

## Front Street sees opening of new businesses this spring

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

With the first cruise liner set to stop in Wrangell on April 25, returning visitors may notice a few changes along Front Street when stepping off the city dock.

Perhaps the first thing they will notice will be a facelift given to the dockside visitor shelter. Maintained by the Chamber of Commerce until its sale to the Stikine Inn last month, its new owners plan to add more rock and fresh materials to the multi-stall structure before the summer season gets underway. The renovation presages a three- to five-year expansion project the hotel is undertaking, which eventually will have the wooden shelter supplanted by permanent storefront space.

New businesses have been popping up along the business district's main drive as well. Last month Silver Liningz Boutique & Mugz n Thingz was opened up at the Churchill Building, just next door to GCI.

The shop is a first for owner Terie Loomis, recently arrived with her husband from Kenai. The idea for a storefront came during their drive down, listening to the story of HGTV "Fixer Upper" hosts and entrepreneurs Chip and Joanna Gaines.

Much like in the couple's story, Loomis said her husband had been spontaneously supportive of opening a store. "He was like 'let's just do it,'" she recounted. "He

walked downtown and saw this space for rent," which worked out perfectly for them.

"We have mainly women's apparel, anywhere from dress to casual," she said of the store. The shop also carries clothing in an "abundantly beautiful range," as well as jewelry and cosmetics. Mugz n Thingz is a secondary part of her business, selling different pieces of pottery, honey, herbal teas and spices produced in-state.

As winter turns to spring and eventually summer, Loomis' shop will transition as well. "As I get into things, I'll be able to get more of a seasonal vibe going," she said. Mugz will feature additional mugs and Alaskan products suited to visitors, and the store will feature more summertime apparel.

Just across the street next to Zak's Cafe, another storefront will be opening its doors later this month. Angie Flickinger and Mya DeLong will be opening Groundswell, a combination store, gallery and place for workshops.

Both were already running businesses out of their homes. "We both were growing out of our home space," Flickinger. "So we put our heads together and thought what if we shared a space?"

She runs Gather & Grow Botanicals, which crafts various body care items and soaps. "I focus on using locally harvested,

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PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

Angie Flickinger and Mya DeLong stand astride a display in their new storefront. Called "Groundswell," the shop will cater to each partner's botanicals and floral businesses, while also displaying a gallery of art and other locally-produced items.

## Water plant pricing lowered, easier to swallow

By DAN RUDY  
*Sentinel writer*

The city should be better prepared to meet its water needs this summer, the Borough Assembly learned last week.

City manager Jeff Jabusch brought members up to speed on where Wrangell Public Works stands with its water plant situation.

Last July the community was put into a state of high anxiety when its supply of potable water was reduced to less than half a tank, while the water treatment plant was unable to keep up with demand. A longstanding problem with the system has been its filtration method, relying on slow sand filtration. Maintenance needs exacerbated by high turbidity in the water supply had reduced outflow, and shortcomings in the system's design caused further inefficiencies.

To head off the chance of a repeat season, Jabusch explained plant workers would attempt to thoroughly clean out

the sand in the filtration system, something which has not been done since it was first installed. Initially the expectation had been that the filtration bays would only need to be agitated periodically, once or twice a year. But the system was ill-equipped to handle the sedimentation in Wrangell's water supply, and over the years each of the four bays has needed attention on a more regular basis.

Jabusch reported the city is in touch with a contractor capable of removing and running the sand through a cleaning system. "We've got prices to get some small, temporary equipment to do that," he said.

The project can start as soon as the weather warms up, and can be completed well before demand picks up in the summer. Additionally, Jabusch said he will be speaking with both of Wrangell's commercial seafood processors this month about efficiencies they have enacted since last summer. A wider outreach to the community may also be

undertaken beginning in June, advising residents on ways to reduce personal consumption.

"We're as prepared as we can possibly be when we come to the summer," he said.

Assembly members also recommended putting together a response plan, setting out appropriate courses of action once certain conditions were met. This could include ceasing sale of water to cruise ships when water reserves reached a certain level, and the institution of emergency restrictions on washing vehicles and sprinklers.

"I think one thing that was a good idea, was also having a plan," said Jabusch. He will be retiring at the month's end, and he felt it would be useful to have a response prepared for his eventual successor.

For the longer term, the city is continuing to develop alternate means of treating its water supply. In 2015 an engineering firm was contracted to conduct a pilot study. A test plant thought to be better suited to raw water

quality conditions was installed last summer, using dissolved air flotation. This uses air bubbles to draw sediment to the water's surface, which is then automatically skimmed away.

The plant worked well, but cost estimates released in January for a full-sized plant came in at more than double what was first estimated. Rather than \$6 million, the facility could run at around \$13 million, which would be prohibitive to the project.

Jabusch reported that cost has since been reduced to \$8.5 million. The biggest portion of the unexpected increase – by about \$2.5 million – had been the construction of a new building to house the facility. Included in the costs were the additional inspections, contingencies, and design costs involved in construction.

"That pretty much jumped up the building and all that goes with that," said Jabusch. Getting back to the design contractor, city staff recommended

using existing structures to house the new plant. "We're still working with the engineers."

Lowering the overall project cost improves Wrangell's chances of securing grant funding, Jabusch expected, though that would not be a guarantee. The city would be reaching out to its lobbyists and congressional delegation for support as well.

"We're kind of doing both these things at the same time," he said. "We are doing everything we can, both for the upcoming water season and the new plant."





## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, March 9:** Hudsyn Welch, Tanner Thomassen, Jerry Massin, Clayton Howe, Julie Allen, Ashley Young. **Friday, March 10:** Troy Winchester, Sumi Angerman. Ian Cambell, Rick Kohrt, Hunter McKlosky, *Anniversary:* Charles and Shari Moore. **Saturday, March 11:** Steve Powers, Jim Gillen, Michael Villarma, Ann Ruks, *Anniversary:* Bill and Sue Moore, David and Audrey Dumez. **Sunday, March 12:** Earl Kloster, Jackie Wenderoth, Mark Edgley. **Monday, March 13:** Michael Newcomb, Savannah Wickman, Craig Dillon, Kayden Mill, Byrd Marsh, Morgan Torvend, Darlene Kalkins. **Tuesday, March 14:** Woody Wilson, Alan Cummings, Caleb Morgan, Vern Phillips, Leda Klein, Alex Hammock. **Wednesday, March 15:** Jessica Rooney, Lucy Simonek. **Thursday, March 16:** Anatoly Shashkov, Billy Martinez, Linnea Brooks, Theresa Elmer, Ira Sansom, Wanda Ingram Paula Rak, *Anniversary:* Wes and Wanda Ingram, Dan and Paula Wickman.

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 9:

Chinese pork rice, oriental blend Sukiyaki salad.

### Friday, March 10:

Taco Salad, spanish rice, corn chips with salsa.

### Monday, March 13:

Split pea soup, half a cheese sandwich, apricot salad.

### Tuesday, March 14:

Chicken tahitian confetti rice, steame zucchini, cabbage and raisin slaw.

### Wednesday, March 15:

German meatballs, boiled potatom brussels sprouts, carrot raisin salad.

### Thursday, March 16:

Baked ham, sweet potatoes, pasta salad, hot roll.

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

Milk, tea and coffee will be served with meals.

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

### Thursday, March 9

**Story Time:** 10 a.m. Public Library. Join us for stories, crafts and snacks.

**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 delicious 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.

**Wrangell Chautauqua:** Local Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning. Chris Hatton.

**Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee:** 7 p.m. Fire Hall. Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee meeting agenda includes proposals on the Federal designated hunter program and Wrangell Borough shooting sports improvements. All are invited.

**Stikine Stitches:** 7 p.m. St. Philips Episcopal Parish Hall. Wrangell Quilters Club monthly meeting.

### Monday, March 13

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

**Wrangell Emblem Club Meeting #87:** 6:30 p.m. Upstairs of the Elks. Wrangell Emblem Club #87 monthly meeting.

### Tuesday, March 14

**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.

**Public Library:** Aspiring Authors Night. 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

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 Church Parish Hall, Study Materials provided. Wed. M & M 12 p.m. at the Catholic Parish Hall, use back entrance.

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

**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.

**March 5, 1917:** Andrew Stevenson and W.R. Hillery, president and vice president, respectively, of the Bank of Alaska, arrived Tuesday morning on the Princess Sophia. Mr. Stevenson is returning to Alaska from a business trip to New York, while Mr. Hillery is returning from a business

trip to cities on the Pacific coast. Messrs. Stevenson and Hillery will spend several days here getting better acquainted with the Wrangell people and local business conditions. From here they will go to Skagway where Mr. Stevenson makes his headquarters, and will be present

at the housewarming of their new bank building which is the finest business structure in Skagway. In the near future Messrs. Stevenson and Hillery will make an extended trip to the Westward, visiting another branch bank that will be established at Cordova. Both gentlemen are optimistic over the business outlook in Alaska for the coming season.

**March 6, 1942:** Plans for a fish derby, featuring fishing and contests for biggest trout caught on a fly this summer, will be completed at the next meeting of the Stikine Sportsmen's Association of Wrangell on April 6. The Association held its March meeting Monday night in the Civic Center and discussed general plans and activities for the year. Efforts are still being directed toward obtaining an indoor shooting range and the Totem shed is being considered if it becomes available. President Fred Hanford reported the sportsmen had been delegated by the Game Commission to try and capture some white geese on the flight north this spring with the aim of determining more about the birds and possibilities of them wintering in this region if adapted.

**March 10, 1967:** Construction of an airport in Wrangell on the back channel near Point Highfield is expected to start prior to July 1, Gov. Walter J. Hickel advised the chamber of commerce in a communication read at yesterday's luncheon meeting at Winnies Café. In a letter the Gov. said, "I have checked with the Department of Public Works and am advised that they plan on

advertising for or inviting construction bids for the Wrangell airport project as soon as the federal aid funds have been allocated for the job. They expect this to begin in either April or May." Commissioner Robert W. Ward of the Department of Administration advised in a letter reply to chamber query that there appeared to be no problem in getting the project committed to construction prior to July 1. Ward said the Wrangell airport project has top priority.

**March 5, 1992:** This year, Wrangell may be visited by over 8,000 fewer cruise ship tourists than last year. The loss of the Crystal Harmony and the Daphne should make a significant impact

on the tourist trade here this season. Approximately 11,000 visitors will arrive on the ships this year, a sharp decrease from the estimate of 19,000 last year. Costa Cruise Lines announced earlier this year that the Daphne was being replaced by a larger ship which would be bypassing Wrangell for marketing reasons. In addition, Fred Angerman of Wrangell Stevedoring said the Crystal Harmony will be making cruises to the Olympics in Barcelona this summer. The ship stopped in Wrangell five times last year. It was scheduled to cruise the Mediterranean last year, but it was reassigned to cruise Alaska because of the war in the Persian Gulf.

## FERRY SCHEDULE

### Departures

#### Northbound

**Saturday, March 11**  
Matanuska 6:00 a.m.  
**Sunday, March 12**  
Malaspina 6:15 p.m.  
**Tuesday, March 14**  
Matanuska 11:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, March 18**  
Matanuska 6:00 a.m.  
**Sunday, March 19**  
Malaspina 4:45 a.m.

#### Southbound

**Friday, March 10**  
Matanuska 10:30 a.m.  
**Sunday, March 13**  
Matanuska 3:45 p.m.  
**Wednesday, March 15**  
Malaspina 8:45 a.m.  
**Friday, March 17**  
Matanuska 10:30 a.m.  
**Monday, March 20**  
Matanuska 6:17 a.m.

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



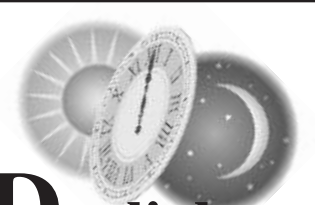
## TIDES TABLE March 9 - March 16

	High Tides		Low Tides			
	AM Time	PM Time	AM Time	PM Time	Ft	Ft
Mar. 9	10:26	11:18	4:11	5:56	3.2	0.9
Mar. 10	11:20	-----	5:11	7:56	2.0	-1.5
Mar. 11	0:02	12:07	5:56	8:28	0.9	-1.7
Mar. 12	0:42	1:49	7:36	8:58	0.2	-1.5
Mar. 13	2:18	2:28	8:12	9:28	-0.1	-0.9
Mar. 14	2:51	3:04	8:46	9:59	-0.1	-0.1
Mar. 15	3:22	3:39	9:19		0.2	0.9
Mar. 16	3:51	4:14	9:53		0.7	2.0



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
February 26	32	29
February 27	31	30
February 28	33	29
March 1	35	30
March 2	37	30
March 3	33	26
March 4	33	26
March 5	26	21



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
March 9	6:22a	5:37p	11:15h
March 10	6:19a	5:39p	11:20h
March 11	6:16a	5:41p	11:25h
March 12	6:14a	5:43p	11:29h
March 13	6:11a	5:45p	11:34h
March 14	6:09a	5:47p	11:38h
March 15	6:06a	5:47p	11:43h
March 16	6:03a	5:51p	11:48h

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# Advisory committee to propose designated hunter cap

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Advisory Committee (AC) to the Board of Game is currently working on a proposal that would tighten up the federal designated hunter program.

Meeting last Thursday, members read over a draft proposal to be submitted to the Federal Subsistence Management Program. The taking of fish and wildlife on public lands in the state for subsistence purposes is allowed under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, adopted in 1980. Hunting and fishing on these lands are managed according to regulations set by the Federal Subsistence Board. Such use is open to all Alaskans resident to rural communities, and under certain conditions one federally licensed hunter can be designated to harvest animals due another so long as no monetary recompense is made.

Currently there is no limit on the number of licensed subsistence hunters a designated hunter may stand in for, though they cannot have more than two harvest limits in possession at any one time. What Wrangell's AC would like to see would be a limit of up to five licensees per designated hunter.

"There's nothing magical about the five," explained AC member Brian Merritt, who helped draw up the draft. The proposal would simply put a cap on the scope of the program, which is designed to allow those able to hunt to provide the necessary game for community members who may not be able themselves.

Discussing the designated

hunter program's current parameters, AC members felt there was room for abuse with the way things are done.

Made up largely of active hunters and subsistence users, members of Wrangell's AC pointed out that, while an important program, currently there was potential for waste and abuse within the designated hunter system. More stringent requirements for tagging, reporting and processing could help in this area, but for the present the AC was in agreement that the proposal would be a step forward toward better management.

In discussing the draft proposal, members also noted that the program's management has had a tendency to prioritize subsistence needs over the sustainable stock of wildlife or other concerns. The Subsistence Board has previously ruled against calls to place similarly proposed restrictions on the designated hunter program.

In 2012 the board rejected a statewide proposal limiting the practice of designating a hunter to only persons 60 years or older or with a disability. The same year, the board also rejected one that would have limited the number of recipients a designated hunter may hunt deer for in Units 1B and 3. In both cases, it ruled these proposals would have been detrimental to the satisfaction of subsistence needs.

Looking over the draft, AC member Brennon Eagle liked its point, but would like to "word-smith" it further. Reducing the number of points in the proposal "might make a cleaner argument," he reasoned.

Committee chair Chris Guggenbickler agreed that pro-

posals tend to stand better weight in consideration at the board level when more narrowly focused. The AC agreed in a 14-0 vote to support the proposal, designating Scott McAuliffe and Winston Davies to assist Merritt in finalizing a draft for submission.

Through experience with its past submissions proposing changes to the moose brow tines restrictions, the Wrangell AC was also of a mind to seek support from other communities' committees, such as in Petersburg and Craig. The support of Petersburg's AC and input from other communities had led to the Board of Game's approval of the tines proposal last year, after several previous denials.

In other AC business, the group elected to support Ottie Florschutz and Davies, who will be looking into small grant opportunities to help support facilities at the public shooting range on Spur Road. They will be working with Wrangell Police Chief Doug McCloskey on a plan to support the range, which he explained has been a long-standing project for him.

"I support it in whatever way I can," said McCloskey.

In addition to general maintenance, he would like to put up a trap and skeet house in addition to the two skeet houses still there.

"It would take quite a bit of rock and fill to get that put out there," he said.

They are already looking into organizing a National Rifle

## Police report

### Monday, February 27

Report of theft.  
Parking complaint.  
Found property.  
Parking complaint.

### Tuesday, February 28

Traffic complaint/ATV on bike path.

### Wednesday, March 1

Traffic complaint.  
Traffic complaint.  
MVA/ Vehicle in ditch slid off roadway.

### Thursday, March 2

Agency Assist/Alarm.  
Citizen Assist/Vehicle unlocked.  
Found Property.

### Friday, March 3

Agency Assist/ Petersburg PD.

### Saturday, March 4

Report of Assault.

### Sunday, March 5

Report of Harassment.  
Parking in road way/vehicle has been moved.  
Found blanket.

There were five ambulance calls and one dog complaint during this week.

Association banquet later this year to help raise funds, which would be Wrangell's first. McCloskey expected a date would be set for early November, and the proceeds would likely largely cover costs for the project.

AC members also met new Alaska Wildlife Trooper David Bozman (see adjoining article).

"I'm glad you're here," Guggenbickler told him. He noted the AC had previously issued a letter back in 2015 sup-

porting the reinstatement of Wrangell's trooper post, which had been selected for reduction due to agency budget cuts.

Last week's meeting was to be the Wrangell AC's last of the year. The committee has 15 undesignated seats, with two alternates, all of whom reside in Wrangell. It meets two to four times per year, made up of Wrangell residents with interests in commercial, sport, and personal use fishing, hunting, and subsistence.

## New trooper settles into Wrangell

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Hunters, anglers and others predisposed toward outdoor activities will soon be getting to know a new face around Wrangell.

Trooper David Bozman with the Alaska Wildlife Troopers was assigned to the A Detachment post earlier last month. Originally hailing from Illinois, he had previously been assigned to the post in Soldotna.

Coming up on his third year with AWT, Bozman explained an interest in law enforcement and a love of the outdoors are what drew him to the state service.

"I wanted a challenge and I wanted to work outside. This met both," he said. At first he started as a blue-shirt with the Alaska State Troopers. "Then I moved over to Wildlife. We had the Kenai-Kasilof River, which took up a lot of our time, moose hunting in the fall, ice fishing in the winter."

Wrangell will be his first solo post, an opportunity which arose after the retirement of the community's previously assigned trooper last October.

"I've been down to Southeast a few other times, temporary



duties. Wrangell came open, and it seemed like a good opportunity at the right time," Bozman explained.

The local police department helped him locate a house and settle in, and the trooper has already begun introducing himself to resident subsistence users and sportsmen, sitting in on the Fish and Game boards Advisory Committee meeting last week.

The primary purpose of AWT is to protect the state's fish and game resources, and to ensure safe and lawful harvest by residents and visitors. "It doesn't matter which user group, if

"It doesn't matter which user group, if that's commercial fish, sport fish, subsistence, hunting, trapping – for all the user groups that need to protect the fish and wildlife, that's my main purpose.

If they're out, they can expect to see me."

-Trooper  
David Bozman

that's commercial fish, sport fish, subsistence, hunting, trapping – for all the user groups that need to protect the fish and wildlife, that's my main purpose," said Bozman. "If they're out, they can expect to see me."

Most of his training for the position has been on the job. However, Bozman left over the weekend to attend a federal boat course down in Georgia, and should return in a week.

For questions or concerns, Bozman can be contacted at his office at 874-3215.

SPRING  
BAZAAR

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# City manager testifies in school bond cut hearing

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Residents of Wrangell concerned about the state's evolving budget proposals joined those from Cordova, Nome and other rural communities in testifying on House Bill 57 over the weekend.

Proposed by the House Finance Committee as part of a package of budget cuts, HB 57 proposes cutting state payments to municipalities for school construction debt. Homer Rep. Paul Seaton (R-District 31) co-chaired the proceedings on March 4, seeking input ahead of an amendment process scheduled for Tuesday.

Wrangell is among the communities that would be affected by the cut, having four years of payments left on such bonds. It was expecting \$166,500 from

the state for Fiscal Year 2018, which starts in July. If HB 57 is adopted as is, the community would only get half that, with the rest of the expense to be picked up by the city.

The Legislature had last year issued a five-year moratorium on new school bonding projects in light of its ongoing budget deficit, but the new round of prospective cuts would target cost sharing for school facility construction already completed. Until now, the state has covered 70 percent of municipalities' bond debt in the arrangement.

Speaking for the borough, city manager Jeff Jabusch explained to House Finance the move would be a difficult one for Wrangell to adjust to.

"Wrangell, like other communities, has seen a reduction

in revenues that have come from the state over the last couple of years," he said. "The state continues to pass these burdens onto communities."

Despite Alaska's other cost-sharing reductions to the city over the past couple of years, Wrangell has so far passed balanced budgets without having to raise its property taxes.

That may soon have to change. Noting the city's current property tax rate and the state-mandated exemption of 18 percent of retired homeowners, Jabusch informed the committee: "We are limited in the ways we can raise taxes without raising taxes on a portion of our population."

The Senate Finance Committee is further mulling a five-percent decrease to the Base Student Allocation formu-

la, which could shift another \$197,000 burden onto the borough. A potential two-percent increase to its contribution to the state pensions fund could mean another \$70,000 per year to Wrangell's liabilities.

"Every one of those things is a big deal," Jabusch explained.

Continued on page 5

**Castle Mountain Entertainment Presents**

**Lego Batman**  
Rated PG • 1 hr 44 min  
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Action / Adventure / Animation

**SHOWTIMES:**  
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**FRI • 7 pm**  
**SAT • 7 pm**  
**SUN • 7 pm**

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## Discounted screenings in run-up to Health Fair

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The hospital is offering a special on laboratory tests in the run-up to its annual Health Fair next month.

Through March 24, Wrangell Medical Center is discounting a variety of screenings. These include a comprehensive health profile, which measures one's blood count, cholesterol, and other components in a coronary risk profile. Other tests are for prostate specific antigen, which can indicate prostate cancer; Hemoglobin-A1C, used for diagnosing pre-diabetes and catching the disease in its early stages; thyroid stimulating hormone; and Vitamin D.

One of the fair's new focuses will be on cancer, both with its treatment and preventative measures.

"We're going to put together a special booth having to do with cancer," explained WMC outreach coordinator Kris Reed.

Cancer-related deaths in the community over the past year have highlighted what has become the state's leading cause of death. In 2015, 962 Alaskans succumbed to various forms – a mortality rate of 152.9 per 100,000 people dying each year. On a national level, mortality related to cancer is slightly higher, but death related to heart disease remains the country's biggest killer. Reed explained colorectal cancer rates have been rising among younger people as well.

Early screenings can be administered at the hospital during normal operating hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday. After the 24th, the laboratory will have a week to prepare results, which will be distributed at the fair.

"We're encouraging people to come early because the last week is always really hectic," said Reed. Last year 452 blood draw participants together ordered more than 1,600 tests.

Two copies of each result will be given to recipients, one for their own records and an additional one for their preferred provider or design-

nated caregiver. Further copies can be obtained afterward at the hospital's front desk.

Also new at the fair this year will be the hospital's speech therapist, who will be conducting free hearing tests in the Nolan Center's small theater, just to the left inside the lobby. The area should be removed enough from the pell-mell of booths and conversations to allow for more accurate assessments.

Also new will be the consolidation of several tables, in the past run by Southeast Alaska Rural Health Consortium and Alaska Island Community Services. The two entities are currently moving forward with a merger, planned to be completed by the month's end.

Other tables will feature a variety of programs and activities, including the Wrangell Horse Club, hospital nursing activities, Wrangell Parks and Recreation volunteer maintenance project, and group exercise startup Wrangell Fitness.

Always a favorite, tykes can bring their stuffed toys to the fair's Teddy Bear Clinic, which helps introduce children to healthcare processes. It takes some of the mystery out of visits to the doctor, and so makes it a little less traumatic of an experience.

Youngsters can also compete to win one of two bicycles, purchased by the hospital for its annual raffle. To participate, an informational scavenger hunt is completed and then entered. The drawing comes toward the fair's end.

There's something in it for adults as well, with a similar hunt allowing them to enter in for a pair of round-trip tickets donated by Alaska Airlines. The coach tickets can convey travelers anywhere across the airline's system, except for Cuba.

The fair will be run inside the Nolan Center on April 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. – slightly longer hours than last year, to better accommodate the lunchtime crowd. Last year people still showed up after noon, finding fair tables already folded and being stacked away.

"We're trying to see if that will help," Reed said of the new times.

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

***The Sentinel reserves the right to edit any submissions.***

*The Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 PM for Thursday publication.*

*Letters are run on a space available basis.*

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# City manager

Continued from page 4

“Communities are going to have to raise taxes and do other things.”

Responding to his comments, Seaton asked if Jabusch had any alternatives to offer.

“I get the ups and downs the state has faced, and difficult job for those in charge of the fiscal budget,” Jabusch acknowledged. He pointed out that among the proposals being considered in Juneau this session is institution of an income tax set at 15 percent of a resident’s federal liability. Under that scenario, a reduced Permanent Fund Dividend would still be paid to Alaskans each year, and checks could be put toward the income tax liability if one desired.

Jabusch felt continuing individual PFD payments doesn’t make sense under the circumstances, particularly when having to raise taxes and also cut services. While some families do rely on the extra thousand or so dollars each year, he noted a good portion of that money goes toward federal taxes in any case, and that a number of people use the funds for nonessential purposes.

“I know this is not politically popular, and there are many other ways to support those who really need help through various social programs. But handing a check out and taking it back through state and local taxes just doesn’t make sense.”

He noted that Alaska is currently the only state in the country to have neither a sales nor income tax. Its distribution of a dividend check in such circumstances also was a novelty.

“No other state does this. And when you’re in a crisis, it makes no sense,” he explained afterward. “Certainly it’s something that the communities, if they choose to keep giving a dividend, they have no choice but to keep reducing services.”

Still, in terms of debt he pointed out that Wrangell will be in a relatively safe position. In four more payments its government-owned debt for schools will be paid off, leaving it with low-interest loans for sewer



PHOTO BY DAN RUDY

## Just rolling through

Wrangell fisherman Jared Gross reveals a clutch of eggs being carried under the abdominal flap of a female golden king crab, before returning it to the sea. Found throughout the Aleutian Islands and Alaska’s southern coastline, the species is a source of food for a wide variety of fish, octopuses, otters, other crabs, and even several new types of nemertean worms. Once the state’s top shellfish industry, due to falling numbers in Southeast Alaska, the region’s commercial red king crab fishery has been closed since 2006. Its personal use red king crab fishery continues in limited areas, and closes March 31. It reopens again July 1.

and water treatment upgrades through the federal government. The electrical utility and harbor facilities were currently debt-free.

“We’re probably in better shape than anybody,” he said.

While discussions are ongoing, the House Finance

Committee is still taking public input on the bills before it. “If they have additional testimony that they would like considered they can send that to [HouseFinance@akleg.gov](mailto:HouseFinance@akleg.gov). We will put that in our records and we will look at those details as well,” Seaton explained at the close of Saturday’s hearing.

# Walker proposing more steps to fight opioid abuse

- OBITUARIES
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**WRANGELL SENTINEL**

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PH: 874-2301 • FAX: 874-2303 • EMAIL: [wrgsent@gmail.com](mailto:wrgsent@gmail.com)

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Gov. Bill Walker on Monday proposed additional steps aimed at addressing opioid abuse in Alaska, including pain management training for medical providers and limits on initial prescriptions.

The proposal is the latest from Walker, who, in a move applauded by state legislators, last month issued a public health disaster declaration stemming from the abuse of opioids, such as heroin and prescription painkillers.

Walker’s bill, introduced Monday, would allow adult patients to decline opioids as part of a health care directive and limit to seven days initial prescriptions for outpatient use, with some exceptions.

Providers prescribing an opioid to someone younger than 18 would have to discuss with the parent or guardian the need for the prescription and risks associated with opioid use.

The bill also includes provisions for continuing education for medical providers in pain management and opioid addiction and calls for daily updates to a controlled substance prescription database. Failure by a pharmacist or practitioner to register with, review and submit information to the database as required would be grounds for disciplinary action.

The bill extends to veterinarians the requirement to register with the database and calls on a state veterinary board to develop resources to help vets identify pet owners who may be at risk of abusing opioids prescribed for an animal.

During a news conference

Monday, Walker said the bill is not a cure-all but is significant.

State health commissioner Valerie Davidson said access to treatment also is critical and cited ways Alaskans have benefited under former President Barack Obama’s signature health care law, which Congress is looking to change.

Davidson said that under expanded Medicaid in Alaska, more than \$22 million has been spent on behavioral health services, including treatment. The health care law also required insurance companies to cover behavioral health services, she said.

Walker last month directed state agencies to pursue grant funding to help combat opioid abuse.

The order included a directive that the state corrections department develop a program to provide treatment for inmates at the point of release from custody who want help fighting opioid addictions.

Corrections Commissioner Dean Williams said the department plans to begin offering shots of Vivitrol, which the U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved for preventing relapse to opioid dependence after patients have undergone detox treatments.

The intent is to then pair individuals with resources, such as a 12-step program, and other assistance, Williams said.

The effort began in halfway houses, and the department has been backing into the system further, he said.



# Girls finish regular season with a win

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

Wrangell's basketball girls brought their regular season play to an end with a win during an away weekend in Petersburg.

Both games were very closely played, with the Lady Wolves taking the lead early on in Friday's game. Coach Laurie Brown noted it as the first weekend the team was able to play together in a while without any outstanding injuries, and it showed.

"We came out strong," she said. Close but still leading at the half, Petersburg gradually

did fight back and eke out a 39-34 win over the visitors.

The Lady Vikings' homecoming weekend, their coach Dino Brock explained the atmosphere at the high school court was perfect for a tournament. "It was so loud in the gym," he said.

The excitement was shared by Wrangell during Saturday's game, in another close match.

"The girls played really strong together," Brown commented.

"They were two very competitive games," Brock agreed.

Neck and neck throughout,



PHOTO BY OLA RICHARDS

Helen Decker vies with a Petersburg offender for a rebound early on in Saturday's game.



PHOTO BY OLA RICHARDS

Wrangell junior Anna Allen searches for an opening in Petersburg's defense during Saturday's game.

Wrangell finished at the closing buzzer with a 36-30 win.

The team barely had time to celebrate, leaving Sunday for Region V by ferry. After 36 hours, the team finally arrived in Juneau Tuesday evening.

"It was an exhausting trip," said Brown. Still, her girls were focused in practice and seemed ready for the tournament.

"We're very ready."

The Lady Wolves were set to play Haines High School in its first round on Wednesday, with the winner moving on to play division leaders Metlakatla this afternoon. The winner of that match-up then heads to the

championship game to play either Craig or Petersburg.

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## Ketchikan wastewater not up to standard

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) – Regulators in Alaska have notified owners of private and government wastewater systems in Ketchikan that the systems don't meet federal water quality standards.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation delivered letters to the Ketchikan Gateway Borough and area homeowners who rely on common ocean outfall sewer systems on Feb. 17 saying that the department is establishing new state permits that tighten water quality standards, The Ketchikan Daily News reported Wednesday.

Common outfalls are used by multiple, not individual, homes and the wastewater spilling from them has already been treated. There are about 30 common outfall systems in Ketchikan and as many as 40 in Southeast Alaska as a whole.

The DEC is taking over enforcement of federal regulations from the Environmental Protection Agency. The DEC notified homeowners they will now require monthly water tests to tighten regulations on bacteria content of water entering the ocean. The new tests could cost homeowners up to \$2,000 each year for outfall systems.

If the outfall system doesn't meet the tighter standards, neighborhoods would be forced to work with the DEC to install another layer of disinfection to their systems.

Wade Strickland, DEC's wastewater program


manager, said the DEC has been taking over the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination Program from the EPA in phases. He said the possibility of adding a chemical disinfectant to common outfall systems is the biggest change.

"Some of these facilities have really high bacteria loading that's discharged into the marine waters, and we would like to work with these facilities to evaluate how best to control those bacteria discharges to make sure we're being protective of public health and the environment," he said.

The notice homeowners received was an advanced notice. The DEC will next schedule a 45-day public comment period and scheduled a public meeting in Ketchikan for the spring.

Ketchikan real estate agent Bill Elberson said the DEC is unfairly targeting Ketchikan and Southeast Alaska, where common outfall systems are common. He said the state has spent years dreaming of new restrictions instead of working with property owners to install and operate functioning wastewater systems.

"The only people that were making systems cooperate were the banks, the lending agents, and the Realtors," Elberson said. "We would test every house we sold. We would test and either get it fixed or get it replaced. DEC has not been here – they've never had anybody here."



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# Boys in close loss at homecoming opener

By DAN RUDY  
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Wolves very nearly had a win at Petersburg last week, during the Vikings' homecoming weekend.

"We played I thought a really good game the first game," explained coach Ray Stokes.

Starting the last set of regular-season games for the season, on Friday Wrangell opened up with the lead against the Vikings. The Wolves held their hosts to seven points in the first quarter, scoring

13 themselves. They maintained a lead all the way into the fourth quarter, but after a low-scoring, particularly hard-fought third quarter Petersburg was able to close the gap.

"It was still really close with 20 seconds left," said Stokes.

He noted his players lost composure toward the very end, making some errors and falling behind finally by a few points. In the end Petersburg pulled off a 42-37 victory.

Stokes was quite pleased with



PHOTO BY OLA RICHARDS

A Viking defender pushes past Dawson Miller (23) and Trent Stokes (4) for the ball during Friday's game in Petersburg.



PHOTO BY OLA RICHARDS

Riley Blatchley (12) stretches his fingers around the ball before Petersburg players Wolf Brooks (22) and Stewart Conn (13) can get to it on Friday.

Wrangell's defensive game though, controlling the tempo of play as a result. They also showed well against one of the better-ranked 2A teams in the state.

"I felt like we at least proved to ourselves we can compete with them," he commented.

On Saturday Petersburg opened up with a 12-8 lead in the first quarter, both teams just shy of doubling the score by halftime. Wrangell was nine points down by the third quarter, but then Petersburg's offense opened up in the final stretch. The Vikings won

56-36.

"I thought we played pretty good for a good portion of the game," said Stokes.

Wrangell's offense had not been quite as aggressive the second time around, he thought, in large part due to concern over fouls. The weekend was good overall though, he added.

In the junior varsity games the home team won both afternoons. Friday the JV Vikings won 47-32, while the next day Wrangell played a much closer game, losing 39-43.

In all, Stokes felt the weekend's showing portended good things for the Wolves as the team heads into Region V this week, in Juneau. Leaving almost as soon as they returned early Tuesday, Wrangell was set for an immediate rematch with the Vikings Wednesday night.

In the event of a win, the team would go on to play Friday, against either top-seeded Metlakatla or the winner of the Craig and Haines game. A double elimination tournament, in the case of a loss Wrangell could still climb its way back up to State starting Thursday. If the team plays this week with confidence, Stokes explained, it should do alright.



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# Fish Factor

by Laine Welch

Alaska crabbers are hauling back pots from the Panhandle to the Bering Sea, and reduced catches are resulting in record prices for their efforts.

The year's first red king crab fishery at Norton Sound has yielded 17,000 pounds so far of its

nearly 40,000 pound winter quota for more than 50 local fishermen. The crab, which are taken through the ice near Nome, are paying out at a record \$7.75 a pound. A summer opener will produce a combined catch of nearly half a million pounds for the region.

Red king crab from Bristol Bay also yielded the highest price ever for fishermen, averaging \$10.89 per pound. That catch quota of eight million pounds was down 15 percent from the previous season.

The Bering Sea snow crab fleet

has taken 80 percent of its 19 million pound quota, down by nearly half from last year. That's pushed market prices through the roof, topping \$8.30 a pound at wholesale in both the US and Japan, compared to over \$5.50 per pound a year ago.

Alaska produces only about 10 percent of the world's snow crab, with most of the pack by far coming from Eastern Canada, followed by Russia. On the snow crab menu front - McDonald's has begun testing a new snow crab sandwich in several San Francisco Bay locations. If it's a hit, the sandwich could advance to nearly 250 outlets this year.

Since mid-February, about 100 small boat crabbers in Southeast Alaska have been hauling pots for 105,000 pounds of golden king crab, which can reach as high as \$10 a pound at the docks. A local Tanner crab fishery just wrapped up, with a catch that will likely come in at around one million pounds.

Tanner crab is the talk of the town throughout Cordova and Prince William Sound, where later this month the state Board of Fisheries could create a harvest plan and regulations to open a fishery for the first time in 27 years. The region produced 13 million pounds of Tanners before the Exxon Valdez oil spill, but locals believe the stock is now strong enough able to support a fishery for commercial and sport users.

"It's largely the opinion of the people around here that the fishery could support an expanded harvest," said John Whissel, director of natural resources for the Native Village of Eyak. "The goal here is to get away from the boom and bust cycle, where the town doubles in size in May and then shrinks when the salmon fisheries wind down."

"There's other opportunities around here and with oil prices being what they are and the tax rate being what it is," he added. "Commercial fishing could play a larger role in the state budget if we gave them more chances to do that."

### Currency calculations

Along with supply and demand, the value of global currencies has a major influence on seafood sales in world markets. Exchange rates among competing currencies impact all Alaska seafoods because they alter the value of the products being exported to foreign markets along with competing products coming into our nation.

The U.S. dollar (USD) value increased 27 percent between 2011 and 2015, tamping down the dockside value of Alaska seafood by 17 percent. Today, the dollar index remains roughly unchanged from last year and signals by our major purchasers are mixed.

"The USD bull market has entered its sixth year and we are told to expect the USD to regain broad-based strength in 2017," reported Poundsterlinglive.com, adding that the British Pound is valued at 1.22 against the dollar. "The Euro also is still weaker

and who knows if that will continue, but it has been the trend for the last three years," said Andy Wink, senior fisheries analyst with the McDowell Group.

"One Euro was worth \$1.10 in U.S. dollars last year and now it only buys about \$1.05. So it takes more Euros to buy things denominated in dollars."

Along with frozen and canned salmon and roe, pollock fillets and surimi are some of Alaska's biggest exports to Europe.

"That's been under a lot of price pressure and the currency market is not doing us any favors," Wink said. "A lot of cod also goes to Europe so it's going to make things tougher for cod. All of those products are going to face a tougher marketing year than the previous year."

The currency outlook is more hopeful for one of Alaska's biggest customers, Japan.

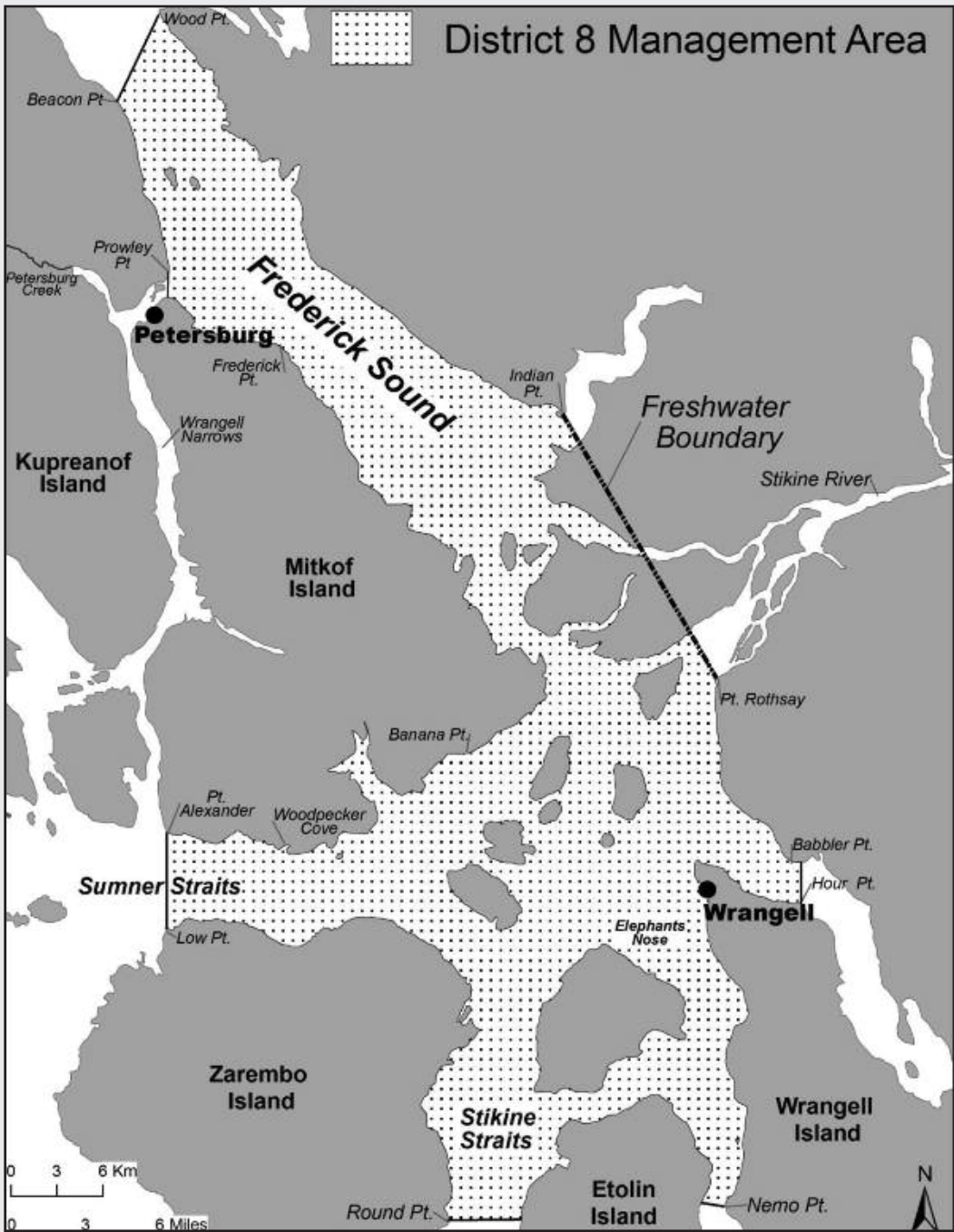
"Right now the yen is getting stronger," Wink explained. "It was around 120 Yen to the dollar and now it's closer to 112. So the dollar isn't worth as many Yen as it was just a few months ago."

Elsewhere, currencies in places like Brazil and Eastern Europe are in the tank. Exchange rates don't come into play as much with China, Wink said, because the Yuan is pegged to the value of the US dollar.

**Halibut's on** - The Pacific halibut fishery will open as scheduled on March 11. Fears were running wild that a 60-day freeze on all new and pending regulations imposed by Donald Trump would delay the start of the eight-month season. On Friday U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK) announced that the regulations necessary to open the fishery were posted in federal lawbooks and the halibut fishery will open on time. Sullivan, who chairs the Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard, said it is an issue his office has been working on for weeks and credited new Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross for expediting the paper work.

The new rules allowing pot gear to catch sablefish in the Gulf of Alaska were also approved. Fishermen have long pushed for the use of pots to prevent whales from robbing the sablefish from hook and line gear.

"I will be speaking with Secretary Ross again to express my thanks on behalf of Alaskan fishermen," Sullivan said.



SUBMITTED ILLUSTRATION

The king salmon sportfish regulations for District 8 apply to waters adjacent to the Stikine River freshwater boundary. The cutoff follows a line from Indian Point down to Point Rothsay to the east, and from Low Point to Point Alexander in Sumner Straits to the west.

## King salmon sport fish season to start conservatively

Alaska's Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) announced regulations for the king salmon sport fishing season this summer would be on the conservative side.

Issued Monday, the order applies to marine waters adjacent to the Stikine River in District 8, near Petersburg and Wrangell. Beginning May 1 and lasting until July 15, the king salmon bag and possession limit for all anglers will be set at one fish, 28 inches or greater in length.

Anglers will also have to abide by rod restrictions in place when fishing for king salmon after March 31, 2017, limiting them to one at a time. The Southeast Alaska nonresident annual limit of three king salmon will continue to apply.

Sport fishing for king salmon will remain closed in the Stikine's fresh waters, upstream of a line between Point Rothsay on the Stikine Flats and Indian Point in LeConte Bay. This also applies to the river's various tributaries.

The 2017 preseason forecast for Stikine River king salmon terminal run is 18,300 large fish. This level of abundance puts expectations at the low end of the spawning escapement goal range, set between 14,000 and 28,000 fish. It also falls below the preseason management target of 21,000, or the goal range's midpoint.

"Given the projected low abundance of Stikine River king salmon, this action is being taken to conserve Stikine River king salmon by restricting sport fisheries in the marine waters adjacent

to the mouth of the Stikine River," the order reads.

The approach the department is taking will be different from last year's. The 2016 season had opened with more liberalized restrictions, as pre-season projections had indicated returns would be well beyond the escapement goal range. Anglers could use up to two rods at a time, with increased possession and bag opportunities.

As the season soon panned out, however, restrictions were tightened back with order modifications.

"It was obvious there weren't as many fish as we'd projected," Petersburg management biologist Patrick Fowler explained. "So this year we're starting in the reverse situation."

The Stikine River King Salmon Management Plan includes provisions allowing additional sport fishing opportunity in years when the projected returns of Stikine River kings are surplus to escapement needs, and where an allowable catch is present under the terms of the Pacific Salmon Treaty signed with Canada. If kings turn out to be more abundant as the returns come in, it is possible the regulations could loosen up as the season progresses.

For further king salmon regulations for District 8, and for those in other districts, look for current news releases posted at local boat harbors and launches or on the Alaska Department of Fish and Game website.

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# S.E. troll fishery restricted; escapement down

The spring troll fishery in Southeast Alaska (SEAK) is designed to target Alaska hatchery-produced Chinook salmon. However, with similar migration corridors and return timing, wild stock, SEAK originating Chinook are also harvested. The overall 2016 run to the 11 systems monitored for SEAK wild Chinook salmon is one of the lowest on record in 42 years of documented Chinook escapements. With arguably the poorest overall run on record in 2016, recurrent failures to meet lower bounds of escapement goal ranges in several systems, and with the 2017 pre-season forecasts below the lower

bound of escapement goal ranges for the Situk, Alek, Chilkat, Taku, Stikine, and Unuk Rivers, time and area restrictions in specified fisheries will be implemented during the spring troll season to help reduce encounters of these Chinook stocks. The Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game made the announcement on March 6.

These conservation restrictions will be implemented in, but are not limited to, select Chinook and chum fisheries within the Icy Strait/Cross Sound, Chatham Strait, Upper Sumner/Stikine/Zimovia Strait, and Lower Clarence Strait corri-

dors. Restrictions will include one, or a combination, of the following 1) delayed initial opening date, 2) reduced opening length, 3) boundary area reductions. The affected spring areas and restriction types are as follows:

- Icy Strait/Cross Sound Homeshore (1)
- South Passage (1) Cross Sound (1)
- Port Althorp (2) Lisianki Inlet (2) Point Sophia (2)
- Chatham Strait Chatham Strait (2) Tebenkof Bay (1) Hawk Inlet (2)
- Sumner/Stikine/Zimovia Strait Craig Point (2, 3)

- Chichagof Pass (2)
- Lower Clarence Strait Ketchikan Area (2) West Rock (2) Kendrick Bay (2)
- Stone Rock Bay (2) Mountain Point (2) West Clarence Strait (2)

In addition to these restrictions, the Clarence Strait, Point Alava, West Behm Canal, and Baht Harbor fisheries will remain closed for the duration of spring.

Further details on these restrictions will be presented during the annual spring troll public meetings. A schedule of these meetings will be announced in a troll news release in late March.

# Petersburg Rotarian travels to India to build dam; give polio vaccines

By **RON LOESCH**  
Publisher

**PETERSBURG** – Petersburg Rotarian Rick Braun traveled to India recently to administer polio vaccines and help build two dams to create a water retention reservoir. The reservoir will provide both crop irrigation water and raise the underground water table, enabling area wells to store more water for village residents. Braun has been a member of the Petersburg Rotary Club since 1987. The club has carried out fundraising projects for the organization's Polio Plus project for decades.

Braun said polio has been eradicated in India for the past five years, but cities and villages located near the Pakistan

border have to continually provide vaccinations to residents due to unimmunized Pakistan residents crossing the border.

Braun said indelible ink is painted on the pinkie finger of residents, to track people that have been immunized.

The Indian government manages the vaccination program and vaccines are administered every six weeks. Local technicians worked with the group when giving the immunizations.

Braun administered vaccines in the village of Punhana in the Haryana Province. The village is a two hour drive from Delhi. Locals turned out for vaccinations following a loud noise parade, including drummers, marching through the village to attract attention to the

Rotarians' arrival.

"You really have to be quite dexterous to administer the vaccine drops," Braun noted. The drops are placed in the mouth using a glass vial with a rubber tip that has to be precisely squeezed when the person's mouth is open. Braun added, "Plus you have these little hands pulling away. Luckily when they cry, their mouths are open. It's quick and painless except for the emotional part."

The following day the group began work on the dam project in Anandpur Sahib in the Punjab Province. For three days the group worked with contractors and locals to build one of the two dams.

While a backhoe was used to prepare the site, building the

foundation and dam face were carried out by hand.

Braun was a member of a 22 person group from the U.S., Yukon Territories and Australia, led by the International Project Leader Elias Thomas from Maine. Thomas has raised funds from across the United States and raised \$19,000 for the dam projects. The Rotary Foundation matched the club's money, giving \$38,000 to the dam projects. Thomas works closely with Rotary Clubs in India to carry out the work.

Along with the projects the group also participated in tours.

At Ranthambhore the group toured the national tiger park which was a reserve offering protection for 25 adult tigers and 20 cubs who feed on ante-

lope, deer, wild boars, gazelles, as well as neighboring cows, goats and sheep from neighboring farms, that wander into the park.

Braun said his group saw a tiger right by the jeep. Another group just ahead saw a tiger kill an antelope. The group got dramatic videos of the kill and the tiger consuming the kill.

"The tigers prefer the blue bull antelopes, which are a slower animal," Braun explained.

During the 19-day trip Braun was also able to tour the Taj Mahal, and the Royal Fort at Agra as well as ride elephants in Jaipur.

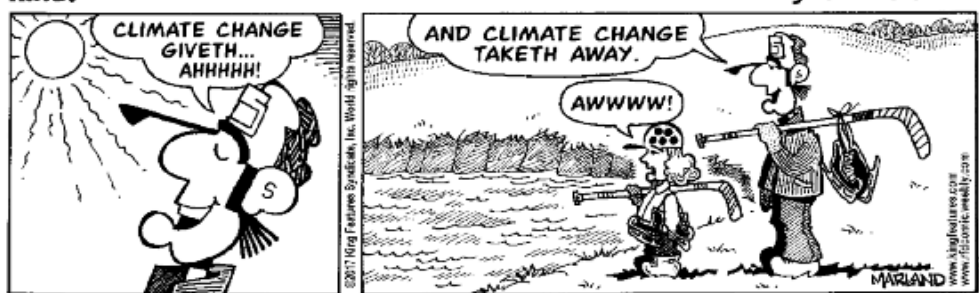
Braun paid his own travel expenses including the 14 hour flight from Vancouver to Delhi, India.

## Comics

### Amber Waves



### R.F.D.



### Just Like Cats & Dogs



### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Without help
- 5 \$ dispenser
- 8 MPs' quarry
- 12 Speedy steed
- 13 Meadow
- 14 Toy block name
- 15 Time rival
- 17 Dregs
- 18 Recipient
- 19 Brings forth
- 21 Feudal worker
- 24 Hooter
- 25 Isn't well
- 28 Hebrew month
- 30 Discoverer's cry
- 33 To and —
- 34 Visit habitual-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18						19	20				
			21		22	23		24			
25	26	27			28		29		30	31	32
33				34					35		
36					37			38			
			39	40			41	42			
43	44				45			46	47	48	49
50					51	52	53				
54					55				56		
57					58				59		

- 35 Zero
- 36 Coffee break hour
- 37 Leave out
- 38 On in years
- 39 Martini ingredient
- 41 Banish to Hades
- 43 Cultural, as some cuisines
- 46 Pass along
- 50 False god
- 51 Thin, as a fracture
- 54 Soft cheese
- 55 Kind

- 10 Curved molding
- 11 Privation
- 16 Teeny
- 20 Electrical measure
- 22 Paper quantity
- 23 Liquid
- 25 Toward the stern
- 26 Anger
- 27 Classical music lover
- 29 "Do — others ..."
- 31 Hasten
- 32 Ancient
- 34 "— soit qui mal y pense"
- 38 Aviatrix Earhart
- 40 Bay, for one
- 42 Bobby of hockey
- 43 Recedes
- 44 Poi base
- 45 Item in a pot, maybe
- 47 MGM mascot
- 48 Con
- 49 Nays' undoes
- 52 Muhammad or Laila
- 53 Eisenhower

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Puzzle answers on page 10



# Classified/Legals

## BOATS AND MARINE

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

## FOR RENT

ONE AND TWO BEDROOM Apartments. No pets. 305-0619.....tfn6-9b8

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all the wonderful friends and family that were able to join us for Gary's Memorial Service. We are very grateful to Pastor Matt Gerald at Harbor Light for officiating a lovely service, and for the touching slideshow by Tracy Churchill. Thank you for the flowers, Tracy Busby and family, they were absolutely beautiful. Thanks to the Elks Lodge, staff and servers, and to the attention given to the decorations Brooke, Jimmy, Laura and Tony. We are also so thankful for the generous food donated for the reception, and to Carol Snoddy for keeping things organized. Thank you to everyone who sent cards, prayers and condolences. If I have missed anyone, please know that we are all grateful. The family of Gary J Stevens:

Linnea Brooks, Mark and Gary A Stevens, Carl and Walt Stevens, Frank Churchill Jr., Rick and

Tracy Churchill and family, Tracy Busby and family, Jimmy and Brooke.....1x3-9P

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

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department will accept applications for the position of **Park Maintenance II** until March 31, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, hold a valid Alaska Driver's License and have knowledge of power tools and be familiar with grounds maintenance and repairs. Both positions are full time, temporary.

Duties include both skilled and semi-skilled work in landscape, mowing, weed-eating, grounds maintenance, repairs and construction of parks, playgrounds, ball fields and cemeteries. Pay range \$11.79/hr. - \$14.95/hr.

Applications and full job descriptions may be obtained at and returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929.

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

Jeff Jabusch  
Borough Manager

**Publish: March 9,16 and 23, 2017**

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

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Department will accept applications for the positions of **Park Maintenance I** until March 29 2017 at 5:00 p.m. Applicants must be at least 18 years old, hold a valid Alaska Driver's License and have knowledge of power tools and be familiar with grounds maintenance and repairs. Position is full time, temporary.

Duties include both skilled and semi-skilled work in landscape, mowing, weed-eating, grounds maintenance, repairs and construction of parks, playgrounds, ball fields and cemeteries. Pay range \$11.79/hr. - \$15.57/hr.

Applications and full job description may be obtained at and returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929.

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Jeff Jabusch  
Borough Manager

**Publish: March 9, 16 and 23, 2017**



**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency will hold a Special Board Meeting on March 9, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. AKST, via teleconference, in the offices of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency, 1900 First Avenue, Suite 318, Ketchikan, Alaska. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss two contracts, a lease, and enter into an executive session for discussions relating to a bid bond. For additional information, please call (907) 228-2281.

**Publish: March 9, 2017**

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA AT WRANGELL

In the Matter of the Estate of: )  
)  
Jimmy Boyd Wright )  
Date of Birth: 7/01/1944 )  
) CASE NO. 1WR-17-05PR

### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

You are notified that the court appointed JASON D. WRIGHT as personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the person who died are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims will be forever barred.

Date: 03/01/2017 Jason D. Wright,  
PO Box 671, Wrangell, AK 99929

**Publish: March 9, 16 and 23, 2017**

### CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB ADVERTISEMENT Temporary Laborers/Brush Cutters Light Department

The City and Borough of Wrangell will accept applications to establish a pool of **Temporary Laborers/Brush Cutters** for the Light Department. You must have a valid Alaska Drivers license. The Light Department will begin to accept applications on 03/06/2017 to establish an open pool of applicants for temporary help.

Applicants can submit an application anytime through December 31, 2017. Employees will be selected from applications in the pool at the time employees are needed throughout the year. Those who have applied previously will need to re-apply.

The work is temporary help working with Light Department employees on various projects as needed. Applicants must be able to work in all weather conditions. These positions will be filled on a temporary as needed basis.

Applications may be obtained and returned to City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929.

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

Jeff Jabusch  
Borough Manager

**Publish: March 9 and 16, 2017**

### ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POSITIONS OF Temporary Workers Harbor Department

The City and Borough of Wrangell will accept applications to establish a pool from which to hire Temporary Workers for the Harbor Department at City Hall beginning March 10, 2017 to establish an open pool of applicants for temporary help. Applicants can submit an application anytime through December 31, 2017. Employees will be selected from applications in the pool at the time employees are needed throughout the year. Those who have applied previously will need to re-apply. You must have a valid Alaska Driver's license. A CDL license is preferred but not required.

This position will require someone with experience in carpentry and the ability to work independently in a marine environment. Work will include but not be limited to replacement of bull rails, fascia boards, decking, plumbing, pile hoops and concrete patching. Duties will also include painting, pressure washing, cutting brush and grass, and working in the boat yard. Boat yard duties will include carrying blocking, boat stands, and doing all kinds of cleanup. Must be able to lift and carry 50 pounds. Successful applicant must be able to work in all weather conditions and weekends.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Wrangell City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929. Pay for this position starts at \$15.34 per hour DOE.

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

**Publish: March 9 and 16, 2017**

### — King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

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

### — Weekly SUDOKU — Answer

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



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# Intentional firearms injuries on the rise in Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) – There has been a significant increase in the number of intentional firearm injuries in recent years, marking a shift from when accidental shootings were more common in Alaska, state officials said.

Dr. Frank Sacco, chairman of the Alaska Trauma System Review Committee, said the num-

ber of intentional firearm injuries has nearly doubled in the last three or four years. He said those injuries have become more common than accidental and self-inflicted gunshot wounds, KTUU-TV reported.

The spike in intentional firearm injuries grew faster in Anchorage than the rest of the state, Sacco said.

“If you just look at the trauma registry data where before we might in Anchorage admit to the hospital intentional gunshot wounds every month or two. Now it’s closer to about every week,” he said.

For nearly 30 years, the Alaska Trauma Registry has documented how and where residents are

injured and how they are treated. The data helps medical professionals determine where resources are needed to care for patients, Sacco said.

There was a 78 percent increase in total firearm hospitalizations in Anchorage from 2013 to 2015, according to the registry. With stabbings

included, penetrating injuries accounted for an average 10 percent of all hospitalizations per year.

“The causes for these traumas have to do with society, and like I said there’s a lot of guns up here and a lot of drugs unfortunately – and that is not a recipe that’s good for good outcomes,” Sacco said.

## Engine repairs to delay return of Alaska ferry Kennicott

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – A ferry that has been out of operation since January for its annual overhaul will return to service later than expected because it needs additional repair work, officials said.

The Kennicott ferry will resume its coastal route from Washington state to Kodiak on

March 30, two weeks later than planned, CoastAlaska News reported Friday.

The delay comes after crews found more work needed to be done on the Kennicott’s engines, Alaska Marine Highway General Manager John Falvey said.

“We learned just a few days ago from the engine manufacturer that because of the unexpected level of maintenance that needed to be done on those parts that they had in Seattle, that we were going to require an extra two weeks,” Falvey said.

At nearly 20 years old, the ferry is among the youngest of ships in Marine Highway’s fleet. The Kennicott carries up to about 500 passengers and 65 to 75 vehicles.

The vessel was sent to the shipyard for its annual overhaul later than scheduled this year so it could cover for other ferries needing repair.

The southwest Alaska ferry Tustumena will have its overhaul March 13, leaving five ports with no service from March 23 to March 27, Falvey said.

“Basically, what it comes to is Kodiak and Homer lose three port calls, Port Lions loses two port calls, Seldovia loses a port call and Chenega Bay will lose two port calls,” he said.



The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) is soliciting proposals from qualified firms to provide material, equipment, machinery, tools, labor, transportation, and other means to install Current Transformers and Relaying for the Wrangell Switchyard Spur Line Circuit Switcher located in Wrangell, Alaska.

Bids are due March 27, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. AKDT. For a complete set of the bid documents with additional details, please navigate to: [www.seapahydro.org/rfp.php](http://www.seapahydro.org/rfp.php) or interested respondents may call the SEAPA office at 907.228.2281 for a copy.  
Publish: March 9, 2017

## Federal Subsistence Meeting

The public is invited to attend and participate.

**March 14 - 16, 2017**

in Craig

at the Craig Tribal Association Hall

starting at 1:00 p.m. on March 14, and at 9:00 a.m. March 15-16

The **Southeast Alaska Subsistence Regional Advisory Council** will meet to discuss proposals to change Federal subsistence hunting and trapping regulations and other issues related to subsistence in the Southeast Region. Participate in person or by teleconference, 1-866-560-5984 (passcode 12960066).

For meeting materials and other information on the Federal Subsistence Management Program, visit: <https://www.doi.gov/subsistence> or call the Office of Subsistence Management at (907) 786-3888 or (800)478-1456.

If you need special accommodations for disabilities, such as sign language interpretation, please contact the Office of Subsistence Management at least seven business days prior to the meeting.

Published: March 9, 2017

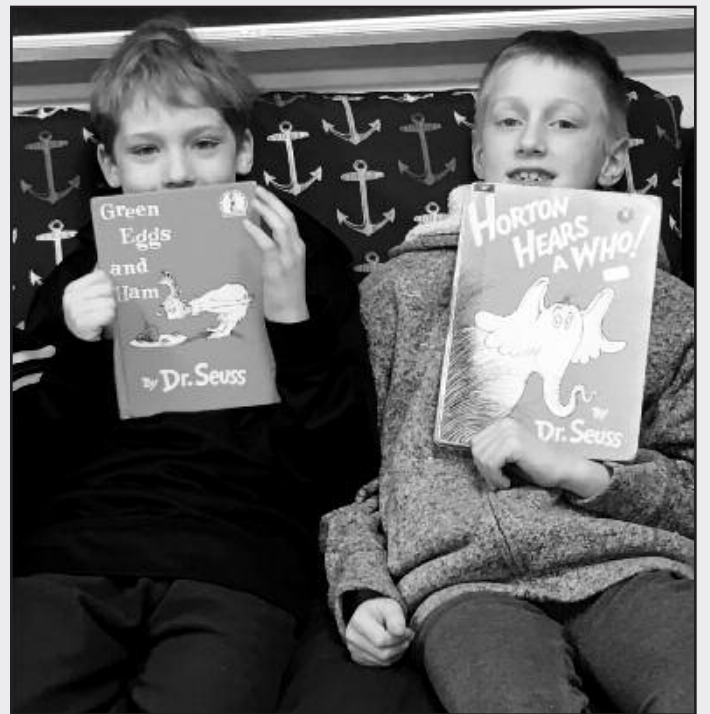


SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dressed as the Lorax, Adrienne McLaughlin poses with Thing 1 and Cindy Lou Who (children Dayne Pritchett and Saylor Welch).

## A Seussical celebration

Marking what would have been the 113th birthday of author and illustrator Dr. Seuss (the pen name of Theodor Geisel), students at Evergreen Elementary last Friday got to enjoy a selection of his many books. The fanciful illustrations and colorful rhymes stand out as Seuss’ own style, but the thoroughly grounded lessons his books have to impart have endured through generations of school-children.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Evergreen Elementary School students Nathan Larson and Ian Molesky show off a pair of Dr. Seuss stories, “Green Eggs and Ham” and “Horton Hears a Who.”



SUBMITTED PHOTO

It’s a trio of rule-breaking cats wearing hats, with Jenn Miller, Greg Woods and Renata Davies all dressed as Dr. Seuss’ iconic character.



# Front Street

Continued from page 1

wild plants," she explained, and also items grown in her garden.

DeLong runs The Florist & The Fisherman, which specializes primarily in floral arrangements. "If I'm not doing flowers I'm out gillnetting," she said of the name. That side of the business will be the first dedicated florist the community has had in years. DeLong intends to do consultations and special events, but will also

offer daily fresh-cut specials. "It would be a full-service floral shop," she explained.

Like Loomis, they saw the open storefront on Front Street and decided it would be perfect for their venture. With Groundswell, the pair hope to feature the works of other local artists and makers, based on a consignment model.

"In our retail shop we will be able to sell what people make," said Flickinger. "We will have sort of a curated collection of

handmade and locally-made items for sale."

The front area will also be a venue for different crafting and hobby workshops, which DeLong explained may draw in artists both from the community and further afield.

Back across the street, upstairs in the Kadin Building, Clay Culbert and Heidi Milazzo are coordinating with other instructors the opening of a group fitness

studio called Wrangell Fitness.

"We are a business in development," Culbert pointed out. Members of the studio have been working on certifications for various activities. Once ready for business, he explained they will focus on instructor-led workouts that are scientifically based.

"The plan is to be open this spring," he said.

## Howls, high-fives mark start of Iditarod race across Alaska

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Mushers pumped their fists and high-fived fans Monday as they set out one-by-one on the world's most famous sled dog race, a nearly 1,000-mile trek through the grueling Alaska wilderness.

The grandson of a co-founder of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race was the first competitor on the trail in Fairbanks, in the heart of the state.

Ryan Redington, 33, of Wasilla led the other 70 mushers out of the chute nearly a half-century after his grandfather, Joe Redington Sr., helped stage the first race in 1973.

The contest has a staggered start so fans, including 2,600 schoolchildren, can cheer on the competitors, who leave every two minutes.

One race rookie, 53-year-old Roger Lee, threw his fist in the air as he took off from the chute.

Lee was born in California to British parents and grew up near Liverpool, England, listening to the Beatles and harder rock groups. He has seen AC/DC in concert 157 times in 16 countries, according to his race biography.

Lee spent 10 years with the British Army Air Corps before moving to America, where he serves with the Air Force. He took a one-year sabbatical to train for the Iditarod.

The fan-friendly ceremonial start of the race was held Saturday in Anchorage.

The competitive start is normally held a day later in Willow, about 50 miles north of Anchorage. But that start would have taken mushers over the Dalzell Gorge, where a lack of snow has left alders exposed on the trail and open water in places that normally would be frozen this time of year.

Winter conditions were not a concern in Fairbanks, where the temperature was minus 35 degrees Monday morning. The start was delayed a day to give mushers time to drive their dogs 360 miles north to the city of about 100,000.

Eighty-four mushers signed up for the race, and 13 scratched. The latest was Otto Balogh, a 40-year-old rookie from Budapest, Hungary, who cited health concerns when dropping out of the race two hours before it began.

Dallas Seavey, 30, has won four out of the last five races. He feels no pressure to get a record-tying fifth win, and is fully cognizant that winning streaks can only go for so long.

"And I'm truly OK with that, as long as I can look back on the race and know I ran my team to the best of their ability, and we all

had a good run," Seavey said.

He received \$75,000 and a new pickup for winning last year's race.

Jeff King, a four-time champion wearing dark sunglasses, hugged friends before taking off. He then slapped hands with fans as his dog team went through the chute.

Last year, King and musher

Aliy Zirkle were attacked by a drunken man on a snowmobile in separate assaults near the village of Nulato. One dog on King's team was killed, and other dogs were injured.

The attacks prompted a rule change to allow mushers to carry satellite or cell phones.

Zirkle has told The Associated Press she sewed a

satellite phone into her parka as a safety precaution after last year's attack, which left her shaken. She finished third last year and has five straight top-five finishes.

The Iditarod hasn't had a female winner since the late Susan Butcher won her fourth race in 1990. Asked at the ceremonial start if it's time for

another, 58-year-old Cindy Abbott said: "It is. That would be awesome."

But she readily admits it won't be her. The Beatrice, Nebraska, native and former California college professor suffers from a rare blood disorder. She said she can't run at the level of sleep deprivation that is required to win the race.

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