaatseen Hoyt, a historian and Tlingit clan leader: The Tlingit words kayéil', sagú and ka toowúk'ei are scrawled across the center of the tree's emblem. The English translation: Peace, happiness and joy.

"There is so much love in that tree," Reese said. "Hopefully we are sending some balance and love to Washington with the tree as it travels across the country."

The U.S. Forest Service and Architect of the Capitol selected a spruce tree on Zarembo Island for the nation's highest Christmas tree honor — a first for the Tongass National Forest.

The 80-foot tree, with its roots intact, was dug up Oct. 19 and brought to Wrangell to start its month-long barge and highway journey to Washington, D.C., encased in an 82-foot-long trailer. The spruce-hauling trailer, wrapped and decorated with the tree's official logo, left town on the Sunday evening barge.

Continued on page 5



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Coming off a strong performance in his second and third grade basketball game earlier in the day, Nolan Johnson tightly guarded Smokey the Bear at the Nolan Center on Saturday. Smokey joined in the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree celebration at the center.

## Wrangell sets record for early voting turnout

By LARRY PERSILY  
Sentinel writer

Wrangell voters have walked into City Hall in record numbers to cast early ballots for the Nov. 5 statewide election.

As of the end of the day Friday, Oct. 25, 147 people had cast ballots, said Sara Whittlesey-Merritt, who manages voting in town for the state Division of Elections.

"It's been a record for Wrangell," said Whittlesey-Merritt, who has been working elections in the community for 30 years.

The early voting numbers equal more than 20% of the town's total turnout in the statewide elections of both 2020 and 2022.

Wrangell is not alone in the heavy early-voter turnout. Statewide, Alaskans are casting early ballots at a much faster pace than in 2020 or 2022, according to state elections officials.

If it continues at the current pace, the state will set a record, Carol Beecher, director of the state Division of Elections, said in an email to the Alaska Beacon last week. In 2020, the record year, 53,229 Alaskans cast ballots at early voting stations.

In addition to this year's 20,001 votes cast through Oct. 24 at early voting centers, absentee voters — who cast ballots by mail, fax or at remote locations where instant ID verification is not available for advance voting — had sent 19,586 ballots to the divi-

Continued on page 3

## U.S. Navy formally apologizes for attacking Angoon in 1882

By SEAN MAGUIRE  
Anchorage Daily News

On a cold and cloudy Friday afternoon, Oct. 25, Tlingit clan leaders stood ready to welcome guests to Angoon.

For millennia, the Tlingit have lived on Admiralty Island, or Xootsnoowú, the Fortress of the Bears. Adorned in regalia, clan leaders performed a traditional Tlingit welcoming ceremony to their ancestral lands.

"We welcome you with open arms," said Daniel Johnson Jr., a leader of the Deisheetaan clan.

Facing the Tlingit was Rear Adm. Mark Sucato, commander of the Navy Region Northwest, along with a handful of uniformed Navy personnel.

"We have come for your ku.éex'!" Sucato said.

Generations of Tlingit had fought for this moment to start burying their sorrow. Now, the

momentous day was upon them.

The Navy was finally going to apologize for what it did on Oct. 26, 1882.

Tlingit oral tradition says the attack was a surprise. Shells rained down on the village. Marines landed and set fire to homes. At least six children died of smoke inhalation.

Storehouses filled with food for the winter were destroyed,

and priceless clan mementos were stolen from ruined homes. All but one of the village's precious dugout canoes, or yaakw, were destroyed.

Angoon had been obliterated.

Decades later, Billy Jones, who was 13 at the time of the at-

Continued on page 8

## Wolves rally at home in volleyball season sweep of Ketchikan

By SAM PAUSMAN  
Sentinel senior reporter

The four seniors on Wrangell's girls volleyball team had but one chance. Just one. A single night to play in front of their classmates, their loved ones, their families and friends. Though the match's outcome contributed nothing toward Southeast seeding or state tournament qualification, the crowded high school gym told another story: This match mattered.

Following an emotional senior night, the high school girls volleyball team defeated Ketchikan 3-2 on Oct. 24.

Continued on page 6



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Ready for Halloween

Kay and Jeff Jabusch stand proudly in front of their Halloween decorations the week before trick or treaters trapse around town. The couple has made a tradition out of their annual display. Trick or treaters can look forward to the king size candy bars the couple will be handing out — only if you're willing to brave their haunted garage.

Don't forget to SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

## Senior Center Menu

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

### Thursday, Oct. 31

A-1 meatloaf, peas, creamy coleslaw, mashed potatoes, fruit

### Friday, Nov. 1

Beef noodle casserole, steamed zucchini, tomato aspic, fruit

### Monday, Nov. 4

No meal service on Mondays

### Tuesday, Nov. 5

Liver and onions, tomatoes Rockefeller, creamy coleslaw, roll, fruit

### Wednesday, Nov. 6

Chicken with noodles, broccoli and cauliflower, triple bean salad, fruit

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

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

## Ferry Schedule

### Northbound

#### Sunday, Nov. 3

Kennicott, 9:45 p.m.

#### Sunday, Nov. 10

Kennicott, 3:45 p.m.

#### Sunday, Nov. 17

Kennicott, 10 p.m.

#### Sunday, Nov. 24

Kennicott, 4:45 p.m.

### Southbound

#### Wednesday, Nov. 6

Kennicott, 8:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 13

Kennicott, 3:45 a.m.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 20

Kennicott, 9:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 27

Kennicott, 3:30 a.m.

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

## Tides

### High Tides

### Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM		
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	
Oct. 30	00:20	14.9	12:28	16.7	06:13	1.7	06:43	0.0	
Oct. 31	00:57	15.1	12:56	16.9	06:42	1.9	07:12	-0.7	
Nov. 1	01:33	15.1	01:24	16.9	07:10	2.2	07:40	-1.1	
Nov. 2	02:06	14.8	01:50	16.7	07:37	2.7	08:09	-1.2	
Nov. 3	01:40	14.4	01:16	16.4	07:04	3.3	07:40	-1.0	
Nov. 4	02:13	13.8	01:43	16.0	07:33	3.9	08:14	-0.6	
Nov. 5	02:49	13.1	02:14	15.5	08:05	4.6	08:53	-0.1	

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

### Oct. 30, 1924

H. A. Kuehl of the Pendleton Gold Mining Co. was among those who came down the Stikine this week on their way Outside. Mr. Kuehl reports his company made good progress during the past season considering the numerous difficulties encountered, such as having to build a stretch of road in order to get machinery and supplies to the property. They were very hopeful that they would be able to get their dragline into operation before the close of this season but the freeze-up came the day they started operations. However,

they are now in a position whereby they can begin actual operations at the beginning of the season next spring, and it is expected that they will be able to begin sluicing five or six weeks before navigation opens on the Stikine.

### Oct. 27, 1949

Loyal Binkley, on his 40-foot seine boat LJB, returned last week from Seattle after a rough 10-day trip. Binkley went south Sept. 27 with William Nichols, the latter's son and another man. They were six days on the southbound trip. Binkley stayed in Seattle a week, during which

time he purchased 15 Navy surplus 80- and 50-gallon boat tanks, usable for either water or gasoline. He also brought back a quantity of produce and three rubber self-sealing tanks for his brother Al Binkley's boat, the Chief Binkley. William Nichols returned with him and the two fought heavy winds and rough seas most the way north.

### Oct. 30, 1974

The \$2.6 million improvement project at Wrangell airport, which has been underway for the past 10 months, was officially accepted last week by the state and

federal governments. The contractor, Burgess Construction, began moving its equipment out. Some of the work accomplished since crews began moving airport earth last December includes: Extension of the runway from 5,000 to 6,400 feet; expansion of taxiway and parking areas; installation of runway taxiway and parking area lighting; and installation of a rotating navigation beacon.

### Oct. 28, 1999

Wrangell museum director/administrator Theresa Thibault reports that she has just received the "50 percent

design and development" plans for the new James and Elsie Nolan Center. This means that half of all the paperwork necessary to begin construction is now complete. She expects they will be able to put construction documents out to bid in January and construction will begin as scheduled in the spring. The newly received plans and specifications include detail about the floor plans of individual rooms, windows, siding, cross sections and roof construction. Presently, the ground is being prepared for laying the foundation.



# ALASKA AIRLINES CLUB 49 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

**FALL STORYTIME** for children 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays at the Irene Ingle Public Library. Stories, crafts and snacks. This week's theme is learning differently.

**NOLAN CENTER THEATER** presents the comedy play "You Can't Take It With You" at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 1 and 2. Doors open 30 minutes before the show. Tickets are \$20 and available online at [bit.ly/4f56UOv](https://bit.ly/4f56UOv) or in person at the Nolan Center.

**ALASKA DAY FUN RUN** starts at 8:30 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 3, at Muskeg Meadows, hosted by Parks and Recreation. \$10 fee; pay at the event. All ages welcome. 1-mile dash, 5K run/walk, 10K, half-marathon. Check the link for routes and times at [wrangellrec.com](https://wrangellrec.com).

**SALVATION ARMY** Christmas toy assistance sign-up is open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays until Nov. 5. Bring identification for all adults and birth certificates for children in the home. Thanksgiving sign-up is open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Tuesdays until Nov. 12. Sign up at The Salvation Army. For more information or to schedule sign-ups for another day or time call 907-874-3753.

**HOMESCHOOL HANGOUT** 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday, Nov. 5, at the Irene Ingle Public Library. Bring school work, play games and be with friends. Snacks provided.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9 at the Nolan Center. Door prizes will be drawn every hour. Come support your local artists. Hosted by Harbor Lights Assembly of God.

**CHILI COOK-OFF** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Nolan Center during the Christmas bazaar. Cash prizes for the top three chilis. Sign up online at: <https://bit.ly/3A8Elkl>. \$10 admission fee to try all the chilis. This is a fundraiser for The Salvation Army food pantry.

**ADVENTURERS CLUB** 2 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, Nov. 23 and Dec. 14. at the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Come learn about the Bible, pick up valuable skills and earn badges. Register and learn more at <https://bit.ly/3TBw0fl>. \$10 fee covers the school year.

**THE AMERICAN LEGION** will hold a Veterans Day dinner Monday, Nov. 11, at the American Legion Hall. Free for veterans and one guest each. Potluck style. Ham will be provided. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. and dinner starts at 5:30 p.m. Seating is limited; call Barb at 907-305-9037 to get on the list.

**COMMUNITY CHORALE REHEARSALS** 5:15 to 6:45 p.m. Mondays at the high school music room for the Christmas concert. Use the back entrance. All singers are welcome. Contact Bonnie at 907-796-9632 or [bonniede@aptalaska.net](mailto:bonniede@aptalaska.net) for more information.

**CHILDREN'S CLASS** 2:30 to 4 p.m. Tuesdays at the elementary school music room for kindergarten to fifth grade. The focus of the program is for spiritual growth to learn to apply virtues through stories, devotions, music, games and art. All are welcome. No charge. For more information call Kay Larson, 907-209-9117.

**WRANGELL KIDS CLUB** 2:30 to 5 p.m. Mondays at the community center for open gym, board games and coloring; 2:30 to 5 p.m. Wednesdays at the Irene Ingle Public Library for STEM activities and crafts; 2:30 to 5 p.m. Fridays at the Nolan Center for a movie. For ages 7 to 13 years old. Runs through Dec. 16. Free.

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

**WRANGELL PARKS and RECREATION** is offering multiple activities to get your body moving. For more information on any of the activities visit [www.wrangellrec.com](https://www.wrangellrec.com) or call 907-874-2444.

- **WATER AEROBICS** noon to 1 p.m., Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the swimming pool with volunteers Alice Rooney and Melody Hazel. Day rates apply.
- **PICKLEBALL** 6 to 8 p.m. Mondays and Saturdays at the community center gym.
- **FUNCTIONAL FITNESS and TECHNIQUE** 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the court in the pool building with Devyn Johnson. A guided workout. Learn how to use the gym equipment. For ages 18 years old and up. Daily entry fee, pass or punch card.

## FREE TRAVEL BENEFITS JUST FOR YOU.



Learn more at [Club49Hub.com](https://Club49Hub.com)



2 FREE CHECKED BAGS



TRAVEL NOW DISCOUNTS



WEEKLY FARE SALES



FREIGHT FOR LESS

# School district's new activities director wants to bring consistency to the job

BY MARC LUTZ

For the Wrangell Sentinel

Though the Wrangell School District has had its challenges filling various positions throughout the years, one position – the activities director – has seen yearly turnover with four people in the position in the past three years.

Lifelong resident X'atshaawditee Tammi Meissner is the latest hire for the part-time contract, and she is committed to staying in the job "for the foreseeable future."

Meissner, who also works as the community navigator for the Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, said she recognizes the need for students, coaches and activity advisers to have someone supporting them in the multiple activities available for student participation.

"Beyond this, I saw the importance of establishing long-term consistency in the role, which is crucial for effective program development," she said. "My passion for organizing, networking and fostering strong communication made me confident that I could contribute positively in this position."

She added that a well-structured activities program can contribute to the positive, over-

all educational experience for kids. She applied with the full support of Tlingit & Haida.

Though Meissner isn't officially the activities director until her contract is approved at the Nov. 18 school board meeting, she has been working with her predecessor, Mike Hoyt, since Oct. 21, according to Schools Superintendent Bill Burr.

Both Burr and Meissner acknowledged that the job comes with plenty of challenges and a learning curve.

Along with representing the district at Southeast activities director meetings to plan schedules, home games, tournaments and locations, the director must make sure students are eligible to participate both locally and regionally, work on fundraising and communicate any changes in rules and requirements of the Alaska School Activities Association, Burr said.

The contract pays \$10,000 for a full school year.

"(The activities director is) also many times the first contact on travel difficulties or injuries for our home and away teams in coordination with the school principal, travel secretary and the district," he said.

Having grown up in Wrangell and played middle and high school sports herself, Meissner is well-versed in the

challenges of getting around not only Southeast but Alaska as a whole. It was her experiences in playing team sports that instilled in her an understanding of dedication and resilience, which she has to this day.

"I played basketball, where I not only learned the fundamentals of the game but also the importance of teamwork and perseverance," she said. "In high school, the opportunities expanded significantly, and I proudly participated in the varsity cross-country team, varsity basketball team and track team."

She said she thrived in the competitive arena, pushing her to improve in her athletic endeavors and as a teammate.

In the new role, Meissner will oversee those sports she participated in, plus wrestling, cheer and other activities such as Music Fest and Art Fest, which will be held in Wrangell next spring since Haines had to pull out as the host city.

Burr said her position covers any activities that fall into the athletic, curricular, educational or fine arts categories.

"The activities director plays a big role in (providing opportunities for students) by working directly with the coaches, students and community to create, schedule and facilitate events," Burr said. "Working creatively with the budget and encouraging our students to have a chance to represent Wrangell is very important to all aspects of the district and the student population in ... the



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

X'atshaawditee Tammi Meissner has started work as the school district's activities director.

classroom, on the court, in the auditorium or on the national stage."

One of Meissner's main goals is to become well-versed in the job while establishing strong relationships with other activities directors and coaches throughout Southeast. But it goes beyond that.

"I intend to keep a close eye on any challenges that arise, documenting them to facilitate smoother operations in the future," she said. "Additionally, I will advocate for at least one scheduled home game for each

sport next year, as I believe that home field advantage can significantly enhance our students' performance and school spirit."

Despite the many challenges that come with the position, she is eager for the role.

"I am genuinely excited about the opportunity to support our coaches and advisers while building meaningful relationships with our students," Meissner said. "Connecting with the students at a personal level is one of the most rewarding aspects of this role."

## Parks and Rec plans dedication of community center on Nov. 9

BY SAM PAUSMAN

Sentinel senior reporter

In an effort to recognize the building's impact on the town, Parks and Recreation staff will dedicate the community center to Wrangell athletes of the past, present and future.

The event will take place at noon on Nov. 9 and will be sandwiched between the fourth and fifth grade all-star basketball games against Petersburg.

Devyn Johnson, Parks and Rec's recreation coordinator, said that after the department's recent upgrades and capital improvement projects, dedicating the community center felt like the right thing to do.

"We've been putting a lot of time and effort into bringing life back into the community center," she said. "We just really love it in there."

The community center wears several hats. There's basketball open gym in the summer and pickleball in the fall and winter. Other activities ensure there is no season when the space goes unused. Recently, Nene Wilson has started teaching Zumba classes in the center's multipurpose room. Youth basketball practices occupy the building on weeknights, while their games make sure the building doesn't sit empty on the weekends.

The center's gymnasium, built in the 1950s, used to be the high school gym until the current high school building was constructed 30 years later.

As a part of the ceremony, Parks and Rec is inviting back some of the gym's previous athletes. Johnson said the Nov. 9 event will allow those who have experienced the gym in all sorts of different eras to tell their stories.

There will also be a brief history of the space. Parks and Rec staffer Lane Fitzjarrald will discuss some of the recent upgrades at the center, as well as Parks and Rec's future improvement projects.

Johnson said she expects the event to last about 30 minutes.

## Early voting

Continued from page 1

sion as of late last week.

Early voting opened Oct. 21. In Wrangell, 48 ballots were filled out on that first day, Whittlesey-Merritt said, followed by 99 more over the next four days.

Residents who will be out of town on election day, or simply prefer the convenience of voting early, have several more days to come to City Hall to mark their ballots. The temporary state polling place in the assembly chambers is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays through Monday, Nov. 4.

On election day Tuesday, Nov. 5, the polls will be open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Nolan Center.

All of the ballots, including the early votes, will be tabulated and totals released by the state elections division after the polls close.

Voter turnout in Wrangell has been in decline the past 20 years, dropping below 50%. The number of voters generally runs higher in presidential election years, such as 764 in 2016 and 732 in 2020 versus 685 ballots cast on the midterm election day in 2022.

In 2020, when the town had over 300 more residents than it does now, 1,028 voters went to the polls.

Voters are reminded that state law prohibits any campaign signs at a polling place or within 200 feet. That applies not only to the Nolan Center on election day but also City Hall during early voting.

The ban applies to signs or banners on vehicles, and T-shirts or hats or buttons, whether worn into the building or on the sidewalk or street in front. It also applies to vehicles parked within 200 feet of City Hall – no signs, bumper stickers or campaign

flags.

Anyone who is voting by mail needs to have their ballot postmarked no later than Nov. 5; late ballots will not be counted. More information on absentee voting and sample ballots is available at <http://www.elections.alaska.gov>.

In addition to the presidential race, Wrangell voters will choose among candidates for U.S. House and the state House.

In the congressional race, incumbent Democrat Rep. Mary Peltola is seeking reelection. Her main challenger is Republican Nick Begich, who is trying a second time to win the state's lone U.S. House seat.

There are three candidates in the state House race for District 1, which covers Ketchikan, Wrangell and Metlakatla: Jeremy Bynum, a registered Republican; Grant Eco-Hawk, nonpartisan; and Agnes Moran, nonpartisan. All three are from Ketchikan.

The Nov. 5 ballot also includes two measures promoted by citizen's initiatives: No. 1, to raise Alaska's minimum wage and require employers to provide paid sick leave; and No. 2, to repeal the state's ranked-choice voting system for candidates, returning to political party primaries and eliminating the requirement that a winning candidate have support from more than half the voters.

In the second statewide election since the system was adopted, Alaskans can rank the candidates by order of preference – known as ranked-choice voting. If a candidate wins more than 50% of first-choice ballots, they are the winner. If not, the last-place finisher is eliminated from the count and voters' second and third choices move up a place until one candidate reaches more than 50%.

### Johnson's Building Supply Help wanted!

Customer Service full-time position  
Valid Alaska driver's license required.  
Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Pay DOE.  
Stop by Johnson's for an application.

## FROM THE PUBLISHER

# Nation is at risk if we don't learn to live together

By LARRY PERSILY  
Publisher

It's not only the fault of the people who post insults on social media, who embrace the politically inspired lies and accept the politically driven threats of violence as a necessary means to the end they favor.

Nor is it only the fault of people on the other side of the political world who lecture but don't listen, who can't understand why so many Americans are drawn to the ever-expanding lies and ever-cruder insults yet sit by all too quietly, waiting for the turmoil to pass.

It's like the entire nation is living through a Florida hurricane, with far too many people ignoring the warnings, figuring this, too, shall pass. They board up the windows but don't do enough to strengthen the foundation.

But the storm may not pass. It could park itself over the country, building up strength until it does so much damage that it will take generations to rebuild our democracy and recover.

America is not immune to civil unrest, the breakdown of order and the subsequent economic pain. We may think we are better than the rest of the world but we are just as vulnerable. Even worse, it's our own fault.

It has happened before and could very well happen after the Nov. 5 presidential election if we don't acknowledge that the country is in trouble. The Civil War was more than 160 years ago, when one side believed so strongly in slavery and their way of life that they went to war.

Or look back less than five years ago to Jan. 6, 2021, when a couple thousand Americans stormed the U.S. Capitol, looking to overturn the presidential election results. Sadly, many elected officials continue to make excuses for the rampage, essentially handing out permis-

sion slips for violence the next time they don't like the election results.

In between the Civil War and the 2021 political attack on Congress, the country has suffered assassinations, riots, violent protests, demagogues and corruption. We bent but did not break. This time looks like it could be worse.

It's not immigrants or government spending, foreign aid or federal regulations, the price of eggs or the cost of a home that is tearing apart America. It's our increasing inability to accept differences of opinion. It's our own self-inflicted divisions that are splitting the nation. It's our refusal to compromise for the good of the country.

It's our own growing acceptance of easy but deceitful answers. Scapegoats are becoming the national pet.

It's our political candidates and their parties, the excessively funded political action committees — essentially rich people — that have raised dishonesty to new heights in pursuit of votes. They thrive on controversy, without regard to the damage it causes. They have turned compromise into an obscenity in their world.

And it's all stoked by candidates, social media influencers and self-anointed rulers like Elon Musk who put their ego and political and financial gain ahead of the country.

There is not much any one person can do to heal the country, though voting next week against lies would be a good start.

We need to do a better job of governing with justice for all. The alternative is letting ourselves be governed by leaders who care more about themselves than the country and its people. Selfishness does not bind a nation; it drives it apart.

## EDITORIAL

# Record early turnout a good sign for election

Though voters should remember that campaign signs, flags or banners are prohibited within 200 feet of a polling place — and that applies to T-shirts, hats and buttons, too — there is one very good sign to hold up for this year's state general election: Wrangell voters have cast a record number of early ballots.

As of last Friday, 147 residents had cast early ballots in the election. That's just in the first five days of voting, with several more days remaining before the early voting station at City Hall closes at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 4.

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 5, at the Nolan Center, when the polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The state has worked to make it easier for Alaskans to vote early, whether sending in an absentee ballot by mail or walking into temporary voting stations set up at city halls, state offices, recreation centers, university campuses and other sites around Alaska for the two weeks before the general election. The premise is that making it more convenient to vote — letting voters pick the day that best fits their schedule — will boost turnout.

And isn't that the idea behind an election: Get as many people as possible to the polls to decide who will run their government, what issues are important and what the public thinks about it all.

Supporters of early voting hope it will reverse years of declining turnout at the polls. It looks to be doing exactly that in Wrangell this month, just as it is around Alaska. However, it also could mean that the people who choose to vote early are the same ones who would have voted on election day anyway — thus no gain in total turnout at the polls.

That's the message for everyone who has not cast an early ballot. Don't let a good record go to waste. If you don't want to vote early, be sure to get to the Nolan Center on election day Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Just remember: No campaign signs allowed. But you do need to sign your name in the voter book and mark your ballot. Then go back home or return to work knowing that you did your part. It's a sign on how a democracy should work

- Wrangell Sentinel

## GUEST OPINION

# Former governor supports ballot measure to raise minimum wage

By TONY KNOWLES

I have worked for hourly wages and also for many years operated restaurants paying hourly wages. During college and around and about my service in the Army, including a tour in Vietnam, I worked as a roughneck on oil rigs throughout the west. After graduation in 1968 I roughnecked in California for the "high" wage of some \$3.50 an hour before the new oil discovery in Prudhoe Bay enticed me to move to Alaska.

There I found employment roughnecking on the North Slope for the even higher wage of about \$4.50 an hour until I decided to try my hand in business.

I started up Grizzly Burger in Anchorage, beginning more than two decades of hands-on involvement with the restaurant business from hiring and working with kids on their first jobs to managing and working with experienced cooks and servers.

In 1969, the year the first Grizzly Burger opened, the minimum wage was \$2.10 an hour.

Today, it is only \$11.73. Adjusted for inflation, \$2.10 in 1969 would be worth more than \$17 in 2024.

Unable to get legislative or administration support for increasing the minimum wage, citizens have successfully gathered the support necessary to put an initiative on the Nov. 5 ballot to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour over the next three years and to implement a paid sick leave program.

This isn't the first time the Alaska public has taken the lead on improving pay rates. In 2014, the last minimum wage citizens initiative was on the ballot because of the legislative and gubernatorial failure. The public responded with an overwhelming 69% positive vote. I believe voters will again overwhelmingly support Ballot Measure No. 1 on Nov. 5 based on the economic and social benefits it provides to the working families and Alaska businesses.

Alaska's current minimum wage of \$11.73 is around the median of all states. There are 22 states that have higher mini-

mum wages. But then let's compare wages to the cost of living of all states. Here Alaska has the dubious distinction of ranking sixth overall among its peers, while ranking first in the cost of food and health care and third in transportation costs.

It is easy to see that the woe-ful combination of the high cost of living with median wage rates leaves many Alaska families unable to make ends meet. It puts pressure on people to move away from the state and out of the job market. An unstable work force, or shortage of workers, is not good for business.

This ballot initiative also establishes paid sick leave for businesses, which makes economic sense and ensures fair living standards. Under the initiative, employees earn access to paid sick leave at the rate of one hour for every 30 hours worked with a ceiling of 56 hours of paid sick leave (reduced to 40 hours for employers of fewer than 15 workers). Currently, 18 states have already

Continued on page 5

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

# Mom thanks town on the anniversary of landslide deaths

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Wrangell community on this year's anniversary of the tragic event that changed many lives forever.

Nov. 20, 2023, is a date we will never forget. No one wasted a minute responding after the slide.

Many of you touched my family's hearts in a positive way. Or they touched your heart.

They lived with the values of being kind, honest and hard working — and family. Education was at the top, with dedication to each child first and foremost. Beth and Tim had a lot on the plate, and they made me so proud. They were your

conventional Alaska family.

I enjoyed our spontaneous visits.

They could all be tough and outspoken if someone messed with the kids or wasn't kind toward kids, or if someone failed to be truthful.

Vacations were everything, thanks to a retired teacher. Thank you Mr. Fenimore, who told my kids to travel when they are young. They sure did.

Live in honor of the Heller family: Tim, Beth, Mara, Derek and Kara. Be a good friend and go with grace. Remember to keep laughing and smiling, because these are our good old days.

May there be comfort in knowing some so good.

With love, from Beth's mom.

Laureen Curtner

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 1902  
Published weekly by: Good Journalism LLC  
PO Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929  
Phone: 907-874-2301

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

### Sentinel Staff:

Publisher ..... Larry Persily  
Office Manager..... Amber Armstrong  
Senior reporter ..... Sam Pausman  
Production ..... Ola Richards

Wrangell Sentinel (USPS 626-480) is published weekly except the third week of July and the week after Christmas by Wrangell Sentinel, 205 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929. Periodicals postage paid at Wrangell, AK. Phone: 907-874-2301; Email: wrgsent@gmail.com; Website www.wrangellsentinel.com. ©Copyright 2024.

### Subscription Rates

Wrangell ..... \$50  
Out of town ..... \$75  
First Class..... \$110  
Online-only subscription.....\$40



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Matt Henson plays the keyboard at the official blessing of the U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree last Saturday at the Nolan Center. The band, comprised of musicians from all over the country, was dubbed the “Spruce Buds” by Mayor Patty Gilbert, an homage to the Tongass National Forest spruce tree that will soon stand on the West Lawn of the Capitol.

## Christmas tree

Continued from page 1

Virginia Xwaanlein Oliver spoke next, followed by McKenzie Smalley and Lu Knapp — who will be joining the tree in Washington for its lighting ceremony. Hoyt spoke, followed by clan members who sang several songs for the ceremonial portion of the event.

The first was a welcome song. The second song signified the Eagle clan’s representation at the ceremony before the Raven clan led the singers in a ballad.

The fourth song was traditionally sung as a paddle song, said Katherine George-Byrd, the Kiks.adi clan mother. She explained the song was “meant to send the tree on its way.”

After the songs were finished and the drum was done pounding, Mayor Patty Gilbert spoke to the packed Nolan Center. She commended WCA for its help with the event, the U.S. Forest Service for their work in the tree’s harvest, and the T3 Alliance high school students who worked to build a self-contained watering system

housed inside the trailer to ensure the tree stays alive during its monthlong journey.

Gilbert also took the chance to bestow a name on the previously nameless crew of musical performers slated to perform several times during the weekend celebration.

“I, Patricia Gilbert, duly elected mayor of the city and borough of Wrangell, Alaska, do hereby dub the No-Name Band, the Spruce Buds,” she said.

Borough Manager Mason Villarma followed up the mayor.

“About a year ago, a really bad thing happened here in Wrangell,” he said, referring to the deadly landslide last November. “But we’ve really rebuilt ourselves. ... I think this tree is a symbol for that. And on Dec. 3, our story is going to be told on the West Lawn of the Capitol — and that’s pretty darn cool.”

A few more out-of-town officials spoke, including Alaska Regional Forester Chad VanOrmer who proudly announced that Alaskans had exceeded the 10,000 homemade holiday ornaments needed to decorate the tree and several others in the nation’s capital. To VanOrmer’s great pride, the final tally surpassed 14,000.

By the time the speakers had wrapped up and what seemed like a thousand thank-yous were said, it was clear that everybody was blown away by the watering-system of pumps, filters and misters assembled by Wrangell’s T3 Alliance students.

Soon after, the newly dubbed Spruce Buds started their set. Event goers enjoyed the complimentary buffet catered by City Market as well as Kay Jabusch’s famous baked goods. Smokey the Bear even posed for photos as people trickled out of the Nolan Center.

The tree will next be barged to Seattle, with a brief stop in Ketchikan on Wednesday, Oct. 30.

The first stop on the cross-country journey is planned for Nov. 6 in Renton, Washington, followed by stops in Baker, Oregon on Nov. 8 before turning east for stops in Idaho, Utah, Colorado, Nebraska, Indiana, Ohio and Maryland. The tree will then be planted in cement and displayed on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol.

The lighting ceremony will be held Dec. 3.



PHOTO COURTESY JAMES EDWARD MILLS

Wrapped and covered for protection, the Zarembo Island 80-foot spruce headed out from the U.S. Forest Service station for its blessing ceremony at the Nolan Center on Saturday. Lynden Transport will steer the tree across the country, with multiple public viewings along the way, delivering it to the nation’s capital for installation on the West Lawn of the Capitol.

## Borough will go to bid for wastewater outfall repair work

By LARRY PERSILY  
Sentinel writer

Borough officials hope to go out for bids as soon as this week for repairs to the sewage treatment plant deepwater outfall line which was damaged by a boat anchor in September.

State and federal environmental officials “seem agreeable” to the borough’s plan to cut out the short, damaged section of 12-inch-diameter plastic pipe, then reconnect the undamaged pieces to restore flow, said Tom Wetor, Public Works director.

Until the line is repaired, the borough will continue with its temporary solution of dumping treated water from the sewage plant along the beach near City Park, letting the tide flush away the wastewater.

After the repairs are complete, the line will go back to discharging the outflow into the strait in water about 120 deep, more than 1,700 feet from shore.

The borough last week was working to finish the bid documents and scope of work for an underwater repair contractor, Wetor said. The break in the line

is in water about 77 feet deep, about 1,500 feet from shore.

“There are only so many companies that can do that,” he said of the deepwater work to cut and reattach the line with couplers. He hopes for a Southeast or at least Alaska-based contractor, to save on mobilization costs and time.

A schedule for repairs and resuming use of the line depends on how soon a contractor can

mobilize and get on site, Wetor said.

The borough has estimated the total cost of repairs at about \$100,000, he said, which includes everything starting with the break on Sept. 11 when crews had to dig up and cut the pipe at the beach to provide a release point for the flow from the wastewater plant.

About half of the \$100,000 will go toward the upcoming

underwater repairs, Wetor said.

After the line is restored, borough crews will repair the line at the beach to finish the job.

The borough manager and attorney are pursuing a claim with the boat owner’s insurance company, Wetor said. A video last month of the damaged section of line shows an anchor attached to the pipeline.

## Area harvest total down 10 moose from last year

By PETERSBURG PILOT AND  
WRANGELL SENTINEL

This year’s take of 131 moose in the Wrangell-Petersburg area was down by 10 kills from last year’s harvest.

But 131 was still good enough to rank as the third-highest harvest on record for the area, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The season ran Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. Last year’s take of 141 moose in the Wrangell-Petersburg area was a record, passing the previous high of 132 in 2021, according to Fish and Game. The five-year average is just over 120 moose a year.

Of this season’s 131 moose, 120 were legal and 11 illegal, mostly bulls with the wrong number of brow tines. Hunters generally self-report illegal kills, according to the department, and the meat is shared with the community.

According to Fish and Game, 50 of the moose kills were reported to the Wrangell office, 45 at the Petersburg office, 22 in Kake, and 14 at other de-

partment offices in Southeast.

Kupreanof Island was the most successful area for hunters again this year with 48 legal and one illegal moose harvested, shy of the 54 legal kills last year. Kuiu Island had the second-highest harvest count this season at 25 legal moose, three shy of last year, and one illegal kill.

In addition to the 21 legal moose taken on the Stikine River, six were illegal harvests — the most this season out of any area.

Hunters harvested seven moose from Mitkof Island this year, fewer than last year’s 12.

Hunters took seven legal moose from Wrangell Island; five legal moose from Farragut Bay; one legal and one illegal moose from Etolin Island; one moose at Woewodski Island; none from Zarembo Island; two legal and one illegal kill at Thomas Bay; and four others from mainland hunting areas.

Since 2014, moose numbers in the Wrangell-Petersburg area have consistently surpassed 100 a year. The most recent down year was 2013, when area hunters took 85 moose.

### GUEST OPINION

Continued from page 4

alized the benefits of paid sick leave and passed laws implementing this policy.

It is widely accepted that employees who go to work when they are sick but can’t afford to lose their wages are not only hurting their own health but also are risking the well-being of the rest of the workforce and customers. This was brought home to us during the COVID-19 epidemic. Businesses are not well served if there is an outbreak which contaminates employees and customers.

Ballot Measure No. 1 will make Alaska a better place to work and live. It will improve Alaska’s economy by attracting and keeping a pool of healthy, equitably paid workers for our businesses.

Please join me and the many other Alaskans in supporting this initiative.

Tony Knowles served as governor of Alaska 1994-2002.

# Volleyball

Continued from page 1

In their only home match of the year, the Wolves won three of the five sets, with scores of 26-24, 23-25, 22-25, 25-21 and 16-14. The victory extended Wrangell's unbeaten run this season to nine matches as the Wolves continue to prove they are the best team in Southeast.

This was the third time in 2024 that Wrangell beat their larger rival, sweeping Ketchikan in the teams' season series. Ketchikan, a Division 4A school, has eight times as many students as Wrangell.

Wrangell, resplendent in royal red, trailed for most of the first set. But the Ketchikan lead remained in reach, hovering around three points for the duration of the match's opening set. Every time Ketchikan started a run, a Wrangell rally of aggressive serving kept the King's lead within striking distance.

But time was running out and soon the Wolves found themselves trailing 22-24.

Enter Wrangell junior Christina Johnson.

"Topspin! Watch out for the topspin," the Ketchikan head coach screamed as Johnson stepped up to serve.

Boom. Boom. Boom. Just like that, Johnson evaporated the long-held Ketchikan lead. 25-24 Wrangell. Ketchikan timeout. Johnson, now serving for the set, stepped up to the line. Ace. Wrangell takes the first set.

Now, if this were a sports movie, it would have gone something like this: In a close first set, Wrangell (David) would win an uncomfortably tight first set against Ketchikan (Goliath). After overcoming their initial first-set jitters, Wrangell would then go on to cruise to victory for the remainder of the best-of-five match.

That's not what happened. Wrangell's performance deteriorated in the sets that followed. Despite Aubrey Wynne's best defensive efforts in the second, the Wolves dropped the set 23-25.

"Pick up the passing," head coach Brian Herman said. "We can be better than this."

The third set was more of the same. Ketchikan won 25-22 this



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

The high school girls volleyball team huddles up after a point on Oct 24. The team hosted Petersburg last week in their only home match of the season. The Wolves won the tight contest in five sets.

time, despite a 6-1 Wrangell run to tie the set at 20 each. But it wasn't enough. The Kings won five of the next seven points, putting Wrangell down two sets to one at home.

Watching the girls volleyball bench, you might notice something. Herman doesn't stand up often. In fact, he doesn't get out of his seat much at all. But when the Wolves kicked off the fourth set with a 4-1 rally, he couldn't resist. Maybe it was excitement or maybe it was relief. Whatever it was, the emotion was palpable not just on the court, but throughout the gym.

Rallied by a thunderous home crowd, the Wolves went up 8-3 in the do-or-die set. By the time Ketchikan mustered three more points, Wrangell was already at 14. The Kings tried to rally toward the end of the set, but Wrangell pulled through. The Wolves won the fourth by five points and sent the match to a first-to-15 tiebreak set.

If the first four sets were close, the tiebreak was somehow closer. First, it was tied 1-1, then 2-2, then 7-7 and 8-8 and 10-10 and 13-13. There were lead



PHOTO BY SAM PAUSMAN / WRANGELL SENTINEL

Coaches Brian Herman (center) and Shelley Powers (right) stand next to players Christina Johnson (far left) and Aubrey Wynne for the pre-match handshake with Ketchikan High School coaches and captains on Oct. 24.

changes and long rallies and blocks at the net. The previously mentioned sports movie was on full display.

After another grueling, long rally, a Ketchikan kill gave the Kings a 14-13 lead. And now, they were serving for the win.

Backed into a corner, Wrangell dug deep. After the longest rally of the night — with neither team willing to play anything too risky — Wrangell tied it up at 14. After an Alexis Easterly kill gave Wrangell the lead, Herman stood up for the second time. Now it was Wrangell's turn to serve for the match. Unlike Ketchikan, the Wolves didn't fal-

ter. The serve by Wynne, the kill by fellow senior Addy Andrews. Point, set, match, Wrangell.

For the third and final time all night, Herman stood up.

Up next the Wolves will compete in the second and final Southeast seeding tournament. The three-day event will be held in Petersburg on Nov. 7-9.

## Wrangell swimmers show strong strides in Sitka

By SAM PAUSMAN

Sentinel senior reporter

In the Wrangell High School swim team's fourth meet of the year, the water-bound Wolves keep getting quicker.

The Sitka Invitational took place on Oct. 25-26 and served as a final regular season opportunity for swimmers to compete against Southeast rivals before this weekend's regional championships in Petersburg.

Of the 24 individual events Wrangell swimmers competed in, they walked away with nine personal-best times. Even better, the Wolves' relay team finished with season-best times in all four events they competed in.

Andrei Bardin-Siekawitch and Johanna Sanford both posted a trifecta of career-best times. Bardin-Siekawitch impressed in the 50-yard freestyle as well as in the 100-yard backstroke and breaststroke. Sanford set a personal best time of 31.38 in the 50-yard freestyle on Oct. 25, before jumping back in the pool the following day and cutting that time down to 31.05.

"This was a great weekend for Andrei and Johanna," head coach Jamie Roberts said.

Maddy Davies swam her career best time in the

200-yard freestyle, shaving three seconds off her time from the first day of competition. Ellee Voltz was two-for-two when it came to personal-best times. She competed in both the 50-yard freestyle and the 100-yard freestyle, setting set personal bests in both.

Davies, Sanford and Voltz also took place in the four relay events the team competed in. They were joined by senior captain Anika Herman to help the relay team set record times across the board.

"The girls have historically swum the 200-yard freestyle," Roberts said. "This meet, they wanted to branch out and give the 400-yard freestyle a try."

The decision paid off. Herman, Voltz, Davies and Sanford set a best time in not just the 400, but also in the 200-yard freestyle relay and 200-yard medley relay.

"The energy in the natatorium is always elevated during relays," Roberts said. "I think they really shine when they are swimming in team events."

The Southeast championships will be held in Petersburg on Friday and Saturday, Nov 1-2. If any Wrangell swimmers or relay teams qualify for the state championships, they will travel to Anchorage for the Nov. 8-9 meet.

EXPERIENCED - EFFECTIVE - READY

# Agnes MORAN

“As a lifelong Alaskan, I understand the challenges facing District 1. I am running to protect our Marine Highway System, support our fishermen, preserve our PFD, and fund our schools.”

**ALASKA HOUSE**

AgnesMoranAK.com
Moran for House District 1
@AgnesMoranAK
Agnes.Moran.AK@gmail.com

PHOTO BY MORAN FOR HOUSE DISTRICT 1 - PO BOX 1264 WARD COVE AK 99526

# Wrestlers continue success over the weekend in Juneau

By SAM PAUSMAN  
Sentinel senior reporter

The Wrangell High School wrestling team secured six podium finishes at the Juneau Southeast Showdown on Oct. 26-27.

Senior Vanessa Johnson finished first in the girls 165-pound bracket while sophomore Jackson Carney continued his unbeaten season, finishing first in the boys 140-pound class. Ben Houser, Della Churchill, Cody Barnes and sophomore Hailey Cook all finished second in their respective events. Senior Kyan Stead came in fourth place for the boys 125-pound weight class.

Of all the Wrangell victories, none were better than Carney's performance against Ketchikan senior Gage Massin.

Jackson Carney took an early lead in the matchup, winning the first two rounds handedly. However, as the match went on, Massin — Carney's previously undefeated opponent — mounted a come-

back. With 20 seconds remaining, Massin took down Carney. In a crowd-wowing move, Carney flipped the script, and shortly after, the referee gave Carney the pin.

Carney believes his success came in part due to the mindset that he approaches every match with.

"You want to go out and wrestle everyone the exact same," Carney told the Juneau Empire. "So, I went out thinking that I could wrestle him the same as everyone else, with a good stance, good positions and see what happens."

His head coach (and dad) was thrilled.

"Jackson has wrestled Gage since third grade, and up until this year he had never beaten him," coach Jack Carney said. "Gage is a senior, super tough, a region champion. Usually, you can't pin him like that."

Churchill's second-place finish continues her run of top three finishes this season. The senior captain is no stranger to the upper steps of the podium,



PHOTO BY KLAUS STOLPE / JUNEAU EMPIRE

Wrangell's Vanessa Johnson attempts to pin Mount Edgecumbe's Alexia Zacharof during their 165-pound championship match Saturday at the Southeast Showdown Wrestling Tournament in Juneau's George Houston Gym.

as the two-time region champion was voted Outstanding Female Wrestler at the South-

east championships last year.

Junior Ian Nelson finished sixth in the 152-pound boys weight class and sophomore Everett Meissner finished eighth in the 160-pound bracket. In the girls bracket, Sophomore Bella Ritchie finished seventh in the 114-pound weight class.

Unfortunately for the Wolves, freshman phenom Kourtney Barnes was unable to compete in the event due to injury. Her coach has high hopes for the newcomer on the mat and is impressed by her willingness to help the team while she is sidelined. In Juneau, Barnes took over camera duty.

Juneau-Douglas High School: Yadaa.at Kalé won their home event with 516 points. Wrangell finished fourth with 128 points, behind second-place Mount Edge-

cumbe (399 points) and third-place Ketchikan (298 points).

The tournament was the largest meet Wrangell has competed in this year, with over 200 wrestlers. Jack Carney noted that several Wrangell wrestlers competed up a weight class over the weekend.

Next up, the Wolves will travel to Anchorage where the Mountain City Christian Academy Tournament will be held Nov 1-2. They will be in Ketchikan the next weekend and will host their only home event of the season on Nov. 16-17.

According to their head coach, the team's mindset is unchanged from the start of the season.

"Everybody is focused on a state title," he said. "We expect to do pretty big things up at Mountain City Christian Academy."



PHOTO BY KLAUS STOLPE / JUNEAU EMPIRE

Wrangell's Cody Barnes pins Sitka's Dylan Petersen during their 285-pound match Saturday at the Southeast Showdown Wrestling Tournament in Juneau.

## Assembly approves boat ramp fee increase to go toward improvements

By SAM PAUSMAN  
Sentinel senior reporter

The assembly unanimously voted to raise annual boat launch fees for Wrangell's harbors at the Oct. 22 meeting. The fees — which have remained stagnant for years — now mirror other Southeast towns' equivalent fees.

The annual launch permit for those with a boat stall will increase from \$28 to \$35. For those without a stall, the fee will increase from \$55 to \$70. Per the borough's figures, the average annual Southeast launch fee for those without a stall is just over \$74.

The borough is also eliminating the commercial launch permit category that is currently \$150.

All changes will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2025.

The reason for the increases is simple: The borough wants to be able to afford boat ramp replacement, addition and maintenance projects. According to Borough Manager Mason Villarma, the borough's current rate structure does not cover such costs.

Despite initial reservation at the assembly meeting on Oct. 8, Assembly Member Bob Dalrymple, on Oct. 22, said that taking care of the launch ramps is "really good rationale" for the rate increases.

"When folks talk to me," Dal-

rymple said, "the most common desire is improvement for our boat launch ramps. This is hitting that need. I hope people really understand the increase will go to improving those. They're heavily used."

In the borough's 2024 fiscal year — which ended on June 30 — launch fees brought in \$12,876. After the fee increases next year, the borough projects launch fees will bring in over \$30,000 by the end of the 2026 fiscal year.

The 1950 federal Dingell-Johnson Act provides grant money for recreational boating projects, including construction and maintenance of launch ramps. The funding comes from taxes on sport fishing gear, boats

and marine fuels.

However, to receive the funding, Villarma said Wrangell would need to provide 25% of a project's total cost. The increase of launch fees, according to the borough's projections, would help to cover this cost.

Villarma said the borough is exploring building a second ramp at Heritage Harbor and commented that the cost of building the ramp "40 years from now, would be significantly higher," emphasizing the necessity of increasing the fees to help fund the project as quickly as possible.

To see that the proceeds are spent as intended, he suggested the borough place funds within what's called a restricted balance within the ports and harbor fund — which currently sits at around \$3 million.

Assembly members also discussed increasing the fee by \$5 once per decade to ensure the fees remain in line with inflation. Doing so would ensure the harbor fees continue to provide the borough with adequate spending power to maintain the launch ramps. The assembly took no action on future rate hikes.

**BYNUM**  
State House  
VoteBynum.com

Communities in Southeast Alaska need  
**A Reliable State Ferry System.**

Jeremy is committed to ensuring dependable ferry service for families and businesses across our state.

**Vote for Jeremy Bynum!**  
Early Voting: **Open Now** Election Day: **Nov. 5**

PAID FOR BY VOTE BYNUM • PO BOX 8683, KETCHIKAN, AK 99901

**Harbor Lights Assembly of Good**  
**41ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**  
Saturday, Nov. 9, 10 am to 2 pm at the Nolan Center

A door prize will be drawn every hour.  
Come get that unique and special Christmas gift for a loved one and support our local artisans!

# Wrangell students share in learning opportunity at Music Fest

BY LARRY PERSILY  
Sentinel writer

There can be a lot of numbers in music. This is the 50th year of the Southeast Honor Music Festival and Tasha Morse's 17th year as Wrangell music teacher. More than 110 students from around Southeast spent 19 hours in full rehearsals at Music Fest.

Three Wrangell students were selected for the event held Oct. 20-22 in Petersburg. All had to audition to win a spot, Morse explained.

There is no judging at the annual fall event. "This one is just making music for music's sake," she said.

Wrangell's Ander and Clara Edens were selected for the Honor Fest choir, with Andrei Bardin-Siekawitch named to the band. Clara Edens sings alto and Ander Edens sings bass. Bardin-Siekawitch plays the alto saxophone.

They are among the eight or nine students in Morse's high school band class and 21 in the choir program comprised of high school and middle school students, the teacher said.

Music Fest gives students an opportunity to learn from guest conductors brought to Alaska for the event. "We bring in experts in our field ... to see how they do things differently than we do," Morse said. "I learn as much as the kids do."

Southeast music teachers select participants in September, giving students a month to work on the selections they will perform.

This year's guest directors were Kym Scott, director of choral activities at West Virginia University, and Edward F. Protzman, director of bands and assistant professor of music education at Portland State University.

On the last day of Music Fest, the choir performed



PHOTO COURTESY TASHA MORSE

Andrei Bardin-Siekawitch (left to right), Ander and Clara Edens were selected for the Southeast Honor Music Festival, held Oct. 20-22 in Petersburg.

"Cantate Domino," by Jonathon P. White; "All of Me" (from "A Vision Unfolding"), by Kyle Pederson; "Both Sides Now," by Joni Mitchell; and "By Night," by Elaine Hagenberg.

The band performed "Golden Jubilee," by John

Philip Sousa, arranged by Fredrick Fennell; "Bock Fanfares," Jess Langston Turner; "Solace Dance," Nicole Piunno; "Stillwater," Kelijah Dunton; and "Illumination: Overture for Band," David Maslanka.

## Angoon apology

Continued from page 1

tack, told the story of the destruction of his village to an anthropologist. "They left us homeless on the beach," he said.

At the time, Alaska was under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Navy. The top Naval official in Alaska was Cmdr. E. C. Merri-man.

Three days before the bombardment, a harpoon gun on board a whaling ship exploded, killing Téel ' Tlein, a Tlingit medicine man and healer from Angoon, who was working as a crew member.

According to Tlingit oral history, villagers mourned Téel ' Tlein, and painted their faces with coal tar and tallow to mourn, which was interpreted by the whaling station's employees as a sign of a looming attack.

Naval records said the Tlingit took two white employees as hostages and threatened to kill them, justifying the bombardment.

In a letter sent days later to the secretary of the Navy, Merri-man said that after the attack he spoke to village elders, who told him "they would never attempt anything of the kind again." The lesson had been learned, he said.

"They were glad that I had burned the village," he said.

The Tlingit of Angoon have consistently denied any hostages were taken. Historians noted the attack was ostensibly to free hostages, but their fate was not recorded by Merriman and others.

Without shelter or supplies, it remains unknown how many people died in the first winter from starvation and exposure. According to Tlingit oral tradition, it took five years for the villagers to recover and to start rebuilding.

"The people of Angoon nearly starved to death, all of them. How much we suffered," Jones said.

The descendants of those who survived the bombardment gathered on Oct. 26 for a long-awaited *ku.éex'*, or potlatch.

The most significant *ku.éex'* in Tlingit culture are memorials that help mark the end of a mourning period. Clan treasures are displayed. Precious regalia is worn.

For decades, the Tlingit of Angoon and their supporters have asked the Navy to apologize for destroying their village. For decades their efforts were rebuffed — until now.

"As we all know, this is a monumental event that we're here to witness," said Alan Zuboff, a Tlingit elder. "Our grandfathers wished this would (have come) in their time. They are all here with us in spirit. Right this very moment."

Angoon, or Aangóon, usually has just over 350 people. The village's population swelled for the event, with the high school's gymnasium packed with people. Some had traveled a long way to be there.

Marilyn Boggs, a nurse who lives in Arizona, said her ancestors left Angoon after it was destroyed and settled in Hoonah. She returned to witness the apology.

"It's been a long time coming," she said.

The people of Angoon were told in May the apology would soon happen. The *ku.éex'* took months of planning with the Navy to ensure it was handled with care. And now the day was here.

On the 142nd anniversary of the bombardment, Rear Adm. Sucato stood before Angoon and formally apologized.

"(The Navy) acknowledges that the Tlingit people of Angoon did not deserve nor provoke the bombardment and subsequent destruction of their village by the U.S. Naval forces," he said.

Sucato said the Navy "expresses its regret for the long delay" in issuing a formal apology. Quoting Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro, Sucato said, that "it's never too late to do the right thing."

The gymnasium erupted in thunderous and prolonged applause when Sucato was finished. The crowd shouted their thanks in Tlingit — "Gunalchéesh!"

One by one, Tlingit leaders accepted the Navy's apology, dressed in regalia that embodied their ancestors.

Shgen George, housemaster of the Killer Whale Tooth House, gave a detailed and emotional account of the devastation wrought on Angoon. After the apology, she thanked the Navy.

"But now is the time we will put our sorrow aside. We will

wipe our tears. This is our grandfathers — these hats that we wear — they're right here and they're the ones who are saying, 'thank you,'" she said.

U.S. Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan were here for the *ku.éex'*. Both senators had campaigned for the apology and highlighted that the people of Angoon had never given up on their fight.

The Tlingit of Angoon had streaked their faces with black paint to show they were in mourning. Until the ceremony, the sorrow could not end. People here said it was as if Angoon had been destroyed yesterday.

With the apology, the mourning could stop. A new stage of reconciliation could begin. The black paint was wiped away. The memorial turned to a celebration that continued long into

the night.

The evening saw endless plates of food and the traditional exchanging of gifts between hosts and guests.

Shortly after 1:30 a.m., with the gym still full, it was time for the outgoing song. Members of the Navy's band danced in uniform with the people of Angoon.

More than 15 hours after it began, the *ku.éex'* was over. But the destruction of Angoon 142 years ago won't be forgotten.

Rosita Worl, president of Sealaska Heritage Institute, had long campaigned for the apology. She said it was now part of Tlingit history that would be taught for generations to come.

"It is now your responsibility to ensure our culture survives," she said to the gym full of elders and young people.

*It's time to harvest savings!*

**25% OFF**  
all ads in the November 20  
Sentinel that promote  
**HARVEST SHOPPING**  
on Nov. 21, 22 & 23

**Deadline for ads is Nov. 15**

Contact Amber at 907-874-2301  
or wrgsent@gmail.com to schedule your ad today!

**WRANGELL SENTINEL**



# GENERAL ELECTION November 5



## RANKED CHOICE VOTING: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

United States President / Vice President								
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice	6th Choice	7th Choice	8th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate E	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate F	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Candidate G	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate H	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Under Alaska law (AS 15.30.010), candidates for President and Vice President are nominated by recognized political parties or through the petition process. This means there will be more presidential candidate names than names for other races on the same general election ballot. But don't worry! **Just mark your ballot the same as you would any other ranked choice race.**

### HOW TO MARK YOUR BALLOT

Fill in only one oval per candidate, in each column.

You do not have to rank all the candidates. Your second choice is only counted if your first choice candidate is eliminated.

United States Representative					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

United States Representative					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**If you skip a ranking,** your next ranking moves up. Here, if your first choice candidate is eliminated, your third choice counts as your second choice and your fourth choice would count as your third choice.

United States Representative					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In: <i>Mae Allen</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**If you give more than one candidate the same ranking,** those rankings and later rankings will not count. Here, only your first choice counts.

United States Representative					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Your vote only counts once,** even if you rank a candidate more than once. When a candidate is eliminated in a round, they are eliminated from all future rounds.

United States Representative					
	1st Choice	2nd Choice	3rd Choice	4th Choice	5th Choice
Candidate A	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate B	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate C	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate D	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write-In:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**If you skip two or more rankings in a row,** only the rankings before the skipped rankings will count. Here, your first choice counts and the fourth choice would not count.

MISTAKES TO AVOID

For more detailed information, sample ballots, and explainer videos, visit [www.elections.alaska.gov/essentials](http://www.elections.alaska.gov/essentials).

# State House candidates share views, policies and opinions

BY ALEX ABBEDUTO  
Ketchikan Daily News

Jeremy Bynum, Grant EchoHawk and Agnes Moran are running to fill the state House seat vacated by 10-year incumbent Dan Ortiz, who decided not to seek a sixth term.

The election is Tuesday, Nov. 5.

If no candidate gets more than 50% of the votes in the first count, the third-place finisher will be eliminated and voters who picked that candidate as their top choice will have their votes recounted using their second choice. Whoever has the most votes in that second count will win the seat representing Ketchikan, Wrangell and Metlakatla.

The Ketchikan Daily News interviewed the three candidates. The Sentinel edited the interviews for length and to focus on issues of interest to Wrangell voters.



**Jeremy Bynum**

Jeremy Bynum said he is running because "if you don't like what people are doing, the only way to change it is to be involved."

After serving in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard, Bynum obtained a degree in electrical engineering from Portland State University and joined the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He is manager of the Ketchikan Public Utilities Electric Division and serves on the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly.

"The state has some tremendous challenges," including funding and management of the Alaska Marine Highway System and limitations on how

Alaska can harvest its natural resources, such as oil. He also said housing and school funding are major issues in Southeast.

Bynum said he believes he's different from the other candidates in that he openly says what he stands for. "I'm not afraid to say that I'm a Republican. I know that's a scary thing to say sometimes with the political dynamic, but I believe in a free-market enterprise. I believe in trying to minimize taxes. I also believe in taking care of our communities."

Bynum said his policy and budget goals include effective education funding, a functioning state ferry system and state solutions for housing availability.

There are going to be things that he and the governor agree and disagree on, he said. His response to people who are frustrated with Gov. Mike Dunleavy's administration is that "we're going to find a common ground where we can have successes for District 1; and those things that we disagree with, we'll talk about it, and we'll try to figure out how we can either change his mind on certain things or find some kind of common middle ground."

Bynum said he thinks the ongoing rift between many Southeast Alaskans and the Dunleavy administration over the ferry system is one example of communication problems between residents and the governor.

"Because down here, we don't feel like the governor and the administration care at all, right? We think they're trying to kill it," Bynum said. "We're just going to have to do better job of communicating our needs to the governor's office."

Part of Bynum's strategy for securing policy and budget priorities would be caucusing with the majority caucus in the state House.

"Given that there's an opportunity for Republican majority, I will be part of the Republican majority. But if that's not a possibility, I'm also not going to not be part of a coalition or the majority for the sake of the party. My priority is the district. So that means

coalition, then I'm going to be the best advocate for District 1 as part of a coalition."

In an October follow-up interview, Bynum said the only thing he can think of that would prevent him from caucusing in the majority is if it has a "predominant Democrat majority."



**Grant EchoHawk**

Grant EchoHawk said he is running because he enjoys being a voice for and contributing to the community.

"And I thought that, with the different advocacy work that I do, that it would really just make a lot of sense of moving to the state so I can continue to advocate for school funding, for programs for our most vulnerable, and ensuring that we have strong infrastructure and make it to where our municipal and our local communities can get the things that they need to ensure prosperity into the future."

EchoHawk works as a business loan specialist at the Tongass Federal Credit Union and serves as board treasurer for the Ketchikan Tribal Business Corp. He also recently finished a term on the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly.

He recognizes that housing and school funding are issues in the community and believes he has been more vocal than other candidates about keeping Alaska wealth in Alaska.

"I do not see any reasonable reason why our Alaska communities, and particularly in House District 1, shouldn't have all the resources that we need for infrastructure, for ferry service, for our school

districts, (for) support programs for those that need it, let's say behavioral health or anything that we need for our children to lift them out of poverty," EchoHawk said.

He explained that he would focus on finding more revenue instead of cutting program budgets but would have to

"look under the hood and see exactly where we have revenue opportunities."

"I'm very uncomfortable about very profitable corporations receiving any kind of tax subsidy, any kind of anything, any kind of rebates, any kind of handouts that are going to

Continued on page 11

## Chili cook-off Nov. 9 a chance to bowl over the competition

BY LARRY PERSILY  
Sentinel writer

The spring chili cook-off went so well, The Salvation Army decided to stack up the bowls and spoons and get ready to do it again Nov. 9.

There will be prizes for the best chili. And while the event is a fundraiser for the community food pantry, it also is an opportunity for people to get together and socialize, said Salvation Army Capt. Chase Green.

"There was a lot of excitement" at the April cook-off, which drew 18 entries, he said. "People asked, 'When are you going to do it again?'" He hopes for 25 chili entries this time.

The event is set for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 9, at the Nolan Center. It's the same time as the Christmas bazaar put together by Harbor Light Assembly of God Church.

Chili chefs need to register in advance, so that organizers have an idea of how many bowls and other supplies to bring to the center. Cooks can sign up at The Salvation Army Facebook page or go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J6XJXHJ>.

A quartet of judges will taste each entry and award prizes, Green said. The first-place winner will take home a \$250 gift card from Wrangell IGA, with a \$100 cash prize for second and \$50 cash prize for third place, he said.

Community members who pay \$10 to enjoy all of the entries will be able to vote on their favorites, Green said. The winner will receive a basket of cooking and kitchen items.

Admission is free to chili cook-off entrants.

Though Green's personal favorites have no influence on the judging, he is "a big fan of spicy sweet chili," adding, "here in Alaska, you can't go wrong with a moose chili."

He also is a fan of fruit chilis, such as pineapple or mango.

## Southeast leader Rosita Worl receives national honor

FROM NEWS REPORTS BY THE ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS AND JUNEAU EMPIRE  
Rosita Worl, president of the Sealaska Heritage Institute, an anthropologist and cultural leader, is one of 10 Americans to receive the 2023 National Humanities Medal.

Worl, 87, who is Tlingit, is a longtime leader in Alaska's Native community, advocating for subsistence practices and promoting cultural traditions on a national level. Born in Petersburg, she has conducted research throughout Alaska, including fieldwork in the Arctic. Worl has also taught at University of Alaska Southeast.

She has a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University and an honorary Doctor of Sciences degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

"I am honored to receive this award, but I owe a debt of gratitude to my mother, Bessie Quinto, who instilled in me that I have a responsibility to

work for our people," Worl said in a prepared statement. "She devoted her whole life as a union organizer to secure economic equity for our people, among many other things."

The National Humanities Medal was launched in 1996, and since then 225 medals have been awarded, including 207 to individuals and 18 to organizations.

The medals were presented in a private White House ceremony on Oct. 21. Worl wore a yellow Chilkat robe to the ceremony. She stood out in a sea of blue, black and gray suits.

She has served as the president of Sealaska Heritage since 1998.

Worl served as the chair of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act National Review Committee in the early 2000s and advised revisions to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act in the 1980s.

I can help you make sure your coverage is up-to-date. Contact me today.



"If you rent a house or apartment, call us about renters insurance. Your landlord insures the building, but it is your responsibility to insure your personal belongings. Give us a call today and we can help you with that!"

**Amy Hemenway,**  
Personal & Commercial  
Lines Agent

Email: [amy@p-wins.com](mailto:amy@p-wins.com)  
Toll Free: (800) 478-3858, Fax: (907) 802-3225  
[www.p-wins.com](http://www.p-wins.com)  
PO Box 529 Petersburg, AK, 99833



# State House candidates

Continued from page 10

take away from revenue that we could use in our communities," he said.

"I think that if a corporation is in the position to do a stock buyback, then that should disqualify them from any kind of tax subsidies whatsoever because they are obviously doing quite well. A stock buyback only serves executive compensation and the wealthiest shareholders and I think that revenue — our revenue from Alaska — is needed in our communities, not sitting in the stock market."

He also said he has been more vocal about keeping the government focused on appropriate topics and responsibilities.

"I'm concerned about government overreaching and intruding in people's lives, intruding in people's homes, intruding into people's bodies, intruding into people's

bedrooms," EchoHawk said. "I'm concerned about taking too much time, energy and resources and over-regulating the population, rather than taking that time, energy and resources to actually improve the lives of Alaskans."

To achieve his policy goals, which include securing proper school funding, EchoHawk said his borough assembly experience would benefit him if elected to the House. As an assembly member, EchoHawk said his colleagues told him that he was "respectful and courteous" while still offering his point of view and without attacking or being discourteous.

"I appreciated those comments and it meant the world to me, because that was kind of my goal of how I want to be a legislator — being cooperative, focusing on the areas that we agree on, and setting aside things that

could prevent a conversation from moving forward due to ideological stances." He is running as a nonpartisan.



**Agnes Moran**

Agnes Moran said she is running because she wants to

make sure her children have the same opportunities as she did while growing up in District 1.

"And currently that's just not the case," she said. "With the lack of affordable housing, the lack of economic opportunities, fisheries being on the ropes, it's a very different district from when I was coming up. I know what a thriving District 1 looks like, because I lived it and I'd like to get back to that."

Moran has an educational background in electrical engineering and is currently executive director of Women in Safe Homes and a member of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority board.

Born and raised in Ketchikan, Moran said she is familiar with Southeast issues.

"We have a lack of affordable housing, we've had flat

funding for our schools, our fishing industry is in crisis, our marine highway system's in disarray, and we've had continual cuts to our Permanent Fund dividend."

She said her "established track record of identifying a problem, bringing a solution and getting the right people to the table" is what differentiates her from other candidates.

"I built a domestic violence sexual assault shelter — brought a new one online, renovated our community services building," Moran said. "I built a housing program. I built a food distribution program. I secured funding to place counselors and social workers into Metlakatla and Ketchikan schools. I developed a community services program that provides services and support to at-risk families."

Moran said the key to completing these projects was identifying the correct people to work with, and then being able to work with them.

"For example, when I was working with the police department, we went to them and said that there's this project we'd like to see if you'd be willing to partner with us," Moran said. "If we were to do that, what would you benefit most from? And what they wanted were training funds. So, then I wrote training funds into that grant, and so it was mutually beneficial for both organizations."

Moran said it's not possible to place a shelter in every community. By partnering with law enforcement for grant funding, officers in those communities — including Metlakatla, Sitka, Wrangell and towns on Prince of Wales Island — have been trained to handle domestic violence cases.

Moran said to achieve her policy and budgeting goals for House District 1 — which include a return to the state's defined-benefits retirement program for public employees such as teachers and emergency responders as well as adequate Alaska Marine Highway System and Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute funding — "you need to listen, talk, and hear other people's concerns, hear what they need to make things possible" before working to resolve it.

Once there is a "sufficient number of people on board," Moran said it's harder for the governor to veto legislation.

She is running as a nonpartisan.

## NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Polling Places Will Be Open From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

### Candidate Races on Ballot

President / Vice President

United States Representative

State Senator (Districts B, D, F, H, J, L, N, P, R, T)

State House Representative (All 40 Districts)

Judicial Retention

### Ballot Measures Appearing on the Ballot

**Ballot Measure 1 – 23AMLS – An Act Increasing the Minimum Wage, Requiring Paid Sick Leave, and Prohibiting Mandatory Meetings about Religious or Political Issues**

**Ballot Measure 2 – 22AKHE – An Act Restoring Political Party Primaries and Single-Choice General Elections**

To find Your Polling Place Call: **1-888-383-8683** (In Anchorage call: 269-8683)

### Early, Absentee In-Person and Special Needs Voting

Early and Absentee In-Person Voting will be available at many locations throughout the state beginning October 21, 2024. For a list of locations and information on absentee voting, visit the division's website at <https://AKVoteEarly.alaska.gov> or call your regional elections office below. If you are unable to go to the polls due to age, disability, or serious illness, you may use the special needs voting process by appointing a personal representative to bring you a ballot.

[www.elections.alaska.gov](http://www.elections.alaska.gov)

Region I Office

Juneau  
(907) 465-3021  
1-866-948-8683

Region II Office

Anchorage  
(907) 522-8683  
1-866-958-8683

Region III Office

Fairbanks  
(907) 451-2835  
1-866-959-8683

Region IV Office

Nome  
(907) 443-8683  
1-866-953-8683

Region V Office

Wasilla  
(907) 373-8952  
1-866-958-8683

Language Assistance 1-866-954-8683

Toll Free TTY 1-888-622-3020

*The State of Alaska, Division of Elections, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special assistance and/or accommodation to vote, please contact your regional Division of Elections office to make necessary arrangements.*

**Subscribe  
to  
the  
Sentinel  
907-874-2301**

# Biden apologizes for federal system of Native American boarding schools

By **AAMER MADHANI**  
Associated Press

President Joe Biden on Oct. 25 formally apologized to Native Americans for the “sin” of a government-run boarding school system that for decades forcibly separated Indian children from their parents, calling it a “blot on American history” in his first visit to Indian Country.

“It’s a sin on our soul,” said Biden, his voice full of anger and emotion at the event in Laveen Village, Arizona. “Quite frankly, there’s no excuse that this apology took 50 years to make.”

It was a moment of both contrition and frustration as the president sought to recognize one of the “most horrific chapters” in the national story. Biden spoke of the abuses and deaths of Native children that resulted from the federal government’s policies, noting that “while darkness can hide much, it erases nothing” and that great nations “must know the good, the bad, the truth of

who we are.”

“I formally apologize as president of the United States of America for what we did,” Biden said. “The Federal Indian boarding school policy — the pain it has caused will only be a significant mark of shame, a blot on our record history. For too long, this all happened with virtually no public attention, not written about in our history books, not taught in our schools.”

Democrats hope Biden’s visit to the Gila River Indian Community’s land on the outskirts of Phoenix’s metro area will also provide a boost to Vice President Kamala Harris’ turnout effort in a key battleground state. The moment gave Biden a fuller chance to spotlight his and Harris’ support for tribal nations, a group that historically has favored Democrats, in a state he won just by 10,000 votes in 2020.

The race between Harris and former President Donald Trump is expected to be similarly close, and both cam-

paigns are doing whatever they can to improve turnout among bedrock supporters.

Biden has been used sparingly on the campaign trail by Harris and other Democrats since he ended his reelection campaign in July. But analysts say Biden could help Harris in her appeal with Native American voters — a group that has trailed others in turnout rates.

In 2020, there was a surge in voter turnout on some tribal land in Arizona as Biden beat Trump and became the first Democratic presidential candidate to win the state since Bill Clinton in 1996.

Biden, whose presidency is winding down, had promised tribal leaders nearly two years ago that he would visit Indian Country.

For decades, federal boarding schools were used to assimilate children into white society.

Not everyone saw the apology as sufficient.

“An apology is a nice start, but it is not a true reckoning, nor is it a sufficient remedy for the long history of colonial violence,” said Chase Iron Eyes, director of the Lakota People’s Law Project and Sacred Defense Fund.

The Alaska Federation of Natives, which includes 177 federally recognized tribes, 154 village corporations, nine re-

gional corporations and nine regional nonprofit and tribal consortiums in Alaska, said in a statement that it welcomed Biden’s apology for “a policy that has caused deep-seated trauma over generations.”

AFN President Ben Mallott said Biden’s apology was “an important step forward, but it must be accompanied by meaningful actions addressing these historical injustices’ ongoing impacts. This includes revitalizing our languages and cultures and bringing home our Native children who have not yet been returned, so they can be laid to rest with their families and in their communities.”

At least 973 Native American children died in the U.S. government’s abusive boarding school system over a 150-year period that ended in 1969, according to an Interior Department investigation that called for a U.S. government apology.

At least 18,000 children, some as young as 4, were taken from their parents and forced to attend schools that sought to assimilate them.

The Alaska Federation of Natives said it “encourages all levels of government to actively engage with Native communities.”

“It is essential that our voices are heard and that les-

sons from our past lead to meaningful change,” the group said.

Democrats have stepped up outreach to Native American communities.

Both Harris and her running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, met with tribal leaders in Arizona and Nevada this month. And Clinton, who has been serving as a surrogate for Harris, last week met in North Carolina with the chairman of the Lumbee Tribe.

The Democratic National Committee recently launched a six-figure ad campaign targeting Native American voters in Arizona, North Carolina, Montana and Alaska through digital, print and radio ads.

Biden picked former New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland to serve as his Interior secretary, the first Native American to be appointed to a Cabinet position. Haaland is a member of Laguna Pueblo in New Mexico.

She, in turn, ordered the comprehensive review in June 2021 of the troubled legacy of the federal government’s boarding school policies that led Biden to deliver the formal apology.

Associated Press writer *Graham Lee Brewer* in Norman, Oklahoma, contributed to this report.

## AFN endorses Peltola, opposes ballot measure to eliminate ranked voting

By **ANDREW KITCHENMAN**  
Alaska Beacon

The Alaska Federation of Natives voted to endorse the reelection of Democratic U.S. Rep. Mary Peltola and to oppose the ballot measure that would repeal the state’s open primaries and ranked-choice voting.

The votes came Oct. 19, the last day of its annual three-day convention in Anchorage, which had the theme this year of “Our Children, Our Future Ancestors.”

The delegates from tribes, nonprofit tribal organizations and regional and village Native corporations passed 18 resolutions on issues ranging from a call for Congress to amend federal law to explicitly recognize Native rights to subsistence hunting, fishing and gathering, to support for the state prioritizing public education funding.

Peltola, who is Yup’ik, from Bethel and the first Alaska Native member of Congress, drew broad support from the delegates, though some groups abstained from the vote.

The resolution endorsing Peltola was introduced by Sealaska, the regional Native corporation for Southeast.

“Representative Peltola has been a strong advocate for Alaska’s fisheries and subsistence users by introducing and working with her colleagues, regardless of party affiliation, for legislation to strengthen U.S. seafood competitiveness in international markets, taking actions to enhance research to improve federal programs that support domestic seafood production and working tirelessly to reduce bycatch and protect fisheries habitat,” the resolution said.

Peltola’s top opponent in the Nov. 5 election is Republican Nick Begich.

The resolution opposing Ballot Measure 2 — which would repeal the voting system in which Alaskans rank candidates in order of preference — passed without opposition.

But a resolution in support of Ballot Measure 1 never made it to a vote. Ballot Measure 1 would raise the state’s minimum wage to \$15 per hour by 2027, require employers to pay sick leave, and prohibit employers from requiring their workers to attend political or religious meetings.

A motion to table the resolution supporting Ballot Measure 1 was introduced by Curtiss Chamberlain, assistant general counsel for Calista Corp., the regional Native corporation for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region.

Chamberlain noted that the potential added costs from the ballot measure trouble village corporations in Calista’s region, he said. “A few brought their concerns to our attention,” he said. “And with that, and based on those discussions and concerns, I respectfully ask that this be tabled.”

Debra Call, a member of the Cook Inlet Tribal Council, unsuccessfully spoke in favor of the resolution and against the motion to table it. “You really need to raise the standard of living of many of our people, and this is the start to do that,” Call said of the minimum wage increase.

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

## Begich and Peltola disagree in last debate of the U.S. House campaign

By **IRIS SAMUELS**  
Anchorage Daily News

The differences between Democratic incumbent Rep. Mary Peltola and her Republican challenger Nick Begich were on full display Oct. 21 during the final planned debate of Alaska’s U.S. House race.

The Anchorage Chamber of Commerce sponsored the debate.

Begich, a businessman who lost to Peltola in 2022, is again vying for Alaska’s lone U.S. House seat against Peltola, a former state legislator who won the seat in 2022 after leading an intertribal fish commission for several years.

The outcome of the race could have far-reaching impacts in determining control of a closely divided House, drawings millions of dollars in outside spending as both Democrats and Republicans seek to put the seat in their column.

Peltola has pitched herself as a moderate willing to work across the political aisle. Begich has aligned himself with former president Donald Trump and said he represents “the political center of gravity” of Alaska.

Peltola emphasized her record of bipartisanship in working with Alaska’s two Republican U.S. senators to secure federal investments in the state and leveraging her Democratic affiliation to put pressure on the Biden administration.

“I’m really proud of the work that I do in terms of the tone, the tenor,” Peltola said. “I work with people who are very middle-of-the-road.”

Peltola criticized Begich for being endorsed by the Freedom Caucus, the group of right-wing Republicans who seek to shrink the size of government, often using divisive and chaotic tactics to do so. Its associated political action committee, the House Freedom Fund, has funneled thousands of dollars to Begich.

Begich repeatedly blamed the Biden administration for inflation-causing policies and steps to block resource development projects, echoing talking points often shared by Alaska’s Re-

publican politicians.

He also said he opposes allowing transgender women to compete alongside cisgender women in sports, an issue that Peltola said was a “culture war” and “a complete and total waste of our time.”

Since Vice President Kamala Harris entered the presidential race, Peltola has declined to endorse a candidate in the presidential election, though she said in July that she is not planning to vote for Trump.

“Most Alaskans recognize that both of these candidates have flaws,” Peltola said on Oct. 21. “I don’t think there’s any wisdom in a person who’s running for a statewide seat to burn up their gas on talking about a presidential race. I think that’s a complete and total waste of time.”

Begich later said it was important for candidates to take a position on the presidential election.

“Part of what we’re being elected to do is make decisions, and that’s one of the most important decisions to make,” said Begich.

Peltola and Begich also differed on Alaska’s voting system, which itself will be on the Nov. 5 ballot. Ranked-choice voting and open primaries were adopted by ballot measure in 2020, and first used in 2022. A citizens initiative on the Nov. 5 ballot seeks to repeal the system and return to partisan primaries and pick-one general elections. That measure, known as Ballot Measure 2, is endorsed by Begich and the Alaska Republican Party. Peltola supports the existing election system.

“The issue for me is the partisan primaries. I believe that partisan primaries have gotten us in America to a place where people are no longer having conversations, they’re just screaming at each other,” Peltola said, adding that the open primaries lead to the selection of candidates who are “more moderate, more middle of the road.”

Begich said the lack of partisan primaries means Alaska’s elections “can be manipulated.”

The tone of the campaign is a departure from

Continued on page 13

## U.S. House debate

Continued from page 12

2022 when Begich and Peltola faced each other, when the congressional race also featured former Gov. Sarah Palin. At the time, Peltola and Palin publicly celebrated their personal friendship and remained unwilling to attack each other. This cycle, Begich and Peltola have criticized each other more openly.

Alaska's U.S. House race is one of a handful competitive districts in the country. Federal records show Peltola's campaign is on track to be one of the most expensive in the country, having raised more than five times the amount that Begich had raised as of last month. Both candidates have also seen millions of dollars spent by independent groups on their behalf.

The Oct. 21 Anchorage forum focused mostly on the economy. Peltola repeatedly touted her efforts to secure significant federal funding for the state offered through the bipartisan infrastructure bill that Alaska's congressional delegation supported in 2021.

While Peltola said the state has "capitalized tremendously" on the federal spending bills, Begich blamed that spending for causing inflation that has harmed Alaskans.

"That inflation has been caused by a government that has been spending more than it's taking in," said Begich.

Begich said Alaska's economy would continue to be based on the oil and gas industry, and that he would work to remove federal review processes that have hampered resource development projects in the state.

When asked about avenues for economic diversification, Begich named mining and timber sales as options. He said he was opposed to the state's pursuit of a carbon capture policy that could bring in revenue in exchange for keeping trees standing.

"I don't believe that we should be paying people not to do things," said Begich.

Peltola cited tourism, aviation, renewable energy and agriculture as possible avenues for economic diversification, though she indicated she would continue working on resource development projects like Willow, a North Slope oil project approved by the Biden administration last year after heavy lobbying from Alaska's congressional delegation.

## Campaign now underway to boost election turnout by Alaska Natives

By YERETH ROSEN  
Alaska Beacon

Four decades ago, in days before the internet and automatic voter registration, Alaska Natives turned out to vote at high levels.

That participation has eroded badly, a situation that should be reversed, said Michelle Sparck, director of an Alaska nonpartisan organization called Get Out The Native Vote.

Alaska Natives are not fully realizing their power if they do not vote, she said.

"They say that anytime you look at a white male in this country, you know they're a voter. We should be in that kind of category," Sparck said in a presentation Oct. 18 at the Alaska Federation of Natives convention in Anchorage.

Alaska Natives represent up to a quarter of the state population, she said. "If we start to vote at our power, if we start to vote at our population, we are a formidable group," she said.

Overall Native turnout was 66% in 1982, a year when a measure affecting subsistence was on the statewide ballot, according to her calculations. By 2022, it had dropped to about 28%, she said.

The numbers are the same in Southeast Alaska, where the Native turnout was 66% in 1982, falling to 28% in 2022.

Sparck, who is Cup'ik and has roots in the Southwest Alaska village of Chevak, flipped through a series of graphs that showed declining voter participation in every region, from a high of 78.6% in 1982 in the Northwest Arctic, the "rock

star" for voting, to 2022 levels around the state that are mired between about 20% and about 30%. Turnout in this year's primary election was much lower, down to single digits percentages in two regions, her data showed.

"We need to turn these graphs around," she told the audience.

In formal presentations like Sparck's, at informational booths lining the convention center rooms and in face-to-face conversations, speakers urged Alaska Natives to step up their voting turnout.

Among those making the plea was Alaska U.S. Sen. Lisa Murkowski.

"I'm not going to tell you how to vote in a couple of weeks. That is your decision, your prerogative. But I am going to ask you: Please vote. Do vote. Because the process needs you. It needs each and every one of you. Whether you're from a small village or an urban area, your voice matters," Murkowski said in her Oct. 19 speech to the convention.

She referred to her 2010 reelection, in which she beat a more conservative GOP nominee through a historic write-in campaign mobilized by Alaska Native leaders.

"Collectively your voices become stronger, and you know, because you've demonstrated it. You've seen it. I've seen it," she said.

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

## Trump endorses Republican Begich in U.S. House race

By JAMES BROOKS  
Alaska Beacon

In a brief "tele-rally" Oct. 21, Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump urged Alaskans to vote for U.S. House candidate Nick Begich, saying that control of the closely divided House could come down to a single vote.

"Control of the House of Representatives is so important, and Alaska, you could very well be the vote," he said.

Begich is seeking to unseat incumbent Democratic Rep. Mary Peltola, and polling shows the candidates are running close together.

Most seats in the 435-person U.S. House tilt strongly Democratic or Republican; Alaska, which favored Trump by 10 percentage points in 2020, voted for Peltola, a Democrat, in the 2022 U.S. House election, making it one of just eight Trump-voting House districts

represented by a Democrat.

"I love your state. Your state is good to me, we won it twice. ... Now I want to see if we can win one for Nick," Trump said, referring to his victories in Alaska in 2016 and 2020.

Two years ago, Trump visited Alaska to campaign for Republican candidates, including then-U.S. House candidate Sarah Palin, who competed against Begich in the 2022 U.S. House race. Former governor Palin finished second in that race, behind Peltola. Begich was third.

This year, Trump initially endorsed Republican Lt. Gov. Nancy Dahlstrom as his preferred House candidate, but when Dahlstrom withdrew from the race following a third-place finish in the August primary, Trump switched his endorsement to Begich.

By phone, Trump occasionally sounded as if he were reading from a prepared script. He said that his grand-

father lived in Alaska at the time of the Klondike Gold Rush. Historical records say his grandfather spent time in Seattle and Bennett and Whitehorse in Canada's Yukon Territory, survived a shipwreck near Kodiak Island and traveled along the Yukon River.

The candidate also reiterated his support for reopening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. Both Begich and Peltola have said they support drilling in the refuge.

A January 2021 federal lease sale drew no interest from major oil companies; the state was the biggest bidder at the sale and has spent close to a couple million dollars on its legal fight to hold onto the leases amid legal questions about the sale and its environmental review.

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

## Invasive green crabs have found a home in Puget Sound, along Washington coast

By BILL LUCIA

Washington State Standard

Invasive European green crabs have likely found a lasting home in Washington's coastal waters and parts of Puget Sound.

The question now is whether the state can pinch down hard enough on the aquatic pests to prevent serious harm to native wildlife, shoreline ecosystems and the commercial shellfish industry. Washington's Department of Fish and Wildlife, tribes, shellfish growers and local conservation districts are all taking part in the battle against the unwelcome crustaceans.

"This is one of the rare environmental issues that everybody has, basically, the same goal, which is to see fewer green crabs in Washington," said Emily Grason, crab team manager at Washington Sea Grant. "It's brought together a lot of groups that don't always work together."

Trapping is the main method in the fight. As of early August,

the Department of Fish and Wildlife said about 905,320 European green crabs have been captured since 2022 — more than 258,888 of that total this year.

"We're seeing signs of successful green crab population control and progress limiting their spread in Washington's portion of the Salish Sea, but this invasive species remains prolific in coastal bays, particularly Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor," Chase Gunnell, an agency spokesman, said in an email.

"Sustained heavy trapping will continue to be required in those areas to prevent impacts on clam and oyster growers, native shellfish and estuary habitat," he added. Washington's Department of Fish and Wildlife is asking the public not to kill suspected green crabs and instead report their sightings.

The invasive species is growing in numbers in Southeast Alaska too. They were discovered by members of the Met-

lakatla Indian Community Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2022, and since then the department has removed more than 3,000 of the green crabs, as of this past summer.

Further evidence of the crabs was discovered in June, on the shore of Gravina Island's Bostwick Inlet, less than 10 miles southwest of downtown Ketchikan.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is asking the public to report any sightings.

Last year, the Washington Legislature approved about \$12 million in the current two-year budget for European green crab management.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is on track to send a six-year green crab response plan to the Legislature and the governor. In it, the department is recommending continued state funding at \$12 million per two-year budget

Continued on page 14

**Are you concerned  
with your  
child's development?**

**REACH Infant Learning Program** provides services for families with infants and toddlers, birth to age 3, with developmental delays and/or disabilities.

**Wrangell Public Schools** offers special education services to eligible children, ages 3 through 21 years of age.

**Screening is available to children in the areas of:**

- ❖ health
- ❖ vision
- ❖ hearing
- ❖ general development (including speech/language)
- ❖ basic skills
- ❖ primary language
- ❖ daily skills in home and community, obtained through parental input

**When screening results determine further assessment is necessary, REACH Infant Learning & Wrangell Public Schools work closely with parents to assess a child's need(s).**

*All information regarding your child is kept confidential.*

**Would you like to arrange a screening for your child? If so, please contact:**

**For children birth to age 3:**  
REACH's Infant Learning Developmental Specialist, **Jennifer Jenkins**, at [jjenkins@reachak.org](mailto:jjenkins@reachak.org)

**For children age 3 through 21, contact any of the following:**

- **Ryan Howe**, Special Education Coordinator at Evergreen Elementary (874-2321)
- **Mikki Angerman**, Special Education Teacher at Stikine Middle (874-3393) or Wrangell High (874-3395)
- **Bill Burr**, Superintendent or Wrangell Public Schools District Office (874-2347)

Child Find 2024

# Green crabs

**Continued from page 13**  
 cycle. The agency intends to press for federal funding as well. Fish and Wildlife said in mid-August the crabs had, for the first time, been detected in the Quillayute River estuary near La Push. Chelsey Buffington, who leads the agency's efforts to deal with the crab, described the discovery as unsurprising given populations to the north in Makah Bay and the south around Grays Harbor and Willapa Bay. "Now that we know they are here in the Quillayute River system, our management strategy will need to be revisited," said Jennifer Hagen, marine policy advisor and a marine biologist

with Quileute Natural Resources. "Ultimately our concern is the displacement of native species and species that are of cultural importance to the Quileute Tribe." European green crabs began spreading on the nation's eastern seaboard in the 1800s, arriving by ship. They were first found in the late 1980s on the West Coast and began to surge in Washington's waters about five years ago. Grason, with Sea Grant, pointed out that, unlike places in the East where the crabs have been around for a century or more, Washington is catching them at an earlier stage. "We have a unique opportunity in terms of our timing with this in-

vasion," she said. There are also features of the state's coastline that offer advantages when combating the crabs. Still, Grason noted that this past winter was warm, which is favorable for green crabs' spread and survival. "The folks who are trapping in the coastal estuaries are seeing catch rates at least two to three times what they were this time last year," she said. A cold winter — even a cold snap — can kill off crab larvae. Something that helps keep the larvae out of Puget Sound and the Salish Sea more broadly, is that rivers in Washington and British Columbia, including the Fraser, push water near the sea's surface out the Strait of Juan de Fuca, into the Pacific. Larvae originating on the coast, awash in this top layer of water, are blocked by the westward current. But winter storms can

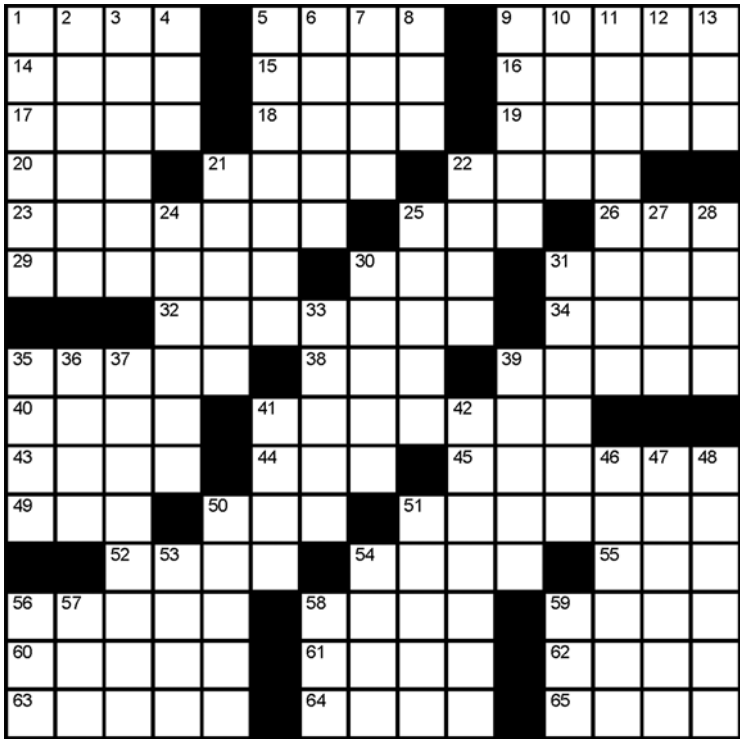
sometimes cause the current to reverse, sweeping the larvae eastward into the Salish Sea. "Doing anything to try to control the population of green crab requires not only a lot of hard work from people, but it requires getting a break from nature," Grason said. There's evidence showing it's possible to suppress green crab populations at individual sites. But Grason added: "It is not the case that we believe that we can fully eradicate them" from Washington's waters. "We're trying to figure out what the best solutions are for a realistic outcome," she said. David Beugli, director of the Willapa-Grays Harbor Oyster Growers Association, said shellfish operations are catching green crabs this month. Going after the crabs means added work for businesses that can al-

ready struggle to find employees. But the consequences of letting them spread could be severe for the industry, as the invaders prey on and can otherwise harm species that shellfish growers harvest. A green crab can eat 40 half-inch clams a day and can feed on other crabs their own size or young oysters. By digging for food, they can damage eelgrass, estuaries and marshes. Dungeness crabs, fish and some birds could also be at risk from the invasive crabs. While edible, green crabs are only about fist-sized, not known for their culinary appeal, and are often tossed into soups and stocks if used for cooking.

*The Washington State Standard is part of States Newsroom, a non-profit news network supported by grants and a coalition of donors.*

# Crossword

Answers on page 15



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1 Urban air pollution problem
- 5 That's in Paris
- 9 Prim
- 14 Formerly French Sudan
- 15 E.g. Rice, Harvard (Abbr.)
- 16 Snake vulnerable to the mongoose
- 17 Not dissimilar
- 18 Salespeople
- 19 Syrian dynasty
- 20 Padre (Abbr.)
- 21 Prepares for war
- 22 Roughly speaking
- 23 Traditional voting day
- 25 West Atlantic international grp.
- 26 Flat panel TV type
- 29 Ankle injury
- 30 Parking area
- 31 Doozie
- 32 Undersides
- 34 2,000 lbs
- 35 Foundation
- 38 Tear
- 39 Shorthand inventor John Robert ---
- 40 --- calling!
- 41 Maturity
- 43 Stiff sentence
- 44 Missions (Abbr.)
- 45 Goad
- 49 Banned insecticide
- 50 Distress message
- 51 Chivvied
- 52 Comedians
- 54 Drugs (Abbr.)
- 55 Threat to fighters
- 56 Alan Ladd gunfighter role
- 58 Loopy
- 59 D-Day beach
- 60 Main artery
- 61 Piece for two
- 62 "Time --- My Side" (The Rolling Stones)
- 63 Awesome
- 64 Stack
- 65 Fix

### CLUES DOWN

- 1 Mental ability
- 2 Bury the hatchet
- 3 Director/producer --- Stone
- 4 Kind of rummy
- 5 Small seedless raisin
- 6 Foe
- 7 Drinks slowly
- 8 Corner consoles?
- 9 Operation mementos
- 10 Decide with a coin
- 11 Pure
- 12 Plan sponsored by Sen. William Roth
- 13 Family guy
- 21 Spanish farewell
- 22 Stable food
- 24 Californian pine
- 25 Vavavoom
- 27 Block
- 28 Ordure
- 30 Lower abdomen
- 31 Pantry
- 33 Ensnarers
- 35 Hairless
- 36 Keen
- 37 Computer code
- 39 Attendees
- 41 Low sounds?
- 42 Out with a potential partner
- 46 Neglect
- 47 Pressurize
- 48 Comet finder --- Halley
- 50 Bargain
- 51 German philosopher
- 53 Cosmopolitan (Abbr.)
- 54 Second-largest Hawaiian island
- 56 Nordic airline
- 57 By what means?
- 58 National economic indicator
- 59 Actor --- Carrey

# Police report

## Monday, Oct. 21

Nothing to report.

## Tuesday, Oct. 22

Letter served for removing a person from a licensed establishment.  
 Agency assist: Hoonah Police Department.  
 Fraudulent playing cards.  
 Civil standby.

## Wednesday, Oct. 23

Agency assist: State trooper.  
 Assist: TK's Mini Mart.  
 Criminal trespass.  
 Traffic stop.

## Thursday, Oct. 24

Inmate release.  
 Criminal trespass.  
 Welfare check.  
 Welfare check.  
 Trespass.

## Friday, Oct. 25

Dangerous play.  
 Citizen assist.  
 Traffic stop.

## Saturday, Oct. 26

Traffic stop: Citation issued for speeding.  
 Citizen assist.  
 Missing property.  
 Summons service.

## Sunday, Oct. 27

Courtesy transport.  
 Traffic stop: Verbal warning for expired registration.  
 Traffic stop: Verbal warning for driving habits.  
 Summons service.  
 Agency assist: Hoonah Police Department.

During this reporting period, there were three police assists for ambulance calls and three bar checks.

# Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



# Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
INDUSTRIAL PARK LOTS  
Borough-Owned Property for Sale**

In conformance with WMC 16.12 and approved by Resolution No. 10-24-1885, the Borough is offering for sale, the Borough-Owned Property, listed below, on the Public Surplus Website: <https://www.publicsurplus.com/sms/wrangell,ak/list/current?orgid=933515>

Property Descriptions:	Starting Bid:
<b>LOT 5a, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (25,491 sq. ft.)	<b>\$51,000</b>
<b>LOT 7, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (16,500 sq. ft.)	<b>\$31,400</b>
<b>LOT 8, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (21,435 sq. ft.)	<b>\$50,900</b>
<b>LOT 9, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (25,849 sq. ft.)	<b>\$51,700</b>
<b>LOT 10, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (16,500 sq. ft.)	<b>\$31,400</b>
<b>LOT 11, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (16,500 sq. ft.)	<b>\$31,400</b>
<b>LOT 12, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (16,500 sq. ft.)	<b>\$31,400</b>
<b>LOT 13, BLOCK 66, INDUSTRIAL REPLAT</b> (16,500 sq. ft.)	<b>\$31,400</b>

The property shall be available for bidding on the Public Surplus Site for not less than 50 days, specifically from Oct. 25 through Dec. 13, 2024, ADT at 2 p.m.

Bidders' registration and fee required in advance of the online auction on the Public Surplus Website.

Visit the Borough Website at: <https://www.wrangell.com/community/public-surplus> for the terms and conditions and specifics of the auction/sale of the property.

**Publish Oct. 30, Nov. 13 and Dec. 4, 2024**

**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL  
NOTICE OF JOB OPENING  
Marketing and Community Development Coordinator**

The City and Borough of Wrangell is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Marketing and Community Development Coordinator. The position will remain open until filled. The position will be posted for no less than 14 days. Applications will be reviewed as early as Oct. 29, 2024.

The Marketing and Community Development Coordinator is under the supervision and direction of the Economic Development Director. The position emphasis is on visitor industry management and marketing by assisting with development, organization and implementation of the Travel Wrangell's destination marketing plan and associated promotional activities and the Tourism Management Plan and Best Practices program. This includes coordination of marketing initiatives through creative outreach to travel writers, influencers, publications, consultants and third-party media teams.

This dynamic role is ideal for a highly motivated individual who thrives in a fast paced environment. The successful candidate will have a proven track record of building strong relationships with residents, stakeholders and industry professionals. Demonstrated experience in event planning, digital media, and print design is essential. The ideal candidate will be passionate about contributing to economic development initiatives and making a positive impact on the community.

This is a permanent hourly position with all City and Borough of Wrangell benefits, paid at Grade 18 ranging from \$26 to \$32.97 per hour. The full job description, qualifications/requirements and job application can be obtained on the Borough's website at <https://www.wrangell.com/jobs>.

Applicants are required to submit their cover letter, resume and application to City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, Alaska 99929 or via email at [rmarshall@wrangell.com](mailto:rmarshall@wrangell.com).

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

**Publish Oct. 23 and 30, 2024**

**Notice of Joint Agency and Public Meeting  
Tye Lake Project (FERC Project No. 3015)**

Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA), licensee for the Tye Lake Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 3015), proposes to file an Application for a Capacity-Related Amendment to License (Amendment Application) with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) to enable SEAPA to install an additional 10 megawatt (MW) hydroelectric Pelton-style turbine-generator (Proposed Project) in the existing empty bay in the powerhouse. On October 8, 2024, SEAPA filed an Initial Consultation Document in the form of the Draft Amendment Application (DAA) pursuant to the content requirements of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 18 Section § 4.38.

**NOTICE is hereby given** that SEAPA is hosting a joint agency and public meeting in accordance with the FERC requirements at 18 CFR § 4.38(b)(3). Two sessions will be held on November 14, 2024, both of which are open to the public. A morning agency session will be held virtually from 9:30 a.m. to approximately 11:30 a.m. The evening public session will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and may be attended virtually or in-person. The evening session will be held at the SEAPA office located at:

55 Don Finney Lane  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

The purpose of the meeting is to review the Proposed Project plans, discuss the FERC regulatory process, address questions on the DAA, and receive stakeholder feedback. The final meeting agenda, developed in consultation with meeting participants, will be available November 7, 2024 on SEAPA's website at: <https://www.seapahydro.org/tye-license>. Please notify SEAPA by November 1, 2024 if you plan on attending the meeting virtually by contacting Betsy McGregor, Senior Scientist and Regulatory Consultant to SEAPA, at [Betsy.McGregor@KleinschmidtGroup.com](mailto:Betsy.McGregor@KleinschmidtGroup.com) or by telephone at 907-885-3418.

The DAA is available online on the FERC E-Library website (<https://elibrary.ferc.gov/eLibrary/search>) under Project No. P-3015 or on SEAPA's website. SEAPA respectfully requests written comments on the DAA be submitted within 60 days, or by December 9, 2024.

**Publish: October 16 and 30, 2024**



**CLASSIFIED**

**HELP WANTED**

Johnson's Building Supply is accepting applications for the following position: Customer Service. Duties include counter sales, freight handling, customer deliveries, stocking and inventory. Full-time position; will require working Saturdays. Valid Alaska driver's license, must be able to lift 50 lbs., forklift experience a plus, starting pay is DOE. Stop by Johnson's for an application.

**RETURN**

The loan closet, operated by Hospice of Wrangell, has durable medical equipment available for those in need. If you have items you borrowed and are no longer using, contact DonMcConachie at 907 305-0063 to arrange their return.

**FREE**

Recycled newspapers. Stop by the Sentinel to pick up.

**FREE ADS**

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

**ADVERTISEMENT**

Do you have products to sell or have services to offer that you need to let folks know about? We can create your ad for the online and printed edition of the Wrangell Sentinel. Let us do the work for you so you can focus on other things. Contact Amber for pricing and more information at 907-874-2301 or email [wrgsent@gmail.com](mailto:wrgsent@gmail.com).

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

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

**WRANGELL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION  
REQUEST for PROPOSALS**

Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA), a federally recognized tribe, is soliciting proposals and rate information from qualified firms and individuals to provide bookkeeping services for WCA.

For more information and to request a copy of the RFP, please contact Esther Ashton at 1002 Zimovia Highway, (907) 874-4304 or email [wcatrIBE@gmail.com](mailto:wcatrIBE@gmail.com) and [receptionist.wca@gmail.com](mailto:receptionist.wca@gmail.com).

Deadline for proposals: Monday, Nov. 11, 2024.

**Publish Oct. 30 and Nov. 6, 2024**

**CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL  
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 Jan. 1, 2025, to Dec. 31, 2025.

Please turn in your Letter of Interest to the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, City and Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, on or before 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024.

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](mailto:clerk@wrangell.com).

Appointments will be made at the Regular Assembly meeting on Nov. 12, 2024.

**Publish Oct. 30, 2024**

# Our healthcare costs are out of control—and it's only getting worse.

## But thanks to **Congresswoman Peltola**

*help is on the way for millions of Americans struggling with out-of-pocket health expenses.*

## The HOPE Act :

- Benefits over 100 million Americans
- Provides immediate help for runaway co-pays, medical bills, and prescription costs
- Offers a bipartisan bridge for today's health inflation crisis

Scan here to visit [hopeactnow.com](https://hopeactnow.com) and thank Congresswoman Peltola for fighting for hardworking Americans.

