



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

IGAP technician Kim Wickman tows a fine net for water sampling Monday at Shoemaker Harbor. Water samples, air and temperature readings are accounted for as part of ongoing shellfish sampling at the beach nearby.

## More butter clams carrying PSP risk

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

A new sample site shows more butter clams carry the risk of paralytic shellfish poisoning for consumers, according to a report released last week.

Since last year Wrangell Cooperative Association's Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (IGAP) staff have been collecting samples of various bivalves from the beaches around Shoemaker Bay on a weekly basis. It added a new site further south to its monitoring, near Pats Landing. It was here that the butter clam samples showed unsafe concentrations of saxitoxin, which causes PSP.

PSP can be fatal, causing paralysis in humans. It begins with a numbness of the oral membranes, and severe cases can include nausea, vomiting, neurological effects, respiratory failure and ultimately death. The saxitoxin which causes the illness is produced by Alexandrium phytoplankton, which can bloom in large enough numbers to taint nearby waters. It ends up in filter feeders such as clams and oysters as a result, and can take upward of two years to pass. Of the varieties being tested in Wrangell, butter clams can take the longest to filter out such substances.

Like its warning issued after finding similar readings in Shoemaker samples last August, the announcement is precautionary. Other species sampled at both sites have been found to be safe. So long

as they're not being added to, saxitoxin levels eventually recede over time, as is the case at Shoemaker.

For saxitoxin, the Food and Drug Administration sets a safety threshold of 80 micrograms per 100 grams. The samples at Pats Landing showed a reading of 115. Different species filter through toxins at various rates, and levels can drop rapidly. Readings from Shoemaker samples that read 212 in August had dropped to 104 by around Thanksgiving.

Samples are tested by Sitka-based Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research, which posted the alert on its website at <http://www.seator.org/data>. The site collects updated data from 28 different sites in 16 communities around Southeast, focused on saxitoxin, domoic acid and other harmful toxins to be found in shellfish.

The SEATOR program and its laboratory were established by Sitka Tribe of Alaska in order to give local shellfish harvesters a way to test clams and other shellfish important to subsistence. Previously the only lab in the state capable of such testing was in Anchorage, and catered primarily to commercial fisheries.

In 2013, the Southeast Alaska Tribal Toxins network was started to coordinate and share information between the region's tribal governments. Wrangell's IGAP began collaborating with SEATT last April, beginning with its monitoring at Shoemaker Bay.

## Wrangell women join sister marches nationwide

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Joining millions of other women and men estimated to have marched worldwide on Saturday, 20 residents of Wrangell held a Women's March of their own downtown on February 21.

The Women's March on Washington was a daylong event emphasizing that "women's rights are human rights," following the swearing-in of President Donald Trump the previous day. The group which organized the event cited the divisive rhetoric of the past election cycle as the underlying cause of the march.

"The march wasn't about who voted for whom or what religion you are," explained Vivian Prescott, who organized the Wrangell march. "It was about women's rights and caring what happens in your community and beyond."

She recounted that the local event almost hadn't happened. It was announced at short notice the morning of, after she decided



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Outfitted in pinks and bearing signs, 20 community members took part in a march around town as part of the wider Women's March to Washington held on Saturday.

on the fly to put one together.

"Someone else would do it," I told myself. No one did. I checked (Facebook) on the morning of the March and saw marches from around the world and saw all the women's posts," Prescott said.

Former residents, friends and relatives were involving themselves in similar marches, some at the main one held in Washington D.C., downtown in Seattle, or even as close as in Sitka and Juneau. Marches were held in tandem abroad as well, even off the uninhabited coast of Antarctica.

Prescott wanted to join them, but was unsure how.

"I asked on a local FB community page if a march was happening on our island. Before that I figured I would go down to the waterfront and post a pic of me on Instagram holding a sign. Just me," she explained.

One turned to two as interest picked up, agreeing to meet by the Nolan Center green space.

Continued on page 2

# Sister marches

Continued from page 1

They would walk down to the Stikine Inn coffee shop and become their own mini-march. But the message meanwhile coursed between acquaintances' profile pages and message boards, and in only two hours' time the turnout was better than Prescott expected on arrival. The group mainly included women, with one man and children, some wearing pink and others bearing signs. As with any gathering on the island, there were plenty of dogs along as well.

Together they walked through town in the afternoon, waving at cars and passing shops.

Reaching their destination for coffee, Prescott said a few women stayed on to discuss what

activities could be done to better the community. Several are already planning on partaking in the "10 Actions, 100 Days" challenge posted by the Women's March on Washington, the group which organized the march.

The publication The Atlantic (<https://goo.gl/Bv9ZgI>) estimates Saturday's demonstration may have set a record for the country. A data count of available figures put together by researchers Erica Chenoweth of the University of Denver and Jeremy Pressman at University of Connecticut has the estimate at a range of between 3.2 million and 4.78 million in the United States, with between 470,000 and 680,000 participating at the main march in Washington D.C.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday January 26:** Kristin Galla, Savannah Smith, Mckenna Campbell, Ryker Shilts, Gina Simonek, **Friday, January 27:** Mary Shilts, Devyn Johnson, **Anniversary:** Wayne and Marty Kaer, **Saturday, January 28:** Blake Stough, Rebecca Mork, **Sunday, January 29:** McKinley Angerman-Kellogg, Miki Wenglikowski, Anthony Coblentz, Dawn Mill, Whitney Ward, Ronan Rooney, Colten Davis, Jeff Villarma, **Monday, January 30:** Sarah Washington, **Tuesday, January 31:** Jessica Blunt, Crystal Crayne, Selina Rilatos, Steve Beers, Justin Churchill, Lavonne Klinke, Jess Rugo, **Wednesday, February 1:** Scott Mason, Christy Harris Good, Erica Smith, **Anniversary:** Gordon and Emily McCloskey, **Thursday, February 2:** Kate Betterton, Rhiannon Wenzel, Leslie Cummings, Maria Weeg, Kaylahni Weddel

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

## Senior Center Menu

**Friday, January 27:**

Chicken rice casserole, orange beets, calico corn salad

**Monday, January 30:**

Baked ham, green beans, tossed with tomato

**Tuesday, January 31:**

French dip sandwich, macaroni salad, peas and carrots

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

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

## FERRY SCHEDULE

### Departures

#### Northbound

**Sunday, January 29**  
Malaspina 9:00 p.m.  
**Sunday, February 5**  
Malaspina 4:45 p.m.  
**Friday, February 10**  
Matanuska 9:30 p.m.  
**Sunday, February 12**  
Malaspina 2:15 p.m.

#### Southbound

**Wednesday, February 1**  
Malaspina 9:00 a.m.  
**Wednesday, February 8**  
Malaspina 3:45 a.m.  
**Monday, February 13**  
Matanuska 4:30 a.m.  
**Wednesday, February 15**  
Malaspina 4:00 a.m.

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



## TIDES TABLE

### January 26 - February 2

	High Tides				Low Tides			
	AM Time	Ft	PM Time	Ft	AM Time	Ft	PM Time	Ft
Jan. 26	0:06	14.2	11:48	16.7	5:35	3.6	6:13	-1.2
Jan. 27	0:43	14.8	12:25	17.0	6:12	3.0	6:46	-1.7
Jan. 28	1:17	15.3	1:01	17.2	6:47	2.6	7:18	-2.0
Jan. 29	1:50	15.7	1:36	17.2	7:22	2.2	7:50	-1.9
Jan. 30	2:22	15.9	2:12	16.9	7:59	1.8	8:24	-1.7
Jan. 31	2:55	16.1	2:51	16.3	8:39	1.6	9:01	-1.1
Feb. 1	3:31	16.1	3:34	15.4	9:24	1.5	9:42	-0.2
Feb. 2	4:12	16.0	4:26	14.3	10:16	1.6	10:28	1.0

# Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

**Thursday, January 26**

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

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

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

**Monday, January 30**

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

**Tuesday, January 31**

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

**Saturday, February 4**

**Annual Attic Treasures Event:** 10 a.m. St. Rose Catholic Parish Hall. Asian menu and vendor shopping, call Marlene at 305-0654 to reserve a table.

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

## Continuing Events

**PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES:** Lap Swim: M, W, F 6:00-7:30 a.m. & 5:00-6:00 p.m., M-F 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., S 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.; **Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:** at the Pool: M, W, F, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; **Water Aerobics:** M, W, F 10:00-11:00 a.m.; **Family Swim:** F 6:00-7:00 p.m.; **General Swim:** M & W 6:00-7:00 p.m., F 7:00-8:00 p.m., S 1:00-2:00 p.m.; **Weight Room:** M-TH 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m., F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m., S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. **Extra 2 Lane Lap Swim:** M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

### OTHER MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

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

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

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

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

## The Way We Were

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

**January 25, 1917:** The Wrangell sawmill will start up earlier this year than ever before in its history. When seen by the Sentinel man this week Fred Wilson, the manager, stated that everything is being done to get in readiness for an early start, and that while the date for beginning operations has not been set, it is expected that sawing will begin on February 1. The coming season will be the busiest the mill has ever had. Orders have been coming in since before the first of the year. Ever since the mill shut down on November 21 there has been a force of men at work setting everything in readiness for the 1917 cut. Several thousand dollars' worth of new machinery has been installed and there is no doubt the coming season's output will be considerably larger than that of any previous year.

**January 16, 1942:** We left Wrangell for Petersburg on the last Friday morning about nine thirty for what proved to be one of the most exciting trips any of us were ever on. The trip over wasn't so very rough but I had to be the first to "hug the rail," then Marion Neilson then Jessie Barlow. After about five o'clock our boys left the hall for a banquet the Petersburg high school girls gave for them. By the time this was over and the girls had cleaned up and rested it was time for the game. We yelled till we were all hoarse. And after the game there was never a happier bunch of kids. It couldn't have been because we won 19 to 13.

**January 27, 1967:** Commercial Transport Minister Bonner said last week that new markets will open up for British

Columbia if the United States allows all American firms to use the B.C. ferry system to truck goods to Alaska could make a coast wide trucking route a possibility and there is no reason why British Columbia goods could not be hauled to Alaska, he said in an interview. Bonner was commenting on legislation submitted in Washington by Alaska Democratic Sen. Ernest Gruening to amend the Jones act to permit movement of freight to Alaska via the provincial government ferry link between Vancouver Island and Prince Rupert, B.C. Under the act, American interstate cargo can only be shipped on U.S. owned and operated carriers. Bonner said if the British Columbia ferry connection was used for freight it would mean a new outlet for the province's goods and help lessen

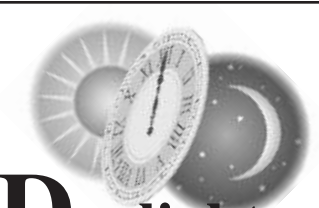
Canada's trade imbalance with the U.S.

**January 23, 1992:** A recently completed health survey shows a good deal of satisfaction with health care in Wrangell. As part of a state-issued Community Health Planning Grant, a local survey was conducted, and the community was invited to help address health care needs. The study is a joint project between Wrangell and Petersburg. The results of the survey were addressed at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon Jan. 16. Later that evening, the community was invited to attend a health care needs planning session at Evergreen Elementary School, where citizens had input into the direction health care should take in Wrangell.



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
January 15	44	39
January 16	46	39
January 17	39	37
January 18	46	37
January 19	44	33
January 20	35	28
January 21	33	28
January 22	33	26



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Jan. 26	7:55a	4:06p	8:11h
Jan. 27	7:53a	4:09p	8:16h
Jan. 28	7:52a	4:11p	8:19h
Jan. 29	7:50a	4:13p	8:23h
Jan. 30	7:48a	4:15p	8:27h
Jan. 31	7:46a	4:17p	8:31h
Feb. 1	7:45a	4:19p	8:34h
Feb. 2	7:43a	4:21p	8:38h

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# Roller derby team takes on task of local recycling

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Taking up the mantle left by the Lions Club after it closed its Wrangell chapter last summer, the Garnet Grit Betties roller derby team is continuing its aluminum collection program.

For two decades the club had raised money for itself through the program, as aluminum is one of the few recyclable materials which can turn a profit for collectors. Reprocessing the material is considerably more efficient than producing it from bauxite ore, a savings which makes it more profitable than iron scrap and similarly reclaimed commodities.

The Betties had worked out an arrangement with the Lions to continue the collection, gathering mainly cans from collection points at state housing, Bobs' IGA and City Market.

"We're willing to take cans

from businesses if they're willing to bag them up," said Jenn Wiederspohn, with the team. The derbies already pick up cans from the Marine Bar & Pizza, but can arrange to do so for other establishments.

"Every weekend we're collecting cans," said Wiederspohn. By cans, she means aluminum drink cans for soda or beer. Soup cans, plastics and other materials cannot be processed, and have to be sorted out as trash. "It has to be aluminum," she reiterated. In addition to cans, the program also can arrange for scrap aluminum from boat-building or siding projects to be taken.

Once gathered in the back of their truck, the players then sift through and gather their cans in the bins behind Bobs'. They then go through the process of crushing them down, kneading through with their boots like a



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Jennifer Wiederspohn and Erica Tlachac crush cans outside of Bobs' IGA on Saturday, prior to recycling. Members of the Garnet Grit Betties, the team has taken on the local aluminum collection left over after the local Lions Club chapter closed last summer.

## Police report

### Monday, January 16

Failure to Yield for School Bus: Citation issued to Larissa Siekawitch, 48.

### Tuesday, January 17

Traffic Stop: Verbal warning for driving habits.

Suspicious Activity.

Agency Assist: FD.

Access of Persons Prohibited.

Noise Complaint: Disorderly conduct warning given to turn down music.

### Wednesday, January 18

Noise Complaint.

### Thursday, January 19

Nothing to Report.

### Friday, January 20

Citizen Assist.

Agency Assist: Public Works.

Agency Assist: Parking Complaint.

MVA: Hit and Run.

Agency Assist: Harbor Department.

Unsecured Premises.

Agency Assist: Chimney Fire.

Animal Complaint.

Parking Complaint.

Agency Assist.

### Saturday, January 21

Agency Assist.

Found Property.

Animal Complaint.

Traffic: Verbal warning for parking and no license plates.

### Sunday, January 22

Agency Assist: Chimney Fire.

Citizen Report DUI: Arrested Charles Hamley Jr., 42, for Driving Under the Influence.

Concerned Citizen: Report of kids riding 4-wheelers on school property.

There were two ambulance calls during this week.

traditional winemaker might do with grapes.

"Some people crush their cans first, which is great," Wiederspohn said over the noise, ear protection on. Once crushed, she and teammate Erica Tlachac repackage them in heavy duty bags. These then get stored at one of the players' homes until there are enough to ship out.

Three or so pallets will periodically get sent out by barge with the help of Bobs', headed to Washington to be processed by Tacoma Metals. The team receives a check for the materials, which goes to help the team's travel expenses and hosting duties. Their season already winding down, they are preparing to hold a mashup

about here in Wrangell on April 1, with several teams from around the region slated to play.

At the moment, the Betties' service is the only aluminum collection done on the island. Wrangell Cooperative Association's environmental office puts together a recycling guide each year, detailing where a variety of household and industrial items can be recycled.

Last year's listing is available at the WCA office, while an updated version is due later in the spring, in May or June. One type of item currently unavailable for regular disposal is electronic waste, which the office plans to address this spring with an e-waste drive on April 15.

## Court report

### January 10

James T. Goldsbury, 59, appeared before First District Magistrate Judge Chris Ellis on the misdemeanor charge of Criminal Mischief 5 – Tampering with Property. The defendant pleaded no contest to the offense, and was found guilty. Goldsbury was sentenced to serve five days with four suspended, pay a suspended \$250 fine and make restitution, and to pay \$100 in unsuspended surcharges. He is placed on probation for one year.

## New manager named for Trident plant

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Trident Seafoods will be welcoming a new manager for its Wrangell plant during the summer's production run.

Nick Ohmer was named as the company's selection in a media brief last week. A lifelong resident of Southeast Alaska, in an interview Ohmer said he would be bringing to the job his local knowledge and personal connections with Wrangell's fishermen.

Ohmer grew up in Petersburg, and even before fishing alongside those from the neighboring community he grew up with many of them through basketball and school activities. His family has an even longer history in the area, which now extends to 103 years.

"It's in his blood," said John Webby, Trident's Southeast Alaska manager.

"We've been doing it for generations," Ohmer explained.

Arriving from Dayton, Ohio, his great-grandfather, Earl Nicholas Ohmer, started up Petersburg's first shrimp processor in 1916. His descendants have been in the industry since, with the latest generation working first for NorQuest and then Trident after their merger in 2004.

For the past decade Ohmer has been a manager at the Petersburg plant, tasked with fleet management, quality assurance and regulatory compli-

ance. Starting his latest duties before the Christmas break, he complimented the Wrangell team and expressed excitement at working with them.

The larger of the town's two processors, the Trident plant itself has adopted some efficiencies since Wrangell's water shortage last July and August. A problem with the city water filtration system coupled with peak demand triggered a state of crisis. Salmon production was interrupted at points during emergency cutbacks, but the processor did what it could to work around the freshwater shortage.

"We worked with the city, and got ourselves through that," said Webby.

The pink salmon season was ultimately lower than expected and the season wrapped up early, but this year's forecasts by state and federal agencies puts harvest estimates at between 43 million and 46 million. That should be good news for area fishermen, which have ridden out two years of disappointing seasons.

"There's reason to believe those can be even higher," Webby said of the estimates, citing positive outmigration figures and a diminishing warm mass in the Gulf of Alaska thought to have contributed to the poorer returns. The regional manager was hopeful the coming season will be a good one.

"For us it's full speed ahead," Webby said.



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# Dan's Dispatch

**By Representative Dan Ortiz**

Governor Walker submitted a budget plan for the upcoming fiscal year, which includes three primary items: cuts in government spending, increased revenue, and the use of some Permanent Fund earnings, which is a separate fund from where we collect our dividend.

During his State of the State, Governor Walker emphasized the significant cuts we've made since 2015. We've cut the budget from

\$8 billion to \$5 billion. We've cut government spending by 44%. When factoring in inflation and population growth, our current spending is equal to our spending in the late 1970's - before oil was a major part of Alaska's revenue. The cuts were substantial and necessary, and there is still room for lawmakers to make smart, surgical cuts.

However, we will need to find new sources of revenue in order to close the fiscal gap. Governor Walker's plan does not include an

income tax, but it does include an increase in Motor Fuel Tax.

Although Governor Walker's plan to include some Permanent Fund earnings may at first glance seem to endanger our dividend checks, the appropriations would only be sourced from the Earnings Reserve Account (ERA) and would ultimately save the PFD into the future. If we do not take this or similar action, our dividend will be \$0 in 2018.

Due to the significant reduction in spending in other areas, the

administration has been able to protect Education and Fish & Game from substantial cuts. I am pleased that his plan does not take significant funding away from our education system, and even includes a 0.3% increase to the Fish & Game budget in the interest of managing our natural resources for the maximum benefit of Alaskans.

As the Chair of the Finance Budget Subcommittee for both Education and Fish & Game, I

will directly influence and create the budget in these two particular areas, as well as have input on the budget as a whole. I am in the best position possible to advocate for southern Southeast Alaska.

We are in a financial crisis, and the legislature must do everything possible to put Alaska on a sustainable fiscal path into the future. My primary goal this session is to pass a budget that is beneficial for southern Southeast Alaska and all Alaska.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ADOTPF

Gary Allen Jr., ADOTPF Southeast Region manager Mike Coffey, mechanic Dan Gross, airport manager Willie Bloom and Scott Eastaugh pose with an outstanding service award presented to the Wrangell team.

## Airport crew lauded for their work

**By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer**

The maintenance crew at Wrangell International Airport was recognized for an ongoing run of outstanding service.

In a release, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities announced it presented the team with a plaque detailing the years they passed a pair of important federal inspections.

Since 2011, Wrangell has passed its Federal Aviation Administration annual inspections without any letters of correction given. The FAA operations certification focuses on airport safety, paying attention to its emergency response procedures, day-to-day activities, management, and nighttime service.

Since 2012, the team has likewise passed its annual Transportation Security Administration inspections without letters of investigation, which are issued should an airport fail to meet relevant regulations. On its site, the agency explains these include credentialing checks, perimeter security, exit lanes, employee access and other areas.

Airport manager Willie Bloom credited consistency to the high marks. Wrangell's current crew has essentially remained unchanged the past decade, and that reflected in their work.

"We're real good together," he commented.

At the presentation, maintenance and operations personnel Gary Allen Jr. and Scott Eastaugh were also given certificates recognizing 10 years of service with the department.

## Letter to the Editor

**"House boats"  
To the Editor:**

I've been following the Stikine River houseboat dilemma for some time now with interest. I did moose patrols for the Fish and Wildlife Service on the river in 1957, 58 and 59. I also ran the river in the 70 and 80s with friends in Petersburg and Telegraph Creek with a youth camp. There were no house boats on the river in that time. There were, however, numerous private cabins and moose tree huts.

Soon after statehood, the

Forest Service, after taking much criticism for being a mere "Logging Service" started their so called "Multiple Use" policy. They moved or destroyed most of the private cabins and all the moose tree huts from the river and built their own A-frames and cabins for "public use." However, the demand was such then by hunters they were over booked for months, so of limited use thus creating the demand for float houses.

It was thought at the time, perhaps erroneously, that if the

house boat had Coast Guard numbers it was legal and untouchable by the Forest Service, although the Coast Guard claimed no responsibility for the river...even though navigable waters. (Unfortunately this led to a person being killed on the Hot Springs slough).

Ironically, it seems to me the government has created the need for house boats and is now penalizing individuals for the use of them.

**Ken Gilpin, Flint Hill,  
Virginia**

## Wedding announcement

Michael and Leanna Nash of Wrangell, Alaska announce the engagement of Leanna's daughter, Jessica Blunt to Chris Stewart, son of Ted and Joan Stewart of Kalispell, Montana.

Jessica is a Wrangell High School graduate and currently works as a purser for the Alaska Ferry System. Chris graduated from Flathead High school in Kalispell, Montana and has lived in Wrangell since 2007. He works at City Market as a butcher.

A wedding is planned for April 2017 in Wrangell.



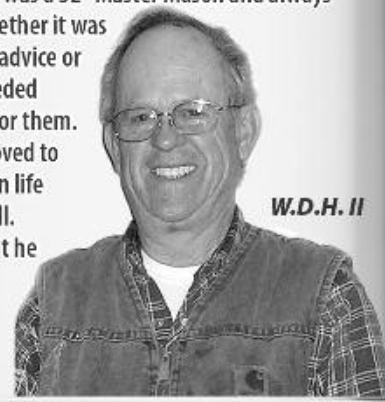
**Jessica Blunt and  
Chris Stewart**

## William Dennis Haines

July 20, 1938 - January 21, 2017

FAREWELL TO BACKHOE BILL

William (Bill) Haines passed away peacefully at home in the company of his daughter Wanda. Bill was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 54 years Marie, in 2014. They moved to Alaska in 1959 and made Wrangell their forever home. Here they raised their children & enjoyed the surrounding beauty that only Wrangell has to offer and lived a full and productive life. In his retirement he fished commercially with Marie and really enjoyed the company of his friends and family. Bill worked many jobs prior to starting his own construction company in the 80's, including with the DOT where he made sure the airport was always clear for landing and that the snow was removed from the roads before the school bus ran. Every job he had he performed at 110%, with work ethics unsurpassed by most. Bill was a 32' Master Mason and always helped those in need. Whether it was a contractor who needed advice or an elderly person who needed assistance, he was there for them. He was truly a man who loved to laugh and found true joy in life and will be missed by us all. We take great comfort that he is once again with Marie by her side where he was most happy.



**W.D.H. II**

Bill served in US Navy during the Korean War, was a Lifetime Member of the NRA and he loved his Country.

There will be no ceremony per his wishes as Bill used to always say, "If we liked each other while I was alive, I knew you cared, when it mattered most."



We want to thank the crew at the Wrangell Fire Department & the staff at the Hospital for their wonderful assistance & excellent care of our Dad.  
Walter, Wanda & Lora

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# Varsity boys take two hosting Craig

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's boys basketball team won two while hosting Craig High School on January 20 and 21.

"I thought the boys looked good this weekend," said Wolves coach Ray Stokes. "I was really proud of them."

During Friday night's game the Wolves started with a commanding lead over Craig, picking up 29 points in the first quarter and 43 by the half. Play grew defensive into the second half, and by the end Wrangell stood with a 68-29 win. Five of the team's players shot with 50-percent accuracy, and Tyman Teat picked up 24 points in the game.

On Saturday the game was high-scoring but more evenly paced. Early gains by Wrangell in the first quarter put them well ahead throughout, but a tight fourth quarter saw both teams score 21 points apiece. Wrangell finished with an 83-54 win.

Wrangell was helped some by personal fouls, having the chance at 44 free throws throughout the game. The team made 24 of these, with Trevor Miller and Trent Stokes leading for attempts made.

For junior varsity, the Panthers took both games by a healthy margin. Craig led at the half 26-19 on Friday, and picked up an additional 23 points in the third half to pull ahead. The visitors kept up the momentum throughout, finishing with a 61-34 win.

JV performed similarly on Saturday, with Craig outpacing their hosts offensively through the first three quarters. Wrangell outscored them in the fourth by four points, but finished with a second loss for the weekend at 50-70. In both games, Jacob Hammer and Trevor Miller led the squad for points with 23 and 22 points.

Stokes felt the team showed improvement defensively last weekend, limiting their opponents' ability to get near the basket.

"I think we made some big strides in that this weekend," he said. "We played better on both ends of the court," and the players exhibited



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Sam Armstrong narrowly gets the ball past Craig senior Isaiah Records and another defender during Friday night's game.

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greater enthusiasm during the game which he felt helped them.

"Hopefully that continues hosting the number-one team in the state this weekend," he said,

referring to Petersburg High School.

The Vikings are due up this week for Wrangell's homecoming, and the boys varsity are coming off an eight-game winning streak. With a 5-3-0 record for the division after the week, Wrangell

moves up to third position in Region V.

"One thing about our team is we're pretty balanced," Stokes said of his team. If they continue to share the ball and take advantage of each other's skill sets, he felt the team could do well this week.

## Anan permits available next week

The Forest Service (USFS) announced its permits for visiting Anan Wildlife Observatory this summer will be available at the start of next month.

At 8 a.m. on February 1 members of the public will be able to reserve permits at the Recreation.gov website. Twenty permits will be made available for each day of the season, which runs from July 5 to August 25. Visitation outside this time frame does not require a permit.

Reservations and payment can also be made by phone, at the 1-877-444-6777 hotline. Permits for 2017 cost \$10 apiece, with an additional reservation fee of \$6 per transaction levied.

To accommodate last-minute planning, four permits each day will be made available at the Wrangell District Office during the season through weekly lotteries. All lottery requests must be made in person at the Wrangell Ranger District front desk. A schedule with lottery dates will be available at the District Office before the permit season begins. Information on the observatory, including site restrictions and a list of authorized guiding services can be found the Tongass National Forest website at [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov). For more information, contact the Wrangell Ranger District at 874-2323.

Notable for its bears, Anan is among Wrangell's biggest draws for visitors during the summer months. Wrangell's Convention and Visitor Bureau estimated its economic impact at \$1.5 million for 2014.

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Unleaded gas prices posted Tuesday, January 24

# Girls take two in high school basketball weekend

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The Lady Wolves have got themselves back on track for the second half of their season with a pair of wins against Craig last weekend.

The team is third in the region at 4-4-0, sitting just behind Petersburg after its recent losses in Metlakatla last week.

"They were pretty good games for us," said Wrangell's coach, Laurie Brown.

In their opening game on January 20, Craig held a lead on Wrangell through the first half. Brown pointed out her team over-

came a 15-point deficit at one juncture, and built momentum through the next half of the closely played game. Wrangell finished with a 74-65 victory, with 24 of those points coming from free throws. Forty-seven penalties gave both teams plenty of opportunities for extra points, though Wrangell's Anna Allen had the most by far; she landed 14 of 18 attempts.

The Lady Wolves started off well-matched with the Lady Panthers at the start of Saturday's game. Wrangell crept ahead during the second quarter, leading 23-16 at the half and holding its

lead through the third. Personal fouls were a problem throughout the game, but in the fourth quarter Wrangell gave the visitors a chance at 16 free throws, of which its players sank 12. Through the whole game Craig managed a 71 percent FT accuracy.

The visitors rallied, giving the hosts a run for their money in the closing seconds. The game ended in a narrow Wrangell victory, 50-48.

"It got up close, but we were able to pull out the win," Brown commented.

For junior varsity, Craig finished with a 63-22 win last Friday. The Lady Panthers' defense kept Wrangell to a scoreless third quarter, and was helped throughout by free throws. The next evening was played more closely, with Wrangell overcoming a steep deficit in the first half. Craig still led throughout, and won 53-41.

This week is homecoming for Wrangell High School, and Brown said her girls are ready for their games hosting Petersburg.

"We're really looking forward to these games," she said. "The girls have been working really hard to get ready."



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Anna Allen and Craig sophomore Ashley Hansen vie for the ball at the start of Saturday's game. Wrangell's Lady Wolves went on to win handily.



**The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) is recruiting for a Brushing Technician to join its team.** Salary + excellent benefits provided in accordance with the IBEW Local 1547 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Base location is Wrangell, Alaska. Work is performed as required along SEAPA's power line right-of-way corridor, with some prep and other work as required at other SEAPA-owned facilities. Majority of the work is conducted in remote wilderness locations, with minimal support. Crew typically overnights in the field on a purpose-built landing craft or in a portable shelter. Position requires a broad range of experience, skills, and clear demonstration of the ability to successfully perform essential duties and responsibilities. Qualifications for the position include a High School Diploma and valid Alaska driver's license. The position is open until filled. A complete job description and the electronic application process are available online at: <https://seapahydro.applicantpro.com/> SEAPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
**Publish: January 26 and February 2, 2017**

## CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

The following vessel has been impounded pursuant to Wrangell Municipal Code, Title 14.

The City and Borough of Wrangell intends to sell one (1) vessel (sailboat) at a public auction, at Wrangell City Hall, on **Friday, February 10, 2017 11:00 a.m.** All items will be sold for cash to the best and highest bidder. At any time prior to the sale, the owners, or their operator, master or agent, may redeem the equipment with a cash payment of all fees against it, plus costs and interest.

Upon sale being made, the City and Borough of Wrangell shall make and deliver its bill of sale to the buyer. The City and Borough of Wrangell offers no warranty as to the condition or fitness of use and assumes no liability to owners or their operator, master or agent in the sale of the vessels. The vessel will be sold in its current condition, as it is found in the following location.

DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID	CURRENT LOCATION
"LINDA ANN"	\$2,514.35	Shoemaker Harbor 11B

**Publish: January 19, 26 and February 2, 2017**

## CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

### Notice to Senior Citizens and Disabled Veterans

**SENIOR CITIZEN & DISABLED VETERAN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS** will be accepted at Wrangell City Hall - P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, **until 5:00p.m. March 1, 2017.** A drop box is available after hours. Applications mailed must be postmarked by March 1, 2017. These forms are also available on our website: <http://www.wrangell.com>.

First-time **Senior Citizen** applicants will be required to provide proof of age in the form of a Birth Certificate or US Passport. You must be 65 years old or older as of January 1, 2017 to qualify.

First-time **Disabled Veteran** applicants will be required to provide proof of 50% or more disability.

**THE PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION DOES NOT PLACE A LIEN ON THE PROPERTY.**

Lee Burgess  
Finance Director

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

**Publish: Jan. 12, 19, 26 and Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2017**

## Classified/Legals

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### Request for Proposals

Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA), a federally recognized tribe, is soliciting proposals and rate information from qualified firms and individuals to provide audit services for WCA. The audit service to be provided is for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016, with the option to extend 2 years. Required qualifications are included in the RFP. For more information and to request a copy of the RFP, please contact Bill Willard at 104 Lynch St. C-1, Wrangell, AK 99929 or call (907) 874-3077 or email [wwillard@wca-t.com](mailto:wwillard@wca-t.com) and [esthera@wca-t.com](mailto:esthera@wca-t.com). Office hours: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Please leave a message if calling after hours. Deadline: February 2, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. AKST.

**Publish: January 19 and 26, 2017**

### CITY OF WRANGELL, ALASKA In-House and Public Announcement ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION POLICE OFFICER, POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Wrangell Police Department will be accepting applications for Police Officer until the position is filled.

The Candidate must meet the minimum standards for Police Officer per the Alaska Police Standards Council. An Alaska Police Standards basic certification is preferred, however the Wrangell Police Department encourages applicants who are motivated, friendly, self-starting and are a team player to apply and we will assist you in obtaining the required certification.

Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a High School Diploma/GED, and must possess or be able to obtain an Alaska Drivers License. Applicants must successfully complete a background investigation, medical and psychological examination and drug screening. Submit resume and letter of interest to Chief Doug McCloskey, Wrangell Police Department, PO Box 1168, Wrangell, Alaska 99929. Phone (907) 874-3304.

The City of Wrangell is an equal opportunity employer.

Jeff Jabusch  
City Manager

**Publish: January 19, 26 and February 2, 2017**

### JOBS

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**ALASKA CROSSINGS** is hiring for a full-time position, Quality Assurance Technician. The Quality Assurance Technician is responsible for ensuring clinical documents are held to State and Federal regulation standards, client files are accurate and organized, and services provided are documented. If interested please apply online at [AlaskaCrossing.appone.com](http://AlaskaCrossing.appone.com). Job is open until filled.....2x2-2b52

**CHORE, RESPITE, REHABILITATION PROVIDER** needed. Experience with elderly and other vulnerable populations preferred. Providers provide chore services, respite care and teaching skill development to clients. Positions include flexible hours. Pay starting at \$10-\$13 an hour. If interested please apply online at [AlaskaIslandCommunityServices.appone.com](http://AlaskaIslandCommunityServices.appone.com). Job is open until filled.....2x2-2b47

# Fish Factor

by Laine Welch

Candied salmon ice cream-poke snack kits salmon bisque baby food fish skin tote bags and pet oils – Those are among the more than 20 new items to be revealed this week at the industry's most popular annual seafood soiree: the Alaska Symphony of Seafood, where the public is invited to taste and vote on their favorites.

Now in its 24th year, the event attracts commercially ready entries from major companies to small "Mom and Pop's" who frequently take home the top prizes. Bambino's Baby Food of Anchorage, for example, won grand prize for its Hali Halibut last winter and is entered again this go around.

The goal of the Symphony is to encourage development of new Alaska seafood products and broaden markets. It gets its steam from a "rising tide floats all boats" push by the forward-thinking, Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation, host of the event since 1993. "How can you beat ice cream," said AFDF executive director Julie Decker, referring to an entry by retail store Coppa of Juneau, known for using herring roe wasabi and black cod in ice cream. Entries show even more of a foreign flare this year with Jjamppong, a Korean Seafood Noodle Soup by Orca Bay, and Triad Fisheries' bottarga, a dried, shaved topping made from salmon roe.

The Symphony has grown beyond edibles and several years ago introduced a Beyond the Plate category to bolster more head to

tail usage and reduce fish waste. Last year's big winner was Quyung-lee Anti-Aging Skin Serum by ArxOtica of Bethel. Entries for this year include a salmon skin tote by the Salmon Sisters of Homer, a water clarifier derived from crab shells by Tidal Vision of Juneau, and salmon pet oils by Trident Seafoods.

All products will undergo a private judging in Seattle where seafood lovers also will cast ballots for their favorites on January 25. Winners will be announced at a Juneau Legislative Reception and public judging on February 22nd. Top placers receive a trip to showcase their products at Boston's Seafood Expo North America in March. [www.afdf.org/symphony-of-seafood/](http://www.afdf.org/symphony-of-seafood/)

**Tanners tank** - All hopes for a Bering Sea bairdi Tanner crab fishery in 2017 were dashed this month by a split vote of the state Board of Fisheries.

Crab harvests are based on results of annual surveys and for Tanners, the numbers are driven by the abundance of female crabs. The survey indicated there were not enough females to risk even a reduced opener in a fishery that produced 20 million pounds last year.

Based on their pot pulls, the crabbers believe lots of Tanners are out there but were missed by the trawl survey done jointly each summer by state and federal biologists.

"There's something of a disconnect between the scientists and fishermen," said Tyson Fick, spokesman for the trade group Alaska Bering Sea Crabbers. "We thought there were enough crab to warrant a small harvest of four million pounds, which would be about four percent of the mature male biomass. Others thought a more precautionary approach was warranted."

It adds up to a \$50 million loss to the crab fleet. An even bigger hit stems from the drop out in the market place where the Tanners were becoming wildly popular. Bairdi Tanners are double the size of their snow crab cousins, weighing two to four pounds. The crabbers and the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute have worked hard to build a Tanner brand when the fishery was reopened just three years ago.

"Red Lobster, Joe's Crab Shack and Publix Markets - all these domestic customers really appreciated what they are getting. It's going to be an uphill road

## Gardening group looking for regrowth

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

After the Borough Assembly last month approved expansion of its Memorial Cemetery, the Wrangell Community Garden Committee needs new digs to plant in.

Started in 2010, the garden group reached an agreement with the city allowing them use of their current patch, by the old ball field west of the cemetery. Since its start though, group committee member Kris Reed explained their numbers have withered somewhat and they're looking for new members.

Currently there are five garden users, who in addition to pulling weeds and sowing seeds divide club tasks like managing the site, coordinating activities, keeping records and planning for the future.

"We're kind of looking to lighten the load elsewhere," said Reed, who sits on several other boards and committees.

A benefit of the garden is its promotion of "food security," giving locals a spot to grow greens for themselves. At the start, the group took garden tours through town for inspiration, held harvest potlucks around the year-end clean-up, and gathered early in the season for a party and site preparation. Over the years though, the group's ability to carry on these activities has diminished.

"Those are activities that we haven't been able to sustain," said Reed. "We don't want to see it go away. There are a lot of things the garden could be doing."

One of the perks the club has maintained is the community compost area, sited along the fence line facing the cemetery. That gives residents a place to bring their compostables, saving on the general solid waste burden, while also getting a

hold of some nutrients for their own efforts.

While the bins are important, it's the future which will weigh heaviest on the group's activities. The city has for some years been trying to solve its shortage of grave space. The town's oldest, Memorial Cemetery is currently considered to be at capacity. The addition of Sunset Gardens across the street of Memorial has eased some of the burden, but by late December that only had 18 unreserved plots available for purchase, with another 31 niches in its columbarium available for cremated remains.

This may seem like plenty, but preparing a new cemetery site can be an expensive and time-consuming process. What with the marshiness and steepness of much of the island's available land, finding a suitable site to develop is also difficult. Of several possible places, Public Works recommended the public lands nearest Memorial due to its lack of trees and relative ease to develop.

This means the garden will have to go, though likely not for several more years.

"We still have a few seasons of growing," Reed said.

Where to go from there is a tough prospect, as there are not many public options available. Reed suggested there may be some arrangement to be met with the local elementary school, which itself has a lively gardening program.

"That's another project that the next garden committee would have to tackle," she said.

Ahead of the new growing season, those interested in possibly participating are invited to attend the group's next meeting, set for 6 p.m. on February 16 at the Parks and Recreation multipurpose room. People can also check out the Wrangell Community Garden page on Facebook for more information.

when we come back into the market again," Fick said.

**Pink relief, possibly** - Alaska's 2016 pink salmon fishery was officially declared a failure last week by the U.S. Commerce Secretary, setting the stage for fishermen and other stakeholders in three regions to seek disaster assistance from the federal government.

The pink fishery last summer was the worst in more than 40 years. Harvesters from Kodiak, Prince William Sound and Lower Cook Inlet are eligible to apply for monetary assistance – if the money is appropriated by Congress.

The push for relief was spearheaded by Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak) who pointed out that the pink salmon bust is felt far beyond the fishing nets.

"It trickles down to processors and their work force, transportation, and most businesses throughout the communities," Stutes said.

The request for relief funds got

the backing of Governor Walker in late September.

Kodiak's pink salmon catch barely broke three million out of a projected 16 million fish. At Prince William Sound, a catch of 13 million was down by nearly two thirds of what was expected. In Lower Cook Inlet, a pink take of just 97,000 fish was less than 13 percent of the forecast.

The pink disaster declaration won't set a precedent. Alaska received nearly \$8 million in federal money in 2012 due to low king salmon runs on the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers and in the Cook Inlet region.

It will now be a waiting game as the disaster funds await a green light from Congress. Representative Stutes said her office will be tracking the time frames and how people can apply for what will be monetary payouts.

"This is not going to be a blanket money grab for anybody that fished pinks," she said. "If you're in the disaster area and the large

portion of your income was based on pink salmon, then I believe you will be eligible."

Pink salmon is Alaska's largest salmon fishery and harvests can top 200 million fish. It was one of nine salmon and crab fisheries declared as failures in Alaska, California and Washington, primarily for West Coast Tribal salmon fisheries.

**Fish give back** – American Seafoods company is again accepting applications for its Alaska community grant program. A total of \$38,000 will be awarded to community projects addressing such issues as hunger, housing, safety, education, research, natural resources and cultural activities. Most of the awards range from \$500 to \$3,000 per organization.

Deadline to apply is February 6; grant recipients will be selected by a community advisory board on February 15. Contact Kim Lynch at [kim.lynch@americanseafoods.com](mailto:kim.lynch@americanseafoods.com) or 206-256-2659.

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# P&Z approves Harbor House application

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

At a specially scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission on Monday, it issued conditional use permitting for a proposed senior living and assisted care center.

The center would be at the site of Sourdough Lodge, which is between Peninsula and Berger streets and is currently zoned light industrial. Before its sale last year the lodge operated under a conditional use permit, which would need to be applied for by the new owners as well.

Shannon Bosdell and Daniel Blake are working to convert the lodge into Harbor House Assisted Living Center and Senior Housing. Five long-term care beds would be maintained among the building's facilities, with 11 additional rooms allotted for elderly residents. The site would include a restaurant-style kitchen, nursing staff, a community room, and transportation options for residents. The two partners

would also live on-site, along with their spouses.

The item had appeared already at a regular meeting on January 5, but was moved to its own special workshop held on the 12th after prospective neighbors weighed in with a variety of concerns. Mainly, these were increased traffic flow and parking on surrounding residential roads, pet- and noise-related issues, and legal liabilities. After much discussion, the commission scheduled one last meeting to consider the proposal with certain provisos.

In order of presentation, the amendment items would require all pertinent state certification and licensing, addition of a dog run or break area on site, two ambulatory entrances as discussed in past meetings, and a minimum of 15 off-street parking spaces provided.

"We entertained all the concerns of the neighbors and tried to address every one of them," said Don McConachie, acting chair for the commission that evening.

One area still left unresolved was the question of liability. Consulting with the city's attorney, economic development director Carol Rushmore reported he had been unable to weigh in on the liabilities of individual homeowners. In general though, she said his opinion was that property owners could be liable if a pedestrian injured themselves on that property if the owners were found to be negligent in some fashion. Bosdell echoed that opinion, after speaking with his own legal counsel.

The commission ran into some trouble with parliamentary procedure in the permit's passing. Commissioner Duke Mitchell moved to adopt the permit, but was unwilling to add any of the proposed amendments to his motion.

"I don't think they're viable concerns, personally," Mitchell commented. He felt the added requirement for a dogwalk was unnecessary, and that the future proposed use of the facility did not differ substan-

tially from its previous use as a lodge. "I don't see that much change between what you're doing now and what they were doing before," he said to Blake and Bosdell.

Eventually the commission determined another of its members could propose the amendments, which could then be adopted into the main item by majority vote. Roland Howell did so, and commissioners agreed to the addition unanimously. The amended permit was then issued by the same 4-0 count.

Neighbors seemed agreeable to the items. The only one standing up to speak, Chris Guggenbickler thought the amendments addressed their concerns for the most part.

"I think this was a compromise made by the neighborhood," he said. "If we do this, I think things will move forward, and it won't be that big of a deal."

Harbor House is still on track to open by its announced date of April 1.

# Water plant upgrade evaporated by higher pricing

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Members of the Wrangell Assembly learned a new water treatment plant being sought after will be financially unfeasible for the foreseeable future, and are looking into other options.

Even before the water shortage problems of last summer due to its plant being unable to keep up with demand, the city was aware the facility could use replacement. After it was installed nearly two decades ago, the treatment plant's combination of roughing filters and slow sand filtration system turned out to be ill-suited to the sedimented water coming from Wrangell's two reservoirs. Public Works has made do since, doing what it could to keep things skimmed and water flowing from local taps.

In 2015 the Assembly awarded a \$150,000 contract to CRW Engineering Group to go ahead with a pilot study, a sort of test plant better suited to raw water quality conditions. The recommended method used dissolved air flotation (DAF) to filter water instead, which essentially uses bubbles to draw sediment topside to be skimmed away. The package plant was set up last July, and testing went on through the rest of the summer.

The plant worked great, but city manager Jeff Jabusch explained a full-sized system would cost more than double what was first estimated. The results of the study were to be included in a prospective Department of Agriculture grant application to fund the plant, which also required a more intensive preliminary engineering report. This latter report found installing a DAF plant would cost about \$13,000,000, rather than the expected \$6,000,000.

"It was disappointing to us," Jabusch said. Had they known the costs would be so high, he wondered whether the city might have opted for one of the other

three filtration options CRW recommended for a test plant.

Even if a USDA loan were attainable to cover part of the project, he explained the amount would be well beyond the city's means. Instead, he recommended doing more to augment and restore the current system. The sand in the filtration units has never been properly cleaned or replaced since installation, due to costs.

One option would be to dredge the material out and run it through a wash process in sections, returning it to the system in turn. The second option would be to look into using a sand washer available at the gravel pit. Either option would have to be undertaken carefully, and preferably during a month of slower demand like March.

One pressing need now that the current plant needs to last a while longer is replacement of its second ozone generator, which is necessary to operations. The other was already replaced last year, and though a loan through a Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation program was previously approved for its installation, Wrangell opted to pay for it in cash.

As it was approved for the loan already, to help pay for both generators Assembly members passed a resolution Tuesday to accept it, in the amount of \$322,650. The loan would be repaid in 15 years at a rate of 1.5 percent. Jabusch explained that could be paid off sooner.

"We plan to only borrow what is necessary to purchase and install the equipment, which is estimated at between \$230,000 and \$240,000," he explained.

However, due to this and another loan being secured to replace failing water mains, the Assembly may be looking at rate increases of about five percent to start July 1, with another five-percent rise on July 1, 2018. The city estimates this might amount to a \$2.04 increase per residen-

tial customer for the first year, or a two-year total of \$4.18. The last such increase came in 2015.

"Another option we've talked about is metering residential water," Jabusch noted, which tends to lower usage.

In the hunt to replace Jabusch, who is retiring at the end of March, the search has narrowed to two candidates. One candidate, Michael Cleghorn of Texas, withdrew his name after receiving another job offer. Candidates Ann Capela of

Bethel and Bradley Hanson of Iowa are still under consideration, and will be brought down to meet with the Assembly in executive session on February 14. After that, the Assembly may have its selection by the time of its next meeting, rescheduled for February 15.

One final vacancy on the Planning and Zoning Commission was filled, after resident Robbie Austin posted a letter of interest for the position. Two further vacancies remain on

civic boards, both on the Economic Development Committee.

Assembly members also approved sale of its belt freezer facility to Trident Seafoods, for the appraised value of \$950,000. The transaction was previously signed off on by the Planning and Zoning and Port commission and the Economic Development Committee. The details will go to the processor's attorney for review before finalization.

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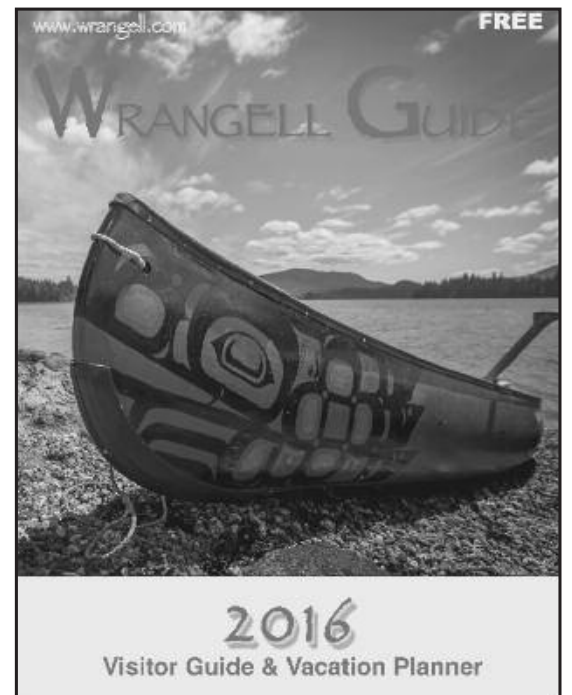
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