

Wrangell, Alaska  
March 15, 2018

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

Volume 116, Number 11

Oldest Continuously Published Newspaper in Alaska

12 Pages



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Alaska Crossings guides crowd around a crew from Air Station Sitka on March 7, during a demonstration of a Coast Guard MH-60T Jayhawk at Wrangell Airport. The purpose of the exercise was to introduce them to the station's mission in the region, as well as to provide some context for how it can help in an emergency.

## Crossings staff gearing up for 2018 programming

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Alaska Crossings is gearing up for its 2018 season, with guide training formally starting last week.

The youth-oriented behavioral health program has operated out of Wrangell since its inception, back in 2001. Originally a program of Alaska Island Community Services, Crossings is now under the Southeast Alaska Rural Health Consortium umbrella since it acquired AICS last year.

Designed to help people between the ages of 12 and 18 years, Crossings combines therapeutic interventions with outdoor and expeditionary activities, intended to foster a process of change

and personal healing.

Those involved in the program tend to have difficulties in school or at home, ranging from self-esteem issues and anxiety to substance abuse and peer group problems. Some are recovering from abuse, while others could use some direction and encouragement.

"Ultimately we're not just out in the woods. We're actually doing a very purposeful activity every moment," said Claire Ramos, Crossings' clinical supervisor.

The Crossings season officially begins on April 11, with the last group's program ending as late as mid-December. Participants in the program come from all over the state, and are often

Continued on page 11

## City goes code red as water shortage worsens

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

City Hall jumped a notch on its alert level Tuesday, declaring a Stage III water shortage watch.

The third stage is the most severe in Wrangell's water shortage management plan, adopted last year by the Borough Assembly. The city was previously on a Stage I alert due to dwindling supplies of raw water in the treatment plant's two reservoirs.

In its notice to the public, Public Works explained that Wrangell has received no considerable rainfall over the course of the past month. Precipitation has mainly been in the form of snow, which, to date, has provided no hydrological benefit to the water supply. Looking ahead, the long-range weather forecast suggests this trend to continue.

Meanwhile, the low temperatures experienced this winter are thought to have induced water customers to keep their taps running freely to prevent their lines from freezing. This combination of conditions is thought to be quickly reducing the town's raw water supply, causing in the course of three weeks reservoir levels to drop significantly.

Under Stage III emergency measures now in effect, all outdoor use of water is prohibited. Water service at Wrangell's harbor facilities and the boatyard are to be discontinued, and the public pool shut down until the situation improves. Any water customer found to have a leaky or damaged water line, water system component, or plumbing fixture will have their water service disconnected until such repairs are made.

Observed violations of Stage III restrictions are finable. First offenses receive a written warning under the measures, but for second and all subsequent violations a utility customer will see \$500 tacked on to their monthly bill. Each day in violation constitutes a separate offense, meaning the fines can stack up. For repeated observed violations, the borough may disconnect service to the premises.

Individual users are asked to reduce water usage as much as possible while the alert is in effect. Climate conditions will continue to be monitored, with water restrictions adjusted as necessary. For utility questions, Public Works can be reached at 874-3904.

## Water, soil and hospital fill Assembly's plate Tuesday

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

Three big issues weighed heavily upon the Wrangell Assembly's agenda Tuesday; impending crises with the city's water supply, its hospital's financial stability, and the state's site selection for a monofill to house treated lead-contaminated soil extracted from the former Byford junkyard.

### • Water crisis

The city entered its highest watch level for water conservation Tuesday, after learning that its two reservoirs only have about 30 or so days' worth of raw reserves. (see adjoining story) Reservoir levels have reached a low point after an unusually cold, dry winter, with little meteorological sign of improving in the coming

month.

"That leaves us with a very serious concern about our ability to maintain water levels," Wrangell manager Lisa Von Barga commented.

In its official conservation notices the city has ascribed much of the loss to residents leaving taps on during the winter. However, Von Barga gave some additional suggestions city staff will be looking into, such as possible leaks within the water main system itself. Ductile iron pipeline that makes up much of the network has historically shown a tendency to burst prematurely.

"We believe there are losses within the water system, but we don't know where it's coming from," said Von Barga. "We will be bringing in some-

body to do leak protection immediately," in an effort to locate and fix potential breakages.

Inefficiencies at the water treatment plant itself are also problematic. Public Works director Amber Al-Haddad reported around 150,000 gallons of water get lost each time its four filters need to get unclogged, which occurs with some frequency.

"We're working on an interim fix right now," Von Barga said. Currently Public Works is trying to expedite a review by the Department of Environmental Conservation changes to the plant redirecting water to its clearwell, allowing the plant to retain that water during maintenance rather than losing it.

At the Assembly's request, Al-Haddad also sought and received direction on attempting a speedier procurement schedule for replacing the plant's roughing filters. A first stage of filtration at the plant, design and usage problems have rendered it largely ineffective at treatment. Applying a more effective design has thus become a high priority for work at the plant. If normal procurement is waived, Al-Haddad expected a contractor could have the project wrapped up in time for the busy summer processing season.

Bumped from the agenda was a proposal to approve pursuit of a \$9.1 million new water plant, one which uses dissolved air flotation to filter sediment from its water during treatment. For

the past three years the city has been working with engineers to explore alternatives to its aging slow sand filtration plant. After undertaking a pilot study in 2016, the DAF plant model was found to be well suited to treating Wrangell's sedimented water supply.

However, the cost involved and the useful life of the proposed plant make the topic's pursuit a complex problem to consider, and additional information was still being arranged by staff. Given Tuesday's brimming schedule, a separate special meeting dedicated solely to addressing the city's water woes has been set for this evening at 7 p.m.

"We felt it warranted its own

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, March 15:** James Campbell, Jessica Rooney, Lucy Simonek. **Friday, March 16:** Wanda Ingram, Linnea Brooks, Ira Bob Sansom, Paula Rak, Theresa Elmer, Billy Martinez, Lilith Kailani Chenoa. *Anniversary:* Dan and Paula Wickman, Wes and Wanda Ingram. **Saturday, March 17:** Tim Hunt, Silas Mork, Benjamin Paulsen. *Anniversary:* Dennis and Charlotte Neff. **Sunday, March 18:** Jacoby Hunt, Walter Maenhout. **Monday, March 19:** Michelle Brock, Frank Warfel Jr., Presley Skye, Patsy Barton, Deborah Glass, Ryan Soeteber. *Anniversary:* Gale and Deborah Glass. **Tuesday, March 20:** Jeannie Easterly, Becky Thomas, Ariel Haunschild, Jeannie Easterly, Joe Rugo. *Anniversary:* Matt and Edna Nore, Bill and Pat Bushnell.

**Wednesday, March 21:** *Anniversary:* Vern and Nancy Cummings. **Thursday, March 22:** Rachel Stough, Rick Dailey, Linda Churchill.

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

## Senior Center Menu

### Thursday, March 15

Baked bbq salmon, rice, brussels sprouts, carrot raisin salad.

### Friday, March 16

Corned beef and cabbage, sunshine salad, pilot bread.

### Monday, March 19

oriental pork, noodle soup, ham sandwich, waldorf salad.

### Tuesday, March 20

Chicken adobo, rice, oriental veggies, honey orange salad.

### Wednesday, March 21

Baked pork with apples, rice pilaf, green bean sunshine salad.

### Thursday, March 22

Country fried steak, mashed potato with gravy, peas, Texas coleslaw.

Please call Wrangell Senior Center at 874-2066 by 10 a.m. for reservations. Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

## FERRY

### Departures

#### Northbound

**Friday, March 16**  
Kennicott 10:15 p.m.  
**Sunday, March 18**  
Columbia 2:15 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 21**  
Kennicott 1:15 a.m.  
**Saturday, March 24**  
Kennicott 5:15 a.m.

#### Southbound

**Wednesday, March 14**  
Columbia 6:00 a.m.  
**Friday, March 16**  
Kennicott 6:30 a.m.  
**Monday, March 19**  
Kennicott 8:00 a.m.  
**Wednesday, March 21**  
Columbia 5:00 a.m.

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



## TIDES March 15 - March 22

	High Tides				Low Tides			
	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Mar. 15	0:48	14.9	12:45	16.1	6:34	2.7	6:58	-0.4
Mar. 16	1:21	15.7	1:21	16.6	7:08	1.6	7:28	-0.7
Mar. 17	1:51	16.3	1:56	16.9	7:40	0.8	7:57	-0.8
Mar. 18	2:20	16.8	2:30	16.8	8:12	0.1	8:27	-0.6
Mar. 19	2:49	17.0	3:05	16.5	8:46	-0.4	8:58	-0.1
Mar. 20	3:19	17.1	3:42	15.9	9:22	-0.7	9:32	0.6
Mar. 21	3:51	17.0	4:23	15.1	10:03	-0.6	10:10	1.5
Mar. 22	4:28	16.6	5:12	14.0	10:50	-0.2	10:55	2.7

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

### Thursday, March 15

**SAIL Class:** 10:00 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Stay Active and Independent for Life (SAIL) free class is a strength, balance and fitness class for adults 65+. For more info call 874-3375.

**Healthy Eating Demo on Healthy Food Preparation:** 11:30 a.m. Senior Apartments Atrium. Free class. Learn how easy it is to prepare healthy and delicious food. Samples will be available. For more info call 874-3375.

**Yoga:** 5:30 a.m. AICS Medical Clinic. Yoga for everybody, please come and join.

### Monday, March 19

**Hatha Yoga:** 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Hosted at the AICS Medical Clinic.

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

## Continuing Events

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

#### Pool:

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

#### MEETINGS

**AA Meetings:** Smoked Fish Fri 8 p.m.; Step Study Sat. 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church Parish Hall, Study Materials provided.

**Bridge Social:** Fri. 1 p.m. at the Island of Faith Lutheran Church 874-3507.

**SALVATION ARMY FOOD BANK:** Tues 10 a.m.-2p.m. For information call Major Michael Bates 874-3753

## The Way We Were

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

**March 21, 1918:** Capt. H. B. Babbington, I. Less and E. Brennan of Vancouver Dredge and Salvage Company, arrived on the Princess Royal, Tuesday bringing with them a diving outfit. The gentlemen left today with Charles Darwell on the Marguerite for the scene of the Mariposa wreck where they will make a divers survey to determine the feasibility of raising the vessel. Capt. Babbington stated to the Sentinel reporter that whether the Mariposa will be raised will depend entirely upon the condition she is in. He stated that from all reports he had received he was inclined to believe that it can be raised. "However, we can soon tell when we get out there," he added. It was Capt. Babbington who raised the Curaco at Warmchuck in 1913, and the Northland at Kake in 1917.

**March 26, 1943:** Andrew Bakke, well known Wrangell fisherman, became the first veteran of World War II to join the American Legion in Wrangell and the second in the Territory, Home last week with his honorable discharge in his pocket after service on the East coast, "Andy" was initiated into Merlin Elmer Palmer Post of Wrangell at ceremonies in the Legion Dugout Monday night presided over by Commander Harvey C. McKowan. Andy, discharged for physical disability, is a brother of "Tink" Bakke, charter member of the local post and veteran of World War I. The affair brought virtually all the old vets left in town out to welcome him. More than 80 of Wrangell's men are now in the armed forces aside from a goodly number serving in the Army Transport and other non-military service organizations. The old boys of France days already

have picked out their corner (the one near the stove) to sit in on the meetings when the lads of World War II come home to dominate the Legion. To honor those men out doing their bit for their country, Legionnaires decided to erect a plaque in the Dugout bearing the names of all Wrangell's men in service.

**March 28, 1968:** The city, on Tuesday, bought the television equipment it seized when Alaska Television Network was closed down. The equipment went on auction on order of Superior Court Judge Tom Stewart. It was taken by the city as security for approximately \$3,000 in pole rental and sales tax owed by ATN. City Administrator Clayton Schmitt told the City Council Tuesday that only one person bid on the gear-valued at \$6,000. The bidder offered \$104,

Schmitt said. The city bought the gear for the amount outstanding from ATN. At Tuesday's meeting, councilmen voted to look into the possibility of the city operating the system. Schmitt told councilmen that General Telephone Co. had indicated interest in operating a cable system here.

**March 18, 1993:** The U.S. Forest Service reported last week that it paid out \$50 million more in 1992 than it earned from selling timber off national forests because of payments made to state and local government in lieu of property taxes. According to an Associated Press story, the Forest Service's annual report said it earned \$255 million on timber sales from 120 national forests, but was required by Congress to pay \$305.5 million to states for such things as schools and highways.

## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Mar. 05	36	21
Mar. 06	34	28
Mar. 07	37	27
Mar. 08	37	30
Mar. 09	37	33
Mar. 10	43	35
Mar. 11	48	41
Mar. 12	54	39

## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Mar. 15	7:06 am	6:49 pm	11:43h
Mar. 16	7:03 am	6:51 pm	11:48h
Mar. 17	7:01 am	6:53 pm	11:52h
Mar. 18	6:58 am	6:56 pm	11:58h
Mar. 19	6:56 am	6:58 pm	12:02h
Mar. 20	6:53 am	7:00 pm	12:07h
Mar. 21	6:50 am	7:02 pm	12:12h
Mar. 22	6:48 am	7:04 pm	12:16h

Brought to you by Alaska Airlines

TRAVEL NOW DISCOUNTS WEEKLY TRAVELERS 2 FREE CHECKED BAGS Club 49. Free. Alaskan. Join Today.

# FCC OKs KSTK license transfer



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

KSTK's coveted award for its annual chili cookoff awaits its winning chef last Saturday. Featuring 17 different recipes this year, the yearly event and its accompanying auction is one of the various fundraisers the station holds.

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The Federal Communications Commission last week approved the transfer of licenses from Wrangell Radio Group to CoastAlaska.

A nonprofit radio and television service based in Juneau, CoastAlaska provides administrative and technical support for public broadcast stations in Wrangell, Juneau, Sitka, Petersburg and Ketchikan. Citing financial difficulties, last December Wrangell Radio Group – the entity which manages local radio station KSTK – filed a petition with the FCC to allow a transfer of its four licenses as part of a larger consolidation. Pending that approval, the station's assets and management structure would also be transferred to CoastAlaska per a sales agreement the two had previously reached.

Cutbacks to Alaska Public Broadcast Commission grant

funding and changes to the fundraising benchmarks set for Corporation for Public Broadcasting funding in recent years have threatened the viability of Wrangell's radio station. Funding from both sources make up just over half of its nearly \$400,000 in annual revenue, which is about what it costs to run the station.

Part of the cuts to all agencies statewide, APBC grants have been significantly reduced since the 2015 fiscal year. The grant to Wrangell was \$80,907 last year, about \$55,000 less than what it was in 2015. To qualify for CPB grant funding a station needs to raise a proportion of its money from non-federal sources, which includes listener donations, underwriting and state-sourced funding. As APBC grants were diminishing, an increase in the level of non-federal funds the station would need to raise in order to receive its CPB funding put Wrangell's station well under that level, by about \$68,000 for the current fiscal year.

KSTK manager Cindy Sweat had explained the station last year received notice from the CPB that it had a limited grace period to make up the difference before it would lose its federal grant sources, prompting its search for other arrangements. The transfer of its four licenses to CoastAlaska would allow Wrangell's station to continue to receive both state and federal funds, using the larger network's resources to meet funding benchmarks.

With the FCC's approval received on March 8, the network's attorney is now finalizing details for the formal transfer, expected imminently. CoastAlaska executive director Mollie Kabler explained Tuesday the changes at KSTK will be slight, with the Wrangell Radio Group board transitioning into a community advisory board. While ownership and board management of the station would be transferred along with the licenses, under the arrangement KSTK will be able to continue with its local programming as before, with the same staff.

## Petersburg teens plead not guilty to deer harassment

By BEN MUIR  
Sentinel writer

PETERSBURG – Two Petersburg teens last week pleaded not guilty to charges of harassment in connection to chasing and hitting multiple deer with a pickup truck in early February.

Jasmine Ohmer, 17, and Sebastian Davis, 17, appeared before Judge William Carey in the Petersburg District Court for an arraignment hearing last week. Ohmer pleaded not guilty to harassing game. Davis pleaded not guilty to harassing game, as well as reckless driving.

According to court documents, on Feb. 5, Davis allegedly used a pickup truck to chase and hit two deer alongside the road, while Ohmer filmed it from the passenger seat. Ohmer told a wildlife trooper they hit a third deer the following day, and she was driving. Ohmer said both collisions were accidents, and they were trying to scare the deer. Davis, too,

said their intention was to scare the deer.

In a statement on Feb. 19, Ohmer apologized and sought forgiveness from the community.

An excerpt from the statement reads: "To start, I will accept the punishment of the Court as I deserve punishment for my actions. I will become more involved in the Community and will volunteer my time to helping organizations that are committed to helping people and animals in need. In spite of my recent wrongful behavior, this is who I really am."

Both charges are misdemeanors. Harassing game carries a maximum penalty of 30 days in jail, a \$25,000 fine and \$400 in restitution for each deer. The maximum penalty for reckless driving is a \$1,000 fine, one year in jail and revoked license for 30 days.

A calendar call proceeding is scheduled for May 15 at 3:30 p.m.

## Police report

### Monday, March 5

Paper service.  
Report of assault.

### Tuesday, March 6

Hit deer.  
Driving complaint.  
Citizen assist.  
Traffic stop: Verbal warning for faulty equipment.

### Wednesday, March 7

Noise complaint: Verbal warning given.  
Trespass: Person had already left upon officer arrival.  
Report of trespass.

### Thursday, March 8

Parking complaint.  
Traffic stop: Verbal warning given for driving habits.  
Civil standby: Paper service.  
Found property: Backpack.  
MVA: Deer.

### Friday, March 9

Nothing to report.

### Saturday, March 10

Agency assist: Fire.  
Citizen assist.  
Citizen assist.  
Welfare check: Everything is fine.

### Sunday, March 11

Citizen assist.  
Citation issued to Norman Canaday, 84 : Failure to provide proof of insurance. Verbal warning for expired DL and license plate.

There were three ambulance calls and two dog complaints this week.

### HARBOR LIGHT ASSEMBLY OF GOD

would like to thank the following for helping make our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Men's Game Dinner a great success...

Alaska Charters  
Alaska Waters  
Alpine Mini Mart  
Angerman's, Inc.  
Arrowhead LP Gas  
Barb Larsen  
Bill and Brody Knecht  
Bobs' IGA  
Buness Brothers  
Breakaway Adventure  
Brett Woodbury  
City Market  
City of Wrangell  
Chuck Meissner Family  
Dave Miller  
Dennis Strom  
Donna Paul/ Tim Sawyer  
Doug McCloskey  
Ducks Unlimited  
First Bank  
J & W's

John Taylor  
Johnson's Building  
Lanny Hamley  
Ken Davidson  
NAPA  
NotSoFamous Pizza  
Ottesen's True Value  
Paul Mc'Intyre  
Rick Churchill  
Ron Merritt  
Sentry Hardware  
Skookum Boat Works  
Stikine Inn  
Stikine Sportsman  
Svendsen Marine  
Terry Courson  
Todd White  
Tony Massin  
Trident Seafoods  
Wrangell Fire Dept.

AND ALL THE AWESOME VOLUNTEERS

### Douglas Roberts DBA Roberts Construction

We offer and specialize in maintenance and repairs including but not limited to:

- Building Repairs & Maintenance
- Plumbing & Mechanical
- Property improvements, hauling services, and property maintenance
- Wood Shop
- Electrical
- New construction & Repairs
- Decks, Patios, Remodels & Home Improvements
- Planning & logistical support

All trade support electrical, plumbing/mechanical and building will be completed by competent and licensed trades people. Servicing SE Alaska.



- Cell: (425)785-9283 • Email: nordic709@yahoo.com
- Mailing Address: PO Box 709 Wrangell, Alaska 99929
- Senior and military discounts • Credit cards Accepted
- References Available

# Produce business awarded \$25,000 start-up grant

By **DAN RUDY**  
Sentinel writer

An incipient Wrangell business has won the 2017 Path to Prosperity business competition, which includes a \$25,000 grant award for starting up.

Calling her business Mighty Bear Roots, resident Dixie Booker has proposed developing an aeroponic garden to cultivate and sell fresh produce. In this method plants would be grown in specialized tray towers, rooted in a soilless medium and sustained through a blend of mineral nutrients and water, and controlled lighting.

Booker said the idea for the business came to her out of a need for fresher produce. Plants begin to decompose after harvest, and lengthy travel time by barge to local markets means diminished shelf life for many greens and vegetables. Growing something closer to home would thus give consumers a little more bang for their buck by reducing spoilage.

Aeroponics would be an

ideal way to grow produce in Wrangell given its climate, she explained. Spotty sunlight and heavy rainfall can make traditional gardening difficult, with relatively brief growing seasons. Kept in a covered, enclosed space, aeroponic towers protect produce from the elements and from pests while also maximizing space.

"It just kind of stacks together. The ones I will be using will be holding 28 plants apiece. I'll start out with 12 of them," Booker said. "I bought one initially. It was like a giant science experiment to see how I liked it. I was really impressed with how the produce grew and how quickly it grew, and the quality and the flavor that came out of it. So I knew that was something I wanted to stick with."

Once acquired, these would at first be kept in a covered porch at the Booker home, though eventually the plan is to expand the operation to a 70-by-30-foot greenhouse. She would plan to make use of a ground-to-

air heating transfer unit in the design as well, controlling the interior climate for year-round growing.

"That'll probably be a couple of years down the road from now," she guessed.

In the meantime she will focus on raising lettuce and herbs, while gauging the local palate. Booker would be building up a client base and developing her business, selling produce to residents and restaurants. If things work out as planned, it would demonstrate Might Bear Roots' viability for the purpose of acquiring a loan to build the greenhouse and buy more towers.

The Path to Prosperity funds will help her along in that direction, along with skills picked up through the program's business development "boot camp" its competition finalists go through. The P2P competition is put on each year by the groups Spruce Root and the Nature Conservancy, in order to encourage the development of local, sustain-

able businesses in Southeast Alaska communities. During the fall, 12 of its picked finalists get to participate in the weekend skills training sessions.

Mighty Bear Roots was also picked as a finalist during the 2016 competition, so last year's process was Booker's second run through. Though at first not picked for an award, Booker explained the P2P training gave her the necessary tools to revise her business model and apply for the grant successfully.

"I didn't know how to write a business plan or anything when I first started, and it was very, very frustrating," she recalled. "Luckily I've had a lot of help, and a lot of people to steer me in the right direction."

She already has plans for how to use the \$25,000, not for materials or equipment but for further business support.

"We're using it for logo design and possibly packaging," Booker said.

It will also go toward more hands-on training. When completed she figures the aeroponic greenhouse will be the first of its kind in Southeast. To do it successfully though, she would like to see how other producers tend their plants and cycle their crops. "There are two different sites, there's one in Arizona and

one in Florida. And they do the commercial greenhouse using the towers that I'm going to be using here."

Of the dozen finalists in the P2P contest, two businesses are each year selected to receive up to \$25,000 apiece in startup funding. Even after the competition, the program continues to stay in touch with previous finalists and work closely with its winners, working with them to invest wisely and continue developing their business strategy. This approach is hoped to boost local commerce while also benefiting their prospective communities.

Call Ottesen's True Value Hardware for all your building & special order needs.

Featuring:  
Atrium Windows,  
Snap-Loc Roofing,  
Treated &  
Untreated Wood

Phone 874-3377  
Fax 874-3549  
e-mail: ottesenstruevalue@ak.net

**Ottesen's**  
BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A True Value

## Obituary: Ruby Ethel Taylor, 89

Ruby Ethel Taylor, 89, died on Feb. 17, 2018 in Wrangell, Alaska.

She was born on Sept. 9, 1929 to Earl and Ethel Hannaford in San Francisco, California, the month before the Great Depression. Her father was a postal worker, and her mother a nurse.

She grew up with a love of music, especially the fiddle tunes played at the old time dances that her parents and grandparents went to every weekend. After graduating from Palo Alto High, she married Frank Romerez and had her first child Francie, before the marriage ended. Struggling with some feelings that something wasn't quite right in her mind, she began a five year battle with alcoholism, drinking from morning to night and even at work.

During the four years that she dated Allen Taylor, they were invited to church by his mother one evening. There she heard the salvation message for the first time and committed her life to Christ. From that moment on, God miraculously delivered her from alcohol, cigarettes and the feeling that she was mentally unstable. When she married again, she became the mother of Taylor's two children, Allen and Audrey and soon added David and Yvonne to the blended family.

In 1968 they sold everything and left for Alaska after vacationing there.

Many years while working for the Wrangell School District, the couple would fish, hunt and dig clams during the day then would head to work. They opened a music store in their daylight basement. After retirement they operated a recording studio part time, when they weren't traveling or fishing.

She was been a member of the Alaska Pioneers, Wrangell Symphony, Assembly of God, past President of the Hospital Auxiliary and for 35 years taught Sunday School to primary age children, as



Ruby Ethel Taylor

well as helping with Vacation Bible School and Christmas Programs.

She was preceded in death by her husband Al; daughter Francie; and brother Bud.

She is survived by: children Allen (Carolyn) Taylor, Audrey (David) Durnez', David Taylor, Yvonne (Steve) Powers; grandchildren James (Judy) Taylor/Winchester, Rod Taylor, Tina (Andy) Mickle, Dan (Shelley) Powers, Leslie (Matt) Richard, Lysie Powers, Levi (Ashley) Powers, James Bass, Silvia Denae (Mike) Reeves, Barbara (Robert) Luna, Heather (Eli) Cano, Kathy Durnez; 27 great grand children; and one great great grandson.

A service will be held at Harborlight Assembly of God on March 17 at 11am with a potluck to follow downstairs.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the renovation project at Harborlight, P.O. Box 1936, Wrangell, AK 99929.

**"THE LIFE SWAP ADVENTURE"**  
The BBC Program filmed in Wrangell & Nottinggam, England

**Nolan Center,**  
**Friday, March 23rd, 6:30p-8:30p**

Join us for a red carpet event, showcasing our beautiful and friendly community in a marvelous way! Light hors d'oeuvres & refreshments provided.

**FREE ADMISSION**

**For fun, dress up like your favorite Movie Star!**

- Local B&B owner "swaps" lives with military wife & nurse from the UK.
- Featuring many local community members

I, Charles J. Petticrew, Sr. Commander of Merlin Elmer Palmer Post #6, Wrangell, Alaska, do hereby resign from my position to be effective as of March 8, 2018.

I am honored to have served as Commander of Post #6 for the last three years. In that time I am proud of the men and women that served at my side. A special thank you for my Service Officer, Mr. Harry Churchill. A thank you to Marilyn Mork, Zona Gregg and all the special ladies of our auxiliary who work so endlessly, for without them this Post would not survive.

I want to thank Anne Lutkameyer and her art students for the beautiful signs and art work that they did for our post. A special thank you to Mr. Bill Swann, principal of Wrangell High School for putting on our Veteran's Day ceremonies, and Pastor Kem Haggard who always was there for us at our yearly Veteran's dinner.

My hope is that we can reorganize and continue to be a vital part of this community.

**Respectfully,**  
**Charles J. Petticrew, Sr.**

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska



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

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

© Copyright 2018

### Subscription Rates

Single Copy.....\$1

Local.....\$42

Other Alaska.....\$57

2nd class/Lower 48 & HI.....\$67

First Class.....\$96



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Hometown proud

2013 Wrangell High School graduate Ryan Reeves was recently honored for his performance on Montana State University Northern's basketball team. Leading his school's league in blocks, rebounds and field goal percentage this year, Reeves has for the second year in a row been named to the Frontier Conference's All-Conference First Team and its Defensive Player of the Year. An article in the Havre Daily News highlighting his achievements both on and off the court was recently published at <https://goo.gl/iypTKV>.

## Future hazy for smoke-free workplace bill

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) — Alaska is among a handful of states in the West that doesn't mandate smoke-free workplaces statewide, and one powerful lawmaker is standing in the way of that changing.

State Rep. Gabrielle LeDoux chairs the House Rules Committee and decides which bills make it to the floor. She has balked at moving the bill, which overwhelmingly passed the Senate last year and enjoys widespread support in the House — half the body's 40 members have signed as co-sponsors.

But LeDoux told a news conference last month that the state should not be "cramming down the throats" of municipalities a program they may not want. A similar measure failed in 2016 after clearing the Senate, dying in a different committee that LeDoux then chaired.

Beyond the news conference, LeDoux has refused to speak to reporters about the bill. She reported receiving \$3,100 in campaign contributions from officials with the hospitality organization or affiliates in her most recent fundraising report, a small portion of the more than \$65,000 she reported raising between June 30 and Feb. 1.

Legislative rules allow for any member to ask during a floor session for a bill to be moved from a committee. No one in the House has asked to dislodge the

smoking restrictions bill.

Doing so in this case could be politically fraught: LeDoux is one of three Republicans, who along with two independents, helped Democrats take control of the House last year. LeDoux also is a leader of the coalition, which holds a narrow majority in the House.

House Majority Leader Chris Tuck, an Anchorage Democrat, said he hopes to get the bill passed "in the best way possible," in a form that's palatable to his diverse caucus. "I'm still a believer that we're going to get this bill passed through the traditional channels," he said.

LeDoux has said she's open to discussing a provision that would allow local communities to opt-out of the smoke-free program. But anti-smoking activists like the bill as it is. And the bill's primary sponsor, Senate Majority Leader Peter Micciche, told reporters he is spending "zero time" trying to get the bill to the House floor.

"If it gets there, it gets there," the Soldotna Republican said, adding that his focus is on the state budget.

Half of Alaska's population lives in communities such as Anchorage and Juneau that have adopted local smoke-free ordinances, said Emily Nenon, Alaska government relations director with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.

But some large population centers, like the Fairbanks North Star Borough and Matanuska-Susitna Borough, lack the powers to enact such an ordinance, she said.

"It's time to just get everybody covered," she said.

Twenty-five states have laws similar to what is being proposed in Alaska that prohibit smoking in restaurants, bars and non-hospitality workplaces, according to the American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation. Most states without similar laws are in the South along with six in the West, including Alaska.

The Alaska bill would bar smoking and the use of e-cigarettes on buses or in cabs, in office buildings, hotels, restaurants, bars and shops, and in buildings or homes used to provide paid child care. Outdoor smoking would be prohibited within 10 feet of a playground at a school or park when kids are around and within 10 feet of an entrance to a bar or restaurant that serves alcohol, among other locations.

The bill creates exceptions for retail tobacco or e-cigarette stores and for legally operating marijuana businesses, provided they meet certain requirements.

Pete Hanson, president and CEO Alaska CHARR, a hospitality industry association, said businesses have been going smoke-free on their own and few still allow indoor smoking.

"Everybody can find a smoke-free restaurant or bar to work in, dine in or drink in," he said in an email. "Allowing people to make their own choices seems to be getting us there anyway, without a state mandate."

Joni Ellsworth, who owns Ivory Jacks roadhouse in Fairbanks, agrees. She said she gets calls from people who would rather the place be smoke-free. "But we have a pretty large population that do want it," she said.

"So far, we're sticking to our guns," she said. Smoking is allowed on one side of the room, but there is a good ventilation system, she said. Ellsworth, a nonsmoker who also contributed to LeDoux's campaign, also said employees have not made a fuss about it.

Jenny Olendorff said the legislation is long overdue. The former smoker lost her mother-in-law to lung cancer and for years, while working as a tobacco-quit coach, gagged on smoke that wafted into her office in a Soldotna strip mall from the next door pull-tabs business.

"We all have a right to a safe work environment. Period," she said.

# All Your Printing Needs ...



# SOLVED.

When it's your business, you demand materials that look and feel professional.  
When you need printing services done right, demand our expertise.

Specializing in business printing needs:  
copying • brochures • binders • reports • signs  
displays • posters and more

**CALL**  
DURING OFFICE HOURS

**874-2301**

OR FAX Us

**874-2303**

**WRANGELL SENTINEL**



**N K ELECTRIC**

Here to serve all  
your electrical needs

**COMMERCIAL  
INDUSTRIAL  
RESIDENTIAL**

874-2770, #21633



# Forest Service taking ideas for new Tongass project

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The Forest Service held a public input session with Wrangell residents last week, as it puts together ideas for a 10- to 15-year project to benefit the Wrangell and Petersburg districts of the Tongass National Forest.

The Central Tongass Landscape Level Analysis would plan for a major project on a large scale that would increase the number of activities authorized in a single analysis and decision. It reflects a larger effort nationwide to improve the USFS environmental analysis process, and the approach is hoped to allow site-specific projects to move forward more quickly.

What makes this approach unique is its timeline, which seeks out ideas and comments from the public before the National Environmental Policy Act process even begins.

"To me it starts the process where it should be, the local community," commented Earl Stewart, forest supervisor for the Tongass.

"It's not new to the Forest Service, but it's new here," Petersburg Ranger Dave Zimmerman said of the initiative.

He will be leading this particular effort for both districts, already meeting with residents in several communities since the initiative was announced in February. A previously planned session for Wrangell last month had to be put on hold due to wintry weather-related difficulties. But the team has been able to meet once with residents of Kake and twice in Petersburg.

Coming to the Nolan Center on March 8, Zimmerman was accompanied by Wrangell Ranger Bob Dalrymple, Earl Stewart, forest supervisor for the Tongass, and an assortment of staffers.

Participants were encouraged to make the rounds to the classroom's tables, divided up by subject and featured relevant USFS specialists. The subjects encompassed recreation; wildlife and subsistence; botany, weeds and heritage; water, fish and soils; and forestry and roads. A baker's dozen of Wrangell residents stopped in to provide their input, on the subjects, with recreation receiving the most attention of the lot.

Ideas included improving landing access at Mitkof Island's Banana Point, which currently



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Wrangell residents commiserate with staff from the local and Petersburg Forest Service offices at the Nolan Center last Thursday. USFS is reaching out to residents of the two districts for input on a long-range project to undertake.

requires boats to pull ashore against a steep, stony grade. Others suggested adding trails along Pats Lake, removing abandoned vehicles from the Roosevelt Harbor and Starfish Cove parking areas, and putting additional decking around Wrangell Island lakes to allow greater shore fishing opportunity.

The interests of Wrangell residents may differ from priorities held in Petersburg and Kake, and USFS staff will need to reconcile ideas into a single project.

"We're early in the process. We're still trying to learn about this, too," noted Carey Case, the Petersburg office's interdisciplinary team leader and a NEPA specialist. "Each community is a little bit different."

However, Stewart cited a recent positive example on Prince of Wales Island, where 11 communi-

ties were able to reach a consensus for their own landscape level analysis proposal within only a three-month timeframe.

In Wrangell and Petersburg's case, Zimmerman thought the full process would take about a year and a half. USFS hopes to issue a notice of intent proposing action on the project sometime in May, which would kick off a 30-day scoping comment period. That additional input would be considered before issuing a draft environmental impact statement in December.

The CTTLA will follow the NEPA process, and its proposals have to meet the requirements of the Tongass National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan of 2016. The resultant activities would likewise need to comply with applicable laws and regulations.

Additional input is being

sought ahead of May's proposal. Ideas can be forwarded to the Petersburg office at comments-

alaska-tongass-petersburg@fs.fed.us, or by calling 772-3871.

## Bobcat of Juneau Spring Specials

**CK2510  
4X4 Tractor**  
MSRP - \$19,080.00  
**SALE - \$16,100**



**10K 18'  
Tilt Deck Trailer**  
MSRP - \$7,999.00  
**SALE - \$6,225**



**Bobcat of Juneau**

Sales • Service • Rental • Parts  
**907-523-7920**



Call me today to see how much you can save with Allstate's good student discount.

**907-874-2359**

**Veronica Maldonado**

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



Discount and insurance offered only with select company and subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company, and Allstate Indemnity Company, Northbrook, IL 60062. Allstate Insurance Company.



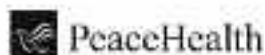
**Right Care. Right Here.**

### Women's Health Clinic

Providing complete obstetric and gynecological care for women of all ages and stages of life. Take care of your health, schedule your annual women's health exam today.

**March 26-27, Wrangell Medical Center**

Call 907-728-7688 to schedule an appointment.



peacehealth.org/outreachcalendar

*There are plenty of reasons to do your commercial banking with us*



#### PERSONAL SERVICE:

- 1 Fast turn-around
  - 2 Local knowledge
  - 3 One-stop shopping
  - 4 We're always available
  - 5 We'll help you through the loan process
- Stop in and visit!*



**FIRST BANK**

*The one who's here.*

224 Brueger St. ~ 874-3363

www.FirstBankAk.com





PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Taking a triumphant spin around town after school Monday, the girls on the Lady Wolves basketball team will be headed to the state championships in Anchorage this week. After a close 64-60 win over Craig in the Region V tournament opener last week, the girls were beaten in the championship game by an undefeated Metlakatla 45-30. Wrangell bounced back on Saturday after beating Craig in a rematch for second place.

## Girls heading to State, boys' ends after Region V



PHOTO COURTESY OF DUSTIN SAFRANEK/KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

Riley Blatchley and Trevor Miller vie with Chiefs player Desmond King for a rebound during last Friday's championship game at Region V in Ketchikan. Metlakatla won the game 46-27, and after matching up with Petersburg in a fight for second Saturday, the Wolves' season came to an end.



### FULL-SERVICE PHOTOCOPIES

#### We offer:

Full-Service for Color and Black & White. Our printers offer 600dpi high-resolution copies and prints.

#### PAPER OPTIONS:

- 20 lb
- Laser Paper
- Cardstock
- Color

#### PAPER SIZE:

- Standard 8.5x11
- Legal 8.5x14
- 11x17

#### FINISHING OPTIONS:

- Stapling
- Collating (Sets)

#### Fax Services Also Available

With the cost of pages printed by color inkjets at home approaching \$1.00 (or even more) per page, it makes "cents" to send your projects to the Wrangell Sentinel. Try our copy services today.

More complicated copying may require several days. Check with us for a quote.



P.O. Box 798 • 205 Front St. Wrangell, AK 99929  
PH: 874-2301 • FAX: 874-2303 • EMAIL: wrgsent@gmail.com

## 1/5 of Kodiak students report bringing weapon to high school

KODIAK, Alaska (AP) – Twenty percent of high school students in Kodiak reported bringing a weapon to school within the last 30 days, according to an Alaska Department of Health study.

The students' responses raised concerns during a school board meeting on Monday, the Kodiak Daily Mirror reported.

The Kodiak percentage was nearly double the statewide average of 10.2 percent.

School board chairman Robert Foy said the survey also raised concerns of marijuana use, hard drug use and a lack of parental involvement.

"Some of these things are kind of alarming," Foy said.

School safety director Ron Bryant said he questions if the survey was too broad.

"If I have a utility knife in my car, I don't consider it a weapon, but I might be answering yes to

that question," Bryant said. "And the kid may have to go work at Costco right after school."

The anonymous study conducted every two years received a 78 percent response rate.

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey was created in 1990 by the Centers for Disease Control and is administered nationwide.

Tazlina Mannix, who helps administer the study through the Alaska Department of Health, said it's administered in a controlled setting and students have no incentive to lie.

"What gives it its strength is it's an anonymous survey, and we take student privacy very seriously," Mannix said. "Students are separated from other students. Teachers are not supposed to walk around the room. The test is placed in a privacy envelope, sealed and sent back to us. There's no way to trace re-

sponses by student."

Bryant said the district would be looking closely at the matter and would make efforts to remedy it.

"We've got a lot of work to do to create a culture of safety," he said.

Bryant said that over his four years as safety director at Kodiak High School, no suspensions or expulsions have resulted from weapons possession. But he said there have been cases in which a knife was found on school property.

Superintendent Larry LeDoux said the amount of weapons being brought on campus is worrisome.

"Have there been weapons in Kodiak High School? Probably, if you look at the statistics," LeDoux said. "But they have no place in the school. If we hear even a hint of a rumor, we're going to be all over it."

## Alaska's population declines for first time in decades

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) – Alaska's population declined for the first time since the late 1980s, according to recent figures from Alaska's Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The department published the statistics for 2017 in the March edition of Alaska Economic Trends.

Figures show the state's population decreased by 8,900 last year, the fifth year in a row of net migration losses, the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner reported.

"This represents the longest streak of Alaska losing more migrants than it gains since World War II, when yearly numbers first became available," according to the report.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough's population fell by 1,216 in 2017. The borough had a natural increase of 1,118 last year. But a decrease of 2,334 in

net migration means the borough's population decreased.

Demographers do expect the borough's population to grow, thanks to the arrival of F-35s at Eielson Air Force Base, according to the report.

Within the state, 699 people left Fairbanks for Anchorage, while 475 moved the opposite direction.

Alaska's birthrate had more than offset a migration loss of 29,000 people over five years, keeping the total population growing. But last year, birth rates fell and death rates increased, tipping the scale toward a population decrease of 0.4 percent.

The prolonged net migration loss is "a sure indicator of tough economic times," according to the report.

The report can be viewed at [labor.alaska.gov/trends/mar18.pdf](http://labor.alaska.gov/trends/mar18.pdf).

# Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH  
Fisheries columnist

## Second batch of old fishing nets soon to be shipped from Dutch Harbor to Denmark to be remade into high end plastics

More big bundles of old fishing nets will soon be on their way from Dutch Harbor to Denmark to be remade into high end plastics. It will be the second batch of nets to leave Dutch for a higher cause and more Alaska fishing towns can get on board.

Last summer a community collaborative put nearly 240,000 pounds, or about 40 nets, into shipping vans that were bound for a Danish 'clean tech' company called Plastix. The company refines and pelletizes all types of plastics and resells them to makers of water bottles, cell phone cases and other items.

"It seems so unreasonable and not logical to just throw it away when we know that if handling plastics right — if sorting and homogenizing it — you can actually reuse it over and over again," said Axel Kristensen, Plastix CEO. The collaboration with Dutch Harbor is the company's first venture into the U.S., he told radio station KUCB.

It was a news story about fishing nets being turned into footwear by Adidas that spawned the Dutch Harbor/Denmark connection, said Nicole Baker, founder of [netyourproblem.com](http://netyourproblem.com) and leader of the net removal project in Dutch last summer.

As a former fishery observer for five years, Baker had seen massive piles of derelict nets at far flung Alaska ports and the story inspired her to find a solution.

"A light bulb went off in my head. I thought if this group is looking for more fishing nets to turn into shoes, I certainly know where they can get some," Baker said.

It turned out that Adidas can only use nylon nets it its footwear and fishing gear that targets cod, pollock and flounders is made of different plastics. With guidance and financial help from the Global Ghost Gear Initiative Baker connected with a taker and charted a course for Dutch Harbor.

"I went to different boats and knocked on the door and said hey, we're doing net recycling, do you have any nets to get rid of, and if you do, would you go with me to the net yard and show me which ones they are," Baker said.

From there, others in the fishing industry kicked in.

"Swan Nets bundled them and delivered them to OSI (Offshore Systems, Inc.) where they were stored. They were loaded into containers and Tri-

dent and Plastix arranged the shipping," Baker said. "They did not even require sorting. We basically bundled up the nets and put them in shipping containers and off they went."

Baker believes that fishermen have so few options for net disposal, they are becoming more receptive to recycling.

"The reason that the nets are sitting around is because it costs too much money and preparation to take them to the landfill, or they literally do not have another option," Baker said, adding that nets can weigh from 5,000 to 20,000 pounds each. At Dutch Harbor net storage costs were listed at over \$1,000 per cubic yard.

There have been many ambitious and successful marine debris and removal projects in Alaska over the past decade or more, but they come and go. Meanwhile, the old fishing nets continue to pile up.

Baker hopes to expand the Plastix project to St. Paul Island this summer, and hopefully, to Kodiak and other fishing towns.

"Each fishing port will have its own logistics plan but the general role will be the same," Baker said. "You need somebody to truck the nets around, load them, ship them. Basically, I see my role as connecting fishermen with the recyclers."

"This is a long-term vision," she added, "but I would like to set up a program that when you buy a new net you know exactly what to do with the old one."

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is now offering grants on fishing gear removal programs. Deadline to apply is April 19. Contact Nicole Baker at [netyourproblem@gmail.com](mailto:netyourproblem@gmail.com)

### Fish Watch:

Hundreds more boats will be out on the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska fishing grounds this month when halibut and herring fisheries get added to the mix. They will join a segmented patchwork of fishing fleets that have been targeting pollock, cod and other whitefish since the start of the year.

The Bering Sea snow crab fishery that got underway in mid-January is winding down, while at the same time, the first Tanner crab fishery in decades is just starting at Prince William Sound.

The year's first red king crab fishery kicked off at

Norton Sound on March 3. The winter king salmon season in Southeast closes to trollers earlier this year on March 15 to help conserve the dwindling stock. That fishery usually stays open through April.

Alaska's first herring fishery will begin in mid- to late March at Sitka Sound. The projected catch is 11,128 tons, down from 14,649 tons last year.

The Pacific halibut fishery is scheduled to open on March 24 but there's no word yet on how much fish might be caught.

Because U.S. and Canadian halibut commissioners could not agree in January on how to divide the stocks between the two countries, the catch limits and fishing regulations are being set instead at each nation's capital.

"The Canadians refused to agree to the U.S. recommendations because they don't agree with the way the coastline stock is apportioned among the management areas. They

haven't agreed with the process for a number of years," explained fishery adviser Heather McCarty. "The U.S. commissioners refused to vote for the one management area off Canada because they believed it was too high from a conservation standpoint."

The interim rule from NOAA Fisheries will hopefully be out this week with the new quotas and halibut charter management measures.

"It will be close to sending out permits for the March 24 opening," said Tom Gemmill, director of the Juneau-based Halibut Coalition.

The 2018 Pacific halibut catches are expected to decline in all regions.

**Sea a Cure:** has launched a 5K virtual race to raise money for cancer research at City of Hope. The project began as a campaign in 1999 by Orca Bay Seafoods to help "one of its own" with a cancer fight and has since grown to a full-fledged

campaign that includes all facets of the fishing industry.

The idea for a virtual race stemmed from "geographic logistics," said Lilani Estacio, marketing and communications manager for Orca Bay and a lead organizer for Sea a Cure.

"There are decision makers and leaders of Sea a Cure all over the map. We thought it would be a fun way to get people active and moving when they can and where ever they are," she said.

The 5K can be accomplished by walking, running or using ellipticals and treadmills through March 14th.

"We recommend that participants use a phone app, running app, or at the very least a timer to record your times and mileage," Estacio said.

Along with raising money for cancer and disease research, all participants are entered to win prizes and swag. Register for the Sea a Cure 5K on Facebook or at [www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com)

## CAN SUMMER VISITORS FIND YOU?

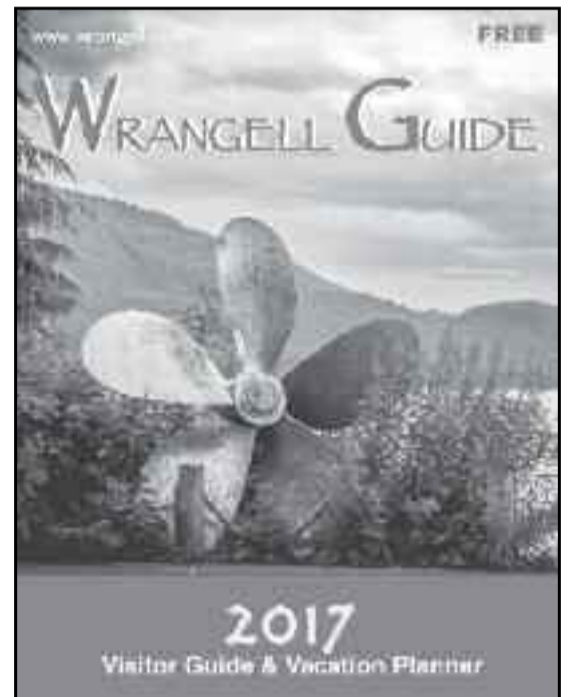
### 2018 Wrangell Guide

Glossy  
Full Color Magazine  
8,000 copies

Advertising deadline  
is March 23, 2018

Grab Their Attention!

Ask us about  
FULL COLOR AD SPACE



### FEATURES IN THE GUIDE INCLUDE:

- CHARTER OPERATOR & LODGING DIRECTORIES
- WRANGELL ISLAND ROAD & RECREATION MAP
- WRANGELL WALKING TOUR

The Guide is filled with photos, stories and information about Wrangell and the surrounding area.

It makes a great resource for tour operators, travel planners and independent travelers.



# Roads may be open to ATVs and other conveyances

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The City and Borough Assembly initiated conversation on allowing the use of motorized all-terrain vehicles and hitherto restricted vehicles to drive around more freely.

Opening up with a workshop early Tuesday evening, the draft ordinance under consideration would allow the use of quad bikes, four-wheelers, golf carts and six- and eight-wheeled vehicles on municipal roadways. Exceptions include state-managed

roads, Zimovia Highway, Bennett Street and the Airport Loop as far as the airport.

Currently the use of such vehicles is prohibited on all roads, with municipal code mirroring state conventions. There is room for greater leniency on a municipality-by-municipality basis, however, and some communities around the state already allow their use.

Describing the drafting process, Assembly member David Powell said he had spoken with a few Thorne Bay residents, where

this is the case, and relayed their satisfaction.

"They love it," he said.

Some leniency is already given to ATVs when used for plowing snow. Chief Doug McCloskey of the Wrangell Police Dept. explained that in those cases they were considered in the same vein as forklifts and other work rigs.

A half dozen members of the public sat in on discussions, offering a few suggestions and asking for some clarifications. Allowing the vehicles appeared to be a welcome suggestion by them, with

one resident saying it would be a convenience, considering limited parking space in town and comparative fuel efficiency while running errands. Residents also would be spared the cumbersome process of trailering up their vehicles to move them within town, such as to the racing track.

Assembly member Patty Gilbert said her only concern would be limited visibility to drivers of trucks and cars. In the event of a collision, she said, "the ATV is going to lose. I just saw one near-miss in all the time I've lived here."

McCloskey felt the risk was comparable to that borne by scooters or motorcycles. As with them, he thought drivers will become more accustomed to looking for ATVs and other such vehicles with time.

As currently proposed, the loosening up of restrictions on small vehicles would still come with some caveats. Operators must follow the rules of the road and have a valid driver's license in their possession. The conditions and limitations normally attached to such licenses would likewise apply to ATV use, such as requirements to wear corrective lenses, or not driving under the influence. Likewise, drivers would be required to stop when instructed to by a police officer.

Vehicles would also need to be registered with the state, bearing up-to-date decals for its snowmachine class of vehicles in a visible location. Unlike cars

and trucks, the hours of operation for such vehicles on city roads would be limited, between the hours of 6 a.m. and 8 p.m.

"The idea behind that was to keep nighttime activity to a minimum," McCloskey said. "It's not going to turn the streets into playgrounds."

Prohibited areas of operation would include school grounds, the golf course and shooting range, parks and playgrounds, recreation areas and trails. Driving on private property would not be allowed unless with the permission of the property owner.

All persons under 18 years of age operating an ATV on a roadway would be required to wear a safety helmet, as would passengers. Specialty vehicles would also need to be equipped with at least one functional headlight, taillight and brake light, used whenever the ATV is being operated. Likewise, vehicles would need to be kept in "safe mechanical condition or properly equipped." Police would be able to issue "fix it" citations to drivers found to be out of compliance, with a follow-up inspection required following repairs. Most offenses would have fines attached to them.

Following the workshop, there will still be opportunity for public input on the suggested ordinance. First and second readings at the coming assembly meetings will be needed before it can be adopted.

**MORE CHOICES  
MORE COLORS**

Now you can choose from  
A VARIETY OF COLORS  
from YOUR FAVORITE  
product styles!

TAN • BLACK • GREEN • YELLOW

We carry  
*Rite in the Rain*®

P.O. Box 798 • 205 Front Street  
Wrangell, AK 99929  
PH: 874-2301 • FAX: 874-2303  
EMAIL: wrgsent@gmail.com

WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Comics

**Amber Waves** by Dave T. Phipps

**R.F.D.** by Mike Marland

**Weekly SUDOKU**  
by Linda Threlter

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

● Moderate ●● Challenging ●●● NOO BOY!

**Just Like Cats & Dogs** by Dave T. Phipps

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

- Whatever's left
- Fix a skirt
- Ole's pal
- Sore
- "All the Things You —"
- Stylish
- Item on stage
- Moving vehicle
- Shakespeare villain
- Elvis Mississippi birthplace
- Feathery cluster
- Gave up
- Censor's sound
- Tic-tac-toe win
- Scoffer's laugh
- Libretto
- Play on words
- Mexican money
- French article
- Moonshine container
- Petruccio's Kata, e.g.
- Western capital
- Freeway access
- Attractive person
- "Zounds!"
- Mauna —
- Church section
- Scoffer's laugh
- Libretto
- Play on words
- Mischiefous tyke
- Enrages
- Keg contents
- Greek consonants
- Opening day?
- Devastation
- Historic period
- Bring up
- Bradbury genre
- Margaret —
- Bar/lot recipient in 2009
- news
- Sgt., e.g.
- Track circuit
- Verusian vessel?
- Check enhancer
- Facility
- Arab boat
- A/C measures
- Musical
- Horne
- Denounce
- Jack-o'-lantern
- Southwestern city
- Bread spread
- Pippen
- "M\*A\*S\*H" role
- Types of tides
- MacDonald's place
- Eye layer
- Not as much
- "Chicago" lyricist Fred
- "Golly!"
- Ostrich's cousin

**DOWN**

- Engrossed
- Beige
- Buy stuff
- Prepare for printing
- Verusian vessel?
- Check enhancer
- Facility
- Arab boat
- A/C measures
- Musical
- Engrossed
- Beige
- Buy stuff
- Prepare for printing
- Verusian vessel?
- Check enhancer
- Facility
- Arab boat
- A/C measures
- Musical

© 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

Puzzle answers on page 10

# Classified/ Legals

## BOATS AND MARINE

IFQ'S AND FISHING PERMITS, Alaskan Quota and Permits LLC, 907-772-4000, 1-888-347-4437.....tfn1-3b15

ALASKA SOUTHEAST HAND TROLL PERMIT, For sale and ready to transfer \$10,600 firm. Contact James Benson. 907-225-3576.....tfn2-22b17

## FOR RENT

3 BEDROOM TOWNHOUSE, 2 bath, single car garage available first week in March. No dogs. Call 907-305-0619.....tfn1-25b18

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT, for rent has washer dryer hookup, unfurnished. Call 907-305-0619.....tfn1-25b13

## JOB

WRANGELL PUBLIC SCHOOL is accepting applications for the following positions for the 2018-2019 School Year: Elementary Teacher: This is a full-time teaching position in Grades K-5. The position requires an Alaska Type A teaching certificate with appropriate endorsements in Elementary Education. For more information and a detailed job description, please contact the District Office at 907-874-2347. Position: Open until filled. It is Wrangell Public School Dis-



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

## Mean and green for Paddy's Day

Members of the Garnet Grit Betties practice their jamming at the community center gym on Sunday. At its first bout of the year, Wrangell's roller derby team will be hosting a mash-up featuring players from Petersburg's Ragnarock Rollers this Saturday, in the high school gym at 4 p.m.

trict's policy to not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex or disability.....1x3-15b82

color copies up to 11x17. 205 Front St. 874-2301.....tfnhd

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

## SERVICES

THE WRANGELL SENTINEL: See us for black and white and

### — King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

R	E	S	T	H	E	M	S	T	A	N		
A	C	H	Y	A	R	E	C	H	I	C		
P	R	O	P	V	A	N	I	A	G	O		
T	U	P	E	L	O	T	U	F	T			
			S	A	C	R	I	F	I	C	E	D
G	L	E	E	P	O	O	D	H	A	H		
T	E	X	T	P	U	N	P	E	S	O		
U	N	E	J	U	G	S	H	R	E	W		
S	A	C	R	A	M	E	N	T	O			
		R	A	M	P	E	Y	E	F	U	L	
E	G	A	O	K	E	A	N	A	V	E		
B	E	T	A	I	M	F	I	R	E	S		
B	E	E	R	N	U	S	X	M	A	S		

### — Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

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

## City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska PUBLIC NOTICE

The Borough Assembly, the Wrangell School Board, and Administration will hold a Joint Work Session in the Borough Assembly Chambers on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Wrangell School Budget & Facilities.

Although there may be a quorum of the School Board and Borough Assembly present, there will be no action taken.

The public is welcome to attend.

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

Publish: March 15, 2018

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Douglas Van Sundberg has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Harry Sten Sundberg. All persons having claims against the said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this Notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to Douglas Van Sundberg, Personal Representative, c/o Faulkner Banfield, P.C., 8420 Airport Boulevard, Suite 101, Juneau, Alaska 99801-6924, or filed with the Superior Court for the State of Alaska, First Judicial District at Wrangell, Alaska, 1WR-18-02 PR.

Published: March 8, 15 and 22, 2018

**Castle Mountain Entertainment Presents**

**The Shape of Water**

Rated R • 2 hr 3 min  
Sally Hawkins, Michael Shannon  
Adventure/Drama/Fantasy

**SHOWTIMES:**  
March 16-18  
FRI \* 7 pm  
SAT \* 7 pm  
SUN \* 7 pm

Tickets: \$5 for 12 & under, \$7 for 13 & up  
Buy movie gift certificates at the Museum gift shop  
Check out more movie info at [www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)



# WHAT IS ONE OF THE SMARTEST ADVERTISING CHOICES AVAILABLE?

# A CLASSIFIED AD

They cost as little as  
**\$10.00** for up to **15 words**.  
**40¢** for additional words.  
6% city sales tax additional.

Ask us about our classified ads!

PHONE 874-2301  
FAX 874-2303

The deadline for classified ads is 12 pm

# Crossing

Continued from page 1

referred to it either by friends or family members who have been in the program themselves, school counselors, probation officers or mentors. Ramos stressed that the program is a voluntary one, and from the start the youths are expected to take an active role.

“They are a part of the interview process. We interview them and they come up with treatment goals to be here, so they’re definitely invested in being here,” said Ramos.

Crossings staff review accepted applicants’ details and records, and assign them into cohorts of up to nine. Crossings

program manager Jerrie Dee Harvey likened the initial sorting to piecing together a puzzle, taking into account individuals’ backgrounds, ages and motivations to assemble a complementary team.

“They start together and they graduate together,” Ramos explained.

With each group of nine, three guides are assigned. Harvey noted the combination comes to 12, a practical number that logistically ensures groups can partner off for canoeing, hiking and other activities.

“We have found that, in this environment with our population of kids, it’s the best risk management,” she said.

Upon arrival, Crossings participants get physicals at the clinic and are outfitted with gear from the program’s warehouse. Nearly everything they will need is provided, depending on the activities planned and time of year.

The float house Crossings keeps anchored between Deer and Long islands acts as a home base for each incoming group. There participants receive their survival skills training and develop lesson plans for themselves.

“From there they will often start their first expedition,” said



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**Crossings guides pore over a chart of the approaches around Zarembo Island during a navigation training session held last week.**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**A flotilla of Crossings guides haul canoes from the program’s warehouse to the nearby harbor during paddle training late last week.**

Harvey.

Setting off for a week to 10 days at a time, groups go off somewhere new every morning during the program. As an experiential learning program, Ramos explained, each client works through new situations while also focusing on lessons very specific to them and their needs.

“The whole point of it is to improve our social interactions. We’re a behavioral health program. What better way to learn how to manage yourself than to be put into situations that are sometimes frustrating, and to have the support to get through it?” she said.

Clients stay on for about two months in all, during which they will get three periods of downtime to relax and reflect on the experience.

“Intermittently during this time, if they’ve chosen to, they’ll be writing letters back and forth with their parents,” Harvey added, working out some of the issues that brought them here. “It’s not just the kids that we’re servicing. We’re actually servicing the family.”

Here to help with that process, this year 46 applicants have flown in to train as Crossings guides. Staff training formally began on March 5, lasting through the 30<sup>th</sup>. After that, training will be followed up by a wilderness first responder course.

“It’s basically a month-long interview,” Ramos explained. “We do a real thorough interview before they come up, knowing that everyone we bring up we want to hire.”

Within the training curriculum, safety is by far the number-one emphasis. For all its beauty, the wilderness in Southeast poses a number of dangers guides need to be prepared for. The well-being of the youth in their charge is not merely important, but is the whole focus of the program.

“We’re preparing them to be safe, in all elements – physical safety, emotional safety. At the end of the day, that’s their number one job,” said Ramos.

Training begins with SEARHC orientation, focusing on the professional aspect of guiding. This gets followed by a day of skills testing, where prospective guides demonstrate their knowhow of setting tarps, building fires, pack management, canoeing and navigation skills. Even among newcomers to the program, would-be guides bring a wide range of experience with them, which narrows down to a Southeast Alaska setting.

The guide group has already had a two-day course on weather-based decision making led by the National Weather Service, and had a hands-on helicopter orientation at the airport with a response crew from the Coast Guard’s Air Station Sitka. The group will also this week be learning about bear safety and emergency flares, as well as becoming more familiar with the Tongass National Forest system.

There is also a clerical side to the position, with plenty of medical paperwork and field reports to know about. And of course there is homework to do every evening, making the month an extensive one.

“It’s constant training and retraining throughout the days,” said Harvey.

As the season gets underway, she was thankful for the amount of community support the program has received over the years, which includes some up-river support from local outfitters.

“We’re so appreciative of being a part of this community, the community has been amazingly hospitable,” Harvey said. “We can’t do this without how welcoming and open-armed people in this community are.”

## In 21 Years Prices have risen...

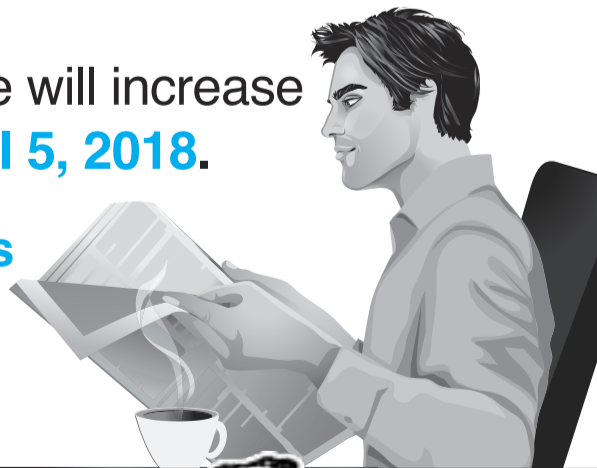
	1995	2017
Beef, chuck steak	\$2.29	\$5.49
Bath tissue - 12 roll	\$3.75	\$9.99
Paper towel - 6 rolls	\$3.98	\$10.99
Pepsi - 12pk	\$4.49	\$6.49
Motor Oil	\$0.99	\$2.99
Batteries AA/AAA - 4pk	\$2.39	\$6.99
Outdoor Ext. Cord - 50'	\$9.99	\$15.99

Airfares: WRG to JNU                      \$74                      \$207

**Wrangell Sentinel                      \$1                      \$1.50**

The newspaper price will increase to \$1.50 on **April 5, 2018.**

**Local Subscriptions** will increase to **\$46 a year**



# WRANGELL SENTINEL

P.O. Box 798 • 205 Front Street • Wrangell, AK 99929  
PH: 874-2301 • FAX: 874-2303 • EMAIL: [wrgsent@gmail.com](mailto:wrgsent@gmail.com)

# Assembly

Continued from page 1

meeting,” Von Bargaen explained.

## • Discussion with DEC and WCA on Byford monofill

The Assembly had been asked by DEC to clarify its position on a proposed monofill amid continuing delays to the project. Around 850,000 cubic yards of treated but contaminated soil awaits its final resting place after the Alaska department had removed it from the former Byford junkyard, a property the city had acquired through foreclosure in 2009. Engineers identified a rock pit on state land as a suitable place to inter the treated material, but the pit's proximity to the Pats Creek system has caused some concern among residents.

Wrangell Cooperative Association has opposed its placement there due to the creek system's importance to subsistence use. Work set to begin last summer had been put on hold by DEC until April 1 of this year, in an attempt to address those concerns. Theoretically, it would allow time to either identify an alternate site or to come up with the additional funding that would be needed to ship the material off-island.

Commissioner of the DEC Larry Hartig came down for a site visit last week, meeting with WCA officials while here. He also reportedly met with Gov. Bill Walker on Tuesday to discuss the Wrangell project.

Speaking with DEC project manager Sally Schlichting on the phone at Tuesday's Assembly meeting, Von Bargaen wanted to know whether any news from that meeting was available. Schlichting responded that it was not available at this time.

Assembly members and Von Bargaen seemed in agreement that a report regarding the outcome of that meeting would be helpful, as well as copies of a report recently prepared for WCA raising design questions of the monofill site, and DEC's response expected in two or three weeks.

Esther Ashton, WCA tribal administrator, explained her staff had secured the assistance of Kendra Zamzow, a biochemist with the Center for Science in Public Participation. She reported that Zamzow had reviewed details for the project and had some questions for the DEC to answer.

These include questions about fractures in the pit's bedrock and its high water table. Lead level thresholds in tests for leaching used on the treated soil were also questioned, as the levels were calibrated to human consumption rather than aquatic lifeforms. The potential for the leaching of phosphates used in the treatment compound itself was also identified as a potential concern, citing studies that found the element could promote algal blooms and reduce oxygen levels in nearby streams.

“The part of the project that the Tribe has been worried about and continues to have issues with is the location of the monofill,” Ashton explained. WCA's relationship to the area has been custodial, with one of its previous projects culvert improvement along Pats Creek system roads to improve subsistence access there.

“We are in the process of responding to those recommendations,” Schlichting told Ashton and the Assembly.

Assembly members ultimately decided it would be better to collect more information before weighing in on the project, though there were some concerns about the costs of continued delay.

## • Future intentions with SEARHC

Assembly members also turned their attention to the state of the Wrangell Medical Center's financial stability. CEO Robert Rang reported that while the hospital was in better stead than it has been in the recent past, its financial reserves remain in a fragile state. Excluding \$250,000 borrowed from a city reserve fund and some dedicated capital funding from the WMC Foundation, the hospital has less than half a million dollars in hand, or about enough to pay its bills for 15 or 16 days.

A catastrophe would not necessarily be far off, such as problems stemming from the Alaska Legislature's own financial problems. A stopgap bill to ensure continued Medicaid payments until a budget gets passed moved through the House just Tuesday, heading to the Senate. If it stops there or fails to pass the state could halt those payments by the month's end. Since Medicaid payments account for a significant proportion of WMC's total revenue, such an event could spell disaster for the hospital.

A municipal asset, the city would be liable for any insolvency on the part of the hospital. Given its concerns and the need for a new hospital facility, Wrangell has started exploring other management arrangements for the future. One option would be an alignment of interests in some fashion with Southeast Alaska Rural Health Consortium, which has increased its presence in the island's healthcare sector with its acquisition of Alaska Island Community Services last year.

A steering committee to answer the question of the hospital's future was assembled last week. Meanwhile, as their last act for Tuesday's meeting, Assembly members broke into a closed executive session to discuss a proposed letter of intent outlining such an arrangement. Included in the discussion were consultancy Dorsey & Witney LLP, the city's legal counsel and Von Bargaen. Final action on the letter was not available by evening press time.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Sightseeing on ice

Despite low temperatures of -25 degrees, Wrestlers on Stikine Middle School's team check out a section of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline during last weekend's attendance at the Fairbanks Tanana Invitational. The biggest of the state's middle school wrestling events, six of Wrangell's seven students placed, with Liana Carney taking first place in her bracket for the second time, and Jake Eastaugh beating his weight class' tourney favorite for third place.

## BOROUGH DECLARES STAGE III CRITICAL WATER LEVEL

Effective immediately, the City and Borough of Wrangell has declared a **Stage III - Critical** water level, and ***we need your help!*** It is estimated that there is approximately one month's worth of water supply in the reservoirs at this time.

The City and Borough of Wrangell has moved from a Stage I – Watch to a Stage III – Critical level due to the extreme low drop in our reservoirs' water levels, and all customers are required to initiate Stage III water restrictions.

In discussing climate outlooks with NOAA, predictions are for drier and colder than normal conditions through March 2018. Additionally, their 3-month outlook indicates that below-normal temperatures are more likely for the Alaska panhandle. With continued predictions for drier-than-normal weather conditions, the Stage III water restrictions have been escalated for all of Wrangell beginning March 13, 2018.

The Stage III water restrictions will be aggressively monitored and strictly enforced. It is critical that all water customers suspend all non-essential water use. Water customers are encouraged to review and become familiar with the Stage III restrictions, as outlined in the Water Shortage Management Plan (copies on-line and at City Hall).

### A few highlights of the Stage III - Critical water level include:

- All customers shall reduce water consumption to preserve the water supply.
- All outdoor use of water is prohibited.
- Any water customer found to have a leak or a damaged water line, water system component, or plumbing fixture, and not actively remedying the situation, may have water service disconnected until such repairs are made.
- The Borough will work with industrial and commercial water user to determine any necessary reductions.



All customers are encouraged to be vigilant in reducing their indoor water consumption and to check for water leaks. This will reduce the likelihood of a water outage event in the near future. Please talk to your friends and neighbors, and make sure that everyone in your household or place of business is aware of the critical nature of the water shortage and the restrictions that are in place.

City departments will be doing their part in contributing to conserving water by: repairing water main leaks as soon as discovered, accommodating customers who need their water valves shut off to make service lines or in-home plumbing repairs, shutting down non-essential harbor water use, and heavily monitoring water use at the swimming pool. Additionally, we are in pursuit of performing a system-wide leak detection survey. We are also actively working on a project to recapture the discharge of cleaning filter water at the water treatment plant to help eliminate water discharges associated with the maintenance requirements of the system.

Any person who knowingly or intentionally allows the use of water in violation of Wrangell's Water Shortage Management Plan will be issued a citation. Violations will be strictly enforced. Failure to comply with the mandatory restrictions identified under Stage III is subject to a fine; however, because we are moving directly from a Stage I to a Stage III level, we will first be providing a verbal and written warning for a violation and working with the customer to aid in necessary corrective action. A second violation for the same offense would trigger the \$500 violation fine. Each day of violation constitutes a separate offense.

Notification will be provided when conditions warrant reductions to the Stage III level. Updates will be noticed in the local newspaper and on the radio, as well as posted on the Borough's website, [www.wrangell.com](http://www.wrangell.com) and Facebook pages.

We appreciate the community of Wrangell coming together to address this water shortage in order to maintain water supply for the benefit of everyone as we work through this season of drought.

All questions or concerns should be directed to Public Works at 874-3904.

Published: March 15, 2018