



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Eva Lee Henderson (right) came to town this month and reunited with Kristy Nore, now Kristy Woodbury (left), who she purchased garnets from 34 years ago. Henderson also met Woodbury's son, Stuart, who is following the family tradition of selling garnets to visitors.

Returning traveler reunites with garnet seller after 34 years

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

A former garnet seller was reunited with one of her customers last week after 34 years.

In 1989, Eva Lee Henderson traveled to Wrangell from Chicago for a ferry trip with a friend. During her roughly 30-

minute stop in town, she had just enough time to purchase two garnets from an 11-year-old girl at City Dock — Kristy Nore, now Kristy Woodbury.

The garnets came with a handwritten note, explaining how they were formed and where they were excavated from.

"I thought it was very interesting that

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Federal program will help borough seek grants for 6-Mile mill property

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

Wrangell is one of 64 communities nationwide selected for the first year of a new federal program called Thriving Communities, intended to help towns get a better shot at federal funds. In Wrangell's case, the two-year effort will focus on developing a plan for the former 6-Mile mill property.

The borough purchased the property last year for \$2.5 million in hopes of enticing private investment and spurring economic development for the community.

The federal program will not provide any cash to the borough but will pay the bills for a team of consultants the community can work with to develop a comprehensive strategy for the more than 30 acres.

"Priorities for developing a strategy include the following top three areas: grants and funding, partnerships and community engagement, and infrastructure needs," Kate Thomas, the borough's Economic Development Department director, reported last week.

The intent of the new program, created by Congress and the White House

under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law of 2021, is to provide disadvantaged communities "the capacity to compete for federal aid and deliver quality infrastructure projects that enable their communities and neighborhoods to thrive," Thomas explained to the borough's economic development board at its meeting Thursday, Sept. 7.

More than 60 communities in 42 states were selected for this year's opening round of the program—including two from Alaska. In addition to Wrangell, the Bering Sea community of Saint Paul, suffering an economic crisis caused by a severe decline in the region's crab stocks, was selected.

"The program provides two years of no-cost, intensive technical assistance to under-resourced and disadvantaged communities to help identify, develop and deliver transportation projects that strengthen communities," according to the U.S. Department of Transportation, which manages the program.

The agency will pay four consulting firms \$21 million to work with the 64 communities to develop work plans for winning federal grants for their

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Operators will need to pay state permit fee next year for Petroglyph Beach tours

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

It appears that tour operators who bring visitors to Wrangell's Petroglyph Beach will be required to pay a \$350 annual fee to the state plus \$6 per person starting next year.

The fee for commercial use of a state park or historic site has been a provision in Alaska law since the 1980s but apparently never enforced for the Petroglyph Beach State Historic Site, which was designated in 2000.

The fee structure was updated in 2021.

The State Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation realized it had not issued any commercial-use permits or collected fees for Petroglyph Beach after someone complained to the state this summer about increasing visitor traffic at the site amid concerns that it could lead to beach erosion and damage the ancient carvings, Kate Thomas, borough economic development director, explained last week.

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PHOTO COURTESY ROBERT E. JOHNSON

Wrangell runners (from left) Keegan Hanson, Boomchain Loucks and Daniel Harrison are among the leaders at the start of Saturday's high school cross-country competition, hosted by Wrangell.

Cross-country meet draws large crowd of runners and supporters

By CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

Over 300 athletes, family members and volunteers showed up to the Wrangell Invitational cross-country meet Saturday, Sept. 9, for a race featuring teams from 10 schools around Southeast.

The Sitka team won both the men's and women's races overall, putting three runners in the top five for each race. Sitka's Connor Hitchcock logged the fastest time of the day at 16:42 and Sitka's Clare Mullin, who competed in the men's race, logged the fastest women's time at 18:56.7.

Wrangell runners had a strong showing as well.

Continued on page 6

Birthdays & Anniversaries

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

Wednesday, Sept. 13: Wanda Banta, Jim Nelson Sr.; Anniversary: Jeff and Heidi Villarma.

Thursday, Sept. 14: Mikki Angerman.

Friday, Sept. 15: Bob McCormick, Alana Young.

Saturday, Sept. 16: Sarah Scambler; Anniversaries: Steve and Ginny Helgeson, Brian and Yuri McCloskey.

Sunday, Sept. 17: None.

Monday, Sept. 18: Derek Angerman, Kevin Neyman, Nicki Nikodym.

Tuesday, Sept. 19: Alex Angerman, Doug Roberts, Lucas Schneider; Anniversaries: Delton and Tamra Claggett, Tom and Linda Nore.

Senior Center Menu

Open for in-person dining. Must be fully vaccinated.

Thursday, Sept. 14

Pork roast, Harvard beets, cauliflower broccoli toss, rice

Friday, Sept. 15

Lemon-baked chicken, Brussels sprouts, sukiyaki salad, sweet potato

Monday, Sept. 18

Closed. Shelf-stable meal and fruit cup delivered on Friday, Sept. 15

Tuesday, Sept. 19

A-1 meatloaf, mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes with gravy, fruit salad

Wednesday, Sept. 20

Chicken a la king, broccoli, fresh fruit with creamy sauce, rice

Call the senior center at 907-874-2066 24 hours in advance to reserve a seat at lunch or to request delivery. The senior van is available to take seniors to medical appointments, errands such as collecting mail, getting prescriptions or other essential items.

Ferry Schedule

Northbound

Sunday, Sept. 17

Columbia, 1:15 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 24

Columbia, 2:15 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 6

Columbia, 4:45 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 13

Columbia, 8:30 p.m.

Southbound

Wednesday, Sept. 20

Columbia, 4:45 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 27

Columbia, 3 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 9

Columbia, 4 a.m.

Monday, Oct. 16

Columbia, 7:45 a.m.

All times listed are scheduled departure times.

Call the terminal at 907-874-2021 for information

or call 907-874-3711 or 800-642-0066 for recorded information.

Tides

High Tides

Low Tides

	AM		PM		AM		PM	
	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft	Time	Ft
Sept. 13	00:34	15.9	01:15	15.4	06:55	-0.3	07:03	2.3
Sept. 14	01:11	16.3	01:44	15.9	07:22	-0.4	07:32	1.5
Sept. 15	01:44	16.4	02:10	16.2	07:48	-0.3	08:01	0.9
Sept. 16	02:16	16.1	02:35	16.3	08:13	0.1	08:29	0.5
Sept. 17	02:47	15.7	02:58	16.2	08:37	0.7	08:59	0.3
Sept. 18	03:17	15.0	03:22	16.1	09:04	1.4	09:31	0.3
Sept. 19	03:50	14.2	03:48	15.8	09:32	2.3	10:08	0.5



ALASKA AIRLINES CLUB 49 COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR

NOLAN CENTER THEATER "Barbie" rated PG-13, at 7 p.m. Friday, 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 15-17. The adventure action fantasy runs 1 hour and 54 minutes; tickets are \$7 for adults, \$5 for children under age 12. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

BARBIE FUN RUN at 10 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 16, at Volunteer Park Trail. Run or walk 5K to benefit Stikine Middle School cross country. \$5 entry fee. Prizes and snacks.

FALL STORYTIME from 10 to 11 a.m. Fridays at the Irene Ingle Public Library, starting Sept. 22. Stories, crafts and snacks.

ONLINE HOMEWORK HELP for math, English and history is available from the statewide library. Work with a live tutor or use the resources to study independently. Free, at lam.alaska.gov/sled/homework.

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT, if you or someone you know needs mental health or suicide crisis support, call or text 988 or chat at 988Lifeline.org. When you call 988, you will be connected with a trained crisis counselor who can offer help, confidential support and connection to resources. #CallCareline #CrisisIntervention #SuicidePrevention #SomeoneToTalkTo

CITY DOCK SUMMER FLOAT REMOVAL is planned to finish up Wednesday, Sept. 13.

WRANGELL PARKS and RECREATION is offering multiple activities to get your body moving. For more information on any of the activities and more visit www.wrangellrec.com or call 907-874-2444.

- **HIGH-INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING (HIIT)** on Tuesdays, 6 to 6:45 a.m. in the pool lobby. HIIT is designed to improve strength, cardiovascular fitness and build lean muscle. Open to 14 years and up. Bring along a towel and water bottle. No registration required. \$5 drop-in fee.

- **WATER AEROBICS** on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 to 11 a.m. at the swimming pool with Michael Bania. For ages 18 years and up. \$3 fee.

- **PICKLEBALL** on Sundays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; Tuesdays, noon to 2 p.m.; and Fridays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. with Jamie Roberts and John Deruyter at the community gym center. \$5 drop in fee.

Want more attendance at your meeting or event? Send information for Roundup to wrgsent@gmail.com or call 907-874-2301.

Continuing Events

PARKS and RECREATION www.wrangellrec.com

WEIGHT ROOM:

6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 to 8:30 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday

AA Meetings: North Star Group meets from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, St. Philip's Episcopal Church.

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

Sept. 13, 1923

The pictorial section of a recent issue of The New York Times contains some excellent views taken at the time of President Harding's visit to Wrangell. One exceptionally fine picture is that of Mrs. Harding, Junior Barnes and an Eskimo dog breed. There is also a good picture of Gertrude Goodrich shaking hands with the president. A picture of Commerce Secretary Herbert Hoover taken while speaking shows the president, Gov. Bone, George H. Harnes and Dr. Diven standing a couple of feet back of the speaker. There is also an excellent picture of the president and Mrs. Harding taken when they were aboard the launch returning to the U.S. Henderson. The president and Mrs. Harding are each holding a copy of the Wrangell Sentinel in their hands.

Sept. 10, 1948

Senton Thompson, chief of Alaska fisheries from the Washington, D.C., office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and George Kelez, fisheries management supervisor from the Juneau office, were in Wrangell on Saturday for a meeting with local fisherman, packers and merchants who

were requesting the same commercial fishing extension to Sept. 7 for Wrangell District that was granted the southern district. A.R. Brueger, local canneryman, explained to the officials that, in his opinion, the fish were still running well in this district. His cannery received sufficient fish to keep it running virtually around the clock shift the past few days the season was open. Thompson, however, said figures received by him on the fish run did not warrant the extension for this area.

Sept. 14, 1973

Wrangell's community library soon will be moving into quarters to match its impressive collection of books, phonograph records and periodicals. Librarian Irene Ingle said, "We have simply run out of room here." Ingle has been in charge of the library since 1949. The new 3,250-square-foot building is to go on city-owned land already cleared where a theater and the old American Legion hall once stood. Construction is scheduled to begin this month and completion is expected by mid-January. The \$144,328 cost will be financed from state and federal grants and a \$50,000 city bond issue. The new library will

be the fulfillment of a longtime dream for Mrs. Ingle, who has built Wrangell's library into one of the best small-town libraries in the state but is now stoked by space considerations. Operations of the library in the past have been through grants, donations, sales and special events prompted by the library board and the librarian. This year, however, the city budgeted \$600 for books and for periodical subscriptions and the state awarded a one time \$1,000 grant for purchase of books and supplies. Mrs. Ingle's famous library popcorn machine will be going along to the new building, too.

Sept. 10, 1998

Garbage was once again the top discussion during the city council meeting held Sept. 8. The council talked with local resident and apartment owner Dick Ballard about the problems which have arisen since the latest rate increase and regulation in local services, specifically when a dumpster is involved. Other topics included the problem of noise and smoke that is being generated near the Senior Citizens apartments. Although no final decision was made on either concern, lengthy discussion ensued.

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FREIGHT FOR LESS

Forest Service now requires annual parking tags at Zarembo Island lot

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The Zarembo Island parking lot is free, as are the tags to put on the windshield. What's changing is that the U.S. Forest Service now wants people to get a new tag each year so that the agency can keep better track of vehicles left at the Roosevelt Harbor parking lot on Zarembo Island.

After it spent a couple hundred thousand dollars to improve the drainage and parking surface at the lot, and clear out abandoned vehicles, the agency would like to keep the area in better shape.

"We're hoping the public will help us self-police the site," Austin O'Brien, a timber staff officer with the Wrangell Ranger District, said last week. Requiring vehicle owners to obtain and display a new sticker each year would "validate they still own the vehicle and use it," he said.

The Forest Service removed close to 20 abandoned vehicles as part of last year's cleanup effort, O'Brien said.

The color of the stickers will change each year, making it easier for Forest Service personnel to check out cars and

trucks left at the lot. This year's sticker is green. The agency asks that people park in the designated area, without straying into the brush.

Requiring annual registration will help the agency find a vehicle's last owner, if needed.

The annual parking tags are available at the Forest Service office on Bennett Street; phone 907-874-2323.

Roosevelt Harbor is about 11 miles southwest of Wrangell, making it popular with hunters and recreational users going to Zarembo Island. The Forest Service contracted last year with Ketchikan Redi-Mix & Quarry to restore and improve drainage at the site, restore a catchment pond and resurface the lot.

The agency recently awarded a separate contract to Petersburg-based Rock-N-Road Construction to repair the Roosevelt Harbor dock, which was heavily damaged in a storm last winter. O'Brien said he expects the new dock and gangway will be ready for public use by next summer.

Until the dock is rebuilt, hunters and others can use the boat launch ramp at Roosevelt, or travel around Zarembo to the St. John's dock on the northwest side of the island.



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

The crop is in

Mariah Carney proudly displays a vegetable she picked at the annual harvest of the Evergreen Elementary School garden on Friday, Sept. 8. After planting and tending the garden, students gather the vegetables of their labor and serve them to families at an open house.

Moose hunting season opens Friday; harvest expected similar to last year

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

Wrangell-Petersburg area hunters took 118 moose last year and a similar harvest is expected this year. Harvest levels have remained fairly constant in recent years, area game biologist Frank Robbins said last week.

The season opens Friday, Sept. 15, and runs through Oct. 15.

The annual harvest has averaged 120 moose over the past five years, Robbins said. That covers state Game Management Units 3, 1B and the southern portion of 1C, which includes Wrangell, Mitkof, Kupreanof, Kuiu, Zarembo, Woronkofski and Etolin islands, and the mainland.

There were no changes this year to state moose hunting regulations for the area, Robbins said.

The harvest on Kuiu Island has grown in recent years, he said, to about 25% of the take last year. "The harvest has kind of shifted over the past decade and a half."

Most of the 2022 moose were taken on Kuiu and Kupreanof islands, with about 20 moose coming from the Stikine River area on the mainland.

While waiting for the moose season to open, hunters have been going after deer — that season in Unit 3 and most of Unit 1B opened Aug. 1 and closes Nov. 7.

Hunters took about 140 deer on Wrangell Island last year, about average for the past 10 years, Robbins said. The island is one of the most productive areas for getting deer, he said, though it trails Zarembo's five-year average of 180 deer and Kupreanof which recently has provided well over 200 deer a year.

The deer harvest typically picks up later in the year as the bucks start their rutting season, becoming more

active and visible, and as snow pushes deer to lower elevations.

In preparation for an elk hunt next year on Zarembo Island, Robbins has set out several cameras on the island to help come up with an estimate of the number of bulls to enable the state to set a harvest limit.

The Alaska Board of Game in January approved a proposal to reopen an elk hunt on Zarembo. There hasn't been an elk hunt on the island for nearly 20 years, due to concerns about sustaining the small population. Elk swam to Zarembo from Etolin Island, where the state transplanted 50 animals more than 35 years ago to establish a population.

A drawing will be held for the 2024 Zarembo hunt, with few permits expected to be available. The drawing will be open to Alaska residents and non-residents.

"There will never be a large harvest on Zarembo," Robbins said after the Board of Game decision. "There just isn't enough population."

Borough goes to bid for corrosion-preventing anodes on Heritage Harbor pilings

By LARRY PERSILY
Sentinel writer

The borough this week went out to bid for a contractor to supply and install corrosion-preventing aluminum anodes on the steel pilings at Heritage Harbor. The job is estimated at \$1.5 million.

The plan is for the contrac-

tor to start work in February and finish by April 2024, Harbormaster Steve Miller said last week. Bids are due Oct. 2.

The pilings for the harbor floats "are still in good shape," Miller said, but are starting to corrode. Anodes were not included in the job specifications when Heritage was built. The harbor and its floats were com-

pleted in 2009.

Anodes, usually zinc or aluminum, "sacrifice" themselves by absorbing electrolytes in the water, protecting the steel pilings from corrosion. Miller described the installation of anodes as "preventive work."

The project bid specs call for aluminum anodes, he said. "They last longer for this kind of work." The pieces, which will range from 115 pounds to 260 pounds, should last 20 to 25 years, he said.

The project will involve installation of almost 500 aluminum bars, some as long as six feet. Underwater divers will weld the anodes to the pilings, affixing them below the

minus-tide line.

While Miller hopes for competitive bids for the job, he said the fluctuating price of aluminum will be the biggest factor in the price. Aluminum prices have come down about 40% from the peak in 2022, but still are about 25% above pre-pandemic rates of 2018-2019.

Borough funds will pay for the work.

When the job begins, the harbor staff may need to contact some boat owners to temporarily move their vessels to make room for the contractor's crew, Miller said. "But for the most part, we won't have to

move too much."

The lack of corrosion-inhibiting anodes was discovered this spring when the Port and Harbors Department sent a diver to check that the sacrificial metal bars were doing their job. The diver could not find any on the pilings, prompting Miller, who was not harbormaster when the harbor was built, to check the plans. He learned that anodes were not included in the work specifications.

"I'm not 100% sure why they weren't included," he told port commissioners this spring.

THANK YOU Wrangell
for another successful tour season!
The SRJBA will have its last Stikine River tour on the September 14th, and with only a few cruise ships left to go this season, we wanted to wish everyone good luck hunting, and happy winter!
See you all in the spring!

- Alaska Charters and Adventures
- Alaska Peak and Seas
- Alaska Waters
- Muddy Water Adventures
- Summit Charters



Correction
The Sentinel's Sept. 6 story about the repatriation of cultural objects misidentified the home where many of the objects were stolen from in the 1930s. It was the home of Mary Kunk, Eva Blake and Betty Carlstrom

Policy for Letters to the Editor

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

The Sentinel reserves the right to edit any submissions.
The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon for Wednesday publication.

Letters are run on a space-available basis.

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FROM THE PUBLISHER

Hallucinations are not good for AI or Alaska

By LARRY PERSILY
Publisher

When I was much younger, hallucinations were an affliction of college students who figured drug-assisted education was the answer to life — or at least worth a try. Not me (honest). I found it more entertaining to stay sober and watch everyone else act stupid, and then tell them the stories the next day and at reunions for years to come.

I had figured that self-inflicted hallucinations were in the past, an unhealthy phase of life, much like eating four hot dogs, with fries, in one sitting. It was my favorite weekend meal with high school friends as we drove around the neighborhood, wiping the mustard from our faces and thinking no one would notice our raw-onion breath.

But now, hallucinations are back. And, like drugs, they are man-made.

They come from artificial intelligence, which goes by the name AI and which I confuse with A.I., though the steak sauce is a lot cheaper and easier to digest.

When AI gets an answer wrong, really wrong, like totally made-up wrong, it's called a hallucination. I wish I had that excuse handy in college calculus or organic chemistry.

"I don't think that there's any (AI) model today that doesn't suffer from some hallucination," Daniela Amodei, co-founder and president of Anthropic, maker of the chatbot Claude 2, told The Associated Press last month.

A Wall Street Journal columnist this spring wrote how he had asked an AI chatbot about "argumentative diphthongization," a completely nonsensical phrase he made up. The chatbot spit out five paragraphs of "information," adding that the term was "first coined by the linguist Hans Jakobsen in 1922."

You guessed it: Hans never existed. Maybe the chatterbox brains of the chatbot stole the name

from a Danish gymnast who competed in the 1920 Olympics, at least that's what the columnist thought.

The nonexistent 1922 linguist is what AI researchers call a hallucination. As businesses, students, scientists, writers and many more professions are trying out AI to make their jobs easier or replace workers on the job, the possibility that some chatbot could make up an answer from the bits and bytes equivalent of thin air is troubling. Not so much that a chatbot could spew out a falsehood that some student unknowingly turns in as homework, but troubling in that what if elected officials turn to AI to make decisions.

"Hallucination" comes from the Latin word "alucinari," which can mean "to dream" or "to be deceived." I got that from a written text, not AI. Starting in the mid-17th century, hallucination referred to seeing an object when nothing was there. A mirage.

Judging from those definitions, it seems like too many elected officials in Alaska already are infected with hallucinations. They see the potential of billions of dollars from developing oil and gas in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, ignoring the reality that the industry stayed away from the 2021 lease sale and only the state of Alaska saw the mirage of oil wealth and paid millions of dollars for worthless leases.

They imagine a North Slope natural gas pipeline in the future, selling the fuel to Japan and South Korea, missing the reality that liquefied natural gas consumption is in decline in both countries and that every competing gas project in the world is less expensive than Alaska.

And some, including the governor, hallucinate that the state can pay out billions of dollars in Permanent Fund dividends and not overdraw the state's bank accounts.

Maybe, after researchers work out the bugs of AI hallucinations, they can do the same with Alaska's self-deceived leaders.

EDITORIAL

Booster club a good idea for school sports expenses

The community already does a good job of pitching in, helping out and coming up with money for school sports activities. But rather than just doing it one sport, one event at a time, there is a proposal to reestablish a booster club for all school sports.

It's been about 20 years since a booster club coordinated fundraising for youth athletics in Wrangell, and there are a lot of reasons why this is a good time to restart the effort.

State funding for education in Alaska is inadequate, made even worse when Gov. Mike Dunleavy this year vetoed half of the budget increase approved by legislators for school operating expenses. The borough contribution to the school district budget is at the maximum allowed under state law. Which means the district has what it has and no more — and it's not enough to provide everything that Wrangell students deserve.

The district is trying to help cover the rising cost of travel to state tournaments by increasing the annual fee for students who participate in activities, but the small number of students and their families cannot alone handle the air fare and other expenses. The state travel fee, along with the regular activities fee, means a family with two students in the schools could pay about \$1,000 in fees this year. That's not small change.

The community has been great about contributing — whether cash or buying food at fundraising sales — when a Wrangell team needs to raise money for regional or state competition. No one wants to tell student athletes, sorry, you worked hard all year and won the right to go to state, but it's too expensive.

The idea behind a booster club, named the Wrangell Athletic Club, is that it would "supplement what is already there and try to expand on offerings," said high school cross country coach Mason Villarma, who is leading the effort. The club would support travel to tournaments and better gear, looking toward equitable funding allocations across all sports for elementary, middle and high school students.

The group will hold an organizational meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, in the old gym.

The school year is less than a month old and already student athletes are at work, practicing and improving their skills, hoping to represent the community at a state championship tournament. The community can help by turning out for the booster club planning meeting.

No matter how hard it may seem to make time for an evening meeting, it's a lot easier than what the student athletes are doing with their evenings — climbing hills, swimming laps and practicing as they build up a sweat.

— Wrangell Sentinel

Petroglyph Beach

Continued from page 1

"Since the public complaint, the borough has learned of a state regulation requiring commercial-use permits for tours conducted in all state parks," Thomas reported to the borough's economic development board.

"Staff have been working with the state regarding how we can educate operators, evaluate impact concerns and determine whether there is a need to establish additional stipulations as a requirement of the permit," she reported for the Thursday, Sept. 7, board meeting.

The state owns the six-acre waterfront parcel on the northwest end of Wrangell Island, about a mile north of the ferry terminal. It is managed under a 1998 land-use agreement with the borough, which says the state is responsible for any major repairs while the borough handles trash pickup and light

maintenance.

The stone carvings at the beach are estimated at 1,000 to 8,000 years old.

The petroglyphs, City Museum and Chief Shakes House are the town's major land-based visitor attractions, Thomas said. Wrangell's Petroglyph Beach has the highest concentration of petroglyphs in Southeast.

"Local commercial tour operators have received a preliminary notice of the requirement to obtain a permit," Thomas added. "In conjunction with this effort, staff are working with state employees on the review and revision of the land-use agreement between the borough and state."

The annual permit is \$350, with a \$100 application fee. Commercial users are required to file an end-of-the-year report and pay \$6 per client who visited the site during the year.

Consultation with the

Wrangell Cooperative Association is required under the 1998 agreement, and Thomas said the borough is sharing the latest developments with WCA administrators.

The beach is easily accessible from Evergreen Avenue, though an increasing number of visitors are arriving aboard small boats run by tour operators, coming ashore and walking up the beach. The site includes a viewing platform and interpretive signs overlooking the beach, and steps leading down to the beach.

Visitors can make rubbings on replicas of several carvings displayed on the platform.

Any limits on water access to the site could direct more traffic to the street access, causing traffic and parking problems, Thomas said.

The newly collected fees will add up for smaller operators, said Thomas, who added that she has asked the state to take an

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Mill property

Continued from page 1

local development projects.

"A large proportion of the communities selected had submitted previous applications for federal funding that were unsuccessful in large part because they did not have the resources to complete their applications," the federal agency's website explains. "The Thriving Communities program will grow the pipeline of communities that can successfully compete for federal funding."

Wrangell will get individualized help from the consulting team assembled by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Thomas explained.

In a summary prepared for the borough, the team of consultants noted that the community lacks the money to pay for development of the deepwater marine industrial site at 6 Mile and also "faces challenges with finding potential partnerships or developers to expand the commercial use or add industrial developments to the site."

The team will conduct "in-depth research to identify available grants, funding opportunities and financial resources," and will help the community prepare and submit "compelling grant proposals."

The program will run through June 2025.

The planning effort will build on results of a community survey conducted May through July that attracted 116 responses to the question of the best use for the former mill property. The common answers were freight and shipping services, mechanical and technical service businesses, marine services and vocational training facilities.

Tourism and retail businesses were at the bottom of the list.

Many people who completed the survey want to see the borough relocate the barge ramp and freight handling facilities away from the downtown waterfront to the 6-Mile

site, Thomas said at last week's meeting. Such a move could open up more of downtown to tourism or retail development.

The barge ramp "is vulnerable and due for replacement ... and is going to cost a lot of money," she said. "Preliminary discussions have been held" with Alaska Marine Lines and other users of the freight facility.

Borough officials have cited the barge ramp, along with improvements to the wastewater treatment plant and repairs to the rot-damaged Public Safety Building as expensive projects that would require federal or state funding.

Garnets

Continued from page 1

only children could go to the (garnet) ledge," Henderson said. "I had no idea that it was that far away."

Then, she returned to Chicago and the garnets went into her box of travel souvenirs — until now.

While planning a trip to visit her niece, Kristy Herman of Canoe Lagoon Oysters, Henderson wondered if "this little girl ... might still be in Wrangell."

Turns out, Kristy Woodbury and Kristy Herman are neighbors. The two Kristys arranged a reunion between Woodbury and Henderson, and Henderson showed Woodbury the garnets and note she'd purchased decades ago.

"I had older siblings, so I was selling them with my siblings when I was a toddler," said Woodbury. "They would prop me up and have me look cute. I kept selling once my siblings had aged out and I liked it a lot.

I liked being able to make spending money as a kid. This was before we had computer printers and easy access to copy machines. ... I had to write each of (the notes) out to have at my table to give to the tourists."

This meetup was particularly convenient because this summer, Woodbury's son, Stuart, is following in his mother's garnet-selling footsteps and Woodbury wanted to set him up with notes similar to the ones she had passed out to customers. "It was so crazy that Kristy sent me that message that she actually had a copy (of the note)," she said, "because all summer long I was thinking, 'I wish I had a copy.'"

So far, Stuart's business is booming. The garnets' prices have increased from nickels, dimes and quarters in 1989 to \$10 or \$20 per stone. He still sells them in a muffin tin, like his mother did.

On his most lucrative day this summer, Stuart made

\$72 selling garnets. But for the Woodburys and other families, it isn't just about the money. Parents encourage their kids to set up stands because "they learn so many skills like how to speak to people, how to make change, how to be polite," said Woodbury. "Some of those things are really tough when you're just 7."

The garnet gig has also gotten tougher since Woodbury was setting up shop in the '80s. High-quality garnets are rare finds at the ledge these days, after years of excavation.

"It is hard to find really nice garnets," she said. "We used to be able to get them completely without a blemish. It's just been so used since I was a kid that it's hard to get those really nice ones now. ... I used to be able to just sit in the creek ... and just scoop up garnets with my hands. Now you really have to work for them."

State challenges federal roadless rule

BY MARK SABBATINI
Juneau Empire

A legal challenge by the state to the Biden administration's reinstatement of the roadless rule, banning logging and road building on more than nine million acres in the Tongass National Forest, was filed Friday, Sept. 8, in federal court.

The complaint continues more than two decades of battles over the roadless rule protections initially enacted in 2001 under a policy initiated by then-President Bill Clinton. In recent years then-President Donald Trump nullified the

policy and opened the forest area to development, with the administration of President Joe Biden reimposing the policy in January of this year.

"The state of Alaska will continue this long-running fight to unburden the Tongass National Forest from the constraints of the roadless rule and to protect the economic and socioeconomic development of Southeast Alaska," Alaska Attorney General Treg Taylor, who filed the complaint in U.S. District Court, said in a prepared statement Friday.

"The Tongass National Forest has robust environmental protections in place, and the

roadless rule is both unnecessary and continues to cripple the future of Alaska communities."

The press office for the Department of Agriculture, the parent agency of the U.S. Forest Service, said it does not comment on pending litigation.

The Forest Service issued a press release in January when the rule was reinstated, stating that the action "restores longstanding roadless protections to 9.37 million acres of roadless areas that support the ecological, economic and cultural values of Southeastern Alaska."

As a legal matter, the release noted "the forest is within the traditional homelands of the Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian peoples," and the decision "reflects the USDA's and Forest Service's commitment to strengthening nation-to-nation relationships."

The state's 40-page complaint asserts that the rule is "a national, one-size-fits-all regulation that unlawfully limits opportunities for Alaskans who live and work in Southeast Alaska, given the enormous footprint of the forest across the region," according to the attorney general's office.

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SENTINEL SPORTS

Cross country meet

Continued from page 1

Freshman Alana Harrison placed

fourth with a personal best time of 22:37.3 — a full minute faster than her

race at the Klawock Invitational Sept. 2. Senior Keegan Hanson, who is run-

ning for the Wolves for the first time this season, took fourth place with a personal best of 16:59.6. Sophomore Boomchain Loucks was right behind him, taking fifth place with a personal best of 17:08.7. Junior Daniel Harrison set his season's record at 17:56.2, finishing in seventh place.

Jackson Powers, Cooper Powers, Jackson Carney, Trevyn Gillen, Ben Houser and Kalee Herman all set personal records at the meet, held at Muskeg Meadows Golf Course. Bella Ritchie and Aadyn Gillen also represented Wrangell.

The team showed "really great progress overall," said coach Mason Villarma. "I'm excited about the trajectory of the season. Sitka had a great day, but we equally had a good showing and we'd like to improve upon it in Ketchikan."

The team will travel to Sitka for a meet on Saturday, Sept. 16, to Ketchikan for a meet Sept. 23 and then to the Southeast championship Sept. 30 in Juneau. The cross-country season ends at the state meet in Palmer on Oct. 7.



PHOTO BY CAROLEINE JAMES/WRANGELL SENTINEL

Wrangell runners (from left) Bella Ritchie, Kalee Herman and Alana Harrison pull away from the starting line at the meet Saturday, which featured competitors from 10 Southeast high schools.

New booster club to raise money for student athletics

BY CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

About 20 years ago, a booster club helped raise money for the community's youth athletics, but the organization has since shut down. Now, a new fundraising organization is about to step up to support student athletes — the Wrangell Athletic Club (WAC).

The club will raise money

for elementary, middle and high school sports and activities, independent of the school district, explained high school cross country coach Mason Villarma, who is leading the planning effort. Parents, coaches and community members who want to get involved can attend the planning meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, in the old gym.

At the meeting, the organization will establish a five-per-

son board and draft articles of incorporation to apply for nonprofit status. Fifteen community members and athletic coaches have already expressed interest in serving as board members.

The WAC will not replace the school's own fundraising efforts. Instead, it is "meant to supplement what is already there and try to expand on offerings," said Villarma. The club plans to support "different tournaments, maybe in state and out of state, better gear, and just get more community involvement for events."

It will also prioritize equitable funding allocations across all sports.

Preliminary plans for the WAC include a tiered sponsorship structure, allowing families and community members to decide how much they can regularly contribute. It will also host an annual banquet at the Nolan Center, honoring athletes' achievements and raising money for activities in the coming year.

Once it's an official nonprofit, the WAC will also seek a state gaming permit to host fundraising raffles and sell pull-tabs.

Villarma plans to bring his accounting background to bear on the organization's financial practices. His goal is to make the club "super transparent about everything we want to do," he said. "There's a stigma around booster clubs that they're often mismanaged. ... We want to have this thing airtight with good board management oversight, dual signership on everything" and segregation of duties so that

no one person can authorize expenditures without board approval.

Once the club is up and running, he hopes to release a monthly newsletter detailing the club's fundraising activities and breaking down exactly what the money is being used for.

Thanks in part to years of flat state funding that have slashed the district's buying power, "athletics and activity funding has not been a priority in recent years for the school district," he said. "We're looking to bridge that gap and re-

ally support youth activities to the best degree that we possibly can" and "promote a successful environment for athletics to thrive."

School district spending for student travel is budgeted this year at \$70,000, a significant drop from the actual spending of \$106,000 in the past school year and \$96,000 the year before that. Funding concerns have forced coaches, particularly in early season sports, to cancel meets at the last minute. The district also has increased student fees for state travel by \$50 this year.

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Birth Announcement

Milo Nash Crayne was born on Aug. 30, 2023, at Bartlett Regional Hospital in Juneau. He weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces. Parents are Eric and Aria Crayne. Paternal grandparents are Scott and Kristi Crayne. Maternal grandma is Lynn Allen.



Birth Announcement

Traeger Crue Ballou was born on Sept. 7, 2023. He weighed 9 pounds, 6 ounces and was 21.5 inches long at birth. Parents are Donald and Marsha Ballou. Paternal grandparents are Dwane and Laura Ballou. Maternal grandparents are Clay and Tammy McCay.



SENTINEL SPORTS

Swimmers log personal bests at first swim meet of season

BY CAROLEINE JAMES
Sentinel reporter

The high school swim team competed in its first meet of the season, the Sitka Invitational, on Sept. 1 and 2. Though the Wrangell Wolves placed sixth overall, many swimmers logged personal bests in this early season event after the community's long pool closure.

Senior Jack Roberts placed first in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1:54.13 and was among the top three finishers in all his events. He swam personal bests in two of his four events, with a 22.95 50-yard freestyle and a 1:04.91 100-yard breaststroke.

Three other swimmers achieved personal bests — Alisha Armstrong with a 1:36.68 100-yard breaststroke, Andrei Bardin-Siekawitch with a 29.77 50-yard freestyle, and Nate Rooney with a 26.83 50-yard freestyle and 1:01.93 100-yard freestyle.

Anika Herman, Johanna Sanford, Kalee Herman and Maddy Davies also represented Wrangell at the meet, and gave the women's team enough swimmers to participate in relay events, which hasn't been possible since 2019. "Relays just bring a lot of energy to the team," said coach Jamie Roberts.

Overall, there were five personal bests and 13 top 10 finishes.

Roberts was impressed with the swimmers' performance this early in the season. "The 8½ month pool closure meant that these swimmers only had approximately 10 to 20 practices before their first competition," she said. "It takes a bit of time to condition the lungs and muscles when you've been out of the water for even a few weeks. Endurance is really lacking at the beginning of any return to the pool. They put in good ef-



PHOTO BY JAMES POULSON / SITKA SENTINEL

Wrangell's Alisha Armstrong dives in to start her laps in the finals of the girls 200-yard medley relay team race on Sept. 2 in Sitka. In addition to Armstrong, the team included Anika Herman, Kalee Herman and Madelyn Davies.

fort at practice, and it showed at the meet."

For three of the team's eight swimmers, the Sitka Invitational was the first time they had ever competed at the high school level. Of the 30 individual events Wrangell athletes participated in at the

meet, 19 of them were first-time efforts in that event.

Since this year's team is so young, Roberts gave "a special shout-out to the returning swimmers for helping the new team members navigate their first high school meet." Armstrong, Roberts and

Rooney have competed for Wrangell in past years.

Their next meet is the Juneau Invitational on Friday and Saturday, Sept. 15 to 16. In the seven days of practices leading up to it, Roberts plans to focus on improving the team's turns and kicking.

Parks conference includes opportunities for locals to help and participate

BY SENTINEL STAFF

Community members have a couple of ways to participate in the Alaska Recreation & Parks Association conference that is

coming to town Sept. 19-22.

One way is to donate artwork and handmade crafts for a fundraising auction.

Another is to sign up for a leadership training session for

members of nonprofit boards and commissions.

"We would love the opportunity to showcase Wrangell's talented artists and makers through the silent auction,"

Wrangell Parks and Recreation staff said in asking for donated items. "All proceeds raised from the auction will go toward a scholarship to support recreation professionals in training

and educational opportunities."

Several dozen people are expected in town for the annual conference, which Wrangell will host again next year.

To donate items for the auction, contact Parks and Recreation Director Lucy Robinson at 907-874-2444.

The training session for nonprofit board members is planned for 9 to 11 a.m. Friday, Sept. 22, likely at the Nolan Center or City Hall, said Kate Thomas, who served as Parks and Recreation director until moving to her new job in March as the borough's Economic Development Department director.

Mike Walsh, of the Anchorage-based Foraker Group, which assists nonprofits statewide, will conduct the leadership training session, which is open to anyone. The fee is \$20, said Thomas, who plans to send invitations to nonprofit organizations in town. To register, call Thomas at City Hall at 907-874-2381.

Conference organizers also are planning a Super Smash Bros. e-game tournament, tentatively set for Wednesday, Sept. 20, the Nolan Center. The games will be open to the public. The time and more details will be announced soon.

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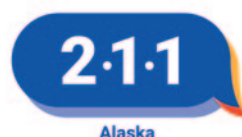
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Cat reunited with owners 26 days after flood destroyed Juneau home

BY MARK THIESSEN
Associated Press

A pair of Juneau teachers needed good news after they lost nearly all their possessions when their house collapsed last month into the Mendenhall River swollen by a glacial-outburst flood and their cat went missing.

Elizabeth Wilkins was holding onto hope that if any animal would survive the house falling into the river on Aug. 5, it would be Leo, the couple's resilient big-eyed, black-and-white cat who shows no fear of bears.

"I knew that he's pretty smart, and so I felt pretty confident that he would escape and be OK somewhere," she said.

That faith paid off 26 days after the flood when Tonya Mead posted a photo of Leo to the Juneau Community Collective Facebook page. Wilkins immediately knew it was Leo, the "COVID kitten" they rescued in 2020. She rushed to meet Mead.

"I just started walking down the street calling for him, and he just ran out and was like, 'Oh hey, here I am, you know, like, where have you been?'" she said.

The river flooding was caused by a major release of water from Suicide Basin, a Mendenhall Glacier-dammed lake, that eroded the river bank.

Wilkins and her partner, Tom



PHOTO COURTESY ELIZABETH WILKINS VIA AP

Leo the cat, who went missing for 26 days after a flooded river took out his Juneau home, was reunited with his owners, Elizabeth Wilkins (above) and her partner on Aug. 31.

Schwartz, moved into the home shortly before the flood hit, but they were away on a mountain biking trip to Bend, Oregon. Friends called and sent videos, warning their house was in danger of being washed away.

Ultimately, several homes were de-

stroyed or partially destroyed, with others condemned or flooded. None of the destruction was as famous as the house being rented by Wilkins and Schwartz, with video of it collapsing into the river going viral.

The couple returned to Juneau three

days later to sort out new living arrangements and to look for Leo.

They returned to the site of the house, calling out Leo's name and leaving food for him in the chicken coop. By then, it seemed like everyone in Juneau was looking for him. There were plenty of sightings of Leo, but Wilkins said it appears that there are just many black-and-white unowned cats in Juneau.

When he did turn up, he appeared to be in good health.

"Leo was a little thinner, but otherwise totally fine," Wilkins said. "He ate four cans of tuna and went outside to kill a mouse. I imagine that is how he survived."

She said it is amazing to have Leo back, though he currently is staying with a friend while they look for another place to live.

"It's super joyful because everyone in their community was looking for him, and it's nice to have some good news," she said.

And just like Leo, some of their other possessions are finding their way back to them, but not in as good a condition as the cat.

"People have been finding some things, like some of our clothes and pictures were in 4 feet of silt in someone's yard down the Mendenhall River," Wilkins said.

Parks and Rec invites people to learn more about local pollinators with the BioBlitz app

BY MARK C. ROBINSON
Sentinel writer

Parks and Recreation is inviting people during the month of September to participate in something new — a BioBlitz community event — to create an online snapshot of the variety of pollinator wildlife that can be found in Wrangell.

It's part of Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz, a five-year-old nationwide campaign hosted by the National Recreation and Park Association that asks people to take photos of pollinators and upload them to the website.

According to information on NRPA's Parks for Pollinators website, the goal is to raise awareness and community involvement in the pollinator crisis across the United States, as pollinator species have declined in numbers, become endangered or even gone extinct due to the loss of natural food supplies and habitat.

More than 75% of the world's flowering plants and 35% of the world's food crops rely on pollinators, according to the organization.

The national campaign's goal is to educate the public that creating and restoring native habitats in public spaces is good for pollinators and plants. Local agencies all over the United States will host Parks for Pollinators BioBlitz events throughout the month.

"It's the first time we've hosted this," said Devyn Johnson, recreation coordinator for Wrangell Parks and Recreation. "We just thought it was a great idea and wanted to hop on board."

Contributors can make observations on their own using the iNaturalist app or join a group event. "It's super easy," Johnson said. "Download the app and

create a login, and then it'll link you to the Wrangell Parks and Rec page."

Observations and photos must take place during the month of September. Pollinator species include bats, beetles, flies, ants, bees, wasps, sawflies, butterflies, moths, hummingbirds and, of course, the plants they pollinate. Any observation made by participants will count during the BioBlitz event. With the iNaturalist app, simply take a picture of a pollinator or plant, and the online community will help identify the species.

In addition to addressing the pollinator crisis, Johnson also hopes to get people more in touch with wildlife, discovering the various kinds of flora and fauna outside their front door. "Our goal is to get people outside in nature and this is one way to get them to do that," she said.

For more information, participants can visit the iNaturalist web page for Wrangell Parks and Recreation at [tinyurl.com/38xfb9fn](https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/wrangell-parks-and-recreation) or the NRPA website at <https://nrpa.org/BioBlitz/>, or download the iNaturalist app.

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Sitka on track for record half-million cruise passengers this summer

By GARLAND KENNEDY
Sitka Sentinel

More than half-a-million cruise ship tourists will have visited Sitka this summer — a record number — and slightly more are expected next year, Sitka Sound Cruise Terminal owner Chris McGraw told an audience at the online chamber of commerce meeting Sept. 6.

He said it looks like the end-of-summer number will total 271 cruise ship stops in Sitka, which includes vessels that pull into his terminal and others that anchor offshore and lighter their passengers to

city facilities.

He estimates the year's traffic will total 514,000 passengers at his terminal and 560,000 for Sitka overall.

The cruise terminal on Halibut Point Road can handle one or two ships simultaneously, including the largest vessels that come to Southeast — the Norwegian Bliss and Ovation of the Seas, each of which can accommodate 4,000 passengers.

"If there's demand to come to Sitka and the infrastructure is available for space, as a private business owner if I can accommodate them with respect to my resources and my

shuttle operation, I'm going to book that ship," McGraw said. "Obviously, we have a significant investment we've made here over the last 10 years."

Work on the cruise terminal began in 2009, and the first cruise ship docked there in 2012. In 2019, the dock received 190,000 passengers. During the COVID pandemic shutdown of cruise travel to Alaska, McGraw expanded the terminal to accommodate much larger vessels.

He said he expects the 2024 cruise season to be comparable to this year. "It's going to be very, very similar to this season. The latest schedule I looked at had roughly 567,000 passengers," he said.

He has added a dozen year-round positions to help manage the dock this year. Wages for seasonal workers have "increased considerably," he said. Shuttle drivers make \$32 an hour and are guaranteed a 40-hour work week, McGraw said. Housing is included as part of the job — only two of his bus drivers are locals, he noted.

With such a massive influx of tourists in Sitka this summer compared to prior years, McGraw noted the logistical difficulties surrounding shuttle service and said he plans to improve that situation moving forward.

"One of my primary goals is to distribute passengers throughout Sitka and the surrounding area better and reduce the demand on our shuttle to downtown," he said. "The increased traffic and the bus traffic — it's a logistic headache sometimes with some of the large ships."

With shuttle buses ferrying tourists from the cruise dock to downtown and

back throughout the day, McGraw said he struggled to find enough qualified drivers, and also noted the general traffic congestion caused by the influx of visitors.

He said he is working to add a 260-seat theater to the cruise terminal and hopes more local tour operations spring up around the terminal as a way of diffusing tourist

density in town.

"The problem is that we just don't have tours to sell in Sitka, and by developing new tour products, and increasing those opportunities, it will help get those people out on boats and other excursions and not necessarily on a shuttle to get dropped off in downtown, which will reduce that congestion," he said.

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE INVITING BIDS Wrangell Harbors Anodes

Notice is hereby given that the City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska, will receive sealed bids for the construction of the Wrangell Harbors Anodes project. The engineers estimate for all work is approximately \$1.5 million.

Sealed bids will be received by the City and Borough of Wrangell, Post Office Box 531, Wrangell, Alaska 99929, located at the Borough Clerk's Office, 205 Brueger Street, Wrangell, Alaska 99929 until 2 p.m. prevailing time on Oct. 2, 2023, and publicly opened and read at that time.

The Contract Documents should be downloaded from the City and Borough of Wrangell website (www.wrangell.com) under the Bids and RFP's section.

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

Jeff Good, Borough Manager
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish Sept. 13 and 20, 2023

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB ADVERTISEMENT Wrangell Public Works Water/Wastewater Treatment Apprentice

The Wrangell Public Works Department is accepting applications for the position of Water/Wastewater Treatment Apprentice until the position is filled. This is a permanent position with all City and Borough benefits. This position is part of the collective bargaining agreement.

The Water/Wastewater Treatment Apprentice is the first step on the multi-stage Water/Wastewater Treatment Operator career path. Promotion to Water/Wastewater Treatment Operator Level 1 is possible upon acquiring the licensure, time and satisfactory performance demonstrating the ability to satisfy all requirements of that job description.

This position primarily works a Monday through Friday schedule and reports to the Wastewater Treatment Operator Lead when working in the wastewater department and Water Treatment Operator Lead when working at the water department.

Primary responsibilities include operation, repair and maintenance on the City's water treatment plant, pressure-reducing valves, tanks, reservoirs, and dams. Performs work needed to be done to ensure efficient operation of water infrastructure. Performs daily operation, maintenance, testing and reporting of the water treatment facilities. Required to maintain logs, reports and records of water treatment plant operations and maintenance. Personally operates, repairs and maintains the City's wastewater treatment plant, lagoons, lift stations and pump stations. Perform daily checks of the wastewater treatment process and periodic checks of pump stations. Performs work needed to be done to ensure efficient operations of wastewater infrastructure. Independent or cooperative work with others is required.

This is a full-time, hourly position with full benefits, paid at Grade 15 with a starting wage at \$21.08 per hour. Employment is based on a successful background check and pre-employment drug screening.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Robbie Marshall at City Hall, 205 Brueger St. (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email at rmarshall@wrangell.com.

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

Jeff Good, Borough Manager
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Publish Sept. 13 and 20, 2023

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL JOB ADVERTISEMENT Wrangell Public Works

Maintenance Specialist I/Heavy Equipment Operator Trainee

The Wrangell Public Works Department will accept applications for the position of Maintenance Specialist I/Heavy Equipment Operator Trainee until the position is filled. This is a permanent position with all City and Borough benefits. This position is part of the collective bargaining agreement.

The Maintenance Specialist I is the first step on the multi-stage Maintenance Specialist career path. Promotion to Maintenance Specialist II/Heavy Equipment Operator is required within three years and is possible upon sufficient time and satisfactory performance demonstrating knowledge of how to operate heavy equipment and the ability to satisfy all requirements of that job description.

This position assists with construction, maintenance, repair and alteration of streets, sidewalks, drainage, sewer and water utilities. They operate various public works heavy equipment in performance of Public Works projects and other City department projects. Primarily assists with street and utility work, but will also be used to assist and fill in within all Public Works divisions as needed. Independent or cooperative work with others is required under the daily direction and supervision of the Public Works Foreman.

This is a full-time, hourly position with full benefits, paid at Grade 14 with a starting wage at \$20.16 per hour. Employment is based on a successful background check and pre-employment drug screening.

Applications and job descriptions may be obtained and returned to Robbie Marshall at City Hall, 205 Brueger Street (P.O. Box 531), Wrangell, AK 99929 or via email at rmarshall@wrangell.com.

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Jeff Good, Borough Manager
City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

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Police report

Monday, Sept. 4
 Vehicle theft: Civil issue.
 Disturbance.
 Agency assist: Parks and Recreation.
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for speeding.
 Traffic stop: Citation issued for speeding.

Tuesday, Sept. 5
 Disturbance.
 Fraud.
 Agency assist: Adult probation.
 Driving revoked.
 Agency assist: Oregon State Police.
 Agency assist: Line crew.
 Suspicious circumstance.

Wednesday, Sept. 6
 Arrest: Attempted misconduct of controlled substance.
 Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Citizen assist.

Agency assist: Ambulance.
 Agency assist: Hospital.
 Theft.

Thursday, Sept. 7
 Criminal mischief.
 Civil standby.

Friday, Sept. 8
 None.

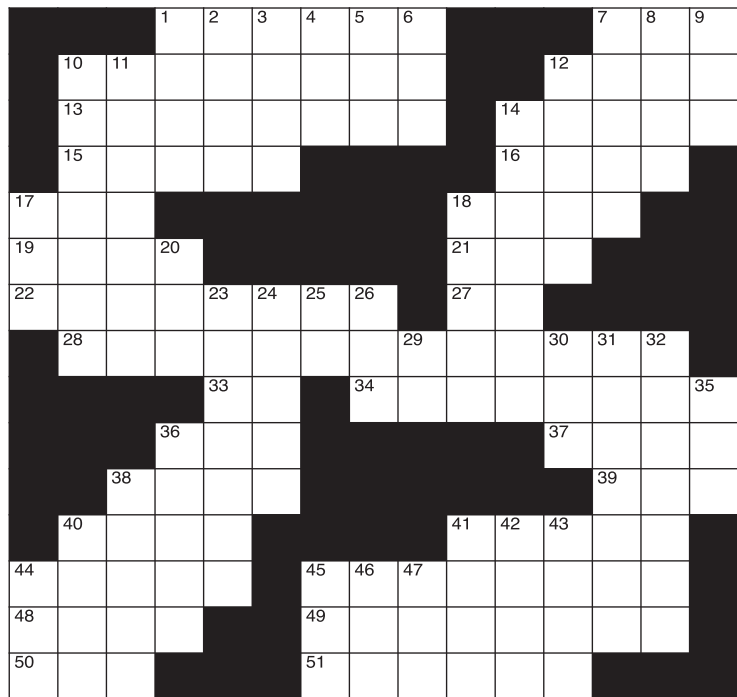
Saturday, Sept. 9
 Agency assist: Pretrial.
 Noise complaint.
 Agency assist: Fire Department.

Sunday, Sept. 10
 Agency assist: Line crew.
 Dangerous play.

During this reporting period there were three agency assists for the Hoonah Police Department and three subpoenas served.

Crossword

Answers on page 12



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of crayon
- 7. Fashion accessory
- 10. Most cerebral
- 12. Incline from vertical
- 13. Dependent on
- 14. Broken in
- 15. Strongly desires
- 16. Mounted soldier
- 17. Ad __: when necessary
- 18. Cattle
- 19. Ottoman military commanders
- 21. __ student, learns healing
- 22. Composed in poetic meter
- 27. Promotional material
- 28. Where people live
- 33. Sodium
- 34. Embarrassing
- 36. Medical man
- 37. Mother of Hermes
- 38. One who saves the day
- 39. Tooth caregiver
- 40. Not clothed
- 41. Slope covered with loose stones
- 44. Used to cook
- 45. Praises enthusiastically
- 48. Rooney is a famous one
- 49. Beekeeper
- 50. Pigpen
- 51. Potato chip brand

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Living quarters
- 2. Horizontal passage
- 3. Attacks
- 4. Vietnamese offensive
- 5. Midway between east and southeast
- 6. Confined (abbr.)
- 7. Book of Esther antagonist
- 8. Port in Yemen
- 9. CNN's founder
- 10. Type of bulb
- 11. Prepare
- 12. Promoted
- 14. Dinner jackets
- 17. Partner to cheese
- 18. Nebraska city
- 20. Human gene
- 23. Pays no attention to
- 24. Lowland South American plant
- 25. Blood group
- 26. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
- 29. Atomic #37
- 30. Unit of electrical resistance
- 31. Jeweled crowns
- 32. Nastiest
- 35. Traditional cars need it
- 36. Bowler hat
- 38. Robust
- 40. Not straight
- 41. Stony waste matter
- 42. Have an interest in
- 43. Jacob __, journalist
- 44. Maintains possession of
- 45. Swiss river
- 46. Average cost of market goods
- 47. Spanish soldier: El __

Obituaries

Former resident Robert George Stokes dies at 89

The family held a service for former Wrangell resident Robert "Bobby" George Stokes at the Harbor Light Church on Aug. 25. Burial followed at Sunset Gardens. Bobby passed away on July 23, 2020, at age 89, in Everett, Washington, due to natural causes.

He was born at the Wrangell Bishop Rowe Hospital to Jack and Lillian Stokes on July 31, 1930. Jack was an Irishman from Revelstoke, British Columbia. Lillian was born in Douglas, across the channel from Juneau, and was a Tlingit of the Luknax.adi. clan. Together they had six children; Bobby was the second youngest.

His school years were spent mostly in Wrangell, except for a few years at the St. Pius X Catholic mission boarding school in Skagway. He grew up as a Cub Scout, Boy Scout and Sea Scout. He was a basketball star in high school as a forward; the team won the territorial championship during one of his years.

Bobby filled many roles



ROBERT GEORGE STOKES

throughout life, including service in the National Guard. He was a fisherman aboard the Tiny Boy and Tiny Boy II with the Ottesen crew. "While it was a short-lived experience, he continued to reminisce about his fishing days for the rest of his life," his family wrote.

He went on to run a Wrangell taxi service with Charles "Perky" Berg before picking up a job in the grocery business with Benjamin's and

City Market. He continued in the business after moving to Washington state.

He settled in Edmonds, Washington, where he married Judy Attebury. They had four boys together. The couple eventually separated and Bobby went on to spend the rest of his life with Paula Hart. They resided in Everett, Washington. Through all of his endeavors, he never gave up singing. "His noteworthy golden voice was matchless," his family wrote.

"The family would like to express thanks to Mercedes Angerman for her long employment (34 years) helping veterans and leading officials to grant honorable discharges from the National Guard for young Wrangell soldiers and standing guard members from World War II." Many of those who benefitted were from Wrangell, "such as Bobby, Harvey, Cappy and Felix," the family wrote.

Bobby is survived by his sons Robert "Bobbie" Jr., Bart, Michael and Mark Stokes.

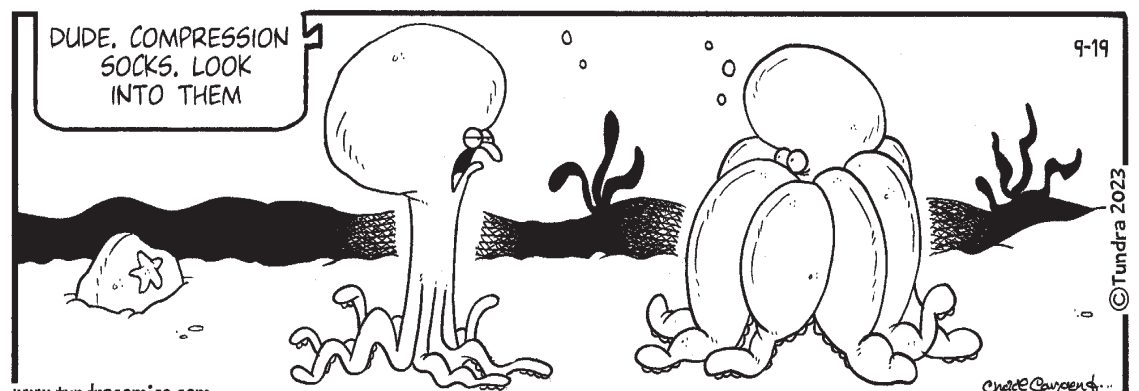
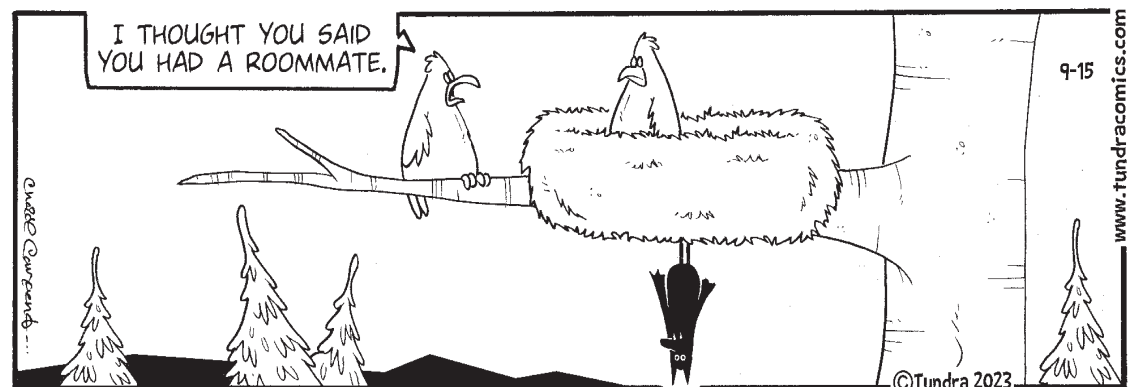
Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



CLASSIFIED

RUMMAGE SALE

First Presbyterian Church will hold a garage rummage sale from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 22 and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sept. 23 at the church. Accepting donations now. Call 907-874-3534 or text 907-660-7112 to coordinate donation pickup or drop-off.

HELP WANTED

Wrangell Public Schools is accepting applications for the following positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Long-term Substitute Elementary School Teacher: This position is anticipated to begin on Jan. 4 and run through March 4, 2024. An Alaska Type A Teaching Certificate with the appropriate endorsements is required.
- Activities Director: The Activities Director organizes and administers the district's program of interscholastic athletics and extracurricular activities including development and support of school "spirit." This is a contracted position with the district. The successful applicant should expect to work some evenings and weekends to support the activities program as needed and is expected to travel to regional events and meetings. The position requires strong leadership skills and the ability to carry out the rules and regulations set by the Alaska

School Activities Association and the district. The expected contract duration is from Sept. 15, 2023, to June 30, 2024.

Also accepting applications for the following extracurricular positions for the 2023-2024 school year:

- Baseball Head Coach and Assistant Coach
- Class Advisers:
 - Freshmen Class Co-adviser
 - Senior Class Co-adviser
- Softball Assistant Coach
- Elementary Student Council Adviser
- Middle School Boys Basketball Assistant Coach

For more information and detailed job description, please contact the District Office at 907-874-2347. These positions are open until filled. It is Wrangell Public School District policy to not discriminate based on age, race, color, national origin, sex or disability.

HELP WANTED

Petersburg Borough has an opening for a permanent full-time Motor Pool Equipment Mechanic. Starting wage for this position is \$29.42 an hour. Three years of vehicle repair and maintenance employment experience is required. Possession of a Class A or B Commercial Driver's License with air brake and tanker endorsements is preferred; however, applicants with the ability to obtain the required CDL within the first six months of employment will be considered.

A full job description and employment application can be obtained from the Borough's website at www.petersburgak.gov. Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough office, 12 S. Nordic Drive, or mailed to P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833, attn: Human Resources. Open until the position is filled.

LAND FOR SALE

Two Stikine River properties on the west side of Farm Island in King Slough: 200-foot frontage, 6-plus acres, \$80,000; 8-acre backlot, lots of good access, \$60,000. Can access the main river at any stage of tide. Willing to finance. Call 907-518-0101.

PROPERTY WANTED

Looking for property for sale with water and power hookup with one acre or more. Prefer out of town. Call Stan at 425-231-3230.

FREE ADS

Do you have something to sell? Having a garage sale? Looking to buy something? Classified ads for individuals and community groups are free in the Sentinel. Contact Amber at 907-874-2301 or email wrgsent@gmail.com.

FREE

Moving? Need fire starter? Art projects? Stop by the Wrangell Sentinel to pick up free newspapers.

Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association (SSRAA)

is looking for a seasonal
FISHERIES TECHNICIAN,
approximately October 9 – November 17.

This position will travel to three SSRAA hatcheries to assist in marking and tagging juvenile coho.

Starting pay is \$17.97/hr DOE.

Visit the SSRAA web page,
www.ssraa.org/employment,
or call us at (907)225-9605
for more information
and application instructions



CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

ABSENTEE VOTING for the Regular Borough Election (to be held Oct. 3, 2023) begins on Monday, Sept. 18, 2023, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Monday through Friday) at City Hall.

Qualified Voters may vote an Absentee Ballot until Monday, Oct. 2, 2023, at 4 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 Clerk's Office to apply.

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

Publish Sept. 13, 20, and 27, 2023

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL NOTICE OF REGULAR ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of October 2023, 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.

- Borough Assembly: Two seats, for 3-year terms
- School Board: One seat, for 3-year term
- Port Commission: One seat, for 3-year term

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

Publish Sept. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2023

CITY and BOROUGH OF WRANGELL PUBLIC NOTICE

For the upcoming City and Borough of Wrangell Regular Election of Oct. 3, 2023, 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 4 p.m. on the Friday preceding the election (Sept. 29, 2023) 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 the 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 Sept. 13, 20, and 27, 2023

SAMPLE BALLOT

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL OFFICIAL SAMPLE BALLOT REGULAR ELECTION OCTOBER 3, 2023

Instructions:

To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: ●
Use a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot. NO RED INK. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, fill in the oval and print the person's name on the blank line provided for a write-in candidate.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN TWO	SCHOOL BOARD THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE
<input type="radio"/> Anne Morrison <input type="radio"/> Michael J. Ottesen <input type="radio"/> WRITE-IN <input type="radio"/> WRITE-IN	<input type="radio"/> John DeRuyter <input type="radio"/> Esther Reese <input type="radio"/> WRITE-IN
PORT COMMISSION THREE YEAR TERM VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN ONE	
<input type="radio"/> Gary A. Morrison <input type="radio"/> WRITE-IN	

SAMPLE BALLOT

Interior Department cancels oil and gas leases in ANWR

By YERETH ROSEN
Alaska Beacon

The Biden administration on Sept. 6 announced it is canceling the last remaining oil and gas leases in the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Those seven leases, all held by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority and sold in a controversial auction held in the final days of former President Donald Trump's administration, have been in limbo ever since President Joe Biden was sworn into office.

On his first day, Biden issued an order requiring a hold on Arctic refuge development to allow for further scrutiny of the lease sale and its environmental impacts. On June 1, Deb Haaland, secretary of the Department of the Interior, put the leases into suspended status. Interior soon after launched a formal supplemental environmental impact statement, a thorough review of the lease sale.

Last month, a federal judge upheld the administration's actions on the refuge leases, rejecting arguments from AIDEA that it should be allowed to proceed with exploration.

Haaland, in an online news conference, said the lease cancellation protects the refuge's coastal plain. "With today's action, no one will have rights to drill for oil in one of the most sensitive landscapes on earth," she said.

However, the administration will abide by the provisions of a 2017 law that requires a second Arctic refuge lease sale by the end of 2024, according to an administration official.

Interior on Wednesday also announced a proposal for enhanced protections in the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska, the 23-million-acre land unit on the western part of the North Slope. Haaland said the new protections are proposed to respond to accelerated climate change in the Arctic and to protect resources important to Indigenous people.

"Climate change is the crisis of our lifetime, and we cannot ignore the disproportionate impact being felt in the Arctic. We must do everything within our control to meet the highest standards of care to protect this fragile ecosystem," she said.

The proposed new rules for the National Petroleum Reserve would strengthen protections for the five "special areas" designated in a former President Barack Obama's administration plan, known as an Integrated Activity Plan, made final in 2013. That plan, which put about half of the reserve off-limits to oil development, remains in effect, despite a Trump administration attempt to replace it with one that would have opened almost all of the reserve to drilling.

The new protections include a provision for automatic reviews every five years that may consider whether to expand the existing special areas or add new areas. The new protections also include more rules limiting surface impacts of oil development where it is allowed to occur, along with provisions for expanding tribal participation

through co-stewardship arrangements.

The proposed rules, which are subject to a public comment period, do not affect any existing leases within the reserve, a senior Interior official said in a background briefing, nor will they change federal approval given to ConocoPhillips in March for development of its \$7 billion Willow oil project in the petroleum reserve.

The Biden administration announcement drew swift reactions from groups on both sides of the development debate. Opponents of Arctic refuge development celebrated it.

"It is nearly impossible to overstate the importance of today's announcements for Arctic conservation," Jamie Williams, president of The Wilderness Society, said in a statement.

On the pro-drilling side, Gov. Mike Dunleavy promised a lawsuit over the administration's ac-

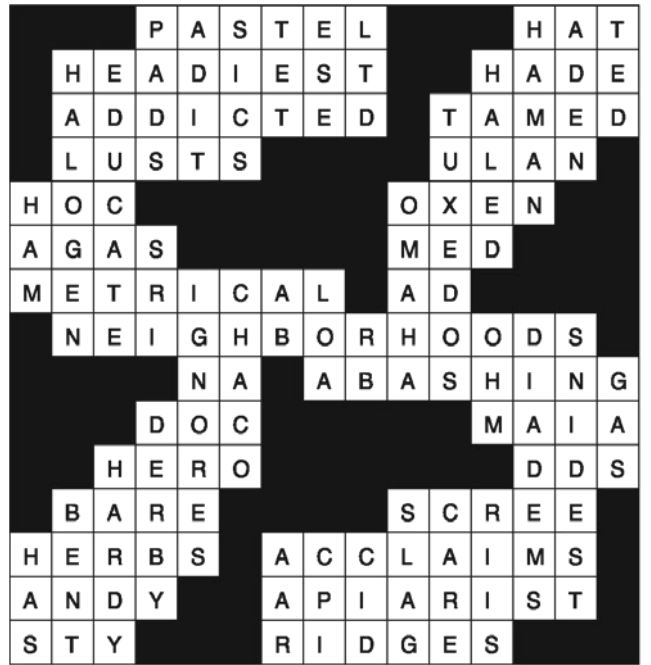
tion.

"The leases AIDEA hold in ANWR were legally issued in a sale mandated by Congress. It's clear that President Biden needs a refresher on the constitution's separation of powers doctrine. Federal agencies don't get to rewrite laws, and that is exactly what the Department of the Interior is trying to do here," Dunleavy said in a statement. "We will fight for Alaska's right to develop its own resources and will be turning to the courts to correct the Biden Administration's wrong."

AIDEA also vowed a legal response, calling the administration's action unlawful.

The agency last month published a formal request seeking companies to conduct work to prepare for a seismic survey in the refuge's coastal plain.

The Alaska Beacon is an independent, donor-funded news organization. Alaskabeacon.com.



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- Continental breakfast
- Shuttle to and from the airport or ferry terminal



907-874-3613

www.thesourdoughlodge.com
sourdoughlodgeak@gmail.com



Congratulations Wrangell, the 2023 Walk Southeast Community Champions! We look forward to this great virtual competition in 2024, and welcoming Sitka and Skagway to Walk Southeast.

📍 Mayor Patty Gilbert of Wrangell holding the Walk Southeast trophy.



Alaska
AIRLINES



Learn More: