

# \$1,312 Permanent Fund Dividend arrives Oct. 5

By JAMES BROOKS  
*Alaska Beacon*

This year’s Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend will be \$1,312. The Alaska Department of Revenue announced the figure last Thursday, two weeks before the annual cash payments will be delivered by direct deposit.

PFD applications that were filed electronically, slated for direct deposit and have been deemed eligible will be paid out Oct. 5.

The Department of Revenue will mail paper checks and begin direct deposits from paper applications later in the month.

This year’s PFD amount had been estimated at roughly \$1,300 since the spring, when the Alaska Legislature appropriated \$881 million for this year’s dividend.

The exact figure each year is based on the number of confirmed recipients. By email, Revenue Commissioner Adam Crum said more than 600,000 recipients have been confirmed so far.

Last year’s dividend, \$3,284, included a special one-time energy rebate made possible by high oil prices caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The state distributed 625,912 dividends that year, the lowest figure since 2009. The number of this year’s recipients is not yet known because the Department of Revenue hasn’t finished processing applications yet.

This year’s dividend is roughly equivalent to 25% of the annual transfer from the Alaska Permanent Fund to the state treasury. The remaining 75% was reserved for state services.

The amount of the 2024 dividend will be set in the spring 2024 legislative session, but lawmakers this year have already agreed to pay a \$500 bonus if North Slope oil prices in the current fiscal year average \$83 per barrel.

Since July 1, the start of the fiscal year, prices have averaged \$87.45 per barrel.

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



OLIVIA ROSE / Petersburg Pilot

## Witnessing the aurora

Just past midnight on the morning of September 20, the last clear night before a long stretch of overcast days, the northern lights performed a spectacular light show over Frederick Sound.

# Atmospheric river delivers record rainfall on Sept. 21

By OLIVIA ROSE  
*Pilot writer*

If you thought it seemed awfully rainy last Thursday, you’d be right. An atmospheric river saturated Petersburg last week with heavy rain and windy con-

ditions. A record breaking 4.47 inches of rain fell on Petersburg on Thursday, Sept. 21, which resulted in landslides in remote areas, reservoir spillover at Crystal Lake, and some hazards across all three harbors.



Photo courtesy of Judy Forgey

Falls Creek surging over the bulkhead at the fish ladder on Friday.

A flood advisory was put into effect for Falls Creek Thursday morning due to excessive rainfall. Mariners were advised to check the conditions of their vessels as ongoing intense rain could have potentially swamped boats.

Harbormaster Glo Wollen told the Pilot that all hands were on deck and 24/7 crews “kept ahead” of the troublesome weather.

Crews did rounds day and night in all three harbors, watching out for vessels becoming overwhelmed with water, most of which were uncovered and small. Owners of boats that needed to be pumped were called by the crew; if the person did not respond and the boat looked like it was filling up, then the crew would pump the water out of the boats and send the

owner a bill.

“Nobody wants the boat to sink,” Wollen said.

Clean up efforts were seen in action on Tuesday in response to hazardous debris that the harbormaster said was drifting in from Frederick Sound. She told the Pilot, “we hear that there were a couple of landslides, maybe one on Thomas Bay and another one on the Muddy River ... either a landslide or some kind of beaver dam blowout” by the looks of trees and roots in the water.

“[Monday], I got a report from one of the fishing boats that was heading out on the grounds, that they were passing a bunch of debris in the water,” Harbormaster Wollen said. The communication was given as a heads-up, “just to be aware of that, so we can push it out if it needs to be pushed out

or helped along around the corner.”

“So, my guys have been out on the skiff a lot today, pushing some of this over across so it doesn’t come in the harbor ... it can do damage and ... lead to issues ... Kenny and those guys just pushed out a very big rootwad ... that was full of rocks and mud.”

Kenny Whitmore told the Pilot that they pulled two logs out of the harbor on Tuesday morning, which were taken over

**Continued on page 3**





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

**September 28, 1923** – Testifying in her action for divorce in Judge Hall’s court, Mrs. Otto Burkhardt branded her husband, Frederick Otto Burkhardt, the wealthy Alaska salmon packer, as an arsonist and testified that he purposely set the fires which destroyed the cannery at Chilkoot in 1919 and for which \$290,000 insurance money was collected [\$5,206,870 today]. Her testimony reads as follows: “I followed him down from the house to the cannery. He did not see me or know that I was there. I watched him go in and, from one end of the cannery to the other, I saw him putting oil soaked waste into boxes along the wall. Then I saw him start the fire. My husband came running into the house after the fire,” Mrs. Burkhardt went on, “and rolled on the floor crying that he was ruined. I told him not to act that way before me and he got up and cursed and said if I ever told he would wreck my life.” Reverend Sidney H. Morgan, pastor of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church and Burnhardt nearly came to blows in the courtroom following the Divine’s testimony that he considered Mrs. Burkhardt a good mother and a fit person to have the custody of Frederick Otto Jr., the ten year old son over who’s care and custody the mother and father are fighting.

**September 24, 1948** – The Fish and Wildlife Service released some interesting data last week concerning the tuna fishing in Southeastern Alaska during the last week in August, when 220,500 pounds of the precious fish were taken. The tuna were caught in the Dixon Entrance area in water separating British Columbia from Southeastern Alaska. Landed by Ketchikan trolling vessels making 19 trips to sea, the tuna brought prices of \$520 to \$550 per ton. R.T. Whiteleather, acting chief of the Service’s branch of commercial fisheries,

said that it is too early to judge whether the tuna landing was a “freak occurrence,” or whether it may lead to the development of a permanent fishery in Alaska. He explained that the Fish and Wildlife Service is watching closely to see what happens. The situation may be similar to the growth of the important tuna fishery in Oregon and Washington, Whiteleather stated. In the early 1930s, tuna were unknown in Northern Pacific waters. Then a small catch of 1,000 pounds of albacore was recorded in 1934. In 1945, 18,208,000 pounds of albacore were landed in Oregon and Washington, and a vast, permanent fishery has now developed in the two states. Hit by a serious decline in pink salmon production, Southeast Alaska’s faltering fishing industry would be greatly bolstered by the growth of an albacore fishery. Albacore is the choicest of tuna, providing white meat tuna for canning.

**September 27, 1973** – A delegation of Vikings and beautiful ladies in full Norwegian costume greeted 370 Alaskan Pioneers on the final stop of their dream voyage on the state ferry M/V Wickersham’s last regular trip

over the Marine Highway. The Wicky is to be sold this winter and will be replaced by the M/V Columbia, now under construction and scheduled to enter service in March 1974. Some of the Vikings, not willing to wait for the passenger ramp to be put down, boarded the ship in excellent fashion. It is doubtful though that they would have gotten away with tossing their swords and shields aboard first back in the old days. Some Viking sergeant would have made them sleep with their weapons for a month! School buses as well as private vehicles were made available to take the visitors to a reception at the Elk’s ballroom. Like many a typical coffee hour, things were a bit slow at first but after a couple of trips to the 26-gallon punch bowl, even the most retiring of the group was joining in the fun. The pace of the music picked up and many of the old-timers demonstrated that they remembered the polka, the two step and the schottische. A delightful buffet of Norwegian goodies and seafoods was set up and many of the group commented that it was the first seafood they had on the entire trip. The hosts of the evening had expected that the old-timers would be fatigued by the last

stop of their trip. It was evening and a steady rain was falling, so a short night was anticipated. But the Pioneers fooled them – they lasted longer than some of the hosts, and many were overheard to say that Petersburg was the most enjoyable of all their stops in Southeast.

**September 24, 1998** – More than a dozen residents turned out for an informal ceremony on Tuesday night marking the lighting of Petersburg’s Bojer Wikan Memorial Fisherman’s Park on Sing Lee Alley. The installation of the lighting was completed this week and the lights will turn on and off with the rest of the city’s street lights. Still to come for the park are benches, a gazebo, flower

planters and a bronze statue which isn’t expected until late next spring.

**Northern Nights Theater**

This Weekend:  
**Gran Turismo**  
2h 15m• Rated PG-13  
**Action/Sport Showings:**  
**Friday & Saturday @ 7 pm**  
**Sunday @ 4 pm**  
Next weekend:  
**My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3**

Concessions available.  
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Interested in enrolling your child in the  
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SCAN ME:

Scan the QR code below and fill out the form. This form does not guarantee enrollment and is just an inquiry. When enrollment opens you will be contacted with the next steps!



**Stikine River**  
Gauge Reading  
**14.00'**  
(Reading taken 4:00 pm)  
Forecast for 6 am, Saturday 13.43'

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**NORTHBOUND DEPARTURES**


FRI	10/06	COLUMBIA	08:30 P.M.
SAT	10/14	COLUMBIA	12:15 A.M.
FRI	10/20	COLUMBIA	07:00 P.M.
SAT	10/28	COLUMBIA	12:00 A.M.
FRI	11/03	COLUMBIA	07:30 P.M.

**SOUTHBOUND DEPARTURES**

MON	10/09	COLUMBIA	12:15 A.M.
MON	10/16	COLUMBIA	04:00 A.M.
SUN	10/22	COLUMBIA	10:00 P.M.
MON	10/30	COLUMBIA	04:15 A.M.
MON	11/06	COLUMBIA	04:15 A.M.

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**WEATHER**

Date	High	Low	Precip
Sep 20	52	38	0.35
Sep 21	60	51	4.42
Sep 22	58	46	1.85
Sep 23	49	44	0.26
Sep 24	53	45	0.36
Sep 25	52	44	0.03
Sep 26	61	45	0.27


This Week's Precipitation: 7.54"

This weather service is provided by the FAA weather observation station at the James A. Johnson Airport.

**DAYLIGHT HOURS**

Date	Sunrise	Sunset	Daylight
Sep 28	6:46a	6:36p	11:50hrs
Sep 29	6:48a	6:33p	11:45hrs
Sep 30	6:50a	6:31p	11:41hrs
Oct 1	6:52a	6:28p	11:36hrs
Oct 2	6:54a	6:25p	11:31hrs
Oct 3	6:56a	6:22p	11:26hrs
Oct 4	6:58a	6:20p	11:22hrs

**PETERSBURG HAPPENINGS**

Brought to you by:  

**THURSDAY, September 28**

**Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance:** 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio  
**Stories In Motion:** 11:00am, Public Library  
**Early Voting Absentee:** 11:00am - 3:00pm, Municipal Building  
**Mike Block Trio Concert:** 6:30pm, Wright Auditorium

**FRIDAY, September 29**

**Stories In Motion:** 11:00am, Public Library  
**Early Voting Absentee:** 11:00am - 3:00pm, Municipal Building  
**Al-Anon Support Group:** 12:00pm, Episcopal Church  
**PHS Volleyball Invitational mini-tournament:** 3:30, PHS Gym  
**Artist Reception for Cindi Lagoudakis & Karen Dillman:** 5pm, Firelight  
**Bingo Night:** 6:00pm, Sons of Norway Hall  
**AA Candlelight Meeting:** 7:00pm, Episcopal Church

**SATURDAY, September 30**

**PHS Volleyball Invitational Mini-Tournament:** 8:00am, PHS Gym  
**Kids Can Code:** 1:00pm, Public Library

**SUNDAY, October 1**

**KFSK Community Potluck Brunch:** 10:00am KFSK Studios

**MONDAY, October 2**

**Tai Chi:** 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall  
**Early Voting Absentee:** 11:00am - 12:00pm, Municipal Building  
**Burger Night:** 5:30pm, Moose Lodge  
**AA Women’s Meeting:** 7:00 pm, Presbyterian Church

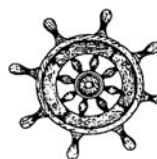
**TUESDAY, October 3**

**Borough Election Day:** 8:00am - 8:00pm, Parks & Rec Community Center  
**Bike, Walk, Roll To School Day:** 8:00am  
**Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance:** 10:00am, Mitkof Dance Studio  
**School District Annual Crisis Response Committee Meeting:** 3:15pm, HS Library  
**AA 12x12 Meeting:** 7:00 pm, Holy Cross Classroom

**WEDNESDAY, October 4**

**Tai Chi:** 7:00am, Mountain View Manor Social Hall  
**Bingocize Strength Building and Social Engagement:** 10:00 am, Parks & Rec Community Center  
**Rotary Club Lunch and Fellowship:** 12:00pm, Salvation Army Hall  
**Siren Alert & Warning Test:** 12:00pm  
**Free Super For All:** 6:00pm, First Baptist Church  
**ANB/ANS Monthly Meeting:** 7:00pm, ANB/ANS Hall


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



**PETERSBURG**  
**TIDE TABLE**  
SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2023

	HIGH TIDES				LOW TIDES			
	A.M.		P.M.		A.M.		P.M.	
	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.	Time	Ft.
28 Thu	0:38	17.7	1:15	17.7	7:03	-2.1	7:24	-1.2
29 Fri	1:26	18.3	1:52	18.7	7:43	-2.1	8:08	-2.4
30 Sat	2:12	18.3	2:28	19.2	8:21	-1.6	8:50	-2.9
1 Sun	2:56	17.8	3:05	19.1	8:59	-0.6	9:33	-2.8
2 Mon	3:41	16.8	3:41	18.4	9:37	0.8	10:16	-2.0
3 Tue	4:26	15.5	4:19	17.2	10:15	2.4	11:02	-0.8
4 Wed	5:15	13.9	5:00	15.7	10:57	4.0	11:54	0.7

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Rain

**Continued from page 1**  
towards Kupreanof and released “back in the current so they go back out into Frederick Sound instead of in our harbor.”  
The precise source of the logs and woody debris remains the subject of some discussion in town.  
Nordic Air pilot Doug Riemer spotted a substantial new landslide in LeConte Bay last week and suspects some of the landslide debris drifting in Frederick Sound could be attributable to that slide.  
Scott Newman of Petersburg Flying Services intends to fly over Thomas Bay this week and should be able to confirm the

suspicious of a big slide in that area as well.  
Wollen encourages people to report debris sightings to the Harbormaster’s office. “If you see anything, let us know because then we can be ready for it if it ends up drifting out in front of town.”  
Last Thursday’s rain event caused a spill event at the Crystal Lake Dam, Petersburg Borough Utility Director Karl Hagerman told the Pilot in an email. The Crystal Lake reservoir recorded 5.7 inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period “and that occurred when the lake was already at full pool — meaning equal to the spillway crest eleva-

tion.”  
A significant amount of water entered the spillway, which is a passage designed for surplus water to discharge safely from the dam.  
“The dam performed well and did what it was supposed to do in those conditions ... the lake level and spillway flow did not reach levels of concern,” which would have required the activation of a FERC mandated Emergency Action Plan in response, Hagerman shared.  
He noted the water level reached its highest point at about 15 inches above the spillway crest during the storm, and the spillway “handled this water

fine and the rest of the infrastructure at the dam seems to have fared well also.”  
Hagerman later wrote that his crew flew up to the site of the dam and performed an inspection on Monday. “Other than a log that was caught up near the pumpback vault that had to be cleared, the dam looked to be in great shape.”  
Kimberly Vaughn of the National Weather Service Juneau forecast team, described to the Pilot what an atmospheric river is.  
Like what a river does on land, an atmospheric river does that in the atmosphere. Large

amounts of water vapor get transported along narrow bands. Strong winds often contribute to the amount of moisture that can be transported.  
Southeast Alaska is frequently the target of ocean storms that form in the western and central Pacific Ocean and are steered toward us by the prevailing westerly jet stream. When the moist air is forced upward by the steep terrain of Southeast, rainfall amounts increase.  
The previous record for rainfall in Petersburg on Sept. 21 was set in 1994 with 3.40 inches. The average amount of rainfall for that date is 0.51 inches.

Petersburg School District receives second threat in under two weeks

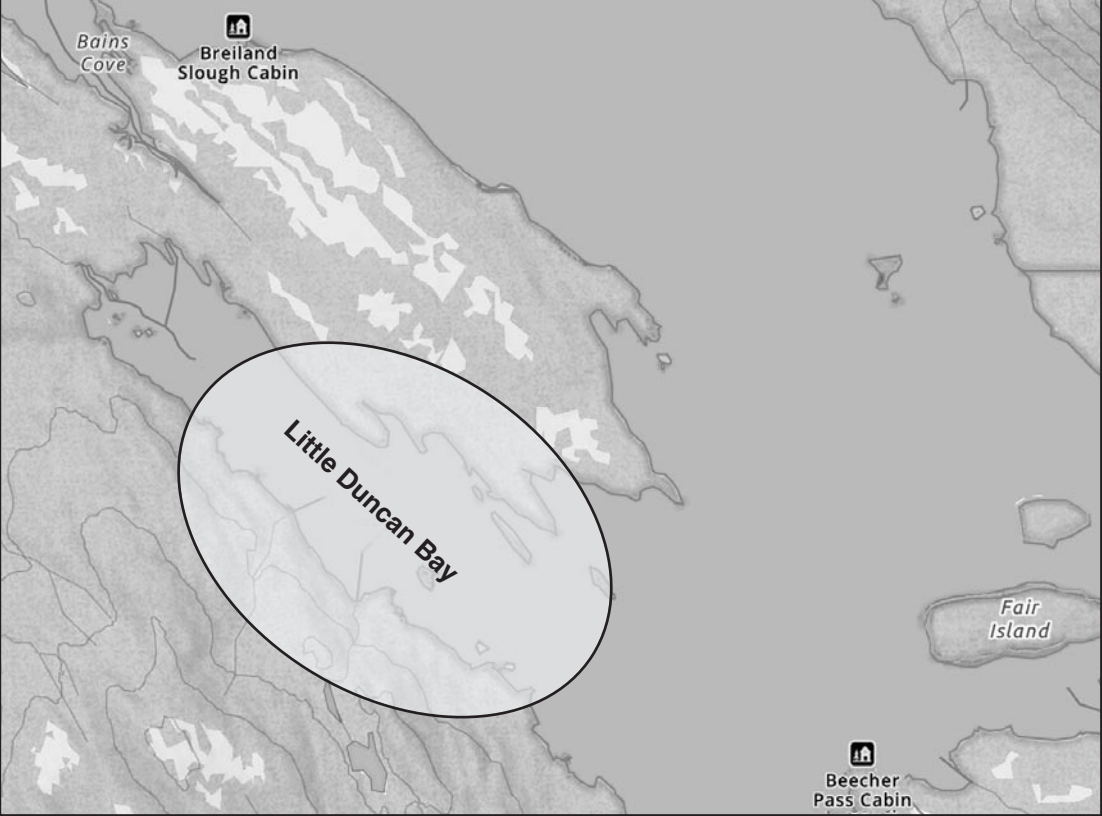
By OLIVIA ROSE  
Pilot writer

The Petersburg Police Department notified the Petersburg School District of a threat made by a high school student directed at the secondary school.  
PSD Superintendent Erica Kludt-Painter told the Pilot that the threat made on Tuesday is a completely different, separate incident from the threat made in the district less than two weeks ago.  
The student was not on school premises when the threat was made and “will not be on campus for the foreseeable future,” Kludt-Painter told the Pilot.  
When made aware of the threat, PPD notified the district and has since cooperated and provided support “as needed” as the situation unfolded.  
Police presence on campus continues in an attempt to offer reassurance of safety for students, staff, and families — though the investigation of the threat is considered complete and law enforcement has determined there is no immediate threat present.  
“Appropriate actions are being taken by the professionals involved, and we are confident in the safety of our schools,” Kludt-Painter wrote in an announcement to families on Tuesday evening.  
PPD Chief Jim Kerr told Hannah Flor of KFSK that he does not believe this threat was inspired by the other threat made earlier this month.  
The superintendent said the school can and will do everything possible to make the environment safe to provide supports for students, staff, and families — and holding people accountable when necessary.  
“These are ... really complex situations and there's just no one simple answer,” Kludt-Painter said.

On-site counseling support is offered at the school along with a partnership and agreement with behavioral health at PMC — under the district’s suicide prevention grant — that provides “some additional support within the school setting, which is sometimes easier and more comfortable for students to seek out,” Kludt-Painter shared.  
“I think we all want a clear, quick answer sometimes because it’s frightening,” said Kludt-Painter. “These are complex situations and there are lots of layers to why anyone makes ... threats of any sorts ... whether it’s towards themselves or towards others.”  
Kludt-Painter said the presence of anxiety, depression, and behavior management issues in students has increased over the last decade, and addressing the challenges brought with this struggle will “take a holistic approach” that involves supports and structures within the school, and collaboration with families, the mental health care system, and the community.  
“All of those things take time and resources and attention ... we all need to be providing that attention and support ... we need to have a full, holistic approach to it.”  
Counseling is available to families as well as students. Parents can reach out and talk to an administrator, a counselor, or touch base with teachers if that is what they prefer, Kludt-Painter said. “And those relationships ... are more important than ever...”  
“I think the more connections that we can make ... just helps break down barriers and build supports for people and ... lets people know that they are not alone,” said Kludt-Painter. “There are people that they can reach out to and whether it’s in the school or whether it’s a community resource or agency ... there are people to reach out to and places to go for help.”  
The superintendent said going forward, it is important for people to “keep the complexity in mind” and refrain from speculating or spreading rumors.  
“These are not easy situations ... we’re trying to be as conscientious and methodical and supportive as we can.”

NOTICE:

A production will be filming in Little Duncan Bay from approximately 10/1/23 – 11/12/23. 45 cast and crew will primarily be based at the mouth of the bay, filming during daylight hours, and camping overnight. Signal flares, drones, and occasional helicopters will be used. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to our Lead Safety Officer: Ray Skaflestad 907-723-9667





Petersburg Alaska KFSK RADIO



Membership Drive

kicks off with a Sunday Brunch  
Sunday, Oct. 1, 10 am - 1pm

— We'll see you there! —



## Negative stereotype

Unfortunately, mobile home parks are negatively stereotyped. In reality, trailer homes don't have the market cornered on messy, non-beautiful buildings and yards. There are plenty of homely houses without wheels in our fair 'Burg. Regarding crime, most trailer parks are peaceful, law-abiding communities<sup>1</sup> and

<sup>2</sup> McCarty. (2010) Trailers and Trouble? An Examination of Crime in Mobile Home Communities. *Cityscape: A Journal of Policy Development and Research*, Vol. 12 No.2, US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Policy Development and Research.

Sincerely, Mike Schwartz

I suggest you take one day and really look around at the people that you interact with and think about their lives. Who is it that makes your coffee, that cooks when you don't want to, that bags your groceries and helps you find what you need at the hardware store. When you went to the clinic, who checked you in or took your blood pressure, who did you see mopping the floors, or at the Manor, who is there helping with a friendly face? Sure, you don't know everything about them, but

With great respect, a  
former 32 year resident of  
Petersburg,  
Carli Byrer

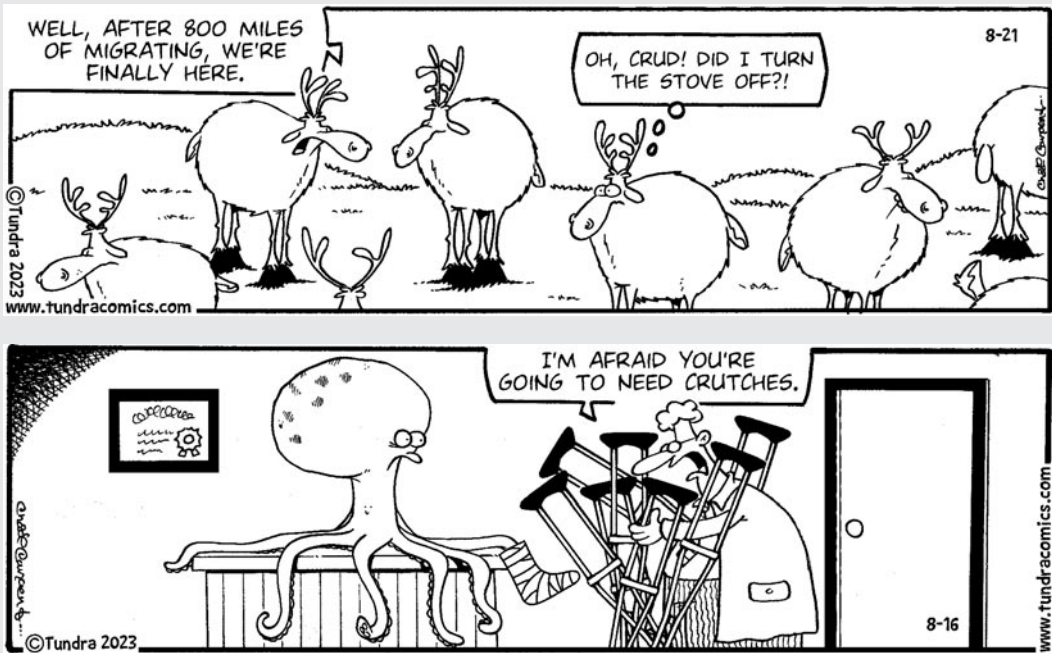
I am writing this letter in support of Tony Vinson. Last week's edition of the Pilot featured a letter to the editor alleging that Tony would be unfit for the Public Safety Board based on his judgment of putting a political sign on his personal property.

**Continued on page 5**

## by Marc Lutz



## by Chad Carpenter



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NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION



To the Editor

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Long story short, a person’s political affiliation and competency does not equate to poor judgment. That is an opinion not a fact.

Tony did not break the law; in fact, he merely expressed his right to free speech. People are entitled to their opinions, but truth be told, making such a judgment without looking past a sign is wrong.

I know Tony on a professional level. He is a great healthcare provider and asset to Petersburg Medical Center. Tony served our country in the Navy. He is the Vice-Commander of Petersburg American Legion Post 14. He volunteers his time to bring kids together to play football every springtime.

Tony is a passionate guy who fell in love with Petersburg and only wants to give back. What you see with Tony is what you get. He is transparent, honest and will work with conviction to serve our community.

As far as exposure and concerns for children, I see it as an

opportunity to have a teachable moment with your children. From what I have heard, children see and hear far worse on their devices or even at school where choice words from students can sometimes happen.

I hope you will use your innate ability to think for yourselves and consider voting for Tony Vinson for the Public Safety Board.

In closing, thank you for taking the time to read this rebuttal and reveal the character not the sign.

Catherine Kowalski

Schwartz endorsement

To the Editor:

I’ve known Rob Schwartz for nearly 30 years as a teacher, coach, skipper, mentor, and friend. I’ve seen just about every side of him there is to see, that’s why I support his run for Borough Assembly. Rob knows leadership, and the value of asking questions to find who a

plan helps, and who a plan hurts. Petersburg doesn’t need another assembly voice droning in lockstep for more of the status quo, rather the authentic voice of a hardworking citizen, passionate about the wellbeing of his hometown and all of the residents within. If local politics has left you feeling unheard by indifferent politicians more worried about their pet projects than the concerns of citizens and businesses, go chat with Rob and find a man who listens in order to learn, whose heart beats for love of his town.

Jens Hammer

He’ll bring a valuable perspective

To the Editor:

Rob Schwartz was my Mom’s most consistent visitor during the entire five years I cared for her at home. He truly brought the world to Gloria Ohmer, a big part of keeping her spirits bright as she braved cancer. Their early morning MugUp made an important difference. I called it his “Ministry of Cheer,” but it was more than that.

The stories from Rob’s 26 years of public school teaching...the stories from even more years as a wrestling coach...and of the many students he worked with...touched Mom, as a parent and life-long learner herself.

His challenging, even daring stories of fishing, of crabbing...

of feeding the world...of moose hunting complete with his demonstrations of “talking moose” to fill the family freezer and share the harvest with neighbors were more than mere entertainment.

They’d both developed businesses, employed others, met a payroll, and served the public...and they talked of those responsibilities.

There was a deep spiritual side to what Gloria and he shared, along with a philosophy of life where they were so aligned with one another.

There’s so much more to Rob Schwartz than is being promoted by his political rivals and their supporters. Rob is solid in faith, family, and community. He’s protective of that. His voice is much the rugged individualism, community-mindedness, strong work ethic, and take-care-of-one-another spirit that built our town.

He’ll bring a valuable perspective to our Borough Assembly. Please vote.

Judy Ohmer

A Letter to the Editor from Former Students of Rob Schwartz

To the Editor:

Rob Schwartz. An

extraordinary teacher. He wanted us to think, and he taught us ways to navigate life’s challenges. He stood by us when sometimes no one else did. He was a life-changer and even a life-saver.

In the ways legendary educators have been depicted in movies like “Mr. Holland’s Opus,” “To Sir, With Love,” and “Dead Poets Society,” Rob Schwartz has impacted our lives, and we are better people for him. We’ll be voting...as Rob’s here for us still, surviving together in Southeast Alaska.

Respectfully,  
Mike File, Luke Whitethorn, Kels Hammer, Mandy Whitethorn, Jaren Whitethorn, Rick Wikan, Dale Strong, Ethan File, Makenzie Morrison, Tonna Simmons, Rachel Kvernvik, Jenn Hess, Michaelyn Coil, Kole Sperl, Franklin Neidiffer, Brandi Thynes, Joey Giesbrecht, Tayla Heppe, DD Toyamura, Henry Short, Sebastian Davis, Breken Davis, John Brooks, Jasmine Ohmer, Christian Holten, Mika Hasbrouck, Carl Phillips, Kaia Dahl, Brandon Ware, Kim Cole, Jody Albach, Amanda Ohmer, Aerial Norheim, Derek Gibb, Koby Penington, Ted Thynes, Jake Hammer, Noah File, Bob Olson, Stuart Vick, Tore Lenz, Kyla Willis, Sam Caulum, Anna Caulum, Troy Rogers, Martha Johnson, Chad Lopez, Cena Worhatch, Sig Burrell

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Another Perspective

If you confine your information sources to NPR and the 5:00 news, you may have missed what occurred in Ottawa, Canada, during the Truckers' Freedom Convoy. Rather than hearing the grievances of the protesters or even meeting with them, PM Trudeau declared an emergency, and activated a joint force of federal, provincial and municipal police to end the protesters' rally forcefully. Not confining themselves to smashing truck windows and confiscating fuel and personal property, horse-mounted policemen rode into the crowds, even brutally trampling an old woman.

The 2020 Emergency Ordinance endorsed by Assembly Member Meucci & then-Assembly member, now candidate Stanton-Gregor leaves room for this very kind of eventuality. Not intentionally, of course; but none of us can see what sorts of people might be making decisions in the future.

Petersburg Borough code reads in Section 3.72.060, A.

“Upon declaration of a civil emergency under section 3.72.040, the borough manager, the incident commander, and the assembly are each authorized to issue any or all of the following orders within the borough...

Part 2: Call up regular and AUXILIARY law enforcement agencies and organizations within or WITHOUT the borough to assist in preserving and keeping the peace within the borough.”

Completely reasonable, right? No. This is legal code that could be used to bring in the National Guard or mercenaries, far-fetched as it seems. Citizens spoke up in 2020 and pled with the Assembly to remove this offensive clause, but our pleas and arguments were ignored.

Mr. Stanton-Gregor expressed deep personal offense during the Candidate Forum that Petersburg residents feared the Assembly would ever take such a step. It is not fear - call it “justified concern.” Under current code, our civil liberties depend upon the Assembly's benevolence, rather than the rule of law. Are we to believe that the Assembly is so different from the rest of flawed humanity, that its members are immune to bad decisions or even corruption? None of us are immune to corruption.

Mr. Meucci wishes to rely upon experts, which seems sensible. But what if the experts are only government-ordained mouthpieces? The experts have been wrong about everything: they were wrong about the masks, they were wrong about the safety and efficacy of the COVID vaccines, they were wrong about the lockdown. The latest booster shots weren't even tested on humans; they were tested on ten mice. They call that "the science" - and for me to tell you this is "misinformation."

In Lahaina's firestorm last month, the "experts" failed to supply water for five hours with which to put out the fire. They failed to activate siren warnings for the citizens, many of whom knew nothing about the fire until it was in their own backyard. Worst of all, someone gave the police orders to put up barricades and turn families escaping the fire in their cars back toward the fire again. The people who survived either disobeyed the deadly orders and drove around the barricades, or jumped into the ocean to get away from the fire. The rest ended up dead, trapped in their vehicles.

Unlike Mr. Meucci and Mr. Stanton-Gregor, I don't think government has all the answers. That's why I'm voting for two candidates who seem to express some humility, open-mindedness, and willingness to learn new things... good qualities for public servants: Rob Schwartz and Rick Perkins.

Thank you,  
Dana Thynes

Paid for by Dana Thynes, Box 2047, Petersburg. AK 99833



# School Board Candidate

## Katie Holmlund

I have my bachelor’s degree in elementary education, and I love being immersed in active learning classrooms. In 2018, I co-founded Kinder Skog Nature Program to connect my passion for education and nature. I remain the administrator of Kinder Skog while also coordinating other youth programs. I also serve on the Borough appointed Early Childhood Task Force and SHARE Coalition. At the state level I am a contributing member to the

Afterschool Network School Age Childcare Workgroup, and I do not shy away from advocating for youth programs and better access to high-quality educational experience both within the school setting and outside the school setting. All these roles help to meet the goal of best serving children and their families.

This past spring and summer I took the time to thought-



Katie Holmlund

fully consider whether I should run for school board again. I love being involved in the work our school district is doing, I love walking the line between traditional school models and the non-traditional, I love empowering educators to take learning outside and supporting those efforts. Service on the school board is meaningful to me, and it has been a responsibility I always take seriously.

A question that often

crosses my mind is “how do we best support students and our schools?”. I hope that my years on the board have reflected this. Our district needs support to ensure the successful implementation of the READs Act, to support the health and wellbeing of our students and staff, and to advocate for more funding and resources. I would be honored to continue these efforts through service on the Petersburg School Board.

# Planning Commission Candidates

## Marietta Davis

I originally moved to Alaska with my parents and have lived the majority of my life in SE Alaska since I was 17 years old. I worked for Southeast Island School District in various logging camps that my husband and I, with our children, lived. We received property in an Alaska state land lottery and lived in Whale Pass on Prince of Wales Is-

land for five years. While there I became an EMT and served on the Homeowners’ Association.

We moved to Petersburg in the fall of 1993. I joined the local Petersburg Volunteer Fire Department as an EMT and worked in the public schools. I also became a CNA, and worked in home care and at the hospital.

I have always felt strongly that as a citizen, I should be a positive example in my personal and public life. Serving the public in some capacity is important to me. With that thought in mind, I filed to run as a write-in for the Planning and Zoning Committee. I was selected for the one-year seat, and I have found it to be an important part of our Bor-



Marietta Davis

ough’s functioning. I feel honored to be serving on this board. I have learned a lot and I feel that continued service on this board is a good way to serve my community.

I would like to see land access open to families and businesses that will generate growth and prosperity in our borough as we move into the future.

## Heather O’Neil

I’m Heather O’Neil and I’m running to keep my seat on the Planning Commission.

My grandparents immigrated here from Norway; my father was born in Petersburg, like my sisters and myself. Dennis & I have 2 daughters, Holli Flint and Megan O’Neil both of whom were born in Petersburg also. I am lucky to say that our children make Petersburg their home and we are the proud grandparents of Cadence and Devyn Flint and Danielle Thynes. My sisters and their families live in Petersburg also. I have very strong ties to this community.

I would like to continue serving on the Planning Commission; it is a good way to feel connected to my community and what is happening in it. I know that it takes many volunteers to fill all the necessary



Heather O’Neil

boards, commissions, assemblies, etc. to keep Petersburg operating and moving forward. I hope this is a place where I can continue to serve my community.

Before a meeting we all get our packet and study it; we don’t always know what may be coming before us. Every request matters greatly to someone and gets our full attention and consideration.

## Chris Fry

I have a background in contracting and small business going back almost 40 years. I have worked on many different types of projects both residential and commercial.



Chris Fry

My experience has involved working with planning departments in both rural and urban areas on these projects.

The job of commissioners is to allow our community members the maximum freedom of use of their property while minimizing impacts on their neighbors.

I have been on the commission since 2013 and feel that my continued participation can provide the other commissioners with background on decisions that we have previously made and the work we put in on the comprehensive plan.



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# Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Candidates

## Ambre Burrell

My name is Ambre Burrell, I have made Petersburg my home for the past 17 years. My family has enjoyed many activities over the years at the Parks & Rec facilities and it has been my honor to help past projects move forward and to serve on the board for the last year.

I have chosen to run for the 3-year Parks and Rec advisory board seat after spending the past year serv-



Ambre Burrell

ing on the board. I feel we have a great team working up at the facility and a board who is excited to support them in new projects and issues as they arise. I want to continue to be a part of that team as they work towards new ideas and opportunities for the community.

I feel Parks and Rec staff work hard to bring regular events for all ages to our community. Dive in movie

nights are a favorite with the kids as well as the Halloween Hustle, Breakfast with Santa, the 4th of July games. Parks & Rec also offers classes, the moving music concerts, fun runs for adults and too many other programs to list. These events and programs put on throughout the year take a lot of time and energy and even while short staffed they continue to provide us with quality events for every-

one to enjoy.

Parks and Rec has worked hard throughout the many repairs that have had to happen to the facilities over the past few years, they have continued to provide as many services as possible even without the use of the gym. While I'm sure there are areas of improvement they lack the funding to make them happen.

## Adam Caster

Hello, my name is Adam Caster, and I was born and raised in the Midwest. My parents graciously exposed me to the outdoors throughout my youth which naturally fueled my love for nature and natural resources. I received a bachelor's degree in Forest Resource Management, and after graduating college found myself a seasonal job in Petersburg with the Forest Service back in 2014 doing forestry work. I

did two summers as a seasonal, before getting a permanent year round job in 2016 with the FS. Petersburg is just too fun, so here I am in 2023 still working for the FS in Petersburg. I have worked in the Forestry sector for most of my career, until switching over to GIS (Geographical Information Systems) a couple years ago. I also love to climb mountains, fish, and hunt with my dog Cedar.



Adam Caster

I have lived in Petersburg since 2014... year round since 2016, and obviously call it my home. I have 'given back' here and there, worked some community events, etc. But feel the need to dig deeper and provide for my community in a more direct way and increase the value of our parks and recreation programs in Petersburg.

I think Parks and Rec does well utilizing and running the community center. Also in

engaging the youth in fitness/sports, and other community members through events and various programs. One thing I would like to see done is the effort to put in more trails in town, inter-connecting some (new and/or existing) through neighborhoods, allowing for more outdoor recreation nearby town.

Thank you for the time to share some thoughts.

## Gregg Kowalski

Sports, fitness and recreation have been important factors in maintaining my mental and physical health throughout my life. Born and raised in Denver in an active suburban neighborhood, our Quitman Street Gang of kids engaged in



Gregg Kowalski

spontaneous soccer, street hockey, swimming, stickball, B.B gun, wrestling, tackle football, rugby baseball and various sledding and skiing trips almost daily. As I grew, formal team sports became the norm as I continued athletics in junior high, high

school and college. These days an active recreational and fitness routine helps me maintain a healthy mental and physical lifestyle as I frequent the rec center six days a week. The Recreation Center is an important component of Petersburg in helping

residents learn, explore and maintain a healthy lifestyle. As a part of the Parks and Rec Advisory Board I would work to ensure a continuity of excellent existing service while also introducing and exploring new ideas, programs and activities.

# Harbor Advisory Board Candidates

## Bob Martin

As a fisherman and recreational boater, I use most harbor services and pay moorage for a 42-foot boat and seasonal skiff, a launch permit, grid fees, and a drive down dock permit.

I work well with the Harbormaster and Assembly and value diverse views and philosophies on harbor is-

sues. The Assembly is currently teeming with harbor knowledge, but the harbor advisory board can still serve the public as a less formal forum to float and hash out an idea before it hits the Assembly.

I think of the harbor department in two ways: the traditional rate-payer and

raw fish tax supported enterprise fund, but also the larger umbrella for marine related infrastructure that serves the whole borough. For example, Papke's desperately needs a major overhaul but it shouldn't be funded by downtown harbor stall fees and it has little to do with the fishing industry. The Assem-



Bob Martin

bly needs to solve that funding problem. An unrelated but persistent issue is that the harbor department needs a larger work space for efficient maintenance and storage. For this I have long supported the land swap with Petro Marine but am open to other options if it does not happen.



Sasha is a neutered male estimated at 4-5 years old, polydactyl, friendly and loves petting and tummy rubs, but not yet a lap cat. A bit slower to warm up to people. He would likely be ok with another compatible cat.

If you're interested in adopting Sasha give our cell a call at 907-518-1091 and leave a voice message.

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## Scott Roberge



Scott Roberge

I ran an adventure travel company for over 30 years based out of Petersburg. During that time I used our harbors alot and I'm still using them in my retirement.

I'm running to help keep our harbors in great shape and make sure they provide

the needs of Petersburg for years to come.

Everything is costing more these days so helping keep cost down is important and being a sounding board for the Harbor Master on planning for the future.

## Joel Randrup

Responses not provided.





Submitted photo

## Petersburg woman, 35, breaks back after fall from Anchorage apartment

Angele McDonald Jones suffered a devastating fall on Saturday at her apartment in Anchorage when the railing at her residence gave way and she fell from the second story, breaking her back in multiple places.

Angele, daughter of Wally McDonald, was born in Petersburg in 1988 and graduated from Petersburg High School with the class of 2006. In recent years, she lived in Petersburg with her husband, Michael Jones, working at Rexall Drug and the post office until moving to Anchorage last winter.

She was rushed into surgery on Saturday, which Jones said “went as well as it could have.” But due to spinal injury, “She’s going to have to relearn to walk — and we really don’t know if she’s going to ever walk unassisted again.”

“She’s staying in pretty high spirits about the whole thing,” said Jones. “I don’t know how she does it, but she is.”

“She has a very long road ahead of her for recovery,” said Jones, asking that “everyone’s thoughts and prayers be with her.”

Angele has two young daughters and shares custody with the girls’ father.

She’ll need help with living expenses and attaining new housing, as climbing the stairs to her apartment will no longer be possible. For these reasons and to show support, her brother James McDonald and his wife Jessica Juday have created a go-fundme fundraiser for Angele’s recovery, which can be found at <https://gofund.me/00781e55>.



## Police report

**September 20** – An individual on 4.5 Street spoke with the Petersburg Police Department (PPD) dispatch.

PPD received a report of a dangerous driver on Frederick Point Drive but the responding officer was unable to locate the described vehicle.

PPD received a report of suspicious activity on North Nordic Drive.

An officer conducted foot patrols downtown.

An individual spoke with an officer concerning a civil issue.

An officer spoke with a motorist with an inoperable vehicle on Haugen Drive.

Car keys found on Haugen Drive were turned in to the PPD.

**September 20** – Officers conducted foot patrols on Charles W Street.

Officers conducted foot patrols downtown.

Brittany Martin was charged with allegedly violating conditions of release.

An officer spoke with an individual concerning a civil issue.

PPD received a report of suspicious activity on Scow Bay Loop Road.

The officer responding to a report of dangerous debris in the roadway at Libby Straits was unable to locate any.

An alarm activated at pump station #5. Water Wastewater (W/WW) was notified and responded.

An officer spoke with an individual on South 3rd Street concerning a civil issue.

**September 22** – An officer conducted a traffic stop on North Nordic Drive.

The officer responding to a report of suspicious activity in the South Harbor parking lot determined it was non-criminal.

An officer responded to a report of a vehicle abandoned at Libby Straits.

PPD received a report of property abandoned on Mitkof Highway.

An officer provided lockout assistance on North Nordic Drive.

A search warrant was executed on North Nordic Drive.

An officer spoke with a complainant on South 7th Street.

An officer provided emergency lockout assistance on Frederick Point Road.

An officer responding to a report of suspicious activity on Cabin Creek Road determined it was non-criminal.

**September 23** – An officer responded to a report of suspicious activity on Cabin Creek Road.

PPD received a report that minors were vandalizing equipment on Mill Road.

Individuals involved in a minor vehicle accident on South 2nd Street provided self-report forms to the PPD post incident.

Property found on North Nordic Drive was turned in to the PPD.

PPD received a parking complaint on Birch Street.

An officer responded to a

report of a vehicle with a bright light bar on South Nordic Drive but was unable to locate it.

An officer responded to a report of criminal damage to a vehicle on North 1st Street.

**September 24** – An officer provided lockout assistance on North Nordic Drive.

**September 25** – An individual spoke with an officer concerning the road worthiness of a vehicle on the roadway.

PPD received a report of suspicious activity.

A driver on Excel Street was issued a warning for failure to stop at a stop sign.

**September 26** – An officer responding to a report of suspicious activity at Sandy Beach Park spoke with an individual and determined it was non-criminal.

An officer conducted foot patrols downtown.

A search warrant was executed on North Nordic Drive.

The officer responding to a report of a disturbance on Dolphin Street determined it was unfounded.

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Do they share your vision for a thriving community?

Are they clearly telling you how the above needs will be met?

Please do your own vetting of the candidates and make sure they stand for a sustainable community. As always, I welcome you to contact me and I will answer any questions you may have—honestly, and directly.

Phone# 406-202-0576, or [jeighgregor@hotmail.com](mailto:jeighgregor@hotmail.com).

**Let’s work together to keep Petersburg Borough thriving!**

**VOTE FOR ME, JEIGH STANTON GREGOR ON OCTOBER 3RD**

(or, early voting happening now at the Municipal Building), and I’ll do all I can to keep working on the important issues facing our Borough with integrity, honesty, and transparency.


Paid for by Jeigh Stanton Gregor. PO Box 2155 Petersburg, AK 99833

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PIA purchases parcel for \$45,000 with Borough Assembly’s approval

By OLIVIA ROSE  
Pilot writer

The Petersburg Borough Assembly unanimously approved the sale of a borough-owned lot at the corner of Haugen Drive and North 12th Street to the Petersburg Indian Association for a price of \$45,000 following negotiations with Borough Manager Steve Giesbrecht.

The sale comes on the heels of an Aug. 7 decision by the assembly to move forward with PIA’s application to purchase the property located at 10 N. 12th Street, and an Aug. 20 approval to sell the lot directly to PIA, instead of through a public bid.

Cris Morrison, President of the Tribal Council, told the Pilot that PIA was “pleased with the

process and how it went” and are “very satisfied with how things progressed, and how they were resolved.”

Borough Manager Steve Giesbrecht negotiated directly with PIA Tribal Administrator Chad Wright and ultimately agreed on the \$45 thousand price tag for this parcel. The purchase price is below the assessed value of the property, which was \$52,000.

It was the first time the borough manager had negotiated with PIA since the assembly approved an ordinance in June allowing borough land to be bought for less than the property’s assessed value when sold to certain entities— now including federally recognized tribes— if the assembly determines it to be

in the best interest of the borough.

“It wasn’t a very big discrepancy in the ideas that we had for the price of the property, so we were pleased. [Giesbrecht] asked one number, we offered something lower, met in the middle —it was great. Just how it’s supposed to work,” said Morrison.

In a letter to the borough dated July 6, Wright mentioned plans to potentially combine the parcel with an adjacent lot owned by PIA, expected to be developed mostly as a parking lot, and noted further ideas for the uphill portion of the lot —including storage, retail, housing, or a combination of those.

However, what this newly acquired parcel will be used for exactly remains to be decided by PIA Tribal Council following the determination of usable land.

“As far as what to do with the property ... There are some ideas being floated out there that are ... different than what we had going in, which was an expansion of the parking lot and the potential commercial space behind it,” Morrison said. “We have some work to do on scoping out the property and finding out exactly what areas we can develop.”

The lot is mostly undeveloped, except for an informational sign for the Petersburg School District located there. PIA has not yet granted an easement for the school district’s sign, but Morrison said “it is something we’re definitely going to do” once the process is sorted.

Easements for the school sign and the watermain on Haugen Drive will determine “the size of the lot that we can then develop for whatever the council decides to develop it for ... it may end up being the parking lot because there’s not enough area to do anything else. But we do have some other ideas. So we’ll just have to wait and see how those play out.”

Morrison declined to comment on the specific potential ideas because they have not been fully discussed or approved by the council.

Borough assembly members

did not voice any comments when the time came to vote for the resolution and the disposal of the 0.31-acre property was approved.

Morrison told the Pilot she was surprised and satisfied with how swiftly the resolution passed on Sept. 18 after “quite the discussion” took place during the previous meeting.

“We weren’t sure what was going to happen in that meeting [Sept. 18], and the Borough Manager wasn’t sure. He said well, this will be the test, we’ll see how the assembly feels about this. And I was very pleased with the unanimous vote,” said Morrison.

“It was great,” she continued. “I think it’s a good sign for the relationship between the two governments.”

Morrison signed the contract for purchasing the parcel on Monday, one week after the assembly gave their blessing.

“Now we have to wait for the actual deed to be record with the state,” said Morrison. “In the meantime, we’re going to start moving forward with the steps that we need to take to determine the usable space,” in arranging the necessary easements and permits before moving forward with development.

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Rick Perkins for  
Borough Assembly



GET TO KNOW  
RICK PERKINS

I am running for a seat on the Borough Assembly to make a difference in our Community. I have lived in Petersburg for over 23 years and I have been a blue-collar worker my entire life. I am an outdoors enthusiast and I love to fish. I have prior work experience in water public works; I have been a part of 3 water plant projects including one here in Petersburg. I have also

worked as a die maker for Boeing, owned my own business in logging and dirt work, along with building seven of my own homes. I am hoping my life experiences can help bridge the gap concerning building and repairing existing Community buildings and roads. I am in favor of fiscal responsibility and I am not in favor of spending money without a true return. I am in favor of expanding the services offered at the hospital to improve the quality of life for our residents. I believe at some point in life individuals should give back to their community, whether it is through knowledge, volunteering or running for an elected board position.

Paid for by Rick Perkins, PO Box 1558, Petersburg, AK 99833



# PMC patient navigator Brandy Boggs moves to telehealth

By OLIVIA ROSE  
*Pilot writer*

After 23 years, Brandy Boggs moved away from Petersburg. Although she may no longer be here in person, her substantial contributions to the community will continue as she remains Petersburg Medical Center’s patient navigator — now working in a hybrid role.

Over the years, Brandy has held various roles serving rural Alaskan communities. She worked for the state doing child protection with the Office of Children’s Services for a number of years before transitioning to her role in the court, where she worked for five years as the clerk of court and deputy magistrate. She shifted back to OCS for a while before coming to the hospital in 2001.

Now, she is the patient navigator at the Petersburg Medical Center home health office and has operated under that job title since the role took form in 2021. Since then, she has helped around 350 or more people in Petersburg through her service as patient navigator.

“I think that goes to show the need of just somebody who can help navigate the system,” she said, whether it is needing a phone number to get started, help with paperwork, or to talk out complicated application processes in a digestible way where it “doesn’t feel quite so overwhelming,” Brandy said.

She offers guidance in completing and submitting applications for public assistance programs such as food stamps, Medicaid, and other insurances like Medicare and Social Security Disability. She also supports veterans in accessing and enrolling for VA medical benefits.

Brandy assists cancer patients in completing paperwork and submitting receipts for reimbursement with organizations, like the Beat the Odds Foundation, to ensure they are compensated for expenses incurred when seeking medical services out of town.

“It’s a busy position ... I most certainly have helped well over, you know, a tenth of the population of this community, which is great. And I know there’s more people out there that ... could possibly use some help too.”

Brandy is also a certified care coordinator with the state Senior and Disability Services, which is a role that helps individuals apply for a Community and Home-Based Waiver. She said the waivers assist people who live primarily in rural communities receive services that help them stay in their home and community longer.

For the upcoming service — temporarily termed the Adult Day Program, which will provide an established social opportunity for Petersburg residents who receive at-home care— Brandy will help



Brandy Boggs with one of her dogs, Ripp.

individuals apply for the waiver, which can help pay for the service.

The care coordinator role for the Adult Day Program is separate from her role as patient navigator. “It’s like two jobs ... but it marries ... it’s a service that can assist people in remaining in our communities longer.”

As Brandy’s husband retires, the Boggs are now moving to a ranch they own in Idaho. Both have farm and ranch backgrounds, with Brandy having grown up on a cattle ranch in rural Montana. Their goal is to own and raise cattle and sheep on their Idaho ranch — hoping to also export farm-fresh meat products to Petersburg.

“We’re not leaving the ties of Petersburg. We will certainly want to keep Petersburg in our life, and we want to keep serving however we can.”

From Idaho, Brandy continues to offer her services for the Alaskan community by working from a hybrid position through telehealth office hours and a monthly visit to town.

She says with today’s technology, there is a better capacity for document sharing that she feels will be “very user-friendly.”

Her office hours are located in a private space at the PMC home health office for people to walk in and still have a conversation together face-to-face over a video-chat platform.

“We can just have a conversation ... that face-to-face is important, and ... even though we’re not sitting in person, we can still have that communication and see each other ... and talk. I think that that goes a long ways to helping somebody feel supported,” she said.

From this new platform, Brandy feels inspired to grow her reach as patient navigator because her hybrid role opens the opportunity for neighboring rural communities like Kake and Port Protection to get in

touch.

“My passion is our rural communities, and I truly believe that, you know, we need to be very creative, and to offer every amount of assistance and service and support that we can within our capacity, and mine happens to be paperwork and programs ... and I want to do that ... on a grand scale for anybody that needs it so ... the more people I can reach, the better.”

Brandy says helping to “make sure that somebody can live a better quality of life in

their rural community” is very near and dear to her heart.

“People shouldn’t have to leave [their home community] to seek a service or assistance ... in a more urban setting.”

“We have workforce challenges all across the nation. Healthcare has been hit really hard with it. So we have to be creative,” said PMC CEO Phillip Hofstetter. “Brandy is rooted in the community ... living somewhere else. If we can make it work, then we have to try different things.”

Hofstetter said there are components that make telehealth services a little more challenging than in-person care. “Telehealth sounds great, but it’s actually very, very complex ... you have to have many things aligned correctly,” including network, image quality, availability for people on both sides, oftentimes a facilitator to set up the call on one side for the live interaction model, he said.

But, he says, developing the telehealth systems can help offset limitations to healthcare services created by distance and geography.

Patrick Sessa of the Behavioral Health Department at PMC currently lives in Pennsylvania but continues to perform his service to Petersburg through telehealth. He told the Pilot that the community’s acceptance of telehealth services at the hospital has somewhat improved in recent years, from his observation.

“Brandy ... will get some pushback and no-shows at first,” said Sessa. “[But] as people have good experiences, that’s going to change.”

“I want our community to know that yes, I understand that it’s a change, and that it’s going to take some time to prove that it can be an effective way of continuing to do the service that I do for our community,” said Brandy. “But I do believe that it will work and it is going to be effective, and the services will still be here to support the community. It may take a little time for some of our community members to get used to that, you know, talking on a screen, But ... I’ll be accessible. Just as I am here in the office. I just will happen to be on a screen.”

Brandy left Petersburg last week on the ferry and officially began her shift to hybrid work on Monday, Sept. 25. She told the Pilot that folks can call her directly at the phone number 907-531-5857, or they can still call through the home health office at 907-772-5716.

“I want to assure people that ... my passion for what I do for our community, this community that I consider my community ... is not leaving.”

She encourages people to come to her telehealth office hours and continue to reach out, and she “will make every effort to meet everybody’s needs as they come in,” even if she is not physically there. “I will ... serve you the best I can.”

## Petersburg Borough Siren Alert & Warning System (SAWS)

# Siren Testing

**First Wednesday of Every Month  
at 12pm - 30 seconds, using a steady signal**



**The sirens — used to alert the public in the event of an emergency such as a Tsunami, Natural Disaster, Major Fire or Foreign Attack — located on the roof of the Syd Wright Auditorium located at Petersburg Middle School, the Mort Fryer Sports Complex (Base Ball Fields) and Bayview Estates (Hungerford Hill) may use different sounds and tones to alert the public of different emergencies. Here is what they could sound like:**

**Emergency Warning - Wail Tone** This will be a 3-5 minute wavering (warbling in pitch) tone or siren. The “Emergency Warning” signal should mean to all people that a danger is imminent and protective action (Evacuate, go to high ground or take shelter, depending on the emergency) should be taken immediately. Turn on your radio and listen for essential emergency information, keep telephone use limited to emergency contact, do not call 911 to ask about the sirens. The “Emergency Warning” signal shall be repeated as often as deemed necessary by local government authorities to obtain the desired response by the population.

**Attention/Alert - Steady Tone** A 3 – 5 minute steady signal from sirens. This signal may be used as authorized by city officials to alert the public to potential emergencies, where the public may face danger in the near future, such as under a Tsunami or Earthquake Advisory, in addition to any other meaning or requirement for action as determined by Borough officials. The Attention/Alert Signal should mean to all people, “Turn on radio or TV, keep telephone use limited to emergency contact only. Listen for essential emergency information, Be prepared to act.”

**Local Fire Alert - Wail Tone** This will be a 30 second wavering (warbling in pitch) tone or siren. The Local Fire Alert is only to be used in cases of major fire, where multiple structures are endangered, Initial responders are over-whelmed and additional help is needed from reserve units, or abnormal events such as a plane crash or other accidents that require many more responders. The “Local Fire Alert” signal should mean to all people that an active Fire response is ongoing, affected areas should be avoided and routes leading to the scene should remain clear. Turn on your radio and listen for additional information, do not call 911 to ask about the sirens. The “Local Fire Alert” signal shall be repeated as often as deemed necessary by local government authorities.



# APEI review presented to Borough Assembly

By **OLIVIA ROSE**  
*Pilot writer*

Three Alaska Public Entity Insurance (APEI) staff members from Juneau presented the findings and recommendations from their recent review of safety and human resources of the Petersburg Borough to the Assembly on Sept. 18.

Earlier this year, the borough agreed to engage an outside organization, later selecting APEI, to help evaluate and make improvement recommendations regarding the safety and human resources practices of the borough, the review arose from a community demand that an effort be made to prevent a situation like the fatal 2016 car crash

that involved a borough vehicle and four employees from ever happening again.

RD and Madonna Parks testified at the meeting in favor of the review, speaking for themselves as well as their late daughter Molly Parks, who was one of two casualties in the 2016 crash.

The room fell silent as RD read a letter in front of the assembly.

“Seven years later, and here we are,” he began.

“On July the fourth 2016, our daughter, Molly Parks, and Marie Giesbrecht were killed, and Catherine Cardenas was injured while doing their low-risk, part-time, Parks and Recreation jobs. The Borough work van they were in crashed ... the driver of that van had a seizure ... this em-

ployee had a diagnosed, ongoing seizure disorder, well-known to the borough. Whatever hiring policy, safety protocol, or levels of management that were in place in 2016 did not prevent this avoidable tragedy,” said Parks.

“And that is why we are standing here seven years later.”

He continued with an endorsement for the APEI review, calling it “an easy to read, dispassionate, actionable document” that provides detailed instructions for specific areas in need of improvement, and a roadmap of recommendations on how to proceed.

“We hope the borough can get solidly behind APEI’s review, make the recommendations a priority, and take any and all as-

sistance APEI has to offer. Transparency, oversight, and accountability should be key to this process. We hope this will be the start of a robust, dynamic safety culture within the Petersburg Borough. But most of all, we sincerely hope we will be the last family to stand before you like this,” he concluded.

Nicole McMurren also testified during the assembly meeting on Sept. 18 as a community resident. She asked that the borough avail themselves of the assistance that APEI offers in the implementation of their safety recommendations.

“Safety is about communication and trust and understanding ... [The] help that an outside entity can give the borough

while it begins to shape its conversations around safety, be that through a safety committee ... would be very helpful,” said McMurren.

An APEI representative later said this choice of words — communication, trust, and understanding — “could be the tagline to this entire project.”

APEI Executive Director Barbara Thurston presented the bulk of the review, alongside human resources specialist and Deputy Director Carleen Mitchell and Loss Control Manager Cole Cummins, who worked on the project.

The three overarching ideas for improvement noted during the presentation involved the implementation of a safety committee, robust onboarding programs and training, and revising the borough’s employee handbook.

Otherwise, Thurston said they found that the borough’s practices “were pretty good” and found “quite a few things that we thought were good practices, either in practice or in theory,” citing the borough’s engaged leadership team and low frequency of workers compensation claims.

“Most of the recommendations we have are building on things you’re already doing, asking you to do them more, asking you to actually implement the things that you have in writing,” Thurston told the assembly.

The first recommendation Thurston brought to attention was to set up a safety committee that begins with monthly meetings and includes people from around the borough, both management and employees, and a union representative. Thurston called Cummins to the podium to share about why safety committees are essential.

Cummins said organizations with an effective and active safety committee have lower rates of injury, illness, and workers compensation claims because hazards within the workplace are actively identified and addressed. “When you get a group together ... and brainstorm ideas and solutions ... it’s a huge benefit,” he said. “Our report shows that we’re happy to help. Implementing a safety committee ... could be tough, it could be intimidating. We have lots of resources to help with that.”

Thurston followed with their next recommendation: for the borough to adopt a formal onboarding process for new employees that includes descriptions for what every employee needs to be taught, what kind of training they need to receive, and specifies “how much of that is the responsibility of human resources versus the department heads.”

Mitchell stressed the importance of having extremely clear communication with new staff members from the first day of employment. She said “a robust orientation onboarding program sets the foundation for all of your employees from day one as to what your specific expectations are for them” and clearly identifies a list of specific topics, train-

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**WITH YOUR VOTE**

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• **HOSPITAL BOARD** •

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• **LIBRARY BOARD** •

☒ **MARY ELLEN ANDERSON** ☒ **MARILYN MENISH-MEUCCI** ☒ **LIZZIE THOMPSON**

**VOTE OCTOBER 3rd**

**Your vote is your voice on the direction of the community**

*Paid for by United for Petersburg P.O. Box 1289, Petersburg, AK, 99833*

**Continued on page 12**



# APEI review

Continued from page 11

ing, and other subjects that are reviewed on the record with every employee in every level.

Thurston then recommended the borough do a review and revision of its personnel and safety manuals. "An employee handbook needs to be something that employees are actually going to read and that it will provide them with ... the basic useful information."

As for next steps, Thurston said, "we recommend that the assembly ask the borough to develop a plan for addressing the issues in this report," and closed out the presentation in encouraging the assembly and community to recognize that "safety is a process."

Assembly members Dave Kensinger and Jeff Meucci individually endorsed the APEI review, sharing in their sentiments of being pleasantly surprised and glad for the thorough document. Both members also stressed the significance of having APEI involved in the implementation of a safety committee, calling the help being offered to the borough "important."

Borough Clerk Debbie Thompson said, "we are completely on board with APEI's recommendations" and "will be reaching out for their guidance and help."

While committed to acting upon the recommendations, she

noted that it will take time to set up a safety committee, take all the recommendations, determine an order of operations, and begin to implement improvements.

"We're open to suggestions as to how the committee will be put together," Thompson said.

She affirmed the importance of having the help of APEI during this process, and noted the APEI loss control manual, which the borough receives an updated version of every year, "gives directions — gives some guidance— as to how to create a safety committee." In other words, the borough has a clear roadmap to follow for this process.

"We're going to ask for their expertise," said Thompson. "We're not in a box ... we want to do it right."

Thompson also stated the intention to have status updates about the safety committee given to the assembly on a regular

basis.

Additionally, she said, "We absolutely will be updating the em-

ployee handbook, making it shorter ... and some of it needs to be updated ... that is on the

top of the list after the safety committee ... to get that completed as well."

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# GO VIKINGS!!!

## 2023 Petersburg Varsity and JV Volleyball



(Bottom row, left to right) Ali Kittams, Mette Miller, Paige Hansen, Ashley Eilenberger (middle row, left to right) Torey Fry, Freya Tucker, Cheyenne Steele, Alicia Smith, Nya Eby, Olivia Hinde, Rikka Miller, Natalee Bertagnoli, Miranda Carr (back row, left to right) Coach Jaime Cabral, Bryanna Ratliff, Eden Davis, Sara Eszik, Anya Pawuk, Kylie Mattingly, Iris Case, Becky Fisher, Heidi Brantuas, Sidnee Fletcher, Aurora Wolf, Coach Kerri Curtiss. (Not pictured) Fyscher Humphrey, Adara Curtiss, Elizabeth Burns, Izabella Tarquino, Ally Thomassen, Nicole Durgan-Ware, Maria Toth

### ●●●●●●●●●● Schedule ●●●●●●●●●●

Sept. 21-24 – All Teams @ Ketchikan

**Sept. 29 - 30 Mini-Tourney @ Home**

Oct. 13-14 – Varsity @ Lumen Christi invite

Oct. 19-21 – Varsity Conference Seeding @ Klawock

Oct. 28 – JV @ Wrangell

Nov. 2-5 – Varsity Conference Seeding Haines

Nov. 10 – All @ Wrangell

**Nov. 11 – Home vs Wrangell – Senior Night**

**Nov. 16-18 – Varsity Regional Tournament @ Petersburg**

Nov. 28 - Dec. 2 – Varsity @ ASAA Tournament - Palmer

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# Starting out on top: PHS Volleyball win Ketchikan tournament



Photo courtesy of Christopher Mullen / Ketchikan Daily News

The PHS varsity squad celebrate on the court during their undefeated performance in Ketchikan.

By **LIAM DEMKO**  
*Pilot writer*

Petersburg High School’s volleyball team is having an exciting start to the season in 2023 with a varsity win in Ketchikan under their belt and a packed junior varsity schedule ahead.

The varsity squad dominated the first stage of last weekend’s three-day tournament without dropping a game and climbed to the top of the bracket for an incredible first place finish.

“Our Varsity team did exceptionally well, they played really well together. We’ve got a special group,” said head coach Jamie Cabral.

PHS came into last weekend with a disadvantage, with almost a month less of practice compared to other teams due to scheduling differences.

But with a few weeks of training and guidance from coach Cabral and new assistant head coach Kerri Curtiss, the team got themselves in fantastic shape for the competition.

“Every kid on our varsity team did amazing,” said Cabral.

“Both of our setters work very well together.... Our outside hitters were really consistent, finding their groove. Our middle blockers were available to hit and we passed well. Defensively they did really well.”

They were pitted against some fierce competition throughout the tournament.

PHS faced off against teams from Craig and Klawock, who have had some incredibly strong performances in recent years.

But at the end of the weekend, Petersburg came out on top.

“They’re a pretty tight knit group, they get along, and they all have the same goal in mind which is pretty awesome,” Cabral said.

On the other side of the court in Ketchikan, there was palpable excitement in the air for Petersburg’s junior varsity teams as well.

Due to various circumstances in recent years, there has been a drought of opportunities for Petersburg’s JV squad to compete.

But this year that all changes.

“Over the last two years, my JV program has only played seven total matches,” said Cabral.

“Our kids got more court time this past weekend than they’ve

had for their whole high school career so far. So it was well needed and good for the kids.”

And with a home tournament scheduled to start this Thursday, Sept. 28, the season is only just

beginning.

“They’re ecstatic. The buzzing in our JV practices is just amazing... It’s been super fun to work with the JV kids and you can actually see a lot more growth happening because so much more learning happens when they’re actually in a game

situation,” said Cabral.

Looking ahead, Petersburg has a packed schedule with both teams playing in this week’s home tournament.

Soon after, the varsity team is heading up to Anchorage on October 12 to play with 20 teams from up north.

## Mitkof Mummers is hosting COSTUME SALE



**Saturday,  
October 7th**  
**9am - 4pm**  
**@ Elk’s Lodge**  
**(upstairs)**  
*just in time for Halloween*

## FBC Petersburg

**Sunday: 9:45a** - Bible Classes • **10:45a** - Fellowship/Meet & Greet  
• **11a** - Worship in person & Facebook • **6p** - Youth Group

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

**Thursday: 6p** - Celebrate Recovery



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*Please continue to check our Facebook page and website for updates at*  
*First Baptist Church Petersburg* **www.fbcpetersburg.com**

## Re-elect Jeff Meucci for Borough Assembly

**I would be honored to have your vote  
on October 3rd for borough assembly.**



✓ A strong school is the heart of a strong, vibrant community. Attracting quality teachers, providing quality programs and supporting trade and vocational education are all essential and I unequivocally support continued full funding for the quality education Petersburg School District provides.

✓ I believe that forward looking Borough policies can enhance opportunities for private enterprise to improve access to affordable housing. Such as putting borough property onto the market, flexible zoning regulations and open communication with private enterprise and PIA as they develop new housing options.

✓ I fully support the work of the Hospital Board and the CEO with their recommendations to build a new facility. This facility will replace an aging, out of compliance building, improve medical care for the community, and, like the schools, keep Petersburg a strong and vibrant community for all.

*I will listen to your concerns, use your input and thoughts as  
a vital part of my decision making process.*

*I will always make my decisions based on what I feel is in  
the best interest of the entire community.*

**I can be reached at 907 518 9007 and I would love to hear your thoughts.  
I would appreciate your vote for Borough Assembly on October 3rd.**

*Paid for by Jeff Meucci, Box 1086, Petersburg, AK, 99833*



## BIRTHDAYS &amp; ANNIVERSARIES

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

Those with birthdays this week are: **September 29:** Anders Rosvold, Harold Abbot Jr., Lucas Watkins, Scott Newman. **October 1:** Christie Johnson, David Galaktionoff, Devren Bennett, Dustin Galaktionoff, Kate Enge. **October 2:** Karen Eddy, Kelly Bieber, Mark Ritter, Zella Hisaw. **October 3:** Charlotte Dallas, Devon Guthrie. **October 4:** Pat Ellis. **October 5:** Aaron McDonald, Amber Doerty, Norris Halden.

Those with anniversaries this week are: **September 29:** Barry and Kathy Bracken.

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

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## Notice of PIA Election

There shall be an election of the Petersburg Indian Association Tribal Council on January 8, 2024. The polling location will be PIA's Conference Room. The voting polls will open at 8 a.m. and close at 7 p.m. on Election Day.

## The following seats will be up for election:

<b>Council Chair (President):</b>	<b>1 seat - One-Year</b>
<b>Council Member:</b>	<b>Term 3 seats - Two-Year</b>
<b>Council Member:</b>	<b>Term 1 seat - One-Year</b>
	<b>Term</b>

Eligible members wishing to run can obtain a Declaration of Candidacy from the PIA front desk or website. All Declarations of Candidacy must be received by October 31, 2023, by 4 PM to be printed on the official ballot. If you miss this deadline, you may run as a write-in candidate by submitting a Letter of Intent to Run as a Write-in Candidate by November 30, 2023, by 4 PM, also available at the PIA front desk or website.

The complete list of declared candidates will be posted by November 1, 2023, 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 starting December 4, 2023.

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

Published: September 28, October 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2023



## PHS cross country builds momentum in Ketchikan

By LIAM DEMKO  
Pilot writer

Petersburg High School's cross country team finished their regular season off with a bang last weekend during their final regular meet in Ketchikan.

With a series of strong races under their belt, the team has high expectations going into regionals next weekend, and they certainly have the results to back it up with this last race.

"It ended up being a really fast course because our kids ran tremendously. I mean, it was definitely our best race of the season," said head coach Casey Gates.

"I think we built a lot of momentum and there's a lot of positive energy."

In the boys race, Alex Holmgren led the team in 21st, once again continuing his streak of personal records with a time of 18:11.3.

But the personal records didn't end there.

Elias Ward and Ben Kandoll quickly followed behind in 24th and 35th, each beating their PR with times of 18:41.0 and 19:04.7 respectively.

Not far behind, Tyler Ward and Calder Ratliff rounded out Petersburg's top five in 70th and 79th with times of 19:37.4



Photo courtesy of Christopher Mullen / Ketchikan Daily News

The boys launch from the starting line of the last regular season meet.

and 20:15.2, both with strong performances.

"Tyler Ward had a huge race, he PR'd by close to 30 seconds ... the boys overall ran very well," said Gates.

Adrian Ducat finished in 77th with a time of 22:35.7, Waylon Jones in 82nd at 22:50.6, and Zander Jones in 96th at 24:19.7.

And in the girls race Maria Toth had another dominant performance, coming in sixth with a time of 21:26.6, followed close behind by Kinley Lister in 14th with a time of 22:52.2.

Gabriele Whitacre came in 18th with a time of 23:34.7, having a breakthrough race just in time for regionals.

"She had absolutely her best race of her season, close to an

all time PR, and she just absolutely killed it," said Gates.

"I was very happy for her, she was very happy about it, and it was exactly what she needed to do this time of the year."

After picking up the intensity for their training last week, it's clear that the hard work paid off.

And now, the team gets to cool down this week as they prepare for regionals this Saturday.

"We're feeling good. I think that we have a lot of high hopes and we're optimistic, especially considering the fact that we have five girls that can run on Saturday, so we'll be able to actually score as a team. That's a big deal," said Gates.

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## ATTENTION SALMON FISHERS

The Board of Directors of the Southern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association, Inc. seeks nominations for the following three (3) year seats:

- Seine - 2 Seats
- Gillnet - 1 Seat
- Power Troll - 1 Seat
- Hand Troll - 1 Seat



Nominations must be in writing and include the permit holder's name, address, vessel name, phone number and a brief statement. Nominees must be "active" Southern Southeast Commercial Salmon permit holders. Permit holders should nominate person from their own gear groups.

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Deadline: 10/20/23



Obituary

Carl Reidar Anderson, 74



Carl Reidar Anderson

Carl Reidar Anderson was born August 16, 1948, in Oakland, California, to Bert and Helen Anderson. Raised in Petersburg, Carl’s life took many twists and turns. Some were good, some were not, but he always had a story to share with the friends who loved him.

Carl worked hard, played hard, and never let anything but fear or thin air stop him. He started working while in high school at construction jobs with his father, cooked crab at PFI, worked for the City of Petersburg, crewed on various fishing boats and then found his calling driving off-road logging trucks. Driving trucks and tramping to the different logging camps was the ultimate job for Carl, but when the

industry died he went fishing. If you knew Carl, you know how much he loved his “flat bottomed garbage scow,” the Aerie. When his health issues forced his retirement, he sold the Aerie but regretted it for the rest of his life.

He bought the Silver Girl in 2009 and kept coming back to Alaska in the summer to cruise with his wife of forty years, Bobbie Enge, until his stroke in

2013 and her death in 2014. After recovering from the stroke, Carl moved back to Alaska and married Katie Rogers. His last years were spent creating new memories and sharing old experiences as they spent summers on the Silver Girl traveling Southeast Alaska and winters in Kake. Hunting with Carl was always an enjoyable adventure, even if it rained the whole trip because

he would share stories of past hunts. Kake was a special place for Carl, he saw it for the first time when he was eight years old and said it was the most beautiful place he had ever seen. As he grew older, he enjoyed Kake’s never ending basketball games, Janet’s German Chocolate Cake, Dan and his cab, 5 a.m. coffee with Morris, and visits with his partner Teddy.

Carl passed away at home in Kake on April 26, 2023. He is sorely missed by his wife Katie, his 15-pound black dumpster cat Mr. Kitty his beloved niece Sonja Duncan gave him, and many good friends that most people only wish they had.

Carl’s ashes will be scattered under the tree at Wilson Cove sometime next summer according to his wishes.

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Public Notices

SAMPLE BALLOT FRONT

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER:** To vote for the issue/candidate of your choice, **fill in the oval next to the issue/candidate you want to vote for.** Place your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve and then take your ballot to the ballot box.

If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one.  
**A vote which has been erased or changed will not be counted.**

PETERSBURG BOROUGH  
BOROUGH OFFICIAL BALLOT  
MUNICIPAL ELECTION  
OCTOBER 3, 2023

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Use a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot. NO RED INK. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.  
To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, fill in the oval and print the person's name on the blank line provided for a write-in candidate.

ASSEMBLY Two 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 2)	PLANNING COMMISSION Three 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 3)
<div><input type="radio"/> Jeff Meucci</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Rick Perkins</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Rob Schwartz</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Jeigh Stanton Gregor</div>	<div><input type="radio"/> Marietta Davis</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Chris Fry</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Heather O'Neil</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div>
SCHOOL BOARD One 3 Year Term (Vote for no more than 1)	HARBOR AND PORTS ADVISORY BOARD Three 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 3)
<div><input type="radio"/> Katherine Holmlund</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div>	<div><input type="radio"/> Bob Martin</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Joel Randrup</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Scott Roberge</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div>
HOSPITAL BOARD Two 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 2)	
<div><input type="radio"/> Jerod Cook</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Marlene Cushing</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Don Koenigs</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div>	
HOSPITAL BOARD One 1 Year Term (Vote for no more than 1)	
<div><input type="radio"/> Mika Hasbrouck</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Jim Roberts</div> <div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div>	

at Petersburg School District

Monday, Oct 2

Chicken Tika Masala

Tuesday, Oct 3

Beef Chili

Wednesday, Oct 4

Nacho Bar

Thursday, Oct 5

WG French Toast Casserole

Friday, Oct 6

Grilled Ham and Cheese Sandwich

BREAKFAST MENU -  
Served With Milk & Choice of:  
Fresh Fruit, Applesauce or  
Dried Cranberries  
Homemade Granola with Yogurt,  
Smoothie and Granola, Fruit  
Parfait and Granola, French  
Toast, Oatmeal, Homemade  
Muffin, and Cereals  
Don't like Lunch Menu?  
Try the Salad Bar  
All Breakfast and Lunch Meals  
Served with Milk  
\*WG = Whole Grain

**petersburg**  
**pilot**  
PETERSBURG, ALASKA  
772-9393



Read the **Public Notices**  
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• EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

**PUBLIC NOTICE  
PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS DUE**

The deadline for timely payment of 2023 property taxes for the Petersburg Borough is Monday, October 16th by 4:30pm in the Finance Office. A postmark will not be considered timely. Delinquent taxes will be assessed a one-time penalty of 10% plus 15% interest annually until paid.

For more information, contact the Finance Office at 772-4425

Published: September 28 and October 5, 2023



**Library  
News**



Watercolor Workshop with Pia Reilly! / Friday, Saturday and Sunday / September 29, 30, & October 1 / \$125 includes all supplies / space is limited, register at psglib.org

Homegrown Conversations on KFSK Community Radio / Listen to community member's share their stories on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. / All podcasts can be found at psglib.org  
Stories In Motion! /

Thursdays, 11 a.m. - noon / ages 0-3  
GOAT Radio Show LIVE! On KFSK / Fridays, 2:30 - 4 p.m. / Tune in and listen to teen volunteers as they learn the ropes!

Book Sale with the Friends of Petersburg Libraries! / Saturday, October 7 / 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. / Book donations can be dropped off at the Public Library Front Desk when we are open, beginning Monday, October 1 / All proceeds benefit Petersburg Borough School Libraries and The Petersburg Public Library

Enamel Earrings with Ashley Lohr! (A design focused series. Try one class or take them all.) / Wednesdays, October 11 & 25 and November 1 & 8 / \$65, per class, includes all supplies / space is limited, register at psglib.org / ages 14+

Fairy & Wizard Wands with Ashley Lohr / Tuesday, October 24 / 6 - 7 p.m. / ages 5-8 / Space is limited register at psglib.org

Manhattan Short Film Festival at the Wright Auditorium! / October 6 - 8 / Friday & Saturday at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 / Sunday at 4 p.m., doors open at 3:30 / \$15, tickets sold at the door / Concessions available from Compass Theater!

Yogis Playground with Ms. Barb (ages 5 - 7) / Saturday, October 14 / 2 - 2:45 p.m. / Cost: FREE / Register at psglib.org

I'm a Pretzel! / Yoga with Ms. Barb (ages 8-10) / Saturday, October 14 / 3 - 3:45 p.m. / Cost: FREE / Register at psglib.org

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

**SAMPLE BALLOT BACK**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER:** To vote for the issue/candidate of your choice, **fill in the oval next to the issue/candidate you want to vote for.** Place your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve and then take your ballot to the ballot box.

If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one.  
**A vote which has been erased or changed will not be counted.**

+



<div><b>LIBRARY BOARD</b> Three 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 3)</div> <div><div><input type="radio"/> Mary Ellen Anderson</div><div><input type="radio"/> Tina Buschmann</div><div><input type="radio"/> Marilyn Menish-Meucci</div><div><input type="radio"/> Lizzie Thompson</div><div><input type="radio"/> JoAnn Thynes</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div></div>	<div><b>PROPOSITION #1</b></div> <div><b>Allowing Borough Employees to Serve on Certain Borough Boards and Commissions</b></div> <div>Shall Sections 2.10A, 8.02C, 9.02C, and 11.13 of the Petersburg Borough Charter be amended to allow Borough employees to serve on the Borough Assembly, Planning Commission, Hospital Board and School Board, except not on the board or commission which directly administers their employment?</div> <div>If this proposition is approved, Assembly members and members of the Planning Commission could work at the Petersburg Medical Center or School District; School Board members could not work at the School District, but would be permitted to work at the Medical Center or in a Borough position hired by the Borough Manager; and Hospital Board members could not work at the Medical Center, but would be permitted to work at the School District or in a Borough position hired by the Borough Manager.</div> <div><div><input type="radio"/> Yes</div><div><input type="radio"/> No</div></div>
<div><b>PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD</b> Two 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 2)</div> <div><div><input type="radio"/> Ambre Burrell</div><div><input type="radio"/> Gregg Kowalski</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div></div>	
<div><b>PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD</b> One 1 Year Term (Vote for no more than 1)</div> <div><div><input type="radio"/> Adam Caster</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div></div>	
<div><b>PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY BOARD</b> Two 3 Year Terms (Vote for no more than 2)</div> <div><div><input type="radio"/> Stanley Hjort</div><div><input type="radio"/> Jacob Slaven</div><div><input type="radio"/> Russell Thynes</div><div><input type="radio"/> Mark Tuccillo</div><div><input type="radio"/> Tony Vinson</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div><div><input type="radio"/> Write-in</div></div>	

VOTE BOTH SIDES OF BALLOT

Published: September 28, 2023

**Rules of the Road  
US Coast Guard  
QUESTION  
& ANSWER**



**QUESTION:**  
Which vessel sounds the same fog signal when underway or at anchor?

- A. A sailing vessel
- B. A vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver
- C. A vessel constrained by her draft
- D. A vessel not under command

Source: U.S. Coast Guard

ANSWER B.  
A vessel restricted in her ability to maneuver.



Classifieds

### The Clausen Memorial Musuem is seeking a **Museum Director**

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Overseeing collection management and exhibit curation,
- Recruiting and supervising volunteers and staff,
- Managing the Museum’s finances and the Museum’s gift shop.

*Interested persons can call the Museum at 907-518-9053 for more information.*

**PROPERTY**

**Stikine River Property** Konig Slough 6+ acres 220 ft river frontage \$80,000. 8-acre lot off river easy access \$60,000. Will finance. 907-518-0101

**FOR RENT**

**One bedroom apartment:** Partially furnished, laundry & parking. Non-smokers only. No pets. 15 Sing Lee Alley. \$900/month. \$700 damage & last month’s rent payable upon move-in. Email amlmom@yahoo.com for application. Not eligible for Section 8.

**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](http://www.FirstBankAK.com) or at the branch. We offer competitive salaries, health insurance, paid holidays, vacation, 401 (k) retirement plans, employees stock ownership plans and educational opportunities.

.....tfn9-28b77

**Public Works** has an opening for the position for Public Works Facilities Maintenance Technician. This is a regular full- time position with an hourly rate of \$26.63 per hour. A complete job description and employment application can be obtained from the Borough’s website at [www.petersburgak.gov](http://www.petersburgak.gov). Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough offices, 12 S. Nordic Drive, can be mailed to P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, AK, 99833, or emailed to [bregula@petersburgak.gov](mailto:bregula@petersburgak.gov). Open until position is filled.

.....tfn9-21b80

**Petersburg Vessel Owners** Association, a non-profit organization that works on behalf of multi-gear and multi-species commercial fishermen, is seeking an Executive Director. Duties include tracking legislation,



There are exciting career opportunities available at **PETERSBURG MEDICAL CENTER**

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**JOIN OUR TEAM!**

**Current Openings:**

**Starting in October: On-the-Job Training CNA Class**

- Tai Ji Quan Facilitator (*PT as Needed*)
- Adult Day Care Program Aide (*PT*)
- Physical Therapist
- Medical Assistant
- Bingocize Facilitator (*PT as Needed*)

• Dietary Assistant (*PT*) • Clinic Reception/Admissions (*FT*)

• Medical Technologist • Registration Coordinator

• Occupational Therapist • Ward Clerk

• Radiologic Technologist

For complete job descriptions or any questions, contact Human Resources Director Cindy Newman at [cnewman@pmc-health.org](mailto:cnewman@pmc-health.org) or call **907-772-5719**



**SCAN CODE**

to view position descriptions & to apply online or look for your new career at [pmcak.org](http://pmcak.org)

informing the board and membership of current issues, representing PVOA at various management forums, and building membership. Priorities identified by the membership guide PVOA’s work and knowledge of the commercial fishing industry is preferred. The position is considered part-time with significant travel expected and salary DOE. Please contact [pvoa@gci.net](mailto:pvoa@gci.net) with any questions or to submit a resume.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

.....tfn9-07b92

**The Petersburg Police** Department has an opening for a permanent full-time Police Officer. Applicants must be available to work all shifts (day shift, swing shift, and graveyard shift),holidays and weekends and be able to attend out of town training. Starting wage is \$32.68 per hour. A complete job description and employment application can be obtained from the

**FOR SALE**

**Power Troll Permit - \$27,500**

509-491-1236 or 425-677-3450

Borough’s website at [www.petersburgak.gov](http://www.petersburgak.gov). Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough office, 12 S. Nordic Drive, emailed to [bregula@petersburgak.gov](mailto:bregula@petersburgak.gov), or mailed to PO Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833, Attn: Human Resources, until position is filled.

.....tfn8-31b98

Read the

**Public Notices**

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Opportunity to Object to Thomas Bay Young-Growth Timber Sale Project

The Thomas Bay Young-Growth Timber Sale project Draft Decision Notice was completed and distributed this week to those who previously requested to be included on the project mailing list or submitted specific written comments related to the project. The Thomas Bay Young-Growth Timber Sale project proposes to harvest up to 19.3 million board feet of young-growth timber and implement terrestrial and aquatic restoration and improvement activities on the Petersburg Ranger District, Tongass National Forest. The Responsible Official for this project is Vernon (Ray) Born, District Ranger. The EA and Draft Decision and additional information regarding this proposed project are available online at: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/tongass/?project=60639> or can be obtained from: Ben Case, Interdisciplinary Team Leader, PO Box 1328, 12 North Nordic Drive, Petersburg, AK 99833, 907-772-3871, [benjamin.case@usda.gov](mailto:benjamin.case@usda.gov).

This proposed project is subject to a pre-decisional administrative review (objection) pursuant to 36 CFR 218, Subpart B.

Objections will be accepted only from those who previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project either during scoping or other designated opportunity for public comment in accordance with 36 CFR 218.5(a). Issues raised in objections must be based on previously submitted timely, specific written comments regarding the proposed project unless based on new information arising after designated public comment opportunities.

Individual members of organizations must have submitted their own comments to be eligible to object; objections received on behalf of an organization are considered those of the organization only. If an objection is submitted on behalf of a number of individuals or organizations, each individual or organization listed must meet the eligibility requirements (36 CFR 218.5(d)). Names and addresses of objectors will become part of the public record.

Incorporation of documents by reference in an objection is permitted only as provided for at 36 CFR 218.8(b). Minimum content requirements of an objection are identified in 36 CFR 218.8(d) and include: objector’s name and address with a telephone number if available (signature or other verification of authorship must be supplied upon request); identification of the lead objector when multiple names are listed, along with verification upon request; name of project, name and title of the responsible official, national forest/ranger district of project; sufficient narrative description of those aspects of the proposed project objected to, specific issues related to the project, how environmental law, regulation, or policy would be violated, and suggested remedies which would resolve the objection; and statement demonstrating the connection between prior specific written comments on this project and the content of the objection, unless the objection issue arose after the designated opportunity for comment.

The Reviewing Officer is Francis Sherman, Forest Supervisor. Send objections to: Francis Sherman, Forest Supervisor, Tongass National Forest, Federal Building, 648 Mission Street, Suite No. 110, Ketchikan, AK 99901-6591, Fax: 907-228-6301, <https://cara.fs2c.usda.gov/Public//CommentInput?Project=60639>.

Written objections, including any attachments, must be filed (online, postal mail, fax, hand-delivery, or express delivery) with the Reviewing Officer within 45 days following the publication date of this legal notice in the newspaper of record. The office business hours for those submitting hand-delivered objections are 8 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Electronic objections must be submitted in a format compatible with the current version of MS Word. It is the responsibility of objectors to ensure their objection is received in a timely manner (36 CFR 218.9).

The publication date in the *Petersburg Pilot*, newspaper of record, is the exclusive means for calculating the time to file an objection of this project. Those wishing to object to this proposed project should not rely upon dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.

The USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

**Published: September 28, 2023**

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**quota & permits LLC**

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*Call Olivia*

**FOR FISHING QUOTA**

**907-772-7000**

**VESSEL DOCUMENTATION**

**ALASKABROKER.COM**

**Hammer & Wikan** Convenience Store is hiring part-time and full-time cashiers! Positions available include morning, midday, and evening. Applications available at the Convenience Store Counter or outside the Business Office. If you have any questions, contact Todd @ 907-772-4811.

.....tfn8-24b39

**Scandia House** is hiring! Housekeepers, front desk clerks. Applications available at hotel front desk.

.....tfn8-10b14

**The Petersburg Borough** has an opening for the position of Journeyman Lineman. This is a regular full-time position, Lineman must be trained as an operator. Wage \$49.23/hr with operator premium (Tier 4) \$51.21/hr with operator premium (Tier 1-3) (IBEW Contract, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024). Signing bonus of \$15,000 Up to \$15,000 reimbursable relocation expenses. A complete job description and employment





# Petersburg Properties LLC



**Sarah Holmgren**  
907-518-0718



**George Doyle**  
907-518-0639



**Jalyn Pomrenke**  
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**Karna Cristina**  
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application can be obtained from the Borough's website at [www.petersburgak.gov](http://www.petersburgak.gov). Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough office at 12 S. Nordic Street in Petersburg; by mail to Human Resources, P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833; or via email to [bregula@petersburgak.gov](mailto:bregula@petersburgak.gov) until position is filled.



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### OBI Seafoods Petersburg

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907-424-2536 Direct

most care of confidentiality, and exhibit traits of organization, management, and policy protocol. Must be able to pass a pre-employment drug screen (including marijuana) and a background check. Native preference applies. Applications are available at PIA or [piatribal.org](http://piatribal.org).

.....tfn4-27b116

**Mountain View Manor** is hiring a full-time permanent Resident Assistants for 2 grave shifts and 1 swing shift. Part time 16 hours a week, Weekend Cook and a 20 hours/week shift. All positions start at \$19.67/hour. No experience needed; we will train you! Benefits for the full-time position include paid time off, holiday pay, retirement plan, health and life insurance. If you are interested in joining our team, please submit a completed Borough employment application and return to the front desk of the Borough office at 12 South Nordic Drive, mail to P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833, or email to [bregula@petersburgak.gov](mailto:bregula@petersburgak.gov). Go to [www.petersburgak.gov](http://www.petersburgak.gov) for an application and complete job description or stop by the front desk of the Borough offices to pick up a copy.

.....tfn9-07b128

**Job opening for a full-time bakery-deli front house manager** as well as full and part time prep cook and baker. Inquire with Mindy at the Salty Pantry or call 907-772-2665.

.....tfn4-13b30

**The Petersburg Police Department**

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ment has an opening for two full time Dispatcher/Corrections Officers. Join our team and enjoy great shifts with all the pay but half the days worked per month! You'll be working with a supportive team of professionals who are dedicated to keeping our community safe. Training is provided. Starting wage is \$25.52 per hour. Swing and graveyard shifts receive additional shift differential pay. Recruitment bonus after successful completion of training of \$1250 and \$1250 at 1 year of tenure. Benefits include generous paid time off, holiday pay, retirement plan, health insurance and life insurance. Applicants must be available to work all shifts, holidays, and weekends, and be able to attend out of town training If you'd like to join our team go to [www.petersburgak.gov](http://www.petersburgak.gov) for a complete job description, employment application, and F3 application. Applications will be accepted at the front desk of the Borough office, 12 South Nordic Avenue, by mail at P.O. Box 329, Petersburg, AK 99833, or email at [bregula@petersburgak.gov](mailto:bregula@petersburgak.gov). For more information or to pick up an application packet,

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call Becky at (907) 772-5404.  
.....tfn7-13b181

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.....2x10-05p33

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### MISCELLANEOUS

**Newsprint Roll Ends** - good for packing, table coverings, artwork. Pay by the pound. Available at Petersburg Pilot, 207 N. Nordic Drive.

.....1x9-28dh

**Become a Subscriber** - Call 772-9393 to have the Petersburg Pilot delivered to your mailbox each Thursday.

.....1x9-28dh

### SERVICES

**Septic Tank Waste Water Removal.** Available until October 30 2023. Phone : 907-650-7028  
.....13x10-26p15

### NOTICES

**Suicide Hotline:** 800-273-8255



# Public forums conducted for assembly and hospital board candidates

Candidates for the hotly contested seats on Petersburg Borough Assembly came together last Thursday for a live candidate forum where they responded to questions from news reporters with the Pilot and KFSK and questions from a live audience.



Point the camera of your cell phone at this QR code and click the link to be access the candidate forum recordings at KFSK.

After opening statements, the evening’s first question was the big one: Where do the candidates stand on the new hospital project?

Jeigh Stanton Gregor and Jeff Meucci answered with clear, full support of the new hospital phased construction project. Candidates Rick Perkins and Rob Schwartz both emphasized the need for more information on the project.

Meucci said, “I am confident that, with the hospital board’s wisdom and the CEO’s direction, they’ll be able to put a hospital together for us that meets our needs into the future.”

Jeigh Stanton Gregor stated, “CEO Phil Hofstetter was hired specifically because of his skills to bring a new hospital to Petersburg ... he’s been very clear and so has the hospital board: this will be done in stages, through state and federal grants so as not to be a burden on the local tax-

payers of Petersburg. Touching briefly on the existing building, I think it’s important to keep updates going ... to provide the high level of care for both our outpatient services and long-term care patients during that transition.”

Rick Perkins responded “I don’t know that we need a hospital all in one location. I hear the cost of it is extremely high. But at the same time, I agree with it. So I would like to have some more information before I give you a solid answer.”

Rob Schwartz answered, “you know, people get hit with the cost and it ... puts them back on their heels. And so I think when it comes to a community decision like this, the more information the better ... People want to know what the plan is, they want to know what the phases mean, they want to know will we eventually have to get bonded for it. So more information would be really good, and I think that would help alleviate some of the maybe the trust issues with it. But like I said, I have a big family, lots of friends, and we all use the hospital, and they do a really good job with what they have. But we need to have a little more confidence from the public and its going to take some work and some communication.”

School funding was the next big topic the candidates faced in the forum. Candidates were asked if they supported the borough decision in 2023 to increase funding to the school district by a million dollars. All four candidates went on the record as in favor of the decision.

Schwartz said, “You know, it needs to happen ... having a good school in our town attracts

people in, it’s a reason to stay, improves the quality of life and it employs quite a few people. And they’re always dealing with new challenges. So yeah, the school needs to be supported.”

Perkins answered, “Well I wasn’t a part of that decision, but obviously it was a good decision. The cost of living is going up, but it is still a bargain. And yes, it was a good decision.”

Meucci said, “I support funding the school system ... I expect that ask to continue over the next three to five years. And for me, the school system and the kids within the community are the most important investment that we have ... I totally support the school system and I’m willing to commit to funding them like we did last year.”

Stanton Gregor answered, “If elected ... I’m looking forward to continuing that level of funding for education, and would also listen closely to the school board and superintendent and staff of the school in case future fundings are needed.”

The forums showcased the candidates’ differences, personalities, priorities, and some of their disagreements.

Candidates faced questions from reporters on local housing availability, support for childcare, their views on Petersburg’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic, extending borough platting authority outside Service Area I, their views on the Alaska Natives Without Land campaign, infrastructure funding, and how they would ensure all community members feel heard even during times of disagreement.

During the second hour, candidates responded to questions posed by the live audience about

government roles and responsibilities during a crisis, if they are up to speed on the previous six years of the hospital project, where they get their news, if they support Petersburg’s police chief, how will they advocate for the borough at the state level, and what can they do as candidates to

help recruit and retain good quality police department staff.

The full recordings of the assembly candidates forum and Wednesday night’s hospital board candidates forum are posted on KFSK’s website at <https://tinyurl.com/2023-candidate-forums>

Join us on Friday, September 29, 5-7 p.m.

## Joint Art Show & Reception Featuring

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Saturday: 9:30 to 5:00p • Closed Sundays

## 2023 WALK-BIKE-ROLL



### TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3RD 2023

crossing guards will be stationed at various intersections to assist participants in getting to school/work safely. Remember to wear your helmet and bright colors and respect the rules of the road.



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