



Wrangell, Alaska  
January 16, 2020

# WRANGELL SENTINEL

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## Two recognized as patriotic employers

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

This past week two Wrangell residents were recognized as “patriotic employers” by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve program. The ESGR is a Department of Defense program, according to their website, whose goal is to promote cooperation and understanding between civilian employers and their National Guard or Reserve employees.

Richard Smith, on behalf of the ESGR, came to Wrangell on

Jan. 8 to present Patriot Awards to Kemberly Green of Tongass Federal Credit Union, and Jenn Miller-Yancey of Evergreen Elementary School. The credit union employs Edna Nore, wife of Guardsman Matt Nore. Evergreen Elementary employed Matt Nore himself as a kindergarten teacher, before he left for deployment to Kuwait back in February of 2019.

“I was totally taken aback, I would like to think that any employer would support the military and their families but that’s



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Jennifer Miller-Yancey was recently recognized for being a “patriotic employer” for her support of the Nore family during Matt Nore’s deployment with the National Guard. From left to right: Richard Smith, Miller-Yancey and Edna Nore.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Edna Nore and Kemberly Green with a certificate recently given to Green for being a “patriotic employer.” Green was recognized for her support of the Nore family during Matt Nore’s deployment with the National Guard.

not always the case, I guess,” Green said. “I was totally surprised by this.”

On the certificate given to each employer, members of the Nore family had printed statements of why they had been nominated for the award. Edna Nore wrote that Green had been very understanding when she needed to leave work early to care for her children when daycare fell through, allowed her to take time off when needed, and tried to make her husband’s deployment as stress-free as possi-

ble.

Matt Nore wrote on Miller Yancey’s certificate that she has checked in on his kids while he has been gone to make sure they were okay, was very helpful in processing his leave requests, and has been a mentor to him as a teacher.

According to the ESGR website, members of the Guard or Reserve, or their spouses, can nominate individual employers for the support they have provided that service member or their family. The Patriot Awards

reflects the efforts made by the recognized employer to support the service members and their families through things like flexible schedules, time off before or after deployment, granting leaves of absences, or generally supporting families of those deployed.

“This is an amazing thing, I’m so appreciative,” Miller-Yancey said. “We are looking very forward to his [Nore’s] return.”

To learn more about the ESGR, visit their website at [www.esgr.mil](http://www.esgr.mil).

## Meet Thomas Radke, the new police chief

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

After the retirement of Doug McCloskey last summer, the Wrangell Police Department has been operating without an official police chief. That came to an end last week, as Tom Radke started his job as the city’s new chief. Some community members may remember Radke from a meet-and-greet back in November, where he and other potential candidates for the police chief position came to town to meet city officials and the people of Wrangell. Radke was the borough’s final selection

According to his resume, provided by the city, Radke comes with almost 26 years of experience in law enforcement. He began as a police officer in St. Paul, Minnesota, in 1994. From there he worked his way up the ladder to become Commander of the St. Paul Police Department in 2016. In 2018 he took another police officer position in Kenyon, Minnesota. He decided to relocate to Wrangell because he was looking for something different, he said. He was used to policing in big cities with hundreds of thousands of people. Coming

to an island community of about 2,500 is certainly a change.

“We have five kids and they’re all in college, so we wanted something different,” Radke said. “This was kind of the time to branch out and see what’s out there ... So I retired from there and opened up a pizza restaurant. Me and my wife still own that, matter of fact she’s taking care of that now, then we saw this job kind of pop up and yeah, why not try it?”

Only into his first week on the job, Radke said that he did not have any priorities or big changes planned for the Wrangell Police Department yet. He is still learning the ropes and says that he wants to be open to suggestions from the wider community. He wants to learn what is working and what needs fixing before going around making changes. He added that he intends to keep himself open to constructive criticism, as well.

Policing in Wrangell poses some unique challenges, he said, compared to the metropolitan Twin Cities area he is used to. For one thing, simply being on an island is a unique challenge when it



Thomas Radke

comes to something like towing away abandoned cars. In St. Paul, he said that it was a relatively simple procedure. In Wrangell, however, there are questions like where the cars can be stored and what they can be towed with. The extra expenses of island life is another unique challenge he pointed out. On top of all this, he said that he has heard of community concerns about an increasing drug problem in Wrangell. This is a nation-wide issue, he said, but in a small

island town there are unique challenges yet again. It is one thing to know about a drug problem, he said, but another thing to prove it so the police can act.

“There’s a lot of things that I’m used to, as far as policing, that here you have to give an extra look at,” Radke said. “You’re on an island, there’s other challenges here that you don’t have in a bigger area.”

Radke will be spending about two weeks in Wrangell, he said, before he has to fly south for some training for a couple of weeks. He added a request that the Wrangell community do their best not to park on the streets during snowy weather, to make things easier for snow plows to do their jobs.

Despite the unique challenges Wrangell may pose, Radke said that he is feeling good about his new position and is eager to become a part of the community.

“When I get back, I think I’ll have more kind of mapped out as we go into spring,” he said. “I’m looking forward to obviously having more conversations with various community members.”



## Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

**Thursday, January 16:** Josh Toombs, Austin O'Brien. **Friday, January 17:** Kyle Davidson, Tracy Allen, F. Iver Nore, Marina Lenora Wooden, Ryan Hayes. **Saturday, January 18:** Elizabeth Castle, Hunter Wilson. *Anniversary:* Ronan & Mary Rooney. **Sunday, January 19:** Tom Nore, Terri Stark, Jim Rinehart, Laura Paulsen, Ken Davidson, Sr., Megan Powell. *Anniversary:* Chris & Dixie Booker, Steve & Helen Keller. **Monday, January 20:** Shelby Eyre, Yvonne Stough, Syler Webster, Pam Wiederspohn. **Tuesday, January 21:** James Stough, Jr., Joshua Davidson, Jessica Rice. **Wednesday, January 22:** Grace Williams, Todd Torvend, Riley Blatchley, Lisa Messmer. **Thursday, January 23:** Jean Petticrew, Madison Blackburn, Shawna Bunes, Chris Ottesen, Nicole Feuerhelm. *Anniversary:* Steve & Terri Henson. **Thursday, January 24:** Keith Appleman. *Anniversary:* Michael & Denae Reeves.

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

## Senior Center Menu

**Thursday, January 16**

Beef Chili, Fruit Cup, Toss Salad, Cornbread

**Friday, January 17**

Baked White Fish, Beets & Orange Sauce, Spinach Salad, Rice.

**Monday, January 20**

Martin Luther King Day.

CLOSED

**Tuesday, January 21**

Baked Chicken, Copper Pennies, Triple Bean Salad, Biscuit

**Wednesday, January 22**

Six Layered Dinner, Green Beans, Peach Salad, Potatoes

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, January 17**  
Matanuska, 4:45 p.m.  
**Friday, January 24**  
Matanuska, 7:45 p.m.  
**Friday, January 31**  
Matanuska, 4:45 p.m.  
**Friday, February 7**  
Matanuska, 6:45 p.m.  
**Friday, February 14**  
Matanuska, 4:45 p.m.  
**Friday, February 21**  
Matanuska, 6:45 p.m.  
**Friday, February 28**  
Matanuska, 4:15 p.m.

#### Southbound

**Monday, January 20**  
Matanuska, 08:00 a.m.  
**Monday, January 27**  
Matanuska, 07:30 a.m.  
**Monday, February 3**  
Matanuska, 6:30 a.m.  
**Monday, February 10**  
Matanuska, 6:30 a.m.  
**Monday, February 17**  
Matanuska, 6:30 a.m.  
**Monday, February 24**  
Matanuska, 6:30 a.m.  
**Monday, March 2**  
Matanuska, 6:30 a.m.

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



## TIDES January 16-January 23

### High Tides

### Low Tides

	AM	PM	AM	PM
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
January 16	04:54	15.9	05:02	14.3
January 17	05:50	15.8	06:17	13.0
January 18	06:54	15.8	07:41	12.4
January 19	07:59	16.1	09:01	12.5
January 20	09:02	16.5	10:09	13.1
January 21	10:00	16.9	11:08	13.9
January 22	10:53	17.3	11:59	14.5
January 23	11:41	17.6	.....	.....

## Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

Thursday, January 16

The Wrangell Fish and Game Advisory Committee: Wrangell Fire Hall, 7pm

Monday, January 20

Public Hearing re: Report Card to the Public: EES Room 101, 7pm

Regular School Board Meeting: EES Room 101, 7 pm

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

## Continuing Events

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

### Pool:

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

### MEETINGS

### AA Meetings:

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

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

**January 15, 1920** At the regular monthly meeting of the town council held last Thursday evening an ordinance providing for a municipal magistrate for the town of Wrangell was proposed. After some discussion of the subject the council decided to submit the matter to the voters of Wrangell at the annual municipal election which will be held the first Tuesday in April.

**January 19, 1945** George Coplen, regional representative of the national housing agency, was in Wrangell earlier this week making a survey of Alaska towns to discover the need for release of critical materials for civilian housing. Meeting with civic leaders at the special session at the Fire Hall, Mr. Coplen explained that due to the prolongation of the European war, a tightening of restrictions is necessary, but that some civilian housing is possible where really needed. He said that Gov. Gruening had recommended a survey of Wrangell, and that after looking over the situation and talking with the mayor, and other townspeople, he would recommend that 10-12 units be authorized at a maximum cost of \$7500 each.

**January 22, 1970** Everett Bunes has been appointed to replace Frank Murkowski as Alaska's commissioner of Economic Development. Bunes, whose accounting, insurance and real estate office is in Wrangell, has been deputy commissioner since spring of 1967. He was appointed acting commissioner by Governor Miller when Murkowski resigned last Thursday.

**January 19, 1995** Dr. Ell Sorenson, superintendent of schools, gave a report on student counts to the board that showed a smaller drop in attendance than was feared when it was first learned that the APC mill was closing. The

sharp decline from 567 students when school started had not materialized, said Sorenson. As of Jan. 10, a count

showed 260 elementary, 153 middle school and 136 high school students, totaling 549.



## Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Jan. 06	32	24
Jan. 07	25	19
Jan. 08	29	23
Jan. 09	30	27
Jan. 10	30	21
Jan. 11	20	15
Jan. 12	19	13
Jan. 13	20	10



## Daylight Hours

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Jan. 16	8:09a	3:47p	07:38h
Jan. 17	8:08a	3:48p	07:40h
Jan. 18	8:07a	3:50p	07:43h
Jan. 19	8:05a	3:52p	07:47h
Jan. 20	8:04a	3:54p	07:50h
Jan. 21	8:03a	3:56p	07:53h
Jan. 22	8:01a	3:58p	07:57h
Jan. 23	8:00a	4:00p	08:00h

## CAN SUMMER VISITORS FIND YOU?

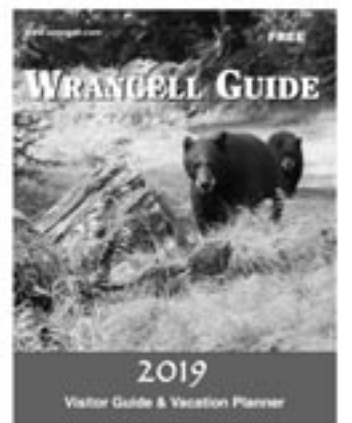
### 2020 Wrangell Guide

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### 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.



P.O. Box 798 • Wrangell, AK 99829

Email: wrgsent@gmail.com

907-874-2301



# Police report

**January 6**

Nothing to report.

**January 7**

Nothing to report

**January 8**

Agency assist: Public Works

Citizen assist: Civil Standby

Welfare check

Agency assist: Arrowhead

Inappropriate phone calls, extra patrols.

**January 9**

Agency assist: Public Works

Summons Service

**January 10**

Agency assist: Public Works

Agency assist: AST

Hazardous Play

Informational Report

**January 11**

Intoxicated Persons

Suspicious Person

Hindering Prosecution

Citizen assist: Unlock vehicle

Traffic stop verbal warning driving habits

Agency assist: USFS traffic stop, verbal warning for driving habits

**January 12**

Agency assist: WMC

Citizen assist: Unlock vehicle

Officer removed debris out of roadway

Report of smoke, unfounded

During this reporting period there were two calls for EMS.



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Hoop Shoot Awards

During halftime of the Wrangell Wolves' game against the Metlakatla Chiefs on Friday, Jan. 10, several kids were recognized for their free-throw talents. The first, second, and third place winners of the local Elks Hoop Shoot were awarded their trophies. The Hoop Shoot is a contest the Order of Elks hosts across the country each year, open to children from 8 to 13-years-old, divided into different age groups. The winners recognized in this year's contest are as follows (left to right): Back row: 12-13-year-old 2nd place winner Brody Knecht, 12-13-year-old 3rd place winner Trevyn Gillen, 12-13-year-old 1st place winner Adeline Andrews, 12-13-year-old 2nd place winner Mindy Meissner, and 12-13-year-old 3rd place winner Kayla Meissner.

Middle Row: 3rd place Sawyer Rooney, 1st place Alana Harrison, 2nd place Everett Meissner, and 1st place Aadyn Gillen. Front Row: 10-11-year-old 3rd place winner Hailey Cook, 8-9-year-old 1st place winner Clara Carney, 8-9-year-old 2nd place winner Charlie Nelson, and 8-9-year-old 1st place winner Michael Cook.

Not pictured are 8-9-year-old 3rd place winner Lynnea Harrison, 8-9-year-old 2nd place winner Jayden Daughterty, 8-9-year-old 3rd place winner Sawyer Larrabee, 10-11-year-old 2nd place winner Sophia Martinsen, and 12-13-year-old 1st place winner Daniel Harrison.

# Meeting held to cover the importance of advance directives

By CALEB VIERKANT  
*Sentinel writer*

The Hospice of Wrangell organized a weekend of community education forums on Jan. 11 and 12, to help Wrangell residents learn how to "get their ducks in a row" before they pass away. Some of the forums included a discussion on funeral services available at the Ketchikan Mortuary, estate planning and writing a will, and a

panel discussion on spiritual concerns regarding the afterlife made up of several Wrangell preachers.

One of the discussions was lead by Erin Matthes of the Southeast Alaska Regional Health Consortium on the importance of advance directives.

"Why is it important to have a directive?" Matthes asked. "We think about advance care planning not just about planning for

your death but planning for your life and identifying your preferences for how you would want that to look if you had control over it."

Matthes described an advance directive as a "living will," a document laying out one's preferences for healthcare as death nears. An advance directive says what kind of healthcare one would like to receive, who is in charge of making those decisions if one is physically or mentally incapacitated, and helps one determine their priorities for quality of life versus the length of their life.

"So one of the things an advance directive really supports the individual in is defining your values at end of life," Matthes said. "Some of us have really thought about these things a lot, some of us sort of avoid that and

that's fine and healthy, it is what it is. But if you haven't spent a lot of time thinking about how you want things to look, and what is really important to you, this document actually supports that process."

Matthes handed out copies of an advance healthcare directive provided by SEARHC, to give an example of what the document looks like. The directive lays out two healthcare agents, other people selected to make decisions on behalf of the directive's signatory, and asks several questions about what kind of medical care one wants to receive at the end of their life. There are also questions about what to do with one's body upon death, how long they want their life artificially prolonged, and other requests one might have such as music to be played or people

they would like to see. The directive also lays out instructions for making the document legal, either by being signed in front of a notary or two witnesses.

"You don't need to carry around a copy with you everywhere you travel," Matthes said. "It's nice to have something in your wallet that just says I have an advance directive and this is my healthcare agent's contact information, and my primary care agent's contact information, and my primary physician's name. That would indicate where you receive your healthcare."

A copy of SEARHC's advance directive form can be found on their website, [www.searhc.org](http://www.searhc.org). Matthes suggested that people visit Alaska Law Help, [www.alaskalawhelp.org](http://www.alaskalawhelp.org), for more detailed information about advance directives.



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## 2020 SE Alaska Shrimp Permits Are Now Available Online

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game reminds anglers that the 2020 sport shrimp permits are now available online. The 2020 Subsistence and Personal Use permits are also available online at: <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/>. 2019 permit holders are reminded that the 2019 permits must be returned either by reporting online at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Harvest/> or returning the printed permit to the nearest ADF&G office, even if you did not shrimp in 2019, before obtaining a 2020 permit.

**Non-Resident Anglers and Residents wishing to fish a sport permit:**

The Southeast Sport Shrimp Permit is free and is required for anglers participating in the Southeast Alaska sport shrimp fishery. Permit holders must sign their permit in ink to make it valid and have the permit in their possession while taking part in sport shrimp fisheries in Southeast Alaska. Reporting of effort and harvest is required and permits must be submitted to the department even if you did not fish. Anglers are reminded to report their 2019 permits by January 15, 2020.

Information pertaining to limits and gear requirements for the Southeast Alaska sport shrimp fishery are provided on the permit and can also be found on pages 33-36 of the 2020 Southeast Alaska Sport Fishing Regulations Summary or at: [http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.se\\_sportfish](http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=fishregulations.se_sportfish). Sport permits can be obtained from the ADF&G online store at <https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/Store/>, or from ADF&G offices in Juneau (465-4270), Ketchikan (225-2859), Sitka (747-5355), Haines (766-3638), Craig, (826-2498) Petersburg (772-5228), Wrangell (874-3822) or Yakutat (784-3222).

**Alaska Resident Anglers**

The sport shrimp fishery is open to all anglers but Alaska resident anglers typically fish under less restrictive subsistence or personal use shrimp regulations. Alaska resident anglers participating in a Southeast Alaska subsistence or personal use shrimp fishery are required to obtain a free Southeast Alaska and Yakutat Subsistence and Personal Use Shrimp Permit. This permit may also be obtained at the ADF&G online store or from ADF&G area of-



# Assembly workshops future priorities, begin talks for budget process

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The borough assembly and other city officials met Saturday morning, Jan. 11, to workshop future priorities for the city and to look at the upcoming budget process. A long list of state and federal legislative priorities was laid out for attendees to review and talk about. For state priorities for Wrangell, the first and foremost was the reinstatement of several state positions to the city. Over the past decade, according to the priority list, Wrangell has seen several state jobs taken away that the assembly considers critical to the public wellbeing. Among these lost positions include a public health nurse, OCS caseworker and a magistrate. These positions have not been eliminated, but relocated to Petersburg. As Mayor Steve Prysunka said in a previous interview with the Sentinel, however, Wrangell is not a suburb of Petersburg. It is an independent community and in the borough assembly's opinion the community needs these positions back.

"We had this on last year's legislative priorities for the state," Borough Manager Lisa Von Bargen said. "We have included specifically, this year, the Office of Child Services in far greater detail because of the issues we're dealing with right now. The information that has been brought to our attention in regard to case load with the rep-

resentative out of Petersburg, that the far greater caseload is actually here in Wrangell."

With some discussion around this priority, Assembly Member Patty Gilbert requested that they add the importance of keeping the state trooper position in Wrangell, too. There is no talk of removing the trooper position from Wrangell, but Prysunka said he would like to mention that as a priority ahead of time, just in case.

"Petersburg is getting a second trooper position and I fear that they're grooming us like they have done," he said. "They did the same thing with OCS. They stacked up OCS workers in Petersburg and then took our OCS worker ... I'm worried they're stacking up troopers over there to say we don't need a trooper here."

Along similar lines as the first state priority, Wrangell is also stating their opposition to a proposed closure of Wrangell's Department of Fish and Game office. Among other state legislative priorities listed include sustainable operation of the Alaska Marine Highway System, better control of the sea otter population, and a request to allow for a local option to determine the amount of property tax exemptions for senior citizens and disabled veterans. As for federal legislative priorities, Wrangell has laid out items that include continued support of the Secure Rural Schools program, renova-

tions to the reservoir dam, concerns over transboundary water issues with mining operations in British Columbia, and support for Essential Air Service.

The assembly also took time during the workshop to discuss the upcoming budget season. A preliminary schedule of the budget season states that the city will be expecting detailed budget submittals from all departments by Feb. 21, with a draft operational budget from the Finance Department due on Feb. 26. Meetings with department heads, draft revisions, and discussions with the school district about their budget and the expected local contribution will be ongoing through the spring and into the summer. A final budget is scheduled to be submitted for assembly approval in May, with final approval expected near the end of that month.

The assembly also heard a proposal to switch from a one-year budget to a two-year budget. This would mean that Wrangell would be operating under FY 2021 and 2022 budget, potentially, instead of just a budget for FY 2021. This is a system that the city of Juneau operates under already, according to the meeting's information packet, and the city of Homer recently adopted a two-year budget, as well. No formal action was taken, but discussions on this topic will be ongoing.

During the workshop, city officials also discussed future cap-



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

## Paddle carving for Celebration 2020

Wrangell's JOM dancers, in partnership with SEARHC, made use of the high school's workshop to carve some paddles which are going to be part of the Wrangell dancers' performance during Celebration 2020, according to Delila Ramirez. Celebration occurs every other year in Juneau, where native communities across Alaska come together to share their culture in songs, dances, art, and food. Wrangell will be the lead dance group for Celebration this summer. Pictured here is Ramirez working on her paddle.

ital improvement projects for the future. Among these include replacement of the Ash Street water main, replacing the diesel generator power plant, and ren-

ovating the public safety building. A full list of items covered in the workshop can be found on the city's website, www.wrangell.com.

# Quick meeting for Planning and Zoning Commission

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission held a relatively short meeting last Thursday evening. There was only

one main agenda item for the meeting, a request by Sara Gadd for a conditional use permit request. Gadd is wanting to set up a drive-through coffee shop at the corner of Bennett Street and

Howell Avenue, in the industrial park. According to the meeting's agenda packet, this location should allow for a line of five cars in the drive-through without holding up traffic on

Bennett Street. If there is a longer line than that, the rest of the lot can be used for cars to pull over so as not to block the road. Cars would drive onto the lot off of Bennett Street to the shop, then exit back out onto the road on the other end of the lot on Howell Avenue.

It was recommended that the commission approve this permit request, but only on the condition that Gadd receive written permission from the owner of the neighboring lot for use of that lot's driveway entrance from Bennett Street. However, Gadd was not present for the meeting and the commission had not received any document stating there was an agreement. As such, the commission decided to table the item for later on.

Other than this agenda item, the commission spent the meeting continuing their ongoing discussion of rezoning the old Institute Property.

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Fri. Jan. 17 - Sun. Jan. 19  
@ 7pm

# Jury summonses by email in Alaska

When Alaskans are summoned for jury service, they fill out and return a questionnaire that allows court personnel to qualify, defer, or excuse them from service. After historically sending these documents in the mail, the court has switched to using email to send them. By November of 2019, courts statewide were sending these jury documents by email.

Potential juror email addresses are provided by the Permanent Fund Dividend office, as is all other potential juror information. If the email is not responded to, the court mails a postcard.

Emailing jury summonses is another way the court system is reducing expenses and

improving efficiencies for jurors and court staff.

Always check emails to make sure links go to courts.alaska.gov and not a fake page. The Alaska Court System is not aware of any phishing or scams on Alaskan jurors by email, but there have been many instances in which scammers call Alaskans asking for fine payments, which the court system does not do. The login screen for the online juror questionnaire asks for the last four digits of a potential juror's social security number, but not the entire number.

If you have concerns about the legitimacy of a particular summons, contact your local court or visit <https://courts.alaska.gov/jury>.

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# Hard fight for Wolves in first home games of the season

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Wolves games of the season on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 10 and 11. hosted their first official home



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Sean Gillen (No. 32) making a pass during Friday night's game against Metlakatla.

They went up against the Metlakatla Chiefs in two hard-fought games. The Wolves made a good showing, but failed to claim any wins.

The first game, on Friday night, started off on the wrong foot. Wolves player Ryan Rooney (no. 24) made the first score of the game, but that would be the only basket Wrangell would make the whole quarter. The Chiefs, meanwhile, pulled ahead with 13 points. The Wolves would fight hard to keep up, but the Chiefs always managed to stay ahead. The final score of the game was 34-65, a loss for Wrangell.

The second game on Saturday night was much like the first. The Wolves made a few points in the first quarter while Metlakatla pulled ahead to a wide lead. By halftime, the score was 12-42 in favor of the Chiefs. The end of the third quarter saw the Chiefs' lead extended to 20-62. However, the Wolves made a strong showing in their defensive

game in the fourth quarter, keeping the Chiefs from scoring any more. Offensively, Wrangell also managed to make another 11 points. However, they did not have enough time to catch up to the Chiefs. The final score was 33-62, another loss for Wrangell.

Coach Cody Angerman complimented the Chiefs on their performance, saying they played really well and that they are always a tough team to go up against. He also said that he felt the Wolves' performance was lackluster, but they have a bye week this week to really practice hard and tighten up their performance. Like he tells his team, he said that these games do not matter very much in the grand scheme of things, they are essentially practice for regionals.

"As long as we are the best team we can be by then, we have a shot," he said.

After this bye week, the Wolves will be going up against Haines on Jan. 24 and 25.

## How to promote healthy pollinators

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

Christi Henthorn is a journeyman beekeeper with Wuerker Bee Apiary, of North Carolina. She describes herself on her website as a native of Wisconsin and an Alaskan transplant, currently raising bees on the east coast. She was visiting Wrangell to host a "Beekeeping 101" class for community members interested in doing so, as well as giving a talk on how to promote "healthy pollinators" in the area.

"The honey bee's the poster child for promoting and saving pollinators, because everyone can relate to the honey bee because she makes honey, and almost everybody likes honey," Henthorn said.

A "pollinator" is any creature that moves pollen from flower to flower, helping plants to spread and crops to grow. As Henthorn said, bees are probably one of the best-known pollinators, but there is actually a wide array of animals that do the same job. Some other pollinators include wasps, flies, beetles, butterflies, moths, and some species of hummingbird. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the most common pollinators found in Alaska include several species of bees, wasps, Syrphid flies, Hawk moths, and butterflies. Henthorn added that the Sphinx moth is also a common pollinator to find in Alaska.

"Almost 90 percent of all flowering plants rely on animal pollinators," Henthorn said. "That's a lot of species; 200,000 species of animals act as pollinators. That's crazy, right?"

So why are pollinators so important? They are vital to food security, Henthorn explained, as they help plants to grow and spread. According to Henthorn, 80 percent of the crop plants grown around the world for food and plant-based industrial products require animal pollination. Pollinators encourage the growth of many different kinds of food, some of which may surprise people. Bumblebees increase tomato and pepper yields, she said, and squash bees pollinate zucchini, squash, and cucumbers. Honey bees help pollinate avocados, as well.

"Moths pollinate bananas, flies pollinate the cola nut, butterflies pollinate a lot of different nuts, beetles pollinate pomegranates, ants pollinate mangoes, and then you've got bees that pollinate coffee, grapes, watermelon, other melons, berries, kiwi, fruit, peaches for yogurt, and cotton for the tablecloth," Henthorn said.

Henthorn said that there is a lot individuals can do to help promote a healthy environment for pollinators. For example, Henthorn said people could consider supporting the Pollinator Partnership, an international organization that works to protect pollinator species. People can also plant a pollinator-friendly garden. An example of how to make a pollinator garden can be found on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website, she said. According to this article, it is best to research what kinds of wildflowers and other plants are native to one's area before building a garden. This will help the plants grow easier and will be more likely to draw in local pollinators, as they are already familiar with the plants in the garden. Another way that Henthorn said people can help pollinators is by being careful with pesticides, and to follow instructions on their use carefully.

## Narrow losses for the Lady Wolves

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

The Lady Wolves made a good showing in their games against the Metlakatla Miss Chiefs this weekend, Jan. 10 and 11. While they did not come home with any wins this week, the games could easily be described as intense and were lost by only a narrow margin.

The first game on Friday started with Wrangell and Metlakatla neck and neck. Both teams managed to tie at 3 points each in the first quarter, and tied again at the second quarter at 14-14. The Miss Chiefs managed to take a slight lead in the third quarter, 20-17. This lead only increased slightly in the fourth quarter, from 3 points to 6. The final score was 30-24, a narrow loss for the Lady Wolves.

The second game, on Saturday, was equally intense. The Lady Wolves took an early lead in the first quarter, 6-9, and only stayed ahead of Metlakatla by the narrowest

of margins. The score was 15-17 in the second quarter, and 29-31 in the third. Unfortunately, the Miss Chiefs began putting on a very strong offensive game in the fourth quarter and managed to take the lead. The final score was 43-38, another last-minute win for the Miss Chiefs.

Coach Laurie Brown said she was especially proud of her team's performance in Saturday's game, particularly in her team's defensive game. Metlakatla has a strong basketball program, she said, but she thinks that with some more practice and hard work the Lady Wolves could come back and beat them in the future. Moving forward, she said that the team is going to focus on building confidence in their passing game and on offense, and continuing to gel together as a team.

"They were definitely some close games," Brown said.

The Lady Wolves have a bye week this weekend. They will be playing against Haines

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# Alaska Fish Factor By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

## Warm waters across Alaska cause salmon die-offs last summer

Alaskans saw salmon die offs last summer across the state when water temperatures soared into the mid-70s to above 80 degrees in some regions. But what about threats to salmon from the accompanying global gorilla - increased acidity?

It's a shock to learn that while extensive studies for years have been underway by Alaska scientists on impacts to major fish and shellfish stocks, there's been none done in Alaska for salmon. In fact, only two lab studies have been done on Alaska salmon, both out of state, which showed acidity impairs coho

salmon's sense of smell and slows pink salmon growth rates. Other impacts remain unknown.

That's changing with a federally funded, multi-year, collaborative project underway with Alaska's universities and the Alaska Ocean Observing System.

"We don't really have concrete evidence that it's already affecting our salmon fisheries. But ocean acidification (OA) is certainly a larger, further down the line risk that's going to compound with all the other changes that are currently occurring. It is certainly a risk we want to look at ahead of time," said Toby

Schwoerer, an economist with the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of Alaska/Anchorage.

Schwoerer is part of a team that is formally evaluating the risks of OA to Gulf of Alaska salmon in lab tests and statistical models, and assessing responses needed to plan and adapt.

"The better we can prepare for ocean change, the better we're going to end up managing our resources which are going to need to adapt to rapid ocean change," he said, adding that Alaska's salmon management system also will need to adapt.

"We have some of the best salmon management practices in the world, but the question is, will they be the best practices in the future?" Schworer emphasized.

"With the changing ocean environment that we are witnessing all around us, whether it be changes in the Gulf of Alaska, the collapse of cod for fishermen in Kodiak, or fish appearing in different locations up in the Bering Sea and the loss of sea ice, I think these changes urge us to think outside the box," he added. "What is going to be next for our current man-

**Continued on page 7**

## Classified/Legals

### JOBS

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

WRANGELL PUBLIC

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for the 2020-2021 School Year: Secondary School Counselor: the counselor is responsible for data collection related to social, emotional and personal counseling and guidance for students assigned. Valid Alaskan Type C Special Services Certificate required, with an endorsement as Counselor. Type A Teaching Certificate preferred. At least one year demonstrated successful educational counseling experience preferred. Responsibilities: A. It is the responsibility of the counselor to maintain competency in areas of certification and assignment. B. It is the responsibility of the counselor to provide for counseling opportunities and a planned sequence of career guidance activities for students. C. It is the responsibility of the counselor to provide consulting service to the teachers, administrator and parents. D. It is the responsibility of the counselor to provide information and recommendations for education and career placement, and to make health, psychological and legal referrals. E. It is the responsibility of the counselor to share in the facilitation of district wide testing program to include statewide assessments and MAP testing, assessments

and surveys including administration, information, interpretation, staff training and evaluation of results. F. It is the responsibility of the counselor to strive for harmonious and cooperative relationships with staff, students, parents and community. G. It is the responsibility of the counselor to encourage community participation, maintain a positive image, and to develop contacts in the community. Anticipated Start Date: August 26, 2020. 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 District's policy to not discriminate on the basis of age,

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### City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska NOTICE INVITING BIDS CITY DOCK SUMMER FLOAT PROCUREMENT

Notice is hereby given that the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska will receive sealed bids for the purchase of a 10' x 130' Float for the Wrangell City Dock. The Work consists of all activities necessary to construct and delivery the float as described in the contract documents. The Borough's estimate for the float is approximately \$50,000-\$60,000.

Sealed bids will be received by the City and Borough of Wrangell, Post Office Box 531, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, or located at the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, until 2:00 PM prevailing time on January 21, 2020, at which time they will be publicly opened and read.

Complete bidding/contract documents for this project are available in electronic form only. Printed copies of the bid documents are not available from the Owner. The contract documents may also be downloaded from the Borough's website, www.wrangell.com, under the Bids and RFP's section. Downloading contract documents from the Borough's website requires registration with the Borough Clerk to be placed on the Plan Holders List and to ensure receipt of subsequent Addenda. Failure to register may adversely affect your proposal. It is the Offeror's responsibility to insure they have received all Addenda affecting this project. To be registered, contact the Borough Clerk at 907-874-2381 or at clerk@wrangell.com.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive any informality in a Bid, or to make award to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder, as it best serves the interests of the OWNER.

OWNER: The City and Borough of Wrangell  
Lisa Von Bargaen, Borough Manager

**Publish: January 2, 9 and 16, 2020**

### Request for Proposal **School Bus Transportation** **For Wrangell Public Schools**

Wrangell Public Schools is requesting proposals for student transportation. The contract period will begin July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2025. Any interested parties should contact the Wrangell Public Schools District Office for a complete proposal packet at:

P.O. Box 2319  
350 Bennett Street  
Wrangell, AK 99929

Phone: (907) 874-2347 Fax: (907) 874-3137

It is understood by all interested parties responding to this proposal that this document is a request for pupil transportation proposal and NOT AN INVITATION TO BID.

There will be a pre-proposal Conference, attendance by audio conference will be available at 3:00 p.m. on January 30, 2020 in the Superintendent's office. If unable to attend, please contact the district office.

Sealed proposals must be received by 3:00 p.m., February 20, 2020.

Proposals will be opened at 3:30 p.m. on February 20, 2020. The proposal will be taken to the Wrangell Public School Board during their next meeting following the opening of the proposals for their decision on selection of a contractor.

**Published: January 16, 2020**



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# Census committee workshops getting higher turnout in Wrangell

By CALEB VIERKANT  
Sentinel writer

City officials and other community members came together at city hall last week on Jan. 10 to discuss the upcoming 2020 census. The census occurs nationwide every 10 years, since the government began tracking the nation's population in 1790, according to the Census Bureau's website. The purpose of the census is to see how populations have changed state to state, to make sure that

there is fair representation in Congress.

According to the 2010 census, Alaska had a population of 710,231, an increase of 13.3 percent from the 2000 census. This makes Alaska one of the least populated states, just behind Delaware with a 2010 population of almost 900,000.

"It's critically important to the state and the community because, based off the numbers, is how they divvy up money to the state and then it trickles

down to the community," Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore said. "From grant agencies, to the WIC program, to Medicare, to social services."

Rushmore invited several community members to discuss ways to encourage higher turnout in Wrangell. Due to some people not understanding the importance of being counted in the census, or just by having a general distrust of the government, she said that Alaska's population was likely undercounted in 2010. Wrangell, itself, also had a low turnout.

"Alaska was undercounted in 2010, and the hard to reach populations in remote Alaska, in fact the census is starting in remote areas this month because of the hard to reach populations," Rushmore said. "In 2010 only 54 percent of Wrangell responded, and then it required a whole bunch of followup to get more people to respond. I don't really know, but I don't think the final count

was very high. I don't think it was over 70 percent."

The people invited to be part of this discussion each represented a group that had a lot of interaction with the wider Wrangell community, such as the chamber of commerce, the Wrangell Cooperative Association, the Salvation Army, churches, and others. Rushmore added that Alaska Counts, a group working to encourage turnout among Alaskans for the 2020 census, is offering mini-grants of \$250 to organizations to conduct census outreach.

Several of the ideas to encourage turnout for the census revolved around just providing the public with information about what the census is, and what information they need. The census takes less personal information than a PFD application Rushmore said. Another issue that members of Wrangell's native population need to be aware of, pointed out by Esther Ashton with the WCA, is that the head of the

household listed in the census has to be native, or the entire household will not be counted as part of the native population in the census.

Among the ideas to spread information and to encourage turnout include setting up a booth at the upcoming health fair and other future events. Another idea was to set up a computer at the library for people to use for the census, as well. Then there was the idea to simply put up posters on bulletin boards and in businesses around town. Another was to get some stickers made, so people can show that they took the census. Another idea brought up was to turn the census into a pseudo-competition with the nearby city of Petersburg, to see which community could get a higher turnout.

To learn more about the census, and how it pertains to Alaska in particular, visit [www.alaskacounts.org](http://www.alaskacounts.org). Online responses to the census will open in March, with Census Day itself on April 1.

## Wrangell and Petersburg lose power

By CALEB VIERKANT AND  
BRIAN VALERA  
Sentinel writers

The cities of Wrangell and Petersburg both briefly lost power on Friday morning, Jan. 10. The power outage occurred a little before 11 a.m. and lasted about an hour. Both cities typically receive their electricity from a hydro plant at Tyee Lake, near Bradfield Canal. Rod Rhoades, light and power director for Wrangell, said that there was a "phase to phase fault" in the power line between the lake and the two cities. He speculated that this could mean something like a tree branch fell on the power lines, but added that the problem could possibly clear itself before it was discovered. Both communities were running on diesel power until they could get the power lines up and running again.

Petersburg Borough Utility Director Karl Hagerman had just ended a teleconference with SEAPA when the power went out. In the teleconference, he was encouraged to start the borough's diesel generators immediately should the power go out during cold weather in order to restore power to the commu-

nity as soon as possible to prevent homes and businesses from getting too cold. The diesel generators restored power to Petersburg in about an hour, said Hagerman. The generators ran for approximately four hours.

"We have to bring the town back online in pieces so that we can control the amount of load that is being applied to the diesel plant," said Hagerman. "If we bring on too much too soon, we can have a trip on the generators that puts people back in the dark."

A statement by Clay Hammer, operations manager for the Southeast Alaska Power Agency, went into a little more detail about what happened.

"This Morning Tyee Lake's breaker T-10 opened at 10:52 on a phase A-B fault cutting power in Wrangell and Petersburg," the statement reads. "Distance relays at the Tyee plant indicated that the location of the fault was approximately 46-48 miles from the Tyee plant or roughly 1-2 miles south of the Wrangell Switchyard ... The most likely culprit as indicated by a phase to phase fault may have been a tree or snow laden branch across the conductors."

In a Facebook post later in the afternoon on Friday, Rhoades confirmed that the power lines in the probable fault area were clear after checking via aircraft and drone. The cause of the fault was not identified and likely cleared itself, and he reiterated that this was not unusual, but it happened about two miles south of the Wrangell substation. Breaker T-10 was closed again around 2:20 p.m., according to Hammer's statement, meaning it was energized and working again. Restoration of SEAPA power was complete by 3:15 p.m.

## Fish Factor

Continued from page 6

agement systems? We've got to be resilient as a salmon system to deal with these changes. That's the overarching question we're trying to address."

The OA salmon project, which began in 2018 and runs through 2021, also points out that Alaska's salmon fleets are contributing to the problem. Increased acidity stems from ocean absorption of carbon dioxide emissions caused primarily by burning of fossil fuels, which power the fishing fleets.

"There is innovation in terms of refrigeration, of vessels becoming larger with more capacity to hold salmon but overall, we haven't really seen much innovation in terms of the way we catch salmon," he explained. "What we have seen is we have the largest CO2 emissions in the fishery, because average horsepower throughout the entire salmon fleet has doubled simply because of the way we manage the fishery - it's still a race for fish."

**VHF update** - Help is on the way for the thousands of mariners who for months have been out of touch with the Coast Guard in case of an emergency. Calls on VHF radio Channel 16, the international distress frequency, are not being received by Coast Guard communication centers. Other mariners in range can hear and relay a VHF message, but the Coast Guard cannot.

Channel 16 is akin to calling 911, said Ed Page, a retired Coast Guard officer who runs the Marine Exchange of Alaska. "I don't know how many people would be that comfortable if suddenly the 911 system went down for months on end, that's kind of what we have here," Page told KBBI in Homer.

The problem stems from outages at nearly one third of Alaska's old, far flung, 34 VHF towers. The outages affect regions near Homer, the Barren Islands, Chugach Islands, Kachemak Bay, Southern Cook Inlet, Kennedy Entrance, Cape Gull, Northwestern Afognak Island, Cape Douglas and Shelikof Strait.

VHF towers have been located in Alaska for decades on remote mountain tops and work off of a five mile line of sight.

"There's a number of factors that can cause a radio tower to go down," said Coast Guard Public Information Officer Lieutenant Scott McCann. "The solar panels are pretty reliable but they also run on diesel generators which can go down. They have battery banks which can go down. The huts and towers can be compromised. The radio antennas on the towers can have issues. Some of them have parts that are so old they're no longer made anymore. And in order to fly the helicopters up to the top of the mountain, they have to be able to see the mountain," he told the Homer radio station.

A new service company has been hired to fix the outages, according to Coast Alaska. Silver Moun-

tain Construction, a Palmer-based company owned by Cook Inlet Region, Inc.(CIRI), was awarded an \$8.5 million contract to take over servicing the sites. It replaces Lynxnet LLC, a Virginia-based company owned by NANA Regional Corporation of Kotzebue whose contract was not renewed last month.

The VHF tower fixers are prioritizing the repairs, Lyle Kessler, External Affairs Officer for the Seventeenth District, told KMXT in Kodiak.

"They can't go out and fix all the sites at once, so we're working with a contractor to triage, saying get to these sites first, if you can," he said. "We will also be working towards a longer term solution of replacing the power generation at these sites as well."

Meanwhile, Kessler advised all mariners to have back up plans.

"If you're in an area where you have cell phone reception, you can call command centers if you need help from the Coast Guard. If you have satellite communications, you can call those numbers. Or if you're in distress, activate your EPIRB or use your Inreach device or other means of communication," he said, adding, "Always file a float plan with someone, so that if you don't come back when you're expected, they can let us know."

**Fish trends** - Each year American market watchers predict eating trends that are making a splash and most say 2020 and beyond bode well for seafood.

A big mover is that more Americans are seeking more healthy eating choices, and many also continue to shift to sustainable seafood choices. Eating Well magazine listed sustainable seafood as a top trend with both consumers and chefs.

A trends overview by SeafoodSource shows that plant-based foods are booming, and the category jumped by 31 percent over the past two year into a \$4.5 billion industry at the national retail level - 11 percent in just the past year. Some worry that vegetarian products labeled as salmon or 'finless fish' will confuse buyers even more.

Grain free and alternative breadings for seafood made the top 10 trends at Whole Foods markets.

Whole Foods predicts foods for kids will include more "adventurous" options, such as non-breaded salmon sticks and Washington, DC-based Blue Circle's Happy Fish, featuring fish-shaped frozen salmon from Norway and Atlantic cod patties.

So called "fresh snacks" are becoming a rage, such as pickled vegetables and drinkable soups. For seafood, Bellingham, Washington-based Trans-Ocean, owned by Maruha Nichiro of Japan has launched three ounce packages of Simply Surimi Seafood Snackers made from Alaska pollock.

Most food purveyors agree that Alaska seafood provides an appealing combination to customers including well managed fisheries, clean waters, and support of small businesses and fishing jobs.

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# Father. Whale Captain. Census Taker.

Usually, Sam spends his time out at sea. Today, Sam and others like him will be out in the villages and communities to help us get an accurate count for the 2020 Census. By opening your door you will ensure our voice is heard for all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

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