

Alaska Timber and Truss secures Thomas Bay stewardship contract

A five-year project to harvest 4.6 million board feet while improving wildlife habitat

By **ORIN PIERSON**
Pilot writer

Petersburg District Ranger Carey Case announced at the Nov. 3 Petersburg Borough As-

sembly meeting that the Thomas Bay timber stewardship contract has been awarded. The Petersburg Pilot has confirmed that Alaska Timber and Truss, owned in partnership by Brett Martin and Mike Duman, was awarded the contract. The stewardship project represents a significant milestone for the local sawmill and the broader second-growth timber

industry in Southeast Alaska. The contract encompasses 4.6 million board feet of timber spread across approximately 140 acres in six or seven units, with a contract completion deadline of 2030. “By having this first big timber sale,” Martin said. “[Their recently revitalized local sawmill now has] a stable supply for the next five years. That in itself is huge.” The project differs from traditional timber sales in that it combines commercial timber harvest with Forest Service stewardship work. Alaska Timber and Truss will be responsible for road improvements, habitat enhancements and fish passage improvements as part of the timber sale. A key element of the project focuses on restoring moose and deer habitat in Thomas Bay. “Thomas Bay was a very productive moose hunting area, and that was largely because there were several thousand acres over there that had been clear cut at one point,” Martin said. “You created tremendous amount of both moose browse and deer browse by having fairly low vegetation.” The clear-cuts planned under this contract are specifically designed to create big game browse habitat. When managed forests are harvested,

Continued on page 7



Rae C. Stedman Elementary students lined both sides of Dolphin Street on Tuesday morning for Petersburg’s Veterans Day Parade. ORIN PIERSON / Petersburg Pilot



Marilyn Meucci and Carol Kandoll drape Michael Chynoweth in his Quilt of Valor.



Students rush to pass their handmade thank you cards to Chris Marsh as he drives the ambulance.

American Legion Post 14 sees dramatic revival in Petersburg

By **ORIN PIERSON**
Pilot writer

Around three years ago Petersburg’s 100-year-old American Legion post, the Edward Locken Post 14, had dwindled to three members – Paul Anderson, Butch Anderson, and Stan Hjort. Paul Anderson carried a tremendous amount of the responsibility for the veteran community in Petersburg. When he died in Jan. 2023, a new generation of local veterans stepped up to carry the mantle. Petersburg resident Garrett Kravitz was just retiring from his career in the Navy. He,

Continued on page 6



Petersburg Police officer Drew Ayriss, a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard, was presented with his Quilt of Valor. Local quilters have been making quilts for Petersburg’s veterans community for the past decade. They presented nine quilts on Tuesday bringing their total number of Quilts of Valor made to nearly 150.

Logan Tow wins state title in final high school race

Tow became first male since Abel Aulbach in 2014 to win individual state title for PHS

By **AIDEN LUHR**
Pilot writer

Nothing is guaranteed in sports. You can be the favorite as a team or player to win a championship and still fall short in the biggest moments. Heading into the 2025 ASAA Swim and Dive State Championships, Petersburg senior Logan Tow was the #1 seed in the boys 100 freestyle, with a time of 47.69. To this point, Tow had won five regional titles, set multiple personal best/records throughout his career. The only thing he hadn’t accomplished was a state title that seemed almost evasive – almost. Prior to his 100, he had competed in the 200 freestyle, where he won bronze (3rd), with a time of 1:43.48. He had one more opportunity to claim a state title in the final race of his high school career. In the prelims, Tow swam a 48.18. “I was feeling pretty confident. I just wanted to have a solid race, nothing too crazy,” Tow said. And so, the horn sounded off and eight competitors splashed into the pool. A neck and neck race all the way through, a competitive battle. With the final turn, Tow knew it was now or never, and he just shot out of a cannon. “That competitive edge really set in. I really wanted to win, so I put my head down and started to really go,” Tow said. “I saw other guys and we were all lined up.” Tow won the state title with a time of 46.54, which he wasn’t expecting to go that fast. The type of finish mirrored the one Tow had at regions in the exact same event. The second half of the race is what head coach Andy Carlisle always tells his team, to finish strong. “We pride ourselves on finishing races, the last 10 yards. If someone is next to you, win,” Carlisle said. “I want other coaches to be worried if we’re next to them at the end of the race.” The feeling of looking up on the big board and seeing the number one next to his name was a triumphant moment for Tow.

Continued on page 11



Yesterday's News

News from 25-50-75-100 years ago

November 13, 1925 – Harry J. Raymond, pioneer Juneauite and for many years engaged in the grocery business there, has purchased the Warm Springs Bay (Baranof Post Office) property from Doty and a health and pleasure resort. The Warm Springs Bay hot springs are said to be among the best on the coast. Warm Springs Bay is situated on Baranof Island and is a perfectly landlocked harbor. One of the prettiest

fresh water lakes in the country lies just back from the bay and its outlet flows into the bay, terminating with a beautiful waterfall. Mr. Raymond has a number of cabins furnished for housekeeping. In addition to the baths, Warm Springs Bay furnishes excellent salmon trolling, deep sea bass and other fishing. Game is plentiful in season. In connection with his business, Mr. Raymond will conduct a general store, carrying a full stock of groceries and other necessary supplies.

November 10, 1950 – Don Pettigrew and Eldor Lee represented Petersburg last Saturday at a meeting in Juneau for the purpose of forming a Territory-wide tourist organization. At the meeting six directors were elected to meet with six directors to be elected at a similar gathering of interested Interior Alaskans. These twelve representatives of the entire Territory will formulate definite plans to bring tourists to Alaska in increasing numbers. There was great enthusiasm at the meeting and because of the large turnout it was transferred from a hotel room to the senate chamber. Governor Earnest Gruening gave the keynote address. He suggested a plan, which was

later adopted, of making an effort to secure funds from the Territorial legislature to be matched by the organization. These funds to be used in letting the world know just what Alaska has to offer the tourist with a national advertising campaign handled by a national advertising agency.

November 14, 1975 – Crystal Lake Hatchery took in about six million eggs during coho spawning this fall, and that's twice the number the hatchery here can handle. Additional eggs have been sent to Little Port Walter and Fire Lake, Anchorage. The Department of Fish and Game and the Forest Service teamed up this summer to improve enhancement at Falls Creek, building a new steep pass for spawning salmon, so seeding for the somewhat barren stream was in order. Biologists noted at Falls Creek that the planted cohos were quickly pairing off, swirling and digging, ready to spawn.

November 16, 2000 – "Freedom is not free, the cost is great." That was the message behind a program put on by Jim Engell's American Government and U.S. History classes in honor of Petersburg's veterans on Monday morning.

With a dozen veterans in the audience, students took turns reading brief introductions before launching into a multimedia produced presentation coupling photographs and music. The over 100 photographs used in the presentation featured striking images ranging from the famous Tiananmen Square tank stand-off all the way back to Civil War photographs that

captured the difficult conditions soldiers fought under. Most gripping were the sentences that appeared between the pictures, such as "Without your sacrifices, we would not have all the great opportunities that we have before us," and "Our freedoms have been protected by veterans for over 200 years. Are you willing to do your part?"

Northern Nights Theater

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A Fairy Tale Double Feature

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WEATHER

Date	High	Low	Precip
Nov 5	51	38	T
Nov 6	51	37	0.46
Nov 7	45	37	0.49
Nov 8	43	35	0.59
Nov 9	53	41	1.35
Nov 10	43	38	1.25
Nov 11	43	38	0.76

This Week's Precipitation: 4.90"
This weather service is provided by the FAA weather observation station at the James A. Johnson Airport.

DAYLIGHT HOURS

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Nov 13	7:27a	3:46p	8:19hrs
Nov 14	7:29a	3:44p	8:15hrs
Nov 15	7:31a	3:43p	8:11hrs
Nov 16	7:33a	3:41p	8:07hrs
Nov 17	7:35a	3:39p	8:03hrs
Nov 18	7:38a	3:37p	7:59hrs
Nov 19	7:40a	3:36p	7:56hrs

PETERSBURG HAPPENINGS

Brought to you by:  

THURSDAY, November 13

Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention: 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio
Wiggle & Giggle: Stories and Playtime:11:00am, Public Library
PIA Community Gathering: 5:00pm, High School Gym
Free Dinner Get Together: 5:30pm, Lutheran Church Holy Cross House

FRIDAY, November 14

Al-Anon Support Group: 12:00pm, Episcopal Church
Public Safety Advisory Board Meeting: 12:00pm, Municipal Building
Share Ideas and Dessert with Principal Heather Conn: 3:30pm, Stedman Elementary School Library
November Rain Viking Swim Club Meet: 5:00pm, Aquatic Center
Bingo: 6:00pm, Sons of Norway Hall
AA Candlelight Meeting: 7:00pm, Episcopal Church

SATURDAY, November 15

November Rain Viking Swim Club Meet: 9:00am, Aquatic Center
HIP Project Connect Winter Clothing and Gear Drop Off: 11:00am, EC Phillips Cookhouse next to Rexall Drugstore
PHS Volleyball Senior Night: PHS Gym

SUNDAY, November 16

November Rain Viking Swim Club Meet: 8:00am, Aquatic Center
HIP Food Drive & Kitchen Bag Handout: 11:00am, 208 Haugen Drive
Knitting Group - All Welcome: 2:00pm, Mt. View Manor Social Hall
Annual Sons of Norway Harvest Potluck: 5:00pm, Sons of Norway Hall

MONDAY, November 17

Tai Chi: 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall
Burger Night: 5:30pm, Moose Lodge
Borough Assembly Meeting: 6:00pm, Municipal Building

TUESDAY, November 18

Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention: 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio
PIA Community Meal: 5:00pm, John Hansen Sr. Hall
Taco Tuesday: 5:30pm, Moose Lodge
AA 12x12 Meeting: 7:00pm, Holy Cross Classroom

WEDNESDAY, November 19

Tai Chi: 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall
Rotary Meeting: 12:00pm, Salvation Army Hall
PIA Tribal Council Meeting: 5:00pm, Hallingstad-Peratrovich Building
Free Dinner For All: 6:00pm, First Baptist Church
ANB/ANS Monthly Business Meeting: 7:00pm, John Hansen Sr. Bldg.

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

The Mitkof Mummies Theatre Co.
presents
A Fairy Tale Double Feature



Directed by Gus Pennington Directed by Abbey Hardie

Friday, Nov. 21 & Saturday, Nov. 22
at Wright Auditorium
Doors open at 6:30pm,
Show starts at 7:00pm
Admission \$10 at the Door
Two 20-minute plays with a short intermission

In spirit of giving this holiday season,
the Mitkof Mummies will also be accepting cash
donations on behalf of the Salvation Army and
Humanity in Progress

FERRY SCHEDULE

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NORTHBOUND DEPARTURES

SUN 11/16 COLUMBIA 10:00 P.M.
SUN 11/23 COLUMBIA 04:45 P.M.
SUN 12/7 KENNICOTT 04:15 P.M.
SUN 12/14 KENNICOTT 09:00 P.M.
MON 12/22 KENNICOTT 01:30 A.M.

SOUTHBOUND DEPARTURES

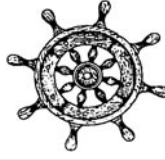
WED 11/19 COLUMBIA 01:15 A.M.
WED 11/26 COLUMBIA 01:30 A.M.
WED 12/10 KENNICOTT 02:15 A.M.
WED 12/17 KENNICOTT 12:45 A.M.
WED 12/24 KENNICOTT 05:30 A.M.

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NOVEMBER 2025

	HIGH TIDES				LOW TIDES			
	A.M.		P.M.		A.M.		P.M.	
	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.
13 Thu	8:10	13.9	8:16	12.9	1:35	2.1	2:29	4.8
14 Fri	9:07	14.6	9:27	13.1	2:40	2.5	3:35	3.6
15 Sat	9:52	15.4	10:24	13.5	3:35	2.7	4:26	2.3
16 Sun	10:30	16.0	11:11	14.0	4:21	2.9	5:07	1.2
17 Mon	11:03	16.6	11:52	14.4	5:01	3.1	5:44	0.3
18 Tue	11:34	17.0		...	5:36	3.4	6:17	-0.3
19 Wed	0:30	14.7	12:04	17.2	6:10	3.7	6:49	-0.7

PRESENTED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY:



Community continues to respond as food needs surge

By ORIN PIERSON
Pilot writer

When SNAP benefits failed to arrive this month, Petersburg residents responded with an outpouring of coordinated support across multiple organizations and businesses.

Jim Floyd CEO of Hammer & Wikan organized donation efforts, offering discounts to customers who contributed food and making monetary donations to support the purchase of perishables. Rocky's Marine also contributed cash toward the food drive.

"This is about understanding there's a need and figuring

out how we can meet it," Floyd said.

Floyd coordinated with Petersburg Indian Association, the Salvation Army and Humanity in Progress, creating flyers and spreading the word through local businesses and media. When he noticed the food banks in town did not have refrigeration capacity for perishable items, he donated a double-wide cooler to the Salvation Army, whose notably sparse pantry has been replenished after the weekend push. Food collected at Hammer & Wikan and Parks and Recreation was divided equally between Humanity in Progress and the Sal-



ORIN PIERSON / Petersburg Pilot

Cortney Hess, one of the founders of Humanity in Progress, sorts winter clothes as donations arrive at the EC Phillips cookhouse on main street during the first of this month's six scheduled donation drop-off days.

Sons of Norway
Annual Harvest Potluck
& Ski for Light Fundraiser
Sunday, Nov. 16 @ 5pm
Bring your favorite garden, sea or land harvest to share.
Member and their guests.

HEALING THROUGH CULTURAL IDENTITY
AND INSPIRING ACHIEVEMENTS!
NOVEMBER 13, 2025
5 PM
HIGH SCHOOL GYM
Community Gathering
All are welcome!

Will Ware is the hit s'aat'i (house master) for the T'akdeintaan clan's Freshwater Mark Sockeye house. With experience as a business consultant and former Chief Development Officer for Tlingit and Haida, he represents his house, utilizes sacred objects, resolves clan issues, coordinates events, and provides leadership. His strong understanding of Tlingit culture and community involvement position him well for these responsibilities, and he is an advocate for revitalizing Tlingit heritage, highlighting its significance for identity and guidance.

Heather Conn, a fourth-generation Alaskan and lifelong Petersburg resident, is in her 7th year as principal of Rae C. Stedman. Her journey showcases resilience and dedication, turning challenges into opportunities for growth. Beyond education, she actively participates in the community, serving on various boards like the Petersburg Indian Association Council. Currently pursuing a PhD in School Psychology, she builds on her master's degrees in leadership and education. We are honored to have her share her inspiring experiences and insights.

Petersburg Indian Association

vation Army.

The Petersburg Community Foundation helped secure 120 pounds of ground beef for Humanity in Progress.

And Floyd connected with the Petersburg Humane Society to organize pet food donations.

Ashley Kawashima, executive director of Humanity in Progress, said their organization had already distributed 50 kitchen bags by the tenth day of the month, compared to their typical monthly total of 40.

"HIP has had a lot of people reach out to volunteer time and resources," Kawashima said. "I think it's just really hitting people a little bit different ... people are realizing how many people around them really are relying on these programs."

The HIP's school pantry fundraising campaign also exceeded expectations, meeting a \$1,500 donor match goal in less than a week and raising an additional \$2,000.

While the immediate response has been strong, Floyd emphasized that distribution capacity remains limited by volunteer availability.

"We could do more if we had people," Floyd said, noting that three of his employees volunteered on Sunday to help with food distribution at HIP.

As KFSK's Olivia Rose reported last week, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is a federal program that helps low-income households pay for groceries. In the Petersburg Borough, 12.7% of the population relies on SNAP benefits, according to Census data from 2022 — that's roughly 430 participants in the small town of 3300.

Looking ahead to winter needs, Humanity in Progress is now accepting donations for Project Connect, its annual event in January that provides resources to community members experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity.

The organization is seeking new hygiene products, camping supplies including tents, sleeping mats and sleeping bags, and warm winter gear such as layers, thick socks and rain gear. Items are needed for all ages, including children. Food donations can also be dropped off during these times.

Donation drop-off times at the EC Phillips Cookhouse on main street are scheduled for:

Wednesdays, Nov. 12, 19 and 26 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

And Saturdays, Nov. 15, 22 and 29 from 11 a.m. to noon

"Regardless of if the SNAP benefits go through 100% or if things get taken back off the cards, there's still a lot of things that are up in the air that we don't know," Kawashima said. "Times are challenging for some and things are expensive and the holidays are coming."

Kawashima said she's hopeful the current surge of community support will continue beyond the immediate crisis.

"The work that we're doing won't be done," she said. "I'm really hopeful that all of these really good conversations and things will continue in trying to find solutions and helping people get back on their feet."

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ADVISORY

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Thursdays 9a-5p

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To the Editor

Relocate the tower

To the Editor:

In case you haven't heard, Tlingit and Haida is trying to provide cell service in unserved areas for Native people, and I applaud them for that. Tidal, a subsidiary of Tlingit and Haida wants to place a cell tower on the Flower Farm property on Rory's Road.

A little history... a local real estate agent tried to place a tower above Shalene Zellwegger's lot, they tried to put one at the end of Rose Lane here at Papke's, and some men tried to buy a lot, we suspect for a cell tower, on Mukluk Lane with money being no object, and now Chris Cropley from Tlingit and Haida has purchased the Flower Farm Located 200 feet from my home, 100 feet from my daughter's studio, and 50 feet from another neighbor. The recommended buffer between place of human habitation and cell towers is ideally ¼ mile, not 50 feet.

I believe my daughter and I are the only people living at Papke's Landing with Native heritage, and we already have cell service, and we definitely do not want a cell tower across the one lane road from us that destroys bees and birds and creatures that are affected by cell tower signals. We are not unserved.

Judy Ohmer, Mika Hasbrouck, and I started a Relocate the Tower Planned for

Papke's Landing drive. So far we have gathered over 200 signatures and are still gathering more. Relocating the tower where it's not so close to so many homes would be a win win for both the Borough and the property owners.

We heard the Borough owns property at the rifle range that is one mile from homes. Maybe T&H would be interested in installing a cell tower there, and then they could use the Flower Farm as an educational agriculture site and a canoe and totem carving site that was envisioned by my daughter, Janine Gibbons, several years ago.

From the Borough's perspective, building property values instead of destroying them with a cell tower seems like a better plan.

Jackie Tyson

Neighbors helping neighbors

To the Editor:

The recent Petersburg Community Food Drive was a wonderful reminder of what makes our town so special - neighbors helping neighbors. On behalf of everyone involved, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our community for the incredible generosity shown in supporting local families in need.

A special thank you goes to

Rockey's Marine for their generous monetary donation and to the Petersburg Community Foundation, which provided 120 pounds of ground hamburger to help fill freezers and tables across our community. Your contributions made a real difference.

We also want to recognize the amazing group of kids who went door-to-door collecting food donations - your energy and compassion inspired us all. Thank you to Parks & Recreation for providing a convenient drop-off location and helping to make the drive run smoothly.

All food items and monetary donations collected on my behalf were split between Humanity In Progress (HIP) and the Salvation Army, ensuring that local families and individuals received help right here in our own community.

And finally, to my entire team who volunteered their time to organize, sort, and deliver food, thank you. Your commitment helped ensure the event's success from start to finish.

This food drive was a true team effort and a reflection of what makes Petersburg such a strong, caring place to call home. When we come together as a community, we can overcome any challenge. This is our community - and together, we make it stronger.

Jim Floyd
General Manager & CEO
Hammer & Wikan, Inc.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Candidates should pay a penalty for false promises

By LARRY PERSILY
Wrangell Sentinel publisher

A lot of time, energy and legal fees have been spent on political and court fights to limit donations to political campaigns.

Supporters of campaign contribution laws say unlimited donations buy favorable treatment for people and business that write the big checks - effectively buying elections to protect and promote their own interests.

Opponents of campaign finance limits say it's a matter of free speech, and it just so happens that rich people and companies can afford to buy more free speech. In their view, the not-so-rich need to make more money and then they too can enjoy the same amount of free speech as the wealthy.

I suspect the current U.S. Supreme Court is not inclined to side with campaign donation limits, so it's time to find another way to keep political campaigns fair and honest - yes, an almost impossible task.

With no limits on spending, candidates can afford to loudly and constantly promote the most outlandish claims, the most attractive promises to win the most votes. Call them lies, falsehoods, deceitful vows, dishonest guarantees, it's all the same. Promise voters anything to win, then don't worry about delivering.

My proposal is to treat campaign promises the same as a new car or washing machine warranty; the same as a money-back-guarantee on a store purchase.

If a car breaks down, the manufacturer needs to reimburse the owner's costs.

If a sign at the store says "money back if not completely satisfied," the business needs to make good on the promise and hand over the money.

It should be the same for candidates. Of course, voters can always show their buyers' remorse in the next election and kick the over-promisers and outright liars out of office, but that's a yearslong wait - without any economic penalty for the public official who stretched the truth to win the first time.

Think of all the candidate claims during recent campaigns that never came true.

Donald Trump in his first campaign for president promised that Mexico would pay to build a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border. Never happened. He promised in his second successful campaign to end the war in Ukraine in 24 hours

Continued on page 5

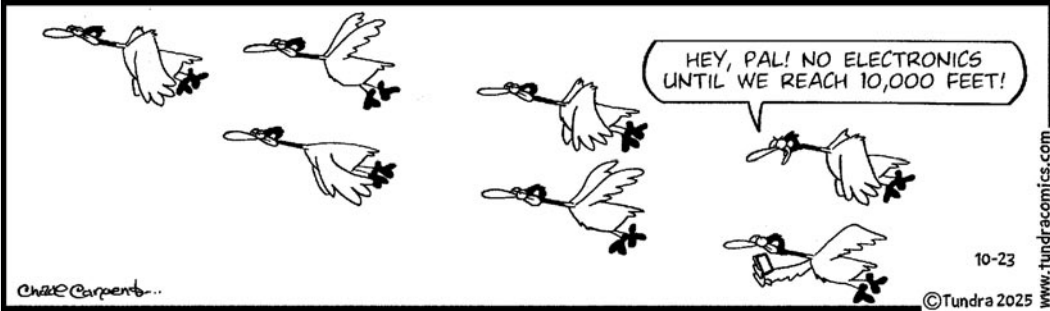
Ritter's River

by Marc Lutz



Tundra

by Chad Carpenter



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Derelict vessel drifts powerless overnight, intercepted at Petersburg harbor

By OLIVIA ROSE
KFSK Radio

A derelict, unmanned vessel is no longer drifting in the waters of the Wrangell Narrows. The Petersburg Borough’s harbor department monitored the Valkyrie, a 34-foot fiberglass troller, for months as it drifted around a bay south of town. But Harbormaster Glorianne Wollen said it came too close for comfort in the town’s Middle Harbor on Monday morning, after traveling a few miles overnight. “At that point, we decided we better address it,” Wollen said. “It’s just going to continue to be a problem.” Earlier this fall, the Valkyrie broke loose from its mooring buoy in Petersburg’s Scow Bay

during a storm. A Juneau-based salvage company cleaned out its contaminants after the vessel beached on neighboring Kupreanof Island and started leaking pollutants. But the Valkyrie wasn’t removed. Wollen said the vessel had been floating all around Scow Bay, a few miles south of town, until the tide took it up through Libby Strait. For miles, the Valkyrie drifted alone in the dark of night toward town, eventually reaching Middle Harbor on Monday morning. A slowly sinking derelict vessel poses a number of hazards for both harbor infrastructure and mariners. Wollen said the department took action to avoid damage and keep it from sinking in the harbor.



Photo courtesy of Glo Wollen

A 34-foot derelict vessel, Valkyrie, drifts into Petersburg’s harbor at dawn on Monday, Nov. 10, 2025. Harbor department staff got the old troller out of the harbor and worked to keep it from sinking. It is slated for permanent removal.

Opinion

GUEST EDITORIAL

Continued from page 4
after winning election. Never happened. He also promised to cut energy prices in half. Go look at the gas pump and make your own decision. Mike Dunleavy pledged in his winning campaigns for Alaska governor to restore the fattest Alaska Permanent Fund dividend anyone had ever seen. Not only did it never happen, he never even put forth a viable plan to make it happen. Zohran Mamdani, who won election as mayor of New York City this month, promised a rent freeze for 2 million tenants, free and fast public transit buses, government-run grocery stores and a \$30 minimum wage. Whether he believes the promises are good policy doesn’t matter if they never come true. I propose a system of fines for unfulfilled campaign promises. It would not limit free speech but would penalize dishonest speech. The fines could be based on a percentage of the economic value of the lies, with a small fine for the first offense, going higher with each subsequent lie. Kind of like Pinocchio’s nose, but measured in dollars. I don’t want to be unreasonable. Candidates and public officials should be allowed to raise unlimited funds from donors to pay the fines. It’s simply adding to the cost of their free speech when it’s dishonest speech.

“It will continue to be a problem. It’ll be a navigation issue, as well as, you know, littering the beaches ... so I just made the decision to grab it,” Wollen said. “We’ll get it out, and have to foot the bill now for the demolition of it. Because if I let it go ... it’s a hazard.” Staff managed to get it out of the harbor, latch on and pump out the water. It remained tied up in North Harbor until the tide allowed staff to ground it back at Scow Bay. Wollen said the Valkyrie is now slated for permanent removal. “Hopefully, working with public works, we’ll get it out at minimal costs, you know, because we’re going to do it in-house,” Wollen said. “But then it’s the price tag the baler puts on it, because ... they’ll have to ship it out.” Wollen said the Valkyrie’s owner is “refusing to deal with it” and has essentially abandoned the vessel. “It just kind of falls upon us to clean up everything. It’s just disappointing,” she said. Demolishing and disposing of derelict vessels can cost the borough thousands of dollars, and Wollen said the harbor and its moorage users have to foot that bill. The borough adopted new laws about inactive vessels last winter. Now, borough code requires vessels to leave port for at least 24 hours in a year. If they don’t, they’ll have to pay for moorage and another fee for storage. Wollen said she hopes revenue from storage fees could help mitigate the issue with derelict vessels in Petersburg. “Vessels that don’t move turn into these kind of situations after a while, and so I’m trying to nip that in the bud before ... they become a problem,” said Wollen. Owners of vessels that haven’t left their assigned stalls in Petersburg will get billed more once the ordinance’s first one-year mark comes around in January. Wollen said local vessel owners should tell the harbormaster’s office when they leave port so they aren’t charged for storage, which costs as much as moorage. *This story was first published at <http://www.kfsk.org> and is reprinted here with permission.*

Police report

November 5 - An officer assisted a citizen with concerns they were having on Mitkof Hwy. Suspicious activity was reported on Mitkof Hwy. It was unfounded. **November 6** - An injured bear was reported near Skylark Way. The bear could not be located. An officer spoke with an individual regarding a past vehicle accident. An officer conducted a traffic stop on Mitkof Hwy. **November 7** - A found wallet was returned to its owner. An officer issued a warning for an extinguished headlight on Frederick Point Road. It was reported that a vehicle was driving without headlights illuminated on Mitkof Hwy. An officer responded and passed the vehicle in question, which now had their headlights on. An officer conducted extra patrols. **November 8** - An officer conducted extra patrols. Suspicious activity was reported on N Nordic Drive. Business will inform the Police Department (PD) if anything is out of order. An officer conducted a welfare check on Birch Street. The individual in question was found to be safe. A suspicious individual was reported on Haugen Drive. **November 9** - A barking dog was reported on Lumber Street. The owner was contacted and brought the dog inside. A bar check was conducted. Suspicious activity was reported on S 2nd Street. Nothing criminal was found. **November 10** - A barking dog was reported on S 3rd Street. An officer responded, and the owner brought the dog inside. An injured fawn was reported on 12th Street. An officer responded. No visible signs of injury were found. The fawn was eating and moving, though it favored a leg. A bear with an injured leg was reported around the Scow Bay area. It was reported that a vessel was adrift in the narrows. The Harbor office noticed and responded. An officer responded to a parking complaint on Hungerford Hill Road. An impound notice was put on the vehicle. A welfare check was conducted on S Second Street. **November 11** - A lost debit card was reported. A water issue was reported near North Harbor. The Water/Wastewater department was notified and responded. A juvenile reported another juvenile for having shoplifted candy from the convenience store. The report was unfounded. A bear was reported on Cornelius Road.

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Veterans



ORIN PIERSON / Petersburg Pilot

Liz Bacom hands fellow veteran Tracy Vinson her Quilt of Valor on Veterans Day. The quilters also presented quilts to Stephan Harbour (pictured upper right), Todd Newlun (right), Jerrid Pilcher (below), and (not pictured) Erik Dreisbach, Isaias Arevalos, and Brad King.

Continued from page 1
along with Tony and Tracy Vinson, launched an effort to revitalize the Edward Locken Post 14.

Today, the post counts 46 members and recently garnered national recognition for showing the highest year-over-year enrollment growth rate in the country.

The generational shift is honoring the past while renewing their focus on community service.

The Legion established the Paul Anderson Civics Award, providing \$500 scholarships annually to graduating high school students who score highest on a civics test. For 2025, two students tied and both received awards.

The organization has undertaken numerous projects at Petersburg Cemetery, repairing the gazebo roof, purchasing new American and Alaska state flags, and installing medallions to mark the graves of all 200 veterans buried there, with help to purchase medallions coming from Ambre Burrell of Rock and Road Construction.

Other recent initiatives have included donations to Petersburg Medical Center’s fundraiser for children’s bike helmets and support for the Ketchikan American Legion after its hall burned down.

The Legion raises money to fund their community service efforts by hosting the Petersburg Ball – a fundraiser theme party, which will be returning to the Elks Ballroom for its third installment on February 7, 2026 with a Mardis Gras inspired

catered dinner and masquerade. This year the price of admission drops to \$75 with the Legion keeping the entertainment local rather than flying in a performer from Las Vegas like the first two years.

Beyond community projects, the Legion connects veterans with resources. The post links veterans to Veterans Service Officers in Anchorage who assist with disability claims and benefit applications and helps veterans and their families navigate death benefits and funeral arrangements. Local Service Officer Jerrid Pilcher leads the local coordination of these Legion services.

Often times veterans are being underserved of benefits they need and deserve, explained Vinson. “They don’t think they even rate it, but they do.”

Vinson hopes that of the approximately 300 veterans living in Petersburg more will opt to join the Legion and take part in the support and comradery they share.

The post meets monthly upstairs at the Elks, which provides the Legion with meeting space and discounted rates for events. Vinson emphasized that the Legion welcomes all veterans regardless of branch, rank or role. Vinson said. “They can go find other veterans and talk all the acronyms they want. You’re easily understood. You have the shared past experience.”

“We don’t drink at the meetings at all,” Vinson added, dispelling a possible misconception. “We do ask what branch, just so we can joke around and have fun, but rank doesn’t matter. We don’t talk about what you did or didn’t do. The fact that you were a vet, that’s all that matters to us, and that we’re here for each other.”

Butch Anderson, who now serves as City of Kupreanof Mayor, still makes the trip across Wrangell Narrows for every meeting, Vinson said, except those during the darkest winter months.

And new members continue to join the Legion’s ranks.

Robert Steeley — who moved to Petersburg in June after retiring from 22 years in the Navy — is one of the newest members. A hospital corpsman who served as a frontline medic with Marine Corps infantry units in Iraq and Afghanistan, Steeley earned a Purple Heart and Bronze Star during his service.

Steely knew the Vinsons from their time at naval hospital Camp Pendelton many years ago.

Steely said, “Tony’s always been like, ‘You need to get up here.’ So I was like, all right, might be time for a change.”

Steeley now works in the lab at Petersburg Medical Center.

Vinson sees the revitalized Legion as a valuable outlet for former service members wanting to connect and serve in the community. “We all served. That’s who we are,” said Vinson. “And those people still want to serve. We provide an opportunity to do it together.”



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Thomas Bay timber sale

Continued from page 1
the resulting low vegetation — including species like huckleberry and other forage plants — provides food for moose and deer for one to two decades, explained Martin.

The project also includes non-commercial thinning in riparian zones adjacent to streams. This work aims to create what foresters call “late seral stage” stands—larger, old-growth-like forests along stream corridors.

“They are going to either girdle or fell some of the smaller trees,” Martin said. “The same trees competing for the same nutrients will only grow so big.” The purpose is to reduce standing volume so remaining trees can grow larger, eventually creating conditions where large woody debris recruitment benefits salmon and other fish species.

Infrastructure improvements include culvert replacement to enhance both drainage and fish passage in the area.

Alaska Timber and Truss will employ two subcontractors for the project. Rock and Road will handle road maintenance, reconditioning and construction activities. A & E Timber Cutting out of Edna Bay will conduct the logging operations.

Martin said the decision to subcontract the logging reflects lessons learned.

“I asked the old owner of the mill ... ‘So what did you do that you shouldn’t have, when you were running your mill?’ And he says, ‘I went to logging,’” Martin recalled. “He says, ‘I had too many irons in the fire.’ Instead of milling, he was logging.”

By maintaining focus on milling operations, Alaska Timber and Truss can also support other regional logging operations.

“The more we try to sustain the existing operations that are out there right now, the better it is for the community at large,” Martin said. “As long as we try to grow our mill operation, we can continue to hire these loggers that are local to Southeast Alaska.”

In order to manage transportation costs, explains Martin, Alaska Timber and Truss plans to establish a remote milling operation in Thomas Bay to produce cants—squared

or rectangular timber pieces—before transporting material back to Petersburg.

At the Petersburg mill, the cants will be resawed into finished products including cabin kits, house kits, flooring, interior paneling, trim and dimensional lumber.

The project is expected to create 12 to 16 jobs in Petersburg, primarily in milling operations.

“Our goal is to try and hire 12 to 16 people here locally to help us mill and turn those dimensional wood products into something that has more value,” Martin said. “It could be flooring, could be trim, could be paneling, it can be all different kinds of things. It could be studs, floor joists, floor beams, rafters, all the kinds of lumber that we would typically produce in the sawmill.”

Martin said the company has been discussing markets beyond Petersburg, including shipping cants to South Central Alaska. Martin is having conversations with the Rural Housing Authority in Western Alaska about potential markets.

“I think we have enough of a demand in the state of Alaska to purchase everything we could potentially produce here in Petersburg,” Martin said.

Logging operations are expected to start in May or June depending on the Edna Bay contractor’s schedule. In-water work periods for fish habitat improvements, Martin expects, will start in July. “We’ll just have to work around the federally regulated in-water work periods for any habitat work.”

The Thomas Bay contract potentially represents even more than the next five years of work for Alaska Timber and Truss. Martin said the Forest Service is transferring the balance of its original Thomas Bay timber sale—potentially 10 to 12 million board feet—to the state to administer as a Good Neighbor Authority contract.

“If the state does end up selling, my understanding is they’re going to sell as much as 12 million feet over there, so we may end up productively working over there for another five to 10 years after that as well,” Martin said.

The company is also exploring opportunities with Peters-

burg Borough to establish a local timber program.

“I’m just kind of in the beginning stages of working with them and trying to establish a way for us as a mill to purchase timber from the borough,” Martin said. “I think we can demonstrate to the borough how we can thin some stands and use those thinnings to grow larger timber that would have multiple entries over time.”

The strategy aims to create long-term timber supply stability by working with multiple agencies and jurisdictions.

The stands being harvested under the Thomas Bay contract are naturally regenerated sec-

ond-growth forests, primarily from clear-cutting activities in the 1960s. Unlike operations in the Lower 48, like in Oregon where mandated replanting in the early 1970s led to widespread monocultures, Southeast Alaska forests regenerate naturally.

The natural regeneration in Southeast Alaska includes a mix of species: Sitka spruce, western hemlock, mountain hemlock, Alaska yellow cedar, western red cedar and shore pine. When these second-growth stands were previously thinned by the Forest Service, specifications favored Sitka spruce for its commercial value. “That’s why,” explained Mar-

tin, “a lot of times in the forest and the stands around the different islands you see more Sitka spruce than anything.”

For Martin, the Thomas Bay stewardship contract represents a turning point after recent years of operating with limited timber availability.

“You can’t supply a retailer if you don’t know you have the volume ... We were just, you know, waiting and waiting and waiting,” Martin said. “Now we aren’t just little micro sales, 20,000 feet at a time. We have something that’s 250 times that size.” Martin sees that they finally have a path “to sustainably log and supply our mill over time.”



Van Helsing (Remi Tolkachova) diagnoses Lucy (Ali Kittams) as her worried father Doctor Seward (Payton Driesbach) and fiancé Jon Harker (Waylon Jones) standby to support their ailing loved one.



Professor Van Helsing (Remi Tolkachova) watches Renfield (Quinn Rafferty) descends further into madness.

Petersburg High School presents Dracula, next stop Edinburgh Fringe Fest



Dracula (played by Maria Toth) spins an entranced Lucy (Ali Kittams) during their late night dance.

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Wrangell Planning commission rejects communications tower near 13-Mile

By **LARRY PERSILY**
Wrangell Sentinel writer

WRANGELL — In a 3-1 vote, the planning and zoning commission responded to concerns and opposition raised by residents and denied Tidal Network’s application for a conditional-use permit to erect a 230-foot-tall telecommunications tower near 13-Mile Zimovia Highway.

“My brain is telling me yes. My heart is telling me (vote) no,” said Jillian Privett, one of three commission members who voted against the permit on Nov. 4. “This is really difficult.”

Commissioners indicated that the height of the tower and the visual impacts of the structure and lighting — issues raised by multiple nearby property owners in public testimony at the meeting — were the basis of

their denial.

Borough staff had recommended approval of the permit. Because the commission decided against approval, a written finding will be prepared to explain the grounds for their decision.

The commission’s role was not to decide if the tower is “desirable,” but whether it meets the specific requirements in municipal code for a conditional-use permit, Economic Development Director Kate Thomas told members before they voted on the application.

“We’re going to evaluate the situation and the findings,” and then make a decision on the next step, Chris Cropley, Tidal Network director, said a day after the commission meeting.

A denied applicant, such as Tidal Network, can appeal a commission rejection to the borough assembly.

The Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska operates Tidal Network. The council president, Chalyee Eesh Richard Peterson, flew into Wrangell to attend the commission meeting.

Tlingit & Haida received a \$50 million federal grant in 2022 to build towers and install equipment to provide wireless internet service for unserved and underserved areas across Southeast Alaska.

In addition to a tower installed at 3-Mile Zimovia Highway in Wrangell this summer and its proposal for the one near 13-Mile, Tidal Network is working on plans to build its next towers in Haines and Petersburg, Cropley said.

“I want to make sure what we do is in lockstep with the community,” Peterson told Wrangell’s planning and zoning commissioners, adding that Tlingit & Haida wants to work with residents and “continue to have conversations” to address their concerns.

He talked about improved telecommunication services as important for a community’s economic health, particularly to attract and retain people who work remotely.

The application denied by the commission had been revised by Tlingit & Haida after its original request was rejected by the commission in August. They lowered the tower height by 20 feet and addressed other concerns in their revised application.

Just about all of the written and in-person testimony at the Nov. 4 meeting was against the

tower.

“There’s an awful lot of negative feedback,” said Commissioner Gary Watkins.

“I know there are a lot of people who feel they will be negatively affected by the tower,” Privett followed.

In addition to Privett and Watkins, Commissioner Kathleen St. Clair voted to deny the permit. Commission Chair Terri Henson voted yes. Commissioner Apryl Hutchinson was absent.

Much of the public testimony questioned the need for the tower at all, with people saying that Alaska Power & Telephone lines and Starlink satellite service are more than adequate for residents in the area.

Sylvia Ettefagh, who spoke strongly against the tower, later said she lives at about 12.8-Mile, with four homes farther out the road than her — and all get their internet service through AP&T lines.

Tidal Network has said the tower is intended not just to serve residents who live in the immediate area but for residents who live along the highway back toward town, people recreating in the area, boaters on the water and emergency responders in the area who could benefit from improved cell and internet services.

Ettefagh told the commission she had assembled and submitted letters from 49 people — “people out the road who don’t want that tower.”

AP&T has improved its service, she said, and Starlink is a preferred option for many peo-

ple in the area.

Rod and Stina Rhoades were among the several letter writers who supported the permit request.

“It must be recognized that there are many cell phone ‘dead zones’ along Zimovia Highway. In our modern world, our cell phones are now a necessary part of life, whether we are happy about that or not,” the Rhoades said in their written testimony.

“The installation of this cell tower would give cell phone life to those of us who live south of the 8-Mile beach area, as well as anyone needing cell phone coverage in Zimovia Strait. ... I would consider installation of this cell tower essential.”

Tidal Network has said it would lease space on the tower for other service providers.

Several people in their written and in-person testimony questioned the health risks from radio frequency (RF) radiation.

Leilani Sanford spoke against the tower, citing the “light pollution” of the aviation warning lights at the top of the tower. “The character of our rural area will be permanently altered,” she said.

Several of the written and in-person comments focused on the fear of lower property values in the area near the tower.

“I was shocked it will go on my appraisal,” Diane O’Brien said at the meeting.

“It’s an eyesore that isn’t needed,” said Olivia Strano. “We all have Starlink out here.”

At the end of the testimony, Thomas noted: “This is what the public process is all about.”



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Young Vikings go through growing pains at 2025 Southeast Showdown

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

At this time last year, the Petersburg High School Wrestling team had competed in four tournaments, allowing them to get plenty of experience and live reps. This year, they just recently wrapped up only their second meet.

“I felt as though confidence was not where it needed to be. It took until into the second and third period ... to gain confidence when they should’ve maybe gained confidence earlier,” head coach James Valentine said. Through that, that’s where I saw the mistakes coming.”

The more experienced wrestlers on the young team were able to find their confidence sooner, rather than later in their matches.

“For a split second there, going into the third place match, [PHS junior Eli Anderson’s] confidence was low but that’s because he was tired and fatigued, so me and him, together, had to work on ‘Hey, we got to fake it until we make it,’” Valentine said. “Through that conversation and our warmups, he was able to wrestle very strategic and well for that third place match.”

“It was probably my best match of the meet,” Anderson said. “It was challenging, the dude was running me off the mat [so] I had to think a little bit smarter than I usually do, instead of just

manpowering through,”

Anderson is currently competing in the 189 weight class and went 4-1 this past weekend. His only loss was to Juneau-Douglas’s Jaxin Jim.

“I had some not very smart plays. There were some things that I couldn’t control, I didn’t have the ability to do anything about, but no excuses,” Anderson said.

In the four games Anderson won though, he wore down his opponents.

“The stuff I was doing up top was working for me. My strategy since I was in high school was trying to get the other guy more tired than I am,” Anderson said.

Anderson’s third place match against another JDHS opponent, forced him to switch up his strategy, which resulted in a victory.

“Meeting somebody that was stronger than me, so I couldn’t really use that to my advantage. I had to adjust to that and not try to muscle him over because he’s got the size advantage on me,” Anderson said.

“[Anderson is] a strong kid ... These are the strides he’s making, but it’s taking him a while to come to terms that I’m not only strong but fast, which is a huge thing for that size weight class,” Valentine added.

Anderson thinks wrestling against a person who was physically stronger



Photo courtesy of Klas Stolpe / Juneau Independent

Petersburg senior Tyson Reid shoots on Juneau-Douglas junior Elliot Klinger during their 152-pound match in the Southeast Showdown at Juneau’s George Houston Gymnasium.

than him, will benefit moving forward during the rest of the season.

Other good things happened for the Vikings’ in this tournament like Danny Stocks getting his first win of the season.

Potentially for the first time this season, the Vikings will have a full squad heading into their Ketchikan meet next weekend.

The young team still trying to figure everything out has given coach Valentine time to reflect on where this

team stands currently.

“A couple of weeks ago, I had this moment of thought ... ‘Get through this and let the memory that you have of wrestling [be] us all being together at regions, happy, ready to wrestle and we did our best,’” said Valentine. “You can’t just skirt around this hurdle. You have to deal with it.”

The Vikings have a chance to respond during the Ketchikan meet on Nov. 21-22.

Devil Thumb Shooters on target in 2025 Southeast Fall Invitational

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

The Devil Thumb Shooters had their first meet of the season at the 2025 Southeast Fall Invitational. There were a number of teams and athletes participating in this event with 73 athletes over a span of three days.

Coming off of their state title last spring, DTS aimed to carry their momentum into the new season. The weather hasn’t been the kindest to the team, losing a couple of practices due to inclement conditions. That

didn’t stop the team from finding creative ways to practice.

“Coach Cayden [Turland] had set up a really hard event for them to practice, so they got really used to sporting clays which is a thing that is sometimes hard,” assistant coach Becky Turland said. “We held our own little tournament for whoever had the best score – something locally where some of the kids won gift certificates.”

Even then, the weather is advantageous to the kids ... if they can practice in pouring

rain, they can perform when the weather is nicer.

“Once you get to a tournament, you don’t know what the weather is going to bring and it was helpful for the kids to see all sorts of weather during practice,” Turland said.

Heading into this tournament, the main focus was for kids to beat their previous scores. In this meet, all 73 athletes shot a combined 68% in a three day span, showing how the talent and level of competition continues to grow in this sport.

“You can definitely see with our own kids here and in other communities, you watch them improve – and then you have shining stars that come out of nowhere,” Turland said.

Numerous DTS had strong results to start the season, which include Tucker Gibson, Serena Helms, Etolyn Turland, Riley Reid and more. Overall, Gibson finished 11th, with a total of 282 points.

“Tucker’s coming back after having a full year and a half off, so for him to place was neat to see because he hasn’t been a part of it,” Turland said.

Tyson Reid finished ninth overall, with a 286 points total.

DTS also had some first time competitors who showed out in their first meet, with one of them being Julliana Gallardo, who finished third in all of the following events: Sporting, Super Sporting, Trap, Double Trap and Wobbles, with a total of 143 points.

“She started out as a left hand shooter but one of the other coaches realized she should be shooting the other direction, so once she figured that out, she did really well,” Turland said.

Riley Reid was another first

timer and she finished with a total of 164 points.

“A lot of that [performance] has to do with her dedication and she wants to shoot good, wants to improve. When we have an open spot on the field, asking the kids if they want to shoot, Riley’s always ready to go even if it’s not her group,” Turland said.

This team lost their two highest shooters due to graduation last year. Despite this, the team began their season on target.

“Coming off of winning state last year, I think they’re actually shocked in what they did because the two highest shooters had graduated. So they were pretty pleased with the scores they had,” Turland said.

Looking forward to the spring, DTS will have Tyson and Levi Reid and Serena and Cedar Helms represented in Alaska’s marksman team in March 2026.

As the fall season came to a close, the team honored longtime athlete and coach, Cayden Turland, who has been DTS’s longest-tenured athlete. He departed Juneau three hours after the conclusion of the

tournament in preparation for U.S. Marines Corps Boot Camp. (Photo courtesy of Becky Turland)

“Though we’ll miss him at the range and in future tournaments, we are incredibly proud of Cayden,” the team shared. “He’s been with DTS since 3rd grade, and we wish him the very best wherever life in the Marines takes him. Semper Fi.”

Other Notable Performances:

Cedar Helms: (268 points)
Conor Oppenheim (264 points)
Caleb Rock (254 points)
Levi Reid (253 points)
Serena Helms (255 points)
Noah Larson (240 points)
Gavin O’Neil (219 points)
Duncan Durst (197 points)
Wyatt Keso-Niemi (155 points)
Etolyn Turland (221 points)
Grady Walker (200 points)

Awards:

Julliana Gallardo: High All Around (HAA-RU)
Etolyn Turland: High All Around (HAA-RU)
Grady Walker: High All Around (HAA-RU)



Photo courtesy of Becky Turland

Goodbyes are always hard: The Devil Thumb Shooters embrace and celebrate longtime athlete and coach Cayden Turland in what was his last tournament after the 2025 Southeast Fall Invitational, on Oct. 26, 2025, in Juneau. Turland has been with the program since third grade and departed from Juneau just three hours after the conclusion of the tournament, in preparation for U.S. Marines Corps Boot Camp.

PIA Transit Bus

FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, AND PERSONS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

MONDAY
THROUGH
FRIDAY
9:00 A.M.
TO 4:00 P.M.

SUNDAY
9:00 A.M.
TO 1:00 P.M.

Call or text a day ahead, or before 9 a.m.
to make a reservation at 907.650.7788



Photo courtesy of Klas Stolpe / Juneau Independent

Petersburg senior Logan Tow keeps a lead in his boys 100 Yard Free state title swim during the 2025 ASAA Swim & Dive State Championships at the Bartlett High School pool. Tow swam a 46.54.



Photo courtesy of Klas Stolpe / Juneau Independent

The Petersburg Vikings won the Girls Sportsmanship Award during the 2025 ASAA Swim & Dive State Championships at the Bartlett High School pool.

Swim state champ

Continued from page 1

“It felt good. Having all of that work pay off. The early mornings in the gym and practices and the times reflecting on not getting better, but you are. “It feels really good,” Tow said.

Logan finally reached the mountain top and his

continued progression has been evident since his freshman season.

“As I’ve gotten taller [and] older, I’ve gotten a lot better really quickly compared to a lot of guys. Continuing to work hard and believe in myself was honestly the most important thing,” Tow said.

Now both Tow siblings have claimed state titles and are in the Viking’s history books.

“Seeing my name next to my sisters up on the board will be really cool. It hasn’t really set in,” Tow said.

The girls 200 medley relay team, consisting of Bella Miller, Lexie Tow, Brooklyn Whitethorn and Olivia Hinde, finished sixth, with a time of 1:57.46.

“Lifetimes best, the relay was no exception. Everybody did great. The time was a half second faster than we did at regions which was a pretty good time anyway,” Carlisle said.

Maybe the most important award the Vikings received at the state championships was winning the Girls Sportsmanship Award.

“They’re just genuinely friendly to everybody. [Officials] saw that the girls were a pretty special group,” Carlisle said.

Currently, Tow does not know if he will continue to swim at the college of his choosing. He said he’s been contemplating his decisions.

Looking forward to the future, Tow also appreciates just how far the “scrawny little

freshman,” (as Carlisle jokingly described) has come.

“A lot of the guys came up to me and said ‘I remember when you were in middle school. You were a freshman that was not even close to being as good as us.’ Now I’m better than them,” Tow said. “It’s really eye opening just how much better you can get in a short period of time.”

Tow, a champion forever, appreciates all the support he’s had.

“Thank you to the people who were texting me before and came to me at school. My

parents, grandparents, you’re all the people that motivated me,” said Tow.

Logan Tow becomes first male in Vikings history since 2014 to win an individual state title (Abel Aulbach in 2014 in 50 and 100 Freestyle)

Other Notable Performances:

Bella Miller:
7th in Girls 500 Freestyle (5:35.38)
Lexie Tow:
5th in 50 Freestyle (24.81)
3rd in 100 Breastroke (1:07.33)

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petersburg

PETERSBURG, ALASKA

pilot

207 N. Nordic Dr.772-9393

PHS Varsity Volleyball clinches No. 2 seed in playoffs

By AIDEN LUHR
Pilot writer

Heading into the South Seeding Tournament, the Petersburg High School Varsity Volleyball team had the opportunity to clinch a top two seed.

The tournament didn’t start the way the Vikings wanted it to. In the Viking’s first match, they faced the Wrangell Wolves, losing 25-19 and 25-22. Then they faced the Skagway Panthers and lost 25-21 and 27-25. Combined with all of the travel complications to get to Craig, it wasn’t the start the Viking’s were hoping for.

“We had four minutes of [prep time] before we got into hitting warmups and playing, so we got dressed on the boat. Cold, not a good warmup – played competitively but telling the girls to stay the course,” head coach Jaime Cabral said. “The kids did a great job of having their own player meeting and saying ‘Hey let’s focus in real quick because we’ve got to take care of some business.’”

The Wolves were the only conference opponent the Vikings didn’t defeat this season, going 0-2.

“They turn a lot of their broken plays into swings and they get kills off of that and they’re pretty smart about how they play, finding holes in our defense,” senior libero Freya Tucker said.

After their 0-2 start in the tournament, the Vikings rattled off four consecutive wins against the Craig Panthers (2-0), Haines Glacier Bears (2-0), Metlakatla Chiefs (2-0) and the Klawock Chieftains (2-0).

“Getting into that grind of things, it was really good. That four game stretch where we won four, we were in a rhythm. Things were clicking,” Cabral said. “We had a new lineup that was working pretty solid that we might throw in.”

With one opponent remaining, the Hoonah Braves, the #2 seed was still anyone’s for the taking depending on the result of this and other games.

“We didn’t really know if we were going to be

second if we lost because a lot of teams were playing better. Skagway had a really good weekend, so they could’ve taken our spot,” said senior middle Natalee Bertagnoli.

The Viking’s won the first set. 25-19.

“I think we all communicated really well in that set and we all hustled,” said senior setter Rikka Miller.

In the second set, the Vikings had control midway, leading the Braves 14-12. From that point things unraveled and the Braves went on a 13-7 run to win the second set 25-21. In the final and divisive game, the Braves ran away with the game never really giving the Vikings a chance, winning 25-12.

“I felt like the sets behind that [first set] didn’t really represent us. We kind of all got in our heads and it’s hard to get out sometimes,” Bertagnoli said.

The Vikings will be making some defensive changes to counter what the Braves did to them in preparation for regions.

“In the game against Hoonah, they ended up attacking us deep and they play very non-traditional volleyball, they send the ball over on the second contact – so we’ll do a different style of defense that will protect our deep corners,” Cabral said.

The Vikings finished the regular season 16-12 and 10-6 in conference play, earning them the #2 seed in the region with a couple goals in mind.

“We want to win regions,” Tucker said.

“Beat Wrangell,” Miller added.

Before regionals, the Vikings will play a blue and white scrimmage in the high school gym on Nov. 15. That night will also include a senior appreciation period for the graduating athletes on the team.

The Region V Championships will be Nov. 20-22, in Skagway. The top two seeds qualify to state. Can this squad be the first team to qualify to state since the 2017 team?

“I think this time can be different just because the mentality of this group is they are determined. They want to win, they want to earn it,” said Cabral.



Stork report

Callan Thomas August Dupree was born to Paul and Ayla Dupree on October 24, 2025, in Anchorage, Alaska, at Providence Hospital. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and 20 inches long. Callan joins his sister Signe.

Senior Meals

Please order Thanksgiving Dinner before noon on Wednesday, November 19.

Monday, November 17

Chicken Sandwich with Lettuce and Tomato, Carrot Sticks, Pears, Cheese Stick, Brownie

Tuesday, November 18

Vegetable Beef Soup, Half of a Ham and Cheese Sandwich, Fruit Salad, Muffin

Wednesday, November 19

Pork Chops, Rice, Green Beans, Yogurt Cup, Cookie

Thursday, November 20

Baked Rock Fish, Mixed Vegetables, Banana, Mixed Nuts, Cake

Friday, November 21 – Thanksgiving Dinner

Turkey, Mashed Potatoes with Gravy, Stuffing, Corn, Fruit Salad, Cranberry, Assorted Pies



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.

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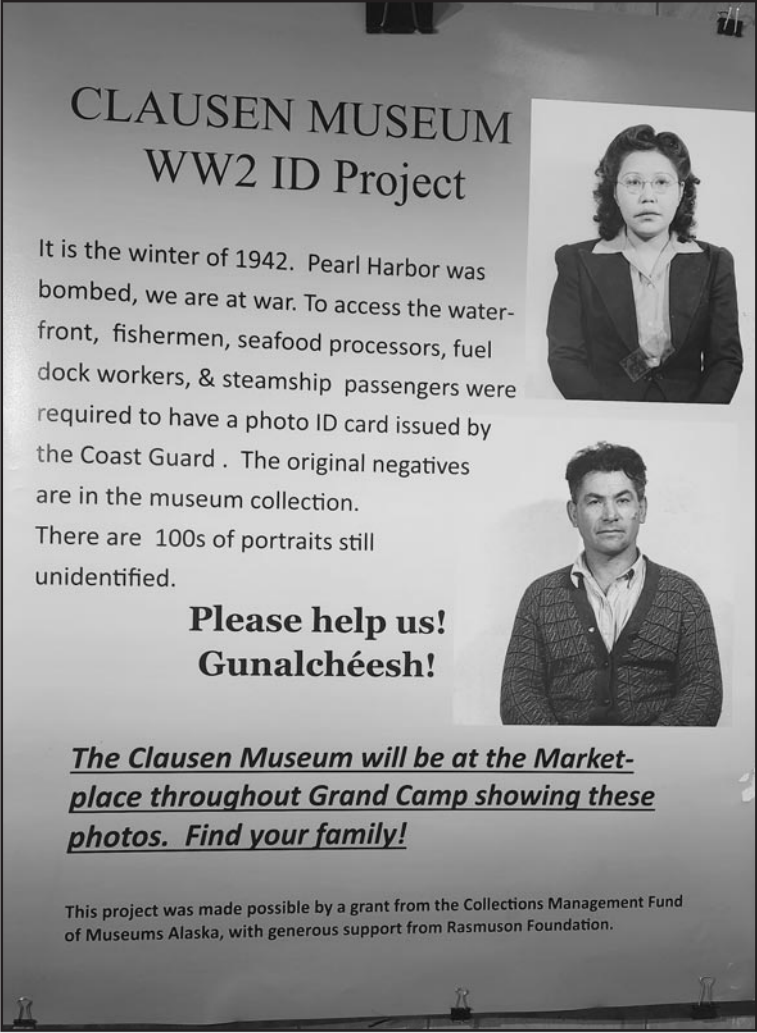
The Clausen Museum World War II Identification Project needs your help!

In December 1941 the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor and the United States entered World War II. In communities along the west coast of the U.S., including the Territory of Alaska, precautions were taken to protect the country from foreign invasion and sabotage. In Petersburg, anyone needing to access the waterfront – fisherman, seafood processors, fuel dock workers, steamship passengers, etc. – was required to carry a photo identification card issued by the U.S. Coast Guard.

The Clausen Museum collection includes hundreds of these photographic portraits taken

between 1941 and 1946, most of them taken by Petersburg photographer Mary Allen. It’s a wonderful time capsule of life in Petersburg during the war years, but, while most of the individuals photographed are identified, many are still unknown, particularly many of our Alaska Native, Filipino and Chinese neighbors.

This month, in acknowledgement of Native American Heritage Month and Veteran’s Day, the Clausen Museum is showcasing our Alaska Native cultural artifacts and displaying the collection of World War II photographs. Please come have a look and see if you can identify a friend or family member.



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- ✓ Are age 50-80
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- ✓ Smoke now or quit within the last 15 years

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Petersburg MEDICAL CENTER

Rules of the Road
US Coast Guard



QUESTION
& ANSWER

QUESTION:

A 200-meter vessel is aground in restricted visibility. Which signal is optional?
a. A whistle signal
b. A gong signal
c. A bell signal
d. All of the above are optional.

Source: U.S. Coast Guard

ANSWER: A. A whistle signal



at Petersburg School District

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

Monday, Nov 17
Breakfast

WG Bagel Breakfast Pizza
Lunch

WG Flat Bread Pizza
Tuesday, Nov 18

Breakfast
WG Cereal
Lunch

WG Frito Bowl

Wednesday, Nov 19
Breakfast

Greek Yogurt
WG Granola
Lunch

WG Hamburger
Tater Tots

Thursday, Nov 20
Breakfast

WG Waffles
Lunch

WG French Toast Casserole
Friday, Nov 21

Breakfast
WG Breakfast Sandwich
Lunch

Pork Chili & WG Rice

Don't like Lunch Menu?
Try the Salad Bar
All Meals Served with Milk
Breakfast Served with
Fresh Fruit and Juice
*WG = Whole Grain



• 772-4234 •
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Obituaries

Carl Edward Humphrey, 58

Carl Edward Humphrey was born in Reedsport, Oregon, on August 6, 1967, to George Alden and Lucille Marie Humphrey. Growing up in the Coburg and Eugene areas of Oregon Carl loved hunting, fishing, and trapping with his father. When he was ten, he and his dad were rescued by a Russian fishing boat after their boat went down. The Russians transferred them to the U.S. Coast Guard who brought them home to their families. As a teen, he crewed for his father on his charter boat, *The Tuna Chaser*, out of Winchester Bay, Oregon. Carl was a natural – he never met a stranger, loved to bend an ear and was always up for a bit of mischief.

By the time he was a young adult he had salt water in his veins. While working to establish his lifelong career as a commercial fisherman, Carl met and married Sharon, a single mother of two, Dusty and Alesha. They had a son and



Carl Edward Humphrey

daughter together, Bryan and Ashley Humphrey. After their marriage ended, Carl moved from fishing out of Coos Bay, Oregon, to Newport, Oregon, where he resided for many years. He purchased his own boat, the *F/V Midnite*, to support his crabbing and fishing obsession.

In 2007, Carl met Stephanie Payne and her two daughters,

Hunter and Chrystine. Together they had his second daughter, Fyscher Humphrey, in 2008. During the salmon fishing closures along the Oregon coast, Carl kept himself busy in the woods cutting firewood, harvesting wild mushrooms, hunting, ATVing and camping with his family. If he wasn't on the water, he was in the woods – these were the two places he was the happiest and most content.

In 2010 they moved to Missouri for a few years before moving to Alaska in 2012. They landed in Homer with a dream – to live, fish, hunt and trap in Alaska.. This brought him into the world of driftnetting in Cook Inlet and many more adventures around the Kenai Peninsula. However, still not settled, the family boarded the ferry in 2013 and docked in Petersburg, a place to finally call home.

Carl built a house, purchased the *F/V Garnett Lee*, hired his daughter Fyscher as his

deckhand, and began to explore the wonders of Southeast Alaska. Along the way he could be counted on to keep the chatter alive at every port, dock, and side tie. In Petersburg Carl found where he needed to be. He felt he was in his element, that he was made for this life. Twelve happy years later, on August 25, 2025, Carl's life came to a peaceful end – in his sleep on his fishing boat, doing what he loved to do, where he loved doing it, and surrounded by his fellow fishermen and fisherwomen.

He was preceded in death by his father many years ago. His mother passed away just over a month after Carl. While Carl will be missed dearly, his friends and family will remember his kind-eyes, his warm smile and hear the echo of his laugh, imagining they are all together again around a fire at deer camp in eastern Oregon, sharing good coffee and catching up on so many stories.

Jilleen Ingram Dolbeare, 58



Jilleen Ingram Dolbeare

Jilleen Ingram Dolbeare was born on September 26, 1967, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was the first of four children born to Cregg and JoAnne Ingram. She attended schools in Payson, Utah, and graduated from Payson High School in 1985. During her high school years Jill enjoyed riding horses, participating on the swim team, reading all the books she could find, attending church and playing the piano and the clarinet. She loved animals and always had horses or cats to dote on – they lived far better than most humans.

After high school Jill attended Utah Technical College, Dixie Technical College, and finally Brigham Young University, where she graduated with a degree in English Language in 1991. She went on to obtain her teaching degree in Special Education with an emphasis in English. Jill taught in schools in Utah, Missouri, Oregon and Petersburg, Alaska.

An insatiable reader her entire life, she effortlessly read at least two books a week for decades. From an early age, Jill shared her dream of being a writer with her siblings and friends. In 2021 she realized her dream when she published her first series, *The Shadow Winged Chronicles* – 3 books! She moved on to write: *Splintered Magic*, 6 books; *The Portlock Paranormal Detective Series*, 8 books; *Splintered Realms*, 3 books; and *The Bounty Hunter and the Assassin*, 1 book. One of her series is 67th out of the 60,000,000 books listed on Amazon, so she was truly 'one

in a million.' She had a sharp wit and a quick tongue that translated well into her books, where all the protagonists are strong, witty, independent women – just like Jill.

She loved all of her students, was a friend to the friendless and kind to all. Generous, thoughtful, tough, adventurous, intelligent and talented, Jill was lovely inside and out. Her friend said it best, "...the ripples of Jill's life will continue for a very long time indeed."

She was 58 when she passed away on October 24, 2025, after

a four-year battle with ovarian cancer. Her legacy of love, laughter, and learning will carry on as she rests in eternal peace.

She is survived by her husband, Chad Dolbeare, and her cat, Gus; her siblings, Dani (Todd) Olsen, Erin Rasmussen and Matt Ingram; her nieces and nephews, Kapena Olsen, Kelston Swift, Kate Olsen, Air Rasmussen, Baylee Rasmussen, Jaycie Swift, Landon Swift, Kana'i aupuni Olsen, Kahekili Olsen; and her wonderful, fun, and close-knit aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.

Public Notices

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Point Baker Trading Post and Lodge LLC is making application for a new Beverage Dispensary AS 04.09.200 liquor license and Package Store Liquor License AS 04.09.230 doing business as Point Baker Trading Post located at Lot 40 USS2829, Point Baker, AK 99927. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov.

Published: November 6, 13 and 20, 2025

Public Notices

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

Petersburg Borough Public Notice

Seeking Letters of Interest
to Serve as Petersburg Borough's
Representatives to the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA)

The Petersburg Borough is accepting letters of interest from citizens who wish to serve the community as Board Member to the Southeast Alaska Power Agency (SEAPA) for calendar year 2026. The Borough Assembly will appoint one voting member and one alternate to the SEAPA board.

Letters of interest should be submitted to the clerk at the Borough offices located at 12 S. Nordic Drive; by sending to PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833; or by emailing to bregula@petersburgak.gov.

Published: November 13, 2025



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

The Pilot extends its best wishes to the persons listed on the Community Calendar.

Those celebrating birthdays this week are: **November 14:** Anne Tate, Gabe Volk, Ryan Tate, Zachariah Carroll. **November 15:** Morgan Falter. **November 17:** Andrew Kittams, Sue Hardin, Tessa Bergmann. **November 19:** Ambre Burrell, Curtis Burrell, Sean Larson, Suzanne Peterson. **November 20:** Fax Christensen.

Those celebrating anniversaries this week are: **November 14:** Gregg and Barbra Magiserale. **November 15:** Brian and Christina Look.

If you'd like to be included on our list, please call 907-772-9393.

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

Public Notice

KITO’S KAVE, INC. dba KITO’S KAVE BAR & LIQUOR located at 200 Chief John Lott, Petersburg, Alaska 99833, is applying for transfer of a Package Store License AS 04.09.230 liquor license to KITOS LLC dba Kitos Public House.

Under the terms of AS 04.11.360(4)(B), AS 04.11.670, and 3 AAC 305.125, the transferor/lessor retains a security interest in the liquor license that is the subject of this conveyance, and may, as a result, be able to obtain a retransfer of the license without satisfaction of other creditors.

Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, at 550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1600, Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov and Attorney Jana Weltzin, Esq at jana@jdwccounsel.com or to 901 Photo Avenue, Second Floor, Anchorage, AK 99503.

Published: October 30, November 6 and 13, 2025

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Published: October 30, November 6 and 13, 2025

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR
THE STATE OF ALASKA
FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT PETERSBURG

In the Matter of the Estate of)
)
Samuella Mae Parker)
Person Who Died (Decedent))
DOB 08/25/1931)
) CASE NO. 1PE-25-00017PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

YOU ARE NOTIFIED that the court appointed Richard M. Patteson as personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the person who died are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or the claims will be forever barred.

Richard Patteson
907-518-4148
PO Box 1376
Petersburg, AK 99833

Published: October 30, November 6 & 13, 2025

Notice of PIA Election

There shall be an election of the Petersburg Indian Association Tribal Council on January 5, 2026.

The following seats will be up for election:
Council Chair (President): 1 seat - One-Year Term
Council Member: 3 seats - Two-Year Term

All Declarations of Candidacy must be received by November 28, 2025.

The complete list of declared candidates will be posted on December 1, 2025 at PIA, on piatribal.org, PIA’s Facebook, and as a PSA on KFSK radio. A complete list of eligible write-ins will be posted at the polls.

For more information on how to run, where to get forms, eligibility requirements, absentee voting, or registering as a member of PIA, please contact PIA: 907-772-3636, piaelection@piatribal.org

Published: October 30, November 6, 13, and 20, 2025

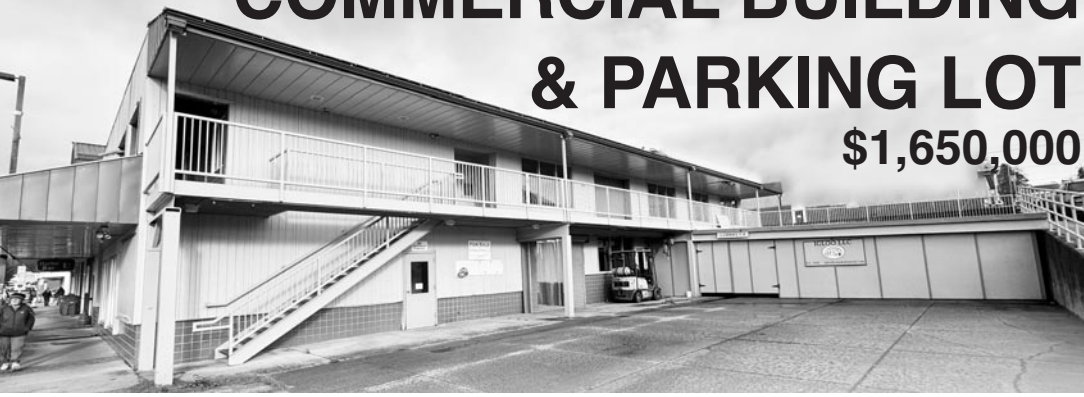


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JOBS

First Bank is looking for a Customer Service Representative/Teller for the Petersburg Branch. If you like to work with customers, enjoy problem solving, are dependable, and you are interested in the position, stop by the branch and let’s talk about it. Previous experience is not required. Application can be found online at www.FirstBankAK.com or at the branch. We offer competitive salaries, health insurance, paid holidays, vacation, 401 (k)



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Applicants to apply online at silverbayseafoods.com or call (907) 772-4294 for more information.

Silver Bay Seafoods, Petersburg
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Telephone: 907-772-4294

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.....tfn11-6b13
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enthusiastic full-time and part-time people to join our team. Contact Mindy at 907-518-0571 or stop in the Salty Pantry at 14 Harbor Way.
.....tfn10-30b29
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 piatribal.org or at the PIA front desk.
.....tfn9-11b43
Join the PW Insurance Team!
We are hiring a customer service representative with the opportunity to transition to an insurance producer if desired. The ideal candidate is enthusiastic, detail-oriented, and willing to learn. We are looking for someone with customer service experience and strong communication skills. If you thrive in fast-paced environments and enjoy building relationships, this is

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.....2x11-13p8

NOTICES

Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255

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Petersburg Properties LLC



Sarah Holmgren
907-518-0718



Jalyn Pomrenke
907-723-3157



Karna Cristina
206-554-1522

907- 772-6000
www.PetersburgProperties.com

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\$75,000

Driveway has been put all the way to the front of the lot! 1.42-acre parcel of private vacant land. Nestled conveniently just 4 miles from downtown, this peaceful retreat offers the ideal blend of accessibility and seclusion, allowing you to enjoy the tranquility of rural living while being just moments away from the town's amenities. Zoned for rural residential use, the property boasts essential utilities including water, sewer, and electricity by the highway. With ample space for outdoor activities, gardens, or even future expansion, this property provides a rare opportunity to create your private sanctuary, complete with the freedom and elbow room you've always desired. Don't miss your chance to own this incredible piece of land that perfectly balances convenience and privacy!

Have you dreamed of homesteading? Living off the land and raising animals and a garden? Maybe just wanting to escape it all and find some privacy in small town Alaska? Here is your opportunity! This shy-5 acre, 3 parcel property is perfect for living now while building your dream home. The former residence burned & is cleared, with utilities still on site. A giant steel shop has been retrofitted with living quarters in the rear section--a sleeping area, living room, kitchen out in the main shop, and a 3/4 bathroom with shower! No need to rent somewhere else while constructing your new home. Privacy almost 5 miles out the road, but still an easy drive to town!

PRICE DROP
469 MITKOF



\$385,000



PETERSBURG ALASKA

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 Part-Time Custodian: \$19.49/hour**
Monday 8pm - 1am, Tuesday and Thursday 8pm - 12:30am
Shift Differential: Swing shift = \$0.75/hour and Grave shift = \$1.25/hour
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Fish and Game concerned about northern spread of invasive green crab

By JAKE DYE
For the Wrangell Sentinel

European green crabs, a particularly invasive species known for aggressively displacing native species and damaging important vegetation, have been found on Etolin Island just southwest of Wrangell.

A monitoring effort that spans much of Southeast is working to identify and possibly mitigate their continued spread northward.

The crabs were first found in Metlakatla in the summer of 2022. Since then, they’ve been found increasingly farther north, with Etolin Island the northernmost confirmed sighting of the crabs so far.

Tammy Davis, the invasive species coordinator for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, said on Nov. 3 that the crabs are able to establish themselves in varied environments, with impacts to local ecosystems.

The hearty eaters feed on indigenous species including salmon fry and juvenile Dungeness crabs, and damage important beds of vegetation — like eelgrass — that are essential fish habitat.

“Eelgrass is so important,” Davis said. “It’s a keystone species for intertidal foodwebs and ecosystems generally, but it’s really important for the species that are valuable to Alaskans.”

It was a report from a person who was out recreating on Etolin Island, Davis said, that alerted officials on Oct. 5 of a potential invasive crab sighting on Oct. 2. Davis said the man reported finding the crab at “a bay north of Cooney Cove on Etolin Island.”

Cooney Cove is about 30 miles southwest of downtown Wrangell, about 10 miles northwest of Coffman Cove.

“While it’s alarming, it’s not necessarily surprising that the distribution of green crab has expanded since 2024,” Davis said. “I’m concerned about

how far north the crab has been able to expand.”

The expansion of the population has been facilitated by recent conditions including an El Niño — described by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration as a time when cold, nutrient-rich waters in the Pacific Ocean fail to rise and surface temperatures remain warmer than usual.

Davis said European green crabs have been a concern of the department’s for decades, as modeling from the early 2000s suggested that warming oceans could allow the crabs to expand all the way through the Aleutian chain.

She said she’s seeking people in Wrangell to be a part of a network of community members across Southeast who are “actively involved in early detection surveys.”

That effort, spearheaded by the nonprofit Southeast Alaska Tribal Ocean Research, has walked beaches, placed traps and raised awareness of the crabs to generate reports of potential sightings of crabs or their carapaces.

There are two groups in Petersburg who are trapping crabs to monitor for European

green crab. “We don’t have anybody in Wrangell.”

European green crab, despite their name, aren’t always green, Davis said. The “simple key” to identifying them is by counting the spines on their carapace. Green crabs have five spines on either side of their eyes, and another three between the eyes.

The green crabs are small, only around four inches across their bodies at adult size. If a possibly invasive crab or any other organism that doesn’t seem to belong is sighted, the department has an invasive species hotline and an online reporting tool to collect reports.

Davis said she’d be happier to receive reports of native crabs suspected of being invasive than no reports. Like with the crab found on Etolin Island, department staff can investigate to verify and implement mitigations.

The department also asks people not to attempt to kill the crabs — the department wants to verify their identities.

Because the crabs are spread on ocean currents, “we don’t believe that eradication is possible,” she said. “Instead, in communities where the crabs



Photo courtesy Alaska Department of Fish and Game

The person who found a European green crab on Etolin Island on Oct. 2 took a photo of the discovery for the state’s invasive species office.

have been established, work will be done to suppress the population in valuable areas. In Metlakatla, for example, targeted trapping is underway in areas of the Tongass National Forest and the Annette Islands Reserve.”

Invasive species can be re-

ported to the Department of Fish and Game via an online portal at adfg.alaska.gov or by calling 1-877-INVASIV.

More information about the Alaska Invasive Species Partnership can be found at alaskainvasives.org.

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