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The Cordova Times

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The Cordova Times

Prince William Sound's oldest newspaper. Established in 1914. Tribally owned.

30 YEARS OF healing

Our stories

BY EMILY MESNER
emesner@thecordovetimes.com

Healing. Forgiveness. Rebounding. Support. Connection. Hope. These are words that have taken on deeper meaning for Cordovans over the past three decades. The Exxon Valdez oil tanker struck Bligh Reef on March 24, 1989 and released over 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound. With the spill came uncertainty, job loss, and stress; just a drop in the bucket of the hardship faced by impacted coastal communities. Read their stories inside.

See Page 10, **OUR STORIES**

When the oil spilled, there were no first responders

Cowper: The people who were supposed to respond didn't, and then it was too late

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovetimes.com

Thirty years after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill disaster, events of that day, and what followed are still vivid in the mind of Steve Cowper, Alaska's sixth governor, who was in Fairbanks on the morning of March 24, 1989, when he got word of the spill. "Everybody probably could have thought of something they could have done, but you don't get that luxury in real life," he said.

See Page 12, **COWPER**

Photo by Terrence McCarthy/New York Times

FROM THE CORDOVA TIMES ARCHIVES: Sunlight reflects off an oil sheen surrounding Knight Island, nearly 40 miles from the site of the disabled Exxon Valdez. Knight Island was among the hardest-hit islands. Originally published in The Cordova Times, March 30, 1989.

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Cordova Culture

AROUND TOWN

Senior Tea, Down Home Cordova Benefit Concert and scholarship dinner

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Plastic Recycling Event

Join the Copper River Watershed Project and AC Value Center as they team up to host another Plastic Recycling Event from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, March 29 at the AC parking lot. Save your #1 PETE and #2 HDPE plastic bottles only. Remove caps and make sure they are clean. To volunteer, contact Shae Bowman at 907-424-3334 or email shae@copper-river.org.

B.I.O.N.I.C.'s Teen Night

The B.I.O.N.I.C. (Believe It Or Not I Care) peer mentoring group will be hosting a teen movie and game night at 3 p.m. Friday, March 29 at the Cordova Family Resource Center's youth center. The movie, "Hop", will be showing and switch games will be available (if you have a controller you are welcome to bring it). There will also be spring-themed snacks. For questions, call 907-424-5673.

Juneau Public Health Nurse Services

Juneau Public Health Nurse Services will be in Cordova March 29 offering well child exams, health education, Narcan kits, sexually transmitted infection screens and immunizations. To schedule an appointment, contact Susan Pridgen-Webb RN, PHN at 907-424-4547 or 907-465-1245.

Senior Tea

This month's Senior Tea will start at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 30 in the lower sanctuary of The Little Chapel for those ages 60 and up. There will be hymns, tea, coffee, snacks, short devotional and time to fellowship with others in the community and a time for seniors from other churches to come together.

Dessert donations

The 4-H Music Camp Fundraiser Concert is looking for dessert donations. Drop off desserts at the Cordova Center between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. Saturday, March 30. Message Grace Lee for more information about donations.

Down Home Cordova Benefit Concert

Cordova 4H Music Camp presents the Down Home Cordova Benefit Concert and Silent Auction featuring local musicians and artists at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 30 at North Star Theatre. Proceeds benefit Music Camp scholarships

See Page 4, **AROUND TOWN**



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calendar of events.

View and submit events at:
THECORDOVATIMES.COM/EVENTS

LITTLE DIPPERS

Preschoolers help clean harbor



Photo by Ann Solberg/for The Cordova Times
Gravina Hansen, holds the book, "The Three R's: Reuse, Reduce, Recycle" by N ria Roca as she and her preschool classmates gather trash from the harbor on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

BY ANN SOLBERG
For The Cordova Times

On Tuesday, April 19, the Little Dippers, a small informal outdoor pre-school group, picked up trash in the harbor. They took the job very seriously and couldn't believe the amount of litter they found.

The Little Dippers, comprised of students Gravina Hansen and Henry Davis, both 4 and  , and Evelyn Kelly and Seamus Wiese, both 5, filled one huge bag of rubbish, and another with beer cans.

After all the trash had been picked up, they read a great library book on the beach about the Three R's (Reuse, Recycle, and Reduce), and brainstormed about what we can all do better.

One of the kids said, "we all need to look after the Earth," and another said, "people should behave better."

It was wonderful to see how much our Cordova kids understand about the place they call home, how much they love the fish and animals that live here, and how they want to work to keep Cordova clean.



Photo by Ann Solberg/for The Cordova Times
From left Gravina Hansen, 4.5, Seamus Wiese, 5, Henry Davis, 4.5, and Evelyn Kelly, 5, gather trash while helping clean the harbor during their nature preschool in Cordova on Tuesday, March 19, 2019.

OBITUARY

Dr. Michele Buckhorn

May 13, 1968 – February 28, 2019

Dr. Michele Leigh Buckhorn, 50, of Placerville, CA passed away on February 28, 2019 surrounded by friends and family in Auburn, CA. She is survived by a multitude of close friends that were her chosen family, her sisters Melissa Calvert and Stacy Cartwright, her brothers Bryan, Steve, and Kenny Buckhorn, and her beloved dog Jasmine.

Michele pursued and achieved her dream of becoming a marine ecologist in 2009 when she received her PhD from the University of California Davis. As well as her studies of reef fish in the Gulf of California, her thesis work provided an outlet for her artistic talents that culminated in the publication of the "Guide to the Marine Fishes of the Gulf of California". This book includes 150 detailed illustrations of each fish she painstakingly



painted. Michele had a longstanding interest in sharks of all kinds and worked on a tracking study of sevengill sharks in

San Francisco Bay following her doctoral work. Her passion for the ocean led her to Cordova in 2010 when she accepted a post-doctoral fellowship at the Prince William Sound Science Center to study juvenile herring and pink and chum salmon stocks in the Sound.

For those who could crack her salty exterior, Michele's heart and her home were open and filled with music, dancing, and delicious food. Her DJ skills were appreciated far and wide, as well as her appreciation of Mexican cuisine: her posole was legendary. Friends were always singularly delighted to see her arrive with her trademark grease-stained bag of homemade tortilla chips.

An ash scattering memorial will be held at a later time with friends and family at a place special to her in Baja California.

CONFERENCE

NVE, CPD headed to Conference on Crimes Against Women

Local entities selected as scholarship recipients to attend CCAW

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

The Native Village of Eyak and Cordova Police Department have been selected as 2019 scholarship recipients to attend the 14th annual Conference on Crimes Against Women.

The conference, April 8-11 in Dallas, Texas, will host over 2,800 professionals from 50 states, including law enforcement, prosecutors and victim advocates.

The gathering, presented by Genesis Women’s Shelter & Support and the Dallas Police Department, promotes strategies that improve public safety and support victims of crime across the nation.

Keynote speaker Kristen M. Gibbons Feden is a nationally acclaimed litigator best known for her involvement in the trials of entertainer Bill Cosby. Serving as special prosecutor, she secured a conviction of three counts of sexual assault against Cosby.

The goal of CCAW is to reduce the overall rate of crimes against women and ultimately eliminate violence against women. Their mission is also to improve the way crimes against women are investigated and prosecuted, and the way victims are treated throughout the criminal justice system.

For more information about the conference, visit
www.conferencecaw.org

HUNTING REGULATIONS

Federal authority limited on state rivers in national reserves

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in favor of Alaska moose hunter John Sturgeon, who has spent a dozen years in a legal battle involving hovercraft, public lands and water rights.

In a decision handed down on March 25, Justice Elena Kagan concluded that Nation River, which runs through the Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve in northeast Alaska is not a “public land” and that the

feds do not have title to the river, even if they have certain water rights there- so the river cannot be regulated by NPS (National Park Service) as if it were part of the park system.

“Geographic inholdings thus become regulatory outholdings, impervious to the Service’s ordinary authority,” she wrote.

Tim Droske, of Dorsey & Whitney LLP, who helped file an amicus brief in the case, said the decision confirms that “Alaska is different” from the rest of the country, that it is “the exception, not the rule.”

The case stems from an incident a dozen years ago when three park rangers ordered Sturgeon off the Nation River on grounds that it was illegal to operate the noisy hovercraft that can navigate in shallow water or even mud.

Droske cautioned that while Sturgeon’s victory was also important to the state and Alaska Native corporations’ ability to act free from federal regulatory interference, “where exactly that line is to be drawn will need to be the subject of future litigation.”



Cordova Goes Hollywood

On display through March in the Copper River Gallery.

A homegrown exhibit about the history of film and theatre in Cordova



The Cordova Times

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Congratulations CHS and Mt. Eccles Students of the Quarter!



Wolverine Core Values: *Passion-* Maya Russin, *Respect-* Drake Reilly, *Spirit-* Keila Gonzalez, *Committment-* Mhikee Gasmen, *Accountability-* Rich Don Agustin

Jr. High SOQ- Grace Collins
High School SOQ- Zya Taylor



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Micah Pettit Carlson- K, Lucas Hoock- K, Myles Johnson- 1st, Grace Higgins- 2nd Tracer Stimson-2nd, Elizabeth Baenen- 3rd, Gunnar Davis- 4th, Asher Jensen-5th, Alayna Goss-6th, John Hall- Music

Cordova Telecom Cooperative is proud to support Cordova's youth by sponsoring Mt. Eccles and CHS Student of the Quarter Awards!



AROUND TOWN

From Page 2

and help more kids attend camp.

“Get Ready with Me” shopping day

The B.I.O.N.I.C. (Believe It Or Not I Care) peer mentoring group is hosting their last “Get Ready with Me” shopping day from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday, April 2 at the Cordova Family Resource Center (youth center). Stop by to reserve prom attire (dresses, shirts and accessories). Everyone that reserves free clothing will be invited to B.I.O.N.I.C.’s “Get Ready with Me” Pre-Prom party on April 27. For more information, call 907-424-5674.

PTA Noel Pallas Scholarship Dinner

Attend the PTA Noel Pallas Scholarship Dinner from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 4 at Mt. Eccles Elementary School for vegetarian or meat lasagna, salad, bread and dessert. The fundraiser costs \$12 per person or \$40 per family of four (\$10 for each additional family member). Eat in or take out.

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People are encouraged to bring their own take-out containers to promote less waste.

Rummage sale

A rummage sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 5 and Saturday, April 6 at the Masonic Lodge. Dolly Manley will be collecting items.

Healthy Cooking Class

Join the Native Village of Eyak for a healthy cooking class from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 6 at St. Joseph’s Fellowship Hall. The class is open to diabetics and their caregivers, tribal and community members, but has limited seats. To register early call Katie Goodale at 907-424-7738.

Movie night

The Friends of the Library presents, “Mary Poppins Returns” at 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Friday, April 12 at North Star Theatre in the Cordova Center.

Hand-me-down clothing drive for kids

“Wear it – Love it – Share it” is a non-profit clothing drive for kids. The event is held once per month and is free to any and all families and kids. The next clothing drive will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 13 at the Masonic Lodge. Donations are accepted thru Ashley Fox and The Bidarki Recreation Center during business hours only. For more information email cdvak907@gmail.com or call 907-429-0779.

Dressed to Kill

Cordova’s “Dressed to Kill” will be from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Saturday, April 13 at The Reluctant Fisherman Inn. This year’s theme is “Beyond the Breakwater”. The event is open to ladies only until 11 p.m., with proceeds going to the Cordova Parks and Recreation Department.

Bunny Breakfast

Enjoy pancakes, eggs, bacon and more and take photos with the Easter Bunny at the Bunny Breakfast from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Saturday, April 20 at The Pioneer Igloo.

Free electronics recycling event

The Native Village of Eyak, Alaska Marine Lines and the city of Cordova will host a free electronics recycling event from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 22-29. Bring unwanted electronics to the city lot on Harbor Loop Road, next to the aluminum and cardboards recycling. Acceptable items include items that plug into something or take a battery such as televisions, computers, monitors, printers, digital camera, stereos, A/V equipment, cell phones, telephones, wall chargers, microwaves, speakers, vacuum cleaners (emptied), VCR’s, and DVD and CD players. Not accepting dishwashers, washing machine/dryer, refrigerators, freezers, exit signs, PCB ballasts and smoke detectors. For more information, call NVE at 907-424-7738.

SNYO practices

Senior Native Youth Olympics practice will be held every Tuesday and Thursday until April 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Mt. Eccles Elementary School gym. Kids grades

7-12 are welcome to participate. The competition will be held at the Alaska Airlines Center in Anchorage April 25-27. For more information, contact NVE family program coordinator Jessica Weaver at 907-424-7738.

Movie night

Cordova Arts & Pageants presents the movie, “Vice”, at 7 p.m. Friday, April 26 at North Star Theatre.

The Rice Brothers

Hosted by the Cordova Arts & Pageants, The Rice Brothers, Johnny and Chris, who play the cello and piano will be coming to Cordova for a concert Sunday, April 28 at North Star Theatre. They have performed extensively in the United States, including their 2014 Carnegie Hall debut, and have won gold medals at an international Chopin piano competition. They feature a blend of classical, Gospel, jazz, ragtime and Boogie Woogie.

MONDAYS

Moms, Pops and Tots!

A play group for children from infants to 4 years old is open from 10 a.m. to noon Mondays at the Masonic Lodge. The group focuses on exploring developmental issues and building on each child’s strengths through large-motor and small-motor skills play, pretend play and sensory play. For more information contact Katie Goodale, Tribal Family Services Director, at 907-424-7738.

Al-Anon in Cordova

Al-Anon for friends and family of alcoholics meets 7 p.m. Mondays at the Wellness Center (old DMV office). For more information, contact Katie at 907-965-5909.

TUESDAYS

Diabetes Self-Management Class

A five-week Diabetes Self-Management program for those diagnosed with diabetes, and their caregivers, will be held Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to noon, beginning March 5, at the Ilanka Wellness Center (old DMV). This program is open to the community. Seating is limited. For more information, or to register, contact Native Village of Eyak Tribal Family Services Director Katie Goodale at 907-424-7738.

Gospel sing-along

Join members of the St. George Episcopal Church on Tuesdays from 4-5 p.m. at the Cordova Community Medical Center for their Tuesday gospel sing-along, started in honor of Frances Mallory, and led by Christina Vican and Rev. Belle Mickelson. Anyone who wants to sing or play gospel songs is welcome to join to bring smiles to the long-term residents and hospital staff. For more information contact Belle on 907-424-5143.

WEDNESDAYS

Little Ones at Storytime

Little Ones at Storytime, with youth services librarian Anna Hernandez, is 10:30-

11:30 a.m. Wednesdays in the Cordova Public Library. Join Anna for stories, songs, and finger plays, geared toward preschool ages.

Teen Art

Teen Art with Paula Payne will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays in the Education Room at the Cordova Center.

Open studio life drawing

An open studio life drawing class Wednesdays from 6-9 p.m., began Jan. 30 at the Cordova Center education room. A model fee donation of \$5-10 is suggested and drop-ins are welcome. For more information call Paula Payne at 907-424-6667.

FRIDAYS

Morning Music

Morning music is back from 8:05 a.m. to 8:40 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays at the Mt. Eccles Elementary School music room for kindergarten through sixth grade students. Learn to sing and play fiddles, guitar, ukulele, bass, banjo and mandolin. Older students and parents are needed as helpers. Pre-schoolers are welcome to come with their caregivers. For more information call Belle Mickelson at 907-424-5143.

After School Art

After School Art with Debbie Carlson will be held 3-4 p.m. Fridays in the Education Room at the Cordova Center. This program is geared towards grades 1-4.

Patch the Pirate Kids Club

Patch the Pirate Kids Club will be held 3-5 p.m. Fridays at the MorningStar Independent Baptist Church, at their new location at the old troopers building, for children grades first through sixth.

SATURDAYS

AC gift card distribution

The Salvation Army distributes AC gift cards the third Saturday of every month from 10 a.m. to noon at the AC store for February, March and April. The gift cards are \$25 each. Eligibility is based on income and number of people in the household. For more information, contact Larry Goodale at 907-401-1463 or Katie Goodale at 907-965-5909.

SUNDAYS

Movies with Alec

Join librarian Alec for Sunday Movies from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays at the Education Room in the Cordova Center. Free popcorn is provided. Choose from the movie selection at the library. First come, first serve. The event is free for the public.

Visit our event calendar at www.thecordovaitimes.com/events. Have an upcoming event? Submit it at www.thecordovaitimes.com/submit-your-event or email suggestions for Around Town to share@thecordovaitimes.com.

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Letters to the Editor

The Cordova Times welcomes letters to the editor. General interest letters should be no more than 300 words. Thank you letters should be no more than 150 words. Letters should be submitted by 5 p.m. Friday for consideration in the following week's edition of the newspaper. However, meeting that deadline is no guarantee that the letter will be published. All letters must include the writer's name and address and daytime phone number. Only the writer's name and city will be published. The Cordova Times also reserves the right to edit letters for content, length, clarity, grammar, AP Style and taste. Unsigned letters will not be published. Letters must be relevant to The Cordova Times readership area and preference will be given to topics covered in recent editions of The Cordova Times. Letter writers are encouraged to use email. Submit letters to share@thecordovatimes.com.

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COMMENTARY



U.S. Forest Service photo by Joe Serio

Pink salmon in Tongass National Forest near Sitka.

Southeast pink salmon forecast cause for concern, conservation

BY JENNY WEIS

For The Cordova Times

As the days grow longer and summer plans start to materialize, “18 million” is a number on the mind of many across Southeast Alaska, especially those in the numerous industries that rely on salmon fishing.

Eighteen million is the number of pink salmon the Southeast forecast shows could be harvested in the 2019 commercial fishing season. The Southeast pink salmon harvest follows an every-other-year pattern, with the odd years usually being more productive. However, models by Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration put this years’ harvest at about half of the recent 10-year average.

“Salmon is the biggest portion of my income for sure,” said Stan Savland, commercial fisherman out of Hoonah and 20-year seiner. “The forecast is very alarming. I’m worried about this season because our recent odd year cycles are really what’s been carrying the seine fleet to make it.”

For seiners, low pink forecasts mean the fleet depends most heavily on hatchery returns of chum, often resulting in many fishermen huddled in a small area, waiting their turn.

“You can equate it to waitin’ in line for lunch. You’ve got to wait for 50 people in front of you,” Savland said. “Or, would you rather just go out to a place where there’s 25 people selling lunch and you can take your choice? Being able to go to standard corridors allows the fleet to spread out and allows for enjoyable, productive fishing.”

For tourism operators like Matt Boline, manager of Bear Creek Outfitters, a catch-and-release fly fishing and wildlife viewing operation out of Juneau, low pink years can mean less enjoyable and less productive ex-



Photo courtesy of Bear Creek Outfitters

Southeast Alaska bear snacks on fresh wild Alaska salmon.

periences for their fishing and bear-viewing clients, in addition to delayed or cancelled trips and more stress on other species.

“We’re used to seeing bears come out at a certain date, but last season we had to push everything back because there were no fish to be eaten,” said Boline in anticipation of a back-to-back low pink year. “It also takes a toll on Dolly Varden since we’re targeting them more.”

The low return of other salmon species is a concern across the board.

“I know for some of the lodges that focus more on kings, they’re experiencing a lot of cancellations. Last year at this time, most were completely booked up for summer. But after last summer’s poor fishing and people seeing the news about a worse one this year, people are not coming back,” said Boline.

Savland echoed the snowball effect. “People don’t spend money on their fishing boats, at the stores, or at the ship-

wrights,” he said. “We might be putting off major projects that need to be done for safety and maintenance. Now we’re coming into another poor year, so we have to put off maintenance again.”

For Boline and his guides, seeing the change is obvious, but the practical implications are less dramatic, at least for now.

“Our guests don’t notice a big difference in numbers for the most part because we’re all catch and release and to them it still seems like there’s more fish than they can ever imagine,” he said. “On a good year, we have to try to not catch fish because there’s so many of them.”

Regardless, both Boline and Savland, and many others in their respective industries, remain hopeful that the trend changes sometime soon, and according to Lowell Fair, Southeast regional supervisor of Alaska

See Page 6, SALMON FORECAST

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you, Cordova

Dear Editor,

Years ago, I arrived into port committing myself to what I wanted to do for this town. Recently, I realize that the real gift is to feel the generosity of what Cordovans wanted to do for me! I am grateful to each

and every energetic volunteer and those that participated in the medical fundraiser event. You’ve done it! You’ve collectively celebrated my life and given me a better chance at managing the multi-system effects of Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and trying to address cerebrospinal fluid leak(s). Thank you for your meaningful contributions. I am

ever appreciative of the responsive men and women in our Cordova Volunteer Fire Department for their continuous support that goes above and beyond their official duties. A big thank you also goes out to our local AC for providing gluten free foods and supplies.

— Linée Perkins

Cordova

SALMON FORECAST

From Page 5

Department of Fish and Game, the department will manage conservatively to keep that hope alive.

“Our number one concern is to make sure we get fish in the streams,” he said.

Both Savland and Boline cited the warm “blob” in the Gulf of Alaska, increased predation, as well as recent drought as possible reasons for low returns.

“From what I understand, there are many factors beyond our control impacting our pink and king runs in Southeast,” said Boline. “But of the many variables that impact wild fish production, about the only one that humans can affect is not messing up spawning streams and adjacent habitat, which the Tongass is known for. Fighting to keep that intact keeps me optimistic,” he said.

Jenny Weis is the Alaska communications director of Trout Unlimited, a nonprofit that works to conserve, protect, reconnect and restore North America’s coldwater salmon and trout fisheries and their watersheds.

VERY SLOW GAIN

400 jobs added statewide in February

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Statewide employment rose an estimated 0.1 percent, or 400 jobs in February over the same month a year ago, for a second consecutive month of growth after more than three years of job losses, according to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Labor officials said construction has added

the greatest number of jobs over the year, a total of 1,000 positions, followed by oil and gas, with 500 jobs, manufacturing jobs, mostly in seafood processing, had the biggest over-the-year decline at 500, and retail jobs fell by 300.

Overall, the state’s industry sectors were a mix of mostly small gains and losses. The private sector was up by 800 jobs and the government down by 400.

Alaska’s seasonally adjusted February unemployment rate held at 6.5 percent, while unemployment nationally fell from 4.0 to 3.8 percent.

Lowest rates of unemployment were in the Aleutians East Borough, at 2.0 percent and Aleutians West Census Area, at 2.6 percent, due to winter fishing. Skagway, Kusilvak, Hoonah-Angoon and Denali saw unemployment rates over 20 percent.

INDICTED

Unlicensed Idaho man guided in Noatak Preserve

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

An Idaho man has been indicted for multiple felony Lacey Act violations related to hunting in the Noatak National Preserve in Northwest Alaska without a license.

According to the indictment, Paul Silvas, 51, of Nampa, Idaho, filed false state of Alaska Department of Fish and Game hunt

records in order to conceal the illegal take of brown bears and to conceal illegally guided hunts, and he also illegally transported game over state lines.

The indictment alleges that Silvas knowingly guided illegal hunts for other Idaho residents in the reserve on Sept. 5 and Sept. 12, 2014 and on Sept. 25, 2013.

In order to lawfully hunt brown bears

within the preserve, a non-resident hunter is required to have contracted with a licensed big game guide, possess the appropriate ADF&G draw permits and purchase the appropriate big game tags from ADF&G.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. If convicted, however, Silvas faces a maximum of up to five years in prison and fines up to \$250,000 on each count.



The Cordova Conversation

NEWS & NOTICES FROM THE CITY OF CORDOVA

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Notice of Public Sale

On April 18, 2019,
the Cordova Police will auction off
the following vehicles:

- 1. #GDR553, White Chevy Pickup, Serial Number 1GCCS14A4N8104726 (18-000066)
- 2. #JHN796, Black Ford Ranger, Serial Number 1FTZR45E42PA62889 (18-000216)
- 3. #DTN233, Blue Chevy Pickup, Serial Number CLK149J136468 (18-000224)

Sealed bid sheets will be available online, at the police station, and the city hall.

Sealed bids are due in a standard letter envelope marked “Spring Police Auction” with a deposit for 10% of the bid at the front desk of the City Hall, 601 First Street, Cordova, Alaska, no later than 8:30 am on Thursday April 18, 2019.

Sealed bids will be opened April 18, 2019 at 9:00 am in the office of the City Clerk and successful bidders will be required to pay the balance of their bid at Cordova Police Department, 602 Railroad Avenue, Cordova, Alaska and pick up their paperwork no later than Monday April 22, 2019.

Purchases must be removed from city property no later than Wednesday April 24, 2019.

All items being auctioned are sold as-is, where-is.

Contact Natalie Webb at 907-424-6100 for additional information.

Job Announcement

Public Works Department
Refuse Division

The Human Resources Dept. is accepting applications for

REGULAR, FULL-TIME
REFUSE MAINTENANCE I

Starting Pay:

\$18.44 – \$22.30 per hour + benefits, DOE

OPENING DATE OF PUBLIC APPLICATION:

March 8, 2019

FIRST REVIEW OF PUBLIC APPLICATIONS:

March 21, 2019

Applications & additional information available at City Hall; 424-6200

THE CITY OF CORDOVA IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Job Announcement

Cordova Police Department

The Human Resources Department is
accepting applications for a

Regular, Full-Time
PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER

Starting Pay Range:

\$25.88(level 1) – 29.73(level 4) per hour,
DOE, + benefits RECRUITMENT BONUS

OFFERED FOR OFFICERS, DEPENDING ON
LEVEL OF APSC CERTIFICATION

Open Until Filled

Applications and additional information available at City Hall; 424-6223

THE CITY OF CORDOVA IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Job Announcement

The Human Resources Department
is accepting applications
for the position of

A REGULAR, FULL-TIME HARBOR
MAINTENANCE/SECURITY OFFICER

Starting pay:

\$18.44 – 22.30 per hour DOE, plus benefits

Opening date of public application:

January 15, 2018

First review of applicants:

JANUARY 28, 2018

THE CITY OF CORDOVA IS AN EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Applications & additional information available at City Hall

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

CITY OF CORDOVA
Finance Director
Senior Management Position

Position Salary Range:

Up to \$110k/yr. DOE / DOQ

Open Until Filled

The City of Cordova is recruiting for a Finance Director. The position reports to the City Manager and functions as head of the Finance Department and is responsible for a \$15 million annual operating budget including Enterprise Funds.

This Executive level position will be responsible for directing, coordinating, and managing activities and staff of the Finance Department. As FY2019 unfolds, this position may see expanded areas of responsibility and will function much like an Administrative Services Director, with expanded duties in the areas of IT, HR, Medical plan and Grants, with the core function remaining in finance.

First and foremost, this position will ensure conformance with governmental accounting standards and applicable laws; plan and oversee revenue collection and disbursement, payroll, accounting, risk management, prepare periodic, special, quarterly, and annual reports on the City’s financial status; provide for general liability and other insurance coverage of City assets; oversee annual auditing process.

This is truly an opportunity to serve in multiple areas and develop the direction of the core duties as assigned and to grow with the organization and community.

City of Cordova: Cordova is a home rule city with a council-manager form of government. The City of Cordova is home to about 2,400 residents, growing to nearly 5,000 during the height of the fishing season.

The economy of Cordova is based on commercial fishing and seafood processing. Tourism, sport hunting and fishing also serve to strengthen Cordova’s economy. Cordova is known the world over for its pristine and scenic beauty and opportunities for outdoor sports and recreational opportunities abound with easy access to rivers, wilderness, hiking trails and other amenities common to larger communities.

Cordova is truly Alaska at its best, with superior schools and medical facilities.

Cordova enjoys an experienced and dedicated staff, a strong articulated Council vision, outstanding partnerships, a collabora-

orative community environment and the newly constructed Cordova Center. This is truly an opportunity to grow and create.

Minimum Qualifications: Education and/or experience that provide the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform the duties of the position:

Bachelor’s degree in finance, Business Administration, Public Administration or any combination that demonstrates the ability to perform the duties assigned.;

Demonstrated experience in public finance, with supervisory experience desired; Valid driver’s license.

Preferred Qualifications: Master’s Degree or CPA. Experience in governmental accounting and finance. Experience with IT, HR, Medical plans and grants would be exceptional.

Submit letter of interest and resume to citymanager@cityofcordova.net. Faxed or mailed applications will not be accepted.

The City of Cordova offers a generous benefits package which includes vacation and sick leave, 100% employer paid medical insurance and enrollment in PERS (Public Employees’ Retirement System).

The City of Cordova is an Equal Opportunity Employer

ATTENTION REAL PROPERTY OWNERS

The 2019 Assessment Roll for the City of Cordova has been completed, and notices of assessed value were mailed to the record owners of all real property on March 6, 2019. It is your duty to advise the assessor promptly in writing of any errors or omissions in the assessment of your property via the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Form which is available at City Hall, the city website at www.cityofcordova.net or by email request. This form (specifying the grounds for appeal) shall be filed with the City Clerk on behalf of the assessor at City Hall not later than 5:00 pm on April 5, 2019, after which the right of appeal shall cease. The assessor may correct errors or omissions in the assessment before the board of equalization hearing, and will mail a notice of any such correction to the record owner’s address. The 2019 Board of Equalization will take place in the Cordova Center Community Rooms A & B at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 15, 2019. If you need further information contact the City Clerk’s office at 424-6248 or 424-6286.

30 YEARS OF Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

COMMENTARY

Hope and forgiveness

Can we forgive – and then take what we have learned to better protect the earth?

BY THE REV. BELLE MICKELSON

For The Cordova Times

Editor's Note: This commentary was originally delivered on March 17 as part of a sermon by the Rev. Belle Mickelson of Cordova based on Luke 13:31-35.

Jesus was there crying with us when the oil spill happened. And He's been guiding us all along. We just need to listen and keep listening.

On March 24, 1989, I was living here in Cordova.

"There's been an oil spill," someone said.

"I don't have time for that," I responded.

Little did I realize how it would take-over my life. Soon we were all doing two jobs: our own and another one doing anything we could to clean-up or help out. It was a sunny spring and summer – just beautiful – and only 50 miles away everything was covered in black goo. Sea otters, sea birds, fish, eagles, whales – all were dying.

We didn't realize it – but for a long time, the fishing way of life died, too. It took 20 years for the Prince William Sound seine fishery to really return. The shrimp and crab fisheries have just recently come back – but not our spring herring.

Yes, there have been other factors contributing to this loss such as ecosystem and ocean temperature changes. But there is no doubt that the oil spill dramatically and drastically affected fish – especially spawning herring, salmon eggs, and crab larvae. Far worse than these environmental effects – were the social impacts: depression, drinking, drugs, broken families, loss of income and a way of life.

Yes, there have been some good things coming out of the spill. Today the oil companies are much better prepared with contingency plans, escort services, double hulls, SERVS and the Prince William Sound Regional Citizen's Advisory Council.

We have the Prince William Sound Science Center and the Cordova Family Resource Center. Several friends and I wrote a preschool through high school oil spill prevention curriculum. We all know so much more about the hazards of oil. Shortly after the oil spill, one of the preschools in town had kids dip their hands in oil and make hand print art. We would never do that today!

One of our responsibilities is to help others. The people from Canada's British Columbia and so many other oil-spill experienced countries rallied to help us –and we in turn helped our south eastern neighbors when the Gulf of Mexico spill happened.

One message from the Exxon Valdez oil spill is that prevention is critical! Keep that oil where it's supposed to be

See Page 8, **MICKELSON**



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times

A piece of the Exxon Valdez hull, donated to the Cordova Historical Society, rests on display at the museum.

Oil Spill exhibit will remain on display in museum for remainder of year

BY CATHY SHERMAN

For The Cordova Times

The Cordova Historical Society and Museum are pleased to share the latest of completed exhibitions in the new Cordova Center space. To share the story of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, the museum staff has created an area that through artifacts and visuals tells the history of the accident and yet brings the message to the positive effects in the aftermath.

Recently, a piece of the Exxon Valdez hull was donated to the Cordova Historical Society. Sitting beneath a large photo of the actual hull of the Exxon Valdez after it was removed to dry dock leaves a stunning image in the viewer's mind.

Auklet Captain David Janka has been sampling sites every year since the spill and has generously donated photos of his findings each year and these photos have been added to the exhibit as well.

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council also provided the Historical Society with two panels created for the 30th anniversary raising awareness of the spill and the research and habitat restoration that has come as a result of the settlement funds. The Trustee Council also has produced a short film "Listening to the Sound: The Work of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council." This film includes historic footage of the spill, new interviews and information on the scientific and habitat work funded by the Trustee Council since the spill.

The Prince William Sound Regional Citi-



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times

The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill exhibit in the Cordova Historical Museum, seen on Wednesday, March 20, 2019.

zen's Advisory Council also has produced a publication entitled, "Then & Now – Thirty Years after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill." This publication documents improvements to the oil spill prevention and response system in Prince William Sound, remaining concerns, and ways the RCAC is planning for the future.

The exhibit will remain in place through the rest of this year.

The Cordova Historical Society is a non-profit corporation dedicated to preserving the past for Cordova's future.

30 YEARS OF Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill



Photo by Terrence McCarthy/New York Times
FROM THE CORDOVA TIMES ARCHIVES: This loon, found at Ingot Island, was one of over 150 birds treated at the Valdez Animal Rescue Center. Originally published in The Cordova Times, April 5, 1989.

MICKELSON

From Page 7

– in the tankers, in the boats, in the pipeline and in many cases still in the ground – because accidents happen. Government environmental regulations and citizen oversight are so important.

Another message was that alcohol (and drugs I might add) wreck havoc in our lives. I’d like to imagine that if the crew of the Exxon Valdez thought about what could and would happen – they wouldn’t have gone to that Valdez bar. Yet there are still people



Photo by Rosemary Kaul/Los Angeles Times
FROM THE CORDOVA TIMES ARCHIVES: A pod of killer whales surfaces near the stern of the Exxon Valdez Saturday, nearly a day after the ship struck a submerged reef in Prince William Sound near Bligh Island. Originally published in The Cordova Times, March 30, 1989.

drinking and driving. We need to work harder on sobriety.

And we need to know we are all part of the problem. We all use oil. All of us are needed. We can be part of the solution, one choice

at a time. Walking or driving; lights off or on when we leave the room; a neighborhood ball game or watching TV; a contribution to help people in need – or extra “stuff” for ourselves; a two-minute or 15 minute

shower.


It takes oil to run the hot water heater; to heat factories; to make the products we see in stores; to transport them to stores. Get your family together and investigate what you can do. Live more simply. Save some oil for your grandchildren and great grandchildren; save some money; save cultures in other parts of the world. Maybe even stop a war that might have something to do with oil. Vote. The generations to come will thank you.

So many of our biblical heroes had a vision – and my vision is that we here in Cordova like all the great cloud of witnesses before us – will help in the healing of Prince William Sound. It’s not going to be easy. Grief runs deep. And one of the hardest parts of healing is forgiveness.

Can we forgive – and then take what we have learned to better protect the earth?

Look around. What can you do to help? Together we can be a force for healing – and peace among nations as we pass this beautiful earth on to the generations to come.

The Rev. Belle Mickelson is the rector of St. George’s Episcopal Church. Find her online at cordovaepiscopal.org and reddragoncordova.org. She also travels bringing music to village schools with dancingwiththespirit.org. Last year Dancing with the Spirit spent 37 weeks in villages.



The Cordova Conversation

NEWS & NOTICES FROM THE CITY OF CORDOVA

PO Box 1210 • 601 1st St.
Cordova, Alaska 99574

(907) 424-6200

CITYOFCORDOVA.NET

Notice to Public

REAL PROPERTY FORECLOSURE LIST OF THE CITY OF CORDOVA FOR THE YEAR 2018 LISTING DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2018

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

On March 6, 2019, the City of Cordova filed in the Superior Court, Third Judicial District, State of Alaska, a certified copy of the foreclosure list for delinquent real property taxes in the City of Cordova for the year 2018 together with a Petition for Judgment and Decree of Foreclosure.

The foreclosure list shows the names of the persons appearing on the latest tax roll as the owners of the delinquent parcels, a description of each parcel, the year for which taxes are delinquent, the amount of delinquent taxes, and the penalty, interest, and costs due. The foreclosure list published here may also be examined at the office of the City Clerk, 601 First Street, Cordova, Alaska.

Any person owning a parcel listed in the foreclosure list, or any person having a lien upon such a parcel or having any legal or equitable interest in such a parcel, may file a written answer with the Superior Court in defense to the Petition of Foreclosure on or before May 5, 2019. The answer must identify the parcel concerned and state the defenses or objections to foreclosure.

The court will enter a Judgment of Foreclosure against each parcel for which no answer is filed and against each parcel for which the defenses and objections stated in the answer are found to be insufficient.

2018 DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAXES & SPECIAL ASSESSMENT DISTRICT PAYMENTS								
NAME & ADDRESS	LEGAL DESCRIPTION	PARCEL NO LEVY YEAR	P'PAL OWING	PENALTY	INTEREST	SUBTOTAL	COURT COST	TOTAL OWING FOR 2018 THRU 12/31/18
ALBER, LOUIE & NINA PO BOX 111 CORDOVA, AK 99574	VINA YOUNG BLK 5 LOT 8B	02-072-597 REAL 2018	\$1,625.06	\$162.51	\$32.50	\$1,820.07	\$182.01	\$2,002.08
BUTLER, MICHAEL PO BOX 653 CORDOVA, AK 99574	ORIGINAL TOWNSITE BLK 39 LOTS 15-18	02-072-364 REAL 2018	\$4,031.93	\$403.19	\$80.64	\$4,515.76	\$451.58	\$4,967.34
GULF STREAM TRUST 47 CASCADE CREEK LANE LAS VEGAS, NV 89113	ALPINE PROPERTIES PHASE 1 BLK 1 LOT 6	02-087-612 REAL 2018	\$779.46	\$77.95	\$15.60	\$873.01	\$87.30	\$960.31
JANSON JR, BUD PO BOX 2332 CORDOVA, AK 99574	ORIGINAL TOWNSITE BLK 23 LOT 2	02-273-562 REAL 2018	\$1,855.35	\$185.53	\$37.11	\$2,077.99	\$207.80	\$2,285.79
MEHELICH II, JOHNNY PO BOX 1194 CORDOVA, AK 99574	USS 1383 BLK 4 LOT 2	02-473-603-B REAL 2018	\$1,940.38	\$194.04	\$38.82	\$2,173.24	\$217.32	\$2,390.56
MILLER 2000 LLC PO BOX 1020 CORDOVA, AK 99574	MILLER ACRES LOT 30C	02-099-427 REAL 2018	\$1,724.26	\$172.43	\$34.50	\$1,931.19	\$193.12	\$2,124.31
MILLER, TIMOTHY A PO BOX 1020 CORDOVA, AK 99574	MILLER ACRES LOT 30B	02-099-425 REAL 2018	\$1,330.99	\$133.10	\$26.61	\$1,490.70	\$149.07	\$1,639.77
MULLINS, CLINTON PO BOX 436 CORDOVA, AK 99574	ORIGINAL TOWNSITE S 60 FT BLK A LOT 3	02-060-756-A REAL 2018	\$106.29	\$10.63	\$2.13	\$119.05	\$11.91	\$130.96
ESTATE OF BARBARA OLSEN PO BOX 665 CORDOVA, AK 99574	ORIGINAL TOWNSITE BLK 39 LOT 8	02-072-357 REAL 2018	\$1,451.45	\$145.15	\$29.04	\$1,625.64	\$162.56	\$1,788.20
ESTATE OF GILBERT OLSEN PO BOX 665 CORDOVA, AK 99574	ODIAK PARK BLK 1 LOT 7	02-373-313 REAL 2018	\$426.34	\$42.63	\$8.52	\$477.49	\$47.75	\$525.24
SPENCER, JANE B 219 CHESTNUT HILL LITCHFIELD, CT 06759	ORIGINAL TOWNSITE W25 FT LT 17 BLK 15 LOT 17	02-273-317-A REAL 2018	\$680.26	\$68.03	\$13.62	\$761.91	\$76.19	\$838.10
TINY WINGS INC PO BOX 1429 CORDOVA, AK 99574	CIP BLK 4 LOT 2A	02-060-241 REAL 2018	\$1,732.53	\$173.25	\$34.65	\$1,940.43	\$194.04	\$2,134.47

All property upon which a Judgment of Foreclosure is entered will be held by the City of Cordova for one year unless redeemed. Property not redeemed within one year may be deeded to the City of Cordova by the Clerk of the Court. The one-year period of redemption shall end when the property is deeded to the City of Cordova.

Property listed on the foreclosure list may be redeemed in accordance with Title 29 of the Alaska Statutes by paying all taxes in full along with all penalties and interest due, together with a proportional share of the costs of publication and foreclosure. Property may be redeemed during the time of publication of the foreclosure list or any time thereafter until one year after the date of the Judgment of Foreclosure.

Amounts of penalty, interest, and costs shown on the foreclosure list are good through December 31, 2018, only. After December 31, 2018, additional charges will be due.

PAYMENT IN FULL BY CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK, OR MONEY ORDER OF THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE MUST BE MADE TO PREVENT FORECLOSURE.

30 YEARS OF

Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

COMMENTARY

30 years later, applying hard-learned lessons in Prince William Sound

BY TOM BARRETT

President, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company
For The Cordova Times

March 24, 2019 marked the 30th anniversary of the day Exxon Valdez fetched up on Bligh Reef and spilled almost 11 million gallons of oil into Prince William Sound, Alaska. Like most Alaskans and Americans, the disaster shocked and angered me.

The massive harm to the marine ecosystems of Prince William Sound, deaths of thousands of seabirds, marine mammals and other wildlife, devastation of fisheries I knew Alaskan fishermen and families depended upon, and the failures of multiple organizations and individuals to prevent such an event was a gut wrenching, transformative experience. Three decades on, the only real good to come from the spill were hard-learned lessons that improved how marine oil transportation is conducted and regulated in Alaska and globally.

The Exxon Valdez spill fundamentally changed the way industry, regulators, states and nations looked at the inherent risks of marine oil transportation. New laws and regulations following the spill locked multiple new safeguards into place – safeguards

that are still in place and continue to evolve today. Oil is transported in double-hulled tankers; in Valdez tanker captains face mandatory pre-departure alcohol testing, the Coast Guard coordinates and enforces tanker lanes, limits tanker speeds, sets ice routing and entrance closures.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation now approves stringent contingency response plans for the Trans Alaska Pipeline System (TAPS) pipeline, terminal and tankers. The Ship Escort/Response Vessel System (SERVS) was put in place to prevent spills and provide response capabilities for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, which operates TAPS.

SERVS has staged large response barges and a vast supply of equipment around Prince William Sound to use in an emergency. In 1989, a single tug accompanied tankers through the Valdez Narrows and a single response barge provided storage capacity of 12,000 barrels. Today, two powerful tugs escort each laden tanker through Hinchinbrook Entrance, and seven large recovery barges provide more than 600,000 barrels of on-water storage. Every year, Alyeska employees conduct annual Fishing Vessel of Opportunity Program training in class-

rooms and on the water with Alaska-based fishing captains and crews – almost 1600 people and 400 vessels that are on contract to SERVS to assist if needed with any response.

Our systems are much improved from 1989. But we are not naïve about the inherent risks our business entails. Our personnel are extremely proud of the work we do and its importance to everyone in Alaska. We continuously assess our protection layers and our capabilities. We listen hard to our own employees, contractors, regulators, partners in the Alaska Native community and other stakeholders about our planning and readiness.

We continue to innovate with advances like the Edison Chouest Offshore fleet of more powerful tugs with improved winches and fit-for-purpose barges with improved skimmers that Alyeska brought to Valdez last year. The escort tugs are the most powerful in the world for escort service. In addition to more than 200 annual drills and exercises, tanker and tug captains and pilots train for the demands of escort operations in state-of-the-art simulators. These efforts unfold with oversight from regulators and with input from stakeholders like the Prince

William Sound Science Center, the Oil Spill Recovery Institute and the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council. I know, and Alyeska leadership, employees and contractors know the safety of our people and environmental stewardship of Alaska lands and waters along TAPS rests in our hands.

We are directly accountable for safely moving TAPS oil with a deep-vested stewardship. We take great pride in the work we do every day, and how well and safely we do it. Our workforce spans generations of Alaskans who live, work and play in Alaska. Prince William Sound is our home water.

The 30th anniversary of Alaska’s greatest ecological disaster reminds us of the need for us to manage our risks with tight discipline and the greatest care. A former Coast Guard boss of mine, Admiral Jim Loy would repeatedly stress, “Preparation Equals Performance.” We adhere to that perspective. We know our accountabilities and understand our obligation to make oil transportation along TAPS and across Prince William Sound safe for Alaska lands, waters and citizens.

This is more than great rates

This is more savings for wherever you’re going.

WELLS FARGO

Platinum Savings Account

2.10%

Annual Percentage Yield for 12 months with new money deposits of at least \$25,000 and a minimum daily account balance of \$25,000 or more¹

Guaranteed Fixed-Rate CD

2.40%

Annual Percentage Yield for an 11-month term with new money deposits of at least \$25,000²

Talk to a banker for details. Offer expires May 31, 2019.
Business owner? Ask about our business savings rates.



Offers available in AK, IA, ID, IL, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, UT, WI and WY. *Portfolio by Wells Fargo*® customers are eligible to receive an additional bonus interest rate on these accounts.³

1. To qualify for this offer, you must have a new or existing Platinum Savings account and enroll the account in this offer between 03/25/2019 and 05/31/2019. This offer is subject to change at any time, without notice. This offer is available only to Platinum Savings customers in the following states: AK, IA, ID, IL, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE, UT, WI and WY. In order to earn the Special Interest Rate of 2.08% (Special Rate), you must deposit \$25,000 in new money (from sources outside of Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., or its affiliates) to the enrolled savings account and maintain a minimum daily account balance of \$25,000 throughout the term of this offer. The corresponding Annual Percentage Yield (APY) for this offer is 2.10%. The Special Rate will be applied to the enrolled savings account for a period of 12 months, starting on the date the account is enrolled in the offer. However, for any day during that 12 month period that the daily account balance is less than the \$25,000 minimum, the Special Rate will not apply, and the interest rate will revert to the standard interest rate applicable to your Platinum Savings account. As of 02/15/2019, the standard interest rate and APY for a Platinum Savings account in AK, ID, KS, MN, MO, MT, NE and WY with an account balance of \$0.01 to \$9,999.99 is 0.05% (0.05% APY), \$10,000 to \$49,999.99 is 0.15% (0.15% APY), \$50,000 to \$99,999.99 is 0.25% (0.25% APY) and with an account balance of \$100,000 and above is 0.35% (0.35% APY); and for a Platinum Savings account in IA, IL, UT and WI with an account balance of \$0.01 to \$99,999.99 is 0.05% (0.05% APY) and with an account balance of \$100,000 and above is 0.10% (0.10% APY). Each tier shown reflects the current minimum daily collected balance required to obtain the applicable APY. Interest is compounded daily and paid monthly. The amount of interest earned is based on the daily collected balances in the account. Upon the expiration of the 12 month promotional period, standard interest rates apply. Minimum to open a Platinum Savings account is \$25. A monthly service fee of \$12 applies in any month the account falls below a \$3,500 minimum daily balance. Fees may reduce earnings. Interest rates are variable and subject to change without notice. Wells Fargo may limit the amount you deposit to a Platinum Savings account to an aggregate of \$1 million. Offer not available to Private Banking or Wealth customers. 2. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) is effective for accounts opened between 03/25/2019 to 05/31/2019. The 11-month New Dollar CD special requires a minimum of \$25,000 brought to Wells Fargo from sources outside of Wells Fargo Bank N.A., or its affiliates to earn the advertised APY. Public Funds and Wholesale accounts are not eligible for this offer. APY assumes interest remains on deposit until maturity. Interest is compounded daily. Payment of interest on CDs is based on term: For terms less than 12 months (365 days), interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or at maturity (the end of the term). For terms of 12 months or more, interest may be paid monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. A fee for early withdrawal will be imposed and could reduce earnings on this account. Special Rates are applicable to the initial term of the CD only. At maturity, the Special Rate CD will automatically renew for a term of 6 months, at the interest rate and APY in effect for CDs on renewal date not subject to a Special Rate, unless the Bank has notified you otherwise. 1,2. Due to the new money requirement, accounts may only be opened at your local branch. Wells Fargo reserves the right to modify or discontinue the offer at any time without notice. Minimum new money deposit requirement of at least \$25,000 is for this offer only and cannot be transferred to another account to qualify for any other consumer deposit offer. If you wish to take advantage of another consumer deposit offer requiring a minimum new money deposit, you will be required to do so with another new money deposit as stated in the offer requirements and qualifications. Offer cannot be combined with any other consumer deposit offer, except the Portfolio by Wells Fargo \$500 offer, available from March 25, 2019 until May 31, 2019. Offer cannot be reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred, or traded. 3. The Portfolio by Wells Fargo program has a \$30 monthly service fee, which can be avoided when you have one of the following qualifying balances: \$25,000 or more in qualifying linked bank deposit accounts (checking, savings, CDs, FDIC-insured IRAs) or \$50,000 or more in any combination of qualifying linked banking, brokerage (available through Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC) and credit balances (including 10% of mortgage balances, certain mortgages not eligible). If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the bonus interest rate on all eligible savings accounts, and discounts or fee waivers on other products and services, will discontinue and revert to the Bank's then-current applicable rate or fee. For bonus interest rates on time accounts, this change will occur upon renewal. If the Portfolio by Wells Fargo relationship is terminated, the remaining unlinked Wells Fargo Portfolio Checking or Wells Fargo Prime Checking account will be converted to another checking product or closed.
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30 YEARS OF Healing

FROM THE EYES OF A CHILD



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times

Erica Thompson Clark and her children, Hazel and Fisher, pose for a photograph after the Women's March in Cordova on Saturday, Jan. 20, 2018.

Under the stairs

BY ERICA THOMPSON CLARK
For The Cordova Times

I sat under the stairs.

All day. For weeks. In 1989 my mom worked as an expeditor with another fisherman's wife out of a home office on the side of Pillar mountain overlooking my hometown of Kodiak, Alaska. You could see the harbors. You could see the canneries, and you could feel the doom. I was four years old. Almost five. And I sat under the stairs, day in and day out after my morning preschool was over.

Sometimes I got picked up for playdates. But most of the time I played under the stairs.

The house we were at, family friends, was home to a teenage girl and her little brother. The little boy wasn't very friendly, he didn't share his toys, and he had a reputation for being a bit of a spoiled brat. 'Bout 6 years later, that same little boy and that same teenage girl lost their father when their boat sank, and all lives were lost to the sea.

But that April, I sat under the stairs day in and day out. I brought my bag of toys. And I listened to my mom rattle off lists of groceries, and boom, and hoses, and tubing and didn't know what it all meant. All I knew was it was important and it kept her busy. It meant we couldn't go to the beach. We couldn't go play at Fort Abercrombie. We weren't going out to lunch and we weren't spending casual afternoons drawing or painting or planting seedlings.

Nope, that April I sat under the stairs.

And I sat under the stairs and I listened to my mother and I listened to this other mom, talk about was this would do for our futures, for our fisheries, and what the long-term decimation of a fishery might look like.

So hopeful. That maybe, just maybe it wouldn't touch our shores, wouldn't coat our beaches. Like it did Prince William Sound. That it would miss us. That it wouldn't coat the water's surface like it did there, smothering a season's run of herring roe, a fishery they'd both partaken in many years ago.

I sat under the stairs and I listened.

As a young woman I went back to school for a master's degree. I got one in education and counseling. And I wrote my thesis was how the psychosocial impacts of human-caused technological disasters affect adolescent youth. Because like me there were so many of my generation, and about a half dozen years older, that sat under the stairs, or around the kitchen tables, and watched their parents as the devastation of our fisheries was foreshadowed in the darkness of the oil as it rolled up on the beaches. Many of our families would never recover.

Many families would suffer from depression, alcoholism, or other forms of substance abuse to cope with the loss of a livelihood, the loss of an industry, the loss of a lifestyle. My entire generation would be told go to college, get a degree, don't rely on fishing. And many of us would. Many of us would leave the fishing industry because our predecessors told us, this was not something to depend on anymore, and because we had witnessed the fallout of a cataclysmic event in fisheries history. And it would take decades for some to return to our home water. And some never would.

I sat under the stairs, and I listened.

Erica Thompson Clark is from Kodiak, Alaska.

“We have done something to make the world better and to prevent future spills and I think we can do more.”

OUR STORIES

From Page 1

Emotion overcame Belle Mickelson as she recalled speaking with a counselor and a group of Cordovans in 1990, roughly one year after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill.

“Alaska Conservation Foundation brought a counselor here to help us,” she said.

The counselor had an agenda, had questions, had a plan.

“Those of us that experienced it, it's a bond that, you know, runs so deep,” Belle said.

The roughly 30-or-so people that sat at the Masonic Lodge that day took it into their own hands to share their struggles, their pain and their anger.

“We're gonna sit here one by one and tell our stories,” she said. “I'm



Photo by Chelsea Haisman/for The Cordova Times

Rev. Belle Mickelson holds Lupine the lamb at St. George's Episcopal Church on Sunday, April 22, 2018.

“When I got over there and saw...I couldn't believe what I was looking at. The magnitude was just unbelievable.”

Roughly 60,000 gallons of jet fuel is used in a typical season for the U.S. Coast Guard air station, said Cordova Police Chief Mike Hicks. In 1989, 180,000 gallons were used during the oil spill cleanup effort. Within three days of the spill, they had used all of the usable oil boom in the world, Mike said.

“Nobody was really prepared like they are now,” he said. “When I got over there and saw...I couldn't believe what I was looking at. The magnitude was just unbelievable.”

Environmental activist and singer/songwriter John Denver even made a visit to Cordova to show support. He held a concert for a couple hundred people at the USCG 13-mile hangar.

“It really was a nice break to all the pandemonium,” Mike said.

At the time of the spill, Mike was



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Cordova Police Chief Mike Hicks in the Cordova Police Department on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

stationed in Kodiak with orders to the Cordova USCG air station as the maintenance supervisor. He was in

crying, just talking to you 30 years later.”

Belle called for continuous environmental protection for places such as Bristol Bay and the Arctic Wildlife Refuge which is currently in an ongoing battle over the potential opening of oil and gas drilling in the protected area.

“We have done something to make the world better and to prevent future spills and I think we can do more,” she said.

Belle recommends using bicycles and walking to limit car usage, in hopes that people will do their part in conserving energy.

“I'm very happy that I'm in Cordova and I'm really proud of...Cordovans...how they were resilient and came together,” she said. “It's not only the forgiveness but seeing that we have made a difference by speaking out. That we have made a difference for other people.”

charge of logistics in making sure the fleet of helicopters and fixed-wing airplanes were up to code and able to fly. He also helped with communication and logistics as congressmen, senators and supervisors flooded Cordova.

A Coast Guard crew from Cape Cod, MA flew to Cordova to assist with the cleanup and used its infrared radar unit to map the spill.

Hicks recalled flying 2,000 feet above the spill, the fumes stinging the air, “your eyes would burn.”

Coast Guard units from across the country came together, working in sync to assist in the cleanup in addition to those in town, fishermen, agencies and companies across the state.

“Everybody came together,” he said. “I think that's just part of living in Alaska.”

“Twenty-five to 30-year-old kids that were raised in Cordova ... that are oil spill babies, that are coming back and raising families in Cordova, to me, that's rebounding.”

Mike Webber began fishing full time when he was just six years old. By the time he was 29, the veteran commercial fisherman was assisting in the oil spill cleanup, protecting hatcheries, and being told to leave the fishing industry.

“I was in the prime of my life,” he said while sitting at his shop in front of an unfinished wood carving. “I had a lot of opportunity and that opportunity was lost.”

On the morning of March 24, 1989, Mike was headed to the Reluctant Fisherman Inn to get coffee with another fisherman. “My dad stopped me at the door, he said there was an oil spill,” Mike recalled. He told Mike to save his money as there were tough times ahead. “He was absolutely right about that,” Mike said.

He proceeded with his plan to build a new gillnetter but eventually had to sell it.

“Ten years after the oil spill was really the darkest times for commercial fishing,” he said.

Unable to pay and keep professional crewmembers, people turned to children, wives and husbands to help run their fishing operation.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Mike Webber on his boat, the F/V Amulet, on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

Values of boats dropped, price per pound of fish dropped, as did permits, by a loss of over 90 percent of their value.

“Fifty-one, 52 days into the oil spill, we quit,” Mike said. “I didn't have any capacity to stay there and witness anymore of the destruction that was going on.”

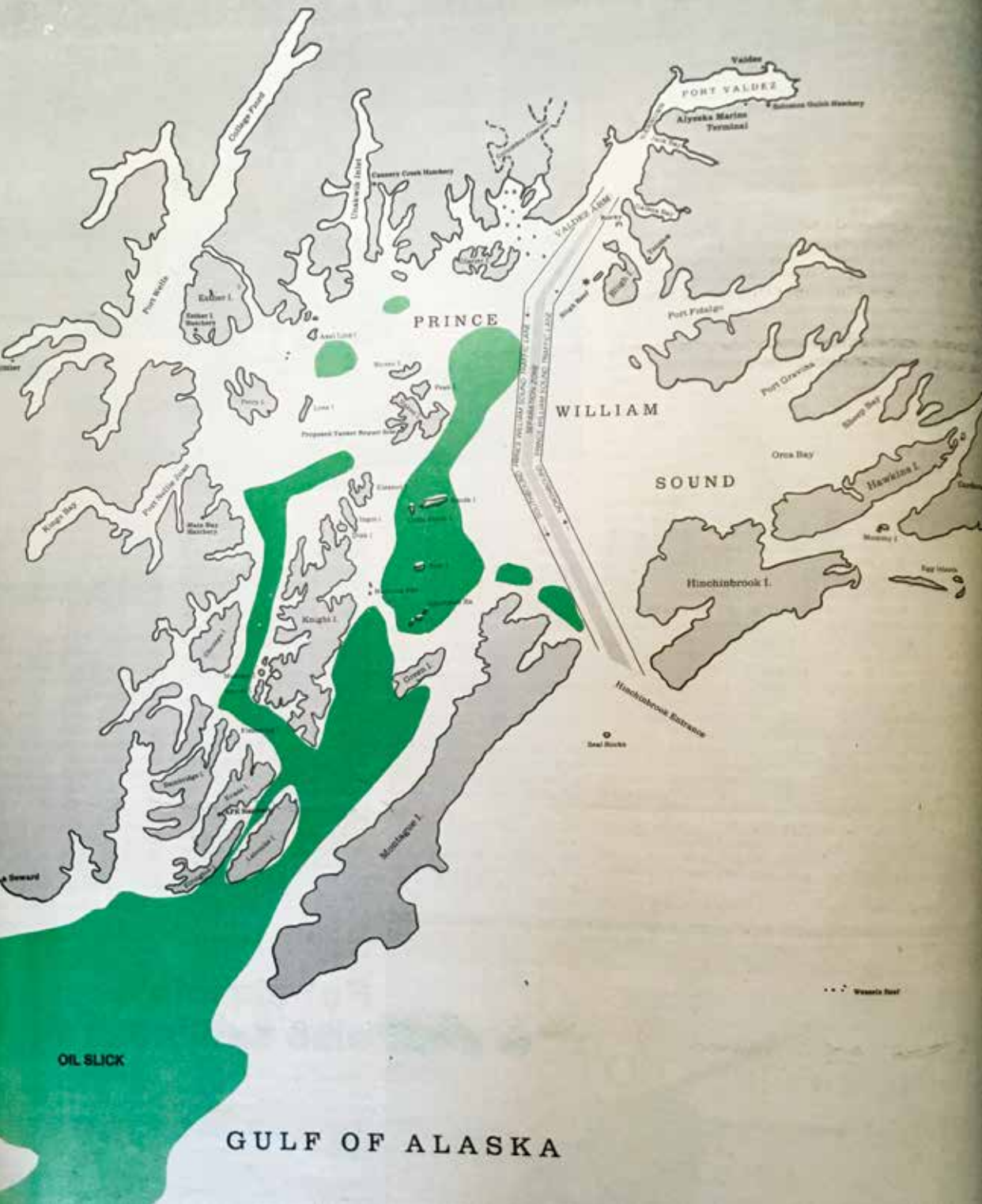
Prince William Sound is a sacred place for Mike and his family, who have subsisted in the Sound for years.

“It upset me a lot more in a different way that this has been our back yard or front yard for thousands of years,” he said. “Through carving and understanding the culture and the history, I was able to connect with my ancestors.”

Today, Mike sees hope and a future for the fishery and Cordova.

“Twenty-five to 30-year-old kids that were raised in Cordova...that are oil spill babies, that are coming back and raising families in Cordova, to me, that's rebounding,” he said.

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill



FROM THE CORDOVA TIMES ARCHIVES: Location of oil slick as of 12:30 p.m. Monday. Originally published in The Cordova Times, April 5, 1989.

“It has been 30 years since the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and I (didn’t) really want to talk about the spill itself, but wanted to talk about some of the legacies that now exist because of the oil spill.”

On March 26, 2019, Prince William Sound Science Center Research Scientist & Program Manager Scott Pegau held a presentation during the PWSSC Tuesday Night Talks program.

“It has been 30 years since the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and I (didn’t) really want to talk about the spill itself, but wanted to talk about some of the legacies that now exist because of the oil spill,” he said.

Scott is the coordinator of the herring research and monitoring program and is the research program manager for the Oil Spill Recovery Institute.

In his 12 years of research, plus the nearly 30 years of research since the spill, he has found that scientists and researchers are trying to understand how the Prince William Sound recovered from the spill.

To this day, lingering oil makes

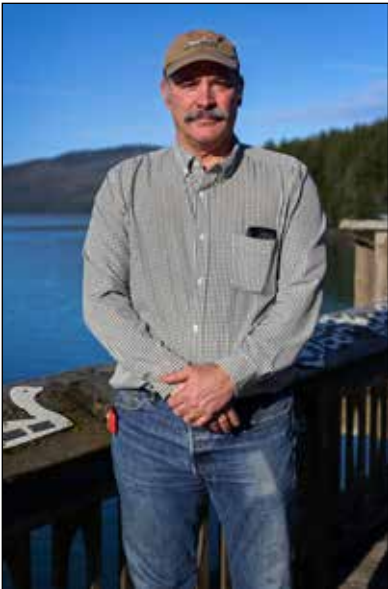


Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Scott Pegau on the Prince William Sound Science Center dock in Cordova on Wednesday, March 27, 2019.

up less than one percent of the original oil in the beaches.

“It’s still there,” Scott said. “Scientists would not have predicted that it would have remained but it is deep enough into the sediments, and deep enough being only a foot or less.”

It is not getting enough oxygen for the microbes to degrade the oil and the chemical composition of the remaining oil is what it would have been just 11 days after the spill, he said.

“It’s hard to find and we’re not finding any evidence that that oil is still coming out and affecting the ecosystem.”

Although the spill was devastating for the Sound’s ecosystem, the environmental disaster provided an opportunity to improve response capability, oil shipping safety and the further understanding of how the sound’s ecosystem works.

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill
A TIMELINE

- MARCH 23, 1989:**
On March 23, 1989, the oil tanker Exxon Valdez left the Valdez Marine Terminal at 9:12 p.m., bound for California with a full load – approximately 53 million gallons – of North Slope crude oil.
- The tanker Captain, Joe Hazelwood, was granted permission to change course to avoid icebergs from nearby Columbia Glacier. He gave orders to the Third Mate to maneuver the tanker to the new course and then retired to his quarters. For reasons that remain unclear, the tanker was never returned to its proper course.
- MARCH 24, 1989:**
Just after midnight on March 24, the Exxon Valdez oil tanker grounded on Bligh Reef, spilling at least 11 million gallons of crude oil into Prince William Sound, the largest oil spill in U.S. waters.
- The initial response to the spill was slow, uncoordinated, and ineffective. Seas and winds were calm for three days, but almost no response equipment was available.



- MARCH 27, 1989:**
On March 27, a storm blew in with winds up to 70 mph, spreading the oil spill to the southwest along at least 1,400 miles of shoreline (see figure, above).

FIND OUT MORE

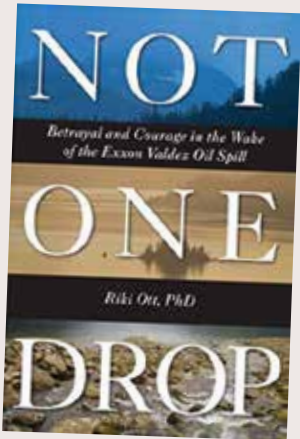
- More information on the immediate and long-term impacts of the spill, as well as links to other oil spill resources can be obtained from the legacy organizations established after the spill.
- The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council oversees the 1991 \$900 million civil settlement for restoration of injured resources and services. The restoration plan includes habitat protection, research and monitoring, and direct restoration.
evostc.state.ak.us
 - The Oil Spill Recovery Institute was established by Congress in 1990 to focus on improved technologies and ecological research related to oil pollution in the marine environment of Arctic and Subarctic regions.
pws-osri.org
 - The Prince William Sound Regional Citizens’ Advisory Council is an independent nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote environmentally safe operation of Alyeska Pipeline’s Valdez Marine Terminal and associated oil tankers.
pwsrcc.org

Timeline source: Prince William Sound Science Center

30 YEARS OF Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

AT YOUR LIBRARY



Books about the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill are prolific

BY CATHY SHERMAN
For The Cordova Times

Never a pleasant memory for our community, but 30 years have passed and reflecting on the changes and progress since the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill might be a healing read. Here are some books on the shelves in your library that might intrigue you.

- ▶ **Not One Drop: Betrayal and courage in the wake of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill** by Riki Ott. Discusses the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and the hardships faced by the residents of Cordova, Alaska.
- ▶ **Out of the Channel: The Exxon Valdez Oil Spill in Prince William Sound** by John Keeble.
- ▶ **Private Empire: Exxon Mobil and American Power** by Steve Coll. In this book the author investigates the largest and most powerful private corporation in the United States, revealing the true extent of its power.
- ▶ **In the Wake of the Exxon Valdez: The devastating impact of the Alaska oil spill** by Art Davidson.
- ▶ **The Heart of the Sound: An Alaskan Paradise Found and Nearly Lost** by MaryBeth Holleman.
- ▶ **Darkened Waters: A Review of the History, Science, and Technology Associated with the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and Cleanup** by Nancy Lord.
- ▶ **Children of the Bay: A story of Alaska & Songs of Alaska CD** by Linda Crider. A fictional story told through the eyes of the teenagers of two Alaskan towns, is based on the true facts of the 1989 wreck of the Exxon Valdez tanker in Prince William Sound and the devastating effects the oil spill has had on the people.
- ▶ **The Spill: Personal Stories from the Exxon Valdez Disaster** by Sharon Bushnell and Stan Jones.

The Cordova Public Library is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, and noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Closed Mondays.



Photo courtesy National Archives and Records Administration

U.S. Navy Mechanized Landing Craft (LCMs) are anchored along the shoreline as Navy and civilian personnel position hoses during oil clean-up efforts on Smith Island. The massive oil spill occurred when the commercial tanker Exxon Valdez ran aground while transiting the waters of Prince William Sound on March 24, 1989.

COWPER

From Page 1

Cowper had headed down to the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner early that morning to talk with reporter Sam Bishop, and Bishop asked him what he thought about the oil spill.

“I said ‘what spill,’” Cowper said. “People didn’t know anything at 7:30 in the morning. All they knew was that a ship had hit a reef and there was oil in the water.”

He hopped an Alaska Airlines flight to Anchorage and Alaska State Troopers flew him to Valdez. When he arrived, there was a huge crowd standing around on the airstrip with nowhere to go, including a mob of reporters, many of them from Europe, he said.

One of them was the French oceanographic explorer, environmentalist and film producer Jean-Michel Cousteau, who focused his camera on Cowper and asked if the governor now thought that it was a mistake for Alaska to have gotten into the oil business.

“I said that of course we were going to continue to produce oil and gas,” Cowper said. “The people who were opposed to the industry thought they were right and that it (the spill) proved everything they were saying was true, and (since then) nobody’s changed their minds about anything.”

Someone with a boat took Cowper, state Commissioner of Environmental Conservation Denny Takahashi-Kelso and a television photographer out to the Exxon Valdez, which was piled up on Bligh Reef. “The tide had gone out, so it was way up there,” said Cowper.

To get onboard, they had to use the Jacob’s ladder, a rope ladder with wooden steps.

Cowper, a former maritime lawyer, scrambled up the ladder along with Kelso, while the television photographer froze, so they grabbed his camera equipment and then he made it on board, where they were told by the third mate that Exxon-Valdez Capt. Joe Hazelwood declined to speak with him, Cowper said.

What had happened was there were icebergs in the shipping lane, so the captain

had called the Coast Guard and asked permission to parallel the shipping lanes in a certain direction, and that direction took the ship directly into Bligh Reef, he said.

The third mate, whom Hazelwood had put in charge, gave orders to the helmsman, “who didn’t know what he was doing and neither did the third mate,” he said.

Then the vessel went aground on Bligh Reef, rupturing the tanks and hemorrhaging oil.

“This reef had been on the charts for 200 years and they ran into it anyway,” Cowper said.

The reef itself is named after William Bligh, who served as master aboard ship for James Cook’s third world voyage. Bligh was later the commander of the HMS Bounty at the time of the 1789 mutiny on that ship, commemorated in the 1932 novel “Mutiny on the Bounty.”

On the day of the spill, which began before dawn, the weather was good, Cowper said. “The oil was just sitting there, and if anybody had a skimmer they could have gotten a lot of it, but nobody did anything.”

“The weather was real good. The sun was out and not a lot of wind and the oil was just pooling alongside of the tanker. By the time we got the skimmers from the pipeline people, the weather had moved in and scattered the oil all over the place, and the oil headed for the hatcheries,” he said.

“The herring run got murdered and the herring never did come back. The fishermen saved the hatcheries,” he said.

The fishermen, seeing nobody else responding, grabbed buckets and fish pumps and said to hell with safety and regulations, recalled a former seafood processing worker, speaking on condition of anonymity. And it was the fishermen who formed barriers across the entrances to the hatcheries, she said.

The people who were supposed to respond had the equipment, but they had it hidden in warehouses and it took them about 10 days to find it, by which time it was too late, Cowper said. So the fishermen sprang into action, and Cowper scrambled to find any and all possible equipment. He called the

commander in chief of the U.S. Navy of the Pacific in Hawaii, who flew boom and skimmers into Valdez on C130s.

Then Cowper called the Russians, “who had the biggest skimmer in the entire world. The Russians, if you ask them for help, they will always do it, but that skimmer was in Vietnam,” he said. By the time the Russian skimmer, the Vaydaghubsky, arrived several days later “all the oil in the water was gummed up with logs and seaweed and fish nets and driftwood and they couldn’t get through it,” he said.

Early on after the spill, Cowper recalled, someone on site with an oil industry related position proposed using a substance he said would sink the oil to the bottom of Prince William Sound where nobody would see it. On the advice of Kelso, who later went on to a distinguished career in ocean conservation, Cowper said no.

That substance was most certainly the chemical dispersant Corexit 9527, according to marine conservation biologist Rick Steiner, a former marine conservation professor with the University of Alaska, who now travels worldwide as Oasis Earth Environmental Sustainability Consulting.

“They did try applying some in the first few days,” Steiner said. “It didn’t work, and Alyeska (Pipeline Service Company) didn’t have much available. They then tried some a few weeks later out in the Gulf. I was on aircraft with remote sensing equipment over those tests, and they too did not work.”

“The dispersant is toxic in its own, and perhaps even more so when combined with crude oil,” he said.

Such dispersants are controversial, and as a general rule not recommended, Steiner said.

“They should certainly never be used near shore or in shallow waters,” he said.

It was, Cowper wrote later in his own many reflections of the disaster, “an iconic event that led directly to the distaste of the oil industry in the U.S. today.”

“People used it as proof that the Hollywood version of the oil industry was right,” Cowper said. “Never underestimate the power of a dramatic event.”

30 YEARS OF Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

SPILL RESPONSE

Measure would permanently reauthorize Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Legislation introduced on March 25 as the Spill Response and Prevention Surety Act would modify and permanently reauthorize the federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund, established under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

The fund was established, in the wake of the Exxon Valdez oil spill disaster in Prince William Sound in 1989 to ensure the federal government is able to pay for the swift removal of spilled oil and compensate individuals, communities and businesses impacted by such disasters.

The legislation was introduced by Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska, who said it was drafted in consultation with the Prince William Sound and Cook Inlet regional citizens’ advisory councils.

The RCACs are non-profit corporations established in the wake of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on March 24, 1989 to provide local monitoring authority to communities affected by oil and gas development in Alaska.

The bill maintains the existing nine-cent-per-barrel tax while establishing a \$7 billion tax collections ceiling and \$5 billion collection floor, indexed for inflation, to ensure the fund is adequately resourced for years, The single incident payout claim would be doubled to \$2 billion and the natural resource damage claim would also be doubled to \$1 billion.

The legislation would create biennial \$10 million response and prevention grant program for research and technological development, and an annual \$25 million prevention rant program for state programs to upgrade equipment and aging infrastructure, support strategic planning and address abandoned or derelict vessels.



FROM THE CORDOVA TIMES ARCHIVES: People help treat an oil-soaked sea otter. Once the otters get their furs stained with oil, keeping their body temperature constant is difficult. Originally published in The Cordova Times, April 5, 1989.

Photo by Rosemary Kaul/Los Angeles Times

JUNEAU REMEMBRANCE

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill exhibit open through May 31

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES

An exhibit compiled from Alaska State Archives and Alaska State Library Historical Collections on the 30th anniversary of the

Exxon Valdez oil spill disaster of March 24, 1989 will be on display in the Father Andrew P. Kashevaoff Building in Juneau through May 31.

Items included in the Remembering the

Exxon Valdez Oil Spill include documents, images, video footage and news chippings from these collections, to show the impact of the 10.8-million-gallon spill of crude oil into the waters of Prince William Sound.

The Kashevaroff building housing the state libraries, archives and museum is a division of the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

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30 YEARS OF Healing

Reflecting on the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill

MUSEUM MEMORIES

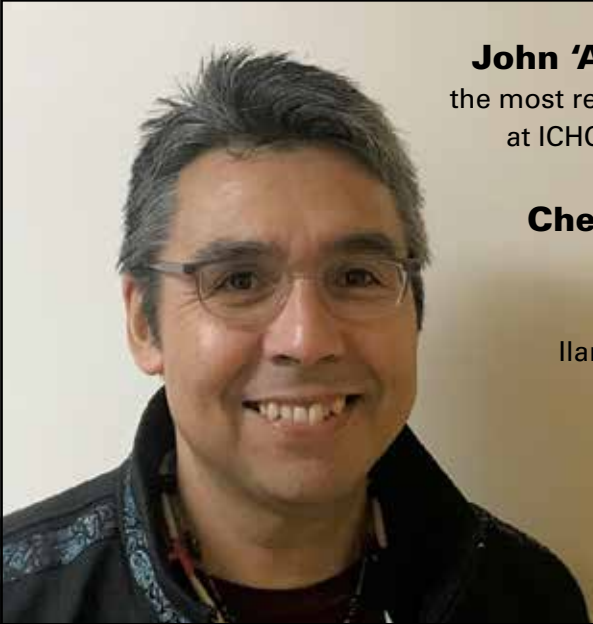
BY CATHY SHERMAN
For The Cordova Times

It took Cordovans some time to move forward from the disaster of the '89 oil spill. In fact, the community became a subject for social scientists who conducted a long running study on disaster trauma. Their work focused on the initial and then the long-term impacts on the socio-economics of the community. Suicide, divorce and other signs of high-levels of psychological stress devastated Cordova after the oil spill.

Activism always seems like a cure-all for Cordovans and after the oil spill this was no different. Cordovans and other Prince William Sound residents demanded change in the means and methods of transporting oil through the Sound. To facilitate, residents established the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens Advisory Council, an independent group of individuals from oiled communities to promote environmentally safe operation of the Alyeska Marine Terminal and the tankers which use it.



This memory is brought to you courtesy of the collection from the Cordova Historical Society held in the Museum.



John 'Aapama' Yakanak, is the most recent addition to the team at ICHC and works in Behavioral Health as a **Chemical Dependency Counselor** and **Case Manager** for Ilanka's Medication Assisted Treatment program. John is currently under supervision to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC).

Welcome John!

John lived his younger years in Cordova, attending 4th grade, through his junior year in high school, graduating in Port Townsend WA. John's mother Diane Janson, and grandparents Ann and Don Burch were long time residents of Cordova. John was a commercial fisherman out of Kodiak, where he lived with his family for 18 years. Life events caused John to change careers and he has recently graduated from Alaska Pacific University with a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology.

John also has a passion for promoting wellness in the community which is reflected by his being nominated by First Alaskan Institute as a "Community Doer". In addition, John is focused on being an advocate of the Native community to assist in resolving issues and challenges related to the promotion of health, education, welfare, and preservation of Native culture.



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ALASKA SUPREME COURT

Dunleavy meets with chief justice on judicial nominees

BY BECKY BOHRER
The Associated Press

JUNEAU — Gov. Mike Dunleavy met Tuesday with the chief justice of the Alaska Supreme Court in a dispute over judicial nominations, though details of the meeting weren’t immediately available.

The executive director of the Alaska Judicial Council expected a statement later Tuesday. Dunleavy spokesman Matt Shuck-erow said he had not had a chance to discuss the meeting with the governor before Dunleavy headed into a radio interview.

Dunleavy last week filled one Palmer Superior Court seat but refused to fill a second. In a letter to members of the Alaska Judicial Council, which sent him three finalists for the two seats, Dunleavy said he would “not be selecting a second candidate from this truncated list.”

Chief Justice Joel Bolger has countered that founders of the state’s constitution intended for a governor to appoint for judge-ships candidates nominated by the council and defended the council’s process for vet-ting and nominating candidates.

“We concur that we have to pick from the list. The question is, Is there a way to broaden that list, especially going into the

future because there are a lot of qualified applicants for these positions?” Dunleavy told Alaska Public Media’s Talk of Alaska Tuesday. “We just want to have a discussion as to how narrow that list is going to be and how broad it can be.”

The call-in program, which also was car-ried live on a public affairs TV channel, comes as Dunleavy participates in meetings around the state pitching his approach to addressing a projected \$1.6 billion deficit. Five of the meetings scheduled this week, including one in Anchorage on Tuesday evening, are being hosted by the conserva-tive group Americans for Prosperity-Alaska, prompting questions about how open the forums would be. The events, when first advertised by the group, laid out terms by which participants were to abide.

Ryan McKee, state director of Americans for Prosperity-Alaska, has said the group is renting the space and has the right to remove anyone who is disruptive and ensure the ven-ues aren’t over capacity. He said the events are open on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dunleavy said the administration is part-nering with “any and all” organizations, some of which have rules, as it outlines its fiscal policy approach. He said he’s trying to save the state money and doesn’t see a

problem with it.

Democratic Sen. Donny Olson offered to pay for the venue where Americans for Prosperity-Alaska plan to host an event in Nome provided the group was not involved. In a Facebook post, he said the rental space would cost \$173.25. He accused Dunleavy of wanting “a crowd controlled by stipulations that allow for no public input.”

Other Senate Democrats who cited con-cerns with the Americans for Prosperity-Alaska-hosted events offered to pay for venues in several cities, including Juneau, which is not on Dunleavy’s posted sched-ule for policy events, to “promote stronger public involvement and the people’s faith in government transparency.” Dunleavy’s of-fice hasn’t responded, said Noah Hanson, a spokesman for the caucus.

Dunleavy’s budget proposal includes deep cuts to areas like education, health and so-cial service programs and the state ferry system; shifts in the collection of petroleum property and certain fisheries-related taxes that would benefit the state but hurt some communities; no new statewide taxes; and a full payout of the annual check residents receive from the state’s oil-wealth fund, the Alaska Permanent Fund, following three years of reduced checks.

He also is proposing constitutional amendments to limit spending and give vot-ers a say on new or higher taxes passed by the Legislature and changes to the dividend program.

Hundreds of people have testified in op-position to certain cuts, like those proposed for the ferry system, with some expressing an openness to being taxed or accepting a lower dividend.

Dunleavy, a Republican, has often said the dividend isn’t the problem, and he said Tues-day the state can’t tax or spend its way out of the situation. He said there many details to work out with a tax, including rates, exemp-tions and how long it would be in effect.

“It’s easy to throw out, ‘Just tax us.’ But when you get down in the details it becomes a lot more complicated,” he said. “I don’t think taking more money out of the private sector until we have made the government more efficient and have decided what we want for outcomes ... is the answer.”

Dunleavy said he would work with the House and Senate on a budget “that works for everybody.”

“But if question is, in the end, will I exer-cise my constitutional authority to get the budget in line with expenditures? The an-swer is yes,” he said.

ALASKA IN BRIEF

Alaska white supremacist gang members face federal charges

ANCHORAGE — Several members of a white supremacist prison gang operating in Alaska correctional facilities and two other states have been charged in a racketeering enterprise that includes counts of mur-der, assault, kidnapping and distribution of drugs and firearms.

Six men, including one who legally changed his name to Filthy Fuhrer, are charged in the Aug. 3, 2017, kidnapping and murder of another member, Michael Staton.

Bryan Schroder, Alaska’s U.S. Attorney, said Wednesday two others have already pleaded guilty to the murder count.

He said the men were members of the white supremacist gang known as the 1488s. Its members are serving in Alaska prisons,

and some were sent to facilities in Arizona and Colorado.

The indictment says all gang members are required to “be white, look white and act white.”

1 dead, 1 injured in shooting at home in Wasilla subdivision

WASILLA — Alaska State Troopers are in-vestigating a shooting in a Wasilla subdivi-sion that left one person dead and another wounded.

Troopers just after 5 p.m. Tuesday took a call of gunshots fired.

Upon arrival, they found one person dead and a second injured outside a home.

The names, ages and genders of the peo-ple involved were not immediately released.

Troopers say they have contacted all par-

ties who were involved in the shooting.

Suspected impaired driver strikes 2 children on sidewalk

ANCHORAGE — A 60-year-old woman was held on suspicion of operating a vehicle under the influence of alcohol or drugs af-ter a traffic crash that seriously injured two children on bicycles in Eagle River.

Anchorage police shortly before 4 p.m. Sunday arrested Vicie Zielinski.

Online court records do not list the case

in state court and it was not immediately known if Zielinski has an attorney.

Police say a boy and girl were riding bikes on the sidewalk of the Old Glenn Highway near Coronado Street when a car drove onto the sidewalk as if making a lane change.

The car accelerated to high speed and struck both children head-on.

Both children were conscious and breath-ing when medics arrived. They were rushed to a hospital. Police administered field so-briety tests to Zielinski.

— By The Associated Press

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC NOTICE

The New Company Store is applying under 3 AAC 306.300 for a new Retail Marijuana Store license, license #14416, doing business as THE NEW COMPANY STORE, located at 703 Cannery Row, Cordova, AK, 99574, UNITED STATES.

Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and a copy of the application will be posted on AMCO's website at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco>. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501.

SALOME’S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A sugges-tion from a colleague on how to work out a problem might not sit too well with you. But before you suspect his or her motives, why not just accept it as a friendly gesture?

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) An associ-ate might seek your counsel on a workplace dispute with another co-worker. Listen to what she or he has to say, but withhold ad-vice until you’ve heard the other side of the story.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Use your Twin gifts for creativity and practicality to score points in landing an opportunity that could open doors to a new career. Someone re-turns after a long absence.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Although things are pretty hectic through much of the week, some quiet time with loved ones helps restore balance. An unexpected visi-tor brings welcome news about a mutual friend.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) Getting used to change isn’t always easy for the Big Cat. But make the adjustments gradually, and soon you’ll hardly remember when things were any different from how they are now.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) Con-tinue to stay the course you’ve chosen, and avoid distractions that could throw you off track. Some knowledgeable folks are happy to provide guidance if you need it.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Although you earned plaudits from most co-workers for your recent stand on a work-

place situation, you also raised the envy quotient among others. Tread carefully for now.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) You feel more positive about that delayed project, and you’re ready to pick it up on a moment’s notice. However, you might need to re-motivate those who have since lost interest.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Some welcome news should be coming your way. In the meantime, use that Sagit-tarius charm to convince some still-reluc-tant colleagues that your ideas have merit.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Don’t wait for a misunderstanding to work itself out. Instead, ask for a chance to explain the circumstances before those bruised feelings lead to an irreversible break.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A physical problem should be checked out in order to avoid it going from just being a nuisance to something more serious. Your social life takes an unexpected but not un-welcome turn.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Yours might be the wisest sign in the Zodiac. But you still could benefit from the wisdom of a close friend who has suggestions on how to handle a perplexing personal problem.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your passion for do-ing the right thing inspires others to follow your well-trodden path toward justice.

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Take a Break

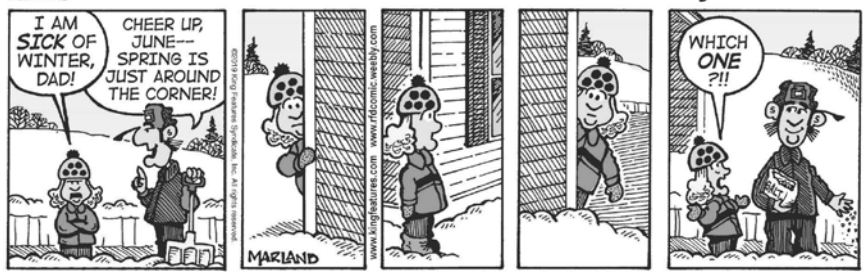
Amber Waves



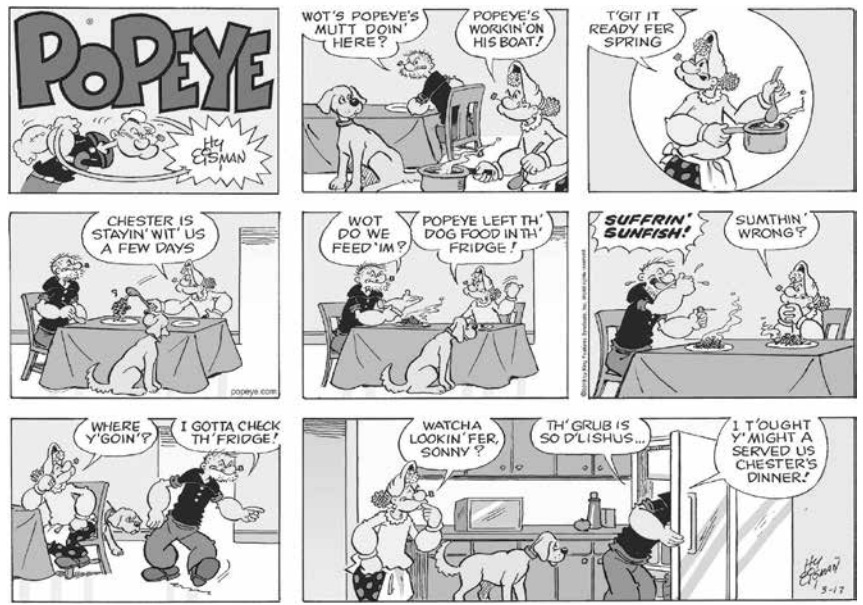
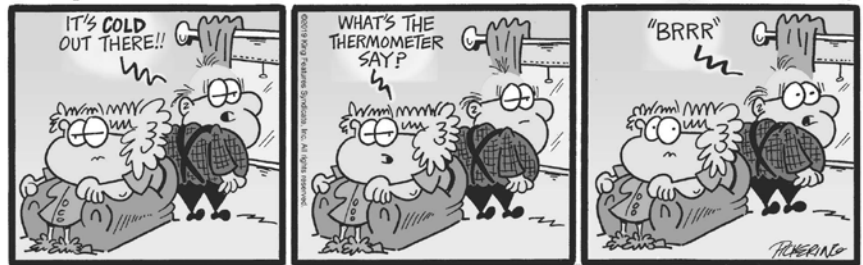
Out on a Limb



R.F.D.



The Spats



Just Like Cats & Dogs



LAFF-A-DAY



SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Abuse
UNSHIP

Excite
RIPEINS

Rock
KEASH

Cover
CINEW

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Jewel
- 4 Appointment
- 8 Con job
- 12 Boxing legend
- 13 Big story
- 14 — Major
- 15 Medieval entertainer
- 17 Anger
- 18 "— lazy river ..."
- 19 Extreme
- 21 Assault
- 24 Heavy weight
- 25 Hawaiian neckwear
- 26 With it
- 28 Complete range
- 32 Exam format
- 34 Illustrations
- 36 Soybean paste
- 37 Eastern potentate (Var.)
- 39 LummoX
- 41 Profit
- 42 Needlefish
- 44 Aplenty
- 46 Graham of "Monty"

- Python"
- 50 Bay State sch.
- 51 Humdinger
- 52 Alternatives to station wagons
- 56 Israeli airline
- 57 Carbon compound
- 58 Where (Lat.)
- 59 Roll up
- 60 Almost black
- 61 Knock

DOWN

- 1 Leg, slangily
- 2 Yale student
- 3 Little details
- 4 Break off
- 5 Spring mo.
- 6 Layer
- 7 Brilliance
- 8 Older spelling for a South American country
- 9 Gator's cousin
- 10 Largest continent
- 11 Shoppers' mecca
- 16 Hot tub
- 20 Pooch
- 21 Lotion additive
- 22 Expression
- 23 Sedona auto-maker
- 27 Expert
- 29 Labyrinth beast
- 30 Addict
- 31 Carry
- 33 Humorous hoax
- 35 Playground game
- 38 Aries
- 40 Kin
- 43 Japanese noodles
- 45 Actress Ullmann
- 46 Staff leader?
- 47 Streaming video giant
- 48 Winged
- 49 1492 craft
- 53 Penultimate mo.
- 54 Cagers' org.
- 55 Try the tea

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
		18				19		20				
21	22				23		24					
25				26		27		28		29	30	31
32			33		34		35		36			
37				38		39		40		41		
			42		43		44		45			
46	47	48				49		50				
51					52		53				54	55
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. MOVIES: Which film with a literary title won the 1999 Oscar for Best Picture?
2. ANATOMY: What gives red blood cells their color?
3. FOOD & DRINK: What spice gives Hungarian goulash its characteristic flavor?
4. HISTORY: Who were the two women who tried to assassinate President Gerald Ford on two separate occasions in 1975?
5. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What is a group of swine called?
6. ASTRONOMY: Which planet in our solar system (other than Earth) is known as the "Blue Planet"?
7. LANGUAGE: What does the Latin word "veto" mean?
8. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the fastest growing plant in the world?
9. LITERATURE: Which children's fantasy series featured a ship called "The Dawn Treader"?
10. MUSIC: What was English singer Billy Idol's name at birth?

Answers

1. "Shakespeare in Love"
2. Hemoglobin
3. Paprika
4. Sara Jane Moore and Lynette "Squeaky" Fromme
5. A sounder
6. Neptune
7. To forbid or prohibit
8. Bamboo
9. "The Chronicles of Narnia"
10. William Broad

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: H equals Y

BQ HMP ALL JLCCBAD QPZLA

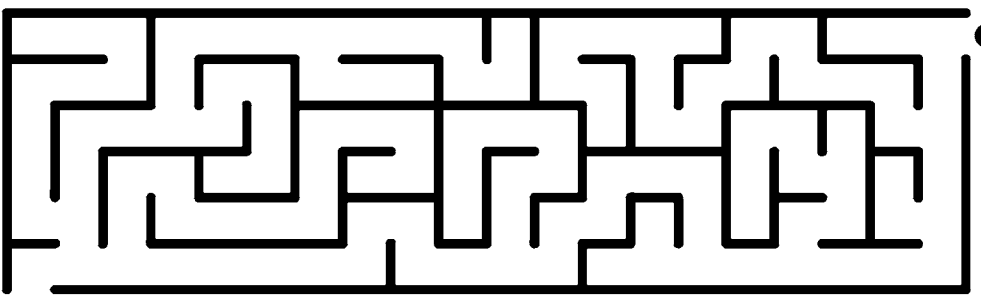
LZRKRUBKS QJMZ AMZLUDBKS,

WMPFC HMP WRFF UDLZ JMAL-

WMFMJLC SRALA?

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Kids' Maze



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

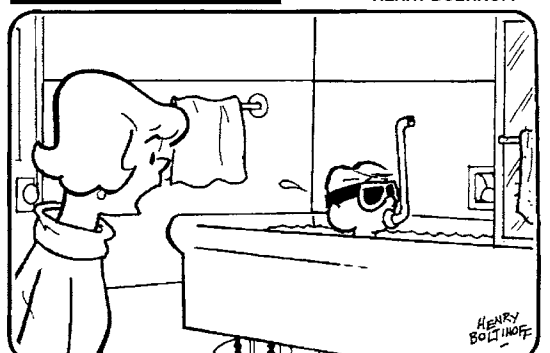
♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

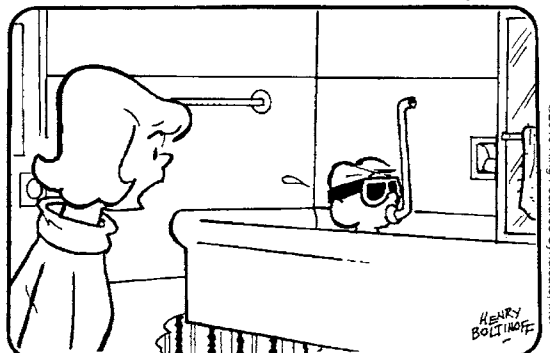
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Towel is missing. 2. Mom's hair is longer. 3. Snorkel is bigger. 4. Water in tub is not visible. 5. Snorkel is longer. 6. Soap dish is higher.

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Fisheries



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FISH FACTOR

Commercial fishermen are picking up the tab

BY LAINE WELCH
For the Cordova Times

Commercial fishermen pick up the tab for just about anyone who catches a salmon in Alaska that started its life in a hatchery.

That was a finding that wended its way to the surface during a hearing last week of the House Fisheries Committee on the state’s hatchery program. The program began in the mid-1970s to enhance Alaska’s wild salmon runs.

Unlike meetings that are top heavy with fishery stakeholders, most of the committee members are not deeply familiar with many industry inner workings and their interest was evident.

“Who funds the hatchery programs?” asked Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, D-Sitka, referring to the 25 private, non-profit associations that operate in Prince William Sound, Southeast Alaska, Kodiak and Cook Inlet.

Turns out, it’s commercial fishermen. “In each region where there is an aquaculture association, commercial salmon permit holders have levied a salmon enhancement tax upon themselves from one to three percent,” said Tina Fairbanks, executive director of Kodiak Regional Aquaculture Association.

Fishermen also catch and sell returning adult salmon to the hatchery which operators use to pay operating expenses, a process called cost recovery. In 2017, cost recovery fish, which fetch a lower price for fishermen than selling to processors, accounted for 79 percent of hatchery income.

There have been discussions about sport charter operators contributing, but it’s not really needed, said Steve Reifenstuh, executive director of the Northern Southeast Regional Aquaculture Association. “Because of the mechanism we have for doing cost recovery there is not really a need to bring in additional money.”

“That’s very refreshing to hear right

See Page 18, **FISH FACTOR**

SEASON EXTENDED

Tanner crab harvesters offered more time

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Harvesters in the Prince William Sound Area Commissioner’s Permit tanner crab fishery are getting a season extension, to compensate for stormy weather conditions that kept them off the grounds for days.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, acknowledging the adverse conditions at sea, pushed the season’s end from March 31 to 11:59 p.m. on April 7, with the same 25 pot limit per vessel.

The agency is continuing to track daily harvest in all statistical areas and advising fishermen to monitor news releases for possible statistical area closures.

In order to provide fishing opportunity

for prospecting in areas not yet explored, ADF&G area groundfish management biologist Jan Rumble said the Eastern District and the area of the Western District east of 148 degrees W longitude and south of Montague Island, and not including statistical area 475934 will be open from 12:01 a.m. on April 8 through 11:59 p.m. on April 17, with a pot limit of 40 pots per vessel. The season, area and gear may be adjusted by emergency order, depending on fishery performance, Rumble said.

Vessels will not be allowed to operate 40 pots in Prince William Sound prior to April 8, even if fishing in the area of the extension.

For harvesters who intend to operate up to 15 additional pots beginning April 8, additional pot tags will be available the first

week of April at ADF&G offices in Cordova and Homer, or by appointment in Seward by contacting ADF&G in Homer.

Harvesters are reminded that all pot gear in the Western District west of 148 degrees W longitude and north of Montague Island must have all bait and bait containers removed by closure of the fishery in that area at 11:59 p.m. on April 7.

The extension is open only to harvesters who were registered for the fishery prior to the registration deadline. Each vessel is still required to make a daily call-in by 3 p.m. These harvesters are also asked to give ADF&G prior notice of landing at least eight hours before landing Tanner crab, to give ADF&G an opportunity to collect biological data from the harvest.

FISHERIES TRADE SHOW

ComFish Alaska marks its 40th year

Annual forums and trade show offer updates on marketing, legislation and new gear

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Alaska’s seafood industry is gathered in Kodiak March 27-30, for the 40th year running, to talk all things fish, from state and federal legislation to legal challenges, preventing fatal falls overboard, energy audits and vessel upgrades.

The annual gathering also includes a trade show that attracts gear vendors, government agencies and environmental entities with ties to the commercial fishing industry.

The agenda for Friday, March 29, includes presentations on marketing, the impact of space operations, discussion on permitting

of the Pebble mine, and repurposing retired fish nets and an update on federal fisheries legislation.

Jeremy Woodrow, interim executive director of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute, and Garrett Evidge, an economist with the McDowell Group in Juneau, are teamed up to update harvesters about global markets for Alaska’s wild seafood, the value of that seafood in domestic and foreign markets, and how global economics create challenges and opportunities for Alaska seafood.

Mark Lester, president of the Alaska Aerospace Corp., will talk about that agency’s need for waterway and air space closures, and solicit feedback on the spaceport’s ap

proach to closures, in an effort to improve the agency’s relationship with fishermen.

Nicole Baker of Net Your Problem will discuss efforts to recycle retired fishing gear, giving that net new purpose while keeping it out of landfills, to make many useful new products.

On the agenda for Saturday, March 30, are the community-oriented fun with fish and processor games, with a large display of many species of commercially harvested fish. Processor specific events will include a fish toss, with “catch and keep” competition to see which team of processor workers

See Page 18, **COMFISH**

SEASON OPENER

Fresh wild Pacific halibut hits retail market

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Fresh wild Pacific halibut, known for their delectable white meat, are back in retail seafood shops and being featured as dinner entrees in fine restaurants in Alaska.

Stormy weather greeted commercial harvesters for the season opener in Southeast Alaska on March 15, but the weather has since improved, said Linda Behnken, a veteran commercial harvester and executive director of the Alaska Longline Fishermen’s Association in Sitka.

Opening day brought 22-foot seas and 50 knot winds, but the weather has been much nicer for the last four to five days, so some harvesters were able to get out and back

in one day with their catch, Behnken said March 24.

Processors were reportedly offering commercial harvesters \$6 a pound for their halibut catch in Juneau and Sitka.

In retail markets, the famed Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle was hawking whole halibut for \$18.99 a pound and fillets at \$29.99 a pound. New Sagaya in Anchorage was posted \$185.95 for five pounds of halibut fillets, and FishEx, also in Anchorage, was selling fresh halibut fillets online for \$46.95 a pound.

Restaurants in Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau were featuring a variety of creative halibut entrees on their dinner menus.

In Anchorage, Orso had fresh Alaska halibut with bok choy, bacon, grape tomatoes

and pineapple soy sherry for \$36.95, while the Crow’s Next at the Hotel Captain Cook was offering Kachemak Bay halibut with de puy French lentils, baby bok choy, sweet corn emulsion, crispy daikon and beach mushrooms for \$38.

At the Pumphouse, in Fairbanks, chefs were preparing grilled halibut on pan fried potatoes, spinach, Portobello mushrooms, onions, apples, grape tomatoes and asparagus with balsamic glaze for \$32.95.

In Juneau, blue cheese crumb crusted halibut for \$34 was on the dinner menu at T.K. McGuire’s. Hangar on the Wharf had cups of halibut chowder for \$7.99, and bowls of chowder \$9.99, plus wild Alaska halibut grilled with a macadamia nut crust, served with pineapple curry and vegetables for \$32.99.

Cordova Tide Tables

DATE		TIME	HEIGHT		TIME	HEIGHT		TIME	HEIGHT		TIME	HEIGHT
03/29	Fri	02:18 AM	5.72 L		08:57 AM	9.89 H		3:50 PM	2.53 L		10:51 PM	8.96 H
03/30	Sat	04:01 AM	5.67 L		10:12 AM	9.98 H		5:09 PM	2.07 L		11:45 PM	9.56 H
03/31	Sun	05:24 AM	4.81 L		11:13 AM	10.39 H		5:58 PM	1.43 L			
04/01	Mon	12:25 AM	10.21 H		06:10 AM	3.72 L		12:03 PM	10.91 H		6:34 PM	0.83 L
04/02	Tue	12:57 AM	10.86 H		06:46 AM	2.63 L		12:45 PM	11.40 H		7:04 PM	0.38 L
04/03	Wed	01:26 AM	11.50 H		07:18 AM	1.61 L		1:24 PM	11.80 H		7:34 PM	0.11 L
04/04	Thu	01:53 AM	12.08 H		07:50 AM	0.74 L		2:00 PM	12.05 H		8:03 PM	0.06 L

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COASTAL PLAIN

Supporters, opponents of ANWR leasing plan speak

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Alaska’s congressional delegation is reaffirming its support for an oil and gas leasing program on the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, while Gwich’in Athabascans speak out against the plan, calling for protection of their sacred lands, caribou and human rights.

The state’s Republican delegation sent a letter on March 25 to Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash, saying they felt the final environmental impact statement “should maximize acreage available for leasing to fully comply with congressional intent and ensure the greatest possible return to the U.S. Treasury.”

They also urged the Interior Department “to prioritize subsistence access” for the residents of Kaktovik, whom the delegation

identified as “the only inhabitants of the Coastal Plain.”

The delegation also said that the statutory authorization providing for surface development of up to 2,000 federal acres “is meant as both a restriction to protect the environment and a guarantee that leases can be developed in a timely manner.”

Meanwhile in Washington D.C., the U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources, subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources heard testimony from 11 people opposed to the leasing plan, including Bernadette Demientieff, executive director of the Gwich’in Steering Committee.

“We call the Coastal Plain ‘Iizhik Gwats ‘an Gwandaii Goodlit’” – “the Sacred Place Where Life begins,” Demientieff told the subcommittee. “This name demonstrates the great significance of this area to the Gwich’in people. We are caribou people.”

“The Coastal Plain of the Arctic Refuge

is very important to the caribou,” Demientieff said. “Drilling there would cause lower birth rates and threaten migrations, risking everything we hold dear. Pregnant females come to the coastal Plain to give birth in May and early June.”

The Coastal Plain provides nutrition for the mothers recovering from birth and rich milk and nutrition for newborn calves, she said.

“The Coastal Plain is not just a piece of land with oil underneath. It is the heart of our people, our food, and our way of life,” she said.

Demientieff also told the committee that the congressional delegation has not listened to them, and that “the Native corporations do not speak for us. They are the ones who will benefit from development while the tribes live with the aftermath.” She urged the committee to pass the Arctic Cultural and Coastal Plain Protection Act,” to protect the Gwich’in and their way of life.

COMFISH

From Page 17

can throw and catch different species the farthest.

During the fishermen’s showcase, harvesters will compete, while the crowd cheers them on, in coiling, knot tying, hook throwing, the rail tie/hitch and donning survival suits.

ComFish began March 27 in downtown Kodiak with the annual fish taco night at the Kodiak Island Brewery, a fund raiser to support recertification for Pacific cod harvested by the Alaska jig sector in the Marine Stewardship Council and Responsible Alaska Fisheries Management programs. The popular event includes tacos prepared by the Association of Latin Women in Alaska with fish harvested by local jig fishermen.

The first full day of ComFish included forums on Coast Guard helicopter rescues at sea, a safety presentation by representatives of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health on preventing fatal falls overboard, legal issues, business investing and vessel upgrades, and a fisheries update from the Dunleavy administration.

TIMELY SALE

E&E Foods to purchase APICDA subsidiary

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association has announced plans to sell its subsidiary Cannon Fish Co. to E&E Foods, a leader in the seafood industry that has operated in the Seattle area since 1932.

Luke Fanning, chief executive officer of APICDA, said that it was the right time to be selling CFC to a company with deep roots in both Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, which would provide continued employ-

ment opportunities for Cannon’s staff.

CFC, a subsidiary of APICDA Joint Ventures since 2013, is a value-added seafood processing and marketing firm that caters to a nationwide network of retailers, restaurants, specialty grocers and institutions. CFC offers a broad range of finfish and value-added options, including its Cannon Fishbrand retail products, custom packaging, portion control and private labeling of salmon, halibut, cod, crab, tuna, swordfish, Mahi Mahi and snapper.

“As an organization, we are focused on leveraging resources to maximize benefits to our CDQ member communities in Alaska,” Fanning said. “The sale proceeds will strengthen our financial position and allow us to build new programs in the Aleutian-Pribilof region that have been identified as high priorities by our board.”

E&E has a large presence in Alaska with shoreside plants in Egegik (Coffee Point Seafoods), Kenai (Pacific Star Seafoods, and Yakutat (Yakutat Seafoods) and a floating

processor (Cape Greig) in Bristol Bay and Kotzebue.

APICDA is one of six western Alaska CDQ entities allocated a percentage of all Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands quotas for groundfish, prohibited species, halibut and crab. The CDQ program was established to provide eligible western Alaska villages with an opportunity to participate and invest in fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, to provide economic and social benefits for residents of these communities.

FISH FACTOR

From Page 17

now that you have adequate revenue. That is not something we hear very often,” said Rep Sarah Vance, R-Homer. “So, thank you to all the fishermen who contribute and make it sustainable.”

“The hatchery programs truly represent one of the most successful public/private partnerships in the state’s history,” Fairbanks said. “These facilities produce salmon for sport, subsistence, personal use and commercial fisheries at no cost to the state of Alaska. The revenues generated through commercial landings and fish taxes go back into the communities and state coffers and represent a great return on the state’s initial investment.”

“It’s very uncommon,” said Dan Lesh, an economist with the McDowell Group. “It is quite impressive that it produces such large economic benefits with no cost to the state.”

“It seems to me that the commercial fish-

ing industry is paying out millions of dollars through foregone revenue in cost recovery and enhancement revenues that benefit Alaskans collectively,” responded Rep. Kreiss-Tomkins, adding that he would like to see an analysis done. “It’s paying for all Alaskans in a sense by underwriting this common benefit.”

Alaska’s hatchery harvest in 2017 of 47 million fish accounted for 21 percent of the statewide salmon harvest valued at \$162 million to fishermen, which was 24 percent of the statewide value. That was the lowest percentage of hatchery fish in the overall catch since 1995, and due largely to a wild stock harvest that was the third highest in Alaska history. An additional 194,000 Alaska hatchery fish were caught in the sport, personal use and subsistence fisheries.

Fish differences

Americans have very different perceptions on wild versus farmed fish, and whether it is grown in fresh or salt water.

In a new report called Aquaculture/Mariculture, US Market Insights and Opportunities, food industry trackers Changing Tastes and Datassential surveyed 1,500 consumers and 400 restaurant operators about their preferences for America’s three favorites: salmon, tuna and shrimp.

Nearly half of consumers and 40 percent of restaurateurs said they prefer wild fish

and shellfish because it has better flavor, quality, texture, is free of antibiotics, pesticides and other chemicals. For salmon, 57 percent of consumers said they prefer wild caught; it was 64 percent for restaurants.

Both believe less than half of the seafoods we eat today comes from aquaculture. Overall, land-based and nearshore aquaculture operations got much lower marks across the board.

Water pollution and impacts on water quality were listed as the top concerns by 66 percent of consumers for land-based fish farms and 58 percent for near shore. Water concerns jumped to 80 percent among buyers.

The use of antibiotics and pesticides in fish farms ranked as the second concern by 64 percent of consumers and 68 percent for restaurant operators.

Consumers and buyers believe a substantial amount of seafood is already farmed in the deep ocean, and one quarter believe that open ocean mariculture is better for the environment than wild capture fishing.

The report concludes that as more Americans shift to eating seafood, the share with no established preferences for wild versus farmed increases.

Fish bits

Gov. Mike Dunleavy has nominated Nicole Kimball, vice president of Pacific Seafood

Processors Association and Cora Campbell, CEO of Silver Bay Seafoods to seats on the North Pacific Fishery Management Council. They would replace two current members whose terms expire this summer: Theresa Peterson of Kodiak and Buck Laukitis of Homer. The NPFMC oversees more than 25 fisheries in federal waters off Alaska, meaning from three to 200 miles out.

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council meets April 1-9 at the Anchorage Hilton. On the agenda: Navy war game plans for May in the Gulf of Alaska. Comments on any items can be made through May 29.

For its upcoming meeting cycle, the state Board of Fisheries is accepting proposed changes to subsistence, personal use, sport and commercial and statewide fisheries at Kodiak and Lower and Upper Cook Inlet through April 10.

Tariffs on US imports from China will continue indefinitely the Trump Administration announced last week. The trade war, which began last July, has hit the seafood industry on both sides. SeafoodSource reports that Trump said he plans to “leave them on for a substantial period of time.”

Laine Welch of Kodiak has been covering news of Alaska’s seafood industry for print and broadcast since 1991. Visit her website at www.alaskafishradio.com.

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OFFSHORE LEASING

Lawsuit challenges Gulf oil, gas lease sale

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Several environmental entities are challenging the Trump administration in court over an oil and gas lease sale in the Gulf of Mexico that would open up over 78 million acres to offshore drilling operations.

The lawsuit was filed in mid-March by Earthjustice on behalf of Healthy Gulf (formerly known as Gulf Restoration Network), the Sierra Club and the Center for Biological Diversity, after the Interior Department announced that the agency would hold its next lease sale on March 20.

A ruling in the case is expected in early summer.

The lease sale would be the largest ever offered for oil and gas development in U.S. history, with more acreage open than sales in 2018.

“The Trump administration is barreling ahead with expanded oil and gas drilling in our oceans while simultaneously erasing critical protections that protect Gulf coasts and giving oil and gas companies a pass from complying with existing safety requirements. This is just a recipe for disaster,” said Brettmy Hardy, Earthjustice attorney.

The lawsuit, filed in federal district

court in Washington D.C., challenges what Earthjustice contends is flawed analyses of the environmental effects of such sales, which rely on incorrect assumptions about the safety regulations and royalty rates that would apply to the leases.

Legal counsel for the Center for Biological Diversity said that the Interior Department based several of its conclusions on Obama-era policies, including the Well Control Rule, which President Donald Trump’s administration is now rolling back or eliminating. Additionally, the lawsuit charges that Interior significantly underestimates the degree to which each lease sale would affect overall oil and gas development in the Gulf of Mexico.

The Well Control Rule, established in the wake of the Deepwater Horizon tragedy of April 20, 2010, in the Gulf of Mexico, included a series of notices and regulations to improve safety offshore. Eleven people died and 17 were injured in Deepwater Horizon, considered to be the largest marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry, with an estimated total discharge of 4.9 million barrels of oil. The spill also caused extensive damage to marine and wildlife habitats and the fishing and tourism industries.

USACE HEARINGS

Public hearings underway on Pebble mine permit

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF’

Public hearings are underway through April 16 in the Bristol Bay region and South-central Alaska as part of the national public comment period on the draft environmental impact statement on the proposed Pebble mine in Southwest Alaska.

Hearings were scheduled March 25 in Naknek, March 26 in Kokhanok, March 27 in Newhalen, March 28 in Igiugig, March 29 in New Stuyahok, April 8 in Nondalton, April 9 in Dillingham, April 11 in Homer and April 16 in Anchorage.

Court reporters were to be present at all public hearings to record oral comments.

Thousands of Alaskans have already sub-

mitted written comments, many contending major flaws in the draft EIS.

The current deadline for all comments is May 30. According to John Budnik, public affairs specialist with the USACE, no decision has been made yet on whether to extend that 90-day deadline beyond May 30.

Comments may be mailed to:
USACE Alaska District
Attn: DA Permit Application 2017-271,
Pebble Limited Partnership
645 G Street Suite 100-921
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Further information is available at
pebbleprojecteis.com

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CAR CHASER

Man who tracks down stolen vehicles enters plea deal

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANCHORAGE — An Alaska man has agreed to a plea deal that includes a promise to stop chasing after stolen vehicles.

Officials said that 54-year-old Floyd Hall pleaded guilty to one count of reckless endangerment resulting in a 30-day suspended sentence and a \$500 fine, the Anchorage Daily News reported Saturday.

The terms of Hall’s three-year probation sentence include a pledge to refrain from chasing anyone driving a suspected stolen vehicle, officials said.

The newspaper reports that Hall can remain involved with a citizens’ group calling itself the “A Team” that relies on tips from social media to recover stolen automobiles.

Hall engaged in a 19-month court case resulting from an August 2017 charge of reckless driving for what police say was a high-speed chase but Hall contends only involved following the vehicle.

Joshua Fink, Hall’s attorney, said prosecu-

tors initially requested that Hall not be allowed to “chase, follow or otherwise pursue” suspected stolen vehicles during his probation, but agreed to scale it back to simply “chasing.” The difference is the “high rate of speed,” Fink said.

The prosecuting attorney declined to comment.

Hall said the A Team previously broached the possibility of a partnership with police without success.

Anchorage Police Capt. Sean Case said that while police appreciate information from the public and regularly partner with community watch groups, they draw a line when citizens might harm themselves by becoming involved with suspects.

“You don’t know (a suspect’s) criminal history, you don’t know how violent they are, you don’t know if they’re armed,” Case said.

Information from: Anchorage Daily News, adn.com.

The Cordova Times
WWW.THECORDOVATIMES.COM



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