

PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

The awardees at the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce Dinner (left to right): Citizen of the Year Rich Einert, Citizen of the Year Vincent Balansag, Ryan Howe accepting the Educator of the Year Award on behalf of Jennifer Miller-Yancey, Young Leader of the Year Jing O'Brien, and Business of the Year Groundswell, represented by Angie Flickinger and Mya DeLong.

New nonprofit recognized, citizens of the year named at chamber of commerce dinner

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Chamber of Commerce held its annual dinner last Saturday evening. Community members from all over town came to the dinner, including several out-of-town guests such as Representative Dan Ortiz and Senator Bert Stedman. Like last year, the dinner served as an opportunity for the community to come together for a good meal and to participate in a number of auctions and raffles. The dinner also served as an opportunity to recognize people and organizations that really stood out over the previous year.

During the dinner, one of Wrangell's newest organizations was recognized. Wrangell Burial Assistance was founded in 2019, according to President Devyn Johnson. The nonprofit seeks to support those dealing with the burial or cremation of a loved one, both financially and by connecting them with resources. Johnson said that through their website, people can find applications for assistance, as well as contact information, including churches to host funerals, the Ketchikan Mortuary, price lists for local burials, and other resources to help deal with grief.

In short, Johnson said, they hope to make Wrangell Burial Assistance a one stop shop for those needing help handling the death of a loved one. Johnson was inspired to create this nonprofit because of a loss she went through.

"Almost three years ago I lost my mom unexpectedly," she said. "Her funeral and other related costs were my responsibility, which was not something I had budgeted for, my husband and I had planned for, and it ended up being fairly expensive. So instead of grieving, or just being able to be sad like you're supposed to, I was more focused on how to pay for everything ... My mission, and now the mission of the nonprofit, is to help families as much as we can avoid that stress."

During the dinner, awards were given out to those who stood out in making Wrangell a better place. Groundswell received the "Business of the Year" award. Jenn Miller-Yancey, lead teacher at Evergreen Elementary School, was named "Educator of the Year." High School student Jing O'Brien was named "Young Leader of the Year."

"I'm truly honored to receive this award, it's amazing,"

O'Brien said. "For 17 years I've called Wrangell my home. I'm truly grateful for the childhood memories it has given me. Despite the small size and rural location, this town has actively created opportunities for youth like myself to engage in impactful experiences and leadership roles."

This year, two people were chosen for the "Citizen of the Year" award. For their skill and dedication to the art of photography, capturing important moments around Wrangell, and doing their part to record the community's history, local photographers Vincent Balansag and Rich Einert were named citizens of the year. Between the two of them, their photographs have captured everything from wildlife, to sporting events, to weddings, and a wide variety of other community gatherings and events.

"I want to capture the beauty of our community, and for us to go out and take photos of all these events, that's just icing on the cake for us," Einert said.

"Thank you so much, Wrangell, both of us are so humbled and it's an honor," Balansag added. "We didn't expect this."

Wrangell resident found deceased in overturned vessel southwest of Wrangell

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Randall Ferdinand, 53, of Wrangell, passed away at sea last Sunday. A dispatch from the Alaska State Troopers reports that they received a report of an overturned vessel about 12 miles southwest of Wrangell the afternoon of Feb. 16. Wrangell Search and Rescue and the Coast Guard went to investigate and the vessel in question was located around 3 p.m. The 32-foot vessel had struck some rocks in shallow water. Wrangell Search and Rescue and Wildlife Troopers from Ketchikan remained on scene overnight, waiting for low tide when the remains of the deceased could be removed from the vessel. It was confirmed to be Ferdinand on Feb. 17.

"Further investigation revealed that Ferdinand was attempting to navigate his vessel during a storm at sea which resulted in the vessel crashing into rocks in shallow water," the dispatch reads. "No foul play is suspected."

Ferdinand is survived by two daughters, Amy and Isabelle. They have declined to comment at this time. A GoFundMe page to support the Ferdinand family was organized by Wrangell resident Clarissa Young. It can be found at www.gofundme.com under the name "Love and support for Amy & Izzy." The running group Southeast Beasts, along with nonprofit Wrangell Burial Assistance, have organized a community walk and chili feed on Feb. 22, at 11 a.m., starting at the downtown pavilion to raise money for the Ferdinands.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, February 20: Zachary Dawson Lane, Zak Lane, Mark Seimears, Jodie Guggenbickler, Mary Rooney, Jim Wenderoth. **Friday, February 21:** Paul Southland, Casey Crayne, Liz Buness, Dale Maenhout, Randy Kalkins, Alexandria Kaer. **Saturday, February 22:** Cocoa Massin, Steve Angerman, Jim Maxand, Erika Bates, Merak Rooney, Sierra Wickman. **Sunday, February 23:** Anna Allen. **Monday, February 24:** Shanda Barlow, Andrea Irvine, Lisa Schultz, *Anniversary:* Rob & Sharry Rooney, Emilie Turner, Elsie Hansen, Elsie Bailey, Sean Rooney. **Tuesday, February 25:** Fiona Scambler, Susan Wooden, Samantha DeBoer, Ryan Howe, Sharry Rooney. **Wednesday, February 26:** Roman Privett-Murphy, Shari Moore, Sue Stevens, Stella Buness, Kathleen Harding, Nathan Klinke. **Thursday, February 27:** *Anniversary:* Chuck & Ava Hay, Tina Draper, Amber Hommel, Jacob Hammer.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, February 20
Beef Soup, Brussel Sprouts, Carrot Salad, Rice.

Friday, February 21
Pork Chop Suey, Broccoli, Danish Salad, Rice.

Monday, February 24
New England Clam Chowder, Tuna Sandwich, Slaw, Bread.

Tuesday, February 25
Chicken Fricassee, Peas, Fruit Cup, Biscuits.

Wednesday, February 26
Vegetable Beef Hash, Tomato Rockefeller, Biscuit, Salad.

Thursday, February 27
Chicken Rice Casserole, Broccoli, Spinach 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

February Sailing CANCELED

Northbound

Friday, March 6
Matanuska 05:15 p.m.

Sunday, March 8
Matanuska 09:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11
Matanuska 10:45 a.m.

Friday, March 13
Matanuska 11:15 p.m.

Friday, March 20
Matanuska 07:15 p.m.

Southbound

Sunday, March 8
Matanuska 07:15 a.m.

Tuesday, March 10
Matanuska 07:45 p.m.

Friday, March 13
Matanuska 08:00 a.m.

Monday, March 16
Matanuska 06:15 a.m.

Monday, March 23
Matanuska 07:45 a.m.

Arrival times may vary.

Call 874-2021 for verification or call 874-3711 or Toll Free 800-642-0066 for recorded information.



TIDES

February 20 -February 27

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
February 20	10:44	16.2	11:45	14.4	04:37	4.5	05:25	-0.6
February 21	11:32	16.7	05:28	3.6	06:05	-1.1
February 22	00:26	15.1	12:15	17.0	06:08	2.9	06:38	-1.3
February 23	01:01	15.6	12:52	17.0	06:43	2.4	07:08	-1.2
February 24	01:33	15.8	01:27	16.7	07:14	2.0	07:36	-0.9
February 25	02:02	15.8	01:59	16.3	07:44	1.8	08:02	-0.3
February 26	02:29	15.7	02:30	15.6	08:15	1.7	08:29	0.4
February 27	02:55	15.5	03:01	14.7	08:46	1.8	08:57	1.2

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Monday, February 24

Wrangell Public School Board Regular Meeting: 7:00 pm, Evergreen Elementary School Room 101

Friday, February 28

Taco dinner and game night: 6:00 pm, Evergreen Elementary Gym. For more info call 907 209 9117.

Is the attendance at your meeting or event low?

Send information for Roundup to wrgsent@gmail.com or call 874-2301.

Continuing Events

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

Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class: M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m.
 Water Aerobics: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
 Lap Swim: M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. TuTh 5:15-6:15 p.m. Sa 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 2 Lane Lap Swim: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
 Lap/Tot Swim: MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Swim Club: M-F 3:15-5:15 p.m.
 Open Swim: M-W 5:30-7:00 p.m. F 6:30-8:00 p.m. S 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Weight Room: M-Thu 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-7:30 p.m. F 6:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m., 3:30-8:30 p.m. S 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

MEETINGS

AA Meetings:

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

The Way We Were

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

February 19, 1920

There was a well attended meeting of the Parent-Teachers' association last Thursday evening. Interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. Gordon C. Mitchell, Mrs. George H. Barnes, and Mr. H. L. Rowley, recently of Bayview. The audience was favored with a vocal solo by Mrs. W. W. McLaughlin. In addition to the program there was a profitable discussion of school matters. The meeting opened and closed with singing led by Mrs. W. W. McLaughlin. The president appointed the following committees to act for the remainder of the present term which ends in May. Membership - J. G. Grant, Mrs. B. Y. Grant, Miss Allender. Program - Rev. H. P. Corser, Miss Crosno, Mrs. Pritchett. Social - G. C. Mitchell, Mrs. Benjamin, Mrs. Hilts.

February 23, 1945

Saturday night this last week, our Wrangell town team challenged the Coast Guardsmen from a boat in port, to a basketball scrimmage. Few spectators looked in. Although this team is a picked experienced team and has played many teams in Alaska, including Sheldon Jackson school in Sitka, it proved an easy match for our town team as shown by the final score of 36 to 24. We are proud of the sportsmanlike manner of our town team that night as a few misunderstandings arose which were calmly smoothed over. Again Monday night the two teams played with a more smashing victory for

the town team, 45 to 21.

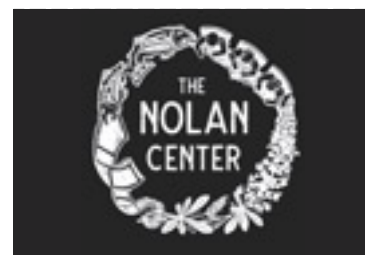
February 19, 1970

Appointment of Ed Barker as editor of the Wrangell Sentinel was announced today by Charles F. Willis Jr., publisher of the newspaper. Barker, who has been in charge of the Sentinel's operation since coming here in November, is from Eagle River. He had been editorial assistant until his promotion. The promotion makes Barker one of four editors in the Nome Publishing Co. Byron Fish, a columnist for the Seattle Times, is senior editor. Robert C. Weaver Jr., former editor of the Sentinel, edits the Petersburg Press, and Albro Gregory, former Press editor, is in charge of the Nome Nugget.

February 16, 1995

Wrangell Volleyball fans were treated to an exhibition of skill Friday and Saturday when the Lady Wolves treated Metlakatla's Misschiefs to a lesson in skill at the net. Coach Myron Myers girls obviously

out-classed, in basic skills, conditioning and training, the visitors. There was never a question as to the outcome. Of an even dozen games played, only the junior varsity squad allowed Metlakatla a couple wins - and that was one game of the three played Friday and one of three on Saturday. Wrangell varsity swept both nights.



Dolittle

Rated PG, 1hr 41min
Action, Adventure, Comedy

Showtimes:

Fri. Feb. 21 & Sun. Feb. 23
@ 7pm
*** Sat. Feb. 22,
1pm showing only ***

No movie next weekend



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Feb. 10	41	37
Feb. 11	41	37
Feb. 12	39	34
Feb. 13	38	34
Feb. 14	39	34
Feb. 15	40	36
Feb. 16	39	36
Feb. 17	41	36



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Feb.20	7:04a	5:01p	09:57h
Feb. 21	7:02a	5:03p	10:01h
Feb. 22	6:59a	5:05p	10:06h
Feb. 23	6:57a	5:07p	10:10h
Feb. 24	6:54a	5:09p	10:15h
Feb. 25	6:52a	5:12p	10:20h
Feb. 26	6:49a	5:14p	10:25h
Feb. 27	6:47a	5:16p	10:29h

Court report

Jan. 27: A change of plea hearing was held for James Howe, charged with unlawful contact, violating conditions of release, being a felon in possession of a weapon, having a weapon in the house of a felon, and harassment. A sentencing hearing was scheduled for June 22.

A change of plea hearing was held for Valerie Nakamura, charged with driving with a cancelled/revoked/suspended license. Another charge of driving in violation of license limitation was dismissed by prosecution. She pled guilty to the first charge, and the second charge was dismissed by prosecution. She was sentenced to 30 days imprisonment, and was ordered to pay a \$100 police training surcharge and \$50 initial jail surcharge.

A change of plea hearing was held for Wynterwainui Gross, charged with harassment. The defendant failed to appear, and the hearing was reset to Jan. 31.

A bail hearing was held for Alan Cummings, charged with assault, unlawful contact, and violating conditions of release.

An adjudication hearing was held for Richard Anderson, charged with a probation/parole violation. A sentencing hearing was scheduled for March 17.

A change of plea hearing was held for Theodosia James, charged with driving with a cancelled/revoked/suspended license. The hearing was scheduled to continue on Jan. 31.

A change of plea hearing was held for Lynn Marks, charged with driving with a cancelled/revoked, suspended license. Marks changed her plea to guilty. A sentencing hearing was scheduled for March 23.

Jan. 31: Ismael Morales plead guilty to a charge of vehicle theft. Charges of burglary, theft, criminal trespass, and criminal mischief were dismissed by prosecution. He was sentenced to 9 months imprisonment. He was also ordered to pay police training

Assembly discusses borough goals, makes appointments to investment committee

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Borough Assembly met last Tuesday evening, Feb. 11, for a work session on the borough's future goals. The discussion was meant to ensure that all city employees understood what Wrangell's priorities are, and what they are all working towards. According to the meeting's agenda packet, the borough had a wide variety of goals to consider.

Some of the goals laid out in the agenda packet included development of the old Institute and Byford junkyard properties, and cleaning up abandoned vehicles and other refuse on Zarembo Island. The borough has many goals outlining the need to renovate or replace infrastructure, such as the public safety building, the powerhouse, and the city's water system. There are also some safety goals, including an audit of safety-training needs for all borough staff, and organizing future ALICE training sessions.

There were also several goals geared towards strengthening ties between the city government, its employees, and other community organizations. One such goal is to successfully come to a new collective bargaining agreement with the IBEW, the electrical workers' union. There are also goals outlining stronger ties between the city and the Wrangell Cooperative Association, as well as plans to discuss ways to improve "social fabric efforts" in the community. A full list of the goals discussed in the workshop can be found online at the city's website, www.wrangell.com.

After the work session, the assembly held a meeting to appoint some people to the city's investment committee. The borough recently changed the way investments are made, which includes the creation of an investment committee. The membership of this committee includes two assembly members, the borough manager, the finance director, and a member of the public. The assembly needed to appoint one assembly member and one member of the public to the committee. According to city employee Aleisha Mollen, the assembly received two letters of interest from the public, one from Wrangell School District Superintendent Debbe Lancaster and another from former assembly member Jim DeBord. The assembly decided to appoint DeBord, along with Assembly Member Mya DeLong.

"With Wrangell's limited capacity to increase taxes to cover deficits, it's more imperative now than ever, to maximize our returns on what assets we already have in place, and capture every dollar of revenue possible," DeBord wrote in his letter of interest.

During the meeting, the assembly also approved of a resolution allowing Royce and Sherri Cowan to construct a driveway to cross a portion of borough property, held a first reading of an ordinance establishing a new process for fees in harbor and port facilities, and awarded a contract to Heller High Water, in the amount of \$66,301.07, for a summer float for City Dock.


The next assembly meeting is scheduled for Feb. 25.

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Hospice of Wrangell (Harriet's Helpers) gratefully thanks the following for their support this past year!

Hospice Hearts go to:

Jim Bailey	Ron Marshall	Sarah Scheiner
Michael Bania	Steve Marshall	Doug Shoultz
Steve Beers	Tasha Massin	Rebecca Smith
Gloria Benson	Erin Matthes	Ryan Soeteber
Samantha Eilertsen	Brian Merritt	James Stough Sr.
Stephanie Eilertsen	Ron Merritt	Verda Villarma
David Halco	Brooke Reynolds	Cyni Cray and the
Bruce Harding	Tom Rooney Jr.	Nolan Center staff
Amber Hommel	Sarah Scambler	

surcharge of \$200 and an initial jail training surcharge of \$100.

Wynterwainui Gross pled guilty to a charge of harassment. She was sentenced to 60 days imprisonment, with 60 suspended. She was also ordered to pay a police training surcharge of \$100, and \$200 for the cost of appointed counsel. She will be on probation for one year.

Theodosia James pled guilty to a charge of driving with a cancelled/revoked/suspended license. She was sentenced to 10 days imprisonment. She was also

ordered to pay a police training surcharge of \$100 and an initial jail surcharge of \$50.

Feb. 4: A representation hearing was held for James Vandebunte III, charged with theft. A calendar call was scheduled for March 17, and a jury trial on March 24.

Valerie Nakamura was arraigned on charges of possessing a controlled substance. She was released on her own recognizance. A calendar call was scheduled for March 17, and a jury trial on March 24.

Taler Byrd pleaded no contest to a charge of furnishing

alcohol to a person under the age of 21-years-old. They were sentenced to 20 days imprisonment, with 17 suspended. They were also ordered to pay a fine of \$200, a \$100 police training surcharge, and a \$50 initial jail surcharge. They will also be on probation for one year.

Feb. 11: Nicole Webster pleaded guilty to a charge of failing to stop for a school bus. She was ordered to pay a fine of \$100, or to complete 10 hours of community service. She was also ordered to pay a \$100 police training surcharge.



Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils

Help the Federal Subsistence Board manage fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and other subsistence issues in your region.

Application Deadline Extended! March 2, 2020

For an application call (800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888 or visit www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions



Police report

February 10
Nothing to report.

February 11
Citation for Blocking Roadway Prohibited and Prohibited Parking Places issued to James Edward Vandebunte III, 57.
Citizen Assist.
Abandoned Property.
Jessica Ritchie, 29, charged with Driving under the Influence.
Domestic Dispute.

February 12
Citizen Assist: Unlocked Vehicle.
Catering Permit.
Civil Issue.
Security Check.
Found Dog.

February 13

Agency Assist: Hoonah Police Department.
Civil Issue.
Summons Service.
Agency assist: TSA.

February 14
Hit and Run.
Domestic Violence Order Service.
Lost Property.

February 15
Noise Complaint.
Summons Service.
Motor Vehicle Accident.
911 Agency Assist.
Traffic Stop.

February 16
Trespass.
Agency Assist: Search and Rescue.
Dog at Large.

Letter to the Editor

Stedman should follow local consensus and put ferries first

To the Editor:

As residents of the towns near the proposed Kake Road, we firmly oppose it. The \$40 million raised for this "road to nowhere" should instead support the return of the Alaska Marine Highway System to our coastal Alaskan communities struggling without ferry service.

It is one thing to waste taxpayer money on a project no one is asking for, and another to do so while claiming funding for vitally needed and popular ferry services doesn't exist.

This proposal would cross the rugged wilds of Kupreanof Island from the village of Kake to a salt water landing in Frederick Sound 12 miles from Petersburg. Because Kake is on Kupreanof Island and Petersburg is on Mitkof Island, the trip would still require a

boat.

A 2004 estimate for a gravel road plus boat service to Petersburg was \$145 million plus half a million annually for maintenance. In 2016, the Department of Transportation shelved the project citing the state budget crisis. Under Gov. Mike Dunleavy the project has risen from the reckless spending graveyard, with the state ironically spending a million dollars or more on the dead end project in 2019.

The City of Kupreanof vehemently opposes the road, a formal study of Kake's transportation options found Kake's public sentiment on the road was mixed at best, and Petersburg residents have continually spoken out on record against the project. (While many supported extending Southeast Alaska Power Association infrastructure to Kake, this project is unrelated to the road being developed now.)

A town of 3,000, Petersburg does not offer the same retail services or Alaska Native health facilities that

Kake residents regularly accessed in Juneau or Sitka when ferries were running. As a candidate, Dunleavy claimed he would support the ferries that connect our coastal villages to medical, commerce and student activities. But as governor he has instead rudely dismantled the system, leaving coastal residents literally stranded when the last ship afloat needs repairs or when flights are grounded due to weather, including his own.

In June 2019, Sen. Bert Stedman, R-Sitka, told the press the Kake road could have prevented a recent medevac flight fatality.

We understand that the Senator doesn't spend much time on Kupreanof Island, but those familiar with the terrain find it hard to imagine bumping Kake's ambulance 40 miles down a dirt road during an Alaskan winter only to then have to transfer the patient on and off a ferry and onto another ambulance and to Petersburg's hospital that routinely medevacs patients to larger facil-

ities itself.

It is manipulative, at best, for Stedman to use a tragedy in a small village to push a pet project and pork barrel spending.

By any stretch, it cannot be said that there is consensus or broad popular support in Petersburg, Kake or Kupreanof to build this road.

However, there is unanimous consensus in our communities that reliable, dependable ferry service is crucial to our economies and schools. We call on Stedman and Dunleavy to stick with the state's fiscally prudent 2016 decision to put this project out to pasture. We're confident that local leaders can find a way to shift the existing appropriation to the Alaska Marine Highway System, where it might actually do some good for our communities.

**Joel Jackson, President,
Organized Village of Kake
Marlena Martin, Kupreanof
resident**

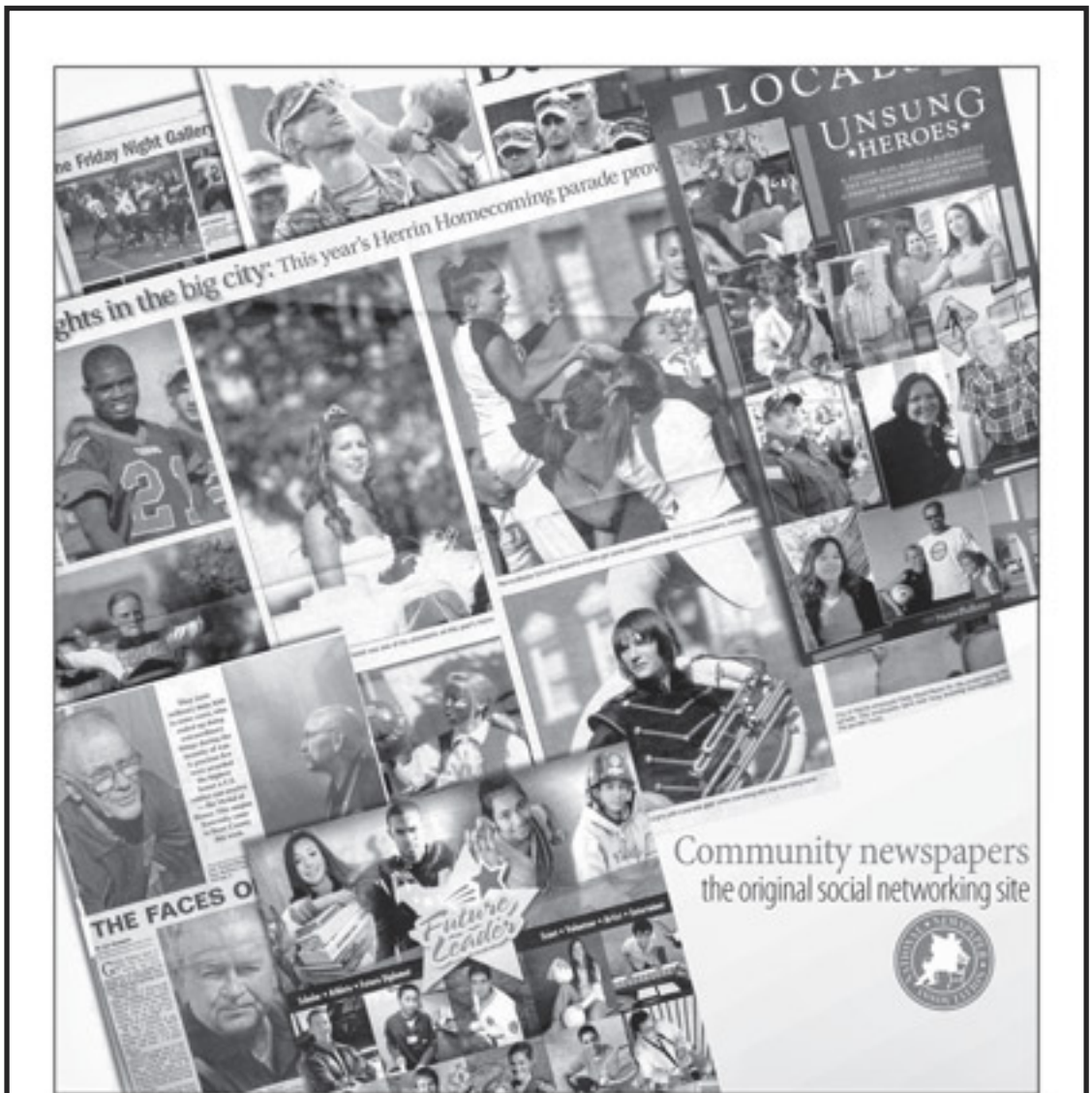
Dan's Dispatch

By Representative
Dan Ortiz

Each session, the Legislature's biggest responsibility is to pass a budget for the State of Alaska. The House Budget Subcommittees - which examine the details of each department budget - have finished their budget recommendations. I serve as Chair of three budget subcommittees, and we submitted the following budget actions to the House Finance Committee for further review.

The subcommittee for the Department of Environmental Conservation restored the Ocean Ranger program and protected funding for commercial shellfish PSP testing. The subcommittee for the Department of Fish and Game held fast against cuts to the Division of Commercial Fisheries, the bulk of the Governor's proposed decrements to this department. The subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development protected the Online with Libraries (OWL) video conferencing program. I also hope we can delve into the loss of Pre-K funding in the House Finance Committee. Noteworthy actions from other subcommittees include: the Department of Administration allocated \$1 million for public broadcasting grants. Last year, all funds for public broadcasting, totaling \$2.7 million, were vetoed by the Governor. The University of Alaska subcommittee added \$10.5 million for base operations, such as employee compensation increases. The Department of Transportation subcommittee added \$18.7 million to AMHS to get our ferries up and running again. I'm confident in the near term, the House will be able to pass an increase to both the AMHS operation funding and vessel repair funding. If the Senate agrees with those increases and the Governor doesn't use his veto power for AMHS funding, we should be able to restore the schedule to the level it was prior to FY20 budget cuts, meaning significantly more service to all areas of the service.

This week, the House Finance Committee will review the budget and hear public testimony. The Wrangell LIO has a set public testimony time of 7:00-8:00pm on Friday, February 21. Communities without an LIO are scheduled for Saturday, February 22, from noon until 3pm. You can also email public testimony to housefinance@akleg.gov by Saturday at 5pm. More details can be found at www.akleg.gov. And as always, you can email me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@AKLeg.gov or call my office at 907-465-3824.



WRANGELL SENTINEL

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Youth advocate Derek Peterson discusses importance of “webs of support”

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Derek Peterson visited Wrangell on Monday and Tuesday to host a series of workshops to talk about Integrative Youth Development and how it could help the community's children.

According to a flyer announcing his visit to Wrangell, Peterson is an international child and youth advocate. He is the Founder of the Institute for Community and Adolescent Resiliency - Unifying Solutions, as well as Integrative Youth Development. Integrative Youth Development, according to the ICAR-US website, is a series of seven factors that can be used to assess, nurture, and sustain a community's youth.

“IYD presents a framework for the development of individual youth, within the context of their environment,” the website reads.

Peterson explained a child's need for a “web of support.” He described this web of support as a balloon, being held in the air by a web of yarn. The balloon represents the child, he said, and the web is made up of important people in that child's life and the support they provide.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Youth advocate Derek Peterson introducing himself to Wrangell student Phebe Garcia, during a workshop held at Stikine Middle School on Feb. 17.

vide. The balloon can vary in size, demonstrating the resilience of the child, and the web can have different sized holes in it, representing shortcomings or a lack of support in certain areas from those around the child.

“This [the web] is nurture, very much shifting, always shifting on kids,” Peterson said. “Bigger balloons are more likely to stay on top of thin webs, and those are those kids that are kind of magic to us ... Most kids are normal, which means that a normal size balloon needs a normal size web. Then, of course, there's small balloons that are apt to fall through any web they have. There are kids like that who, there's just something about their innate resilience that they fall through the web.”

There are seven factors that

influence this web of support, according to Peterson which are: The rule of five: A young person needs at least five caring adults in their lives. Tangible strings: Measurable support from the young person's adults, or anchors, that shape their environment. Intangible strings: Beliefs, values, and behaviors that are being taught to the young person. Growing the

balloon: A young person's innate characteristics, talent, and abilities. Scissor cuts: Behaviors or actions that erode the support of those in a young person's web. Caring for carers: Supporting people in one's own web of support. Social norms: The climate and culture of a community that has largely been agreed upon as normal.

“This isn't a program at all,

as you can tell,” Peterson said during Monday night's workshop at the Nolan Center. “It's a scale, a measurement tool.”

Essentially, Peterson said, the five caring adults in a child's life need to give that young person both tangible and intangible support, providing for their physical and mental or spiritual needs. The adults also need to set expectations, instill values, and try to teach the young person to avoid negative behaviors and actions, that coincide with the community's social norms. The adults also need to take care of their own webs of support, Peterson said. Grownups need webs of support just as much as kids do.

One of the important things to remember, he said, is that every person and their web is unique. For a young person to thrive, they need as strong a web as possible, but that web of support can be incredibly varied. For example, the five “anchors” of the web could be parents and siblings for one kid, or grandparents and teachers for another kid. What is important is that the web is in place to help ensure everyone thrives.

“Wrangell will do it differently than Unalakleet, and a family in Wrangell will do it a little differently than another family in Wrangell,” Peterson said.

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Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, Sunday February 16, 2020 - *The face of Alaska Native civil rights*

Evergreen Elementary students create art display for Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day took place this past Sunday, Feb. 16. Peratrovich was one of Alaska's better-known civil rights activists. Born in Petersburg in 1911 and coming from the Tlingit nation, she fought



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Fourth and fifth grade students at Evergreen Elementary School recognized Elizabeth Peratrovich Day by putting together an artistic timeline of the civil rights activist's life, which is on display at the Nolan Center. Fifth grade students also recorded clips of themselves talking about Peratrovich's life and her work, which can be viewed by scanning QR codes attached to their drawings.

for the rights of native Alaskans. In 1945 she was instrumental in the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act by the territorial legislature.

Fourth and fifth graders at Evergreen Elementary put together an art display in recognition of Peratrovich and her work, which is currently on display at the Nolan Center. Students drew pictures of Peratrovich, her life, and the work she did to help acquire equal rights for all Alaskans. The fifth grade students' artwork shows a timeline of Peratrovich's life. The fifth graders also mixed in technology with their art. Attached to their pic-

tures are QR codes, which people can scan with their smartphones to see a video of students explaining their drawing.

"We did the timeline," said fifth grader Everett Meissner. "We drew all the pictures, hanging them up on string, and did a little caption below."

Nolan Center Director Cyni Cray said that there will be an open house on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m., to see the artwork. People will also get a chance to see a museum display of civil rights activism in Alaska, she said, as well as a design of the Elizabeth Peratrovich \$1 coin.

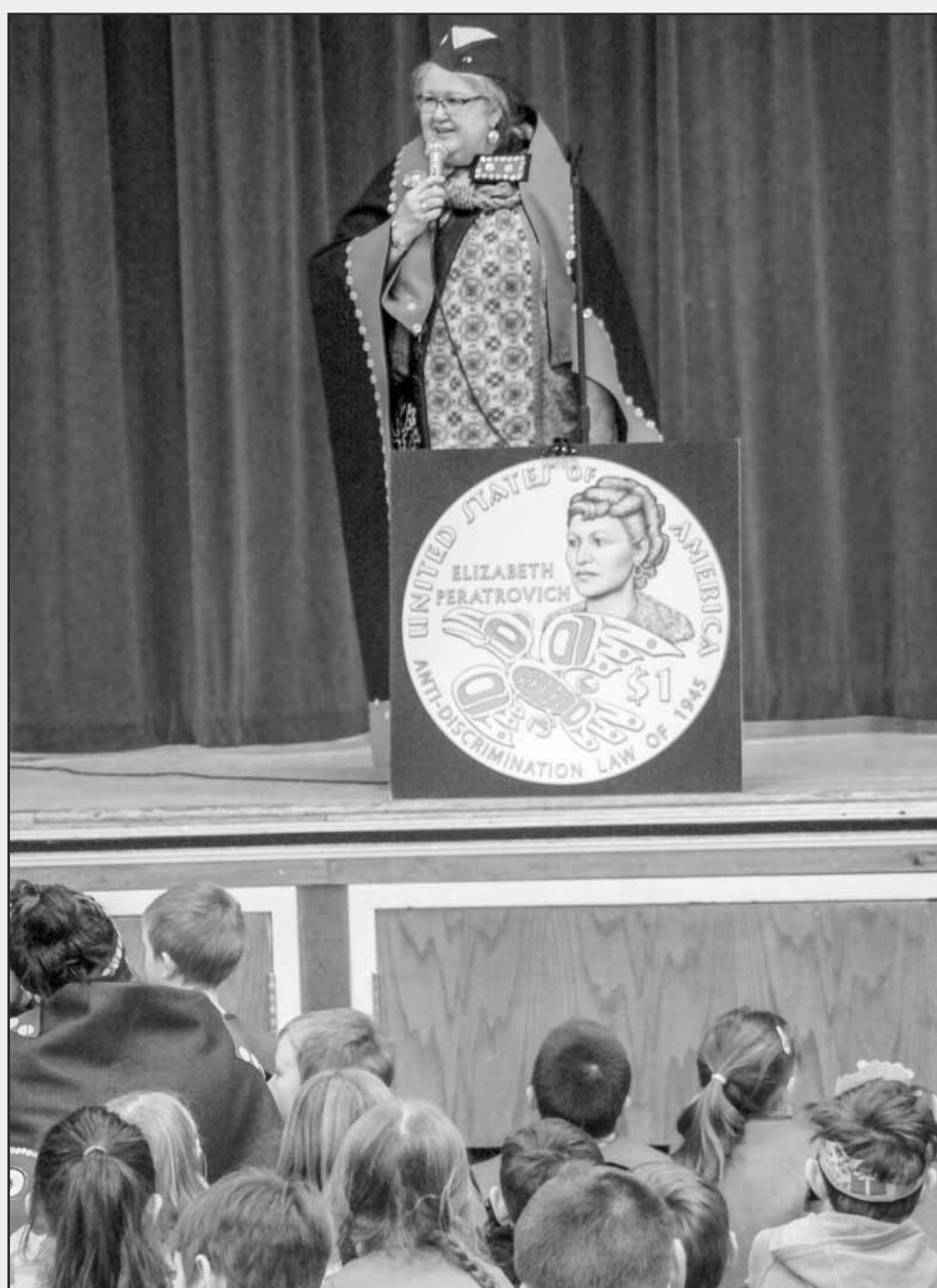


PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Elizabeth Peratrovich celebrated at Evergreen Elementary

Students of Evergreen Elementary School, and Head Start, gathered together at the elementary school gym for a celebration of the annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day on Feb. 18 in Alaska. As the holiday fell on a Sunday this year, the celebration took place a few days afterwards.

The celebration featured songs and dances

from Wrangell's JOM dance group, a song by Head Start students, and speeches about who Peratrovich was and why she was so important to the civil rights movement in Alaska.

Pictured here is Sandy Churchill, first grand vice president of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, talking about Peratrovich and the new \$1 coin that will feature her image.



PHOTO BY BRIAN VARELA/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Joel Churchill, dances along with about 15 other Johnson O'Malley dancers and elders at Petersburg's first annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day celebration on Sunday.



PHOTO BY BRIAN VARELA/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Trinity Glazer, left, and Lorraine Allen, right, lead Johnson O'Malley dancers and elders in a traditional Tlingit song and dance. Behind Glazer and Allen is Ross Nannauck III.

Petersburg, Wrangell gather to honor Elizabeth Peratrovich

By BRIAN VARELA
Sentinel writer

PETERSBURG - The Petersburg Indian Association, Petersburg Arts Council and Petersburg ANB/ANS hosted the first annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day celebration on Sunday to honor the woman who spearheaded Alaska's Anti-Discrimination Act of

1945.

The ceremony began with a march down Nordic Dr. that began at the Trading Union and ended at the John Hanson Sr. Hall where the celebration continued. Master of Ceremonies Nathan Lopez acknowledged the work that Peratrovich and her husband Roy did for civil rights in the state, which inspired others throughout the country.

"How different would our country be if she didn't inspire other civil rights leaders?" said Lopez. "Today, we celebrate Elizabeth Peratrovich and her stand for things that matter."

After Lopez gave his opening remarks, Johnson O'Malley dancers and elders from Wrangell entered the building wearing traditional Tlingit garb, while dancing and singing for those present. They performed about six songs, one of which was a paddle song that was performed outside of the building to let the Petersburg Tlingit Tribe know they were coming. The JOM dancers and elders will also be performing the same songs at Celebration 2020 in Juneau.

Community elder Raymond Duqaqua addressed the crowd along with PIA Vice President Brenda Norheim and ANS/AN Camp 16 Presidents Barbara Erickson and Joseph Stewart.

Norheim reminded the crowd that Peratrovich was born in Petersburg on July 5, 1911 and was a main driving force of Alaska's Anti-Discrimination Act.

"She was a woman; a Tlingit woman," said Norheim. Adam Ware, Heather Berkeley and Adrianna Stough read letters written by Peratrovich, including a correspondence between her and Alaska Provincial Governor Ernest Gruening. Peratrovich first wrote the governor telling him about a sign outside of the Douglas Inn in Anchorage that forbids natives from entering. Gruening replies that he has invited the owner of the Douglas Inn to meet with him and will persuade the owner into taking the sign down.

"I fully agree with you," wrote Gruening in a letter read by Berkeley. "The sign is offensive, contrary to American principles and unjustified in every way."

Diane Lexis Benson started reading Peratrovich's speech she gave before legislators, but halfway through, Avery Hermann-Sakamoto finished reading it as a way to pass along everything Peratrovich stood for to a younger generation.

Ross Nannauck III led the crowd in singing "Ch'a aade yei onatee gaa," also known as the Tlingit National Anthem, and invited everyone present to stand with him.

In her closing remarks, Malena Marvin introduced the Elizabeth Peratrovich Mural Project, which is an effort to have a mural of the native civil rights leader painted on the side of the Petersburg Courthouse.

"This is the work going forward of telling these stories and making these voices and faces a visible part of our community," said Marvin.



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Alaska Fish Factor By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

No limits imposed on Russian seafood coming into US despite nearly six year embargo on seafood imported to Russia

Lost in the headlines about the hits to seafood sales from the Trump Administration's trade war with China is another international barrier with Russia that's been going on far longer.

In August of 2014 Russia placed an embargo on all U.S. food products to retaliate for sanctions the U.S. and other Western countries imposed over the invasion of Ukraine. The ban included Alaska seafood, which at the time accounted for more than \$61 million in annual sales to Russia, primarily from pink salmon roe.

But here's the bigger hurt: For the nearly six years that the embargo has been in place, no corresponding limits have ever been imposed on Russian seafood coming into the US.

At first, Alaska seafood companies and the Congressional delegation made some "tit for tat" noise about imposing a ban on Russian seafood. But in fact, the value of Russian imports has grown nearly 70 percent since 2014 - and it all comes into the U.S. almost entirely duty free.

A four page white paper from the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute outlines the trade imbalance further.

For example, the U.S. imported \$551 million of seafood from Russia in 2018, plus \$50 million of pollock from China that was caught in Russia. U.S. crab comprised 84 percent of the value of Russian imports just in that one year.

Through December 2019, the numbers increased again - federal trade data show that more than 80.2 million pounds of Russian seafood entered the U.S. valued at over \$698 million. That included nearly 16 million pounds of red king crab valued at \$293 million and 4.6 million pounds of frozen sockeye salmon worth over \$16.7 million.

Alaska and Russia harvest many of the same fish and crab species, and many Russian seafood products compete in the U.S. at much lower prices.

The trade report reveals how ASMI worked aggressively to build markets in Russia starting in 2006, and steady growth boosted Alaska pink salmon prices from 2010 through 2013



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEATHER HOLT

Middle School Wrestlers

Middle schoolers from Wrangell spent the latter part of last week in Juneau, taking part in the Southeast Alaska Middle School wrestling championships. As a team, they came in fifth place with a total of 180 points. They were just behind Petersburg, in fourth place. First place went to Floyd Dryden Middle School, of Juneau, the hosts of the championship. Of the 18 Wrangell middle school students who wrestled last week, 10 made placement in their brackets.

Back Row: Coach Jack Carney, Vanessa Barnes, Lily Younce, Della Churchill, Mia Wiederspohn, Sean McDonald, Daniel Harrison, Johnny Allen, Nate Rooney, Cody Barnes, Tank Martin, and Coach Lorne Cook. **Front Row:** Sawyer Rooney, Patton Bania, Everett Meissner, Ben Hauser, Ian Nelson, Sierra Ely, Gavin Hunt, and Jackson Carney.

which benefitted fishermen and coastal communities.

The trade imbalance will only get worse, the ASMI report said, as Russia aims to nearly double the value of its global seafood exports by 2024 to over \$8 billion.

Huge investments are underway to increase and modernize capacity by building more than 20 new processing plants and 90 new fishing vessels by the year 2030. The plan also includes the launch of a new marketing and supply chain strategy called "The Russian Fish."

Total investments by Russia to its fishery sector between 2018 and 2025 are estimated at nearly \$7 billion.

Call for crew trainees - The call is out for Alaskans interested in learning firsthand about commercial fishing.

It's the third year for the Crew Training Program hosted by the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association in Sitka. Over 213 have applied so far from all over the country and 25 deckhands and

20 skippers have participated.

"It's very exciting to see so many young people interested in entering the commercial fish-

ing industry. You always hear about the graying of the fleet but it shows that the interest is out there. Young people just need

Continued on page 9 these resources to explore and get involved," said Tara Racine, ALFA communications and pro-

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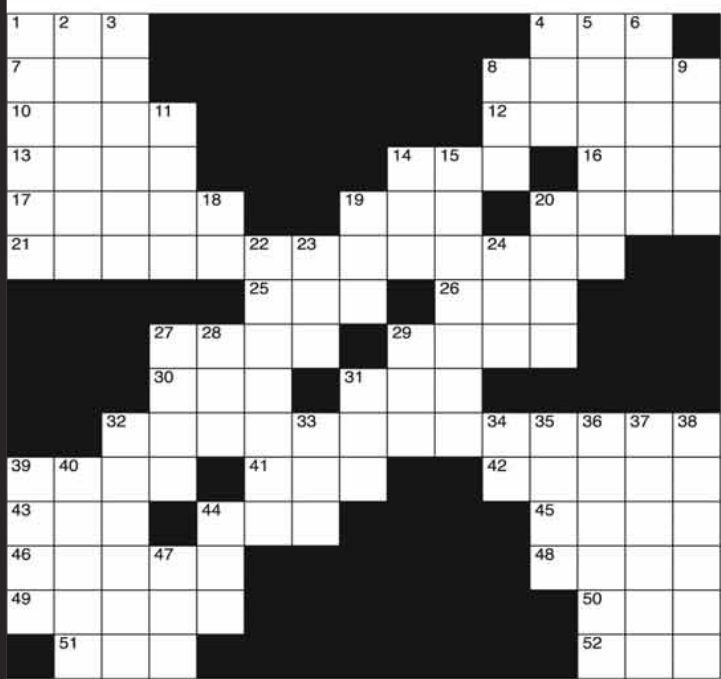
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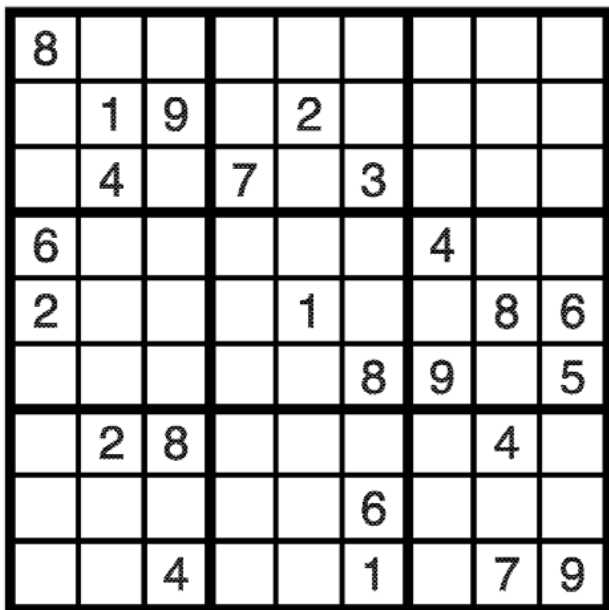
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Expression of disgust
- 4. A place to unwind
- 7. A type of cooking range
- 8. Grasp tightly
- 10. Sea eagles
- 12. Carb dish
- 13. Late-night host
- 14. Revolutions per minute
- 16. Indicates odd or erroneous
- 17. FDR's military chief of staff
- 19. Swiss river
- 20. Norwegian district and river
- 21. A form of motivation
- 25. Car mechanics group
- 26. Once a must-have home theater accessory
- 27. Broken branch
- 29. Apple and pumpkin are two
- 30. Skeletal muscle
- 31. Small Eurasian deer
- 32. Tight-lipped fellow
- 39. Comes after a cut
- 41. A place one lives
- 42. Cognizant of
- 43. Albanian monetary unit
- 44. Carrot's partner
- 45. Famed garden
- 46. Chilean seaport
- 48. Days (Spanish)
- 49. Sudden anxiety
- 50. 100 square meters
- 51. A type of beer
- 52. French/Belgian river

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Spanish dish
- 2. Concurs
- 3. ___ and her sisters
- 4. Patti Hearst's captors
- 5. Used to refer to cited works
- 6. A state of excited movement
- 8. Advertising term (abbr.)
- 9. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 11. New York art district
- 14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!
- 15. Pre-release viewing
- 18. Northwestern Canadian territory (abbr.)
- 19. Consumed
- 20. Falters
- 22. Radioactive form of an element
- 23. Catch a wrongdoer
- 24. Breeze through
- 27. Thick piece of something
- 28. Yellowish-brown color
- 29. "The Raven" poet
- 31. Rural free delivery (abbr.)
- 32. Creating
- 33. Supervises flying
- 34. Northwestern state
- 35. Was obligated to repay
- 36. Diverging in lines from a common center
- 37. Bleak
- 38. We all have them
- 39. Hit with the palm of one's hand
- 40. Sea that's part of the western Pacific
- 44. Political action committee
- 47. Famed Spanish soldier El ___

SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Puzzle answers will be in the February 27 edition

Fish Factor

Continued from page 8

gram development coordinator.

ALFA received a \$70,000 grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to launch the program and to support similar crew apprenticeships in Alaska. Additional grants came from the Edgerton Foundation, the City and Borough of Sitka, the Alaska Community Foundation.

"We are hoping to share any information and lessons that we've compiled and learned and material we've created and give it to anyone else interested in doing a program like this," Racine said.

Most of the recruits have gone out on longliners and trollers and plans include expanding to seiners and gillnetters in a flexible fishing schedule.

"We have short term and long term programs," she explained. "It could be just a couple of days for people who just want an intro and that's what the skippers have the availability and time for. We also have plenty who go out for the entire season or several weeks at a time."

The rookies are paid for their work and Racine said skippers are eager to show them the ropes.

"The skippers are looking for reliable crew and are wanting to mentor the next generation of resource stewards and skilled fishermen. So not only are they training the pool of young people in our area to become deck hands, they also are ensuring the life of this industry that they love and is so important to our coastal communities," she said.

Troller Eric Jordan has mentored over 40 young fishermen aboard the F/V *I Gotta*. He believes the future depends on them learning the right ways to care for the fish.

"Finding crew with some experience is so critical to the future of our individual businesses in the industry as a whole," Jordan said. "One of the things this program provides is the taste of it. So, deckhands know they like it, and skippers can recommend them for future employment. It is a win-win for the crewmembers and the skippers."

The program's growth will depend on more skipper participation. Applicants must be 18 or older to apply at www.alfafish.org/crewtraining. The deadline is February 28.

Dungie danger - Two hundred fishermen in Southeast Alaska will share a record \$16.3 million payday for the Dungeness crab they hauled up from combined summer and winter fisheries, which just wrapped up last month.

Crabbers fishing primarily around Petersburg and Wrangell landed 5.3 million pounds of dungsies for the season, the third highest catch and at an average \$3.07 per pound, the most valuable ever.

Meanwhile, some grim news for dungsies has surfaced that reveals impacts of increased ocean acidity on the crab.

Results from NOAA's Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory in California showed for the first time that corrosive conditions of coastal waters affected portions of the fragile, still-developing shells and legs of tiny, post-larval Dungeness crabs, leaving tell-tale features such as abnormal ridging structures and scarred surfaces.

In another surprising discovery, lab studies on crabs collected in 2016 showed increased acidity caused the loss of hair-like bristles called mechanoreceptors that stick out from the shell and transmit important chemical and mechanical sensations that help the crabs navigate their environment. The research team said "this is a new aspect of crustacean sensitivity to ocean acidification that has not been previously reported."

Previously, scientists thought Dungeness crab were not vulnerable to current levels of acidity.

"This is the first study that demonstrates that larval crabs are already affected by ocean acidification in the natural environment and builds on previous understanding of ocean acidification impacts on pteropods," lead author Nina Bednarsek said in a press release. (Pteropods are tiny floating snails that are a main diet for juvenile pink salmon).

Dungeness crab is the West Coast's most valuable fishery and all states are working to develop policies and management tools to deal with effects on marine life from the off kilter ocean chemistry. Some reports have shown that even if preventive measures are taken now, the situation will still worsen in coming years before it gets better.

P&Z commission approve permit for drive-through coffee shop

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission approved a conditional use permit for a proposed business. Sara Gadd has plans to establish a drive-through coffee shop in the industrial park, at the corner of Bennett Street and Howell Avenue. This topic was brought up in the commission's previous meeting in January, but was tabled as Gadd was not present to answer questions, nor did the

commission have a written agreement from the owner of the lot next to this potential business allowing driveway access.

Gadd was in attendance, and after some brief discussion the commission approved of the conditional use permit, so long as signage is put up near the coffee shop explaining that those entering the lot have right-of-way, how to line up for the drive-through, and asking drivers to use the driveway off

of Howell Avenue to access the coffee shop.

The commission also approved of a final plat to subdivide land owned by Scott Young on Zimovia Highway into two lots. They also approved a conditional use permit for a bed and breakfast run out of Theresa Allen's residence on Evergreen Avenue.

The entire meeting was concluded in less than 15 minutes. The commission's next meeting is scheduled for March 5.

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**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
Surplus Property
For Sale
Over-the-Counter**

The City and Borough of Wrangell held a bid opening for surplus property on February 7, 2020. For the items that did not sell, pursuant to WMC, the items were available for sale, Over-the-Counter beginning on February 10, 2020 on a first-come, first-serve basis for the minimum value.

The list of surplus items is available at City Hall and on the Borough Website under the Resource Center tab (Bids, RFP's & Auctions).

All surplus property is available As-Is, Where-Is.

Kim Lane, MMC
Borough Clerk

Publish: February 20, 2020

WRANGELL MUNICIPAL LIGHT AND POWER NOTICE

Wrangell Municipal Light and Power would like to remind everyone that an electrical permit is required before doing any electrical work within the City and Borough of Wrangell.

Wrangell Municipal Code 15.12.040 states that no electrical equipment shall be installed within or on any building, structure or premise, public or privately owned, nor shall any alteration or addition be made in any such existing facilities without first securing a permit from the office of the electrical superintendent.

WML&P would also like to remind everyone that per Alaska Statute all wiring must be done by a licensed contractor working under a valid administrator's license. Minor exceptions are allowed for persons working on their own residence provided that residence is owned by and the primary occupancy of the person doing the work and no commercial enterprise is being conducted on the premise.

Anyone having questions is encouraged to contact Wrangell Municipal Light and Power at 907-874-3602.

Publish: February 20, 2020

**City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska
PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Hearing**

During the Regular Borough Assembly meeting on **February 25, 2020 (beginning at 6:00 p.m.)**, there will be a **PUBLIC HEARING** on the following item(s):

a. PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 969 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, ESTABLISHING SECTION 05.11, REMOTE SELLER SALES TAX OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE (*second reading*)

b. PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 975 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REPEALING SECTION 14.11.005, FEE SCHEDULE, IN ITS ENTIRETY AND ESTABLISHING A NEW PROCESS FOR FEES IN CHAPTER 14.11 HARBOR AND PORT FACILITIES OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE (*second reading*)

The Public is encouraged to attend.

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

Publish: February 20, 2020

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

In the Matter of the Estate of:)
)
Salvatore Bruno,)
Deceased.) CASE NO. 1WR-20-05PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Pete Bruno has been appointed personal representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four (4) months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims should be submitted to the above titled court, Box 869, Wrangell, AK 99929, with a copy to the personal representative, Pete Bruno, c/o Michael P. Heiser, 300 Mill Street, Suite 20, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901.

Dated: 09/23/2019

Pete Bruno
Personal Representative

Published: February 6, 13 and 20, 2020

LEGAL

Pursuant to the City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, Borough Charter, Sec. 4, public notice is hereby given that the following ordinance listed by title only has been adopted by the Borough Assembly. Such ordinances are currently on file in the office of the Borough Clerk and may be inspected upon request.

ORDINANCE No 974 OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA AMENDING THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, CREATING CHAPTER 3.15 "INVESTMENT COMMITTEE"

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

Publish: February 20, 2020

**CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
WRANGELL POLICE DEPARTMENT
Administrative Assistant/DMV**

The Wrangell Police Department will accept applications for the position of **Administrative Assistant** through February 28, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. This is a permanent position with all City & Borough benefits.

This position serves as the administrative assistant to the Police Chief and Police Lieutenant as well as managing the DMV Office. They will prepare and maintain case files, reports, correspondence, and other related material for outside agencies, departments, and the District Attorney's Office. Assists with purchasing, revenues, and budget expenses for the Wrangell Police Department.

This position also manages the DMV Office with a part-time employee. Administers licenses tests, both written and driving, titles and registrations, fingerprinting, TWIC cards, HAZMAT, and TSA Precheck.

The position requires a high degree of confidentiality and organization. Due to the nature of the position a criminal background check and drug test will be required prior to hire. Additional certifications and background checks through state and federal agencies will be required post-hire.

This is a full-time, hourly position with full benefits, paid at Grade 18 with a starting wage at \$23.19 per hour.

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

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

Lisa Von Bargen
Borough Manager

Publish February 20 and 27, 2020

JOBS

OFFICE HELP WANTED: The Wrangell Sentinel is looking for a computer savvy, customer friendly worker. Must be able to lift 25 pounds and have own car. DOE. Please stop in the Sentinel office to fill out a job application or email resume to wrgsent@gmail.com.....tfn11-21dh

PROPERTY

FOR SALE: Property at 1104 Peninsula Street Wrangell (Sourdough Lodge). The land and building only, some furnishings, no business. The property has been appraised at \$900,000.00. We are asking \$800,000.00 for the land and building only. For information call Bruce Harding at 907-305-0108.....2x2-27b48

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February 26th, 2020 at 10:00 AM

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PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Kaylyn Easterly (No. 44) shooting for a basket.

Lady Wolves go 1-1 against Miss Chiefs

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Lady Wolves played a set of home games against the Metlakatla Miss Chiefs last week, Feb. 14 and 15. Both teams have been having strong performances this year. The last time the two teams met, after Rally the Regions in early January, Wrangell walked away defeated in two very close games. This time, however, both teams fought hard and managed one win each.

The first game on Friday went to the Miss Chiefs. The game started with a score of 12-18 in the first quarter, Wrangell trailing by six points. In the second quarter, Metlakatla pulled ahead to an 11-point lead at 22-33, but this was as far ahead as they would manage to get. The Lady Wolves narrowed the gap in the third quarter at 34-40. However, they did not manage to catch up in time. The final score of the game was 41-50, a win for the Miss Chiefs.

Saturday's game, on Feb. 15, was a hard but victorious fight for Wrangell. The game started with Metlakatla holding a narrow lead at 12-13. By the end of the first half, Wrangell was barely in the lead at 20-19. The Lady Wolves pulled ahead in the third quarter and put the score at 30-22. The final score was 42-30, a win for the Lady Wolves.

The Lady Wolves will be facing the Petersburg Lady Vikings this weekend, in their homecoming games on Feb. 21 and 22.

Wolves take two losses against Metlakatla last week

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Wolves took two losses against the Metlakatla Chiefs last week, Feb. 14 and 15. Both games saw the Wolves struggle to score points and keep up with the Chiefs, while also struggling to put up a defense strong enough to keep Metlakatla away from their basket.

The first game on Friday, opened with the Wolves dragging behind at 16-7 in the first quarter. Both teams scored a series of points in the second quarter, but the Wolves were able to maintain the nine-point difference between them and Metlakatla at 30-21. The third quarter saw the team really struggle, and they only managed to make two

more points. After that, despite playing hard, the Chiefs continued to extend their lead. The final score was 66-35, a loss for Wrangell.

Saturday's game started off with a little more promise. Metlakatla was still in the lead, but only by three points at 13-10. The Chiefs pulled ahead in the second quarter, 37-20, and in the third

quarter, 60-31. The final score of the game was 72-38, another loss for Wrangell.

"We played hard," said Coach Cody Angerman. "All I ask for my kids is they play hard all the time."

Angerman said that the games were a good learning experience for the team, as Regionals are starting to loom around the corner. From what he's seen of their per-

formance, he said they are definitely a better team than they were at the beginning of the season.

"When it comes to the end of the day it's all about the experience," Angerman said.

Wrangell's homecoming games are this weekend, Feb. 21 and 22. The Wolves will be facing off against their long standing rivals, the Petersburg Vikings.

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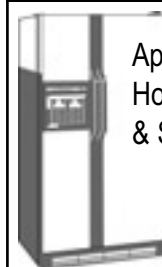


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“Eskimo Ninja” Nick Hanson stops in Wrangell on motivational speaking tour

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Hailing from the village of Unalakleet, Nick Hanson is probably best known as the “Eskimo Ninja,” a regular contestant on American Ninja Warrior. He has competed on the TV show, running through a series of obstacle courses and physical challenges, since its seventh season in 2015. His most recent participation in the show last year, season 11, saw him make it to the first stage of the finals in Las Vegas, Nevada. In his four years on the show, going on five, Hanson has represented his family, his town, and the state of Alaska on national television.

He stopped in Wrangell last week to talk about his background, his career as an athlete, and what has motivated him to push himself so hard.

“Every time before I get on a course I think about why am I

doing what I do,” Hanson said. “People ask me ‘Do you get nervous before you get on Ninja Warrior?’ Yeah, big time. But then right before I go, I think about you guys, like Alaska, Alaskan communities, especially the youth, young men, young women that might be watching.”

Hanson moved to Unalakleet when he was young, around six-years-old. He has native heritage from his mother’s side of the family, he said, and from his father’s side he’s Italian and Scottish. Growing up, he was bullied a lot for looking white. One day in the third grade, after being bullied particularly hard, he said that the best way to deal with the bullies was to get heavily involved in school activities and show everyone what he was really like.

“I’m at the ocean, I’m kneeling down, I’m washing myself off and I’m looking at my reflec-

tion thinking ‘what is it going to take?’ Kind of like Mulan, except I didn’t start singing,” Hanson said. “So that day I decided, ‘you know what, all these boys are in sports, I’m still going to join sports’ even though I was too scared to for the last year and a half or so. I’m going to do it anyways. Some of these boys, well one of the boys, I should say, was on the student government. ‘You know what? I’m going to be on student government.’”

Hanson participated in all kinds of sports, including basketball, cross country, wrestling, volleyball, skiing, and the Native Youth Olympics. Through sports and other school organizations he turned his bullies into friends, he said. After high school, he competed in the World Eskimo Indian Olympics and the Arctic Winter Games. He also became a teacher in Unalakleet.

Adversity did not end at childhood bullying, however. Hanson talked about his home life growing up, where his mother struggled with alcoholism. She has been sober for many years, he said, but it was a challenge to grow up with. On top of that, as the years have gone on Hanson said he has lost several friends and people he grew up with to suicide and alcohol-related deaths.

“I’ve lost a total of 15 alcohol-related deaths and suicides, classmates and teammates,” he said. “Some girls, some boys. Mostly men, young men.”

These losses dragged him into a dark place, Hanson said, but it was an eighth grader suggesting he try out for American Ninja Warrior that helped pull him back out. He wanted to be a good role model for the youth of his community, he said, but he was not sure what to do.

“I had to figure out what am I going to do to be a role model for these kids,” he said. “I don’t have anybody to ask for advice any more, I don’t have anybody. I thought I’d lost everything. This eighth grader said ‘Man, I think you should try



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Nick Hanson, the “Eskimo Ninja” of American Ninja Warrior, was in Wrangell last week to talk about his life and how he wound up on television. He is pictured here at the Wrangell High School gym, sharing his story.

out for Ninja Warrior!”

Learning about the show from this kid, watching YouTube videos of the competition, and building a Warped Wall (one of the obstacles on the show) was a moment of epiphany for him, Hanson said. It was a match made in heaven. This was something he could be good at, and something he could use to inspire and motivate people around him. So, he sent in an application video of his participation in the native games, and he was accepted for the show in 2015. Ever since then, he has participated in each season of the show and has gotten a little farther in the

competition each year. Now, he said, he is traveling on this tour of Southeast Alaska to share his story and motivate others.

“If you are struggling, I’m not going to say quit,” he said. “If you drink alcohol or do drugs, or something like that, and you’re in this room right now, I’m not going to tell you to quit. I never will tell you to quit, I’ll never say cold turkey, be done, because it’s hard. It’s going to take time. I will say try. I will never say not try, I will say try. I will say do your best. I will say be the best person that you can be, because that’s all we can do, every single day.”

Lawmakers vote to give Alaska Marine Highway System a lifeline

Today, Alaska’s ferries are one step closer to receiving badly needed funds.

Members of the budget subcommittee working on the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities’ budget voted to add \$18.7 million into the AMHS budget.

Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak) is a member of the DOT budget subcommittee, chair of the House Transportation Committee, and serves on the Alaska Marine Highway Reshaping Work Group. Representative Stutes said, “Shelves in grocery stores are empty. Alaskans are missing medical appointments. Mothers are turning to Facebook to find diapers for their babies. The Alaska Marine Highway System’s struggles are felt statewide. Today’s amendment is about making sure ferry service resumes so coastal Alaskans can get back to life as normal.”

Speaker Bryce Edgmon (I-Dillingham), also a member of the subcommittee, said, “We need to do something now to get ferries operating.”

“Every Alaskan deserves access to basic transportation,” said Rep. Andi Story (D-Juneau), who also voted to increase AMHS funding. “Reduced ferry service has been painful for our people, our communities, and our businesses. Funds voted on today will be significant in reinstating stable service to people across Alaska. We will continue working until the ferries are up and running again.”

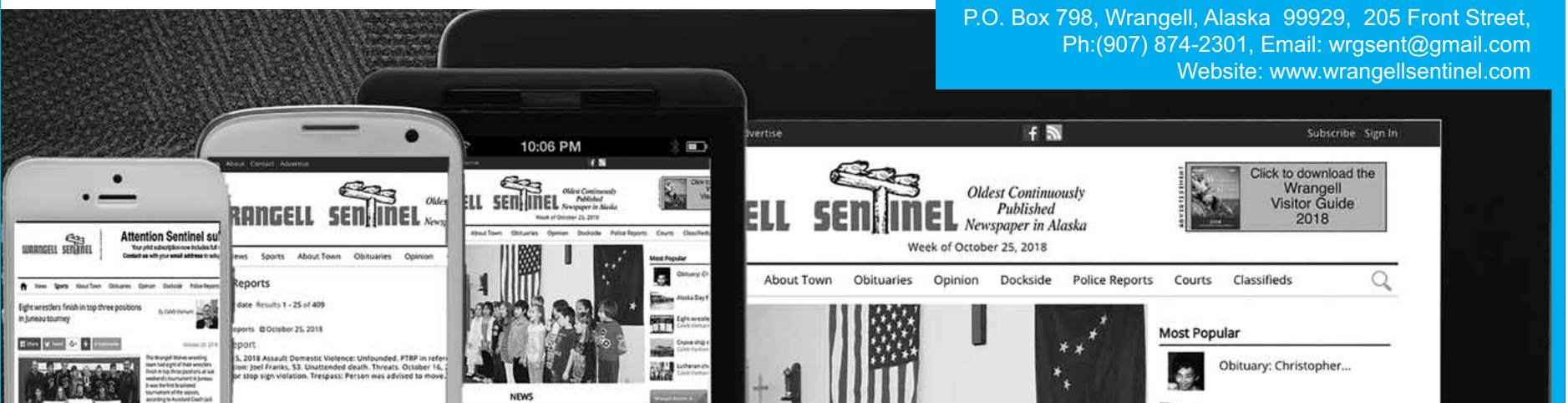
The DOT budget proposal now heads to the House Finance Committee for consideration. The budget will also be vetted on the House floor, in the Senate, and must be finalized by the governor.

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, February 20: Zachary Dawson Lane, Zak Lane, Mark Seimears, Jodie Guggenbickler, Mary Rooney, Jim Wenderoth. **Friday, February 21:** Paul Southland, Casey Crayne, Liz Bunes, Dale Maenhout, Randy Kalkins, Alexandria Kaer. **Saturday, February 22:** Cocoa Massin, Steve Angerman, Jim Maxand, Erika Bates, Merak Rooney, Sierra Wickman. **Sunday, February 23:** Anna Allen. **Monday, February 24:** Shanda Barlow, Andrea Irvine, Lisa Schultz, *Anniversary:* Rob & Sharry Rooney, Emilie Turner, Elsie Hansen, Elsie Bailey, Sean Rooney. **Tuesday, February 25:** Fiona Scambler, Susan Wooden, Samantha DeBoer, Ryan Howe, Sharry Rooney. **Wednesday, February 26:** Roman Privett-Murphy, Shari Moore, Sue Stevens, Stella Bunes, Kathleen Harding, Nathan Klinke. **Thursday, February 27:** *Anniversary:* Chuck & Ava Hay, Tina Draper, Amber Hommel, Jacob Hammer.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, February 20
Beef Soup, Brussel Sprouts, Carrot Salad, Rice.

Friday, February 21
Pork Chop Suey, Broccoli, Danish Salad, Rice.

Monday, February 24
New England Clam Chowder, Tuna Sandwich, Slaw, Bread.

Tuesday, February 25
Chicken Fricassee, Peas, Fruit Cup, Biscuits.

Wednesday, February 26
Vegetable Beef Hash, Tomato Rockefeller, Biscuit, Salad.

Thursday, February 27
Chicken Rice Casserole, Broccoli, Spinach 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

February Sailing CANCELED

Northbound

Friday, March 6
Matanuska 05:15 p.m.

Sunday, March 8
Matanuska 09:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 11
Matanuska 10:45 a.m.

Friday, March 13
Matanuska 11:15 p.m.

Friday, March 20
Matanuska 07:15 p.m.

Southbound

Sunday, March 8
Matanuska 07:15 a.m.

Tuesday, March 10
Matanuska 07:45 p.m.

Friday, March 13
Matanuska 08:00 a.m.

Monday, March 16
Matanuska 06:15 a.m.

Monday, March 23
Matanuska 07:45 a.m.

Arrival times may vary.

Call 874-2021 for verification or call 874-3711 or Toll Free 800-642-0066 for recorded information.



TIDES

February 20 -February 27

High Tides Low Tides

	High Tides		Low Tides		High Tides		Low Tides	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
February 20	10:44	16.2	11:45	14.4	04:37	4.5	05:25	-0.6
February 21	11:32	16.7	05:28	3.6	06:05	-1.1
February 22	00:26	15.1	12:15	17.0	06:08	2.9	06:38	-1.3
February 23	01:01	15.6	12:52	17.0	06:43	2.4	07:08	-1.2
February 24	01:33	15.8	01:27	16.7	07:14	2.0	07:36	-0.9
February 25	02:02	15.8	01:59	16.3	07:44	1.8	08:02	-0.3
February 26	02:29	15.7	02:30	15.6	08:15	1.7	08:29	0.4
February 27	02:55	15.5	03:01	14.7	08:46	1.8	08:57	1.2

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Monday, February 24
Wrangell Public School Board Regular Meeting: 7:00 pm, Evergreen Elementary School Room 101

Friday, February 28
Taco dinner and game night: 6:00 pm, Evergreen Elementary Gym. For more info call 907 209 9117.

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

Continuing Events

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

Pool:

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

2 Lane Lap Swim: M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m.
Lap/Tot Swim: MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Swim Club: M-F 3:15-5:15 p.m.
Open Swim: M-W 5:30-7:00 p.m. F 6:30-8:00 p.m. S 1:00-2:00 p.m.

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

MEETINGS

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

The Way We Were

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

February 19, 1920

There was a well attended meeting of the Parent-Teachers' association last Thursday evening. Interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. Gordon C. Mitchell, Mrs. George H. Barnes, and Mr. H. L. Rowley, recently of Bayview. The audience was favored with a vocal solo by Mrs. W. W. McLaughlin. In addition to the program there was a profitable discussion of school matters. The meeting opened and closed with singing led by Mrs. W. W. McLaughlin. The president appointed the following committees to act for the remainder of the present term which ends in May. Membership - J. G. Grant, Mrs. B. Y. Grant, Miss Allender. Program - Rev. H. P. Corser, Miss Crosno, Mrs. Pritchett. Social - G. C. Mitchell, Mrs. Benjamin, Mrs. Hilts.

February 23, 1945

Saturday night this last week, our Wrangell town team challenged the Coast Guardsmen from a boat in port, to a basketball scrimmage. Few spectators looked in. Although this team is a picked experienced team and has played many teams in Alaska, including Sheldon Jackson school in Sitka, it proved an easy match for our town team as shown by the final score of 36 to 24. We are proud of the sportsmanlike manner of our town team that night as a few misunderstandings arose which were calmly smoothed over. Again Monday night the two teams played with a more smashing victory for

the town team, 45 to 21.

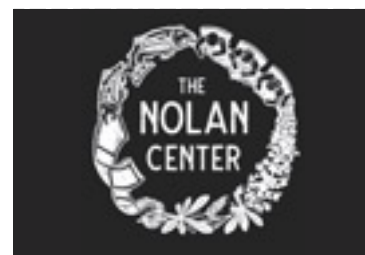
February 19, 1970

Appointment of Ed Barker as editor of the Wrangell Sentinel was announced today by Charles F. Willis Jr., publisher of the newspaper. Barker, who has been in charge of the Sentinel's operation since coming here in November, is from Eagle River. He had been editorial assistant until his promotion. The promotion makes Barker one of four editors in the Nome Publishing Co. Byron Fish, a columnist for the Seattle Times, is senior editor. Robert C. Weaver Jr., former editor of the Sentinel, edits the Petersburg Press, and Albro Gregory, former Press editor, is in charge of the Nome Nugget.

February 16, 1995

Wrangell Volleyball fans were treated to an exhibition of skill Friday and Saturday when the Lady Wolves treated Metlakatla's Misschiefs to a lesson in skill at the net. Coach Myron Myers girls obviously

out-classed, in basic skills, conditioning and training, the visitors. There was never a question as to the outcome. Of an even dozen games played, only the junior varsity squad allowed Metlakatla a couple wins - and that was one game of the three played Friday and one of three on Saturday. Wrangell varsity swept both nights.



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No movie next weekend



Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Feb. 10	41	37
Feb. 11	41	37
Feb. 12	39	34
Feb. 13	38	34
Feb. 14	39	34
Feb. 15	40	36
Feb. 16	39	36
Feb. 17	41	36



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Feb. 20	7:04a	5:01p	09:57h
Feb. 21	7:02a	5:03p	10:01h
Feb. 22	6:59a	5:05p	10:06h
Feb. 23	6:57a	5:07p	10:10h
Feb. 24	6:54a	5:09p	10:15h
Feb. 25	6:52a	5:12p	10:20h
Feb. 26	6:49a	5:14p	10:25h
Feb. 27	6:47a	5:16p	10:29h

Letter to the Editor

Stedman should follow local consensus and put ferries first

To the Editor:

As residents of the towns near the proposed Kake Road, we firmly oppose it. The \$40 million raised for this "road to nowhere" should instead support the return of the Alaska Marine Highway System to our coastal Alaskan communities struggling without ferry service.

It is one thing to waste taxpayer money on a project no one is asking for, and another to do so while claiming funding for vitally needed and popular ferry services doesn't exist.

This proposal would cross the rugged wilds of Kupreanof Island from the village of Kake to a salt water landing in Frederick Sound 12 miles from Petersburg. Because Kake is on Kupreanof Island and Petersburg is on Mitkof Island, the trip would still require a

boat.

A 2004 estimate for a gravel road plus boat service to Petersburg was \$145 million plus half a million annually for maintenance. In 2016, the Department of Transportation shelved the project citing the state budget crisis. Under Gov. Mike Dunleavy the project has risen from the reckless spending graveyard, with the state ironically spending a million dollars or more on the dead end project in 2019.

The City of Kupreanof vehemently opposes the road, a formal study of Kake's transportation options found Kake's public sentiment on the road was mixed at best, and Petersburg residents have continually spoken out on record against the project. (While many supported extending Southeast Alaska Power Association infrastructure to Kake, this project is unrelated to the road being developed now.)

A town of 3,000, Petersburg does not offer the same retail services or Alaska Native health facilities that

Kake residents regularly accessed in Juneau or Sitka when ferries were running. As a candidate, Dunleavy claimed he would support the ferries that connect our coastal villages to medical, commerce and student activities. But as governor he has instead rudely dismantled the system, leaving coastal residents literally stranded when the last ship afloat needs repairs or when flights are grounded due to weather, including his own.

In June 2019, Sen. Bert Stedman, R-Sitka, told the press the Kake road could have prevented a recent medevac flight fatality.

We understand that the Senator doesn't spend much time on Kupreanof Island, but those familiar with the terrain find it hard to imagine bumping Kake's ambulance 40 miles down a dirt road during an Alaskan winter only to then have to transfer the patient on and off a ferry and onto another ambulance and to Petersburg's hospital that routinely medevacs patients to larger facil-

ities itself.

It is manipulative, at best, for Stedman to use a tragedy in a small village to push a pet project and pork barrel spending.

By any stretch, it cannot be said that there is consensus or broad popular support in Petersburg, Kake or Kupreanof to build this road.

However, there is unanimous consensus in our communities that reliable, dependable ferry service is crucial to our economies and schools. We call on Stedman and Dunleavy to stick with the state's fiscally prudent 2016 decision to put this project out to pasture. We're confident that local leaders can find a way to shift the existing appropriation to the Alaska Marine Highway System, where it might actually do some good for our communities.

**Joel Jackson, President,
Organized Village of Kake
Marlena Martin, Kupreanof
resident**

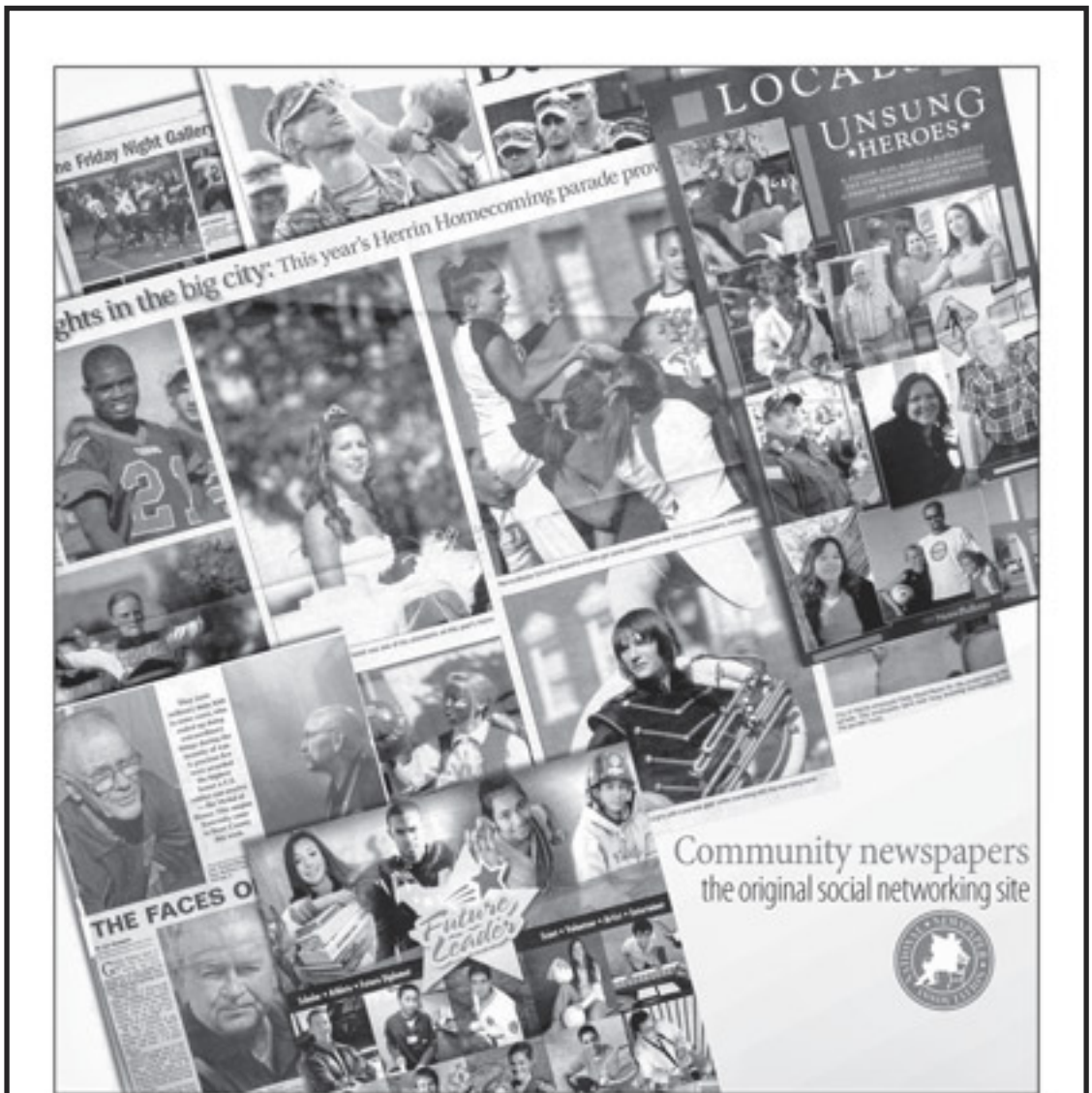
Dan's Dispatch

By Representative
Dan Ortiz

Each session, the Legislature's biggest responsibility is to pass a budget for the State of Alaska. The House Budget Subcommittees - which examine the details of each department budget - have finished their budget recommendations. I serve as Chair of three budget subcommittees, and we submitted the following budget actions to the House Finance Committee for further review.

The subcommittee for the Department of Environmental Conservation restored the Ocean Ranger program and protected funding for commercial shellfish PSP testing. The subcommittee for the Department of Fish and Game held fast against cuts to the Division of Commercial Fisheries, the bulk of the Governor's proposed decrements to this department. The subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development protected the Online with Libraries (OWL) video conferencing program. I also hope we can delve into the loss of Pre-K funding in the House Finance Committee. Noteworthy actions from other subcommittees include: the Department of Administration allocated \$1 million for public broadcasting grants. Last year, all funds for public broadcasting, totaling \$2.7 million, were vetoed by the Governor. The University of Alaska subcommittee added \$10.5 million for base operations, such as employee compensation increases. The Department of Transportation subcommittee added \$18.7 million to AMHS to get our ferries up and running again. I'm confident in the near term, the House will be able to pass an increase to both the AMHS operation funding and vessel repair funding. If the Senate agrees with those increases and the Governor doesn't use his veto power for AMHS funding, we should be able to restore the schedule to the level it was prior to FY20 budget cuts, meaning significantly more service to all areas of the service.

This week, the House Finance Committee will review the budget and hear public testimony. The Wrangell LIO has a set public testimony time of 7:00-8:00pm on Friday, February 21. Communities without an LIO are scheduled for Saturday, February 22, from noon until 3pm. You can also email public testimony to housefinance@akleg.gov by Saturday at 5pm. More details can be found at www.akleg.gov. And as always, you can email me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@AKLeg.gov or call my office at 907-465-3824.



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Alaska Fish Factor By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

No limits imposed on Russian seafood coming into US despite nearly six year embargo on seafood imported to Russia

Lost in the headlines about the hits to seafood sales from the Trump Administration's trade war with China is another international barrier with Russia that's been going on far longer.

In August of 2014 Russia placed an embargo on all U.S. food products to retaliate for sanctions the U.S. and other Western countries imposed over the invasion of Ukraine. The ban included Alaska seafood, which at the time accounted for more than \$61 million in annual sales to Russia, primarily from pink salmon roe.

But here's the bigger hurt: For the nearly six years that the embargo has been in place, no corresponding limits have ever been imposed on Russian seafood coming into the US.

At first, Alaska seafood companies and the Congressional delegation made some "tit for tat" noise about imposing a ban on Russian seafood. But in fact, the value of Russian imports has grown nearly 70 percent since 2014 - and it all comes into the U.S. almost entirely duty free.

A four page white paper from the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute outlines the trade imbalance further.

For example, the U.S. imported \$551 million of seafood from Russia in 2018, plus \$50 million of pollock from China that was caught in Russia. U.S. crab comprised 84 percent of the value of Russian imports just in that one year.

Through December 2019, the numbers increased again - federal trade data show that more than 80.2 million pounds of Russian seafood entered the U.S. valued at over \$698 million. That included nearly 16 million pounds of red king crab valued at \$293 million and 4.6 million pounds of frozen sockeye salmon worth over \$16.7 million.

Alaska and Russia harvest many of the same fish and crab species, and many Russian seafood products compete in the U.S. at much lower prices.

The trade report reveals how ASMI worked aggressively to build markets in Russia starting in 2006, and steady growth boosted Alaska pink salmon prices from 2010 through 2013



PHOTO COURTESY OF HEATHER HOLT

Middle School Wrestlers

Middle schoolers from Wrangell spent the latter part of last week in Juneau, taking part in the Southeast Alaska Middle School wrestling championships. As a team, they came in fifth place with a total of 180 points. They were just behind Petersburg, in fourth place. First place went to Floyd Dryden Middle School, of Juneau, the hosts of the championship. Of the 18 Wrangell middle school students who wrestled last week, 10 made placement in their brackets.

Back Row: Coach Jack Carney, Vanessa Barnes, Lily Younce, Della Churchill, Mia Wiederspohn, Sean McDonald, Daniel Harrison, Johnny Allen, Nate Rooney, Cody Barnes, Tank Martin, and Coach Lorne Cook. **Front Row:** Sawyer Rooney, Patton Bania, Everett Meissner, Ben Hauser, Ian Nelson, Sierra Ely, Gavin Hunt, and Jackson Carney.

which benefitted fishermen and coastal communities.

The trade imbalance will only get worse, the ASMI report said, as Russia aims to nearly double the value of its global seafood exports by 2024 to over \$8 billion.

Huge investments are underway to increase and modernize capacity by building more than 20 new processing plants and 90 new fishing vessels by the year 2030. The plan also includes the launch of a new marketing and supply chain strategy called "The Russian Fish."

Total investments by Russia to its fishery sector between 2018 and 2025 are estimated at nearly \$7 billion.

Call for crew trainees - The call is out for Alaskans interested in learning firsthand about commercial fishing.

It's the third year for the Crew Training Program hosted by the Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association in Sitka. Over 213 have applied so far from all over the country and 25 deckhands and

20 skippers have participated.

"It's very exciting to see so many young people interested in entering the commercial fish-

ing industry. You always hear about the graying of the fleet but it shows that the interest is out there. Young people just need

Continued on page 9 these resources to explore and get involved," said Tara Racine, ALFA communications and pro-

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“Eskimo Ninja” Nick Hanson stops in Wrangell on motivational speaking tour

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Hailing from the village of Unalakleet, Nick Hanson is probably best known as the “Eskimo Ninja,” a regular contestant on American Ninja Warrior. He has competed on the TV show, running through a series of obstacle courses and physical challenges, since its seventh season in 2015. His most recent participation in the show last year, season 11, saw him make it to the first stage of the finals in Las Vegas, Nevada. In his four years on the show, going on five, Hanson has represented his family, his town, and the state of Alaska on national television.

He stopped in Wrangell last week to talk about his background, his career as an athlete, and what has motivated him to push himself so hard.

“Every time before I get on a course I think about why am I

doing what I do,” Hanson said. “People ask me ‘Do you get nervous before you get on Ninja Warrior?’ Yeah, big time. But then right before I go, I think about you guys, like Alaska, Alaskan communities, especially the youth, young men, young women that might be watching.”

Hanson moved to Unalakleet when he was young, around six-years-old. He has native heritage from his mother’s side of the family, he said, and from his father’s side he’s Italian and Scottish. Growing up, he was bullied a lot for looking white. One day in the third grade, after being bullied particularly hard, he said that the best way to deal with the bullies was to get heavily involved in school activities and show everyone what he was really like.

“I’m at the ocean, I’m kneeling down, I’m washing myself off and I’m looking at my reflec-

tion thinking ‘what is it going to take?’ Kind of like Mulan, except I didn’t start singing,” Hanson said. “So that day I decided, ‘you know what, all these boys are in sports, I’m still going to join sports’ even though I was too scared to for the last year and a half or so. I’m going to do it anyways. Some of these boys, well one of the boys, I should say, was on the student government. ‘You know what? I’m going to be on student government.’”

Hanson participated in all kinds of sports, including basketball, cross country, wrestling, volleyball, skiing, and the Native Youth Olympics. Through sports and other school organizations he turned his bullies into friends, he said. After high school, he competed in the World Eskimo Indian Olympics and the Arctic Winter Games. He also became a teacher in Unalakleet.

Adversity did not end at childhood bullying, however. Hanson talked about his home life growing up, where his mother struggled with alcoholism. She has been sober for many years, he said, but it was a challenge to grow up with. On top of that, as the years have gone on Hanson said he has lost several friends and people he grew up with to suicide and alcohol-related deaths.

“I’ve lost a total of 15 alcohol-related deaths and suicides, classmates and teammates,” he said. “Some girls, some boys. Mostly men, young men.”

These losses dragged him into a dark place, Hanson said, but it was an eighth grader suggesting he try out for American Ninja Warrior that helped pull him back out. He wanted to be a good role model for the youth of his community, he said, but he was not sure what to do.

“I had to figure out what am I going to do to be a role model for these kids,” he said. “I don’t have anybody to ask for advice any more, I don’t have anybody. I thought I’d lost everything. This eighth grader said ‘Man, I think you should try

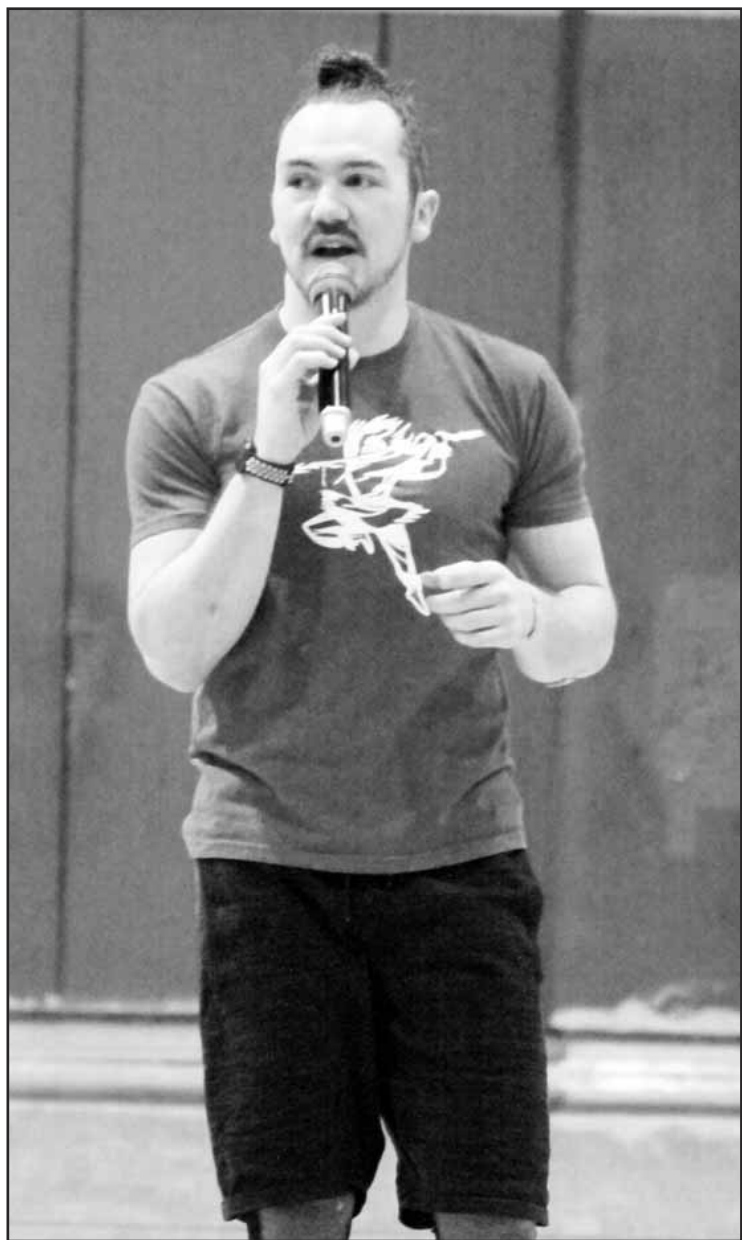


PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Nick Hanson, the “Eskimo Ninja” of American Ninja Warrior, was in Wrangell last week to talk about his life and how he wound up on television. He is pictured here at the Wrangell High School gym, sharing his story.

out for Ninja Warrior!”

Learning about the show from this kid, watching YouTube videos of the competition, and building a Warped Wall (one of the obstacles on the show) was a moment of epiphany for him, Hanson said. It was a match made in heaven. This was something he could be good at, and something he could use to inspire and motivate people around him. So, he sent in an application video of his participation in the native games, and he was accepted for the show in 2015. Ever since then, he has participated in each season of the show and has gotten a little farther in the

competition each year. Now, he said, he is traveling on this tour of Southeast Alaska to share his story and motivate others.

“If you are struggling, I’m not going to say quit,” he said. “If you drink alcohol or do drugs, or something like that, and you’re in this room right now, I’m not going to tell you to quit. I never will tell you to quit, I’ll never say cold turkey, be done, because it’s hard. It’s going to take time. I will say try. I will never say not try, I will say try. I will say do your best. I will say be the best person that you can be, because that’s all we can do, every single day.”

Lawmakers vote to give Alaska Marine Highway System a lifeline

Today, Alaska’s ferries are one step closer to receiving badly needed funds.

Members of the budget subcommittee working on the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities’ budget voted to add \$18.7 million into the AMHS budget.

Rep. Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak) is a member of the DOT budget subcommittee, chair of the House Transportation Committee, and serves on the Alaska Marine Highway Reshaping Work Group. Representative Stutes said, “Shelves in grocery stores are empty. Alaskans are missing medical appointments. Mothers are turning to Facebook to find diapers for their babies. The Alaska Marine Highway System’s struggles are felt statewide. Today’s amendment is about making sure ferry service resumes so coastal Alaskans can get back to life as normal.”

Speaker Bryce Edgmon (I-Dillingham), also a member of the subcommittee, said, “We need to do something now to get ferries operating.”

“Every Alaskan deserves access to basic transportation,” said Rep. Andi Story (D-Juneau), who also voted to increase AMHS funding. “Reduced ferry service has been painful for our people, our communities, and our businesses. Funds voted on today will be significant in reinstating stable service to people across Alaska. We will continue working until the ferries are up and running again.”

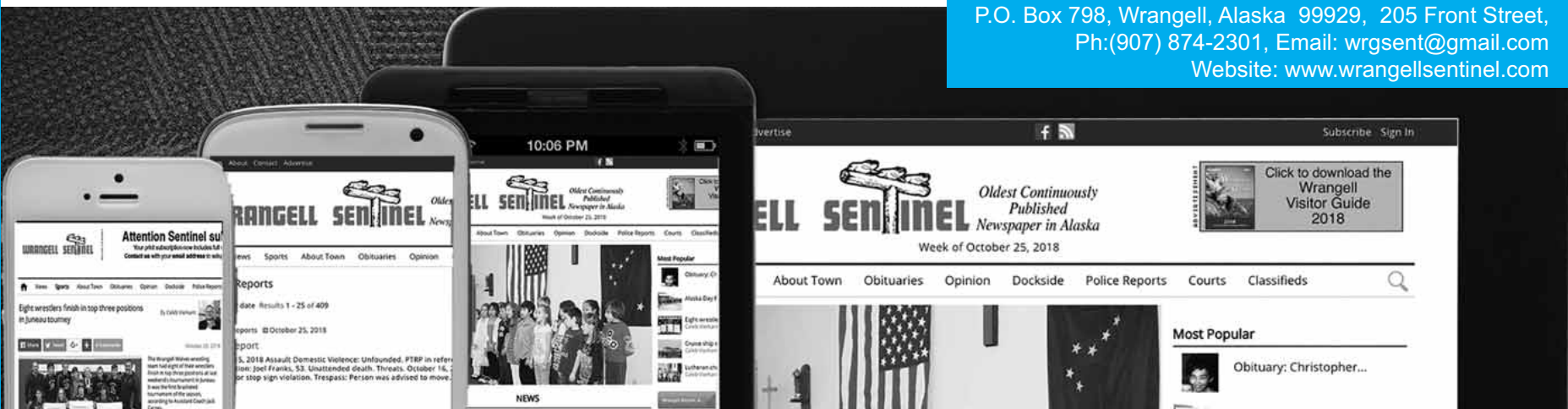
The DOT budget proposal now heads to the House Finance Committee for consideration. The budget will also be vetted on the House floor, in the Senate, and must be finalized by the governor.

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Elizabeth Peratrovich Day, Sunday Feb

Evergreen Elementary students create art display for Elizabeth Peratrovich Day

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day took place this past Sunday, Feb. 16. Peratrovich was one of Alaska's better-known civil rights activists. Born in Petersburg in 1911 and coming from the Tlingit nation, she fought



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Fourth and fifth grade students at Evergreen Elementary School recognized Elizabeth Peratrovich Day by putting together an artistic timeline of the civil rights activist's life, which is on display at the Nolan Center. Fifth grade students also recorded clips of themselves talking about Peratrovich's life and her work, which can be viewed by scanning QR codes attached to their drawings.

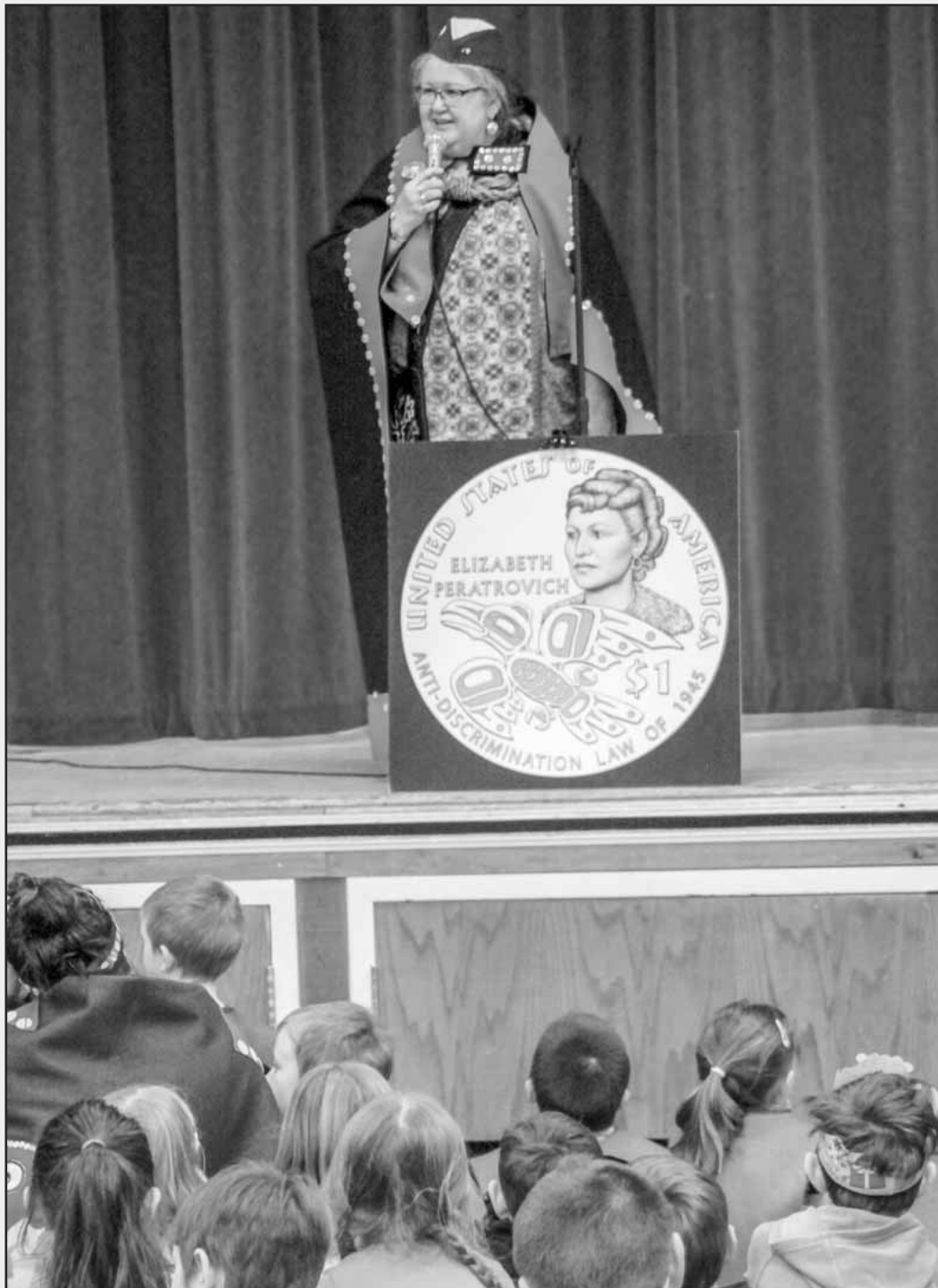


PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Elizabeth Peratrovich celebrated at Evergreen Elementary

Students of Evergreen Elementary School, and Head Start, gathered together at the elementary school gym for a celebration of the annual Elizabeth Peratrovich Day on Feb. 18 in Alaska. As the holiday fell on a Sunday this year, the celebration took place a few days afterwards. The celebration featured songs and dances

from Wrangell's JOM dance group, a song by Head Start students, and speeches about who Peratrovich was and why she was so important to the civil rights movement in Alaska. Pictured here is Sandy Churchill, first grand vice president of the Alaska Native Sisterhood, talking about Peratrovich and the new \$1 coin that will feature her image.

for the rights of native Alaskans. In 1945 she was instrumental in the passage of the Anti-Discrimination Act by the territorial legislature.

Fourth and fifth graders at Evergreen Elementary put together an art display in recognition of Peratrovich and her work, which is currently on display at the Nolan Center. Students drew pictures of Peratrovich, her life, and the work she did to help acquire equal rights for all Alaskans. The fifth grade students' artwork shows a timeline of Peratrovich's life. The fifth graders also mixed in technology with their art. Attached to their pic-

tures are QR codes, which people can scan with their smartphones to see a video of students explaining their drawing.

"We did the timeline," said fifth grader Everett Meissner. "We drew all the pictures, hanging them up on string, and did a little caption below."

Nolan Center Director Cyni Crary said that there will be an open house on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 1 p.m., to see the artwork. People will also get a chance to see a museum display of civil rights activism in Alaska, she said, as well as a design of the Elizabeth Peratrovich \$1 coin.



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