



Wrangell, Alaska  
August 29, 2019

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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## Assembly considers major power plant renovations, voices support for changes to PILT Parity Act payment

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

The Wrangell Borough Assembly met Tuesday evening, Aug. 27, for their regularly scheduled meeting. A work session was held prior to the meeting to discuss the potential demolition and replacement of part of Wrangell's power plant. The city recently contacted PND Engineers out of Juneau for a structural analysis of the concrete section of the power plant, according to the meeting's agenda packet. PND Engineers had performed an analysis on the building back in 2007, it was determined.

According to this 2007 report, the building has numerous problems that pose potential safety risks. Among these problems are poor resistance to lateral loads at the roof and wall connections, asbestos and lead paint, spalling on concrete walls, cracks in the walls, and rusting steel reinforcements among other issues.

"Structural calculations show that portions of the building are overstressed with the steel roof trusses being inadequate to support roof dead weight and snow loads, walls and pilasters that are under-reinforced, and walls that may fail to withstand local wind forces," the agenda packet reads. "Seismic evaluations show that the building would likely not withstand a large earthquake and would likely also result in damage to the connected steel-framed section of the building, which houses the community's diesel power generators."

The engineers' recommendation in 2007 was that the concrete building be demolished and replaced. Now, in 2019, city officials stated that this has been put off for far too long and is a necessity. Why this is such a problem is because it not only puts city employees at risk, should the concrete building collapse, but it could bring down the steel building next door that houses the city's diesel generators, as the two facilities share a wall.

"I cannot stress enough what a critical issue this is, how this is going to reprioritize the work not only for Amber [Al-Haddad] as the capital facilities director but how we're using our money in the electric department," Borough Manager Lisa Von Barga said. "What I will tell you is the status quo or a do-nothing alternative is absolutely not an option."

Rod Rhoades, electrical supervisor, went into a little more detail on the complexity of the issue. To tear down the concrete building, he said, the steel building will have to be laterally reinforced. Once the concrete building is taken down, there will only be three walls holding the structure up. The way it is designed right now, he said, is that there is the possibility that the building could just lean over and collapse if not properly reinforced. There is also the question of where and how to relocate the municipal light and power department and its operations while all these renovations occur, he said. Rhoades also added that, until this situation is handled, he feels it is necessary to put some projects on hold, such as installing the recently purchased diesel generators from Nome.

As this was only a work session and not part of the official assembly meeting, no formal action was taken. Von Barga said that PND Engineers should be getting back to them with rough cost estimates for several proposed solutions to this problem in the near future.

Rhoades approached the board with a proposal to create a new job position within his department, an apprenticeship under the lead operator. The current lead operator handles a very important job and has a lot of knowledge, Rhoades said, and he wants to ensure that some of that knowledge of the job is passed on. This was only a discussion item, so the assembly did not cast any votes regarding this proposal.

During the meeting, the assembly also voted in favor of a resolution supporting the Small Community PILT Parity Act. This past July, Senator Lisa Murkowski introduced this act to change the formula of the PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) calculation, which would enable more funds to flow to small population counties. The PILT payment is made to small communities with large areas of federal land, such as the Tongass National Rainforest, within their jurisdictions that cannot be developed. According to the agenda packet, 97 percent of the land within the Wrangell borough is federally owned, and the PILT payment "provides only a fraction of the tax revenue the Borough would see if those lands were developed." This resolution was passed unanimously by the

board.

Other items covered in the meeting include various amendments to the FY2020

budget, the adoption of an ordinance changing the time of assembly meetings from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m., and authorizing the

borough manager to dispose of any city surplus items that were not bid on during a recent surplus sale.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Ayla and Amanda Harris were two of the many volunteers who came out last Sunday to clean up Evergreen Elementary's playground.

## Playground cleaned up



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Broden Freeberg helps to sweep leaves and dirt off the Evergreen Elementary School playground.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, August 29:** Kara Carey, Donna Grover. *Anniversary:* DJ & Lindsey McConachie, Jeff & Jenn Neyman. **Friday, August 30:** Theresa Paulsen. *Anniversary:* Jeff & Kay Jabusch, Tom & Seanne Wickman, Andrew & Lauren Helgeson. **Saturday, August 31:** Scott Eastaugh, Joel Peterman, Rose Johnson. **Sunday, September 1:** Joshua Campbell, Toni Guggenbickler. **Monday, September 2:** Laura Holder, Allen Taylor, Kameron Stough, Tristian Botsford, Kristen Atkins, Clara Haley. **Tuesday, September 3:** Janice Churchill, Tasha Peterman, Colby Nore, Shailyn Nelson. *Anniversary:* Daniel & Shelley Powers. **Wednesday, September 4:** Kenny Speers, Rynda Hayes. *Anniversary:* Paul & Bonnie Stutz, Glenn & Rebecca Smith. **Thursday, September 5:** Sandra Byrd, Luke Steele, Helen Keller, Jason Rooney, Devan Massin, Randy Oliver. *Anniversary:* Matt & Margo Walker-Scott.

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

## Senior Center Menu

### Thursday, August 29

Baked White Fish, Peas, Cabbage, Pear, Raisin Salad, Sweet Potatoes

### Friday, August 30

1/2 Chicken Sandwich, Minestrone Soup, Romaine & Tomato Salad

### Monday, September 2

**CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY**

### Tuesday, September 3

Sloppy Joes, Mexicali Vegetables, Texas Cole Slaw, Bun,

### Wednesday, September 4

Ham Sandwich, Cup of Tomato Soup, Whole Wheat Bread, Green Lettuce and Tomato Slice

### Thursday, September 5

Chicken Adobo, Carrots, Spicy Fruit Cup, Rice

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, August 31**

Malaspina 10:15 a.m.

**Sunday, September 1**

Columbia 2:15 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 3**

Malaspina 5:00 p.m.

**Saturday, September 7**

Malaspina 10:30 a.m.

**Sunday, September 8**

Columbia 3:45 p.m.

#### Southbound

**Friday, August 30**

Malaspina 1:00 a.m.

**Monday, September 2**

Malaspina 6:30 a.m.

**Wednesday, September 4**

Columbia 6:00 a.m.

**Thursday, September 5**

Malaspina 10:00 p.m.

**Monday, September 9**

Malaspina 4:45 a.m.

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



## TIDES Aug 29 - Sept 5

	High Tides		Low Tides		AM	PM	AM	PM	Ft	Ft	Time	Ft
	AM	PM	AM	PM								
<b>August 29</b>	0:13	18.0	1:07	16.5	6:39	-2.7	6:48	1.0				
<b>August 30</b>	1:03	18.9	1:49	17.5	7:22	-3.4	7:35	-0.2				
<b>August 31</b>	1:51	19.3	2:30	18.2	8:04	-3.5	8:20	-1.0				
<b>September 1</b>	2:38	19.0	3:10	18.4	8:45	-2.9	9:06	-1.3				
<b>September 2</b>	3:25	18.2	1:51	18.3	9:26	-1.8	9:54	-1.1				
<b>September 3</b>	4:13	16.9	4:34	17.6	10:09	-0.4	10:45	-0.4				
<b>September 4</b>	5:05	15.2	5:21	16.7	10:54	1.3	11:40	0.5				
<b>September 5</b>	6:04	13.6	6:15	15.5	11:44	3.1	...	...				

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

**Friday, August 30**

**WCA Grand Opening:** New WCA building 1002 Zimovia Hwy, 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, September 4**

**Parks & Rec Meeting:** City Hall, 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, September 5**

**Port Commission Meeting:** City Hall, 7:00 p.m.

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

## Continuing Events

**PARKS & REC ACTIVITIES:** Mid-day closure: M-F 1:30-3:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

### Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class:

M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Water Aerobics:

M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Lap Swim:

M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

2 Lane Lap Swim:

TuTh 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sa 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Lap/Tot Swim:

M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Swim Club:

MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Open Swim:

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

**Weight Room:** M-Thu 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m. F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m. S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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

### MEETINGS

#### AA Meetings:

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

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

### August 28, 1919

For the first time in the history of the Alaska Customs district the number of vessels documented in Alaska has passed the 1,000 mark. The close of the fiscal year, June 30 found 1,018 vessels of all sizes and classes registered with homeports in Alaska. For some years Alaska has been near the 1,000 mark in the number of vessels registered, but never quite reached it.

The average size for vessels in Alaska is not large on account of the great number of small craft engaged in the fisheries. The total tonnage of the 1,018 vessels which homeport in this Territory is 79,584, an average of a little over 78 tons each.

In addition to this vast registered mosquito fleet there are hundreds of craft that are below 15 tons in size, and therefore do not require registering.

### September 1, 1944

The report of The Salvation Army Sponsoring committee is that \$500 in cash has been received up to this date. With a number of prospective donors yet to be heard from as well as those who have promised to mail their subscriptions it is hoped that the campaign quota of \$800 will soon be reached.

In keeping with Salvation Army standards in the United States, an Advisory board for the Wrangell corps has been formed. The local board elected Mrs. Frank Barnes as chairman, and W. D. Sinclair as treasurer. Wrangell has the distinction of having the first Advisory board in Alaska under the new American administration.

Brig. C. O. Taylor, divisional commander for Alaska, states that boards will be formed in all the larger Alaska towns.

### August 28, 1969

Wrangell Lumber Co. ranked 81 in the top 100 U.S. - Canada sawmills in 1968, having produced 100.8 million board feet of lumber according to a survey made by the trade magazine "Forest Industries."

Wrangell Lumber Co. competed with combines, such as Georgia Pacific Corp., which

consists of 34 mills, none of which individually produced the board net which Wrangell Lumber Co. produced.

Teamwork, progressing management, and Japanese capital have combined to bring the mill, which 10 years ago was not listed in the top 100 producers, to the high level of proficiency it has reached today. Attention to the full utilization of forest products has brought about the addition of a chip mill and a d-barker. Improved methods are evident throughout the plant, affecting practically every phase of the operation, and include an enlarged pond, improved log handling and cutoff equipment and new bundling equipment, which allows unit stowage aboard ship with a minimum of lost space.

### September 1, 1994

A Tlingit mourning song, led by Marge Byrd, marked removal

of Tagook's totem from City Hall lawn Tuesday morning. City council was forced to have the totem taken down because rot at the base made it vulnerable to toppling by winds. After first removing the 15-foot hat from the 65-foot totem, the towering sculpture was cut off at the bottom while being supported by a crane. Loaded onto a flat-bed truck, the well-known landmark will be stored until it can be restored. The totem was carved by Charlie Tagook of Haines, said to be "the last of the great Indian carvers." Unveiled during a 1940 potlatch, the totem depicts designs of several family trees. It once stood near the location of Stikine Inn, receiving little attention after a fire in 1952 destroyed much of the business area around it. It was restored in 1974 and placed on the landfill area near City Hall at the time.



**\*TWO MOVIE SHOWINGS\***

**SHOWTIMES:**

**FRIDAY, AUG. 30 - SUNDAY, SEPT. 1**

### DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD

5 pm each night

Rated PG • 1h 42min • Adventure, Family

### ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD

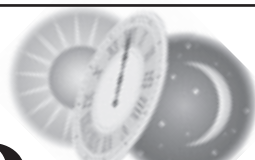
8 pm each night

Rated R - 2hrs 41mins - Comedy, Drama



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
<b>Aug. 19</b>	60	51
<b>Aug. 20</b>	55	48
<b>Aug. 21</b>	60	50
<b>Aug. 22</b>	55	51
<b>Aug. 23</b>	59	52
<b>Aug. 24</b>	61	53
<b>Aug. 25</b>	61	53
<b>Aug. 26</b>	60	53



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
<b>Aug 29</b>	5:44 am	7:53 pm	14:09h
<b>Aug 30</b>	5:46 am	7:50 pm	14:04h
<b>Aug 31</b>	5:48 am	7:48 pm	14:00h
<b>Sept 01</b>	5:50 am	7:45 pm	13:55h
<b>Sept 02</b>	5:52 am	7:42 pm	13:50h
<b>Sept 03</b>	5:54 am	7:40 pm	13:46h
<b>Sept 04</b>	5:56 am	7:37 pm	13:41h
<b>Sept 05</b>	5:58 am	7:35 pm	13:37h

# Juneau diocese releases names of seven with sexual misconduct allegations

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The Diocese of Juneau released a letter and report last Wednesday, Aug. 21, naming seven people with allegations of sexual misconduct against minors and/or vulnerable adults. The letter, signed by Bishop Andrew Bellisario, states that these seven names have been released upon the conclusion of an independent review of the diocese's personnel files from 1951 to the present.

The Independent Commission which led this review was established last December, according to the letter, and was staffed by "highly qualified and respected" members of the community. Dominique Johnson, communications director for the diocese, said that the commission was fully independent from the diocese. Commission members include retired police Lieutenant Kris Sell, retired Judge Patricia Collins, retired Judge Thomas Schulz, and later on retired Judge Keith Levy and retired Judge Thomas Nave.

"The Independent Commission worked diligently and professionally," Bellisario wrote in the letter. "They have completed their review of all of the personnel files in possession of the Diocese of Juneau in the archives and in the Chancery office. I am deeply grateful to all five members, and you have my sincerest thanks."

Included in the seven names listed was Michael Nash. Nash served as a priest with the Diocese of Juneau for several decades, starting at St. Paul's Church in Juneau in 1980. From 1988 to 1996 he served at St. Catherine of Siena, in Petersburg. He was dismissed from the cler-

ical state in 2005, according to the report. Afterwards, he pursued a career in law. He was admitted into the Alaska Bar Association in 2011, and worked and lived in Wrangell for several years before passing away in a plane crash, on July 11 this year.

According to the report, Nash is alleged to have conducted sexual misconduct involving minors from 1979 to 1982. In those years he served in Juneau and began working with Holy Name Church in Ketchikan, as well as St. John's Mission in Klawock. He also served as Director of Vocations for the diocese from 1980 to 1995.

Johnson said that he could not go into any further detail regarding those allegations. However, a state supreme court opinion (No. S-13405) regarding Nash and a denied application to the state bar association, where the state ruled in Nash's favor, some details were mentioned.

According to the opinion, in 1992 and 2002 a person listed as "J.P." came forward with allegations that Nash had sexually abused him from the period of 1979 to 1982. The 1992 allegations were reportedly investigated by Bishop Michael Kenny of the diocese, but were found not credible. The 2002 allegations were turned over to Alaska Special Assistant Attorney General Richard Svobodney, the opinion reads, but he declined to prosecute.

Johnson said that the purpose of this investigation was to find if any allegations had credible evidence to them, which the Independent Commission determined by applying a "probable cause" standard, according to the diocese's report. This standard is used by judges and members of



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Telephone pole replacement along Church Street

A section of Church Street was closed off Tuesday morning, Aug. 27, to allow Wrangell Municipal Light & Power to erect a new telephone pole. According to Rod Rhoades, with the light & power department, there are three telephone poles along the street they are replacing. This is leftover work from a project that was budgeted last year, he explained.

the criminal justice system to determine whether there is "a sufficient basis to issue a search warrant, to arrest an individual, or to charge an individual with a crime." Probable cause, the report reads, means that there is a reasonable basis for believing that an alleged event occurred. The report also states that probable cause is not proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

"I do want to say here, first and foremost to the people who have been harmed in any way whatsoever from clerical sexual abuse, certainly those present in Southeast Alaska, those present in our diocese, anyone who has been affected by anybody on the

list I put forth, but broader than that anyone who has been harmed in such an egregious way, I want to offer a very sincere apology," Bellisario said in a video shared by the Juneau Empire.

Johnson said that the report was made in the name of transparency and keeping the public informed. Many of the allegations listed in the report have already been reported to the authorities, he said, and it is up to them to decide whether or not to further investigate or prosecute the seven people mentioned. Johnson also added that while the Independent Commission's work is complete, for now, it or its successor will look into any future allegations that are

made.

The other six people named in the report are Francis A. Cowgill, Javier Gutierrez, Patrick Hurley, Edmund Penisten, Frederick Raehsler, and Henry Leo Sweeney. According to the report, anyone who has faced sexual abuse by a member of the diocese or wider Catholic Church is encouraged to come forward and file a report with local law enforcement. Another option is to contact Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator Robbie Izzard at (907) 586-2227 x 25 or vac@dioceseofjuneau.org, and they will report it to local law enforcement. Bellisario's letter and the full report can be found online at www.dioceseofjuneau.org.

## Wrangell Police arrest suspect in weekend crime spree

On the evening of Friday, August 23, 2019, the Wrangell Police Department began receiving reports of buildings and vehicles being unlawfully entered. The theft of three vehicles were also reported. Three Wrangell Police Department officers began investigations immediately, which continued through the following day. Access to surveillance systems provided by several local residents and businesses greatly aided in the investigation and identification of the suspect. A timeline of events was established.

On the afternoon of Saturday, August 24,

2019, officers located the suspect at the Wrangell Airport. California resident, Ismael Morales, 21, was arrested and charged with eleven criminal counts including Burglary, Theft, Criminal Trespass and Vehicle Theft. Alcohol was a factor during these crimes. Mr. Morales is currently in custody in Wrangell and is being held on \$5,000 bail.

As a reminder about the due process of rights, these charges are considered accusations and the defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty in a court of law.

## Police report

### August 19

Nothing to report

### August 20

Disturbance.

Vehicle Check.

### August 21

Citizen assist: Unlock vehicle.

Probation violation/DUI/Refusal: Arrested Aaron Young, 23.

Suspicious Activity.

### August 22

Parking complaint.

Illegal dumping.

Traffic: Driving without a license.

Agency assist: Dead deer.

Agency assist: FD.

Fireworks.

### August 23

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for faulty airbrake light.

Citizen assist: Vehicle unlock.

Civil matter.

Burglary.

Noise complaint.

Vehicle theft.

### August 24

Theft/civil issue.

Disturbance.

Stolen or lost property.

### August 25

Suspicious vehicle.

Agency assist: Public works.

Alarm.

Welfare check: Person is fine.

During this reporting period there were three EMS requests and 1 animal complaint.

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# Swim team bigger and striving for better

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell High School Swim Team held a parent/student meeting last Wednesday, Aug. 21. Coach Jamie Roberts called everyone together to give them a basic overview of what the upcoming season will look like, and to discuss her expectations from the team. In short, she expects everyone to do their best and push their limits.

"I want your kids to show up to practice with a good attitude, bad attitudes are contagious," she said. "They just have to give their best effort when they show up. Show up on time, if you're not going to be there let me know, I do track attendance. Whenever you are out and about representing Wrangell High School as a swimmer, or even as a student, that reflects on your school and your coaches, so we just ask that you be respectful, polite, have good team spirit, good sportsmanship."

Roberts also emphasized that she wants her swimmers to always put school first ahead of sports, and to keep their grades up. She also told them to keep in shape and be careful about how they are eating and that they should

avoid sodas and energy drinks for the season.

Another update Roberts had is that the team has grown from last year. Last year's swim team had eight members, she said. This year they are up to 11, with the possibility of two more signing on later. This is exciting news, Roberts said, because they finally have enough swimmers for a boys' relay team, and not just a girls' relay team. Though she is managing more swimmers, she said that the goal for the team remains the same: Keep pushing to be better.

"Basically we use our meets as an opportunity to see how our training is going, and practice, and to keep pushing us to excel as we head into regionals in early November," she said.

The swim season officially opened on Aug. 7. Their first meet was originally scheduled for Sept. 6 and 7 in Sitka. However, due to budget constraints, Roberts said that they would be skipping this meet. The Wrangell swim team will travel to Juneau on Sept. 20 and 21 for their first meet. The season will go until regionals on Nov. 1 and 2, followed by the state championship in Anchorage on Nov. 8 and 9.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Fish fry draws crowds and funds

The Mariners' Memorial fish fry was a success, according to board president Jenn Miller-Yancey. Despite rainy weather forcing the event to relocate from Heritage Harbor to the downtown pavilion, many people came out for dinner and a silent auction. According to board member Brennon Eagle, the dinner raised \$3,500 while the silent auction brought in another \$1,400. The proceeds are also eligible to be matched by the board's Rasmuson challenge grant. Pictured here are board member John Yeager (left) and Wrangell Harbor Master Greg Meissner (right) preparing food.

# AP and "Encore" classes providing opportunities for Wrangell students

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

With the new school year comes a wide variety of new opportunities: To make new friends, to get better grades, to try a new sport, the list goes on. The Wrangell School District is helping provide some of these opportunities by providing new classes this year. At the high school level, students can get a jumpstart on their college careers with AP physics. Meanwhile, in Stikine Middle School, "Encore" classes are being provided to let kids explore different avenues of education.

According to teacher Donna Massin, her AP physics class is the first of its kind in Wrangell High School, to her knowledge. As an advanced placement class, she said, many universities will accept the class for college credit, depending on the student's end-of-the-year test. She said that the class is usually made up of students in 11th and 12th grade, so those who are starting to put serious thought into their post-high school education. That may not always be the case going forward, she added, since a number of students in the district have been rising through math courses at a rapid pace. There are several advantages to taking an AP class, she said.

"One aspect is money saving ... much less than a college class," Massin said. "Depending

on what you're going into it could take care of some of your general ed requirements. Even if you're not going into science you can have that taken care of, and just to get an idea of what the coursework would be like."

High school students are not the only ones with new opportunities this year. Secondary School Principal David Macri said that the middle school is providing kids with "Encore" classes to help expand their interests. There are about half a dozen of these classes this year, he said, and include drama, debate, health, and home economics.

"Middle school is actually more of an exploratory nature than high school," Macri said. "High school is a little more direct, but in middle school they

get to explore so you need to have a lot of choices out there for students to get into."

These are not elective classes, Macri said, the students are placed into these classes without their choice. This may not sound "exploratory" as Macri said, but he explained that the Encore classes are designed to expand students' horizons and let them know what kind of opportunities they can pursue later on in their education. If middle school students stick with what is familiar to them then they cannot grow, he said. It is meant to show the students what is out there.

"This is just good schooling," Macri said. "This is schooling that should be offered to every adolescent under the age of 15,

16, so that they have an opportunity to actually see some dif-

ferent things than what they're used to seeing."

**The**  
**WRANGELL SENTINEL**  
**Will Be**  
**CLOSED**  
**LABORDAY**  
**Monday, September 2**

**WRANGELL SENTINEL** **874-2301**  
**205 Front St.**  
**wrgsent@gmail.com**

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# Economic Development Committee discusses community prioritization survey, Central Tongass Project

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

Wrangell's Economic Development Committee met for the first time in almost a year last Thursday, Aug. 22, according to EDC Chair Julie Decker. Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore said that the committee is meant to meet

quarterly, but that she didn't want to call together meetings just for the sake of having meetings. With two recent developments that are likely to impact Wrangell's economy, though, a meeting was finally organized.

The two main items on the evening's agenda were in regards to the Wrangell Coopera-

tive Association's community prioritization survey, and the Forest Service's Central Tongass project.

The community prioritization survey was the conclusion of several months of work by Ruby McMurren and Talea Massin of the WCA, working under an Administration for Native Americans grant to combat the outmigration of Wrangell's native community. The survey they recently put out, with the help of Rain Coast Data, garnered over 400 responses from across the community. These responses are designed to help figure out what the public wants to see improved around town, especially in the areas of housing, economic development, and healthcare.

Among some of the ideas being put together, according to McMurren and Massin, include increasing the amount of outdoor recreation activities for youth, repairing aging infrastructure around the city, providing vocational training in the

maritime industries for high schoolers, and organizing a tourism company within the WCA to promote Wrangell's historic and cultural assets.

Another item that was heavily discussed in the meeting was development of the old Institute property. Turning the property into a residential area, for example, could help alleviate some of the city's housing demands.

"We are looking at that as a potential partnership [with the city] there," McMurren said.

McMurren added that the ANA grant expires in late September, so she and Massin are working hard to wrap up their project as soon as possible. A full comprehensive action plan, of what the WCA hopes to accomplish, is expected to be ready for release in the near future.

Another topic covered in the meeting was the ongoing Central Tongass Landscape Level Analysis. This is a large project that is being undertaken by the Forest Service, covering both the Wrangell and Petersburg ranger districts. Klint Kolarich, Wrangell's new district ranger, Supervisory Forester Austin O'Brien, and USFS Team Leader Carey Case were present to answer questions.

The Central Tongass Project is looking at a series of long-term projects the Forest Service can do that seeks to improve recreational and economic opportunities within the two districts, while also maintaining minimal impact to the wider environment. The project is looking at a wide variety of projects over a 15 year period. All of these projects fit into four broad categories, Case said: Watershed restoration, vegetation management, recreation management, and access management.

Projects within the watershed restoration category include stream restoration, culvert replacement, and possibly stream or subsistence enhancements for fisheries. Vegetation management projects include things like

timber harvests, Case said. Recreation management could include trail and cabin construction, facility maintenance, and future project development. Lastly, Case said, access management includes things like road management, subsistence needs, and shore-to-water access.

"So with the Central Tongass Project what you're seeing is something different where we're not planning out, 'Hey, here's all the specific things we're going to do in all these specific places,' but rather saying, 'Hey, we'd like to be able to better respond to things you'd like us to do over a longer term,'" Case said. "So we're trying to do a lot of our planning effort up front, but then provide more of a framework on how we can then implement certain types of projects as we move through the implementation phase."

"One of our challenges is how do we do more work, or plan for more work across the landscape, in a more efficient manner?" added Kolarich.

A draft environmental impact statement of the Central Tongass Project was released back in July. There is a 45-day comment period open to the public, the Forest Service representatives explained, which closes on Sept. 16. There will also be public meetings regarding the project and the environmental impact statement in Wrangell and Petersburg soon. According to a letter from Petersburg District Ranger Ted Sandhofer, the Wrangell meeting will take place on Sept. 3 at the Nolan Center beginning at 5 p.m. The Petersburg meetings will take place on Sept. 4 at the Petersburg Lutheran Holy Cross House at noon and again at 5 p.m. Hearings regarding subsistence users and the project will take place after the public meetings. More information regarding the Central Tongass Project can be found online at [www.fs.usda.gov](http://www.fs.usda.gov) under the "Land Resources and Management" tab.



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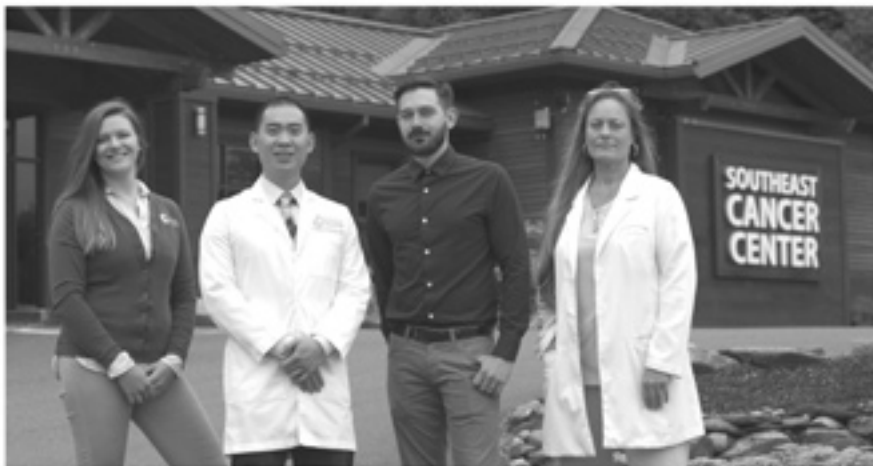
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# Four residents become U.S. citizens

By BRAIN VARELA  
Sentinel writer

In the past year, at least four citizens from Petersburg and Wrangell have sought and gained their U.S. citizenship to be with their families and for peace of mind.

Elisa Teodori originates from Italy, but moved to Petersburg after she met her husband, Tor Benson, while working in Ecuador. Laura Davies first came to the US from Canada to work as a recreation therapist in Georgia, but eventually moved to Wrangell to take a job working with Alaska Crossings and met her husband. Gilda Barkfelt first arrived in Petersburg from the Philippines in 2005 and has been in Alaska ever since to be with the family that she started. For several summers in a row, Ola Richards was flying back and forth from Poland to Petersburg to work at Petersburg Fisheries, but stayed in Petersburg after she married a local.

According to the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services, Alaska has seen an increasing number of residents gaining their U.S. citizenship. In the 2015 fiscal year, 964 applications were approved, but that number increased to 972 in 2016. In 2017, 1,011 Alaskan residents became U.S. citizens. The number of new U.S. citizens in Alaska jumped to 1,385 in 2018. Data for the 2019 fiscal year is not yet available.

Teodori had just graduated with a degree in marine biology in Italy and took a job researching sea turtles in Ecuador. While she was in the South American country, she met Benson and visited him in Petersburg in 2012 for the first time. After a few more visits, the two were married in 2014, and Teodori remained in Petersburg.

"I came here for love," she said.

She currently works for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game full-time nine months out of the year. The remaining three months the two spend visiting family in Italy, Washington and other parts of Alaska.

Teodori began the process to gain her U.S. citizenship in February 2019 and a few months later in May, she was a U.S. citizen. She said she wanted the peace of mind that comes with being a U.S. citizen, instead of having a Green Card.

"Also, you never know, with the policies of today with immigrants, you always are in a little bit of fear," said Teodori.

She said she also doesn't have to worry about renewing her Green Card and can vote and participate in local elections.

In 2001, Davies graduated from the University of Waterloo in Ontario with a degree in recreation and leisure with a focus on business. Since there was a shortage of recreation therapists in the U.S. at the time, as a Canadian, she was able to work in Georgia through a program that helped foreigners attain work in fields that were under staffed. Davies had a friend who moved to Wrangell and she eventually followed suit and began working for the Alaska Crossings as a guide, which is a wilderness



Laura Davies



Gilda Barkfelt



Ola Richards



Elisa Teodori

treatment program for kids throughout Alaska. Her boss at time, Stephen Prysunka, was also a Canadian citizen and encouraged her to seek her U.S. Citizenship. Prysunka, who is currently Wrangell's mayor, declined to speak to the Pilot due to his busy schedule.

She soon met her husband, Winston Davies, and the two married in 2004. The couple have raised a family together and Laura said the main reason she wanted her U.S. citizenship was to have the same citizenship as her family.

"My children are American and so is my husband," said Laura. "I wanted to be the same citizenship as my family. That was one of the most motivating things."

She was also worried that the process to become a citizen might become more challenging and drawn out. She applied for her U.S. citizenship in June 2018 and became a U.S. citizen in September.

Laura teaches fifth grade at Wrangell's Evergreen Elementary School and speaks to her students about U.S. history and politics, but could never vote. Though she was in the country legally and had all the same rights as U.S. citizens, she couldn't vote and she wanted to exercise that right, especially at the local level.

Barkfelt is originally from the Pangasinan Province in the Philippines. She was born in Alcala, but was living in Villasis before she moved to Petersburg in 2005. About a year later, she mar-

ried her husband William Barkfelt and the two had their first daughter Kristina Barkfelt in 2007. Gilda said she does miss her big family back in the Philippines, but she has fallen in love with Petersburg and doesn't plan on living anywhere else. She enjoys the quiet atmosphere and the ability to walk everywhere she needs to go.

Gilda said the application process to gain her U.S. citizenship was quicker than she thought. She began the application process around March 2019 and on May 28, she was in Anchorage receiving her citizenship. The main reason Gilda wanted to become a U.S. citizen was to be with her family in Petersburg.

"For the future of our family," said Gilda.

While studying for her mas-

ter's degree in engineering landscape in Poland, Richards would fly to Petersburg during the summer to work at Petersburg Fisheries to make some extra money and to go on an adventure. Her first summer in Petersburg was in 2007 and for the next four years, she would keep returning to work at the cannery. In 2009, she began dating her future husband, Brian Richards. When it came time for Ola to go back to Poland at the end of the summer, the two were devastated at being separated. Brian went to visit Ola in Poland in March of 2010 for a few months and that summer, Ola returned to Petersburg, but never left.

"I love my country, but I guess I love my husband more," said Ola.

The two soon got married and she became a permanent

resident. In the following years, the hassle of renewing her Green Card and not being able have her voice be heard in the community she had made her home, eventually got her thinking about becoming a U.S. citizen. Like Laura Davies and Teodori, Ola enjoyed all the rights and freedoms of a U.S. citizen, and even paid taxes, but she could not vote.

"I live in this country," said Ola. "I care about this country, town and state, but I wasn't able to speak up."

She applied for her U.S. citizenship in Jan. 2019 and became a U.S. citizen on May 28, the same day as Gilda. Ola plans on voting in the local, state and national elections this fall and to continue working for the Petersburg Pilot and Wrangell Sentinel.



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### Golf roundup

Due to rainy weather, last weekend's tournaments at Muskeg Meadows Golf Course were cancelled. However, there are three upcoming events for golfers next week. On Saturday, Aug. 31, John Tullis Real Estate will sponsor a nine-hole best ball tournament. The Club Championship will be on Sunday, Sept. 1. It will be an 18-hole individual tournament. On Monday, Sept. 2, Breakaway Adventures will sponsor a nine-hole best ball tournament. Signups for each tournament open at 9:15 a.m., with the games beginning at 10 a.m. For more information call Muskeg Meadows at (907) 874-4653.



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# 2019-2020 school year kicks off

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

Wrangell's 2019-2020 school year kicked off early the morning of Tuesday, Aug. 27. The new school year will run until May 21, according to the school calendar, with winter break scheduled from Dec. 21 to Jan. 3.

"It's always really exciting when the kids come back," said Technology Director Matt Gore. "Watching the excitement in their faces because of the social interactions, the learning, that's my favorite part."

Being the first day of school, many first period classes in the



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Secondary school principal David Macri welcoming his middle school and high school students to the 2019-2020 school year.

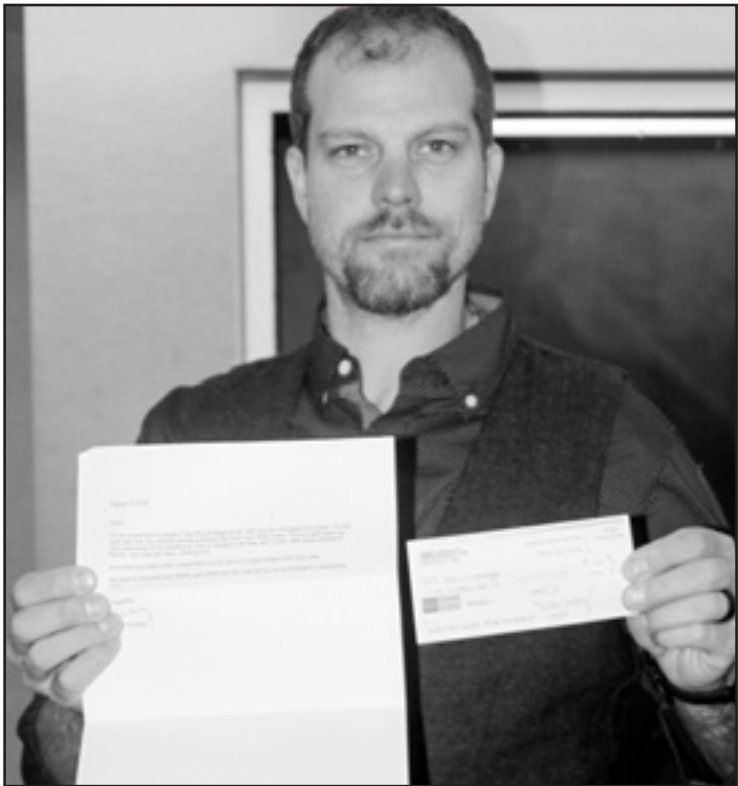


PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Drew Larrabee, shop class instructor and cross country coach, recently received a letter from Florida resident Bob McNally. McNally and Larrabee met on an excursion to Anan. Enclosed with the letter was a \$500 check. McNally explained in his letter that Larrabee's stories about his shop class brought back many fond memories of his childhood.

"Due to budget cuts they don't even offer shop classes in Florida," the letter reads. "Our kids are really missing out. Enclosed is a check that I would like you to use on a class project with your kids." Larrabee said that he plans to use the money for robotics kits for the shop class.

middle school and high school were kept short or were briefly interrupted for an assembly meeting in the high school gym. David Macri, principal of Wrangell's middle and high school, wanted to start off the year by making sure everyone understood what was expected of them. This will be Macri's second year as secondary school principal.

"Be on time, be prepared, be polite, be safe, be engaged," Macri said. "That covers a lot of ground, and our teachers will go over their expectations with you throughout the day."

The students are not the only ones with set expectations, though. Macri said that the kids should expect several things from their teachers, school staff, and himself. They should always be on their best behavior in school, he said, and that any po-



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Tawney Crowley, a recent hire by the school district, will serve as the high school art teacher and middle school home economics teacher this year. Pictured here is Crowley welcoming students to her art class.

tential changes to the district's schedule or practices will be made upon wide input and what is determined to be the best idea, not just changing for the sake of change. Thirdly, Macri emphasized the importance of keeping things civil even when there is a disagreement. Lastly, he said that everyone should have fun this year.

"School should be fun," he said. "I've been doing this 35 years. I can retire, I can walk right now, but I enjoy what I'm doing. There's no way I'm walking away from you folks, not until somebody tells me to get out, because I like you, and I like this school, and I like this community. It's a good place, have

fun. Hold us to those expectations, because we're going to hold you to those expectations, as well."

Before closing out the assembly, Macri encouraged the high school seniors to start giving their college preparations some serious thought and work, and also encouraged the rest of the class to work hard and smart this year.

After that, he dismissed most of the school save for the sixth grade class. Stikine Middle School has a class of roughly two dozen sixth graders this year, fresh from Evergreen Elementary School. Macri wanted to speak with them directly, welcoming them to middle school and to lay out a few rules for the new year. They are expected to be in the gym or in the commons when they first arrive to school in the mornings, he said, and computers are not allowed out at lunch. Another rule, he said, is that sixth graders are allowed to go downtown for lunch, but their parents will have to talk to him about it first.

"Why do we say be on time, be prepared, be polite, be safe, and be engaged?" Macri asked. "Why? There's rules in life ... There are rules, there are laws that people need to abide by. We're preparing you for that."

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# Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

## Alaskans applied for over 2,000 acres of new or expanding undersea farms

Underwater and out of sight are the makings of a major Alaska industry with two anchor crops that clean the planet while pumping out lots of cash: shellfish and seaweed.

Alaskans have now applied for over 2,000 acres of new or expanding undersea farms, double the footprint from two years ago, ranging in size from .02 acres at Halibut Cove to nearly 300 acres at Craig.

Nearly 60 percent of the newest applicants plan to grow kelp with the remainder growing a mix of kelp and/or Pacific oysters, said Cynthia Pring-Ham, aquatic farming coordinator at the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game which issues the permits. ADF&G partners with the Dept. of Natural Resources which leases the tidal and submerged lands for farms.

Currently in Alaska 36 operators are producing primarily Pacific oysters in Southeast, Prince William Sound and Kachemak Bay. Their combined crops of about two million bivalves have sales topping \$1.5 million from a mostly local customer base.

It's the faster growing seaweed that has spawned wider interest, especially from regions that aren't as hospitable to growing shellfish.

Alaska's first kelp farm permits were issued in 2016 at Kodiak; 15,000 pounds of brown and sugar kelp was harvested in 2017 and sold to California food maker Blue Evolution for \$10,000. Last year the Kodiak output jumped to 90,000 pounds worth over \$33,000.

Now, besides kelp, 21 Alaska growers also have added dulce, nori and sea lettuce to their macroalgae or shellfish menus. It will go into a global commercial seaweed market that is projected to top \$22 billion by 2024, with human consumption as the largest segment.

The interest is quickly spreading to other Alaska regions. This year two kelp applications were submitted from Sand Point and queries have come from the Pribilof Islands, said Julie Decker, chair of a state mariculture task force created in 2016 by former Governor Bill Walker to lay the foundation for "a \$100 million industry in 20 years."

"People are calling from St. Paul and St. George in the Bering Sea. They are interested and want to know what they need to do to get started," she said.

"I can't see a single downside to it," said Sam Rabung, director of the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game commercial fisheries division and a task force member.

Rabung, who began researching kelp in Japan in the 1980s and has worked in salmon enhancement and mariculture in Alaska for over 35 years, called diversification into seaweed farming "the biggest change to the industry I've seen in the last five years."

It is getting legs for several

reasons, he said.

"It's a really good fit with our existing fishery infrastructure. We have a blue workforce, an ocean workforce of fishing communities, vessels, fishermen, processors that in many cases get used in a kind of boom and bust manner. This gives an additional shoulder to a season," he said.

"The giant kelp that we're focusing on in Alaska right now, the brown algae, can be used for everything from food to nutritional supplements to animal feed ingredients, biofuels, soil amendments and everything in between. We're just at the tip of the iceberg in terms of the uses of algae," he added.

Plus, growing seaweed benefits the planet. As the "trees" of coastal ecosystems, seaweeds pull massive amounts of carbon from the atmosphere, absorbing five times more than land-based plants.

But planting the earth friendly kelp fronds in the fall and plucking them in the spring is the easy part.

"What do you do when you harvest them? You need to have something in place to take the product and make use of it before you ever plant your seeded lines," Rabung said.

As the fledgling algae industry develops, the task force is advocating that some growers form clusters to "really get things going."

"Getting a larger number of farms concentrated around a hub to get the synergy to create that critical mass and reduce the cost of logistics, transports, and support services that the farms need," Rabung explained. "We need it to become a company, an industry. That's where the state will see its biggest benefit."

At least two Alaska processors, Ocean Beauty and Silver Bay Seafoods, are involved in the new industry and buyers want product.

"They need to know there is enough steady volume to make sure it's worthwhile," Rabung said.

An early obstacle for aspiring Alaska growers, Rabung said, is financing although the state's revolving loan fund has made its first loan for a kelp farm.

He said another is "acceptability."

"The way our statutes are written aquatic farming is the lowest priority use of coastal waters," he said. "When we review a farm permit, we're looking at its compatibility with existing uses as one of the criteria, such as fisheries. We can't put farms in places that are traditional seine hook offs or troll drags or dive fisheries or subsistence harvest areas."

Applicants also must be aware of navigational hazards and marine mammal haul outs when they are siting their farms. An online, interactive GIS map showing site areas and other data for Alaska's entire coastline is being compiled and will help provide more information. It

also can be shared with state agencies to help speed up the permitting process which has a two year backlog.

"We're kind of victims of our own success because for years we've been building a foundation and network of people all working in the same direction. Now the industry is stepping up and submitting applications for new farms and it coincides with staff and budget reductions at DNR," Decker said.

She added that the Dunleavy administration is "enthusiastic" about the mariculture industry's potential.

"We're getting really good interest and support," Decker said, "All the pieces are in place to move forward."

Farmer training sessions will be held next year in Ketchikan, Sitka and Kodiak and perhaps other communities, Decker said.

**Pink salmon payout** - Applications should now be in the hands of Alaska salmon fishermen and processors hurt by the 2016 pink salmon fishery failure.

NOAA Fisheries last month approved \$56.3 million in relief funds at Kodiak, Prince William Sound, Chignik, Lower Cook Inlet, South Alaska Peninsula, Southeast Alaska, and Yakutat.

Funds are being distributed by the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC).

Salmon permit holders who show losses from the pink bust will split \$31.8 million based on average dockside values over even years from 2006 to 2014.

Skippers are responsible for compiling data for their crews in applications that are due October 31. The PSMFC will then distribute applications to crew members to apply for disaster payments through January 31, 2020. The relief funds should be in hand six to eight weeks after an application is accepted.

Alaska processors also must apply by October 31 to receive their share of \$17.7 million in relief funds. Workers will be eligible for an equal share of 15 percent of an eligible processor's total disaster payment.

The funds also include \$3.63 million for pink salmon research.

Of that, \$450,000 goes to Kodiak's Kitoi Bay Hatchery for its Saltwater Marking Sampling project. The Southeast Alaska Coastal Monitoring Survey will get \$680,000 to help with pink salmon forecasting research. And \$2.5 million will go to the Alaska Hatchery Research Project that since 2011 has studied interactions of hatchery and wild salmon in Prince William Sound and Southeast.

Details are still being worked out on distributing \$2.4 million to municipalities that were affected by the pink crash.

**More trade taxes** - China will add an additional 10 percent tariff to imports of US seafood products starting Sept. 1, bringing the total to 35 per-

cent in the latest escalation in the trade war with Donald Trump. Undercurrent News reports that frozen Alaska salmon, cod or pollock that go to China for processing into patties or portions and are then re-exported will remain exempt from the extra taxes.

In total, the additional tariffs, not only on seafood, apply to \$75 billion in imported goods. In response, Trump sent out a series of Twitter messages saying: "We don't need China and, frankly, would be far better off without them. Our great American companies are hereby ordered to immediately start looking for an alternative to China, including bringing your

companies home and making your products in the U.S.A."

Sales of US seafood to China dropped 36 percent since the 25 percent tariff was imposed in July 2018 valued at \$340 million.

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Individuals who fail to file a declaration of candidacy but wish to run for office as a write-in candidate, must file with the borough clerk, a letter of intent no later than five p.m. on the Friday preceding the election (September 27, 2019) in which the candidate plans to participate.

Write-in votes cast for individuals **who do not file a letter of intent will not be counted.**

In order to vote for a write-in candidate, the voter must, in space provided, write in the candidate's name as the candidate's name appears on the letter of intent filed with the borough clerk. In addition, the voter must mark the oval opposite the candidate's name.

Stickers shall not be used.

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

**Publish: August 29, September 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2019**

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SUBSISTENCE HEARINGS FOR THE CENTRAL TONGASS PROJECT

The USDA Forest Service will hold public meetings in three communities within the Central Tongass project area. Following each public meeting, subsistence hearings are scheduled to accept subsistence testimony regarding the Central Tongass Project and are intended to meet subsistence evaluation requirements outlined in Section 810 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA). They allow individuals, agencies and organizations to provide testimony on the proposed activities, and describe how the activities may potentially affect users of subsistence resources within the project area. Both written and oral subsistence testimony will be accepted and considered by the responsible official in making his decision on the project.



#### **Tuesday, September 3 - Wrangell**

James and Elise Nolan Center, Civic Room, 296 Campbell Drive  
Public Meeting – 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
Subsistence Hearing – 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

#### **Wednesday, September 4 - Petersburg**

Petersburg Lutheran Church Holy Cross House, 406 Excel Street  
Public Meeting – 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
Subsistence Hearing – 1:45 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

and  
Public Meeting – 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
Subsistence Hearing – 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

#### **Thursday, September 5 - Kake**

City Council Chambers  
Public Meeting – 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
Subsistence Hearing – 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

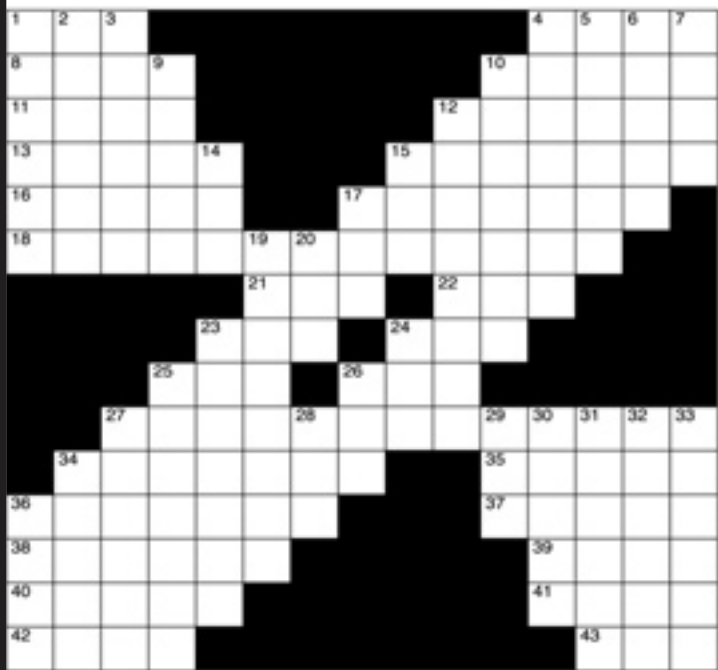
If you are unable to attend a subsistence hearing in person, the following conference line will be available 15 minutes prior to and during the hearings - 1-888-844-9904, access code: 6214820#.

Please call Carey Case at 907-772-3871 with questions.

**Published: August 29, 2019**



# Comics



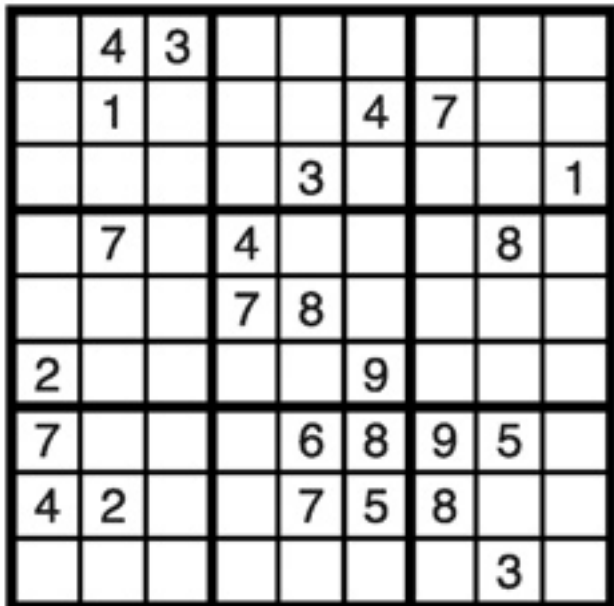
### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. One-time Moroccan kingdom
- 4. One who entertains
- 8. Not in favor of
- 10. Couture
- 11. Nonflowering plant
- 12. Of Christian fasting season
- 13. Of birds
- 15. Dealt with
- 16. Duplicate
- 17. More liquid
- 18. Inconsequential
- 21. Doctor of Education
- 22. Electroencephalograph
- 23. Partner to the carrot
- 24. Not young
- 25. Discontinued Apple advertising platform
- 26. Car mechanics group
- 27. Treats allergies
- 34. Rather
- 35. African nation (alt. sp.)
- 36. Suffering
- 37. A way to raise
- 38. Hairstyle
- 39. Vehicle part
- 40. Subject matters
- 41. One who can see the future
- 42. German courtesy title
- 43. Female sibling

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Jungle vacation
- 2. Off-kilter
- 3. Takes off
- 4. Passing
- 5. Where to plug in devices
- 6. Drive
- 7. Take care of
- 9. City in Finland
- 10. Dyed
- 12. Small invertebrate
- 14. Holiday beverage egg \_\_\_
- 15. Hawaiian club
- 17. Rural Free Delivery (abbr.)
- 19. Most impoverished
- 20. British romance novelist Pollock
- 23. Burgers
- 24. Organization of American States
- 25. Lacking contact with other people
- 26. Sex Pistols bassist Vicious
- 27. One who uses a rod and line to fish
- 28. Expression of surprise
- 29. Get older
- 30. Rooney and Kate are two
- 31. Wild goats
- 32. Cores
- 33. Walks into
- 34. A way to accustom
- 36. Wet nurse

# SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Puzzle answers will be in the September 5 edition

# Legals

## CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 1st day of October 2019, there will be held in the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, a Regular Election for the purpose of voting on the following City Offices and Proposition.

- Assembly: Two – (3 Year Terms)
- Assembly: Two – (1 Year *Unexpired* Terms until 10-2020)
- Port Commission: Two – (3 Year Terms)
- School Board: Two – (3 Year Terms)
- School Board One – (1 Year *Unexpired* Term until 10-2020)
- School Board One – (2 Year *Unexpired* Term until 10-2021)

\*\*\*\*\*

### PROPOSITION 1

Ratification of Ordinance 964

Section 3-9 of the Home Rule Charter for the City and Borough of Wrangell provides that the borough-operated Wrangell Medical Center shall be operated by a board established by ordinance and elected by the voters. Because voters approved the transfer of the Wrangell Medical Center’s operations and maintenance to Southeast Alaska Health Consortium (SEARHC) at the borough’s October 2, 2018 Regular Election, and it is as a result no longer operated by the borough, the Assembly adopted Ordinance No. 964, which proposed amending the Charter by repealing Section 3-9.

Shall the Home Rule Charter of the City and Borough of Wrangell be amended to repeal Section 3-9, Wrangell Medical Center, as set forth in Ordinance No. 964?

Yes

No

The polls for said election will be open at **8:00 a.m. on the said day and will close at 8:00 p.m.** on the same day.

Each voter must have the qualifications prescribed by state law. *A qualified voter shall vote only once per election* and shall exercise that right at the polling place established in the designated Wrangell Precinct (James & Elsie Nolan Museum/Civic Center) and in which he/she resides within the borough boundaries of the City and Borough of Wrangell.

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

**Publish: August 22, 29, September 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2019**

### State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry Southeast Area Office Draft Forest Land Use Plan

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry (DOF), gives formal notice per AS 38.05.945 that the Division proposes to adopt a site-specific Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) under AS 38.05.112 and the administrative standards of AS 41.17.060 for the commercial timber sale: Parlay One Timber Sale (SSE 1342-K).

This timber sale is located on Kosciusko Island, approximately 1.5 miles southwest of the Community of Edna Bay, Alaska. The legal description of the sale area is within Sections 33 and 34 of Township (T) 68 South, Range 76 East, Copper River Meridian. The sale area is found within the Craig D-5 Northwest and Craig D-6 Northeast USGS quadrangles. Access to the area is from the Kosciusko Island road system.

The FLUP is intended to provide the best available information regarding the proposed timber harvest on 168 acres the management of other non-timber uses in compliance with AS 38.05.112 and AS 41.17.060, and must be adopted by the DOF before the proposed activity can occur. This FLUP does not determine whether or not to access and sell timber within the timber sale area, nor the method of sale. Those decisions have been made previously in the March 9, 2017 Best Interest Finding and are not appealable under this FLUP. The DOF expects to adopt the Forest Land Use Plan for the timber sale sometime after **September 17, 2019**.

The public is invited to comment on the FLUP. Comments should be mailed to the Alaska Division of Forestry, 2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213, Ketchikan, AK 99901. Comments must be received at the Division of Forestry office no later than **September 17, 2019**, in order to be considered in the adopted FLUP. To be eligible to appeal the adopted FLUP a person must have provided written comment by **September 17, 2019**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO SUBMIT COMMENTS CONTACT:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Alaska Division of Forestry<br>2417 Tongass Avenue, Suite 213<br>Ketchikan, AK 99901 | Contact: Greg Staunton<br>Phone: (907) 225-3070<br>Email: Greg.Staunton@alaska.gov |
|--|--|

Copies of the FLUP are available for review at the division’s Area Office, the division’s web site along with the community libraries in Craig and Ketchikan and at the State Online Public Notice System: <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/View.aspx?id=195144>

The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aids, services, or special modifications to participate in this review may contact the number above.  
**Published: August 22 and 29, 2019**

# Classified/Legals

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**City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska  
Notice to Voters**



Voter qualifications for the City & Borough of Wrangell, October 1, 2019, Regular Election, are as follows:

1. a United States citizen;
2. registered and qualified to vote in the State of Alaska elections and registered thereat for at least thirty (30) days immediately preceding the municipal election;
3. at least eighteen (18) years of age;
4. a resident of the City & Borough of Wrangell for thirty (30) days preceding the election;
5. not disqualified by reason of having been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude, and if so, that civil rights have been restored, nor disqualified because judicially determined to be of unsound mind.

**Voters are cautioned to make certain their residence address is correct on their State Voter Registration.** City law requires that each voter shall be registered to vote in the precinct in which that person seeks to vote in order to vote in municipal elections.

Your name must appear on the precinct list! If you are registered in another city, you must change your registration **prior to Sunday, September 1, 2019, to qualify to vote in the Regular Election of October 1, 2019.**

You may ask the Borough Clerk to check the precinct register to assure your qualifications.

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

**Publish: August 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2019**

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL  
WRANGELL PARKS AND RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT SEASONAL JOB POSTING**

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department will begin to accept applications for the position of **Recreation Assistant** to establish an open pool of applicants for temporary help. Applications will be accepted beginning August 9th through December 31st at 5:00 p.m.

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.

Duties include providing oversight of facilities and activities, ensuring adherence to regulations and procedures, monitoring the security of premises, maintaining routine reports, clerical duties and general custodial duties.

The Parks and Recreation Department will be hiring from these applications, as needed, throughout the year. At the end of this open enrollment period applicants would need to file a new application.

This position requires candidates to be available to work a minimum of 6 hours per week with shifts scheduled throughout the week, including weekends. Applicants must be at least 16 years old. This position is 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](http://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 Bargen  
Wrangell Borough Manager

**Publish: August 15 and August 29, 2019**

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL  
OVER-THE-COUNTER**

The following vessel has been impounded pursuant to Wrangell Municipal Code, Title 14. There were no bids for the vessel listed below at a Public Auction held Friday, August 23, 2019.

Therefore, the below listed vessel is offered for sale over-the-counter pursuant to Wrangell Municipal Code, starting on **Monday, August 26, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.**, Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, on a first-come, first-serve basis, and will be sold for the minimum value.

This vessel is to be sold As-Is, Where-Is, and will be available for public review and inspection upon request at the Wrangell Marine Service Center.

DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID	CURRENT LOCATION
TRES SUERTES	\$6,888	Ritchie Yard Storage

Kim Lane, MMC  
Borough Clerk

**Publish: August 29, 2019**

**Puzzle  
answers from Aug.22 Edition**



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

# Alaska governor cuts \$5M in additional ferry service funding

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Alaska’s governor has vetoed additional funding for the state’s ferry service that was placed in the budget by the Legislature, a report said.

Republican Gov. Mike Dunleavy vetoed \$5 million Monday that was added to the Alaska Marine Highway System budget by the Legislature, CoastAlaska reported Monday.

The Legislature previously cut \$43 million from the ferry system’s budget.

A fiscal note attached by the governor’s office called the budget item “premature” ahead of a \$250,000 study commissioned to reshape the ferry system. The ferry study is due in mid-October, the note said.

“I don’t know how it could be premature,” said independent state Rep. Dan Ortiz of Ketchikan. “We could see that these areas were going to be without needed services.”

Coastal residents have told Ortiz they are prevented from traveling even in emergency situations unless they find airplane travel while facing up to seven months without ferry service, he said.

“They don’t have access to medical care if they’re not allowed to fly because now the marine highway is not there for them,” Ortiz said.

The Alaska Department of Transportation released a statement following the governor’s announcement saying it is finalizing the winter ferry schedule. A draft schedule released last month did not propose ferry service on Prince William Sound between October and May.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

## WCA backpack drive

Cheryl and Cynthia Karras wearing their brand new backpacks, which they received as part of the Wrangell Cooperative Association’s back to school backpack drive. The WCA received over 130 backpacks full of school supplies from the Tlingit and Haida Central Council, according to Esther Ashton with the WCA, which they then distributed to children of Wrangell’s native community. Ashton added that kids from Head Start to 12th grade got backpacks this year.

The state’s economy will be hurt by cutting off commerce between communities, said Cordova Mayor Clay Koplinski. “It’s pretty simple economics,” Koplinski said. “We either do business in the state and have a ferry system and a (marine) highway we can use or we have to look for alternatives.”



# Good Luck WHS 2019-2020 Cross Country



Left to right, from the back row: Coach Drew Larrabee, Skylar Larrabee, Ethan Blatchley, Sophia Ely, Kiara Harrison, Jamie Early, Tyson Messmer, Adriana Larrabee, Coach Kimberly Cooper, Austin Reid, Jade Balansag, Elias Decker, Devlyn Campbell, CeAirra Glaser, and Liana Carney.

## WHS Cross Country 2019 Schedule

- August 31 @ Juneau
- September 7 @ Petersburg
- September 14 @ Craig
- September 21 @ Ketchikan
- September 28 Regions @ Sitka
- October 5 State @ Anchorage

**Best of luck to the Wrangell Wolves from the following businesses:**

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Wrangell Chamber of Commerce  
Wrangell Public Schools  
Wrangell Sentinel



# Alaska salmon deaths blamed on record warm temperatures

By DAN JOLING

Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – Add salmon to the list of species affected by Alaska's blistering summer temperatures, including the hottest July on record.

Dead salmon have shown up in river systems throughout Alaska, and the mortalities are probably connected to warm water or low river water levels, said Sam Rabung, director of commercial fisheries for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The department has not quantified past heat-related fish deaths because they tended to be sporadic and inconsistent, Rabung said. But department scientists this year will analyze fish deaths, summarize observation and record effects.

"If we have a few years in a row like this, then I think we have a bigger issue," he said.

Spent carcasses of salmon that die after females lay eggs and males fertilize them are a common annual sight along Alaska streams and provide nourishment for scavenging birds and bears.

Some carcasses this summer have been a concern because the dead fish were still full of eggs as they bobbed downstream or washed up on gravel shorelines, with no signs of disease or para-

sites.

The deaths should not be a surprise because climate models have for years forecast unhealthy Alaska river temperatures for salmon, said Peter Westley, assistant professor of fisheries conservation and fisheries ecology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"It's directly in line with the predictions of what scientists like myself and other colleagues have been warning is likely to occur, and we need to prepare ourselves and not be surprised when it happens again in the future, because it will," he said.

A warm Alaska June was followed by the hottest month ever recorded in the state. The average temperature in July was 58.1 degrees (14.5 Celsius), 5.4 degrees (3 Celsius) above the historical average with records maintained since 1925.

Summer river water temperatures in non-glacial streams of the watershed of the Cook Inlet stretch of ocean lined by mountains have increased an average of 0.5 degrees per decade in summer months since 1980, said Sue Mauger, science director of the Cook Inletkeeper group dedicated to protecting the watershed that is an important salmon breeding ground.

Temperatures above 55 degrees (12.8 Celsius) put stress on salmon, Mauger said, and her

group on July 7 recorded a temperature of 81.7 (27.6 C) in the Deshka River, a major salmon stream north of Anchorage. It's a temperature that climate models predicted wouldn't be reached until 2069, she said.

"We're 50 years ahead of where we thought they would be," Mauger said.

Dead salmon showed up in rivers that empty into the Bering Sea, with the Norton Sound Economic Development Corp. reported massive numbers of dead pink salmon on July 11.

Westley in mid-July joined other scientists on a hasty trip to the Koyukuk River, a tributary of the Yukon River, where residents of the village of Huslia saw dead or disoriented chum salmon. The team counted about 850 dead fish, which Westley said probably represented a fraction of thousands that died.

Warm water holds less oxygen than cold water, but Westley tested the Koyukuk for oxygen and found plenty, eliminating suffocation as what killed the fish.

"If you were thinking in terms of this as a murder mystery, the leading, most obvious suspect is the warm temperature," he said. "What precisely about the temperature caused the fish to die is an unknown."

Wesley suspects multiple factors tied to warm water killed the adult salmon, who stop eating when they enter freshwater and must rely on fat reserves and salmon burn energy faster in warm water.

"I think probably more likely is that a host of sort of natural pathogens fungus and that kind of stuff is more likely to attack the fish," he said. "Fish that are stressed have a sort of compromised immune system. They're

## Water watch comes to an end

Thanks to several days of rainy weather, and lessening demand for water from Wrangell's seafood processors, city officials declared the Stage I water watch over. Both of the city's reservoirs are overflowing, according to a Friday, Aug. 23 Facebook post announcing the end of the water watch. Wrangell went on the water watch back in June, and briefly declared another water watch before that in March. In a Stage I water watch, community members are asked to conserve water in any way they could. This includes fixing leaky pipes, taking shorter showers, and using water for car washing or other outdoor activities. Wrangellites were also asked to conserve electricity wherever possible as the city receives hydropower from Tye Lake.

just much more susceptible to natural stressors in the environment."

The hot and dry weather has meant less rain for southeast Alaska and the Kenai Peninsula, leading to low water levels in some streams and others that have completely dried up, said Rabung, of the fire and game department.

"Without the rainfall, the fish can't even get into the stream, let alone survive the heat, if they could get in there," he said.

One of the top concerns for state fish and game officials is making sure enough fish escape fishermen and predators to reach spawning grounds. It's too early to assess whether salmon reproduction will be down in some streams, Rabung said. It varies greatly each year and good conditions for hatchling survival can compensate for fewer spawning adults, he said.

The department routinely restricts fishing if not enough fish reach spawning areas and this year has restricted some commercial harvests of pink salmon in southeast Alaska and Prince William Sound, Rabung said.

If heavy rains come and fill

streams, that would solve a lot of problems for salmon reproduction by filling streams and cooling water temperatures, Rabung said. The pink salmon pool into massive schools just outside stream mouths waiting for streams to have enough water.

State fish and game officials this week restricted fishing for coho salmon in and near the Deshka River because of low, warm water. Coho salmon have amassed just outside the river mouth, waiting for rain to fill it so they can enter and spawn.

The department cannot cool the rivers but can protect sources of cool water within rivers that provide migrating salmon with sanctuary to cool off, Rabung said.

Westley agreed that sources of cold water within major rivers such as springs or glacier-fed tributaries are crucial to prevent heat-related deaths. Protecting those sources will be an important management decision, he said.

"The importance of those smaller, seemingly insignificant sites becomes a lot more important as things warm up," he said.

## Alaska police arrest students for planning school shooting

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Alaska authorities say two middle school students have been arrested after another student overheard their plans to carry out a school shooting, officials said.

The Juneau Police Department arrested two 13-year-old students Thursday at Floyd Dryden Middle School after receiving a phone call from a parent of the classmate who overheard plans, the Juneau Empire reported Thursday.

Police officers located the implicated students and held them in custody before school Thursday, authorities said. Following an investigation, the students were charged with felony terroristic threatening in the second degree, and transported to the Johnson Youth Center.

The school district sent emails to inform parents there was no threat to their children, and that phone calls would be made to explain what happened, school officials said.

"We really want students to know there are significant consequences now to making threats like this," Juneau School District superintendent Bridget Weiss said. "Words and pictures matter. They do indicate threat."

School proceeded as normal Thursday following the students' arrest, officials said.

That one phone call was an example of the "If you see something, say something" mode of thinking, Weiss said.

"It's a pretty cool thing when kids do the right thing, and in this case, kids did the right thing," she said.

Students and parents are encouraged to report any threats to the authorities, police said.

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