

School year starts with in-person classes

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

Wrangell Public School District has opened its new year with in-person classes. The final decision between in-person and online classes was made the Thursday before the first day of school, on Sept. 3.

In a school board meeting on Aug. 31, Superintendent Debbe Lancaster said Sept. 3 was the soft deadline for a final decision, upon consideration of the district's enrollment numbers and staffing needs.

"Taking into account our current staffing model, student enrollment numbers, and mitigation plan, Wrangell Public Schools will open Evergreen Elementary, Stikine Middle School, and Wrangell High School under a medium risk designation on Tuesday, Sept. 8," Lancaster wrote in a Sept. 3 email. "Delivery methods for medium risk are outlined in the district's Smart Start plan."

The "medium risk" level of operations for Evergreen Elementary School has half of the student body taking in-person classes, and the other half distance learning. In a Sept. 7 Facebook post responding to some common questions about the SMART Start plan, the district informed the public that Evergreen Elementary will not be open on Fridays.

"Currently, every teacher has taken on additional duties due to our lack of applicants for positions such as a health aide, sanitation aide, and paraprofessional aides," the document reads.

"In order to provide enough coverage to have students in school and open the building, reassignments have been implemented for the few support staff and bus volunteers. The thought is to see how this schedule goes for September. If the 4-5 para positions are filled, that would allow EES to look at the schedule differently."

At the secondary schools, students will have a regular schedule Mondays through Thursdays, with a half day on Fridays. The second half of Friday will be for deep cleaning of the schools, to be ready for the following Monday.

The Sept. 7 post on the district's Facebook page also shared some information on how parents will be informed of any outbreak of COVID-19 in the schools. According to the FAQ document shared in the post, families will be informed about how their child was exposed, whether it was in a classroom or another part of the school. However, they will not be given information about who they were exposed to, to protect that person's confidentiality. All staff and students who come into close contact with a COVID-19 case will be informed, the document reads, but the district will be following state and federal laws to protect individual privacy.

"Wrangell Public Schools staff appreciates your continued patience and cooperation as we work to ensure a safe

Continued on page 2



Senior Elizabeth Stuart and freshman Sean McDonald in the Wrangell High School Library.



First day of school

PHOTOS BY CALEB VIERKANT/
WRANGELL SENTINEL

Third grader Kailee Roundtree waiting in line outside of Evergreen Elementary School. She said she was very excited for the new school year.

Assembly discusses local COVID-19 risk assessment

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

During the Wrangell Borough Assembly on Tuesday evening, Sept. 8 they discussed a community risk assessment of Wrangell for COVID-19. This risk assessment was created by Wrangell's Emergency Operations Center, to help determine how at-risk the community might be to the pandemic.

The assessment takes into account information like the 7-day and 14-day average case count in Wrangell, the amount of community spread of COVID-19, the average number of close contacts per case, and the number of large gatherings occurring in Wrangell, among other factors. The risk level is put on a level from 1 to 4, "minimal" to "very high."

As of Aug. 31, according to an assessment summary attached to the meeting's agenda, Wrangell's overall community risk is at 2.5, between moderate and high risk. Jamie Roberts, with the EOC, said that more recently that is down to a risk level of 2.

"I wanted to bring it before the assembly and see if there were any questions that you had, so that we could address those before we start releasing it to the public," Roberts said. "Starting next week, I believe the thought is, then we would provide that. It will go to the school, it will go to the public, as well."

Assembly Member Ryan Howe wanted to know what changed between Aug. 31 and the present, how they dropped down to level 2. Roberts answered that the EOC took into consideration the percentage of the population that had been tested. That was somewhat of an unknown variable, she said, but now that they are seeing some broad testing across the community things were improved on their scales. Furthermore, she added that they are seeing turnaround on getting test results back improving. The EOC was also starting to see a change in Wrangell's "containment situation."

"The current cases had, what we're being told from Public Health, they had a low number of close

contacts, so they were able to contact those close contacts in a timely manner and be fairly certain that everybody who may have been in contact has been put into quarantine," Roberts said. "There's some of those qualitative factors that change that situation, as well."

Howe also said some of the factors looked challenging to achieve, such as an increased number of EMS responders. He questioned if it would be possible for Wrangell to ever meet a level 1 minimal risk assessment. Roberts said that it was possible, Wrangell does not have to fall straight down the "minimal risk" column to achieve level 1, only a majority of factors.

Assembly Member Patty Gilbert, serving as vice-mayor and leading the meeting, wanted to know if the EOC took into account the pandemic situation in nearby communities when determining Wrangell's risk level. Roberts said that they were aware of the

Continued on page 8

School

Continued from page 1 Lancaster wrote in an email. "The plan, and subsequent risk fac- tor assignment, will remain fluid as information emerges about mitigating COVID-19, its presence within the com-

munity, and the necessary local response."

The first day of school was proceeding smoothly, Lancaster said on the morning of Sept. 8. Students were asked screening questions prior to getting on their bus or entering the schools themselves, she said, and everyone was wearing masks and sanitizing their hands. At the elementary school, students had painted dots on the sidewalks to help them remember to social distance,

and at the high school students were informed of one-way traffic in the hallways.

"So far, this has been a very smooth entry and it is evident, in every area, how hard all staff members have worked to prepare for this day," she said in a text message.

"We're off to a good start," Secondary School Principal Bob Davis said. "We'll find a few glitches but we'll fix them as we go. Give me a call if you have any concerns or ques-

tions."

Lancaster also provided enrollment numbers as of 10 a.m. on Sept. 8. Evergreen Elementary School has 65 registered students and 40 official withdrawals. Stikine Middle School has 48 registered students and eight official withdrawals. Wrangell High School has 51 registered students and 14 official withdrawals.

A copy of the SMART Start plan, frequently asked questions, and other information can be found at www.wpsd.us.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Thursday, September 10: Connor Blake, Lucille Merrill, Carol Haaseth, *Anniversaries:* Harry & Rose Sundberg, Arnold & Alice Bakke. **Friday, September 11:** Sanoe Harrison, Rebecca Helgeson, Jake Eastaugh, Nancy Cummings. **Saturday, September 12:** Katelyn Early, Bryant Benjamin, David Rak. **Sunday, September 13:** Jenny Mork, Bernie Massin, Frank Johnson, John Waddington, Kalcie Klinke, Jim Nelson, Sr., Wanda Banta, *Anniversary:* Jeff & Heidi Villarma. **Monday, September 14:** Mikki Angerman. **Tuesday, September 15:** Heather Howe, Alana Young, Jake Harris. **Wednesday, September 16:** Tessa Appleman, Sarah Scambler, *Anniversaries:* Brian & Yuri McCloskey, Steve & Ginny Helgeson, Chris & Kristie Weber, Lee & Jennifer Wiederspohn. **Thursday, September 17:** Nancy Seimears, Jon Cornelius, *Anniversary:* Robert & Rynda Hayes.

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

Senior Center Meals Menu Delivery Only

Friday, September 11

Ham Peas & Carrots, Salad, Cornbread.

Monday, September 14

Turkey & Cranberries, Broccoli, Carrot-Pineapple Salad, Mashed Potatoes.

Tuesday, September 15

Meatloaf, Green Beans, Salad, Au Gratin Potatoes.

Wednesday, September 16

Venison Stew, Fruit Slaw, Bread.

Thursday, September 17

Roast Pork, Harvard Beets, Cauliflower Broccoli Toss, Bread.

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

Senior van also available to transport seniors to medical appointments reasonable errands like collecting mail, getting prescriptions at pharmacies or other essential need items.

FERRY

Northbound

Sunday, September 13

Matanuska 4:45 p.m.

Sunday, September 20

Matanuska 3:15 p.m.

Sunday, September 27

Matanuska 5:30 p.m.

Monday, October 5

Kennicott 01:45 p.m.

Southbound

Wednesday, September 16

Matanuska 6:00 a.m.

Wednesday, September 23

Matanuska 7:15 a.m.

Wednesday, September 30

Matanuska 6:15 a.m.

Thursday, October 15

Kennicott 04:45 a.m.

Call 874-2021 for information or call 874-3711 or Toll Free 800-642-0066 for recorded information.



TIDES

September 10 - September 17

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Sept. 10	07:06	10.7	06:55	12.9	00:27	3.1	12:24	5.7
Sept. 11	08:43	10.6	08:22	12.9	01:39	3.2	01:38	6.3
Sept. 12	10:02	11.4	09:40	13.6	03:00	2.8	03:06	6.2
Sept. 13	11:00	12.7	10:42	14.9	04:14	1.7	04:23	5.2
Sept. 14	11:46	14.1	11:35	16.2	05:12	0.3	05:22	3.7
Sept. 15	12:27	15.6	05:59	-1.0	06:10	2.0
Sept. 16	00:23	17.4	01:05	16.9	06:40	-2.0	06:54	0.3
Sept. 17	01:08	18.3	01:42	17.9	07:19	-2.5	07:36	-1.0

Wrangell Roundup: Special Events

September 12, Saturday

Wrangell Emblem Club #87 meeting: 1:00pm, upstairs at the Wrangell Elks Lodge #1595

Jury duty for September. You will be receiving notices in the mail in the next few weeks. Court number: (907) 874-2311.

Anyone doing business at the Wrangell Court are required to wear a mask unless under 2 years of age or exempted for medical reasons. This is effective until further notice. All hearings are being conducted telephonically until further notice. Contact the court for the call-in number at (907) 874-2311.

Continuing Events

AA Meetings: North Star Group Meeting Tuesdays and Fridays 7 - 8 p.m at St. Philips Episcopal Church.

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

September 9, 1920

Sourdoughs of Alaska read with interest lately the repetition of the name Wrangell in the press dispatches. Wrangell, in Alaska, was the first town in the territory reached by the airplanes in the flight from New York to Nome. From the Crimea came news of the activities of General (Baron) Wrangell as the head of anti-Bolshevik forces. He is undoubtedly a descendant of the other Baron Ferdinand P. von Wrangell, a governor of Alaska under Russian rule in the thirties of the last century. The bustling port of Wrangell of course takes its name from the pioneer governor. It was during the administration of Governor Wrangell that plans were made for ship building and great agricultural development at the settlement of Ross in California near the Russian river. He also made a futile attempt to colonize Mexico about the same period.

September 7, 1945

Grand Opening of Helen's Cocktail Lounge, to be operated by Helen Ronning, will be held Saturday evening, September 8, with festivities starting at 8:00 p.m. The lounge, which is situated in the McKowan building, is beautifully designed, and many people from Southeastern Alaska are expected to attend the opening tomorrow night, including a large party from Petersburg. The new lounge is spacious and modernistic, in every detail. Lighting is fluorescent, and the rooms are decorated in cream and white, with molding near the ceiling of light blue. There are nine booths with four tables for extra parties. The booths are

upholstered in dark red leather. Three of the booths are for couples while six accommodate parties of a larger size. Draperies for the windows are of tasteful Mexican-figured material with colors which blend effectively with the color scheme of the lounge and windows will be shaded with venitian blinds. The bar curves across one corner of the large room in the form of an "S" and is finished with chromium, while near one end of the curve is a huge plate glass mirror. The whole effect is one of striking modernism. Booths and tables for tomorrow evening may be had by reservation only, and at this present moment it appears that they have been completely filled. An orchestra is planned to add to the pleasure of the evening's dancing.

September 10, 1970

When Einar Ottesen opened his "new" business last Jan. 1, he didn't have to worry about making himself known to his customers or his fellow merchants - he was already an

old-timer. The doors of Ottesen's Inc. opened and townspeople were coming in for hardware, clothing, marine supplies and sporting gear as if the business had been there all along. Ottesen had simply moved down from City Market where he had been a partner since 1959, bringing the market's hardware line with him. Ottesen had the background to evaluate Wrangell, for he had been a resident for 55 years after being brought here as a baby from Tacoma, Wash. Ottesen's father, Olaf Ottesen, was an outside foreman for the old Alaska Packers.

September 7, 1995

Taking advantage of the newly installed 110-foot float at City Dock, *Morning Glory*, a two-masted sailing vessel out of Hamilton, Bermuda, visited Wrangell last week. The highly polished craft attracted quite a few Wrangellites to the dock area, with not a few dreams inspired by the boat's clean lines and state-of-the-art appearance.

Wrangell Weather

Date	High	Low
Sept. 01	57	53
Sept. 02	57	52
Sept. 03	58	50
Sept. 04	58	48
Sept. 05	55	45
Sept. 06	64	48
Sept. 07	63	45
Sept. 08	57	54

Daylight Hours

Date	6:10a	7:19p	13:09h
Sept. 10	6:10a	7:19p	13:09h
Sept. 11	6:12a	7:16p	13:04h
Sept. 12	6:13a	7:14p	13:01h
Sept. 13	6:15a	7:11p	12:56h
Sept. 14	6:17a	7:08p	12:51h
Sept. 15	6:19a	7:06p	12:47h
Sept. 16	6:21a	7:03p	12:42h
Sept. 17	6:23a	7:00p	12:37h



PHOTO BY CALEB VIERKANT/ WRANGELL SENTINEL

Sunset

The sunset on the evening of Monday, Sept. 7, seen from Stikine Avenue.

Fishing derby results

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

With the close of Labor Day weekend, Wrangell's coho and halibut derbies have come to an end. Results have been posted to the chamber of commerce's derby website.

In the halibut derby, first place went to Steve Keller, bringing in a 176.8 pound halibut on Sept. 6. Second and third place went to Elmer Mork and Jeremy Stolley, catching

halibut weighing 96.4 pounds and 63.4 pounds, respectively.

While coming in third in the halibut derby, Stolley took first place in the coho derby. He brought in a 15.4 pound salmon on Sept. 5. Second place went to Randy Churchill III, also with a 15.4 pound fish that was weighed on Sept. 7. Stephanie Cook, with the chamber of commerce, explained that in the event

of a tie the winner is determined by who weighed their fish first. Third prize went to Katie Ludwigsen, with a 13.6 pound catch. Bill Shanks tied with Ludwigsen, but Cook said his fish came in later so he took fourth.

There was also a contest for kids in the coho derby, 12-years-old and younger. The winners in this category are Aadyn Gillen, with a 10.6 pound catch, Ryder Miller with a 10 pound

catch, and Hailey Gablehouse with a 9.7 pound catch.

First prize for the coho derby was 30 percent of ticket sales. First prize for the halibut derby was \$700. Stolley also won the \$250 Labor Day weekend prize. The winner of the derby's photo contest and Alaska Airlines ticket drawing are still to be announced, as of Sept. 8.

Derby ladders can be found at www.wrangellfishderby.com.



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Police report

August 31
Sexual Assault
Alarm
Agency Assist: TSA

Agency Assist: Hoonah PD
Citation issued to Steven
Forrest for dog at large
Citizen Assist

Courtesy Transport

September 1
Parking Complaint
Theft
Citizen Assist
Criminal Trespass: Arrested:
Christine Abrahamson, 45, on
charges of Criminal Trespass
1/Title 47 - Detox.

September 2
Found Property
Citizen Assist: Vehicle
Unlock
Traffic Hazzard

September 3
Dog Complaint
Welfare Check
Subpoena Service
Reddi Report
Assault

September 4
Dog Complaint
Agency Assist: OCS

September 5
Unsecured Premises: Officer
closed door that was left open
on shed.

There were two EMS
requests in this reporting
period.

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EDC reviews grant opportunities, recommends changes

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Economic Development Committee met last Thursday, Sept. 3, to review grants the city is offering to individuals and businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. They wanted to see how the community has received the grant opportunities so far, and what changes could be made to better improve them.

According to Economic Development Director Carol Rushmore, as of Sept. 2 they have received 189 applications, requesting a total of \$257,411 in assistance. Of these, 162 have been paid out in the total amount of \$214,950. There were 17 applications that were denied for various reasons. Nine applications needed additional information as of Sept. 2.

The most common grant applications have been for small business assistance, 56 from fishermen and 57 from other businesses. Other applications they have received include 30 applications for targeted visitor assistance, 12 applications

for accounting assistance, and 10 applications for the social service grant.

The small business grant, according to the application, is aimed at helping Wrangell businesses, and fishermen, that have been impacted by COVID-19. Applicants can receive \$1,000 on a first come, first serve basis. The original deadline to apply for this grant was Sept. 15. However, upon discussion, the EDC felt that the grant should be extended to give more businesses and fishermen time to apply, or re-apply, if needed. They recommended that the deadline be extended to Nov. 1.

The EDC also decided to extend the application deadline of the targeted business grant to Nov. 1. This grant is different from the small business grant in that the grant is for \$3,000, and it is specifically for businesses that have been hit hardest by the pandemic. This includes the tourism and visitor industries, such as tour boat operators, restaurants, accommodations, and other businesses.

Furthermore, Rushmore added that some businesses may not be able to apply for relief because of timing. As things stand right now, she said, only businesses that opened in 2019 or later are eligible. The EDC felt that this blocked brand new businesses that were started in 2020. Rushmore said that they recommended to open up applications to new businesses that started prior to March 11 of this year, as well.

Other recommended changes discussed by the EDC include extending the accounting assistance grant to Nov. 1, but only allow one application per business or nonprofit. They also opened up the vessel haul-out grant so that anyone hauling their boat out of the water can be reimbursed, and not just those moving their boat into the boat yard's work zone area, as well as to extend the deadline to Dec. 1.

Rushmore said that, as of Sept. 8, these recommendations have not been implemented yet. They would be in the near future, but she did not

have a set date. More information about the grants can be found at www.wrangell-covid19.org.

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- ✓ Protect the PFD
- ✓ Develop our Natural Resources
- ✓ Reduce State Spending
- ✓ Improve Education
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Paid for by Becker for House, 2417 Tongass Ave #111-394, Ketchikan, AK 99901

Dan's Dispatch

By Representative
Dan Ortiz

I've lived in Ketchikan for almost my entire life and have seen the waves of different industries in Southeast crest and fall. Whether it is commercial fishing, timber, or tourism, our economy relies on working with what is available to us: fish, trees, and beautiful sites. A growing, healthy industry utilizes what we have in abundance: our coastline.

The mariculture industry responsibly utilizes what we already have in abundance, and I am pleased to support it as it continues taking root in Southeast and across the state. Oyster and kelp farms found along our coastline have created a new resource and provided jobs in the area. The industry is still in its infancy, but it has so much potential. Innovation has led to greater demand for aquatic products to use in creating medicines, biodegradable plastics, and other products. I believe Southeast Alaska is positioned well to be part of growing blue economy.

More than anything, our mariculture industry relies on healthy oceans and coastlines. I have spoken frequently about protecting our transboundary waterways by expecting Canadian mines to go through a more rigorous permitting process and being financially responsible for any damages.

Similarly, I support the decision to pause development of Pebble Mine. Our coastline resources are not limited to the Southeast, and we should be supportive of our neighboring blue economy further northwest. I agree with the sentiment of the late Senator Ted Stevens when he said, "I'm not against mining, but it is the wrong mine for the wrong place." Mining can happen responsibly, and does in other parts of Alaska and Southeast, without posing a threat to our coastal resources. We need to strike a balance in the development of industries without jeopardizing our living, renewable resources.

Mariculture is here to stay, and thrive, so long as we invest in the long-term health of our coasts. I will continue to support our mariculture industry however I can. If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to email me at Rep.Dan.Ortiz@AKLeg.gov or call my office at (907) 247-4672.

FREE COVID-19 TESTING AVAILABLE IN WRANGELL

No symptoms are required for testing.

The SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) is pleased to provide free asymptomatic COVID-19 testing.

When: Every Saturday and Sunday
Hours: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Where: AICS Clinic Alternative Test Site
232 Wood Street | Wrangell, AK 99929

Self-swab test results will be available approximately 7 days after testing. Negative test results will be sent by email. If your test result is positive, you will be notified by telephone.

If you are experiencing symptoms such as a headache, cold, cough, sneezing, diarrhea, muscle pain, or loss of taste or smell, please contact your healthcare provider immediately and isolate to protect others. If your symptoms begin to worsen, please call the COVID-19 Hotline at 907-966-8799 to speak with a nurse 24/7.

Learn more by visiting covid19.searhc.org.

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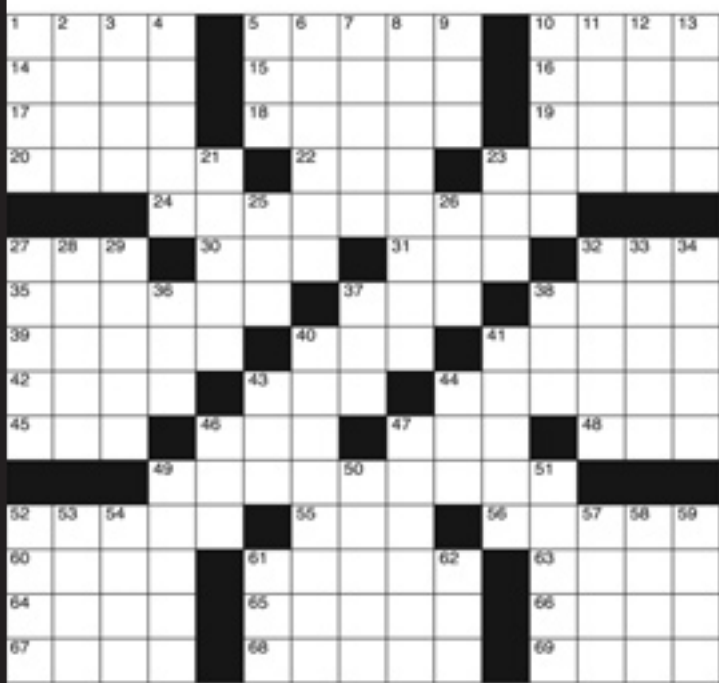
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Comics



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Aurochs
- 5. Central Dravidian language
- 10. Split pulses in Indian cooking
- 14. Tropical starchy tuberous root
- 15. Well known constellation
- 16. About aviation
- 17. Bowfin genus
- 18. Proper
- 19. Expression of annoyance
- 20. Cabbies
- 22. Bro or sis
- 23. Spiritual leader
- 24. Where football coaches work
- 27. Old TV part
- 30. A way to color
- 31. Touch lightly
- 32. Surround
- 35. Breached
- 37. Aristocratic young woman
- 38. Dry ravine
- 39. Hebrew measurement units
- 40. Supporter
- 41. Type of sword
- 42. Influential Irish playwright
- 43. Witch
- 44. Flower cluster
- 45. Mark Wahlberg's animal friend
- 46. Psychedelic amphetamine
- 47. Actors' group
- 48. Cool!
- 49. Salts
- 52. Group of SE China
- 55. Illuminated
- 56. Semitic Sun god
- 60. Water (Spanish)
- 61. Employed
- 63. Japanese ankle sock
- 64. Fishing fly
- 65. Some pheasants are this
- 66. Literary name for Ireland
- 67. Must have
- 68. A way to write
- 69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. American state
- 2. Hindu model of ideal man
- 3. Type of acid
- 4. Drenches
- 5. "The Raven" writer
- 6. Emerged
- 7. Alpha Centauri: __ Centaurus
- 8. Democratic Presidential candidate
- 9. Hostelry
- 10. Fathers
- 11. Any plant with leaves used for flavoring
- 12. Member of a Semitic people
- 13. Lesotho monetary unit
- 21. Lots
- 23. Jewish address for "Sir"
- 25. Male parent
- 26. A way to get
- 27. Body part
- 28. Seam in an organ
- 29. Landlocked African country
- 32. Process for producing ammonia
- 33. Fluid accumulation in tissues
- 34. Bogged down
- 36. Native American tribe
- 37. Unfashionable person
- 38. Female grunts
- 40. Well known
- 41. Gurus
- 43. Norse mythological site
- 44. Tell on
- 46. __ Farrow, actress
- 47. Cotton fabric
- 49. Reciter of Scandinavian poems
- 50. Clouds
- 51. Satisfies
- 52. Shuttered Air Force base in Germany
- 53. Phil __, former CIA
- 54. Japanese seaport
- 57. Female horse or zebra
- 58. 1st month of ancient Hebrew calendar
- 59. Trigonometric function
- 61. Fashionable knowledge (Slang)
- 62. Insecticide



COURTESY OF ESTHER REESE

Over 150 backpacks and laptops passed out by WCA

Ahead of the start of the new school year, the Wrangell Cooperative Association distributed 157 backpacks and Chromebooks. The supplies were part of the Tlingit and Haida Central Council's back-to-school backpack drive, helping ensure native children have the supplies they need for the new school year. Instead of supplies like notebooks and pencils, however, this year the kids received laptops to help them with distance learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

New harbor master introduced in Port Commission workshop

By CALEB VIERKANT
Sentinel writer

The Wrangell Port Commission held a workshop last Thursday evening, Sept. 3. During this meeting, the new harbor master for the city was introduced.

Steve Miller will be taking

over as harbor master in the near future. Current Harbor Master Greg Meissner will be retiring soon, according to Keeleigh Solverson with the harbor department. Meissner first announced his intentions to retire in February of this year, accord-

ing to a Feb. 13 article in the Wrangell Sentinel. Meissner confirmed that he intends to officially retire at the end of the month.

As this was only a work session, no official action was taken by the port commission.

Death Notice

Royann Churchill, 71, of Wrangell, Alaska passed away on September 5, 2020 at the Wrangell Medical Center.

Condolences can be sent to Kathy Binkie, PO Box 1574 Haines, AK 99827, Leonard Vazquez, 932 Lindberg Ave. Alamogordo, NM 88310.

An obituary will be released at a later date. Due to coronavirus at this time, no services are planned.



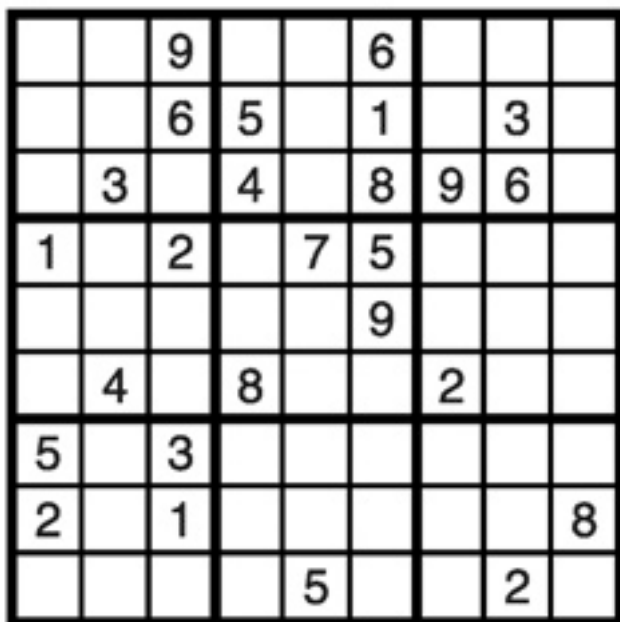
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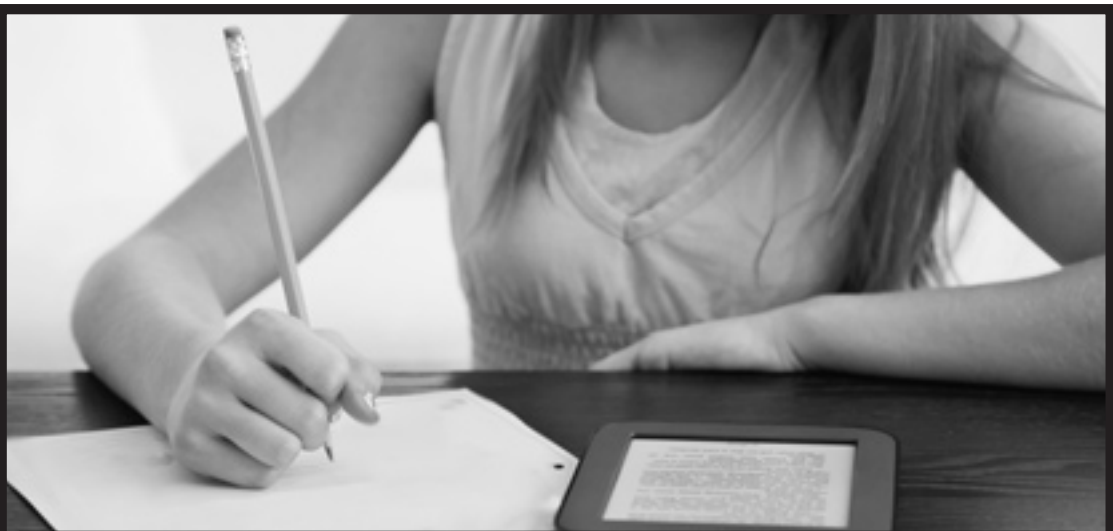
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SUDOKU



Level: Intermediate

Puzzle answers will be in the September 17 edition



The Wrangell Sentinel welcomes your letters to the editor, particularly letters pertaining to local issues.

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

- Longer letters can be published as paid advertising with consent of publisher.
- The Sentinel reserves the right to edit any submissions.



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Public Notice

Construction being performed directly south of the Wrangell Cooperative Association (WCA) office at 1002 Zimovia Highway. 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday – Saturday. Please be advised of trucks hauling to and from worksite. Signs will be posted. Call Bill Willard at 874-3077 for more information.

Published: August 20, 27, September 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2020

City & Borough of Wrangell REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS Water Treatment Plant Improvements Design

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska is seeking Statements of Qualifications from experienced engineering firms for the *Water Treatment Plant Improvements Design* project. The engineering firm will provide engineering design and permitting, along with construction administration and inspection, of a Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) water treatment project. The full Request for Qualifications solicitation may be obtained at the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, and it may also be downloaded from the City and Borough of Wrangell's website (www.wrangell.com) under the Bids and RFPs section. Statements of Qualifications are due in the office of the Borough Clerk by 2:00 PM prevailing time on September 30, 2020.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL
Lisa Von Bargen, Borough Manager

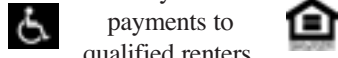
Published: August 27, September 3, 10, and 17, 2020

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City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska PUBLIC NOTICE

ABSENTEE VOTING for the Regular Borough Election (to be held October 6, 2020) begins on MONDAY, September 21, 2020 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Monday through Friday) at City Hall.

Qualified Voters may vote an Absentee Ballot until Monday, October 5, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. for the Regular Borough Election.

For those voters who cannot VOTE ABSENTEE IN PERSON, you may submit an application to have your ballot mailed or faxed to you.

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

Kim Lane, MMC,

Borough Clerk City & Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish: September 10, 17, 24 and October 1, 2020

PUBLIC NOTICE

For the upcoming City and Borough of Wrangell Regular Election of October 6, 2020, the following ordinance applies:

2.16.030 Write-in Candidates and Write-in Votes.

Individuals who fail to file a declaration of candidacy but wish to run for office as a write-in candidate, must file with the borough clerk, a letter of intent no later than five p.m. on the Friday preceding the election (October 2, 2020) in which the candidate plans to participate.

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

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

Stickers shall not be used.

Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish: September 10, 17, 24 and October 1, 2020

JOB OPENINGS

Wrangell SEARHC Seeking Experienced Manager!

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CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 6th day of October 2020, in the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, a Regular Local Election will be held for the purpose of voting on the following Borough Official positions and proposition.

- Borough Mayor: One – (2 Year Term)
- Assembly: Two – (3 Year Terms)
- Assembly: One – (1 Year *Unexpired* Term until 10-2021)
- School Board: One – (3 Year Term)
- Port Commission: One – (3 Year Term)
- Port Commission: One – (2 Year *Unexpired* Term until 10-2022)

PROPOSITION 1

Ratification of Ordinance 979

Shall the City and Borough of Wrangell withdraw from, and no longer participate in, the port authority known as the Inter-Island Ferry Authority, as provided by Ordinance No. 979 of the City and Borough of Wrangell?

The polls for said election will be open at **8:00 a.m. on the said day and will close at 8:00 p.m.** on the same day.

Each voter must have the qualifications prescribed by state law. *A qualified voter shall vote only once per election* and shall exercise that right at the polling place established in the designated Wrangell Precinct (James & Elsie Nolan Museum/Civic Center) and in which he/she resides within the borough boundaries of the City and Borough of Wrangell.

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

Published: August 27, September 3, 10, 17, 24 and October 1, 2020

Puzzle answers from Sept.3 Edition



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

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Alaska Fish Factor

By LAINE WELCH Fisheries columnist

Kodiak to be first debate between candidates in Alaska's highest-profile political race: the U.S. Senate

Kodiak has again scored a first debate between candidates in one of Alaska's most high-profile political races: the U.S. Senate.

Kodiak has been hosting debates for congressional and gubernatorial hopefuls since 1999 with a single focus: Alaska's seafood industry.

The date and format for the U.S. Senate faceoff are still being finalized, but it will occur in close proximity to the annual ComFish event on September 17 and 18, bumped by Covid from its traditional dates in March, and now set to be a virtual experience.

Republican Senator Dan Sullivan and Independent challenger Dr. Al Gross are working

out the details of their participation, said Sarah Phillips, executive director at the Kodiak Chamber of Commerce and ComFish organizer.

Viewers can livestream the debate via Facebook, YouTube and the website, Williams said. Those platforms also will be used for the many educational forums that will be presented virtually and made available online long after.

Phillips is certain there will be a great deal of interest in the debate and ComFish events, based on the response to a virtual five-day annual Crab Fest the Chamber successfully pulled off last month.

"We actually had an audience of 44,000 tune in for Crab Fest so we got a lot more reach than we typically do," she said. "We are very aware that we have a big audience outside of Kodiak."

Still, Phillips admits that Islanders will miss the swarm of visitors, trade show exhibitors and industry experts that normally fill the town during a normal ComFish.

"We can't deny that our local hospitality industry is very highly impacted by this," she said. "Everything from our hotels to our B&Bs and restaurants and bars. Kodiak is a really fun place for our attendees and vendors to come to, and we are missing that significant economic driver. And our fishing industry

really relies on the goods and services and information that ComFish brings."

On a related note, Pacific Marine Expo also has canceled its event planned for early December in Seattle. A virtual "Expo Online" will instead be presented by National Fisherman on November 17-19.

BOF earful - Hundreds of Alaskans gave legislators an earful at recent hearings on controversial appointees to the Board of Fisheries (BOF), which oversees management of the state's subsistence, commercial, sport and personal use fisheries.

Comments are still being accepted and had topped 500 after two virtual hearings, one on August 28 convened by Senator Peter Micciche (R-Soldotna) and another held jointly by the House Fisheries and Resources committees on Sept. 3, where over 100 people also called in to testify.

The overwhelming majority of Alaskans expressed polite outrage at Governor Dunleavy's selection of Abe Williams of Anchorage, director of regional affairs for the Pebble Mine. He would be the second member to be affiliated with Pebble should he be approved by the full legislature. During the five hour Sept. 3 hearing, only four spoke in favor of Williams' appointment.

Nearly all comments also

sharply criticized the makeup of the seven member board which would be dominated by sportfish seats, and that only one member, John Jensen of Petersburg, represents a coastal fishing region.

Alaskans also finally got a chance to hear from unknown appointee McKenzie Mitchell of Fairbanks, a self-proclaimed hunting and sportfish guide, small plane enthusiast and an adjunct professor in "economics and recreation management" at the University of Alaska/Fairbanks.

As credentials for serving on the fish board, Mitchell offered her graduate thesis titled "Determinants of Anglers Willingness to Pay to Support the Recreational (Halibut) Quota Entity Program." (Halibut is not a state managed fishery; it falls under the jurisdiction of the International Pacific Halibut Commission.)

Representative Geran Tarr (D-Anchorage) revealed that Mitchell had never attended a BOF meeting until after she was appointed by the governor, and directly questioned her lack of qualifications and experience to serve on such a complex board.

Ms. Mitchell's verbatim response: "Yeah, absolutely. Thank you for that question. I can understand that I have not really been involved in this process, you know, prior to the appointment and last winter when I, you know, the, you know, I became aware that, you know, some positions were going to be coming open and, you know, and then I decided to put my name in for a seat and, and the reason I guess I wasn't involved before is I, I just graduated school in May of 2019.

"And so I, you know, my life kind of went through a big transition over the last year and a half as I completed school and completed my pilot ratings that I've been working at, and, you know, during those years I was waiting tables five and six nights a week while I was in school, but, you know, it's just and now all of a sudden I've graduated and I have a more stable employment. And, um, you know,

I have the credentials to support a different lifestyle as opposed to, you know, trying to be a student and pay for school and whatnot, and all of a sudden I, my life has changed in the last year and a half and has given me the opportunities to be, become involved, and that's, I guess, what I'm trying to do. So, thank you."

A stream of commenters called Mitchell "woefully lacking in experience," and "a glaring example of why there is no trust in the system," and called her appointment "an insult to the process" and "criminal."

Four testified in support, each saying they believed Mitchell would provide "fresh perspectives."

Although they have not been confirmed by the Alaska legislature, Mitchell and Williams will be voting members on upcoming Prince William Sound and Southeast Alaska fish issues if the Board of Fisheries convenes its meeting cycle starting in October.

According to Representative Louise Stutes (R-Kodiak), the Governor could call a special session and include confirmations on the agenda, but that must be done by December 15. If no special session is called, "the current appointments would be interpreted as a no vote by the Alaska Legislature and they are not eligible for reappointment during the next session," Stutes said.

It all could become a moot point.

The Board of Fisheries will hold a on September 16 from 2:30-4:30pm to consider its 2020/2021 meeting schedule due to constraints posed by the Covid pandemic. A live audio stream of the teleconference will be available at .

The board accepted public comments on the topic from July 22 through August 31, and the majority voiced support for postponing the meetings as opposed to holding them online. Additional written comments may be sent through September 11 to or mailed to Boards Support Section, P.O. Box 115526, Juneau, AK 99811-5526.

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Assembly

Continued from page 1

situations in other towns, so it served as some background information when they were putting the assessment together, but their table was mainly focused on Wrangell-specific data.

This was only a discussion item for the assembly, so no formal action was taken.

The assembly was also planning to consider a revised CARES Act funding plan

for the Wrangell School District, but this item was removed from the agenda at the request of city administration. It will be considered at a later date, pending further information.

They also held a discussion on the city's ongoing water treatment plant renovation project.

Other items covered in the meeting include approval of a resolution amending

the job description of the accounting generalist, adopting a new resolution encouraging the public wear face masks in response to the pandemic, and approval of a professional service agreement with Spawn Ideas for visitor branding in the amount of \$44,980.

Prior to the meeting, the assembly held a workshop continuing their review of FY 2021 capital improvement projects.

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Alaska ranks last in phone, mail, online census responses

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - Alaska ranks last in U.S. Census responses that do not involve census takers making personal visits, including phone, mail or online participation, officials said.

The state has the lowest level of "self-response" so far during the 2020 Census, Alaska Public Media reported.

It had a rate of 49.5% by computer, phone or mail as of Sept. 1, while the national rate of self-response is 63%, census officials said.

Alaska's overall response rate remains about 5% lower than in 2010.

"Some people are fearful or not trusting of the government. Some people just aren't aware of the census or don't think it applies to them," U.S. Census Bureau spokesperson Donald Benz said.

The bureau has made an extra push to reach more Alaskans and remind residents the census is safe, easy and important, Benz said.

The count taken once every decade helps determine federal funding issued to states and the number of representatives each state has in Congress.

A Census Bureau map showed there have been low rates of self-response in most regions of Alaska.

Response rates were higher in Juneau and Anchorage, which were comparable to the national average, and somewhat lower in Fairbanks. Alaska communities with higher rates of self-response had more responses submitted online.

The Census Bureau announced last week that counting would finish a month early this year, on Sept. 30 instead of Oct. 31. The agency planned to hire more enumerators to complete the job quicker.

But on Saturday, a federal judge in California issued an order against the Census Bureau and the Commerce Department, which oversees the agency. The order stops the Census Bureau from winding down operations until a court hearing is held on Sept. 17.

The bureau has started the final push to complete the count in Alaska with census takers who have been hired locally, Benz said.

"It's not like we're going to be shipping people from California to Alaska to get this count," Benz said. "We're hiring local people from the community."



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