Wrangell, Alaska February 21, 2019

# WRANGELL SEN

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# 1st budget draft revealed at school board meeting

By CALEB VIERKANT Sentinel writer

A first draft of the Wrangell School District's 2020 budget was made public at last Monday's school board meeting. In total, the proposed budget for FY 2020 allows for \$5.37 million in revenue, and \$5.34 million in expenditures.

This budget is fairly tight, and has several major cuts to expenditures, compared to previous years. For example, health benefits have been reduced by about \$313,000. Funds for travel, supplies, and equipment have also been reduced.

Another major change to how the district operates is the combination of two positions. District Superintendent Debbe

have to say this is, by and large, probably one of the toughest budgets I've ever had to start with, because I kept waiting and waiting for something to come out of the capitol as to what they were thinking about doing."

- Georgianna Buhler



### Learning about love at the library

It was Story Time at the library last Thursday. Being Valentine's Day, all the stories they read were about love.

Lancaster will be assuming the role of special education director upon adoption of this budget. The position is currently contracted out to people outside of Wrangell, Lancaster explained. She added that this would not lead to an increase in her own salary, and would save the district about \$80,000.

These budget cuts are in response to the state budget proposed by Governor Mike Dunleavy. The governor's budget, if adopted, would reduce base student allocation by 23.4% as well as eliminate

\$30 million in extra funding to school districts across the state. Georgianna Buhler, who has been working on the budget for the district, said that these cuts would cost Wrangell alone about \$1 million. She described the proposed state budget as being "forced to stare at the fiscal cliff."

"I have to say this is, by and large, probably one of the toughest budgets I've ever had to start with, because I kept waiting and waiting for something to come out of the capitol as to what they were thinking about doing," Buhler said. "Then when it came out I didn't like what I heard."

There was some concern amongst the school board about the cuts to health insurance. Buhler said that they were looking for ways to make sure staff members had good coverage, but they needed to be creative. They were talking with health insurance professionals, she said, and looking at options like district self-insurance, tiered deductible health reimbursement arrangements, and health savings accounts. Buhler also said that they are still looking for places

to save money, but that cuts to the budget for classified and certified staff will only be seen as a "last resort" option.

School Board Member Jessica Rooney asked if Buhler had looked into cuts in sports programs. The governor's budget also proposed major cuts to the Alaska Marine Highway, she said, so travel for sports teams could become an issue. They might want to look into the possibility of parent-funded sporting events. Buhler said that it was something they could look into, if

The idea of switching to a four-day school schedule was also floated by the board. Board member Dave Wilson said that he could see several benefits to the idea. The school could save money on utilities if the district's facilities got an extra day off, for example. It would also help with attendance, as students who travelled for sporting events would no longer be missing class on Fridays. Teacher Mikki Angerman, who was attending the meeting as a part of the public, added that giving families an extra day off could help them travel more and spend more time together. Rooney said the idea of a four-day week was worth researching, but there were several consequences beyond the classroom they needed to consider. Schools serve as much as a day-care as a place to receive an education, she said. Parents with younger children rely on schools to take care of their children while they are at work. By shortening the school week by a day, they would be increasing childcare costs for families across Wrangell.

There was some further discussion on various aspects of the budget, including another member of the public advocating for not cutting dual-credit or challenging classes for Wrangell's more talented students. As this was only a first draft, no action was taken. The school board has until May 1 to give final approval for the district's new budget.

After the workshop, the board held a regular meeting. They heard from students Jade Balansag and Jing O'Brien on their recent trip to Juneau for the AASB legislative fly-in. They also received several letters from students, and watched a series of videos by Laura Davies' fifth-grade classroom for "school board recognition month."

The next school board meeting is scheduled for March 18.

# SEAPA board meets over energy problems

By CALEB VIERKANT

Sentinel writer

week, on Feb. 15, to discuss the ongoing power issues in the region. The SEAPA Board of Directors is made up of community members from the three cities: Two directors from Ketchikan, one from Petersburg, one from Wrangell, and a fifth seat that alternates between the cities (which belongs to Ketchikan this year.)

The lights are usually kept on in the cities of Wrangell and Petersburg via hydropower from Tyee Lake. However, sometimes power from the lake is sold to Ketchikan, when the power agency feels there is enough to share.

Due to unusually dry weather, Tyee Lake has not been able to refill adequately, and SEAPA recently reported that there was not enough power to go around. In response, Wrangell and Petersburg are using diesel power to help solve "peaking" issues, as the demand from the two communities exceeds Tyee's supply.

Ketchikan has switched to diesel as well to pay back the power

The conference opened with a review of the outlook in the near future and current lake levels. The weather forecast still looks to be dry in the next few weeks, according to SEAPA CEO Trey Acteson, but spring is around the corner. Temperatures are warming, albeit slowly, but warmer weather will allow snow to melt and begin refilling Tyee and Swan Lake.

As of Feb. 15, Tyee Lake's water level sat at 1,265.2 feet. Swan

Lake, another lake SEAPA draws power from, sits at 284.3 feet. Acteson said that both lakes are roughly five feet above their draft The Southeast Alaska Power Agency held a teleconference last limit. He suggested that the board consider lowering the draft limits another five feet. There was some concern among the Ketchikan board members about that issue. Should their diesel generators fail, they said, they would need that extra water for power. Lisa Von Bargen, Wrangell Borough Manager and alternate voting member of the board, also stated some concerns of using even more lake water in the driest part of the year. Robert Lynn, the board member from Petersburg, agreed that lowering the draft level did not seem like a good idea. He said that not enough data had been collected to decide whether it was necessary to draft below the current limit at Tyee. Acteson said it may become necessary, but there should be enough water for the next week or so. Von Bargen reiterated previously stated concerns from several board members that the main fear with drafting too much water was that it could leave all the communities without a backup, should their generators fail.

> Board member and Wrangell Mayor Steve Prysunka added in the meeting that his city has never received a formal request from SEAPA to switch to full diesel power, only "suggestions" that

He explained in a short interview that according to the power sale agreement between Wrangell and SEAPA, the city must purchase power from them. Should they switch to diesel power with-

Continued on page 8

### **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

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

Thursday, February 21: Paul Southland, Casey Crayne, Liz Buness, Dale Maenhout, Randy Kalkins, Alexandrea Kaer, Bridgett Bass. Friday, February 22: Candace Hunt, Cocoa Massin, Steve Angerman, Jim Maxand, Erika Bates, Sierra Wickman. Saturday, February 23: Anna Allen. Sunday, February 24: Shanda Barlow, Andrea Irvine, Lisa Schultz, Emilie Turner, Elsie Hansen, Elsie Bailey, Sean Rooney. Anniverary: Rob & Sharry Rooney. Monday, February 25: Fiona Scambler, Susan Wooden, Samantha DeBoer, Ryan Howe, Sharry Rooney, Dominique Key. Tuesday, February 26: Roman Privett-Murphy, Richard Bradshaw, Shari Moore, Sue Stevens, Stella Buness, Kathleen Harding, Nathan Klinke, Tyler Taylor. Wednesday, **February 27:** Tina Draper, Amber Hommel, Jacob Hammer. *An*niversary: Chuck & Ava Hay. Thursday, February 28: Howard McNeely, Tasha Massin, Lou Davidson, Shannon Nore, Felix Villarma, Frank Warfel, Kyla Teat.

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

### **Senior Center** Menu

#### Thursday, 21

Pork Chop Suey, Broccoli, Danish Salad, Fried Rice Friday, February 22

Cinnamon Chicken, Green Pepper, Steamed Zucchini, Fruit Monday, February 25

Chowder, 1/2 Tuna Sandwich, Honey Mustard Coleslaw Tuesday, February 26

Chicken Fricassee, Peas, Spicy Fruit Cup, Roll

Wednesday, February 27

Veggie Beef Hash, Tomato Rockefeller, Cauliflower, **Baking Soda Biscuits** 

Thursday, February 28

Beef Burritos, Black Beans, Fruit Slaw, Spanish Rice

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**

Saturday, February 23 Malaspina 2:30 a.m.

Sunday, February 24

Columbia 4:45 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26 Malaspina 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 2

Malaspina 2:15 a.m.

Sunday, March 3 Columbia 7:15 p.m. **Southbound** 

Monday, February 25 Malaspina 6:45 a.m.

Wednesday, February 27

Columbia 6:30 a.m.

Sunday, March 3

Malaspina 4:15 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6 Columbia 6:15 a.m.

Thursday, March 7 Malaspina 7:45 p.m.

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



### **TIDES** Feb. 21 - Feb. 28

	High Tides				Low Tides			
	$\mathbf{AM}$		PM		$\mathbf{AM}$		PM	
	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>	<b>Time</b>	<u>Ft</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Ft</u>
February 21	1:57	18.3	2:03	19.0	7:46	-0.7	8:11	-3.0
February 22	2:38	18.3	2:49	17.9	8:33	-0.8	8:52	-1.8
February 23	3:19	18.0	3:37	16.4	9:20	-0.4	9:34	-0.2
February 24	4:01	17.2	4:28	14.6	10:11	0.4	10:18	1.6
February 25	4:48	16.1	5:28	12.9	11:06	1.3	11:07	3.3
February 26	5:43	15.0	6:46	11.7			12:11	2.2
February 27	6:52	14.2	8:12	11.4	12:06	4.8	1:29	2.7
February 28	8:08	13.9	9:28	11.8	1:23	5.8	2:55	2.5

### Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

#### Thursday, February 28

Riverflats: Nolan Center, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Theme: Love is. Bring a dessert to get in free & enter contest.

#### Saturday, March 1

Suicide Prevention Training: Stikine Middle School Commons, 1 p.m.

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: M-F 1:30-3:30 p.m. Closed Sunday

Pool:

Arthritis Foundation Exercise Class: M-W-F 8:30-9:30 a.m. M-W-F 10:00-11:00 a.m. Water Aerobics:

M-W-F 6:00-7:30 a.m. MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Lap Swim:

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.

MTWThF 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. S 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lap/Tot Swim:

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.

#### February 20, 1919

The other day the reporter met Mr. Parrott in the express office where he was making a shipment of ginseng to New York. The little shipment amounted to only 18 pounds, but it will net Mr. Parrott \$4180. It is now almost six years since Mr. Parrott put in his ginseng farm on Sergief Island, near Wrangell. He has the plants in beds 190 feet long and six feet wide. When the foliage is on, the beds are almost covered. Mr. Parrott first got the idea that ginseng of a superior quality could be grown in Alaska from a perusal of a fur dealers' price list which quoted a higher price for ginseng grown in Quebec than that grown in the Alleghenies.

#### February 25, 1944

Fairbanks probably will get the Bishop Rowe Memorial, Bishop Bentley told the Wrangell Chamber of Commerce at its luncheon meeting yesterday. Paying compliment to Wrangell for its able effort in making an offer to establish the memorial here, Bishop Bentley said that in as much as Fairbanks is more centrally located to the work of the Episcopal missions in the north, it had virtually been decided to build the memorial there. It will be in the form of an office and residence for the Bishop, and will include accommodations for staff members traveling to and from the various outposts and generally serve as the headquarters of the Episcopal Church in Alaska, he explained.

#### February 20, 1969

Mrs. Lillian S. Nolan of West New Haven, Conn., supreme president of the Emblem Club, will make an official visit to Wrangell Sunday. Traveling with Mrs. Nolan is Supreme Marshal Mrs. Forrest Benjamin of Milford, Conn.

Here from Ketchikan for a visit is past president of the Wrangell Emblem Club and present Supreme Assistant Chaplain, Mrs. Helen Smith. Mrs. Smith came to attend the Purple Bubble Ball last Saturday and is the houseguest of Mrs. Lenora Moore.

#### February 24, 1994

A story in the Sept. 30, 1993 issue of the Sentinel reported that a bird boarded a U.S. Forest Service boat earlier that month at Gut Island, and refused to be shooed away by the three Forest Service employees during the entire trip down the Stikine River back to Wrangell. Once here, the bird flew into the Delta Western office. From that point on, former editor George Roth said the bird's exact whereabouts were unknown. According to Bill Haines, who lives at 5-1/2 mile Zimovia with his wife, Marie, the bird visited a couple downtown businesses and ended up at the NAPA auto parts store, where it lighted on Dick Crockett's hat. When Crockett left, so did the bird, staying perched on his hat as he drove away and out the road. Crockett made a stop at the Haines home, where the bird took up residence.

### **Correction**

In last week's story on Matt Nore deploying with the National Guard, we printed the wrong name of one of the people who spoke at his send-off. It was Brian Merritt who spoke, not Jonathan Merritt.

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Weather						
Date	High	Low				
Feb. 11	36	27				
Feb. 12	30	21				
Feb. 13	30	26				
Feb. 14	37	28				
Feb. 15	34	27				
Feb. 16	27	21				
Feb. 17	27	19				
Feb. 18	35	27				



Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Feb 21	7:02 am	5:03 pm	10:01h
Feb 22	6:59 am	5:05 pm	10:06h
Feb 23	6:57 am	5:07 pm	10:10h
Feb 24	6:54 am	5:09 pm	10:15h
Feb 25	6:52 am	5:12 pm	10:20h
Feb 26	6:49 am	5:14 pm	10:25h
Feb 27	6:47 am	5:16 pm	10:29h
Feb 28	6:44 am	5:18 pm	10:34h

# Parks and Rec Board discusses 2019 priorities, Helping Our Parks project

By CALEB VIERKANT Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held their monthly meeting last Wednesday, Feb. 13. Among various topics of discussion was the list of priorities for the department with the new

Parks and Recreation Director Kate Thomas lined out some of the priorities she felt needed the most attention. One is to increase the hours of the recreation coordinator position from 30 hours a week to 40. She also said she would like to hire a lifeguard to a permanent position to monitor evening swims at the community pool. This person needs to be a "competent, consistent, committed" lifeguard, she said. Along a similar line, Thomas said she would like to see a pay increase for lifeguards. She said that, compared to the rest of Alaska, Wrangell was on the low end of lifeguard wages.

"I don't know how feasible it will be to obtain that person, and retain them, if there's not some wage, or benefit, or award to it," Thomas said. "It's not an easy role, always. It does require some aquatics training and certifications, and an ability to teach swim lessons."

Other priorities for the 2019 budget included replacing some of the department's equipment, such as lawn mowers, expanding summer staffing positions, increasing the repair budget, and looking into painting the front of the community pool. This was only a discussion item on the board's agenda, so no action was

The advisory board also discussed the upcoming Helping Our Parks (HOP) project. The parks and rec department is seeking community support and involvement in a beautification project of Volunteer Park, located next to Evergreen Elementary School. The HOP project is still in its planning stages, but the department is hoping to hold the event in the early spring. However, the board will be looking for financial and material donations for the project, as well as volunteers to come out and help. The board reviewed a tentative list of tasks they hope to accomplish with the project. These include scraping and repainting buildings and bleachers, repairing broken sections of fencing around the baseball fields, fixing guardrails and gutters, and scraping the tennis and volleyball courts of vegetation. The board also reviewed a draft of a letter



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINE

#### Valentine's snacks

Missy Helton set up a booth at City Market last Wednesday to sell homemade goods for Valentine's Day. Among the snacks she offered were banana bread, cookies, and cake.

to the public they plan to send out soon, asking for support, as well as a list of preparation work that needs to be completed before the project can begin.

The board agreed to continue to workshop the list of tasks, and to have it ready by the end of the month. They also discussed hosting other events to raise support, such as a fish fry and a fun run. Again, this was only a discussion item on their agenda, so no action was taken. Other items covered in the meeting include approval of the department's membership purchasing policy, and a discussion of how best to recognize and thank volunteers.

# Planning and Zoning Commission approve nuisance codes

By CALEB VIERKANT Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Planning and Zoning Commission met last Thursday, Feb. 14, to discuss proposed changes to the city's nuisance codes. This project to update Wrangell's code of ordinances has been in the works

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for some time, and a draft of the proposed changes finally came before the commission for review.

In short, the proposed changes to the code would prohibit Wrangell residents from making "loud, disturbing, or unnecessary noise" above the volume of 90 decibels between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on weekdays, and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on weekends and holidays. During all other hours, the decibel level is lowered to 50. Noises that exceed the allowed decibel level, the proposed code reads, may be permitted if the noise is muffled or located within a structure, and as long as the noise does not exceed decibel levels at the property level. Violating this proposed code could lead to fines up to \$500.

The proposal also lists several exemptions from the code. Noises made from emergency public works are exempt, for example. Other exemptions include parades and other cityauthorized activities, sirens on

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emergency vehicles, church bells and school alarms, construction work and the use of power tools within acceptable hours, boat maintenance, regular operations of motor vehicles, and snow removal. Those intending to work on a project that will require loud noises at odd hours will also be allowed to apply for a temporary "excessive noise" permit with the

There was quite a bit of discussion about some of the exemptions listed in proposed ordinance. Mainly, some members of the commission were concerned about the wording of the exemption on boat maintenance. The exact wording of this exemption read, "The provisions of this section shall not apply to the normal operation of any boat or vessel within harbors; or the

maintenance on any vessel in a district zoned to allow this type of activity between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. weekdays; and 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. weekends and holi-

According to the wording of the exemption, Commissioner Don McConachie said, it could be interpreted that the city is banning boat maintenance outside of harbors or the boat yard. It would basically ban people from repairing their personal crafts in their own driveways. The other commissioners were in agreement on how the wording could be badly interpreted. After some debate on how to fix the exemption, or to delete it altogether, it was agreed to amend the proposal and reword the exemption.

"So the way I'm hearing this

is right now you all are saying that the provisions of this section sum up vessels," said Rushmore. "'Number eight: Vessels. Provisions of this section shall not apply to normal operation or maintenance of a personal boat or vessel."

This amendment, and the proposed ordinance itself, were approved by the commission. During the meeting, the commission also gave its final approval on the "Curleyville" replat, as well as a request from Chad and Lisa Smith to divide property they own near Mt. Dewey into two lots. They also approved of a variance request by the Smith family to reduce the required width of an access easement from 30' to 20', and also heard an update on the ongoing land trade project between the Forest Service and Alaska Mental Health.

## Police report

February 11, 2019

Agency assist: Message contact.

February 12, 2019

Suspicious incident: Possible trespassing.

Welfare check. Suspicious incident.

Trespass letter: Person barred from City Mar-

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for out of state

Traffic stop: Verbal warning for failure to stop. Agency assist: Paper service. Disturbance.

February 13, 2019

Agency assist: Breathalyzer test. Two paper services. Disturbance.

February 14, 2019 86'd letter served.

Two citizen assist: Vehicle unlocked. Agency assist: Alarm. Agency assist: Line department.

Suspicious vehicle.

Parking complaint. Disturbance: Domestic.

February 15, 2019

February 16, 2019 Unsecured premises: Owner contacted.

February 17, 2019

Citation issued to Christine Florschutz, 58. Dog at large.

Criminal mischief.

Civil issue.

Agency assist. Agency assist: Chimney fire.

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

### Discount and insurance offered only with select company and subject to availability and qualifications. Allstate Insurance Company, Allstate Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Allstate Indemnity Company; Northbrook, IL © 2012 Allstate Insurance Company.

# **Obituary:** Mary Ann Phillips, 65

Mary Ann Phillips, 65 and a lifelong Wrangell resident, passed away February 5, 2019 in Zihuantanejo, Mexico while on vacation with her family.

She was born on November 18, 1953 in Bishop Rowe Hospital to Maurice and Mary Buness.

She attended Wrangell Public Schools until her family moved to the Tacoma area in 1964. She returned to Wrangell with them in January 1970 and made her home here since. After graduating from Wrangell High School, she attended the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

She married her high school sweetheart Vern Phillips, of Wrangell, on June 16, 1972 in the First Presbyterian Church. She had to two sons, Dustin and Scott Phillips, both of Wrangell. An important part of Ann's family was Dustin's signifi-



Mary Ann Phillips

cant other Kayla, and children Hailey and Michael.

She worked for her family's insurance business, then Vern and Ann bought and worked a fish tender for a few years until the Phillips family established Sea Level Seafoods in 1985. She was a permanent fixture in the office and in June of 2018, she retired after 33 years. She enjoyed running up the Stikine River with Vern, family, music, filling the porch of her home with colorful flowers, friends, sunbathing and vacationing in Mexico.

Taking after her mother, she was locally famous for her wonderful cooking and entertaining. For many years she organized the cuisine for the Stikine Sportsmens' Game dinner and other events; whether it was an intimate dinner party or a reception spread, her guests knew the food would be plentiful, appetizing and delicious. She was a longtime volunteer

at Elks Lodge 1595 and a member of the Friends of the Irene Ingle Public Library.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Maurice and Mary Buness of Wrangell and her brothers Steve Buness of Wrangell and Sam Buness of Valdez.

She is survived by her husband Vern; sons Dustin and Scott; sisters Kay Jabusch and Marie Davidson, both of Wrangell; brothers Mike Buness and Scott Buness of Wrangell and Mark Buness of Juneau and many nieces and nephews.

A memorial service will be held at 1:00 pm, Thursday, February 21 at the Harbor Lights Church. A celebration of life gathering will follow at the Wrangell Elks

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the Wrangell Public Library Summer Reading Program.

### Letter to the Editor

To the Editor:

As a resident of Wrangell who cares about this wonderful community, I'm amazed that we need such a large police force for the small island of Wrangell with a population of 2,521. As I sat in the small courtroom this morning gathering Domestic Violence statistics for a grant I'm writing, I was dismayed to see so many young members of our town incarcerated and unable to make bail due to the increase in unemployment.

I was also stunned at how broken our legal system is. We have an opportunity to bring vocational training back for our youth. This would give hope, skills, and income to this community. I have talked to Mayor Prysunka, assembly members, business owners, the school superintendent, and vendors in the shipyard about potential courses to be offered for a Maritime Program that will provide Wrangell High School students and young adults with vocational opportunities in the maritime community. Partnerships with the City of Wrangell, State of Alaska, Wrangell School District, Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA) IGAP, Marine Service Center and their skilled vendors, the University of Alaska Southeast (for college credits), and Alaska's Crossings will be an investment to both the community in workforce readiness, hope, career direction and our town winter and summer employment.

During winter holidays, offer workshops such as learning knots, splicing, meteorology, and forming part of a navigation watch. Participants could receive an Able-Bodied Seaman ticket to work on the ferry or tugs. After talking to Shirley Marquart, the Alaska Marine Highway System wants locals and will donate the next lifeboat to further training. These courses will include community support, project feasibility, and workforce readiness for the City of Wrangell, Wrangell Cooperative Association, Alaska Marine Highway, Inland Boatmens Union (IBU), other harbors in Southeast, and the Marine Service Center as well as on-the-job training partnering apprentices with

My concern is how 25% of our city budget goes to law enforcement. We know it is a challenging job, but with better training for police officers, we can improve communication and interaction within our community. Let's get the meth, coke, heroin, drug traffic, drug dealers arrested and pulled off the streets. Stop drivers who exceed the posted speed limit on Zimovia Highway where large and small dogs are running loose causing accidents, and concerns for the safety for children going to and from school, senior citizens and people of all ages who walk the sidewalk. Let's start patrolling the highways and back roads where three accidents where vehicles and injured people weren't discovered for hours. Post signs and paint the curb yellow at Wrangell Community Services so people don't park and get a ticket. Let's stop the racial profiling toward Alaska Natives and American Indians.

As a community, we can make Wrangell the greatest place to live, but it will take all of us to make it happen. Interested in being part of the solution? Be part of our committee.

**Loretto Jones** 

### **Obituary:** Ethan Walter Petticrew Jr. (Joe Jr.), 81

Ethan Walter Petticrew Jr. (Joe Jr.), 81, died on February 9, 2019 at his home in Wrangell, Alaska.

Born January 22, 1938 in Wrangell to Ethan Walter Petticrew Sr. (Joe Sr.) and Florence Imogene (West) Petticrew.

He spent his childhood in Wrangell amongst good friends that he kept for a lifetime. He attended Wrangell High School, was a basketball player, and graduated on May 10, 1957.

He married Anne Carroll (Carol Anne) Casey on August 8, 1959 in Sitka at St. Peter's by the

He was a talented man, and mastered many skills being especially fond of the maritime industries. His most favorite and memorable was commercial fishing and police work. He owned and captained two of his own boats named the Maryanne and the Barbarian. He spent many years commercial fishing as a boy with his father, and then shared that same experience as a man with his son.

In the early 1960s he joined the Los Angeles police force, then later returned home and became an Alaska State Trooper.

His love for the ocean and fishing lured him back to the sea, where he continued to fish, and ran a seiner for a number of years. He loved to tell stories about commercial fishing for salmon, halibut, and crab.



**Ethan Walter Petticrew** 

He also worked construction, milk delivery, and tugboats, was a cold storage engineer and warehouseman, the North Slope, real estate, security, and was a fish tender deckhand. He owned and operated a hardware store in Montana and a bar and restaurant in Colorado, as well as the Huddle Restaurant in Wrangell.

He left fishing for a number of years, but pined for the seas. As a result, he took a position on the Alaska Marine Highway where he made many friendships. He had many stories of his journeys that he shared with his family and friends.

His greatest enjoyment in life was spending time with his

He was preceded in death by his father Ethan W. Petticrew Sr., mother Florence Imogene Petticrew, nephew Shane Frank, sister Alora Gunderson, niece Wenda Gunderson, and ex-wife Carol Anne Petticrew.

Joe Jr. is survived by his siblings, Rhoda Fochtman, Joanna Anderson, Roxanne Petticrew, and Charles Petticrew; two children, Ethan A. Petticrew (Coven) and Jessica C. Tiedeman (Clare); four grandchildren, Randi Francis, Nikolai Petticrew, Tatiana Petticrew, and Troy Allen; two great grandchildren, Clara Francis and Sophia Allen; niece (Larsen) Fairchild; Joanna nephews, Jim Gunderson, David Frank, Jeff Petticrew, and Richard Petticrew; many greatnieces and great-nephews.

A Celebration of Life will be held later this summer.



#### Wrangell School Board is proud of our students!

**SWIMMING** 

Rene Roberts, State Qualifier

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING

VOLLEYBALL

2<sup>nd</sup> Place Region V Tournament

Ashley Allen: Region V All Conference Team, Jade Balansag, Robyn Booker, Helen Decker: Region V All Academic, All Conference Team, State All Tournament, Kaylyn Easterly: Region V All Conference Team, Terra Hoyt, Ashlee Olson, Emma Martinsen, Tasha Massin: Region V Good Sport,

Kendra Meissner: Region V Good Sport, Grace Miller, Kira

Wrestling

Liana Carney, 4th place Region V, 26th place State Travel Liana Carney: 1st Place Region V, 2nd Place State, Jonah Comstock: 1st Place Region V, Jake Eastaugh, 4th Place Region V, Sophia Ely: 3rd Place Region V, Fenton Jim: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Region V, Elizabeth Johnson: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Region V, Dillon Rooney: 1st Place Region V, 5th Place State, Ryan Rooney: 1st Place Region V, 2nd Place State, Region V Division II Outstanding Wrestler, James Shilts: 4th Place Region V, Hunter Wiederspohn: 1st Place Region V, 3rd Place State

Oldest continuously published paper in Alaska

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### Stikine hoops invitational

Wrangell hosted the annual Stikine Hoops Invitational last week, hosted by the girls' AAU team. Teams from Petersburg, Juneau, Sitka, and Wrangell all competed against each other in a double-elimination bracket. Sitka won the "B" team bracket, while the "A" team winners came from Juneau.

### Dan's Dispatch

### By Representative Dan Ortiz

Last week, Governor Dunleavy unveiled his amended budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2020. As expected, there were substantial cuts to government agencies, all of which will affect Southern Southeast. Some of the cuts that will be most noticeable here in District 36 are the Marine Highway, services to our seniors, education, Fish & Game, public safety, and access to information.

Governor Dunleavy proposed

68.3% cut to our ferry system, including an 80% decrease in funding for fuel. The intent of such a steep cut is to eliminate the ferry system as it currently operates by October 2019 and instead rely on a private entity, if any, taking over operation of ferry service.

The Health and Human Services budget saw a \$850 million decrease, most of which comes from federal funds. Our Pioneer Homes will now have to ask new entrants to pay much more, making it inaccessible to some of our

most vulnerable population, and eventually closing its doors. The Senior Benefits Program was completely eliminated from the budget proposal.

In the Department of Education and Early Development, the Foundation Formula was cut by 23%. That will result in approximately a \$1.09 million decrease to the Wrangell School District, which is the equivalent of a loss of 8 of our current 40 certified teaching staff. Also within DEED, there is a complete elimination of Pre-K Grants, the WWAMI program, and internet services such

as OWL and Live Homework Help.

In our Fish and Game department, we saw a \$1.64 million cut to commercial fisheries. Governor Dunleavy also proposed cutting revenue sharing of fish taxes so that communities around the state will no longer receive 50% of the taxes assessed on fish landed in their communities. This means a \$350,000 loss to Wrangell.

Governor Dunleavy proposed a \$30.5 million cut to Department of Corrections, transferring prisoners out of state to save money, a 14% cut to troopers, and a 22% cut to our Village Public Safety Officers

Governor Dunleavy also cut funding for access to information; he eliminated funding for Legislative Information and Technology, which allows us to broadcast our legislative hearings and receive input from constituents at our local LIOs. Lastly, he eliminated funding for Public Broadcasting; KSTK in Wrangell would see a \$75.5 thousand loss.

All of the above potential cuts comprise the tradeoffs for each of us to receive the full PFD, with the amount being over \$3,000. The question I need answered through input from each of my District 36 constituents is: Is a PFD in that amount for myself and my fellow family members worth the very significant negative impacts that would occur if the Dunleavy budget were to be adopted?

If you would like to comment on Governor Dunleavy's proposed budget or want to discuss any other legislative concerns, please contact me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@akleg.gov or 907-247-4672.

# IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA AT Wrangell, Alaska

In the Matter of the Estate of: )

Lawrence Bahovec )

Date of Birth: 01/04/1917 ) CASE NO. 1WR-19-01PR

#### NOTICE TO CREDITORS

You are notified that the court appointed Chelsea Keutmann 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: 02/13/2019

Chelsea Keutmann PO Box 263 Sburg, Alaska 99833

Petersburg, Alaska 99833

Published: February 21, 28 and March 7, 2019



The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) is recruiting for an Operator/Electrician. Compensation is defined in IBEW Local 1547 Collective Bargaining Agreement + excellent benefits. Exciting and challenging position offers exposure to a wide variety of new projects and O&M of existing hydro generation and transmission infrastructure. Base location is the Swan Lake Hydroelectric Facility, located approximately 22 air miles or 27 water miles from Ketchikan, Alaska. Standard work schedule is 8 days on and 6 days off. Position requires residency on site in employer-provided housing during each tour of duty. The position performs typical operations and maintenance duties associated with hydroelectric power generation and transmission facilities and will require travel in fixed wing and rotary aircraft or by boat in inclement weather. Qualifications for the position include a High School Diploma, valid Alaska driver's license and a State of Alaska Department of Labor Certificate of Fitness in Electrical Field. Position is open until filled. A general job description and electronic application process are available online at: http://seapahydro.applicantpro.com/.

SEAPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer. **Published: February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21 2019** 



**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) will hold a Special Board Meeting on February 25, 2019 at 3:00 p.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 for discussions relating to reservoir management. For additional information, please call 907.228.2281.

Published: February 21, 2019



# Classified/Legals

#### **Public Notice**

Wrangell Cooperative Association Transportation (WCAT) is updating its Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The draft LRTP is available for questions and comments at the WCAT office at 1002 Zimovia Highway from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Mon – Fri. Deadline for comments: March 5, 2019 at 1 p.m. Call Lizzy Romane or Bill Willard at 874-3077 for more info.

Published: February 21 and 28, 2019



**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) will hold a Regular Board Meeting on February 28, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at The Landing Hotel Sunny Point Ballroom in Ketchikan, Alaska. During the meeting, an executive session may be held for discussions related to the financial impacts of reservoir management and the potential acquisition of property. For additional information, please call (907) 228-2281.

Published: February 21, 2019

#### WRANGELL MUNICIPAL LIGHT AND POWER NOTICE

Wrangell Municipal Light and Power would like to remind everyone that an electrical permit is required before doing any electrical work within the City and Borough of Wrangell.

Wrangell Municipal Code 15.12.040 states that no electrical equipment shall be installed within or on any building, structure or premise, public or privately owned, nor shall any alteration or addition be made in any such existing facilities without first securing a permit from the office of the electrical superintendent.

WML&P would also like to remind everyone that per Alaska Statute all wiring must be done by a licensed contractor working under a valid administrator's license. Minor exceptions are allowed for persons working on their own residence provided that residence is owned by and the primary occupancy of the person doing the work and no commercial enterprise is being conducted on the premise.

Anyone having questions is encouraged to contact Wrangell Municipal Light and Power at 907-874-3602.

Publish: February 21, 2019

### City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska <u>PUBLIC NOTICE</u>

Changing the start time for the February 26, 2019 Regular Assembly Meeting

The Regular Borough Assembly meeting, to be held on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Borough Assembly Chambers. The Assembly will hold a Work Session with City Staff before the Regular Assembly meeting at 5:30 p.m. to discuss Federal Legislative Priorities:

The reason for the early start to the Regular Assembly meeting is because there are a significant number of items on the Agenda for the Borough Assembly to consider. Please note that this early start to this meeting is for this meeting date only.

There will be no Assembly action taken at the Work Session.

The public is welcome to attend.

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

Publish: February 21, 2019



The Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) is recruiting for a Roving Relief Operator/Electrician, Instrumentation and Controls, or Mechanic. Compensation is defined in IBEW Local 1547 Collective Bargaining Agreement and includes excellent benefits. Exciting and challenging position offers exposure to a wide variety of new projects and O&M of existing hydrogeneration and transmission infrastructure. Base location is Swan Lake Hydroelectric Facility, located approximately 22 air miles or 27 water miles NE of Ketchikan, Alaska. Work schedule may vary from the standard 8 days on and 6 days off to accommodate vacations, illness, and other support. The position is open until filled. A general job description and electronic application process are available online at: http://seapahydro.applicantpro.com/

SEAPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Published: February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, 21 2019

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#### CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL

JOB BULLETIN:

Accounting Clerk/Deputy Borough Clerk Finance Department

The City and Borough of Wrangell is recruiting for an Accounting Clerk to join the Borough's Finance Department. This position will also serve as Deputy Borough Clerk to assist the Borough Clerk in execution of the Clerk's duties in the absence of the Borough Clerk.

The Accounting Clerk assists and supports all functions of the Finance Department, with primary duties being the completion of clerical and routine technical accounting functions in the Accounts Payable function. The following duties provide a summary of the main duties and responsibilities

- Prepares invoices for payment, ensuring appropriate coding and approvals
- Logs and matches invoices to the proper accounts and/or purchase orders
- Prepares checks and other methods of payment for remittance and mailing
- Establishes and maintains filing systems for appropriate records retention
- Maintains accurate vendor/customer records in the central accounting software system
- Provides customer service to the public with professional and courteous communication (**Pending**) Acts as the Deputy Borough Clerk to fulfill Borough Clerk duties when absent

Three years of relevant work experience in a professional business, office or administrative setting is required. Education or experience in accounting, budgeting, or position closely aligned with the duties, responsibilities and skills of the position is strongly preferred.

This is a full-time position with full benefits, paid hourly (overtime-eligible) at Grade 13 ranging from \$18.55 to \$23.32 per hour. Some overtime may be authorized and/or required. The full job description and employment application can be found online at www.wrangell.com/jobs.

To be considered, submit a cover letter, résumé, and completed employment application via e-mail to amollen@wrangell.com, or in person to City Hall, 205 Brueger St., Wrangell, AK 99929. **Applications will be accepted until end of business March 5, 2019**.

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

Lisa Von Bargen Wrangell Borough Manager

Published: February 21 and 28, 2019

#### City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska Public Hearing - PUBLIC NOTICE

The Borough Assembly Borough Assembly will hold a **PUBLIC HEARING** on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>February 26, 2019</u>, during the Regular Borough Assembly meeting that begins at **6:30 p.m.** (**please note the start-time change for this meeting ONLY**), in the Borough Assembly Chambers on the following item(s):

- a. **PROPOSED ORDINANCE No 952** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BO ROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO EFFECT A CHANGE TO A PORTION OF PRESBYTERIAN MISSION RESERVE, BLOCK 16, WITHIN USS 1119, FROM OPEN SPACE/PUBLIC TO SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL THAT IS PROPOSED TO BE ADDED TO LOT 1B, BLOCK 16, OGDEN/RATHKE RESUBDIVISION AS PART OF THE PROPOSED PRESBYTERIAN RESERVE REPLAT, CREATING LOTS A AND B (second reading)
- b. **PROPOSED ORDINANCE No 953** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BO ROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING THE ZONING MAP TO EFFECT A CHANGE TO MODIFY THE BOUNDARIES OF THE EXISTING MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL BOUNDARIES BASED ON THE PROPOSED CURLEYVILLE REPLAT, A REPLAT LOTS 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 32, 33, 37, 3A, BLOCK 21 AND LOT B, BRIG REPLAT, ZONED MULTIFAMILY AND COMMERCIAL, REQUESTED BY ROBERT ARMSTRONG, FOR CREDIT SHELTER TRUST, SPECIFICALLY PROPOSED NEW LOT 6A WILL BE ZONED COMMERCIAL, AND THE REMAINING NEW LOTS MULTI FAMILY (second reading)
- c. **PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 954** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BO ROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, AMENDING SECTION 17.72.010 (A) OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, IMPOUNDMENT OF VEHICLES AND/OR TRAILERS FOR VIOLATIONS (second reading)
- d. **PROPOSED ORDINANCE No. 955** OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BO ROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, REPEALING CHAPTER 3.32 OF THE WRANGELL MUNICIPAL CODE, MEDICAL CENTER AND LONG-TERM CARE FACILITY BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION (second reading)

The Public Hearing process has changed by Assembly Action, (Ordinance 937) so that the hearing will take place during the Assembly Meeting under "PUBLIC HEARING" (item 11), on the Assembly's Agenda.

The Public is encouraged to attend.

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

Publish: February 21, 2019

# Lady Wolves now 9-3 after losses in Metlakatla

By CALEB VIERKANT Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Lady Wolves had a rough weekend playing against the Metlakatla Miss Chiefs. Metlakatla has proven to be a formidable team this year. The Lady Wolves were able to beat the Miss Chiefs earlier in the season, during some home games in January, but the tables were turned when they faced Metlakatla on their home turf.

The first game on Friday, Feb. 15 saw the Miss Chiefs take a strong lead over the Lady Wolves with a score of 11 to 4. That lead was only widened in the second and third quarters. The Miss Chiefs scored in the double digits each quarter, with Wrangell only able to manage single digit points. Metlakatla had a strong shooting game on Friday, making almost 50 percent of their baskets, not counting free throws. On the other hand, Wrangell's shooting game could be described as lackluster at a 25 percent rate of success. The Lady Wolves rallied in the fourth quarter, outscoring Metlakatla with 16 points made versus their 13. Three points was not enough to close the gap, however. The final score was 59 to 36, a win for the Miss

Saturday's game was a closer call, but still a loss for Wrangell. The game began promisingly, with the Lady

Wolves holding a single point lead. By the end of the first half, the game was tied 20 to 20. Metlakatla took the lead by a single point in the third quarter, but Wrangell tied the game for a second time in the fourth. The Lady Wolves demonstrated a superior shooting game in two-pointers and free throws this game. Overtime was where the Miss Chiefs claimed victory, making an additional six points against the Lady Wolves' two. Despite the tremendous effort the Lady Wolves put in, Metlakatla claimed a second victory with a final score of 41 to 37.

Coach Laurie Brown said that several of her regular starters missed the

games because of injury or sickness. As such, she had to start a lot of freshman players. She said she was proud of how her team performed, though, despite the losses.

"It was not our best weekend, but we were without several of our starters," Brown said. "I'm really impressed with them, as freshmen. They just need more game experience."

The Lady Wolves are staying in Wrangell this weekend for their final home games of the season, against the Haines Glacier Bears. The weekend after, they will play against the Petersburg Lady Vikings. The Lady Wolves are now 9-3 in conference games.

# Wolves stumble in Metlakatla games last weekend

By CALEB VIERKANT Sentinel writer

maritime experience to apply!

It was a hard-fought weekend for the Wrangell Wolves as they

Chiefs. In two games against last

went up against the Metlakatla year's 2A champions, on Feb. 15 and 16, the Wolves were unable

to catch a break. The Wolves are now 6-6 in conference games.

Friday's game started very close. The Chiefs were only able to hold a two point lead against the Wolves. Wrangell's team was very determined, and managed to take the lead in the second quarter, 20 points to Metlakatla's 17. However, the second half of the game went fully in the Chiefs' favor. The Chiefs managed to be more accurate in shooting, three pointers, and free throws. Wrangell player Brett Abrahamson (No. 45) scored the most for the Wolves that game, with a total of nine points. However, the wind had clearly gone out of Wrangell's sails by the second half. The final score was 58-36, a loss for the Wolves.

The game was closer on Saturday, but still a hard slog for the Wolves. The first quarter opened with the two teams staying fairly close to each other, the Chiefs maintaining a narrow lead. That lead only widened in the second and third quarter, but it was not as wide as Friday's game had been. The Wolves rallied in the fourth quarter, scoring 15 points against the Chiefs' 10. Wrangell player Trevor Miller (No. 34) made 15 points for Wrangell through the whole game, the most of the team. However, the last-minute rally did not give the Wolves enough to catch up. The final score was 45-39 in Metlakatla's favor.

"Metlakatla is a very good team, they're the defending state champions," Coach Cody Angerman said.

Angerman said that each loss is a learning experience for the team, and after playing against the Chiefs four times this season, he said his team has a fairly good understanding of how they play.

The Wolves are hosting their final home games of the season this weekend, against the Haines Glacier Bears. After that, they will travel to Petersburg for their last set of games before regionals. Angerman said he and his team are looking forward to regionals, and are prepared to play hard to get there. The Wolves are focusing on getting in as much practice as they can, as well as making sure everyone is eating and sleeping right.

"These next two weeks are going to tell us a lot about it [regionals]," he said. "Obviously we want to win, but I'll do anything I can to make sure my players are healthy."



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\*The Alaska Marine Highway is a division of the State of Alaska, Department of Transportation & Public Facilities. AMHS currently operates 9 vessels, with 2 under construction and 1 in the final design phase. AMHS employs approximately 1,000 employees system-wide. Employees live in 44 different Alaska communities, with 82% of those employees residing in the Southeast Region.

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### **SEAPA**

#### **Continued from page 1**

out a direct request, they are still required to pay for the hydropower that was not purchased. On top of that, he added, SEAPA needs to ensure a unified response from all the communities and can't have them switching between hydro and diesel on a whim.

The formal request to switch to diesel power appeared the next day, on Feb. 16. Both Wrangell and Petersburg activated two diesel generators, creating four megawatts of power each, he

said. Prysunka added that the three communities would be coming together to discuss how to offset the additional costs of running diesel in the two northern towns without putting a burden on their towns' residents.

The board met for a second teleconference on Monday, Feb. 18. Acteson said that they were not expecting any inflows into the lakes in the next 10 days, at least not enough to fix any problems. With the diesel use currently seen in Petersburg and

Wrangell, he added that the two communities were offsetting about a third of their power needs. He asked if they could increase that to half or more. As much of the load as they could bear would be helpful, he said. Lisa Von Bargen said that Wrangell and Petersburg would have to meet together to discuss how best to get as close to that suggested goal as was practical.

Ketchikan board member Karl Amylon said that he would be willing to

vote in favor of lowering the draft limit of Swan Lake to 278 feet, and also said that anything above 280 feet he felt would only be fair to share equally with the two northern communities. Lynn said that sounded fair, but he wanted to know what the outlook was for the foreseeable future. After some further discussion, a vote was called and the proposal was adopted.

The board agreed to talk again next Monday, sooner in the event of an emergency.

### Alaska Marijuana: Dunleavy eyes repeal of alcohol, pot boards

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Gov. Mike Dunleavy wants to repeal the boards tasked with regulating alcohol and marijuana in Alaska, according to documents from state officials.

The plan was outlined in a letter to commerce department employees by commissioner Julie Anderson and in a memo from Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office director Erika McConnell.

The documents say Dunleavy wants to repeal the Marijuana Control Board and the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and transfer authority and responsibilities of the boards to the commissioner. This is billed as a way to reduce the "regulatory burden in efforts to expand entrepreneurialism."

Bills seeking to repeal the boards have yet to be introduced. A Dunleavy spokesman did not immediately respond to an email message seeking comment Monday, which was a holiday.

Mark Springer, chairman of the Marijuana Control Board, said he is concerned about the openness and level of public involvement in the regulatory process if rules governing the industry are drafted administratively instead of by a board. He said the board takes pride in the record it has established on decisions it has made.

Springer also noted that the 2014 voter-approved initiative legalizing so-called recreational use of marijuana by those 21 years of age and older referenced establishment of a Marijuana Control Board.

Both the alcohol and marijuana control boards serve important purposes in protecting the health and safety of Alaska residents, Springer said.

Meanwhile, McConnell said in her memo that the state Department of Public Safety had terminated her office's access to databases for crime reporting and information needed for enforcement officers to conduct thorough investigations.áShe writes that has hampered investigators their in duties enforcement and compromised safety because investigators are unable to identify individuals flagged as a risk to officer safety.

Investigators often make unscheduled visits to sites in response to complaints or tips, McConnell wrote.

"With no access to these databases, the investigators may go to interview someone who is subject to a warrant or possibly armed and dangerous, without having any warning or information,"McConnell wrote.

The Department of Public Safety has indicated it is concerned the FBI will strip the state's access to the databases if marijuana regulators use them since marijuana is illegal on the federal level, she said. But she said the department has not

asked the FBI if there is a problem and the FBI did not in a 2017 audit flag any issues with marijuana regulators accessing criminal justice information.

The department has agreed to provide requested information for specific investigations but that arrangement is unworkable, McConnell wrote.

### Large oyster farms planned for southeastern Alaska

JUNEAU, Alaska (AP) – Large oyster farms have been proposed for southeast Alaska, marking potential growth in marine life cultivation for food that a state task force has projected could be a \$100 million industry.

Silver Bay Seafoods has been working on securing a 10-year lease on 182 acres (74 hectares) of seafloor near Sitka from the state Department of Natural Resources, CoastAlaska reported Tuesday.

State agencies are reviewing the application by the seafood company, which has been buying and processing fish at its plant in Sitka for the past decade. The company's proposal is available for public comment through March 1.

Another oyster farm has been proposed on 127 acres (51 hectares) in Doyle Bay off Prince of Wales Island. The farm has passed the regulatory review process, but it still needs to post a bond, pay its fees and sign for the lease.

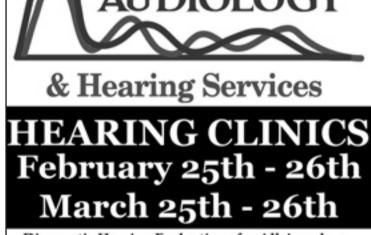
These new farms could be larger than any previous oyster farm proposals in the state to date.

"I think our largest farm is prior to Doyle Bay going as far as it has is like 26 acres," said Christy Colles, the state's aquatic farm program coordinator.

The state Mariculture Task Force, which was established by Gov. Bill Walker three years ago, has projected that the sector could become a \$100 million industry in 20 years. Mariculture is the cultivation of marine life for food and includes shellfish and seaweed.

Small operations have struggled to take hold in the state, but larger farms could succeed, said Julie Decker, co-chair of the task force.

"There are farms this size and larger in British Columbia, the state of Washington, Oregon and California so up and down the West Coast but Alaska is still untapped that way," Decker said.



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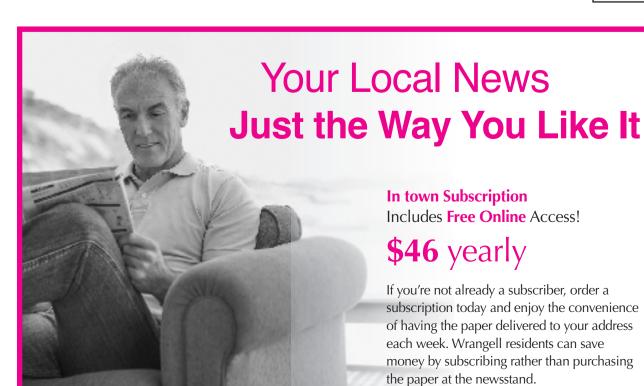
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