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2022



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Alaska Corrections reports 16th death of 2022, surpassing previous decade-high number of in-custody deaths

BY LISA PHU
ALASKA BEACON

Paul Harris, 69, died on Oct. 23 at Goose Creek Correctional Center, becoming the 16th person to die in the state's prison system this year, according to an Alaska Department of Corrections press release on Tuesday.

With this death, Corrections surpassed the highest number of in-custody deaths the department has seen in the past decade, the time period for which records are immediately available. In 2015, 15 people died in Corrections custody. That's in contrast to four people who died in custody in the decade low of 2019.

In its release, Corrections stated that Harris, who was sentenced, had been in custody since June 14, 2016. The release said Harris' death was "expected."

Corrections has recently faced criticism and scrutiny over the high number of in-custody deaths this year. Some family members have struggled to get information from Corrections about how their loved one died.

Of the 16 deaths this year, several individuals have been in their 20s or 30s and died after only a short time in state care. Two deaths in August occurred after less than 24 hours. At least two people have died by suicide – 20-year-old Kitty Douglas, as reported by

Alaska Public Media, and 31-year-old James Rider. The American Civil Liberties Union of Alaska has identified through its research a third death by suicide, and suspects more. Several who died this year had not been sentenced.

The ACLU of Alaska on Oct. 14 formally requested that Gov. Mike Dunleavy initiate an independent review of the deaths of Alaskans while in Corrections custody. An ACLU spokesperson said the governor has not responded to the request.

At a press conference last week, Dunleavy said none of the people to die in Corrections custody this year through then "died as a result of others," like murder or "otherwise inappropriate dealings with the individuals in prison." Acting Corrections Commissioner Winkelman said at the press conference the deaths are "not unusual."

At the Alaska Federation of Natives' forum for the candidates for governor on Saturday, Dunleavy said, "we always have, unfortunately, folks that pass away in our care in corrections."

Harris' next of kin has been notified and no foul play is suspected. The Alaska State Troopers investigate every in-custody death and the State Medical Examiner's Office determines the cause. Citing confidentiality, Corrections does not release medical information.



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Tshibaka says she has the gift of healing and the gift of speaking in tongues

BY DERMOT COLE

The Anchorage Daily News quotes Kelly Tshibaka as saying she's a victim of those who ridicule what she believes is a spiritual gift she has—the ability to speak in tongues.

“It's only vogue to attack Christians who are conservative or charismatic. You would never think it's OK to replay that with some of the Jewish practices or some of the Muslim practices, and I don't think it's OK either. I don't think faith discriminations is OK,” Tshibaka said after a July campaign event in her headquarters. “We don't always understand other people's religious practices, but we aren't expected to. That's something that's deeply personal.”

Voters don't have to understand or accept her religious practices, but they should at least know what Tshibaka preaches.

Tshibaka and her husband, Niki Tshibaka, founded a church near Washington, D.C. in 2006, part of the Foursquare Church, a Pentecostal denomination founded by Aimee Semple McPherson in 1923. As the co-pastors, the Tshibakas delivered regular sermons, many of which remain online.

The Rev. Kelly Tshibaka spoke at various times on spiritual gifts, including those that she believes she has been given to her by God—including the gift of healing and the gift of speaking in tongues.

In a March 3, 2013 sermon she said it took her five years from the time she started praying to be able to speak in tongues until she received the gift.

Tshibaka, speaking on April 7, 2013, said she can tell that her “spirit language” is a real language—one of 7,000 or more languages she said God created—though she does not know what her spirit language is or what she is saying. She said God knows all 7,000 languages, which he made when he scattered the people of Babylon.

She said her spirit language is probably one of the languages that no one cares about any more. She said when she sings her spirit language people think she is happy, while if she just speaks it in a grocery store, they think she is crazy.

Here is her explanation of speaking in tongues, which she said is praying of speaking in a language that your mind does not know. “So what happens is the spirit will bypass your mind to speak the unfiltered, uncorrupted word of God.”

She said she does not go into a trance when she speaks. She said that when she prays in tongues she sends her brain on assignment to do something else.

“If we think that faith is OK. And healings are OK. And everyone loves wisdom, then you can't have those and not have tongues and interpretation of tongues,” she said.

“Our God is a God who speaks,” she said. “We don't get to pick whether our God gives us the gift of tongues and the gift of prophecy.”

Tshibaka said when one of her children was 18 months old, she could understand what the child was saying in her “spirit language.”

Tshibaka told stories of a Foursquare pastor who preached in his “prayer languages” and was shocked to learn it was the language of the country he was visiting. She mentioned another pastor who was in Russia and the pastor's “spirit language” was English, though the pastor didn't know English. She mentioned a woman from Boston who went to Hong Kong and could speak fluent Chinese as soon as she landed. She could speak it no longer after she got back on the plane to leave, Tshibaka said.

Gift of healing

Tshibaka said she prayed for the gift of healing and received it, saying she has a good record of success in praying for God to cure people of cancer, resolve infertility issues and stop miscarriages.

She also said she has a poor record of helping people kick smoking, adding that God sometimes gives specialties to people with the gift of healing, similar to the way doctors have specialties. The power to cure people is not hers, she said, but God sometimes “works through me and people get radically healed.”

“One of the ones I've prayed for and had a lot of success is cancer. Scary. Because it seems so hopeless. But it seems like just about everyone I've prayed for with cancer has been healed. And the same thing about fertility issues,” she said in a sermon on March 24, 2013.

She said, “lots of people who couldn't have kids now do.”

“When I pray for healing for someone, I believe they're healed, whether or not it happens in that moment. Why would God not answer that prayer?”

This is a link to her sermon about speaking in tongues: https://archive.org/details/podcast_mvff-weekly-sermons_spiritual-gifts-2-march-3-201_1000159160263



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Alaska opens early voting ahead of Nov. 8 general election

BY JAMES BROOKS
ALASKA BEACON

Early in-person voting began Monday for Alaska’s Nov. 8 general election, with most polling places reporting steady, if light, voting.

The Nov. 8 ballot includes ranked choice candidate elections on one side and single-option questions, including a constitutional convention referendum, on the other.

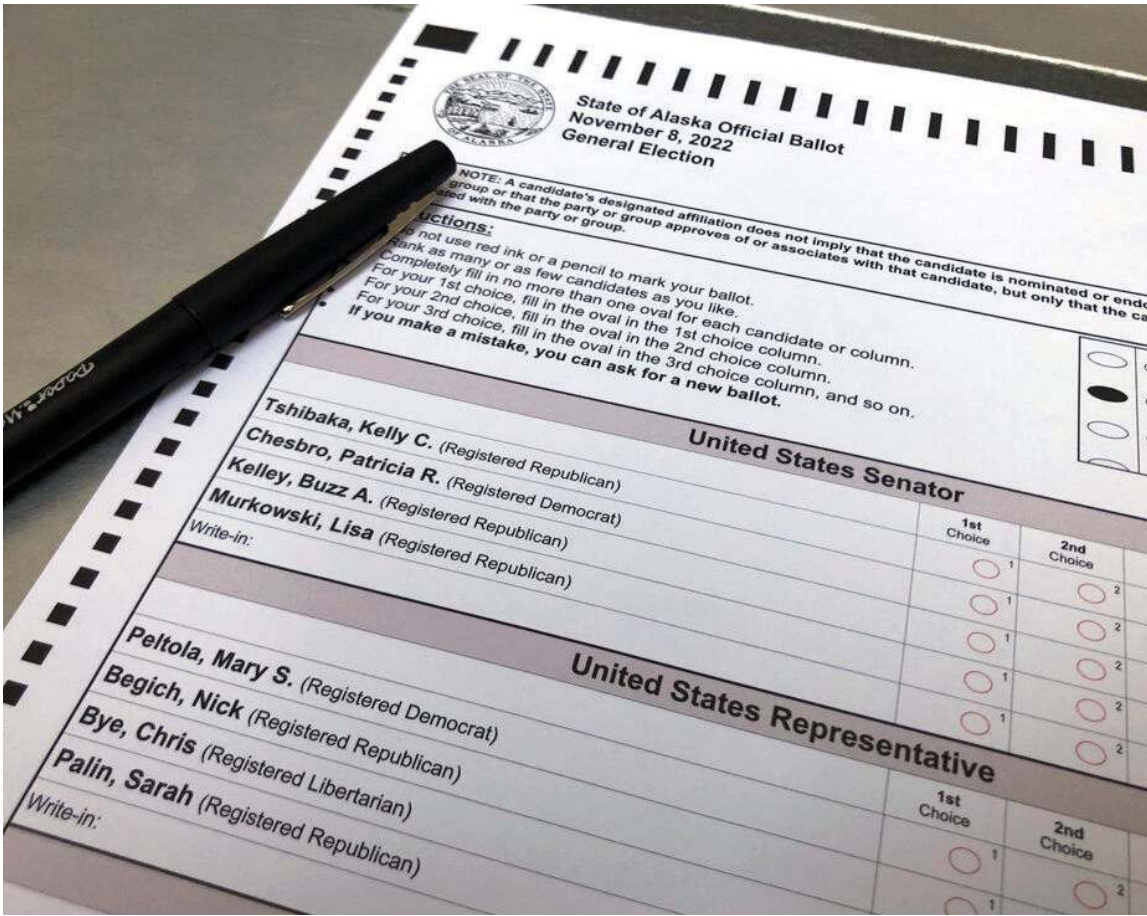
There are different types of voting in advance of Election Day.

With in-person early voting, a voter goes to a designated polling place with identification and has his or her identity verified by a poll worker, then votes. The ID may be a voter card, driver’s license or state ID, or a current utility bill, bank statement or government-issued document that has the voter’s name and current address.

Another type of advance voting is in-person absentee voting. It’s available at many more locations across Alaska, including many city and tribal offices. It involves submitting a ballot and having the voter’s identity verified later.

No advance registration is required for these kinds of voting.

Absentee voting by mail is also available ahead of Election Day. An interested voter



A ballot for Alaska’s Nov. 8, 2022, general election is seen on Monday, Oct. 24, 2022, the first day of early voting. (Photo by James Brooks / Alaska Beacon)

must request an absentee ballot, then fill it out and return it to the Division of Elections. Mailed absentee ballots must be requested by Saturday, Oct. 29.

Ballots may be mailed or dropped off at a polling location before 8 p.m. on Election Day. If mailed, the ballot must be postmarked no later than Election Day.

Keep in mind that ballots mailed from rural Alaska are not typically postmarked until they reach a central sorting center, but ballots can be hand-postmarked by a worker at a post office.

In addition, there is voting by electronic transmission via fax or online, which can be requested as late as Nov. 7, and special needs voting, which allows people who can’t vote in person to request that another person pick up a ballot from a voting site.

The Alaska Beacon, Anchorage Daily News, Alaska Public Media and KTOO have created a candidate comparison tool for statewide candidates, available online.

Information on statewide and local legislative candidates is available in the state voter

information pamphlet and through the Alaska Beacon’s candidate questionnaires. More stories about the statewide races and some individual legislative races are available on the Beacon’s Election 2022 page.

First

NOVEMBER

Friday

ADP PRESS

November 4th

1. Anchorage Museum - 625 C St. (10am-9pm)

2. Blush Boutique - 720 D St., Suite C (11am-6pm)

3. Weather Boutique - 720 D St., Suite B (11am-6pm)

4. Second Run Consignment - 720 D St. (11am-5:30pm)

5. Tundra Herb Co. - 520 W 6th Ave., Suite A (10am-11:55pm)

6. The Kobuk - 504 W 5th Ave. (10am-7pm)

7. Excalibur Sports - 320 W 5th Ave., Suite 241 (5th Ave. Mall) (10am-8pm)

8. IGCA - 427 D St. (5-8pm)

9. Sara's Gift Cache - 408 W 4th Ave. (10am-8pm)

10. Seigny Studio - 312 G St. (10-9pm)

11. Tiny Gallery - 706 W 4th Ave. (11am-8pm)

12. Stephan Fine Arts - 939 W 5th Ave. (6-8:30pm)

13. The Cubby at Hotel Captain Cook - 939 W 5th Ave. (6-8:30pm)

14. Snow City Cafe - 1034 W 4th Ave. (5-7pm)

UNCLE JOE'S Pizzeria

428 G Street (11am-11pm)

2 Slices & a Brew \$13.50

2 Slices & a Soda \$10.50

Single Slices \$4.75

Daganbit!

“Sealskin” Charlie McAlpine

DAGNABIT!
BY MIKE GORDON

A Brahmin is a member of the highest caste in Hinduism. They are the caste from which Hindu priests are drawn. They teach and maintain sacred knowledge. Charlie was an Alaskan Brahmin. He was also one of the most self-assured, shameless, interesting, funny, entertaining, magnanimous, intelligent, endearing, frustrating, unscrupulous, and contradictory people I have ever known. He was a bit of a hustler and con man: a lovable scoundrel, a breed of Alaskan passing into history with the speed of WWII soldiers, women who blush, and bankers who make loans based on the character of the borrower.

We used to dine out together all the time. Charlie thought Jens’ Restaurant was “a good place to be seen.” He always sat at the table by the front door, to the right as you enter. One night as we sat down at Jens’ I said to Charlie, “Intelligent, charming, sensitive, gracious, humble, generous... Well, enough about me. Let’s talk about you for a while, Charlie.” He liked that.

“Good one, Gordon!” It wasn’t often that you got one over on Charlie, and he had a high-pitched giggle when something delighted him.

The female staff in the restaurants loved Charlie. A totally bald septuagenarian with a glass eye and a limp, from childhood polio, he could charm any female in any establishment. He also always graciously allowed them to take his coat, hat, and scarf when he came in and tipped generously upon leaving. They generally knew who I was also, but I was with Charlie; he wasn’t with me.

Charles Frederick McAlpine (1932-2019), was born in Aitkin, Minnesota to Stanley and Irene (Duross) McAlpine. He was raised in Flint, Michigan, where his parents were friends with many owners of General Motors Company. After graduating from the University of Michigan, Charlie worked for General Motors Company’s overseas operation until his wanderlust took him out west.

Charlie first traveled to California where he met Glenn Yarborough, lead singer of The Limelighters. Being a naturally gifted singer himself, Charlie managed the group while living in the Bay Area. Next, he went to Aspen, Colorado, living the life of a ski bum, residing at the ski-in/ski-out Little Nell Resort.

Charlie’s zest for an adventuresome life naturally drew him to Alaska. Arriving in 1963, he first worked at Alyeska Resort and Crow Creek Mine under Arnie Erickson. He bought a Cessna Super Cub and quickly taught himself how to fly. Then he headed for the Arctic. Operating out of his home base of Nome, where he owned and operated the Anchor Bar, Charlie flew his Super Cub to the many Native villages to trade modern tools, clothing, and equipment for Native art and artifacts. He developed a deep, lifelong respect for the Elders in many of the villages.

Dr. David Beal, who was at the same time examining the eardrums of Native children in the same villages to ascertain the type and amount of ear diseases, spent a bit of time with Charlie at his Anchor Bar in Nome. Dr. Beal recently told me how Charlie got the moniker “Sealskin” Charlie, a story I had never heard before.

According to Dr. Beal, as Charlie flew in and out of the villages, he noticed that walrus and seal skins were being left on the ground to rot. When he made inquiries as to why, he discovered that all the older women who knew how to prepare the pelts for clothing or other uses had died off without passing on this vital information.

Charlie soon visited an Athabaskan village in the Yukon Delta, found a lady who knew how to do the job, and flew her to the northern villages to teach their women how to tan the skins and turn them into gloves and footwear. The undertaking was a win/win for Charlie and the villages. One can only imagine the impact it must have had on the village economies. Some villages that had been patriarchal became matriarchal. Dr. Beal ascertained that there was a great love for Charlie who treated the Natives fairly and would loan them money at no interest in their times of need.

I do not remember exactly when Charlie and I met. It was probably in 1968, when I was part-owner of the Bird House Bar in Bird, on the Seward Highway on the way to Girdwood. I operated the bar, which was cobbled together out of buildings left over from railroad construction, with my partners Norman Rokeberg and Johnny Tegstrom. We ran the place from December 1967 to December 1968 at which point we sold it to Dick Delak.

I certainly knew Charlie in the early years of my Chilkoot Charlie’s operation which I opened on January 1, 1970. By that time Charlie was well-established in his trading operations in the Arctic, and in the process of relocating to Anchorage.

Charlie had a concrete block building which I believe had previously been a church on the north side of 15th Avenue just east of Gambell Street. He took me in there one



day and showed me a bedroom-size room that was full to capacity with oosiks. That is when I first comprehended the scale of his trading operation.

At the time Charlie was probably doing more trading with the Arctic Natives than anyone else, which is doubtless what brought him to the attention of the feds. Once you get into their crosshairs they will use any means, legal or otherwise, to bring you down. If they cannot put you behind bars they will break you financially. They have unlimited resources and there are never any consequences for them it seems, no matter how egregious their own behavior.

As far as I know they never got a conviction on Charlie, but they spared no effort and dragged him through the bowels of hell. They did the same thing to Joe Hendricks, Alaska’s senior big game guide, who was also a friend of mine.

While head of the FBI, Robert Mueller disgraced and stole from Alaska its United States Senator, Ted Stevens. Mueller withheld information from the senator’s defense team, among other things. Congress later appointed the same Robert Mueller as Special Council to conduct the Russian witch hunt against President Trump, spending tens of millions in taxpayer’s money over three years and accomplishing absolutely nothing.

I had my own run-in with the feds when one of our bartenders married a waitress of ours from New Zealand. My business partner at the time, Doran Powell, officiated the event on the north side of Chilkoot Charlie’s.

A customs and immigration investigator threatened to charge me and Doran with defrauding the United States government. He contended that the girl had married the guy just to stay in the country and that we had been co-conspirators. I didn’t take the matter very seriously at first because it seemed so silly and inconsequential.

I will never forget the look on the guy’s face. He was dead serious. He spent days digging through every one of our employee files, and we were fined for any that were incomplete in any minute way. Admittedly, the girl had not crossed the water in a flimsy boat from Haiti, or swum across the Rio Grande, but she certainly had as much right to be in this country as those who did.

Good grief. A bar in Spenard, Alaska? A New Zealander? Defrauding the United States government? What the hell for? It’s not like we were looking for cheap labor to pick fruit or even to wash dishes. And the bartender and girl were in love as far as I knew. In any event she was taken into custody and deported. Smacks of a bizarre plot in a Tom Robbins novel.

Charlie was a hustler and a natural entrepreneur. Even during his last days, suffering from dementia, he would talk enthusiastically to our mutual friend, Tony Lewkowski, and me about going to Nome. He was back in the day.

Sealskin, continued on page A6

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.

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Sitting in the daylight basement apartment of his caregiver’s home, in his pajamas Charlie would say, “I’m going to Nome. You guys should come with me. We’ll buy a bar and make a ton of money!”

Tony would ask, “When are you leaving, Charlie?”

Charlie would reply, “As soon as possible. Tomorrow morning. Pack your bags!”

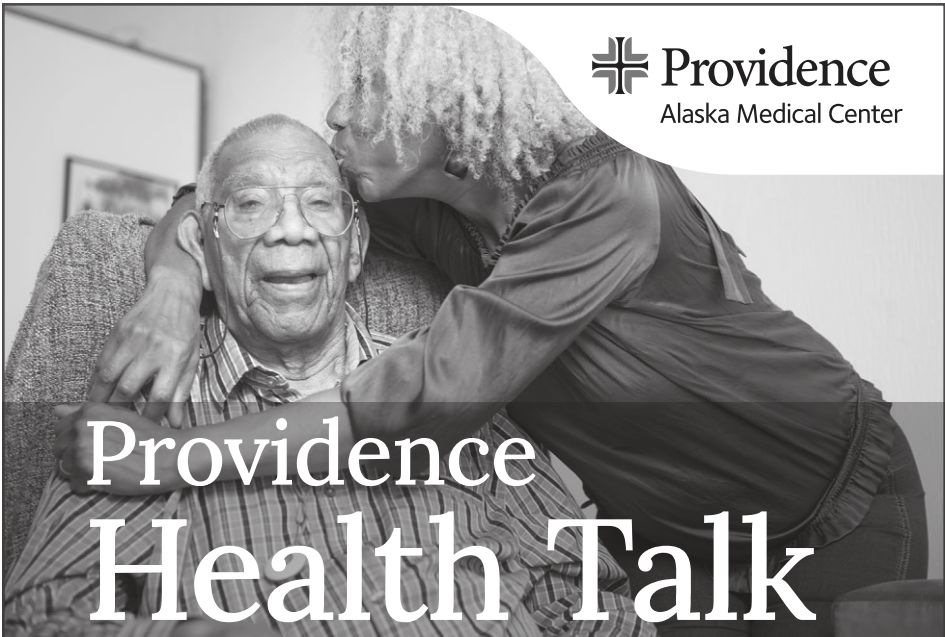
“Alright, Charlie. What should I bring?”

It was so amusing, because it was so like Charlie, and it was so sad, because he was so excited and energized. But Charlie wasn’t going anywhere.

For the longest time my wife Shelli lived full-time in Homer or Halibut Cove and I spent half my time in Anchorage taking care of business, so I was always looking for someone to go out with. Charlie and I became pretty much constant companions—for years. Our friendship became more than just a casual one and it meant a lot to me.

When I still operated Chilkoot Charlie’s, the club sponsored the weekly Thursday Night Fights that took place at the downtown Egan Convention Center during the winter months. I would get free ringside seats for myself and whomever I might want to bring along. Charlie and I were regulars. We would have a nice dinner at Ginger—a half block to the east on Fifth Avenue—and then walk over during the warm-up fights. Sometimes we would be accompanied by Tony Lewkowski or another close friend, Joe Columbus. Those were fun guys’ nights out.

I hung in there with Charlie during an awful period when he suffered from an eye infection inflicted upon him by a dentist who punctured his nasal cavity during a dental procedure. The subsequent infection cost Charlie his eye. It was the only time I had ever seen Charlie when he was suicidal. He suffered terribly with that eye infection. I insisted that he had a legal case against the dentist, but he never would pursue it, not that he couldn’t have used the money.



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Presenter
MARK A. MOYAD, M.D., MPH
University of Michigan Medical Center
Jenkins/Pokempner Director of Complementary & Alternative Medicine Education, Department of Urology
Mark Moyad, M.D., MPH, is a public health educator, clinical researcher, career-long healthy lifestyle advocate and the primary author of more than 150 published medical journal articles and 15 clinical and consumer health books. Dr. Moyad occupies an endowed position to study lifestyle changes, dietary supplements and other over-the-counter options and then educate consumers and health care professionals on the latest clinical research. His position was originally created and funded by the individuals he has helped for more than 25 years.

Tuesday, Nov. 8
1:30-3:30 p.m. via Teams Live

Scan QR code to access blog post with event link or go to <http://provhealth.org/6185X0u0Z>.



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For a while Charlie managed, and lived in, a low-end trailer court in Spenard where the tenants were renters, not owners, so he had his hands full collecting rents and combating illicit activities. He was up to the task. He would answer the door with a pistol in his hand. When Tony Lewkowski and I would visit, we would holler, “It’s Mike and Tony. Don’t shoot!” as we rang the doorbell. Tony got so worried that Charlie was going to do something regrettable with that pistol that he took the bullets out of it and hid them, even at the risk that if Charlie ever found out he might never talk to him again.

Then there was “Charlie’s Coffee Shop,” downtown in the old Club 25. Charlie had the best-looking female baristas in Anchorage, mostly ring girls he had conscripted from the Thursday Night Fights. Charlie invested the usual level of enthusiasm into the enterprise and, of course, a codependent relationship with the girls. Charlie also sold art pieces out of the coffee shop, and it was fun watching him interact with his girls and the public.

Charlie used to say, “I’m a river to my friends.” He certainly was to me. He used to actually promote me. He introduced me to all of his most wealthy friends and he had a lot of them. “Mike Gordon is not your average bar owner,” he would announce with his high-pitched giggle.

I appreciated his vocal sentiment because I have never liked being pigeon-holed. What I do, or did for a living is not nearly the entirety of who or what I am.

Charlie saw me for who I am. He talked about the “giants” he knew (he knew a lot of them) as a passing breed. Many were members of the very exclusive San Francisco Bohemian Club and Rancheros Visitadores. Elmer Rasmuson, founder of National Bank of Alaska, was another of Charlie’s best friends. Charlie included me in that group.

He would say, “There aren’t many of us left, Gordon. People like you and me; we’re a dying breed.”

I would probably have been a little uncomfortable hanging out with the likes of Charlie’s “giants,” but it felt good to be told that I should. Charlie pestered me relentlessly for years to join The Bohemian Club and Rancheros. I probably should have, but I was busy doing my own thing and I just wasn’t that interested. Charlie did, however, sponsor my membership in the prestigious New York Explorers Club.

Charlie’s number one devotion in life was to his son, Cullen. For Cullen no effort was spared. Charlie made sure that Cullen got the best grade school education available in Anchorage by enrolling him in Holy Rosary Academy. Charlie then got Cullen into St. Paul’s Academy, one of the best and most prestigious college prep schools in the nation and finally, he made sure that he got Cullen into Harvard, from which Cullen graduated in 2011, the same year I finally graduated (46 years late) from the University of San Francisco.

Charlie used to harp on Cullen about the same clubs he wanted me to join, and finally did get Cullen to join the San Francisco Yacht Club which, of great importance to Charlie, gave you access to the New York Yacht Club.

Not an ounce of the effort or a dollar expended on Cullen was wasted. I have often described Cullen as “the finest young man I’ve ever met.” My wife, Shelli, agrees wholeheartedly.

Shelli, a genealogy sleuth, advised Cullen to preserve Charlie’s DNA and provided him with a sample kit for which he reimbursed her during the next sale by purchasing a replacement kit. Cullen administered the kit to his father a few days later and when the results were in Cullen and Shelli determined that Charlie had another son no one knew about. His name is Jamie Nachinson and he lives in Jerusalem, Israel.

When I first saw his picture I said, “Wow! There’s no doubt about who his father is!” Jamie was able to travel to Alaska and meet Charlie before Charlie’s death, and Cullen was able to meet his half-brother, both of whom were only children.

Charlie had three long-lasting avocations. First was his extensive trading with the Natives in the Arctic. Another was his real estate brokerage business, and lastly, he was a curator and appraiser of fine art.

Charlie was the middle-man in a lot of art transactions involving mostly Alaskan masters like Laurence, Ziegler, Lambert, Machetanz, Heurlin, Dahlager, and the like. He was also an appraiser for the Anchorage Museum. I always owed Charlie money for years. It went like this...

Charlie would pull up in front of my office and start laying pieces of art on my lawn from the trunk of his car.

“Gordon, look at these nice pictures.”

“Those are nice, Charlie. I particularly like that Lambert, but I don’t have any money.”

“That’s okay, pal. Just pay me when you feel like it.”

Charlie described these transactions as “a dollar down and the chase is on!”

Of course Charlie knew I would always pay him, and I always did. Shelli and I have a very nice collection of paintings by Alaskan masters, many purchased from Charlie.

Once, while walking behind me on the way into a restaurant, Charlie noticed that my legs are short. He thought that was pretty funny. No one had ever said anything to me about it, but it is true. I explained that it might be the result of having survived scarlet fever as a child. I would get into the car and he would start chuckling.

I’d say, “Shut the fuck up, Charlie. At least I’m not a bald-headed old Cyclops. And I don’t limp.”

Charlie was homophobic and anti-Semitic; he would make off-color embarrassing jokes about both. He would frequently suggest that I or other male friends wear their best dress or their pink underwear, or that he would do so, for a dinner date. I would criticize Charlie for his sophomoric attempts at humor and he admitted that Elmer (Rasmuson) had not liked them either, but he just couldn’t help himself. He made the pink panty suggestion to me in front of Shelli one time, though, and that was the last time he did that.

It was so perfect that Charlie ended up having a son who is a practicing Jew in Israel. It would have been even more perfect had he turned out to be gay, but he didn’t.

Charlie’s jokes were not always funny. His businesses did not make millions like many of his friends. He did not always play by the same rule book as the rest of us, and he perhaps had a higher opinion of himself than was appropriate. But Charlie always paid his own way if he could and was generous to a fault. He was mostly charming and good company, he lived a life of adventure few can parallel, he rubbed shoulders with “giants,” and he was truly a river to his friends.

Some of those friends returned the favor by generously, and with alacrity, supporting Charlie financially in his later years. Charlie wasn’t embarrassed by that. He was proud of it.

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.

A Memory of Swans and My Mother

BY BILL SHERWONIT
CITY WILDS

The confluence of Anchorage’s largely mild and snow-free October (bare ground remains as I write these words, though snow is forecast to arrive soon), the lingering presence of swans at Potter Marsh, and this week’s fifth anniversary of my mother’s death on Oct. 28, 2017, have stirred thoughts of an afternoon in early November 2002, now two decades past. That day Mom and I shared some joyful—and poignant—moments in the company of migrating swans, only a few months after Torie Sherwonit had been uprooted from the East Coast, where she’d lived her entire life, and resettled in Anchorage at age 80. Here I’ll share my memories of that magical day.

I first noticed the swans in late October. A handful of them swam and fed in Potter Marsh, at the southern fringe of Anchorage. Big and snowy white, they stood out boldly among the marsh’s late-fall grays and browns.

The presence of swans was not in itself unusual. They stop at the marsh each fall while migrating south from Alaska. Most autumns the swans stay only a short while, then move on to wintering grounds in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest. That year, they lingered.

Day by day, their numbers built: a dozen, two dozen, three. By the end of October, more than 40 had gathered in the marsh, transforming an ordinary event into something remarkable. The marsh’s southern end was filled with swans, its otherwise drab appearance at this time of year made stunningly beautiful.

As the swan population grew, the news quickly spread among local birders, through word of mouth and what was then the local Audubon group’s “bird hotline.” Soon even those who normally pay little attention to birds began to take notice. People driving the Seward Highway where it borders the marsh would slow down and gawk. Some pulled over, rolled down their windows, got out of their cars and pick-ups. More and more people headed down to the marsh with cameras and binoculars. Whole families stood along the highway shoulder, pointing and smiling.

How strange it all seemed, this autumnal convergence of swans and people. No stranger than the weather in October 2002, though. By month’s end, we Anchorage residents were celebrating the warmest snow-free October on record, which here reaches back to 1916. Not since 1987 had we gone the entire month without any measurable snowfall.

Temperatures continued to range from the mid-30s into the high 40s as October passed into November. Normally covered by ice and snow, Potter Marsh remained a haven for the swans as well as mallards and a few less common ducks: gadwalls, pintails, and American wigeons.

I joined the throngs at marsh’s edge the first week-end of November, armed with a notebook, binoculars, and a bird book. It was a raw day, drizzly and windy, so most swan watchers stayed in their vehicles. But a few of us ventured outside. I counted 30 swans, including nine pairs of adults. They were joined by a dozen adolescent birds, still wearing the pale gray plumage of youth.

Trumpeter and tundra swans are difficult to tell apart, but after studying my bird guide, I was confident the ones nearest shore were trumpeters; they showed a distinctive pink line where their upper and

lower mandibles join, and black facial skin extended all the way from their bills to their eyes.

The largest of North American waterfowl, with wingspans up to eight feet across, the swans were both elegant and comic to behold. Their grand size, strikingly white plumage and long, graceful necks gave the birds a regal splendor. Yet any sense of elegance was washed away when they went bottoms-up to feed on aquatic plants rooted in the marsh muds. Rear ends pointed to the gray ceiling overhead, they were feathered buoys bobbing in muddied waters. And their hoarse honking calls, though vaguely trumpet-like, also stirred memories of clowns squeezing horns.

A woman with a young, giggling daughter joined me along the highway’s shoulder. She told me about another lake, miles to the south, packed with swans and lined by dozens of cars and vans and trucks, their drivers and passengers watching intently. “Can you believe all this?” she asked. “It’s the craziest thing.”

It was clear she meant not only the weather and swans, but the number of people drawn out of their houses by this prolonged fall. Some went for scenic drives, others for hikes or even bike rides. Local trails bustled with joggers, cyclists, and walkers, getting outdoors before snow and ice and freezing cold claimed the landscape.

Those who paid close attention might have noticed other small November miracles: a swirling cloud of midges dancing in the mild air; a late-blooming wild rose adding a bright splash of pink to an otherwise somber forest, months after most of its kind had shed their petals; moose browsing on still-green lawns in downtown Anchorage neighborhoods.

Returning home in the late afternoon, I asked Mom if she’d like to visit Potter Marsh, and see the swans. At age 80, her body was hobbled by arthritis, and she didn’t leave the house much anymore, but this was too good an opportunity to pass up. Who knew when, or if, she’d get this chance again?

Bundled up, Mom settled into the front passenger seat

and sat quietly, patiently, as we drove from our Hillside neighborhood down to Anchorage’s flats. By this time it was nearly dusk. With thick overcast and the day rapidly darkening, I hoped the light would hold a few minutes more.

As we approached the marsh, the swans stood out brightly amidst the gloom. They almost glowed in the fading light. “There they are, off to the right,” I said, pointing. “Can you see them?”

Mom leaned forward and squinted her eyes. After a few moments of silence, she replied, “Yes; yes I see them now. There’s lots of them, aren’t there?”

We pulled over to the highway’s shoulder and I reached across the car and unrolled her window. Then I focused my binoculars and handed them over. At first, Mom had trouble finding the swans but finally, she got them in sight. “Oh, they’re such pretty birds. And big. I didn’t realize how big they are, compared to ducks,” she commented. “Look at their necks; they’re so long and slender.”

We chuckled as they dunked for food, and smiled at their trumpeting. It was a treat for both of us to share those moments. Decades ago, we’d watched swans in zoos or game farms. But this was the first time we’d been together in the company of wild swans.

After 10 or 15 minutes, I rolled up the window, started the car and rejoined the highway traffic. “They are just so lovely,” Mom murmured, her eyes still drawn to the marsh, where magnificent pale birds floated into the November night, autumnal apparitions.

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.



Tuesday Night Trivia!

Live Music Lineup!

Thursday October 27
7:30 Regina & Will

Friday October 28
8:30 Supernova

Saturday October 29
8:30 Nervis Rex

@Humpy's

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Big Screen TV's at Flattop!

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, October 27th

Bear Paw Bar & Grill - Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Humpys – Will Johnson 7:30p-11:30p
Koot’s – The Ken Peltier Band 7p-10p
Mad Myrna’s – The Rocky Horror Show 6p-9p
The Marlin (Fairbanks) – Karaoke with Kellie B.! 10p-2a
Sullivan’s Steakhouse – Live Music from Melissa “Jazz-mom” Fischer 5:30p-8:30p
Tailgater’s Sport’s Bar & Grill (Wasilla) - The AKoustic Project 7p-10p
Van’s Dive Bar – Bluegrass is Back w/ Todd Grebe 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – Hip-Hop Local Showcase feat: P\$M & ATF 9p-12a



Friday, October 28th

907 Alehouse –Boogie Nights Halloween Party! 7p-10p
Alaska Dance Promotions – Friday Night Dance Lounge 9p-1a
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – Friday Night Feast w/ 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Appalaskan Jess! 6p-8p
Anchorage Classical Ballet Academy – Grand Opening Celebration 3:30p-5p
The Arc of Anchorage – Hocus Pocus Dance 7p-10p
Black Birch Books (Wasilla) – Open Mic Night 5p-7p
The Broken Blender – House of 1,000 Pasties: A Halloween Cabaret 8p-9:30p
The Carousel Lounge – Big Halloween Bash w/ DJ Corinthian 8p-2a
The Crowbar – DJ Manny’s NEVERENDING NIGHT-MARES 10p-3a
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 & Cafe (Eagle River) – Nothin’ But Trouble 8p-11p
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
The Glenn Massay Theater (Palmer) – Little Shop of Horrors 7p-9p
Humpty’s – Supernova Live 9:30p-1:30a
Klondike Mike’s and The Main Street Grill (Palmer) – Glacier Hoppers 10p-2a
Koot’s – Viva Halloween ‘22 7:30p-10p
Koot’s – Cowboys & Aliens Halloween Party 10p-2:45a
Koot’s – Gender Bender ‘22 Dance Party 10:30p-2:45a
Koot’s – The Stack Live 10:30p-2:45a
Mad Myrna’s – The Rocky Horror Show 6p-9p

Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
Mid Valley Greenhouse (Wasilla) – MidValley Scream-house 8p-11p
The Nave – Halloweenweekend All Ages Concert 7p-12a
O’Malley’s on the Green – Danger Money 6:30p-10p
Organic Oasis – John Damberg Jazz Piano Fridays 5:30p -7:30p
Pyrah’s Pioneer Peak Farm (Palmer) – Fright Nights (Haunted House) 7p-11p
Schwabenhof (Wasilla) – Rocky Brown Band 8p-12a
Sullivan’s Steakhouse – Live Music from Tom Bargelski 5:30p-8:30p
Van’s Dive Bar – Evolution of a Thursday 9p-1a
VFW (Eagle River) – Jared Woods 7p-10p
Williwaw Social – Halloweemo 3 : A Halloween EMO NIGHT w/ Millenial Falcons & DJ Gre 9p-2a



Saturday, October 30th

203 Kombucha (Palmer) – Path to Bantry Live 6p-10p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – The Down South Comedy Invasion 7p-10p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Anchorage Symphony’s “Aretha: A Tribute” 7:30p-9:30p
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
Anchorage Downtown Bars – The 5th Annual Halloween Bar Crawl 4p-12a
Anchorage Moose Lodge – Woodrow Live Adult Halloween Party! 8p-12a
Anchorage Social Dance Club - Halloween Dance Party with Silver Train 7p-11p
Bear Paw Bar & Grill – Zombie Prom 9p-2a
Bernie’s Bungalow Lounge – Halloween 7p-2a
The Broken Blender – House of 1,000 Pasties: A Halloween Cabaret 8p-9:30p
Cafecito Bonito – Lights Down Low: R&B Neo Soul Series w/ Dawn McClain 2p-4p
The Carousel Lounge – It’s the Big Halloween Bash w/ Danger Money 10p-2a
Don Jose’s Mexican Restaurant – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-12a
Humpty’s – Nervis Rex Skalloween! 9:30p-1:30a

The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
The Glenn Massay Theater (Palmer) – Little Shop of Horrors 2p-4p & 7p-9p
Klondike Mike’s and The Main Street Grill (Palmer) – Glacier Hoppers 10p-2a
Koot’s – Mad Max Halloween 10p-2:45a
Koot’s – The Stack Live 10:30p-2:45a
Mad Myrna’s – The Rocky Horror Show 6p-9p
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
Mid Valley Greenhouse (Wasilla) – MidValley Scream-house 8p-11p
The Nave – Fall Dance Series: Christin Swearingen with the Jakelegs 7:30p-10:30p
The Nave – HALLOWEEN PARTY 11p-3:30a
Palmer Alehouse (Palmer) – Blackwater Railroad Trio 7p-10p
Palmer Bar & Grill (Palmer) – Halloween Party 8p-2a
Palmer Elks Lodge (Palmer) - Costumes & Cocktails w/ Zen Trembles 7p-12a
Pyrah’s Pioneer Peak Farm (Palmer) – Fright Nights (Haunted House) 7p-11p
The Raven Bar – The Raven Bar Halloween Party 9p-2:30a
Serrano’s Mexican Grill – Nothin’ But Karma 8p-11p
Schwabenhof (Wasilla) – The Unknowns 8p-12a
True North Recovery (Wasilla) – 3rd Annual Sober Halloween Party 6p-10p
UAF Brooks Building (Fairbanks) –Iñu-Yupiaq Dance Group 4p-6p
Van’s Dive Bar – Too Talls 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – Nightmare on F Street w/ Lloyds
Noize & DJ Cross 9p-1:30a

Sunday, October 31st

The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke Sunday 8p-2a
Humpys - Open Mic Jam 8p-11p
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Koot’s – Cartoon Night Halloween 10p-2:45a
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Mid Valley Greenhouse (Wasilla) – MidValley Scream-house 8p-11p
Pioneer Bar – Industry Night w/ Joe Brady 10p-2a
Van’s Dive Bar – Open Mic! Overlorded by Wash Your Hands 8p-12a
Williwaw Social – Monster Mash DRAG BRUNCH 12p-3p

Monday, November 1st

The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Halloween Scary Karaoke 8p-2a
Koot’s – The Monday Mic at Koots 9p-12a
Koot’s – A Horror Movie Halloween Party 10p-2:45a
Mid Valley Greenhouse (Wasilla) – MidValley Scream-house 8p-11p
Pyrah’s Pioneer Peak Farm (Palmer) – Fright Nights (Haunted House) 7p-11p
Van’s Dive Bar – Mellow Mondays w/ Nikki Now 9:30p-12a

Tuesday, November 2nd

American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Open Band Jam Night 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 – 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
Wayland Baptist University – Free A Cappella Voice Lessons! 6:30p-9:30p

Wednesday, November 3rd

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 – Country Night with DJ Lefty 8p-12a
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Koot’s –Koots Karaoke 10p-2a
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Palmer Alehouse (Palmer) – Nothin’ But Karma 6p-9p
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

PRESSING EVENTS

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Thu 10/27

Talking with People with Whom We Disagree

@ 7pm
UAA/APU Books of the Year and Difficult Dialogues Initiative invite you to: CHANGING MINDS in a DIVIDED WORLD: THE ART OF STRATEGIC DIALOGUE THURSDAY OCTOBER 27 7-8:30 pm A talk by Justin Lee Anchorage. eroderick@alaska.edu, 907-223-4487

Constance & Sinestra and the Cabinet of Screams

@ 7pm / \$25
OCTOBER 21-30 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

Thursday Night Fights:Boxing

@ 7:30pm / \$12.50-\$60
William A Egan Civic and Convention Center, 555 W 5th Avenue, Anchorage

Fri 10/28

Trunks and Treats!

@ 4pm
Trunks and Treats - a free, family-friendly community event! Faith Lutheran Church, 5200 Lake Otis Parkway, Anchorage. office@faithalaska.com, 907-563-3499

Constance & Sinestra and the Cabinet of Screams

@ 7pm / \$25
OCTOBER 21-30 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

Halloween Weekend, Hosted by Greenhouse

@ 7pm / \$20
Five local bands playing live music from 7pm to midnight, hosted by Greenhouse! The Nave, 3502 Spenard Road, Anchorage. greenhousealaska@gmail.com

Casey Driessen: Duplessy & The Violins of the World

@ 7:30pm
Discovery Theatre, 621 W 6th Ave, Anchorage

Halloween Music Show

@ 8pm / \$10
Don't miss out on the UAA Planetarium & Visualization Theaters Halloween Music Show on Friday, October 28th from 8:00-9:00 PM at the CPISB Buidling 2nd floor! Tickets are available at: <https://uaatix.org> UAA Planetarium and Visualization Theater, 3101 Science Circle, Anchorage. 907-786-6358

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: House of 1,000 Pasties - A Halloween Cabaret

@ 8pm / \$24
Tricks and Treats and Sweet Shrieks will fill the night at one of our most favorite times of the year. Join us for a night of spooky and sexy fun! The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Supernova Alaska: Supernova Live At Humpy's

@ 9:30pm
Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse, 610 W 6th Ave, Anchorage

Sat 10/29

Ballet Master Class by Michelangelo

@ 9am
Classical Ballet Class by Michelangelo Artistry, Power, Fitness! Join internationally renowned Maestro Michelangelo Canale for this unique Master Class experience in classical ballet. Dimond Center Dance Studio YMCA, Dimond Center Dr Dimond Center Drive, Anchorage

Fall Vendor Marketplace

@ 10am
Get an early start on your Christmas shopping! Featuring local small businesses and crafters. Find something truly unique for your loved ones (or yourself!). Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amber@midtownmall.com, 907-602-6225

Ghoul Out the Vote

@ 12pm
Put on your best contest and join us at this fun, family event. Costume Contest, FREE food, music, games, prizes and a Parade to the Polls. Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. erin@standupalaska.org, 907-317-5668

Featured



Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show

@ 10am
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, candles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225



The 5th Annual Halloween Bar Crawl - Anchorage

@ 4pm / \$9
The 5th Annual Halloween Bar Crawl! - Don't Miss The Biggest Crawl Of The Year! Avenue Bar, 338 West 4th Avenue, Anchorage. Support@CrawlWith.US, 612-460-0094

Constance & Sinestra and the Cabinet of Screams

@ 7pm / \$25
OCTOBER 21-30 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

Anchorage Symphony presents Aretha: A Tribute

@ 7:30pm / \$35-\$59.50
Bringing the sounds of the Queen of Soul, Aretha Franklin, to the Atwood Concert Hall! Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite ACPA, Anchorage. aso@youraso.org, 907-274-8668

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: House of 1,000 Pasties - A Halloween Cabaret

@ 8pm / \$24
Tricks and Treats and Sweet Shrieks will fill the night at one of our most favorite times of the year. Join us for a night of spooky and sexy fun! The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Sun 10/30

Featured



Zoo Boo Halloween Event

@ 10am / \$17
Bring your goblins and ghouls, your zombies and ghosts...come one, come all in costume for Zoo Boo - one of Anchorage's longest running premiere Halloween events in a new two day format this year! Alaska Zoo, 4731 O'Malley Road, Anchorage. aom@alaska-zoo.org, 907-346-2133



Sweet Creeps Cabaret: Burlesque Brunch

@ 11:30am / \$24
It's a boo-tyful morning for a sweet creepy brunch show! The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

For event details and even more listings visit us online!

Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show

@ 12pm
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, candles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225

Fall Vendor Marketplace

@ 12pm
Get an early start on your Christmas shopping! Featuring local small businesses and crafters. Find something truly unique for your loved ones (or yourself!). Midtown Mall, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amber@midtownmall.com, 907-602-6225

Constance & Sinestra and the Cabinet of Screams

@ 3pm / \$25
OCTOBER 21-30 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

Lutterman-Smith chamber music recital at UAA

@ 4pm / \$20
UAA Music Faculty John Lutterman, cellist, and Timothy Smith, pianist, will collaborate in recital on Sunday, October 30, at 4 PM in the UAA Arts building recital hall. Fine Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-6358

Mon 10/31

Featured



Trick or Treat Fish Creek

@ 4pm
Family-friendly event for Halloween: trick-or-treating along the Fish Creek Trail! Woodland Park, 3508 Iowa Street, Anchorage. spenardcc@gmail.com



Zoo Boo Halloween Event

@ 5pm / \$17
Bring your goblins and ghouls, your zombies and ghosts...come one, come all in costume for Zoo Boo - one of Anchorage's longest running premiere Halloween events in a new two day format this year! Alaska Zoo, 4731 O'Malley Road, Anchorage. aom@alaskazoo.org, 907-346-2133

Thu 11/03

Preservation Alaska Annual Meeting and Special Program

@ 6pm
Annual Meeting and Special Program about the Naknek Cannery History Project. Historic Preservation Awards. Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties grant award. Anchorage. AKPreservation@gmail.com, 907-929-9870

Thursday Night Fights:Boxing

@ 7:30pm / \$12.50-\$60
William A Egan Civic and Convention Center, 555 W 5th Avenue, Anchorage

Fri 11/04

Pepper Kit: First Friday @ Seigny Studios

@ 6pm
Seigny Studio, 314 G St, Anchorage

R&B Live! Special Edition with International Recording Violinist Dominique Hammons

@ 6:30pm / \$25
BBAAD Productions 15th Anniversary featuring international recording artist DOMINIQUE HAMMONS Williwaw Social, 609 F Street, Anchorage. BBAADPRODUCTIONS@YAHOO.COM, 907-229-3178

Making Movies

@ 7:30pm
Discovery Theatre, 621 W 6th Ave, Anchorage

Sat 11/05

Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show

@ 10am
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, candles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225

Alaskan Teamster Sisters Holiday Bazaar

@ 12pm / Free
Alaska Teamsters Local 959 Hall, 520 East 34th Avenue, Anchorage

Archery

@ 6:30pm
Kincaid Wax Bunker, 9301 W Raspberry Rd, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Comedian JJ Walker

@ 7pm / \$30-\$35
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Anchorage Civic Orchestra - Fall Concert

@ 7:30pm / \$23.50
Anchorage Civic Orchestra season opener! Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite ACPA, Anchorage. info@anchoragecivicorchestra.org

The Suffers

@ 7:30pm
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite ACPA, Anchorage

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Sassy Saturday Slightly Off Broadway Show

@ 8pm / \$20
It's Broadway, but better! Join us while we light up the town with our favorite Broadway burlesque numbers! The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

The Elovaters

@ 8pm
Williwaw Social, 609 F Street, Anchorage

Comedian JJ Walker

@ 9:30pm / \$30-\$35
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Sun 11/06

Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show

@ 12pm
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, candles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225

Intro to Pickleball Nov. 6th

@ 9pm
Spenard Recreation Center, 2020 W 48th Avenue, Anchorage. 907-343-4355

Tue 11/08

Achievement in Business Leadership

@ 7:30am / \$50-\$475
Anchorage Museum, 625 C St, Anchorage

Vocal Alchemy for Personal Healing

@ 7pm / \$20
On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, YOU are invited to join me in my Vocal Alchemy, Vocal Sound Healing Class. Your body is a vessel of sound. Come and learn how to use the voice to heal yourself. ATOM Center AK, 6000 C Street, Anchorage. info@tamarazeno-bia.com, 206-375-8529

Wed 11/09

Wildlife Wednesdays Free Science Lecture Series at the Alaska Zoo

@ 7pm
Join us at the Alaska Zoo Gateway Hall on select second Wednesdays from October through April for a free wildlife-focused lecture by professionals in the wildlife research field. Alaska Zoo, 4731 O'Malley Road, Anchorage. education@alaskazoo.org, 907-341-6463

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I EY MI!





Page A10 - Rock with The One Who Rolls! Congresswoman Mary Peltola hosted a free show to celebrate Alaska Federation of Natives and to rock out the vote in Anchorage with Payuma and Portugal. The Man.at Williwaw Social on Saturday, October 22. The concert was produced by Showdown Productions and was live broadcast via YouTube. Be sure to hit the polls on November 8 to have your voice heard!

Page A11 - Nationally touring artist Chantil Dukart premiered her new album "Lady and the Champ" as part of Williwaw Social's ongoing Local Showcase series on Thursday, October 20. Dukart was joined on stage by the loved and local Alaskan favorite, The Forest That Never Sleeps AKA Kat Moore. Pop by Williwaw on Thursday, October 27 at 9pm to catch PSM and ATF at the next Local Showcase.

All photos by @TrueNorthPhoto.AK





ANCHORAGE CLAY ARTS GUILD

Fall 2022 Pottery Sale!

November 4 - 5
Friday 10 - 8 / Saturday 10 - 7

Meet local potters, stroll the mall, and get a jump on the holidays!



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Edie Grunwald suspends campaign as Charlie Pierce's running mate for lieutenant governor

BY ANDREW KITCHENMAN AND JAMES BROOKS
ALASKA BEACON

Edie Grunwald is suspending her campaign for lieutenant governor. Grunwald, a Republican, is on Alaska's Nov. 8 general election ballot as the running mate of Republican gubernatorial candidate Charlie Pierce.

Pierce and the Kenai Peninsula Borough were sued on Friday by a borough employee who said Pierce sexually harassed her when he served as mayor.

In email addressed "Hello Alaska" and sent to news reporters Tuesday afternoon, Grunwald wrote:

"There are recent circumstances surrounding my Gubernatorial running mate, Charlie Pierce, which have led me to make the decision to withdraw from the Pierce-Grunwald for Governor campaign team."

Voting has already begun for Alaska's general election, and it is too late for Grunwald to withdraw and be replaced on state ballots.

In the email, she said she is endorsing the campaign of incumbent Republican Gov. Mike Dunleavy and his running mate, former Department of Corrections Commissioner Nancy Dahlstrom.

By phone, Grunwald said she had been thinking about her decision "on and off since Friday."

"My withdrawing is in no way a reflection of my belief in (Pierce's) innocence or guilt, because I have no knowledge of anything that took place. It's just that for me, I feel strongly about supporting and advocating the respectful treatment of women in the workforce."

In Tuesday's email, Grunwald thanked those who supported her campaign to become lieutenant governor.

"I support and advocate for the respectful treatment of women in politics, the workplace and the world in general," she wrote. "I believe my stepping down at this time is in the best interest of Alaskans and a demonstration of my support for all women, regardless of political affiliation."

The lawsuit came weeks after the harassment accusation was reported by news organizations. At that time, Grunwald texted that she and Pierce would remain in the race.

Grunwald said on Tuesday that at the time, she felt she had an obligation to voters who had supported the Pierce-Grunwald ticket during the primary.

She said she and Pierce "haven't talked fully" about her decision to suspend her campaign but that he is aware of her decision and she doesn't think that his reaction to that decision would change her mind.

Grunwald ran for lieutenant governor in 2018, when the position still had a separate primary from the governor, and finished second in the Republican primary. Since then,



Edie Grunwald, right, and gubernatorial candidate Charlie Pierce, left, listen to the U.S. Senate candidates speak at a forum on Saturday at the Alaska Federation of Natives convention in Anchorage. (Photo by Yereth Rosen/Alaska Beacon)

a voter-passed law has changed the system so that the candidates for governor name their running mates before the primary.

The lieutenant governor oversees elections in the state. Grunwald has said there were "some things that were pretty suspicious in the 2020 presidential election."

Grunwald is a retired Air Force colonel and chaired the Alaska Board of Parole from 2019 until earlier this year.

During the administration of Gov. Sean Parnell, Grunwald was asked to resign after an inquiry into sexual assault, fraud and other misconduct in the Alaska National Guard.

Grunwald said Tuesday's decision is reminiscent of that time in her life.

"The allegations against me were false, but I've always advocated and supported the respectful treatment of women," she said. "And I just need to put my money where my mouth is, and where my heart is, my faith."



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Home insulation from wood and fungus

BY NED ROZELL

One of the downsides of the oil-based materials that keep us warm is that they spew a lot of carbon into the atmosphere when they are made. And those blue and pink sheets of foam insulation never die, often polluting the land and floating on our waterways when we are done with them.

A few Alaska researchers are working to create insulation that removes carbon from the atmosphere and stores it for the life of a building and beyond. When a structure is at the end of its life, the insulation between the walls makes a fine soil.

Robbin Garber-Slaght is a Fairbanks engineer who works for the National Renewable Energy Lab’s Cold Climate Housing Research Center. She notes that Alaskans pay more than double the national average to keep their homes warm during the winter and also pay a lot for sheets of foam insulation, which travels a long way to get here by truck and boat.

She is teaming with Phillippe Amstislavski to develop insulation boards made of wood fiber bound by mycelium, the root-like tendrils of fungus.

Amstislavski, a mycologist (fungus expert) explained the idea by phone from his biomaterials lab in Anchorage, where he is a professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The scientists aimed at rethinking housing materials because about 75 percent of buildings worldwide are homes. Plastic foam insulation has the second-highest carbon-dioxide emission during manufacture, just behind steel production.

“We thought, ‘How can we turn buildings materials into carbon storers instead of emitters?’” Amstislavski said.

Garber-Slaght and Amstislavski say their biological product has a similar insulative value to foam, repels water but doesn’t trap it, and can be produced in Alaska so it doesn’t need a long ride.

Here are details of their idea:
Certain types of fungi digest wood fiber; we can see it happen when conks form on birch trees.

While a Fulbright scholar in Finland with the VTT Research Centre, Amstislavski learned how to transform wood into a foam that’s easy for mycelium fungus to digest.

Mycelium fungus cells feed off wood fibers and form a dense matrix, kind of like a sponge. When that living mixture grows into a batt of insulative material, the researchers stop its growth by drying it.

Garber-Slaght and Amstislavski have created insulation panels using ground-up birch and spruce wood, which they are working to make fire-resistant.

Garber-Slaght envisions a portable insulation-making system that can be shipped to communities — perhaps those with lots of spruce trees killed by the bark beetle — for use as the woody raw material.

“They can process the trees, and out comes mycelium insulation in boards,” she said. “It would save on shipping insulation (to remote communities). Instead of shipping six containers of foam, we ship one conex and a harvester.”

Amstislavski has already produced experimental mycelium coolers for shipping frozen seafood from Alaska. He thinks the new project with Garber-Slaght is a needed step to keep carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere and plastic out of the ocean, and is worth his effort.

“If not now, when?” he said, quoting the Jewish sage Hillel the Elder.

Garber-Slaght, who worked for years to make housing more efficient in rural Alaska, says this is a product she wants for those communities.

“Grow your own house, why not?” she said.

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 ned.rozell@alaska.edu is a science writer for the Geophysical Institute.



UAA associate professor of public health Philippe Amstislavski collects samples of some of the fungi found in the forests around UAA which are similar to those his team has used to develop a lightweight packaging alternative to Styrofoam.



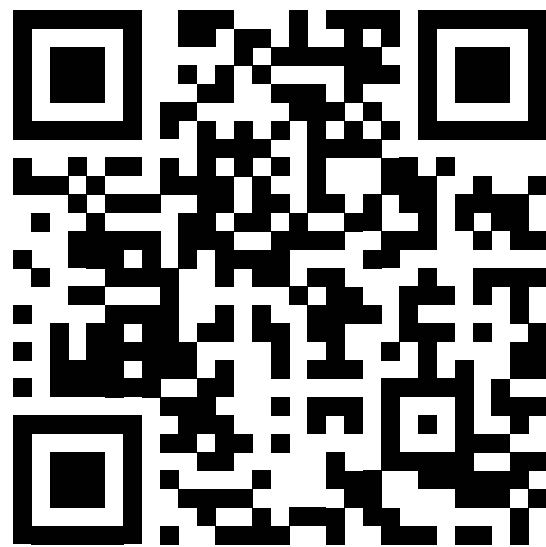
Engineer Robbin Garber Slaght holds prototype insulation panels made of wood fiber held together by a fungus species. Photo by Molly Rettig.



PRESS PICKS

2022

Press Picks, Alaska's most exciting and sought-after reader's choice awards are open now for nominations through November 2, 2022. With more than 200 categories, there are more ways than ever to show your love for Anchorage's best-of-the-best! Scan the QR code below to start nominating today.



Key Dates

October 25 - November 2: Nomination Period
November 3 - November 10: Voting Period
December 8: Winners Announced



Best Mexican - Best BBQ - Best Italian
Best Sushi - Best Pizza - Best Pho
Best Burger - Best Food Truck - Best Breakfast
Best Coffee Shop - Best Wings - Best Hot Dog
Best Fine Dining - Best Seafood
Best Vegetarian - Best Thai - Best Donut
Best Diner/Comfort Food - Best Chef
Best Server - Best Chinese
Best Ethnic 'Other'
Best Tea Shop - Best Dessert - Best Steak
Best Outdoor Dining
Best Bed and Breakfast



Best Band (Original) - Best Band (Cover)
Best Vocalist Male - Best Vocalist Female
Best Singer/Songwriter - Best Open Mic
Best Actor - Best Actress - Best Director
Best Hip Hop Artist - Best Dance Studio
Best Music Venue - Best Visual Artist
Best Photographer - Best Drag Artist
Best Anchorage Burlesque Performer
Best Art Gallery - Best Podcast
Best R&B Artist - Best Bookstore
Best Print Journalist - Best Radio Station
Best Museum - Best Live Theatre Company
Best Sports Team



Best Dive Bar - Best Sports Bar
Best Strip Club - Best Night Club
Best Craft Cocktails - Best Brewery
Best Bloody Mary - Best Tap Selection
Best Outdoor Atmosphere
Best Local Beer - Best Karaoke Bar
Best Bar to Dance In - Best Gay Bar
Best Place to Play Pool
Best Place to Play Darts
Best Wine Shop
Best Martini - Best Margarita
Best Bartender



Locations

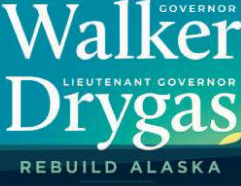
Best Location for a Tinder Date
Best Romantic Restaurant
Best Bed and Breakfast
Best Dog Park
Best Tourist Attraction
Best Place for a Wedding
Best Golf Course
Best Bowling Alley



Best Attorney - Best Nail Salon - Best Bank/Credit Union - Best Car Dealership
Best Florist - Best Outdoor Gear - Best Grocery Store - Best Jewelry Store
Best Liquor Store - Best Car Repair - Best Furniture Store - Best Real Estate Agent
Best Wildlife Cruise - Best Fishing Charter - Best Meat/Fish Processing
Best Hair Salon - Best Tattoo Shop - Best Bicycle Shop - Best Piercing Shop
Best Clothing Store - Hair Stylist - Best Shoes - Best Dog Day Care
Best Tobacco Shop - Best Hotel - Best Alterations and Tailoring
Best Airport Parking - Best Thrift Store - Best Local Gift Shop
Best Tourism Company - Best Auction House



Best Dental Care - Best Eye Care - Best Oncologist - Best Dermatologist
Best Urologist/Proctologist - Best Gynecologist - Best Nurse - Best Pediatrician - Best Orthodontist
Best Health Club/Gym - Best Day/Medi Spa - Best Fitness Studio - Best Yoga Instructor
Best Orthopedic Surgeon - Best Plastic Surgeon - Best Aesthetician - Best Veterinarian
Best Physical Therapist - Best Chiropractor - Best Mental Health Care Professional
Best Urgent Care - Best Imaging - Best Budtender - Best Counseling Center - Best Cultivator
Best Primary Care Physician - Best Holistic Medicine Center - Best Dispensary



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Super Crossword

SQUARE PHASE

- ACROSS
- 1 Work unit

6 Duo plus one

10 Orangutans, e.g.

14 Plot out, as an equation

19 Desert refuge

20 In an obliging manner

22 Evoking an earlier style

23 Start of a riddle

25 Rob of "Melrose Place"

26 Enticement

27 "— longa, vita brevis"

28 March Madness org.

29 — mama (rum cocktail)

30 Tarnish

32 Rd. with a number

33 Hormone released during childbirth

35 Riddle, part 2

41 Signified

42 Valentine's Day feeling

43 Angle measure

44 History unit

45 Pretend

46 Particular printing

48 Lock go-with

49 Marina del —

51 Riddle, part 3

56 Considers to be

60 Like unripe bananas

61 Always, in poetry

62 Hugs, in letters

64 Airline of Israel

65 Pod fillers

66 Riddle, part 4

71 Delilah player

72 Hotel furniture

73 History unit

74 Suffix with strict

75 Inedible type of orange

77 Coiled length of yarn

79 Riddle, part 5

85 Fleeced male

87 "The Walking Dead" aier

88 "Royals" singer

89 Anti votes

90 —Kosh B'gosh (kids' clothing brand)

93 1998-2008 Toyota model

96 Former Nintendo rival

97 Orlando theme park

99 End of the riddle

103 Lack of vigor

104 Suffix with beat

105 "— was saying ..."

106 "See ya!" British-style

107 Ernie's pal

109 Pierre's pal

111 Lariat part

115 Covered with vines

116 Riddle's answer

120 Nairobi's land

121 Prep schools

122 "The Magic Flute," e.g.

123 Provided with a border

124 Small equine

125 Film lioness

126 Dot in the sea

DOWN

1 Droopy cheek

2 Waikiki Beach locale

3 — -friendly

4 Tackle, guard or center

5 Supposed psychic gift

6 Thunder god

7 Sales agents, for short

8 Unsound

9 Like most sandals

10 Sainly glow

11 Court declaration

12 Yale Daily News staffer

13 Similarly defined wd.

14 Enlarged

15 Broadcast again

16 Briefcase variety

17 First-ever

18 Christian cry of praise

21 Stood up to

24 Wyatt at the O.K. Corral

29 To a large degree

31 Apparel

32 Totally absorbed

33 Outdated

34 VI doubled

35 PC support whiz, perhaps

36 "Drink" for a constantly critical sort

37 Alternatively

38 Fat-and-flour mixture

39 Utah city

40 Oscar winner Dunaway

41 See 82-Down

47 Have a hunch

48 "On the Road" novelist Jack

50 Cowboy cry

52 "Absolutely, sarge!"

53 Big retailer of outdoor gear

54 Hawaii's Mauna —

55 Hither's partner

57 Posh quality

58 Scooched over, perhaps

59 Devious

63 "Get Shorty" star Chris

65 "Masterpiece" network

67 Set- (brawls)

68 Game akin to crazy eights

69 Dot-com address

70 "Magnum, P.I." star Tom

76 Trapshooting targets, informally

78 Stereotypical working-class family man

80 Ace or deuce

81 "If — be so bold ..."

82 With 41-Down, lotus sitters' cushion

83 Asia's — Sea

84 "Spring ahead" hrs.

86 Ties down, as a boat

90 Resembling a hooting bird

91 Bundled, as wheat

92 High- (snubbing)

94 Pull along

95 Khan who married Rita Hayworth

96 "I'm OK with it"

98 Comedian Emo

100 It might be given by a flirter

101 Way to serve ham or pastrami

102 Café au —

107 Wheat husk

108 Water whirl

109 City in Iowa

110 Plateau's kin

112 Law school newbie

113 Folklore giant

114 Exam for H.S. juniors

116 Brief snooze

117 — -friendly

118 Fossil fuel

119 — polloi
- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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- LEGALS
- Enlighten Alaska Old Seward, LLC is applying under 3 AAC 306.300 for a new Retail Marijuana Store license, license # 34403, doing business as Enlighten Alaska, located at 7317 Old Seward Highway, Anchorage, AK, 99518, UNITED STATES. Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and application information will be posted on AMCO's website at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco>. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501 and Attorney Jana Weltzin, Esq. At jana@jdwcounsel.com or JDW, LLC, 901 Photo Avenue, Second Floor, Anchorage, AK 99503. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 10/13/22, 10/20/22, 10/27/22
- Host Chen ANC FB, LLC dba Sleeping Lady Airport Lounge located at Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, 500 W. International Airport Road, Ste. C3119, Anchorage, AK 99502 is applying for transfer of a Beverage Dispensary Tourism AS 04.11.400 (d) liquor license to Delta Sky Club Alaska, LLC dba Delta Sky Club. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, The Law Offices of Ernouf & Coffey, P.C. At P.O. Box 212314, Anchorage, Alaska 99521 and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600
- October 27-November 2, 2022
- PRESS A15

LEGALS

Anchorage AK 99501 or
alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov
Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 10/20/22, 10/27/22,
11/03/22

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT ANCHORAGE

In the Matter of the Estate of,
FLOYD MACK a/k/a LLOYD MACK,
Deceased.

Case No. 3AN-21-02913PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
JEANETTE BOSHEARS has been
appointed personal representative of
the estate of FLOYD MACK a/k/a
LLOYD MACK. All persons having
claims against the deceased are
required to present their claims with-
in four (4) months after the date of
the first publication of this notice or
said claims will be forever barred.
Claims must be presented to
Jeanette Boshears, c/o Jones
Bedinger, LLC, at PO Box 241546,
Anchorage, AK 99524, or filed with
the court. DATED this 20th day of
October, 2022 at Anchorage, Alaska.
JONES BEDINGER LLC Attorneys for
personal representative By: Michael
Bedinger Alaska Bar #1411084
Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 10/20/22, 10/27/22,
11/03/22

New restaurant or eating license
Palmeira tropical fusion LLC is
making application for a new
AS 0.44. Liquor license doing
business as Palmeira Tropical Fusion
located at 323 barrow street,
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Interested person should submit
written comment to their local
governing body, the application, and
to the Alcoholic Beverage Control
Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600
Anchorage AK 99501 Or
alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov
AP#276.
Anchorage Press
Publish Dates 10/20/22, 10/27/22,
11/03/22

R.A. Levinsohn LLC dba Kincaid Grill
located at 6700 Jewel Lake Road
Suite 16 Anchorage Alaska is
applying for transfer of Restaurant or
Eating Place AS. 04.11.100 liquor
license. The change in ownership
involves the ownership interest
transfer from Alan Levinsohn,
84.03% interest to Christopher
Johnson, 100%. Interested persons
should submit written comment to
their local governing body, the
applicant, and to the Alcoholic Bever-
age Control Board at 550 West 7th
Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK
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Love me?

ASK OSKAR
BY OSKAR SAVILLE

Dear Oskar,
I have been reading your advice col-
umn, and I find it really helpful, but I
am struggling with the idea of "loving
yourself," something you talk a lot about.
What is loving yourself, and what can I do
to love myself?

Love me?

--

Dear Love Me?

To love one's self in the most simple
terms is to have no condition put upon that
love. Conditional love is predicated in the
world: what I look like; acting like others
want me to; having a certain amount of
money, or type of home, or job; having
fame; being married; or any other thing
outside ourselves.

But real Love is loving the you that is
you. What a beautiful thing that is! Each
person is so special! We are given our own
unique thumbprint in the world to remind
us that we can do things in a way that no
one else can. It is not the types of talents or
gifts that we have that make us unique, but
the special touches that we bring to them.
We are all beautiful stars and it is our job to
shine, but the only way that can happen is
if we know how beautiful we are. Can you
imagine if the stars in the Milky Way acted
like humans who didn't love themselves?
How dark the world would be!

Every day, look in the mirror and tell
yourself how gorgeous and incredible you
are. Feed yourself good food, take naps
when you're tired, cry when you feel sad,

vent when you feel angry, be happy even
when others around you aren't, do things
that bring you joy (even if you or someone
else thinks those things are weird), and
surround yourself with nice people—which
might mean staying away from some of
the people in your life for a little bit. If you
have a desire to paint, do it. If you feel
you may be a writer, then get out a pen
and paper and start to write. If you have
a desire to learn about flowers, follow it!
Think about it this way: If the person you
had a mad crush on wanted to open a bee
farm, you would probably go and find out
everything you could about bees. Do that
for yourself!

You also need to start looking for all
the good inside of you. (Are you a good
organizer, teacher, cook, DIYer, gamer,
athlete, friend, parent, worker, leader, or
anything else?) Also learn to be gentle on
yourself. When you feel like you've gotten
something wrong, tell yourself that it's ok.
Treat yourself the way someone who thinks
you're amazing would treat you. Cheer
yourself on and seek out others who are
positive influences on you.

As you start this new habit of loving
yourself, you'll start to spread love to oth-
ers, sharing compliments and encourage-
ment, and reminding them to be gentle to
themselves and follow their joy. When we
love ourselves authentically, we give per-
mission to others to love themselves. The
old fear that someone being better than us
will diminish us will fade away. Soon you
will start to realize that the more we love,
the more we feel. And when you have all
of that love, the more there is for everyone
in the world. But you have to start with
yourself.

Super Crossword

Answers

J	O	U	L	E		T	R	I	O		A	P	E	S		G	R	A	P	H	
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Dine In & To Go Options

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ARIES: Of all the rich philanthropists in the world, Aries author MacKenzie Scott is the most generous. During a recent 12-month period, she gave away \$8.5 billion. Her focus is on crucial issues: racial equality, LGBTQ+ rights, pandemic relief, upholding and promoting democracy, and addressing the climate emergency. She disburses her donations quickly and without strings attached, and prefers to avoid hoopla and ego aggrandizement. I suggest we make her your inspirational role model in the coming weeks. May she motivate you to gleefully share your unique gifts and blessings. I think you will reap selfish benefits by exploring the perks of generosity.

TAURUS: What animal best represents your soul? Which species do you love the most? Now would be a good time to try this imaginative exercise. You're in a phase when you'll thrive by nurturing your inner wild thing. You will give yourself blessings by stoking your creature intelligence. All of us are part-beast, and this is your special time to foster the beauty of your beast.

GEMINI: During the tyrannical reign of Spain's fascist government in the 1930s, Gemini poet Federico García Lorca creatively resisted and revolted with great courage. One critic said Lorca "was all freedom inside, abandon and wildness. A tulip, growing at the foot of a concrete bulwark." I invite you to be inspired by Lorca's untamed, heartfelt beauty in the coming weeks, Gemini. It's a favorable time to rebel with exuberance against the thing that bothers you most, whether that's bigotry, injustice, misogyny, creeping authoritarianism, or anything else.

CANCERIAN: If the trickster god Mercury gave you permission to do one mischievous thing today and a naughty thing tomorrow and a rascally thing two days from now, what would you choose? Now is the perfect time for you Cancerians to engage in roguish, playful, puckish actions. You are especially likely to get away with them, karma-free, and probably even benefit from them, especially if they are motivated by love. Are you interested in taking advantage of this weird grace period?

LEO: Everyone's mind constantly chatters with agitated fervor—what I call the ever-flickering flux. We might as well accept this as a fundamental element of being human. It's a main feature, not a bug. Yet there are ways to tone down the inner commotion. Meditation can help. Communing with nature often works. Doing housework sometimes quiets the clamor for me. The good news for you, Leo, is that you're in a phase when it should be easier than usual to cultivate mental calm.

VIRGO: "Education is an admirable thing," said author Oscar Wilde. "But it is well to remember that nothing worth knowing can be taught." What?! That's an exasperating theory. I don't like it. In fact, I protest it. I reject it. I am especially opposed to it right now as I contemplate your enhanced power to learn amazing lessons and useful knowledge and life-changing wisdom. So here's my message for you, Virgo: Get out there and soak up all the inspiring teachings that are available to you.

LIBRA: To celebrate Halloween, I suggest you costume yourself as a character you were in a past life. A jeweler in first-century Rome? A midwife in 11th-century China? A salt trader in 14th-century Timbuktu? If you don't have any intuitions about your past lives, be playful and invent one. Who knows? You might make an accurate guess. Why am I inviting you to try this fun exercise? Because now is an excellent time to re-access resources and powers and potentials you possessed long ago—even as far back as your previous incarnations.

SCORPIO: I guess it would be difficult to create a practical snake costume for Halloween. How would you move around? You'd have to slither across the floor and the ground everywhere you go. So maybe instead you could be a snake priest or snake priestess—a magic conjurer wearing snake-themed jewelry and clothes and crown. Maybe your wand could be a caduceus. I'm nudging you in this direction because I think you will benefit from embodying the mythic attributes of a snake. As you know, the creature sheds its old skin to let new skin emerge. That's a perfect symbol for rebirth, fertility, transformation, and healing. I'd love those themes to be your specialties in the coming weeks.

SAGITTARIUS: "I need my sleep," proclaimed Sagittarian comedian Bill Hicks. "I need about eight hours a day and about ten at night." I don't think you will need as much slumber as Hicks in the coming nights, Sagittarius. On the other hand, I hope you won't scrimp on your travels in the land of dreams. Your decisions in the waking world will improve as you give yourself maximum rest. The teachings you will be given while dreaming will make you extra smart and responsive to the transformations unfolding in your waking life.

CAPRICORN: Recently, my mom told me my dad only spoke the Slovakian language, never English, until he started first grade in a school near Detroit, Michigan. Both of his parents had grown up in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, but immigrated to the United States in their youth. When I related this story to my Slovakian cousin Robert Brežný, he assured me it's not true. He met my dad's mother several times, and he says she could not speak Slovakian. He thinks she was Hungarian, in fact. So it's unlikely my dad spoke Slovakian as a child. I guess all families have odd secrets and mysteries and illusions, and this is one of mine. How about you, Capricorn? I'm happy to say that the coming months will be a favorable time to dig down to the roots of your family's secrets and mysteries and illusions. Get started!

AQUARIUS: My Aquarian friend Allie told me, "If a demon turned me into a monster who had to devour human beings to get my necessary protein, I would only eat evil billionaires like Jeff Bezos and Mark Zuckerberg." What about you, Aquarius? If you woke up one morning and found you had transformed into a giant wolf-dragon that ate people, who would you put on your menu? I think it's a good time to meditate on this hypothetical question. You're primed to activate more ferocity as you decide how you want to fight the world's evil in the months and years to come.

PISCES: Do you value the feeling of wildness? Is that an experience you seek and cultivate? If so, what conditions rouse it? How does it feel? When it visits you, does it have a healthy impact? Are you motivated by your pleasurable brushes with wildness to reconfigure the unsatisfying and unwild parts of your life? These are questions I hope you will contemplate in the coming weeks. The astrological omens suggest you have more power than usual to access wildness. Halloween costume suggestion: whatever makes you feel wild.



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](#).

Can someone be both homosexual and asexual? I can't wrap my brain around this one.

Sure, a person can be asexual while also being homosexual... because asexuality is a spectrum, and that spectrum is broad and vast and includes people who experience sexual attraction and sometimes choose to act on their sexual attraction. Basically, some asexual guys want boyfriends but don't wanna fuck 'em at all, other asexual guys want boyfriends but don't wanna fuck 'em much. It's really not that confusing... unless you happen to be dating a guy who either doesn't know he's asexual or knows it and hasn't told you, in which case you're likely to be as confused as you are frustrated.

I'm a recently divorced 53-year-old bi-curious woman living on the East Coast. I was with my ex for most of my life and he never mentioned this, but since I have begun dating, each new partner has told me how tight I am. You would think this was a good thing! I recently began dating a man who says he loves how tight I am. However, he also says it is making him come quickly. His marriage recently ended too, so he hasn't had a lot of sexual experience either. So, I don't know if he just comes quickly or if it's because of me. Do you have any suggestions?

Maybe it's you—maybe it's that you're tight (which most men regard as a good thing)—or maybe he's a premature ejaculator and he'd rather blame you than admit to it. Either way, don't let him stick his dick in you until after he's made you come at least once.

Why do all the gay guys in my age group—guys I like—not want me? And why do only a few men above my age group—guys I also like—want me?

It's a mystery—a mystery best pondered sitting on the dick of an older guy who wanted you and got you.

Any tips for safe sex during threesomes? Thinking about having a MFF threesome!

There's no such thing as safe sex, there's only safer sex. To be completely safe, skip the threesome, stay home, and take a nice, long, relaxing bath instead. Or not. According to the CDC, every year a quarter of a million people wind up in the emergency room after a fall in the bathroom and thousands more never make it to the ER because they DIED naked, wet, and alone after falling out of their tubs. Meanwhile, fewer than 50,000 people are diagnosed with primary and secondary syphilis annually. So, you're probably safer at that threesome—provided you don't shower before or after it. Or ever again. (Full disclosure: Almost 700,000 people got gonorrhea in 2020 and 1.5 million people got chlamydia.)

As for making the sex safer, get tested, share your STI statuses, and use condoms. (Condoms, when correctly used, will protect you from syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, HIV, and pregnancy.) Basically, follow the same risk-reduction strategies you would follow for a twosome—with one addition: if M wants to fuck both Fs, he needs to change condoms each time he swaps holes. And to make your threesome emotionally safer, all three of you should be clear about what you do and don't want, and everyone should agree—out loud—that if someone feels left out, unsafe, or uncomfortable, they can call a timeout without the other two pouting about it.

Newly non-monogamous and dating after 16 years of monogamy. How to lighten the "let down" feeling when a date I've been looking forward to is over and I have to go back to my "regular" life?

Your marriage, aka your "regular" life, will fall apart if fun (going out, doing things, having adventures) is reserved for dates and stress (paying bills, doing chores, raising kids) is reserved for your spouse. New-relationship-energy-infused dates are effortless fun (usually), whereas keeping things fun with a spouse requires thought, effort, and MDMA.

I've talked with my wife about exploring my bi-side and hooking up with other guys. She's cool with it as long as I'm safe. I can't quite seem to work up the courage to tell/ask her, "Hey, I've been chatting with this guy, is it cool if I ask him to go get drinks and fool around?"

The fact that you're afraid to tell/ask the wife has me wondering just how cool your wife was with the idea. If she said something like, "I would be comfortable with you hooking up with another man hypothetically, I guess, so long as you were safe," then you absolutely need to check-in with her. If she said something closer to, "OMG! That's so hot! You absolutely have my okay to fool around with another guy—hell, lots of other guys—so long as you're safe and make a video for me!", then you aren't obligated to check-in with her. But you should anyway.

I'm in Philly and I want to know when men wear underwear/jockstraps, do they wear their dicks pointing up or down?

Growers up, showers down.

How much time do you give a relative to change their behavior when you call them on their bullshit?

If their bullshit puts you in danger, don't give them any time. If their bullshit is merely annoying, give them a year. During that year, answer their questions patiently, keep calling them on their bullshit, and offer positive reinforcement when they don't do their usual bullshit, e.g., when they use your friend's correct pronouns, when they ask about your "boyfriend" and not your "friend," etc.



CANNAGUIDE

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Russian court upholds Brittney Griner's sentence

BY BENZINGA LEAFLY

A Russian court upheld Brittney Griner's sentence on drug smuggling charges, clearing the way for her to serve nine years in a penal colony unless the U.S. government can negotiate a deal for her release.

Griner's lawyers Maria Blagovolina and Alexander Boykov urged the three-judge panel in Moscow to acquit or at least reduce her nine-year sentence, which they said did not fit the offense of possessing and smuggling cannabis oil.

"No judge, hand on heart, will honestly say that Griner's nine-year sentence is in line with Russian criminal law," Boykov told the judges.

Griner, taking part via video link from a detention center just outside the capital, was permitted to make a final statement by live video link, reported Reuters.

She said how stressful her eight-month detention and two trials had been, adding: "I was barely over the significant amount [of cannabis oil] ... People with more severe crimes have gotten less than what I was given."

Griner again apologized for her mistake

During her original trial in August, saying "I did not intend to do this," and asked the court to take into account the fact that she had pleaded guilty.

Wearing a black and red lumberjack shirt over a black hooded top, Griner alternately sat or stood in her cell, sometimes with her head lowered, sometimes leaning against the white bars.

The state prosecutor claimed sentence was "fair"

Griner, a two-time Olympic gold medalist and center for the Phoenix Mercury pleaded guilty in August wherein she said she'd made an "honest mistake" and did not mean to break the law when she mistakenly failed to remove less than one gram of cannabis oil from her suitcase. Griner, a legal medical marijuana patient in the U.S., was returning to Moscow to finish off her 7th season with a Russian basketball team when she was detained at a Moscow airport just one week prior to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

American officials have accused Russia of using Griner and other Americans in Russian custody as bargaining chips. Washington has stated on various occasions that Griner was wrongfully detained though has apparently offered a swap involving her and former Marine Paul Whelan in exchange for the notorious Russian arms dealer, Viktor Bout, who is serving a 25-year prison sentence in the United States. Moscow has also indicated it is open to a prisoner swap. Despite the "pretty persistent" pace of discussions between the US and Russia to secure the Americans' release, a U.S. official, reported CNN, said the Biden administration has yet to receive a serious counteroffer from the Russian side.

Recently an aide to Vladimir Putin said Brittney Griner is "not the main issue that we are concerned about." Although Biden said two weeks ago that he would be willing to speak to Putin at next month's Group of 20 meeting in Indonesia but only to discuss Griner's case.

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Find your bliss with delta-8 gummies

BY DIAMOND CBD
LEAFLY

To make delta-8 gummies, delta-8 is extracted from hemp and infused into a familiar and friendly gummy format. With gummies, as with any edible that needs to be digested, some time will need to pass before effects are felt—generally 45-60 minutes, but it could be longer—so it’s always wise to start low and go slow. Different varieties of delta-8 gummies will vary in the amount of delta-8 included per piece, so it’s important to read the label carefully and understand how milligram amounts translate into the potency you can expect.

Many people have reported how delta-8 has helped them relax and enjoy an intoxicating buzz. Part of delta-8’s appeal is that it has been described as a more mild psychoactive experience, with less of the anxiety and paranoia associated with traditional cannabis. So, if you’ve avoided smoking cannabis for fear of an anxiety response or getting too high, delta-8 gummies could be a perfect alternative for a smokeless, controlled dose of THC.

Choosing the right delta-8 gummies for you

There are different types of these gummies, and they vary most often according to strength or the amount of delta-8 included. With most quality, trusted gummy products, you should be able to find all the essential information right on the jar itself, including the milligram amount of cannabinoids included per piece and a QR code that leads to lab-test results.

Delta-8 gummies are a great choice for beginners and experienced THC lovers alike because they let you easily control your desired dosage based on your tolerance. Everyone’s body is different, and it takes experience to calibrate how much delta-8 THC you need to consume to feel how you want; however, there are rules of thumb that can help you decide the dosage that’s best for you.

Details on dosing

A standard recreational dose of traditional THC is 10mg. If you’re unsure of how 10mg feels for you, it’s always best to start low—you can always work your way up. Test a 2.5mg or 5mg dose at first and remember that edibles take a while to kick in—don’t assume they’re not hitting and take more before you’ve waited at least an hour to feel effects. Remember, too, that delta-8 is often described as having more mild psychoactive effects as compared to traditional THC, something to consider if you’re basing your delta-8 gummies purchase off of your traditional cannabis tolerance.

Along with differences in potency amounts, with some gummies offering 5mg, 10mg, 25mg, or more per piece, hemp-based gummies will often include unique blends of cannabinoids in addition to delta-8. These additions take advantage of the entourage effect and may offer effects that are unique from those you’d experience from a single cannabinoid on its own. If you’re interested in the benefits of delta-9 THC, CBD, delta-10, CBN, and more, look for delta-8 gummy blends including these cannabinoids.

Remember, edibles affect everyone differently, but user testimonials often report feeling effects for 4-8 hours after ingestion.

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How to make cannabis-infused caramels

BY REDAWNA KALYNCHUK
LEAFLY

Fall is in full swing and with it are all the fall flavours. October is also cannabis harvest season, so we combined the best of both worlds. These are the soft, chewy, weed-infused caramels you never knew you needed!

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 25 minutes
Cooling: 4 hours
Total time: 4 hours 35 minutes
Yield: 36 pieces

Ingredients:
3 cups (600 g) granulated sugar
½ cup (162.5 g) light corn syrup
¼ cups (60ml) water
1 ½ cups (375ml) heavy cream
¾ cup (175 g) cannabutter (room temperature)
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon sea salt
3 tablespoons regular butter

Directions

Step 1: Prepare the pan - Butter the bottom and sides of the pan with non-infused butter. Lay a sheet of parchment paper lengthwise in the pan. Lay another sheet of parchment widthwise, making sure the sheets overlap in the corners. Lightly butter the parchment paper.

Step 2: Prepare the sugars - In a large saucepan, pour the sugar into a pile in the center of the pot. Pour the corn syrup over the sugar. Pour the water around the edge of the pot. Gently stir the sugar, syrup, and water together until the consistency resembles wet sand.

Step 3: Wash down the pan - Using a pastry brush thoroughly dipped in water, wash down the sides of the pot, pushing any remaining crystals into the liquid. Use a side-ways painting motion to move any sugar/corn syrup residue into the base mixture. Wet the brush often and wipe the pot until the entire inside surface of the pot is clean.

Step 4: Boil the sugar - Attach the thermometer to the pot, making sure the base of the probe is not touching the bottom of the pot. Cook the sugar mixture over medium heat, do not stir. Bring to a boil and continue to cook. Don’t rush this step or use high heat unless you want burnt caramel.

Step 5: Heat the cream - In another pan, slowly heat the heavy cream on low heat. When the cream begins to steam, add the cannabutter, vanilla, and sea salt. Stir to combine.

Step 6: Cooking the sugar - Monitor the sugar and temperature closely while it cooks. The colour should begin to change from clear to amber. When it gets to 320°F, slowly add the warm cream.

Step 7: Pour out the caramel - At 240°F, remove the pot from heat. Pour the weed caramel mixture into the prepared pan. Set the pan on a cooling rack and allow the weed-infused caramel to cool for at least 4 hours.

Step 8: Slicing the caramels - Once the caramel has cooled, melt 2 tablespoons of butter in a small bowl. Butter a cutting board and knife with the melted butter. Remove the caramel slab from the pan, lifting it out by the edges of the parchment paper. Place the slab on the buttered cutting board, and remove the paper. Using a long buttered knife, make a smooth cut through the entire slab. Continue cutting the slab into strips, and then into squares. Butter the knife between each cut.

How to store cannabis caramels

Place a caramel on the edge of the 3-inch by 3-inch square of parchment paper and roll away from yourself. Twist the ends to seal. Store in an airtight container in your refrigerator. course, enjoy!



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communities across our state, and we will work to focus attention beyond our immediate challenges. Alaska desperately needs a new vision. So much of what we love about our state is rooted in our outdoor spaces, but if we are going to reverse the decline of Alaskans leaving the state and kickstart our economy, we must invest in the things that make people love their cities, towns, and villages as much as they love their outdoors and build up our local communities. For this to happen, we must develop a clear direction for our state and commit to responsible stewardship that is uninterrupted by election cycles political disagreements, and other forms of short-term thinking. Then

we can get to the exciting work of creating vibrant, livable spaces where the spoils of a growing economy benefit everyone. Under our new election system, it is clear that the Walker Drygas ticket is the only team capable of replacing our current governor. A #1 vote for us is a vote to protect a woman's right to choose, to promote policies that confront climate change instead of continuing to ignore science, to rebuild our education system instead of closing schools, and to advance Tribal sovereignty and create seats at the table for Alaska Native people instead of endless legal battles that solve nothing. Alaska's best days are ahead. Please rank Walker Drygas #1 and help us rebuild Alaska!

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Paid for by Walker Drygas for Alaska, PO Box 92051, Anchorage, AK 99509