

The Cordova Times

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Inside

Cordova

Chronicles

Cordova is special: Shellhorn recounts observations from a 1980s newspaper editor
Page 2

Wolverine hoops

CHS boys open season with pair of road wins
Page 3

Fisheries

Incidental take of marine mammals authorized during Navy training
Page 13

Index

Cordova Culture...2
Opinion.....5
Fisheries.....13
Classified Ads....15
Puzzles.....16

The Cordova Times

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YEAR IN REVIEW



THE YEAR IN PHOTOS on pages 10-11 and find more top photos from 2018 at thecordovatimes.com

A look back at the year in news

Bears, tanner crab, earthquakes and tsunami warnings, and of course, salmon dominate Cordova headlines in 2018

BY ANNETTE POTTER

apotter@thecordovatimes.com

Cordova celebrated its first tanner crab fishery in 30 years, struggled with bear issues, came together during tsunami warnings, and mourned the loss of a historic cannery building in 2018.

Readers, you chose these top 20 most read stories of the year by clicking on these headlines that follow. Inside is a look back at the most read news on thecordovatimes.com during the past 12 months according to Google Analytics.

See Page 8, 2018 IN REVIEW

NEW SERVICES

CCMC expands patient services

Pediatrician and occupational therapist to begin service in early January

BY EMILY MESNER

emesner@thecordovatimes.com

The Cordova Community Medical Center has added five new services for patients amidst struggling financial times and added challenges with operating in a rural community.

In the summer, CCMC signed a contract with a speech therapist who is currently helping nursing home residents. They have visited about twice so far, with planned quarterly visits.

The speech therapist is also working on

See Page 18, CCMC

LEAVING TOWN

Sea Grant's Torie Baker resigns

Availability of University of Alaska funds will determine future of Sea Grant post

BY MARGARET BAUMAN

mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Alaska Sea Grant's veteran Cordova agent Torie Baker has resigned her post effective at the end of December to deal with family matters in the Lower 48, but says the community where she has lived for the past 30 years will remain her home.

In her role with Sea Grant in Cordova over the past 15 years Baker has focused on marine boat safety training in Prince William Sound and the Gulf of Alaska, plus seafood processor and direct mar-

See Page 15, BAKER

The Cordova Times

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Cordova Culture

AROUND TOWN

Alumni basketball game and ‘Wonders of Wonder’ holiday concert

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

JNYO practice

Junior Native Youth Olympics practices will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning Dec. 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Masonic Lodge. All youths, grades 1-6, are welcome to participate. Nick Tiedeman will be coaching. The competition will be in Anchorage Feb. 22-24. For more information, contact Jessica Weaver at 907-424-7738 or email nveyouth@eyak-nsn.gov.

Holiday Concert

Cordova Arts & Pageants presents the “Wonders of Wonder” Holiday Concert featuring The Dan Mac Band & John Pypes Teamer at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28 at North Star Theatre.

Alumni basketball game

The Cordova Jr./Sr. High School alumni basketball games will be held Saturday, Dec. 29 at the CHS gymnasium. The girls game will be at 5:30 p.m. and the boys game will be at 7 p.m. For more information contact Bert Adams and Brad Sjostedt.

Junior high volleyball parent/player meeting

The Junior high volleyball parent/player meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 8 at the Cordova Jr./Sr. High School library/media center. Students should be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Practice will begin Thursday, Jan. 10 from 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. at Mt. Eccles Elementary School.

Holiday Art Show

The Cordova Museum’s annual Holiday Art Show is open at the Copper River Gallery in the Cordova Museum at the Cordova Center. The museum is open 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and noon-5 p.m. Sunday.

Food pantry services

Native Village of Eyak administers food distribution on behalf of the Food Bank of Alaska. For more information on the program, contact Rebecca Calfina at NVE’s office at 907-424-7738.

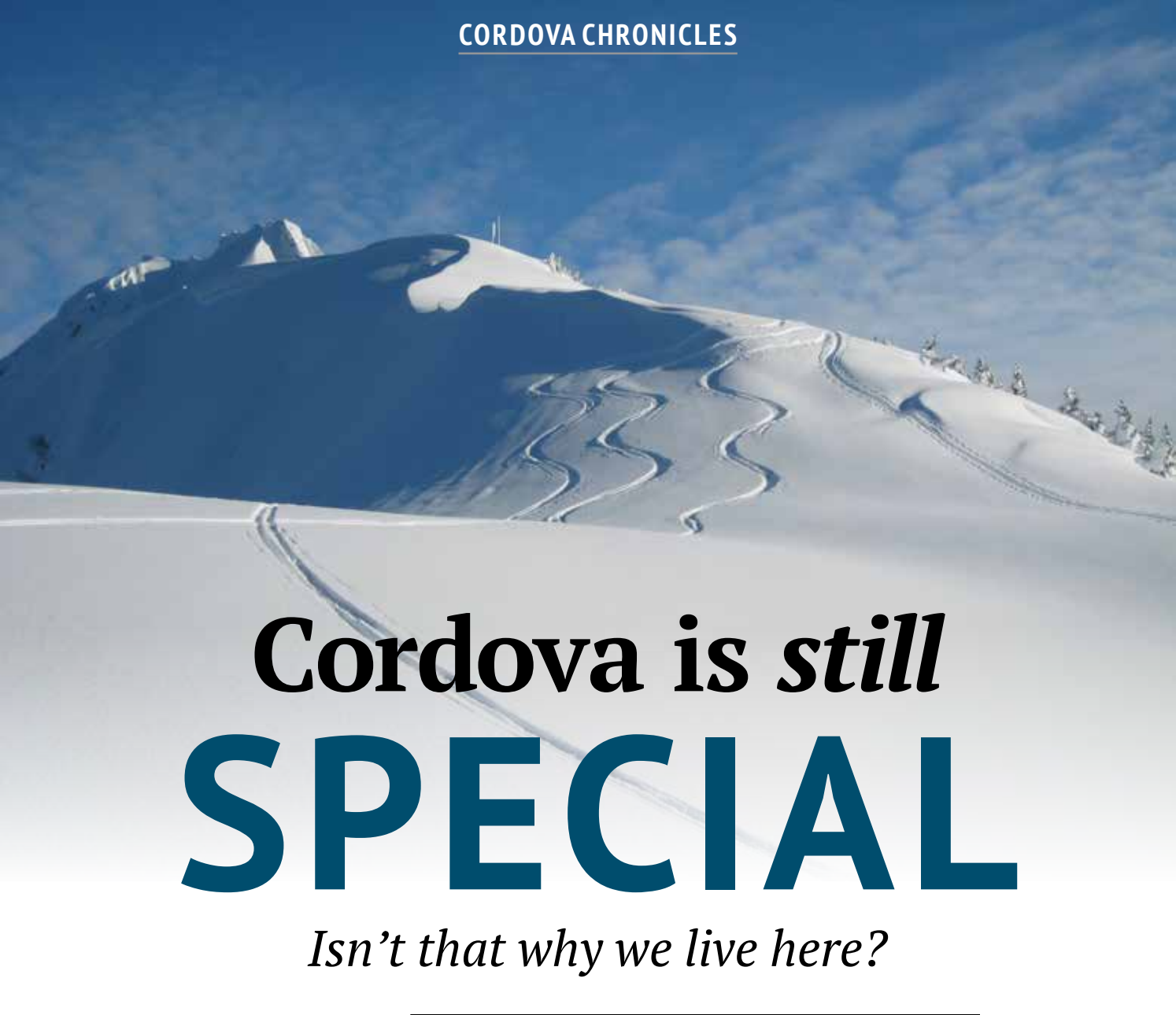
MONDAYS

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.

See Page 7, AROUND TOWN

CORDOVA CHRONICLES



Cordova is still SPECIAL

Isn’t that why we live here?

BY DICK SHELLHORN
For The Cordova Times

Back in the mid-’80s, The Cordova Times had an editor named John Moulder. Where Moulder came from, and how long he lasted at the helm of the local paper is difficult to discern, but he wrote with a flair and style reminiscent of an earlier era.

He also didn’t seem to sleep much, for very little escaped his purview. I vaguely recall he had somewhat of a reputation as a “rounder,” including various local night spots as one of his rich sources for small-town news.

On July 5, 1984, he penned a feature titled “Cordova is Special.” It was written on the 75th Anniversary of Cordova’s incorporation as a city. The piece was so well-liked that Alaska Magazine, which back in those days was a much more of down-home Alaska publication, in contrast to the glitz of its more modern format, reprinted it in the May 1985 edition.

At the end of the reprint, there was this note from the editor of the magazine: “Every once in a while, we come across something in another publication that reminds us all why we like living in Alaska. John Moulder’s editorial in The Cordova Times on July 5, 1984, is just such an article. John gave us permission to share it with others besides those lucky folks in Cordova.”

As another New Year ushers in, here are some of Moulder’s insights. Judge for yourself how many are still true. (I’ve added comments to clarify a few of them.)

- “A dog named Cosmos stretches on the pavement to soak up the rays of the sun, and looks up annoyed at the honking horns of the vehicles detouring around her.”
- “There are no pawnshops on Main Street, but rummage sales are weekly institutions.”
- “At weddings, funerals and Sunday sermons those in blue jeans and T-shirts are as properly dressed as men in suits and ties.”
- “Ball games are not called because of rain, but go into extra innings.”
- “A pilgrim will find that no two clocks in Cordova seem to have the same



Clearly, one doesn’t have to tell our grandson Huckleberry Moorhead from Texas that Cordova is special. From left, Heidi Shellhorn Moorhead, Liesl Moorhead and Huck, at Midway Station on the Eyak Ski area.

All photos by
Dick Shellhorn/
The Cordova Times

- time, but nobody cares.”
- “People don’t lock their cars, but they’re not stolen. Many don’t lock their doors, but their stereos are still there when they go back home.”
- “People read the Monday paper on Tuesday, and the Tuesday paper on Wednesday, but that’s all right.” (Back then Anchorage newspapers were flown down.)
- “People find out what stores their friends are shopping in by the dogs patiently waiting outside.”
- “Nonconformists display their individuality by wearing their hair short.”
- “A policeman answers a complaint about a barking dog and finds the dog asleep when he gets there.”
- “People walk the streets alone and in pairs, in the shadows of the night and the small hours of the morning, but there is no street crime.”
- “Like all cities, it has problems from alcoholism and excessive drinking, but here there are no panhandlers nor winos sleeping on sidewalks and in doorways.”
- “School kids long to see a farm with cows and hogs, or a skyscraper.”
- “Somebody reports fresh bear tracks, but nobody gets excited.”
- “There were no murders last year. No rapes. No robberies.”
- “The Police Officers Association

- honors the town’s senior citizens and one of the door prizes is a \$10 gift certificate from Laura’s Liquor Store.” (In 1984, coffee was not Laura’s main attraction.)
- “A woman who has never seen the LA freeway complains about a traffic problem.”
 - “If a pilgrim goes to church and gets restless, he can step outside and look up, above the timberline, at the gossamer clouds gently hugging the majestic peaks, and ponder life’s values.”

From reading these, it is apparent Moulder’s background included time in big cities such as Los Angeles. And it is evident that not all of his observations are still completely true.

But Cordova is still pretty dang special. Isn’t that why we live here?

Happy New Year.

Dick Shellhorn, author, reporter, ref and grandpa, can be reached at shorn@gci.net. Shellhorn was born and raised in Cordova, Alaska, and has lived there his entire life. He has been writing sports stories for the Cordova Times for over 40 years. In his Cordova Chronicles features, he writes about the history and characters of this Alaska town. Alaska Press Club awarded Shellhorn first place for Best Humor column in 2016 and third place in 2017.



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HOOPS

CHS boys open season with pair of road wins

BY DICK SHELLHORN
For The Cordova Times

The CHS Wolverines opened their season with a pair of wins over 3A MatSu Valley opponents on Dec. 21 and Dec. 22.

Cordova cruised by Redington 59 - 27 in the first game of their 2018-19 campaign. Junior Kaiden Graves led the Wolverines with 19 points, including four three-pointers. Christian Adams, another junior, hit in double digits with 12.

Houston proved to be a stronger challenge, but the Wolverines made their record 2-0 with a 69-45 win. Junior Evan Gatton topped the CHS attack with 24 points, including 15 out of 16 from the free throw line. Adams added 18 points.

CHS Coach Bert Adams was happy with the results.

“It was a good start,” he said. “Everybody played, and with the depth we have this year, we can be more aggressive and physical.”

Cordova resumes play on Jan. 2-5 at the

Rally the Regions tournament in Anchorage. This year’s field includes Selawik, Scammon Bay, Haines, Wrangell, Tok and Cordova.

“It’s a good tournament,” Adams said. “It is always fun the face teams from throughout the State that we otherwise rarely see, and a great way to learn how to adjust to new opponents and styles of play.”

Cordova’s first home games will be on Jan. 11-12 versus Conference opponent Su Valley.

GIVING

Salvation army collections


Toy and food collections for the Salvation Army rest on tables at the pick-up center, located at the Church of the Nazarene, in Cordova on Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. The items were then distributed to clients in town the following day.

Photo by Steve Leppert/
for The Cordova Times



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AT YOUR LIBRARY

Find book club favorites from 2018 right in Cordova

BY CATHY SHERMAN
For The Cordova Times

The Cordova Public Library staff works hard to keep the freshest batch of good reads on our shelves for you, especially during these dark months of winter. Check out this wonderful list that that GoodReads created of the best Book Club reads of 2018. And we're not surprised, but maybe you will be to learn that they are all available at the Cordova Public Library!

- **The Great Alone** by Kristin Hannah
- **Little Fires Everywhere** by Celeste Ng
- **The Hate U Give** by Angie Thomas
- **Before We Were Yours** by Lisa Wingate
- **A Gentleman in Moscow** by Amor Towles
- **The Handmaid's Tale** by Margaret Atwood
- **All the Light We Cannot See** by Anthony Doerr
- **Bear Town** by Fredrik Backman
- **Born a Crime** by Trevor Noah
- **Killers of the Flower Moon** by David Grann

Stop in the library and grab a couple of books and settle in for the reading season!

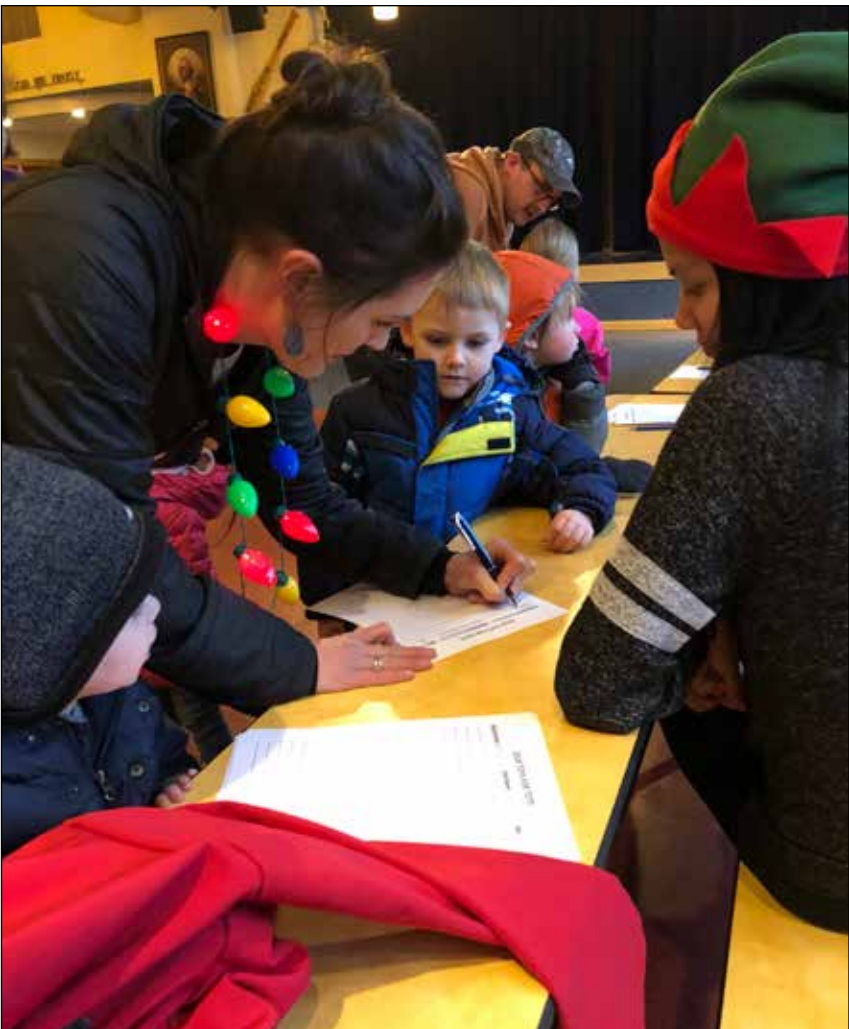
The Cordova Public Library is open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and closed on Monday.

SEASON OF GIVING

Toys for Tots

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

“For the third year in a row, Cordova has participated in the Toys for Tots program sponsored by the U.S. Marine Corps,” said Mt. Eccles Elementary School principal Gayle Groff. “Cordova School District would like to thank those who helped out with wrapping, sorting and distributing gifts. There were many smiles today as children of all ages opened their presents and chatted with Santa.”



Photos by Vivian Kennedy/The Cordova Times

ABOVE: Children’s Pallas employee Shannon Phillips signs in her preschoolers with “Santa’s elves” at Toys for Tots held at Mt. Eccles Elementary School on Friday, Dec. 21, 2018.

LEFT: Evelyn Sloan, 4, receives a wrapped gift from volunteer Nora Dudley during Toys for Tots at Mt. Eccles Elementary School on Friday, Dec. 21, 2018. Photo by Vivian Kennedy/The Cordova Times

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SAFE TRAVELS
AND WARM WISHES
FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Opinion

The Cordova Times

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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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INTERIM REPORT

31st Alaska Legislature convenes on Jan. 15

Filing for 2019 Permanent Fund Dividend begins Jan. 1

BY SEN. GARY STEVENS

For The Cordova Times

Season's Greetings. With just a few weeks left in the interim, lawmakers are getting ready to head to Juneau for the first session of the 31st Alaska State Legislature. The session begins on Tuesday, Jan. 15, and runs for 90 days.

There are several new faces in the Legislature this year. The Senate welcomes five new members, including three who previously served in the House of Representatives. The House will have 11 new members.

While Senate leadership and committee assignments are set, the House's membership and leadership structure and committee roles are uncertain at this time. Court action will decide who will serve in Fairbanks' House District One. The governor will appoint a member to serve an Eagle River's House District 13 due to its representative-elect taking over as Commissioner for the Department of Corrections.

Senate District P – House Districts 31 and 32

My role as your Senator is made easier by a strong working relationship with the members House Districts 31 and 32. I am pleased to again be working with Rep. Louise Stutes Kodiak, who is entering her fifth year in House. I look forward to working with Representative-elect Sarah Vance of Homer, who begins her first year in office next month.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank District 31's outgoing member, Representative Paul Seaton of Homer, for his efforts during the past sixteen years. It was a pleasure to work with Paul and his office over the years, and I wish him and his staff all the best in their future endeavors.

FY 2020 budget

Although there is a new governor and many new lawmakers, familiar issues face the next Legislature in 2019, chief among them being the budget. On Friday, Dec. 14, the governor released a \$11.5 billion

preliminary FY '20 budget that will serve as the starting point in the budget discussions. Based on an oil price forecast of \$64 per barrel, there is a deficit of \$1.6 billion between revenues and expenditures in the early budget. We fully expect the administration to propose spending cuts throughout the state's departments and agencies as the budget works through the legislature. It is unlikely the governor will propose or support revenue measures such as an income tax and statewide sales tax to balance the budget.

As the budget comes before the Senate and House Finance Committees, I hope you will have the opportunity to provide your thoughts during public comment periods. Please contact the Legislative Information Office (LIO) near you for more information on the Finance Committees' schedules, and information on how to take part in the public testimony process.

See Page 6, **INTERIM REPORT**

COMMENTARY

Dunleavy should practice what he preaches, ditch Rydell

BY RICK SINNOTT

For The Cordova Times

Gov. Mike Dunleavy promised to reduce state spending. He vowed to deliver only core functions, which meant "eliminating the non-essential." During the campaign, he told us Alaska "suffers from a bloated government that spends beyond its means."

So why in the world would he hire Rick Rydell, a radio talk show host, as a special assistant to the commissioner of Fish and Game?

Rydell – who now goes by his real surname, Green, instead of his better-known alias – has no education or experience in wildlife management. But he does like to talk. So, his job will be "improving communication" with the state's hunters and anglers. For an annual salary of \$87,000.

But wait. Since when does a Republican-led administration or Legislature need to improve communication with hunters? They are already in lockstep. The acting commissioner of Fish and Game, Doug Vincent-Lang, is the treasurer of Safari Club International Alaska Chapter.

The new director of wildlife conservation, Eddie Grasser, is also deeply embedded in the trophy hunting community. He's a former hunting guide and the vice president of Safari Club International Alaska Chapter. Grasser is a leading figure in the Alaska Outdoor Council.

Grasser and Vincent-Lang are directors of the Outdoor Heritage Foundation of Alaska. All of these are pro-hunting organizations that swing a lot of political weight in Alaska. Nothing inherently wrong with belonging to a pro-hunting organization, but these are advocacy groups, not professional resource managers.

None of the new leaders at Fish and Game have any education or experience as wildlife managers (not counting political ap-

pointments). Instead, they seem to have suspicious connections with resource development. Vincent-Lang is on the Resource Development Council. He has long opposed endangered species management in Alaska. He fought the recent Ballot Measure 1, which would have tightened up fish habitat regulations in Alaska. Ben Mulligan, the new assistant commissioner, is a businessman and the vice president of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. Rydell also has ties to resource development, is a member of the Alaska Outdoor Council, and has spent years attacking Fish and Game on his radio program.

Again, there is nothing wrong with responsible resource development. But if you think it's a good idea to have these people running Fish and Game, then I know some members of the Audubon Society who would like to be in charge of ExxonMobil and the Pebble Mine project.

Rydell is the most egregious pick of all. A former disgraced director of wildlife conservation, Corey Rossi, had many of the same skills and beliefs as Rydell. They are good friends. Both like to talk. Both like to hunt. Both have been assistant hunting guides. Both are members of the Alaska Moose Federation. Both are hard-core disciples of intensive management, the Alaska law that essentially mandates predator control in favor of producing more game animals at the expense of wolves and bears.

You'd think that after the state's experience with Rossi- who was fired after he was found to have racked up 12 hunting violations before his tenure as the state's chief wildlife manager -Vincent-Lang and Dunleavy would have given Rydell's appointment a second thought,

Here's why: One of Rydell's sketchy qualifications for the job of special assistant was two books he's written about hunting in Alaska. In those books, Rydell recounts a

number of questionable and downright unethical and illegal practices that he thought were, well, kind of funny.

Rydell, Rossi and another assistant hunting guide once planned to shoot 30 black bears in three days. This was legal under intensive management. Was it something to brag about in a book? That's questionable.

Rydell described it as "a chance for greatness ... and a chance to sight in new rifles on moving targets, over and over and over again," That's unethical, at least in my book. Rydell and his hunting buddies failed to achieve their goal. But he did manage to shoot a sow and her three cubs as they scrambled for safety in nearby trees.

There's more. Taking shots at extreme distances, where he had to shoot a moving animal repeatedly to kill it. Snagging grouse from a four-wheeler with a dipnet, That's illegal, He even takes issue with mandated hunter-safety classes and subsistence hunting,

A salary of \$87,000 per year. That's more than my top salary when I worked for Fish and Game.

I had a master's degree ad 28 years of experience in wildlife management. And Rydell complains that state workers are overpaid, If Gov. Dunleavy were to practice what he preached, a good way to cut the state budget would be to ditch Rydell as soon as possible. He is the essence of nonessential. The commissioner of Fish and Game doesn't need a special assistant to help him understand what urban sport hunters want, He's a member of Safari Club International, and the vice president of that organization is working just down the hall.

Rick Sinnott is a former wildlife biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

INTERIM REPORT

From Page 5

Committee assignments

I will serve as chair of the Senate Education Committee in the new legislature, a role I also held this year. I am also chairing the Legislative Council, which is a joint-committee of Senate and House members that governs the Legislature’s internal business and meets throughout the year. Additionally, I will serve as a member of the Senate Health and Social Services Committee.

State boards and commissions

I hope you will consider lending your time and expertise to your fellow Alaskans by serving on one of the state’s boards and commissions. You can find out more about these panels online at gov.alaska.gov/services/boards-and-commissions. You can also call the Office of Boards and Commissions at (907) 269-7450. Email them at boards@alaska.gov.

Permanent Fund Dividend filing period begins New Year’s Day

The 2019 Permanent Fund (PFD) application opens 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 1, and closes Sunday, March 31. The Permanent Fund Division is encouraging you to apply online at pfd.alaska.gov, which I have found to be a very quick and easy process.

If you plan to file online, please do not forget to make a printed copy of your application for your records. If you file an application by mail, I urge you to send it by certified mail with a return receipt to ensure its arrival at the Permanent Fund Division office. Above all else, please double-check your application to make sure that all of the questions are answered accurately, and please do not miss the March 31 filing deadline, as applications not received or postmarked by that date will be denied as late.

For more information on the application process or eligibility questions, please contact the Permanent Fund Dividend Division at 907-269-0370.

Legislative Information Offices available to assist you

District P is served by LIOs in Cordova, Homer, Kenai and Kodiak. These offices can help you follow bills and resolutions through the legislative process, participate in teleconferences and contact legislators.

The Cordova LIO can be reached at 424-5461 and email at LIO.Cordova@akleg.gov.

The Homer LIO can be reached at 235-7878 and email at LIO.Homer@akleg.gov.

The Kenai LIO can be reached at 283-2030 and email at LIO.Kenai@akleg.gov.

The Kodiak LIO can be reached at 486-8116 and email at LIO.Kodiak@akleg.gov.

Office schedule for the remainder of the interim

As we transition to Juneau for session, the District P Kodiak office will close Wednesday, Jan. 9, and will reopen in the spring. Our Homer and capitol offices are open throughout the year.

Please give us a call if you need assistance with issues involving state government. The

number in Kodiak is 907-486-4925. Contact us in Homer at 907-235-0690. Call us toll-free in Juneau at 1-800-821-4925.

You can E-mail me at: sen.gary.stevens@akleg.gov.


Assistance with the federal government

The members of Alaska’s Congressional Delegation can assist you with matters involving the federal government. All have offices in-state. Rep. Don Young’s Anchorage office can be reached at (866) 990-5979. Sen. Lisa Murkowski’s Anchorage office can be reached at (877) 829-6030. Sen. Dan Sullivan’s Anchorage Office can be reached at (907) 271-5915.

Capitol Report returning soon

Thank you to Senate District P’s media for giving me the opportunity to share this information with you throughout the interim. My session column, the Capitol Report, will resume in late January.

On behalf of myself, my wife, Rita, my family, and the District P staff, I wish you a very happy and prosperous new year.



The Cordova Conversation

NEWS & NOTICES FROM THE CITY OF CORDOVA

PO Box 1210 • 601 1st St.
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CITYOFCORDOVA.NET

Notice to the Public

Don’t forget business license renewals are due to the City by December 31, 2018. If your business has a sales tax-exempt card, you must renew that annually as well.

Notice to the Public

The following resolution was approved by the City Council on December 19, 2018: Resolution 12-18-33

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, adopting an operating budget for fiscal year 2019 and appropriating the amount of \$15,538,342

This resolution is posted in its entirety upstairs at the Cordova Center, is published at www.cityofcordova.net (2018 Resolutions) and/or a copy can be obtained from the City Clerk’s office

Notice to the Public

The following resolution was adopted by the City Council on December 19, 2018: Resolution 12-18-34

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Cordova, Alaska, adopting City service fees, rates and charges for the 2019 calendar budget

Copies of this resolution can be obtained from the City Clerk’s office cityclerk@cityofcordova.net and it is available in its entirety at www.cityofcordova.net ; it will be posted on the City bulletin board at the Cordova Center for the entire time that these fees and rates are in effect

Notice to the Public

The City of Cordova is requesting proposals for Lot 1, USS 4606 located on Power Creek Road. The lot is 22,651 square feet and is zoned Low Density Residential.

Proposal packets are available at City Hall or online at www.cityofcordova.net.

The proposal form and information about each property are contained within the proposal packet.

For more information, please contact the City Planning Department at 424-6220, planning2@cityofcordova.net, or stop by in person.

Proposals are due December 28th, 2018 at 10 AM.

Cordova Regular Election

March 5, 2019

General Information

Polling place: Cordova Center Community Room A
Voting hours: 7:00 am to 8:00 pm

To elect:

Mayor: One (1) Mayor - For One (1) Regular, Three (3) Year Term
Seat A: One (1) City Council Member - For One (1) Regular, Three (3) Year Term
Seat F: One (1) City Council Member - For One (1) Regular, Three (3) Year Term
Seat G: One (1) City Council Member - For One (1) Regular, Three (3) Year Term

To elect:

Two (2) School Board Members - For Two (2) Regular, Three (3) Year Terms

To elect:

One (1) CCMC Authority Board Member - For One (1) Regular, Three (3) Year Term
One (1) CCMC Authority Board Member - For One (1), Two (2) Year Term

To declare candidacy: Any qualified voter who meets the residency and age requirements of the elective office must file, not more than eight weeks (Tuesday, January 8, 2019) and at least four weeks (Tuesday February 5, 2019) prior to the election, with the city clerk, a sworn declaration of candidacy using the declaration of candidacy form that applies to the office for which he or she is a candidate in order for the voter’s name to appear on the ballot as a candidate for that elective office.

Residency and age requirements: Mayor and City Council: One year immediately preceding the election and eighteen years of age. School Board Member: One year immediately preceding the election and eighteen years of age. CCMC Authority Board of Directors: One year immediately preceding the election, eighteen years of age and able to meet the requirements in Cordova Municipal Code 15.20.010 B.

Voter registration: Voter registration applications may be obtained at City Hall or you may register online at <http://www.elections.alaska.gov/> . To be qualified to vote in a regular or special city election, a voter must be: A) Qualified to vote in state elections and registered to vote in state elections at a residence address within the city limits of Cordova at least thirty days (Sunday February 3, 2019) immediately preceding the municipal election; B) A resident of the city for thirty days (Sunday February 9, 2019) immediately preceding the municipal election; and C) Not disqualified under Article V of the Alaska Constitution.

Contact the City Clerk or the Deputy Clerk for information cityclerk@cityofcordova.net or 424-6248 or cityclerk3@cityofcordova.net or 424-6286.

Invitation to Bid

The City of Cordova hereby requests written bids to replace 65’ by 68’ portion of the City shop’s roof that was damaged by wind.

Bids will be accepted until 2pm, January 4, 2019, local time.

Late bids will not be considered.

The ITB is posted on the city website www.cityofcordova.net.

Notice to the Public

The Water Division of the Public Works Department reminds residents to leave a 1/16-inch stream of water trickling to keep pipes from freezing during the winter season.

Remember even on warmer days, the winter frost goes deep. No one wants to deal with burst pipes!

Notice to the Public

Help shape your future Cordova!

RESPOND TO THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:
surveymonkey.com/r/futurecordova

Tell us what you like, don’t like, your ideas, suggestions and concerns for Cordova’s future. This anonymous survey will take less than 10 minutes and is open through December 31st. Share it with your Cordova family, friends, neighbors and coworkers! Hard copies are also available at the CCMC hospital cafeteria, library and city hall.

Your responses will be used to help develop the City of Cordova Comprehensive Plan Update, which will be a community resource and guide for decision making and planning for Cordova’s future.

Notice to the Public

2019 Dog tags are in!

Come to Cordova Police Department or the DMV with your current proof of rabies vaccination and \$20 if your fur-baby is fixed or \$25 if intact.

Not only does this keep you in compliance with city code (8.04.040), it assists the Police Department in returning your pet should it become lost/found or injured.

The cost of a citation if you don’t license your dog is \$85 plus any impound and boarding fees if we are not able to locate the owner in a timely manner.

LAST GREAT RACE

Hooley resigns as Iditarod executive director

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauma@thecordovatimes.com

After more than a quarter century as executive director of the Iditarod Trail Committee Stan Hooley has resigned from overseeing the Last Great Race, 1,000 miles from Anchorage to Nome, the ITC announced Dec. 20.

Before coming to the ITC in 1993, Hooley was the executive director of the amateur Athletic Union of the United States Inc.

“Opportunity and perfect timing don’t always conveniently align, and this transition will be taking place at a less than ideal time,” Hooley said.

That said, Hooley expressed confidence that ITC staff and volunteers will stage another successful race across Alaska to the finish line in Nome.

Where Hooley is heading next is unclear. The ITC said only that he has accepted “an opportunity that will take him out of Alaska for extended periods of time for several years.”

Hooley’s departure comes during times of some uncertainty for the race, whose image has been marred by several incidents involving participating mushers, including dog doping allegations in which champion

musher Dallas Seavey was implicated.

Earlier this month the ITC cleared the four-time Iditarod champion of wrongdoing in the scandal that following the 2017 race to Nome, absolving Seavey of any involvement in four of his dogs testing positive for the opioid painkiller tramadol after the race ended in Nome.

Mike Mills, president of the ITC board, said that the ITC met with Seavey multiple times “and there was sufficient evident to show that he had nothing to do with it.”

Seavey’s father, Mitch Seavey, is one of just 53 mushers signed up so far for the 2019 race. The younger Seavey has not, nor have several other top contenders.

Mitch Seavey’s father, Dan Seavey of Seward, is one of the original Iditarod mushers, and in both 2001 and 2012 three generations of Seaveys, including Dan, ran the Iditarod together.

Still, the doping incident and other race rule related issues have caused some contentious feelings among mushers, resulting in a smaller number of challengers to date for the March 2019 challenge.

Chas St. George, ITC’s current chief operating officer, will serve as interim CEO until a successor is found.

EMPLOYMENT

Retail takes biggest cut in November jobs lost

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Employment in November dropped by 1,300 positions or 0.4 percent over November 2017, with retail taking the biggest loss at 700 jobs, according to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

Professional and business services and manufacturing each lost 500 jobs over the year and financial activities lost 300 jobs, while overall private sector jobs were down 0.4 percent and government jobs by the same percentage.

The state’s seasonally adjusted November

unemployment rate was 6.3 percent, down one-tenth of a percentage point from October. The comparable national rate was 3.7 percent.

Non-seasonally adjusted rates were up in most areas of Alaska, following the normal fall pattern, but not for the Valdez-Cordova census area, where the November unemployment rate was 9.2 percent, compared with 9.5 percent a year earlier.

For the Gulf Coast region overall, unemployment rates in November stood at 7.4 percent, up from 6.5 percent in October, but down from 8.2 percent a year ago November.

AROUND TOWN

From Page 2

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.

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. There will be no Storytime Dec. 23-30.

Teen Art

Teen Art with Paula Payne will be held 6-8 p.m. Wednesdays in the Education Room at the Cordova Center. There will be no Teen Art Dec. 23-30.

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 care givers. 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. There will be no After School Art Dec. 23-30.

Patch the Pirate Kids Club

Patch the Pirate Kids Club will be held 3-5 p.m. Fridays at the MorningStar Independent Baptist Church, 412 First St., for children grades first through sixth.

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

The Walk-in Clinic at ANMC

Open seven days a week!

For our patients living outside of the Anchorage Service Unit, ANMC offers a Walk-in Clinic for non-emergent health care services for our people while visiting Anchorage.



ANMC’s Walk-in Clinic is for patients of all ages who have an illness or injury that needs immediate care but are not experiencing a medical emergency. Here are some reasons to visit the Walk-in Clinic at ANMC:

- Medication refills
- Vaccinations
- Fever
- School and DOT physicals
- Sore throats and colds
- Cuts and minor skin infections
- Sinus and ear infections
- Muscle strains and sprains
- Urinary tract infections
- STI testing



Located on the third floor of the Healthy Communities Building, 3900 Ambassador Drive
Open Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Sunday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Phone: (907) 729-1500

2018 IN REVIEW: A look back at the year in news

A look back at the year in news

Bears, tanner crab, earthquakes and tsunami warnings, and of course, salmon dominate Cordova headlines in 2018

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Cordova celebrated its first tanner crab fishery in 30 years, struggled with bear issues, came together during tsunami warnings, and mourned the loss of a historic cannery building in 2018.

Readers, you chose these top 20 most read stories of the year by clicking on these headlines that follow. Below is a look back at the most read news on thecordovetimes.com during the past 12 months according to Google Analytics.



F/V Ace deckhand Robert Bernard talks with Trident Seafoods employees while putting Tanner crab into totes in Cordova on Tuesday, March 6, 2018. This was Cordova’s first Tanner crab delivery since 1988.

Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times

5 Cordova receives first Tanner crab delivery in 30 years

People line dock for delivery, welcoming F/V Ace

BY EMILY MESNER
March 16, 2018

Deckhands Robert Bernard and Danny Delozier moved energetically around the F/V Ace as it docked at Trident Seafoods. Delozier stood on top of 15 or so crab pots, holding on to a rope while waiting for the first bucket to drop on March 6 to fill with Tanner crabs, the first such delivery in Cordova since 1988. Once the cloudy water drained from the fish hold, piles of bright red, orange and brown Tanner crabs emerged. The first bucket was lowered to the vessel as Trident Operations Manager Rick Isaacson and Trident South Plant Manager Chris Golatto watched. Trident opened its plant early this year to process Tanner crabs, a first for the facility in Cordova and Isaacson’s first time overseeing a delivery. “I know the city of Cordova worked hard on this too and it was a nice collaboration between the city, industry and departments,” Isaacson said. “Hopefully it will develop into a long-term fishery.” Trident employees lined the dock, waiting to fill the first tote. One leaned over the edge, snapping a cell phone photo of the boat and crabs below. His eyes were glued to the wriggling crabs below, and a smile sprawled across his face. “They were just excited to get back to work a little earlier than they normally would,” Isaacson said of his employees. “They thought it was pretty fun seeing something live crawling down the conveyer belts.”

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovetimes.com/2018/03/16/cordova-receives-first-tanner-crab-delivery-in-30-years/>

1 Pre-trial hearing on Cabana case postponed

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES
Feb. 13, 2018

A fourth pre-trial conference at the Cordova Court-house involving charges of assault, serious injury and use of a weapon in the collision of two commercial fishing vessels in Prince William Sound in August 2016 has been continued from Feb. 6 to April 17.

Meanwhile attorneys for both sides in a related federal court case confirmed on Feb. 13 that a settlement was reached and dismissal of that case was pending. Due to an agreement of confidentiality on the settlement, attorneys for plaintiffs and defendants declined comment.

Initial charges were filed on May 24, 2017 by the Alaska Office of Special Prosecutions against Kami Cabana of Girdwood, Alaska, skipper of the F/V Chugach Pearl.

The case involves an incident in which the salmon seiner F/V Temptation, owned by Herbert and Barbara Jensen of Cordova, was allegedly struck by two other fishing vessels, and crewmember Gerald Cunningham suffered serious injuries.

Full story:
<http://www.thecordovetimes.com/2018/02/13/pre-trial-hearing-cabana-case-postponed>

2 No commercial opener for Copper River salmon fishery

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
June 6, 2018

Faced with a sonar count that is the ninth lowest on record since 1978, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game said the Copper River district of Prince William Sound would remain closed to commercial fishing.

The midday announcement on June 6 assured that the district would open to subsistence fishing on June 7.

Cumulative commercial harvest to date is the second lowest harvest in the last 50 years, ADF&G said in an announcement from its Cordova office.

The announcement said that the Miles Lake sonar passage has declined since June 4 and cumulative sonar count through June 5 was 95,515 fish, whereas a minimum of 175,559 fish were projected by that date.

Full story:
<http://www.thecordovetimes.com/2018/06/06/no-commercial-opener-for-copper-river-salmon-fishery/>

3 Michelle Ridgway fatally injured in car crash

A lifelong Alaskan, her passion was in marine ecological research, consulting and education

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
January 3, 2018

Marine ecologist Michelle Ridgway, best known in the fisheries and environmental communities for her passion as an ocean conservationist, died in a Seattle hospital on Jan. 2 from injuries suffered in a vehicle accident near Juneau on New Year’s Eve.

Tributes pouring in to her work and spirit of adventure included one from Ketchikan’s fisheries artist Ray Troll, who wrote on Ridgway’s Facebook page “Michelle was a true warrior for the deep ... a hero of mine and just flat-out brave as well.

“We talked many times about the wonders of the deep ... and exploring the depths of the Bering Sea. I draw pictures of the deep ... but damn ... Michelle actually went there, deep down into the blackness in a tiny submarine. Bad ass in so many ways and utterly passionate about her work,” Troll said.

Full story:
<http://www.thecordovetimes.com/2018/01/03/michelle-ridgway-fatally-injured-car-crash/>

4 Hikers charged by brown bear sow on Ridge Trail

BY EMILY MESNER
June 14, 2018

Three hikers charged in a surprise attack by a brown bear sow with cub in tow on Ridge Trail escaped life threatening injuries, thanks to bear spray and a helicopter rescue, but the incident now has area residents on alert.

The hikers were ascending one of the peaks along Ridge Trail between Power Creek and Crater Lake trails on Saturday, June 9, when they heard something crashing through the scrubby spruce and hemlock trees through the vegetation toward them, said Alicia King, public affairs/partnership staff officer for Chugach National Forest. “It became quickly apparent that it was a brown bear. The animal was exhibiting stress behavior and vocalizations and immediately charged the group.”

The sow knocked one of the hikers to the ground and a second hiker suffered injuries while seeking cover, King said. None of them were bitten or scratched.

“Bear spray was used and proved effective in deterring the bear and stopping the incident,” she added. “It was because of that bear spray that they’re still around. That whole situation could have been a lot worse,” said Alaska Wildlife Trooper Sgt. Robin Morrisett.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovetimes.com/2018/06/14/hikers-charged-by-brown-bear-sow-on-ridge-trail/>

2018 IN REVIEW: A look back at the year in news



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times

The remains of the old cannery building, built in 1908 by Alaska Packers, gets removed from its wooden pillars on Tuesday, May 15, 2018. The vintage structure, which served for many years as an ice house and storage facility, collapsed on Saturday, April 21, 2018.

6 Harvesters charged with killing sea lions

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES
April 19, 2018

A commercial fisherman and his deckhand have been charged with harassing and killing 15 Steller sea lions found dead during the opening of the 2015 Copper River salmon fishery.

Jon Nichols, 31, of Cordova, captain of the F/V Iron Hide, and deckhand Theodore “Teddy” Turgeon, 21, of Wasilla, are charged with harassing and killing the Steller sea lions with shotguns and then making false statements and obstructing the government’s investigation into their criminal activities, the U.S. Attorney’s office in Anchorage said April 19.

The charges include conspiracy, violations of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and Endangered Species Act, obstruction of a Marine Mammal Protection Act investigation, false statements and obstruction.

According to the indictment, 15 Steller sea lions were found dead along the sand bars at the mouth of the Copper River fishing district during the first few weeks of the salmon gillnet season that opened on May 14, 2015. The government alleges that between May and June of 2015 that Nichols regularly directed his crew, including Turgeon, to get a shotgun aboard the vessel and shoot at the sea lions while fishing. At times, Nichols would shoot himself, and he also at times drove the vessel in the direction of the Steller sea lions so Turgeon could get a better shot at the sea lions, the indictment said.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/04/19/harvesters-charged-with-killing-sea-lions/>

7 Old cannery building collapses

‘I swore I heard her exhale to anyone who cares’ – Vivian Kennedy

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
April 27, 2018

A vintage cannery building constructed of sturdy Pacific Northwest timbers 110 years ago has collapsed, bringing to an end another chapter of Cordova’s storied history as a robust coastal Alaska fishing community.

“It’s a shame to see it fall down,” said Phil Lian, a commercial fish harvester from Cordova who is now retired from that industry and living in Washington state.

“It’s an era that is coming to a close,” said Lian, who began fishing in Cordova with his own boat back in 1953.

The timber used by Alaska Packers to build that cannery back in 1908 was very likely hemlock and fir brought in from the mills down in Seattle,” Lian said. “The timber is worth a lot of money, a lot of big timbers.”

“It takes an awful lot of upkeep when you have a building that is 110 years old and built on pilings over the water. After a while you can’t afford to keep it up,” he said.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/04/27/old-cannery-building-collapses/>

8 7.9 quake strikes outside Kodiak; tsunami warning lifted

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
January 23, 2018

ANCHORAGE — A powerful earthquake struck off an island in the Gulf of Alaska early Tuesday, prompting a tsunami threat that sent people living along the state’s southern coast and western Canada fleeing for higher ground.

After a few intense hours, the tsunami warning was canceled, allowing people to return home from shelters. There were no immediate reports of damage, not even on Kodiak Island, the closest land to the epicenter of the magnitude 7.9 quake.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/01/23/magnitude-8-2-earthquake-strikes-175-miles-southeast-kodiak-alaska-tsunami-warning-issued/>

9 Hunters found after four-day search

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES
January 1, 2018

Three hunters from Wasilla overdue on a trip from Montague Island to Whittier aboard a 20-foot Duckworth jet boat have been found on Chenga Island and hoisted aboard an Air Station Kodiak helicopter forward deployed to Cordova, U.S. Coast Guard officials said Jan. 1.

A relative in Wasilla said all three men were in good condition, but had no details on the actual rescue, which the Coast Guard confirmed was made on land.

The woman, who started GoFundMe page to raise \$5,000 for rescue efforts, had identified the trio on that page as George A. Matveev, Afanasy G. Tipikin and Leonti G. Tipikin.

The GoFundMe effort raised pledged of \$13,080 from 93 people within two hours.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/01/01/hunters-found-four-day-search/>

10 Coast Guard Authorization Act heads to White House

Legislation relieves owners, operators of vessels under 75 feet of incidental discharge regulations

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
December 2, 2018

The Coast Guard Reauthorization Act, which passed the U.S. Senate earlier this month, was approved by unanimous consent in the U.S. House of Representatives on Nov. 27, and now goes to the White House, where President Trump is expected to sign it by year’s end.

The bill, which is identical to one passed by the Senate on Nov. 14, includes the Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, which provides a permanent exemption for commercial vessels, including fishing vessels, under 75 feet from the need to obtain permits though the Environmental Protection Agency for ballast water and other incidental discharges.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/12/02/coast-guard-authorization-act-heads-to-white-house/>

11 She's 19 and Homegrown food truck owner

Wiese's eatery serves fresh fare, locally sourced seafood steeped in family tradition

BY EMILY MESNER
July 27, 2018

Homegrown, a food truck offering homemade meals by owner Heidi Wiese, is the latest addition to the Breakwater Fill Lot, where families come to see fishermen off and watch bowpickers safely returning home.

Meals by Wiese, a 2017 graduate of Cordova Jr./Sr. High School, feature locally sourced fish from 60° North Seafoods, that Wiese gets from her cousin John Derek Wiese, co-owner of 60° North.

"I don't know what I'd do without all the help that this town has given me," Wiese, 19, said.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/07/27/shes-19-and-homegrown-food-truck-owner/>

12 Cordova Chronicles: Veteran pilot retires after 50 years of adventures

Kennedy: 'The hardest thing to learn in flying is when to say no'

BY DICK SHELLHORN
December 1, 2018

Terry Kennedy made his last commercial flight on Oct. 31, 2018, ending a remarkable 50-year career flying small planes in Alaska's challenging conditions.

Kennedy plans on continuing his love affair with air as a flight instructor, and perhaps as an author. He certainly is not about to distance himself from planes; and in fact, lives in a small apartment directly above a trio of Super Cubs parked in his hangar near the small airport beside Eyak Lake, "right in his work", according to his daughter, Andrea Kennedy Whitcomb.

I've known Terry for years, and have flown with him several times, as have many Cordovans. He lives for flying, and it should come as no surprise, that when I stopped by to shoot the breeze, he directed me to sit in a repaired pilot's seat right in the middle of his crowded apartment, while he shared wisdom and tales of an airborne lifetime.

Kennedy is quiet, soft-spoken, and modest; and it is his sense of humor and humility that stand out once you get him flying verbally, so to speak.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/12/01/cordova-chronicles-veteran-pilot-retires-after-50-years-of-adventures/>

HIGHLIGHTS: 2018 in ph



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Sea otters take shelter from heavy rain and wind behind the Alaska Marine Highway's ferry in Cordova on Monday, Sept. 24, 2018.



Photo by Brandyn C
Trigger, Ebbin and Lumi enjoy a Sunday stroll at their Glacier.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Finn O'Toole splashes into water at the end of a slip-n-slide set up for children during the Copper River Salmon Jam in Cordova on Saturday, July 14, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Cordova's Aaliyah Malazo (5), Edrea Navarro (3), and Abby Bourgeois (2), celebrate earning a point during their game against Wasilla Lake Christian School at the Cordova Jr./Sr. High School on Thursday, Nov. 15, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
From left, Todd Ladd, Bob Ladd, Matt Piche, and Jimmy Paley, prepare crab for NVE's Sobriety Celebration community traditional subsistence potlatch dinner on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018.



The Polar Bear, a roughly 100-foot long retired fish processor anchored outside Cordova in 2018. The vessel eventually broke loose and drifted down Orca Inlet. Later that year, it was salvaged and moved to a new location.



A rainbow forms over Cordova after heavy rain around 3 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 4, 2018.

back at the year in news

otos See more of our favorite photos from 2018 online at THECORDOVATIMES.COM



omparan/for The Cordova Times
favorite dog park, Sheridan



Photo by Vivian Kennedy/The Cordova Times
Enormous icebergs from the Bering Glacier float near the west end of Vitus Lake, 80 miles east of Cordova on Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Shorebirds fly near the mudflats at Hartney Bay on Sunday, May 6, 2018.



Photo by Teal Barmore/for The Cordova Times
e of the Cordova harbor, gets battered by a wind storm on Tuesday, Oct. 23,
t evening, it was seen beached at Hawkins Island.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
SN Andrew Hedgepath, left, dressed in a werewolf costume, guides the
back of his tour group to the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Sycamore during
the Haunted Sycamore on Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Mike Collins' moose antler Christmas tree is coated in a fresh layer of
snow outside his home in Cordova on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
This is our most liked and most shared photo on Facebook with 470 likes and 156 shares!
Cordova's first snow of the season blanketed the town in large, fluffy snowflakes for most of the day, including the red walls of St. George's Episcopal Church, on Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Debra Ethier and JJ. Stevenson scan the Copper River Delta for moose from an airboat on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018.



Photo by Tim Swoboda/for The Cordova Times
11, 2018.



Photo by Jamie Pallas/for The Cordova Times
This is our most liked photo on Instagram with 104 likes! A black bear crosses Main Street shortly before 9 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 6, 2018.



Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Keila Gonzalez, left, laughs after Dixie Lambert, right, called her "dear" while teaching her how to sew a quilt for displaced animals at the Cordova Community Baptist Church on Sunday, Nov. 18, 2018.

2018 IN REVIEW: A look back at the year in news



Photo by Bob Martinson/for The Cordova Times
An Alaska Wildlife Trooper, right, watches a black bear walk along the docks in Cordova on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018. After investigating several nearby boats, the bear returned to the docks where the troopers eventually fatally shot the animal at the end of D float, said photographer Bob Martinson.



Trident's Vic Scheibert, center, holds a 31-pound Copper River king salmon after the first Copper River salmon arrived in Seattle on Friday, May 18, 2018.

Photo by Emily Mesner/ The Cordova Times

13 Cordova-Valdez bear death toll hits 23

BY EMILY MESNER
September 14, 2018

A perfect storm of hungry bears, a dismal year for salmon and berries, and tempting dumpsters has proven deadly for 23 bruins in Cordova and Valdez so far this year.

That's the highest number of bear kills in the two communities since 11 were shot in 2006.

"I don't believe this is the way we were meant to interact with other species," said Charlotte Westing, Prince William Sound area wildlife biologist with the Cordova office of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

In Cordova, five bears were killed by authorities and nine others in defense of life and property incidents, while in Valdez seven bears were shot by authorities and two others for defense of life and property. Agency kills include any bear killed by ADF&G, the Police Department, or the Alaska Wildlife Troopers.

Ten of the Cordova kills have occurred since Aug. 31.

One of those incidents involved a black bear sow, known locally as "harbor bear," who was found feeding on rice dumped in a parking lot in the south fill, near the harbor, Westing said. The sow then began dumpster diving and eventually made her way to the docks.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovaitimes.com/2018/09/14/cordova-valdez-bear-death-toll-hits-22/>

14 Copper River salmon fishery opens May 17

Pike Place Fish market posts \$174.93 apiece for first run sockeyes

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
May 11, 2018

Harvesters, processors and consumers alike are bracing for the start of the famed Copper River salmon fishery, which opens at 7 a.m. on May 17, amidst predicted rain showers and temperatures in the 40s.

Pike Place Fish Market in Seattle has posted prices of \$54.99 a pound for whole Copper River kings, \$174.93 for whole Copper River sockeyes, \$74.99 a pound for Copper River king fillets and \$34.99 a pound for Copper River sockeye fillets, while advising customers to call for availability.

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game run forecast is for 19,000 to 66,000 Chinook salmon, which would be 4.4 percent below the recent 10-year average, plus 1,264,000 to 2,208,000 sockeyes, which would be 16.5 percent below that 10-year average.

For the Gulkana Hatchery, the run forecast is for 108,000 to 188,000 red salmon, bringing total Copper River production to an estimated 1,391,000 to 2,376,000 fish.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovaitimes.com/2018/05/11/copper-river-salmon-fishery-opens-may-17/>

15 Marijuana business is now legal in Cordova

City council nixes resolution to put issue on March 6 general election ballot

BY EMILY MESNER
January 4, 2018

Commercial cultivation and sale of marijuana is now legal within the city of Cordova.

The city council vote to remove the expired temporary prohibition against marijuana establishments with city limits came on the evening of Jan. 3, after a lengthy discussion and strong public comment before the council.

Section three of the ordinance, "Surtax levied on certain sales, services and rent" was eliminated.

Council members also voted 6:1 against putting to a vote during the city's regular election on March 6 the question of whether or not to prohibit operation of marijuana cultivation, manufacturing, and testing facilities as well as marijuana retail stores within Cordova.

Melina Meyer and her father Greg Meyer both gave moving arguments against the resolution to have the public vote on this topic in regular elections.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovaitimes.com/2018/01/04/marijuana-business-now-legal-cordova/>

16 F/V O'Letta goes over five miles from Cordova

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES
July 28, 2018

U.S. Coast Guard officials in Anchorage say five people aboard the seiner F/V O'Letta abandoned ship into a skiff on July 26 when their fishing vessel overturned while harvesting pink salmon at Orca Inlet, about five miles from Cordova.

None of the five crew members was injured.

The fishing vessel stayed afloat and efforts were underway on July 27 to salvage it, the Coast Guard said.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovaitimes.com/2018/07/28/f-v-olletta-goes-over-five-miles-from-cordova/>

See Page 17, 2018 IN REVIEW

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Fisheries



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FISH FACTOR

Some harvesters will pay more for federal fisheries management

Federal shutdown could leave many Alaska harvesters stuck at the docks

BY LAINE WELCH
For The Cordova Times

Fishermen in Alaska who own catch shares of halibut, sablefish and Bering Sea crab will pay more to the federal government to cover 2018 management and enforcement costs for those fisheries.

For halibut and sablefish (black cod) the annual fee, which is capped at three percent, is based on dock prices from the March start of the fisheries through September and averaged across the state.

For this year, bills went out to 1,834 holders of halibut and sablefish shares, down by 60 from last year. Their tab ticked up from 2.2 percent to 2.8 percent to cover additional costs to maintain information systems, and yielded \$4.6 million, said Carl Greene, cost recovery coordinator for NOAA Fisheries in Juneau.

The combined value to fishermen of the halibut and sablefish fisheries for 2018 was \$161 million, Greene said, a 22 percent decrease from last year's payout of \$208 million.

"The value of the halibut fishery was down 24 percent year over year, while sablefish was down 21 percent," Greene said, adding that the decreases stemmed primarily from lower dock prices.

The average halibut price of \$5.35 per pound was down from \$6.32; sablefish at \$3.68 per pound was down from \$4.84 in 2017.

Federal fish managers don't track dock prices for the various Bering Sea crab catches, only the total value of the

See Page 14, **FISH FACTOR**

MILITARY EXERCISES

Incidental take of marine mammals authorized during Navy training

Newly approved final authorization for Pacific exercises in effect through December 2023

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

Federal officials have authorized the incidental "take" of marine mammals during Navy training and testing exercises in the Pacific.

Acting Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere Timothy Gallaudet said on Dec. 20 that the final authorizations under the Marine Mammal Protection Act balanced the Navy's conservation requirements for marine mammals with its critical national security requirements.

This is the third in a series of five-year incidental take regulations for the Navy's Hawaii-Southern California training and testing activities, and according to NOAA these final regulations are more protective and include a larger area than those in the proposed or previous regulations.

"This is a win-win for marine mammal protection and national defense," Gallaudet said.

The final authorization will be in effect through December 2023.

NOAA's action drew a quick response from the Center for Biological Diversity, which contends that under these new final authorizations Navy training exercises in the Pacific Ocean over the next five years could kill, injure or harass whales, dolphins and other marine mammals 12.5 million times.

According to the non-profit environmental entity, explosions, sonar and ship strikes during Navy exercises could harm blue whales 9,248 times over the next five years and the short-beaked common dolphin 6.6 million times under the incidental take permit issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

"The Trump administration is doing disturbingly little to reduce the enormous number of whale and dolphins harmed by these explosions, sonar and ship strikes," said Miyiko Sakashita, ocean program director at the Center for Biodiversity. "We don't need to inflict this catastrophic damage to

marine mammals to keep ourselves safe."

The permits also anticipate injuries to 3,346 marine mammals, including three endangered blue whales, 20 humpback whales, 10 minke whales, 93 California long-beaked dolphins, 46 Risso's dolphins, three critically endangered Hawaiian monk seals and 480 northern elephant seals, center officials said.

NOAA officials said that under authority of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act, NMFS evaluates the predicted effects of human activities on protected marine species and may require other agencies and entities to modify their activities to reduce those effects.

The agency also said it is imposing stringent mitigation measures expected to reduce adverse impacts to marine mammals and their habitats, including waiting for animals to leave the training range prior to use of in-water explosives, and monitoring the area port-activity to detect potentially affected protected species.

THE WHOLE CRAB



Individual whole cooked wild Alaska red king crab from Trident Seafoods were on sale at Costco stores in Anchorage in the week before Christmas for \$22.99 a pound. All that this 4.4-pound boxed wild king crab needed is a holiday bow on top!

Photo by Margaret Bauman/
The Cordova Times

BIDS SOUGHT

PWS test fishery for Pollock set for January

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Bids are being solicited by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game through Jan. 8 for a test fishery using pelagic trawl gear to harvest up to 900,000 pounds of walleye Pollock in Prince William Sound.

Eligible vessels must register for the 2019 PWS directed Pollock pelagic trawl fishery. The same area open for the test fishery will be open for the commercial fishery. Revenues generated from test fishery Pollock will

be used to offset the cost of assessment and management in Prince William Sound.

ADF&G said the test fishery may occur the week before the regulatory opening of the PWS directed Pollock pelagic trawl fishery, between noon Jan. 12 and noon Jan. 19, or following closure of the commercial fishery, for which timing will depend on whether the guideline harvest level is achieved.

The minimum bid price is three-cents per pound. Bids will be accepted for three individual lots of 300,000 pounds each, with

contracts to be awarded to the highest bidder within three decimal places for each of three lots. In the event of a bidding tie, the contract will be awarded via random drawing. All bids must be received at the Homer ADF&G office by noon Jan. 8.

Vessel owners or processors interested in obtaining a request-for-quotation sheet should contact Jan Rumble or Elisa Russ at ADF&G in Homer, or leave a voice mail request for the packet, including a contact fax number, at 1-907-235-8191.

Cordova Tide Tables

DATE	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT	TIME	HEIGHT
12/28	Fri	05:58 AM 12.33 H	11:39 AM 3.25 L	5:47 PM 11.32 H	11:58 PM 0.73 L			
12/29	Sat	06:59 AM 12.34 H	12:48 PM 3.26 L	7:10 PM 10.33 H				
12/30	Sun	12:55 AM 1.98 L	07:59 AM 12.53 H	2:06 PM 2.92 L	8:31 PM 9.89 H			
12/31	Mon	01:59 AM 3.03 L	08:54 AM 12.82 H	3:28 PM 2.14 L	9:44 PM 9.85 H			
01/01	Tue	03:08 AM 3.69 L	09:44 AM 13.15 H	4:32 PM 1.12 L	10:51 PM 10.13 H			
01/02	Wed	04:11 AM 4.00 L	10:31 AM 13.41 H	5:21 PM 0.22 L	11:50 PM 10.56 H			
01/03	Thu	05:05 AM 4.07 L	11:14 AM 13.61 H	6:02 PM -0.45 L				

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COASTAL PLAIN EIS

Public comment period opens on proposed ANWR leasing program

Dates still to be announced for public meetings in Alaska, Washington D.C.

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

A 45-day public comment period begins today on new draft environmental impact statement for the Coastal Plain oil and gas leasing program.

The Coastal Plan was specifically identified in Section 1002 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 for potential oil and natural gas resources, and for employment opportunities for residents of Alaska’s North Slope.

“This draft reflects thousands of hours of work that demonstrate a commitment to the development of these documents and the range of alternatives,” said Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Bernhardt, a former oil lobbyist expected to be named acting Interior Secretary in the wake of the resignation on Dec. 22 of Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke. Zinke is facing numerous ethics investigations related to his business activities, travel and policy decisions.

Bernhardt represented Alaska in an unsuccessful 2014 lawsuit filed against the federal government that sought to allow for oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

According to Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Land and Minerals Management Joe Balash, a 1987 Interior report to Congress fulfilling Interior’s requirements under ANILCA recommended the Coastal Plain for oil and gas development. Since completion of that report, numerous oil fields have been discovered near the Coastal Plain and

oil field technologies have changed significantly, said Balash, a former chief of staff to Sen. Dan Sullivan, R-Alaska, and former Alaska Commissioner of Natural Resources. “The depth of expertise in Arctic resources and issues from tribal members, state, local and federal agency staff was integral in developing a comprehensive draft environmental impact statement,” he said.

The administration of Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy also supports ANWR development, which Dunleavy said, “will be done utilizing the highest environmental standards and safeguard to protect its land, waters and wildlife.”

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association, which applauded release of the draft EIS, noted that the most recent government estimate put the average economically recoverable number at some 8-10 billion barrels of oil, and said it would inject billions of dollars into the state’s economy.

The Wilderness Society meanwhile voiced concerns that drilling for oil in ANWR stands to devastate the Arctic wildlife refuge.

Prior to release of the draft EIS, the Trump administration promised Americans that the people and wildlife that rely on the Arctic refuge would be safe from dangers that drilling would introduce, said Tim Woody, Alaska communications manager for The Wilderness Society.

The Wilderness Society then identified critical “low points” from the draft EIS, which they contend are a lack of real alternatives, excessive loopholes, faulty math on acreage limits, and ambivalence toward

protecting people and wildlife.

The Wilderness Society also contends that many proposed stipulations and required operating procedures for caribou seem to be drawn heavily from the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska, which is not the same as the Arctic refuge. Specifically, the refuge’s coastal plain is much narrower, with the entire coastal plain of critical importance to caribou lifecycles, so protective measures used to the west may not translate, the society said.

While Arctic Slope Regional Corp. has been lobbying for years to open ANWR to drilling, the Gwich’in people in northern Alaska and Canada, who rely on the Porcupine caribou herd for food, cultural and spiritual needs, remain firmly opposed to drilling for oil in the refuge, because of their concern for protecting calving grounds for the Porcupine herd.

Bernadette Demientief, executive director of the Gwich’in steering committee, has said that the 6,000 Gwich’in who hunt and raise their families in villages at the edge of the Arctic Circle fear that the herd and the culture that depends on them will not survive if oil drilling is allowed on caribou calving grounds.

The federal Bureau of Land Management plans to hold public meetings in Anchorage, Arctic Village, Fairbanks, Kaktovik, Fort Yukon, Venetie, Utqiavik and Washington D.C. at times and locations to be announced.

Comments on the draft EIS are being accepted through Feb. 11 at www.blm.gov/alaska or by mail at Coastal Plan Oil and Gas Leasing Program EIS, 222 West 7th Avenue, Stop #13, Anchorage, AK 99513.

HALIBUT MEETING

IPHC meets Jan. 28-Feb. 1

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Preparations are ongoing for the 95th session of the International Pacific Halibut Commission, to be held Jan. 28 through Feb. 1 at the Fairmont Empress hotel in Victoria, British Columbia.

The agenda and related documents may be accessed on the IPHC website, <https://www.iphc.int/venues/details/95th-session-of-the-iphc-annual-meeting-am095>

The deadline for all documents, including working papers, agency reports and regulatory proposals, is Dec. 29.

The meeting is open to the public and registration for those planning to be there in person, or online for the webinar can be done at the above website.

All open sessions are to be webcast, with webcast sessions taking audience comment and questions as directed by the chairman, Paul Ryall of Canada. Assistant chair Chris Oliver is the assistant administrator for NOAA Fisheries, and former executive director of the North Pacific Fishery Management Council.

A report of the 94th session of the IPHC in Seattle Nov. 27-28 is also available at the IM094 page of this website.

FISH FACTOR

From Page 13

combined fishery which continues its year over year declines.

The total value of crab to fishermen for the 2017/18 season was \$164 million, down \$24 million (13 percent) from the previous year.

The coverage fee for the crab fisheries, paid by just 18 permit holders, increased slightly to 1.8 percent and yielded \$3 million for enforcement costs, Green added.

Another group of about 18 boats that in 2016 began paying for coverage costs of their fisheries includes Bering Sea trawlers, mostly Seattle-based, that fish for flounders, pollock and other whitefish, including vessels owned by Alaska CDQ groups.

“The fee for these programs was less than one percent and were used to cover about \$2 million in enforcement costs,” Greene said.

Fish shutdown shaft

Hundreds of boats are gearing up for the January start of some of Alaska’s largest fisheries in waters managed by the federal government from three to 200 miles offshore.

Meanwhile, the government shut down over Donald Trump’s demand for nearly \$6 billion in funding for a border wall of “artis-

tically designed steel slats” has sent hundreds of thousands of workers home.

Nine of the government’s 15 federal departments and several agencies were shuttered at midnight on December 21 and there is no end in sight. That includes the Commerce Department which houses NOAA Fisheries.

In an unusual first, no one at NOAA in Juneau could speak about the impacts a government shutdown might have on upcoming fisheries. All questions were referred “to the White House.”

An emailed response from the White House Office of Management and Budget said that, while “it can’t answer agency specific contingency questions,” as it stands now, Alaska’s big winter fisheries will get underway on schedule.

Fisheries management activities including quota monitoring, observer activities, and regulatory actions are considered “essential activities” that will remain during the shutdown.

Alaska’s cod fishery opens on January 1, followed by pollock and various whitefish on the 20th. No disruption is expected for those nor for ongoing crab fisheries.

The U.S. Coast Guard also will be at the ready for Alaska’s fishery openers. Nationwide, 42,000 Coast Guard will work without pay until a budget is passed.

Over the longer term, it’s disruptions to NOAA’s research that wreak the most havoc, said John Sackton at SeafoodNews.com.

Fish scientists involved in stock surveys and analyses, the foundation of Alaska’s fisheries, are furloughed due to Trump’s shutdown.

Gaps or lacks in data streams could halt catch allocations meted out over the year, or prompt more cautionary catches since the science would be lacking,

In Alaska, just over 100 fishery regulators are located in Juneau, 15 in Anchorage, one in Kodiak and two in Dutch Harbor. Another 100 or so are employed in fishery research labs in Seattle, Kodiak and Juneau.

Holiday seafood traditions

For centuries seafood has taken a special spot on holiday tables all over the world and is served up with traditional meaning.

One of the oldest stemming back to Roman times is the Feast of Seven Fishes, an Italian Christmas Eve celebration by Catholics to honor the birth of Jesus. The number seven is considered the perfect number and is repeated 700 times in the Bible, making the Feast of Seven Fishes a symbolic Christmas celebration.

Dining tables can include seven up to 13 different seafood dishes as a way to refrain from eating meat or milk on holy days, a

long ago dietary taboo. One of the most famous dishes is baccalà or salted codfish; celebrants also feast on fried fish such as smelt and calamari.

In other countries around the world-

Eating lutefisk is a Christmas tradition in Norway and Sweden. It is made from dried whitefish, usually cod, that is prepared with lye in a long series of water treatments until the fish becomes jelly-like. Lutefisk dates back to the days of the Vikings.

In Japan, consuming prawns on New Year’s Eve is to ensure long life and eating herring roe is to boost fertility.

Feasting on pickled herring at midnight in Germany, Poland, and parts of Scandinavia is done in hopes of bringing in a bountiful catch.

In China a fish is served whole, symbolizing a good beginning and end in the coming year.

One seafood that isn’t popular in holiday celebrations in many parts of the world is lobster — because it swims backwards.

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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VESSEL SINKING

Sunken fishing tender is a loss

BY MARGARET BAUMAN
mbauman@thecordovatimes.com

A 71-foot fishing tender that sank at Seward’s T-Dock in early December has been refloated and was being turned over to a Seward boat repair firm for final disposal. Officials with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation said Dec. 21 that the F/V Nordic Viking had been lifted and dewatered by Global Diving and Salvage, Inc. on Dec. 20 with Alaska Chadux Corp., an oil spill response organization,

deploying containment boom, and that the vessel was heading to Raibow Fiberglass and Boat Repair for disposal. Chadux was continuing to monitor the deployed boom for any new signs of contamination, with plans to remove the boom and bird hazing tactics when it is determined that there is no risk of further contamination from this incident. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service personnel traveled to Seward to survey migratory bird concentration areas and note bird and marine mammals in the area.

U.S. Coast Guard officials initially assumed responsibility for cleanup efforts for marine diesel and other petroleum products spilled from the F/V Nordic Viking. Coast Guard officials said Dec. 12 that they opened the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and Alaska Chadux has been contracted as the oil spill removal organization. The vessel’s hull tanks had capacity for 2,500 gallons of fuel, but the responsible party estimated some 700 gallons were in the tanks at the time of the sinking, the Coast Guard said. Vessel owner Larry March meanwhile

contracted Storm Chaser Marine Services Inc., to salvage the vessel and the company’s divers had plugged the fuel vents. Cause of the sinking is unknown. No hazards to wildlife or further discharger were reported. The vessel sinking was reported to DEC officials on Dec. 9 by Harbormaster Norm Regis, who discovered the sunken tender while doing a routine walk around the harbor, said Lisa Krebs-Barsis, a spokesperson for DEC.

APPOINTED

Three key staff named to ADF&G

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Acting Alaska Department of Fish and Game Commissioner Doug Vincent-Lange has announced three key appointments to the agency. Benjamin J. Mulligan was named deputy commissioner, effective Jan. 3; Edward K. Grasser, director of the Division of Wildlife

Conservation, effective Dec. 26; and Rick Green, special assistant to the commissioner, as of Dec. 17. Mulligan, who has a degree in biology from the University of Wyoming, was a special assistant and legislative liaison or ADF&G from 2010 to 2015. He is currently the vice president of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce.

Grasser has worked on issued related to wildlife and wildlife conservation for over 50 years. He spent five years as chief of staff to the Legislature’s House Resources Committee before opening Grassroots Strategies, a natural resources advocacy consulting firm. He has been vice president of Safari Club International since 2013. He was also special as-

sistant to the commissioner of ADF&G from 2005 to 2006. Green, best known as radio talk show host Rick Rydell, will be in charge of outreach to user groups as a special assistant to Vincent-Lang. He served on the Fish and Game Advisory Council for three years.

BAKER

From Page 1

keter support, commercial fishing business assistance, research collaboration and local outreach. Her areas of expertise are commercial fishing, seafood marketing, community and online education. Baker is also one of the more active instructors in the Sea Grant program for the Alaska Marine Safety Association, teaching commercial fishing drill conductor courses and “Boating Without The Boys,” said Jerry Dzugan, AMSEA director. The course, primarily for women in recreational boating, brought feedback from students who told AMSEA, “I felt like it was okay to ask questions now,” because the instructor was a woman, Dzugan said. “She has been very attuned to the needs of the industry. Her active background in fisheries as a vessel owner-operator, formal education background, AMSEA instructor experience, and her sincerity, enthusiasm and positive attitude has made her a remarkably effective agent for change,” Dzugan said.

“Fishermen she trained have survived emergencies at sea and were grateful for the training she brought to them. The credibility Torie brought to her work will be hard to replace but we know she will bring these same skills with her to her next ventures,” he said. Alaska Sea Grant officials noted that Baker has been a key member of their team, providing the public with information and expertise on marine safety, ocean literacy, direct marketing, scientific research, safe seafood handling and more. On a management level, Baker has played a key role in organizing the Alaska Young Fishermen’s Summit, three-day events to educate those new to the harvesting industry on business and other skills, including networking. Baker came to the Sea grant Marine Advisory Program initially to head its trade adjustment assistance program, which then emerged as another multi-year effort called FishBiz, providing business management education to commercial fishermen. Baker also worked recently with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health on a pilot project on health risks

faced by commercial harvesters. The study produced by the project identified issues including hearing loss and sleep disruption among harvesters, information that Baker used to arrange for hearing tests for harvesters at a community health fair. With her plans right now in flux, Baker isn’t certain when she will be back in Cordova full-time, but said it will definitely remain home. The availability of funding through the University of Alaska will be a deciding factor in filling the Cordova Sea Grant post.

Baker noted that Cordova has had a fisheries extension agent for 43 years, even before affiliation with the Sea Grant program and that she hopes this will continue. Heather Brandon, director of Alaska Sea Grant, referred questions about funding the Cordova agent’s post in the future, to Brad Moran, Dean of the University of Alaska College of Fisheries and Ocean Science, who was not immediately available. The university is struggling with financial issues, some of which will be in the hands of the upcoming Alaska Legislature.

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SALOME’S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) It’s a good time to take a much-needed break from your recent hectic schedule and spend some time in quieter surroundings. Important news could arrive early next week. **TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) The Taurian traits of reliability and thoroughness could be well-tested when decision-makers consider your proposals and/or requests. Be prepared to answer some probing questions. **GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) A sudden attack of boredom leaves you with some tasks undone. It’s OK to take a short respite. But get back to work by week’s end so that you have time for other projects. **CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Avoid prejudging a situation just because it looks bad. Facts could emerge that would make your position uncomfortable, to say the least. A relative has interesting news to share with you. **LEO** (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to begin reassessing some of your recent decisions about your long-range goals to see if they still have merit. Spend more time with loved ones this weekend. **VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) An unsettled situation at home or on the job early in the week could drain your energy levels, making it difficult to get your work done on schedule. But things improve by midweek. **LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A temporary setback could give you time to

go over your plans to find weaknesses you might have overlooked before. A romantic getaway with that special person is favored this weekend. **SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Professional and personal situations benefit once you set a positive tone in getting things off to a good start. Honest dialogue smoothes over any occasional display of balkiness. **SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) A problem with workplace colleagues or family members seems to defy even your sage counsel. But be patient. Your words eventually will lead to a resolution. **CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) Don’t just wait out that unexpected and unexplained delay in your career move. You could gain added respect if you ask why it happened and what you can do to move things along. **AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) Although your workplace strategies usually are accepted, you could be challenged by someone who isn’t so favorably impressed. Be prepared to defend your positions. **PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Your friendship circle expands, with new people coming into your life at this time. Welcome them warmly. But don’t neglect those cherished longtime personal relationships. **BORN THIS WEEK:** You love to search for knowledge and share it with others. You would make an especially fine teacher. (c) 2018 King Features Synd., Inc.

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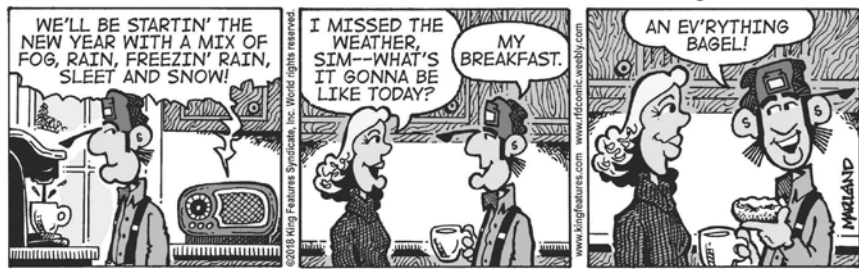
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FAULTHE
Area
ANGER
Ensemble
SOCHUR
Undertaking
NURVETE

TODAY'S WORD

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Lather
- 5 Diner order, for short
- 8 Unwanted email
- 12 On
- 13 Always, in verse
- 14 Patriot Nathan
- 15 Irrational suspiciousness
- 17 Artillery
- 18 Follow relentlessly
- 19 1984 Tom Hanks movie
- 21 Flightless bird
- 22 Knoll
- 23 Energy
- 26 North Pole staffer
- 28 Surveys
- 31 Leading man?
- 33 A mere handful
- 35 Cry
- 36 Sweat outlets
- 38 Sweet potato

DOWN

- 41 Commotions
- 43 Actor Diesel
- 45 Walk like a duck
- 47 Bursts forth
- 51 Satanic
- 52 Pet bird, often
- 54 Got up
- 55 -de-France
- 56 Sea flier
- 57 Basin accessory
- 58 Help
- 59 White-glove detection
- 1 Enervates
- 2 Western state
- 3 Nickelodeon's "Explorer"
- 4 Card symbol
- 5 Grendel's slayer
- 6 Island souvenir
- 7 Garbage
- 8 Not deep

- 9 Like some lines
- 10 Charitable donations
- 11 Netting
- 16 City in Alaska
- 20 4-Down, e.g.
- 23 Tase
- 24 Altar affirmative
- 25 Eden
- 27 "30 Rock" cast member
- 29 Shelter
- 30 Hot tub
- 32 Busybody
- 34 Fluctuated
- 37 Scale member
- 39 Actress
- 42 Old photo tint
- 44 Microwaved, slangily
- 45 Existed
- 46 Acknowledge
- 48 Lima's land
- 49 Sawbucks
- 50 Undo a dele
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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. BALLET: What is the name of the young girl who stars in "The Nutcracker"?
2. TELEVISION: Which actor played the dad in the sitcom "Eight Is Enough"?
3. GOVERNMENT: According to the Constitution, what is the minimum age of a member of the U.S. Senate?
4. MUSIC: What is the nickname of country music singer Hank Williams Jr.?
5. FOOD & DRINK: Where did gumbo originate in the United States?
6. MOVIES: Which 1990s film had the tagline, "A little pig goes a long way"?
7. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Which president is honored in the Wrestling Hall of Fame?
8. LITERATURE: What was the nickname of the deadly flu that wiped out most human beings in Stephen King's "The Stand"?
9. U.S. STATES: Where is Fort Knox located?
10. MEASUREMENTS: What does the Brannock Device measure?

Answers

1. Clara
2. Dick Van Patten
3. 30
4. Bocephus
5. Louisiana
6. "Babe"
7. Abraham Lincoln
8. Captain Trips
9. Kentucky
10. Shoe size

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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: J equals E

AJ HSC EPSL MJZJS HR

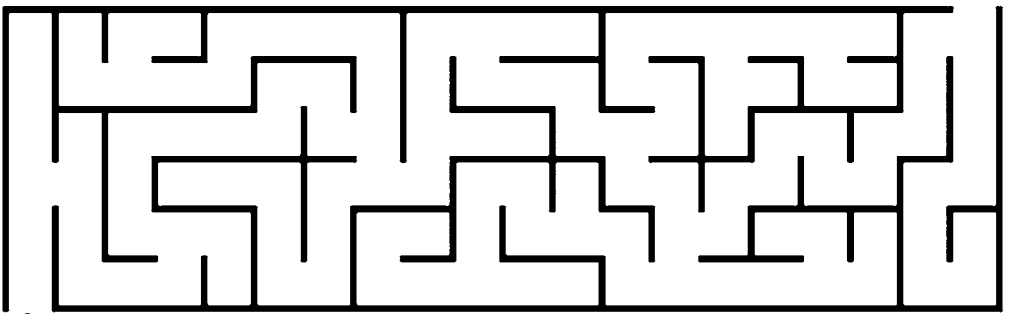
OJJZJ RDS OPSJMHQ. PTHJS

PNN, AJ ARDNLH' H APMH HR

SDTTNJ PMC TPHEJSQ.

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Kids' Maze



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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!

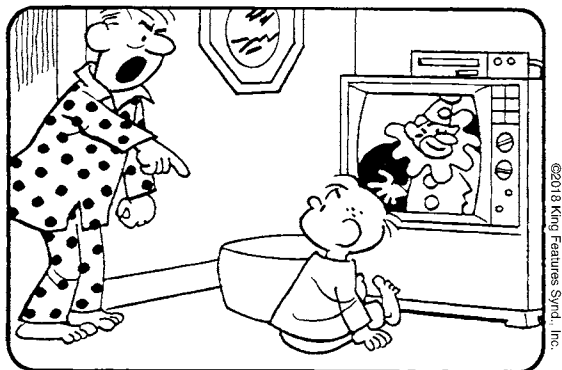
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Clock is missing. 3. Frame is different. 4. Clock is missing. 5. Hassock scallop is missing. 6. Remote control is missing. 7. Remote control is missing. 8. Remote control is missing. 9. Remote control is missing.

2018 IN REVIEW: A look back at the year in news

17Copper River Highway washout forces early business closures

BY EMILY MESNER
August 24, 2018

Erosion along the Copper River Highway is never unexpected, but now the raging Copper River seems intent on cutting a new channel, as evidenced by a washout at mile 45 that cuts off access to the Million Dollar Bridge.

Jack Stevenson, owner of The Riverside Inn & Childs Glacier Tours, shared the news on Aug. 19, and word spread quickly.

Going “out the road” is a way to unwind, submerge the mind and body in nature, and escape from the constraints of life in town; something not easily done in the community which has no road connecting it to mainland Alaska. “Out the Road” was even featured as the 2002 Cordova Iceworm Festival theme.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/08/24/copper-river-highway-washout-forces-early-business-closures/>



Drone footage on Aug. 19, 2018 shows damage, looking south towards the Copper River flats, done by the Copper River to mile 44.5 of the Copper River Highway. The road has continually washed out since its initial break on Aug. 17, said Luke Borer, owner of Childs Glacier Lodge.

Photo courtesy of Childs Glacier Lodge

18All-clear given after Cordova tsunami warning

BY EMILY MESNER
November 30, 2018

At 10:02 a.m. a cancellation of the tsunami warning following a 7.0 magnitude earthquake that hit seven miles north of Anchorage was issued.

A tsunami warning was issued for Western Prince William Sound, Kodiak, Homer, Seward and Cook Inlet, said Cordova Police Chief Mike Hicks. Although Cordova was not in the tsunami warning zone, precautionary evacuation steps were taken.

People evacuated from low-lying areas to Mt. Eccles Elementary School, the city’s first recommended evacuation site. Cordova Jr./Sr. High School was immediately evacuated to the elementary school following the earthquake. Fire engines and an ambulance were staged at Second Street as well.

Full story:
<https://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/11/30/all-clear-given-after-cordova-tsunami-warning/>

19Beckett hired as CTC’s next general manager/CEO

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES
January 10, 2018

On the heels of a nationwide search for new general manager and chief executive officer, the Cordova Telephone Cooperative, Inc.’s board of directors on Jan. 10 announced the selection of Jeremiah Beckett.

With several very competitive candidates to choose from the board ultimately felt that Beckett’s management and business experience made him the clear best choice for the job, said Will Osborn, CTC board president.

Beckett, who grew up in Cordova, has more than 20 years of managerial and business experience. He started two successful technology-related companies and has worked with several large telecommunications companies. He started the Cordova School District’s robotics program and continues to volunteer his time overseeing the program and coaching the Cordova High School Robotics Team.

Full story:
<http://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/01/10/beckett-hired-ctcs-next-general-manager-ceo/>

20Baja Taco expansion under way

Remodel will bring more dining, storage space to popular restaurant

BY DICK SHELLHORN
November 18, 2018

It began in 1989 as a place down near the harbor to purchase savory fish tacos.

Liz Pudwill had sampled this delicious fare while on vacation in Baja, Mexico, and decided to sell them in Cordova, using fresh fish from nearby waters. An old bus was outfitted as a kitchen, and what has evolved into one of Cordova’s most popular diners was born.

Over the years, the Baja Taco menu has expanded, as has the demand for its tasty items. In 2002, a larger bus was purchased and parked for good, with additions for eating both inside and outside added.

Full story:
<http://www.thecordovatimes.com/2018/11/18/baja-taco-expansion-under-way/>

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Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Philips' Alice NightOne home sleep testing device now being offered for patients from the Cordova Community Medical Center, seen at the hospital on Monday, Dec. 17, 2018.

CCMC

From Page 1

doing telemedicine, with appointments to be provided through a telecom.

In November, the medical center began selling durable medical equipment through a contract with Prodigy Medical. Prior to this service, CCMC staff would hand out equipment, but were unable to legally bill for it. The license required to provide such services is expensive, which meant the medical center lost out on any possible revenue.

Through Prodigy, CCMC is now equipped with crutches, wheelchairs, CPAP machines, braces, beds and any other type of medical equipment that patients might need outside of the hospital, said Scot Mitchell, CCMC president and chief executive officer.

A sleep clinic has also been introduced and, since its November start five patients have taken part in the clinic, which is available for both adults and children.

Prior to its implementation, Cordovans had to travel to Anchorage for a single overnight sleep study, used to help diagnose sleep disorders, such as sleep apnea, said Mitchell.

Now, once recommended by a doctor, patients will be sent home with Philips' Alice NightOne, a small, portable sleep testing

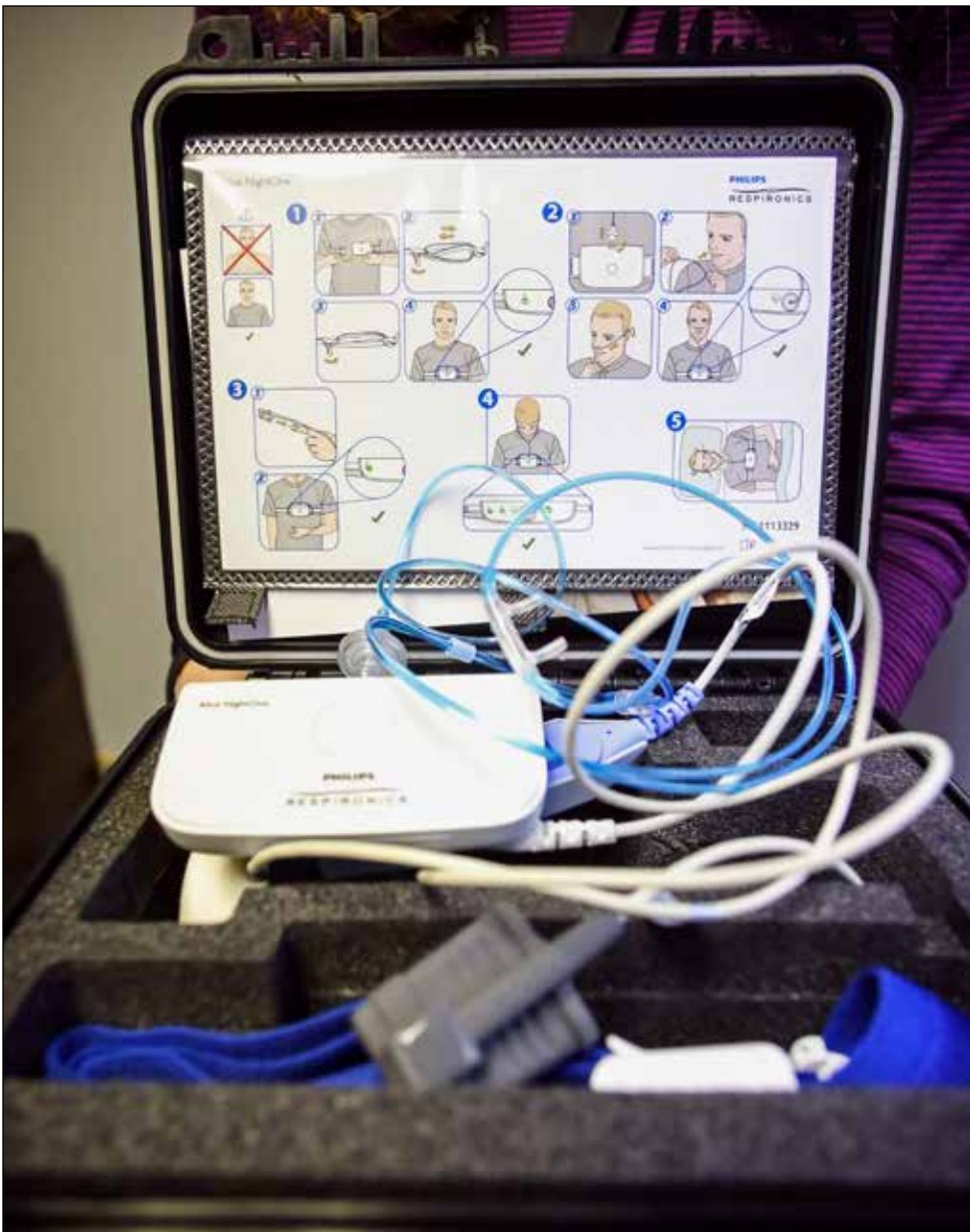


Photo by Emily Mesner/The Cordova Times
Philips' Alice NightOne home sleep testing device now being offered for patients from the Cordova Community Medical Center, seen at the hospital on Monday, Dec. 17, 2018.

device, which staff at CCMC will teach the patient how to use.

The data collected from the at-home test is then sent to Peak Neurology in Anchorage, where neurologists interpret the sleep

study information. A report is then developed with recommendations for types of treatment, if needed, and sent back to Cordova.

"It's definitely something that will be

helpful to the community," Mitchell said.

Both a pediatrician and occupational therapist are also planned to begin offering services in early January.

Due to the changing and limited Ravn Alaska flight schedule, Cordova's visiting pediatrician, Dr. Susan Beesley, is now unable to service Cordova. The community has been without a pediatrician since the spring.

The medical center is currently working on licensing and expects to be ready to offer pediatric services after the first of the year, with plans of initial quarterly visits and the possibility of future monthly visits, Mitchell said.

The occupational therapist was signed about three weeks ago to provide outpatient services and services to nursing home residents. Planned visits are roughly once per quarter.

In 2019, CCMC's Community Health Needs Assessment will be updated. The assessment, last updated in 2016, included comments from 500-600 residents whom participated in the survey, plus key informant interviews and community forums.

"The biggest thing was lack of continuity in staff here," Mitchell said.

Mitchell, who arrived at CCMC in June 2016, was the third CEO that year, he explained.

Administrators have managed to turn that around and have increased local staffing, which also adds to the economy in Cordova, he added. In addition, a new chief financial officer joined the staff this week.

CCMC is still struggling financially though. "This year with the fishing season being as bad as it was, it was also bad for us too," Mitchell said.

As required by law, certain services must be offered 24/7 which adds to the growing expense of operating a rural hospital and nursing home. Even so, the center's financial expenses now are less than in 2016, although their level of service remains high.

In 2017, CCMC was awarded the Alaska Nursing Home Excellence in Quality Award from Mountain-Pacific Quality Health.

"I'm really proud of our staff and the care that they provide," Mitchell said. "It's excellent."

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‘NO WAY TO GOVERN’

Murkowski criticizes partial government shutdown

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Sen. Lisa Murkowski, R-Alaska, made clear in the wake of the partial government shut-down this past week her strong disapproval of the situation, while declining to specifically criticize either Republicans or Democrats in Congress.

“Shutting down the government, even partially, is no way to govern,” Murkowski said, in a statement issued on Dec. 23.

“It is disruptive, harmful, wasteful and could leave hundreds of thousands of federal employees and contractors without pay-checks over Christmas.

“This year we worked hard to return to regular order in the appropriations process, voting bills out of committee and the senate with strong bipartisan support.

“The Appropriations Committee did its work, but the votes are clearly not present in the Senate to provide \$5 billion for the border wall and changing filibuster rules would only come back to haunt us in the future. We have to accept those realities and reopen the government as soon as possible,” she said.

The senator noted that President Donald Trump has already signed five appropriations bills approved by Congress for fiscal 2019. Bills not yet enacted are for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug

Administration and related agencies; Commerce, Justice, Science, and related agencies, State, foreign operations and related programs; and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies.

The partial shutdown is having several impacts:

- Programs have been funded through the rest of fiscal 2019 will continue to operate. Including Veterans Affairs and Defense.
- Only essential employees, generally those who do work related to life safety, property protection, health, emergency response, and other work as determined by their agencies, will be allowed to report for work.
- Those deemed non-essential are legally required to stay home and are put on unpaid furlough. Homeland Security is deemed essential, which means employees will work, but without pay.

Additional details on effects of the government shutdown can be found on Murkowski’s website, at murkowski.senate.gov/government-shutdown-resources.



The Cordova Times

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