



Wrangell, Alaska
October 21, 2021

WRANGELL SENTINEL

Volume 119, Number 42

Oldest Continuously Published Newspaper in Alaska 16 Pages \$1.50

State spending almost \$900,000 a year to keep Malaspina tied to the dock

By JACOB RESNECK
CoastAlaska Radio reporter

The cost of keeping the idled state ferry Malaspina at the dock in Ketchikan is nearly twice as much as reported to the public and state lawmakers. That's according to internal emails obtained by CoastAlaska under state public records law.

The nearly 60-year-old Malaspina, one of the marine highway's original three sister ships, hasn't carried passengers in almost two years.

It's costing the state almost \$900,000 a year to insure and maintain the unused ship.

Gov. Mike Dunleavy's administration has not wanted to invest in the overhaul of the ferry's original engines, and estimates of fixing the ship run upward of \$70 million for steel work, new engines and restoring its Coast Guard certificate which lapsed while the ship has been laid up at Ward Cove, a private dock north of Ketchikan.

The state, however, has been unable to decide whether it would be best to scuttle, sell or donate the ship.

As recently as Aug. 31, the marine highway's general manager told CoastAlaska that plans to offload the vessel remain "on a hold."

There's been talk of commercial interest, and the recently released emails show the nature of the inquiries. One firm said it wants the Malaspina for anti-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia.

"We would be using it as a platform for housing personnel over in the Middle East," wrote Jonathan McConnell, president of Meridian Global Consulting, a security firm based in Mobile, Alabama.

The Malaspina has staterooms with more than 230 passenger bunks that could be outfitted as sleeping quarters for security contractors that patrol shipping lanes to deter attacks from pirates off

Continued on page 5

Supply chain disruptions, delays trickle down to Wrangell stores

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

It's like nothing they've ever had to deal with in business.

Supply chain disruptions stemming from the pandemic have made it harder and more expensive to get groceries, building supplies, appliances and even flowers, causing Wrangell businesses to wait sometimes more than a year for deliveries.

COVID-19 has had crippling effects on the U.S. economy, decreasing the amount of workers and increasing the amount of time it can take to receive goods and services. In a report issued by the White House earlier this year, the Biden administration said, "In recent months the strong U.S. economic rebound and shifting demand patterns have strained supply chains in other key products, such as lumber, and increased strain on U.S. transportation shipping networks."

"I ordered (an appliance) in September of last year and I'm still waiting for it,"



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/WRANGELL SENTINEL

IGA co-owner Caroline Bangs and employee Alan Cummings examine a damaged pallet of Clamato juice that arrived at the store.

said Amanda Johnson, saleswoman and bookkeeper for Johnson's Building Supplies. "Some stuff, I'm being told, if you order it now, you're not seeing until 2023."

Along with delayed deliveries, Johnson said the business is being limited on the number of models that can be ordered at a time.

Continued on page 5

Tlingit culture, language lives on through heritage learners



PHOTO BY SARAH ASLAM/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Tammi Meissner, a Tlingit health educator at SEARHC, explains the uses for devil's club, or S'axt' in Tlingit. The plant is valued for medicinal qualities.

By SARAH ASLAM
Sentinel reporter

It gets so heavy, sometimes you just want to put it down is how Virginia Oliver describes preserving the Tlingit language.

"You want to cry," she said, "because it feels like your brain is going to explode. But then, your Elders just tell you, 'It's too heavy right now, just put it down for a little while and pick it back up.'"

The international Endangered Languages Project and a U.N. agency estimate there are 200 fluent Tlingit speakers left, but the majority of the sources for that data are a decade old, Oliver said.

She estimates there were 50 remaining in 2021. "That is how fast our people are perishing."

The majority of people who speak Tlingit today are heritage learners - people who are sitting down and spending time with the remaining Native speakers to learn, record and practice, Oliver said.

Those heritage learners might number in the 200s, she said. That doesn't mean they are fluent, "it just means that we are ever learning our language."

And she said dormant speakers, people who understand Tlingit but can't speak it, could number more.

Oliver, whose Tlingit name is Xwaanlein (the frost on the beach when the glacier passes over), said she grew up in Wrangell. Her mother and grandparents were fluent speakers.

Looking back, Oliver, who is in her 60s, wished she had done more, but said she's doing what she can at this stage in her life.

"I kept wanting to have a life," she said. "Get married, take care of my kids. Try to look beautiful. Do this and that. I really should have put more time into learning the language."

Her efforts have been prolific.

Oliver teaches Tlingit language through podcasts at KSTK radio, and lessons and storytelling

Continued on page 8

Barges will use old mill dock while city ramp being repaired

By SARAH ASLAM
Sentinel reporter

A lifeline for food and supplies needs fixing - one of the flotation tanks beneath Wrangell's barge ramp has a hole.

Port Director Steve Miller said harbor staff at the end of August noticed the ramp wasn't raising high enough.

There are two buoyancy tanks below the ramp.

By adding or removing air, the ramp, originally constructed in 1977, can be raised or lowered to meet the deck of the barge to match the tides.

A second flotation tank was added in the 1980s to handle the additional weight when an extra layer of steel was placed on top of the 140-foot-long barge ramp, Miller said.

Harbor staff powerwashed both flotation tanks to see if there was a leak in the portion of the tanks visible above the water. There wasn't. So Miller sent a diver into the water to look below.

The second flotation tank didn't look good, Miller said.

"There is a part where the flotation tank actually touches bottom," he said. "The coating has come off, and it's just open to salt water."

Port and harbor staff plan to pump additional air into the undamaged tank to get the ramp as high as possible. A local contractor, Tim Heller, of Heller High Water, which is doing piling work at the city dock, will swing the entire ramp and damaged tank onto his barge this week.

"He's got a crane on there, and he'll unbolt everything," Miller said. "He'll float the tank out because it will still be kind

of buoyant, and then we will hook onto it with our boat and take it to the boatyard."

Miller anticipates the wealth of talent available at the Marine Service Center will be able to handle the fix.

"If they can tear a whole side of a boat off and completely repair it, put it back and make it look better than new, I think they can handle a couple of these air tanks," Miller said.

In the meantime, barges will have to land at the former sawmill dock at the Marine Service Center. The barges will come in broadside, Miller said, and side-tie at the dock.

Using the dock at the Marine Service Center for freight isn't unproven territory, Miller said. Alaska Marine Lines has used the dock in the past for Trident Seafoods containers.

In the meantime, the ramp can be parked on the back of Heller's barge for a month while the tank is repaired. "We have that amount of time to work through this issue," Borough Manager Lisa Von Barga said at the Oct. 12 borough assembly meeting, where Miller briefed assembly members.

Miller said he can't estimate a cost until the contractor swings the tank out and they can get a good look at the damage.

He said it is fortunate Heller was already doing work at the city dock.



STEVE MILLER, Wrangell port director

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, Oct. 21: Darlene Berglof, Debrah Johnson, Alexis Stough Rifenburg, King Sanders.

Friday, Oct. 22: Chris Barnett, Kelley Decker, Sandy Massin, Pam Roope, Nicole S. Taylor, Verity Waddington, Mason Felix Villarma.

Saturday, Oct. 23: Marlene Messmer; Anniversary: Mike and Karen Lockabey.

Sunday, Oct. 24: Adeline Andrews, Kyler Castle, Juliette Krista Morris.

Monday, Oct. 25: "Cappy" Bakke, Einar O. Haaseth, Ira Merrill, Dude Torvend.

Tuesday, Oct. 26: Autum Hammock; Anniversary: Rick and Maxi Wiederspohn.

Wednesday, Oct. 27: Nathaniel Rooney; Anniversary: James and Rachel Stough.

Thursday, Oct. 28: Frank Young Jr.

Senior Center Menu

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

Friday, Oct. 22

Beef stew with veggies, spicy cup, rolls

Monday, Oct. 25

Swedish meatballs, broccoli, tossed salad

Tuesday, Oct. 26

Macaroni and cheese with ham,
steamed zucchini and carrots

Wednesday, Oct. 27

Chinese fruited pork, green beans, waldorf salad, rice

Thursday, Oct. 28

Fiesta pork chops, cauliflower, fruit slaw, sweet potato

Please call the senior center at 907-874-2066 by 2 p.m. the day prior to reserve a seat at lunch at the center or to request delivery. The senior van also is available to transport seniors to medical appointments, reasonable errands such as collecting mail, getting prescriptions or other essential items.



Ferry Schedule

Northbound

Friday, Dec. 10

Matanuska, 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 14

Matanuska, 10:45 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 17

Matanuska, 10:45 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 24

Matanuska, 4:45 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 31

Matanuska, 8:15 p.m.

Southbound

Wednesday, Oct. 27

Kennicott, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 10

Kennicott, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 24

Kennicott, 8:30 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 13

Matanuska, 8 a.m.

Friday, Dec. 17

Matanuska, 4:45 a.m.

All times listed are scheduled departure times.

Call the terminal at 874-2021 for information

or call 907-874-3711 or 800-642-0066 for recorded information.



TIDES

October 21-October 27

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Oct. 21	02:00	16.1	02:01	17.3	07:45	1.1	08:12	-1.1
Oct. 22	02:35	15.5	02:29	16.8	08:12	1.9	08:41	-0.8
Oct. 23	03:09	14.8	02:55	16.2	08:39	2.8	09:11	-0.4
Oct. 24	03:42	13.9	03:22	15.4	09:07	3.7	09:44	0.3
Oct. 25	04:18	12.9	03:50	14.6	09:39	4.6	10:23	1.1
Oct. 26	05:00	12.0	04:25	13.7	10:17	5.6	11:09	1.9
Oct. 27	05:57	11.2	05:12	12.7	11:08	6.4

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

EVERGREEN ELEMENTARY'S second annual online book fair starts Friday and runs through Nov. 8. The school will receive 25% of all sales. Call for information at 907-874-2321 or visit the fundraising link to browse: www.childrensbookstore.com/welcome/evergreen-elementary-school/?ref=rlxvln5.

WRANGELL PARKS & RECREATION is offering pickleball for all skill levels for adults 18 years and up, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays through Dec. 16 at the community center gym. \$5 drop-in fee or \$40 for the entire season. Players must review the safety mitigation plan and adhere to the established protocols. Register online at www.wrangellrec.com or call 907-874-2444.

WRANGELL PARKS & RECREATION is offering Keep Moving! Perfect for beginners, or those in need of low-impact movement. The cardio portion will consist of gym walking, while the strength series will offer body weight movements, helping to improve range of motion and increase strength. Great for seniors looking to keep their bodies strong and limber during winter. Course runs through Dec. 16 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. at the community center gym. Open to 18 years and up. \$5 drop-in fee, \$3 for seniors. The entire program is \$75, or \$45 for seniors. Register at www.wrangellrec.com or call 907-874-2444.

NOLAN CENTER THEATER presents "The Addams Family 2," rated PG, at 7 p.m. Friday and 4 p.m. Saturday. Tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children under age 12, for the animation, adventure and comedy that runs one hour and 33 minutes. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

WRANGELL PARKS & RECREATION will have a pumpkin plunge at the pool, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tuesday for kids 6 months to 11 years old. A parent or guardian must be in the pool with any child 6 years and younger, or non-swimmers. Fee is \$10 per child, with parent/guardian admission free. Space is limited. Call to reserve a spot, 907-874-2444.

WRANGELL SCHOOL DISTRICT is looking for volunteers to help on a regular basis or on an as needed basis at all three schools. Wrangell High School 907-874-3395, Stikine Middle School 907-874-3393, Evergreen Elementary 907-874-2321.

Want more attendance at your meeting or event? Send information for Roundup to wrgsent@gmail.com or call 907-874-2301. Or go to the Sentinel website, click on the Calendar tab, and submit your entry online.

Continuing Events

PARKS and RECREATION www.wrangellrec.com

Open swim is open by appointment, at reduced capacity. Locker rooms are available.

Arthritis class, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Lap swim, 6 - 7:30 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Lap/tot swim, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m., weekdays, 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday

Open swim, 6 - 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday; 6:30 - 8 p.m. Friday; 1 - 2 p.m. Saturday

Water aerobics class, 10 - 11 a.m. Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Weight room available by appointment and at reduced capacity:

6 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 - 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 - 8:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Saturday

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

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

Oct. 20, 1921

A new record in riverboat building is being established in Wrangell this week. The builder is Charles Binkley and the boat, which was begun Monday morning, will leave on high tide tomorrow afternoon for Telegraph Creek, B.C., with several passengers. Charles Vance and family, who have been here for several weeks, were anxious to return to their home in Telegraph as soon as possible, and both Barrington boats had been put into winter quarters. Mr. Vance failed to make sat-

isfactory arrangements for the trip and Mr. Binkley decided to build a boat for it. Assisted by F.H. Gold, the work began Monday and the boat, 30 feet long with a six-foot beam, is nearly finished and has all the appearance of a speedy and reliable river boat. A 16-hp engine will be installed and a canvas cover will offer shelter. The comfort of Mrs. Vance and her baby is being considered and the trip will be accomplished in a far better manner than an open boat would permit, and in a much shorter time. Dr. F.A. Dan, a dentist from Port Angeles, Washington, who has spent a couple of weeks here, will also be a passenger.

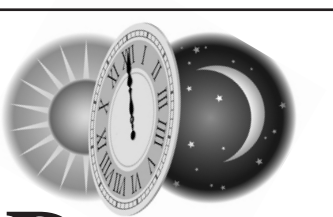
ter first passing a Handy-Talky set to the vessel's crew.

Oct. 22, 1971

Installation of a new fresh meat and delicatessen section at City Market is scheduled to begin immediately and be completed within a month. Rolland and Benn Curtis, owners, said a total of 130 linear feet of new refrigerated display cases will be installed in the new section, which will include self-service as well as service by butcher Bob Howarth. The frozen food section will be expanded in the project, the Curtises said. "This will allow us to offer strictly fresh meats, delicatessen and frozen food items," said Benn Curtis. The market also will expand and relocate its shoe department to the front section of the store. The new meat cases have arrived in town and will be installed by Gordon Bunes.

Oct. 24, 1996

At its Tuesday night meeting, the city council authorized City Manager Scott Seabury to negotiate terms with Alaska Pulp Co. for purchase of the downtown sawmill site. The city's \$2.7 million offer has been accepted by APC owner George Ishiyama. The council also awarded the contract for clean-up of the former Wrangell Institute property to POLYSi, of Idaho Falls, Idaho, and gave a \$306,875 grant to Wrangell General Hospital for a new radiology machine.



Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Hours
Oct. 21	7:35a	5:31p	9:56h
Oct. 22	7:37a	5:29p	9:51h
Oct. 23	7:39a	5:26p	9:47h
Oct. 24	7:41a	5:24p	9:42h
Oct. 25	7:44a	5:22p	9:38h
Oct. 26	7:46a	5:19p	9:33h
Oct. 27	7:48a	5:17p	9:29h

Five apply for position as interim borough manager

By SARAH ASLAM
Sentinel reporter

The borough received five applications for the interim borough manager position: Jeff Good, of Wrangell; Gene Green, of Silverton, Oregon; Mark Lynch, of Stanford, Illinois; Darrell Maple, of Jacksonville, Oregon; and David Palmer, of Anacortes, Washington. Manager Lisa Von Barga's last day will be Oct. 29.

The interim borough manager will fulfill the duties of manager until a new manager can be hired. The position will be a short-time hire, with an expected commitment of between one to three months, according to the borough's job notice. Pay depends on experience.

The plan had been for the assembly to hire an interim manager before Von Barga departs, but that is not panning out, Mayor Steve Prysunka said. Employee union contract negotiations have the borough's schedule tied up until Oct. 27 — the soonest borough staff can start interviews with the five applicants, two days before Von Barga's last day.

The deadline to apply for the interim job was Oct. 13.

Jeff Good

Good's most recent position was as U.S. Coast Guard base director in Kodiak from 2017 to 2020, according to his résumé. He served as public works manager at Base Kodiak from 2006 to 2008. Good holds master's degrees from Duke University and the University of Illinois in engineering management and civil engineering, respectively, and a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Coast Guard Academy.

"I retired from the U.S. Coast Guard last year and have been doing engineering and construction management consulting since then," Good wrote to the borough. "My family and I chose Wrangell to establish our permanent residence after retirement. ... I would like to bring the leadership, management, engineering and administrative skills honed during my active duty career to a city and borough dedicated to providing a safe, secure and prosperous community for its residents."

Gene Green

Green's most recent job was as interim city manager of Mount Angel, Oregon, from September 2019 to June 2020, according to his résumé. He served as Unalaska's assistant city manager and administration director from 1995 to 1998, and was employed in Anchorage from 1979 to 1995 in different capacities at the city's water and wastewater utility or capital projects office.

Green holds a master's degree in education from Boston University and a bachelor's degree from Alaska Pacific University.

"I have over 40 years in various municipal management positions which includes 20 years in Alaska," Green wrote. "My experience in city management, public works, utilities, capital projects, economic development, and human resources allows me to contribute in all phases of borough and municipal government."

Mark Lynch

Lynch's most recent job was as interim manager of the Bristol Bay Borough from 2020 to 2021. He served as city manager in Whittier from 2014 to 2018, and Cordova city manager from 2009 to 2012. He has a master's degree in public administration and bachelor's degree in political science and philosophy from Illinois State University.

"I have experience working with elected officials at the local, state and federal levels to achieve community goals. I have experience overseeing capital projects up to \$30 million," Lynch wrote in his cover letter. He also wrote, "As an interim manager I do not make significant changes in the organization unless it is absolutely necessary, and I work very closely with the local elected officials. I prefer to perform oversight and make only minor changes where necessary and leave the big issues for the incoming manager."

Darrell Maple

Maple has been president of Lynn Canal Professional Services since 1992, according to his résumé, offering "business and utility systems consulting providing assistance in project development, financing, permitting and construction management."

Maple served as a purser with the Alaska Marine Highway System from 1992 to 1996, as Wrangell city manager from 1990 to 1992, and as city administrator in Haines from 1982 to 1987, his résumé said. Maple has a bachelor's degree in public administration from Western Washington University.

David Palmer

Palmer served as manager at Juneau International Airport from 2006 to 2009, Juneau city manager from 1995 to 2002, Juneau deputy city manager from 1991 to 1995, Petersburg city manager from 1989 to 1991, city administrator in Craig from 1983 to 1989, as a legislative aide in 1983, and as city manager of Toledo, Oregon, 1978 to 1982.

Palmer's most recent position was from 2012 to 2015 when he "started Advgear LLC. Involved in the design and fabrication and sale of aluminum BMW motorcycle tool and storage boxes (hobby turned into work!)," according to his résumé.

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and public administration from the University of Oregon.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ARLENE WOODWARD

Les Woodward sits atop the young bull he killed on Sept. 15, opening day of moose season up the Stikine River.

Area moose hunt tops 100 for the 8th year in a row

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

Moose hunting season came to an end on Oct. 15, and the trend to top 100 kills in the region continued for the eighth year in a row.

According to Frank Robbins, Alaska Department of Fish and Game wildlife biologist, 76 moose were killed in Unit 3, which includes Wrangell, Mitkof, Kupreanof, Woewodski and Zarembo islands. Of those 76, five were on Wrangell.

Unit 1B, which encompasses Farragut Bay, the Stikine River, Thomas Bay and other mainland areas, had 20 legal kills. The Stikine had the majority at 12.

There were two illegal kills in 1B and seven in Unit 3. Robbins said some of the illegal kills are due to hunters obtaining the wrong state moose hunting permit, for which they were cited. Other hunters got the state general season harvest ticket instead of the permit for the Petersburg/Wrangell area. Still other violations involved antler restrictions. Fish and Game seeks to keep the illegal kills under 9% of the total harvest. Sgt. Cody Litster of the Alaska State Troopers said some of the illegal kills were due to poaching.

"There are some out-and-out poaching and wanton wastes that have happened this year," he said. "Some of those cases are under investigation."

Litster said most of the moose that had illegal antlers in this year's hunt "were brought in for inspection, citations were issued, and the meat was donated to local charities so communities benefit."

Les Woodward, a commercial fisherman based in Wrangell, killed a young bull up the Stikine near the Canadian border

2021 moose harvest by the numbers

Game Unit 1B		
Location	Legal	Illegal
Farragut Bay	5	1
Stikine River	12	1
Thomas Bay	3	
Game Unit 3		
Mitkof Island	1	2
Kake area	26	2
Kupreanof Island	22	3
Kuiu Island	21	
Woewodski Island	1	
Wrangell Island	5	

Game Unit 1C 3

Total: 108

Source:
Department of Fish and Game

on Sept. 15, opening day of the season. Woodward and his wife Arlene piloted their float-house up the river, anchoring near the border to hunt.

"It was kind of a process to get up there and get positioned where I wanted," Woodward said. He hunted in a meadow, where moose will sometimes come into the clear. He got a bull with a spiked fork double-brow tine. "It wasn't a young, young one, but it was a nice one."

Since the bull was partly in the water when he killed it, Woodward had to use a chainsaw winch to get it out.

Hunting in Southeast is quite different from "up north" where Woodward learned to hunt growing up, where there aren't as many trees to contend with. "The terrain is in the favor of the moose (in Southeast)," he said. "You

hunt meadows where there are no trees, so you need to have a stand or climb a tree. It's a lot of patience. Up north, you climb a hill and you can see for miles and miles."

Robbins said the forested terrain of the Southeast is one of the reasons Fish and Game doesn't track moose populations, since they can't be seen from the air.

Outside of the difficulties of bagging his moose, Woodward had to beware of a bear that was sniffing around.

"(After killing and cleaning the moose) I was coming out at dark. There was a bear at my boat — My wife could see it. It was a big brown bear," he said.

Arlene was worried about the bear even more after Les had returned and informed her of his moose. "She wanted me to go back and protect the moose through the night. I said, 'No. We'll get it in the morning.' 'But it might eat it.' 'Well, if it does, it does.'"

The moose was safely brought home, and Woodward will use the meat to feed his fishing crew over the next year or so, he said.

Final harvest numbers will be available at the end of this week.

N K ELECTRIC

Here to serve all your electrical needs

COMMERCIAL
INDUSTRIAL
RESIDENTIAL

874-2770, #21633



YOU CAN'T BEAT FREE

Classified ads in the Sentinel are now FREE for individuals and nonprofits

Whether you are selling, buying, borrowing, loaning, holding a garage sale or a fundraiser THE ADS ARE FREE

Limited to 30 words and two weeks in the paper

Call Amber at 907-874-2301 or email wrgsent@gmail.com



I can help you make sure your coverage is up-to-date. Call me today. 907-874-2359

Amy Hemenway
P-W Insurance

220 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929
inquiry@p-wins.com



Allstate
You're in good hands.

Insurance subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Allstate Fire and Casualty Insurance Company, Northbrook, Illinois © 2012 Allstate Insurance

Policy for Letters to the Editor

- Letters should be typed or clearly written and no longer than 400 words.
- All letters must be signed by the writer and include a phone number and any affiliation with a group which pertains to the letter.

The Sentinel reserves the right to edit any submissions.

The deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m. for Thursday publication.

WRANGELL SENTINEL

P.O. Box 798, 205 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929
Ph: 907-874-2301 • wrgsent@gmail.com

Letters are run on a space-available basis.

FROM THE PUBLISHER

A 100-foot track to nowhere is no railroad

By LARRY PERSILY
Publisher

Businesses have learned over the years how to steer around government rules, avoiding many of the requirements that will cost them money. Nothing necessarily illegal about that unless the company goes so far over the line that even the federal bureaucracy can't help but notice.

It's similar to baseball, when a runner is trying to avoid the tag. Umpires allow a little latitude when the runner steps outside the basepath, but if the player goes so far outside the line that they could shake hands with fans in the stands, the ump has no choice but to call them out.

That's sort of what happened with moving frozen blocks of Alaska pollock to U.S. East Coast buyers, where the seafood is packaged and sold as fish sticks and for fast-food sandwiches.

The Jones Act, a century-old protectionist federal law, prohibits moving goods, including frozen fish chunks, between U.S. ports unless the ship is U.S. owned, operated and crewed. But because it's so much cheaper to build oceangoing cargo ships overseas, and so much cheaper to staff them with foreign workers, the attraction to get around the U.S. shipping law is enticing.

And that's what a U.S. seafood company has been doing for years to move frozen pollock and other products from Dutch Harbor to the U.S. East Coast — using foreign vessels and a short rail line in Canada.

The chartered ships landed in New Brunswick, Canada, and the containers were loaded on railcars for a 30-mile ride in Canada before they were offloaded and delivered by truck across the border into the U.S. The short track in Canada was used to short-circuit the Jones Act. The law makes an exception for using foreign vessels to move goods between U.S. ports if part of the journey includes a ride on a train in Canada.

But the shipper decided that 30-mile train ride and transfers was costing too much, so in 2012 the company started using a specially built, 100-foot-long train track to nowhere. The

containers were offloaded from the cargo ships in New Brunswick and on to a rail flatcar nearby, then choo chooed back and forth down the mini-track for about a minute before they were driven away by trucks for delivery in the U.S.

It took a long time for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection folks to figure out and decide that 100 feet of steel rail wasn't enough to qualify under the Jones Act provision. The factory trawlers that catch the pollock in the Bering Sea are almost three times the length of the rail spur.

U.S. Customs in August levied almost \$350 million in fines against shipping and logistics affiliates of American Seafoods Co. and other companies in the supply chain for alleged violations of the maritime law. The government described the setup as "a calculated and secret scheme to find a loophole in the Jones Act, which was only revealed when the government received a tip from a third party."

The shipping companies have sued to derail the penalties and keep the fish moving. They contend that the Bayside Canadian Railway satisfies the Jones Act exemption. Customs and Border Protection has never set a minimum distance for the rail line or required that it go anywhere in particular, the companies said in their court filing.

Besides, there isn't enough U.S. shipping capacity to move all the fish, the companies said.

Fiddlesticks, four U.S. shipping lines said in September, filing in court in support of the enforcement action and arguing that the scheme was costing them business.

Just what this needs: More lawyers booking passage on the train.

The seafood company affiliates are correct, the law does not say how long the railroad has to be. But it's disingenuous to claim 100 feet of track is a rail line. Trains don't use a caboose anymore, but this fight should end. The companies should negotiate and pay a settlement and U.S. Customs and Congress should fix the law.

OPINION

Forest Service money should go to ferry system

By FRANK MURKOWSKI

Former and current secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Thomas Vilsack, who was instrumental in reimposing the 2001 roadless rule on the Tongass National Forest in 2011 and is planning to reimpose it again before Nov. 1, has announced a new Southeast Alaska Sustainability Strategy "to help support a diverse economy, enhance community resilience, and conserve natural resources."

This is to be "a collaborative process to invest approximately \$25 million in financial and technical resources in sustainable opportunities for economic growth and community well-being and identify priorities for future investments."

While making a one-time reparations payment is consistent with action taken by the Clinton administration when it terminated the long-term timber sale contracts in Southeast, thereby eliminating jobs, payments to various groups engaged in "forest restoration, recreation and resilience, including for climate, wildlife habitat and watershed improvement" does not address or correspond to the harms that this policy of eliminating roaded transportation and economic

development will cause.

The intended recipient groups either support reimposition of the roadless rule or are not affected by it. Because reimposition of the 2001 roadless rule will hinder roaded transportation in the Tongass, the entire \$25 million should be provided to Alaska Marine Highway System to improve ferry service for all Southeast Alaskans (not just for non-transportation purposes to Vilsack-chosen groups). Reestablishment of ferry service to Prince Rupert, British Columbia, should be one of the priorities funded.

The funds could provide some of the bridge money needed to help sustain ferry service until construction of a long-term fix like the ferry/road network approved by the 2004 Southeast Transportation Plan and implemented by the 2005 SAFTEYLU bill. That bill was part of an exchange by which the state gave access to certain tidelands to the U.S. Forest Service and the state received the upland easements to enable road construction.

The Southeast Transportation Plan, which was approved during my administration as governor, remains in effect today. It called for shuttle ferries

between islands, with roads connecting terminals on each end of an island. A major state victory in federal court in 2019 eliminated National Environmental Policy Act roadblocks that interfered with the Alaska Department of Transportation's ability to properly site roads between terminals.

Sen. Lisa Murkowski told the Southeast Conference in Haines in September that she will seek use of infrastructure bill funds for the ferry system, including for electric ferries. It is self-evident that the 2004 Southeast Transportation Plan would be ideal for electric shuttle ferries.

Every plan prepared by the Forest Service, even during Secretary Vilsack's occupancy, declared that such things as "forest restoration, recreation and resilience, including for climate, wildlife habitat and watershed improvement" were protected. Although 1930s' actress Mae West once proclaimed that "too much of a good thing is wonderful," Vilsack's July press release provides no evidence that more money for more protection for already adequately protected resources is anything other than a "feel good public relations" exercise.

Continued on page 5

EDITORIAL

Students think about life and helping others

Rather than grumbling about face masks or grouching about politics, many of Wrangell's students are working to improve the school, the community and the world.

They are thinking about their life in the future and the life of others today.

Good for them, and good for everyone.

The high school students in BASE — Building a Supportive Environment — are working to help feed other students, recognize staff for their good work, support students who are having trouble, and even contribute to a microloan program that helps people in need around the world.

And that's all before lunch.

"We sell food in the morning because there's a good amount of kids who come to school hungry," junior Kiara Harrison explained of the breakfast store that serves middle and high school students.

"Prior to that, there was no school breakfast program," said counselor Addy Esco.

Combining the money from selling food with grant funds and donations, BASE is able to honor a teacher of the month and distribute gift cards to students who do more than is expected of them.

The students also are learning the skills — and rewards — of grant writing. First Bank last month awarded a \$3,000 grant to BASE.

As they build their efforts in the schools, the dozen or so students also are looking to make the world better beyond Wrangell Island — far beyond. BASE is contributing to Kiva, an international nonprofit that makes microloans to people in developing nations, such as loans for students to pay tuition, women to start businesses and farmers to invest in needed equipment.

"It could be for a store they're running or education or health," said freshman Addy Andrews. "Then, over time, we'd get that money back."

Junior Will Ashton wasn't part of BASE last year but joined up when he saw what the students were doing at the school. "I wanted to help," he said. "The very thing of service is that it generally uplifts you," Ashton said.

BASE is not the only high school group that deserves praise. The T3 Alliance (Teaching Through Technology), also known as Tech Club, is learning while helping the community.

Working with drones, the students have created videos for the Wrangell Medical Center and flown a tour up the Stikine River for a sightseeing company to use.

Tech Club students also used drones to spot waterfront junk for a marine debris cleanup effort in partnership with the Wrangell Cooperative Association. And then they used their feet, arms and hands to go out and clean up the trash.

The club is now up to about 15 participants.

"We're trying to make those connections so we can start doing projects that make a difference and impact the place we live," said Heather Howe, high school science teacher and Tech Club adviser. "That's the ultimate goal."

It's an impressive goal.

— Wrangell Sentinel

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mayor should behave in a professional manner

I would like to personally thank Bob Lippert (letter to the editor, Oct. 7 Sentinel) for standing up for his belief, and the belief of others within this community and elsewhere.

Thank you for your forthrightness and courage to speak up. There are people (like myself) who aren't overly adept at social media platforms. Without the letter you put in the newspaper, I would not have known the mayor's apparent disdain for myself and others he purports to serve.

It is human nature to disagree with someone. This is a given. It is frustrating to see someone in a perceived position of power stoop so low as to refer to those that do not share their beliefs as "idiots." Such commentary only serves to further divide our already heavily divided community and serves absolutely no purpose.

Perhaps the mayor should pay attention to the prologue

he regurgitates at every assembly meeting, where he says: "The chair may call to order any person who ... engaging in ... name calling, personal attacks ... (is) disruptive of the meeting." Granted social media is not an assembly meeting, but one would expect the mayor to conduct himself in the same professional manner regardless of the platform.

As far as the mayor's opinion of myself and others who have chosen not to get vaccinated (for whatever reason), all I can say is one must consider the source of the name calling.

I have, and I am not surprised.
Wayne McHolland

Thank you to all who helped with disc golf tournament

To all those who participated in the Tent City Days disc golf tournament, thank you. A special thanks to the Wrangell Chamber Commerce, the Martinsen family and Nic's Place for your support.

Shawn Curly

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

WRANGELL SENTINEL

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

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

Sentinel staff:

Publisher Larry Persily
Editor Marc Lutz
Reporter Sarah Aslam
Office Manager Amber Armstrong
Production Marc Lutz

Subscription rates:

Local \$46
Other Alaska \$62
2nd class outside Alaska \$70
First Class \$102
Online-only subscription \$40

Wrangell Sentinel (USPS 626-480) is published weekly except the third week of July and the week after Christmas by Wrangell Sentinel, 205 Front St., Wrangell, AK 99929. Periodicals postage paid at Wrangell, AK.
Phone: 907-874-2301; Email: wrgsent@gmail.com; Website www.wrangellsentinel.com. © Copyright 2021.

Malaspina

Continued from page 1

the coast of Somalia, he said.

McConnell provided recent emails between his firm and state officials that show more than a year has gone by since he first expressed interest. He last reached out on July 29, with no answer.

"We felt largely stonewalled by them," McConnell told CoastAlaska. He said his firm is willing to pay fair market value — close to \$1 million.

Another prospective buyer in the United Arab Emirates made a cash offer via email for \$625,000 for the Malaspina, as-is, emails show.

Several prospective buyers have said the 408-foot-long ship has cash value. It could be sailed or towed on a temporary Coast Guard certificate to be repurposed or sold as scrap.

"There's ample opportunities for use for that vessel," McConnell said. "Laying it up and spending \$40 grand a month for a layup is astronomical, frankly."

Emails within the state Department of Transportation show officials were surprised and frustrated with the expense of keeping the ship.

An email from Mary Siroky, a recently retired deputy commissioner, brought to light that the price of insuring the vessel made the true monthly cost of keeping the Malaspina closer to \$75,000.

That was nearly twice the figure cited by the agency as the cost of mooring the ship at Ward Cove.



PHOTO BY DUSTIN SAFRANEK/
KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

The nearly 60-year-old Malaspina (shown here in Tongass Narrows on Nov. 27, 2018) hasn't carried passengers in almost two years and is costing the state almost \$900,000 a year to insure and maintain, tied to a dock in Ketchikan.

"It seems clear to me, even if we give the Mal away, we're coming out ahead very quickly," deputy commissioner Rob Carpenter wrote in an August 2020 email in response to Siroky.

That was the apparent view of inside the Dunleavy administration which earlier this year tried to gift the ship to the Philippines.

A May 20 letter to the consul general in San Francisco made it clear it could go either to the foreign government or a private operator in the country. Talks between Alaska and the Philippines apparently had been going on for some time. Internal emails show that a month before the official offer bearing the governor's signature was sent, an email from Carpenter had inquired whether that deal

with Manilla was still on.

Dunleavy's acting Chief of Staff Randy Ruaro replied the same day, directing the department to hold off.

"Do not do anything with the Malaspina," Ruaro wrote in an email. "The Philippine consul is interested and working on it on their end. The boat is 60 years old. We don't need to rush to do something with it this month or possibly next. Please stand down from issuing anything that would dispose of the vessel until you hear from us to go forward. We will let you know."

Ruaro told CoastAlaska this week that the deal fell through when the Philippine government learned it would cost more than \$50 million to rehab the ferry for passenger use.

"They said that would be out of their price range for wanting the boat," he said in a phone interview.

Without plans to get rid of the Malaspina, the state signed a contract with the Ward Cove Group to store the ship.

"With only a single interested party, the state processed a single-source procurement to authorize the award of a new contract to Ward Cove Group for \$402,084 annually," the department wrote in an email to CoastAlaska in June.

The Dunleavy administration earlier this year sold the marine highway's two fast ferries to a Spanish firm for service in the Mediterranean. Selling surplus ships had been a key recommendation of the governor's task force giving advice on

the future of the fleet.

Tom Barrett, the retired Coast Guard admiral who chaired the working group, said it's apparent the Malaspina is a drain on state coffers. "Sell it, or scrap it," Barrett said in an interview. "But you just don't want to keep holding it there indefinitely. Also you've got insurance, but it's a risk factor, it's an old ship and it's tied up at a dock."

The department confirmed to CoastAlaska that the cost of insuring the Malaspina was approximately \$420,000 a year in fiscal year 2021 and said that figure would go up slightly in fiscal year 2022. Add in the \$450,000 the state is paying in mooring fees and electricity, and the annual cost is nearly double than it has previously admitted.

"I'm very surprised to learn that the marine highway system is able to allocate this, this insurance cost across each vessel, and that they never bothered to mention it to the Legislature," Juneau Sen. Jesse Kiehl said. He is on the Senate Transportation Committee, which had quizzed state officials on the carrying cost of idled vessels.

"If the department's not coming forward with all the facts, that ties the legislators' hands of doing the job Alaskans sent us here to do," Kiehl said.

Ruaro, now the governor's chief of staff, said he has taken an interest in the Malaspina and will be visiting Ketchikan to inspect the ship at Ward Cove.

Supply chain

Continued from page 1

The backorders also cause a slowdown in work time, she said. "I spend about an hour a day checking emails, checking on products for customers. That's an hour I'm emailing, phone calls and hold time ... trying to track it down. It consumes a lot of our time."

Jim Jansen, chairman for Lynden, the parent company of Alaska Marine Lines, said deliveries to Alaska are being made in a timely manner once cargo is received.

"Cargo from the Lower 48 to Alaska is moving reliably, once it becomes available for shipping," Jansen said. "The long ship delays at the major ports are not happening on the Alaska lanes. Driver shortages have created serious challenges, but service disruptions to Alaska are minimal."

One product that hasn't been difficult to obtain is lumber, said Harley Johnson, owner of Johnson's. But it hasn't been cheap.

"There hasn't been a hiccup in obtaining, purchasing dimensional and plywood. It's just that through the pandemic and last year, fall into spring, the prices went so high they were five times as high in the spring

and summer of 2020," he said. Lumber prices have only recently started to come down, Johnson said, but have started trending upward again. He advises those with projects that might be starting in the spring to stock up now before prices increase.

Another problem the Johnsons have faced is damaged goods.

"When people have been waiting four months for a countertop to come in, and then the countertop comes in damaged, making that phone call to that customer is difficult," Amanda Johnson said.

Harley Johnson said factories will sometimes push through blemished items to see if the end user will accept it. If the customer sends it back, it will lead to longer wait times.

Damaged goods are a problem the staff at Wrangell IGA is quite familiar with.

"If we don't receive something or we receive something with damages, our shipping time takes double the time it takes to get product here than it does anywhere else," said Alan Cummings, an employee at IGA. "And (distributors) will try to get away with everything they can without reimbursement until the day you call them out on it."



PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ/
WRANGELL SENTINEL

Amanda Johnson, sales manager and bookkeeper at Johnson's Building Supply, talks about inventory and the challenges with getting in certain products since the start of the pandemic.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, IGA has seen similar delays, higher prices and damages like Johnson's Building Supply. It's also harder for the grocer to get the brands that customers want.

"It's more work on our end to keep the shelves full," said IGA co-owner Caroline Bangs. "We have to go searching around for new product because our old product is discontinued or not in stock with our supplier, so we have to find an alternative. Since COVID, there's less variety to choose from."

Some manufacturers, like Campbell Soup, have told retailers it will be discontinuing certain items and focusing only on its best-selling products.

"There's no end in sight," Bangs said. "(Suppliers) are just trying to do their best with what they've got. The lack of employees is contributing (to problems) also."

IGA's supplier, based in Centralia, Washington, had an outbreak of COVID-19 at its warehouse in August, forcing it to shut down for a few weeks.

Higher demand and short supply have also led to higher prices, Bangs said. She pointed out a case of nitrile gloves that went from \$20 to \$76. Increased product costs and higher freight costs

have forced the grocery store to up the retail costs on many items.

Sourcing products locally — something not every business has the option of — has helped other businesses keep costs down. Mya DeLong, owner of Groundswell, has been able to purchase candles and jewelry from artists in the Southeast. "I think because I do try to source locally, and just being fluid and flexible has helped," she said.

DeLong also sells flower arrangements. She's kept costs down by substituting similar flowers, like white lisianthus instead of white freesia. "I'm able to get that same look and feel." She said the floral industry has seen a massive run on white roses this year after most weddings were canceled in 2020. Prices have also gone up on flowers like roses, daisies and tulips, which come from places like Ecuador and Holland.

Vases and other flower containers have been one of the items DeLong has had trouble getting, so she has encouraged patrons to recycle glass and ceramic vessels.

Murkowski

Continued from page 4

On the other hand, Southeast Alaskans see or hear almost every day in the media that there is inadequate funding for ferry service and hear about the harm on everyone in Southeast. Elders are unable to get to hospitals for medical care due to lack of timely ferry service. High school kids are unable to travel to regional sporting events because of insufficient ferry service. Fish processors are unable to ship their product by ferry because of irregular

service. What service exists is interrupted by the repairs for the aging fleet.

If the secretary has any doubt about this, he should poll Southeast Alaskans to see whether they would rather have the \$25 million spent on "forest restoration, recreation and resilience, including for climate, wildlife habitat and watershed improvement" or enhanced ferry service.

Frank Murkowski served as governor of Alaska 2002-2006, and as U.S. senator for Alaska 1981-2002.



**INDOOR
OUTDOOR
BOATS
VEHICLES
GEAR**

**SHELTERDECK
STORAGE & RENTALS**

(907) 470-4001



Now Hiring for Multiple Full-Time, Year-Round Positions!

Alaska Marine Highway System is actively recruiting focused, hard-working individuals interested in positions in our **Passenger Services** department. These employees provide professional customer service and ensure the safety of our passengers while performing tasks in the galley, dining room or cafés, crew mess, staterooms and public areas aboard the ferries.

AMHS is also offering a **Hiring Bonus** for qualified candidates interested in building a merchant mariner career.* Best of all, you don't need any prior maritime experience to apply! Choose a position today that can start you on the path to building your certifications for a successful maritime career.

AMHS offers competitive starting pay and a full benefit package including paid leave, medical & dental coverage, retirement options, and opportunities for advancement. If you're ready for a little more adventure and a little less of the same old thing, check out the full job description at our website.

FerryAlaska.com/employment | 1-800-642-0066

#alaskamarinehighway

*Conditions apply. Review the job posting for details.

Skagway will search grounds of former mission school site

By MIKE SWASEY
KHNS public radio
Haines/Skagway

Skagway's borough assembly has voted unanimously to work with the Skagway Traditional Council to authorize ground-penetrating radar — and some shovel work — at the former Pious X Mission School site, which operated from 1932 to 1959 and served about 60 Indigenous children.

The property is now owned by the municipality, which uses it as a seasonal RV park.

The borough in recent years has considered redeveloping the property as a housing subdivision or making utility improvements and continuing RV services for independent travelers.

The Skagway Traditional Council has asked that they be allowed to study the area before any major renovations get started. They have also asked for a portion of the area to be gifted to the tribal government after the study is complete.

There isn't a formal plan or a timeline for the archeological study, and decisions for paying the costs are unresolved. The assembly approved the study at its Oct. 7 meeting.

The backdrop of all this is the recent discoveries of more than 1,000 bodies of Indigenous children found at residential boarding school sites throughout Canada in the past year.

The Sisters of St. Ann sent nuns from British Columbia in 1932 to help the Rev. G. Edgar Gallant run the school in Skagway.

Other Sisters of St. Ann nuns were sent to Kamloops Indian Residential School in B.C. It was reported this summer that 215 bodies of children were found buried at that school in Kamloops. To date, more than 1,300 bodies have been discovered across Canada.

Jaime Bricker, president of the Skagway Traditional Council, said her grandfather and un-

"I think that even though I didn't like it, I think they taught me to respect people and respect whatever they are."

- Andy Beierly

cles were brought from Kodiak Island to Skagway to attend the mission school. "I think with all of the unfortunate news, throughout our nation, and in Canada, we are doing our due diligence and asking that an archeological study be done," Bricker said.

"I'm looking into some personal history there to find out more about how old they were when they came and under what circumstances. I was told, when I was younger, that they were brought here during World War II as part of the Aleut relocation," she said.

Skagway elder Andy Beierly attended the St. Pious X Mission School in the 1950s. The buildings are long gone; today it's a flat open space covered by gravel and patchy grass where RVs park during the summer.

He said there were about 60 kids at the school when he attended, and six or seven nuns. He said a lot of the kids were from families that had a hard time finding jobs and ended up on the welfare system. Most of them would go back home during the summer, but some stayed year-round. The kids came from all over the state.

"There was one person that I remember that was from Nome. And the other ones from up north were from Palmer, Anchorage, Fairbanks. And the rest of the students were from Southeast Alaska, Yakutat, Juneau, Angoon, Wrangell, Petersburg," Beierly said.

He said there were four barracks when he was at the school. One each for a boys' dorm and a girls' dorm, one for storage, and one was an art building of sorts where they taught pottery and some kids were allowed to do Tlingit carving.

Only English was spoken. Lance Twitchell, an associate professor of Alaska Native languages at the University of Alaska Southeast, wrote his Ph.D. dissertation: "For Our Little Grandchildren: Language Revitalization Among The Tlingit." In it, he discussed the role of residential schools in nearly eradicating the Tlingit language.

"Five elders tell stories of childhood abuses by teachers and missionaries: picked up and shaken by their hair, placed into icy cold showers, placed in tubs of ice and beaten with garden hoses, forced to put their tongues onto metal flagpoles in the cold winter, and being hit on the hands with rulers and on the ears with a cupped hand."

He quoted a missionary: "We required them to speak nothing but English except by permission; but they often would get into the washroom or in the woodshed, and having set a watch, they would indulge in a good Indian talk. A few cases of this kind, and we applied a heroic remedy to stop it. We obtained a bottle of myrrh and capsicum: myrrh is bitter as gall and capsicum hot like fire. We prepared a little sponge; saturated it with this solution, and everyone that talked Indian had his mouth washed to take away the taint of the Indian language!"

Beierly remembered the nuns doling out a wrap on the knuckles if a kid was out of line, and their basketball team wasn't allowed to play against the Skagway high school team. But he said he didn't recall any actual abuse.

"I think that even though I didn't like it, I think they taught me to respect people and respect whatever they are."

The Sisters of Saint Ann who sent the nuns for the Pious X Mission School have apologized for their role in stamping out Native culture among young children in boarding schools, posting on their website: "The Sisters of St. Ann recognize with deep humility the intergenerational survivors, family members and community members of all those impacted by the dark legacy of Indian Residential Schools."

Wrangell working to coordinate search of institute property

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The borough will be asking for "archaeological proposals" for a ground survey of the former Wrangell Institute property, consulting with state and federal agencies and the Wrangell Cooperative Association on the process before any work begins.

The borough had been waiting on guidance from the U.S. Department of the Interior, which has pledged that surveys will be conducted of former Alaska Native and American Indian boarding school sites nationwide.

But the department "really doesn't have any guidance on this," said Carol Rushmore, Wrangell's zoning administrator and economic development director.

The department is "focused on a records search at the moment," Rushmore said last Friday. A report is due to the Interior secretary by April 1, 2022.

"We were hoping for some (federal) funds that would come through, but at this time (it) doesn't appear that will happen," she said. "We are moving forward slowly."

The request for proposals for archaeological surveys will ask for advice on what would be appropriate and what methods would work best on the Wrangell terrain.

The borough has owned the property near Shoemaker Bay since 1996, and was looking to develop much of the 134 acres for residential lots. That effort is on hold, pending the ground survey for any remains or cultural sites at the school, which operated from 1932 to 1975.

In addition to working with the Wrangell tribal government, the borough is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Office, the Interior Department and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which would need to approve development of wetlands on the property.

As part of the consultations, the borough will send letters to every Native corporation and tribe in the state, advising them of the ground search plans.

"It will take some time because of all the agencies involved that have to approve what we're going to do," Rushmore said.

The Interior Department's nationwide initiative was prompted by the discovery earlier this year of children's remains buried in British Columbia at the site of what was once Canada's largest Indigenous residential school, and the fear that burial sites could exist at U.S. school sites.

Next northbound ferry stop Dec. 10

Sentinel staff

Monday's state ferry to Petersburg and Juneau was the last northbound sailing scheduled for Wrangell until Dec. 10.

With the Matanuska pulled out of service for winter maintenance, the Alaska Marine Highway System will operate at a reduced schedule until the ship returns in December. That means a loss of weekly northbound and southbound stops in Wrangell.

The Kennicott is covering Southeast in place of the Matanuska, but the Kennicott also will serve Cordova and Whittier in Prince William Sound, resulting in less time — and fewer port calls — in Southeast.

Though Wrangell will be without northbound service for almost eight weeks this fall, the community will see the Kennicott southbound every other week until the Mata-

nuska returns and weekly service in both directions resumes mid-December.

Petersburg will fare better, with the same every-other-week southbound stop as Wrangell but with two northbound sailings to Juneau in November.

Budget cuts pushed by the governor have led to pulling ships out of service to save money, while maintenance issues with the older vessels have cut deeply into the ferry schedule in recent years. Last winter, Wrangell received one northbound ferry stop in all of November and none in December.

This winter, no ferry service is scheduled into Kodiak between Jan. 3 and March 17.

When the Matanuska comes out of winter overhaul in December, the LeConte and Kennicott will go to the shipyard for their winter work in January and February, requiring schedule cuts until all of the ships are back in service.

WMC Foundation offers
A REIMBURSEMENT GRANT
UP TO \$1200 YEARLY
for individuals traveling outside their community for cancer care.

www.wmccancercare.com



LOOKING FOR THE RIGHT FIT?

Let us develop the IT setup or service plan that works for your small business.

Get the services and support that fit both your business needs and your budget.



Homeport Electronics
Marine - Computer
Sales and Service
907-772-3100 • 223 North Nordic Drive, Petersburg, AK
www.homeportelectronics.com

HARVEST CELEBRATION

Games Food Fun All Ages

Wrangell Community Gym

31 October **5:30 pm to 8:30 pm**

Hosted by Harbor Light Assembly of God

SENTINEL SPORTS

Four swimmers qualify for championship after Juneau meet

BY MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

Fourteen personal bests, five first-place finishes and four qualifying performances highlighted last weekend's swim meet for Wrangell High School swimmers in Juneau.

Senior Renée Roberts upped her game by finishing first in every one of her competitions, and Roberts, along with junior Nikolai Siekawitch, sophomore Jack Roberts and senior Jimmy Baggen, qualified for the Alaska Senior Championship in Sitka in January.

According to head coach Jamie Roberts, freshman Max Lloyd swam a personal best in all four of his events, Tyson Messmer swam personal bests in three of his events, and Baggen had personal bests in three events.

The boys team, comprised of Messmer, Siekawitch, Baggen and Roberts, placed fourth in the 200-yard medley relay on Friday and third on Saturday. They placed third in the 200-yard freestyle relay on Fri-

day and second in the event on Saturday.

"There were some close races, which always makes for an exciting meet," Jamie Roberts said. "It was fun to watch the kids get out there, use the skills they have been working on and just really race. That's all a coach can ask for — that they give the best they can at that moment."

She went on to say that there are a few swimmers she expects to place fairly high at regionals and hopefully move on to state. "We have a lot of fast swimmers in the region and in the state this year. A hundredth of a second could easily be the difference between qualifying for state or not."

The team travels next to Ketchikan for regionals Oct. 29-30.

Results

Alisha Armstrong: 17th, 50-yard freestyle (31.37); 13th, 100-yard freestyle (1:10.17); 16th, 50-yard freestyle (31.64); ninth, 100-yard breaststroke (1:40.69)

Jimmy Baggen: seventh, 50-yard freestyle (24.49); 12th, 100-yard breaststroke



PHOTO COURTESY OF JAMIE ROBERTS
From left to right: Jack Roberts, Tyson Messmer, Nikolai Siekawitch and Jimmy Baggen placed second with a time of 1:38.66 in the boys 20-yard freestyle relay.

(1:13.02); ninth, 50-yard freestyle (25.03); 15th, 100-yard freestyle (55.76)

Max Lloyd: 20th, 50-yard freestyle (30.19); 15th, 100-yard breaststroke (1:26.58); 19th, 50-yard freestyle (30.03); 22nd, 100-yard freestyle (1:08.18)

Ashleigh Loomis: 11th, 50-yard freestyle (29.63); 11th, 100-yard freestyle

(1:05.93); 13th, 50-yard freestyle (30.42); 13th, 100-yard freestyle (1:06.82)

Tyson Messmer: seventh, 200-yard individual medley (2:33.86); 12th, 100-yard freestyle (57.14); 11th, 50-yard freestyle (25.91); third, 100-yard breaststroke (1:20.66)

Jack Roberts: second, 100-yard freestyle (51.67); eighth, 100-yard breaststroke (1:07.50); sixth, 50-yard freestyle (24.06); fourth, 100-yard butterfly (58.62)

Renée Roberts: first, 50-yard freestyle (25.77); first, 100-yard freestyle (55.38); first, 50-yard freestyle (25.62); first, 100-yard freestyle (55.32)

Nikolai Siekawitch: second, 100-yard butterfly (56.07); fourth, 100-yard breaststroke (1:05.79); fourth, 50-yard freestyle (23.50); second, 100-yard freestyle (51.25)

Boys team (Messmer, Siekawitch, Baggen, Roberts): 200-yard medley relay, fourth on Friday (1:50.82) and third on Saturday (1:53.18); 200-yard freestyle relay, third on Friday (1:37.45) and second on Saturday (1:38.66)

Business Directory



WRANGELL SENTINEL

To advertise here just call: **907-874-2301**

Buness Bros. Inc.



Appliances
Home Furnishings
Boat Motors & Pumps

Phone: 874-3811
Web: www.bunessbros.com

Wrangell IGA



Groceries
Meats • Bakery
Deli • Liquor

Wrangell's Complete Food Store
Phone 874-2341

JOHNSON'S BUILDING SUPPLY

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS



2.5 ZIMOVIA HIGHWAY
PHONE 874-2375 • FAX 874-3100

TYEE TRAVEL
Cruise and Tour Specialist



- Cruises • Packages
- Vacations

Cruises and custom tours to Alaska for your family & friends

Wrangell
874-3383

Call Toll Free 1-800-977-9705

Welcome to Johnny Cab



907-660-7678

Proudly Serving the Community of Wrangell

When you're feeling a lil' bougie


Apparel • Intimates
Jewelry & Accessories • Gifts

Tuesday-Friday: 11am to 5pm
Saturday: noon to 3pm
124 Front Street



Sentry Hardware & Marine

Got A Question... Need A Hand?



408 Front Street
874-3336

Yes We Can!

P.O. Box 1139 • Wrangell 99929

ANCHOR PROPERTIES



e: terri@apalaska.com | p: 907.752.1969
w: www.apalaska.com | free market analysis

WRANGELL'S #1 REAL ESTATE COMPANY



From personal and business accounts and loans to mobile banking, online applications and more, **TFCU is here for you!**

Tongass Federal Credit Union
TongassFCU.com
Kadin Building (907) 874-2500



- Stik Cafe •
- Stik Restaurant & Lounge •
- Stikine Inn Hotel •

874-3388

CITY MARKET INC
Where Wrangell Shops!

Since 1935

Full Grocery, Meat, Liquor
Fresh Produce, Bakery & Deli
Copy, Fax, & Postage

Online Ordering & Free Delivery
https://citymarket.loccloud.net 907-874-3333

Have you tried our **Online Bill Pay System?**

Check out our video at FirstBankAK.com



874-3363



Hungry Beaver Pizza & Marine Bar

COLD DRINKS & PIZZA & MORE

Pizza: 5pm to 8pm
7 days a week
874-3005

RESERVE YOUR SPOT IN THE MONTHLY BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Just \$45 a month

... AND YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR ADVERTISING MESSAGE EACH MONTH

Call Amber
at the Sentinel at 907-874-2301



After 35 years, high school elevator will be replaced

By MARC LUTZ
Sentinel editor

The borough is moving forward with a much-needed elevator project at the high school.

After researching options, it was determined that the entire elevator needs to be replaced rather than repaired. School district staff hopes that, if all goes smoothly, the project will be finished by the start of the 2022/2023 school year.

Josh Blatchley, head of the school district maintenance department, said an oil leak was discovered at the bottom of the elevator's hydraulic ram in March of 2020. Any research into fixing it was put on hold because COVID-19 hit and other items became a priority.

Blatchley said they sought input from different companies as soon as possible.

"The options were completely different," he said. "One was repair what is there, the other was replace completely, and there was a cost difference that was significant."

To repair the leak, the hydraulic ram would need to be accessed, which is no easy feat since it is 30 feet below the bottom of the basement floor. "In order to pull the old one out and put a new one

in, there were just too many unknowns," Blatchley said.

It was decided that replacing the entire system would be necessary. At around the same time, Blatchley said the company that installed the elevator in 1987 contacted him and let him know the control system was no longer supported, so the repair option was "a moot point." The lifespan of the school's model of elevator is around 25 to 30 years. It's now 35 years old.

The borough will oversee the project since it owns the school buildings and large fixes are its responsibility. Money was originally set aside for the job, and the borough works with the district on capital projects. The borough is working toward getting the job out for bid.

"Project funding in the amount of \$210,000 was allocated from the borough's Secure Rural School Fund reserves (federal funds)," said Amber Al-Haddad, capital facilities director for Wrangell. "We projected this would cover the costs for all construction, including the elevator replacement unit, complete with controls, and the associated electrical, mechanical and architectural work."

Blatchley said it won't be an easy rebuild. "A couple of the problems is that it's



Josh Blatchley, facilities director at the school district, uses a tool to open the door to the high school elevator, which has been out of operation since March of 2020 due to an oil leak. The borough plans to replace the elevator.

PHOTO BY MARC LUTZ /WRANGELL SENTINEL

located in the middle of the school, so there is no exterior access nearby to get in or out," he said. "If you're down in the bottom ... that's where you disassemble the old elevator. You've got to walk up three flights of stairs, maybe four carrying all those discarded (elevator) car parts to get it out of the building."

As for being ADA compliant, Blatchley said that there hasn't been anyone with

disabilities that has needed the elevator.

"We've had a couple of kids with sprained ankles that have had to navigate the stairs, but we've been fortunate," he said. There are ramps and access points on both upper floors of the school, but it requires a detour outside.

Along with the elevator, the project will include electrical, sprinkler system and carpentry work.

Tlingit

Continued from page 1

at the elementary, middle and high schools.

She has been a judge at Tlingit spelling bees and conducted drumming circles at fish camps where adults and children exchange culture and language, discovering where they fit into a rich history.

The pandemic has hurt Tlingit preservation efforts, Oliver said. Before, "we were meeting merrily in person, teaching, dancing, singing, going to language workshops."

Now, "We have Elders in their 80s, they can't hear very well or see, and they are not very computer savvy," Oliver said. "They are struggling with Zoom. Even me, working in the school, I have a heck of a time with technology. We ... haven't been able to see them for two years face-to-face."

"We are spending 20 to 25 minutes on an hour-long Zoom not teaching but walking our Elders through a computer," she said. The Elders are not stopping. "They're still in their 80s and they're still working," Oliver said.



PHOTO BY SARAH ASLAM/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Tammi Meissner shows a strand of old man's beard. The plant, a lichen officially known as usnea, has been used by the Tlingit people as an antiseptic bandage for cuts.

She also enjoys passing on the culture as well as the language to young students.

"They don't know that there is eagle and raven moiety," she said. "They don't know that there are trade routes, that there are 10 clans — five eagles and

five ravens."

Preserving the traditional knowledge of medicinal uses for plants is another way Tlingit culture lives on.

Tammi Meissner is a health educator for SEARHC. Her Tlingit name is X'atshaawditee.

She said it was given to her by Elder Carol Brady, and it means "killer whale who finds food for the group."

And that is what she does — Meissner shows areas around Wrangell where plants known to the Tlingit people grow, either edible or replete with medicinal value and uses.

Just before the stairs and gravel leading down to Petroglyph Beach, "old man's beard" grows on the trees. Meissner pulled a piece, which dangled like stringy moss.

Pieces can be torn from the trees to wrap around a finger or limb in case of a cut, she said. Old man's beard has a bit of give to it, like a wrap bandage — it stretches.

The plant has anti-septic properties, she said.

Closer to the airport, Meissner found little round red berries in the muskeg called bog berries. Amid the bog berries is a plant called Hudson Bay tea, or labrador tea, good for sore throat and chest ailments.

Meissner flipped the leaves over in the palm of her hand, exposing the furry orange underside. She said you have to make sure they have that orange fuzz,

because another plant that looks similar is actually poisonous, and can be confused with the tea.

In her office, Meissner keeps a bag of "Tlingit popcorn," dried black seaweed. She said her tribe in Wrangell barter hooligan with people in Kake for the treasured seaweed, also referred to as black gold.

Keeping those bartering and foraging traditions alive is important to Meissner to pass on to her children, and the Tlingit people in Wrangell, known as Kaachxaana.áak'w before colonization, which she has done through organizing culture camps for adults and children.

Meissner said it's heartening to see youth applying what they learned, and giving their Elders part of their subsistence gathering.

"It's important to not over-harvest. We are supposed to be stewards of the land," she said. "When we gather items and smoke fish, we would make trips to Elders' houses and drop things off. The best thing that came out of that program was, not only the exchange of culture, but also the giving."

REDISTRICITING

Alaska's Legislative Districts are being redrawn to accommodate the state's population based on the 2020 Census.

Six different options are being considered for Southeast.

Alaska's Redistricting Board needs your comments before the end of October.

The City & Borough of Wrangell recommends a district pairing with Ketchikan: Board V.3 or Board V.4

Please — review the maps and share your opinion.

[akredistrict.org/map-comment](https://www.akredistrict.org/map-comment)

View the Map Alternatives at:

<https://www.akredistrict.org/map-gallery/>



Submit Comments at:

Alaska Redistricting Board
P.O. Box 240147
Anchorage, AK 99524

<https://www.akredistrict.org/map-comment/>

FREE TESTING IS
OFFERED AT THE
WRANGELL MEDICAL
CENTER M-SA NOON
TO 4PM



WRANGELL TRAVEL TESTING

**UNVACCINATED TRAVELERS AGE 11+
ARRIVING INTO WRANGELL MUST ARRIVE
WITH A NEGATIVE COVID TEST TAKEN WITHIN
72 HOURS BEFORE DEPARTURE TO WRANGELL
OR TEST FOR FREE UPON ARRIVAL**

PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE TESTING WHEN YOU RETURN TO WRANGELL AND THAT YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY ARE TESTING WHEN VISITING WRANGELL.. THIS ORDINANCE PERTAINS TO TRAVEL WITHIN ALASKA AND FROM OUTSIDE OF ALASKA.

SEE TRAVEL ORDINANCE 1012 AT WWW.WRANGELLCOVID19.ORG OR
EMAIL TRAVEL@WRANGELL.COM FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS
907-874-COVI (2684)

Running, face painting, food, fun all part of Tent City Days

Photos by Marc Lutz/Wrangell Sentinel



Briana Schilling and her son, Wilder Harding, 2, participate in the scavenger hunt at the golf course during Tent City Days.



There were no losing spins on the game wheel at Tent City Days last Saturday — only prizes, candy, big and little prizes and big candy.



Kids lead the pack at the start of the 5K race at Muskeg Meadows on Saturday.



Emilee Stewart, 2, is delighted with her dinosaur painted by artist Valerie Massie. Mom Jessica Stewart received a ghost painting from Massie shortly after.



Two of the six runners of the half-marathon race during Tent City Days make their way down the course on Saturday at Muskeg Meadows golf course.



Julie Decker and Andrea Laughlin, as the only women to run the race, tied for first in the women's category in the half-marathon on Saturday. Decker said they finished with a time of 2:16:31.

Wrangell doing better at limiting COVID

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's vaccination rate continues to improve, while just two new COVID-19 cases were reported in the first 19 days of the month and people continue asking the borough for free face masks.

The community's low numbers are much improved over August and September, which together accounted for almost half of Wrangell's COVID-19 cases since March 2020.

As of Tuesday, 68% of Wrangell residents eligible for a vaccination had received at least their first dose, up from 61% three months ago, according to state health department statistics.

Though that is better than the statewide average of 64.3%, it still places Wrangell last among Southeast boroughs — but far ahead of low vaccination rates in the Fairbanks North Star (56%), Kenai Peninsula (54%) and Matanuska-Susitna (47%) boroughs.

The national rate was 77% among people eligible for the vaccine as of Tuesday, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

And while Wrangell is holding down its case count, the state health department reported Tuesday an average of 710

“We are now testing about a third of the national average at this point, so our testing has really decreased compared to the rest of the United States”

- Anne Zink,
Chief Medical Officer,
Alaska

new cases a day over the past four days across Alaska, down from 1,200 on several days last month. Anchorage accounts for about half of the new cases.

Juneau averaged 25 new cases a day in the past week, the state website reported, while Ketchikan health officials tallied 18 new cases over the past weekend.

The state health department reported 11% of COVID tests came back positive last week across Alaska — a new record.

Testing is an important part of stopping the spread, Jamie Roberts, deputy manager at the borough's emergency operations center, said Tuesday.

Wrangell schools are doing a good job of testing students who travel for sports, she said, and ensuring that anyone with

symptoms gets tested and stays home.

SEARCHC continues to offer free, no-appointment testing for people without symptoms, offering the walk-up or drive-up testing at a trailer in the hospital parking lot. “Having that testing is really critical,” Roberts said.

Wrangell last reported a COVID-19 case on Oct. 8.

The borough requires that unvaccinated travelers who arrive from out of town must have proof of a negative test taken within 72 hours of their departure for Wrangell or test on their arrival in town. The borough is looking to hire temporary staff to meet the Alaska Airlines flights and share information — and directions to Wrangell Medical Center — with travelers. State grant funds would cover the costs of the “testing greeter.”

The testing requirement does not apply to Alaska residents.

Free face masks are available from the borough by emailing travel@wrangell.com. Roberts reports she continues to deliver a lot of masks, particularly to businesses.

The number of tests administered each day in Alaska used to run about twice the national average, but now is far behind other states.

“We are now testing about a third of the national average at

this point, so our testing has really decreased compared to the rest of the United States,” Dr. Anne Zink, Alaska's chief medical officer, said last week.

Data from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Oct. 14 ranked Alaska in 40th place among all states

based on its per capita testing over the past week.

As of Tuesday, the state reported 683 deaths linked to COVID-19, an increase of more than 200 in the past two months as officials catch up on reviewing death certificates.

CLASSIFIED/LEGALS

HELP WANTED

Art studio production assistant. Part time, year-round, flexible hours. Pay depending on experience. Call 907-874-3508 or email brenda@marineartist.com to apply.

WANTED

Girl Scout Troop 26 is seeking donations or building materials to build new aluminum can recycling bins at Wrangell IGA and City Market to earn their community service badge. 907-204-0737 or zippylizzie86@hotmail.com.

FOR SALE

Remote property, Thoms Place

subdivision, South Wrangell Island. 1.88 acres, waterfront. Call 907-321-3240.

FREE

Recycled newspapers. Stop by the Sentinel to pick some up.

FREE ADS

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

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

The Wrangell Coordinated Transportation Group will be holding a public meeting on Thursday, October 28, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. All public, private, nonprofit and human service transportation providers, interested senior citizens, individuals with disabilities and other members of the general public are invited to attend, participate and provide comment on Wrangell's Coordinated Public Transit-Human Services Transportation Plan.

To join the meeting, click on the following Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81659135149?pwd=aGdIMEI2SWV-UdDlXSWtxVzUvMk1Fdz09> and enter the Meeting ID: 816 5913 5149. Then enter the passcode: transport

During the meeting, participants will identify local transportation services as well as gaps in services for senior citizens and individuals with disabilities. Members of the group will also prioritize proposed Alaska Department of Transportation (DOT) grant proposals based on the transportation needs of Wrangell. For those seeking DOT funding for this cycle, attendance at this meeting is essential. For a copy of the plan prior to the meeting please follow this link:

<https://dot.alaska.gov/stwdplng/transit/pub/CoorPlan-Wrangell.pdf>

For further information, please contact April Huber at 907-463-6174 or April.Huber@ccsjuneau.org

Publish Oct. 21 and 28, 2021

Don Young urges Alaskans to get vaccinated

JUNEAU (AP) — The longest-serving Republican in the U.S. House is appearing in a new round of ads urging Alaskans to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Ads featuring Rep. Don Young are being paid for by the Conquer COVID Coalition, Young spokesperson Zack Brown said by email Monday. The coalition, which includes businesses and health care and Alaska Native organizations, seeks to educate people on steps to guard against COVID-19.

Young, 88, “believes the vaccines are safe, effective and can help save lives,” Brown said in response to questions from The Associated Press. “He is a trusted voice to countless Alaskans and is a straight shooter. This is why his perspective is so valuable as we work to move the needle on vaccine.”

In March 2020, however, Young called the coronavirus the “beer virus,” and to an audience that included older Alaskans characterized virus concerns as overblown. At the time, his campaign manager said the virus' impact is real and that Young was trying to urge calm.

Young announced last November, shortly after being reelected to the lone Alaska House seat he's held since 1973, that he had tested positive for COVID-19. He was hospitalized.

“Very frankly, I had not felt this sick in a very long time, and I am grateful to everyone who has kept me in their thoughts and prayers,” he said following his release from an Anchorage hospital.

Brown said Young “has been a longtime proponent of COVID-19 vaccinations” and has done other service announcements supporting vaccines. Young's office said the congressman was vaccinated in the spring. Brown said this summer Young used his congressional mailing list to send vaccine information to constituents.

Young's office says the new ads featuring Young will run on TV and radio in Alaska. The coalition did not immediately respond to an email seeking details on the ad run.

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

During the Regular Borough Assembly meeting on October 26, 2021, beginning at 7 p.m., there will be a public hearing on the following item:

Ordinance No. 1013 of the assembly of the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, amending Section 5.09.010, Definitions, and Section 5.09.015, Excise Tax on Marijuana, in Title 5, Revenue and Finance, of the Wrangell Municipal Code.

The public is encouraged to attend.

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

Publish Oct. 21, 2021

Wrangell Public Schools:

Child Find Notice

Wrangell Public Schools seeks to identify all children who may be in need of special education and related services.

Special education means specially designed instruction, at no cost to the parents, to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

Wrangell Public Schools offers special education and related services to eligible children, ages 3 through 21, through the development and implementation of an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). **All children eligible for special education have the right to a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).**

Screenings and Qualifying Services are offered free of charge.
All information is kept confidential.

Eligibility is determined through formal assessment procedures. Areas of eligibility are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Deafness | 8. Autism |
| 2. Hearing Impairment | 9. Traumatic Brain Injury |
| 3. Deaf and Blind | 10. Cognitive Impairment |
| 4. Orthopedic Impairment | 11. Emotional Disturbance |
| 5. Visual Impairment | 12. Multiple Disabilities |
| 6. Speech or Language Impairment | 13. Specific Learning Disability |
| 7. Other Health Impaired | 14. Early Childhood Developmental Delay |

To the maximum extent possible, a child experiencing a disability is educated in the same educational environment as their nondisabled peers, with access to the general education curriculum.

If you know a child whom you suspect has a disability or whom you feel would benefit from Wrangell Public School's Child Find efforts please contact any of the following: Ryan Howe at Evergreen Elementary (874-2321), Ann Hilburn at Stikine Middle School/Wrangell High School (874-3393 or 874-3395), or Superintendent Bill Burr (874-2347).

For children birth to age 3, contact REACH Infant Learning Program Developmental Specialist, Emily Arkus, at earkus@reachak.org or 907-796-7283

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF JOB OPENING: Borough Manager

The island life in Southeast, Alaska is raw, exotic, serene and has a profound sense of community — it is home.

The City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, is looking to hire a dynamic, motivated individual to be our Borough Manager. Our island home is surrounded by towering peaks, the pristine waters of the Inside Passage, and the largest temperate rain forest in the world.

If you have ever dreamed of an Alaska experience, this may be the opportunity for you. Wrangell's rich culture is a unique blend best characterized by its Tlingit heritage and its blue-collar roots as a logging and fishing community. We pride ourselves in being a hard-working and resilient community that reflects the best in authentic Alaska values.

Wrangell operates under an Assembly-Manager form of government. The Assembly and community expect you to chart the path forward toward new opportunities and growth. Come join us as we continue our journey.

Preference is given to candidates who hold a degree from an accredited four-year college or university, with a master's degree in public administration or business administration. A combination of related education and/or municipal experience may be considered.

For a complete job description, please contact the Borough Clerk's Office at 907-874-2381 or email: clerk@wrangell.com or visit the Borough website: <http://www.wrangell.com/jobs>.

Please send a cover letter, detailed resume and references to: City & Borough of Wrangell, P.O. Box 531, Wrangell, AK 99929, or fax: (907) 874-2304 or email: clerk@wrangell.com.

This position will be open until filled.

Publish Oct. 7, 14, 21, and 28, 2021

Fisherman want no salmon bycatch allowance for trawlers

By ELIZABETH EARL

Alaska Journal of Commerce

Fishermen are calling for state and federal fisheries managers to make changes to salmon bycatch limits for trawlers as chinook salmon numbers plummet across Alaska.

Chinook returns were dismal virtually everywhere in Alaska this year, from Southeast to the Bering Sea, with few exceptions. That follows a trend, as abundance has declined over roughly the past decade. Commercial fishermen have lost most of their opportunity to harvest kings, and sport fisheries have been restricted. Now subsistence fisheries are being reined in to help preserve the runs.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council is debating changes. Trawlers, which use weighted nets to drag along the bottom or in midwater, are permitted a certain amount of bycatch as they fish for their target species, the largest of which is pollock. Bycatch is always a heated issue, but it is especially so now.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game informed the council in a letter dated Sept. 23 that three index species that it uses to track king salmon runs in the Bering Sea — the Unalakleet, Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers — didn't reach a threshold necessary to maintain the current bycatch allowances. That threshold is set at 250,000 fish between the three rivers; this year, there were 165,148.

The shortfall in salmon this year hit fishing communities hard, particularly among subsistence fishermen. Amos T. Philemenoff Sr., president of the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, wrote to the board that the salmon shortages in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim region this year have hurt the island's subsistence traditions. Donations of salmon from commercial harvesters to replace the lost food do not replace

the traditions.

"Our communities have experienced physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual hardship due to the impacts of over-harvest and mismanagement that characterize these Alaska fisheries," he wrote. "The burden of conservation has fallen on Indigenous (e.g., subsistence) users who are not part of the salmon population collapse."

Philemenoff said the community has been bringing up concerns about the Bering Sea ecosystem for years and pointed to a combination of factors, including trawl over-exploitation of the fishery resources and climate change. Sea ice has become increasingly rare, not surrounding St. Paul Island since 2011 and 2012, and seabird die-offs have become increasingly common in the region.

"The population declines of northern fur seals, Steller sea lions, Pribilof Islands blue king crab and Pacific halibut, to name a few, have been devastating to the livelihoods, well-being and future of our tribal and community members," he said. "We have carried these concerns to this council for years, decades."

He requested that the council drop salmon bycatch allowances to zero for the 2022 Bering Sea pollock fishery, that it seek federal disaster aid and research funding, and that the council seek tribal consultation on salmon bycatch and management.

The Kuskokwim River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission asked for the same measures in its letter, noting that because of the lack of information on the reason for the salmon collapse, "sustainable fishery management requires that the council limit salmon bycatch in the Bering Sea pollock fishery to ensure that NO salmon are taken as bycatch ... in 2022."

Kawerak Inc., the Ocean Conservancy, Yukon River Inter-tribal Fish Commission, Yukon Drainage Fisheries Association and Bering Sea Fishermen's Association sub-

mitted the same requests.

Several commenters are asking for similarly tough actions on the Bering Sea pollock fishery, but others are noting that significant cuts could also hurt Native coastal communities because they hold interest in that fishery through community development quota groups. Fishermen with the Coastal Villages Region Fund, which represents the villages around the Kuskokwim River Delta and surrounding areas, caught about 102 million pounds of pollock in 2019, according to the fund's annual report from that year.

Others are asking for changes to the bycatch management in the trawl fisheries. A letter from the Salmon Habitat Information Partnership program signed by 300 commercial fishermen asks the council to reconsider a decision it made regarding apportionment of chinook salmon bycatch in the Gulf of Alaska pollock fisheries.

The fishermen in the letter, from everywhere from Ketchikan to Dutch Harbor, protested this move, saying the fish should be left in the Gulf rather than be allowed to be caught by another sector as bycatch.

"Alaskans are making huge sacrifices to protect chinook; the federal government via the NPFMC needs to do the same," the letter states. "Chinook bycatch being rolled over to another trawl sector to kill and discard is unconscionable when many Alaskans are foregoing subsistence, sport and commercial harvest."

Salmon fishermen across the Gulf of Alaska, from Southeast to Bristol Bay, saw restrictions this year due to low king salmon runs. In Southeast, sport anglers were restricted starting in June to protect the kings returning to the rivers there.

Library invites town to celebrate 100-year anniversary

Sentinel staff

Wrangell's public library is turning 100 years old. It was established in November 1921.

The library is celebrating with an open house from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 28. Coffee, punch and cake will be served.

Irene Ingle Public Library director Margaret Villarma, who was hired by Kay Jabusch in 1989 and took over from her as director in 2015, said the story of the library's progression over the past 100 years will be on display at the open house.

The library is an important resource for everyone in the community, Villarma said, "from toddlers to our elderly."

In 1974, Wrangell sold \$157,000 in bonds to construct a building specifically designed as a library. The total cost of the project was \$176,000.

The city council (as it was known before Wrangell became a borough) named the library in honor of Irene Ingle when she retired in 1980 after 33 years of service. The library building was expanded and renovated in 1993.

U.S. ready to open border to Canadians in early November

The Associated Press

The U.S. will reopen its land borders to nonessential travel next month — including entry into Alaska from Canada — ending a 20-month freeze due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The new rules will apply to all border crossing points, including the highways leading to Haines and Skagway in Southeast Alaska.

"Everybody's chomping at the bit to get to Alaska," Yukon Territory Premier Sandy Silver told the Yukon News. "We expect there to be a large convoy of visitors coming from the Yukon the minute that border opens," said Skagway Mayor Andrew Cremata. "We're excited to see them," the mayor told Anchorage TV station KTUU.

Vehicle, rail and ferry travel between the U.S. and Canada and Mexico has been largely restricted to essential travel only, such as commerce, since the earliest days of the pandemic. The new rules, announced Oct. 13, will allow fully vaccinated foreign nationals to enter the U.S. regardless of the reason for travel starting in early November, when a similar easing of restrictions is set to kick in for air travel into the U.S.

Then by mid-January, even essential travelers seeking to enter the U.S., such as truck drivers, will need to be fully vaccinated.

Both Mexico and Canada have pressed the U.S. for months to ease restrictions on travel that have separated families and curtailed leisure trips since the onset of the pandemic.

Travelers entering the U.S. will be asked about their vaccination status as part of the standard U.S. Customs and Border Protection admissions process. At officers' discretion, travelers will have their proof of vaccination verified in a secondary screening process.

Unlike air travel, for which proof of a negative COVID-19 test is required before boarding a flight to enter the U.S., no testing will be required to enter the U.S. by land or sea, provided the travelers meet the vaccination requirement.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. will accept travelers who have been fully vaccinated with any of the vaccines approved for use by the World Health Organization, not just those in use in the U.S. That means that the AstraZeneca vaccine, widely used in Canada, will be accepted.

Canada already allows entry of fully-vaccinated individuals with proof of vaccination against COVID-19 as well as proof of a negative test conducted within 72 hours of entry to the country.

Canadians will be required to show a negative test result to cross the border on their return home.

Sealaska still accepting relief payment applications

Sentinel staff

Sealaska Corp. is still accepting applications from shareholders for a one-time \$500 relief payment, funded with federal pandemic aid.

As of last week, payments had gone out to 70 shareholders in Wrangell, said Matt Carle, spokesman for the Southeast regional Native corporation.

"That number will likely grow as we're starting to contact shareholders with incomplete applications," Carle said. "The program is still open and we are encouraging people to apply."

The application period started Oct. 4 and will remain open until the \$6 million in available funds are fully distributed — which could cover 12,000 shareholders.

As of Oct. 13, Sealaska had received more than 7,400 applications.

"Funds will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis until the threshold of 12,000 qualified applicants is met," the Juneau-based corporation said when it announced the program.

Sealaska received \$4.2 million in federal CARES Act funding and teamed up with the Central Council Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, which added \$1.8 million to the program.

"Shareholders need to provide documentation of financial obligations incurred as a direct result of the coronavirus pandemic," Sealaska said. "These statements can go back as far as March 2020."

The corporation explained, "Any shareholder with voting shares who has pandemic-related expenses that haven't been covered through other financial-assistance programs administered by tribes or other Native service organizations is eligible."

Shareholders can apply online at mysealaska.com. Elders are advised to call (907) 463-7750 for assistance. Questions can be addressed by email to sealaskacares@cchita-nsn.gov.

Sealaska reported it has hired a dozen workers to handle the applications, reviews and payments to ensure the funds can move out to shareholders quickly.

Annual AFN convention moves online again

ANCHORAGE (AP) — The Alaska Federation of Natives annual convention, the largest gathering of Indigenous people in the state, will be all virtual again this year, organizers announced last Friday.

The decision was made after federation leaders consulted with state federal and tribal health officials and reviewed current COVID-19 data trends, according to a statement.

The federation decided to go all virtual out of concern for the safety of the thousands of people from across the state who normally attend in person, the statement said. The convention was online last year too.

Organizers cited the continuing high rates of COVID-19, transmission, hospitalization and deaths, particularly in Anchorage, the site of this year's event, the AFN statement said.

Alaska currently has the highest number of cases in the past seven days per capita among the 50 states, the state health department said Oct. 14 in its weekly

case update.

"The incidence of COVID-19 in the Municipality of Anchorage appears to have either plateaued or be increasing. Regardless of the trajectory, intense community transmission is continuing to occur and is causing significant illness, death, and demand on the health care system," the health department report said.

"Safety is paramount to our decision," said Sheri Burette, chair of Alaska Federation of Natives con-

vention committee, who also noted social-distancing guidelines would be hard to meet during the convention.

"The situation in Anchorage has not improved nearly enough to risk the health of convention participants, particularly our elders and other vulnerable attendees, when hospitals across the state are under extreme pressure right now," Burette said.

The online convention will be held online Dec. 13-14.

DON'T MISS OUT!

**Subscribe to
the Sentinel today
and stay up to date.**

**Call 907-874-2301
to subscribe to the print or online version**

Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH
Fisheries columnist

Salmon permit prices on the rebound, including Southeast power troll

Optimism is the word that best sums up the attitude among most Alaska salmon fishermen after a good season, according to people in the business of buying and selling permits and boats.

Most fishermen in major regions ended up with good catches and dock prices were up from recent years. That's pushed up permit prices, including at the bellwether fishery at Bristol Bay where drift net permits have topped \$200,000.

"The highest has been \$210,000. But it's a pretty tight market," said Maddie Lightsey, a broker at Alaska Boats and Permits in Homer. "A lot of fishermen had a great year out there and made a lot of money. But buyers are hesitant to pay these really high prices. Many are hoping it's a pretty short spike," Lightsey said.

"Meanwhile, sellers are holding out for high prices, while at the same time expressing concerns over increased tax burdens if they sell this year following such a good season. Those two things combined have really restricted the market and there haven't been that many sales," she added.

"There is plenty of interest in Bristol Bay permits and boats, but the permit price is really high so right now there is a lot of talk," echoed Lisa Gulliford at Permit Master in Tacoma, Washington.

Permit values are published monthly by the Alaska Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission and reflect the average of sale prices over the past three months. They need at least four transactions to calculate an average and some permits don't sell frequently enough to do that, so they have to incorporate sales from prior to three months ago, explained Lightsey.

"But the market changes so quickly that the commission's permit prices are

typically off, either on the high or low side. The value of salmon permits is quite literally whatever a buyer is willing to pay for it!" she added.

Other salmon fisheries also are attracting interest, "which is good news and means that optimism is spreading throughout the fisheries. Permits that have been relatively quiet for a few years are now getting inquiries," Gulliford said, adding that "troll permits in Southeast are making a comeback."

Before the summer season, power troll permits were selling in the low \$20,000s in Southeast and are now in the \$28,000 to \$30,000 range. Movement in other Southeast salmon permits, however, is lackluster, Lightsey said.

"Before the season drift permits were selling for around \$55,000 and our lowest asking price now is \$65,000 but we've had no offers," she said. "On the seine front, we sold a permit for \$140,000 after the season ended, which was the first I believe since 2019. It's a really slow market down there."

Likewise, permits at Prince William Sound have yet to gain much traction despite a great year for pink salmon.

"A few drift permits have sold in the \$110,000 range. No seine permits have sold yet that I'm aware of. And quite a few folks are moving from Prince William Sound seine to Bristol Bay," Lightsey added.

Lightsey said she hears a lot of concern from fishermen over climate change and salmon bycatch in trawl fisheries, but it's not enough to deter them from buying permits.

"I think a lot of this new guard of fishermen are young and energetic and incredibly driven and dedicated to sustainability and preserving the future of

their industry. Together with the old guard, they're really making a difference. They're writing letters and networking and forming advocacy groups and all those things are coming together and instilling a sense of pride and ownership in their fishery and making them more inclined to invest in it."

Harbor surveys

Are your local harbor waters clean? Are there sewage pump-outs, restrooms and adequate disposal stations for trash and debris? Do Alaskans even notice or care?

Two quick surveys for boaters and communities aim to find out.

"We want to hear from boat users in the harbors as well as community members. And we'll be doing a survey for harbor masters and harbor staff as well," said Tav Ammu, a Bristol Bay fisherman and Alaska Sea Grant fellow who is leading the project.

Disposal of sewage, called blackwater, is a top concern, he said. There's a scarcity or no pump-out stations in most Alaska harbors, and Ammu said many boaters don't use good disposal practices.

"Probably half of the people I've talked to have marine sanitation devices on board, but they just weren't being utilized. That was kind of an 'aha' moment for me," he said. "It's not that people aren't interested or unaware, it's just that they don't have options or they have the capability but they don't use them."

In the words of one fisherman: "I can tell you that it is obvious that all we are doing is paying lip service to 'no poo in the blue' as there is not a single pump station in Bristol Bay, and we pretty much know what 5,500 fishermen are doing every day."

The harbor surveys will let Alaskans pinpoint problems and offer solutions, which Ammu will discuss at the harbor master's conference later this month in Anchorage.

The survey is online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/BoatUsers.

Help with halibut

Halibut stakeholders are being asked to weigh in on two important issues: bycatch in the Bering Sea and halibut fishery management.

After six years of discussion, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is poised to require Bering Sea bottom trawlers targeting flatfish abide by the same rules as all other halibut users.

Nineteen Seattle-based bottom trawlers targeting flatfish, called the Amendment 80 fleet and including boats owned by Alaska Native groups, has a fixed cap on halibut bycatch, whereas yearly catches for commercial, sport, charter and subsistence fishermen fluctuate according to the health of the stock.

The public is asked to send written comments on the NPFMC plan to rein in the halibut bycatch through Oct. 25.

Ideas for new or amended proposals are invited by the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

The IPHC oversees the biology of the stock for the West Coast, British Columbia and Alaska, and sets annual halibut catch limits. An example of a new regulation saw this year's halibut fishery extended by one month to Dec. 7.

The IPHC will give a first glimpse of possible catches for 2022 at its interim meeting, held electronically Nov. 30 and Dec. The annual meeting is set for Jan. 24-28 in Seattle.

Anchorage orders face masks for 60 days

ANCHORAGE (AP) — The Anchorage assembly has overridden the mayor's veto of an emergency order instituting a mask mandate for 60 days.

The assembly on Oct. 14 overturned Mayor Dave Bronson's veto of the measure requiring masks for most everyone in indoor public spaces on a 9-2 vote.

Alaska averaged about 900 new infections a day last week, down from the September surge but still high enough to lead the 50 states in per-capita COVID-19 cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Almost half of last week's new cases were in Anchorage, where hospitals have been struggling to keep up with the caseload.

The assembly held days of public hearings for a mask ordinance, drawing so much opposition and with so many people wanting to comment that it stretched into a second week — and still wasn't over.

Then during a meeting Oct. 12, the assembly approved an emergency ordinance putting a mask mandate in place. Bronson, a staunch critic of COVID-19 mandates, vetoed the ordinance the next day.

The assembly overrode the mayor's action a day later.

people wear masks in indoor public places and communal spaces. Among the exemptions are children under the age of 5, those playing sports or attending church, and members of the mayor's administration.

Businesses must deny entry to people who aren't wearing masks, though the ordinance imposes no specific penalties for non-compliance.

While the ordinance sets a 60-day timeframe for masking, the order would be canceled if two of Anchorage's three hospitals are no longer operating under crisis care protocols or if the city does not have a high transmission rate of COVID-19.

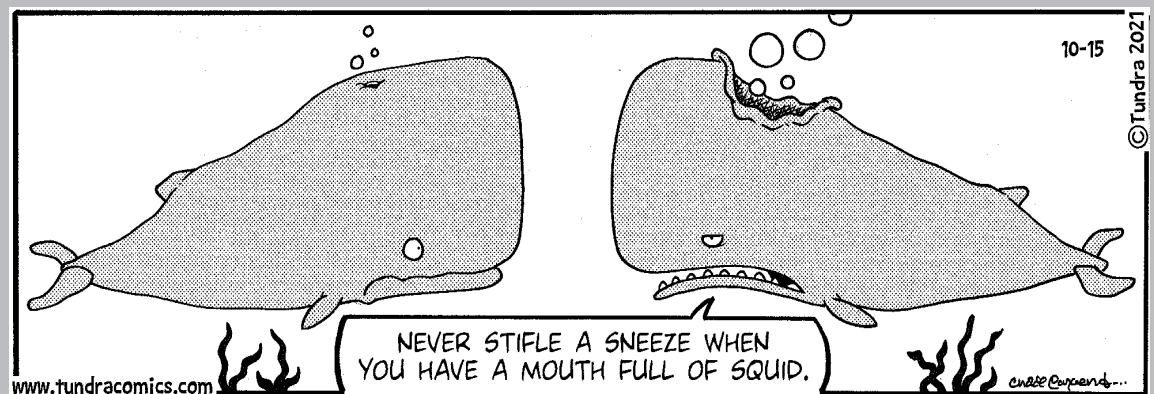
During earlier hearings, some opponents of any mask mandate wore homemade yellow Stars of David, the same as Jews were forced to wear by the Nazis, to draw a comparison to what Jews faced in Germany.

Assembly member Jamie Allard, who opposed the original mask mandate, said the emergency ordinance would draw "strong backlash" and that government officials "should never push our medical advice on anybody."

"I will not comply," she said.

Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



Wreck of former Alaska cutter found in the Atlantic

By MARK PRATT
The Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — The wreck of a storied military ship that served in two World Wars, performed patrols in waters off Alaska for decades, and at one point was captained by the first Black man to command a U.S. government vessel has been found, the Coast Guard said Oct. 14.

A wreck thought to be the U.S. Revenue Cutter Bear, which sank in 1963 about 260 miles east of Boston as it was being towed to Philadelphia, where it was going to be converted into a floating restaurant, was located in 2019.

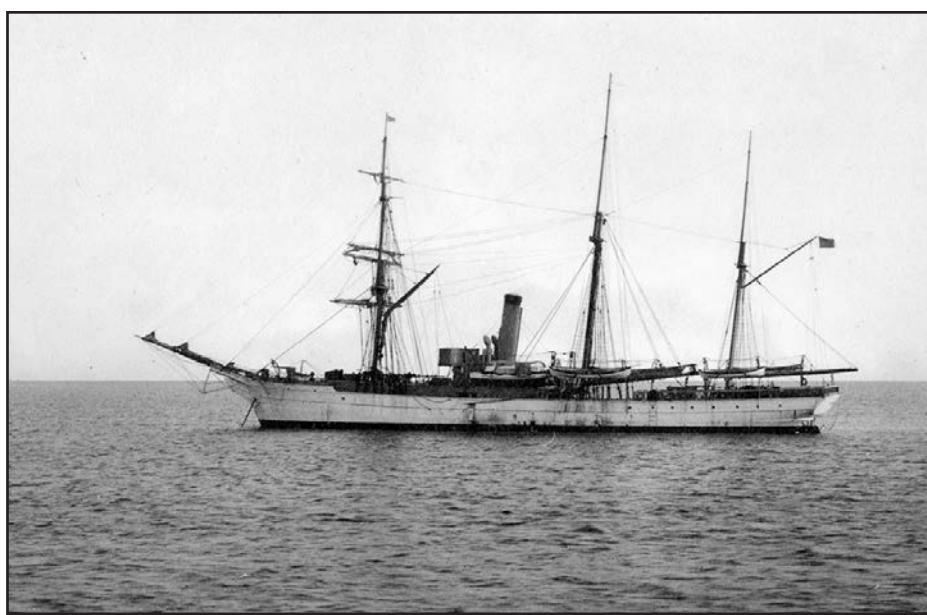
But it was only in August that a team of experts looking at the evidence concluded that they are “reasonably certain” that the wreck is indeed the Bear, officials of the Coast Guard and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said at a waterfront news conference in Boston.

“At the time of the loss of Bear, it was already recognized as a historic ship,” said Joe Hoyt, of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries.

The legend of the Bear is so ingrained in Coast Guard lore that the sports teams at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in Connecticut are named the Bears, partly in honor of the vessel.

Built in 1874, the steam and sail-powered Bear was purchased by the U.S. in 1884 to take part in the search for the ill-fated Arctic expedition led by Lt. Adolphus Greely, a member of the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

The 190-foot-long Bear then spent



The U.S. Revenue Cutter Bear sits at anchor while on Bering Sea patrol off Alaska in July 1908. The wreckage of the storied vessel that served in World Wars I and II and patrolled Arctic waters for decades has been found, the Coast Guard said Oct. 12.

more than four decades patrolling the Arctic, performing search and rescue, law enforcement operations, conducting censuses of people and ships, recording geological and astronomical information, recording tides, and escorting whaling ships.

The U.S. Revenue Cutter Service merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service in 1915 to form the Coast Guard.

“During Bear’s 40-year career in Alaska, the cutter performed some of the most

daring and successful Arctic rescues in history,” said William Thiesen, the Coast Guard Atlantic Area’s official historian. “And when malnourished Native Americans needed food, Bear brought it. When stranded whalers needed rescue, Bear saved them. One hundred years ago when thousands of Alaskans contracted the Spanish flu during the pandemic, Bear brought doctors and medicine.”

The Oct. 14 announcement coincided with the arrival in Boston of the U.S.

Coast Guard Cutter Healy, named after the Bear’s captain from 1886 until 1895, Michael “Hell Roaring Mike” Healy.

The Healy, an icebreaker commissioned in 1999, recently completed a transit of the Arctic Northwest Passage.

Healy, born in 1839, was the son of a Georgia plantation owner and a slave. Healy’s father sent him to Massachusetts to escape enslavement, Thiesen said.

“While he never, during his lifetime, self-identified as African American, perhaps to avoid the prejudice he would likely have encountered in his personal life and career, he was in reality the first person of African American descent to command a ship of the U.S. Government,” a NOAA news release said.

Even after its time in the Arctic was over, Bear’s career continued.

The ship saw service during both World Wars, patrolling Greenland’s waters in World War II and helping capture a German spy vessel.

Between the wars, the Bear was repurposed as a maritime museum by the city of Oakland, California; used as a movie set; and purchased by Adm. Richard Byrd for use in his Antarctic expeditions.

The ship was decommissioned in 1944 and remained in Nova Scotia until its trip to Philadelphia ended prematurely in 1963 when it sank about 90 miles south of Cape Sable, Nova Scotia, according to NOAA.

“Bear had served in various capacities for nearly 90 years, a remarkable record for a ship build of wood,” Thiesen said.

Searchers find body near Kake

ANCHORAGE (AP) — Alaska State Troopers on Monday said a Kake man who reported missing on Saturday was found dead by a canine team searching for him.

Troopers said the body of 55-year-old David Dalton was found Monday about 2.5 miles from where his pickup truck was parked near Sitkum Creek, south of Kake, on Kupreanof Island.

“It appears that Dalton succumbed to the elements,” troopers wrote in an update posted to their webpage.

The body has been sent to the medical examiner’s office in Anchorage for an autopsy.

Dalton was last seen Friday afternoon and reported missing Saturday night. Searchers found some items that belonged to him about 50 yards from his vehicle.

The Coast Guard had conducted an aerial search over the weekend covering two square miles. There was a report of a possible flare sighting, but troopers said neither the helicopter nor ground crews were able to locate anyone in the area.

FAA report calls for more and better weather information

JUNEAU (AP) — A federal report aimed at improving aviation safety in Alaska recommends improvements in providing weather information to pilots and continued work to update maps with information on mountain passes, among other steps.

The Federal Aviation Administration, which released the report Oct. 14, said it will establish a team to outline plans for implementing the proposals. Several of the recommendations are already underway, the agency said.

The report comes after the National Transportation Safety Board in early 2020 called for a comprehensive review to improve aviation safety in Alaska, citing a fatal and non-fatal accident rates far higher than the national average.

Board Chair Jennifer L. Homendy in a statement called the FAA report “a step forward in addressing Alaska’s unique place in aviation safety. But more needs to be done to ensure air transportation is as safe in Alaska as in the rest of the nation. We look forward to reviewing the recommendations.”

Matt Atkinson, president of Alaska Air Carriers Association, said despite progress that has been made, “there’s roughly 100 communities, numerous tour routes, mountain pass routes that lack basic aviation weather reporting, adequate communications infrastructure and other aspects that are necessary for safe operations in Alaska.”

Police report

Monday, Oct. 11
Nothing to report.

Tuesday, Oct. 12
Domestic violence order served.
Extra patrols.

Wednesday, Oct. 13
Dog complaint.
Citizen assist.
Reckless driving.
State Office of Children’s Services: Referral.
Theft.
Civil standby.
Traffic stops (two).

Thursday, Oct. 14
Criminal mischief.
Dog complaint.
Request for transport: Agency assist.
Subpoena service.

Friday, Oct. 15
Domestic dispute.
Theft of service.
Parking complaint.
Traffic stops (two).
Citizen assist.
Domestic dispute.
Subpoena service.
Noise complaint.

Saturday, Oct. 16
Civil issue.
Traffic stop.
Intoxicated person.

Sunday, Oct. 17
Nothing to report.

Three suspicious circumstances were reported Oct. 11-17.

1921 **100 YEARS** **2021**

The Irene Ingle Public Library invites you to
our 100th Anniversary Open House

Thursday, October 28

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Join us for coffee, punch and cake!
Help us celebrate 100 years of library service!

Alabama man nabbed in Alaska on charges from Capitol assaults

ANCHORAGE (AP) — An Alabama man accused of using pepper spray and throwing a metal rod at law enforcement officers protecting the U.S. Capitol during the Jan. 6 insurrection has been arrested in Alaska, according to court documents filed in federal court.

The FBI took Christian Manley into custody last Friday in Anchorage. During an arraignment Tuesday, a judge set a detention hearing for Thursday afternoon.

Authorities did not disclose why Manley was in Alaska.

He faces several charges, including assaulting or resisting officers using a dangerous weapon, and engaging in physical violence and disorderly and disruptive conduct in a restricted building.

According to a statement filed in the case by Stephen Lee, an FBI special agent in Birmingham, Alabama, an informant met someone named Christian from Alabama, who had attended the riot. That person a week later called back to give them the last name Manley.

Agents then met the informant and showed photographs of wanted individuals taken from videos shot during the insurrection. That person identified Manley from one of the photos.

The FBI then learned that Manley's phone number had used a cell site near the Capitol on Jan. 6, according to the statement.

Later, the FBI interviewed a relative of Manley's, who identified him and said Manley had discussed going to the Jan. 6 rally, the document alleges.

The FBI agent's statement includes photos taken from video alleging to show Manley approaching the Capitol with a can of pepper spray and then spraying it toward officers inside the Lower West Terrace archway of the Capitol.

When the can is emptied, authorities allege he threw it at officers before later footage shows him spraying another can and throwing it when it is empty.

The statement then alleges he accepted a metal rod from another rioter and threw it at officers. The document alleges he moved toward the officers defending the entrance, braced himself against a wall and used his body to push a door against officers trying to defend the entrance.

Florida allows largemouth bass fish farms

By ED KILLER
Treasure Coast
(Florida) Newspapers

PORT ST. LUCIE, Fla. (AP) — Coming soon to your neighborhood seafood market: farm-raised Florida largemouth bass. Under a law passed this spring, bass will expand its popularity from a favorite sport-fishing target to the seafood sales counter in the Sunshine State.

Allowing the popular, well-known species of fish to be farmed and sold in Florida has been prohibited for decades.

The Legislature this year passed a bill introduced by Fort Pierce Rep. Dana Trabulsy to allow for the aquaculture industry to include the Florida strain of largemouth bass as a species that can be raised on a commercial fish farm and sold.

"It's a great opportunity for people to enjoy bass, just like they enjoy catfish or tilapia or salmon and the other fish that are farmed," Trabulsy told Florida Politics in April.

There are more than 4,300 aquaculture facilities in the U.S., including over 1,000 in Florida, where there are over 1,500 types of fish, mollusks, crustaceans, reptiles, amphibians and plants grown. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services oversees this industry.

The legislation was based on economics. A farm-raised largemouth bass is valued at \$5.75 per pound, a 90% increase from 2013, and 195 farms reported producing largemouth bass for food in 2018 for a total value of \$27 million, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission reported. But not the Florida strain covered by this year's legislation.

"It's a great opportunity for people to enjoy bass, just like they enjoy catfish or tilapia or salmon and the other fish that are farmed."

- Dana Trabulsy

In Florida, bass is a restricted-species protected from becoming a commercially harvested commodity, like snook and redfish.

Under the new law, the state must develop a policy to allow for farm-raised bass sales, but some commissioners oppose the measure, saying it should remain a sport fish.

"I don't think we should do this," said Fish and Wildlife Commissioner Gary Lester. "Yes, we do have an aquaculture industry. We have a lot of fish and a lot of jobs in it. But the largemouth bass has a special iconic place in our state and in our economy."

If a farm-raised bass escapes into a lake, will there be a genetic corruption of the unique Florida strain, Lester worried.

"If that happens, we could lose genetic purity. This agency has the responsibility to protect that. I'm very concerned when we have to use terms like 'chain of custody.' That ought to tell us something. I don't want to be the board that lets that happen," he said. "Once that bell has been rung, ..."

That bell already has been rung, just not with bass.

The state has allowed Norwe-

gian salmon to be farm-raised in Homestead, Florida, and Australian barramundi, a freshwater fish similar to snook, to be raised in open ponds in Osceola County.

The state's lakes, ponds, canals and marshes, especially in tropical South Florida, are teeming with non-native fish that are affecting native fish. A fishing trip to any freshwater body south of Orlando will produce armored catfish from South America, Mayan cichlids from Central America, oscars from Africa and snakeheads from Southeast Asia.

Managers and fishermen have seen 50-pound pacus and 6-foot-long arapaimas float up in the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee rivers, respectively.

Another concern is commercial fishers will pressure legislators to harvest largemouth bass from the wild. There is already more than 2 million pounds of fish caught and sold from Florida freshwater bodies such as catfish, tilapia and bream.

That includes the toxic algae-covered waters of Lake Okechobee, Florida's largest and economically most important lake. Consuming these fish may not even be safe due to exposure to algae, but testing has not been done.

While commercial fishing operations working these waters grosses in the millions of dollars a year, the lure of recreational fishing for bass in Florida chimes in at \$5.1 billion, according to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Yakima taking out dam that blocked salmon

YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) — The city of Yakima, Washington, has started taking out the Nelson Dam, following years of planning. City of Yakima Water and Irrigation Manager David Brown said the \$18.1 million project on the Naches River should be completed by April 2023.

The Naches is the largest tributary of the Yakima River, as well as an important salmon bearing river.

The contract with the city stipulates contractors must

be out of the water from Feb. 28 to July 16 to avoid disrupting fish.

Once the irrigation diversion dam is removed and replaced with a roughened channel, boaters and all species of fish should be able to move freely along the river for the first time in decades.

The dam was built in the 1920s to divert irrigation water. The original design did not allow for fish passage.

LIFELINE Program for Low-Income Consumers

Lifeline is a federal program that lowers the monthly cost of phone or internet. You can only use Lifeline for either phone or internet, but not both.

YOU MAY QUALIFY IF YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

- Tribal-specific programs: Bureau of Indian Affairs General Assistance, Tribally-Administered Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TTANF), Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) & Tribal Head Start.
- Income at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guideline
- Supplemental Nutrition Assist Prog (SNAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Veterans Pension & Survivors Benefit Prog.
- Medicaid



TO APPLY OR CHECK ELIGIBILITY VISIT
www.lifelinesupport.org

We Can Assist You
Give us a call in Wrangell at:

 874-3000



2 WEEKS LEFT TO ENTER



Protect Our Economy and Give Alaska a Shot at Recovery

Week 7: Oct 17-Oct 23

Getting your first dose during week 7? Enter to win by Saturday!



Week 7 Eligibility Expires at 11:59 pm Oct. 23

Entries limited to one per person. Eligible Alaskans should enter to win ONCE based on the date of your FIRST dose. You do not need to enter the sweepstakes weekly.

Alaskans vaccinated before Sept. 2 can enter to win anytime before Oct. 30

You can enter for a chance to win if you:

- Are an Alaska resident
 - Are age 12 or older
 - Received a first dose of any COVID-19 vaccine at any time before or during the sweepstakes period
 - Received your vaccination in Alaska - OR if a veteran, at any VA hospital or VA clinic
- Other restrictions apply. See GiveAKaShot.com for more details

2 Winners each week!

\$49K
cash prize
for Alaskans 18+

\$49K
ALASKA529
EDUCATION SAVINGS PLAN
for Alaskans 12-17

Vaccinated parent/guardian of youth winners will receive a \$10K cash prize

Free language interpretation services available

Muaj kev pab txhais lus dawb
 무료 언어 통역 서비스 이용가능
 Предоставляются бесплатные услуги переводчика
 Servicios de interpretación de idiomas gratuitos disponibles
 May makukuhang libreng serbisyo sa pagsasalang wika.
 Akiilngut mumigcistet nalqigutestet piavngaut.

GiveAKaShot.com



If you do not have access to the internet or require language or other assistance, call the State of Alaska COVID vaccine helpline for assistance. Callers must ask that they be entered into the Give AK a Shot Sweepstakes, provide the required entry information, and provide the required acknowledgements and consents.

Call the State of Alaska COVID vaccine helpline at 1-907-646-3322 or toll-free 1-833-4-VAXLINE (1-833-482-9546) Mon-Fri: 9 a.m. - 6:30 p.m. | Sat/Sun: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



Week 5 Winners



J.R. Gilliland
Anchorage (Adult)



Finn Peterson
Anchorage (Youth)

Week 4 Winners



Amber Shanagin
Anchorage (Adult)



Wyatt Otness
Fairbanks (Youth)

Week 3 Winners



Jim Durkee
Fairbanks (Adult)



Elia Samuelson
Bethel (Youth)

Week 2 Winners



Ashley Pack
Palmer (Adult)



Mollie Witt
Anchorage (Youth)

Week 1 Winners



Carin Kircher
Valdez (Adult)



Ethan Benton
Kodiak (Youth)