

Mountain View Manor
consolidates leadership

see page 3

Museum screens 1940s
film featuring local starlet

see page 7

Gov. shutdown threatens
fisheries management

see page 16



October 23, 2025
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Record moose harvest caps stormy season; Anderson takes moose of a lifetime

By **ORIN PIERSON**
Pilot writer

The 2025 moose season closed with record-breaking numbers for Game Management Unit 3, as hunters checked in 145 moose — exceeding the previous record of 141 set in 2023, according to Petersburg’s office of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

The season started slow, thanks to severe weather and wind storms during the first few weeks. Hunters extended their hunts, slogged through miles of muskeg, and many were eventually rewarded for their patience, with at least one bull so extraordinary it left lifelong Southeast Alaska residents shaking their heads in disbelief.

“[The harvest has] been over 100 [moose] for the last decade,” said ADF&G’s Hillary Wood, noting the continued trend.

The low number of illegal kills was appreciated by managers: only seven illegal harvests out of 145 total — less than 5%. “Last year we had 11 illegals out of 133 total, and the year before we had 12 illegals out of 141,” said Wood. “Obviously we don’t want any of them, but if

the goal is to have it be under 10%. We’re happy to see” this year’s low rate.

Wood reminded hunters of an important deadline for all permit holders: “If you got a permit, you got to report,” she said. That includes those who didn’t end up hunting. The October 30 deadline applies to all of the roughly 1,000 permits issued, and failure to report means being precluded from registration hunts next year, including moose.

“That’s part of our statistics: how many permits were issued, and then how many people hunted, and then how many of those were successful,” Wood explained. The data helps wildlife managers calculate effort and success rates, similar to catch-per-unit-effort calculations used in fisheries management to determine stock abundance.

Mild winters and expanding range

ADF&G Area Biologist Frank Robbins attributes the strong harvest numbers this year to a combination of environmental conditions and a shift in moose distribution across the unit.

“Mild winters are probably contributing to good productivity, contributing to

Continued on page 6



Photo courtesy of Craig Anderson
Markus Anderson sits for a photo before packing out his moose with 48.5 inch wide antlers and triple-double brow tines, Oct. 10 on Kupreanof Island.

More than 66,000 Alaskans will lose food stamps within weeks if government shutdown continues

By **JAMES BROOKS**
Alaska Beacon

If the federal government shutdown continues, more than 66,000 Alaskans will lose federal food aid within weeks, the state of Alaska is warning.

On Monday, the Division of Public Assistance within the Alaska Department of Health said that the federal government “has directed states to stop the issuance of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for the month of November due to insufficient federal funds. This means that Alaskans may not receive SNAP benefits for November, even if they are authorized to receive them.”

The division estimates that 66,471 Alaskans would be eligible for benefits under the program.

In its written statement, the division said that it tried to pay for the program with state money “and determined that a

state subsidy was not mechanically possible under the federal payment system.”

Similar warning messages went out from other states across the country starting Friday. In Kentucky, where one in eight residents receives food aid, Gov. Andy Beshear said the pending cut makes this “a scary and stressful time.”

In Oklahoma, more than half a million residents receive food stamps and are expected to lose that help.

Altogether across the country, more than 42 million Americans rely on the food stamp program, which the federal government funds and individual states administer.

On Tuesday, the 21st day of the federal government shutdown, there appeared to be no progress toward resolution.

Sixty votes in the U.S. Senate are needed to advance a House-passed stopgap funding bill. That would require the support of some Senate Democrats, but

they oppose its passage unless lawmakers also agree to extend subsidies for health insurance purchased through the federal marketplace.

Existing subsidies are scheduled to expire at the end of the year, sending prices soaring.

Thus far, Republicans have been unwilling to agree to the Democratic demand, and Senate Republicans also have been unwilling to change the Senate’s filibuster rule. Doing so would allow them to advance the stopgap funding bill with 50 votes instead of 60.

The AlaskaBeacon.com is a donor-funded independent news organization in Alaska.

Assembly approves Ohmer purchase of borough-owned land to develop rentals, reversing previous decision

By **OLIVIA ROSE**
KFSK Radio

The Petersburg Borough Assembly has reversed its previous decision about an application to buy borough-owned land.

Dave Ohmer is a local developer who wants to purchase two lots on Haugen Drive to build housing rentals. When the borough assembly initially considered his application in July, Ohmer stressed the need for more housing in town.

“It’s endless, the people that need homes in Petersburg,” Ohmer told the assembly on July 21. “For a young family, it’s virtually impossible to get into a home right now. We’re stuck. We are stuck. Thus, I’m asking you to allow me to negotiate with the [borough] to be able to add additional housing for the community.”

But Ohmer’s application failed during that meeting with a 3–2 vote. Then-assembly-members Scott Newman and Donna Marsh voted against it, in part citing safety concerns of having young families as potential tenants living on a high-traffic street.

Continued on page 3



Yesterday's News: News from 25-50-75-100 years ago

October 23, 1925 - The moving of the Stedman Gift Shop to the rear of Dick Kawata's restaurant, the Christiana Cafe, again brings our attention to the tendency in Petersburg toward the concentration of our business district. The approaching completion of the William Worth, building below the Drug Store corner, is the logical direction of municipal extension. Mr. Worth is to be congratulated on his business acumen and his good judgement in his selection of a location for the new block. It is hoped that John Fanning's new location in the building recently vacated by the Thompson Machine Works will be appreciated by his patrons who will be greatly inconvenienced by the change. The housing question, which has always been acute in Petersburg, will be slightly relieved by the completion of the renovation of the Barkdale Residence on E Street, which was recently purchased by Messers Chester Holm and Claud Roundtree. All of which are indications of the steady growth of Petersburg.

October 20, 1950 - Anyone wanting to add a cute little multi-colored bantam rooster and two busy little pullets to

the family menagerie better speak quick. For such a chicken family is offered for sale this week by Herman Papke. Only the rankest newcomer to Petersburg is unfamiliar with Papke's place, the snug little spot out the Narrows where on a gentle slope grow some of the earliest vegetables and the rarest flowers in Southeastern Alaska. Papke is a genial host and a generous gardener. He always has time to visit with the casual visitor, to take kids and grown-ups alike about his garden showing them whatever is in bloom and telling the history and name of unfamiliar plants. And he is always anxious to share his plants with any gardener, amateur or serious, who visits him. Fruits, too, flourish under his green thumb and patients and staff at the Petersburg Hospital always get treats in berry and apple time from Papke. But, getting back to the chickens, the three little bantams will pay their own way in eggs and in the bugs they pick up in the garden. If anyone wants to buy them, they may either call Papke to get their order in quickly or drive out to collect them in person.

October 24, 1975 - Petersburg Fisheries Inc. reports only about 36,000 pounds of gillnet salmon brought in from Lynn Canal last week, but a

healthy cargo of herring and black cod unloaded at PFI docks. About 1,000 barrels of large herring were filleted early this week for picking in Vancouver. "These were nice, big herring," said PFI Executive VP Tommy Thompson, "And there were lots of them, it seemed, at Deer Island." About 125,000 pounds of black cod were unloaded at PFI from fishing last week. The Angelette, alone, delivered about 42,000 pounds.

October 26, 2000 - While fishing out of Dutch Harbor, Ken Richards, 48, contracted bronchial pneumonia and passed away suddenly on October 19. The son of Dale and June Richards, Ken attended grade school and high school in Petersburg. Growing up he had many adventures, like going out to Pt. Agassiz with his brothers and Myron Lyons, Jr. and putting up the silage for Casper Hallingstad's cows. He was quite a young boy but did his fair share of work. When Ken was about ten years old he and his older brothers Allen and Lee had their own long-lining operation. They got an old wooden plank skiff and with advice from local craftsmen the boys recorked its seams and painted it. They had a true long-lining vessel - powered by oars! Their fishing grounds were the Wrangell Narrows and Petersburg Creek the first

season, but the next year they had an outboard and ventured out into Frederick Sound and as far away as Thomas Bay. Five hundred pounds was a big trip for this experienced crew and they'd sell their fish to Knut Thompson. Fishing was Ken's first love and he fished most of the fisheries in Southeast and out west. Ken's abilities as a deckhand were highly

regarded, whether it was cooking a great meal or working on deck. He was often called upon for his mechanical skills - not only in the engine room, but in his mom's driveway where he was often seen fixing cars. A kind and helpful guy, Ken was always willing and able to help. He enjoyed his life as a fisherman and was proud of the profession.

Public Notices

Read the Public Notices
• BE AN INFORMED CITIZEN • PARTICIPATE IN DEMOCRACY
• EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

Please join Petersburg Economic Development Council Board of Directors for an informal PEDC Open House for 65% review of the Scow Bay Boat Yard Design on Tuesday, October 28, 4-7pm at Assembly Chambers

PND Engineers, Dick Somerville, PD will be available to answer questions and take comments.

PETERSBURG
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
ALASKA

Published: October 23, 2025

Northern Nights Theater

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Friday & Saturday @ 7 pm
Sunday @ 4 pm

Coming soon
Tron Ares

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WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Precip
Oct 15	51	46	0.38
Oct 16	51	46	1.36
Oct 17	51	45	0.50
Oct 18	49	40	0.75
Oct 19	46	39	0.03
Oct 20	50	44	2.20
Oct 21	51	46	0.56

This Week's Precipitation: 5.78"
This weather service is provided by the FAA weather observation station at the James A. Johnson Airport.

DAYLIGHT HOURS

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Oct 23	7:43a	5:28p	9:45hrs
Oct 24	7:45a	5:25p	9:40hrs
Oct 25	7:47a	5:23p	9:35hrs
Oct 26	7:49a	5:20p	9:31hrs
Oct 27	7:51a	5:18p	9:26hrs
Oct 28	7:54a	5:16p	9:22hrs
Oct 29	7:56a	5:13p	9:17hrs

PETERSBURG HAPPENINGS

Brought to you by:  

THURSDAY, October 23
Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention: 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio
Wiggle & Giggle: Stories and Playtime: 11:00am, Public Library
Salvation Army Open for Donations: 1200:pm, The Salvation Army Thrift
PEDC Board Meeting: 12:00pm, 2nd Floor Municipal Building
Free Dinner Get Together: 5:30pm, Lutheran Church Holy Cross House
Petersburg Medical Center Board Meeting: 5:30pm, Municipal Building
PHS Volleyball Viking Clash Tournament: 6:00pm, High School Gym

FRIDAY, October 24
Al-Anon Support Group: 12:00pm, Episcopal Church
PHS Volleyball Viking Clash Tournament: 3:30pm, High School Gym
Bingo: 6:00pm, Sons of Norway Hall
"Invisible Ghost" Film Screening: 7:00pm, Clausen Museum
AA Candlelight Meeting: 7:00pm, Episcopal Church

SATURDAY, October 25
Oktoberfest Art Share: 10:00pm, Community Center-Gym
Rain Country Quilters Show: 12:00pm, Lutheran Church
PHS Volleyball Viking Clash Tournament: 6:00pm, High School Gym
Viking Swim Club Fundraiser Auction and Dinner: 6:30pm, Sons of Norway Hall

SUNDAY, October 26
Knitting Group: 2:00pm, Mountain View Manor

MONDAY, October 27
Tai Chi: 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall
Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention: 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio
SHARE Coalition Meeting: 12:00 pm, PMC Dorothy Ingle Conf. Rm
Burger Night: 5:30pm, Moose Lodge
AA Women's Meeting: 7:00 pm, Presbyterian Church

TUESDAY, October 28
Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention: 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio
Taco Tuesday: 5:30pm, Moose Lodge
The American Legion Post #14 Meeting: 6:30pm, Upstairs Elks Lodge
AA 12x12 Meeting: 7:00pm, Holy Cross Classroom

WEDNESDAY, October 29
Tai Chi: 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall
Rotary Meeting: 12:00pm, Salvation Army Hall
Free Dinner For All: 6:00pm, First Baptist Church

To add an event to the Happenings calendar call us at 772-9393 or email pilotpub@gmail.com

FERRY SCHEDULE
Terminal Office • 772-3855 or call 800-642-0066

NORTHBOUND DEPARTURES				SOUTHBOUND DEPARTURES			
SUN 10/26	COLUMBIA	06:00	P.M.	WED 10/29	COLUMBIA	03:30	A.M.
SUN 11/2	COLUMBIA	09:30	P.M.	WED 11/5	COLUMBIA	01:30	A.M.
SUN 11/9	COLUMBIA	05:45	P.M.	WED 11/12	COLUMBIA	03:00	A.M.
SUN 11/16	COLUMBIA	10:00	P.M.	WED 11/19	COLUMBIA	01:15	A.M.
SUN 11/23	COLUMBIA	04:45	P.M.	WED 11/26	COLUMBIA	01:30	A.M.

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PETERSBURG, ALASKA

PETERSBURG TIDE TABLE
OCTOBER 2025

	HIGH TIDES				LOW TIDES			
	A.M.		P.M.		A.M.		P.M.	
	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.
23 Thu	2:53	15.1	2:32	17.0	8:38	3.0	9:11	-0.6
24 Fri	3:27	14.6	3:00	16.6	9:07	3.7	9:43	-0.1
25 Sat	4:02	13.9	3:31	15.9	9:38	4.6	10:19	0.7
26 Sun	4:42	13.0	4:05	15.1	10:12	5.4	11:00	1.5
27 Mon	5:30	12.1	4:46	14.1	10:53	6.2	11:51	2.3
28 Tue	6:32	11.4	5:42	13.2	11:50	6.9		...
29 Wed	7:51	11.4	7:02	12.5	0:58	2.9	1:18	7.1

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Borough consolidates Mountain View Manor leadership under Lopez

By ORIN PIERSON
Pilot writer

The Petersburg Borough Assembly unanimously approved the appointment of Michelle Lopez to lead both the elderly housing and assisted living operations at Mountain View Manor, consolidating two director positions that had been separate for the past three years.



Michelle Lopez

Lopez, who has served as the Elderly Housing Director, will assume the combined role of Assisted Living and Elderly Housing Director effective Oct. 14 at an annual salary of \$100,000. The assembly voted 6-0 to approve the hire at its Oct. 21 meeting.

“I’m feeling pretty excited about the challenge,” Lopez said in an interview following the meeting. “I know what I’m getting into, but at the same time, it’s like, I don’t know everything I’m getting into.”

The consolidation returns Mountain View Manor to a management structure similar to what existed under former director Shelyn Bell, who oversaw both facilities until they were separated about three years ago. Lopez worked

closely with Bell as an administrative assistant, handling book-keeping and paperwork for both sides of the operation.

The restructuring to have one director instead of two will save the borough approximately \$50,000 in direct salary costs, plus additional savings in benefits and recruitment expenses.

Lopez, who has worked at Mountain View Manor since 2007, said the combined position will allow specialized staff to focus on their strengths while she maintains oversight of both operations.

“Everybody play to their strengths,” she said, describing her management approach.

The facility houses close to 50 residents across its two buildings. The independent elderly housing side operates in the black, while the assisted living facility receives some borough support subsidies each year.

Lopez will work alongside Lena Odegaard, a nurse who joined the staff in August.

“We’re both very excited,” Lopez said. “We’re both kind of coming into it with fresh ideas.”

Lopez said her priority in to maintain good quality of life for residents and staff while being a responsible steward of public funds. Looking ahead, she sees a growing need to become an expert on Medicaid waiver applications to help families navigate the process of securing financial assistance for assisted living services.



Olivia Rose / Pilot Photo

The property that local developer Dave Ohmer wants to buy from the Petersburg Borough is seen here roughly marked by a patch of barren trees nestled between residential homes, the new hospital project site, and Haugen Drive. Ohmer says a potential driveway would access Haugen, and some residents have stated safety concerns for having young families as potential tenants of the potential rentals.

Ohmer

Continued from page 1

Ohmer remained interested in purchasing the property.

Assembly member Jeigh Stanton Gregor requested that Ohmer’s application be reconsidered, and on Oct. 20, the assembly unanimously agreed to allow it to move forward, proceeding by direct negotiations between Ohmer and the borough manager. The terms they arrive at will return to the assembly for final approval.

Public testimony given before the vote again raised safety concerns about the property’s location on a busy road. Petersburg’s new mayor, Bob Lynn, concurred, but added that he thinks that can be worked out during the sale negotiation process.

“I’m sure that’s going to be discussed between the manager and Mr. Ohmer,” said Lynn.

Assembly member Stanton Gregor said Ohmer’s project makes sense, and stressed the importance of getting more housing for the community.

“We are very, very short on housing, affordable or otherwise,” Stanton Gregor said on Oct. 20. “I think it’s the right move if we,

as the assembly, are serious about trying to help the housing crisis. I think we need to step up and do our part to do that.”

Assembly member Rob Schwartz, who was excused from the July meeting, said he echoed Stanton Gregor’s comments.

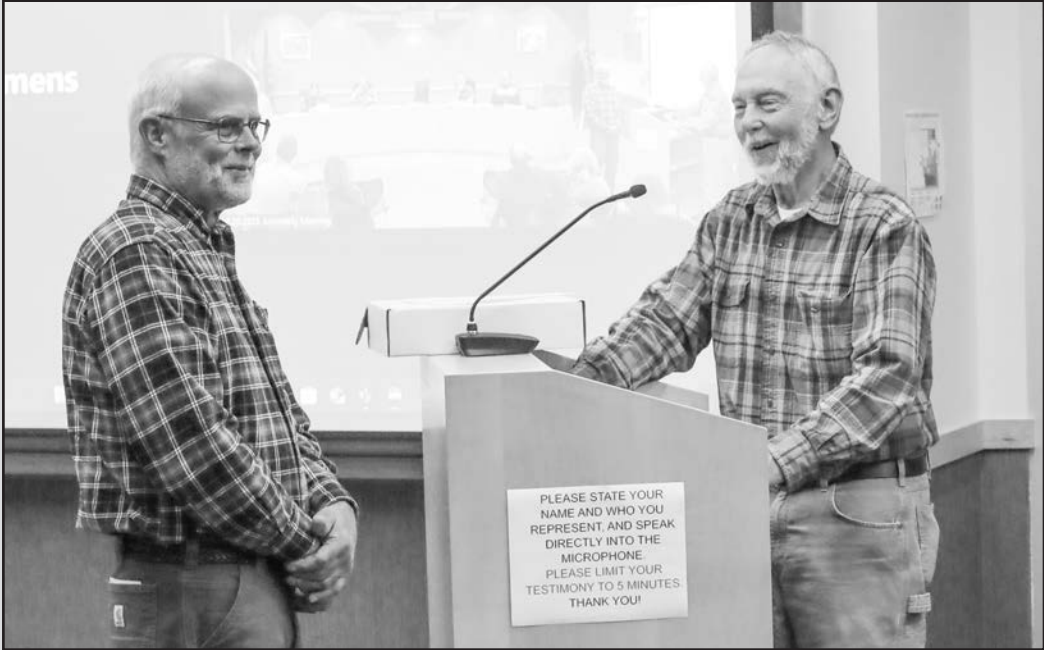
“I’ve gotten a lot of input from the public on this, and they’re two enthusiastic thumbs up, as far as getting this done,” Schwartz said.

A 2023 survey found that the town needs over 300 more housing units in the next decade. Two newly-elected assembly members — Jeff Meucci and Bob Martin — campaigned on wanting to address the local need for housing. They swore into office at the beginning of the meeting.

The assembly approved Ohmer’s application in a 6-0 vote. One assembly seat remains vacant, pending appointment during the next meeting in November.

Ohmer was not at the Monday night assembly meeting because he was traveling abroad. In a text to KFSK on Tuesday, Ohmer said, “I am very pleased the Assembly showed this support for more housing in the community.”

A swearing in and an appreciative farewell



At the start of Monday’s Petersburg Borough Assembly meeting newly elected assembly members Bob Martin (pictured top left) and Jeff Meucci (bottom left) were sworn into office by Borough Clerk Becky Regula. The swearing in was followed moments later by newly elected Petersburg Mayor Bob Lynn (pictured above right) offered remarks of appreciation and gratitude and presented a commemorative gavel to outgoing longtime Petersburg Mayor Mark Jensen (above left).

ORIN PIERSON / Petersburg Pilot



Another view from my window

Three cheers!
Marj Oines

Expressing our beliefs in a peaceful manner

Liz Bacom

Why we rallied

“Americans have been dragged, tackled, beaten, tased and shot by immigration agents. They’ve had their necks kneeled on. They’ve been held outside in the rain while in their underwear. At least three citizens were pregnant when agents detained them. One of those women had already had the door of her home

petersburg.ak.neighbors@proton.
me

Helping out neighbors to the north

If anyone is interested in financially helping our neighbors and friends who were victims of Typhoon Halong in Western Alaska, here's some information. The Alaska Community Foundation has a relief fund set up named: WESTERN ALASKA DISASTER 2005 RELIEF FUND.

Marsha Fernandez

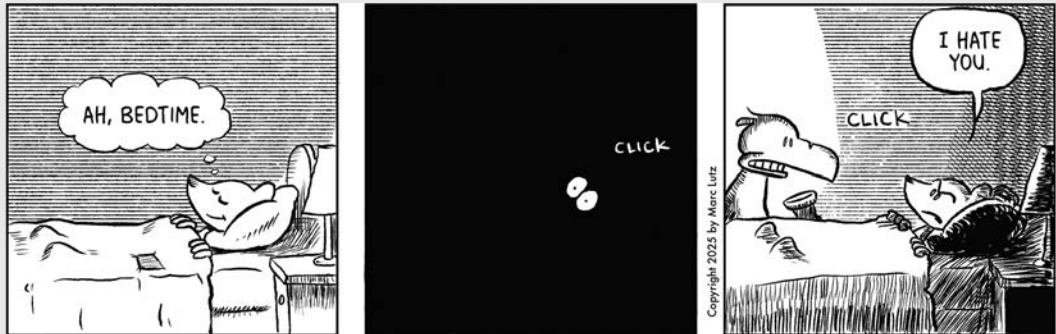
5G cell tower construction

A week ago I awoke to the shocking news that Tlingit and Haida corporation is placing what will be a 5G cell tower 200 feet from my house on the Flower Farm property on Rory Road here in Petersburg, Alaska. I learned about radiation long

Jackie Tyson

Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



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petersburg pilot

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COMMENTARY:

Letters from an American

By HEATHER COX RICHARDSON

All last week, Republican leaders tried to portray the No Kings protests scheduled for Saturday, October 18, as “Hate America” rallies. G. Elliott Morris of *Strength in Numbers* partnered with Atlanta-based science newsroom *The Xylom* to estimate that as many as 8.2 million people turned out yesterday to oppose the Trump administration. The mood at the protests was joyful and peaceful, with protesters holding signs that championed American principles of democracy, free speech, equality, and the rule of law. As the Grand Junction, Colorado, *Daily Sentinel* put it in a front-page headline: “‘This is America’ ‘No Kings’ protests against Trump bring a street party vibe to cities nationwide.”

Then, the night after the protests, the president’s social media account posted an AI-generated video showing Trump in a fighter jet with “KING TRUMP” painted on the side. The president sits in the airplane in front of something round that could be seen as a halo. He is wearing a gold crown.

Once in the air, the plane drops excrement on American cities. The excrement drenches protesters. Historian Larry Glickman noted that media outlets make much of alleged Democratic disdain for ordinary Americans, but have had little to say about the disdain for Americans embodied by Trump’s video.

Several administration videos and images have responded to Americans saying “No Kings” by taking the position “Yes, We Want Kings,” an open embrace of the end of democracy. But they are more than simple trolling. Led by Trump, MAGA Republicans have abandoned the idea of politics, which is the process of engaging in debate and negotiation to attract support and win power.

The idea that leaders must attract voters with reasoned arguments to win power and must concede power when their opponents win has been the central premise of American government since 1800. In that year, after a charged election in which each side accused the other of trying to destroy the country, Federalist John Adams turned the reins of government over to the leader of the opposition, Thomas Jefferson. That peaceful transfer of power not only protected the people, it protected leaders who had lost the support of voters, giving them a way to leave office safely and either retire or regroup to make another run at power.

The peaceful transfer of power symbolized the nation’s political system and became the hallmark of the United States of America. It lasted until January 6, 2021, when sitting president Trump refused to accept the voters’ election of Democrat Joe Biden, the leader of the opposition.

Now back in power, Trump and his loyalists are continuing to undermine the idea of politics, policies, and debate, trying instead to delegitimize the Democratic opposition altogether. During the protests, President Donald Trump, Vice President J.D Vance, and the official White House social media account posted a video of Trump placing a royal crown on his head, draping a royal robe around his shoulders, and unsheathing and brandishing a sword (an image that raises questions about why Trump wanted one of General Dwight D. Eisenhower’s swords so badly that he had the museum director who refused to hand it over fired). In the video, Democratic leaders including former House speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and what appears to be Senate minority leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) first kneel and then bow to Trump.

The administration’s hostility to opposition is translating into direct assaults on our government. House speaker Mike Johnson is refusing to seat a member of the opposition. Voters chose representative-elect Adelita Grijalva (D-AZ) on September 23 to fill a vacant House seat, but Johnson has come up with one reason after another not to seat her. Until she is sworn in, she has no access to government resources and cannot represent her constituents. She also cannot be the 218th signature on a discharge petition that would force a vote on whether to demand the re-

lease of the Epstein files, the final signature needed.

Grijalva recorded a video reinforcing the political system, saying: “We need to get to work, get on the floor, and negotiate so we can reopen the government.”

But Republican congressional leaders are refusing even to talk with Democrats to reopen the government, let alone to negotiate with them. They are trying to force Democrats simply to do as they say, despite the fact that 78% of Americans, including 59% of Republicans, support the Democrats’ demand for an extension of the tax credit that lowers the cost of health-care premiums on the Affordable Care Act markets.

A video of Trump in a bomber attacking American cities carries an implied threat that the disdain of throwing excrement doesn’t erase. This morning, Trump reinforced that threat when he reminded Fox News Channel host Maria Bartiromo: “Don’t forget I can use the Insurrection Act. Fifty percent of the presidents almost have used that. And that’s unquestioned power. I choose not to, I’d rather do this, but I’m met constantly by fake politicians, politicians that think that, that you know they it’s not like a part of the radical left movement to have safety. These cities have to be safe.”

On Friday, the Trump administration pushed its attempt to use the military in Democratic-led cities, asking the Supreme Court to let it deploy troops in Chicago immediately. Chris Geidner of *Law Dork* notes that four judges, two appointed by Democrats and two appointed by Republicans, have rejected the administration’s arguments for why they must send in troops. Now the Department of Justice has appealed to the Supreme Court, asking for a decision on the so-called shadow docket, which would provide a fast response, but one without any hearings or explanation.

The administration’s appeal to the Supreme Court warned that there was “pressing risk of violence” in Chicago—a premise the judges rejected—and said preventing Trump from going into the city “improperly impinges on the President’s authority.”

How much difference will the No Kings Day protests, even as big as they were, make in the face of the administration’s attempt to get rid of our democratic political system and replace it with authoritarianism? What good is an inflatable frog against federal agents?

Scholar of social movements Lisa Corrigan noted that large, fun marches full of art and music expand connections and make people more willing to take risks against growing state power. They build larger communities by creating new images that bring together recognizable images from the past in new ways, helping more people see themselves in such an opposition. The community and good feelings those gatherings develop help carry opposition through hard moments.

Such rallies “bring together multigenerational groups and the playfulness can help create enthusiasm for big tent politics against the monoculture of fascism,” Corrigan writes. “The frogs (and unicorns and dinosaurs) will be defining ideographs of this period of struggle.”

Heather Cox Richardson is an American historian who works as a professor of history at Boston College. Richardson has described herself as a Lincoln-era Republican, but having no affiliation with any political party. This column first appeared at Heathercoxrichardson.substack.com and is republished here with permission.



Around 140 demonstrators gathered for one hour on Saturday, Oct. 18 in front of the Federal Building in Petersburg. The rally was one of at least 25 similar demonstrations in Alaska and thousands of simultaneous events nationwide with brought together millions of Americans in condemnation of President Donald Trump’s deployment of U.S. military forces into American cities and the ICE racial profiling raids which have swept up hundreds of U.S. citizens.

“No Kings” rally in Petersburg



The event in Petersburg was a peaceful demonstration with music playing, American flags waving, a few people in costumes dancing, children in attendance, and event organizers reading political statements into a microphone. The rally was momentarily disrupted when two vehicles drove past seemingly as a counter protest, with a Trump campaign flag flapping from the back of one and the driver of the second vehicle hanging out his open door screaming derogatory slurs and profanities at the crowd.

ORIN PIERSON / Petersburg Pilot

Kito’s Kave

FALL WINE TASTING PARTY



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Friday, October 24

6pm - 8pm

\$25 a ticket

Sold at the door
Food, Wine & Door Prizes

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HANDMADE ARTS & CRAFTS

49th Oktoberfest Art Share

Saturday, October 25

10a to 3p at PSG Community Gym

Lunch - Activity Room (Taco Salad & More)
Baked & Candy sales in the gym
A COMMUNITY GYM FULL OF
UNIQUE NEW PIECES AND DESIGNS
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Raffle tickets beautiful rosemaled items
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Moose season

Continued from page 1

good populations of moose,” Robbins said. “Mild winters, rain at the right time, good growing conditions, ample forage” — all these factors improve moose survival.

The mild winters mean less snow cover and more available forage throughout the winter months, which translates directly to bigger, healthier, and more abundant animals. And those same conditions bode well for hunters of other species. “There were some nice moose harvested this year relative to antler, and there’ll be some nice deer harvested too,” Robbins predicted.

Another contributor to the record harvest is that moose have been steadily expanding their range westward across the unit, particularly onto Kuiu Island.

“Twenty years ago, there was no moose harvest on Kuiu. Now Kuiu makes up 15 to 25% of the total harvest,” Robbins explained. Between 2004 and 2008, there were zero moose harvests on Kuiu Island. Between 2013 and 2017, the harvest averaged just three moose per year. In the last five years, that average has jumped to 28 moose annually.

“They just weren’t present on Kuiu, and they’ve found their way,” Robbins said. “Now they’re present on Kuiu Island and reproductive.” The island has “essentially created a new moose hunting opportunity in the unit.”



Photo courtesy of Markus Anderson

On the day of processing and packaging the 400 pounds of moose meat, Craig Anderson, Stanley Hjort, and Markus Anderson take a photo with the head and antlers of Markus’s once-in-a-lifetime moose.

Hunt of a Lifetime

For Markus Anderson, this season yielded a moose that his father Craig called “the most amazing thing I’ve seen in the entire time I lived here.”

Markus — a 2025 PHS grad — and his father put in 18 days of hunting over the course of the season, hiking for miles most days through more challenging conditions than usual.

“The first week, two weeks of the season — I mean, they called it a hurricane,” Markus said. “You’re out there most days up at Farragut and the river blew out. Just flood waters everywhere.” Trees fell

throughout the hunting areas, with “root wads and stuff” rolling down rivers.

“Over 18 days of hunting, we saw 10 moose,” Markus said. “A couple were cows, but [the bulls] were all single singles.” Then came October 10.

Hunting conditions were ideal. The morning started with frost. Markus and his father hiked about two miles into the muskeg near Duncan Canal. After hours of calling that brought in a cow and calf, they kept moving.

“About 11 o’clock, we had just left the spot we were calling, and my dad looks back and he

2025 Moose Harvest as of Oct. 20

LOCATION	LEGAL	ILLEGAL
Kupreanof Island	68	5
Kuiu Island	28	0
Stikine River	20	0
Thomas Bay	6	0
Farragut Bay	3	0
Mitkof Island	4	1
Wrangell Island	2	0
Other Mainland Areas	3	1
Zarembo Island	0	0
Woewodski Island	0	0
Etolin Island	0	0
Game Unit 1C	4	0
Total RM038 Moose Harvest	145	7

sees this big old moose walking out,” Markus recalled. But the bull was 400 yards away — too far for the shot. “He went in the woods and I’m like, ‘Oh crap, we missed him.’”

Rather than let the big bull disappearing into the timber, Markus took off running.

“I was actually on my phone looking at the layout of the muskeg, and I saw that the direction he was heading, he might pop out in this muskeg,” Markus said. “I was able to run around all these trees, like quarter mile ... It was probably 10 minutes of weaving and running through the muskeg.”

“As soon as I got there, he just popped out, and there was a small little window for me to shoot.” Shaking from the exertion but steady enough when it mattered, Markus made the shot. “One shot at 120 yards freehand ... he walked about 10 yards and just fell over.”

“At first when we were looking at it, we thought it was a double [brow tine] on the right side... As soon as I walked up to him, [it was] a triple double. I called my dad: ‘I just shot a triple double!’”

The moose measured 48.5 inches wide with brow tines

over a foot and a half long on each side — dimensions that left even experienced hunters and biologists impressed.

When Craig Anderson showed the animal to Robbins, the biologist’s response was simple: “Finally, a real moose.”

“It’s an outlier for this subspecies,” Robbins told the Pilot, referring to the Southeast Alaska moose subspecies, which “aren’t noted to have as large antlers as the interior Alaska moose.”

The hunters spent four to five hours quartering it in the field. “We made a little meat pole in the woods and hung the meat up, and then we walked back to the boat, slept overnight, and then got up early morning and packed it out,” Markus said. The cold, frosty conditions were perfect for keeping the meat in good condition overnight.

“It was a once in a lifetime experience,” Markus reflected. “I mean, I’ve never seen one that big.” The animal yielded over 400 pounds of meat.

“It was worth it, for sure,” he said. “All the hard days.”

The extraordinary rack is destined for a European mount — or skull mount — that Markus said “is gonna take up the whole wall.”

Police report

October 15 – Property found on Fram Street was turned in to the Petersburg Police Department (PPD).

Christopher Hoover was issued a citation for limitations on backing following a motor vehicle incident on North 1st Street.

An officer spoke with an individual concerning a civil issue.

Property found on Fram Street was turned in to the PPD.

An officer provided lockout assistance on Birch Street.

October 16 – There is an on-going investigation into a report of suspicious behavior on Excel Street. Papers were served.

An individual completed their quarterly sex offender registration.

The PPD received a report of a runaway juvenile.

Papers were served on Kisenro Street.

A dog found wandering on Mitkof Highway near Kings Row was turned in to the PPD and later claimed by its owner.

October 17 – Brina Compton was remanded for violating conditions of release.

Daniel Janzen was arrested for allegedly driving under the influence of alcohol (DUI) on Howkan Street.

Dustin DeLong was remanded for violating conditions of release on Gauffin Street.

The PPD received a post event report of suspicious activity at the drive-down dock.

PPD received a report of a water leak in the South Harbor parking lot. Water Wastewater (W/WW) were notified and responded.

October 18 – An officer responding to a reported disturbance on South 3rd Street was unable to locate the described individual.

An officer provided transport to an individual on Lumber Street in need of medical assistance.

An officer responded to a report of suspicious activity on Mitkof Highway and determined it was non-criminal.

Anthony Curtiss was issued a summons for alleged reckless driving.

PPD received a report of power issues in Middle Harbor. Petersburg Power and Light (PP&L) were notified and responded.

An officer responding to a report of speeding on Sing Lee Alley was unable to locate the described vehicle.

A driver at North 1st and Fram Streets was issued a warning for failure to use their turn signal.

October 19 – Thomas Terwilliger was issued a citation for basic speed on the Sing Lee Alley bridge.

An officer assisted an individual on Frederick Point Drive.

An officer responded to a report of suspicious activity on Mitkof Highway.

An officer spoke with a complainant regarding a civil issue on Sandy Beach Road.

An officer responded to a report of an ill or injured deer on North Nordic Drive. The deer later died and was not salvaged.

An officer responded to a report of a bear attempting to access a garbage container on Scow Bay Loop Road. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) and the Fish and Wildlife Trooper (FWT) were notified.

October 20 – Officers responded to a report of criminal mischief on Mitkof Highway.

An officer assisted Emergency Medical Services (EMS) with a fall on North Nordic Drive.

A deer struck and killed by a vehicle on Mitkof Highway was salvaged.

PPD received a post-event report of suspicious activity on South Nordic Drive.

PPD received a report of property lost on Haugen Drive.

An officer responded to assist a disabled vehicle on Mitkof Highway.

October 21 – An officer provided transport to an individual on Mitkof Highway in need of medical assistance.

Papers were served.

A complainant on Ira II Street spoke with dispatch concerning a civil issue.

An officer assisted EMS with an unconscious individual on South Nordic Drive.

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Clausen Museum screens 1940s film featuring Petersburg’s Hollywood star

By ORIN PIERSON
Pilot writer

In 1927, a 14-year-old girl named Alice Norberg left the fox farm in West Petersburg where she was raised and boarded a steamer to Seattle then a Greyhound bus to Hollywood to pursue a showbiz career. She eventually appeared in 32 movies during the 1930s and 40s.

This Friday, the Clausen Memorial Museum is screening one of her films, “The Invisible Ghost” (1941), starring Bela Lugosi, in an evening designed to bring Alice’s story back to Petersburg’s collective memory.

“People kind of forgot her from the history of Petersburg,” said Clausen Museum Curator

Anne Lee. “The old timers knew about her — there was a girl who lived here who went to Hollywood and became a star — but that was it, for many, many years.”

It was a friend of her family, visiting Petersburg, who encouraged Alice — who had only completed one year of high school — to go off to Hollywood. While Alice pursued acting in California, her younger sister Lillian remained on the fox farm, tending the animals and rowing loads of sawdust across the water for the ice house. The family financially supported Alice’s showbiz training. According to Lillian’s written account of the family history, “Alice was the golden girl.” The family paid for

singing lessons, dance classes, voice coaching, and costumes to help launch her career.

She was talented, but she didn’t immediately find big screen success. For quite a few years Alice sang and danced in vaudeville shows, modeled for advertisements, and even became known as a stand-in screamer, who could lend her high-note singing voice for horror films starring better-known actresses who lacked her vocal talents.

An unexpected big break came in 1935 when Norman Rockwell painted her in a picture for the cover of the Saturday Evening Post. Her image on the magazine cover sparked a moment of national interest in this mysterious girl. Hollywood legend has it that Paramount executives commenced an 11-month search to find her, including a trip to Alaska to see if she had come home. Studio executives eventually found her in Miami Beach singing with an orchestra in the Royal Palm Hotel. Around that time, she adopted the stage name Terry Walker spent the next decade working in Hollywood appearing in dozens of films through 1944.

Several years ago, the family of Alice Norberg made a trip to Petersburg and brought approximately 600 family photographs documenting both her childhood in Kupreanof and her Hollywood career, according to Lee. The photos were added the museum’s files on Alice. “We have files on people,” Lee said with a slightly mischievous laugh. And thanks to those photos and “that little book that was written by her sister,” Lee said the museum is finally able to “bring Alice back to Petersburg’s memory ... we’ve been wanting to do it for years.”

The film screening this Friday offers locals a chance to experience early 1940s cinema, an era of entertainment rarely experienced by modern audiences. “We step back into the 80s, the 70s, the 60s fairly regularly with films. But you don’t really leap all the way back to the 30s and the 40s very often,” Clausen Museum Director Sarah Pederson told the Pilot. “But here is this great opportunity, thanks to this person who lived here.”

The event is part of the museum’s effort to provide new creative, adult-oriented winter programming. “This time of year, there’s lots of kid things,” Pederson said. “This is something different ...”

The museum’s back room will be transformed with small candlelit tables, period décor, and dim lighting to evoke the 1940s mansion setting of the film itself. The Board Chicks will provide charcuterie boards, and the museum will serve wine and fresh popcorn. The



The Saturday Evening Post, March 9, 1935

This painting, “Partygoers” by Norman Rockwell, published on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post in 1935 transformed Alice Norberg’s showbiz career. Hollywood producers searched for 11 months to find the girl who had modeled for the photo, they eventually found Alice working in Miami Beach singing with an orchestra at a hotel.



Photo courtesy of the Norberg Family Collection

Seven year old Alice Norberg (right) photographed with her friend Alaska Jorgenson on Kupreanof Island circa 1920.

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Photo courtesy of the Norberg Family Collection

Alice Norberg performed under a stage name, first going by Alice Dahl, and sometime in the 1930s changing it to Terry Walker.

PHS Varsity Volleyball makes statement at North Seeding Tourney

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

Determined to see where they stack up compared to the rest of the conference, the Petersburg High School Varsity Volleyball team continued their momentum with a strong performance in the North Seeding Tournament. The team went 5-2, only losing to the

ball,” senior middle Aurora Wolf said.

One of the main reasons for the surge in offensive firepower is the improvement of several players.

“All three of our middles, Maddie [Dreisbach], Natalee [Bertagnoli] and Aurora [Wolf] and our outsides with Nicole [Ware] and Arielle [Tucker] just being so solid outside hitters.

They have become so much better in learning one weekend from the next,” Cabral said. “The offensive output we had was really well done.”

The Vikings averaged 22.4 (381 points) scored in 17 sets this past weekend.

After losing to the Wolves in their opening game, the Vikings proceeded to win their next five out of six games, including wins against the Hoonah Braves, Klawock Chieftains and Haines Glacier Bears in 2-0 sets. They defeated the Skagway Panthers 2-1 in their set.

“We tried really hard to control what we can on our side because we can’t control anything on their side. Just learning to play at our pace, our speed – I noticed that,” senior libero Freya Tucker said.

In their penultimate match of the tournament against the Panthers, the Vikings never found their rhythm, scoring more than 20 points only once (14 and 18), with numerous errors committed by the team, a trend they saw in both losses to the Panthers and Wolves.

“We had a little bit too many service errors against Craig. We weren’t attacking as much. With Wrangell, we got stuck in one serve-receive pattern and we couldn’t get out of it. Our passing diminished in that game,” Cabral said.

This mantra the players have adopted this season is ‘We can play with anyone.’

“After the game [against Craig], they [players] were already talking about the things they could improve on and check to make sure we’re golden for the next match,” Cabral said. “This group is very aware of those moments.”

Their final match was against the reigning Region V champions, the Metlakatla Chiefs, who swept them in



Photo courtesy of Will Steinfeld / Chilkat Valley News

Petersburg senior Rikka Miller (#7) and Nicole Ware celebrate after the Vikings scored a point on Oct. 17, 2025, during the North Seeding Tournament in Haines. Miller and Ware have been key to the Viking’s early season success this season.

2024.

This year, the Vikings 2-0 the Chiefs, winning the first set 25-21 and the second set, 25-20.

“For me personally, seeing [the Chiefs] last year, they’re an intimidating team. So I think us going out there and winning that game really showed how hard we’re working and how much we want to improve,” Davis said.

So, what was the deciding factor compared to last year?

“We had really strong defense this time,” Tucker said.

The Vikings will host the

Valkyrie Volleyball Tournament, from Oct. 23-25, in Petersburg.

“As this being our main final home game as [seniors], the [mindset] is to have fun, put it all out there and put on a show,” said Davis.

Things to know heading into home tournament:

Record:
11-6 overall (2nd in conference)
5-2 in conference

Best-of-five-series:
Vs Metlakatla Chiefs (3-2) on Oct. 24
Vs Craig Panthers (4-3) on Oct. 25



Photo courtesy of Will Steinfeld / Chilkat Valley News

Petersburg middle Maddie Dreisbach goes up for a thunderous spike on Oct. 17, 2025, during the North Seeding Tournament in Haines. Dreisbach has been one of the key factors in the Viking’s offensive surge this season.

Wrangell Wolves and Craig Panthers, both in three sets (1-2).

“Really happy with the way the girls played. They played together on the court. Every game was a battle and the ones that we lost were great learning moments to improve on for the next couple of weeks before the South Seeding Tournament,” head coach Jaime Cabral said.

“I feel like we went out there and executed well. I think there’s definitely areas we can improve on, but that’s how it always is, you’re never complete. For being how far we are in the season, I’m very proud of how it went,” senior setter Eden Davis added.

The Vikings demonstrated their offensive prowess – an area of the team they were really confident in heading into the season.

“I’ve noticed that we tried to get a full on swing out of it this year vs we don’t want to bump it over. We’re trying to attack the

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Viking Swim Club start the season strong in Sitka

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

The Viking Swim Club had their first meet of this season on Oct. 9-11 in Sitka. It was also head coach Derek Gibb’s first meet as head coach which can be very stressful. “It’s 17 kids, so there were quite a few kids to pay attention to. That’s probably the hardest part – is giving everyone equal feedback, so that’s something I have to work on,” Gibb said. Gibb stated how roughly 80% of the team swam new personal bests. “I was really impressed with the 11-12 girls and boys. Jaycee Coil, Addie Flores, Midori Hinde and Lucy Peterson for the girls. Grady Walker, Jackson Zweifel, Carter Griss and Ryder Diehl did very well,” Gibb said. Petersburg’s Kendyl Lachapelle, dropped nine and a half seconds in the girls 13 and over 200 yard backstroke (2:44.88), finishing first. “She had quite a few drops in all of her events,” Gibb said.

The girls 11 and 12 medley relay team, which consists of Peterson, Coil, Flores and Hinde dropped over seven seconds from their previous time (2:23.92), finishing second (out of 3). “We’ve been doing a lot of relay takeoffs in practice, trying to get that down. Everything went very smoothly,” Gibb said. “Them getting better as athletes is why they’re doing so well. I think that’s going to propel them to a good state meet.” Flores also dropped six seconds in the girls 11 and 12 breaststroke (1:38.23), finishing seventh. Cole dropped almost nine seconds (1:30.25), finishing third in the same event. Coach Gibb could tell the team became a little fatigued over the meet but appreciated the effort by the team in finishing strong. “A lot of them have different sports, it’s pretty tough to do that double. We have a lot of great athletes and I’m glad they’re willing and able to do that. It just shows how good of athletes Petersburg has,” Gibb said. Petersburg’s Tori Miller took first



Photo courtesy of

Front row from left to right: Carter Griss, Lincoln McGrath, Keighin Lachapelle, Maisy Zweifel. Middle row from left to right: Midori Hinde, Jax Coil, Torren Newman, Trygve Nilsen, Grady Walker, Ryder Diehl, Jackson Zweifel. Front row from left to right: Cyrus Hulebak, Lucy Peterson, Addie Flores, Tori Miller, Jaycee Coil, Head coach Derek Gibb and Kendyl Lachapelle

in all of her events – 200 IM, 50 freestyle, 200 mixed medley relay, 100 butterfly, 100 freestyle and backstroke. Petersburg’s Cyrus Hulebak is two seconds away from the 400 IM record. In the Sitka meet, he swam 4:39.14 in the boys 11 and over 400 IM. Gibb wants to continue the success the program has had over the past several years. “One of my goals for sure is to get like, 20, 25 kids [to state],” Gibb said. The team will continue to work on their starts, whether it be relay or individual races and more. “I still think we have a ways to go in our underwaters – and that’s kind of the basics of what we’re going to continue to do,” Gibb said.

The team’s next meet will be the annual November Rain, at the Petersburg Aquatic Center, from Nov.14-16th, the first for the new regime. It’s going to be a fast meet. Our kids are going to swim well,” Gibb said. “We’re gonna have 8 and under relays this time. We have 16 A-groupers and Ginger [Evens] has been doing a phenomenal job with a group. We’ve already done one time trial with them and now we’re going to continue and try to do that and get them ready for the next big jump on to B group. Gibb joked about how it’s been more difficult being a coach than an athlete. Coach Gibb wanted to give special thanks to chaperones Kelly Zweifel and Cathy Jean Mattson for helping with taking

splits, corralling kids on deck and feeding the kids.

State qualifiers so far:
Lucy Peterson (100 breaststroke)
Cyrus Hulebak (200 IM, 50 freestyle, 200 backstroke, 400 IM, 100 breaststroke, 100 freestyle, 100 backstroke)
Tori Miller (200 IM, 50 freestyle, 100 butterfly, 100 freestyle, 100 backstroke)
Jaycee Coil (50 breaststroke)
Kendyl Lachapelle (50 freestyle, 200 freestyle, 100 freestyle)
Midori Hinde (50 freestyle)
Ryder Diehl (50 freestyle)
Grady Walker (50 freestyle, 50 butterfly)
Jackson Zweifel (200 IM, 50 breaststroke, 200 breaststroke, 100 breaststroke)

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Saturday Night Live theme for upcoming Viking Swim Club auction

By ORIN PIERSON
Pilot writer

Petersburg’s nonprofit Viking Swim Club will hold its annual fundraiser auction this Saturday at the Sons of Norway Hall, with proceeds helping to keep swimming affordable for local families. “This is the main vehicle to fund the Viking Swim Club,” said Marlena Newman, the club’s fundraising chair. “If we don’t have our fundraisers, then, of course, the dues go up for families.” Newman and a team of volunteers have spent the past three months organizing the event, which includes a dinner, silent and live auctions, and a raffle. It’s one of two annual fundraisers for the club, along with a spring pledge drive called Laps for Loot. The club currently has about 60 swimmers enrolled, ranging from age 6 or 7 through high school. Fundraising dollars help cover coaching staff and pool rental, the organization’s two largest expenses. Derek Gibb and Ginger Evans are the club’s new coaches this year, and their first season at the helm seems to be off to a great start. Newman said, “I have one swimmer, and he’s always excited at the end of the day. He’s like, ‘It was so much fun!’” The annual swim club auctions are usually a colorful theme party and this time the theme is Saturday Night Live, with attendees encouraged to dress as a favorite character from the show’s five-decade run or come glammed up for the red carpet. Gus Pennington – an energetic showman known for delivering big laughs with the Mitkof Mummies theater troupe – will serve as auction-

eer. Fire Catering will provide dinner. This is the catering company’s third year serving the event. “They’re such a pleasure to work with,” said Newman. The live auction will include many generously donated items from local businesses, including flightseeing tours from Petersburg Flying Service and Nordic Air. A raffle is already underway with tickets being sold by swimmers; the drawing will be held during the auction. Tickets are \$20, with prizes including two Alaska Airlines tickets, a generator donated by Rocky’s Marine and a laptop from Homeport Electronics. “Our community is so generous,” Newman said. “They have been so generous year after year, supporting VSC with everything, but especially the auction.” Competition season is well underway for the club. Sixteen swimmers competed in Sitka two weeks ago. The club will host its annual home meet, November Rain, on Nov. 14, drawing swimmers from across Southeast Alaska. In December, the team travels to Ketchikan, and the season culminates in April at Southeast Champs in Juneau. Fundraising dollars help cover travel costs like chaperones and group housing. Tickets for Saturday’s auction are \$40 and include dinner and entertainment. A cash bar will be available. Tickets are available at Sing Lee Alley Clothing. Newman emphasized “how grateful we are for the generosity of the community ... It makes amazing opportunities for the kids.”



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Young Vikings wrestling squad learns valuable lessons in season opener at Metlakatla

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

Grappling with the unknown, the Petersburg High School Wrestling team embarked on the beginning of their season’s journey this past weekend in Metlakatla. While head coach James Valentine wasn’t present, assistant coach Tyler Thain stepped up to fill the void in the first meet of the season.

“Mostly, this first meet was about figuring out what kind of wrestlers you want to be. We do things in practice and in a real life match, it’s hard to translate those things,” Thain said. “So you try to get kids lots of matches, trying different things in those live experiences.”

While this team is youthful and on a journey of figuring themselves out, Petersburg senior Tyson Reid and he began his season with a mixed assessment.

“Not as well as I would’ve hoped. However, I feel fine with what I accomplished because I’m coming away with a lot of learning. I feel like I could do better next time,” Reid said.

Reid starts the season wrestling in the 160 weight class. Reid had three matches, going 1-2. Reid won his first match against Metlakatla but then lost his final two against Sitka.

“The kid [from Metlakatla] allowed me to set up my shots better. I got more opportunities to shoot and score points,” Reid said.

However, he wasn’t able to continue that in his next two matches.

“I decided to wrestle more defensive rather than offensive and wait for later rounds to pursue points and that turned out to be a mistake but I’m coming away with some valuable experience from that,”



Photo courtesy of Tyler Thain

Petersburg’s Eli Anderson stands tall on the podium with his first place medal after winning his weight class during the Metlakatla Invitational on Oct. 18, 2025, in Metlakatla. The Vikings next meet will be in Juneau, from Nov. 7-8.

Reid said.

One thing coach Thain liked overall about the team was the team’s attitude. One thing he hopes can be improved in future meets is preparation.

“How we get ready for a match. You’re in the hole which means you’re the third person up on the mat. How are we mentally preparing ourselves? How are we physically preparing ourselves for that match?” said Thain.

One athlete that felt he

needed to better prepare himself was sophomore Edgar

Olsen.

“I kinda let the guy attack me and I wasn’t on the

offensive and then I tried to play defense and that didn’t work very well and also first match jitters, but that’s also a bad excuse, so I need to get myself better prepared and ready for the next tournament,” Olsen said. “This is probably the last time I come unprepared into a tournament.”

Olsen starts the season in the 171 weight class but hopes to eventually cut down to 160. Olsen played six matches, losing the first one and then winning the next five (5-1).

“After I got my first win, I went into every single match with confidence and it paid off,” Olsen said.

Olsen hopes to have a better mentality heading into the Viking’s next meet.

“Working hard and being able to do this is a privilege and I just need to work my butt off to compete with everyone else and get my endurance way better,” Olsen said.

Overall, it was a good first step for this wrestling team.

“It was really exciting to be in there – getting the kids fired up. It felt really good to help these guys and girls progress towards their goals.

The Vikings next meet will be in Juneau, from Nov. 7-8th.

“Kids are picking out things they want to work on because wrestling is a team sport but it’s also very individual, so it’s important that they’re picking things out they want to work on and figuring out what type of wrestler they want to be,” said Thain.

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2025 Wrestling Team



Front row from left to right: Sailor Odegaard, Tanner Caulum, Tyson Reid, Darby Swainson, Fyscher Humphrey, Damon Bradford, Jake Smith, Braelyn Caulum. Back row from left to right: Assistant coach Tyler Thain, Edgar Olsen, Andrew Wright, Jakob Preisler, Cedar Helms, Eli Anderson, Levi Anderson and Head Coach James Valentine. Not pictured: Danny Stocks.

●●●●●●●●●● Schedule ●●●●●●●●●●

Oct. 17 - 20 @ Metlakatla

Dec. 5 - 6 @ Wrangell

Nov. 7 - 8 @ Juneau

Dec. 11 - 13 Region V
@ Mt. Edgecumbe

Nov. 21 - 22 @ Ketchikan

Dec. 18 - 20 State Championship
@ UAA

Dec. 4 PHS v. Sitka dual
(senior appreciation)

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IBEW 1547



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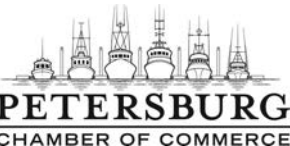


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Hammer & Wikan



Photo courtesy of Klas Stolpe / Juneau Independent

Petersburg's Logan Tow swims to a win in the boys 200 yard freestyle Friday during the Juneau Invitational Swim & Dive Meet at the Dimond Park Aquatic Center.

PHS Swim and Dive team rides strong finish heading into postseason

By **AIDEN LUHR**
Pilot writer

The Petersburg High School Swim and Dive team ended the regular season strong in Juneau this past weekend. The team looks poised to make a splash in

the postseason once again. “We’re doing good,” head coach Andy Carlise said. “For a couple of the swims, it really boosted their confidence. “Lexie [Tow] had a really good meet and Brooklyn had a really good meet. “They’ve been a little bit off on their times up until this meet. This weekend, they got season best times on everything.”

Senior swimmer Logan Tow ended his final regular season as a Viking swimmer. He finished first in the 200 freestyle, with a time of 1 minute and 51 seconds, almost four seconds improvement from his previous time. He also finished first in the 500 freestyle, with a time of 5:08.59, almost a 12 second improvement over his previous time.

On day two, Tow finished third in the 100 butterfly, with a time of 59.07 and third in the 100 backstroke, with a time of 57.89.

“My start was really good, my stroke was good. I was pretty strong on my back. I kicked really hard and it turned out pretty well,” Tow said.

Tow has won consecutive region titles and is looking to keep his streak going with the postseason on the horizon.

“I feel pretty confident in my

racess. I’ve been doing it for a while,” Tow said. “Continuing to work hard here [in practice]. This is where you get good.”

Tow is close to setting new personal records in the 100 and 200, which he’s confident in achieving at regions.

“I think I’ll break a PR in both of my events,” Tow said.

Most of the times senior swimmer Brooklyn Whitethorn swam in Juneau were her best times of the season, giving her confidence heading into the playoffs.

“That was something that made me feel better and more hopeful for regions,” Whitethorn said.

Whitethorn finished fifth in the 50 freestyle, with a time of 27.01, an improvement by 1.26 seconds, fourth in the 100 butterfly, with a time of 1:07.31, an improvement of 0.71 seconds and fifth in the 100 backstroke, with a time of 1:08.27, an improvement of 1.31 seconds.

Whitethorn showed the most improvement in her 100 freestyle, with a time of 58.73 and an almost two second improvement, finishing fourth.

“I really focused more on my first 50 of the 100. Obviously 100’s are supposed to be all-out no matter what, but I really had



Photo courtesy of Klas Stolpe / Juneau Independent

Petersburg's Bella Miller starts the girls 200 yard medley relay Saturday during the JDHS Invitational at the Dimond Park Aquatic Center. From bottom are Ketchikan's Ella Bullock, Miller, JDHS' Katya Foy, Sitka's Taryn Fleming, Wrangell's Johanna Sanford and Craig's Payton McCoy.

that mindset ‘just go as fast as I can’ and that helped,” Whitethorn said.

Going into the post season, “it’s probably going to be hard to get any PR’s, but just gotta do the best I can,” Whitethorn said. “We’re going to start tapering probably next week so that’s going to make a big difference because we’ve been going pretty hard in practice.

The key focus will be balancing the workload as to not burn out the team before regions and then state.

“They’re right on track. I don’t have any doubts about any of the kids that made it last year,” said Carlise.

The Region V Championship meet will be Oct.31-Nov.1, in Ketchikan.

Other notable performances:

Olivia Hinde:
6th in 200 freestyle (2:20.76)
10th in 100 freestyle (1:05.59, 0.89s improv)
2nd in 500 freestyle (6:19.81, 0.82s improv)
Bella Miller:
4th in 200 freestyle (2:11.54, 3.77s improv)
4th in 500 freestyle (5:48.50, 10.71 improv)
3rd 200 IM (2:28.78)
3rd in 100 backstroke (1:07.08, 0.80 improv)
Lexie Tow:
1st in 50 freestyle (25.70, 0.11s improv)
1st in 100 breaststroke (1:09.65, 1.35s improv)
1st in 200 IM (2:19.04)
1st in 100 freestyle (55.50)



at Petersburg School District

BREAKFAST IS AVAILABLE
K-5 AT 7:45am / 6-12 AT 8:50am

Monday, Oct 27
Breakfast

WG Low Sugar Cereal
Lunch

Korean Meatballs over
Brown Rice

Tuesday, Oct 28
Breakfast

Greek Yogurt and Granola
Lunch

WG Bean & Cheese Burrito
Wednesday, Oct 29

Breakfast

WG Bagel & Cream Cheese
Lunch

WG Chicken & Waffles
with Country Gravy

Thursday, Oct 30
Breakfast

WG Muffin
Lunch

WG Pepperoni Pizza
Friday, Oct 31

Breakfast

WG Bagel Breakfast Pizza
Lunch

Mashed Potato Bowl with
WG Chicken Nuggets
WG Roll

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*WG = Whole Grain



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Public Notice

**Scow Bay Boat Yard Design:
Joint Work Session of Assembly,
Harbor Board & PEDC**

The Assembly will attend a work session with the Harbor Board and the Petersburg Economic Development Council (PEDC) on **Wednesday, October 29, 2025, at 9:00 am in the Assembly Chambers.** During this session, PND Engineers will present an overview of the funding schedule and bidding timeline for the Scow Bay Boat Yard project. Please note: More than three members of the Assembly, Harbor Board, or other boards may be present. This is an informational session only. While the public is welcome to attend and observe, no official business will be conducted, and public comment will not be taken during this meeting.

Published: October 23, 2025





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Obituaries

Betty Lee Rogers, 85

Betty Lee Rogers was born on May 15, 1940, in Albert Lea, Minnesota, to Claude and Caroline Hinds. She attended a country school near their farm in Worth County, Iowa, through the eighth grade and graduated from Northwood High School in 1958. After earning a bachelor’s degree in home economics from Iowa State University in 1961, she then began work as a county home economist.

On April 20,1963, Betty married her high school sweetheart, Harry Rogers. They lived in Spirit Lake, Iowa, before moving to Nebraska, where they were educators in Lewellen.

Together, Harry and Betty went on to pursue masters degrees in education at Oregon State University. After their graduation in 1972, they returned to Nebraska to teach for several years in Big Springs, Stratton, and Valentine, while both dreaming of a move to Alaska.

In 1982, they moved to Petersburg, Alaska. Harry was named superintendent of the Petersburg school system and Betty worked at Petersburg Insurance.

In 1987, when they moved to Valdez, Alaska, Betty resumed her educational career, teaching GED/ADE classes and working as the assistant to the president of Valdez Community College.

After retiring in 1999, Harry and Betty returned to Petersburg to build their dream home on the Wrangell Narrows. They loved to share the thrill of fishing in Frederick Sound while hosting many summer visitors. Both adventurers, their shared travels included hunting and fishing trips to Mexico, Costa Rica, Panama, Australia, Argentina, Uruguay, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Spain, Mongolia, and Vanuatu.

As a member of Petersburg Lutheran Church, Bettty was known for her humble servant’s heart, never seeking attention for herself in her many acts of kindness. Her cooking skills and generosity were characteristics of her service to many people throughout the community. When Betty arrived with a pot of halibut chowder, word spread quickly to an appreciative crowd.

When Betty wasn’t cooking, she would often be found at her sewing machine. She was an accomplished seamstress able to craft everything from intricate suits to quilts and festive, colorful table runners. She even took on the challenge of sewing her own wedding gown and a few years later, the gown for her sister-in-law.

Betty died on Oct. 20, 2025. She is survived by her husband, Harry; sister, Shirley (Neil) Cooper of Los Angeles; sister-in-law Judy (Sam) Duvall; and several nieces and nephews.



Betty Lee Rogers

HOMER H. SARBER

April 11, 1939 - October 5, 2025

Homer H. Sarber passed peacefully, with family by his side, at his daughter’s home in Anchorage, Alaska on October 5, 2025.

Homer was born in Petersburg, Alaska on April 11, 1939. Homer grew up in Petersburg creating memories he cherished and lifelong friendships.

His High School days were distinguished by his time playing basketball with the Vikings. After High School he attended Junior College in Washington State prior to marrying his lifelong love, Myra A. Wondzell in 1962. Shortly after marrying, Homer was drafted into the U.S. Army and served two years in Germany.

Homer and Myra raised their family in Ketchikan, Alaska where Homer built his career with the Alaska Marine Highway System, joining shortly after its inauguration, serving the Southeast communities. He advanced quickly to Chief Purser working for 35 years on various vessels and spent several years of his career with the Inland Boatmen’s Union. After retirement Homer pursued writing as a hobby and self published two books, one being a memoir of the early days of the AMHS, “Achieving Buoyancy With the Alaska Marine Highway System”. He also wrote, “By-Line Rhymes: A Collection of Rhymes Years in the Making”, which features poems commemorating family events, humorous situations and his on-going romance with his wife Myra.

Homer along with friends and family, built an A-frame cabin on Kupreanof Island in 1973 for his young family to come and spend summers. He said that building his family’s cabin was one of the greatest



HOMER H. SARBER

achievements of his life due to the good times and memories that were made there. Over the decades many family and friends came and spent “cabin time” with the Sarber family. Homer and Myra were foster parents for many years and also enjoyed sharing the cabin life with their foster children.

After retirement, Homer and Myra enjoyed the RV life for 10 years exploring the warmer states in the winter and their cabin on Kupreanof for the spring and

summer months. They spent winters in Lake Havasu Arizona for 14 years after their RV days. They relished their adventures in retirement and their cherished time with family and friends as they traveled between Arizona and Alaska.

Homer was beloved for his gentle nature and easy kindness. To know him was to love him. In his later years he shared of the importance of preserving relationships through life’s ups and downs. He felt pursuing his close relationships was one of the greatest gifts of his life. He will be dearly missed.

Homer was preceded in death by his parents, Hosea and Virginia Sarber; his brother Frank Sarber and his beloved wife of 61 years, Myra Sarber, who passed in 2023. He is survived by his children Scott (Shelley) Sarber, Kevin Sarber, and Sabrina Sarber; grandchildren Megan Brown, Treven (Krisandra) Sarber, Jorah (Daniel) Meneses, Micah Barber, Kysa Marie Barber and Darrah Barber; great-grandson Taven Sarber and many loving nieces, nephews and In- laws.

A celebration of Homer’s life will be planned and held in Petersburg, Alaska at a date to be announced.

David Janzen, 64



David Janzen

David Janzen was born in Abbotsford, British Columbia. He spent his early years in Canada before moving to Spencer, Massachusetts, where he joined the United States Air Force. After his service, he pursued a career in carpentry, a trade that reflected both his skill and independence. Eventually, David settled in Petersburg, Alaska, where he lived out the remainder of his life.

David was known for his love of conversation. He

always had something to say and often insisted on having the last word. He enjoyed playing pool, boating, and the occasional fishing trip. Above all, he was a passionate reader, as evidenced by his extensive personal library.

David passed away peacefully on October 12, 2025, in Petersburg, Alaska. His life was uniquely his own, and he will be remembered with affection, stories, and the laughter he so often inspired.

He is survived by his mother, Patty Randrup; son, David Janzen Jr.; daughter, Haley (Janzen) Chandler; brother, Daniel Janzen; brother, Jim (Tracy) Avila and their sons, Deven and Joey; sister, Cindy and her children, Jerrica, Danni Lynn, Jacob, and Andrew; sister, Stacy Avila and her children, Jordan, Nick, and Dominic; and by many dear friends in Petersburg.

A memorial service will be held on Tuesday, October 28, at 2:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, followed by a finger food fellowship. Friends and family are invited to attend and share memories.

Library News



Library Hours: Monday, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.; Tuesday – Thursday, 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Friday – Saturday, 11 a.m. – 6 p.m.; Closed Sunday.

TalisWoman Art Show: On display now through Friday October 31st.

NewsBank : Stay connected to Alaska & the world by using your library card to access online news sources for FREE! / Check it out today at psglib.org/newsbank

Wiggle & Giggle : Thursdays 11am - Noon / For ages 0-5 with a caregiver / Join us for stories, singing, dancing, and child-led playtime.

Art with Ashley: Up-Cycled Mummies : Wednesday Oct. 29 / 3:30 – 4:30pm / For kids in grades K-5 / Limited space: pick up your ticket 15 minutes before the program starts,18 tickets are available.

Voices of Séet Ká Kwáan on KFSK Community Radio / Wednesdays 6:30 – 7pm

Petersburg Science Series: Ocean Acidification in Lingít Aaní a talk by Natalie Monacci with the University of Alaska Fairbanks / Thursday Oct. 30 / 6:30 – 7:30pm

Yoga with Karen Malcom: For beginners & seasoned Yogis / Saturday Nov. 1, 8, 15, & 29 / 11am – Noon / \$\$ / Pay at the front desk & bring your own mat.

Mama-To-Mama Milk Meet-Up with Kellii Wood, CLC & RN: Saturday Nov. 1 / 2 – 3pm / FREE / A supportive and safe space for mothers to talk openly about their postpartum breastfeeding experiences, challenges, and triumphs. Babies welcome!

Foliage & Flowers in Oils with Ashley Lohr: Sunday Nov. 2 / 9am – 5pm / Ages 16+ welcome / \$\$ for adult participants / Registration Required at psglib.org / This class will be held at the John Hanson, Sr. Hall (Alaska Native

Brotherhood & Sisterhood Hall)

Lego Club: Tuesday Nov. 4 / 3:30 – 4:30pm / For kids in grades K-5 / Limited space: pick up your ticket 15 minutes before the program starts,18 tickets are available.

A Year of Reading: Join our Adult/Teen challenge! New suggestions revealed every month, with monthly & quarterly drawings to keep you motivated & inspired! / Register anytime at psglib.org

Need technology help? The Library’s Digital Navigator can help. Book an appointment by contacting the Library’s front desk.

Looking for an audio book, ebook, or online Magazine? Download the FREE Libby App today and have access to the Alaska Digital Library at your fingertips.

Need help? Let us know at 907-772-3349 or library@petersburgak.gov

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JOBS

Petersburg Indian Association has a job opening for an ICWA Case Worker. This is a permanent, part-time position that will pay \$30-\$35/hr. This position will be open until filled. The full job description is available at pia-tribal.org or at the PIA front desk.
.....tfn9-11b43
Join the PW Insurance Team!

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

The Pilot extends its best wishes to the persons listed on the Community Calendar.
Those celebrating birthdays this week are: **October 24:** Fischer Humphrey, Leesa Murph. **October 25:** Ron Hall. **October 26:** Reese Hill. **October 27:** Annette Olson, Joe Cisney, Rufinia Hanson. **October 28:** Krystyna McCay, William Bergmann. **October 29:** Olivia Wilkes, Rachel Etcher. **October 30:** Mandy Smida, Sophia Miller, Tammy Hasbrouck.
If you'd like to be included on our list, please call 907-772-9393.

Senior Meals

Monday, October 27
Chicken Adobo, Rice, Broccoli, Dinner Roll, Peach Fluff
Tuesday, October 28
Taco Pasta Bake, Texas Toast, Peaches, Cake
Wednesday, October 29
Fish Burger, Fries, Carrot Sticks, Cottage Cheese with Fruit
Thursday, October 30
Reuben Casserole, Asparagus, Fruit Cup, Cupcake
Friday, October 31
Chili, Cornbread, Green Salad, Apple, Muffin



The community dining room is open to eligible diners (60+ and their spouses, or disabled individuals living in an assisted living facility). Dinner is served at 5 p.m. All meals are suggested donation only. Please call Mountain View Food Service at 772-4331 before noon for reservations.

FBC Petersburg

Sunday: 9:15a - Bible Classes
• **10:30a** - Family Worship

Wednesday:
• **6p** - Outreach Fellowship Meal
• **7p** - LIFE Group in Fellowship Hall



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Rules of the Road

US Coast Guard



QUESTION & ANSWER

QUESTION:
Which vessel would sound a fog signal consisting of the ringing of a bell for 5 seconds?
a. A vessel engaged in fishing, at anchor
b. A vessel restricted in its ability to maneuver, at anchor
c. A sailing vessel, at anchor
d. All of the above

Source: U.S. Coast Guard

ANSWER C.
A sailing vessel, at anchor

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Public Notice

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors of the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) will hold a Special Board Meeting on October 30, 2025 from 8:30AM-5:30PM AKDT at SEAPA's Headquarters, 55 Don Finney Lane, in Ketchikan, Alaska. The purpose of the meeting is to consider an R&R Project, Change Orders and Financial Statements, present financing proposals and review a draft budget. During the meeting an executive session may also be conducted to discuss an employee, union contract negotiations, and solar strategy, which discussions may involve subjects that tend to prejudice the reputation and character of a person, and which may involve matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect upon the finances of the Agency, the Projects, or any of the Member Utilities represented on the board. An additional item is reserved in the agenda for any possible action following the executive session. For additional information, please call 907.228.2281.
Publish: October 23, 2025



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INVITATION TO BID

Notice is hereby given that the Petersburg Borough, Mountain View Manor Elderly Housing will receive sealed bids for the Freezer Room Floor Project - 2025. Project scope: is the freezer/cooler room at the Mountain View Manor Elderly Housing facility, located at 16 North 12th Street. The purpose of this project is the replacement of the wooden floor in the freezer/cooler room & install a freezer/cooler platform. The existing floor has rotted out. The estimated construction cost for the base bid is between \$40,000 & \$80,000. All Work must be completed by May 1, 2026.

Sealed bids will be received by the Petersburg Borough, Post Office Box 329, Petersburg, Alaska 99833, located upstairs in the located upstairs in the Municipal Building, 12 South Nordic Drive, Petersburg, Alaska 99833 until 2:00 p.m. prevailing time on Friday, November 7, 2025, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Assembly Chambers Conference Room.

The Contract Documents may be obtained from the Petersburg Borough, Petersburg Public Works Office, located at 303 South Second Street, Petersburg, Alaska 99833 (907) 772-4430. A non-refundable fee of \$30.00 made payable to the Petersburg Borough is required for each set of contract documents. Additional charges will be required for special handling or delivery of the documents by means other than first-class mail. The Contract Documents may also be downloaded free of charge on the Petersburg Borough website (<https://www.petersburgak.gov/rfps>). All changes or addenda will be listed on the website. The Offeror's responsible for ensuring that they have received all Addenda affecting this Solicitation.

The City of Petersburg Standard Specifications (CPSS) that will be used in this contract are available for an additional fee of \$60.00 made payable to the Petersburg Borough or available for free on the Borough's website www.petersburgak.gov. Additional charges will be required for special handling or delivery of the documents by means other than first-class mail. The City of Petersburg Standard Specifications documents may also be obtained at the Petersburg Borough Public Works office.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid bond, cashier's check, or certified check made payable to the Petersburg Borough in the amount of five percent of the total bid price.

The Petersburg Borough reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in a bid, and to make an award to the lowest responsive, responsible bidder as it may best serve the interest of the Petersburg Borough, Mountain View Manor Elderly Housing.

Authorized by: Steve Giesbrecht, Borough Manager
Published: October 16, 23, 30 and November 6, 2025



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Job Openings

The Petersburg Borough is accepting applications for the following positions:

- **EMS Coordinator/Firefighter: \$31.35/hour**
Sunday-Wednesday from 7am - 5pm.
Additional on-call hours may be required.
- **Police Officer: \$34.33/hour**
12-hour rotating shifts
Shift Differential: Swing shift = \$0.75/hour and Grave shift = \$1.25/hour
- **Parks & Rec Full Time Custodian: Starting wage \$19.49/hour**
Tuesday night through Friday night: 8:00pm - 4:00am
Shift Differential: Swing shift = \$0.75/hour and Grave shift = \$1.25/hour
- **Resident Assistants at Mountain View Manor: \$20.67/hour**
On Call, Swing & Grave Shifts available, Training Provided!
Bonus of \$900 after probation/\$900 at one year.
Shift Differential: Swing shift = \$0.75/hour and Grave shift = \$1.25/hour
- **Police Dispatcher/Corrections Officer: \$26.81/hour - 12-hour shifts:**
Training Provided, Bonus of \$1250 after training and \$1250 at one year.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Health Insurance • Dental Insurance
- Life Insurance • Retirement • Paid Time Off

Full job descriptions and employment applications can be obtained from the Borough's website at <https://www.petersburgak.gov>.
Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough office, 12 S. Nordic Street; or via email at tiffany.glass@petersburgak.gov
Call Tiffany at 907-772-5404 for more information.



SCAN THE QR CODE for more

Government shutdown creates uncertainty for fisheries management in waters off Alaska

By YERETH ROSEN
Alaska Beacon

For the organization that oversees commercial fisheries in federal waters off Alaska, the most significant impact of the federal government shutdown might materialize in December.

That is when the North Pacific Fishery Management Council is scheduled to issue harvest limits for Alaska pollock – the nation’s top-volume commercial harvested species – and other types of groundfish harvested in the Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska, such as Pacific cod and sablefish.

The Bering Sea and Gulf of Alaska pollock harvests start in January.

To set the groundfish harvest levels, the council relies on federal scientists’ analysis of fish stocks in the ocean, work that is based in large part on scientific surveys conducted over the summer.

But during the shutdown, most National Marine Fisheries Service employees, including the scientists who analyze survey data to assess the conditions of commercially targeted fish stocks, are furloughed.

Last Wednesday, the last day of the council’s October meeting, the members considered how to deal with scientific uncertainty if the government shutdown prevents completion of the detailed analysis that is usually provided in time for the December meeting.

Council member Nicole Kimball referred to a warning issued eight days prior by Bob Foy, director of the NMFS Alaska Fisheries Science Center, the organization that does the stock assessments. Foy said then that a shutdown lasting more than

five days would compromise the ability to complete stock assessments and that a shutdown beyond 15 working days would “dramatically impact” those assessments.

The 15-day threshold is not too far away, Kimball said.

“How does the council and the public understand what to expect in December, in between the October and December meeting, relative to stock assessments?” she asked.

Diana Evans, the council’s deputy director, said impacts are yet to be determined, but the public will be notified of them as soon as possible.

“We don’t think we can answer that until we have a better sense of exactly where we land and how many days of work are remaining between the time that government workers are back and able to resume that work and the meeting,” she said.

Advocates with environmental organizations said they worry about shutdown effects on scientific information needed

for harvest decisions, which would add to the effects of mass firings and retirements at NMFS and other agencies.

“I’m terrified at the prospect of flying blind into the next fishing season, especially as the Trump administration has decimated the ranks of scientists who monitor the health of our oceans,” Cooper Freeman, Alaska director of the Center for Biological Diversity, said by email. “I’m especially worried about fisheries like the massive pollock trawl fleet that has been harvesting millions of tons annually at the expense of the larger ecosystem.”

“The first challenge with this shutdown is the instant level of uncertainty it creates. Normal processes face delays that can easily impact or inhibit active fisheries. Potential staff losses will exacerbate that,” Michelle Stratton, executive director of the Alaska Marine Conservation Council, said by email.

“But beyond the concern for continuing day to day services,

are those major efforts — like stock assessments and (total allowable catch) setting — that rely on substantial NMFS staff input, data processing and expert analysis. If this continues to the point where we are unable to set catch limits for the start of the 2026 seasons, we’ll be in seriously uncharted territory, and could well see massive economic impacts to our fishing communities and fleets,” she said.

The shutdown forced the council to rearrange its October meeting because federal representatives were unavailable to present information.

One major agenda item was postponed: review of a work plan for assessing essential fish habitat. Other items on the agenda were abbreviated.

The shutdown has already affected fishery management

operations to some degree, said council member Jon Kurland. As Alaska regional director for NMFS, Kurland is one of a small group of agency employees remaining at work during the shutdown.

Kurland, in comments last week at the start of the meeting, said some services have been unavailable during the shutdown, such as the processing of harvest quota transfers.

NMFS is still doing basic management of ongoing fisheries, monitoring and closing them as needed, and is supported by contractors, he said. But that level of work has its limits, he said.

“If there are significant unforeseen problems, we will have limited ability to address those. Fingers crossed,” he said then.

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