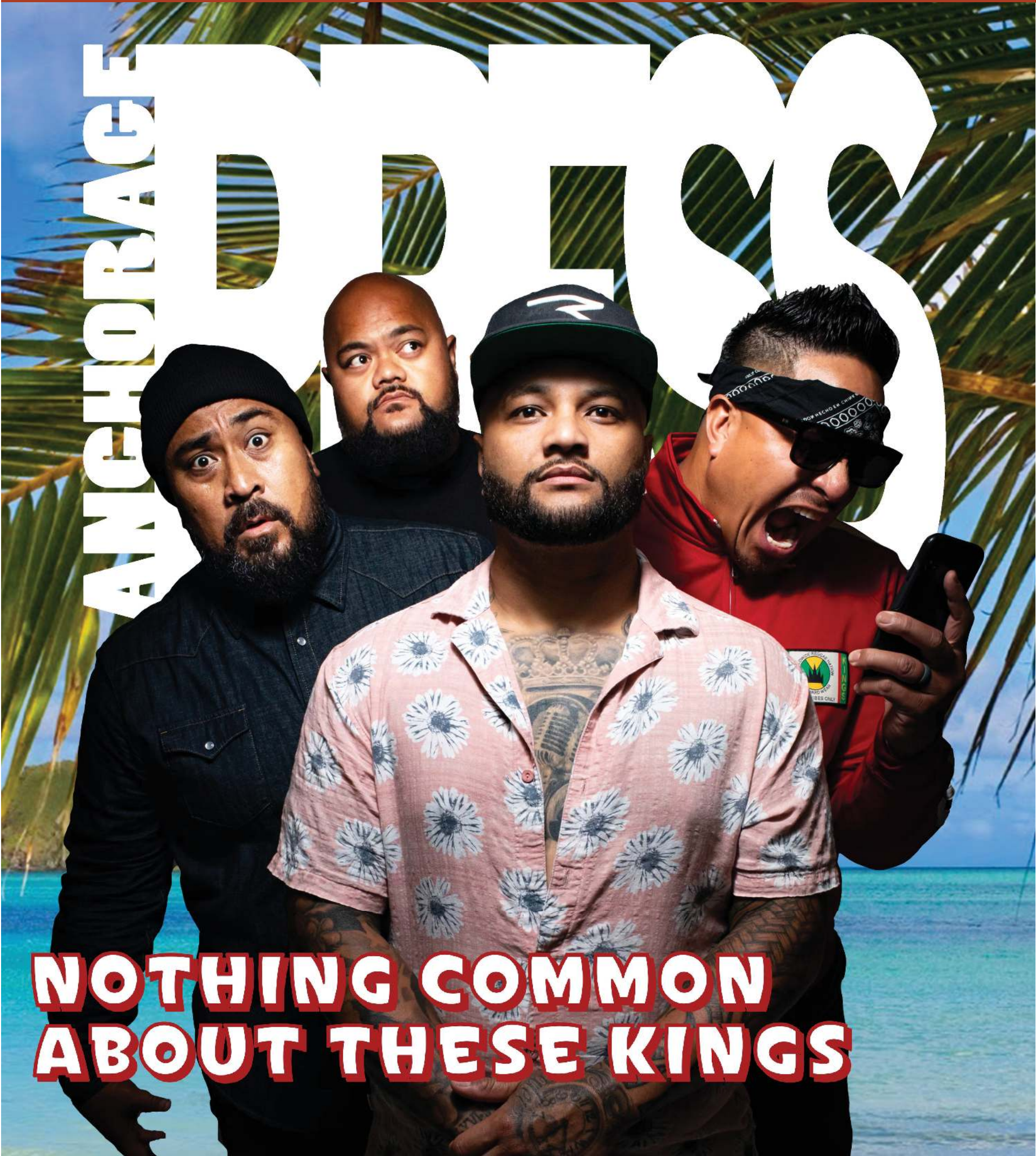
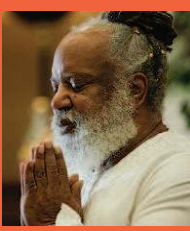




LEARN TO HEAL THIS FALL AT ALASKA INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE!



Tai Chi with Mr. Tai Chi
6-8p, Tues & Thurs
Starts Sept 27, 2022

After School Youth Kung Foo



4-5:30pm
Mon, Wed & Fri

Massage Therapy Program



Fall Classes Start
Sept 19, 2022
Follow Your Dreams



Tai Chi Classes
Mr Tai Chi.com
Ongoing Classes



Classes Held at **Oriental Healing Arts Center** and **Massage Now** 2636 and 2606 Spenard Rd
907-279-0135 or **907-279-7669**

731 I Street, Suite 102
Anchorage AK 99501
(907) 341-9039
anchoragepress.com

ANCHORAGE PRESS

Contributing Writers

James Roberts, Tim Bradner, Jean Bundy, Cody Herron-Webb, Dermot Cole, Darren Smith, Bill Sherwonit, Ned Rozell, Drew Erickson, John Christensen, David A. James, Mike Gordon, Lauren Langford, Cody Keim, Jordan Ring, and Sam Irwin.

Page Design

Ray Malupeng, Rommel Panciles, Eduardo Ong, and O'Hara Shipe

WICK COMMUNICATIONS ALASKA

Publisher

Tawni Davis
tawni.davis@frontiersman.com

Managing Editor

O'Hara Shipe
ohara.shipe@anchoragepress.com

Advertising Account Executives

Bridget Mackey
bridget.mackey@anchoragepress.com

Petra Albecker
petra.albecker@frontiersman.com

Ben Borg
ben.borg@frontiersman.com

The Anchorage Press is a news, opinion, features, arts, entertainment and recreation paper. Established in 1992, the Press is printed weekly on Thursdays and distributed throughout Anchorage and the surrounding area.

Copyright: the Anchorage Press is published by Wick Communications Co. With the exception of syndicated features and cartoons, the contents of the Anchorage Press are copyright 2020 by Anchorage Press. No portion may be reproduced in whole or in part systems without the permission of the publisher.

Enter the Metaverse

Meta demonstration provides peak into gaming, education, and workplace future

BY KATIE STAVIK
FRONTIERSMAN

Imagine a virtual world where people live, work, shop, and interact with others — all from the comfort of their couch in the physical world. Welcome to the metaverse.

Although the metaverse has been around since the early 1990s, it is just now permeated mainstream culture. In its first iterations, tech companies developed online communities, most notably Second Life. As an online multimedia platform, Second Life enabled people to create avatars for themselves and interact with other users within a multi-player online virtual world.

Despite the popularity of Second Life, the word 'metaverse' wouldn't have widespread name recognition until 2021 when Mark Zuckerberg announced that Facebook was changing its corporate name to Meta. At the time, the company announced plans to spend \$10 billion over the next year on technologies to build out its vision of the metaverse.

For many, the metaverse is considered the next evolution of the internet. And it will take many forms, including gaming, online communities, and business meetings where people collaborate via avatars. Users can also explore the metaverse using a virtual reality headset and motion controllers.

One of the leading metaverse companies, Meta, recently visited Anchorage to talk about the brave new digital world and demonstrate the experience of virtual reality and augmented reality.

Using the VR goggles and handheld motion controllers, Jim Cullinan, Meta, Communications Manager, gave a number of demonstrations to show the power of the platform. In one such demonstration, Cullinan played the role of a doctor to practice intubating a patient. In another less invasive demo had Cullinan kayaking in the ocean.

"You can see the fish, and you can feel the movement. It's essentially like I'm rowing and paddling," Cullinan told observers.

Cullinan also walked people through metaverse demonstrations in gaming and even took a relaxing break in the sun.

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg has said that his company's metaverse investment represented a fundamental change and was part of a new vision for the social media giant designed to "bring the metaverse to life." However, the widespread use of Meta is still a ways off, mainly because of the accessibility to the tech that makes the platform work.

In his annual year-in-review blog post, Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates noted that most people don't have VR goggles and motion capture gloves to accurately capture their expression, body language, and voice quality.

But accessibility isn't halting the inevitable march toward a digital learning environment.

As COVID-19 forced many schools and companies to move to remote or hybrid workplaces, many are embracing new approaches to train and develop their teams and students. The hope is that the metaverse collaboration techniques will allow learners to engage in any environment or situation. Utilizing the metaverse in conjunction with Learning and Development, learners can put their physical limitations aside and experience new ways to learn.

Expectations are high that the metaverse will revolutionize training and skills development, drastically reducing the time needed to develop and acquire new skills. Research firm Gartner predicted that 25% of people will spend at least an hour a day in the metaverse by 2026.

Despite its purported benefits, some advise caution in embracing the metaverse.

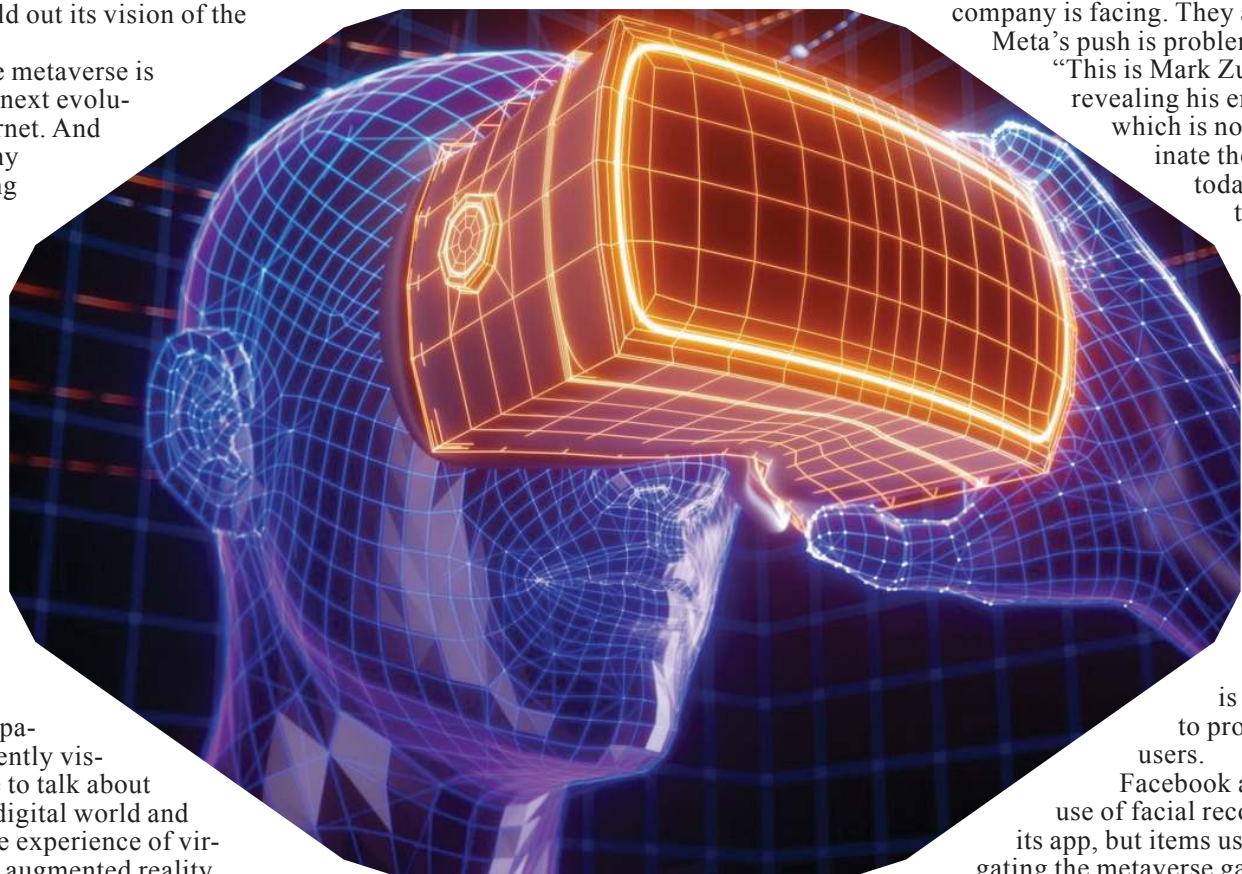
Evan Greer, an activist with Fight for the Future, has suggested that Facebook's Meta announcement was merely a cynical attempt to distance itself from all the scandals the company is facing. They also said that Meta's push is problematic.

"This is Mark Zuckerberg revealing his end game, which is not just to dominate the internet of today but to control and define the internet that we leave to our children and our children's children," Greer told NewsMax.com.

Facebook, Instagram, and Snapchat have been criticized for what some say is a lack of action to protect younger users.

Facebook abandoned its use of facial recognition on its app, but items used for navigating the metaverse gadgetry rely on new forms of tracking people's gaits, body movements, and expressions to animate their avatars. So, as companies like Facebook and Microsoft pitch metaverse apps as important work tools, there is a potential for even more invasive workplace monitoring.

In response, privacy activists are calling for the creation of a digital privacy act that would apply not just to today's platforms like Facebook but also to any future companies that may exist in the metaverse. Unfortunately, outside of a few laws in states such as California and Illinois, online privacy laws remain rare in the U.S.



Now Buying Your Books, CDs, DVDs and Vinyl!

Title Wave Books

BUY • SELL • TRADE
1360 W Northern Lights
278-9283

Want to place an ad?
Call our friendly sales reps
at (907) 341-9039

SEPTEMBER SALE!

Lots of FREE PARKING!

15% Off Backflow Burners and Bamboo Animals,
20% Off Scarves and Clothing,
25% Off Prayer Beads

CHECK OUT OUR 50% OFF ROOM!

Mermaid Imports & Designs

Monday-Sunday 11am-7pm
209 W. Dimond Blvd (Blue building across from Costco)
(907) 349-1170 • www.MermaidImportsAK.com



Peltola or Palin for Congress? We'll know by Thursday

BY TIM BRADNER

For Congress, Peltola or Palin? We'll know by Thursday.

The final ballots from the August 16 state primary election are still being counted, but by Wednesday, August 31, the first reallocation of votes in the new "ranked choice" election system will have taken place.

In the special election to fulfill former Congressman Don Young's term, Democrat Mary Peltola gained a big head in first-round voting over former Gov. Sarah Palin and Nick Begich, both Republican. Peltola held 70,048 votes to Palin's 57,486 and Begich's 49,833 in the final tally of first-round votes.

Under ranked-choice voting, it is expected that many Begich voters will pick Palin as a second choice so that Palin will continue to gain traction. How much this may reduce Peltola's lead won't be clear until Thursday afternoon.

Palin or Peltola must get 50 percent of the votes cast to win. If that doesn't happen, another round of vote reallocation happens. In this case, third-choice selections will be counted until one candidate reaches 51 percent. The balloting to fill out Young's term was the only ranked-choice selection on the August ballot.

Other races, including the closely-watched U.S. Senate race and the Governor and Legislative races, were all first-choice selections, with the top four in all races proceeding to the November general election.

In the U.S. Senate race, Alaska Sen. Lisa Murkowski is leading challenger Kelly Tshibaka by 85,334 to 73,161. There are 17 additional candidates on the ballot but most received relatively few votes. Patricia Chesbro nabbed 12,945 votes in the first round, and Buzz Kelley, another Republican, received 4,030 votes. All four will be on the November general election ballot. However, Murkowski is projected to win.

Gov. Mike Dunleavy held a healthy lead in the August

16 first-round balloting over challengers Bill Walker, a former governor, Les Gara, a former legislator, and Charlie Pierce, a former Kenai Borough mayor. There were six other contenders in the governor's race, but only Dunleavy, Walker, Gara, and Pierce will appear on the November ballot.

Historically, most voters don't change their minds between primary elections in August and general elections in November, so many of the likely final winners are already apparent — particularly where the front-runner, typically an incumbent, leads by a large margin. Even with ranked choice, with only two or three others on the ballots, there wouldn't be enough votes reallocated to erase the front runner's lead.

While most incumbents in the Anchorage legislative delegation are expected to return, there will be changes. Democrat Matt Claman, a veteran legislator now in the state House, has the lead in first-round balloting over Republican Mia Costello, another veteran who is an incumbent senator.

Democrat Forrest Dunbar, an Anchorage assembly member who ran for mayor, has a big lead in his bid for a state senate seat. Dunbar received 2,945 votes against his closest competitor, Republican Andrew Satterfield, who polled 1,902.

Another newcomer in Juneau, for House District 14, is likely to be Alyse Galvin, running as a nonpartisan, who netted 2,270 votes to her opponent Nicolas Danger, who received 1,328.

Galvin is a familiar name and face; however, she failed twice to win against Congressman Don Young for Alaska's lone seat in the U.S. House.

Another possible major change is with Democrat Andy Josephson, a long-time House member, who faces a stiff challenge from Republican Kathy Henslee in House District 13. In a late count made on August 26, there was a tie vote, but late ballots are still being counted, so one or the other will likely pull ahead. A third candidate in the House District 13 race is Tim Huit, running on the Alas-

ka Independence Party platform. The three will face each other again in November.

Another change could come in House District 17, where veteran Democrat Rep. Harriet Drummond faces Democratic legislator Rep. Zack Fields. Fields narrowly led Drummond in the August 16 count, 1,988 to 1,896. Because of redistricting, the two are paired in the same district. Drummond has a long history of working on education issues, while Fields has been active in labor and workforce matters.

A newcomer on the political scene, Democrat Loki Tobin, made a very strong showing in first-round balloting and is considered likely to win in November. Another potential newcomer is in District 19, where Genevieve Mina, a Democrat, far outpolled Republican Russell Wyatt 1,516 to 450.

In Eagle River, Republican Dan Saddler, a former legislator, showed strong support, as did Jamie Allard, a Republican who is now in Anchorage Mayor Dave Bronson's staff.

One state senate race in Anchorage that is too close to call as an indicator for November is between Republican Cathy Giessel, a former senator, and Roger Holland, also Republican, the incumbent in the district.

Giessel led Holland in first-round voting with 4,440 votes to 3,823 for Holland. But Roselynn Cacy, a Democrat, polled 4,195, a significant showing in a district that leans Republican. These three will face off in November, and ranked-choice voting will inevitably affect the outcome.

Meanwhile, two veteran Democratic senators in Anchorage are almost certain to return to Juneau based on the August 16 results. One is Elvi Gray-Jackson, an incumbent in Senate District G, who polled 4,552 on August 16 against Marcus Sanders, the Republican opponent, who received 3,364 votes. The second is Sen. Bill Wielechowski, the Democrat in Senate District K, who netted 4,131 against 3,171 for his opponent, Republican John Cunningham.



FIRST FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 2

FEATURING THE ART OF
49 Stitches & Afognak Arts by Misha

BONFIRE, BBQ, LIVE MUSIC
4-7pm





KING STREET
Cannabis Co

8430 Laviento Drive, Anchorage
Corner Of King St. & Dimond Blvd
907-522-King (5464)
Kingstreetcannabisco.com

LIC #3A-20983. Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive. Marijuana impairs concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under its influence. There are health risks associated with consumption of marijuana. For use only by adults twenty-one and older. Keep out of the reach of children. Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.



Here's how Alaska's first ranked choice election will be counted

When preliminary results are announced at 4 p.m. Wednesday, it will reveal the likely winner

BY JAMES BROOKS
ALASKA BEACON

The Alaska Division of Elections will announce the unofficial winner of the special election to replace Congressman Don Young in a 4 p.m. livestream broadcast on the division's Facebook page.

Though certified results won't be available until later this week and a few votes may remain uncounted on Wednesday, the result is expected to bring decisive results in Alaska's first ranked choice election.

Alaskans will be watching to see who represents the state in the U.S. House of Representatives for the next four months, but national observers will be watching as well.

"The Division of Elections has officially run the geographically largest, physically largest, ranked choice voting ever in American history," said Chris Hughes, policy director of the national Ranked Choice Voting Resource Center, a national nonprofit devoted to informing the public about ranked choice voting.

How we got here

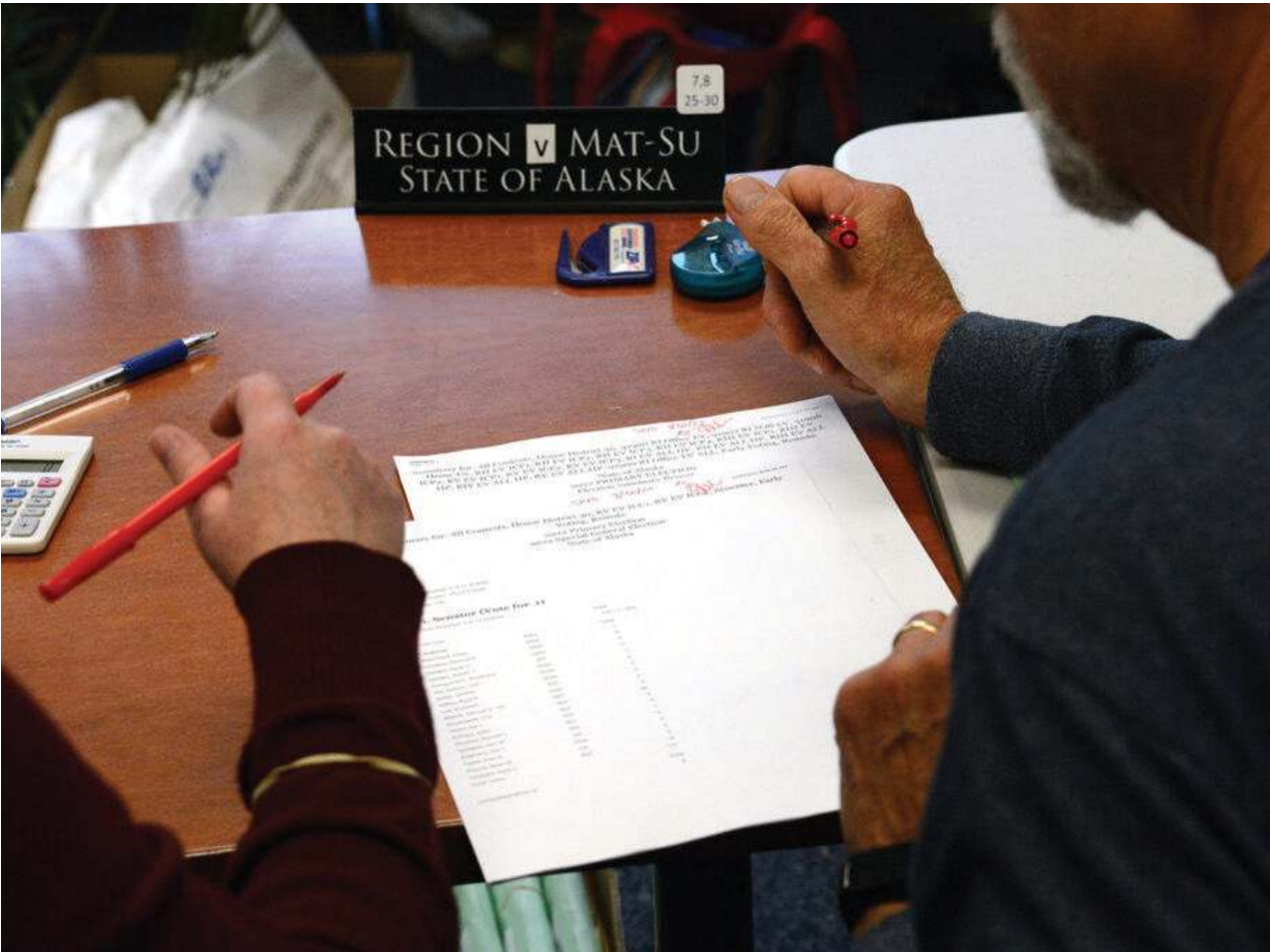
In November 2020, following a multimillion-dollar electoral campaign, Alaskans voted by a narrow margin to approve Ballot Measure 2, which created a new election system.

All candidates for an office run in the same primary election, and the top four candidates, regardless of political party, advance to the November general election, where a winner is chosen by ranked choice voting.

After the votes on Ballot Measure 2 were certified — and the results confirmed with a hand count of more than 361,000 ballots — officials began what they thought would be a two-year process of education and implementation.

When Congressman Don Young died in March, forcing a special election, that timeline was cut by three months.

Alaskans chose four candidates in a June special primary election — it was the first statewide election to be conducted principally by mail due to the compressed time-frame — but the No. 3 finisher, nonpartisan candidate Al Gross, withdrew from the race for reasons that remain unclear.



Elections workers double-check the results of Alaska's Aug. 16, 2022 primary election during a meeting of the state review board on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022 at the Alaska Division of Elections in Juneau. (Photo by James Brooks/Alaska Beacon)

The Division of Elections declined to replace him with the No. 5 finisher, Republican Tara Sweeney, a decision upheld by the Alaska Supreme Court after a lawsuit. The division said it was too late to replace Gross under the law.

That left Republicans Sarah Palin and Nick Begich III, plus Democratic candidate Mary Peltola.

On Aug. 16, the three appeared in two races, one on the front side of the ballot and the other on the back: A pick-one primary for a two-year U.S. House term that begins in January and the state's first ranked choice election, which will decide who finishes Young's term.

The winner is expected to take the oath of office at the U.S. Capitol soon after Congress reconvenes in September.

How votes were counted

When it happens on Wednesday afternoon, the ranking behind ranked choice voting won't be exciting. A Division of Elections official will check a box or click a mouse on a computer screen, and within a few minutes, the results will pop up.

That's only possible, however, because of a massive effort to collect and scan about 192,000 ballots cast in this election. (That's about one in three registered voters, and the precise number won't be known until the results are certified.)

On Aug. 16, tens of thousands of Alaskans cast votes at 401 polling stations spread across the state.

In 270 of those stations, voters stuck their ballots into a scanner atop a ballot box. The scanner recorded the results and transmitted them digitally to elections headquarters in Juneau.

The ballots themselves were collected, as were the scanners' memory cards, and flown to Juneau for double-checking. In many cases, those sealed packages of ballots arrived one day later, said Tiffany Montemayor, the division's public relations manager.

At 131 other voting stations — mostly in rural Alaska — voters dropped their ballots into a box without a scanner. At the end of the night, voting officials hand-counted the ballots and called the results into one of five regional offices.

Afterward, the ballots were packaged into sealed boxes and mailed to Juneau for scanning.

Right now, the process isn't a fast one — on Tuesday afternoon, temporary workers and a member of the division's full-time staff were feeding the ballots, one by one, through a scanner. (An automatic, batch-fed scanner should be ready by November.)

The by-mail process has also caused some problems because of the slow pace of mail delivery. As of Tuesday, the ballots of 10 precincts hadn't arrived in Juneau, Montemayor said. If they arrive before 4 p.m. Wednesday, they'll be scanned and included in the result that day.

As long as they arrive before certification, they'll be included in the total, Montemayor said. She said the division will be sending November's ballots by express mail.

Absentee ballots were sent to each of the regional offices based on the voter's home address, and election officials have been verifying ballot envelopes against the state's voter rolls, then scanning the ballots within if the vote was valid.

Ranked, contined on page A18

Virtual College.
Actual Nursing.

Nightingale.edu

NIGHTINGALE
COLLEGE



University of Alaska faculty members and supporters hold a rally in front of the Alaska State Capitol on June 22, 2022. On Monday, the University of Alaska faculty union filed an unfair labor practice complaint against the University of Alaska administration. (Photo by Lisa Phu/Alaska Beacon)

University of Alaska faculty union files unfair labor practice complaint

BY LISA PHU
ALASKA BEACON

The University of Alaska faculty union filed an unfair labor practice complaint against the University of Alaska administration on Monday. The two parties have been negotiating a new faculty contract for the past year.

The complaint, filed with the Alaska Labor Relations Agency, alleges the university administration unlawfully declared an impasse, illegally implemented its “best and final offer” and engaged in direct bargaining with the faculty through email updates, bypassing the negotiation team.

“We really didn’t want to go this path because it delays everything by several months. It is expensive for both parties and adds stress to our faculty when they realized that a new contract will not be in place for an extended period of time,” said Abel Bult-Ito, professor of neurobiology and neurophysiology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and president of the faculty union.

“It’s not good for anyone, but the university administration has been so unreasonable that we just have to follow this path,” he said.

The union has previously said filing an unfair labor practice complaint was an option, but delayed doing so to prevent escalating the situation, Bult-Ito said. At this point, though, the administration continues to drag out the mediation process.

“And so we want to increase the pressure on the university. They violated the law and that needs to be addressed,” he said.

Associate vice president of public affairs Robbie Graham, speaking on behalf of the administration, said the university administration is aware of the filing and is reviewing it.

“However, the university firmly believes that it has been bargaining in good faith from the earliest days of negotiations, and will continue to do so. Our public statements have been factual, providing appropriate transparency about the negotiations to the university community,” she said.

Graham said the university will respond to the United Academics filing.

Salary concession

The two parties last met Aug. 22 in mediation. At that time, the administration did not accept the faculty union’s latest proposed contract and, instead, responded with another offer, which is confidential.

In the union’s latest contract proposal, the union made a concession by accepting the administration’s most recent compensation offer – increases of 3%, 2.75% and 2.5% over three years, which is slightly up from the original “best and final offer.”

The union originally asked for salary increases of 5%, between 3% and 7%, and between 3% and 6% over three years, with the latter two years’ increases determined by the consumer price index.

The roughly 1,000 faculty union members have received one 1% increase over the past six years.

The two parties also disagreed on non-monetary issues regarding disciplinary procedures, academic freedom issues and inclusion of all bargaining unit members in all elements of the contract.

Alaska Labor Relations Agency process

Following an unfair labor practice complaint being filed, an Alaska Labor Relations Agency hearing officer will conduct an investigation and issue findings.

If the hearing officer finds that there is no probable cause to believe that an unfair labor practice occurred, then the officer will issue findings saying that and the case would be dismissed. A party has the option to appeal that decision to the board.

If the hearing officer finds there is probable cause to believe that an unfair labor practice occurred, then it would get referred to the board and the board would conduct a full hearing. After that, the board issues a decision that would determine whether an unfair

labor practice had occurred and what the remedy is.

While this process plays out, the two parties can still reach an agreement. The two parties have another mediation session scheduled on Aug. 31. United Academics intends to participate despite filing the complaint.

“Absolutely,” said Bult-Ito. “We have and always will be bargaining in good faith, and we still want to get a joint agreement with the University. But this is one of the things that we can do to address the illegal conduct by the university administration.”

The university administration plans to be there as well, Graham said. “The university is committed to the mediation process with the expectation of finding common ground with the faculty union on the remaining issues.”

Wick Communications Alaska

is currently recruiting for the position of a

GENERAL ASSIGNMENTS REPORTER



who can enhance our community coverage on multiple platforms. The Frontiersman publishes a print edition three times per week, and is an online daily that serves a region the size of West Virginia with more than 100,000 residents. The area is known for offering a variety of outdoor activities ranging from camping, hiking, biking and fishing in the summer, to skiing and snowmachining in the winter. **The Mat-Su** is less than an hour drive away from Anchorage, Alaska’s largest city. There are benefits of both a small town atmosphere and close proximity to the big city. In less than an hour residents can find outdoor adventure or some of Alaska’s most popular restaurants and shopping options.

We are in search of a versatile general assignments reporter with a broad skill set to add to our newsroom, and also assist with coverage in the Eagle River and Anchorage areas. Applicants must have a passion for community journalism, and the ability to offer a variety of coverage including news, features, events, sports and the outdoors. Candidates must also have the ability to shoot and edit their own photos, and assist with multimedia and social media, special projects and our daily newsletter. Preferred candidates must have at least three years of experience in print journalism, and a degree in journalism, communications or related program.

To apply, email a letter of application, resume, letters of recommendation and samples of your work to managing editor **Jeremiah Bartz** at **editor@frontiersman.com**.

Two people die after just one day in Alaska corrections custody this month

Several deaths in the past few years took place within days or weeks

STORY BY LISA PHU
ALASKA BEACON

Janet Minock got a knock on her apartment door the morning of Aug. 23. It was two Anchorage Police Department officers telling her that her 35-year-old daughter, Nastashia Minock, was dead.

According to Janet Minock, the police officers told her this: Nastashia was found unresponsive at Hiland Mountain Correctional Center around 1:30 a.m. Aug. 23. They started CPR and called the paramedics, who worked on her until about 2:30 a.m. They couldn't revive her and pronounced her dead.

"I asked them, 'Why did this happen? How did it happen?' And they said, 'We have no information,'" Minock said.

They gave her a business card with the name of an Alaska state trooper on it and said to call him if she had any questions. She called and so did her daughter, June Alick.

"And we've been trying and we can't get him and they're not calling us back. We're just going in circles here, it seems like, getting no answers," Minock said. "So, I don't know what's happened. Why was she found? I mean they should have been watching her. I'm starting to get mad because they won't tell me anything about what's happened to her."

Nastashia Minock is one of two people who've died after only one day in Department of Corrections custody this month. She was brought in on Aug. 22 at 6:43 a.m. and was pronounced dead on Aug. 23 at 2:35 a.m. at Hiland Mountain Correctional Center.

Austin Wilson, 34, went into Corrections custody on Aug. 4 at 5:05 p.m. and was pronounced dead on Aug. 5 at 1:20 p.m. at Anchorage Correctional Complex.

Minock and Wilson were each in the care of the Alaska Department of Corrections for less than 24 hours.

Janet Minock and others want to know whether the state is doing what is necessary to prevent deaths like these. And they want to know if the public is getting a full picture of what is going on inside Corrections facilities.

"Deaths happening so quickly is not normal," said Megan Edge, communications director for the ACLU of Alaska and director of the ACLU of Alaska's Prison Project. "These are young people. I have a lot of questions. It's absolutely not normal."

Some of her questions include: Did these people have mental health concerns or issues? Did they have drug addiction or alcohol addiction? Did they have pre-existing medical conditions? What were their conditions in custody? Were they in isolated cells? Were they on suicide watch? Were they detoxing?

"There are a lot of unknown variables here, and I want to know more and I think DOC is responsible for sharing more," she said.

Another person, David Bristow, 62, died this month at Anchorage Correctional Complex within 18 days of being taken into custody. According to a Corrections press release, Bristow was taken into custody on July 21 and pronounced dead on Aug. 8.

Of the 10 people to die in Department of Corrections custody in 2022 so far, four have taken place in August.

Corrections reporting of deaths is inconsistent

In the past few years, several people have died in Corrections custody within a day, days or a few weeks of being taken into custody, according to information provided in department press releases.

The majority of them took place in 2020. That year, Corrections saw 14 deaths total, though Corrections only reported nine of them. "During COVID, there was concern that the Department would violate HIPAA, so while we tracked all deaths, not all were sent as press releases," wrote Department of Corrections Public Information Officer Betsy Holley. COVID-19 was a contributing factor to five deaths in 2020, one death in 2021 and one death in 2022, wrote Holley.

In practice, Corrections said it issues a release for every death when legally possible. There are gaps though.

For instance, the first two deaths to take place in Corrections custody this year – those of Lawrence Lobdell and Luke Dennis – were not reported at all, either by Corrections or the Alaska State Troopers, which is the agency that investigates all deaths that occur in Corrections custody. Holley said that was an oversight.

The third, fourth and fifth deaths in 2022 – those of Kitty Douglas, 20; Leefisher Tukrook, 28; and Jarvis Sours, 46 – were reported by the Troopers, though the dates of when they entered custody is not listed. The rest of the 10 deaths to take place this year – those of James Wheeler, Wilson, Bristow, Minock and Robert Vann – were reported by Corrections.

Corrections did issue releases for a number of deaths that took place within days or weeks of the person being put into custody.

In December 2020, 27-year-old Natalia Andreaknoff went into Corrections custody on Dec. 4 and was pronounced dead the same day at Hiland Mountain Correctional Center.

William Olsen, Jr., 48, was taken into custody on Nov. 19, 2020, and had a medical emergency at Anchorage Correctional Complex the following day on Nov. 20. He was transported to Alaska Regional Hospital where he was pronounced dead on Nov. 25.

Edwin Clawson, 38, was found unresponsive in his cell on March 18, 2020, two days after going into custody. He was pronounced dead on March 22 at Mat-Su Regional Hospital. The Corrections release said the death was being investigated as a suicide.

Zenon Habros, 61, was pronounced dead at Anvil Mountain Correctional Center in Nome about two weeks after going into Corrections custody.

Aaron Lamont, 27, died on July 13, 2020, after less than three months in Corrections custody.

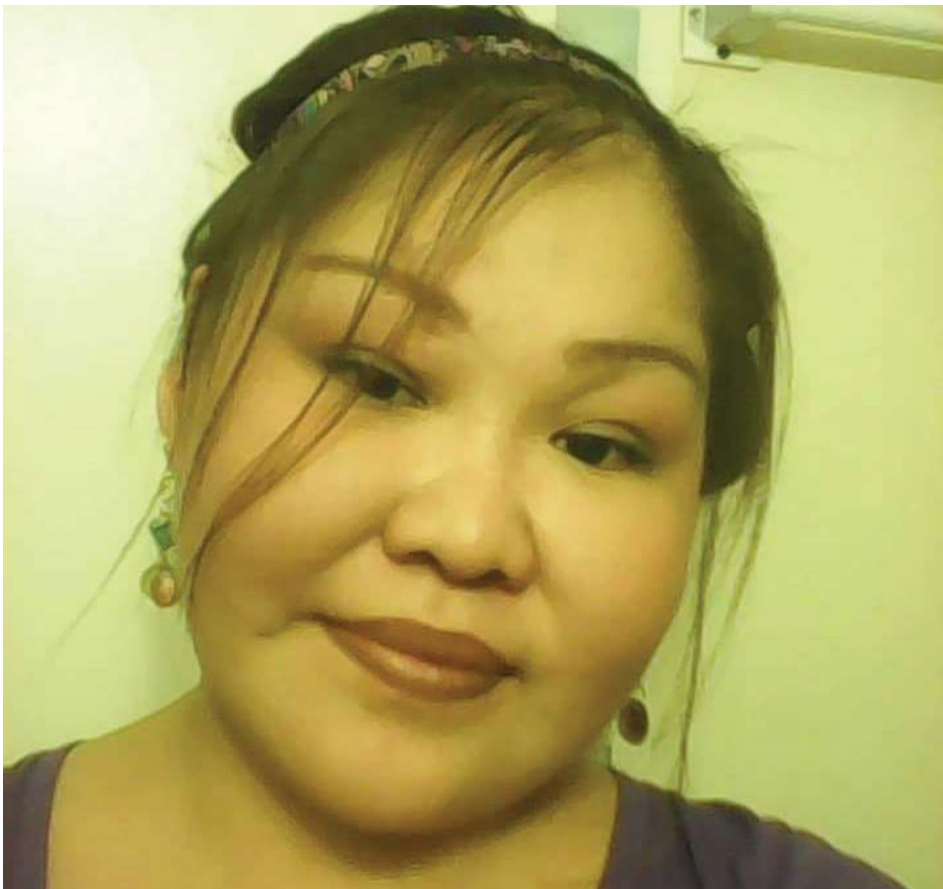
There are other people in recent years whose deaths took place soon after going into custody. In 2019, Noah Price, 23, went into Corrections custody on May 5 and died on June 26 at Wildwood Correctional Center. In 2021, Gregory Rendon-Duarte, 39, was remanded on March 25 and died on May 13 at the Mat-Su Pretrial Facility.

”

It is important to note that our staff is most often administering life-saving measures prior to a death.

- Betsy Holley, public information officer for the Alaska Department of Corrections





Nastashia Minock recently passed away at Hiland Mountain Correctional Center. Minock’s family suspects her cause of death to be linked to alcohol withdrawal and improper monitoring. Photo courtesy of June Alick.

The Troopers investigate every in-custody death and the State Medical Examiner’s Office determines the cause of death. Due to confidentiality, Corrections does not release medical information. Holley said Minock’s family would need to contact the State Medical Examiner’s Office to find out what caused her death. Janet Minock and June Alick said they had not been informed of this.

According to Chief Medical Examiner Gary Zientek, the autopsy is typically performed the day after the death, but may take four to six weeks or longer to finalize due to how long toxicology results can take. As part of the medical examiner’s review, “We typically review circumstances, scene description and photos, medical history, any other pertinent history.” If a family wants a copy of the autopsy report, the family must request one.

In addition to the Troopers, Corrections conducts its own confidential investigation “to determine the cause and circumstances surrounding the death as well as any related deficiencies in policies, procedures or practices,” according to its death of prisoner policy and procedure, which has been in place since July 2014 and, Holley wrote, is currently under review.

After the internal investigation is complete, the department is supposed to issue a press release which provides the State Medical Examiner’s final determination of cause of death as either natural, accident, homicide or suicide. It is unclear if this practice currently takes place; the department’s press release archive does not include any.

Administration disbanded unit aimed at reducing deaths

Megan Edge, communications director for the ACLU of Alaska and director of the ACLU of Alaska’s Prison Project which focuses on decarceration and addressing problems within the prison system, has also worked for the Department of Corrections as the public information officer from 2017 to early 2019 when she resigned.

In her experience, when people died so soon after entering custody, Edge said it’s been “people who are detoxing, people who should have been on some sort of super suicide watch, or were on suicide watch and something failed.”

Edge said people are indeed screened, but the process is “basic” and “not super detailed.” If Corrections is waiting for someone to become sober, that person is often times put into a “dry cell,” which Edge likens to solitary confinement. “That’s mostly how they detox people unless they’ve changed something,” Edge said. Holley wrote that people are not put into a “dry cell.”

When Edge worked for Corrections, then-Commissioner Dean Williams had put in place an internal professional conduct unit. Williams was one of the authors of a 2015 report on the Department of Corrections that found numerous problems contributing to deaths within the state’s prisons and jails.

“One of the reasons the professional conduct unit was put into place was because things were not being adequately investigated, sometimes trooper responses can be incredibly slow, or they’ll just take a report that the staff put together and say, ‘This is what happened,’” Edge said, adding that it can be hard to get people to talk to troopers.

When the new administration started, Edge said the professional conduct unit was discontinued.

In search of answers

Besides grieving the loss of their daughter and sister, Janet Minock and June Alick are trying to find out information. They’ve made several calls to the Alaska State Troopers and to the Department of Corrections since learning of Nastashia’s death. As of Tuesday, a week after the death, they said they still haven’t gotten any calls back.

“They really need to look into this,” Alick said. “How they take care of inmates, especially when they’re on drugs or alcohol. They really need to watch them because these are people regardless of what race they are – doesn’t matter.”

“They shouldn’t be treated any less than they are already because they have issues too in their lives. And they shouldn’t be treated like animals, just thrown in a cage and just be left alone and learn to fend for themselves with their situation, especially with the withdrawals. They’re ignored and I think that’s a very sick thing to do.”

”

They shouldn't be treated any less than they are already because they have issues too in their lives. And they shouldn't be treated like animals, just thrown in a cage and just be left alone and learn to fend for themselves with their situation, especially with the withdrawals. They're ignored and I think that's a very sick thing to do.

– June Alick, speaking about the deaths of Alaskans in custody, including her sister Nastashia Minock

Family and friends called her Nus

The last time Janet Minock and June Alick, Nastashia’s mom and sister, saw her was on Aug. 20, three days before the knock on Minock’s door. Nastashia had visited her mom at her apartment. Other family members were there. Nastashia was in good spirits and she stayed for a while. Before she left, she hugged everyone and said she loved them.

“She was happy and laughing. And now she’s gone,” Minock said, crying. “And we’re trying to figure out how and why. And we’re trying to figure out who’s investigating and who’s taking care of this. We need to know what really happened.”

Nastashia Minock was born in Bethel on February 14, 1987, and raised in Pilot Station. She moved to Anchorage in 2004. Family and close friends called her Nus. Her favorite color was pink and she loved going on walks, Alick said.

“She just enjoyed being around family and kids, and she loved watching cartoons,” Alick said.

“She’s always laughing and joking, telling stories. If she saw you being down, she tried to cheer you up,” Minock added.

Nastashia was an alcoholic, they said. Her struggle with alcohol got worse when she lost custody of her kids around 2010, Minock said. Nastashia had four children. More recently, Nastashia used to live with her mom, then on and off with a boyfriend; otherwise, she was unhoused.

Due to her issues with alcohol, Minock and Alick wonder if her death at Hiland was connected to alcohol withdrawal. They don’t think she was properly monitored while in custody.

“The way they’re saying it is she was found; it doesn’t sound like she was being watched,” Minock said.

Alick said she spent one week in Corrections custody in 2007. “They really didn’t care for the ones that needed help that were going through withdrawal. They just left them alone,” she said.

“They say they take care of them, but they don’t,” said Minock.

State says recent deaths are being treated the same as others

Corrections has an intake screening process to identify medical issues including substance use and withdrawals, Corrections Public Information Officer Holley wrote in an email.

“If we observe signs of use or the prisoner reports current use, additional protocols are in place to identify someone who may be at risk for going through withdrawals and to provide assistance during the withdrawal process,” she wrote.

Staff members use clinical measurements to track withdrawal symptoms. “If a patient’s score reaches a certain level, notification to a medical provider is made for further evaluations. Prisoners who report use or who are observed to be under the influence at remand are referred to substance abuse counselors for additional screening or assessment. DOC has several in house treatment programs that address individuals with varying degrees of substance abuse,” Holley wrote.

How often people in prison are monitored or checked depends on their medical status, according to Holley.

Nastashia Minock was pronounced dead at 2:35 a.m. on Aug. 23. The last security check that was done on her before she was found dead was at 1:40 a.m. Holley wrote. According to the family, that’s around when police said she was found unresponsive. It is not known when she was last checked on prior to being found unresponsive.

Wilson was pronounced dead at 1:20 p.m. on Aug. 5. The last security check on him before he was found dead was at 12:16 a.m. Aug. 5, according to Holley.

When asked if the sudden deaths of Minock or Wilson raised any red flags, Holley wrote, “Every death in DOC is of equal concern, and we treat all in-custody deaths with the same thoroughness and sensitivity.”

“It is important to note that our staff is most often administering life-saving measures prior to a death,” she wrote.



The entrance to the Anchorage Correctional Complex is seen on Aug. 29, 2022. The complex was the site of the recent death of Austin Wilson who went into custody on Aug. 4 at 5:05 p.m. and was pronounced dead on Aug. 5 at 1:20 p.m. (Photo by Yereth Rosen/Alaska Beacon)

Dagnabit!

Chilkoot Charlie in Girdwood

BY MIKE GORDON

It was the second of three simultaneous Chilkoot Charlie’s operations in different Alaskan cities. Locals called it Chuck’s. Plenty of people preferred it to the original operation in Anchorage. It featured the same basic décor: spruce slabs, fish nets on the ceiling, copies of floor-to-ceiling Betty Park paintings of Chilkoot Charlie and Six-Toed Mordecai, keg seats, wire spool tables, and peanut shells. But it was more capacious than the original at the time and it was sort of out in the woods. The bar, dance floor, live entertainment and games were all in one big room. It was a fun place, as was the community it was rooted in, Girdwood, aka Girdweed.

I purchased the business from Doug Lewsader in the early ‘70s. He and his wife, Thea, had operated the place for a few years as the Crow Creek Mountain Lodge. Lewsader, also known as, “Lewsader the Crusader” because of his penchant for religious ranting, was in fact an unscrupulous character who took me aside and let me in on the secret of how he made a substantial profit from the sale of his draft beer. He bought frozen kegs from Odom Corporation at a heavy discount and melded them half-and-half with healthy, fresh kegs. I wouldn’t be a bit surprised if he put Mac-Naughton Canadian Whiskey in his Seagram’s Crown Royal bottles too.

Before moving to Girdwood Lewsader was the personal pilot of Billie Sol Estes. As such he probably knew way too much about the fertilizer quota scandals and a string of a half-dozen or more murders and cover-ups, all linked in some way to then-vice president Lyndon Johnson, Estes, and a slew of Johnson cronies. Papers reported that after the mysterious plane crash that killed Coleman Wade, the builder of most of Estes’ grain storage facilities, the normally talkative Lewsader showed up in court represented by the very expensive lawyer, John Cofer, a long-time associate of LBJ, and with nothing more to say. Word was that Doug was told to “get lost” or else have his name added to that long list of unfortunates. So, he kept his head down in Girdwood and flew helicopters for the oil companies for a while.

In his book, A Texan Looks at Lyndon, A Study in Illegitimate Power, J.Evetts Haley reports,

As the civil litigation precipitated by the collapse spread, the testimony of scores of men was searchingly sought, among these that of Douglas Lewsader, Billie Sol’s loquacious pilot, who at first could not even afford a jack-leg lawyer. But when the testimony of Lewsader—the pilot who had flown so many political notables for Estes—came to be taken his counsel was one of the most able and expensive in Texas—John D. Cofer.

In each case the public wonders: Who paid Cofer? The bankrupt Billie Sol? Then how? If not, who? And why?

Before Cofer took over and tied a knot in Lewsader’s tongue, that knowledgeable gentleman had spilled a lot of loose and indiscriminate information. He told of a ‘command call’ he had one night to come to Estes’ home. When he got there a big, burly man with Billie introduced himself as an agent for the Teamsters union, Hoffa’s outfit that was having its trouble with Bobby Kennedy, who had lost no love on Lyndon, but who still in his capacity as Attorney General, the arbiter of federal justice and boss of the FBI—might lower the boom on Billie Sol. All of which was in the realm of political reason.

In view of the well-known fact that gangsters think and operate in terms of blackmail and payoffs, his suggestion was logical and from the point of view of all involved, if not prudent, at least reasonable. One thing about gangsters, they come to the point. His proposal was that ‘for a million dollars we will deliver the dope on Lyndon Johnson.’ It was a waste of words to elaborate upon its possible use among men of parts and imagination. Bargained into the hands of Bobby, it might slow the sometimes rusty wheels of justice from grinding down on Billie Sol. In the hands of Estes it might mean that Lyndon would have to go all the way to keep Billie out of trouble. At least these were the sordid implications.

His proposition made, the gentleman rose to his feet, flipped out his card with the address of a Chicago Club and, suggesting they check his credentials, said: ‘Here’s my card and here’s the Club. I’ll be back in two weeks to get your answer. Whoever lets this news get out will be dead!’

According to Lewsader, on April 21, 1963, two weeks later to a day, he was back for an answer. Estes had checked the Club and confirmed his identity. Aside from the other imponderables in such dealings, however, was the uncertain question of whom he really might represent. Puzzled investigators have wondered if it might have been Lyndon, or even the Kennedys, applying the ancient materialistic test as to whether Billie Sol himself was amenable to blackmail and hence politically exceedingly dangerous.

Billy Sol, the paragon of Pecos virtue who ‘never took a drink, smoked, or cursed,’ turned the proffered professional services down. After all there is a limit to which decent men can go.

Lewsader had gotten about as far from south Texas as he could without leaving the United States and it certainly appears he had good reason.

The manager I put in charge of the Girdwood Chilkoot Charlie’s was Dale Vaughn, aka DV or my nickname for him, Orv, (1942-2010), who had been the manager of my Anchorage operation. Dale’s nickname for me was Harv or Councilman Cocksucker when he really got going. He had been an army sergeant in Vietnam, put in some time on the Cook Inlet oil rigs, and developed a distinctive look of horn-rimmed glasses, closely cropped hair, and white socks. He was a redneck.

He and his wife, Darlene, lived upstairs over the bar for a while, like Doug and Thea had. It was dark, cramped, and lacked privacy. Darlene was so unhappy with the arrangement that I bought a double-wide trailer and set it up next to the club for them. They never thanked me, and as far as I could tell the upgraded living arrangement failed to make her any happier.

Dale was not the sort of guy who would normally have taken up skiing. I had to

I had to insist on it. We were operating adjacent to a ski resort, after all, and competing with the hotel for skiing customers. He took up skiing and actually enjoyed it. It might have been the only time in Dale’s life that he didn’t wear white socks with his black horn-rimmed glasses, but I doubt it. It was well understood by those in the know that you could always make money with someone willing to bet Dale was wearing other than white socks, no matter what else he might be wearing.

We used to joke that Dale was an asshole, but that he was a perfect asshole. He and I used to get into huge arguments like I have never gotten into with anyone else in my life. It’s still a mystery to me why I allowed myself to get drawn into so many shouting matches with him. When he was running Chilkoot’s in Spenard and I was running Gordo’s, which I’d converted to a gay clientele, we would get into shouting matches in the latter, then move upstairs so as not to be so disruptive, only to return to the bar to find we’d scared off all the customers.

Girdwood presented some of the usual problems of the era. There were a few locals who had themselves convinced that they were going to run the club, not me or Dale. After receiving a call for help one night from Dale, I drove down the highway with a few heavily armed friends and came to the very brink of a shootout with these loons. Fortunately, they backed down. In the ‘70s, just because you had your name on the liquor license didn’t mean you were going to be readily accepted as the boss by your patrons. You sometimes had to establish your bona fides by use of force.

“What do you mean you’re not going to accept tabs anymore?” “Bullshit!” “You can’t raise the price of draft beer.” It’s no wonder Lewsader watered it down.

I never did manage to make any money operating that club. I was paying for live bands and management in a small, seasonal community with generally only weekend nights to prosper. To make matters worse, Dale, who liked to shout at me, “You never pounded a single nail!” at the top of his lungs, without ever acknowledging that he had never invested a single cent for his significant share of the corporation, started hanging out all the time with fellow bar owner Eddie at Eddie’s Hayloft on the Old Seward Highway in Anchorage instead of looking after our business.

After returning from a mid-life crisis runaway to Belize I was able to sell the Girdwood business to someone who wanted to move the license to downtown Anchorage, which was then becoming an attractive location. Dale went to work for Eddie, where he had been spending all his time anyway.

During the time I owned Girdwood Chilkoot’s I also owned, with a couple of friends, a chalet on Brighton Drive, just down the hill from the Alyeska Resort’s Day Lodge parking lot. We had a clear view of the ski slopes out our side window, so when we got up in the mornings, we could see what the weather was like on the mountain. When there was ample snow, we could ski from the lodge right to our front door. I spent a lot of time in Girdwood with my kids, my nephew Curt, and my second wife, Tiffany, skiing and just relaxing. Driving forty miles out of town was like leaving the state since there were no cell phones at the time. When I decided to sell the Girdwood bar operation in the early ‘80s, I told my teenage daughter, Michele, about it and she started crying.

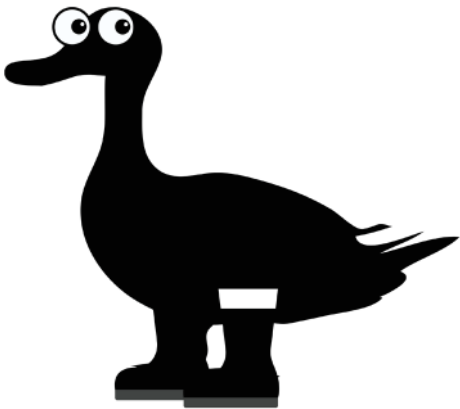
I asked, “Why are you crying?” It was because she thought I was going to sell the chalet where we had spent so much quality time together. She was immediately okay once I explained I was talking about the bar.

I hired a manager named Pat Osborne, the son of an old pal of mine named Stan Osborne, aka Stanley Steamer, from when I sold life insurance out of New York Life’s Anchorage office. Pat had recently graduated from UAF and had a good appreciation for music. He and I arranged a going-away party for Dale, and I showed up with a white suitcase so we could all write rude going away comments on it with a marking pen for fun.

Dale, drunk and sitting at the bar next to me—I was also drunk—began berating me with his “You never pounded a single nail!” bullshit. When drunk, he would shout the same epithet over, and over and over. Eventually, I told him to shut up or step outside with me. He didn’t, so we did. It was no match and if several people including Pat Osborne hadn’t pulled me off him, my years of pent-up rage might have been his quietus.

Later, on duck-hunting trips across Cook Inlet with our cronies, Dale would grouse about it over and over, shouting, “He put the ‘booots’ to me!” He was right. I did. And I’d do it again.

Dagnabit! is a new column by the infamous former owner of Koot’s, Mike Gordon. This nostalgic romp through pre-statehood Alaska, tells the little known stories of the rough-and-tumble 70s, and the few years of the 80s Gordon refers to as the Glory Days, when anything was possible and money was no object.



Announcing the 2022 Rasmuson Foundation's Artist Grants

A panel of national artists and art leaders from outside of Alaska picked 25 Project Awards and 10 Fellowships from 230 applications. An Alaska panel selected the Distinguished Artist. For only the second time, Foundation President and CEO Diane Kaplan is awarding a President's Award to an individual who has contributed extensively to the arts and the community. Other awardees include filmmakers and photographers, poets and painters, traditional artists and those experimenting with technologies. Some are doing large-scale art. Some will use their creativity to illuminate environmental issues.

Fellowships:
\$18,000 awards allow mid-career or mature artists to focus their energy and attention for a one-year period of creative development.



ALLISON AKOOTCHOOK WARDEN

Kaktovik

Music Composition

 	 	 
DOLORES CATHERINO Anchorage Music Composition	ALANNA DEROCCHI Anchorage Visual Arts	JILL FLANDERS CROSBY Eagle River Multidiscipline (Choreography/Dance & Media Arts)
 	 	 
ILGAVAK (PETER WILLIAMS) Akiak/Sheet'ká Multidiscipline (Folk and Traditional Arts & Visual Arts)	SONYA KELLIHER-COMBS Anchorage Visual Arts	TAMARA MCCOY Anchorage Presentation/Interpretation
 	 	 
PIPELINE VOCAL PROJECT Anchorage Presentation/Interpretation	ALEX SALLEE Anchorage Media Arts	KATHY TURCO Fairbanks Multidiscipline (Media Arts & Literary)

September First Friday

September 2nd, 2022



Seigny Studio
312 G St. (10am-9pm)
Touchy-Feely: New original exclusive pieces by Katie Seigny on mix media, pen and ink, acrylic, and pastels.



UNCLE JOE'S Pizzeria
428 G Street (11am-11pm)
2 Slices & a Pint \$13.50
1 Slice Side Salad & Pint \$14.50

ADP PRESS

1. Anchorage Museum - 625 C St. (10am-9pm)
2. Weather Boutique - 720 D St., Suite B (11am-6:00pm)
3. Tundra Herb Company - 520 W 6th Ave., Suite A (9am-11:55pm)
4. The Kobuk - 504 W 5th Ave. (10am-5pm)
5. Wild Scoops - 429 E St. (12-10pm)
6. IGCA - 427 D St. (5-8pm)
7. Sara's Gift Cache - 408 W 4th Ave. (10am-8pm)
8. Kaffee Klatsch - 508 W 2nd Ave. (3-8pm)
9. Tiny Gallery - 706 W 4th Ave. (10am-8pm)
10. Stephan Fine Arts - 939 W 5th Ave. (6-8:30pm)
11. The Cubby at Hotel Captain Cook - 939 W 5th Ave. (6:30-8:30pm)



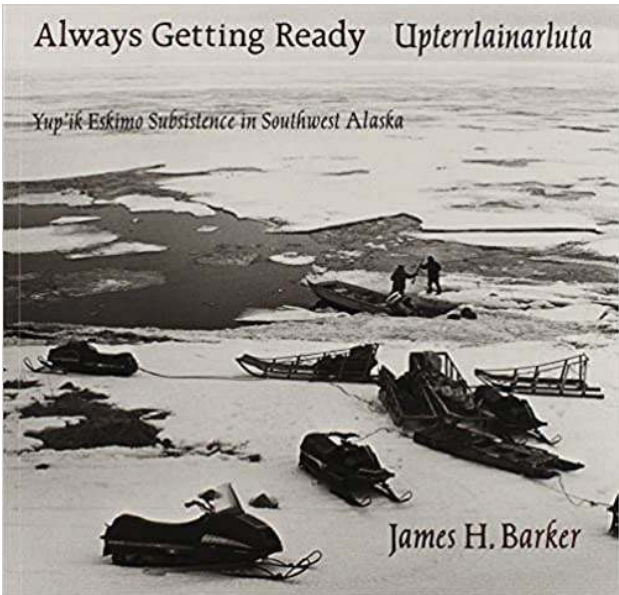
2022 Distinguished Artist Recipient

James H. Barker



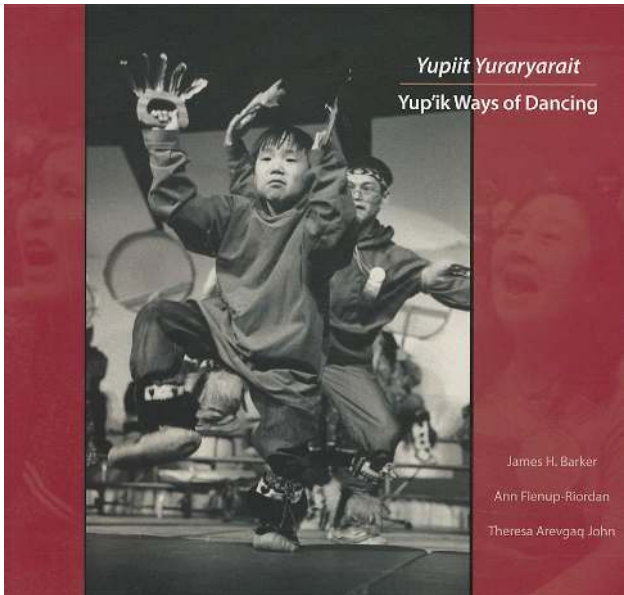
Photographer James H. Barker has created deeply personal images for more than 50 years, capturing beauty and emotion as he documented life and work. His extensive portfolio from Southwest Alaska is the core of his body of work. Rarely without a camera, he photographed almost everything he participated in, from steam bathing to Russian Orthodox Slaviq, from salmon processing to public meetings. Prints emerged from his home dark-room to create a visual story in books, homes, museums, galleries, public service flyers and state buildings. In 1987, after 14 years in Bethel, Barker, his wife, Robin, and their young son moved to the Interior. There, he became an integral part of the Fairbanks arts community, teaching photography at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Barker received a single \$40,000 annual award honors a mature artist of recognized stature with decades of creative excellence and accomplishment in the arts.



Always Getting Ready / Upterrlainarluta: Yup'ik Eskimo Subsistence in Southwest Alaska (1993)

In this remarkable book, James Barker follows the Yup'ik Eskimo of Alaska's Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta through their year's cycle, beginning with spring seal hunting and ending with the winter dancing that celebrates life on the land. Striking black-and-white photographs and accompanying text capture a people alert to every opportunity. Whether they are waiting for the weather to clear for hunting or preparing testimony on the effects of oil exploration, they are, in the words of Yup'ik Agnes Kelly Bostrom, "always getting ready."



Yupiit Yuraryarait: Yup'ik Ways of Dancing (2011)

Far more than just a dance, the dynamic choreography of the Yup'ik provides an illuminating window into the morality, social organization, and colonial history of this indigenous people. In Yupiit Yurayarait, anthropologist Ann Fienup-Riordan begins with a brief historical overview of the colonization and development of Alaska from the Yup'ik point of view. Then, armed with oral history testimony spanning thirty years, she shows how singing and dancing are interconnected and imbued with meaning in this complex ritual. Accompanied by one hundred and fifty original photographs, this volume marks the first in-depth look at the Yup'ik people through the lens of interpretive dance.

Don't miss the masked photo - 7pm in Town Square!

ANCHORAGE PIRATE PUB CRAWL
To Benefit the Blood Bank of Alaska

Are you ready to Pirate?
7pm-Til Closing

Anchorage Pirate Pub Crawl
49th State Brewing Co., the Broken Blender,
Downtown Bear Paw Bar & Grill, Gaslight Lounge,
Mad Myrna's, Polar Bar, Williwaw Social

7pm Photo! Pick up a map at any pub or Town Square.
www.anchoragepiratepubcrawl.org

September 17th Saturday

Stay Safe, Stay The Night
Check out the special hotel rates and their secret Pirate codes at our website. Like us on Facebook.

THE ANCHORAGE PIRATE COVE TOWN SQUARE
2PM TO 7PM ALL AGES
Family Friendly Pirate Event

MERCHANTS ACTIVITIES FOOD

Logos: Captain Morgan, Humpy's, Spirit, Value Village, Brown Jug, Party World, KEAT, BOB 92.1

First Friday at 2 Friends

Friday, September 2, 2022
Guitta Corey, Chigiri-e Artist
5:00 to 7:00 pm

Conveniently Located in Midtown
341 E Benson Blvd
(907)277-0404

Monday thru Saturday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm
2friendsgallery.com

2 Friends
A MOST UNUSUAL GALLERY

PRESSING EVENTS

ANCHORAGE PRESS

POST YOUR EVENT AT WWW.ANCHORAGEPRESS.COM/WHAT_S_HAPPENING/

powered by **event**

Thu 9/01

Welcome/Waqaal!

@ 6pm

The Imperial Court of All Alaska is the oldest and largest not-for-profit organization representing the GLBTA Community of All Alaska. The Raven, 708 East 4th Avenue, Anchorage. lucky_darcy@yahoo.com, 907-306-2158

Open Mic with Shalah Rose

@ 7pm

Come join us and show us your skills on how you like to entertain. Hosted by Shalah Rose this is a great way for all to show us your talents! No cover charge. 2906 Spenard Rd, 2906 Spenard Road, Anchorage. jeramy@cannabisace.com, 907-360-8036

Sat 9/03

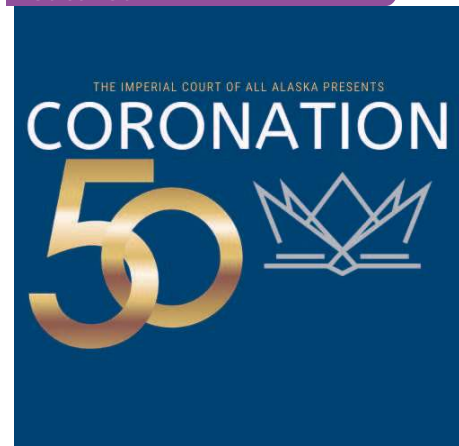
Brown Bear Bus Run

@ 12pm / \$20

The Raven, 708 East 4th Avenue, Anchorage

Sun 9/04

Featured



Coronation 50 of All Alaska

@ 7pm / \$35

The Imperial Court of All Alaska invites you for an evening to celebrate the past reign and welcome the new Emperor and Empress of All Alaska. The evening will feature the introduction of all candidates, some rare performances from special guests and the crowning of the newly elected monarchs. Mad Myrna's, 530 East 5th Avenue, Anchorage



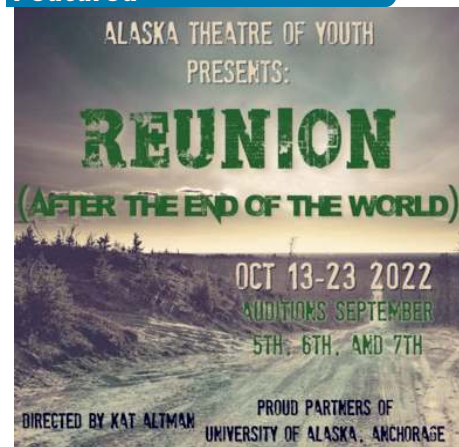
Mon 9/05

Victory Brunch Coronation 50

@ 11am / \$20

The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage

Featured



Auditions for Reunion (After the End of the World)

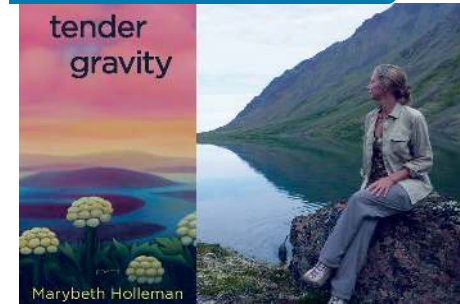
@ 5pm

Sep 5th - Sep 7th

Auditions for Reunion (After the End of the World), by Will Quam, directed by Kat Altman September 5th and 7th from 4:00-7:00PM, and September 6th from 1-3PM at 4105 E Turnagain Blvd, suite G-2 Alaska Theatre Of Youth, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard Ste G-2, Anchorage. outreach@alaskatheatreofyouth.org, 907-338-4901

Thu 9/08

Featured



Marybeth Holleman

tender gravity Poetry

Reading &

Conversation hosted by

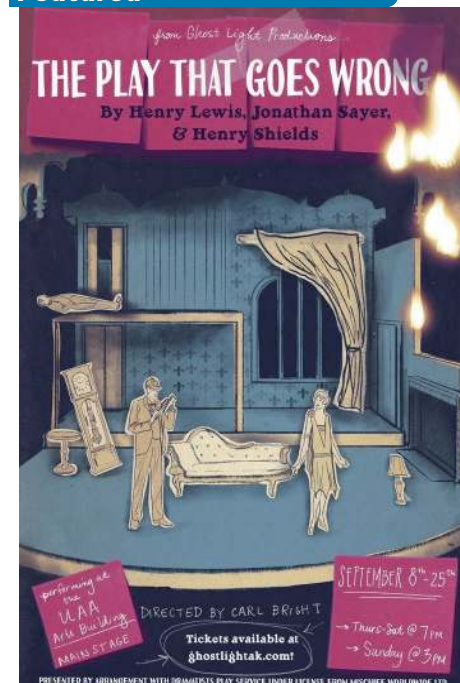
Trustees for Alaska

@ 6pm

Trustees for Alaska presents a reading & conversation from tender gravity by Marybeth Holleman, a book of poetry charting a course of love, loss and connection to Alaska's remote lands and seascapes. Organic Oasis | Restaurant & Juice Bar, 2610 Spenard Road, Anchorage. tloman@trustees.org, 907-433-2006



Featured



The Play That Goes Wrong

@ 7pm / \$40

THE PLAY THAT GOES

WRONG, Broadway's funniest

smash hit to be performed in

Anchorage!

Opening Thursday September 8th running

through Sunday the 28th. Shows at

7pm with 3pm matinee on Sunday. Fine

Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage

age

Open Mic with Shalah Rose

@ 7pm

Come join us and show us your skills on how you like to entertain. Hosted by Shalah Rose this is a great way for all to show us your talents! No cover charge. 2906 Spenard Rd, 2906 Spenard Road, Anchorage. jeramy@cannabisace.com, 907-360-8036



Fri 9/09

The Play That Goes Wrong

@ 7pm / \$40

THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG, Broadway's funniest smash hit to be performed in Anchorage! Opening Thursday September 8th running through Sunday the 28th. Shows at 7pm with 3pm matinee on Sunday. Fine Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage

IM&B Kickball Game

@ 8pm

UAA Recreational Sports - Online, 2801 Spirit Way, Anchorage. 907-786-1231

For event details and even more listings visit us online!

Featured



Sweet Cheeks Cabaret:

Wenches and

Wrenches Steampunk

Cabaret Show

@ 8pm / \$24

Sep 9th - Sep 25th

Please join Sweet Cheeks Cabaret, Anchorage's premier burlesque experience, in our second scripted show of the year! The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com



Sat 9/10

Featured



The Great Alaska Duck Race

@ 10:30am

The Great Alaska Duck Race is Alaska's premiere statewide fundraising event for youth sports, education, and local community organizations! Hosted by local educational nonprofit Alaska EXCEL. King's Landing At Ship Creek, 00207123000, Anchorage. jklaes@excelalaska.org, 907-699-8926

Monica Rizzio

@ 7pm

Roots on the Rails, Anchorage

Comedian Erik Escobar

@ 9:30pm / \$20

Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Sun 9/11

The Sensuous Senator

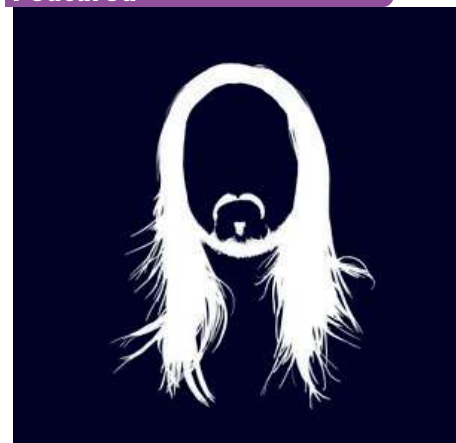
@ 3pm / \$25

SEPTEMBER 9 - OCTOBER 2 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS,

AND SATURDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM

Anchorage Community Theatre, 1133 East 70th Avenue, Anchorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Featured



Steve Aoki: Anchorage, AK

@ 7pm / \$45

In 2012, Pollstar designated Aoki as the highest-grossing electronic dance music artist in North America from tours. He has collaborated with artists such as will.i.am, Afrojack, LMFAO, Linkin Park, AGNEZ MO, Iggy Azalea, Lil Jon, and blink-182. Williwaw Social, 609 F St, Anchorage



Tue 9/13

IM Basketball 5on5

@ 3am

Sep 13th - Nov 30th

Seawolf Sports Complex, 2801 Spirit Way, Anchorage. 907-786-1231

IM Volleyball 6on6

@ 5am

Sep 13th - Nov 30th

Seawolf Sports Complex, 2801 Spirit Way, Anchorage. 907-786-1231

Monica Rizzio

@ 7pm

Roots on the Rails, Anchorage

Tom Rush

@ 7pm

Roots on the Rails, Anchorage

Wed 9/14

Featured



Resin Art Class Beach

Sunset Mermaid Wall

Art *Advanced

Reservation Required*

@ 6pm / \$50

Learn the basics of working with resin, pigment powders & resin dyes to create a unique resin art piece on a wood cutout. Turnagain Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Julie Moraes Artistry Suite A3 Suite is in front of the building facing the street, Anchorage. sparkletribe1@gmail.com



Featured



Chaosum: Arctic

Chaos Tour Live at

Koot's

@ 9pm / \$15

The Association of Musical Philanthropy and Freedom presents the Arctic Chaos Tour featuring Swiss metal band CHAOSUM live at Koot's on Wed, Sept 14th at 9 pm in the Ice Bar with local openers Part Time Super Heroes and Kolasis. Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage



The best place to promote your events online and in print. Visit us @ <http://www.anchoragepress.com/local-events>

powered by **event**

Nothing Common about these Kings

BY O'HARA SHIPE



Touring in support of their long-awaited debut album, ‘Lost in Paradise,’ the last time the Common Kings graced an Alaskan stage was in June 2017. At the time, they had already achieved international recognition from touring with Justin Timberlake and Meghan Trainor. However, it was the strength of ‘Lost in Paradise’ that catapulted the Kings to the reggae equivalent of rock stars. But just as the Kings were enjoying the fruits of their labor, they experienced one of the music industry’s biggest setbacks – a global pandemic.

“After the album got nominated for a Grammy [in the Best Reggae Album category], we were touring very, very heavily. We were on the road right up until the beginning of COVID. We were actually supposed to be going on tour with Slightly Stoopid when everything shut down,” explained guitarist Mata.

While some bands relished the opportunity to take an extended break from the grind of touring, the Kings used the break to lean into the creation of their second full-length album.

“I think being stuck in the studio really was a blessing in disguise in that it forced us to sit down and chill. But by the second week, we looked at each other and decided it was time to go back to work,” said bassist Uncle Lui.

For the next 15 months, the Kings became what Uncle Lui describes as “studio rats,” while they penned over 100 songs – only 22 of which will make their upcoming sophomore album.

“The album won’t come out for a little longer, but we are really proud of it. I think we pushed the envelope sonically, and it’s something we can’t wait to share with the world. But we’re still going to make everyone wait a little longer,” said Uncle Lui.

If the album’s first single, “Damn Good Time” is any indication, the Kings are headed in the direction of fusing island strings with punkier drums. Despite the shift, certain things remain the same – like Jr. King’s three-octave vocal range and upbeat lyrics.

“I think our songs are usually positive because the way we were raised [in Polynesian families], if you cried, you got beat harder. So, there was only ever one option – find a reason to smile,” laughed Samoa-born Mata.

Mata and Uncle Lui both credit their humble South Pacific roots for instilling them with unflappable positivity.

“None of us came from much, and we’re simple living people, so anything good that comes our way is just sick, you know? I think that made us so much more grateful because we feel blessed for any opportunity,” explained Uncle Lui. “It’s crazy to think that four Polynesian boys coming from the islands would ever get to tour with Justin Timberlake, Slightly Stoopid, Pepper, and the Dirty Heads. We never thought something like that could be possible.”



THE COMMON KINGS VS ALASKA

Press: In an episode of Survivor based in Alaska, who would be the first one voted out, and for what?

Mata: It would probably be me for trying to wrestle a bear while naked.

Press: Does the bear have to be naked?

Mata: Yeah! He’s naked, so I have to be naked, too.

Press: I think I know the answer, but who in the band is most likely to attempt a selfie with a bear?

Mata: Definitely me!

Press: Would you rather try Akutaq or Muktuk?

Uncle Lui: Akutaq. But wait, what is it? (laughs)

Press: It’s an Alaska Native ice cream made with Crisco and berries...

Uncle Lui: Oh yeah? We love Crisco on the islands, so I am happy with my choice.

Press: There is an Eskimo Ninja Warrior course at the State Fair. Who in the band is most likely to dominate?

Uncle Lui: C’mon! You’re looking at him. I’m sure Mata thinks it would be him because he’s in good shape, but I could take him.

Mata: I’m sure Jr. would say him, but when it comes to core and upper body...no way! (laughs)

Uncle Lui: Big Rome would be sitting on the sidelines cheering. (laughs)

Press: What fair food are you most looking forward to?

Mata: Anything fried. Oreos, Snickers, fried butter, fried bacon...

Uncle Lui: Corn of the cob, maybe some watermelon. And those big-ass turkey legs!

Mata: No, man, it’s about the fried butter. Once you bite down, it drips all over your chin and neck...

Press: OK, that’s definitely not going on our top food list! (laughs)

Those at the Alaska State Fair on Friday have the opportunity to bask in the unique warmth created by the Common Kings and Shaggy. Tickets start at \$49 at ETix.com and the gate opens at 5:30pm.

Thurs 9pm @ Flattop

Jukebox KARAOKE Roadshow

HOSTED BY **Jukebox Joe**

Live Music Lineup!

Thursday September 1
8:30 **NBK**

Friday September 2
9:30 **Unknowns**

Saturday September 3
9:30 **Zen Trembles**

Tuesday September 6
8:30 **Spaffdaddy**

Wednesday September 7
8:30 **Will Johnson**

@Humpy's

Every SUNDAY

FLATTOP PIZZA @ 600 W. 6TH AVE • HUMPY'S GREAT ALASKAN ALEHOUSE @ 610 W. 6TH AVE



Get direct links to the event details at AKconcerts.com
Or read below if you just want to know the time & place.

Thursday, September 1st

Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Ales for Tails Pet Adoption & Fundraiser w/ I Like Robots 6p-9p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Glacier Hoppers at the Sluicebox 7:30p-9p
First United Methodist Church – Anchorage Festival of Music: Young Alaskan Artist Award Recital 7:30p-9p
Flattop Pizza & Pool – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Garcia’s Cantina & Café (Eagle River) – The Vintage Retro 8p-11p
Humpy’s – Nothin’ But Karma 8:30p-12:30a
Mad Myrna’s – Thursday Vibe w/ DJ Covy 10p-2a
Tailgater’s Sport’s Bar & Grill (Wasilla) - The AKoustic Project 7p-10p



Friday, September 2nd

907 Alehouse – The Vintage Retro 8p-12a
Alaska Dance Promotions – Friday Night Dance Lounge 9p-1
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Path to Bantry 2p-3p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Lulu Small 3:30p-4:30p & 5p-6p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - The Stack live at the Sluice Box 7p-10p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Shaggy & Common Kings 7p-10p
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – Friday Night Feast w/ 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Acoustic Steak Night with Bill “Woody” Reeves! 6p-8p
Anchorage Museum – September First Friday Free Entry & Live Music 11a-9p
Floaters (Big Lake) – Open Mic Night 7p-12a
The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 4207 – Karaoke Friday at the Eagles! 7p-12a
Garcia’s Cantina & Café (Eagle River) – The Acoustic Oosik 8p-11p
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Hilltop Ski Area – Queens of the Hill 6p-9p
The Howling Dog Saloon (Fairbanks) – Mike Stack-house 7p-9p
Koot’s – Velvet La La 10p-2:30a
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
The Mug-Shot Saloon (Wasilla) – Danger Money Band 10p-3a
Organic Oasis – John Damberg Jazz Piano Fridays 5:30p -7:30p
Raven Bar – First Friday Leather Night 8p-12a
Williwaw Social – Imperial Court of All Alaska: In State/ Out of State Show 6p-9p
Williwaw Social – First Friday Girls Night Out Dance Party 9:30p-2a



Saturday, September 3rd

Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - ASF Fiddle Contest 11a-1p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Byron Nicholai & I Sing, You Dance 1p-2p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Hot Mess at the Sluicebox 5:30p-7p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Pamyua 6p-8p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Rogues & Wenches 7p-10p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Brothers Osborne 7p-10p
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
The Broken Blender – Tony Gebhard Live 8p-12a
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Humpy’s – Zen Trembles 9:30p-1:30a
Loussac Library – Ladies of the Pacific Academy Celebration 5:30p-7p
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
The Mug-Shot Saloon (Wasilla) – Danger Money Band 10p-3a
Serrano’s Mexican Grill – Nothin’ But Karma 8p-11p
Van’s Dive Bar – Powerplay & Spenerds 9p-1a
Williwaw Social – Late Summer Dance Party 9:30p-2:30a



Sunday, September 4th

Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Byron Nicholai & I Sing, You Dance 1p-2p & 6p-7p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Joni Harms 4:30p-5:30p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Barenaked Ladies 6p-10p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Sluice Box calls.....Nothin’ But Trouble delivers 9:30p-11:30p
Anchorage Town Square Park – ANC Market Social 11a-5p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p -2a
Humpys - Open Mic Jam 8p-11p
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Open Mic! Overlorded by Wash Your Hands 8p-12a

Monday, September 5th

Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Nothin’ But Karma at the Watering Hole 2p-2:45p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Joni Harms 4:30p-5:30p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - Lauren Daigle 7p-10p
Alaska State Fair (Palmer) - A Tribute to Hobo Jim, with Ken Peltier & Joni Harms 8p-10p
Koot’s – The Monday Mic at Koots 9p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Mellow Mondays w/ Nikki Now 9:30p-12a

Tuesday, September 6th

American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Taco Tuesday Open Mic w/Uncle Jim! 6:30p-9:30p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p-2a
Klondike Mike’s & the Main Street Grill (Palmer) – The Open Stage 7p-10p
Koot’s – Battle Of The Bands Contest 8p-11p
Koot’s – The Eternal Cowboys 10p-12a
Organic Oasis – Williwaw Blue 5:30p-7:30p
Trophy Lounge – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 9p-1a
Van’s Dive Bar – OPEN JAM w/ Daylight Mike 9p-12a

Wednesday, September 7th

907 Alehouse – Tyrone Palmer & Friends 7p-10p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p-11p
Eddie’s Sports Bar – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 9p-12a
Koot’s – Battle Of The Bands Contest 8p-11p
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Koot’s – KASH Country Night at Koot’s 7p-11:30p
Koot’s – Koots Karaoke 10p-2a
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Pioneer Bar – The Eternal Cowboys 10p-12a
PubHouse – Witty Youngman 7p-10p
Schwabenhof (Wasilla) - Open Mic 7p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Karaoke w/ The Milkman and/or The Dairy Queen! 9p-12a



HEY MI!



*The Eternal Cowboys at Koot's aka the only reason to party on a Tuesday night.
Photos by @Sam.i_photography*



Drag Loteria at Cafecito Bonito and presented by Arciniega Productions continues to delight sold out crowds. Photos by @ShipeShots





Chicago rockers, Rise Against, “destroying the soul of America” -- or maybe just Must Read Alaska’s soul. Photos by @ShipeShots

Standing out among the crowd

Everest Restaurant joins the fight for Anchorage's best Indian/Nepalese cuisine

RESTAURANT REVIEW
BY JIN CHONG

As we observe the changing of seasons — although, to be fair, we kind of skipped summer — I naturally find myself craving food that's warm and spicy to function as a figurative blanket of sorts. Thanks to the proliferation of restaurants serving Indian and Nepalese cuisine these days, options are aplenty for diners like me who find comfort within the depths of a fiery curry imbued with invigorating and medicinal spices.

Before I go any further, here is a quick primer on Indian cuisine as we know it in the States. Firstly, most Indian dishes served in the West, such as chicken tikka, tandoori naan, and samosas, hail from North India and are associated with Mughlai or Punjabi cuisine. However, one should be aware that India comprises several different regions, each with its own cuisine that is as distinct and varied as the people who inhabit the vast country.

Given Nepal's proximity to North India, it makes sense for these two cuisines to go hand in hand as there is much in common between the ingredients and culinary influences. Therefore, butter chicken only provides a glimpse into the grand scale of food in India, and much of it is simply inaccessible unless you happen to go there in person.

With that said, I found myself eager to try Everest Restaurant, which recently opened where Turnagain Arm Pit BBQ's Anchorage outpost once stood. The consensus seems to be that every new addition to the ever-increasing lineup of Indian/Nepalese restaurants in town is bringing their A-game, so I wanted to see whether Everest would live up to this ongoing trend.

Things started off promising as I immediately noticed the waitstaff were all dressed in sharp-fitted formal wear, suggesting an air of sophistication in Everest's approach to catering a sumptuous experience. However, it wasn't just their appearance that charmed me — each employee radiated with positive energy that shone through their interactions with guests and among themselves. It truly felt as though they enjoyed being there, which translated into a decidedly cheery atmosphere.

Everest's menu is spread across four pages of North Indian specialties and features a selection of appetizers, entrees, several types of naans, and more. I suggested to my dining partner that we try a little bit of everything, so we settled on their veggie samosas, gobi Manchurian (deep-fried cauliflower tossed in chili garlic sauce), and onion naan to go with our entrees — Rogan Josh and shrimp korma. It ended up being a lot of food for just two people, but we were famished and wanted some variety.

The samosas and gobi Manchurian arrived first after



not too long of a wait. The former consisted of two flaky, well-endowed pastries stuffed with a heavily spiced mixture of potatoes and peas and a touch of whole cumin seeds. The delicate wrappers were fried to a golden hue — buttery and delicious — while the filling was warm and had a pleasantly mashed consistency.

These samosas were the perfect base for the tamarind and mint chutneys served alongside them. The tamarind sauce was sweet and tangy, like an eastern spin on BBQ sauce, but with a lot more oomph. On the other hand, the mint chutney was a great counterpoint with its mild, grassy flavor, much like pesto, but brighter.

As for the gobi Manchurian, one could describe it as a vegan take on boneless buffalo wings, from the crunchy, battered coating to the slick, inferno-red glaze. Indeed, I was reminded of everyone's favorite bar food once its sharp aroma stung my nostrils with whiffs of chiles and vinegar. Beyond the sauce's potency, these tender florets were crisped along every edge and crevasse, highlighting the natural sweetness of cauliflower coming through despite its dominant surroundings. This might just be my new favorite appetizer because I would likely convert to veganism if every vegetable were prepared to be this delectable. As such, I hereby deem this Indo-Chinese staple a must-try.

Things only got hotter as we progressed to the Rogan Josh and shrimp korma, which we requested at spice levels of six out of six and five out of six, respectively. Why six? No clue, but

our egos were left unchecked despite our server's seeming reluctance.

The Rogan Josh was made up of tender chunks of lamb bathed in a thick, velvety curry. Sure enough, my initial bites were laced with plenty of face-numbing heat until the flaming concoction's heat plateaued. But heat wasn't all this bracing curry had to offer, as the full range of toasted spices smothered my tastebuds while the meaty chunks of lamb had been slow-cooked to achieve spoon tenderness.

My mouth is watering just thinking back on this multi-sensory experience which was assuredly capable of biting back.



The shrimp korma similarly embodied an array of warm, heady spices, except the overall flavor profile diverged into much more of a mild, creamy landscape thanks to the addition of blended nuts. It was a bit sweeter and offered some slight respite as it wasn't nearly as volatile as the Rogan Josh. To me, this was vaguely reminiscent of the Filipino dish kare kare in its smooth, nutty complexity, and I was happy to see a good amount of shrimp with their tails still attached. With the curry being as intoxicatingly alluring as it was, I honestly couldn't be bothered to remove them.

No Indian banquet is complete without a serving of naan to aid with mopping up the curry and sauces. There are no less than six different types of bread available at Everest, ranging from garlic naan to Peshwari (a mixture of cashews, pistachios, and cherries) and just about everything in between. No matter your preference, it's safe to say there's real value here: Our onion naan was the doughiest, most puffed-up version I've ever seen!

Embedded within the soft, airy pockets were pieces of diced onion to lend a sharp bite as I shoveled these into my maw. Thanks to the generous portions, my only regret with these is not ordering another stack to enjoy with my leftovers in the days that followed.

For such a new venture, I was surprised to see Everest succeed in all the areas you'd expect out of a restaurant with more mileage. Besides the irrefutable quality of their food, the authenticity to their service goes above and beyond what's expected and factors heavily into their winning formula. It's difficult to gauge where they stand among the growing pantheon of Indian/Nepalese restaurants here in Anchorage, but Everest makes a strong case for being a high point for this electrifying cuisine.

Everest Restaurant is located at 3637 Old Seward Hwy. They are open daily from 11am — 10pm.



VOTED ALASKA'S BEST ANTIQUE STORE

PACK RAT ANTIQUES
VINTAGE, ALASKANA, JEWELRY, PRIMITIVES
RETRO, TOYS, VINYL, DECOR & MORE!

1068 W. FIREWEED LANE • 907.522.5272
Open Daily 11ish to Gish • Est 1996

IN TRENDY SPENARD!

Locally Owned and Operated for 26 Years

Order Your Bratwurst Dinner Boxes 2-5pm
Pick up only

Cafe Amsterdam
Tues-Fri 8am-3pm, Sat & Sun 8am-2pm
Dine In & To Go Options
530 E. Benson #3 • (907) 274-0074 • cafe-amsterdam.com

The Anchorage Press
is legally authorized to
publish legal and
public notices.
Please call (907) 561-7737,
or email to
legals@anchoragepress.com



Super Crossword

POD-TIME WORK

ACROSS

- 1 Picture
6 Lo — (Chinese dish)
10 Eyes, to bards
14 Step heavily
19 Like zebras' necks
20 Author Sarah — Jewett
21 Beet or yam
22 Womanizer, perhaps
23 Spotted steed
25 Womanizer, perhaps
26 Bacteriology gels
27 Some sporty trucks, briefly
28 Jai —
29 Illegal boxing blow
31 Superhero with a magic ring
34 Fruit such as a peach or plum
35 Chicks' hangouts
36 Heavy horn
37 Baldwin of "Drunk Parents"
38 Rascally sort
41 Moniker for Lincoln
44 Royal Dansk treat

- 48 Speaker's stand
52 Cash caches requiring PINs
55 Wingtips' tips
56 Impassioned
57 Bee or Em
58 Neighbor of Burkina Faso
60 Off. helper
62 Their young are kids
63 The clear, open outdoors
66 Epps of "Juice"
68 City in southern California
69 Stephen of "Angie"
70 A tyrant rules with one
74 Prefix with skeleton
75 Common chamber group
77 Conductor Solti
80 Capital of Peru
82 Painter Dufy
83 TV's — May Clampett
84 Annie player Quinn
86 Ankle-length skirt

- 88 Caused to propagate
89 Airline to Tel Aviv
90 Spur-of-the-moment choice
93 Federal benefits org.
95 "Yoo-hoo!"
96 — Hashana
97 2006 Nintendo debuts
100 Taj —
105 Bursts in space
107 Figure at Madame Tussauds
110 Former Seabee, say
114 Scottish island
115 Agts. going after tax evaders
116 Banishment
117 Fix up text
118 What someone who completes this puzzle does?
120 "Daniel" singer John
121 Solemn act
122 The Beatles' "Let —"
123 Arm bones

- 124 School VIPs
125 Luminary
126 Warty critter
127 Actress Sharon
DOWN
1 Challenge as questionable
2 — d'
3 French for "years"
4 Prepare
5 Tokyo, once
6 Dough
7 Off-course
8 As originally found
9 Once called
10 Hatch of Utah
11 Large crucifix
12 Unlimited
13 Wheel turner
14 Von — family ("The Sound of Music" group)
15 Rascally sort
16 Arab country
17 Bygone Ford div.
18 Sumptuous
24 TV's Linden
29 "Sauer" hot dog topping
30 New Mexico's flower
32 Top-secret govt. org.
33 Fade away

- 37 "This is only —"
38 Swedish retail chain
39 Floss flavor
40 Furry adoptees
42 "— Cafe" (old Whoopi Goldberg sitcom)
43 Drinking alcohol
45 Exactly
46 Leia's last name
47 Unscented
48 Smidgens
49 Halo effect
50 Hip to
51 Florida or Ohio pol, e.g.
53 Poet Angelou
54 NBC fixture since '75
59 Short-hop plane
61 Rotational forces
64 Doggoned
65 Berlin loc.
67 Gives shape to, to a Brit
70 Humpbacked lab helper
71 "— do you good"
72 Actress Ward
73 "Gotta go," to a texter
75 Pulverize

- 76 Catch
77 Deep cut
78 Article in Augsburg
79 Big name in skin cream
81 "That went right by me"
85 Chutzpah
87 Cedar Rapids native
91 Paint appliers, e.g.
92 Veto
94 Sound box at a concert
98 Really digs
99 Floor-washing robot
101 "Insomniac" comic Dave
102 Showing benevolence
103 Sports spots
104 Contacts, e.g.
105 Floss fiber
106 Cake bakers
107 Sea filler
108 Single
109 — Vegas
110 Necessity
111 Wheel turner
112 "La Dolce —"
113 Hayworth of old films
118 Set of parts to be assembled
119 Ant or beetle

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13		14	15	16	17	18
19						20					21					22				
23						24					25					26				
27						28					29					30				
31					32					33				34						
35								36					37					38	39	40
					41	42	43			44		45					46	47		
48	49	50	51			52		53	54		55					56				
57						58				59		60			61		62			
63					64					65				66	67					
68									69				70					71	72	73
					74				75				76							
77	78	79					80	81				82						83		
84						85		86			87		88					89		
90						91					92				93		94			
95						96					97		98	99			100	101	102	103
						105	106								108	109				
110	111	112							113											
116																				
120																				
124																				

©2022 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

LEGALS

Bread & Brew, LLC dba Bread & Brew located at 1450 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 is applying for transfer of a Restaurant or Eating Place AS 04.11.100 liquor license. The change in ownership involves the ownership interest transfer from Craig McCarty 42.857%, Sherrie McCarty 42.857%, and Alexis Johnson 14.286% to Craig McCarty 85.714%, and Alexis Johnson 14.286% . Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov and Attorney Jana Weltzin, Esq. At jana@jdwccounsel.com or JDW, LLC, 901 Photo Avenue, Second Floor, Anchorage, AK 99503. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 8/18/22, 8/25/22, 9/01/22

Emerald Tours, Inc. is making application for a new Restaurant or Eating Place AS 04.11.100 liquor license doing business as Basecamp Eatery located at 194 Hightower Rd., Girdwood, AK 99587. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 8/25/22, 9/01/22, 9/08/22

Gourmet Ventures Inc dba Red Robin located at 1190 N. Muldoon Road, Anchorage, is applying for transfer of a Beverage Dispensary AS 04.11.090 liquor license to No Premises. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave.

Questioned ballots — those flagged for special attention for one of a variety of reasons — have gone through a similar review process.

In the end, all valid ballots — whether they were cast in person on election day, in early voting or by mail — end up going through a scanner.

How the sorting works

When the appropriate button is pressed on Wednesday, the software program in charge of doing the ranking behind ranked choice voting starts a step-by-step process.

First, ballots that have no votes are dropped from the total.

LEGALS

Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov . Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 9/01/22, 9/08/22, 9/15/22

TPS Alaska LLC dba The Pizza Studio located at No Premises is applying for transfer of a Beverage Dispensary AS 04.11.090 liquor license to Gourmet Ventures Inc dba Red Robin, located at 1190 N. Muldoon Road, Anchorage. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov . Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 9/01/22, 9/08/22, 9/15/22

As of Tuesday, about 3,900 voters submitted blank ballots, effectively voting for “no one.”

The other ballots are sorted by who was ranked as the voters’ first choice: Palin, Peltola, Begich and “write in,” a category that covers all write-in votes collectively, regardless of candidate.

Because first-choice votes have been published already, we know that Peltola is leading, followed by Palin, Begich and all write-in candidates combined.

If one of the three candidates had more than 50% of the vote, they’d win automatically, with no ranking needed. That isn’t the case here. Ranking is needed.

The write-in category, as of Tuesday, had 2,954 first-choice votes, the least of the four options. That will be eliminated first. We won’t know how many votes each write-in candidate had.

That breakdown only happens if the write-in category is in first place or within 0.5% of first place.

When the write-in category is eliminated, anyone who picked a write-in vote first has their ballot go to their second choice, if there is one. If there isn’t a second choice, the ballot is dropped from the total, going to “no one.”

The software then looks at the totals for each candidate. If a candidate has more than 50% of the remaining votes — the number cast, minus the number of votes for “no one” — they will win.

For this election, there are so few write-in votes that it’s impossible for one of the three candidates to get above 50% at this point, so the software goes to the next round.

In the second round, Begich is the lowest finisher and is eliminated. Voters who picked him as their first choice have their votes instead go to their second choice. If a write-in was their second choice, their ballot goes to their third choice. And voters whose first choice was a write-in and whose second choice was Begich will also have their ballot go to their third choice.

If there’s no second or third choice, the ballot goes to “no one.”

Pre-election polling indicates that fellow Republican

candidate Sarah Palin is likely the second choice of most Begich voters, which may make her the winner.

It isn’t clear whether that will happen. Peltola has more first-choice votes than Palin, and if enough Begich voters pick Peltola or no one, Peltola will win.

The final result will be posted on the Division of Elections website soon after 4 p.m., and it will show the result of each round of sorting. The division has created a sample report to show what that will look like.

The division could have done this sorting after election day and created a preliminary, incomplete tally, but officials decided to wait until Wednesday, the deadline for absentee ballots to arrive from overseas.

National experts in ranked choice voting advise doing a preliminary tally, but division officials said they wanted to avoid public confusion.

What comes afterward?

After Wednesday’s preliminary result, a review board in Juneau will spot-check the scanners’ work by hand, using randomly selected batches of ballots from across the state.

The division has said it intends to certify the result by Friday, and Sept. 7 is the deadline for a candidate to request a recount.

If the result is within 0.5% of all ballots cast, the state will pay for a recount. If the margin is larger than that, the requestor pays.

The deadline to challenge the election result in court is Sept. 12.

In 2020, the state conducted a special hand count of results in order to reassure the public about the accuracy of its voting systems. No special hand count has been discussed or is planned this year, elections officials said.

All paper ballots and ballot stubs will be stored for 22 months after the election results are certified.

Alaska’s next ranked choice election will take place Nov. 8 for the statewide general elections for governor, U.S. Senate, a full term of the U.S. House, and for state House and Senate.

The results of those ranked choice elections are expected Nov. 23.

Relationship blues

Dear Oskar,
I am dating a man I really like. He’s so many good things about him, but there is one thing that I can not seem to get through: He has a lot of female friends. He is very open to me about everything. This is the first time I have been in a relationship where we really talk and try to work things out. But I was cheated on in my last relationship, and I am worried I am not doing right by myself by being in this relationship. My values say that people in monogamous relationships should not have so many friends of the opposite sex. What should I do?



ASK OSKAR
BY OSKAR SAVILLE

—Relationship Blues

Dear Relationship Blues,
Ah . . . relationships. It would be so great to be in a relationship and for nothing to ever happen! Or would it?

Every problem we have is related to someone or something in this world. We are taught to believe that if that person or other thing were gone, we would be safe. Experiencing life on life’s terms means shit is going to happen! It’s not because anyone did something wrong.

I can understand your fear of being

betrayed or hurt. But unfortunately, there is nothing that can stop these things from happening — unless we all stay inside and never leave our homes. (I had a few neighbors like that, and it wasn’t pretty.)

So let’s take a clear look to see where you are right now. What a beautiful thing that your boyfriend is open and communicative with you! I won’t speak for all women, but come on girls, who wouldn’t kill for this?!? My ex-husband used to roll his eyes as soon as I tried to work things out with him. (Hence, EX!) Relationships are not easy — and with good reason: All good relationships push you to grow. Growing is uncomfortable and makes people want to run, but staying and working things out—which it sounds like you’re doing — is where real joy and relationship ease comes from. If you’re worried about your boyfriend cheating on you because of your past experiences, nothing in the world can take away that fear but healing that wound. If he’s destined to cheat, you can’t change or stop that (female friends or not), but what you can control are your own thoughts and behavior.

Listen, we’re all afraid of being left and hurt, but in the end, even in the most beautiful relationships, someone has to die. So I’m not going to tell you what to do because your heart knows the right way. But I do suggest you sit with yourself and your feelings and trust the way it leads because the most important relationship is with yourself. Through being secure and loving yourself, you will find a harmony that works with you and your relationship.

Super Crossword

Answers

I	M	A	G	E		M	E	I	N		O	R	B	S		T	R	O	M	P	
M	A	N	E	D		O	R	N	E		R	O	O	T		R	O	M	E	O	
P	I	N	T	O		H	O	R	S	E		R	O	U	E		A	G	A	R	S
U	T	E	S		A	L	A	I		K	I	D	N	E	Y	P	U	N	C	H	
G	R	E	E	N		L	A	N	T	E	R	N		D	R	U	P	E			
N	E	S	T	S			T	U	B	A		A	L	E	C			I	M	P	
				A	B	E			B	U	T	T	E	R	C	O	O	K	I	E	
D	A	I	S		A	T	M	S		T	O	E	S		A	R	D	E	N	T	
A	U	N	T		G	H	A	N	A		A	S	S	T		G	O	A	T	S	
B	R	O	A	D		D	A	Y	L	I	G	H	T		O	M	A	R			
S	A	N	T	A		A	N	A		R	E	A		I	R	O	N	F	I	S	T
				E	N	D	O		S	T	R	I	N	G	Q	U	A	R	T	E	T
G	E	O	R	G		L	I	M	A		R	A	O	U	L		E	L	L	Y	
A	I	L	E	E	N		M	A	X	I		B	R	E	D		E	L	A	L	
S	N	A	P	D	E	C	I	S	I	O	N			S	S	A					
H	E	Y			R	O	S	H		W	I	I	S			M	A	H	A	L	
				N	O	V	A	S		W	A	X	S	C	U	L	P	T	U	R	E
N	A	V	Y	V	E	T	E	R	A	N		I	O	N	A		T	M	E	N	
E	X	I	L	E		E	D	I	T		K	N	O	W	S	B	E	A	N	S	
E	L	T	O	N		R	I	T	E		I	T	B	E		U	L	N	A	E	
D	E	A	N	S		S	T	A	R		T	O	A	D		G	L	E	S	S	



ARIES (March 21-April 19) Frank O’Hara wrote, “When I was a child, I played in a corner of the schoolyard all alone. If anyone was looking for me, I hid behind a tree and cried out, ‘I am an orphan.’” In the coming months, Aries, I suspect that you, too, will have the potency to outgrow and transcend a sadness or awkwardness from your own past.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) William Blake championed the ability “to see a World in a Grain of Sand. And a Heaven in a Wild Flower. Hold Infinity in the palm of your hand.” According to my reading of the astrological omens, Taurus, you are primed to do just that in the coming days. You have the power to discern the sacred in the midst of mundane events. The magic and mystery of life will shine from every little thing you encounter.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) “The time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time,” said philosopher Bertrand Russell. I will add that the time you enjoy wasting is often essential to your well-being. For the sake of your sanity and health, you periodically need to temporarily shed your ambitions and avoid as many of your responsibilities as you safely can. During these interludes of refreshing emptiness, you recharge your precious life energy.

CANCERIAN (June 21-July 22) “My own curiosity and interest are insatiable,” wrote Cancerian author Emma Lazarus. Inspired by the wealth of influences she absorbed, she created an array of poetry, plays, novels, essays, and translations. I recommend her as a role model for you in the coming weeks, Cancerian. I think you’re ripe for an expansion and deepening of your curiosity.

LEO (July 23-August 22) Blogger Scott Williams writes, “There are two kinds of magic. One comes from the heroic leap, the upward surge of energy, the explosive arc that burns bright across the sky. The other kind is the slow accretion of effort: the water-on-stone method, the soft root of the plant that splits the sidewalk, the constant wind that scours the mountain clean.” Can you guess which type of magic will be your specialty in the coming weeks, Leo? It will be the laborious, slow accretion of effort.

VIRGO (August 23-September 22) “Now that I’m free to be myself, who am I?” Mary Oliver asks that question to start one of her poems. She spends the rest of the poem speculating on possible answers. At the end, she concludes she mostly longs to be an “empty, waiting, pure, speechless receptacle.” Such a state of being might work well for a poet with lots of time on her hands, but I don’t recommend it for you in the coming weeks. Instead, I hope you’ll be profuse, active, busy, experimental, and expressive.

LIBRA (September 23-October 22) In her book *Tales From Earthsea*, Libra-born Ursula K. Le Guin wrote, “What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is forever because it dies and dies and so lives.” I trust you’re embodying those truths right now. You’re in a phase of your cycle when you can’t afford to remain unchanged. You need to enthusiastically and purposefully engage in dissolutions that will prepare the way for your rebirth in the weeks after your birthday. The process might sometimes feel strenuous, but it should ultimately be great fun.

SCORPIO (October 23-November 21) Fyodor Dostoyevsky was rarely guilty of oversimplification. Like any intelligent person, he could hold contradictory ideas in his mind without feeling compelled to seek more superficial truths. He wrote, “The causes of human actions are usually immeasurably more complex and varied than our subsequent explanations of them.” I hope you will draw inspiration from his example in the coming weeks, dear Scorpio. I trust you will resist the temptation to reduce colorful mysteries to straightforward explanations.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) Author Zadie Smith praised writer Joan Didion, “I remain grateful for the day I picked up Joan Didion’s *Slouching Towards Bethlehem* and realized that a woman could speak without hedging her bets, without hemming and hawing, without making nice, without sounding pleasant or sweet, without deference, and even without doubt.” I encourage Sagittarians of every gender to be inspired by Didion in the coming weeks. It’s a favorable time to claim more of the authority you have earned. Speak your kaleidoscopic wisdom without apology or dilution.

CAPRICORN (December 22-January 19) Capricorn novelist Marcia Douglas writes books about the history of her people in Jamaica. In one passage, she writes, “My grandmother used to tell stories about women that change into birds and lizards. One day, a church-going man dared to laugh at her; he said it was too much for him to swallow. My grandmother looked at him and said, ‘I bet you believe Jesus turned water into wine.’” My purpose in telling you this, Capricorn, is to encourage you to nurture and celebrate your own fantastic tales. Life isn’t all about reasonableness and pragmatism. You need myth and magic to thrive.

AQUARIUS (January 20- February 18) To be the best Aquarius you can be in the coming weeks, I suggest the following: 1. Zig when others zag. Zag when others zig. 2. Play with the fantasy that you’re an extraterrestrial who’s engaged in an experiment on planet Earth. 3. Be a hopeful cynic and a cheerful skeptic. 4. Do things that inspire people to tell you, “Just when I thought I had you figured out, you do something unexpected to confound me.” 5. Just for fun, walk backward every now and then. 6. Fall in love with everything and everyone: a D-List celebrity, an oak tree, a neon sign, a feral cat.

PISCES (February 19-March 20) A blogger who calls herself HellFresh writes, “Open and raw communication with your partners and allies may be uncomfortable and feel awkward and vulnerable, but it solves so many problems that can’t be solved any other way.” Having spent years studying the demanding arts of intimate relationship, I agree with her. She adds, “The idea that was sold to us is ‘love is effortless and you should communicate telepathically with your partner.’ That’s false.” I propose, Pisces, that you fortify yourself with these truths as you enter the Reinvent Your Relationships Phase of your astrological cycle.



DAN SAVAGE’S SAVAGE LOVE

This is a preview of this week’s Savage Love. The full version is now exclusively available on Dan’s website [savage.love](#).

I’m a 29-year-old gay man just shy of five years sober. I’ve had to do a lot of work on myself in recovery to accept and love myself after being dragged to conversion therapy when I was a teenager by my narcissistic evangelical parents. I met a guy in AA in May who at the time was nine months sober. His sobriety coincided with him coming out. He’s 27 years old and still unpacking a lot. He broke up with a girlfriend a few months before we met and I’m the first guy he’s ever dated. I was initially hesitant about getting involved with him, given these parameters, but I went for it anyway. The first two months were great. We had great chemistry and great sex, we went on dates, etc. A month ago he hit me with, “I don’t want to be in a relationship as I’m exploring my sexuality.” My initial reaction was to step back and assume this was the end. However, nothing changed. He continued to initiate affection and even threw me a birthday party at his home with decorations he bought. A week later he hits me with, “I’ve lost the romantic spark but I still want to hang out, have sex, and go on dates.” I’m mainly just thrown by the lack of alignment between his words and actions. Should I just accept this relationship for whatever it is and date other people? The sex is great, but I feel very romantically involved—four months in—and I’m not sure it’s wise to get more involved.

—Behaves Like A Boyfriend But Excludes Romantic Stamp

Telling someone to disengage romantically is easy, BLABBERS. Actually disengaging romantically is hard.

I’ve heard from so many people over the years who were struggling to smother romantic feelings for lovers who did them wrong. People pining away for exes who fucked their best friends, emptied their checking accounts, and refused to respond to their texts. So, while I could tell you to adjust your romantic expectations downward while you keep fucking this boy, the odds of you being able to keep your romantic feelings in check—much less smother them—while he’s hosting birthday parties for you and sucking your dick are close to zero. If you keep seeing this guy, the emotional hits (“I don’t want a relationship,” “I feel no spark”) will keep coming.

So, what’s up with this guy? If he acts like a boyfriend and fucks like a boyfriend, why doesn’t he want to be a boyfriend?

Maybe he’s still exploring his sexuality—maybe it’s just what he told you—and he worries that labeling the relationship, e.g., becoming boyfriend official, is going to limit him. He is a recent refugee from Straightland, after all, and most residents of Straightland have no concept of romantic relationships that aren’t sexually exclusive. (Except for straight people who read my column and listen to the Love-cast!) Just because he’s out doesn’t mean he’s up to speed.

Or maybe he’s not gay.

You say he just came out, BLABBER, but you don’t say what he came out as. You also say the sex has been great, and I believe you. Guys sometimes discover they like having sex with men and then assume they must be gay; they see enjoying sex with other men as disqualifying where straightness is concerned. And so it is. But it’s not disqualifying where bisexuality is concerned. So, if this guy came out as gay because he thought he had to be gay because otherwise he wouldn’t enjoy your dick so much, his lack of romantic feelings for you—if coupled with ongoing romantic and/or sexual attractions to women—could mean he’s bisexual and heteroromantic (BAH). It’s a thing. BAH guys can confuse gay men; while some BAH guys don’t want anything to do with their male sex partners before or after sex, other BAH guys are open to being “buds.” These BAH guys—BAH guys who wanna hang out, go on dates, host your birthday party—not only confuse gay dudes, they sometimes break our hearts.

Or maybe this guy knows you could be boyfriends without being exclusive (maybe you explained that to him) or maybe he’s gay and not into you the same way you’re into him (also a thing, and a sad one). But whatever his issues might be, BLABBERS, you should see other people while he explores/sucks/fucks his way through those issues. And if hanging out with him right now is too painful—if seeing him hurts too much—don’t hang out with him, don’t socialize with him, don’t take turns sitting on dicks with him. He was honest and direct with you, BLABBERS, and you should be just as honest and direct with him. Getting the boyfriend treatment from a guy who not only insists he isn’t your boyfriend but also doesn’t have any romantic feelings for you—the gap you perceive between his actions and his words—is going to make you miserable if you can’t disengage romantically, BLABBERS, which you most likely can’t. Tell him you’re not angry, you don’t hate him, and you still like him very much. And that’s the problem: you like him way more than he likes you. As much as you enjoy his company, as much as you enjoy his dick, continuing to date or fuck him means feeding your self-esteem into an emotional shredder.

P.S. Congrats on your sobriety—and while I hope your parents apologized to you at some point, I’m guessing they haven’t, seeing as they aren’t just evangelicals, but narcissists to boot.

I’m a gay boy in the big city. I had a threesome with two married guys and it didn’t go well, to put it mildly. I was asked to leave before anyone even came. (This was before the monkeypox outbreak, Dan, so you can skip that lecture.) They both contacted me separately to apologize and then both offered to meet up with me one-on-one if I kept it secret. Since they’re hot guys and I’m a huge slut and I’m not married to anybody, I said yes. And then the craziest thing happened: after fucking, both of them told me they’re miserable in their marriage and that they would leave and get a divorce but the other would be completely devastated if their marriage ended. I feel like I’m sitting on a magic ticket—the truth—that would get both of these guys out of a miserable marriage. Do I tell them what they both told me?

—Sharing Largely Unvarnished Truths

Nope.

Breaking the Grass Ceiling

BY O’HARA SHIPE
ALASKA LEAF MAGAZINE

In 1968, an intrepid teenager named Mary White began her first forays into Cannabis. Not one for drinking, White discovered that taking on what she calls “mild happy weed” was enough to keep her in fashion without the side effects of hellish hangovers. Like many teenagers, her consumption was sporadic throughout high school and further waned as she reached her 20s and 30s.

“I enjoyed Cannabis, but it wasn’t something that I thought about much. It was kind of just something you do at parties when you’re young. I never thought I’d end up working with it,” explains White.

Little did she know, 16 years after her first toke, Cannabis would be her ticket out of bankruptcy.

“It’s a horrible, long story, but basically, I got really sick and had no insurance in 1984. I was in dire straits and needed money, so I reached out to some people I knew who were operating illegal grow houses in Seattle,” says White. “I didn’t sell it; I just took care of the plants, but that helped lift me out of bankruptcy, and I was able to buy a house.”

At the time, White says she felt empowered and strong despite being the token female within the grow operation. She loved taking care of the plants and often referred to them as her babies. Illegality aside, White had found herself in the kind of self-sufficient position that still alludes many working women today.

“I was happy, and I felt secure, but now, looking back at it, I was the only woman, and I did kind of get forced out of a job as soon as there was a man who could do my job. It’s funny how you don’t think about that kind of stuff when it’s happening,” says White.

Sadly, White is one part of a pervasive narrative that still exists within today’s legal market. Despite being a small-business owner and published author, White says that feeling like an outsider is part and parcel of being a woman in the industry.

“I am teaching cooking classes which is traditionally thought of as a woman’s job, but there are a lot of times I feel really out of place. I’m already older than most of the people I work alongside in the industry, and then I am a woman on top of that. So sometimes I wonder if I’m not just some weirdo lady hanging around with the guys,” explains White.

A male-dominated industry

According to a 2017 study by MJBiz Daily, women occupy roughly 36-percent of executive positions within the industry. So, why, if every piece of Cannabis we consume is female, are women taking a backseat to their male colleagues?

MJBiz Daily suggests that the recurring issue preventing women from entering the industry is a lack of access to capital. The amount of money needed to start a Cannabis business can easily surpass six figures, and the networks of investors that can provide that amount of money—high-net-worth individuals and venture capital firms—can be difficult for women to access. Additionally, women-owned businesses often receive less funding and fewer resources than their male counterparts. It’s something that Caroline Frankel has experienced first-hand.

Massachusetts’ first recreational dispensary owner, Frankel, spent years scraping together \$300,000 of her own money to open her Uxbridge store.

“You really don’t hear about women self-funding their marijuana business, and it’s something I’m proud of,” says Frankel.

A stay-at-home-mother, Frankel says she would put her three children to bed and retire to her basement, where she spent hours following the legalization process as it moved from the west coast to New England. Putting her business degree from Johnson and Wales University to good use, Frankel developed a comprehensive business plan for her dream dispensary. She also navigated the licensing process mainly on her own.

“When the state was ready for general applicants like myself, I was ready to go. I actually ended up being the first general applicant in Massachusetts,” says Frankel.

In early April 2020, Frankel opened Caroline’s Cannabis, and she now has plans to expand to a second location. However, Frankel’s success has been somewhat tempered by the response she has received from other mothers within her community.

“Of course, my kids love me regardless. But with other moms, I definitely felt like I was being judged a little bit for not only for being someone who uses Cannabis but then also being someone making a living in it as well. It was always the other parents or the people in my community that I felt judged me a little bit more than anyone else,” says Frankel.

Jumping higher hurdles

“I totally have always felt that I’ve had to work harder because Cannabis is a male-dominated field. Even from the municipality and licensing standpoint, I was spending a lot of time rehearsing my presentations and investing money into making them look better than anyone else’s. I always felt like I had to compete more,” Frankel explains.

Some feelings of inadequacy might be understandable in Frankel’s case as she was cutting a new path for women-owned dispensaries in a newly legalized state. But the pervasive bias that White felt 30 years ago is the same one that women in the industry continue to butt up against.

As a former ice hockey goaltender, Oregonian Megan Hunt is used to being the only woman among a sea of men, so she felt at home when she entered the industry as a trimmer in 2018. At the time, Hunt had several female coworkers trimming alongside her, but as her ambitions to rise within the ranks took hold, she began to realize that her perception of gender equality had been somewhat skewed.

“There are women that do trimming, production, or processing, but I don’t really see a ton of women growing. I feel like there has to be a ton out there, but just in my personal experience, I haven’t really worked with a lot of other female growers. I’ve learned almost everything from like male growers,” explains Hunt.

Although Hunt says her male mentors and colleagues have always treated her with respect, she still experienced pushback when she expressed her desire to take on a leadership position within the grow operation.

“I definitely feel like there’s a period of time where you have to prove yourself in any position, but I do think you end up getting undermined a lot more in fields that are pre-

dominantly male. You have to prove yourself and let them know, ‘hey, I know my shit, I can grow, and I can do everything you can do. Including lifting a five-gallon bucket of water.’ Once you get through that, it’s usually pretty smooth sailing,” says Hunt.

Shifting the narrative

“I mean, it’s, it’s kind of confusing to me because I know that a lot of women are into plants and love biology and healing with herbal medicine. And so, it’s kind of a perplexing question to me as to why more women aren’t taking those leadership positions or just growing in general,” says Hunt.

One theory is that there remains a stigma around female Cannabis consumption. Currently, male consumers make up nearly three-quarters of the recreational market. As was the case with Frankel, the notion of woman and mother are so tied together that society struggles to separate the two. So, when a stay-at-home-mom decides to open a dispensary, it seems shocking in a way that it would not be had it been stay-at-home-father.

“I think [the Cannabis industry] can be a little daunting. Cannabis has still been a stigma for so long, so I think women may still be a little hesitant about it. For women, it’s still high risk because It’s federally illegal. So, you just might not have those women executives that want to take that risk at this time,” explains Autumn Brands co-owner and CFO Autumn Shelton.

One of California’s first women-owned Cannabis businesses, Autumn Brands, has made it their mission to bring more women into the industry and destigmatize female Cannabis use. According to Shelton, achieving their goals comes down to re-branding.

“Women traditionally are the ones that make decisions for health wellness for themselves and for their families, and they are really dedicated to that. So, when we think about Cannabis, we think about it as a health and wellness product. And that extends to our packaging and our branding,” says Shelton.

A mother and Cannabis consumer, Shelton understands the importance of shifting the stoner narrative that has been perpetuated by pop culture.

“It’s about normalizing Cannabis in the way a glass of wine has been. I think the perception is that all pot consumers are getting super high on bong rips, and that needs to change. Of course, when I was younger, I used to do that, but I am a mom now, and that has shifted how I think about Cannabis. Now, all I need is a few hits of a joint, and it allows me to get out of my head and release tension so I can come back and be ready to be a mom again,” explains Shelton.

Even though Shelton is fighting for the normalization of not only female Cannabis use but women occupying space in the industry, she admits that it can be difficult finding a balance.

“It can be confusing when you’re a parent because on one hand because society says that Cannabis is something that is not good, and on the other hand, your child is wondering why you would work in a business that is surrounded by it,” says Shelton.

Creating their own space

The struggle to reconcile years of cultural programming with the reality of Cannabis as medicine is something that Alaskan Jana Weltzin was confronted with at a very young age, and it ended up shaping her life.

“When I was seven or eight, I had a childhood friend who saw her parents get arrested for marijuana possession. I remember it being weird to me because here was this perfect family that was so happy and healthy and took care of their kids and took care of me when I stayed with them, getting ripped apart by the cops. After that, I knew I wanted to be a lawyer, and I had no other intentions of doing anything else,” says Weltzin.

The founding member of JDW Counsel in Anchorage, Weltzin, focuses her legal practice on land use and zoning law and recreational marijuana business law and regulation compliance in Alaska. A staunch advocate for the industry, she was instrumental in working with the Coalition for Responsible Cannabis Legislation to help launch Alaska’s recreational market in 2015.

Over the last six years, Weltzin has established herself as a powerhouse Cannabis attorney, but she is quick to give credit to the female mentors who helped pave the way for her.

“I learned from my mentor Jordan Rose. Especially when it comes to my dealings with men, I remember she would always tell me to be realistic about what a man’s priorities are with you. You want to get the most you can out of the relationship without ever compromising your own values and your own beliefs,” says Weltzin.

Known for her direct, firm communication, Weltzin ruffled some feathers when she began carving out space for herself.

“I think that men came in with a different expectation and maybe thought that I couldn’t handle getting certain code amendments, but I did. Some thought that I couldn’t handle getting certain approvals done, but I’ve gotten every single necessary approval out there for marijuana shops. I think it took me showing them that I can do it; I’m not just this little girl trying to make it in a big man’s world,” says Weltzin.

While Weltzin has played the game, she is adamant that she should not have had to clear extra professional hurdles simply because she is a woman.

“What are we not hearing collectively as a society? Why are things tone-deaf when women speak and not when men speak next? I don’t know if that’s a ‘man issue,’ though. I think it might be more of a societal issue that needs to be corrected,” says Weltzin.

So, how does the Cannabis industry become a shining example of equality for women? On this matter, Weltzin, Hunt, White, Frankel, and Shelton agree.

“We have to step up and have each other’s back. Men have been doing that for decades and decades, and as women, we haven’t. We’re conditioned not to like each other; we are conditioned to be competitive with each other. The reality is that we shouldn’t be competing with each other. We have to be the ones to say where our place is,” says Weltzin.

Originally published in Leaf Magazines in August 2021.

CANNAGUIDE

YOUR MAP TO ANCHORAGE'S DANK SIDE



Alaska Cannabis Exchange
2906 Spenard Road
(907) 301-4208
Joints are 20% of Monday



King Street Cannabis Company
8430 Laviento Drive
(907) 522-5464
20% off for senior and veterans

Want to see your dispensary featured?
Contact our sales team at 907-561-7737.

Cannabaska
217 E 4th Ave
(907) 308-7859

Raspberry Roots
501 Raspberry Rd
(907) 522-2450

Enlighten
2600 Spenard Rd
(907) 290-8559



Cold City Cannabis
1210 E 70th Ave
(907) 222-9988

Pre-Roll Fire Sale
1 for \$6 and 10 for \$45

Cannabliss
2001 E 5th Ave
(907) 770-8940

Denali Dispensaries
225 E 5th Ave
(907) 646-4200



Cloudberry Cannabis
3307 Spenard Road
(907) 644-3010
Voted Best of Weed Maps
Budtender's Choice \$40
1/8ths on Friday

The Frost Farms
8535 Dimond D Cir
(907) 522-5050

Tundra Herb Co.
520 W 6th Avenue Suite A
(907) 929-4372

Canna Get Happy
810 E 6th Ave
(907) 278-0510

The Tree House
341 Boniface Pkwy
(907) 229-2284

The Green Room
610 C St
(907) 258-2837

The Frost Farms
8535 Dimond D Cir
(907) 522-5050

ALASKAbuds
1005 E 5th Ave
(907) 334-6420

Peace of Mind
221 East 5th Ave
(907) 222-5420



Catalyst Cannabis Co.
Old Seward Hwy
9900 Old Seward Hwy
(907) 344-0668
Buy 3 Edibles, Get 4th for
a 1¢ on Friday

Catalyst Cannabis Co.
Muldoon
317 Muldoon Rd
(907) 222-6847



Uncle Herb's - Arctic
6511 Arctic Spur Rd
(907) 561-4372
Open 8am - 11pm Daily

Uncle Herb's - Boniface
360 Boniface Pkwy
(907) 561-4372
Open 8am - 12pm Daily

Mile High Alaska
910 W Intl' Airport Rd
(907) 222-0420

Hillside Natural Wellness
8639 Toloff St
(907) 868-8639

Great Northern Cannabis
541 W 4th Ave
(907) 929-9333

1901 W Dimond Blvd
(907) 334-5874

Tip Top
233 E 5th Ave
(907) 644-3066

Voodoo
930 Gambell St
(907) 865-8889

Top Shelf Herbs of AK
901 Photo Ave
(907) 222-2488

Alaskan Leaf
1211 W 36th Ave
(907) 770-0262

AK Joint Ventures
7801 Schoon St
(907) 522-5222

Green Growcer
301 E Dimond Blvd
(907) 312-8420

Mary Janes
8857 Jewel Lake Rd
(907) 677-7689

Primo AK
12870 Old Seward Hwy
(907) 336-2837



House of Green
3105 Minnesota Dr
(907) 929-3105
1.5g "Fat Boy" Prerolls

Arctic Herbery
7107 Arctic Blvd
(907) 222-1466



Patty Cakes

10mg THC each
5 servings Per container
It's a Party in your mouth!



(1) "Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive."; (2) "Marijuana impairs concentration, coordination, and judgement. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery while under its influence."; (3) "There are health risks associated with consumption of Marijuana."; (4) "For use only by adults twenty-one and older. Keep out of reach of children."; (5) "Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breast feeding" LICENSE 10903

Another dispensary??
C'mon! 
Let Me Change Your Mind

\$ Cheap smokes \$10.59 a pack for Marb, \$11.09 for Camel, \$11.59 for American, Kool and Newport

\$ Reward bonus this week only. New accounts get 100 reward points for sign up, bring a friend and both get 100 points

\$ From out of town, we have RV Parking and quick access out of the construction to any part of the city or hwy out of the city. Our expert Budtenders will give you educated advice on your selection and fastest directions to your destination.

\$ Dividend burning a hole in your pocket already...? What would you say to premium bud for a year for the price of your dividend. The "16 days of Green"© ~Coming soon!

Open 10-7 all week.
1133 E. 68th Ave * (907) 245-0044
clearcutcannabis907.com
Clean, Classy and Proud of Our Variety



Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive. Marijuana impairs concentration, coordination and judgement. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under its influence. There are health risks associated with consumption of marijuana. For use only by adults 21 and older. Keep out of reach of children. Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding. Lic#15016



Most Secluded Cannabis Shop In Anchorage!

Adopt a woolly mammoth and win!

BY NED ROZELL

A University of Alaska Fairbanks scientist wants to find out when the last woolly mammoth fell to the grass in Alaska. He is asking for help from an unusual source: people like you.

Matthew Wooller was walking a beach in Florida last winter with his wife and two kids when the adopt-a-mammoth idea struck him.

His plan involves 1,500 mammoth bones, teeth and tusks housed in Fairbanks at the UA Museum of the North. Donated by explorer Otto Geist and many gold miners over the last 100 years, the mammoth remains are a treasure that would become much more useful to scientists if they knew when the animals were alive.

Why not — Wooller said to his wife Diane O'Brien as they strolled on the beach — ask people if they would pay for radiocarbon dating of one (or more) of those bones? In doing so, they could help scientists determine when the woolly mammoth vanished from mainland Alaska. Person with the youngest fossil wins!

O'Brien, the director of UAF's Institute of Arctic Biology, loved the idea. Crowdsourcing is an unconventional way to do science, but think of all the funding-agency pressure you would avoid. Plus, mammoths are fun, and so are competitions.

Before the details, a little more on what the contest might do for our knowledge of an iconic creature.

Of all the animals that once walked the planet but no longer do, the woolly mammoth is one we can almost smell.

Their bones have turned up in frozen ground all over the North; a baby mammoth extracted by a Yukon gold miner in summer 2022 looks like it is about to wake from its resting spot on a blue tarp.

The giant relatives of African and Asian elephants — but shaggy, with longer, curvier tusks and smaller ears — woolly mammoths are a symbol of the far

North that went extinct not very long ago.

The youngest mammoth fossils, found on Wrangel Island north of Siberia, are from animals that were alive 3,700 years ago. That's when Queen Hatshepsut ruled as a pharaoh in Egypt.

The mammoths of Wrangel Island were isolated from Egyptians and other people by sheer distance

and icy wilderness. They are — so far as we know — the most recent woolly mammoths, which ranged as far south as at least Mexico.

About a decade ago, researchers including Wooller found that mammoths on Alaska's St. Paul Island lived until about 5,600 years ago. Those island mammoths seem to have persisted more than 5,000 years longer than other Alaska mammoths.

"How young is the youngest mammoth fossil from mainland Alaska?" Wooller wonders.

There are 1,500 undated bones, teeth and tusks in museum drawers and on shelves that might help answer that question.

The youngest dated mammoth fossil from middle Alaska is one unearthed near Chicken, Alaska, that is about 11,600 years old. That animal might have eyeballed humans whose shadows appeared on the horizon from the direction of Asia.

But were mammoths alive in Alaska after that one died? If they were, it would extend the overlap period between mammoths and humans, and counter the idea that we were responsible for mammoths' demise by hunting them all out.

"A bigger (time) gap would help downplay that hypothesis," Wooller said.

Adopt-a-mammoth will allow anyone who donates the radio-carbon dating fee of \$350 to receive a digital photo of their tusk, femur or whatever mammoth part it happens to be. Scientists will then remove a collagen sample and send it to a carbon-dating lab in California. Mammoth adopters will get results on the age of their animal shortly after the scientists do.

That date will enter the sponsor in the youngest-mammoth contest. The winner will get a trophy, as well as having his or her photo displayed on a plaque in the Museum of the North during the announcement period. The winner may also get the satisfaction of helping discover when the last woolly mammoth rumbled through the northern grasslands.

Since the late 1970s, the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Geophysical Institute has provided this column free in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell is a science writer for the Geophysical Institute.



Matthew Wooller of the University of Alaska Fairbanks poses amid woolly mammoth tusks at the university. Photo by JR Ancheta.



A gold miner holds a woolly mammoth femur he found as he worked frozen ground in the Fortymile River mining district. Photo by Ned Rozell.

Strange berry-like form holds a hidden world

BY CITY WILDS
BY BILL SHERWONIT

When I first noticed the large, red form in late July, I thought I'd found some kind of mutant berry. About 1½ inches long and three-quarters of an inch wide at its thickest point, the purplish-red "fruit" was faintly pear-shaped, with bristly, almost thorny, hairs covering its rough skin. Because it grew near some red raspberry plants, I wondered if it might somehow be related to those berries. Or maybe it was a deformed rose hip. Of course, rose bushes were also nearby.

Whatever it was, the object seemed to grow directly from the plant's main stem, no more than an inch or two above the ground. And the stem ended just above the bulging shape.

Curious to know more, I pulled out my iPhone, went to its iNaturalist app, and used the fruit's image to seek its identity. What came up was *Diplolepis polita*, the "spiny leaf gall wasp." A "gall" is a deformity caused by the eggs or larval forms of insects "invading" a plant, most commonly a leaf. The suggested ID also indicated that a wasp was responsible for this particular gall.

I vowed to learn more. But before I could do an online search, I heard back from two iNaturalist "identifiers." Both suggested that a wasp named *Diastrophus turgidus* had produced "my" gall.

It turned out that one of the two, a fellow named Charles, is a Ph.D. candidate studying members of the *Diastrophus* genus. He wondered if I'd "be open to collecting and sending the gall" to him in the hope that he might "rear wasps" from it.

I expressed my willingness to do so and asked Charles if he had any special instructions on how to best wrap/preserve the gall for mailing and further indicated my desire to know how the gall is formed. That began a series of exchanges that have now stretched across several weeks.

My package safely reached Charles on August 9, and after a couple of gentle reminders, he sent me some general information about *Diastrophus turgidus* and its gall.

A good starting point would be to share a definition of "gall." Charles simply describes it as a "tumor-like growth" on a plant (a description he apparently pulled from the *Current Biology* article). A more detailed description I found online is this: "An abnormal swelling of plant tissue, caused by injury or by parasitic organisms such as insects, mites, nematodes, and bacteria."

Next, *Diastrophus* is a genus of gall wasps that are part of the larger Cynipidae family. *D. turgidus* is one of at least eight species known to occur within that genus and reportedly was first identified in 1870 by Homer Franklin Bassett, who described the gall as "an abrupt swelling involving the whole circumference of the stalk." (Taking things back even farther in time, *Current Biology* notes that the study of gall wasps in general included the work of "pioneering 19th century female naturalist Mary Treat." Need I add that it's refreshing to see groundbreaking women being acknowledged this way?)

It's almost a certainty that other species have not yet been identified, because much remains unknown about galls and the organisms that form them.

Are you with me so far? The best is yet to come!

The wasps that create the gall I happened upon in Ruth Arcand Park target only *Rubus idaeus strigosus*, better known to us ordinary folks as the American red raspberry. It was, therefore, no coincidence that I found the gall near several other raspberry bushes. Nor was it a coincidence that the gall formed on the plant's main stem because that's where these particular gall wasps lay their eggs.

As Charles explains, the cycle starts with an adult female wasp mating with an adult male. The female then searches for a suitable host plant — a red raspberry — and injects or oviposits her eggs into the stem tissue. (Apparently, multiple wasps may deposit eggs on the same stem.)

That egg laying begins the gall's formation, a three-stage process that apparently is stimulated by the adult wasp's venom, in combination with salivary secretions from the larval forms produced by its eggs.

I won't go into the details of that process here for



several reasons. First, the scientific terminology is hard to follow—and even harder to translate into ordinary language for a forum like this one. Second, as Charles admits, "The exact mechanisms responsible for and behind the development and growth of the galls is still being uncovered." Or as the authors of the *Current Biology* article put it, "We still know little about how galls are induced."

In the end, the interaction of wasp and raspberry stem produces a softer, nourishing interior with enough room for up to several dozen chambers in which the larvae can grow and thrive; and a harder, thorny, protective outer layer.

Researchers say the gall benefits the wasp's larval and pupa stages in at least three ways: the host plant provides nutritious "food"; the gall offers a "stable environment" while protecting the developing wasps from harsh external conditions, for instance, extreme weather; and it helps defend them from predators.

What's also rather remarkable is that the gall forms an entire ecosystem of life forms. In fact, gall wasps are considered "ecosystem engineers" in that they "modify the environment" in a way that enhances species diversity and richness.

This is possible because the gall does not provide their wasp creators full protection. Eventually, an assortment of other organisms may inhabit the gall, including a wide array of parasites and predators that may "attack

and consume" at least some of the wasps in their larval or pupating forms.

There's lots more to this story, including much that's yet to be discovered by researchers. What strikes me the most is the complexity, diversity, and mystery that this strange-looking gall — and many other galls on other plants — holds within it.

It's so easy to miss or ignore the many insects that inhabit what we humans imagine to be "ordinary" woodlands; to overlook or turn away from the abundant blemishes — many of them galls of various kind — that adorn local plants; and to give little or no thought to the many complex natural processes going on around us all the time.

Sometimes it takes a mutant-like form to get a guy's attention and lead him into a largely hidden and rather extraordinary world, yet another of the many small but marvelous wonders with which (or with whom) we share this miracle of a planet.

What I've learned seems wondrous enough that I've asked myself these questions: would I have so casually and willingly cut off and mailed that gall if I'd known then what I know now? Or would I have left the gall and its wasps and other life forms to their own destiny in the woods, perhaps checking now and then to see how that strange entity might change over time and, if lucky, perhaps even see adult wasps emerge from the hiding place they once helped to create as larval forms?

Anchorage nature writer Bill Sherwonit is a widely published essayist and the author of more than a dozen books, including *Living with Wildness: An Alaskan Odyssey* and *Animal Stories: Encounters with Alaska's Wildlife*. Readers wishing to send comments or questions directly to Bill may do so at akgriz@hotmail.com.



Congrats!



KEARA ANDERSON
Healy
Media Arts



BETH BLANKENSHIP
Anchorage
Crafts



JEFF CHEN 陳奕正
Anchorage
Visual Arts



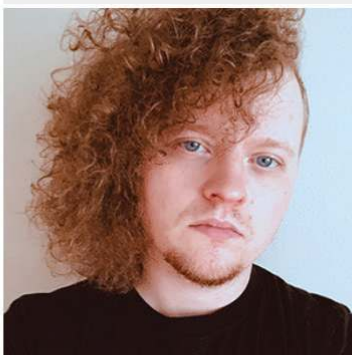
JESSICA CHERRY
Anchorage
Literary Arts/Scriptworks



MICHAEL CONTI
Anchorage
Media Arts



MICHELE KAWAHINE DANNER
Utqiagvik
Multidiscipline (Crafts & Media Arts)



JACOB DEE
Anchorage
Music Composition



STEVE DURR
Talkeetna
Multidiscipline (Music & Visual Arts)



ZAK DYLAN
Sitka
Music Composition



SEAN ENFIELD
Fairbanks
Literary Arts/Scriptworks



ANDREA L. HACKBARTH
Palmer
Literary Arts/Scriptworks



DEREK HAUKAAS
Anchorage
Music Composition



JANISSA J. JOHNSON
Larsen Bay
Folk & Traditional Arts



TED KIM
Anchorage
Visual Arts



JIABAO LI
Anchorage
New Genre



DAVID "LOU" LOGAN
Juneau
Folk & Traditional Arts



KLARA MAISCH
Fairbanks
Visual Arts



KIM MCNETT
Homer
Visual Arts



JOHN MESSICK
Soldotna
Literary Arts/Scriptworks



ERICA MILLER
Hope
Visual Arts



NORTHWOODS BOOK ARTS GUILD
Fairbanks
Visual Arts



GAIL PRIDAY
Fairbanks
Visual Arts



RIVA SAZAMA
Fairbanks
Visual Arts



SEWARD'S FOLLY MEDIA
Fairbanks
Music Composition



TAYLOR DALLAS VIDIC
Juneau
Music Composition