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HINES, ILLINOIS — SEPTEMBER 24: Lelain Reyeg administers a COVID-19 booster vaccine and an influenza vaccine to Army veteran Gary Nasakaitis at the Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital on September 24, 2021 in Hines, Illinois. Today, CDC Director Rochelle Walensky endorsed a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine for people 65 years and older; those with underlying medical conditions or those who work in high-risk situations. (Photo by Scott Olson/Getty Images)

Alaska's flu season continues to worsen, epidemiology reports show

BY JAMES BROOKS
ALASKA BEACON

Alaska's flu season is worsening with no signs of leveling off, the latest surveillance report from the Alaska Department of Health showed on Wednesday.

This week, the Anchorage Daily News reported that unusually high rates of flu and respiratory syncytial virus are filling pediatric units at hospitals across the state, and the weekly flu report indicates no change in the situation.

"Based on this week's flu snapshot, you can see that the rate is still going up precipitously, and there's no sign of it leveling off," said Dr. Joe McLaughlin, Alaska's state epidemiologist.

This season is unusually early and hard-hitting by historical standards; Alaska's flu season typically runs from October through May, peaking in February, but the number of laboratory-confirmed flu cases began rising in late October and has already passed the February 2019 peak of the last pre-pandemic flu season.

This week's national flu-tracking report has yet to be published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, but as late as last week, the CDC rated Alaska's influenza level as "low" compared to other states, another sign that conditions here may worsen before they improve.

"We know that the influenza infection rates were the highest early on in the Southeastern part of the United States," McLaughlin said, "and then they gradually made their way westward and northward. We are the furthest west and the furthest northern state in the United States, and so it could be that the worst of the flu season is still ahead of us."

If there is positive news, McLaughlin said, it's that this year's flu vaccine appears to be a good match for the most commonly circulating strains of flu.

"That means if you've been vaccinated, your chances of getting influenza infection — if you're exposed — go down. And then if you do wind up getting a breakthrough infection, you're typically going to get a milder infection that's going to last a shorter period of time, and it will be associated with lower risk of hospitalization and death," McLaughlin said.

Alaska's flu vaccination dashboard, published by the Department of Health, shows only 20% of Alaska residents at least 18 years old have been vaccinated for the flu this year.

"We're currently seeing very low rates of vaccination against influenza, as well as the COVID booster. And we

are still seeing a lot of hospitalizations, and unfortunately, many preventable deaths due to COVID across the nation," McLaughlin said.

He said that antiviral medicines are available with a prescription if someone is infected, but prevention is still important, particularly during the holidays.

He advises skipping holiday parties if you're feeling ill and using the methods that worked during the COVID pandemic — wearing masks, social distancing, avoiding people who are sick.

"Fortunately, our COVID rates are much lower now than they were last holiday season. So that's a really good thing. But we do still have lots of other respiratory pathogens circulating, and we have very high hospitalization rates, especially among children. So it is going to continue to be important during this holiday season for people to remain vigilant and protective and try to do what they can to protect themselves and their loved ones from getting a respiratory infection," he said.

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An unexpected encounter with waxwings and other bohemian surprises



CITY WILDS
BY BILL SHERWONIT

I have long wondered about the lives and travels of bohemian waxwings before they flock to Anchorage in late fall and early winter, and again after they leave our city, a gradual departure that, in my experience, is usually completed in February or early March.

Even the most knowledgeable local birders I've queried have considered the movements of these widely roaming "gypsy birds" (thus the bohemian tag) to be something of a mystery, beyond what we know of their time in Alaska's urban center.

For those unfamiliar with these birds, I should note that bohemian waxwings fly clear of our city for most of the year. I don't recall ever seeing one in or around Anchorage during our warmer months.

It's only when they begin wandering the Southcentral landscape in search of food during the leaner months of October, November, and December that these nomads turn their attention to Anchorage. Thousands of waxwings are drawn here by the abundant fruits that grow on the many "ornamental" trees scattered throughout town, and they generally remain until most of those fruits—primarily berries, cherries, and crab apples—are eaten.

Based on maps that I've studied in birding guidebooks and online, the normal range of bohemian waxwings (not to be confused with their more widespread cousins, cedar waxwings, which only rarely make their way to Alaska) extends throughout much of the western Lower 48 states and Canadian provinces and into Alaska, as far north as our state's Interior region, a place of expansive forests.

During the spring and summer, waxwings are scattered widely through the northern portions of their range, namely western Canada and Alaska, while busy with mating rituals and then raising their young. Apparently, they prefer to nest in open forests, often along the edges of bogs or meadows, and that's where they spend those warmer months. The rest of the year, they tend to form flocks and lead a more nomadic life.

All that said, I have been unable to learn much, if anything, about their nomadic ways in Southcentral Alaska beyond our city. Until this year.

In late September, I got a very brief glimpse of a bohemian flock in Denali State Park along the lower flanks of Curry Ridge, about a 2½- to 3-hour drive north of Anchorage. I was hiking there with my girlfriend and our two dogs when Jan spotted several birds in the tops of some birch trees, a few hundred feet from us.

They were far enough away—and so out of context—that initially I imagined the birds to be pine grosbeaks.

Only when I grabbed my binoculars and took a closer look did I recognize the birds

to be bohemian waxwings, their crested head feathers the initial primary clue to their identity. (Again, for those who may not know them, I'll add here that bohemian waxwings are among the handsomest of birds to inhabit our continent's northern regions. Slightly smaller than robins, their bodies are mostly covered by a gray suit of silky feathers, tinted russet around the crested head. Their feathered finery is further decorated by a tail brightly edged in yellow, a black eye mask, and white-striped wings that bear the small red "wax" bars that give the birds their name.)

A few of the waxwings were making short forays from the trees and quickly returning to their perches, a behavior common to flycatchers when hunting insects. Because I'd never had a chance to observe them feeding except in winter, I hadn't realized that waxwings, too, commonly use this strategy to catch insects.

Scanning the trees more closely, I began to see more and more of the birds, at least a few dozen. Then they lifted off, flying close enough that we could hear their softly trilling voices, always pleasing to my ears and sensibilities. Those trills, along with their numbers—I estimated at least 50 birds—and synchronized flight pattern, were further proof we'd encountered a flock of waxwings weeks earlier than I'd ever seen a comparably-sized flock in Anchorage.

Except for that one chance sighting—an encounter that lasted only a few minutes—we never would have guessed that at least one substantial flock of bohemians was roaming that forested landscape. We saw no other signs of waxwings during our four-night stay in the area.

While revealing new information about the lives of bohemian waxwings, that short-lived sighting raised plenty more questions. For instance, were other flocks moving through the woodlands of Denali State Park in late September? Would the birds we watched be among those to descend upon Anchorage later in the year? When did that flock form, and where? Yes, lots of questions, on and on.

A few days after we'd returned home, I got another surprise: while hiking through Kincaid Park with Denali on Oct. 4, I thought I heard the distinctive trill of a waxwing.

I thought I might be imagining the sound, because it seemed way too early for waxwings to be in town. Nevertheless, I scanned the nearby woods and spotted three bohemians perched near the top of a large, bare cottonwood tree. Moments later they flew away with rapid wing beats, another telltale clue.

It's the earliest I've ever seen waxwings in Anchorage, at least that I can recall, another first. More than two weeks would pass before I'd see any others, about a half-dozen of them flying near Kincaid's Bluff Trail.

Encounter, continued on page A4

Cyrano's Theatre Company
PRESENTS

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Photo courtesy of Wayne Hall

Encounter, from page A3

In the weeks since then, I’ve seen only three other groups in Anchorage, none with more than a few dozen waxwings. That too, is something of a surprise because by now, they’ve usually begun to form larger groups consisting of hundreds or even thousands of birds.

It could be that the waxwings are late, or simply gathering in other parts of town than where I live or go on walks. Last year I saw few waxwings until January. And not until late February did I witness the largest flocks I’ve ever seen. While paused at a stoplight on my way to Kincaid, I saw wave after wave of waxwings, each formed by hundreds of birds. I figured I must have seen 2,000 to 3,000 bohemians in all; absolutely astonishing.

It’s clear that waxwings present surprises of many different kinds, only one of the reasons they’ve become a favorite of mine, along with their soothing trills, their handsome appearance, their breathtaking synchronized flights, the mystery they present, and last but hardly least, this: in their beautiful and bountiful presence, these nomadic birds help to brighten the local landscape during Alaska’s darkest, harshest season, a wondrous gift for the holiday season.

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

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Dagnabit!

Evil Presence

DAGNABIT!
BY MIKE GORDON

As mentioned, some of my running experiences were unpleasant. Some were downright scary.

On September 7, 1994 the Anchorage Daily News broke the story of the brutal murder of Alexi O. Kaptanian, a 22-year-old UAA student who had only arrived in the state the previous month. He was killed by a paroled ex-con named Ray E. Rice who had been recently released after serving seven years for stabbing a complete stranger. Kaptanian met Rice at the Java Joint, a popular coffee house in Spenard at the time. The student had left his mountain bike chained at the Crazy Horse, a strip club just below Fifteenth Avenue between Gambell and Ingra Streets, and as they left the coffeeshouse Rice offered to show him a shortcut through the woods.

Anchorage Police Sergeant Mike Grimes said the two men walked into the woods just west of where Gambell Street crosses Chester Creek when the ex-con attacked the student “to get his cash and an expensive leather jacket he was wearing.” Rice stabbed Kaptanian in the eye with a Leatherman, robbed him, and rolled him into the creek where he then stood on the young man until he was sure he was dead. The subsequent autopsy verified that Kaptanian had, in fact, died from drowning.

Rice made an extensive admission of the crime saying that he had “an irresistible impulse” to kill. Police reported Rice was a follower of the occult and was wearing a T-shirt that had End of God, the title of an album by the satanic metal band, Decide, emblazoned on it.

Kaptanian’s father, Pierre, of Aurora, Colorado, was naturally aggrieved over his youngest son’s death. He was reported as saying that Alexi had come to Alaska because he liked the outdoors and because his older brother lived in Alaska, although in Petersburg, an island community in Southeast Alaska. Except for attending a small college only a few hundred miles from their residence, Alexi had never been away from home before. He was shy, trusting, and withdrawn—conditions resulting from a rare malady that had left him bald at the age of five.

For over twenty years I had resided in Woodside East, a high-end planned unit development about a mile west of where Kaptanian was murdered. I lived there for roughly another ten years after the incident. My home overlooked and had easy access to the Chester Creek bike trail, and when I started running marathons in 1979 I spent many a joyful and/or toilsome hour running long distances—up to twenty miles—both east and west of my location. If I ran east I was only a short distance from the Lake Otis Drive underpass and the Goose Lake overpass, and if I ran west I was less than a mile from the Seward Highway underpass.

Over my more than fifteen years of running in various states, numerous countries, and on different routes in Anchorage, Girdwood, and Homer I have absolutely no recollection of any seriously frightening or disturbing incidents except those I encountered on the Chester Creek bike trail between the Goose Lake overpass and the C Street underpass, but of them there were plenty.

One sunny afternoon I was running west toward the Seward Highway underpass alongside the softball park and could not help but notice two young boys and a girl playing very near the entrance to the underpass as I approached. The kids were pre-teen and would not normally have presented a threat, but there was something unusual and disturbing about their behavior and the furtive way they looked at me.

I had to run between them to get to the underpass, and as I drew closer I heard one of the boys say to the others, “Let’s beat him up and take his stuff.” I seriously doubt that those three kids could have made good on their threat, but the threat was real nonetheless, and as I whisked past them I simply stated, “I don’t have any stuff.”

When I came back through the underpass from the other direction on my way home the kids were gone. As the elderly (to them) object of such cruel contemplation expressed out loud by three feral pre-teen children—one a girl, I couldn’t help but wonder what the world was coming to.

During an early evening run in the fall one year, I was returning from a long run on the Tony Knowles Trail. Immediately after crossing the bridge over Chester Creek I passed two teenage boys and a teenage girl who appeared to be heading to a concert at the Sullivan Arena just to the north of our location. They were milling around suspiciously. After passing the teens I could hear unmistakable footfalls behind me.

Not wanting to be attacked from behind I stopped abruptly and spun around, fists out, ready for a fight. Looking the teen who had been stalking me right in the eye I asked, “What the fuck do you want?”

He stopped, shrugged his shoulders and turned back to his two friends who had been watching. I continued on my way home. Had I not turned around and faced him, would he have pushed me or hit me in the back of the head? I believe it is highly likely he would have.

Another evening I was again returning from the Tony Knowles Trail, had crossed under the Seward Highway and was just entering the woods at the east end of the softball field on the south side of Chester Creek. Two pre-teen girls were walking westward on the trail toward me, one of them swinging a four-foot alder bough. Again there was something disquieting about the scene and when I got just in front of the girls, about to pass them on the right, the girl with the bough swung it very hard, right at my head. I was ready for it. I caught the bough in my left hand, yanking it out of hers, and chased her to the ground on the other side of the trail.

Both girls were screaming as I stood menacingly over the one who had attacked me, holding the weapon high as if to strike. I would never have hit her, but she didn’t know that. I growled at her, “I should whip the daylights out of you. If you ever do such a thing again I really hope it happens to you.” I tossed the branch into the woods and continued on my way home, dumbstruck and furious.

The next incident is quite different, but lends further credence to my assertion of an evil presence in the area.

I have been in Alaska for nearly seventy years and have been attacked by a moose only once. It happened at the Seward Highway Chester Creek underpass along the Chester Creek trail. Once again, I was returning from a long run on the Tony Knowles Trail, only this time it was in February during the festive carnival of Fur Rendezvous. It was dark but the overhead trail lights were on, casting weird shadows on the snow.

There had been a lot of recent snowfall and though the trails had been groomed, there was deep snow just off the trail. There was also a four-foot high temporary wood-and-wire picket fence rolled out on either side of the trail meant to act as a funnel into the culvert for the dog teams that used that part of the trail for the Fur Rendezvous dog team races.



I crested the hill and was fifteen or twenty feet into the chute created by that picket fencing when I fortunately happened to look up and into the dimly-lit underpass I was approaching. There, right in the middle of the underpass, was a bull moose with a small velvet rack. We spotted each other at the same time and I could see his head lower as his hair stood up along his neck.

I did not actually see his charge because I was already moving as fast as my legs and hands could carry me back up the slope, around the outside edge of the fencing chute, and out into the deep snow on all fours—but I know there was a charge.

When I recovered my composure and realized I wasn’t going to be trampled and gored to death, I looked around and saw the moose standing in the middle of the trail. It was about twenty-five yards away, at the top of the small rise over which I had just recently passed on my way to the underpass. He had not covered that distance that quickly in a casual saunter and he was then just looking around while I sat there in the deep snow, waiting for him to wander off across the creek and up the other side. There was absolutely no question about whose trail it was.

More recently, on March 29, 2015, just past noon, a woman was knocked unconscious and stabbed on the same trail near Goose Lake. Having just crossed the pedestrian bridge over Northern Lights Boulevard, she was walking and texting on her phone when she was attacked from behind and knocked unconscious. Regaining consciousness, she realized she had been stabbed in the lower back and that someone was rifling her pocket. According to Alaska Dispatch News, police said her attacker then fled on foot, taking nothing.

Even more recently, one morning in May 2015, a 43-year-old cyclist had just crossed the Goose Lake overpass on his way to work when he was attacked by one of three teenagers loitering by the trail. The teen had a five-foot long two-inch-diameter branch he was using as a walking stick. As the cyclist passed the teenager swung the stick, hitting his victim square in the face. The hapless cyclist suffered a broken nose, fractured right orbital bone and a fractured skull. He was lucky to have survived the assault.

The Alaska Dispatch News identified the cyclist as Tim Kirk. Julie Saddoris, Kirk’s girlfriend, said that the teenagers had not appeared menacing to Kirk, and that he had not anticipated any trouble: ‘...it happened all of a sudden, just kind of random,’ Saddoris said.

Kirk continued to ride away, then eventually lost control and went into a ditch, Saddoris said, where he got out his phone and called 911.

Passersby stopped to help him, and Kirk was then picked up by an ambulance, Saddoris said.”

Presence, continued on page A20



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IEYMI!

Aspenyarrow (Top Left), Chris Hawk (Top Right), Kat Moore, Shaun Pacarro and Momentum Dance joined the Portland Cello Project for shows last weekend.

Alaska Thunder Funk (Middle Left) joined The Jephries and Astoria State (Middle and Bottom) for a show on Friday. The show was a homecoming for Alaskans Danny Resnick (Middle Right) and Cameron Horst who both play professionally Outside.

All photos by @SmokeyTheBruin





Drew Erickson (Top Left) performs at Williwaw's Local Roots show with The Nameless (Top Middle and Left) on Thursday, December 1, 2022.

Fairbanks' Avery Wolves (Top Right) trekked to Anchorage for a pair of shows last weekend. On Friday, they opened for The Reverend Horton (Right and Bottom)

All photos by @TrueNorthPhotoAK





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

Thursday, December 8th

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – ACT Presents:
Annie 7p-10p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Blue Man Group 7:30p-8:40p
Anchorage Museum – Pass The Mic Night: Queer Storytellers of Color 6:30p–10p
Bartlett High School – Winter Concert 6:30p-8p
Bear Paw Bar & Grill - Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke 8p-2a
Cyrano’s Theatre – William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night 7p-8:45p
Hillside O’Malley Seventh-day Adventist – AJA Christmas Program 7p-8:30p
Humpty’s – Spaffdaddy & Co. 8:30p-12:30a
Tailgater’s Sport’s Bar & Grill (Wasilla) - The AKoustic Project 7p-10p
Van’s Dive Bar – QUEER AS HELL 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – Zen Trembles & Rosie Rush! 9p-12a



Friday, December 9th

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – ACT Presents:
Annie 7p-10p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – The Nutcracker by Anchorage Ballet 7p-8:40p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Blue Man Group 8p-9:20p
American Legion Post 15 (Palmer) – Friday Night Feast w/ 100 Proof Karaoke 7p-10p
American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Acoustic Steak Night with Chris P.! 6p-8p
The Basement (Fairbanks) – Holiday Burlesque 9p-11p
The Broken Blender – Twisted Wonderland: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration 8p-9:30p
The Carousel Lounge – Tyson James Band 10p-2a
Community Covenant Church – 11th Airborne Division Band 7p-8:15p
Cyrano’s Theatre – William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night 7p-8:45p
Everett’s (Wasilla) – Comedy Show w/ Steve Gillespie 7p-10p
The Fraternal Order of Eagles Aerie 4207 – Karaoke Friday at the Eagles! 7p-12a
Garcia’s Cantina & Café (Eagle River) – Zen Trembles 8p-10:30p
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Humpty’s – Cold Fusion 9:30p-1:30a
Koot’s – The Stack 10p-2:45
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
The Sitzmark (Girdwood) – Hope Social Club live! 9p-1a
St. Patrick’s Parish – Christmas with Alaska Chamber Singers 7:30-9:10p
Van’s Dive Bar – The Amalgajam! with DW & The GreenFire 8p-1a
Williwaw Social – The Jephries & Wash Your Hands! 7p-10p
Williwaw Social – Party Rock Anthems w/ DJ Fan Service 10:15p-2a



Saturday, December 10th

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – The Nutcracker by Anchorage Ballet 11a-12:40p & 5p-6:40p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Blue Man Group 2p-3:20p & 8p-9:20p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – ACT Presents:
Annie 7p-10p
Anchorage Moose Lodge – Glacier Blues Band Live! 8p-12a
Arctic Valley Ski Area – MusiCal! Live at the Afterglow 1:30p-4:30p
Bear Paw Bar & Grill - Ken Peltier Band 9p-12a
The Broken Blender – Twisted Wonderland: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration 8p-9:30p
The Carousel Lounge – The Unknowns 10p-2a
Cyrano’s Theatre – William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night 7p-8:45p
Don Jose’s Mexican Restaurant – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-12a
The Gaslight Bar – The Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 8p-11p
Humpty’s – Nothin’ But Trouble 8:30p-12a
Koot’s – Comedian Steve Gillespie 7p-8:30p & 9p-10:30
Koot’s – XXXmas Bois 7:30p-10:30p
Koot’s – The Stack 10p-2:45
Koot’s – The Naughty List ft Dig Sista & Bodelia James 10:30p-2:30a
Mad Myrna’s – Mad Myrna’s Diva Variety Show 9p-11:30p
The Sitzmark (Girdwood) – Hope Social Club live! 9p-1a
St. Patrick’s Parish – Christmas with Alaska Chamber Singers 7:30-9:10p
Van’s Dive Bar – Zero Miles To Empty 9p-12a
Williwaw Social – P-LO Live in Alaska 8p-2a



Sunday, December 11th

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – Blue Man Group 2p-3:20p & 7:30p-8:40p
Alaska Center for the Performing Arts – ACT Presents:
Annie 3p-6p
Arctic Valley Ski Area – Uncle Jim-Live 1:30p-4:30p
The Carousel Lounge – AK Rockstar Karaoke Sunday 8p -2a
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Palmer) – Mat-Su Messiah Performances 6p-7p
Cyrano’s Theatre – William Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night 3p-4:45p
Humpty’s - Open Mic Jam 8p-11p
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Koot’s – Koots Karaoke 10p-2a
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Pioneer Bar – Industry Night w/ Joe Brady 10p-2a
St. Andrew Catholic Church – Christmas with Alaska Chamber Singers 4p-5
Van’s Dive Bar – Open Mic! Overlorded by Wash Your Hands 8p-12a
Williwaw Social – Make the Yuletide Gay: DRAG BRUNCH 12p-2:30p

Monday, December 12th

Koot’s – The Monday Mic at Koots 9p-12a
Van’s Dive Bar – Jay Straw’s Bass to Mouth Mondays! 9p-12a

Tuesday, December 13th

American Legion Spenard Post 28 – Taco Tuesday Open Mic w/ Roused By Bulls 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

Wednesday, December 14th

907 Alehouse –Tyrone Palmer & Friends 7p-10p
Eddie’s Sports Bar – Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow 9p-12a
Humpty’s – Jason Roach 8:30p-12:30a
Koot’s – Country Night with DJ Lefty 8p-12a
Koot’s – Comedy Open Mic 8:30p-10p
Mad Myrna’s – Karaoke 9p-12a
Matanuska Brewing (Anchorage) – Jared Woods 6p-9p
Palmer Alehouse (Palmer) – Roland Roberts live 6p-9p
Pioneer Bar – The Eternal Cowboys 10p-12a
PubHouse – Witty Youngman 7p-10p
Schwabenhof (Wasilla) - Open Mic 7p-12a



PRESSING EVENTS

ANCHORAGE
PRESS

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powered by **event**

Thu 12/08

Annie
@ 7pm / \$35
DECEMBER 2-11 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SAT-
URDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM Sydney
Laurence Theatre, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite SLT, An-
chorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Twelfth Night
@ 7pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season this
year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comical
clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's Theatre
Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyra-
nos.org

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

Blue Man Group
@ 7:30pm
Atwood Concert Hall, 621 W. 6th Ave., Anchorage

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

Fri 12/09

Habitat Earth
@ 6:30pm / \$10
The UAA Planetarium & Visualization Theater will be
showing Habitat Earth on Friday December 9 at 6:30-
7:30 PM located in the UAA - ConocoPhillips Integrated
Science Building - Room 220! UAA Planetarium and
Visualization Theater, 3101 Science Circle, Anchorage.
907-786-6358

Steve Gillespie
@ 7pm
HOOKED ENTERTAINMENT, 1200 E 76th Ave SUITE
1222, Anchorage

Twelfth Night
@ 7pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season this
year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comical
clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's Theatre
Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@cyra-
nos.org

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

A Place Like No Other
@ 8pm / \$10
The UAA Planetarium and Visualization Theater will be
showing A Place Like No Other on December 9, from
8:00-9:00PM, located in the ConocoPhillips Integrated
Science Building - Room 220! UAA Planetarium and
Visualization Theater, 3101 Science Circle, Anchorage.
907-786-6358

Sat 12/10

WEST HIGH SCHOOL

Holiday Bazaar

December 10, 2022

9:30 to 4:00

West High School
1700 Hillcrest Dr.

SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS & CRAFTERS

2022 West High School Holiday Bazaar

@ 9:30am

2022 West High School Holiday Bazaar
West High School, 1700 Hillcrest Drive,
Anchorage. south_alyson@asdk12.org,
907-742-2500

Alaska Christkindlmarkt
@ 10am
A traditional German Christmas market hosted at the
local ASD German School of Arts and Sciences, Rilke
Schule. Local vendors, live music, food trucks, and
reindeer photo ops! Rilke Schule German School of
Arts and Sciences, 1846 East 64th Avenue, Anchorage.
rsvchristkindlmarkt@rilkeschuleverein.org

Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show
@ 10am
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on
your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, can-
dles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern
Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, An-
chorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225

Snow Globe Run
@ 11am / \$30
Peanut Farm, 5227 Old Seward Hwy, Anchorage

Holiday Market Run
@ 11:30am / Free
800 H St., Anchorage

Blue Man Group
@ 2pm
Atwood Concert Hall, 621 W. 6th Ave., Anchorage

Annie
@ 7pm / \$35
DECEMBER 2-11 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SAT-
URDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM Sydney
Laurence Theatre, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite SLT, An-
chorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

Comedian Steve Gillespie
@ 7pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Twelfth Night
@ 7pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season
this year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comi-
cal clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's The-
atre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@
cyranos.org

University Guitar Ensemble Show
@ 7:30pm / \$10
The UAA University Guitar Ensemble will be performing
on Saturday, December 10 at 7:30 PM in the UAA
Recital Hall (3700 Alumni Dr)! Fine Arts Building, 3700
Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-6358

**Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Twisted Wonder-
land: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration**
@ 8pm / \$20
Twisted Wonderland: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration
The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage.
sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Blue Man Group
@ 8pm
Atwood Concert Hall, 621 W. 6th Ave., Anchorage

Comedian Steve Gillespie
@ 9pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Sun 12/11

Holiday Vendor Marketplace & Craft Show
@ 12pm
Find one-of-a-kind, hand-crafted gifts for everyone on
your shopping list! Jewelry, clothing, art, soaps, can-
dles, baked goods and so much more. 600 E Northern
Lights Blvd, 600 East Northern Lights Boulevard, An-
chorage. amberdmusso@gmail.com, 907-602-6225

Annie
@ 3pm / \$35
DECEMBER 2-11 THURSDAYS, FRIDAYS, AND SAT-
URDAYS AT 7:00 PM SUNDAYS AT 3:00 PM Sydney
Laurence Theatre, 621 West 6th Avenue Suite SLT, An-
chorage. matt@actalaska.org, 907-344-4713

**ALC Concert Series: Anchorage Mandolin
Orchestra**
@ 4:30pm
Join the Anchorage Mandolin Orchestra for a joyful af-
ternoon concert packed with cheerful holiday music.
Anchorage Lutheran Church, 1420 N Street, Anchor-
age. tamarialice@gmail.com, 907-982-9777

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

Blue Man Group
@ 7:30pm
Atwood Concert Hall, 621 W. 6th Ave., Anchorage

Tue 12/13

**Art Class-Christmas Tree W/Resin, Glass,
Shells & More!**
@ 5:30pm / \$50
Advanced Reservations Required * Art Class-Christ-
mas Tree W/Resin, Glass, Shells & More! Turnagain
Arts Building, 4105 East Turnagain Boulevard, Suite A3
front of building facing the street, Anchorage.
sparkletribe1@gmail.com

Wed 12/14

Bert Kreischer
@ 6pm
Alaska Airlines Center, 3550 Providence Drive, An-
chorage

Bert Kreischer
@ 7pm
Alaska Airlines Center - Anchorage, 3550 Providence
Center Drive, Anchorage

Bert Kreischer: Alaska Airlines Center
@ 7pm
Alaska Airlines Center, 3550 Providence Dr, Anchorage

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

Thu 12/15

Bert Kreischer
@ 6pm
Alaska Airlines Center, 3550 Providence Drive, An-
chorage

Bert Kreischer
@ 7pm
Alaska Airlines Center - Anchorage, 3550 Providence
Center Drive, Anchorage

Twelfth Night
@ 7pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season
this year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comi-
cal clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's The-
atre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@
cyranos.org

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

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

Fri 12/16

Stars of the AK Sky
@ 6:30pm / \$10
The UAA Planetarium & Visualization Theater presents
Stars of the Alaskan Sky on Friday, December 16 at
6:30- 7:30 PM located in the ConocoPhillips Integrated
Science Building - Room 220! UAA Planetarium and
Visualization Theater, 3101 Science Circle, Anchorage.
907-786-6358

Twelfth Night
@ 7pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season
this year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comi-
cal clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's The-
atre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@
cyranos.org

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

Tilted Solstice
@ 8pm / \$10
The UAA Planetarium & Visualization Theater will pre-
sent a live presentation on the winter or summer sol-
stice and our tilted little world on December 16 from
8:00-9:00 PM. UAA Planetarium and Visualization The-
ater, 3101 Science Circle, Anchorage. 907-786-6358

**Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Twisted Wonder-
land: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration**
@ 8pm / \$20
Twisted Wonderland: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration
The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage.
sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Sat 12/17

**Anchorage Chamber Music Festival // Dec
17 at Central Lutheran Church**
@ 4pm / \$20-\$30
Anchorage Chamber Music Festival is back with its
annual Fundraising Concert! Support chamber music in
Alaska and enjoy a program of wintry, fantastical, and
otherworldly piano trios. Central Lutheran Church,
1420 Cordova Street, Anchorage. acmfconcerts@
gmail.com

AJW Jazz Concert
@ 4pm / \$5
Enjoy a fun filled afternoon of exciting Jazz, funk, and
Latin music served up by three great AJW Student En-
sembles at the Organic Oasis Restaurant from 4-6 p.m.
on Saturday December 17, 2022. Organic Oasis |
Restaurant & Juice Bar, 2610 Spenard Road, Anchor-
age. john_damberg@gci.net, 907-332-3234

A Beckah Shae Christmas
@ 6pm
Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 629 Hollywood Drive,
Anchorage

Comedian Kabir Singh
@ 7pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

**ALC Concert Series: Community Carol
Sing**
@ 7pm
Come join us in singing your Christmas favorites while
enjoying the talents of our guest musicians! Anchor-
age Lutheran Church, 1420 N Street, Anchorage.
tamarialice@gmail.com, 907-982-9777

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

**Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Twisted Wonder-
land: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration**
@ 8pm / \$20
Twisted Wonderland: A Burlesque Holiday Celebration
The Broken Blender, 535 West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage.
sweetcheekscabaret@gmail.com

Comedian Kabir Singh
@ 9pm / \$20-\$25
Koot's, 2435 Spenard Rd, Anchorage

Basketball Clinic
@ 11pm
Spenard Recreation Center, 2020 W 48th Avneue, An-
chorage. 907-343-4355

Sun 12/18

**Sweet Cheeks Cabaret: Blitzen Burlesque
Brunch**
@ 11:30am / \$20
Blitzen Burlesque Brunch The Broken Blender, 535
West 3rd Avenue, Anchorage. sweetcheekscabaret@
gmail.com

Twelfth Night
@ 3pm / \$30
Shakespeare's beloved romantic comedy takes on a
decidedly festive twist! Ring in your holiday season
this year with romantic love, mistaken identities, comi-
cal clowns, holiday carols, and more. Cyrano's The-
atre Company, 3800 Debarr Road, Anchorage. alexis@
cyranos.org

Little Women
@ 7:30pm / \$50
Perseverance Theater and the UAA Department of
Theater and Dance present Little Women by Kate
Hamill, based on the novel by Louisa May Alcott. Fine
Arts Building, 3700 Alumni Drive, Anchorage. 907-786-
6358

Wed 12/21

Race Across Alaska Winter Challenge
@ 12am / \$75-\$75
Dec 21st - Mar 20th
13611 Capstan Dr., Anchorage

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even more listings
visit us online!

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powered by **event**



Best BBQ
Tumagain Arm Pit BBQ - Winner
Smokehouse BBQ - Second Place

Best Bed and Breakfast
Evergreen AirBnB - Winner

Best Breakfast
Snow City Cafe - Winner
South Restaurant + Coffeehouse - Second Place

Best Burger
Tommy's Burger Stop - Winner
Arctic Roadrunner - Second Place

Best Chef
Chef Bombshell - Winner
Nate Bentley at Altura Bistro - Second Place

Best Chinese
Charlie's Bakery & Chinese Restaurant - Winner
Sweet Pink Pepper - Second Place

Best Coffee Shop
Kaladi Brothers Coffee - Winner
Black Cup Coffee - Second Place

Best Dessert
Wild Scoops - Winner
Fire Island Rustic Bakeshop - Second Place

Best Diner/Comfort Food
Spenard Roadhouse - Winner
Lucky Wishbone - Second Place

Best Donut
Golden Donuts - Winner
Wiki-Licious - Second Place

Best Ethnic 'Other'
Hula Hands - Winner
Yak & Yeti - Second Place

Best Fine Dining
Altura Bistro - Winner
Ginger - Second Place

Best Food Truck
Mochileros Street Food - Winner
Russian Eats - Second Place

Best Hot Dog
Yeti Dogs - Winner
International House of Hotdogs - Second Place

Best Italian
Fiori D'Italia - Winner
Little Italy - Second Place

Best Mexican
Serrano's - Winner
Taco King - Second Place

Best Outdoor Dining
49th State Brewing - Anchorage - Winner
Arctic Roadrunner - Second Place

Best Pho
Pho Lena - Winner
PHOnatik Vietnamese Cuisine & Lounge - Second Place

Best Pizza
Moose's Tooth Pub & Pizzeria - Winner
Uncle Joe's Pizzeria - Second Place

Best Seafood
Simon & Seafort's Saloon & Grill - Winner
F Street Station - Second Place

Best Server
Shane Russel - Winner
Leilani at Mad Myrna's - Second Place

Best Steak
Club Paris - Winner
Double Musky Inn - Second Place

Best Sushi
Sushi & Sushi - Winner
Ronnie Sushi - Second Place

Best Tea Shop
Summit Spice & Tea Company - Winner
The Kobuk - Second Place

Best Thai
Lahn Pad Thai - Winner
Pho Lena - Second Place

Best Vegetarian
Middle Way Cafe - Winner
Organic Oasis | Restaurant & Juice Bar - Second Place

Best Wings
Ginger - Winner
Moose's Tooth Pub & Pizzeria - Second Place

Best Wings
Ginger - Winner
Moose's Tooth Pub & Pizzeria - Second Place

Best Romantic Restaurant
Crow's Nest - Winner
Ginger - Second Place

14,652 VOTES CAST FOR RESTAURANTS AND FOOD



Best Bar to Dance In
Mad Myrna's - Winner
Williwaw Social - Second Place

Best Bartender
Wallace from Trophy Lounge - Winner
Misha from Mad Myrna's - Second Place

Best Bloody Mary
Humpy's Great Alaskan Alehouse - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

Best Brewery
49th State Brewing - Anchorage - Winner
Anchorage Brewing Company - Second Place

Best Craft Cocktails
Ginger - Winner
Whisky & Ramen - Second Place

Best Dive Bar
Van's Dive Bar - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

Best Gay Bar
Mad Myrna's - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

Best Karaoke Bar
The Gaslight - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

PRESS PICKS

2022 WINNERS



Best Night Club
Mad Myrna's - Winner
Williwaw Social - Second Place

Best Strip Club
Great Alaskan Bush Company - Winner
Pj's - Second Place

Best Outdoor Atmosphere
Williwaw Social - Winner
49th State Brewing - Anchorage - Second Place

Best Place to Play Darts
Buckaroo Club - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

Best Place to Play Pool
Koot's - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

Best Sports Bar
Peanut Farm - Winner
907 Alehouse and Grill - Second Place

Best Local Beer
49th State Brewing - Anchorage - Winner
King Street Brewing Company - Second Place

Best Tap Selection
Matanuska Brewing - Winner
Tent City Taphouse - Second Place

Best Wine Shop
La Bodega - Winner
Crush Wine Bistro & Cellar - Second Place

Best Margarita
Tequila 61 - Winner
Bear Tooth Theatrepub - Second Place

Best Martini
Ginger - Winner
Carousel Cocktail Lounge - Second Place

**7,602 VOTES
CAST FOR BARS
& NIGHTLIFE**



Locations

Best Bowling Alley
Jewel Lake Bowling Center - Winner
Center Bowl - Second Place

Best Dog Park
University Lake Dog Park - Winner
South Anchorage Dog Park - Second Place

Best Golf Course
O'Malley's On the Green - Winner
Anchorage Golf Course - Second Place

Best Location for a Tinder Date
Sweet Cheeks Cabaret at The Cheeky Room - Winner
Jukebox Karaoke Roadshow - Second Place

Best Place for a Wedding
Alyeska Resort - Winner
Kincaid Park - Second Place

Best Tourist Attraction*
Alaska Native Heritage Center - Winner
Sweet Cheeks Cabaret at The Cheeky Room - Winner
** Both received the same number of votes*

Best Airport Parking
Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport - Winner
Alaska Park and Valet - Second Place



Best Aesthetician
Savannah Valencia - Winner
Kristen Russell, Alaska Functional Med Spa - Second Place

Best Chiropractor
Balanced Health Chiropractic - Winner
Kanady Chiropractic Center - Second Place

Best Counseling Center
Wisdom Traditions Counseling Services LLC - Winner
Alaska Behavioral Health - Second Place

Best Day/Medi Spa
Alaska Functional Medicine + Spa - Winner
Alyeska Nordic Spa - Second Place

Best Dental Care
Affordable Dental Care - Winner
Anchorage Midtown Dental Center - Second Place

Best Dermatologist
Janine Miller - Winner
Kim Kinnebrew - AlaSkin - Second Place

Best Eye Care
Makar Eyecare LLC - Winner
Alaska Eye Care Center - Second Place

Best Fitness Studio
/vib/ cycle - Winner
Pure Barre Anchorage - Second Place

**WILLIWAW SOCIAL VOTED ANCHORAGE'S
#1 MUSIC VENUE & OUTDOOR ATMOSPHERE**

**THANK YOU
ANCHORAGE**

**Special thanks to Showdown, all our local bands & DJ's,
the amazing touring bands we've had this year
and our talented staff!**

WILLIWAW SOCIAL

SOCIAL

**Special thanks to Showdown, all our local bands & DJ's,
the amazing touring bands we've had this year
and our talented staff!**

@WILLIWAWSOCIAL | 609 F STREET ANCHORAGE, AK 99501 | WILLIWAWSOCIAL.COM

Best Gynecologist
Planned Parenthood - Anc Health Center - Winner
Anchorage Women's Clinic - Second Place

Best Health Club/Gym
/vīb/ cycle - Winner
Rumble Boxing - Second Place

Best Holistic Medicine Center
Alaska Functional Medicine + Spa - Winner
Snow Blossom Acupuncture LLC/Wellness & Float Center - Second Place

Best Imaging
Providence Imaging Center - Winner
Imaging Associates - Second Place

Best Mental Health Care Professional
Bekah Mathiasen - Winner
Dr. Michael DeMolina, PhD - Second Place

Best Nurse
Mattisen Sept - Winner
Chris Anne Bennett - Second Place

Best Oncologist
Chirichella Ellen H MD - Winner
Dr. Joanie Hope - Second Place

Best Orthodontist
Northern Smiles Orthodontics - Winner
Hartman Orthodontics - Second Place

Best Orthopedic Surgeon
Mentzer Kurt D MD - Winner
Jason R. Gray, MD - Second Place

Best Pediatrician
LaTouche Pediatrics - Winner
Anchorage Pediatric Group - Second Place

Best Physical Therapist
Samuel Lucas - Winner
Rebound Sports and Orthopedic Physical Therapy - Second Place

Best Plastic Surgeon
Jana Cole, MD - Winner
Daniel Suver, MD, FACS - Second Place

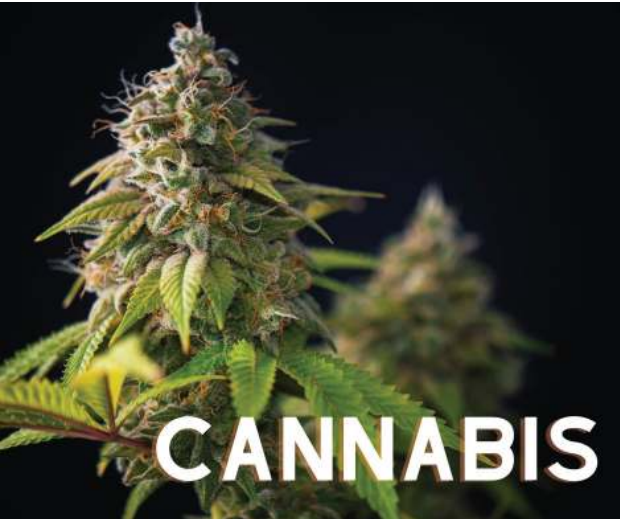
Best Primary Care Physician
Allison Critchlow - Winner
Betsy Douds-Paczan - Second Place

Best Urgent Care
Providence Urgent Care Midtown - Winner
Alaska Regional Hospital - Second Place

Best Urologist/Proctologist
Alaska Urology - Winner
André S. Godet, MD - Second Place

Best Veterinarian
VCA Alaska Pet Care Animal Hospital - Winner
Cornerstone Animal Hospital - Second Place

Best Yoga Instructor
Kristen Russell - Winner
Andie Steele - Second Place



Best Budtender
Juan Cruzaley - Winner
Tatiana from Uncle Herb's - Second Place

Best Cultivator
Enlighten Ak - Winner
Quintessence Farms - Second Place

Best Dispensary
Uncle Herb's - Winner
Enlighten AK - Second Place



Best Alterations and Tailoring
Yu Tailor Alterations - Winner
PTL Alterations - Second Place

Best Antiques
Pack Rat Antiques - Winner
Rethink Home - Second Place

Best Attorney
Taylor Thompson - Winner
Samantha Fleming - Second Place

Best Auction House
Alaska Premier Auctions & Appraisals - Winner
Alaska Auction Co. - Second Place

Best Auto Aftermarket
MGM Vehicle Services - Winner
Perfectionist Auto - Second Place

Best Bank/Credit Union
Alaska USA Federal Credit Union - Winner
Credit Union 1 - Second Place

Best Bicycle Shop
he Bicycle Shop - Winner
Trek Bicycle Store of Anchorage - Second Place

Best Car Dealership
Continental Honda - Winner
Lithia KIA - Second Place

THANK YOU FOR VOTING ME

BEST

DERMATOLOGIST

5 YEARS IN A ROW!

JANINE D. MILLER, MD

BOARD CERTIFIED DERMATOLOGIST,
FELLOWSHIP TRAINED IN LASERS
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AND SURGICAL DERMATOLOGY

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DR. JANINE D. MILLER

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in Alaska

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Downtown	Old Seward	Tudor	Jewel Lake
428 G Street	11700 Old Seward Hwy.	3401 Tudor Rd.	6839 Jewel Lake Rd.
279-3799	349-3799	337-4652	248-9404

Request for Proposal

Municipal Parking Lots Layout Design and Pavement Marking

RFP

Description: Through this solicitation, the City invites Proposers who meet the solicitation qualifications and specifications to submit proposals for the purpose of furnishing all labor, equipment, materials, and performing all work necessary for the Municipal Parking Lots Layout Design and Pavement Marking project. Municipal Parking lots include the North Lot, South Lot, Center Lot, and South Harbor Launch Lot. Proposals will be reviewed by personnel from the City of Seward.

Proposal Documents: A copy of this RFP can be obtained on the City of Seward website: cityofseward.us. It is the Proposer's responsibility to check the website for additional information and / or addendums.

Sealed proposals are due **prior** to the submission deadline. Sealed proposals must be delivered to the City of Seward, City Clerk's Office, located at 410 Adams Street, Seward, Alaska 99664. Late proposals will not be accepted—**no exceptions**. It is the Proposer's responsibility to confirm the proposal documents are received. No electronic or faxed submissions will be accepted.

Issue Date:

Pre-Proposal Question Deadline:

Submission Deadline:

Public Opening:

November 30, 2022

December 14, 2022 @ 5:00 PM

January 5, 2023 @ 1:00 PM

January 5, 2023 @ 1:30 PM in City Council Chambers

Proposal Delivery Location:

City Clerk PO Box 167
410 Adams Street
Seward, AK 99664

Contracting Officer:

Kylie Grimes
Executive Assistant of Parks & Recreation
Email: kgrimes@cityofseward.net
Phone: 907-224-4006

This is not an order. The attached terms and conditions shall become part of the contract resulting from this Request for Proposal. Proposals shall be submitted in the indicated format. Original signatures may be submitted on the form provided herein.

Best Car Repair

Sand Lake Automotive - Winner
R&R Garage - Second Place

Best Clothing Store*

Beacon Hill Bargain Boutique - Winner
Lacy Lounge - Winner
* Both received the same number of votes

Best Day Care

Bright Beginnings Early Learning Center - Winner
Bayshore Early Learning Center - Second Place

Best Dog Day Care

The Hound Lounge - Winner
Doggie Dog World - Second Place

Best Fishing Charter

AK eXpeditions - Winner
Kenai Fishing Adventures - Second Place

Best Florist

Paper Peony - Natasha Price - Winner
Bagoy's - Second Place

Best Furniture Store

ReThink - Winner
Bailey's Furniture - Second Place

Best Grocery Store

New Sagaya Market - Winner
Fred Meyer - Second Place

Best Hair Salon

Modified by Paul Ennes at Studiomod - Winner
Kelley Cuts Hair Studio - Second Place

Best Hair Stylist

Marcy Lundgren - Winner
Paul Ennes - Second Place

Best Head Shop

Planet X Vapor & Smoke Shop - Winner
Popeye's Emporium - Second Place

Best Hotel

Hotel Captain Cook - Winner
Alyeska Resort - Second Place

Best Jewelry Store

5th Avenue Jewelers - Winner
David's Jewelers - Second Place

Best Liquor Store

Brown Jug Warehouse - Winner
La Bodega - Second Place

Best Local Gift Shop

The Kobuk - Winner
Dos Manos - Second Place

Best Meat/Fish Processing

Indian Valley Meats Inc - Winner
Alaska Sausage & Seafood - Second Place

Best Nail Salon

Yeiri's Nails & Spa - Winner
OMG Nails - Second Place

Best Outdoor Gear

REI - Winner
The Hoarding Marmot - Second Place

Best Piercing Shop

The Hole Look - Winner
Gold Fox - Second Place

Best Real Estate Agent

Savanna Wiita - Winner
Regina Welch - Second Place

Best Shoes

Alaska Walking Store - Winner
ShuzyQ - Second Place

Best Tattoo Shop

Brightside Tattoo - Winner
Southside Tattoo - Second Place

Best Thrift Store

Beacon Hill Bargain Boutique- Winner
FashionPact - Second Place

Best Tobacco Shop

Planet X Vapor & Smoke Shop - Winner
Smoking Joe's - Second Place

Best Tourism Company

Salmon Berry Travel & Tours - Winner
River Wild Camper Vans - Second Place

Best Wildlife Cruise

Kenai Fjords Tours - Winner
26 Glacier Cruise - Second Place



Best Actor

Justin Stewart - Winner
Bill Little - Second Place

Best Actress

Monica Franklin - Winner
Maddy Klever - Second Place

Best Anchorage Burlesque Performer

Pandora LaPush - Winner
Layla D'Lovely - Second Place

Best Art Gallery

Stephan Fine Arts Gallery - Winner
Dos Manos - Second Place

Best Band (Cover)

The Glacier Blues Band - Winner
Danger Money - Second Place

Best Band (Original)*

Mara's Shadow - Winner
Medium Build - Second Place*
Zen Trembles - Second Place*
*Votes were tied for second place

Best Bookstore

Title Wave Books - Winner
The Writer's Block - Second Place

Best Dance Studio

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret - Winner
Alaska Dance Theatre - Second Place

Best Director

Justin Stewart - Winner
Pandora LaPush - Second Place

Best Drag Artist

Golden Delicious - Winner
Hank VanDickerson - Second Place

Best Hip Hop Artist

Ed Washington - Winner
Alaska Red - Second Place

Best Live Theatre Company

Sweet Cheeks Cabaret - Winner
Anchorage Community Theater - Second Place

Best Museum

Anchorage Museum - Winner
Alaska Native Heritage Center - Second Place

Best Music Venue

Williwaw Social - Winner
Van's Dive Bar - Second Place

Best Open Mic

Van's Dive Bar - Winner
Humpty's - Second Place

Best Photographer

Megan Freeman - Winner
Santee Rice - Second Place

Best Podcast

Chroniclez Podcast - Winner
The Anonymous Eskimo - Second Place

Best Print Journalist

RJ Johnson - Winner*
Julia O'Malley - Second Place
*In memoriam

Best R&B Artist

Ed Washington - Winner
Dawn McClain - Second Place

Best Radio Station

KWHL - Winner
KNBA 90.3 - Second Place

Best Singer/Songwriter

Ed Washington - Winner
Nick Carpenter - Second Place

Best Sports Team

907 Pro Wrestling - Winner
Rage City Roller Derby - Second Place

Best Visual Artist

Sammy Hoopleseed - Winner
Chad Carpenter - Second Place

Best Vocalist Female

Bekah Hilton - Winner
Shaylyn Goard - Second Place

Best Vocalist Male

Chris Hawk - Winner
Tyrone Palmer - Second Place

53,807
OVERALL
VOTES CAST

1,692 TOTAL NOMINATIONS

WINNINGEST BUSINESS - SWEET CHEEKS CABARET
WINNINGEST PERSON - ED WASHINGTON



Thank you for again voting Danger Money one of your favorite bands!

Bill Jen Bonnie Ron

DANGER MONEY

Also thank you for voting our venue one of your favorite karaoke bars- the Carousel Lounge!

AK Rockstar Karaoke

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Thank you to all our amazing customers, for voting Uncle Herb's the #1 Anchorage dispensary for 2022! We couldn't have done it without our incredible staff and the great community that we serve. We wish sll of you very happy holidays and a prosperous New Year!

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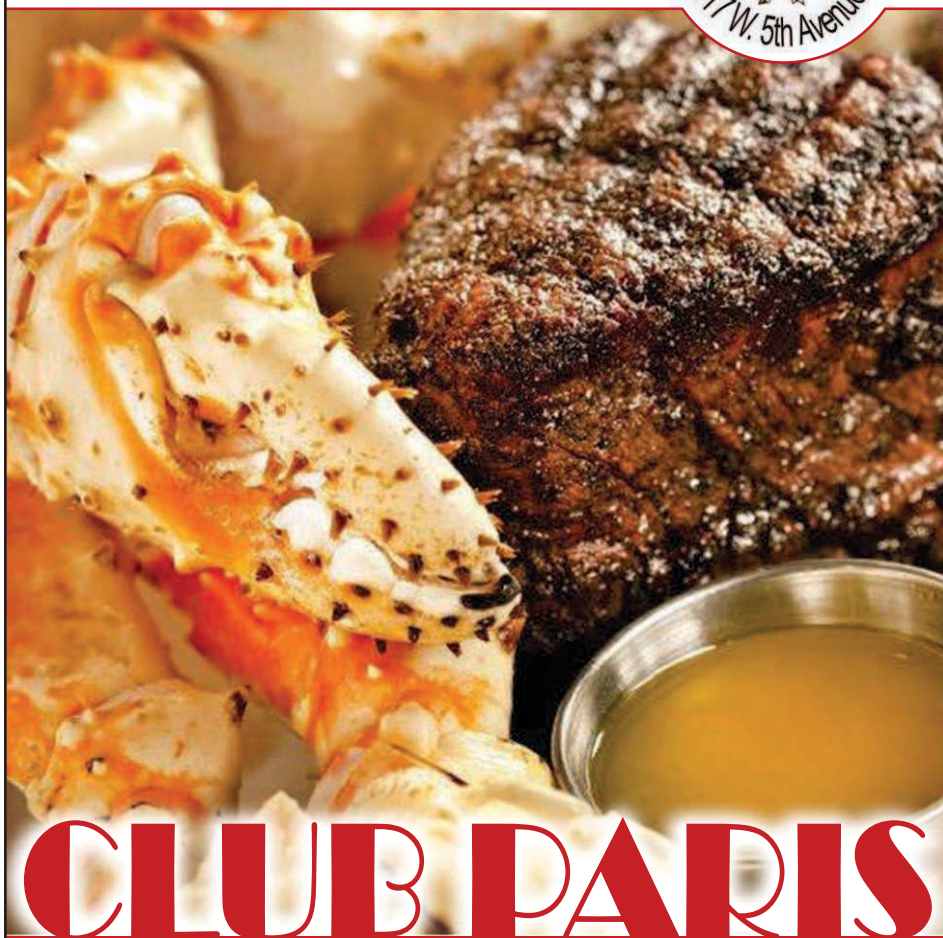
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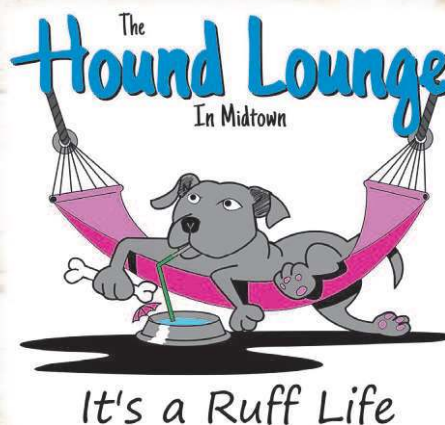
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Anchorage’s Timeless Burger Joint

Tastee-Freez always will be a symbol for Alaska.

RESTAURANT REVIEW
BY JIN CHONG

There’s a scene in the 2016 biopic “The Founder,” in which real-life businessman Harry J. Sonneborn (played by The Office alum B.J. Novak), approaches Michael Keaton’s character Ray Kroc with a business proposition to aid in his attempt to take control over the McDonald’s franchise. It’s a pivotal point in the film, but what really stood out to me about the character’s introduction were the few brief moments in which Sonneborn flashes his corporate business card with the words “Tastee-Freez” emblazoned in golden glossy print.

This quick reveal of Sonneborn’s employer isn’t likely to elicit any strong reaction for most viewers. But as someone who grew up just a couple miles away from one of the last remaining Tastee-Freez locations in the country, my mind was blown seeing this for the first time.



It’s easy to forget that at the height of their popularity, Tastee-Freez had nearly 1,800 locations before business started to decline from there. It is even said that at one point in time, there were several different outposts scattered throughout Alaska, which was then a U.S. territory before its admission as the 49th state in 1959.

Ever since those glory days, the independently owned Jewel Lake Tastee-Freez has remained a blip on the radar, though it’s always maintained an admirable presence in the community by partnering with local schools and nonprofit organizations. As far as personal connections go, there was even a time when my shoddy artwork was displayed on the restaurant’s walls along with the rest of my 4th-grade class from Sand Lake Elementary.

It’s recently been announced that Rich Owens, the previous owner of 28 years, has decided to retire and hand over the keys for his protégé to carry on the business’ legacy. There’s no reason to suspect anything would change drastically in light of the transition, but upon seeing the news and finding myself wading through a flood of fond memories, I decided to revisit this fast-food sanctum last week to see if they have what it takes to make this cranky old curmudgeon feel like a kid again.

Speaking of kids, one prevailing hallmark at this burger joint are the fresh-faced employees running the whole operation—many of whom are presumably working their first jobs. Even so, they manage to run a tight ship here, as even up through this visit, the quality of service has never left anything to be desired despite the steady stream of customers.

The menu, too, has seen very little changes over the years, including the slightly incongruous Mexican food options and a wide selection of frozen treats that very much resemble what you’d find at Dairy Queen. According to the latest iteration of promotional material gracing their windows and front counter, the newest item to hit their expansive menu are Philly Cheesesteaks. Sounds tempting, but my eyes were fixated on a Reuben, which might be one of the greatest sandwiches ever to grace this planet.

I sat and waited patiently after placing my order to hear my ticket number called through the intercom—yet another sign of old-school charm that harkens back to a bygone era. I was joined by a few families in the dining area who, much to my envy, were happily chatting away while devouring stacks of fried treats. Soon enough, I was summoned to collect my own plastic serving tray to partake in the joyous revelry.

The Reuben was fantastic through and through. Nestled in between two buttery slices of rye bread were ten-

der slabs of corned beef, sauerkraut, Swiss cheese, and a pool of Russian dressing. The bread was flecked with flavorful bursts of caraway seed—like beauty marks on a supple gluten frame—which lent a toasty crunch to contrast the potency of all the meat, cheese, and tangy fermented cabbage. In a word? Flawless.

I also ordered a footlong chili cheese dog—because who doesn’t love this classic tube-shaped symbol of Americana? There was no structural integrity to this hulking beast whatsoever, which made me all the more thankful for the fork and knife I was lent to spare my dignity. While I tend to prefer my chili dogs with a flowing nacho cheese sauce to fully embrace this show of excess, this one came with a decent handful of shredded cheese and raw, bracing onions to round out this glorious canal of flavor.

The chili itself was imbued with warm but relatively mild spices and the hot dog was about on par with your average ballpark frank. However, this Japanese super robot of gastronomic indulgence sees a few average ingredients come together to form something much more powerful than the sum of its parts. There’s really nothing else to be said, other than you must live one unhappy life if you don’t see the appeal in these.

I wasn’t about to go without trying some dessert, so with my pants already about to burst, I decided to keep things small by settling for a dipped cone. And what better flavor of coating than the hard-to-find cherry? With its ruby red color and spiral towering precariously high, holding one of these in your hand feels like something special. I will admit—the ice cream component isn’t anything to write home about for lacking much vanilla flavor, but the notes of cherry cola and maraschino cherries in the dense shell made for a marked improvement to this pure moment of bliss.

Nostalgia runs abundantly at this seasoned fast-food eatery. I would go as far as to say it’s the driving force behind their continued success, as it’s manifested in their roster of sweet treats and a roundup of savory staples that are guaranteed to please the whole family. While it’s possible these days to find more fancified takes on burgers and hot dogs elsewhere, keeping it simple is what works in Tastee-Freez’s favor as their honest depictions of cherished classics command a great deal of respect. They may no longer be recognized on a national level, but they always have, and always will be, a symbol for Alaska.

Tastee-Freez is located at 3901 Raspberry Rd and is open Monday — Saturday from 10:30am — 9pm, and Sundays from 11am — 9pm.

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10



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Spenard Joe's
3831 Spenard Road
9am - 3pm
Grab a Joe or 2nd Sat Sip



Organic Oasis
2610 Spenard Rd Suite B
4pm - 7pm
Buy \$100 dollars in gift cards and receive a \$20 gift card for free.



Chilkoot Charlie's
2435 Spenard Rd
2pm - 9 pm
Koot's T-shirts, gift certs, Hot Toddy's



The Writer's Block Bookstore & Cafe
3956 Spenard Rd
4pm - 8pm
Showing of paintings by Amy Holonics. Poetry Slam w/ M.C. Mohagani Magnetek. Music provided by BEAT ROOTS ALASKA.



Refuge City Church



The Nave
3502 Spenard Rd
11:30am - 1pm
Join our Artist in Residence Melissa Shaginoff for a moose hide scraping and Christmas Card making!
7pm - 12 am
Hosted by She, an eclectic gathering of punk and acoustic musical and artistic entrepreneurs providing soundscapes, crafts, and libations to the public! All ages welcome!



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Blue Market AK
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Julie Moraes Artistry
4105 Turnagain Blvd Suite A3
12pm - 4pm
10% Off Merchandise For In Store Purchases (Dixie Belle Paint Items Not included.)



Penny Royalty
1241 W 27th Ave
2pm - 7pm
Eclectic, vintage boutique, a one of a kind treasure chest filled with vintage clothes, antique collectables, glass ware, & locally made art & jewelry.



WILCO SUPPLY
3400 Spenard Rd Suite 218
11:30am - 2pm
20% off select bags & accessories + pop-up featuring Versa Outfitters, Frances & Dean, Arlene Kreations, Girl Scout Troop 436 Lip Balms, and lite bites & sips!



Video Game Depot
2610 Spenard Rd #C
10am - 9pm
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BOSCO's, Inc
2301 Spenard Rd
12pm - 8pm



Alaska Leather
3611 Minnesota Drive
10am - 5pm
Super Saturday Sale - Select Items 30% Off



GrassRoots Fair Trade Store
1317 W Northern Lights Blvd Suite 1
10am - 7pm
Ornament Special! Buy two get one 40% off.



Furnish Studio + Salvage
3600 Arctic Blvd
10am - 4pm
Sustainable Gift Wrapping! Come grab a cup of tea & bring all of your gifts to wrap with our large selection of re-useable gift-wrapping options.



Denali Dreams Soap Co.
2227 Spenard Rd
10:30am - 6pm
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Once Upon a Child
1016 W Northern Lights
9am - 7pm
All holiday apparel 50% off. Name entered for a gift card drawing with \$25 purchase.



Drift Salon
1237 W 27th Ave
6pm - 8pm
Small pop up feat. local artists



Title Wave Books
1360 W Northern Lights Blvd
10am - 6pm
Author signing with local author Barbara Bowers, author of Moose In Plaid Pants!



FisheWear
4011 Arctic Blvd, Suite C
12pm - 6pm
\$10 off all orders over \$100



Rage City Vintage
3400 Spenard Suite 104
12pm - 7pm
Grand opening day! There will be giveaways, live music and mocktails from Spenard Joe's.



Gayla Designs and Spenard Art Studio
2263 Spenard Rd #B
10am - 6pm
20% off coupon for Gift Cards when you go to GaylaDesigns.com & enter your email; receive code & send your gift! Take an encaustic painting class with Gayla at Spenard Art Studio! Gather 3+ of your friends/family to attend & receive 10% off your session!



Sweet Caribou
701 W 36th Ave #A19
10am - 4pm
*Limited edition holiday selection of macarons for \$25
8am-2pm (Bema Cafe)
Peppermint Chocolate Leige Waffles*



Anchorage International Film Festival
1230 W 27th Ave
10am - 10pm
Alaskan shorts! Films worth freezing for.

The Blue Man group comes to Anchorage this week

BY ALEJANDRO BOUZAS

As a part of their North American Tour, Blue Man Group returns to Anchorage to perform seven shows in five days in what promises to be a unique experience that can be enjoyed by the whole family.

Blue Man sprouted out of a collaboration of three close friends, Phil Stanton, Matt Goldman, and Chris Wink, on Manhattan’s Lower East Side in 1987. They first appeared in public for an “end of the 1980s” celebration, where the three wore blue masks and led a small street procession that culminated in the burning of a piece of the Berlin wall and a Rambo doll. The event was then covered by MTV’s Kurt Loder, which aided the group in drawing attention. What would first be seen as creative disturbances slowly became a series of small shows at selected downtown clubs and would eventually grow into the performance that really launched their career at the Astor Place Theatre in 1991.

Since then, Blue Man has performed on hundreds of stages for 30 years. But in 2017, they were purchased and franchised by the successful and acclaimed Canadian entertainment company Cirque du Soleil.

Sonically, the performances are presented with a special sound system that goes beyond traditional systems to offer extremely realistic, ultra-high-definition sound. With the aid of this super immersive way to deliver the sound, the audience’s involvement becomes particularly noticeable.

Their characteristic drumming, offbeat humor, and dazzling creativity never fail to impress, and their performances always feature new music played with their signature custom-made instruments – which have been known to get a little, well, messy. Audience members brave enough to sit in the front rows are often required to wear plastic ponchos to protect their clothes, but you’ll have to buy tickets to find out why.

The Blue Man Group takes over the Atwood Concert Hall (621 West 6th Ave) Wednesday, December 7 — 11, 2022. Tickets start at \$60 at AnchorageConcerts.org.



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Super Crossword

ZERO
CHECKING

LEGALS

ACROSS

- 1 James of "Alien Nation"
5 Lead-in to hazard
8 "My opinion is ..."
13 Tried very hard
19 Tumblers, e.g.
21 Actress Hunt
22 Fatal
23 Start of a riddle
26 Strong metal
27 Vertical line on a graph
28 Attack like an alligator
29 Land north of Mex.
30 — -country (music genre)
32 Peruvian of yore
34 Toronto Maple —
37 Riddle, part 2
44 Wild party
47 Battle (for)
48 See 60-Down
49 Triumphed
50 "Right now!"
51 First class for painters
53 City law: Abbr.
54 Sea predator
56 Actor Mickey
57 Paint crudely

- 58 Riddle, part 3
61 Borgnine of Hollywood
63 Gulf country
64 Sandler of "Spanglish"
65 Refine, as metal
66 What a hot rod may race on
70 Words on an apartment rental sign
74 Strong metal
76 City near Provo
77 Purple
78 Riddle, part 4
85 Composer Satie
86 Apple app for importing video
87 "I suffer so!"
88 Pan coverer
89 Gave for a while
90 Sole servings
91 Buddhism branch
92 Just kills time
94 Two, in Spain
95 Occupied
96 End of the riddle
100 For the — (temporarily)
102 Blow a horn
103 Stephen of "Blackthorn"

- 104 Flower holder
106 Kailua Bay locale
109 Creator of Tom Sawyer
112 Gave a monetary penalty
116 Riddle's answer
121 Nogales nap
122 How figure skaters skate
123 Of financial matters
124 Rich, eggy cakes
125 Entertained lavishly
126 Boxing ref's ruling
127 Court dividers

DOWN

- 1 Cornfield cries
2 Eight, in Berlin
3 Actor Gross of "Ellen"
4 "The negotiation is off!"
5 Severe
6 — -bitty
7 Org. that inspects factories
8 Fighting — (NCAA team)

- 9 Utter failure
10 Sever
11 Competitor of Ben & Jerry's
12 Yard feature
13 Place to ski
14 Vietnamese holiday
15 Road sign no.
16 "Banjo on my knee" song
17 Winery tubs
18 "Frozen" snow queen
20 "— Hollywood Screen Kiss" (1998 film)
24 Be alive
25 Fifty percent
31 Talk show emcee, e.g.
33 Egypt's Sadat
35 Formally abolish
36 Displayed example of a product
37 Gives the slip to
38 Aviation military branch
39 Fix the pitch of again
40 Architect Saarinen
41 Sierra Nevada evergreen

- 42 Blister, e.g.
43 Like Gls peeling potatoes
45 Flower holder
46 Santa's bagful
50 Egg on
52 "Yes, if memory serves"
54 Benefit bagful
55 Chewbacca's companion
59 — -la-la
60 With 48-Across, record of arrests, slangily
62 Put in financial distress
66 Gene-splicing stuff
67 Verifiable
68 No longer practicing: Abbr.
69 Marcos of the Philippines
71 Texas city
72 Poet Wylie or novelist Glyn
73 Double cluck of reproach
75 Some till bills
77 Sweetie
78 LP player of old

- 79 Uganda's Idi
80 Donator of services
81 Old TV clown
82 "Fer —!" ("Like, totally!")
83 Take responsibility for something
84 Easter flower
92 Spot's jingler
93 Tennis player Edberg
96 Fava —
97 Catch sight of
98 Dressed for a ball
99 Serve, as at a restaurant
101 Concluding musical parts
104 "You, over there ..."
105 Dayton locale
107 Horse foot
108 — Reader (eclectic quarterly)
110 "Oh, sure!"
111 Part of a vase
113 Alaska city
114 Revise text
115 "ER" folks
117 Marshall Plan prez
118 Swallowed
119 Big success
120 Overly

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AK Slow Burn, LLC doing business as AK Slow Burn, located at 1551 E. Tudor Road, Anchorage, Alaska 99507 is applying under 3 AAC 306.045 for transfer of a Retail Marijuana Store (3 AAC 306. 300), license #11731 to L&J Ventures, Inc, LLC, doing business as Scorpion Grass. Interested persons may object to the application by submitting a written statement of reasons for the objection to their local government, the applicant, and the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) not later than 30 days after the director has determined the application to be complete and has given written notice to the local government. Once an application is determined to be complete, the objection deadline and a copy of the application will be posted on AMCO's website at <https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco>. Objections should be sent to AMCO at marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov or to 550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600, Anchorage, AK 99501 and Attorney Jana Weltzin, Esq. At jana@jdwcounsel.com or JDW, LLC, 901 Photo Avenue, Second Floor, Anchorage, AK 99503. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 12/08/22, 12/15/22, 12/22/22

Northern Pacific Airways Inc. is making an application for a new Common Carrier-Community AS 04.11.180 liquor license (Including 4 aircrafts: N627NP, N628NP, N629NP, and N630NP) doing business as Northern Pacific Airways located in Alaska Skies. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage, AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 12/08/22, 12/15/22, 12/22/22

Public Notice
United States Air Force Environmental Restoration Program Five-Year Review Eareckson Air Station
 The Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC) Environmental Restoration Program announces the beginning of the Five-Year Review process for Eareckson Air Station (EAS) Shemya, Alaska. A Five-Year Review (FYR) is required by Section 121(c) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) for Sites LF015, LF018, LF024/LF026, LF028, OT048, SS010, SS012, SS023/ST035, SS025, ST009/ST044, ST046, and ST050 because concentrations of hazardous substances or contaminants regulated under CERCLA remain at concentrations above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure (UU/UE). A periodic review is required for non-CERCLA sites and will be performed per Department of Defense policy for Sites FT001, FT002, FT003, SS007, ST039, and ST051 because non-CERCLA contaminants regulated by the State of Alaska are present at concentrations above levels that allow for UU/UE. Bethel Engineering & Consulting is teamed with Stantec Incorporated to conduct the FYR at Eareckson Air Station. The following table lists the sites included in this FYR and a brief description of the selected remedies.

Site	Selected Remedy
FT001	Institutional Controls (ICs) restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater.
FT002	AAM & FTA – ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater and Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA).ADDA – ICs restricting access and use of contaminated sediment and surface water and MNA.
FT003	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater and MNA.
LF015	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater.
LF018	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater.
LF00224/LF6	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater.
LF028	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater as a drinking water source.
OT048	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated ground-water and MNA.
SS007	ICs restricting excavation of contaminated soil until contaminant concentrations decrease. Long term management of surface water and sediment, and MNA of groundwater.
SS001 (Former ST010)	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil, surface water and groundwater, including MNA for surface water and groundwater.
SS012	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil until contaminated soil is excavated and transported offsite for disposal.
SS023/ST035	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil, surface water and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.
SS025	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil, surface water and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.
ST009/ST044	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.
ST039	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil.
ST046	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.
ST005	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil, surface water and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.
ST051	ICs restricting access and use of contaminated soil surface water and groundwater, including MNA for groundwater.

This process will be complete in May 2023 and will document whether the remedies implemented in the Records of Decision (for CERCLA Sites) and Decision Documents (for non-CERCLA sites) remain protective of human health and the environment. This is a combination of 2nd, 3rd and 4th FYRs as well as 2nd and 3rd Periodic Reviews for the sites listed above. Detailed information concerning cleanup efforts are available electronically on the Air Force Administrative Record at: <https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/>. The Air Force recognizes the importance of public participation in the AFCEC Environmental Restoration Program and encourages your involvement. If you have any issues or concerns about the EAS Cleanup Program or if you have direct knowledge regarding the remedies, the Air Force would like to hear from you. Verbal and written comments to be included in the five-year review may be provided to Ms. Jennifer Wehrmann, AFCEC's Remedial Project Manager for EAS, by mail at: 10471 20th Street, Suite 343, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK 99506-2201 or, by email at: jennifer.wehrmann@us.af.mil or, by phone at: (907) 552-9765.

The Air Force requests that comments for the Five-Year Review be provided by January 8, 2023. Anchorage Press Publish Dates 12/08/22

Super Crossword

Answers

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Fake family



ASK OSKAR
 BY OSKAR SAVILLE

what had happened, but because of my sometimes shy nature, I said nothing and continued on. It just so happened that at the same time, I was being led towards a youth group. Honestly, if everything had been going well with my school friends, I would have never gone to my first youth group meeting. As it turned out, that group gave me experiences and joy that were beyond my wildest dreams: I met people from all over the country, I was guided into leadership roles, and I had a ball going to lots of events.

Back at school, I made some other friends but mostly I kept my focus on getting my work done and the fun I was having in the youth group. About six months later, one of the former friends who had cut me out called me to apologize. She told me she was sorry she had believed a lie that was told about me. I never asked what that lie was. I knew whatever it was had nothing to do with me, but rather with the person who said it. Within weeks, suddenly everything was back to the way it was—except I was much more confident. By then, I knew that there was a life beyond my high school and the people there. I had learned an important lesson: My time and my life were important, and I had a choice of who I allowed into my world.

I tell you this to encourage you to find something else to occupy your world now, rather than the drama that is going on with your sister-in-law. She sounds toxic, and people in their toxicity are not able to hear reason, nor be kind to others. As you find more spaces and people that appreciate you, your life will become more enriched and more joyful. From that place, I think you will be able to see that although you may have wished things were different, it is better to be away from the people who don’t treat you well.

When you must speak to or be around your mother or brother, try to keep things light. If you’re able to, you can send prayers of love towards them and your sister-in-law. I prayer of hope for the highest outcome for all involved can sometimes create miracles that we never even thought of. In this way, you’ll help yourself as well as everyone else without creating stress for yourself.

I wish you the very best with all of this. Be kind and gentle with yourself during this process. This is not an easy journey to go through, but it’s one in which I hope you will find out how beautiful you are. You deserve to be loved and supported.

Presence, from page A5

Kirk received twenty-three stitches just to the bridge of his nose and more under his injured eye. He said the teenagers walked off toward East High School, but Kirk was able to provide descriptions to the police.

Fortunately, as with the attack by Ray Rice upon Alexi Kaptanian, the ogre was identified and arrested. According to the Alaska Dispatch News, Anita Shell, a spokesperson for APD, said the police coordinated investigative efforts with East High School resource officers, found video footage of the teens skipping school that day, matched their clothing and descriptions, and noted their inconsistent stories. The fifteen-year-old assailant was lodged in McLaughlin Youth Center.

Surely, I cannot be the only one who thinks it is more than coincidental that all these incidents occurred in a single stretch of trail not much more than a mile long. I do not believe I have overstated my case. There is the nearby Sullivan Arena that attracts large crowds—some on foot. There are a couple of housing developments nearby too, and East High School a short distance to the east of the area that might be considered a source of trouble. But there are also nice subdivisions in the vicinity, ball parks, and a portion of the wooded area of the University of Alaska Anchorage campus, as well as Goose Lake.

I am absolutely convinced there is some sort of evil presence in the area. Whether you agree with me or not, be vigilant if you ever find yourself alone on that stretch of trail. Better yet, take my advice and just avoid it altogether.

Of course these incidents beg the questions, “What is going on in our community?” “What is it that would cause preteen children to wantonly, physically attack strangers, with such avidity?

One sunny summer day a few years ago I left my home in Spenard and as I crossed the street to the parking lot where I park my truck, a pint-sized thug no more than four feet tall or ten years old walked up to me and said, “Go home old man.”

Dagnabit! is a 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.



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ARIES: Aries filmmaker Andrei Tarkovsky wrote, “To be free, you simply have to be so, without asking permission. You must have your own hypothesis about what you are called to do, and follow it, not giving in to circumstances or complying with them. But that sort of freedom demands powerful inner resources, a high degree of self-awareness, and a consciousness of your responsibility to yourself and therefore to other people.” That last element is where some freedom-seekers falter. They neglect their obligation to care for and serve their fellow humans. I want to make sure you don’t do that, Aries, as you launch a new phase of your liberation process. Authentic freedom is conscientious.

TAURUS: The term “neurodiversity” refers to the fact that the human brain functions in a wide variety of ways. There are not just a few versions of mental health and learning styles that are better than all the others. Taurus musician David Byrne believes he is neurodiverse because he is on the autism spectrum. That’s an advantage, he feels, giving him the power to focus with extra intensity on his creative pursuits. I consider myself neurodiverse because my life in the imaginal realm is just as important to me as my life in the material world. I suspect that most of us are neurodiverse in some sense—deviating from “normal” mental functioning.

GEMINI: Poet Jane Hirshfield says that Zen Buddhism is built on three principles: 1. Everything changes. 2. Everything is connected. 3. Pay attention. Even if you are not a Zen practitioner, Gemini, I hope you will focus on the last two precepts in the coming weeks. If I had to summarize the formula that will bring you the most interesting experiences and feelings, it would be, “Pay attention to how everything is connected.” I hope you will intensify your intention to see how all the apparent fragments are interwoven. Here’s my secret agenda: I think it will help you register the truth that your life has a higher purpose than you’re usually aware of—and that the whole world is conspiring to help you fulfill that purpose.

CANCERIAN: Author Flannery O’Connor wrote, “You have to cherish the world at the same time that you struggle to endure it.” I will add a further thought: “You have to cherish the world at the same time that you struggle to endure it and strive to transform it into a better place.” Let’s make this one of your inspirational meditations in the coming months, Cancerian. I suspect you will have more power than usual to transform the world into a better place. Get started! (PS: Doing so will enhance your ability to endure and cherish.)

LEO: Many sports journalists will tell you that while they may root for their favorite teams, they also “root for the story.” They want a compelling tale to tell. They yearn for dramatic plot twists that reveal entertaining details about interesting characters performing unique feats. That’s how I’m going to be in the coming months Leo, at least in relation to you. I hope to see you engaged in epic sagas, creating yourself with verve as you weave your way through fun challenges and intriguing adventures. I predict my hope will be realized.

VIRGO: Venus is too hot and dry for humans to live on. But if travelers from Earth could figure out a way to feel comfortable there, they would enjoy a marvelous perk. The planet rotates very slowly. One complete day and night lasts for 243 Earth days and nights. That means you and a special friend could take a romantic stroll toward the sunset for as long as you wanted, and never see the sun go down. I invite you to dream up equally lyrical adventures in togetherness here on Earth during the coming months, Virgo. Your intimate alliances will thrive as you get imaginative and creative about nurturing togetherness.

LIBRA: As far as I’m concerned, Libran Buddhist monk and author Thích Nhất Hạnh was one of the finest humans who ever lived. “Where do you seek the spiritual?” he asked. His answer: “You seek the spiritual in every ordinary thing that you do every day. Sweeping the floor, watering the vegetables, and washing the dishes become sacred if mindfulness is there.” In the coming weeks, Libra, you will have exceptional power to live like this: to regard every event, however mundane or routine, as an opportunity to express your soulful love and gratitude for the privilege of being alive. Act as if the whole world is your precious sanctuary.

SCORPIO: A reader named Elisa Jean tells me, “We Scorpio allies admire how Scorpions can be so solicitous and welcoming: the best party hosts. They know how to foster social situations that bring out the best in everyone and provide convivial entertainment. Yet Scorpions also know everyone’s secrets. They are connoisseurs of the skeletons in the closets. So they have the power to spawn discordant commotions and wreak havoc on people’s reputations. But they rarely do. Instead, they keep the secrets. They use their covert knowledge to weave deep connections.” Everything Ella Jean described will be your specialties in the coming weeks, Scorpio.

SAGITTARIUS: Many of you enjoy the need to move around from place to place. Doing so may be crucial in satisfying your quest for ever-fresh knowledge and stimulation. You understand that it’s risky to get too fixed in your habits and too dogmatic in your beliefs. So you feel an imperative to keep disrupting routines before they become deadening. When you are successful in this endeavor, it’s often due to a special talent you have: your capacity for creating an inner sense of home that enables you to feel stable and grounded as you ramble free. I believe this superpower will be extra strong during the coming months.

CAPRICORN: Capricorn author Edgar Allan Poe made this mysterious statement: “We can, at any time, double the true beauty of an actual landscape by half closing our eyes as we look at it.” What did he mean? He was referring to how crucial it is to see life “through the veil of the soul.” Merely using our physical vision gives us only half the story. To be receptive to the full glory of the world, our deepest self must also participate in the vision.

AQUARIUS: Aquarian theologian Henri Nouwen wrote, “I have discovered that the gifts of life are often hidden in the places that hurt most.” Yikes! Really? I don’t like that idea. But I will say this: If Nouwen’s theory has a grain of truth, you will capitalize on that fact in the coming weeks. Amazingly enough, a wound or pain you experienced in the past could reveal a redemptive possibility that inspires and heals you.

PISCES : Piscean novelist Viet Thanh Nguyen says it’s wise to talk to yourself. No other conversational partner is more fascinating. No one else listens as well. I offer you his advice in the hope of encouraging you to upgrade the intensity and frequency of your dialogs with yourself. It’s an excellent astrological time to go deeper with the questions you pose and to be braver in formulating your responses. Make the coming weeks be the time when you find out much more about what you truly think and feel.



DAN SAVAGE’S SAVAGE LOVE

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

I recently split from a committed, monogamous, extremely long-term relationship. I’m now exploring the dating scene as someone who has never dated online prior to this year. I’m a woman with kids, and I’m not looking for another parent. I want to keep things casual. I haven’t had any boyfriends yet, just a couple of regular dicks. I keep getting pissed at my regular dicks for making me feel like I’m not the most important thing in their lives, which is kind of the whole point of keeping things casual. Do you have any slutting advice?

- Divorced And Meeting People

Do I have any slutting advice? Oh, honey. There’s 30 years’ worth of advice for sluts in the archives of Savage Love and the Savage Lovecast. But here’s a little slutty advice just for you...

Casual relationships are still relationships, DAMP. So, even if you’re not the most important thing in the life of some man whose dick you’re sitting on regularly—and you know it and you’re keeping your expectations and demands in check—you shouldn’t be made to feel like the least important thing in his life either. If a guy can’t be considerate, if he can’t be respectful (of your time) and grateful (for your pussy), stop sitting on that dick. Even if the dick is spectacular, DAMP, go find another seat. Because being kind to a sex partner—casual or committed, regular or irregular—is a very low bar, DAMP, and you shouldn’t put up with men who can’t be bothered to clear it.

That said, DAMP, sometimes a person needs a nudge. Some people worry a casual sex partner will mistake kindness for romantic interest and are performatively inconsiderate to avoid confusion (instead of using their words); others have actually had casual sex partners mistake kindness for romantic interest and are overcorrecting (instead of using their words). So, if one of your regular dicks is being ungrateful or unkind, use your words. Make it clear to him that you wanna keep things casual but that you expect to be treated with kindness and consideration. Good (or good enough) guys will show you more consideration going forward, DAMP, and guys who aren’t good (or aren’t good enough) will show you their asses—they’ll make no effort to be more considerate—and you shouldn’t put up with (or sit down on) those dicks.

Finally, DAMP, while kindness and consideration are perfectly reasonable expectations where casual sex partners are concerned, endless conversations to process your feelings are not. So, I would advise you to confide in a trusted friend or two about your frustrations before you confront one of your regular dicks about something that’s bothering you. Are you pissed about something that you, as a casual sex partner, have a right to be pissed about? Or are you pissed about something that you don’t have a right to be pissed about? If he’s flaking on you at the last minute or treating you like a cum dump (no small talk, no aftercare), you have a right to be pissed. Those are things you can confront a dick about. If he hasn’t been able to see you for a while because he’s busy (one of the top reasons people seek casual sex partners) or if he ended things because you wanted to keep things casual and he wanted something serious, you don’t have a right to be pissed about that. Those are things you vent to a friend about.

P.S. Get tested regularly, insist on condoms, make sure these dicks know your kids are your first priority, make sure kids are your first priority, don’t take it personally when a casual sex partner moves on, be the kind of casual sex partner you want to see in the world (be kind and considerate yourself), and when you’re ready for a relationship again, DAMP, don’t rule out guys you’ve been seeing casually.

--

I don’t know if you’re watching the second season of The White Lotus, Dan, but you’ll get this reference if you are: I’m a married straight woman who recently got herself a personal trainer. My husband cheated on me on and off for the first decade of our marriage. He agreed to see a marriage counselor with me, and he pretended that the cheating was tied to a deep-seated psychological issue. He may have believed that. Our counselor certainly believed it, and for a while I did too. But the cheating never stopped. It’s been a few years since I’ve had sex with him, but I don’t want to leave him because we have kids, and our relationship is actually pretty loving and low conflict now that we’re not fighting about cheating. (It also helps that I don’t have to worry about getting gonorrhea from him ever again.) The kids need me less these days, so I got a personal trainer about a year ago. I don’t feel guilty or bad about it. But I somehow feel both guilty and bad for not feeling guilty or bad. What is that about?

- Abundant Personal Training

First and most importantly, APT, of course I’m watching the second season of The White Lotus. Mike White is a genius, I can’t wait for the finale, but I never want it to end. (Here’s hoping Cameron and Ethan at least make out before one or both or neither of them dies.) Moving on...

You shouldn’t feel bad about seeking sex elsewhere—excuse me, for seeking personal training elsewhere—but you already know that. And if you’re feeling bad about not feeling bad... well, that’s most likely because sessions with your personal trainer aren’t just about personal training. They’re about that, of course, but they’re also about your marriage. Your marriage isn’t what you expected it would be, APT, and now you aren’t someone you expected to be—you know, the kind of woman who has a personal trainer. So, I don’t think you’re feeling guilty and bad for not feeling guilty or bad. I think you’re feeling grief (for what your marriage was supposed to be) and relief (at making peace with your marriage as it is). Enjoy those sessions, APT, you’ve earned them.

Crude Republican attack on Sen. David Wilson reflects a sickness in the Alaska GOP

BY DERMOT COLE

Sen. David Wilson is a conservative legislator from Wasilla. Now he is under attack from the Republican Party in Wasilla for joining the 17-member majority coalition of eight Republicans and nine Democrats that will lead the Alaska Senate in January.

In a crude and tasteless diatribe, the party “leaders” of Wasilla called on him to resign his position from the Legislature by Friday at 5 p.m. or else. He “betrayed the voters” of his district, according to 10 GOP Mensa members. For some reason, he paid no attention to this nonsense.

Wilson has learned on the job in Juneau and become a far better legislator than he was at the start of his career. That’s how things are supposed to work. He and the seven other Republicans in the Senate who joined the majority will have the ability to get things done for the state.

That the extremists in the GOP machinery find him despicable proves that he is doing something right for Alaskans.

Elijah Verhagen, the right-wing candidate who lost a state Senate race to Sen. Click Bishop, tried Saturday to introduce a resolution denouncing the eight GOP senators at a state central committee meeting, but says the chair “steamrolled” him and he couldn’t. His resolution said the eight senators “must” pay back whatever money they got from the GOP if they don’t obey the party people.

One of the benefits of ranked choice voting is that the power of extremists to wield power over other Alaskans has been greatly reduced. Some in the Alaska Republican Party don’t know it yet, happily censuring their way to oblivion.

According to the Republican Party blog, the party “leaders” want to stop censuring elected officials until the next election in two years.

And now that Sen. Lisa Murkowski has won a new term, the brightest bulbs in the Alaska GOP are down on their knees, begging Murkowski for forgiveness.

They have revoked the fatwa.

It’s a task worthy of the Four Seasons Total Landscaping braintrust.

The Republican Grand Poohbahs claim they didn’t mean it when they censured Murkowski for refusing to bow down to Donald Trump. They didn’t mean it when they condemned her for linking Trump to the Jan. 6 insurrection.

They didn’t mean it when they said the “party hereby separates itself from Senator Murkowski’s conviction vote of President Trump.”

They didn’t mean it when they created a Republican Purity Committee that would purge Murkowski and others, such as soon-to-be-Sen. Kelly Merrick, for being disloyal. They wanted to prevent Murkowski from ever running as a Republican for anything.

(The 17-member Republican Purity Committee, officially the “Membership Committee” was to be headed by National Committeewoman Cynthia Henry and the



National Committeeman, now Craig Campbell. They wanted to prohibit Murkowski from calling herself a Republican on the ballot, which they couldn’t do because the law allows a candidate to make that decision. The Purity Committee still exists, in name only.

The GOP politburo say they didn’t mean it when they refused to list Murkowski as a Republican candidate on their website, saying they only recognized Kelly Tshibaka and Buzz Kelley.

Murkowski had been erased from the record. The GOP website still refuses to list Murkowski as someone who ran in 2022.

Tshibaka, the chosen candidate, marked the one-year anniversary of the Republican expulsion of Murkowski last spring by saying it happened because of “a years-long pattern of consistently contradicting Alaska values and the things that Alaskans support.”

Now the GOP leaders claim they were just kidding. They have lifted their condemnation. Murkowski has been rehabilitated. She is welcome at Trump’s party.

Why? Murkowski won. Nothing else matters. The “principles” that led to her banishment have been exposed once more as fraud. Something similar happened in 2010 after Murkowski beat Joe Miller by a write-in campaign.

Had Tshibaka won, they would have continued to say Murkowski Who?

Now they say they didn’t mean it when they condemned Sen. Mitch McConnell for his “inappropriate endorsement of censured Senator Murkowski.”

The obsequious Alaska Republican Apology Tour, which will run for six years, has begun.

Alaska will recount seven-vote margin in state House race, plus a close Senate finish

BY JAMES BROOKS
ALASKA BEACON

The Alaska Division of Elections will recount two close finishes from the November general election beginning Wednesday in Juneau.

Denny Wells, the Democratic candidate for House District 15 in Anchorage, requested a recount of his seven-vote loss to Republican incumbent Rep. Tom McKay. Similarly, Roselynn Cacy, the Democratic candidate for Senate District E in South Anchorage, also requested a recount of her ranked choice loss to Republicans Roger Holland and Cathy Giessel.

The recount of the Cacy-Holland-Giessel race will take place Wednesday, and the Wells-McKay recount will take place Thursday.

Cacy finished 31 first-choice votes behind Holland and was the first candidate eliminated in the ranked-choice election. After write-in voters’ ballots were redistributed, Cacy was 14 votes behind Holland.

State-paid recounts are available for candidates who finish within 0.5% of each other, and Division of Elections Director Gail Fenumiai has said that the law also applies to the margins between second-place and third-place finishers in the state’s new ranked-choice system.

Cacy said by email that she wanted to resolve any uncertainty.

“Although I have congratulated Senator Giessel and do not want to do anything to stop the Senate from moving forward with its leadership and committee assignments, I have questions about the 14-vote difference between Senator Holland and myself,” Cacy said.

Wells, who has a straightforward head-to-head election, said in a prepared statement that given the close margin in his race, “even if our ballot counting process is 99.9% accurate, this vote count margin is still within the margin of error.”

In both cases, the recount procedure has election workers in Juneau feed in-person, absentee, and early ballots through a scanner. One precinct will be randomly chosen for a hand count, absentee and questioned ballots will be reviewed, and then the state will recalculate the ranked-choice result.



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

Anchorage International Film Festival

Friday, December 9, 2022

Ancient moose antlers hint of early arrival

BY NED ROZELL

When a great deal of Earth's water was locked up with-in mountains of ice, our ancestors scampered across a dry corridor from what is today Siberia over to Alaska. Those adventurous souls may have been accompanied by another creature that needed wood — the moose.

That is the notion of Pam Groves, a scientist who recreates ancient landscapes at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She recently wrote a paper on moose occupation of Alaska's North Slope based on ancient moose antlers and bones she has found during decades of floating northern waterways. Dan Mann and Mike Kunz co-authored the paper.

The North Slope is the top third of Alaska, spreading north of the Brooks Range to the Arctic Ocean. Mostly coated with tundra plants, the North Slope is a few hundred miles north of the ideal moose habitat of the boreal forest, which stretches in a wide belt from western Alaska to eastern Canada.

The North Slope offers a marginal place for a moose because far fewer willow shrubs grow there than in the boreal forest.

And willows are everything to moose; they are fast-growing whips of protein and nutrients that clog river valleys of the boreal forest, and, to a lesser extent, the North Slope. A biologist once estimated a moose needs to eat enough frozen willow buds to fill a garbage bag to survive each winter day.

Far-northern places have hosted willows for some time. In her recent paper, Groves wrote of the Valley of the Willows near a now-abandoned village site on the Ikpikpuk River. U.S. Navy explorer W.L. Howard in 1886 wrote of brush there "as large as my wrist."

"The Indigenous people with whom Howard travelled routinely camped in the Valley of the Willows probably because it was sheltered from the wind and possessed abundant firewood," Groves wrote.

Groves said moose food might have existed in places like Valley of the Willows for many thousands of years.

For hard evidence of moose in that hungry country, she and UAF's Dan Mann have collected moose bones and antlers with permits and support from officials with the Bureau of Land Management. They have picked up the bones while floating northward-flowing rivers each year for the past few decades. Spring snowmelt swells the easy-moving rivers to the point where they erode frozen bones from riverbanks.

Moose bones and antlers have made up just 2% of the 5,000 hardened remains of mostly extinct ice-age creatures Groves and Mann have collected over the years. The most numerous bones belong to horses that once grazed the northern grasslands. In 2012, they found an almost complete steppe bison thawing from a riverbank. It had last breathed air 43,500 years ago.

A moose antler Groves found on the North Slope is 14,000 years old, which coincides with the big-time melting that signaled the end of the last ice age. That is



A 14,000-year-old fragment of a moose antler, top left, rests on a sand bar of a northern river next to the bones of ice-age horses, caribou and muskoxen, as well as the horns of a steppe bison. Photo by Pam Groves.

also about when people appeared on the North American continent via Alaska.

She and Mann have found 80 other moose bones and antlers. Radiocarbon dates on 34 of them show they are hundreds or thousands of years old. Groves believes this shows that moose have been on the North Slope in small numbers and within boom-and-bust populations for a very long time.

"There have been proposals (from other scientists) that moose are recent invaders of the North Slope due to climate warming and expanding willow growth," she said. "Our dates on North Slope moose bones suggested that

moose have always inhabited the North Slope since they arrived here."

There are about 2 million moose alive on Earth today. Scientists think that after originating in Eurasia and trotting across the Bering Land Bridge, moose wandered east and south when the colossal ice sheets melted back to expose new river valleys rich with willows.

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.



Molly Yazwinski holds a 3,000-year-old moose skull with antlers still attached, found in a river on Alaska's North Slope. Her aunt, Pam Groves, steadies an inflatable canoe. Photo by Dan Mann.

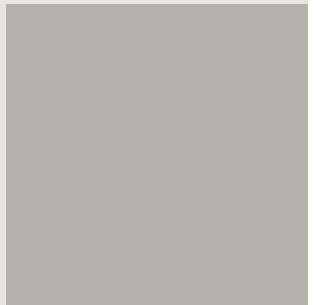


Moose such as this one, photographed this year near Whitehorse in the Yukon, may have been present in Alaska as long as people have. Photo by Ned Rozell.



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CANNAGUIDE

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Snoop Dogg's top blunt roller is a woman

BY AMELIA WILLIAMS
FOR LEAFLY

When you smoke as much weed as Snoop Dogg, it makes sense to outsource the labor of rolling to a designated professional. In fact, Snoop told Howard Stern in 2019 that he employs a full-time, salaried blunt and joint roller to help satiate his appetite for a steady stream of microwaved blunts and joints each day. He's even adjusted the salary for inflation.

That mystery roller officially revealed herself as Renegade Piranha, per an interview with the Australian podcast The Kyle and Jackie O Show a couple of weeks ago and a conversation with Yarmacrazy on his podcast The Review with Yarma & Friends earlier this year. Besides rolling for Snoop and an A-List roster of celebrities, she's also created a "Blunt Bar" business to supply high-end events with carefully-crafted smokables, including parties for Diddy and for Viola's founder, Al Harrington.

How to get hired rolling blunts for Snoop

Piranha told Kyle and Jackie that she got the gig in 2016 through a mutual friend who was growing with Snoop's cannabis soil company, Snoop's Premium Nutrients. They wanted to gift Snoop weed grown with his product, rolled and ready to puff.

In order to enter Snoop's inner circle, she had to show her stuff in a roll-off with two other contenders, including a sound engineer who came at Snoop's recommendation.

"I smoked 'em, to say the least," she told Yarma in May. "So from that day forward, I was the premiere blunt roller of the planet. Blunt roller to the stars."

450,000 joints and counting

She estimates she's rolled nearly half a million joints thus far for her various A-list clients.

This week, some outlets sensationalized and misreported her soundbites, making it seem like Snoop was smoking all of those joints by himself. The Dogg himself responded to one of these clout-chasing headlines in a disappointingly misogynistic Instagram post, that said, "the bitch is conning u man [sic]." Snoop also wrote to Piranha, "Stop lying...what am I, a fucking machine?"

Piranha told TMZ this week that she doesn't speak to Snoop regularly, and she feels terrible that the misrepresented quote spread like wildfire. She called the whole thing a huge disservice to both her and Snoop, blaming the media outlets who ran with the story for clicks.

Online drama aside, the gig sounds like a dream, right? Despite the celebrity access and VIP rooms she finds herself in, Piranha insists it's still work, and shouldn't be discounted. She's also a rapper and singer, and as an Iranian-American woman, recognizes how lucky she is to be able to do what she loves freely.

"It's very professional, it's professional blunt rolling. Product is brought in; it's done

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in a very sanitized, clean way, and it’s delivered. It’s not, like, hanging out with people,” she told Yarma. And no, she doesn’t spit on her blunts.

While I’m not at all surprised that a woman won Snoop’s trust to guide his daily cannabis activities, some men just can’t give her the props she’s earned, and I’m disheartened by Snoop’s quickness to believe she’s making things up for clout. In a recent interview with No Jumper (barf) host Nick “Lush” Hyams had the audacity to undermine her talent and disrespect her autonomy.

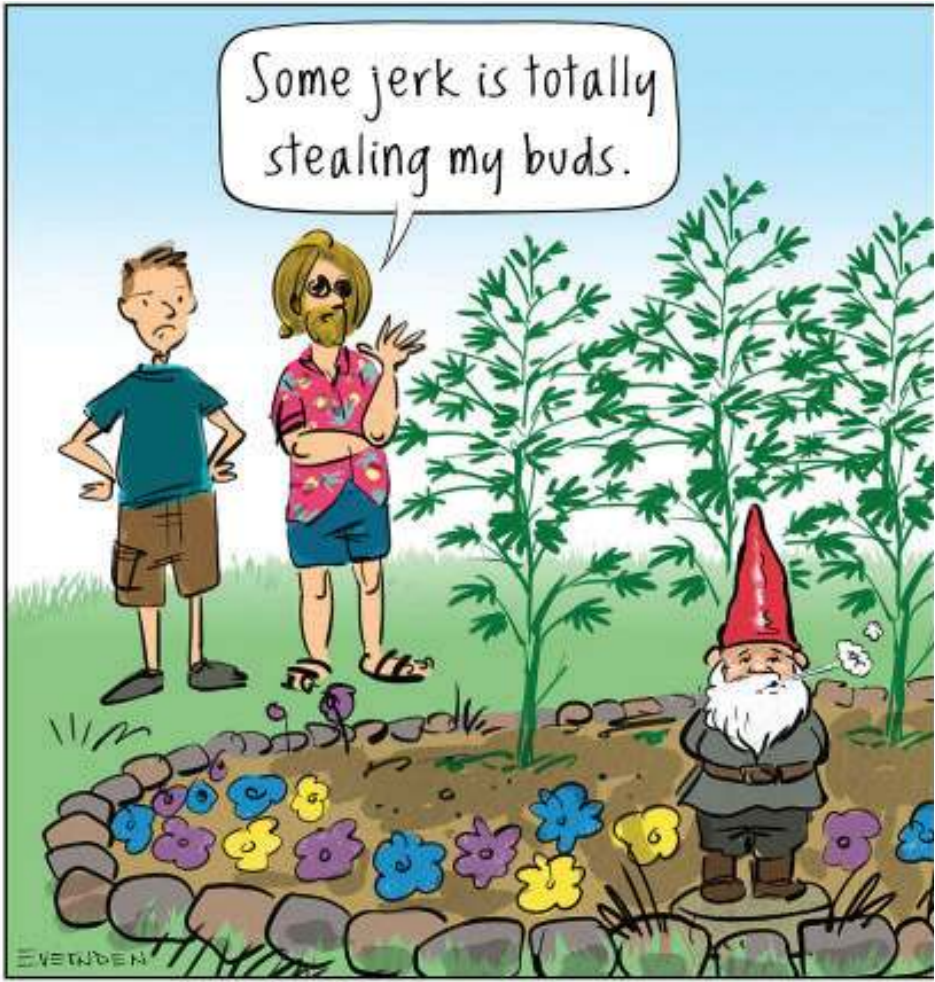
“You ain’t got handles, you can’t roll,” he says not even two minutes into their interview. “If she say she raps, she wraps her mouth around this,” he continued, referring to his crotch.

Rising above misogyny in the marijuana game

Piranha was quick to shut her ignorant interviewer down, even dissing him in an impromptu freestyle and stating that “I got rings, on, I’ll leave marks on you.” It was all jokes, according to the podcast hosts, but I’m frankly over men wielding blatant misogyny and calling it comedy, or ribbing.

The cannabis industry, like any other, often discounts women. A new report from MJBiz on diversity showed stagnant growth for minority executives in cannabis, both for women, and racial minorities. As a member of both groups, Piranha likely brushes off similar micro-aggressions constantly. With many prominent cannabis brands subscribing to a boys-only, or “good ole boys” mentality, Piranha’s self-made dream is truly incredible.

To be able to monetize a skill and create a platform as an immigrant woman is no small achievement. While I much prefer the interviews she’s done with respectful hosts, she did leave the boys at No Jumper with some dank smoke for thought.



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