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Volleyball girls take second at State

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

With a stellar conclusion to its 2017 season, the Wrangell High School volleyball team finished second at the State 2A Championships on Saturday.

The team headed up early last Tuesday, practicing the next morning at Dimond High School. It was a crowded tournament, between the 2A and the mix-six. Teams were practicing two at a time on court throughout the day.

Beginning play November 30 against King Cove, the Lady Wolves had already been preparing for their first meet. Whitaker said her girls had studied videos of their opponents' play, helping to make up for their unfamiliarity.

When they went into the game they went in swinging. Wrangell won the first match handily with a 25-12 finish. King Cove won the next, also at 25-12. The last two matches kept close, with Wrangell coming ahead in both 25-22 and 25-21.

"The girls were really focused," Whitaker said. The serving had been there, she explained, and team captain Helen Decker had been on point with her blocking. As a result, she had been named the player of the game.

Later the same day, Wrangell went up against the girls from Su-Valley. The going was tough; after losing the first match 21-25, Wrangell was able to wrangle a win in the second after going into extra time, 27-25. Su-Valley won the next 25-15, but the Lady Wolves bounced back with a 25-22 win. In the to-15 final, Wrangell stepped away with the victory over their opponent's



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Girls on Wrangell's 2017-18 high school volleyball team have a victory lap around Wrangell Monday afternoon, after returning from the State Championships in Anchorage in second-place. The team swept their way through the bracket to the final round, which necessitated an additional tie-breaker with Petersburg. The team's appearance at State was a first in over a decade, and Wrangell's best-ever showing in volleyball.

eight points.

"It came down to it, but they were able to persevere," Whitaker said of her team.

Late in the fourth match Decker rolled her ankle. Sophomore Kaylyn Easterly subbed in as the team's middle hitter, and ended up making player of the game.

After a long first day, the team remained in its first state tournament intact and in the upper bracket. "If we won those two games it would make our lives significantly easier," Whitaker explained.

Their schedule was lightened for Friday, but the team had to square off against their region leaders Petersburg. A tough team to beat, the Lady Vikings had to that point gone undefeated in their regular season. Fortunately, Wrangell was familiar with their neighboring community's team, matching up with them at several points through the season.

"We've talked about it all season long," said their coach.

Meeting Friday evening, Wrangell won

its opening match 25-16. Petersburg parried with a 25-16 win the next, but Wrangell returned with a 25-22 win after a tough match. Whitaker noted her team had been on point, and in the game libero Krissy Lockabey had been "picking up almost everything from the floor."

The fourth round kept fans at the edge of their seats as it crept into extra time. Wrangell edged out a win over its rivals 29 points to 27, securing its spot in the finals. It was the furthest along the team had gotten in ASAA history, the next closest being in 1999 with a fourth place finish.

"It was amazing to get that far in the tournament," Whitaker said.

After their third game, junior Ashley Allen was named player of the game. A first-year setter, Whitaker said "she's just grown tremendously throughout the season."

The next day would be for the title, and Petersburg was not in the consolation bracket for long. Winning three matches

"It was amazing to get that far in the tournament."

- Wrangell coach,
Jessica Whitaker

over King Cove during the early afternoon, the Lady Vikings were back up against Wrangell for the final game.

Petersburg was able to rebound from a key injury of its own, and after a close 25-20 opening win over Wrangell was able to wrap up the finals in three. After an 8-25 loss in the second match, Wrangell pressed hard for a win in the third but came up short with 23 points. Easterly again was named player of the game.

Because they had each won one over the other, the two teams competed in an extra game to 30 points.

"They just dominated us," said Whitaker, with the Lady Wolves up against some tough blocking. Petersburg finished with a 30-15 win, securing first for 2A.

Coming up in second, Whitaker said her team was proud of its accomplishment.

"We have a really tough region," she explained. Throughout the season Wrangell had seeded third behind Petersburg and Craig, but its girls kept at it and had come a long way. It was the team's first appearance at State since 2005, and with half its 12 players set to graduate this year, Whitaker thought this year's appearance – and a new banner for the gym at home – made for a fitting sendoff.

"We're very proud of them," she said. "They all did just very well."

There were plenty of awards to go around after the tournament. Kayla Hay, Lockabey and Easterly were all named to the All-Tournament Team, while Anna Allen and Erin Galla were awarded for their good sportsmanship.

Returning to Wrangell, the team is not quite finished for the year. Its annual alumni game is scheduled for December 16 at 7 p.m., and the public is invited to attend.

Assembly to seek consultant for hospital future

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

At its regular meeting Tuesday, the Borough Assembly approved moving ahead with seeking a consultant on the hospital's future, while members also learned city computers had been targeted by a hacking attack.

A letter recommending hiring a consultant had been submitted to the city by the Wrangell Medical Center governing board last month. Currently the hospital is a municipal service, but recent cash flow troubles and sizable costs for a replacement facility have had administrators and elected officials alike considering other alternatives. After a joint meeting with the Assembly on November 6, board members agreed to the need for a new operating model, likely including a third-party partnership to some degree.

Following the acquisition earlier this year of Alaska Island Community Services – a Wrangell-headquartered clinical services provider – by regional provider Southeast Alaska Rural Health Consortium, SEARHC seemed well placed as a possible partner in administering Wrangell's public facility. AICS and WMC have maintained a close working relationship over the years, and the clinic purchases about a third of the hospital's total services. Even before AICS built its new clinic on then-undeveloped Wood Street, it had been the intention of the two entities that WMC

would build its eventual replacement facility on the neighboring property, forming a campus that would ease treatment and save on costs.

Hopes for the arrangement continue even after AICS' acquisition, and SEARHC had last month offered to assist the borough with costs for architectural work on a combined campus. Since receiving the WMC board's input, city staff have since worked out a non-binding agreement with SEARHC to hire a consultancy with the intention of laying out potential management models best suited to that arrangement.

After it accepted the agreement as presented, borough manager Lisa Von Bargaen told the Assembly she would be putting out a request for proposal shortly, and might well have recommendations for their review by January's first meeting.

"She has really struck this balance here," Assembly member Julie Decker said of the agreement. "I think we're going to end up with something positive as a result."

A full copy of the agreement and its confidentiality provisions is available for the public to view on the website, attached to the meeting's packet.

In other Assembly business, Von Bargaen said she would be putting together an RFP for tech support services after an attack

Continued on page 12

Birthdays & Anniversaries



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

Thursday, Dec. 7: Twyla Nore, Kellen Peterson, Mercedes Angerman, *Anniversary:* Bill and Marlene Messmer, Ed and Janice Kalkins, Tom and Tedi Sims, Mike and Barb Rugo. **Friday, Dec. 8:** Bradley Eklund, Steven Smith, Vienna Powers. **Saturday, Dec. 9:** Tammie Kirschner, Katherine Venables. **Sunday, Dec. 10:** Kiah Bylow, Jon Keso, Maddison Ginter, Pam Stover, Tarren Legg-Privett. **Monday, Dec. 11:** Carrie Mason, Anna Curtis, Tammi Meissner, Rob Rooney, *Anniversary:* Leonard and Kathie Angerman. **Tuesday, Dec. 12:** Maria Beers, Lana Johnson, Katie Neyman, Keith Nolan. **Wednesday, Dec. 13:** Alysse Maxand, Sarah Murphey, Tawni Fitzgerald, Adrian Kohrt, Steve and Beverly Angerman. **Thursday, Dec. 14:** Bill Messmer. *Anniversary:* Mark and Heidi Armstrong.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, Dec. 7

Chicken cacciatore, pasta, sweet peas, honey orange salad.

Friday, Dec. 8

Spanish rice with beef, brussels sprouts, carrot raisin salad, wheat bread.

Monday, Dec. 11

Beef vegetable soup, half halibut sandwich, citrus cup.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Turkey a'la king, broccoli, pineapple cottage cheese, hot rolls.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Half french dip, au' gratin potatoes, peas, apricot salad.

Thursday, Dec. 14

Chinese fruited pork, steamed rice, oriental veggies, cucumber and onion salad.

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

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

FERRY

Departures

Northbound

Saturday, Dec. 9

Kennicott 12:00 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 10

Columbia 3:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

Kennicott 5:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 16

Kennicott 7:00 a.m.

Southbound

Friday, Dec. 8

Kennicott 5:15 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 11

Kennicott 8:15 a.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Columbia 2:45 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 15

Kennicott 12:15 p.m.

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

TIDES

Dec. 7 - Dec. 14



High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Dec.07	3:22	16.0	3:09	17.4	8:55	2.5	9:36	-2.2
Dec.08	4:16	15.4	4:06	15.9	9:54	3.3	10:31	-0.8
Dec.09	5:15	14.9	5:12	14.4	11:00	3.8	11:30	0.6
Dec.10	6:22	14.8	6:30	13.2	12:17	4.0
Dec.11	7:29	15.0	7:51	12.8	0:35	1.7	1:38	3.5
Dec.12	8:29	15.5	9:02	13.0	1:43	2.5	2:53	2.6
Dec.13	9:22	16.1	10:02	13.5	2:48	2.9	3:54	1.4
Dec.14	10:09	16.6	10:54	14.0	3:46	3.0	4:43	0.3

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, Dec.7

SAIL Class: 10:00 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 a.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

Monday, Dec.11

Wrangell High School: Christmas Concert and auction at the High School. Auction will be held in the High School commons, and the concert in the High School gym starting at 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

Wrangell Elementary School: Christmas Concert located in the Elementary School gym at 7:00 p.m.

Wrangell Chess Club: Library conference room 7-9:00 p.m.

Is the attendance at your meeting or event low? Call Adrienne 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., Smoked Fish F 8 p.m., Step Study Sat. 7 p.m. at the Episcopal gChurch 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, 7 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.

December 13, 1917: Nicholas Nussbaumer writes the publisher of the Sentinel that he arrived in Washington, D.C., on Thanksgiving Day in time for a good turkey dinner. Following is an excerpt from his letter: "Some of my boyhood friends are in my company, which of course makes it more pleasant for me than if I was wholly among strangers. My first disappointment is that I am not likely to have Mr. Weigle for a captain, but I am determined to make good no matter under whom I serve. I should be glad to hear from old Wrangell. I have not heard one word from there since I left."

December 11, 1942: Christmas is beginning to be reflected in the stores around town, blackout, or no. Attractive displays already are up at the City Store. Campbell Bros. and the Den O' Sweets, and coming week will see other places dressing up for the holiday season. Elks and American Legion, in keeping their annual custom, will fete the youngsters at a Christmas party after school on December 23 when the youngsters get out for the holiday vacation. The Red Men lodge will have their annual Christmas tree for children of the members and churches and other groups are planning similar events. Suggestion for one large community Christmas tree was considered for some time but finally abandoned when it developed that plans already were under way by various groups to have their own tree for the youngsters in their groups.

December 8, 1967: Last Thursday night the Teen Club met for the second time with 58 students participating. Ping pong, volleyball and other games were played by all, including parents. The parents and teachers who helped make the evening a success were the follow-

ing: Miss Eval Vickery, Miss Marion McCombs, John Emde, Richard Hallmark, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hugli, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wadja, Bob Kurtti, Donald Ollivant, L.L. Luce, Mrs. Rasler and Mrs. George Norris.

December 10, 1992: Wrangell residents and migrating birds on the Stikine River delta will be featured on this week's "Rain Country" television program. Each spring, hundreds of thousands of

migrating birds stop on the delta to feed. In May, public television crews from Juneau taped a story about the birds and the Forest Service research about them.

POSTED FUEL PRICES

WRANGELL

L N M: \$3.80

Alpine Mini Mart: \$3.80

PETERSBURG

SE Island Fuel: \$3.79

Petersburg Motors: \$3.70

Unleaded gas prices posted
Tuesday, December 5

Castle Mountain Entertainment Presents

There will be no movie this weekend, our next film will be Murder on the Orient Express the weekend of December 15-17

'Like' us on Facebook for the most up to date info!

Tickets:
\$5 for 12 & under,
\$7 for 13 & up

Buy movie gift certificates at the Museum gift shop



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Nov.27	42	33
Nov.28	39	33
Nov.29	42	37
Nov.30	42	37
Dec.01	36	30
Dec.02	35	28
Dec.03	41	35
Dec.04	42	39



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Dec.07	8:02 am	3:15 pm	7:13h
Dec.08	8:03 am	3:15 pm	7:12h
Dec.09	8:05 am	3:14 pm	7:09h
Dec.10	8:06 am	3:14 pm	7:08h
Dec.11	8:07 am	3:14 pm	7:07h
Dec.12	8:09 am	3:13 pm	7:04h
Dec.13	8:10 am	3:13 pm	7:03h
Dec.14	8:11 am	3:13 pm	7:02h

City sets priorities for 2018 legislative agenda, bumps ANSEP

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Before the Assembly's regularly-scheduled meeting Tuesday, members met to discuss legislative priorities for the coming year.

City manager Lisa Von Bargaen had prepared a draft list of items for their consideration, a summary of considerations and needs to be shared with Wrangell's legislative delegation and its lobbyist in Juneau.

"These are things that are most critical to the community, based on a number of issues we have dealt with around here," she said at the start.

With the Alaska Legislature scheduled to convene for its 2018 regular session on January 16, high atop the city's to-do list for them is adoption of a sustainable budget plan. The state has continued to run multibillion-dollar deficits each year since the 2013 fiscal year, which began in mid-2012. Five years later it has approximately \$2.1 billion left yet in its available savings, but a projected spending deficit of \$2.7 billion for the present year, which ends June 30, 2018.

At Assembly member Becky Rooney's suggestion, Wrangell's stance toward legislators took a

harder tone, requesting they adopt a solution this next regular session rather than at their leisure.

Also making the list were preserving the state's diminishing revenue sharing and matching-grant infrastructural programs. Over the past 10 years Alaska's community assistance has contributed \$5.95 million to Wrangell for service and infrastructure provision. Gradual reductions in recent years has brought these shared revenues to \$409,000 for FY18, or seven percent of the borough's budget.

At the recommendation of member Stephen Prysunka, ending unfunded mandates posed by a statewide exemption of seniors and residents with disabilities from municipal property taxes was added to the list. At around 18 percent of the tax base, Wrangell has among the highest proportion of exempted residents in the state, which has limited its revenue base as a result.

Prysunka felt the current policy has shifted from its original intent, helping those less able to meet the financial burden of property taxes. He recommended that the Legislature devolve those decisions to individual municipalities, allowing them to decide whether or not they can bear the exemption.

"As a blanket, we can't afford it," he said. "What we should be doing is deferring for young people," he added, encouraging younger homeowners to establish themselves in their communities. "I would love to put that down here and say here, 'enough.'"

Diminishing contract allocation for the city jail was also addressed, and the priorities list included opposition to reductions to the shared fisheries revenue, the addition of a statewide sales tax, and an increase on localities' burden for pensions contributions past current levels.

Of school-related items, pursuance of developing a residential, accelerated high school in Wrangell for the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program had made the list, at the recommendation of the school superintendent. Of the 11 items originally included on the draft, Assembly members spent half of the hour they had allotted for the workshop to the ANSEP item.

What had stuck out to Assembly member Patty Gilbert had been the item's phrasing, tying administration of the conceptualized school to the local public school district. In a public presentation put forward in the spring of 2016 a 400-bed residential school was

suggested by the program, which aims at boosting mathematics and science skills among rural and primarily Native Alaskan youth. A non-residential high school was launched last academic year in the Matanuska-Susitna area, and demand there suggested a second, residential school that could cater to students all over the state would be warranted.

In a show of support, a steering committee was subsequently approved by the Assembly later that July, featuring one of its own members, the city manager, school superintendent, and other community members. Member David Powell has subsequently sat on the group, and since her hiring as the new manager this summer Von Bargaen has likewise been included.

"There has not been a committee meeting since I got here," she reported.

Von Bargaen said she had suggested that a meeting be held following a bid to acquire Alaska Federation of Natives support for the proposal at its annual summit late in October. The organization's membership had at that time elected to table the motion, and whether it will be taken up again is uncertain.

As for the project's future, Gilbert was concerned about where the financial resources would come from if the school was built, and expressed her opposition to funding it locally.

"Why on earth are we incorporating ANSEP under Wrangell Public Schools?" she asked. "I think we're foisting a tax burden on a public that has no idea what's coming down the road."

At last year's presentation, it was suggested that the program

would be supported through a combination of formulaic allocations from the state and a private endowment. It was also hoped that construction of the school would bring jobs to the local economy and spur development of the city's former Institute property.

Responding on the phone to Gilbert's concerns, Assembly member Julie Decker felt the wording was pretty general. "I think this is a very generalized statement and I think it's appropriate for where we are at this stage in the concept."

"The model for this has not been settled," said Von Bargaen. "I concur that there are many questions."

Focusing on another aspect, Prysunka was troubled that the ANSEP item was the only one put forward for the local school system as a legislative priority. In particular, he pointed to continuation of Secure Rural Schools funding and visible maintenance needs at existing school facilities as things to be brought up instead.

"I worry that our priorities are a little bit skewed," he said. Noting that it had been a great while since the Assembly had been given a progress report on the proposed school in some time, Prysunka added that he was at this point unclear what precisely the city would be supporting.

Assembly members present at the meeting seemed to be in agreement, and the ANSEP item was stricken from the legislative list. Members further recommended that Von Bargaen take a more active role on the school steering committee, and hopefully come back with a progress report.

"I think you can play a good role and liaison for us," Decker told her.

LIFELINE SUPPORT

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Program-Based Eligibility Documentation

If you are applying based on state, federal or tribal program-based eligibility, you will also be required to provide a copy of a document showing proof of your participation in the qualifying program. For example, if you are eligible for the Lifeline Program because you participate in the Medicaid program, you will need to submit a copy of your Medicaid benefit card with your application.

Income-Based Eligibility Documentation

If you are applying based on your household's income being at or below 135 percent of the federal poverty guidelines, you must provide your telephone company with income documentation. Acceptable documentation includes:

- Current income statement from an employer
- Prior year's state, federal, or Tribal tax return
- A Social Security statement of benefits
- A Veterans Administration statement of benefits
- A retirement or pension statement of benefits
- An Unemployment or Workers' Compensation statement of benefits
- A federal or Tribal notice letter of participation in General Assistance
- A divorce decree
- A child support award
- Other official document containing income information

2017 HHS Poverty Guidelines

Size of Family Unit	Alaska Poverty Level	Size of Family Unit	135% of Alaska Lifeline Guidelines
1	\$16,281	1	\$20,331
2	\$21,924	2	\$27,392
3	\$27,567	3	\$34,452
4	\$33,210	4	\$41,513
5	\$38,853	5	\$48,573
6	\$44,496	6	\$55,634
7	\$50,139	7	\$62,694
8	\$55,782	8	\$69,755
Households with more than 8 persons add per additional person	\$5,643		\$7,061

Note: The Applicant income must be at or below the 135% column income level based on the number of people in the household and the total household income. Proof of total household income must be provided. A "household" is defined as any individual or group of individuals living together at the same address as one economic unit. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals (18 years or older) contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household.

TO APPLY OR CHECK ELIGIBILITY VISIT
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874-3000



Police report

Monday, Nov. 27

Citation issued to Ashley Woodworth, 32, for no proof of insurance.

Vehicle damage: Car slid down road into large rocks.

Report of suspicious circumstance.

Domestic issue: Officer requested and responded.

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Agency Assist: Power out.

911: Misdial.

Lost wallet.

Citizen assist: Unlock vehicle.

Wednesday, Nov. 29

Suspicious activity.

Intoxicated person.

Illegal parking.

Citizen report of DUI.

Thursday, Nov. 30

Citizen assist: Random breath test: Employment.

Report of criminal mischief.

Agency assist: AST.

Abandoned vehicle.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for defective equipment.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for driving habits.

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for driving habits.

Friday, Dec. 1

Missing medication: Person reported medication gone.

Report of harassing phone call.

Agency assist: 911.

Scam: Reported.

Report of missing dog.

Santa needed a ride.

Saturday, Dec. 2

Nothing to report.

Sunday, Dec. 3

Found property.

Agency Assist: Report of oil slick: FD notified.

Citizen Assist: Vehicle unlocked.

Traffic stop.

Concert auction to raise cash for art materials

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Creative programs at the high and middle schools will be putting their works under the hammer Monday evening in an effort to raise money for supplies.

As with the schools' four previous auctions, this year's will precede their annual Christmas concert, with event patrons getting to peruse and vie over various works produced by students of the art and industrial arts programs.

Sixth to 12th graders each submit something for the auction. Art teacher Anne Luetkemeyer explained close to 90 of her students from several classes have pitched in pieces this year, which include Christmas ornaments of fused glass, paint and charcoal works, and other glass, ceramic and copper-embossed pieces.

"I commit each student. They have to give me one piece," she said. She will also be contributing items, such as candle sconces and some ceramic work.

The themes vary, drawn from stories and games students have been enjoying to local lore and even items from around the house. "They get some really nice effects," Luetkemeyer commented.

Students from the secondary school's industrial arts program also submit something they have crafted in class.

"It's all a surprise," said their program's teacher, Drew Larrabee.

Works will include a variety of laser-cut and 3D-printed items, but Larrabee was able to showcase some of his class' light boxes, wooden-framed night lights tinted

with stained glass. The students used bright LED lighting and worked on the wiring themselves.

Funds raised from the auction go back toward the classes, helping to defray costs for materials. For Larrabee's students, this includes new vinyl for the 3D printer.

With the funds raised from last year's auction, Luetkemeyer was able to acquire a new pottery wheel for her class. The school district matched that, meaning her students had two new wheels to work with this year. The first several auctions and assorted fundraisers also went toward acquiring a new state-of-the-art kiln last year.

This year's earnings will likely be used more straightforwardly. "Just supplies. I need glazes, I need new glass, new paints; just the basic supplies in general," said Luetkemeyer.

As far as tools go, she said the classes could do with a new scroll saw, which would allow for cuts in greater detail than currently allowed by the classroom jigsaw.

The silent auction begins in the high school commons at 6:30 p.m., Monday the 11th. There will be seasonable refreshments on hand while parents browse, with coffee and punch planned, and some Christmassy desserts. First bids can be made during the preview, before the music program is scheduled to start in the adjacent gym at seven.

"That gives them a whole hour to think," said Luetkemeyer. "Right when the music stops, people have 15 minutes to rebid."

Open enrollment for health insurance ends December 15th

Health insurance protects you from high, unexpected medical costs. Now is the time to get covered or renew!

Call SEARHC Outreach at (907) 966-8662 or 966-8883 for free assistance. We serve everyone.

SEARHC | healthy is here.

Photo ads are a fun way to show relatives how the family has grown; they also make super additions to a holiday scrapbook.

Wish friends, family or customers "Merry Christmas" or say "Thank you" with an ad in the Sentinel's Holiday Greetings issue.

Say Merry Christmas in a very special way

Choose from ready-made greetings or let us help you design your own from just \$22 and up.

Deadline for advertising is 5 p.m., Friday, December 15, issue will be published December 21.

WRANGELL SENTINEL

Phone: 874-2301 • Fax: 874-2303
Email: wrgsent@gmail.com

I can help you make sure your coverage is up-to-date. Call me today.
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Katie Eddy
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inquiry@p-wins.com

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Wrangell timber sale to be scaled back, decision expected next week

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

A final decision on the Wrangell Island timber sale is expected out next week, wrapping up years of deliberation and planning.

Citing objections to the economics and ecological impacts of its preferred plan, the United States Forest Service has indicated it will be reducing total harvest for the proposed sale on Wrangell Island to around 428 acres, or 5- to 7-million board feet (mmbf) of timber. These would be sold piecemeal over the course of several years.

Of five alternatives put forward, Alternative 2 had proposed around 55.8 mmbf available, primarily for sawtimber. Over several years, the harvest would have affected 4,767 acres of federal lands on the island, with about a third of that acreage to be clearcut and the rest selectively harvested.

After a period of public presentations and receiving input, a draft record of decision (ROD) to that effect signed by Tongass National Forest supervisor Earl Stewart was released earlier this year in July.

During the 45-day period that followed, five objections were received relating to the proposed sale. Two of these objections were filed by Wrangell residents, George Woodbury and Bruce Smith, with the latter objecting to the closure of some roads to subsistence users as part of the project. Woodbury's objection letter was critical of the economics of the proposed alternative, asserting that only a minor share of the volume being considered would appraise positively.

The Borough Assembly also objected to the sale as it was proposed. Lodging an objection on behalf of the city on August 28, Wrangell manager Lisa Von Barga had made the case that the plan's chosen alternative was offering too little timber for harvest to be of use to the local economy. While the Wrangell

Assembly had voted in favor of Alternative 2 during the summer of 2016, Von Barga noted that was due more to the shortcomings of other options rather than the plan's merits.

"Disappointingly, Alternative 2 falls short of providing any substantive economic benefit for Wrangell," Von Barga wrote.

The scope of the plan as initially envisioned had been three to four times larger than the acreage being considered in Alternative 2, she noted. This complaint was also made in another objection filed by the Alaska Forest Association in Sitka. The industry group further added that the sale as a whole would run a deficit, by about \$3.3 million to a potential export purchaser and \$12 million to a domestic manufacturer.

To improve the economic viability of the project, AFA had previously recommended more temporary road construction and less stringent viewshed constraints, as well as restoring an exemption to the "Roadless Rule" for Alaska. That 2001 prohibition limits construction and harvesting on inventoried areas within the National Forest system deemed to be roadless.

A fifth objection was filed by environmental group Earthjustice, which represents a number of ecologically focused groups. The omnibus objection held that the project was out of keeping with four separate acts of Congress where it pertained to protecting wildlife, and that the sale failed to meet its economic ends.

A response to the five objections was filed on November 29, after Stewart had met with the different parties individually and as a group. With his recommendations from those meetings in mind, USFS regional forester Beth Pendleton addressed Wrangell's economic concerns by pointing out this particular sale was "one of many" potential projects within the forest. Under the Tongass Forest Management Plan as amended last year, she

said the USFS expected around 690 mmbf to be available for harvest over a 15-year period, up to 98 mmbf per year.

In the 40-page document's conclusion, with the Wrangell sale Stewart was to be directed to move forward with around 428 acres of economically viable timber, deferring the rest of selected units until additional analysis can be completed in the future. The forest supervisor would also be directed to review in greater detail the project's potential impact on animal populations, in particular deer, wolves, red-backed voles and goshawks. Once these and other identified issues had been addressed in the draft, she explained, the final ROD could be signed.

A final ROD is expected out of the forest supervisor's office early next week. But a pair of potential delays to that decision brew back in Washington D.C. One is passage of a budget deal, which Congress is trying to push through before a deadline tomorrow. If a budget or, more likely,

a short-term extension fail to be adopted by then, the federal government could enter a period of shutdown, with offices across the country going on furlough.

The government is currently operating on a similar extension, since the start of the new fiscal year on October 1. The last shutdown occurred in 2013, when legislative deadlock led to a 16-day lapse in appropriations.

The other possible change could be seen if proposals put forward by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) are adopted. Attached last month to an appropriations bill for the Department of the Interior, the Alaska senator included an amendment that would reject the 2016 Tongass amended land plan, which shifted USFS management priorities to young-growth rather than old-growth timber harvest. The potential change was made possible after the nonpartisan Government Accountability Office ruled in October that it was subject to congressional review.

If adopted, the Tongass would revert to management under its 2008 plan. Also part of Murkowski's amendment, the national forest would be exempted from the 2001 Roadless Rule. The bill, as of Tuesday, is in committee.

Even in the event timber management focus reversed course, there may be little or no change to the Wrangell Island sale needed. Ranger Bob Dalrymple explained the sale had largely been developed under the prior management plan, and so would likely be unaffected by changes there.

"It's in compliance with both," he said.

Once a final decision has been signed, any sale still has a long way to go. The next step will be inventorying and appraising acreage selected for harvest. Progress on that could be weather-dependent this winter. But once finished, if values come out positive, the timber will go out to bid and eventually harvest.

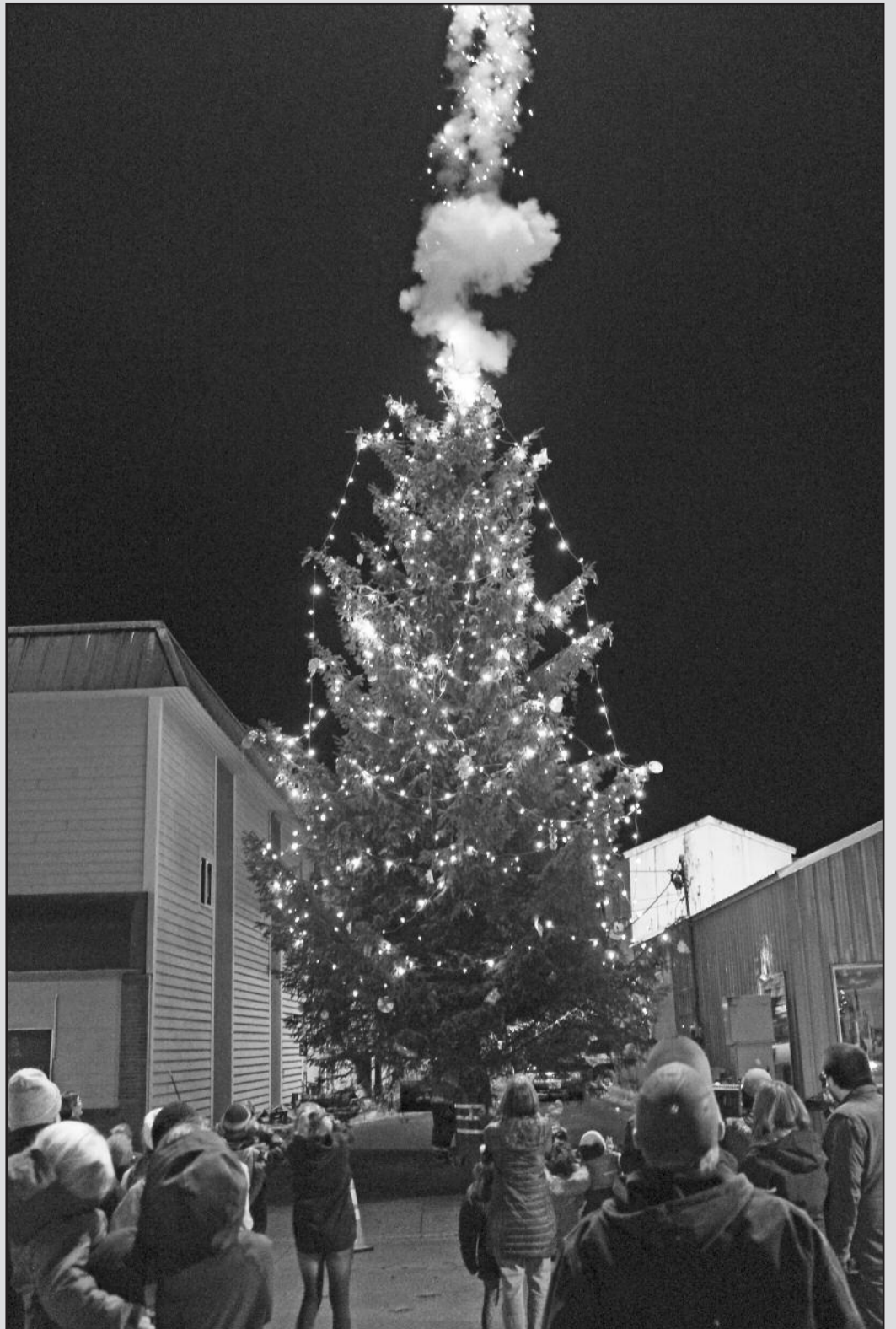


PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Lighting it up

With a controlled explosion from its crown Friday night, the city's Christmas tree sparks to life at the start of Midnight Madness. Not actually held at midnight – the festivities were scheduled for a more reasonable 6 p.m. – the annual tradition kicks off the Christmas season in Wrangell. A pair of bazaars were held by local craftspeople throughout the evening, refreshments sold at the Chamber pavilion, and a queue to see Santa at the WCA Cultural Center started soon after the tree lighting.

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15th annual Dove Tree commemorates the year's departed

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

Community members gathered to remember those who have departed over the past year.

Members of Hospice of Wrangell held their 15th annual Dove Tree memorial service at the Nolan Center on Saturday. Held in December each year, the tradition began back in 2003, when the community was still reeling from a traumatic murder-suicide earlier that summer.

The first tree was put up at the former Alaska Sourdough Lodge. The simple service allowed residents to memorialize their friends and relations with a paper dove, bearing the name of someone close who had died during the previous year.

Then and since, the ceremonies feature a brief homily and remarks and are accompanied by music. Names are then read out, a drum beating softly in time.

Each year volunteers with the group keep track of obituaries and death notices, inviting near relations to participate during the annual ceremony. Not every name re-

members a recent death, and attendants are free to memorialize whom they wish.

The hope is that the sound of the drum, the reading of names and the placement of doves does something to bring comfort to the bereaved. Particularly around the holiday season, such absences can be acutely felt.

This year's service was held in association with the Wrangell Ministerial Association. The Dove Tree will remain up in the lobby throughout the holidays, and anyone is welcome to add a dove to it.

Also in the Nolan lobby were the trees from this year's Christmas Tree Lane, Hospice's only fundraiser for the year. Community members and organizations decorate trees, wreaths and other festive displays, which then get auctioned off ahead of the holidays.

Rooney explained the funds they raise through it go to support Hospice's operations through the year, with its periodic newsletter and assistance with planning final arrangements. The voluntary group also provides medical equipment and care support in the community.



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Hospice of Wrangell members and volunteers help put up doves on the tree during Saturday's Dove Tree ceremony. Dozens of names were read out and placed on the tree as a memorial to those who have passed on during the year.

Bad berry harvest blamed for bear sightings

KODIAK, Alaska (AP) – Several Kodiak residents have reported seeing bears in town throughout the past few weeks, and at least one area expert believes that's because of a lack-luster berry crop this year.

Although the state Department of Fish and Game hasn't received a higher-than-normal

number of reported bear sightings, area wildlife biologist Nathan Svoboda believes a berry crop failure might have something to do with the encounters, the Kodiak Daily Mirror reported Wednesday.

In years when the berry crop fails, bears become nutritionally stressed and might be more

prone to strolling into town, Svoboda said.

"Bears are opportunists," he said. "It's getting really close to the time that they should be denning up for the winter. So, right now they're just putting on that extra weight before the den. The

bears aren't going to stick around. They don't want to be around people any more than people want to be around them."

Svoboda's advice is to remove anything that could tempt bears. He also said that people should alert authorities if they

encounter a bear, not just post to social media.

"We don't have the time or permission to monitor social media sites," he said. "So, it's important that people report bear sightings to Fish and Game or the Troopers."

Study on hatchery-raised red crab nears conclusion

KODIAK, Alaska (AP) – An Alaska program is in its final year of an experiment to determine whether hatchery-raised red king crab can increase wild stock.

The Alaska King Crab Research, Rehabilitation and Biology Program started its work in 2009 with a goal of enhancing depressed king crab populations throughout Alaska, the Kodiak Daily Mirror reported Tuesday.

So far, the program has achieved efficient production of juvenile crab, conducted research on their behavior and completed a number of small out-planting releases.

Dr. Robert Foy, director of the Alaska Fisheries Science Center's Kodiak laboratory, said the next step is expanding the experiment.

"We've only out-stocked up to 15,000 juveniles, which is very tiny. Most of them aren't going to survive, so it's just a test," Foy said. "Our goal this next year is to put upwards of 300,000 out."

The results of the program are intended to aid legislators in deciding whether to pursue the rehabilitation of wild king

crab stocks through hatchery enhancement. Some are hopeful that the hatchery-produced king crab could be used to bring back localized fisheries that have been inactive in most regions for over 30 years. Foy, however, said the discussion on whether king crabs will be commercially fished again must wait.

"It would be a long time before we can determine if that would be possible, so we're trying to be realistic with our goals here," he said.

Once the out-stocking begins next year, Foy and his team will track the animals, analyzing their behavior and interactions, and will eventually determine the percentage of survival.



“As a bartender, smoking never fazed me until we went smoke free. I don't care to be around it anymore.”

— Lynn A., Wrangell, Alaska

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Lots of silver finishes in Edgumbe tourney

By DAN RUDY
Sentinel writer

A group of Wrangell's wrestlers were able to make it over to Sitka over the weekend, finishing with several high placements and an injury.

"It went well," said Jeff Rooney, the team's coach.

After taking a weekend off to recuperate from some injuries

and catch up on schoolwork, Wrangell started wrestling at Mount Edgumbe High School on December 1 with a round-robin tournament. The next day weight groups went into competitive bracket play.

"We had a few really good matches and some really good wrestling," said Rooney.

In the 113-weight group, Chase Kincaid placed first overall for his class. He opened with a 7-4 win by decision over the host team's freshman Ethan Cooke. Kincaid went on to win over Craig wrestler Matthew Colbert by 7-0 decision in the semifinal round, before coming up against Petersburg's Josh Coonrad. The Wrangell freshman was able to best the senior by 9-0 majority decision for the win.

In the 145-pound class, Ian Jenson earned the team 42.5 points with a second place finish. In his first round, Jenson won by 14-2 majority decision



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Beached bumper

An onlooker looks over an aluminum speedboat upturned onto the riprap early Saturday outside Wrangell airport. Emergency services responded to the scene and found the boat's operator to be uninjured following the accident. Alaska Wildlife Troopers had little to add on the matter, as no charges have been filed.

over Wayne Young from Sitka. He proceeded to win by technical fall over Metlakatla's Jacob Jametski in the next, and after a bye faced Sitka's Reilly Holden in the semifinals. Jenson won with a pin in 34 seconds, and after a closely contested match for first lost to Klawock's Jonas Heppe in a 4-2 decision.

Competing in the 152, Hunter Wiederspohn also finished in second. He began with a major decision win over Merrick Dundas from Meltakatla, 13-3. Afterward, Wiederspohn won by fall over Tristan Keely from Hood River Valley in 3:05. He finished his third round with a technical fall over Alex Andrews from the hosting team.

In the quarter- and semifinals, Wiederspohn finished with pins over Petersburg's Adam Ware and Craig's Maverick Ballard. Facing James Heppe from Klawock in the final, Heppe won by technical foul over the Wrangell senior. In all, Wiederspohn earned his team 46.5 points.

Like his other classmates, Dillon Rooney finished in second place for the 182 bracket. After winning by a 10-0 majority decision over Sully Shulz from Ketchikan in the opener, Rooney pinned Sitka's John Welsh in 2:53. He won next by fall over Brandon Ware from Petersburg in 2:31, and in the championship bracket won by technical fall over Thunder

Mountain's Camden Erickson. In the first-place match, another closely competed match ended with a close loss to TMHS's Derek Mason, who won by 2-1 decision.

In the 106, Jonah Comstock's tournament was cut short by an injury, his second of the season.

"He wrestled tough, and we're looking forward to seeing him come back," said Rooney.

The season has just about wound up for wrestling, and the team took off for Region V in Ketchikan yesterday. Depending on how they fare there, the Wolves may be headed to the State Championships in Anchorage the following weekend.

"I'm really proud of those boys," Rooney commented.

Senators tout cruise break in new tax bill

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – The cruise industry has dodged a tax increase after Alaska's U.S. senators helped strike the provision from the tax bill that passed the Senate.

The bill approved early Saturday includes other provisions that Alaska Republican Sens. Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan hailed as significant for Alaskans, including allowing oil and gas drilling on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Murkowski called the package "a critical milestone in our efforts to secure Alaska's future."

The measure also would provide tax benefits for Alaska Native corporations to encourage contributions to trusts that promote the health, education and welfare of beneficiaries and to help the funds grow.

The cruise ship tax provision could have impacted tourism, a major driver of an Alaska economy that has otherwise slowed in a recession because of persistently low oil prices.

This summer, more than 1 million tourists came to the state on cruise ships, and the industry anticipates breaking that record during the 2018 summer cruise season, said John Binkley, president of Cruise Lines International Association Alaska, a trade group.

"It's really one of the bright spots in the economy for Alaska, and I think Sen. Sullivan and Sen. Murkowski felt this would be another blow to

Alaska's economy if we tried to then restrict that growth or to slow down that growth in that sector," he said.

The provision would have applied to foreign ships, assessing a corporate tax based on their time in U.S. waters, Binkley said. By one estimate, it would have raised \$700 million over 10 years, though Binkley said there were no hearings to vet that estimate.

The tax increase would have applied to other U.S. ports as well. But ships operating in Alaska are in U.S. waters far longer than vessels leaving Miami for places such as the Caribbean or departing Los Angeles for Mexico, he said.

Critics feared the tax could have discouraged ships from routes where they would face higher taxes.

Sullivan and Murkowski said the tax would have disproportionately affected Alaska, particularly impacting communities that rely on cruise ship tourism. Sullivan lobbied Senate leadership and other lawmakers in getting the tax increase stripped from the bill, said Matt Shuckerow, a Sullivan spokesman.

The bill isn't a done deal; the House and Senate passed their own tax bills and differences between the two need to be hashed out. The cruise ship tax, however, was not in the House bill, Shuckerow said.

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Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH
Fisheries columnist

Tough year ahead for many Alaska fishermen

It's going to be a tough year for many Alaska fishermen.

Following on the heels of announcements of a massive drop in cod stocks, the industry learned last week that Pacific halibut catches are likely to drop by 20 percent next year, and the declines could continue for several years.

That could bring the coast wide catch for 2018, meaning from Oregon to British Columbia to the Bering Sea, to about 31 million pounds.

Scientists at the International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC) interim meeting in Seattle revealed that survey results showed halibut numbers were down 23 percent from last summer, and the total biomass (weight) dropped 10 percent. The surveys are done each year from May through September at nearly 1,500 stations from Oregon to the far reaches of the Bering Sea.

While the Pacific halibut catches have ticked up slightly over the past three years, indications of a fall back have been noted, said IPHC senior scientist Ian Stewart.

The biggest drop stems from a lack of younger fish entering the halibut fishery. Stewart said the 9

to 18 year old year classes that have been sustaining the recent halibut fishery are not being followed up by younger fish.

"In 2018, and especially projecting out to 2019, we are moving out of a fishery that is dominated by those relatively good recruitments starting in 1999 and extending to 2005. We see an increasing number of relatively poor recruitments stemming from at least 2009 and 2010," he explained.

Although they are not factoring them into their halibut catch computations, scientists for the first time are looking closely at environmental and habitat conditions, as well as trends in other fisheries.

Stewart said warmer waters starting in 2007 appear to correspond to the lower halibut year classes. Most relevant to the drop in halibut recruitment in recent years, as with Pacific cod, are the effects of "the blob".

"Especially through 2015 to 2016 we saw that warmer water extending even to deeper shelf waters in the Gulf of Alaska," he explained. "We've seen a big increase the last several years in pyrosomes, which are these nasty gelatinous zooplankton, well documented sea bird die offs and

whale strandings. So some abnormal things are going on in the Gulf."

The IPHC does not always follow the recommendations of its scientists. Final decisions will be made at the annual meeting Jan. 22-26 in Portland, Oregon.

Sport halibut hike - While commercial halibut catches are set to drop, charter operators will see an increase. A so called Recreational Quota Entity program was approved by the North Pacific Fishery Management Council that will allow halibut catch shares to be purchased and held in a common pool for charter operators to draw from as needed.

Under the plan, the RQE can hold 10 percent of the total commercial quota pool in Southeast Alaska and 12 percent from the Southcentral region, making it the single largest halibut-holding entity in the North Pacific.

The program would be phased in over 10 years with transfers of one percent and 1.2 percent from each region, respectively.

It is unclear where the RQE will get the estimated \$25 million needed to buy halibut shares.

Some have suggested a self-funding option such as a halibut stamp, similar to king salmon, or a voluntary tax.

The RQE program is strongly opposed by commercial fishermen. In written comments, the Halibut Coalition's Tom Gemmill stated that the RQE "undermines the goal of maintaining an owner operated fleet, and will force fishermen to compete for quota against a subsidized entity."

Linda Behnken, director of the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association, said charter effort has remained relatively constant or increased despite catch conservation measures.

"Charter operators claim their clients need more harvesting opportunity despite low abundance, ignoring the obvious need for all sectors to conserve during times of low abundance," Behnken said.

Longtime fisheries advocate Clem Tillion called RQEs the "death of a small boat, owner operated fishery" adding "Holland America and Carnival Cruise lines will buy the quota and hired hands will fish it, and the small boat fleet out of villages is gone."

The RQE plan is set to begin next year.


Gender on the agenda - Recognizing the roles of women in the seafood industry and making them more "visible" is the goal of the new group International Women in the Seafood Industry (WSI) and input is being gathered from around the world.

The non-profit, launched a year ago, was created by seafood and gender issues specialists to highlight imbalances in the industry, to shed light on women's real partic-

Continued on page 9

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Kris Reed
Board Secretary
Wrangell Medical Center
Publish: December 7, 2017

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CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL In-House and Public Announcement ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION RECREATION ASSISTANT PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department will begin to accept applications for the position of Recreation Assistants to establish an open pool of applicants for temporary help. The Parks and Recreation Department will be hiring from these applications, as needed, throughout the year. Applicants selected for this position will serve as a Recreation Assistant at Parks & Recreation and will be involved in recreational activities including department recreation programs, community events, facility rentals and other similar recreational services.

The Recreation Assistant position assists and supports in providing a safe and effective operation of recreation and education activities for the community, especially youth programs. Duties include providing oversight of facilities and activities, performing office functions at the swimming pool office, ensuring adherence to regulations and procedures, monitoring the security of premises, maintaining routine reports and general custodial duties. This position is offered training opportunities to gain additional skills to support in the operations of the aquatics programming.

The Recreation Assistant position will appeal to a candidate who thrives in a mission driven, team-centered environment while interacting with community members, families, and young children. The successful candidates must be sixteen and are required to possess a CPR/AED certification or an ability to gain one upon hire. Wrangell Parks and Recreation offers certifications courses to employees of the department. Also, opportunities for pay advancement are available through the part time employee progressive pay policy.

Applications will be accepted beginning November 21st, through December 31, 2017, at 5:00 p.m. At the end of this open enrollment period applicants would need to file a new application.

This is a temporary part time (20 hour) position, paid hourly at a Grade 1 ranging from \$9.80 to \$13.40 per hour. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs.

Applications may be returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929. For more information contact Kate Thomas at 907-874-2444.

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Lisa Von Bargen
Wrangell Borough Manager

Publish; November 30 and December 7, 2017

SSRAA - Nominations for Appointed Seats



DEADLINE EXTENDED TO DECEMBER 12, 2017

Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc. Board of Directors is soliciting nominations for the following appointed positions:

- Chamber of Commerce
- Native Corporation
- Municipal
- Processor
- Public at Large (2 Seats)
- Sport Fish
- Subsistence

These are two year terms beginning in January 2018. Nominations must be in writing and submitted to SSRAA, 14 Borch Street, Ketchikan, AK 99901 by December 12, 2017. For further information call Liz Jones at the administration office (907) 225-9605 or email: admin@ssraa.org.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

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

Kim Lane, Borough Clerk
City of Wrangell, Alaska
Publish: December 7, 2017

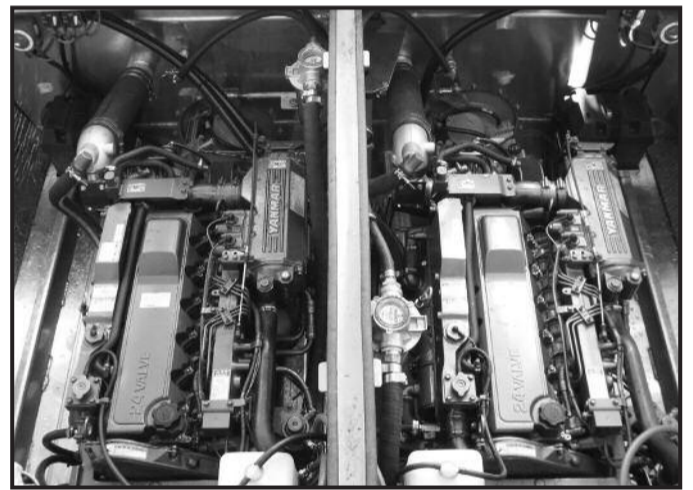


NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) will hold a Regular Board Meeting on December 13, 2017 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm and December 14, 2017 from 9:00 am to 12 noon AKST at the Borough Assembly Chambers in Petersburg, Alaska. During the meeting, the Board may enter into one or more executive sessions for discussions relating to an update on the Agency's hydrosite investigations and an annual evaluation of the Agency's CEO. For additional information, please call (907) 228-2281.

Publish: December 7, 2017

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5	3	8	2	9	6	7	1	4
4	2	9	1	7	5	6	8	3
7	6	1	3	8	2	4	5	9
8	9	4	6	5	7	3	2	1
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DON'T DANCE AROUND THE ISSUE!



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The deadline for classified ads is
12 pm Tuesday

Fish Factor

Continued from page 8

icipation and to promote greater diversity and inclusiveness.

One in two seafood workers is

a woman, WSI claims, yet they are over-represented in low skilled, low paying positions and account for less than 10 percent of com-

pany directors and a mere 1 percent of CEOs.

"There is a gender imbalance," said Marie Catherine Mon-

fort, WSI president and co-founder.

Monfort, who is based in Paris, has been working in the seafood industry for several decades, both as an economist and a seafood marketing analyst.

"I noticed that in most meetings I was surrounded by men, and I could only see men speaking in most conversations. Women were very numerous in this industry, but not very visible. They are not taken into account by the policy makers and by employers as well. That was the main motivation," she said in a phone conversation.

To gather more perceptions on women's roles in the industry, WSI launched a first of its kind survey in September at a World Seafood Congress in Iceland.

It went so well, she said, that WSI decided to translate the survey into French, English and Spanish and expand it to the entire world.

"The questions center around what is the position of women in your company, and what is your opinion of the situation of women in the industry. Are there areas where things could be improved, or maybe some feel there is no need for any improvement," Monfort said, adding that responses by both sexes are welcomed.

"It is very important to also collect men's opinions, and it will be interesting to see if men and women have the same or differing opinions," she said. "The results

will help us cultivate a better future with equal opportunities and increase awareness of women's roles in the seafood industry. The more we are, the stronger we will be."

The "Gender on the Agenda" survey is open through December, and results will be available by early March. Questions? Contact Monfort at contact@wsi-asso.org.

Crab wrap - The Bristol Bay red king crab wrapped up after about five weeks and by all accounts it was an uneventful season.

"Fishermen were seeing about what we expected from the survey, with a little bit slower fishing and pockets of crab without real wide distribution," said

Miranda Westphal, area management biologist for the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game in Dutch Harbor.

The red king crab catch quota this year of 6.6 million pounds was down 22 percent from last season, and the lowest catch since 1996.

The crab was "big and nice" said Jake Jacobsen, director of the Inter-Cooperative Exchange, a harvester group that catches 70 percent of the Bering Sea crab quota.

No word yet on price and Jacobsen said negotiations will likely continue into January. Red king crab averaged \$10.89 per pound to fishermen last year, the highest price ever. Jacobsen said the price is likely to be lower this year.

CITY OF WRANGELL
In-House and Public Announcement
ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITION
LIFEGUARD
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department will begin to accept applications for the position of Lifeguard to establish an open pool of applicants for temporary help. The Parks and Recreation Department will be hiring from these applications, as needed, throughout the year. The position includes Lifeguarding, facility custodial and clerical duties.

The lifeguard position assists and supports in providing a safe and recreational swimming pool environment for the community. The position requires the knowledge and ability to encourage compliance with pool policies and facility expectations for users. Lifeguards are expected to perform the necessary rescue techniques in the event of a land and/or water based emergencies, which requires leadership and knowledge of the national lifeguard standards and best practices, along with facility procedures. This position also supports in the facilitation and instruction of the Learn-to-Swim lessons held throughout the year.

The lifeguard position will appeal to a candidate who thrives in a mission driven, team-centered environment while interacting with members of public including young children. The successful candidates must be sixteen and are required to possess a nationally recognized Lifeguard and CPR/AED certification or an ability to gain one upon hire. Wrangell Parks and Recreation offers lifeguard certification courses that are open to the community and employees of the department. The department offers opportunities for pay advancement through the part time employee progressive pay policy.

Applications will be accepted beginning November 21st, through December 31, 2018, at 5:00 p.m. At the end of this open enrollment period applicants would need to file a new application.

This is a temporary part time (20 hour) position, paid hourly at a Grade 1 ranging from \$9.80 to \$13.40 per hour. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs.

Applications may be returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929. For more information contact Kate Thomas at 907-874-2444.

The City of Wrangell is an equal opportunity employer.

Lisa Von Bargaen
 Wrangell Borough Manager

Publish: November 30 and December 7, 2017

Comics

Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Use an old phone
- 5 Plastic user's accumulation
- 9 Yon bloke
- 12 Resting
- 13 Neighborhood
- 14 Expert
- 15 Shipwreck site
- 16 Ancient Briton
- 17 Say it's OK
- 18 It's right on the map
- 19 Shell game need
- 20 Took the bus
- 21 - canto
- 23 Mainlander's memento

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
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39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			
54				55				56			

- 48 Fond du — horse
- 25 Flower cluster
- 28 Heckle or Jeckle
- 32 Baking potato
- 33 Any of four that chase Pac-Man
- 34 Aberration
- 36 Last syllable of a word
- 37 Ultra-modernist
- 38 Meadow
- 39 Dressed
- 42 State of matter
- 44 Infamous lyre player
- 49 Abrupt
- 50 Fed
- 51 Bonfire residue
- 52 Soft cheese
- 53 Dryer collection
- 54 "How come?"
- 55 Celeb
- 56 Therefore
- 48 Fond du — horse
- 6 Huron neighbor
- 7 Soothe
- 8 Body art, for short
- 9 Good ring?
- 10 On the rocks
- 11 Apportion (out)
- 20 90 degrees
- 22 Overact
- 24 American emblem
- 25 Carnival city
- 26 Throw in
- 27 Scoundrel
- 29 Luau bowlful
- 30 Doctrine
- 31 Greek H
- 35 Dairy-section item
- 36 Overcoat named for a region of Ireland
- 39 Talon
- 40 Whip
- 41 Sore
- 43 Bocelli show-stopper
- 45 Eastern bigwig
- 46 Pealed
- 47 Aware of
- 49 Letterman's employer

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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	8		5					4
1	4			6	9			
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	2			7		6		
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

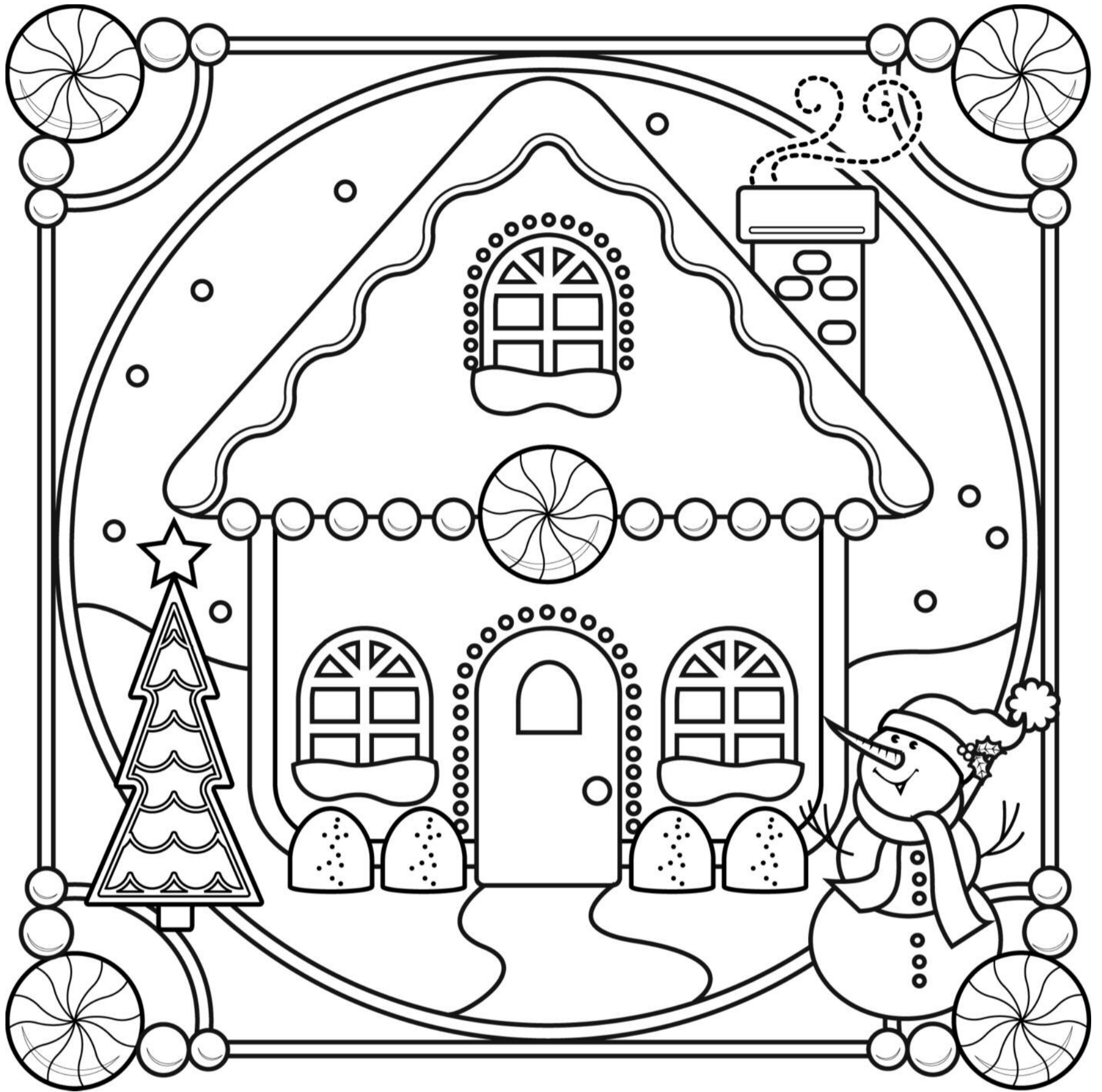
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Puzzle answers on page 10

Coloring Contest



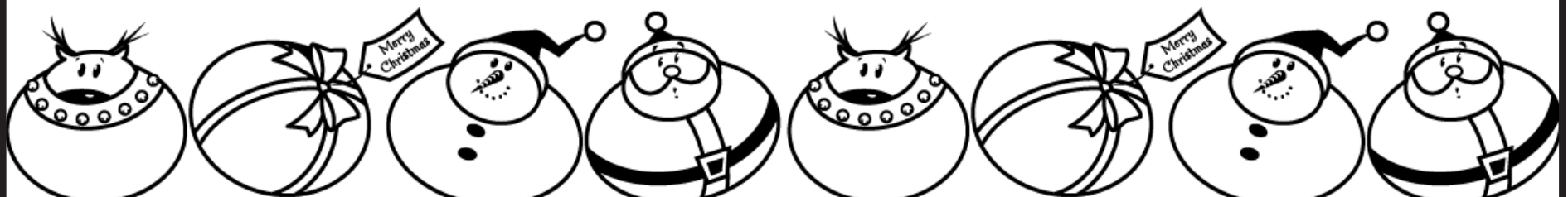
Name: _____ **Age:** _____ **Phone:** _____

Enter to win one of these great prizes:

- 1st Place - \$20 Cash**
- 2nd Place - \$15 Cash**
- 3rd Place - \$10 Cash**

1) No purchase necessary to enter. 2) Open to children ages 5-10. 3) Entry must be on original Sentinel newspaper, no copies allowed, one entry per child. 4) Pictures may be colored with crayons, markers or colored pencils. 5) Entries will not be returned. All entries become property of this newspaper and may be used accordingly. 6) Decision of judges is final. 7) Drop off entries by 5 pm on Friday, December 15th at the Sentinel during regular business hours or mail to: Wrangell Sentinel, Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929. 8) Winners will be announced in the December 21st edition of the Sentinel and displayed in the store for one week.

— Sponsored by Wrangell Sentinel —



Assembly

Continued from page 1

by hackers last month. While she had been away at the Alaska Municipal League annual conference last month, Von Bargen said the city finance director had received an email from her office account requesting transfer of city funds to a specific account.

"It said it was coming from somewhere in the hotel," she said, adding that her computer had not been in use at the time.

A report has since been submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and since changing passwords on the accounts no further issue has been detected. However, Von Bargen said the incident showed city services needed to consolidate their technological management. Hitherto, individual users have been responsible for their devices' security and maintenance, with occasional assistance contracted in.

"We need a comprehensive approach to IT management here at the borough," she said.

A proposal before the Assembly could be expected either later in January or at its first February meeting. Funding for the item was never written into the budget, so any position created would likely

Bidder backs out of deal to turn Taku into hotel

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – The bidder who planned to purchase Alaska's ferry Taku and turn it into a waterfront hotel and restaurant in Oregon has backed out of the deal.

The sale of the 352-foot surplus vessel was expected to close in early December. But the winning bidder withdrew, citing factors such as regulatory problems in Portland, said Aurah Landau, a spokeswoman for the Alaska Department of Transportation and Facilities.

Portland resident Jonathan Cohen offered \$300,000 for the ferry on behalf of KeyMar LLC in September, the Juneau Empire reported Friday. The group of investors planned to transform the mothballed ferry into a floating hotel at a pier in northwest Portland. Their bid was six times higher than the next bid.

The newspaper was unable to reach Cohen for a comment this week.

The state offered the ferry to the second and third highest bidders after the Portland group withdrew in November. The new winning bid of \$171,000 was from Jabal Al Lawz Trading Est. of Dubai, Landau said. The deal is still being worked out as the final sales terms and agreements are negotiated, Landau said.

A company spokesman said Wednesday that the state had not given official notice on accepting their bid. The spokesman said the company plans give the ferry a new life in the Philippines.

The ferry, built in 1963, part of Alaska's ferry system for more than 50 years. It was taken out of service in June 2015 and moored in Ketchikan.

need to be funded through drawn reserves.

Assembly members shot down in a majority vote a proposal for money towards a legal appeal against the Forest Service's Roadless Rule. The request for \$5,000 was made by Jim Clark, a Juneau attorney who since 2014 has twice approached the borough for financial support for similar efforts.

The filing appeals a legal judgment entered on September 20 upholding the rule. Proponents of the challenge explain overturning it would open up development in restrictive sites such as the Tongass National Forest. The communities of Craig and Ketchikan were among

other entities already lending financial support to this particular effort, and city staff notes indicated Wrangell's contribution would come from its community promotions budget.

Assembly members had mixed reactions to the request.

Voicing his opposition, Stephen Prysunka noted the last request, for \$3,000, had been rejected by the Assembly. In October 2014 it had previously approved \$5,000 for a suit over the Big Thorne timber sale.

"This is now the third time that we've been asked to contribute to legal actions on these timber issues," he said. "There was a very strong consensus at that time that this would be the

only time we would contribute."

Participating by phone, Decker was in support of the request, noting the impacts of overturning the rule could be beneficial to the community and others like it. "There's a lot of other groups we have a mutual interest with," she commented. "It's actually a pretty broad issue."

Other ways around the rule exist, however, such as an appropriations amendment by Sen. Lisa Murkowski currently being considered in committee.

"We can keep throwing money at it, and I think we have a better chance with our senators," said member Patty Gilbert.

With six members present, a

four-strong majority voted 'no' on the item after discussions.

In its last item, Assembly members again voted to postpone a vote on a proposal to waive city code to allow First Bank to appoint a new lessee on boatyard lots without their approval. The contention relates to loan services sought by contractor Don Sorric, who leases two lots at the city's Marine Service Center.

Code's proscriptions aside, Von Bargen explained there would be a number of unknowns for the city if it ceded its discretion over the lease to a lender. There could be code conflicts with the bank's selection, for example, or arbitrary subdivisions made to the lot.

"Letters To Santa"

Make sure Santa gets your wish list!



Hey Kids! It's time to write those special letters to Santa!

Old Saint Nick is anxious to find out what Wrangell boys and girls are hoping to find under their trees on Christmas morning. He's also interested in knowing your name, grade in school and your age.

Drop off your letters in Santa's Mailbox located in the Wrangell Sentinel office at 205 Front St.

Letters can also be mailed through the post office or emailed to the addresses below.

The Sentinel will publish Letters to Santa in the special Christmas Edition, Dec. 21st

Deadline for letters is Friday, December 15th at 5 pm

Note: Letters will be published on a "first in first published"

basis, according to space available.

Letters are subject to editing.

Santa

P.O.Box 798, Wrangell, AK 99929

or email to

wrgsent@gmail.com