

THE SKAGWAY NEWS.

October 23, 2020

Skagway, Alaska

\$1.50

STC Business Grants

Deadline Oct. 31. **PAGE 4**

Ballot Measure One

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Writing Contest

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Police chief out, details sparse

By Melinda Munson

Despite no formal announcement from the Municipality of Skagway, most of the town knew by Tuesday evening that Ray Leggett, chief of police for 16 years, had resigned earlier that day.

“He’s no longer employed with the municipality,” said Borough Manager Brad Ryan on Thursday. Ryan gave no further information, citing personnel privacy concerns.

Leggett said he was asked by the municipality to resign but did not wish to comment further.

With Leggett gone, Ryan will act as the administrative chief, overseeing budget issues and schedules for the 10-person police staff. Ryan said he felt confident the police station could continue to function.

“We’ve got a pretty good number of staff over there, it’s a slow time of year,” Ryan said.

The Assembly of the Whole Committee is scheduled to meet Oct. 27, 28 and 29 at 5:30 p.m. in assembly chambers to review the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget.

“That’s my focus for the next week,” Ryan said.

After the budget meetings, if instructed by the assembly, Ryan said he will update the police chief description and advertise for a new chief.

Leggett, the pastor for Life Link Fellowship Church, has lived in Skagway since 2004. The Alaska Police Standards Council (APSC) revoked Leggett’s police certification in 2017 over allegations that he interfered in a 2012 Haines

see page four



Photo by Melinda Munson

Skagway City School students head home after Skagway’s first COVID-19 case triggers the Emergency Operation Plan.

Autumn brings Skagway’s first COVID-19 cases

By Gretchen Wehmhoff

Last week Skagway was among three counties or boroughs in the United States who had zero COVID-19 cases. That was last week.

Since then, nine cases have been identified by Dahl Memorial Clinic (DMC) and Skagway is starting its second seven-day shelter-in-place in two weeks.

After the first case was announced Thursday, Oct. 15, the Skagway Emergency Operations Center (EOC) initiated its response protocol. Skagway started an immediate shelter-in-place for seven days.

Parents’ phones started ringing. School was abruptly dismissed and children headed out the door; their backpacks filled with textbooks,

gym shoes and laptops.

Facebook sites filled with posts announcing temporary business closures and new shelter-in-place hours for curbside pickup or delivery.

First Presbyterian Church pastor, Ryan Mandeville, took to Facebook to advise his congregation that services would be live streaming. St. Therese announced their church would be closed for the next two weeks. Skagway was hunkering down.

On Friday, a second case was reported, on Saturday a third. Skagway Hardware announced on Facebook that an employee has tested positive and they would close temporarily, citing community safety.

“Our employees will be getting tested and we will re-

open after we receive some negative results,” said Jason O’Daniel.

Later that day, DMC reported it had received permission from the third positive coronavirus case to release his name.

Mike O’Daniel from Skagway Hardware decided to share his identity in an effort to assist in contract tracing.

“I feel great. Never did feel bad,” he said.

O’Daniel was asymptomatic and had no idea he had been infected. After the test, he agreed to go public since he had been back to work for a week.

“I just felt I owed it to the friends and customers. The faster you can get it done, the faster you can get a perimeter set up around it,” he said.

O’Daniel says he thought about the people he had been around who tested positive and others who didn’t.

“It seems to hit and miss,” he said.

O’Daniel said he went to the Skagway Traditional Council/SEARHC testing and received a negative result before he headed to Anchorage to help his son. He tested negative again when he returned. That was two weeks before his positive test on Oct. 16.

The hardware store reported that the rest of their employees all tested negative and the store reopened for curbside delivery on Tuesday. Masks are now mandated. They weren’t required by the store before the outbreak.

On Saturday, two more

see page ten

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Phone: (907) 983-2354
www.skagwaynews.com

editor@skagwaynews.com
sales@skagwaynews.com

Publishers
Melinda Munson
Gretchen Wehmhoff

Managing Editor
Melinda Munson

Production Editor/Sales
Gretchen Wehmhoff

Contributors
Kari Rain

Circulation Assistants
Chris Kuhn, Danielle Authier

Editor Emeritus
William J. "Jeff" Brady

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Skagway food insecurity solutions - Skagwegians have options

Before the pandemic hit the world and Skagway, food insecurity was already an issue. Food insecurity describes a household's inability to provide enough food for every person to live an active, healthy life. Thirty four million Americans dealt with it in 2019. In a typical year, the Skagway Food Bank provided funds nine to 12 times a year. With the pandemic, 53 million Americans are dealing with food insecurity. As of this writing, we have had 56 requests for food assistance this year in Skagway.

Thankfully, many people had the foresight to see this issue coming and took steps to address it. For a few decades, the Community Cares Committee, made up of leaders from Presbyterian, Assembly of God, Catholic, The Church of Jesus Christ of latter-day Saints and Life-Link Fellowship have administered the food bank to help those who faced unexpected hard times. Our account usually held between \$1,000 and \$5,000 each year from church donations and from members of the community and groups. With the lack of cruise ships coming, White Pass headed up a community fundraiser, knowing food was going to be an issue. With your generosity, encouraged by a matching grant, we brought in \$5,365 at the end of that day. Community members have continued to give to the account as they were able. The municipality had us on their original proposal for CARES money and have given \$125,000 so far to our efforts.

All of this to say, there is no reason that you should be experiencing food insecurity. There are ways to take that extra

stressor and trauma out of this season of life. You just need to contact one of the members and we will arrange for you to have credit at the Fairway Market: \$200 for an individual or \$400 for 2 or more people that is expected to last at least two weeks.

There is also the food exchange at the Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall (Green Building, 5th and Main), where non-perishable food is on the shelves and a refrigerator and freezer (donated by the Elks through a grant they received), can keep your extra garden vegetables or soup that you made too much of available to others. The Skagway Traditional Council partners with the USDA to bring Farm to Family Food Boxes to Skagway. Contact them at info@skagwaytraditional.org if you would be interested in their help as well. Plus, there are always food stamps from the state. If you need help with any of these things, please do not hesitate to call. We want to help each other make it to May 2021! We do this by loving our neighbor as ourselves.

Blessings,
Ryan Mandeville: 973-2042
rmandevi@gmail.com
Ginny Cochran: 612-0313
grandmaginny309@yahoo.com
Paul Taylor: 347-2683
Tim Steidel: 983-3163
Karla Ray: 612- 0901
Ray Leggett: 612-0332

Former judges urge Southeast Alaskans to finish the ballot

In an election that many Alaskans are calling "the most important of our lifetimes," with the presidency and control of the U.S. Senate on the line, as well as control of the Alaska House and possibly even the Alaska Senate, and ballot propositions that will determine whether Alaska's oil tax regime and our election laws will be changed, it is tempting to take a pass on the last part of the ballot --- the part dealing with retention of judges. Don't do it. Finish the ballot.

Alaska's judicial selection and retention system is the best in the world. It focuses on finding the best qualified candidates for the governor to choose from, then gives the voters the last say, by requiring every judge within three years of appointment to go before the voters to determine

if the judge will be retained. And the voters don't have to vote blind, because the Judicial Council -- a citizen body created by the Alaska Constitution -- gathers an immense amount of information about the judge's performance and makes it available to the electorate before the election.

Just who makes up the Judicial Council? Six volunteer citizens, three appointed by the governor and confirmed by the legislature, and three attorneys appointed by the Board of Governors of the Alaska Bar Association. The current council is made up of a retired Anchorage police officer who capped his career as spokesperson for the Anchorage Police Department, a neonatal intensive care unit nurse from Anchorage, the president of Kawerak, Inc. who sits on the board of the

Alaska Federation of Natives and the Denali Commission and attorneys from Sitka, Anchorage and Fairbanks. The chair is the Chief Justice of the Alaska Supreme Court, who votes only in the case of a tie. As council records show that the council is unanimous (or unanimous but for one member) 82% of the time, the chief justice is called upon to vote only rarely.

This year, voters in Southeast have it easy: only two judicial officers are on the retention ballot: Justice Sue Carney of the Alaska Supreme Court and Judge Tracey Wollenberg of the Alaska Court of Appeals. (No judges in Southeast are on the ballot this year.)

The Judicial Council exhaustively surveyed the judges' performance. It polled justice system professionals -- all the attorneys in the state and court system employees -- reviewed the judges' professional activities, reviewed other records (including financial disclosure statements from the Alaska Public Offices Commission, filings

from the Commission on Judicial Conduct, recusal filings, timeliness of the judges' decision and other records), held public hearings on the judges' performance and accepted written comments. It then voted unanimously to recommend that Justice Carney and Judge Wollenberg be retained.

That seems like a pretty good indication that these judges deserve your "yes" vote. But don't take our word for it. Go to knowyouralaska-judges.com, review all the information there, and then decide. And after you do that, finish the ballot and cast your vote in the retention election.

The authors are all fully retired judges who have served in Southeast Alaska. Their collective judicial service totals 156 years:

Walter (Bud) Carpeneti, Tricia Collins, Peter Froehlich, David George, Keith Levy, Louis Menendez, Thomas Nave, Thomas E. Schulz, Larry R. Weeks, Larry Zervos

The Skagway News welcomes opinions pieces and letters to the editor. Opinion pieces should be no longer than 600 words and will be published based on availability and relevance to current and local events. Letters to the editor should not exceed 250 words.

Submit letters and opinions to editor@skagwaynews.com. Letters may be edited for grammar and length.

Send us your name and email to receive a PDF version. (sales@skagwaynews.com)

Opinion

Why Ballot Measure Two offers a better path for rural Alaska

This Nov. 3, we urge rural Alaskans to vote yes on Ballot Measure Two.

Our current election system of closed primaries and uncompetitive general elections does a disservice to rural Alaskans. Ballot Measure Two offers a better path forward.

First, we've seen increased polarization and gridlock in Juneau in recent years, driven in part by the ideological purity tests placed on legislators by small numbers of voters in closed primaries. We are rural Alaskans with experience working in Juneau. Along with our entire state, rural Alaska loses when legislators are punished by primary vot-

ers for daring to act by values we were raised with: cooperation, humility, responsibility to the entire community.

Alaska wins when legislators work to find pragmatic, workable solutions to real problems. Our own rural legislators have a long history of working across party lines to do just that—think about Georgianna Lincoln, Al Adams, Richard Foster and Lyman Hoffman—but they need similarly pragmatic partners from elsewhere in the state. By making sure all legislators are chosen in competitive general elections, Ballot Measure Two will help secure those partners statewide.

Second, Ballot Measure

Two would result in better elections right here in rural Alaska too. Under our current election system, potential candidates are discouraged from running for office because of fear they will split votes in their community or region. Political power brokers strike behind-the-scenes deals to keep candidates out of races. Other times, these power brokers will recruit candidates for the sole purpose of splitting the vote to hurt an opponent.

Ranked-choice voting in Ballot Measure Two is a simple solution that would eliminate these games and put power back in the hands of voters. It would encour-

age more people to take their ideas and run for office. Candidates for office will no longer be pressured to drop out in order to avoid taking votes from those favored by the political establishment. And voters would be given more choice and the opportunity to hear ideas that come from outside the same two parties.

Ballot Measure Two makes sense for rural Alaska, and we're proud to support it.

Authors include:

Lyman Hoffman is from Bethel and has served in the Alaska Senate since 1991.

Bryce Edgmon is from Dillingham and the current Speaker of the Alaska House of Representatives.

Georgianna Lincoln served in the Alaska Senate from 1993-2004, representing interior Alaska.

Albert Kookesh served in the Alaska Legislature from 1997-2012, representing rural communities in Southeast and the Interior.

John Lincoln is the current representative in the Alaska House for District 40, the North Slope and Northwest Arctic.

Mamie Pardue is the Mayor of Nuiqsut.

Abel Hopson-Suvlu is a rising community leader from Utqiagvik (formerly Barrow).

Reid Magdanz was raised in Kotzebue and worked five years in the Alaska Legislature.

Will America's democracy die? Voting may make all the difference

Most of us have lived our lives in the freedom of American democracy. It has never occurred to us that a democracy as enduring as ours could be weakened and die. But history has shown otherwise. In their 2018 best-selling book, "How Democracies Die," authors Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt present examples of conditions that have allowed other democratic countries to succumb to dictators.

The most significant factor weakening democracy is buildup of rigid hatred between political parties and allegiances. To quote their book, "When democracy has worked, it has relied upon two norms that we often take for granted—mutual tolerance and institutional forbearance. Treating rivals as legitimate contenders for power and under-utilizing one's institutional prerogatives in the spirit of fair play are not written into the American Constitution. Yet without them, our constitutional checks and balances will not operate as we expect them to."

How might these observations play out in America's Nov. 3 election?

President Donald Trump's most adamant supporters have been in places where many traditional jobs have been lost. Now the pandemic has compounded earlier hard-

ships. Business closures necessary to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have widened the gap between the "haves" and "have-nots." The resentment felt by voters is understandable. Many of our fellow Americans are facing homelessness this winter. These are extremely hard times for people who were already struggling! They have gravitated to Trump, despite his flaws, because they saw no hope in the status quo.

But Joe Biden is not the status quo. His genuine concern for the plight of ordinary Americans is obvious. In campaigning he stops to talk with people one-to-one. He wants to rebuild the middle class, "the backbone of this nation," starting with access to affordable education so that "everyone can have the skills they need to succeed." His plans include spending \$775 billion to build the nation's care-giving system, creating jobs for millions, especially women and people of color, and providing universal preschool education.

He is the ultimate un-Trump, someone who can bring us together, all Americans, regardless of party affiliation. As a speaker he is not strident and over-confident. Rather he is what he is - a modest, decent, capable guy who will put in the hard work to improve the lot of ordinary

Americans. And he would bring to the office a wealth of knowledge and wisdom from eight years as vice president for President Barack Obama and from his thirty-six years in Congress as a U.S. senator for Delaware.

In comparison, look at Trump. As President Obama said, "He's shown no interest in putting in the work; no interest in finding common ground; no interest in using the awesome power of his office to help anyone but himself and his friends; no interest in treating the presidency as anything but one more reality show that he can use to get the attention he craves."

Add to this Trump's sup-

port for white supremacists and his cruelty to children.

Most of us have pledged "allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Our allegiance to America should help us decide how to vote.

So come on Americans, grasp this thistle strongly! On Nov. 3 use your vote to save our democracy. This could be your last chance to vote.

Janet McCabe served as Acting Superintendent for the Klondike Gold Rush National Historic Park in 1993. She and her husband, David, have lived in Alaska for most of their lives.

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STC offers CARES funding to local businesses

By Melinda Munson

A Skagway Traditional Council (STC) grant will award up to \$30,000 per qualified year-round business, depending on the number of applicants.

The STC Cares Business Grant Program set aside \$100,000 for local businesses.

“They wanted to make sure the businesses that are serv-

ing the community are being taken care of, especially those that are open during the winter. It’s going to be a hard winter,” said Sara Kinjo-Hischer, STC tribal administrator.

To qualify, businesses must be located in Skagway, have been operating since March 2020 and plan to remain open through December 2020. Business owners must be Skagway residents currently residing in Skagway.

Businesses must have fewer than 50 employees and have received \$5,000 or less from the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or the Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) or “show a net loss after accounting for PPP or EIDL.”

Businesses must also have a 2020 Municipality of Skagway business license and a State of Alaska business license. Marijuana related companies do not qualify.

A separate grant, STC Cares Made in Skagway Mini-Grant Program, will award up to \$500 per eligible business to persons who “rely on making supplemental income through farmers markets sales or their goods being sold through other businesses in town.” The funds must be used for expenses related to the home-made business.

Business owners must live and sell their handmade goods in Skagway. They may not have a storefront and must have obtained a business license prior to March 2020. They must prove that their business “incurred expenses for the 2020 season and have minimal sales in the 2020 season due to business closures.”

Applications for both grants are due Oct. 31 and can be found at <http://www.skagwaytraditional.org> under forms.

Police chief of 16 years resigns

from front page

police case involving his son. The APSC declined to follow the recommendation of an Administrative Law judge that Leggett retain his credentials.

Then mayor Mark Schaefer said he found the APSC decision “somewhat unusual.” The municipality decided to keep Leggett on, as by law, police chiefs are not required to have police certification.

Read more about Leggett’s case with the APSC here. <https://skagwaynews.com/2017/07/28/police-standards-council-revokes-certification-for-skagway-police-chief/>

Editor’s note: Anyone with information regarding this development can contact the author at melinda@skagwaynews.com.

Skagway Arts Council’s Halloween “hollusions” show

By Sarah Cash, Donna Griffard

Skagway Arts Council (SAC) presents Fright Nights: Come Out if You Dare!

The drive-up experience features AtmosFX hologram-like “hollusions.” Shows will be at different locations around Skagway the last two weekends of October, Friday and Saturday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. These free shows, new to Skagway this year, will feature a different theme each night and are family friendly.

AtmosFX is a Seattle-based company aspiring to dramatically change how people decorate. Hollusions is a term coined by AtmosFX and are hologram-like photos and video created by the projection of images onto a transparent screen. This produces the illusion of 3D ghosts, characters and other visuals that seem to appear out of thin air. The style of holographic illusion offers a show akin to the visual effects used in the Haunted Mansion at Disneyland.

Each hollusion show will run approximately ten minutes and will loop so viewers can start watching at any point during the event hours. There is no need to show up at a set time.

When arriving, please dim vehicle lights on approach, turn off headlights when parked and remain in the car for safety and social distancing.

An attendant from the SAC will be present at each location to help with parking and traffic flow. If arriving on foot or by bike, please maintain social distance and wear

a mask.

A little ghoul also whispered in our ear that there will be more of these types of shows scattered around Skagway in the next couple of weeks. Beware, the ghosts and goblins are on the loose and may be in a yard or house somewhere near you!

SAC thanks AtmosFX, Municipality of Skagway, White Pass and Yukon Railroad, Temsco, Skagway Fish Co., Skagway Public Library, KHNS, The Skagway News and Alaska Power and Telephone Company for their assistance and contributions to make this event possible. For more information contact Donna at (907) 983-3222.

Happy Halloween, Skagway!

NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Polling Places Will Be Open From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Candidate Races on the Ballot

- United States President / Vice President
- United States Senator
- United States Representative
- State Senator (Districts B, D, F, H, J, L, M, N, P, R, T)
- State House Representative (All 40 Districts)
- Judicial Retention

Measures Appearing on the Ballot

Ballot Measure 1 – 19OGTX “An act changing the oil and gas production tax for certain fields, units, and nonunitized reservoirs on the North Slope”

Ballot Measure 2 – 19AKBE “An act replacing the political party primary with an open primary system and ranked-choice General Election, and requiring additional campaign finance disclosures”

To find Your Polling Place Call: **1-888-383-8683** (In Anchorage call: 269-8683)

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These will be available at each of the regional offices listed below and at other locations throughout the state beginning October 19, 2020. For a list of the locations and information on absentee voting, call your regional elections office or visit the division’s website at <https://elections.alaska.gov/Core/AKVoteEarly.php>

If you are unable to go to the polls due to age, disability or serious illness, you may use the special needs voting process by appointing a personal representative to bring you a ballot.

www.elections.alaska.gov

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The State of Alaska, Division of Elections, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special assistance and/or accommodation to vote, please contact your regional Division of Elections office to make necessary arrangements.

Schedule of shows:

Friday 10/23:
Ore Dock parking lot alongside Temsco, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday 10/24:
Small Boat Harbor gazebo near Fish Co., 6:30-8 p.m.

Friday 10/30:
Dedman Stage, Seven Pastures, 6:30-8 p.m.

Saturday 10/31:
Dedman Stage Seven Pastures, 6:30-8 p.m.

CVB wants Skagway to be more than ‘The Gateway to the Klondike’

By Melinda Munson

The Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) approached the Finance Committee on Oct. 14 and proposed a plan to update the city’s tourism website and branding at an initial cost of \$39,500.

“Shedding the tagline ‘Gateway to the Yukon’ is critical in our path forward. As a premiere travel destination, we don’t want to be the gateway to somewhere else. It diminishes our status in the marketplace to potential visitors” said Cody Jennings, tourism director.

Jennings pointed out that the 2021 tourist season will be more important than ever following this summer’s disastrous events, where Canada’s border remained closed and no cruise ships came to Skagway’s port due to COVID-19.

“Our website is our front-line marketing tool,” Jennings said. She noted the last web-

site design was in 2016, making Skagway’s online tourism presence “a little long in the tooth.” Some features of the new website could include a realtime chat box where tourists can ask questions and quickly receive answers and a tool to locate restaurants. The system would encourage virtual interaction, diminishing the need to be physically present in Skagway’s visitor center.

Jennings also noted the municipality seal is hard to market and doesn’t translate well to tourism purposes.

The CPV Board recommended using the agency Simpleview, a website design contractor that focuses on travel destinations. Simpleview’s portfolio includes Norway and Las Vegas. They designed the tourism website Anchorage.net and are currently building a website for Haines Borough.

Simpleview would charge

the municipality \$39,500 for “website design and build with brand identity and logo.” At contract signing, \$20,000 would be due and the remaining \$19,500 would be invoiced on Jan. 1, 2021. Additional new website costs would include an annual licensing fee of \$14,000 and a support plan for \$6,000 each year.

According to Jennings, CVB has \$25,000 in their fiscal year 2020.5 budget to cover the \$20,000 deposit.

If the project is approved, the “shortfall with the tourism budget will be covered with CPV funds,” said Brad Ryan, borough manager.

Finance Chair Steve Burnham agreed with the idea of reimagining Skagway’s tagline.

“The Gateway to the Klondike makes us a truck stop, not the end point,” he said.

The Finance Committee recommended the proposal



Photo by Melinda Munson

Skagway’s Convention and Visitors Bureau, located at the Arctic Brotherhood Hall.

move forward to the full assembly.

Jennings emphasized that any rebranding would be for tourism purposes and would not affect the municipality’s website or logo.

Mayor Andrew Cremata echoed that thought in his mayor’s report.

“...This project will not alter or change Skagway’s slogan, ‘Gateway to the Klondike,’ as this is a cherished part of our identity. This is a marketing and branding project that should be upgraded and modified every so often as times change and consumer habits evolve,” Cremata said.

Skagway Traditional Council seeks more inclusion in tourism plan

By Melinda Munson

Unsure whether cruise ship visitors will come in large numbers and be free to wander through town due to possible COVID-19 restrictions, Skagway is making changes to its 2021 tourism plan. Skagway Traditional Council wants to be included in that new vision.

“As we consider how Skagway will rebound from this global pandemic, I ask you to reimagine the way we’ve looked at tourism in Skagway to date,” wrote Jaime Bricker, board president for Skagway Traditional Council (STC), in a letter to the assembly dated Oct. 7.

“The Skagway Traditional Council has long felt that Tlingit and Haida arts, culture and language have been under-represented in Skagway Village.”

Bricker hopes the municipality will partner with STC “to increase Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian cultural awareness in our community.”

STC is asking for more representation on signs throughout town. Bricker gave the example of the Skagway Trail Map which could in-

clude original Tlingit names and translations.

“Incorporating more of our language, arts, culture and photos into your website would be beneficial to cultural awareness and preservation,” Bricker said.

STC is offering to help defray the cost of such changes.

“During dark times, Tlingit, Haida and Tsimshian ways were systematically removed from this valley. I believe that we all have a responsibility to advocate for the history, culture and spirit of the people and their ancestors whose traditional land we operate,” Bricker said.

“We ask you to share in our goal of dismantling historically inherited racism, recognizing traditional land ownership, promoting diversity and preserving Tlingit and Haida culture into the future.”

Mayor Andrew Cremata said he appreciated the correspondence from STC and is “eager to work with them to promote a more inclusive relationship between the council and the Municipality of Skagway.”

“In the coming months, we are going to meet and figure



Photo by Melinda Munson

A Skagway statue celebrates the 100-year anniversary of the Klondike Gold Rush, depicting Skookum Jim guiding a prospector.

out ways we can make this happen. The ideas listed in the letter are a good place to start and relatively easy to imple-

ment. I plan on working with the tribal council to come up with more ideas moving forward and encourage any-

one with ideas to incorporate them at the committee level,” Cremata said.

Editors' Column



By Melinda Munson

I'm walking down the street when I forget how to breathe. Normally, I'm pretty good at inhaling and exhaling while I ambulate, but not when the professional camera crew follows.

Don't look at the camera and other impossible things

The documentary crew, a collaboration between two Colorado companies, Go North Productions and Flying Giant Productions, asked to film me strolling down the street -- for 20 minutes.

"Um, can't I hike instead?"

"No," producer and Skagway School graduate Stan Bush answers. "You always walk to work. That's your scene."

True, but the mayor got to be interviewed on a short excursion to Yakutania Point, so I'm jealous.

I acquiesce and try to do my best. But as I walk, I realize I'm a mouth breather. That's

going to look bad on screen so I clamp my chompers shut and breathe through my nose. Except now my nostrils are flaring dramatically and I remember I breathe through my mouth because I have bad allergies and stuffy sinuses.

Walking isn't my only difficulty. I'm also not supposed to look at the camera. My head darts back and forth as I track the black contraption. I've never been good at following directions.

I'm getting paid \$0 to be part of a documentary about the survival of The Skagway News and the fate of this quirky tourist town as it grapples with a worldwide pandemic. I agreed to the project because former Skagway News intern Bush has passion. Without a buyer, he committed to self-financing the start of the film which he hopes will travel all the way to Sundance.

We let Bush into our tiny home to show what it's like to get six kids with various special needs ready for the day. He followed my husband as he pushed the wheelchair to school, accompanied by lunch bags, backpacks and five energetic children. Then Bush camped at the office while Gretchen and I prepared the latest issue.

This has been an uncomfortable experience. I am -- I hope, an eloquent writer. I can weave words, choosing what to include and what to ignore. I edit over and over again. With film, everything spoken is recorded forever. Bush will make all the edits.

I had stomachaches for days leading up to the crew's arrival. I blamed it on the numerous wild mushrooms we've been foraging and consuming. The pains continued until the team's departure. I'm happy to

report, I am not allergic to native mushrooms, I'm allergic to Stan Bush, despite his professionalism and empathy.

I managed to make progress. By the time the team left, I'd almost gotten used to camerawoman Melanie documenting every mundane move and sound engineer Ryan threading microphones down the front of my shirt. One night with dirty dishes strewn across the kitchen counters and the three year old screaming, I turned to my husband with fake reluctance.

"Sorry, gotta go. My camera crew is waiting."

I hope a documentary about the paper will remind our nation that newspapers are imperative. I hope it will lead to more ads and subscriptions and more travelers to my beloved town. And most of all, I hope I won't look like an idiot.

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North Words announces 2021 keynote

By Melinda Munson

Jeff Brady, a founding member of Skagway's annual writer's symposium, North Words, is "elated" that best-selling author Tommy Orange will headline the 2021 three-day event.

"We knew we were a long shot because Tommy is in great demand, but we felt that the lure of Alaska and involving him in a conference that would have racial injustice as part of its focus would be a good draw," Brady said.

Orange's 2018 novel, "There, There," was one of The New York Times Book Review 10 Best Books of the Year, won The Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize and the PEN/Hemingway Award, along with being a finalist for the 2019 Pulitzer Prize.

Orange, born and raised in Oakland California, is a member of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes of Oklahoma.

His debut novel, "There, There" tells the story of urban Native Americans. The Guardian describes it as both "angry and demanding" and "moving and powerful."

This spring, North Words will also welcome Laureli Ivanoff to its 2021 faculty. A former news director of KNOM radio in Nome, Ivanoff is the author of young adult fiction. Hailing from Unalakleet, Alaska, Ivanoff is Unupiaq and Yupik. Her essays about native life appear in the Anchorage Daily News.

In a new partnership with North Words, Skagway Traditional Council (STC) will help sponsor a native Alaskan writer each year.

"We've been aware for some time that we need to be more diverse. A couple years ago we invited a representative from STC to start opening our conference attendees



Tommy Orange

photo courtesy of Elena Seibert

to the traditional territory of the Skagway Tlingit," Brady said.

With last year's event completely virtual due to COVID-19, North Words will have to be flexible with this year's format.

"We hope that by spring this will all be behind us, but we will have time to make plans for a number of scenarios, from restricting numbers in our event venues, adding a virtual component, or going all virtual," Brady said.

More details for the 2021 symposium will be available soon at www.nwwriters.com.



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This communication was paid for by Yes on 2 for Better Elections, PO Box 210295, Anchorage, AK 99521. Jason Grenn, Chair, approved this message. The top 3 contributors are Action Now Initiative, Houston, TX; Unite America, Denver, CO; and Represent.Us, Florence, MA.

Fall

in Skagway



photo by Kari Rain

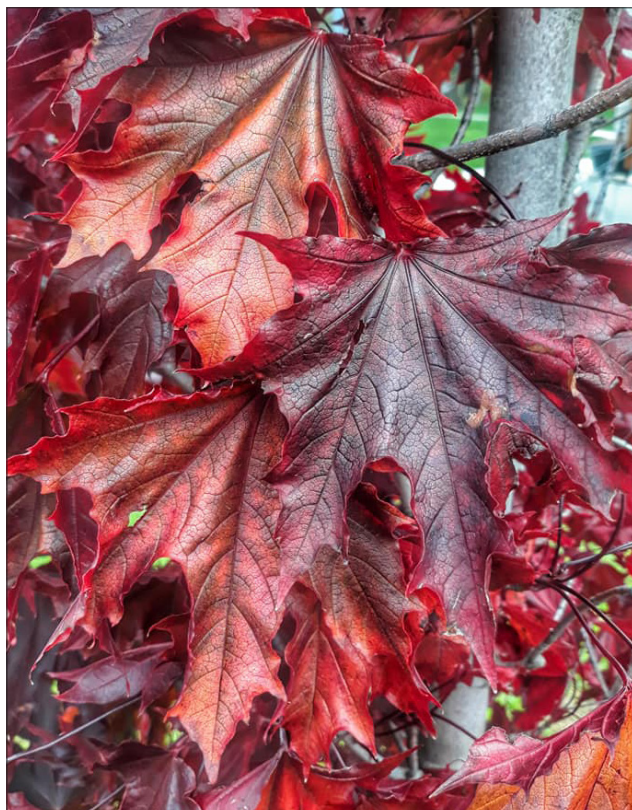


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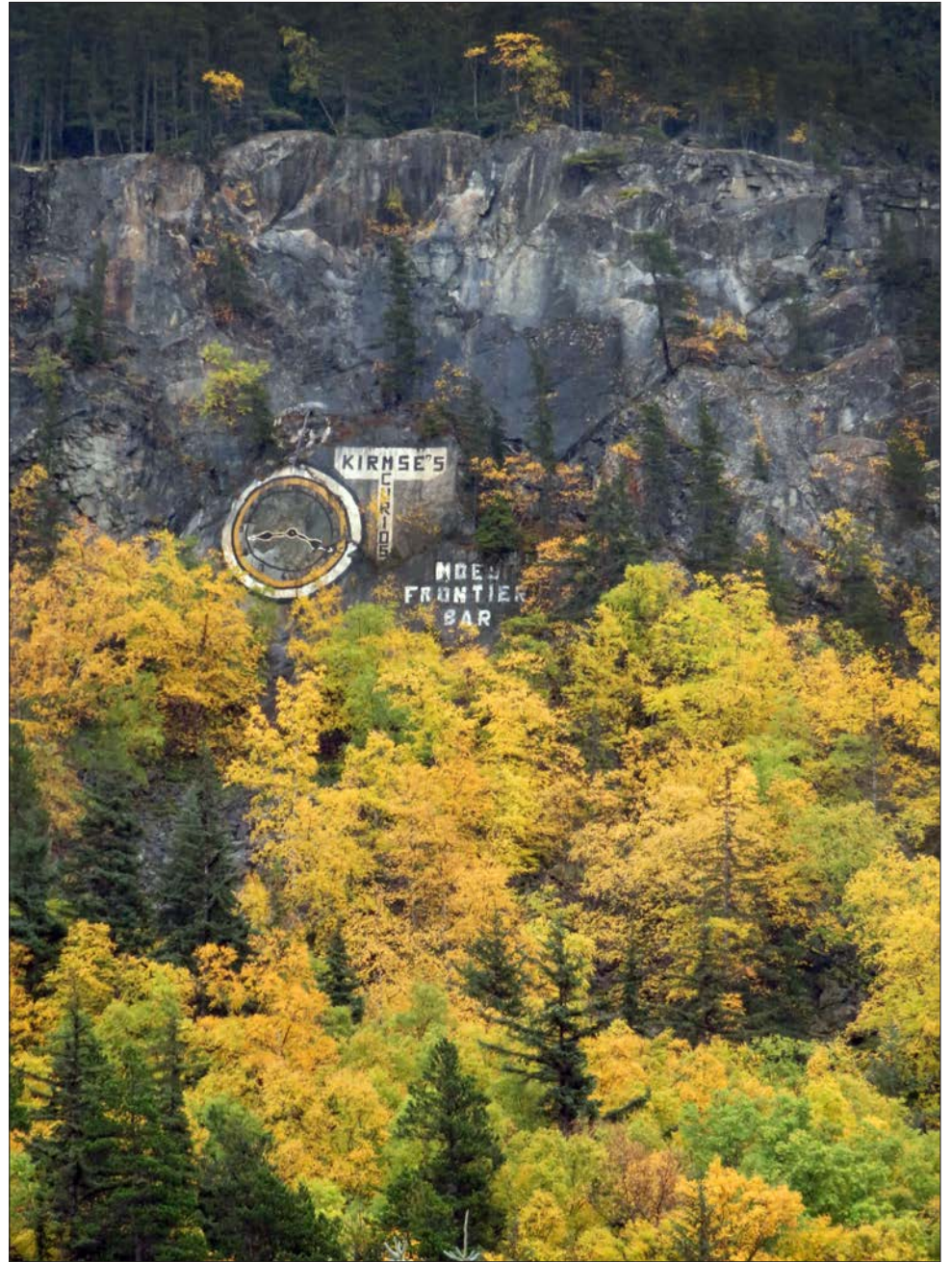


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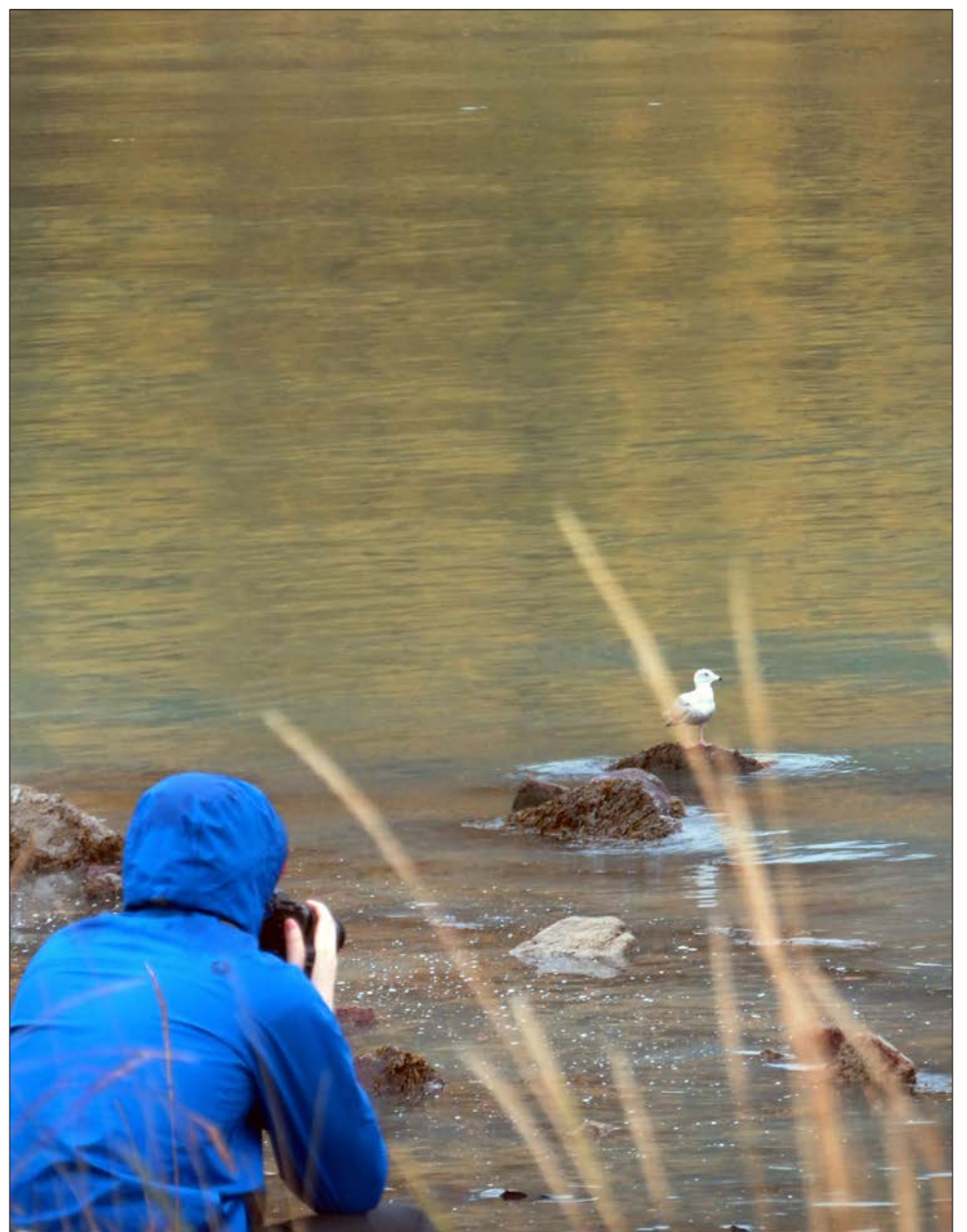


photo by Gretchen Wehmhoff



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photo by Kari Rain



photo by Kari Rain

Skagway sees nine COVID-19 cases in nine days

from front page

cases appeared. The last two were not considered community spread. The total was up to seven.

The EOC's plan for a COVID-19 infection in the community has three main scenarios. Scenario C involves community spread of the virus. It was that contingency which was put into place on the first day.

The plan states that businesses and municipal facilities will be closed to public access while allowing curbside pick-up and delivery services only for non-critical businesses. For critical businesses, masks are mandatory. Critical businesses are de-

finied by the EOC as: Alaska Seaplanes, Fairway Market, Grizzly's, the post office, Skagway Hardware, You Say Tomato, Wells Fargo Bank and those businesses defined as critical by Res. No. 20-11R.

After the seven-day shelter in place, critical businesses may open for public access by appointment with an approved mitigation plan. Businesses may request a determination defining it as critical or non-critical from the borough manager.

Sheltering in place means no group gatherings, residents should stay home with the exception of working in critical jobs, seeking health care or fresh air without contacting others.

On Friday, Oct. 23, one day short of the seven days, the shelter-in-place was extended until Halloween morning. An eighth and ninth positive case was reported – the cases were determined to be community spread.

Mayor Andrew Cremata said Skagway needs to get through the outbreak. He emphasized that how the town handles this situation is imperative if cruise lines are to return in 2021.

He referred to recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention changes that have given power to the cruise companies to determine COVID-19 protocols at ports of call.

"It's better to show [cruise companies] that the community can support each other and come together," he said. "The caveat is that everyone needs to get on board."

Cremata pointed out that no cruise ships next summer translates to no economy and he is concerned that another summer like 2020 would devastate Skagway.

"We can talk all day long, but [controlling the outbreak] is the only way this town survives."

The EOC meets several times a day, according to spokesperson Cody Jennings. She said the community has been supportive of DMC and staff. The Red Onion delivered pizza. Community members brought food to employees who were working long hours.

Jennings was pleased how businesses and the school closed so quickly.

"Everybody really came together," she said.



Barbara Moore

Barbara Moore

July 13, 1936 - Oct. 2020

Barbara was born on July 13, 1936 in Long Beach, California to Mamie and Ralph Conrad. Her family moved to Port Orchard, Washington where she attended South Kitsap High School. She went on to attend Central Washington University, during which time she met the love of her life, Paul Justin Moore. Barb and Paul were married Aug. 3, 1957.

Barb loved Jesus and was baptized and confirmed into the Holy Catholic Church. Her faith was important to her and she embraced her role as spiritual leader to her family, friends and community with great seriousness and love. In all she did throughout her life she modeled Jesus, and was always available to listen, share a kindness and a cup of tea with, not only family, but anyone that needed an ear to bend. Barb had many talents -- theatre, music, gardening, reading, writing and snuggling any baby she could wrestle away from the momma. She was a kind and gentle spirit and showed us how to be better versions of ourselves and how to accept and embrace the world

around us. She leaves a legacy greater than her large family of children and grandchildren as well as the multitude of students that she impacted through her teaching and catechism classes.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Ralph and Mamie Conrad, sister Judy Hackstedde, son Patrick Moore and daughter Suzanne (Suzy) Moore. She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Paul Moore, and sister Kathy Powell (nieces, Erin and Kerina). As well as her children and their spouses; Donna Moore, Mike, David (Teresa), Terie (Joe), Steve (Ann), Mary, Gina (John), Paul (Steffanie), Joanie (Stephen) and Jim (Stela). Her many surviving grandchildren are as follows -- Kristen and Joe, Justin, Jerod, Jessica and Thomas, Taylor and Connor, Leah and Danny, Anders and Seth, Brooks and Britney, Gage and Rilley, Kyli, Andrea and Gregory. Barb's well loved great grandchildren are Lily, Koa, Jessie and Ryland, Harvey and "coming soon" Delilah, Braiden and Bradley.



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Lynn Herbig, Barbara Brodersen, Don & Betty Hather,
Lorene & Alvin Gordon, Blaine Mero, Jackie Schaefer, Katherine Moseley,
Duff & Karla Ray, Cindy O'Daniel, Linda Calver, Kathleen O'Daniel,
Linda Bigham, Ginny Cochran, Wayne Greenstreet, Tim Salter,
JoAnn Arnold, and Wendy Anderson.

The award will be announced in a December issue, presentation TBA
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Obituary

Kathleen B. O'Daniel Jan. 18, 1950 – Oct. 9, 2020

A Skagway woman who taught us all how to care for one another has been taken from us. After visitations by family and dear friends over her final days, Kathleen Beatrice O'Daniel, 70, died quietly at home during the early morning of Oct. 9, succumbing to a 10-month bout with a rare form of cancer.

Kathleen was born at the White Pass Hospital in Skagway on Jan. 18, 1950, the second child of Bea Hillery (Lingle) and the late Johnny O'Daniel. She was proud of her family heritage, which dated back to the Klondike Gold Rush on her mother's side; her great-grandfather was a professional card dealer in Skagway during that period.

Kathleen attended kindergarten at the Pius X Mission School and then all grades at Skagway Public School, where she graduated in 1968. After moving to Juneau in 1981, she decided to go to college and earned her teaching degree from the University of Alaska Southeast in 1988.

She then taught fourth grade for 20 years at Mendenhall River Elementary School in Juneau, retiring from the job of her dreams in 2010. Besides touching the minds and hearts of hundreds of students and parents, she also hosted/supervised student teachers for the University, instilling her love in her student teachers.

During her illness, waves of cards, letters and emails poured in from former students, parents and co-workers.

"Kathy is truly an amazing woman whose life has made a difference to so many," wrote a fellow teacher who was part of a book club with her. "Even in her battle with cancer she has shown us how to live with hope, humor and kindness to others."

A parent of one of the hundreds of children she taught wrote, "Rest in peace Kathleen O'Daniel, one of the finest teachers I have ever known. So many memories for every child she taught. She was there for so many

children and parents in her life and the list was always a long list to get into her class, reading loft and (seeing her) pot-bellied pig."

Kathleen married Bob Deitrick, a former Skagway teacher, after a three-year courtship. They always celebrated the anniversaries of their first date, Oct. 12, 1980 in Skagway, and their marriage, Dec. 31, 1983 on the banks of the Yukon River in Whitehorse, YT. It was a quick marriage ceremony with the temperature being 45 below! Bob and Kathleen's love of the outdoors and travel continued throughout their marriage. Kathleen was also an avid book reader and loved sharing stories with others, including her students.

While Kathleen taught in Juneau, she and Bob hosted many Skagway friends and family over the years at their Teel Court home. In summers, they would head north to their Carcross, Yukon beachfront cabin, which had belonged to her late aunt Virginia Burfield, and was just down the street from her mom's cabin. They bought canoes and joined the family on several paddling adventures on Yukon rivers. She was a strong and determined woman, and bravely finished the 2004 Yukon River Quest with her brother John only two weeks after having a non-cancerous cyst removed from her breast.

A year after Kathleen's retirement in 2010, Bob and Kathleen moved back to Skagway, having built a new home on the site of her old home, and sharing it with her elderly mother whom they cared for.

Immediately upon her return to Skagway in 2011, Kathy became involved in volunteer efforts to care for seniors and others in need. She became active with Big Dippers and was a strong voice on the Skagway Senior Citizens Ad-Hoc Committee, which developed ideas for a senior assisted living center. She also co-founded the Skagway Good Neighbors Volunteers for those needing help in the community. She

organized and coordinated a group of volunteers who helped with anything from hospice type care to chores around the home.

These efforts led to her receiving the Helen B. Clark Award for Community Volunteer Service in 2014.

"With the support of her husband Bob she had tirelessly cared for many in this community and has instilled high values in her children, who in turn are involved in caring for others," noted her nominating statement.

The annual award, named for her aunt Helen, was a surprise, given to her at a school burger feed at the Elks just before Christmas.

She said then that she is driven to care for the elderly because of the village that raised her: "I just want to give back to them. If they can stay here and age in place, then that's what I want them to do. I want them to be happy.... I look around this room and see people I grew up with. I see people who babysat for me. There are just so many connections here. I'm home."

Kathleen hosted gatherings at her home like "Skagway Rocks," where people would come by weekly to paint rocks. She also hosted a monthly Wednesday gathering session for friends to get together, share treats and "gab." An avid reader, she also had a Little Free Library built by her front gate.

Most of all, Kathleen loved her big family, all close by in Skagway, Haines and Juneau.

In addition to her husband and mother, she is survived by brothers Mike (Sylvia) O'Daniel, John (Janet) O'Daniel, and sister Dorothy (Jeff) Brady, all of Skagway; step-brothers Ron and Mike Davis of Sitka; her three children, Kolin (Cari) O'Daniel of Haines, Kevin (Katie Chapman) Enloe of Juneau, and Vanessa (Josue Velazquez) Deitrick of Juneau; 10 grandchildren (Connor, Kyrstin, Asia, Tommy, Donovan, Grayson, Presley, Chloe, Kaelin, Brandon); three great grandchildren (Konnor, Kyler, Thaddeus); and numerous nieces, neph-



Kathleen B. O'Daniel

ews and cousins in Skagway. She was preceded in death by her daughter Maliece, father Johnny, step-father Benny Lingle, and step-sister Robin Lingle.

Memorial gifts in the name of Kathleen O'Daniel may be made to Skagway's Fran Delisle Cancer Fund and Juneau's Cancer Connection.

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Harbinger *By Sean Watson*

We did not believe in the old things of the woods. Our belief did not change their reality. They lived in holes in the high places. They waited.

They witnessed the rise of mountains, watched glacial ice pulverize and smooth away most of the jagged edges. They migrated along with the frozen behemoths, or slept within them, the frigid temperatures barely registering on the Kelvin scale of their origin, before finally settling into the scarred landscape left by the ice's retreat. The forests rose around them.

They saw the cook fires, the putrid reek of cooked flesh simultaneously beckoning and repelling their attention. We were few in number then, but they felt a change coming. They observed as we began cooking inside wooden boxes, our thin walls battling

back the dark and the cold they called home. With the walls came a great flood of our kind. They waited, and took what they needed from the shadows, as always.

We called it a bear attack. What else could so savagely rend our kin into piles of tattered meat and snapped bones? We could not explain why the beasts were so selective about the organs they took, but that was a question best unasked. To be fair, when they were glimpsed, a bear is what most of our kind saw. The human mind had the choice of that interpretation, built in the modern sections of the brain, or tapping deeper down into the ancient structures our evolutionary ancestors worked more closely with. Those structures would compel a man to a sort of gibbering self-destruction, rather than futilely face these horrors with pathetic notions of fight or flight.

They waited. They are becoming bolder now. In times past, they would take rarely

and selectively, usually loners or off-track adventurers. Last night, they took an entire family.

Six sweet souls, eviscerated, consecrated, selective portions donated.

You're probably wondering why I'm sharing all this with you. Why I know these things. They need some of us, you see, to make way. To aid in the readying. I have heard their language, like needles jabbed in the base of my spine. I have read their texts, scrawled upon skins, the words unknowable but granting me holy knowledge. They have shown me our place in the things to come.

It is beginning, here in this valley. We have all been chosen to serve them, and their even more aged masters, from before stars lit the heavens. Don't you see? We are incubators for the components of their rites.

Not now, but soon. They will wait.

Sleep tight.

Nothing Ahead *B*

As I walk along the elephant rock on the mountain, I cannot help but feel some unwanted company. I look back and side to side, tottering like a jack-in-the-box after just being sprung, but I can see nothing. Still, a presence remains. I quicken my pace. The bonfire is only a couple thousand feet away. Why did I wait until dusk to make the trek?

The trees twist and bend in the wind, cracking like some ancient body; several ancient bodies converged as one, the weight of whatever follows skipping on the boughs, urging me forward. I'm fine. Nothing is there. Just me, the wind and the trees. And the eyes. Or one eye of whatever watches in the dark spots off the trail. It's there even though I cannot see it. Nothing.

I pause my movement to listen for movement. Only yawning trees and whispers in the wind. Was that my name? Who's there? Better to pound out the noise with my footfall and I continue. Only a thousand or so feet to go until the warm embrace



WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

by Andrew Nadon

of the flames. May they consume the thoughts in my mind.

A shriek! Like an old woman in distress, but it's probably just a crow wavering in the conifer above. Is she just as uneasy as I or is she mocking me? I cannot see her. Is she even there? The answer comes in the form of another shriek, louder this time and more sorrowful. I keep moving. Almost there now.

Why did I forget my headlamp? On I blindly stumble as the light finally succumbs to the night. The dark spots now blend into one enormous pit of black. I wonder, for a moment, if I should turn around and go back. Don't be ridiculous. I cannot miss the party. They all said they'd be there.

The trail heads up for awhile, then down again. One more small leg of the journey left. I'll hear them soon and

see them dancing in the light of the flames. My foot catches a rock and I hit the ground hard, barely enough time to brace for the fall. My wind has left me and I wait to catch up with it. One breath. Then another. And another. I'm not alone. Something is breathing with me. I cannot see it but I feel it on my neck. In and out in tandem. I brush away nothing and pick myself up, skin prickling in the warm chill. I'm further than I'd like to be to go home; so forward.

I'm close now but where is the light? The laughter, the songs? All should be just ahead, but nothing. Nothing but darkness, a treacherous path and mocking whispers at my heels. As steadily as I can I put one foot in front of the other. The fire awaits as the darkness consumes. I'm almost there. So close to the end.

The Lighthouse Guest By Keri Harris

I have always been fascinated by lighthouses. They have an eerie yet calming effect on the land and sea around them and they seem to act as a bridge between the realities of the two. The light sweeping through the shadows in a neverending dance.

Today lighthouses are no longer lonely isolations for their keepers but instead tourist attractions with many visitors. You can even stay the night in some that have been remodeled and made into bed and breakfast locations. It is at just such a lighthouse that this story takes place.

Upon arriving you are greeted by a spunky goat who roams the grounds. He is pushy as all goats are, head butting and charging as he pleases. The hostess jokingly tells you to make sure your door is locked at night or the goat may join you in your bed.

This particular B&B is nothing more than three cottages circled around the light tower with a stone wall sur-

rounding the grounds. There is plenty to explore in the 171-yearold building, books and other writings to read as well as artifacts and trinkets all related to the lighthouse. The shore is rocky with many tide pools hiding the treasures of the sea.

After nightfall, sitting outside you become mesmerized by the sweeping of the light. It is peaceful with only the lull of the waves beyond the wall. Dark. Light. Dark. Light.

Between the sweeps your eyes catch movement against the wall. It's hard to make out anything in the dark. Then it's light and all you see are the shadows. And then another movement from the corner. Dark again and something pulls at your pant leg. You tug it back thinking it's stuck on a weed. It tugs again. Light sweeps over and there is a black shape next to you but you can't make it out. In a panic you fall back.

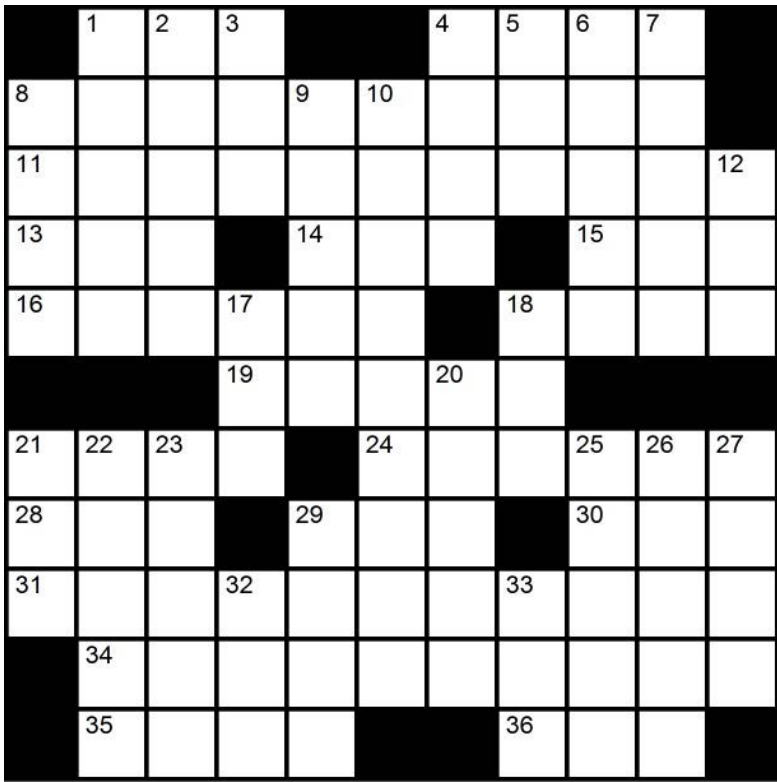
Dark again. You can feel something breathing directly in front of your face. The air is hot and smells like damp earth. The light is coming but you close your eyes not wanting to look. The light is bright enough to illuminate the eyelids and you can see there is a figure blocking the light. Dark again, what do you do? Before the light comes back you have a choice, face your fear or bolt? You choose to run. After scrambling to get up, you turn to flee. Feeling along the wall. Light, shows the way. You can hear nothing except the pounding of your own heart.

Dark, this time something pushes you. You are frozen with fear. Light. You can see a shadow next to yours on the wall. Dark. You stare down into that darkness for what feels like forever. Is that a pair of eyes? Yes, it is, but they are not human. They stare back up at you boring into your soul. You scream, the shadow with eyes screams back! Light...

It is only the goat.



Family Fun Page - print and share



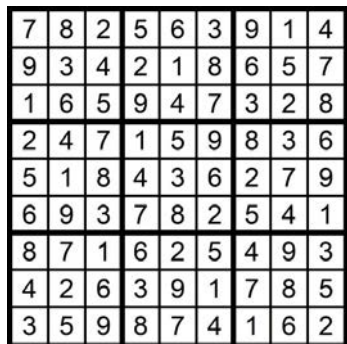
- Across**
 1 Angel dust
 4 Adds
 8 Citizen of Santa Ana
 11 Due to
 13 Morning drops
 14 Anoint
 15 Madhouse
 16 Classify
 18 Priestly cloak
 19 "I haven't seen you in ---"
 21 Leading light?
 24 Doghouse sounds
 28 Gas station abbr.
 29 Small cell
 30 Exclamation of surprise

- 31 Like some university staffers
 34 Mapped out
 35 Inner being
 36 Narrow beam of light

- Down**
 1 Window divisions
 2 Talons
 3 Pipe plastic
 4 One ferried by Charon
 5 Vase
 6 Unleavened bread
 7 Pry
 8 Pop
 9 Squash variety
 10 "Encore!"

- 12 Enemy
 17 Scull
 18 Suit with an MBA, maybe
 20 Rate
 21 Title for a distinguished Indian
 22 Is inclined
 23 Give consent
 25 "We --- touchdown!"
 26 Tyne Daly TV role
 27 Storage shelter
 29 "Like that would happen!"
 32 90-degree fitting
 33 Spike

Last issues's answers



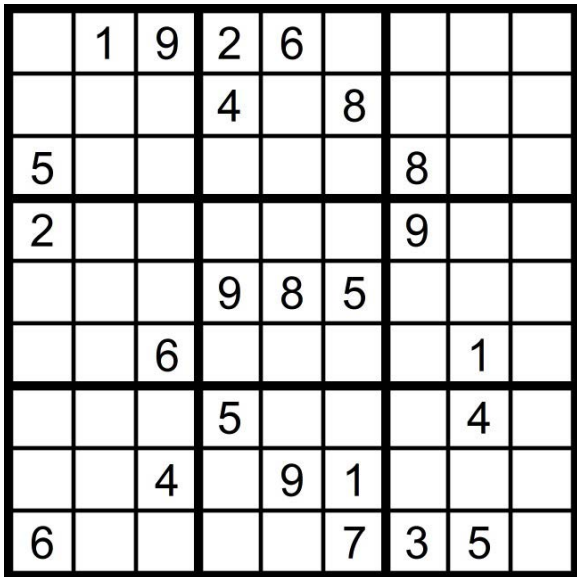
Find and cross out all the listed words. The words may go horizontally, vertically, diagonally, not backwards. Ignore spaces, dashes and diacritics, if any. The remaining letters will spell a secret word.

- AUTUMN
- BAT
- BLACK CAT
- BOGEY
- BOO
- ~~BROOM~~
- BROOMSTICK
- BUZZ
- CANDIES
- CANDY CORN
- COOL
- COSTUME PARTY
- CREEPY
- EERIE
- FANGS
- FEAR
- FULL MOON
- FUN
- GHOST
- GHOUL
- GOBLIN
- HAUNTED HOUSE
- HORROW FILM
- JACK-O-LANTERN
- JELLY BEAN
- MASK
- MASQUERADE
- MUMMY
- NIGHT
- OCTOBER



- ORANGE AND BLACK
- PERIL
- PRANK
- PUMPKIN
- PURPLE
- RAT
- SAMHAIN
- SCARE CROW
- SKELETON
- SKULL
- SOUL
- SPIDER
- SPOOKY
- TRICK OR TREAT
- TUTU
- UGLY
- VAMPIRE
- WITCH
- WORM
- ZOMBIE

Sudoku



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JOBS-OPPORTUNITIES

HOUSING-PROPERTY

FOR SALE – 501 7th Avenue, Skagway, 5 Bdrm, 2 Ba, 1,748 SF house on 1.5 lots, \$350,000, David Brena, ARA, 907-983-2700.
FOR SALE: Duplex, three

bedrooms and two baths on each side. Constructed 2019. Fridge, range, washer/dryer included, partially furnished. Call 907-723-2931.

COMMERCIAL-PROPERTY

BUSINESS FOR SALE: Gold Digger Mine and Dine For more information see <https://www.skagway.forsale/>

DOWNTOWN SKAGWAY SPACE available for lease: 1200SF retail space next to Eagles Hall. Great location in the heart of Skagway's Historic District between 5th and 6th Ave. on Broadway. This is for the south retail in the Kelly Block Building. Contact jimpjewell@gmail.com or text Jim at 907-612-0114.(1cb)

RETAIL SPACE ON BROADWAY for lease. See info at: www.skagwayrealestate.net. (1cb)

MARKETPLACE

CHILKAT VALLEY NEWS &

WHITEHORSE STAR available at Skagway News Depot & Books.

PERSONALS-MISC. SERVICES

FOOD BANK DONATIONS WELCOME. Donations may be sent to the Food Bank, PO Box 200, Skagway, AK 99840. The local Food Bank helps those in need with groceries. If you need assistance, or know anyone who needs assistance, at any time of year, call any pastor or 907-612-0313. (1cp)

LEGAL ADS

INTENT TO USE USDA FOREST SERVICE, SECURE RURAL SCHOOLS TITLE III FUNDING:

As required by the Secure Rural Schools Act (SRS Act) reauthorization, P.L. 115-141, signed into law on March 23, 2018, and following the initiation of Title III funds for this use by the Borough Assembly on September 17th, 2020, the following is the

public announcement of the Municipality of Skagway's intent to use Title III funds: The municipality is proposing to use Title III funds to Purchase a Polaris Utility Emergency Response Vehicle with tracks and a transportation trailer. The Emergency Rapid Response Vehicle is a Polaris with tracks allowing Emergency Response personnel to navigate both common and less commonly used terrain in a safer manner for patient rescues. In addition, this vehicle would allow access to areas that we currently cannot get to, aiding in wildland fire suppression and in some cases, residential structure protection. With the tracks specified, this Emergency Response Vehicle can be utilized year round. This advertisement will be published for the required 45-day period. Please contact the Borough Treasurer with comments at 907-983-2297 or h.rodig@skagway.org.

BROADWAY BULLETIN BOARD

Police & Fire Blotter

Submitted by Skagway Police Department

Oct. 7
Dispatch received two reports of loose dogs acting aggressively in town.

Oct. 8
Fire personnel responded to a small oil spill on 6th Avenue.

Oct. 9
EMS personnel responded to a public service call on 3rd Avenue.

Police responded to a report of someone setting off fireworks.

Oct. 10
Fire personnel responded to a fire alarm on 5th Avenue.

Oct. 13
Police responded to a report of a large brown bear with a cub by the Skagway River Bridge.

EMS personnel assisted Airlift Northwest with a medevac from Dahl Memorial Clinic (DMC).

Police responded to an attempted forced entry on Congress Way.

Police assisted a motorist in gaining entry to their locked car.

Police received a report of a possible kidnapping and hostage situation in Skagway from a concerned citizen in Arkansas. This report was later determined to be unfounded.

Dispatch received a report from a concerned citizen that there is a strange red light in the sky, possibly a UFO. Police were unable to locate.

Oct. 15
EMS personnel responded to a medical emergency on 12th Avenue.

EMS personnel assisted with a medevac from DMC. Fire personnel responded to a fire alarm on 5th Avenue.

Oct. 16
Fire personnel responded to a fire alarm on 5th Avenue. EMS personnel assisted Airlift Northwest with a scheduled medevac from DMC.

EMS personnel responded to a medical emergency on 8th Avenue.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Library Hours:
by Appointment
W, Th, F 12 - 6 p.m.
Sat. 1 - 5 p.m.
Call 983-2665 or email library@skagway.org

Dahl Clinic Winter Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Closed Sat. and Sun. For after-hours emergencies, please dial 911.

Incinerator Hours
T, Th, Sa. 1 - 3 p.m.

Skagway Museum
Closed for the season

Border stations:
7 a.m. - 11 p.m.
Call each station for specifics.

Ferry Terminal Hours
M-F 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

See www.skagway.org for borough meeting updates.

SKAGWAY WORSHIP DIRECTORY

Please contact each worship location for their updated COVID-19 schedule

Assembly of God Church

8th & State • 907-983-2350
Sun. Worship.....11 a.m.
Thu. Intercessory Prayer.6:30 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church

5th & Main • 983-2260
Sunday Worship 10 am
Wed. Women's Prayer 1:30 pm
Thursday Bible Study 3:30 pm
Online Access Available to all events.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

11th & State • 983-2518
Sun. Sacrament Meeting...10 a.m.
Sun. School/Primary ...11:10 a.m.
Relief Society/Priesthood...12 p.m.

St. Therese Catholic Church

9th & State • 983-2271
Sun. Mass.....5 p.m.
Mass Mon. & Tues.....12:10 p.m.
(when a priest is available)

Life Link Fellowship Bible Church

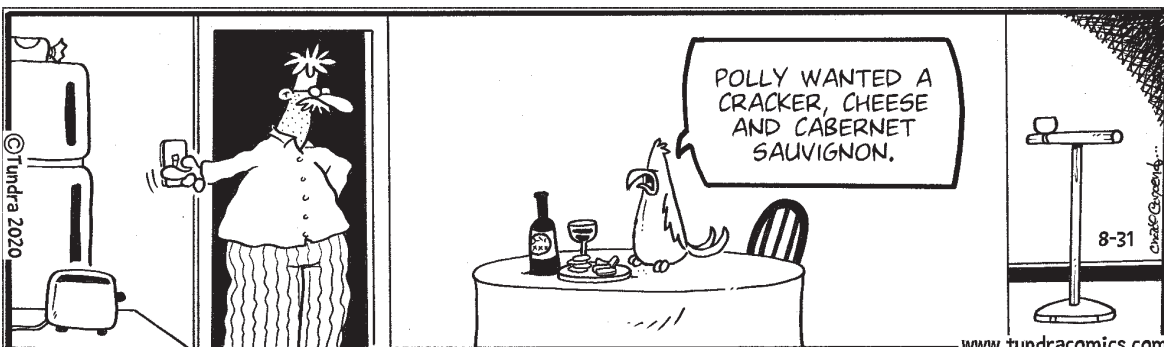
11th and Main • 907-612-0121
Sat. Night Worship7 p.m.
Sunday Service.....11 a.m.

WEATHER WATCH

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE OBSERVATIONS FOR PREVIOUS 24-HOUR PERIOD BEFORE 7 A.M.

DATE	MAX	MIN	PREC
Weather Watch 9/7 -9/30			
9/25	55	43	.05 in
9/26	59	47	.02 in
9/27	55	46	.15 in
9/28	53	44	1.27 in
9/29:	53	43	.02 in
9/30	56	45	trace
10/1	60	49	01 in
10/2	57	42	.03 in
10/3	55	45	1.0 in
10/4	56	48	12 in
10/5	55	46	.54 in
10/6	54	48	.02 in
10/7	52	45	.10 in
10/8	50	39	.04 in
10/9	48	40	.06 in
10/10	51	37	.01 in
10/11	48	39	.04 in
10/12	49	44	.01 in
10/13	49	40	-
10/14	49	30	trace
10/15	45	30	.26 in
10/16	45	30	trace
10/17	41	25	-
10/18	34	26	-
10/19	41	27	-
10/20	40	29	.05 in
10/21	40	27	-

Chad Carpenter's **TUNDRA**



RECREATION CTR SCHED

Skagway Recreation Center •
12th & Main • 983-2679
Cardio • Weight Room • Locker Rooms • Showers • Rock Wall
The Recreation Center is open by appointment beginning Sept. 20.



PHONE:907-983-2259

Yes **BALLOT MEASURE ONE**

No



Robin Brena

The existing production tax system is hopelessly flawed

Ballot Measure One (Prop. One) amends the current production tax system to be fair and transparent. In a recent interview with a Bloomfield reporter, I was asked, "What is wrong with the existing production tax system?" Alaskans should know the answer.

Our current system was shaped by Texas-based oil companies through Senate

Bill 21 (SB21). SB21 is hopelessly flawed and needs to be amended for the following seven reasons:

First, SB21 took too much. For decades, Alaskans recovered a fair share for our oil. Since SB21, the State has paid producers more in cashable credits (\$2.1 billion) than they have paid the State in production taxes (\$2.0 billion). In the five years before SB21, we averaged \$3.8 billion per year in net production taxes; after SB21, we averaged zero. We now get about one-third of what other states get for their oil.

Prop. One takes back a fair share that is less than our average share for the past 30 years.

Second, SB21 gives wasteful credits. SB21 gives away \$8 for each revenue barrel of oil produced or about \$1 billion per year. In 2018, the \$8 per-barrel credits reduced our production taxes from Prudhoe by \$742 million, from \$972 million down to \$230 million.

That year, ConocoPhillips made \$40 per barrel in net income from Prudhoe, \$11.64 per barrel from the Lower 48 and \$11.72 per barrel internationally. So, we gave away \$742 million in wasteful credits for oil they would have produced anyway while they make three times more per barrel than anywhere else in the world.

Prop. One eliminates these wasteful credits.

Third, SB21's ridiculous 4% minimum rate. During the past three decades before SB21, our major fields demonstrated they could pay a fair minimum rate and attract investment.

Prop. One keeps 4% in place for new and developing fields but raises the 4% minimum rate to 10% for our three major fields.

Fourth, SB21 eliminated progressive rates. When oil prices and producer profits rise, so should Alaskans' percentage share. SB21 eliminated progressive rates. That is why under SB21 we stay broke as oil prices and producer profits rise.

Prop. One adds a little progressivity back.

Fifth, SB21 has big loopholes. SB21 allows unrelated costs to be deducted from Prudhoe. ConocoPhillips is deducting the costs of developing federal lands in NPR-A from the production taxes they owe us for oil from Prudhoe. This loophole alone will increase the state deficit by \$300 million. No other state permits such costs to be deducted from production taxes.

Prop. One limits the costs that may be deducted to those relating to production from our major fields.

Sixth, SB21 keeps profits secret as they whine about not making enough. Alaskans are kept in the dark while our oil wealth is being taken. As owners, we should know basic information about our three major fields. No other resource owner in the world is in the dark when they take a percentage of net income.

Prop. One allows Alaskans to know.

Seventh, there is no reasonable alternative. SB21 is not sustainable. Alaska is broke. We have spent \$18 billion in savings, are losing our PFDs, and lack funding for education, universities or capital projects and jobs. Alaskans either have to take back our fair share to keep \$1.1 billion per year more in Alaska helping Alaskans or pony up new taxes to support giving away our oil away to Texas. Your choice!

Vote yes for Prop. One before SB21 drives Alaska even further into the poor house!

•Robin Brena is a life-long Alaska who is an original sponsor of Ballot Measure 1, Chair of the Oil and Gas Transition Committee for the Walker administration, and founder of Brena, Bell & Walker, a long-time Alaskan oil and gas law firm.



Jason Grenn

Ballot Measure One proponents distort the truth, fail the transparency test

When I served in Alaska's legislature, I relied on data to inform decisions. Alaskans know the numbers have been tough in our state for years.

The thing to remember about numbers is even when we don't want to make hard choices, they persist in guiding us.

If we strip away the anxiety of the moment and focus instead on what the numbers show, Alaskans should vote to reject Ballot Measure One. Not only do the numbers demonstrate why voting no is in Alaskans' best financial interest, but they prove how the ballot measure's supporters are distorting the facts.

Let's examine a few examples, and clarify something. I no longer serve in the legislature, but work full-time in the non-profit sector. No one is paying me to advocate one way or the other.

It is absolutely false to say that Alaska has received no oil production tax revenue during the last few years. These numbers are public and published by the state's department of revenue.

North Slope oil companies have paid state taxes every year since oil was first produced decades ago. For the time period in question, Alaska received over \$8.7 billion in taxes, and \$13.8 billion in total revenue from oil companies since 2014. Those payments account for approximately 90% of Alaska's tax revenue from business during the time period.

If Alaskans want to change oil tax policy, they should demand transparency from the proponents, and hold legislators' feet to the fire. Certainly, oil taxes will be discussed again in Juneau in 2021 by an entirely new legislature. This is the proper place to make massive changes to complicated tax policy.

Ballot Measure One's supporters also falsely claim the current oil tax structure, Senate Bill 21, has failed. Again, this is proved untrue using real, publicly available numbers.

Our current oil tax structure has resulted in more oil production and more revenue for the state than was projected under the old tax structure, even with the massive drop in oil price. In 2013, the state's department of revenue projected that 2019 North Slope oil production would clock in at 425,000 barrels per day, even with oil prices over \$100 per barrel.

Instead, we saw production levels reach nearly 500,000 barrels per day in 2019. Doing some quick math, the state is more than \$1.5 billion dollars to the good in total revenue as a result.

Perhaps the most concerning and misleading argument being made by Ballot Measure One supporters is the notion that voting yes is some kind of silver bullet that will solve the state's fiscal crisis. At today's low oil prices, it won't come anywhere close to filling the gap, and will make state finances even worse when production decline accelerates from lack of drilling.

The COVID-19 pandemic and painfully low oil prices caused North Slope producers to shut down almost all drilling on the North Slope, and significantly cut back on planned investments.

That alone should put a chill down the spines of Alaskans, but the question becomes: when does drilling and investment come back? Does it? Oil price and the ballot initiative will both drive those decisions. Even if oil prices recover, passage of Ballot Measure One will slow down Alaska's North Slope recovery, and with it, the recovery of Alaska's economy.

A brave, unflinching examination of the facts proves Ballot Measure One is a bad idea that should be rejected by voters. Now is not the time, and the ballot box is not the place.

• Jason Grenn is a former Independent Alaska legislator who serves as co-chair for OneAlaska.