

WRANGELL SEN INEL

Volume 115, Number 38

Oldest Continuously Published Newspaper in Alaska

12 Pages

Argument leads to felony assault, gunfire

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

An argument between several residents last week quickly grew out of control, with discharge of a firearm and assault among several crimes alleged.

Michael Allen Stephens, 57, was arrested outside his Evergreen Avenue residence on September 11, allegedly following an argument and altercations with several residents. The trailer and property belongs to Rosemary Ruoff, with whom he shares a residence. The criminal complaint filed with the court last week is partly based on the testimony of Leon Harvey, Ruoff's brother-in-law.

Harvey told police he and his wife had been concerned about Ruoff's safety, not having heard from her that morning. Driving over to Ruoff and Stephens' residence in his pickup truck, Harvey saw the two talking outside of their trailer. Ruoff approached him as he sat in the vehicle, and appeared to Harvey to have been crying. He alleges Stephens approached the truck as well, in a confrontational manner, telling Harvey to leave.

Pushing them aside with his truck door in order to exit, Harvey testified he had grabbed an axe from the back of his truck as he did so. Stephens allegedly said he was getting his gun from his own vehicle parked outside, running over to do so. According to the complaint, Stephens did retrieve a 9mm handgun from his truck, aiming it at Harvey, who had set the axe down on the hood of his vehicle. Ruoff tried to hold the defendant back at this point, and Stephens fired a round into the ground near Harvey. Harvey returned to his truck with the intention of leaving, at which point he alleges Stephens - still with Ruoff between them - came up to the door and punched him in the face "a couple of times," breaking his nose and chipping a tooth.

Neighbor Dustin Phillips also provided testimony, telling police there had been yelling at Ruoff's property that day, worsening after Harvey's arrival. Phillips approached the property as Stephens held a handgun on Harvey, and rushed back to



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

It's Grandparents' Day!

Students at Evergreen Elementary were invited to bring along their elders to school last week during a pair of events. Students of Mrs. Miller's third grade class headed to the museum inside the Nolan Center on September 12, tasked with an historical scavenger hunt. Grandparents and adoptive chaperones helped them navigate the displays, answering questions on different elements of local history. On the morning of September 15 the school opened its doors to other students' grandparents, participating in a variety of activities set up around campus – some educational, others simply for fun. Pictured above: Ryan Shilts, Angus and Brogan Booker, Delaney Decker, Gabe Howell and Charlie Nelson decorate cookies during their school's Grandparents' Day activities. See more photos from Grandparent's Day on page 6.

his own residence to have his girlfriend call 911. He reported hearing the gunshot, and fearing that Harvey had been shot, grabbed a rifle from his residence and returned to his yard. Phillips reported telling Stephens to put his weapon down,

at which point the defendant had approached the fence between their properties and began striking it. A top plate was broken, and Stephens allegedly began taunting Phillips to shoot him, climbing the fence onto his property and approach-

ing to grab his rifle. Phillips testified he was unaware whether Stephens was armed at the time, and after convincing him to get off his property, the defendant bared his buttocks at him before leaving.

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Session sets water plant and new hospital as priorities

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

The city's new manager sat down with the Wrangell Assembly last week to hammer out priorities for the coming year.

Beginning the position in mid-July, Lisa Von Bargen decided she preferred to work more closely with the city's elected officials, and recommended the goal-setting work sessions as a means to that end.

"In my contract with the assembly, I said I wanted to have a goal setting and work session with them to establish what the priorities were that they wanted to see done," she explained.

Preparing a list of three dozen

different projects – from waterfront development and solid waste disposal to succession planning and procurement policy – discussions yielded two main prerogatives for the city.

"The water treatment plant solution and the hospital solution," said Von Bargen.

Wrangell's water treatment plant had been a major source of concern heading into the summer, with local officials not wanting a repeat performance of July 2016, when its production failed to keep up with demand. The 17-year-old plant's slow sand filtration bays are prone to clogging and require regular clearing, and with a "perfect

storm" of other problems, a tight staff was unable to keep output on step with the summertime peak demand, a substantial source of which comes from seafood processing. With treated reserves running dangerously low last summer, emergency controls on use were put into effect which temporarily disrupted production at Wrangell's two fish plants.

Additional seasonal staff was hired for 2017, a formal emergency response plan adopted, and new methods of cleaning the filters tried. Together, these fixes helped make the summer's production go normally.

In the longer term, replacing

the plant itself was once the goal, building one which uses a method of dissolved air filtration better suited to Wrangell's water supply. Pilot testing last summer indicated a DAF plant would do well here, but cost estimates nearly double expectation made replacement infeasible.

"The grant and loan package that we applied for and was offered by USDA (U.S. Department of Agriculture) Rural Development, specifically the loan repayment, is too much for the water fund to absorb without additional rate increases beyond those that are already scheduled for the next two years," Von Bargen explained. "It's substantive

enough that we weren't willing to go there as a potential solution."

Since then, assessments by engineers have prescribed some fixes at the plant that could extend its usability and improve efficiency. "The next phase that needs to be looked at are the roughing filters," Von Bargen said.

The roughing filters are a preliminary stage of treatment, which water coming from the lower reservoir first passes through. Their design leaves them prone to clog, however, and as they weren't designed to automatically flush, staff must do so

Continued on page 12

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, Sept. 21: Keely Good, Terry Buness, Ellen Massin, Jason Rak, Chris Gillen, Rachelle Grossardt, David Wilson, Adam Messmer. Friday, Sept. 22: Lorne Cook, Terri Henson, Braidyn Young, Alun Nixon. Anniversary: Terry and Janet Buness, Bucky and Linda Bjorge. Saturday, Sept. 23: Christian Cartwright, Veronica Beasley, Jeremy Neel, Jennifer Olson. Sunday, Sept. 24: Barbara Angerman, Mateas Rilatos, Jeff Abrahamson, Ken Hazelton, Monday, Sept. 25: Joshua Morgan, Lisa Nikodym, Daniel Kirschner, Roberta Floyd, Hadley Wiederspohn, Lanny Hamley, Tina Doak, Mariah Spears. Tuesday, Sept. 26: Thomas Mathis Jr., Calen Young, Dick Edgley. Wednesday, Sept. 27: Chris Kuykendall, David Wilson II, Michelle Amundson, Morgan Petticrew, Kristin Schwerin, Gail Ottesen. Anniversary: Darren and Emily Wickman, Josh and Tasha Toombs, Willie and Devceril Bloom. Thursday, Sept. 28: Elmer Mork, Tyler Danison, Michael Brock, Patrick Mayer, Bryan Paulsen, Carisa Atkins, Darrel Gross, Wayne and Kathleen Harding, Jake and Rachel Harris.

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

Senior Center Menu

Thursday, Sept. 21

Pork roast, rice, harvard beets, cauli/brocc. salad.

Friday, Sept. 22

Lemon baked chicken, sweet potato, brussels sprouts, sukiyaki salad.

Monday, Sept. 25

Half a tomato and cheese sandwich, cheddar broccoli soup, spinach salad.

Tuesday, Sept. 26

Chicken a'la king, noodles, broccoli, fresh fruit.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Meat, noodles, orange sauce, topped with tomato. Thursday, Sept. 28

A-1 meatloaf, mashed potatoes, green beans, perfection salad.

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

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

FERRY SCHEDULE

Departures

Saturday, Sept. 23 Matanuska 11:15 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 24 Malaspina 4:15 p.m.

Northbound

Tuesday, Sept. 26 Matanuska 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 30 Matanuska 5:15 a.m. Southbound Thursday. Sept. 21

Matanuska 6:45 p.m. Monday, Sept. 25 Matanuska 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27 Malaspina 6:00 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 28

Matanuska 8:30 p.m.

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



TIDES TABLE **Sept 14 - Sept 21**

	High Tides				Low Tides			
	\mathbf{AM}		PM		\mathbf{AM}		PM	
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>
Sept. 21	2:07	17.7	2:28	17.8	8:07	-1.1	8:27	-0.8
Sept. 22	2:47	17.0	3:01	17.3	8:39	-0.2	9:02	-0.5
Sept. 23	3:24	16.0	3:33	16.6	9:11	0.9	9:38	0.1
Sept. 24	4:02	14.9	4:05	15.7	9:43	2.1	10:15	0.9
Sept. 25	4:40	13.7	4:39	14.7	10:18	3.3	10:56	1.8
Sept. 26	5:25	12.5	5:19	13.7	10:58	4.5	11:45	2.6
Sept. 27	6:24	11.5	6:15	12.8	11:48	5.5		
Sept. 28	7:47	11.0	7:35	12.2	0:46	3.3	12:56	6.2

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, September 21

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

Healthy Eating Demo on Healthy Food Preparation: 11:30 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Free class. Learn how easy it is to prepare healthy and delicous food. Samples will be available. For more info call 874-3375. Yoga: 5:30 p.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join Sunday, September 24

Sinspiration: There will be a singspiration at the St. Rose Catholic Church at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments to follow.

Tuesday, September 26

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

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

Continuing Events

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

OTHER MEETINGS/ACTIVITIES/EVENTS:

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

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

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

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

The Way We Were

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

September 27, 1917: Charles Hawkesworth, superintendent of the Indian schools, was in Wrangell Saturday. He was present at the opening of the Native school at Hydaburg, which is in charge of J. P. Wells, a school man who comes from southern Oregon where he was school superintendent for nine years. The school at Klawock opened with Prof. C. E. Hibbs in charge. His three assistants are Miss Orr, Miss Sullivan, and Miss Maloney. The school at Metlakatla will open October 1. Regarding the Wrangell Native school Mr. Hawkesworth said: "The school here is in charge of one of the very best teachers in

September 18, 1942: Regular luncheon meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held Monday noon at which time extensive communications relative to liquor shipments to Alaska were discussed. The matter was

the service."

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referred to the Home Industries committee to take up with local merchants to learn if, since Admiral Freeman's action some weeks ago any food shipments had been delayed as a result of liquor coming through. The Chamber decided to write Delegate Dimond for complete information on parcel post shipments to Alaska under the present regulations.

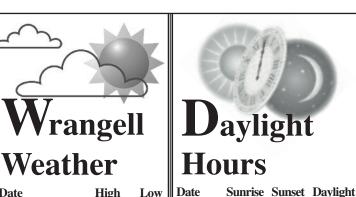
September 22, 1967: Two Japanese cargo ships have left Wrangell in the past week, carrying a total of 6.5 million board feet of lumber. The Yamatada Maru sailed Sunday with 2.1 million board feet of lumber from Alaska Wood Products, said Ray Hugli, general manager of AWP. The Iseharu Maru carried 4.5 million board feet of lumber from Wrangell when she sailed Sept. 12. On Saturday, the Georgia Maru arrived and will

be loaded with 3 million board feet, Wrangell Lumber Co. Vice President Chet Neill reported. She is carrying a base cargo of Canadian zinc ore. Other ships scheduled to arrive include the Ryuye Maru, Hoe Maru and Mayaharu Maru, Neil said.

September, 24 1992: Southeast Alaska fishermen will get another 48 hours this year to try to harvest 2.5 million pounds of halibut. The International Pacific Halibut Commission will open Area 2C, the Southeast fishery, for a two day opening beginning at noon Oct. 5. The year's first opening on June 8 resulted in the taking of 5.5 million pounds from an allocated million pounds. opening on Sept. 7 gave fishermen 48 hours to harvest the remaining 4.5 million pounds, but only 2 million pounds were taken.



www.imdb.com



Date	High	Low	Date
Sept. 11	57	28	Sept. 21
Sept. 12	57	45	Sept. 22
Sept. 13	57	44	Sept. 23
Sept. 14	57	41	Sept. 24
Sept. 15	57	44	Sept. 25
Sept. 16	59	44	Sept. 26
Sept. 17	55	45	Sept. 27
Sept. 18	54	45	Sept. 28
			II.

Brought to you by Alaska Airlines





6:29am 6:52pm 12:23h 6:31am 6:50pm 12:19h

6:33am 6:47pm 12:14h

6:35am 6:44pm 12:09h 6:37am 6:42pm 12:05h

6:39am 6:39pm 12:00h

6:41am 6:36pm 11:55h

6:43am 6:34pm 11:51h

Defendant changes plea in felony joyriding case

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

The defendant in a case involving multiple vehicular thefts and extensive property damage earlier this summer last week changed his plea to "guilty."

Lief Cheyenne Bosdell, 19, entered guilty pleas for two counts after charges against him were consolidated. After his arrest on June 9, Bosdell had faced seven counts of felony vehicular theft and three misdemeanor charges. Three additional charges – of fourth-degree criminal mischief, reckless driving, and Assault 4, or causing fear of injury – were added.

Seven alleged thefts took place in Wrangell between June 2 and 8, with most occurring on the nights of the 6th and 8th. Three vehicles were rendered unusable during the suspected joy rides, with one car catching fire, another's engine seizing before being abandoned, and the third high-centered on a log during an attempted jump at the

horse track.

At Wrangell's First District Court on September 11, Judge Kevin Miller approved consolidation of the charges as part of the plea agreement, to one aggravated felony count of Vehicle Theft in the 1st Degree, and the assault charge.

For the felony charge, Bosdell would be sentenced to serve 18 months with all but 101 days suspended. The assault charge would see imposition of 180 days with 90 days suspended, to be served concurrently with the other time. Probationary conditions would include a substance abuse assessment, payment of restitution for the damage done, 140 hours of community work service, and a letter to the community run in the Wrangell Sentinel. Three to six months of treatment at the KAR House Residential Program Ketchikan was also recommended, with up to 18 months of treatment.

A sentencing hearing has



SENTINEL FILE PHOT

Burnt to the rims and with melted windows, a car belonging to a Wrangell retiree was discovered in another resident's yard early June 6. It had apparently been taken from a mechanic's garage the previous evening and driven to the site before catching fire.

been scheduled for November 27 at 11 a.m. at the Wrangell courthouse.

Argument

Continued from page 1

Kayla Gillen confirmed that Phillips had told her to call 911, and had done so. In her statement she also said Stephens had mooned the pair as he left their property.

Ruoff's son, Scott Eastaugh, testified he had had a confrontation with Stephens earlier that morning, while dropping off a sink to his mother's property. He had been up at the landfill nearby at the time of the incident, and a combination of the gunshot and a text message from his wife that there was a problem compelled him to return to the property. Parking his truck across the street, Eastaugh said he watched Stephens reaching into Harvey's truck, and reportedly helped separate the two to allow Harvey to leave. Stephens had reportedly turned his attention onto him after that, until Phillips had spoken up. He added he had tried to hold Stephens back during the altercation at the fence.

In her testimony of the day's events, Ruoff said she had been talking with Stephens outside their residence, and alleged he had been drinking that day. Once Harvey arrived, she said



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) will hold a Regular Board Meeting on September 28, 2017 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm AKDT at the Sunny Point Ballroom at The Landing Hotel in Ketchikan, Alaska. For additional information, please call (907) 228-2281.

Publish: September 21, 2017

the two began arguing. Ruoff reportedly attempted to hold Stephens back when he retrieved the handgun from his truck, but due to her smaller stature was unable to. She assumed he had fired once into the air, but was unable to see what was happening behind her. According to her testimony, she produced the pistol for police after Stephens had tossed it back into the truck, prior to assaulting Harvey.

Making observations on the scene, the complaint has Chief Doug McCloskey and Sergeant Bruce Smith report that Stephens smelled strongly of alcohol, and was unsteady. He refused to take a breathalyzer test, but Smith said Ruoff had produced for him a nearly empty 750mm bottle of cinnamon-flavored whiskey.

After Stephens' arrest, he has been charged with one count of third-degree assault, a Class C felony; two counts of fourth-degree assault, each Class A misdemeanors; first-degree criminal trespass, a Class A misdemeanor; and fourth-degree misconduct involving weapons, a Class A misdemeanor.

Deputy Magistrate Leanna Nash the next day approved a request for a public defender, with Stephens reporting an inability to afford one himself. A performance cash bond was set for \$3,000, which was paid by the defendant. A court appearance was set for September 19.

Bail did not last long, how-

ever. Upon his exiting the Public Safety Building at 12:30 p.m., security camera footage captured Stephens entering Harvey's Dodge Dakota parked outside, allegedly without the owner's permission. Officer James Nelson of the Forest Service also reported watching Stephens make an obscene gesture to Phillips, Eastaugh and Gillen outside the building as he drove away in his own Chevrolet truck. The interaction is considered a violation of the terms of his release, in interacting with those involved in the case. Phillips further testified to Nelson that Stephens had later been taking pictures of his property, and that he had advised the defendant to keep away.

Stephens was again arrested for violating terms of release, with one misdemeanor charge of criminal trespass added for entering Harvey's vehicle, and a second added for reportedly entering the premises of Eastaugh's property. The state is expected to file to forfeit his original \$3,000 bond. Another hearing was held on Tuesday, with a new \$4,000 cash bond split between the two cases.

As of Tuesday, Stephens remained in jail in Wrangell. Should he make bail a second time, Nash explained he will be compelled to leave the island until having to appear for court. In that event, he will be due back in court on September 29. Otherwise, his next appearance is scheduled for today.

Police report

Monday, September 11

Domestic Disturbance.

Abandoned Vehicle.

Disturbance.

Tuesday, September 12

Parent/Child Assistance – Parent requested assistance with child going to school.

Report of missing wallet. (23 minutes later) Found item.

DVO Service - Paper served.

Arrested Jenice M. Grover, 49, on charges of Assault 3rd Degree and Reckless Endangerment.

Civil Issue - Visitation issues.

Suspicious Circumstance – Caller reported vehicle brake and interior lights on. Officer responded.

Wednesday, September 13

SAR – SAR notified of a group late from returning to Wrangell. Arrived back safely on their own.

Stalking Order – Papers served.

DVO Denial - Papers served.

Citizen Assist – Person called and spoke with officer. Suspicious Vehicle – Motorcycle sitting on side of road.

Thursday, September 14

Traffic Stop – Verbal warning for failure to stop at crosswalk and verbal warning for failure to obtain commercial firewood permit.

Suspicious Circumstance – Report outdoor range being shot up. Officer responded. Someone shot off sonic booms.

Subpoena Service - Papers served.

Friday, September 15

Agency Assist/Harbor Department.

Driving Complaint.

Trespass/Drunk on Licensed Premises: Verbal warning given.

Saturday, September 16

Safe Keeping/Knife

Health and Safety: Report of sewage leak at church. Suspicious Circumstance

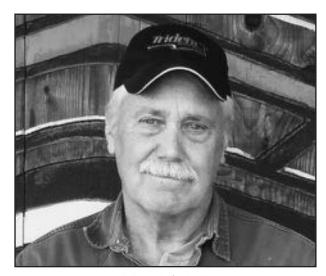
Sunday, September 17

Suspicious Noise: No one there upon officers' arrival. Agency Assist/AST: Traffic stop, verbal warning for impeding traffic.

There were two animal complaints and two EMS call outs during this reporting period.



Meet the Candidates - October 3 municipal elections ===



Mark Mitchell

Mark Mitchell

Age: 64

About: "I've been around the block more than once, a lot of different businesses, self-employed most of my life. I was an elk rancher in Colorado, I'm a crab fisherman now. I've done just about a little of everything."

Why do you want to serve on the Port Commission? "I believe it's your duty to serve. I've done four years on the Assembly, and I think it's time to let someone else take that for a while. But I want to continue to serve, and I have a lot of interest in the port, and of course, I'm in that business with the fishing and stuff. So I thought that would be the next best place to go."





Rebecca Christensen

Rebecca Christensen

Rrunning unopposed for one four-year term on the Wrangell Medical Center Board

Age: 45

About: "I am a stay-at-home mom. My husband started a business here, CTT Marine. We moved here about a year ago, and we want to settle here and serve our community."

Why do you want to serve on the WMC Board? "We thought that the hospital board would be good for me, because we have two kids with medical issues. I've spent a lot of time in hospitals down south. Our nine-year-old was in the hospital for six months, so I drove from the Canadian border down to Seattle every day. So hospitals are really important for a community."

Running for a second seat on the WMC Board, candidate Jennifer Bates will be unavailable for interview until after the election.



Robert Rang

Robert Rang, incumbent

Running for unexpired two-year term on Public School Board

Age: 53

About: "I've been in healthcare the past almost 30 years, and on the leadership side almost 20 of that. I've been serving on several boards, between the Chamber (of Commerce), School Board, and a number of small community boards in the past."

Why do you want to serve on the School Board? "Just like health care, the school system is very crucial for the community. And with my leadership background and my experience working with boards and with programs, I felt I could be a good asset with the school system as well."

Also running for the two-year seat on the Public School Board, candidate Caitlin Cardinell's profile ran in last week's newspaper. The third candidate for the seat, David Wilson, will be featured in next week's issue.

Obituary: Amy Jo Sarff

Amy Jo (Tomlinson) Sarff passed away in her home in Whale Pass, Alaska, September 2, 2017. Amy was born June 12, 1957 in Fairfield, California (Travis Air Force Base) to Joseph Tomlinson and Doreen Duffy Tomlinson. After the couple divorced, Doreen packed up the kids and moved back to Wrangell, Alaska where she later married Harry Churchill. With their ever growing family, the couple moved from Wrangell to New York, then California, Washington and finally back to Wrangell. It was in Wrangell, that Amy met the love of her life, Jerald (Jerry) Sarff. The couple married November 7, 1975 and in March of the following year welcomed their first daughter, Deann. In 1984, the couple welcomed their second and last daughter, Jaclyn into the world. Amy loved being a mother. A few years after the mill where Jerry worked shut down, the cou-



Amy Jo (Tomlinson) Sarff

ple moved to Bonners Ferry, ID. They were heartbroken to leave their beloved Wrangell and had hopes of retiring there. After losing her husband, Amy's goal was to fulfill their dream to move home, but during a visit to Whale Pass, fell in love with the little community and decided to make it her home. Amy will be remem-

bered for her love of family, her strong will and love of Wrangell and Whale Pass.

She was preceded in death by her husband Jerry, mother and father. She is survived by her daughters, Deann (Kenny) Torsak of Provo, UT, Jaclyn (Spencer) Campbell of Bonners Ferry, ID; Her in-laws Doyle and Delores Sarff of Wrangell, AK; Brothers Stanley (Bev) Churchill of Starkville, MS, Randy (Carol) Churchill of Wrangell, AK, Chuck (Juliet) Churchill of Tok, AK, Vincent Tomlinson of Juneau, AK, Bart Churchill of Wrangell, AK and sister Meg (Jeff) Martin of Juneau, AK. Grandchildren – Jathan, Brayten, Handen, and Judy Torsak, Charlie Canida, Joey Sarff and Hunter Campbell. Numerous cousins, nephews and nieces.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking that you donate to a Go-fundme that has been set up to help cover Amy's final expenses.

Death Notice

Longtime Wrangell resident Harry S. Sundberg, 95, died September 16, 1917 in Bellingham, Washington. A full obituary and memorial plans will be published at a later date.



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Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

WRANGELL SEN IN

ESTABLISHED NOVEMBER 20, 1902 Published Weekly By: Pilot Publishing, Inc. 207 North Nordic Dr., PO Box 930 • Petersburg, Alaska 99833 Phone 907-772-9393 • Fax 907-772-4871

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

Sentinel Staff:

Co Publishers Ron & Anne Loesch
Reporters...... Dan Rudy
...... Ben Muir
Front Office Adrienne McLaughlin
Production Ola Richards

Subscription Rates

The Wrangell Sentinel (USPS - 626480) is published every Thursday. Periodicals mail postage paid at Wrangell, Alaska 99929. Offices at 205 Front St., Wrangell, Alaska 99929; phone 907-874-2301; Fax 907-874-2303; email wrgsent@gmail.com; website: www.wrangellsentinel.com

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State cuts and poor harvests hampering SE economy

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

With Southeast Conference wrapping up in Haines this morning, municipalities, businesses and individuals from around the region should have a better idea of how the economy is faring.

Each year, SEC's Southeast Alaska By the Numbers report looks at the preceding year's demographic and labor statistics, noting trends and making fore-





casts where possible. Released just this week, the report for 2016 indicated it had been a tough year for the region, economically speaking. For the first time since 2007 jobs and earnings were both down from the previous year. The labor force declined by 434 net jobs, bringing the total number of positions to 45,260 regionally.

State government jobs bore the brunt of losses, with 565 reductions - roughly 10 percent bringing employment in that sector down to 4,940 jobs. The losses are part of a continuing trend as Alaska's budget continues to run multibillion-dollar deficits, with cuts to agencies across the board taking their toll on staffing as well as operations. As the report notes, the public sector is a critical part of the region's economy, with state positions garnering 14 percent of Southeast's wages.

Directly related to state spending cuts are declines within the construction industry, with fewer capital projects being undertaken over the past four years. Capital spending by the state in Southeast has dropped by about 88 percent since the 2013 fiscal year, from \$385 million to \$47 million this most recent fiscal year. Accordingly, construction employment has declined for three years in a row, with a loss of 90 jobs in 2016 bringing the sector's workforce to 2,030. A further 50 jobs are expected to be lost this year.

The economy has seen problems in another important sector.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Harborlight Assembly of God Sunday Worship, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.,

Sunday School 9:45 a.m. 874-2244

St. Rose of Lima, Catholic Church

Sunday Masses 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

Enrichment in Faith- All are welcome, 10:00 a.m.

874-3771 or 305-0654

St. Philip's Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist 10:00 a.m., Church School 10:00 a.m.

874-3047 or 874-4480

First Presbyterian

Worship Service 11 a.m., 874-3534

The Salvation Army

874-3753

874-3976 or 3778

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Bible Baptist Church

Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.;

Saturday Worship, 11 a.m.;

Baha'i Faith

devotional meetings call 874-3521

for information

public services in our community.

Bobs'

Supermarket

The report notes that "by most measures, 2016 was the worst fishing season in the region in more than a decade." The seafood industry saw losses of 77,000,000 pounds over 2015 harvest totals equating to about 26 percent. Declining poundage was coupled with declining value, dropping 40 percent from 2013 prices. Fishing and seafood processing shed around 500 jobs regionally last year as a result, or about 12 percent. Individual earnings also had taken a tumble, dropping 18 percent from 2015 totals, by \$45 million. In all, 223 million pounds of seafood were caught in Southeast last year, worth \$221 million.

The wider maritime economy – which includes fishing but also the Coast Guard - has continued to see declines in jobs and in earnings. Most of these losses were in the seafood and marine construction sectors, due to the aforementioned harvests and capital spending cuts.

Ship building and repair has alternatively seen promising growth since 2014, with jobs increasing by 39 percent, and wages totaling \$15.2 million.

Marine tourism has also been on the rise in the same period, growing by 13 percent.

The visitor industry in general has been seeing growth, with an increase of 350 jobs last year bringing that workforce to 7,752 annual positions. Spurring this growth, the number of visitors by sea and by air has continued to climb, making Southeast Alaska the most visited region in the state. Cruise ship passengers are expected to reach record numbers this year, surpassing a high mark set in 2008. 2016 was the second record-breaking year in a row for air passengers, too, with 2017 expected to top that – some of this increase was due to Delta Airlines returning to service in Juneau last summer. Despite this growth, one drawback is the visitor industry's relative earnings compared to other industries, with its workers generally making less.

Along with the loss of jobs overall, the region's population in 2016 decreased from the previous two years by just under a percentage point, with a loss of 648 residents bringing the total to 73,812. Much of this was experienced in Juneau with the reduction of state positions leading to the loss of 300 residents. Six of the seven boroughs lost some residents, with the exception of Wrangell. It grew by two percent over that period, increasing by about 43 residents. The greatest growth was in smaller communities like Gustavus, where 116 new residents meant gains of 26 percent. Of communities with 1,000 or more residents though, Wrangell and Skagway were the only two to see some growth.

Demographically, the report notes that the region's residents have continued to age since 2010. Since the last census, those aged 60 or older grew by 4,100, while declines among teenagers and people in their 40s exacerbate the shift. On the plus side, a 0.5-percent increase in school enrollment - 90 kids was the largest increase in more than two decades.

Despite these various changes, an economic outlook survey conducted earlier this spring by Rain Coast Data, the firm which prepared the By the Numbers report, indicated a majority of business owners and managers had a positive outlook about the future. This was particularly evident when speaking about their own industry, with the exceptions of timber and construction. Those in the financial and real estate sector were the cheeriest, with 55 percent thinking things were looking up. The visitor, professional services and mining industries also had a generally optimistic view.

Besides the economic report, the other highly anticipated report expected from this week's SEC was a second phase update on the Alaska Marine Highway System, prepared by a steering committee formed last year. The committee has been charged with restructuring the state ferry system to make it more sustainable in the long term. The first phase report was presented to SEC at its mid-session summit earlier this March.

For a complete view of the economic report, a copy should soon be made available online at www.seconference.org/recentpublications.

Group to discuss transboundary mining issues

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

Three years after a major tailings dam failure in Canada's British Columbia province, an environmental advocacy group will be meeting with assemblies and residents in Southeast Alaska communities soon.

Salmon Beyond Borders is a campaign driven by a combination of fishermen, businesses in the tourism and recreational sectors, civic groups and concerned citizens. Working with tribal counterparts on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border, the group has primarily been focused on maintaining water quality along transboundary rivers. In Southeast, river systems of particular interest are the Unuk, Taku and Stikine, given their importance to salmon habitat and subsistence activities. The group's concern is with mining activities upstream of these rivers, with a number of large-scale operations in development or already active in British Columbia.

In August 2014 the rupture of a dam at the Mount Polley mine in the Cariboo area ended up releasing approximately 19 million cubic yards of tailings – a combination of water and settled solid waste from mining processes – into the nearby Cariboo River, a tributary of the Fraser River system. A local state of emergency followed the rupture, with elevated levels of selenium, arsenic, copper and other substances detected in nearby waters.

The failure heightened concerns in Alaska about the safety of large-scale Canadian mining operations, with Tlingit-Haida Central Council establishing a United Tribal Transboundary Mining Work Group to focus on the issue, and Gov. Bill Walker's administration signing a statement of cooperation with its British Columbia counterparts.

In the meantime, concerns persist as large-scale mining operations like Red Chris in the Stikine River watershed and Brucejack in the Unuk's have begun production. Salmon Beyond Borders has noted a report issued by the province's auditor general last year found compliance and enforcement mechanisms of its Ministry of Energy and Mines and Ministry of Environment to be "inadequate," and that the agreement with Alaska

The group has subsequently decided to tour communities in the region, meeting with assemblies and the wider public. It is hoping to update them on the latest developments since the Mount Polley spill, and spur municipal-level resolutions supporting increased scrutiny over mining operations near shared rivers.

"The way that it's worked in each community so far is we'll have an assembly meeting," explained Jill Weitz, with Salmon Beyond Borders. "And then we're also having public events to provide community members with updates." In Ketchikan, for example, the group met with its mayor and assembly members to propose a resolution. It then followed up with a public meeting the next day.

"We had a full house at the New York Café," she said. "In Sitka it was the same type of scenario," with around 80 residents attending. "They're still really, really interested."

Their next meeting is set for Wrangell on September 27, to be held at the Stikine Inn at 6 p.m. Following that, the group will be meeting in Petersburg at its library on October 2, at 5:30 p.m.



GOING GREEN? The Wrangell Sentinel is online! www.wrangellsentinel.com

Police Report · Links around town

Classifieds · Obituaries news content of the Sentinel is now provided online!

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September 12th & September 15th



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

A similar concept to "Hot Potato," players take turns playing a high stakes game of "Pie Face!" Points are earned for every crank of the handle they take without getting splatted. Jayden Weatherman has a laugh as Jeff Jabusch takes some whipped topping to the face.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Alexis Easterly learns about the island's timber industry.



SUBMITTED PHOT

Landen Gillen observes a cannon at a display on Fort Stikine, inside the Wrangell Museum.



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Bobbie and Bob Robbins help Akenna Lewis, Delilah Roane and Sawyer Larrabee learn about bones. In particular, the students tried to classify animals' eating habits based on what their teeth look like.



In a quieter part of the school, Mariah Mork and Peter Houser get read to during Grandparents' Day.

PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

The oceans are being viewed as the last economic frontier

A growing cluster of entrepreneurs is seeding prospects for Alaska's new "blue economy" and it is attracting interest from around the world.

Marine technology experts are meeting at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage this week as part of the Oceans '17 conference and the conversations and a competition will continue into October.

It's a first visit to Alaska for the global event that is hosted by the Marine Technology Society and the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. Founded in 1884 by the likes of Thomas Edison and Alexander Graham Bell, the IEEE declares itself as "the world's largest technical professional organization for the advancement of technology for the benefit of humanity."

The theme of the free Sept. 18-21 conference is "Our Harsh and Fragile Ocean" and it will focus on how modern technology and traditional knowledge can combine to tackle such issues as climate change, increased Arctic vessel traffic, energy extraction and the new blue economy.

"Globally, the oceans are being viewed as the last economic frontier. There is huge potential to develop the oceans in a socially, environmentally and economically sustainable way and our hope is that Alaska becomes a leader in this blue economy," said Joel Cladouhos, director of Alaska's Ocean Cluster Initiative, a collaboration of the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association, the College of Fisheries and Oceans Science at UAF and the Global Entrepreneurs Institute at UAA.

(The cluster holds Ocean Tuesday video talks at UAA that include multiple Alaska communities and countries.)

Ocean Clusters are modeled

after a concept that began in Iceland in the 1970s that create an "economic ecosystem" to connect "startup" people with a common goal.

"We're all familiar with marine ecosystems, but an economic ecosystem involves innovators and entrepreneurs and educators to create a foundation to grow businesses, innovate new products and grow from the bottom up," Cladouhos explained.

"Blue growth" is defined as the application and commercialization of new technologies and innovation to fisheries and marine science and engineering. It is said to be the one of the fastest growing global sectors and is expected to triple in value to \$3 trillion by 2030 (measured as marine based industrial contribution to economic output and employment).

For Alaska, the blue economy includes traditional sectors such as fisheries, oil and gas, mariculture, coastal tourism and transportation, as well as new arenas such as robotics, biofuels, undersea drones, renewable energy and marine biotechnology.

The ocean visionaries project such blue ventures for Alaska would boost the state's economy by 50,000 jobs and \$3 billion in wages by 2040.

"Alaska holds over half the nation's coastline and a third of the U.S. exclusive economic zone. There is huge potential to develop our oceans in a socially, environmentally and economically sustainable way," Cladouhos said. "It's time for Alaska to get on board with the blue economy because it has the potential to be bigger than oil and gas if we have the appropriate long-term strategy."

A conference presentation on growing Alaska's blue economy is set for September 21 from 1:30- 3pm and will be streamed via Zoom video.

Following Oceans '17, a first ever Ocean Technology Innovation Sprint (OTIS) will kick off on October 7. OTIS is based on the Google Ventures Sprint process that engages interdisciplinary teams to create prototype solutions to problems over five days within a three-week period.

"The Sprint process works very well and is used by many corporations. It has not been tried anywhere else in the world and is an Alaska innovation, very cutting edge," said Nigel Sharp, Global Entrepreneur in Residence at the Business Enterprise Institute at UAA.

Applicants can apply to be in a pool of 30 Alaskans to make up teams that will "go through an "iteration of a product cycle" in one of nine blue growth areas. Top prize is a trip to BlueTech Week in San Diego.

"No experience needed. Just a passion and willingness to share ideas" is the OTIS logo.

"Hopefully it will start a movement that allows Alaska to get a foothold into the global ocean economy and show we are a base for innovation and ideas," Sharp said.

Alaskans can apply to the Sprint at www.otis.blue through September 26.

Fish fine print - Every year vessel owners must renew documentation with the US Coast Guard with the boat's name, ownership, tonnage, home port and other basic criteria. It costs \$26 – unless you get scammed

by a private provider that charges three times as much.

Fishing groups are warning that is the case with an online company called U.S. Vessel Documentation.

Fisherman Norm Hughes of Haines received a letter saying he needed to renew his documentation at a website called uscgdocumentation.us. and he paid \$150 for a two year renewal. Then he learned it was a legal scam.

The outfit is sending misleading letters to boat owners across the country, said Steve Ramp, a Coast Guard spokesman in Sitka.

"This company is making themselves look very close to an official letter from the Coast Guard when they're not," Ramp

They are not doing anything illegal. They are offering a service to the owners of documented vessels and they are performing that service."

US Vessel Documentation spokesman Zachary Johnson called any mix ups 'regrettable."

"We don't have the same logos. We have a completely unique and trademarked logo. We aren't on a government URL or anything like that," he told KHNS in Haines.

Johnson said a disclaimer in

small print at the bottom of the company website states that it is a private service, and it also is specified in the terms customers agree to when renewing their registration. He would not say why the company charges three times as much as the Coast Guard or reveal the number of complaints they've received.

They extend to recreational fishermen.

"We are actively trying to get the company to change its policies to make it more transparent. These third party companies are permitted to do this but the issue we have is they tend to look like they are official Coast Guard website and letters," said Charles Fort, director of consumer protection at the U.S. Boat Owners Association.

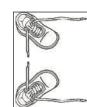
Bay watch -The total sockeye salmon harvest at Bristol Bay topped 37 million, the third largest catch in 40 years. Sockeye prices averaged \$1.02 a pound, up from \$.76 last year. That pushes the preliminary sockeye value to fishermen to \$209.8 million, compared to \$153.2 million last season.

B.P.O. ELKS #1595

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wed.

www.wrangell-elks-lodge-1595.com

Exalted Ruler Jack Pino Visiting Elks always welcome



Baby turning two?

Celebrate the milestone with a birthday ad in the Sentinel Call 874-2301 for info.



CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB BULLETIN: ACCOUNTING GENERALIST FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The City and Borough of Wrangell is recruiting for an Accounting Generalist to join the Borough's Finance Department.

The Accounting Generalist assists and supports all functions of the Finance Department, with primary duties including payroll and human resources, employee benefits administration, property taxes and assessment records, cash receipts management and reconciliation, and customer service. The position requires significantly advanced skills, efficiency and accuracy with computer aided accounting systems, Microsoft Excel, Outlook, Word, Access, Adobe Acrobat, and electronic document management and organization in general. The Accounting Generalist also acts as Recording Secretary for either the Planning & Zoning or the Port Commission, and as Deputy Borough Clerk in the Borough Clerk's absence.

This position will appeal to a candidate who thrives in a fast-paced, collaborative, team-centered work environment and enjoys solving problems autonomously and efficiently. The successful candidate will have experience that demonstrates strong office management and organizational skills to manage large volumes transactions, emails, data and physical and electronic documentation. The position also requires strong customer service skills and abilities including during times of high workflow.

Preferred education and experience include an associate's or bachelor's degree in accounting, finance, or closely related field, and four years of relevant and progressively responsible experience in accounting, budgeting, or position closely aligned with the duties, responsibilities and skills required. Additional education may substitute for some experience.

This is a full-time position with full benefits, paid hourly (overtime-eligible) at Grade 18 ranging from \$23.19 to \$29.22 per hour. Some overtime may be authorized and/or required. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs.

To be considered, submit a cover letter, résumé, and completed employment application via e-mail to clerk@wrangell.com, or in person to City Hall, 205 Brueger St., Wrangell, AK 99929. **Applications will be accepted until end of business September 29, 2017.**

The City and Borough of Wrangell is an equal opportunity employer.

Lisa Von Bargen Wrangell Borough Manager

Amber Al-Haddad Director of Public Works and Capital Projects City and Borough of Wrangell

12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Saturday 8:30 am to 11:00 am and

Publish: September 21, and 28, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2017

Solid Waste Transfer Station

<u>Announces New Hours of Operation</u>

Solid Waste Transfer Station will change. The new schedule will

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am to 11:00 am and

This change is necessary to give the facility attendants the

time needed to ensure that garbage is stowed and that the fire is

extinguished by the end of the work day. This change streamlines

the operating hours throughout the week, represents the same

five hours per day of public access, and maintains access through

the standard lunch hour. The Saturday schedule reduces the pub-

lic access by one hour. The station will remained closed on Sun-

days and Mondays. If you have any questions about the new

Sunday - Monday Closed

schedule, contact Public Works at 874-3904.

Effective October 3rd, 2017, the hours of operation at the

Publish: September 21 and 28, 2017

Mariners memorial gets 501(c)(3) status, seeking memberships

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

A steering committee for a proposed memorial is seeking out public support for the project.

A memorial dedicated to Wrangell's lost mariners has been a longstanding ambition for a number of residents. The current project took off over a decade ago, after a group of high school seniors worked on identifying a location and a design for a memorial. Their effort was prompted by the death of Ryan Miller, a local fisherman whose vessel capsized while in Clarence Strait back in 2005.

Wrangell's Port Commission became engaged in the project in 2009, and over the years and with considerable public input determined a spot at Heritage Harbor would be best and drafted a design. A final architectural plan was submitted by Corvus Design in 2015.

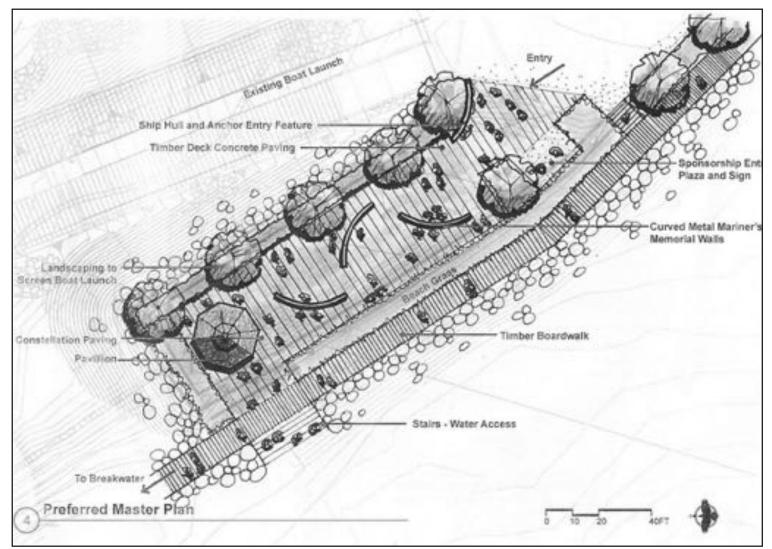
Commissioners decided to form an independent steering committee earlier this year to raise funds for the project and oversee its construction. This committee became the basis for Wrangell Mariners' Memorial Inc., which recently acquired taxexempt status as a registered public charity.

"There's five of us on the board right now," explained Brennan Eagle, who during his time on the Port Commission had been an active advocate for the memorial project. Other members include Jenn Miller, Ryan Miller's widow and the committee president; Gig Decker, a fisherman; John Yeager, an outdoor outfitter; and John Martin, a fisherman and member of the Port Commission.

The memorial's design would be based around a stone plaza, sited near the wooded area by the launch ramp at Heritage Harbor. Other sites had been considered, including beside the Nolan Center and ferry terminal, or on the lawn opposite the post office.

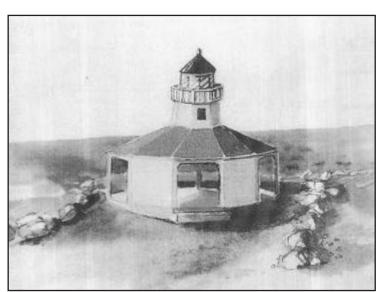
"It may not be a perfect place, but it met the criteria best," Eagle began. "You can come here and look out there, and you're connected to the water. You don't have something else in front of you."

"It's really a beautiful spot," commented Decker.



SUBMITTED ILLUSTRATION

An overhead view of the planned memorial shows the site is expandable, with room for multiple steel walls for the placement of plaques. Greenery and a seaside view will give the site a pleasant atmosphere.



SUBMITTED ILLUSTRATION

A watercolor rendering of the memorial pavilion, as envisioned by artist Brenda Schwartz-Yeager.

A pavilion evoking a lighthouse would be another feature, and a steel memorial wall would be a place to fix plaques. The wall itself curves similarly to a ship's prow, further suggesting the sea. Brass plaques along its surface will recognize and honor the memory of local mariners who have lost their lives at sea, or who have contributed to the community's local seafaring history and maritime industry.

"The actual parameters for in-

clusion have not been decided yet," Eagle explained. "The nuts and bolts of that question we've not addressed yet."

"The core focus is those who have been affected or lost at sea," Decker added.

He said a major aspect to the memorial will be local history, and he wanted to see compilation of different stories to be a facet of the project. "Part of what we want to do is create a vehicle for an ongoing education," he explained. "We are going to try to collect all the stories we can and catalogue them."

"We've had some initial conversations with the school already about involving some kids in some of the technology aspects of the digitizing, and saving things in a digital format. Whether it's pictures, whether it's audio stories, and the school's been receptive to that," said Eagle. They envision making that available online, and though it hasn't been decided as of yet, the compilation may be featured in an interactive display on-site.

The site will also be a place to enjoy, with benches and a view of the sea.

"It's two things. It helps record and remember the history. We have a rich maritime history in this town. And it's something that contributes to quality of life in this town, having something like that," Eagle explained.

"One of the things that comes to my mind is giving a sense of where we're at," said Decker. He felt the memorial and what it represents could be important to local youth, giving them that sense of place. "One of our goals is trying to develop the awareness of our maritime culture."

The engineers' estimate for the memorial was \$332,000, including contingencies. To raise that, the committee will approach various industries, individuals and other potentially interested organizations. It will also seek out grant funding, though before it can do any of that Eagle explained a demonstration of support from community members would be helpful. Individual memberships of \$50 apiece is one route to that.

"We set a goal for membership of 200," he said. "We'd like to meet that goal by the 1st of November."

"As more people get involved, too, we'll get more input," Decker added.

Through the memberships and by collecting stories and documentation, the project will continue to be shaped by community members.

Designs for the project and opportunities to contribute are available online at the memorial website, www.wrangell-marinersmemorial.com.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 3rd day of October 2017, there will be held in the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, a Regular Election for the purpose of voting on the following City Offices.

Assembly: Two – (3 Year Terms)

Port Commission: One – (3 Year Term)

School Board: One – (3 Year Term)

School Board: One – (2 Year *Unexpired* Term until 2019)

Hospital Board: Two – (4 Year Terms)

Hospital Board: One – (2 Year *Unexpired* Term until 2019)

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

Publish: August 24, 31, September 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017



Classified/Legals

BOATS AND MARINE

IFQ'S AND FISHING PER-MITS, Alaskan Quota and Per-907-772-4000. 1-888-347-4437.....tfn1-3b15

50 FOOT TROLLER, FV Lara Lee and troll permit for sale. Cummins NTA 855 350 hp, 509 twin disc reduction gear 41/2 to 1, Raytheon radar, autopilot, gps,

2 color fathometers, black box, 2 Owner retiring.....2x9-28p 2 spool power gurdies, 3 vhf radios, comnav steering, 3 high pressure sodium lights. \$40,000.00. 907 518-1407.

PROPERTY

ALASKA STATEWIDE LAND SALE: The Alaska Mental Health Trust Land Office is holding a sealed bid auction for 64 parcels located in or near Chena Hot Springs, Olnes, Ester, Lake Minchumina, Moose Pass, Nikiski, Kenai, Little Tutka Bay, Yakutat, Haines, Hollis, Juneau, Wrangell, and Petersburg. Information on the sale and the parcels can be viewed on the Trust Land Office's website at www.trustlandoffice.com or call (907) 269-8658.....6-10-26b

FOR RENT

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT UNFURNISHED, has washer dryer hook up, electric stove, refrigerator, dishwasher. Call 907-305-0619.....tfn7-13b20

FOR SALE

CAR FOR SALE 1999 TOYOTA COROLLA in Petersburg, 67,000 miles, full-set of winter tires. Regular service & oil changes over the life of vehicle. \$2,000. 772-9393 days or 518-1180 eves....tfn9-14dh

SERVICES

THE WRANGELL SENTINEL: See us for black and white and color copies up to 11x17. 205 Front St. 874-2301.....tfndh

FAX SERVICES at the Sentinel. Send or receive faxes. Fax number 874-2303.....tfndhy

CITY AND BOROUGH **OF WRANGELL**

The Canvass Board will meet on Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 12:30 p.m., in the Borough Assembly Chambers to canvass the results of the Regular Election held on October 3, 2017.

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska **Publish: September 21 & 28, 2017**

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL CITY HALL-CHANGE OF HOURS

Beginning on October 2, 2017, and continuing until further notice, the City Hall hours will modified as follows:

Monday – Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska **Publish: September 21 & 28, 2017**

Classifieds deadline is **Tuesday at** noon

Our Fax number is

907-874-2303

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB BULLETIN: ACCOUNTING GENERALIST FINANCE DEPARTMENT

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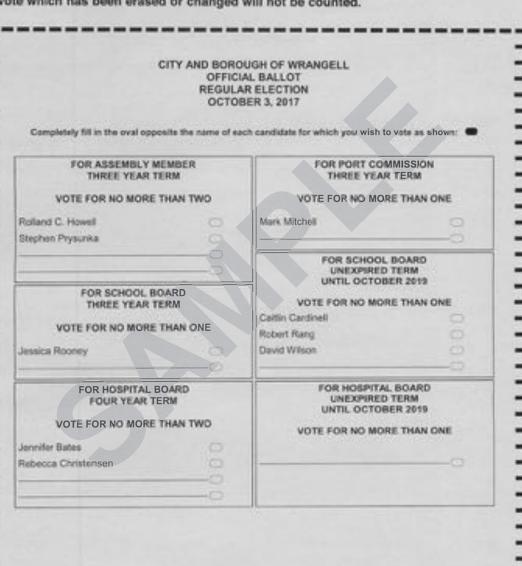
Lisa Von Bargen Wrangell Borough Manager

Publish: September 21 and 28, 2017

SAMPLE BALLOT

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER: To vote for the issue/candidate of your choice, fill in the oval next to the issue/candidate you want to vote for. Place your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve and then take your ballot to the ballot box.

If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one. A vote which has been erased or changed will not be counted.



Published: September 14, 21 and 28, 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE

For the upcoming City and Borough of Wrangell Regular Election of October 3, 2017, the following ordinance applies:

2.16.030 Write-in Candidates and Write-in Votes. Individuals who fail to file a declaration of candidacy but wish to run for office as a write-in candidate, must file with the borough clerk, a letter of intent no later than five p.m. on the Friday preceding the election (September 29, 2017) in which the candidate plans to participate.

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

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

Stickers shall not be used.

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

Publish: August 31, September 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELI SURPLUS PROPERTY FOR SALE

The City and Borough of Wrangell, is soliciting bids for the sale of various surplus property.

All surplus property is to be sold As-is, Where-is, and will be available for public review and inspection upon request, Monday through Friday beginning Wednesday, September 13, 2017.

The "list of items and bid forms" are available at City Hall, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska and online at www.wrangell.com under the Resource Center tab (Bids/RFPs and Auctions).

Bids must be enclosed in a sealed envelope marked:

"Surplus Property Sale"

The City and Borough of Wrangell does not offer any warranty or guarantee on the condition of any equipment. Some items will require a Waiver and Release of Liability.

All bids must be received on or before:

Thursday, September 28, 2017 by 2:00 p.m.

at the Office of the Borough Clerk. Payment must be received from bidder within one week of bid opening.

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

Publish: September 21 and 28, 2017

Activist recommends rafts for walruses due to declining sea ice

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) An environmental activist is calling on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to reconsider placing anchored rafts in the ocean as resting platforms for walruses after stampedes killed 64 animals on Alaska's northwest coast.

Rick Steiner, an environmental consultant and former University of Alaska marine conservation professor, pitched the idea two years ago. The Fish and Wildlife Service concluded it didn't have the money or manpower to provide artificial resting platforms that might give a

few walruses relief but not benefit the population as a whole in the absence of ice in the Chukchi Sea.

Steiner said he's again asking the agency to take the lead in a raft pilot project because sea ice continues to diminish and artificial platforms could provide alternatives to huge herds gathering on the Alaska coast.

"If it doesn't work, then it doesn't work," Steiner said Friday. "We know what doesn't work: sitting around in office looking at computer screens and having teleconferences expressing concerns about this."

Fish and Wildlife Service spokeswoman Andrea Medeiros said the raft suggestion was thoroughly reviewed in 2015 and the agency position has not changed.

Walruses dive hundreds of feet to eat clams and other mollusks on the ocean floor, but they cannot swim indefinitely. Historically, sea ice has provided a platform for female walruses and their young to rest, nurse and dive north of the Bering Strait.

In recent decades, however, sea ice has diminished due to global warming. The ice in late summer has receded far beyond the shallow continental shelf, over water more than 10,000 feet deep - too deep for walruses to reach the ocean bottom.

f it doesn't work, then it doesn't work,"

- Rick Steiner, Environmental Consultant

Instead of staying on sea ice over deep water, walruses have gathered in Russia and Alaska, with 35,000 or more animals sometimes packed shoulder to shoulder on a beach. If a herd is spooked by a polar bear, hunter, airplane or boat, calves can be crushed by mature females weighing more than a ton.

A survey Sept. 11 near the Inupiaq Eskimo village of Point Lay found 64 dead walruses.

With the amount of carbon in the Earth's atmosphere and oceans, Steiner said, the loss of sea ice will continue. He proposes a pilot project of perhaps

three rafts anchored a few miles off Point Lay and 80 miles offshore at Hanna Shoal, an important walrus feeding area.

Giant fuel barges are readily available for sale or lease that could be painted white to simulate large pan-ice floes, outfitted with artificial turf and lowered with seawater in their ballast tanks to a level where walruses could pull themselves up with their tusks, as they do with sea ice, Steiner said.

"The solution here is a little bit of biology, a little bit of naval architecture, and good old, standard tug-and-barge operation," he said.

Former Fish and Wildlife Service regional director Geoffrey Haskett said in his response to Steiner in 2015 that the agency's two major management concerns were disturbances to walruses on shore and stress placed on them by having to swim greater distances from the coast to feeding areas.

The agency and Point Lay residents have combined to discourage flights and hunters near herds that could cause stampedes. Steiner called the effort heroic but "simply not enough."

FOR ABSENTEE VOTING THAT **BEGINS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2017**

Revised Notice

DURING BUSINESS HOURS FROM 9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM

(Except that there will be no Absentee Voting available between 11:30 am and 12:30 pm) MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY

AT CITY HALL

FOR THE OCTOBER 3, 2017 REGULAR ELECTION QUALIFIED VOTERS MAY VOTE AN ABSENTEE BALLOT UNTIL 5:00 P.M., Monday, OCTOBER 2, 2017

For those voters who cannot VOTE ABSENTEE IN PER-SON, you may submit an application to have your ballot mailed or faxed to you beginning Tuesday, September 4, 2017, at 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Please stop by the Borough Clerk's Office to apply.

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

Publish: September 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2017

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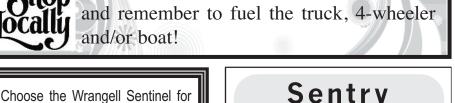


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Fall Parks & Rec programming to feature ballet

By DAN RUDY Sentinel writer

With summer finally behind it, Wrangell's Parks and Recreation Department is starting up its fall and winter youth program.

Team selection for youth basketball was on September 13, with practice to begin this week. Turnout was strong enough to have the program split into two age groups, each with two teams. Coaches have been selected to lead them, with 24 kids in the second- and third-grade group and 29 enrolled in the fourth- through sixth-grade group.

An entirely new program for Wrangell is set to start the first weekend of October. Area resident Tory Houser decided to put the class together, after her own positive experience growing up. Living in New Jersey, she had studied under Gloria York, one of the principal soloists with the National Hungarian Ballet.

"I still remember her my first year, as a six-year-old," Houser recalled. "I was cer-

tainly never a ballerina, but I very much love to dance."

It's a passion she would like share with today's youth, with Saturday-morning classes planned through the middle of December. Having once taught a similar course for Prince of Wales, Houser plans to split the group up by age, allowing four and five year old children some time for themselves in the morning, with older students practicing later.

"Just like youth basketball, or baseball, or swimming, it's an activity for kids to do, boys and girls," she added.

To cap off the program, students will then display their skills in a recital around Christmas time.

"It's a lot of fun," Houser promised.

Details on participation in the ballet program and scheduling is available at the Parks & Rec office, by the public pool.

Parks director Kate Thomas noted the pool schedule itself may see some modifications this fall. She would like it to allow for more multi-use during the day, such as leaving a lane open during general swim. She is also interested in adding some new programming, such as a week for innertube water polo.

Tot gym also got its start last week, which gives preschoolers the opportunity to enjoy some activities and socialize week-day mornings during the school year. The program has acquired some more interactive games and new equipment, such as teeter-totters.

The Borough Assembly approved new policies and procedures for Parks and Rec at its September 12 meeting. Put together by Thomas, the new policies adopt screening processes for programs' various volunteers and department staff. She explained the intention is to lessen liability risks and improve safety for parks users by reviewing the backgrounds of applicants, a process which until now has not been in place for volunteers

"We'd like to make sure that happens,"

Thomas said

Under the new guidelines, all individuals aged 16 and over involved in Parks and Recreation programming on a regular basis will be subject to a background screening consisting of a sexual offender registry search and a criminal history search. "One-off" volunteers for different events that are directly supervised by department staff are exempt from the screening requirement. For example, those participating in park cleanup would not need to undergo the screening.

With the summer over, Thomas said her department will use the coming season to prepare for next year's projects, such as the next Earth Day cleanup. This April some 60 residents helped spruce up the trails and facilities at Volunteer Park, giving it some much-needed maintenance. For 2018, Thomas suggested candidates for similar renewal will be City Park and Shoemaker Bay Park. Staff will be looking at both sites to assess where the greater need will be.

Priorities

Continued from page 1 manually.

"When the roughing filters are cleaned, that whole basin needs to be emptied of water," Von Bargen explained.

What gets wasted is around 150,000 gallons of treated water per cleaning, and one of the recommended improvements would be installation of a catch basin or tank able to store it. Further consultations this year have yielded several options for the roughing filters'.

Other improvements to be looked into would be to determine whether the media used in the four slow sand filter units are the right size and consistency. In its years of operation, the material has never been replaced as designed due to cost considerations. The latest estimates put transportation and installation for the new sand to near \$1,000,000.

Reducing the sedimentation present in the water that enters the plant would be another possibility. Water currently flows from an upper reservoir to a lower, and from there is piped to the plant. Due to that arrangement the lower reservoir has never been able to be dredged or cleared properly, limiting its volume and contributing more sediment to the water.

"There has been a plan in place to do a bypass line from the upper reservoir," Von Bargen suggested. Having direct access to water from that reservoir would on one hand allow for cleaner water when it is full, while also allowing the lower reservoir to be taken out of use for needed maintenance. Consultants Shannon & Wilson of Anchorage are already looking at design options for the bypass line.

Another possibility is to determine whether a well could be drilled, tapping into clean water from a natural aquifer. Shannon & Wilson is also investigating whether Wrangell would hydrologically be a good candidate for having an accessible aquifer.

"It's worth looking at," said Von Bargen. The cost of drilling for an aquifer could be pricey, though that would ultimately depend on a number of factors. "It depends on where it is, it depends on how deep you have to go."

To improve overall efficiency once water has left the plant, the city has several options to pursue. One would be better leak detection on water pipelines around town. Equipment for that purpose has been borrowed from Alaska Rural Water Association, though Von Bargen said Public Works will look into investing into its own equipment.

"We're going to have that advantage over the next month, I guess," she said.

Metering water on individual users would be another possibility, though the initial expense of procuring and installing the devices could be great. Already in use on large-volume commercial and industrial users, residential and smaller commercial meters could lower overall demand by making users more conscious.

These and other options will eventually be presented as a revitalization package, Von Bargen explained, with a cost assessment determining whether that direction would cost less than plant replacement, which has variously been estimated between \$8.5 million and \$13 million.

"Far more than we originally thought," she said.

The other priority the Assembly has given city staff is constructing a new facility for Wrangell Medical Center. A work session with hospital staff is being scheduled for the near future. Accountancy BDO Anchorage has prepared a financial feasibility study on financing a new hospital, which will be presented at that time.

At a WMC Board meeting in April, hospital head Robert Rang expressed confidence in the hospital's ability to repay up to \$21 million over a 30-year time frame. In that light, a new facility would likely need to be scaled down from concepts floated six years ago, which estimated a price tag of \$24 million for a new building and equipment. The new facility would still be sited next to Alaska Island Community Services' clinic on Wood

Street.

Also on Von Bargen's radar for the future, easement and right-of-way issues which have held up repaying and of Evergreen Road and pedestrian improvements are about sorted. Her hope is that the Department of Transportation will be able to begin work on the project next year, which has been delayed for several years.

Assembly members and city staff will also be scheduling a work session to discuss redevel-

opment of Wrangell's former Institute property, and whether those plans might include a residential, accelerated high school there.

Last week a letter to the Department of Environmental Conservation regarding a proposed monofill site was approved by the Assembly. Meant to store treated but lead-contaminated soil from the former Byford junkyard site, the monofill idea raised concerns with the public when it was revealed its location

would be at a state-owned rock pit near Pats Creek. Due to begin at the end of July 2017, construction of the site has since been postponed until next April. DEC felt this would give the community time to bring forward alternatives, such as finding additional funding needed to pay for the soil's removal from the island. Delivered last Wednesday, the city's letter to DEC seeks clarification on what would be needed or possible to resite or redesign the monofill.

