



COPPER RIVER RECORD

**NEXT ISSUE:
FEBRUARY 29**
\$1.50
Periodical Postage
paid, Glennallen, AK
USPS # 022164

Vol. 36 Issue # 41

Published Thursdays

Glennallen, AK - 'Atna' Nene'

February 22, 2024

EMAIL: CONTACT@COPPERRIVERRECORD.NET * PH: (907) 259-4486 * PH: (907) 822-4485 * PO BOX 277 GLENNALLEN AK, 99588

PFD Board Warns that Fund is Running Out of Spendable Money

JAMES BROOKS
- ALASKA BEACON

The board in charge of the Alaska Permanent Fund is amplifying its warnings about an impending state financial crisis.

Without action by the Legislature, there's a small but growing chance that within three years, the Permanent Fund — source of more than half of Alaska's general-purpose state revenue — won't be able to pay for services and the annual Permanent Fund dividend.

"We are facing a potential crisis, and it warrants the consideration of a change, whatever that change may be," said Deven Mitchell, executive director of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp., which manages the \$78 billion fund.

"I think this is a clear and present danger, and we need to get it out there," said Craig Richards, a member of the corporation's board of trustees.

If financial markets crash,

Continued Pg. 4

CRSD School Board February Meeting

SABRINA SIMON
- CRR STAFF

The Copper River School District Board of Education held their monthly meeting on February 6, 2024.

A motion was made to approve the Fiscal Year 2025 non-tenure teacher contracts which include Kayla Droste, Alyson Geldersma (tenure year 2024), John Hale, Alicia Highs (tenure year 2024-25), Brandon Holmes, Lori Jangala, Joanna Schneider, Laura Scott (tenure year 2024-25), Shanna Sellers, and Matthew Williams. The motion was passed unanimously.

Several motions were made to approve the certified hires of Johnathan Carty as the Technology Support Specialist effective July 1,

2024; Ben Dolgner as the Glennallen School Principal for School Year 2024-25; and Jason Roslansky as the Assistant Superintendent for School Year 2024-25. All motions were passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the School Year 2023-24 Student Handbook and was passed unanimously. When a board member asked why this motion was being passed so late, it was explained that because two principals were lost at the end of the 2023 School Year, some agenda items had to be pushed back.

A motion was made to approve the AASB policy updates which include Unpaid Meal Policy, Sale

Continued Pg. 3

Behind the Lens at the CB300

MICHELLE MCAFEE
- CRR STAFF

Whitney McLaren stomps through knee-deep snow on an old road that doglegs from the main Copper Basin 300 sled dog trail. It's a clear and balmy -15 degrees F day as the sun rises above the Copper Basin. McLaren sets her black camera bag down in the fluffy white snow and pulls out a Nikon D810, her lead camera. She gets a reading on the light and the different angles from her perch and waits in the quiet of morning until movement on the hill above her catches her eye.

In seconds, the camera is pressed to her face as McLaren drops her finger onto the shutter button. The sled dog team crests the hill and picks up speed, heading directly toward her. Behind the lens, McLaren sees multi-second snapshots of the sled dogs closing in the space, getting larger and closer in the viewfinder,



Photo by Whitney McLaren
Frozen Gear on Kobuk 440 Trail.

and when it appears they might overtake her, the team abruptly turns and follows

the packed trail around the bend as the camera clicks,

Continued Pg. 7



Thanks to Carol Cozzen for sharing this photo of Homecoming King Zayne Olson and Queen Madison Cozzen!

Ice Fog Not Often a Part of Northern Life

NED ROZELL

- ALASKA SCIENCE FORUM

An old friend — a character not seen in these parts for a few years — showed up last week in Fairbanks.

Ice fog.

Ice fog is a surface cloud composed of water we emit into the air all the time; it only becomes visible when the cold hammer comes down hard and hangs around for a bit.

Last week, when Fairbanks temperatures dipped in places to minus 50 F, there was enough ice fog for Rick Thoman to draw a little blip on a bar graph. Thoman is with the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Ice fog showed up on his graph for the first time in about a decade because the air was finally cold enough for long enough.

In the late 1960s through the early 1990s, a glaciologist named Carl Benson slowly chased this phenomenon around Fairbanks and got to know it like no one else.

He wrote a few classic papers back then. In one, he calculated how much water all the sled dogs in Fairbanks exhaled during a typical winter day. (Combined, all



Photo by Ned Rozell

Downtown Fairbanks is blanketed in ice fog beneath the exhaust of a coal-fired power plant in January 2012.

2,000 of them pumped a half ton of water vapor into the air.)

Benson, now an emeritus professor at the Geophysical Institute, described the mystery of ice fog in a 1969 story he wrote for his friends at the California Institute of Technology, where he had attended college.

Ice fog has a magic number — minus 30 F. It does

not form until air gets that cold, and it dissipates when the temperature rises above that.

“Ice fog is produced when the water vapor output from urban environments meets an air mass which is too cold to dissolve it and cold enough to crystallize the condensed vapor into tiny air crystals,” Benson wrote back then for the surely baffled urban-California audience.

Those ice crystals waft to the ground, latching onto air-pollution particles on the way down.

Benson also explained a chemical-reaction oddity that happens as we drive. When our engines burn gasoline, “the actual mass of water ejected as vapor from the exhaust is 1.3 times greater than the mass of gasoline burned.”

Though cars trailing their own cotton-candy clouds is a striking visual and is the main cause of limited driving visibility, Benson found

that a major contributor of water vapor in the late 1960s was the liquid cooling water for power plants. Today, a major contributor is an open portion of the Chena River warmed by power-plant cooling water.

In a paper published in fall 2023, Lea Hartl of the Alaska Climate Research Center wrote that from 1950 to 1980 Fairbanks averaged more than two weeks’ worth of days with ice fog each year.

When she examined the 30 years from 1990 to 2020, she found that ice fog was in place for only about 6 days each year, on average.

Why? Hartl wrote that the main reason is that — even though we get a taste of ice fog now and then — there are much fewer days in which Fairbanks experiences temperatures below that magic minus 30 F.

As temperatures warmed enough here in

mid-February to make our water vapor invisible again, I saw a robin on the UAF campus. Though robins spend winters along Alaska’s southern coast and on Kodiak Island, they usually migrate south from Interior Alaska in the fall.

This bird, probably the same one reported on the eBird citizen-science site in January and earlier in February, has perhaps survived on the frozen fruits of choke-cherry trees like the one in which it was perched when I saw it. Whatever the robin was eating, the bird made it through a few weeks of ice-fog inducing temperatures. Salute!

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.

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CRSD School Board, Continued from Pg. 1

and Disposal of Books, Academic Honesty, Family Engagement, Uniform Investigations, Bids, and Goals and Objectives. The motion was approved unanimously.

Finally, a motion was made to approve the purchase of a Redbird Flight Simulator for \$74,339 that will be reimbursed by a grant by June 30, 2024. The motion passed unanimously. The motion comes out of the January 12, 2024 application for a grant from

the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED).

The district was awarded \$74,633 from DEED for the purchase of a flight simulator. After Superintendent Laville spoke with Copper Valley Air Service about the best companies and models to purchase, the district elected to go with the Redbird SD model with a few extra add-ons. The flight simulator will be located at Glennallen High School.

This simulator will help

CRSD build an aviation program and assist students in accruing hours towards the private pilot's license offered by the Federal Aviation Administration. The tentative plan is to offer two one-semester courses: Introduction to Aviation and Ground School.

In her Superintendent Report, Laville mentioned the success of the RTI/MTSS Conference held in Anchorage over January 26 to 28, which provided the attendees with expert advice on how to become better instructors.

Laville reported an even larger turnout at the second Literacy Night in Kenny Lake on January 31. CRNA donated 100 activity books to give to participants of the event. Additionally, CRNA's staff will be assisting with the upcoming GES Literacy Night.

Laville later prompted a discussion regarding a new school year calendar that she drafted. The discussion was largely regarding the sometimes-disruptive Trek program. In her draft calendar, there were changes to the Trek schedule, three parent teacher conferences, and

student grading taking place at the end of four quarters instead of by semester.

What was clear from the discussion is that the Trek program needs serious rethinking regarding the scheduling, the class content and format, and which teachers would provide them. One board member advocated for the students that they have a significant voice in structuring the Trek program as well.

The Athletic Director reported the end of Nordic Ski and the Junior High Wrestling State Championship taking place this month. The full basketball schedule for the following school year is already scheduled out, which is a win for the department.

Kenny Lake reported 101 absences throughout January after the area was hit hard by a bug. There were times when only 50% of the class were in attendance.

Slana reported that their Archery Competition will take place on February 23 at 4pm and Saturday, February 24 at 11am.

The next board meeting will be held on March 5.

In the Superior Court for the State of Alaska At Glennallen In the Matter of the Estate of: Stephen Lee DeWitt Person who died (Decedent) Date of Birth: 03/20/1959. CASE NO. 3aL-24-02PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

You are notified that the court appointed Naomi L. Dewitt as personal representative of this estate. All persons having claims against the person who died are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of the notice or the claims will forever be barred.

Date
01/23/2024
Naomi L. Dewitt
Personal Representative
HC01 Box 488
Gakona, AK 99586
Naomi L. Dewitt
Printed Name
907-822-5017
Phone Number
Leah.dewitt@yahoo.com
E-mail Address

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- Chili Cook-off
- Card/Board Games


More information contact
Evelyn Beeter (907)244-5467
Barbara Charley (907)960-1995
Trinity (907)822-5399 Ext. 304

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Chistochina Fun Days & Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium

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\$25: Regular age 18+ \$15: Military/Senior (60+)/Student (age 12-18)
\$5: Kids under (age 12)

ALASKA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS WESTAF

Funding for the performance is provided in part by WESTAF (the Western States Arts Federation) and the NEA (National Endowment for the Arts) and the Alaska Council on the Arts.

PFD, Continued from Pg. 1

Alaska could be in crisis as soon as July 1, the start of the state's fiscal year.

"In six months, we could be looking at a problem," said board chair Ethan Schutt.

"If it turns ... we're in boiling water on July 1 this year," he later added.

The problem is the unique structure of the Alaska Permanent Fund, which has a spendable account called the "earnings reserve" and a nonspendable account, referred to as the "principal."

Both accounts are invested in a variety of ways, but all of the earnings from both accounts are considered in the earnings reserve, which can be spent with a simple majority vote by the Alaska Legislature and the assent of the governor.

In 2018, the Legislature and then-Gov. Bill Walker

set up a system of annual transfers from the earnings reserve to the state treasury. The transfer was set at what lawmakers thought was a sustainable level, but over the past six years, withdrawals have exceeded new deposits.

In addition, legislators have repeatedly transferred more money from the earnings reserve to the principal than normally required.

This means that the earnings reserve could soon run out of money, which would be catastrophic for the state.

The annual transfer from the Permanent Fund is Alaska's No. 1 source of general-purpose revenue. It's beaten oil revenue in every year but one since the transfer was established.

The state's savings accounts have dwindled, meaning that if the earnings

reserve fails to make a payment, the state would instantly be forced to make unprecedented cuts to services and the Permanent Fund dividend. Even if lawmakers wanted to raise taxes, there would not be time.

On Friday, the board of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. voted to release a detailed analysis paper — one of only 10 since the corporation's inception in 1980 — that presents a menu of potential solutions to the Alaska Legislature.

The text of the paper was not immediately available, but its top recommendation is a double-barreled constitutional amendment that would combine the two accounts of the Permanent Fund into one, then put a hard cap on the amount of money that could be

withdrawn in a given year.

Greg Allen, CEO and chief research officer of Callan Associates Inc., speaks to the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. board of trustees on Friday, Feb. 16, 2024. (Photo by James Brooks/Alaska Beacon)

Greg Allen is the CEO and chief research officer of Callan Associates Inc., the third-party adviser to the Permanent Fund Corp.

Under his analysis, without a constitutional amendment, there's a 5% chance that the fund isn't able to transfer money to the state treasury within three years.

An internal analysis by the Permanent Fund Corp. indicated a higher risk, but Allen said that even a 5% chance of a "doomsday" scenario is alarming.

"What if there was a 1 in 20 chance that you broke your leg when you walked across the room?" he asked.

With a constitutional amendment, the problem goes away.

"No matter how bad the market gets, you're going to be able to pay out something," he said.

While the doomsday scenario remains distant, the Permanent Fund Corp.'s board of trustees is being driven to act now by the fact that it may take years to propose, analyze and pass a constitutional amendment.

Any amendment requires a supermajority vote of the state House, the state Senate, then approval by voters

during a statewide vote.

"There's not enough time, when you hit the cliff, to pass a constitutional amendment," Allen said, which means action is needed now.

"This is the first step of the process. Call it the first salvo. The Legislature has to take it up," said Adam Crum, commissioner of the Alaska Department of Revenue and a member of the board of trustees, after the board voted to release its analysis.

"Hopefully they're thinking about this issue, because they should be," Mitchell said.

Thus far, the Legislature hasn't been interested in taking up the issue.

During the 32nd Alaska Legislature, former Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins, D-Sitka, proposed a constitutional amendment along the lines of what's envisioned by the board. It was heard but never advanced to a vote of the full House.

Legislators have struggled to disentangle the long-term future of the Permanent Fund dividend formula from questions about the fund's structure.

Last year, Rep. Cliff Groh, D-Anchorage, introduced a proposal identical to the one Kreiss-Tomkins offered. It's received one committee hearing and hasn't advanced.

Asked whether he thinks it will pass, he said, "I remain hopeful."

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO APPLY PESTICIDES

The City of Valdez has applied to the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) for a permit to apply pesticides to subsurface algae and pondweed growing in Ruth Pond in Valdez, Alaska.

The following project is proposed and is being reviewed by the appropriate regulatory programs. DEC requests comments from the public regarding the permit application. Copies of the application are available on-line or upon request.

PROJECT NAME: 2024 Ruth Pond Subsurface Algae Pesticide Use Permit.

WRITTEN COMMENTS: Comments must be received no later than 11:59 p.m. Alaska Standard Time on March 23, 2024. To ensure that your comments are considered in relation to this application, please include the project name at the beginning of your comment. To be considered, comments must be submitted online to DEC at <https://dec.alaska.gov/comment/> or in writing to DEC:

Rebecca Colvin
Department of Environmental Conservation Pesticide Program
555 Cordova Street, Anchorage AK 99501 Fax:
907-269-7510
Email: Rebecca.colvin@alaska.gov

PROJECT SUMMARY AND LOCATION: The City of Valdez has applied to DEC for an aquatic pesticide use permit to apply pesticide to control algae and pondweed growing in Ruth Pond in Valdez.

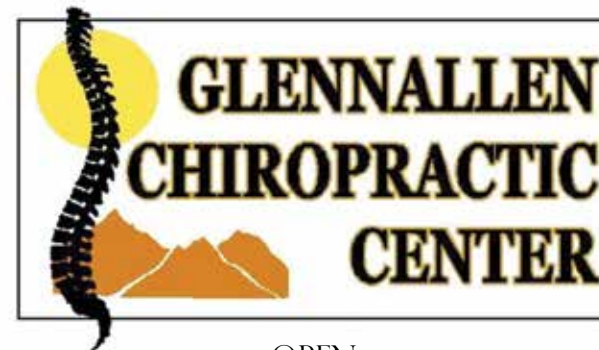
The proposed pesticide is **Hydrothol Granular**, with EPA registration number 270506-174, with active ingredient endothall. The product will be applied with a granular spreader.

Treatment would occur between May 1 and October 1 throughout the duration of the permit.

PROJECT NEED: Algae and pondweed are limiting activities such as fishing and swimming in this recreational pond. Manual and mechanical control methods are ineffective or not practical for these plants.

PERMIT APPLICANT:

James L Goudreau
City of Valdez; Parks Maintenance 555
W Egan Dr.
Valdez, AK, 99686



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BLM Developing Castner Glacier Plan

SABRINA SIMON
- CRR STAFF

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) held a virtual public meeting on February 14, to present the Castner Glacier Recreation Area Management Plan (RAMP) and to answer questions from the public. The presentation and Q&A attended by 33 participants including 8 BLM representatives, are part of the month-long public comment period from February 13 to March 14. During this period, BLM seeks comments, concerns, and requests from the public that they will then consider while developing the plan.

The RAMP is a response to the increased recreational demands of the 4,695-acre Castner Glacier area which lacks basic infrastructure and services. Reports of winter recreators in 2010 were approximately 750. This number has increased tenfold with numbers reported at 7,500 in 2023 and total year-round visitors reported at 12,500 which have substantially increased the need for monitoring trips by BLM.

The Castner Glacier RAMP's purpose is to develop a long-term vision that will address changes in the recreational use patterns; to develop monitoring protocols; and to guide how BLM manages recreation in the area by further defining and implementing the goals and framework set by the broader East Alaska Recreation Management Plan (RMP) for which the area is managed under.

The goals of the East Alaska RMP are to maintain a diversity of recreational opportunities; maintain existing recreational opportunity spectrum (ROS)

classes which are categorized under "primitive", "semi-primitive/non-motorized" and "roaded natural" for the Castner Glacier area; describe specific trails and further define conditions of limitations; maintain closure to snowmachines from October 15 to May 15; and minimize resource impacts. Additionally, the RMP does not allow helicopter-supported commercial activities and will consider minimal or no development at trailheads.

These goals are meant to not only address the increase in public recreation but also to address the interest of commercial tour companies as well as decrease the number of user conflicts. The types of conflicts reported have pertained to overcrowding, dog feces, events or group gatherings, and negative effects on the recreational experience.

The Castner Glacier RAMP is represented by five action plans. The first is to establish the Recreation Management Zones (RMZs) and their setting characteristics (RSCs). The RMZs will have zone-specific recreation opportunities and management objectives.

These proposed zones are the "Roaded Natural Zone" which encompasses 307 acres from Richardson Highway to the next proposed zone, the "Castner Cave and Trail Zone". This next zone encompasses 282 acres and stretches to the final proposed zone, the "Castner Glacial Zone" which encompasses 4,106 acres.

The RAMP's first proposed action will affect the Castner Cave and Trail Zone by limiting recreational group sizes, limiting motorized vehicle weights, removing user-created rock

cairns or markings, and introducing BLM staff presence from November to April.

The second action provides supplementary rules to the first that will include group size, designated uses, and commercial user identification. The recreational group size is limited to 10 people without the need for a permit.

The RAMP's third action plan addresses the limitations of commercial users and permit allocations. The proposed action will allow a maximum of 10 special recreation permits for commercial operators per season with a maximum group size of 10 people. Permits will be processed first come, first serve after the RAMP is enacted.

The fourth action categorizes land-use permits into three categories: Science and research, military training and commercial filming or photography.

Finally, the fifth action will further define the existing categories of travel management and motorized

access which are: South non-motorized trail, North primitive road, North non-motorized route, 3000 lb gross vehicle weight limits, and motorized access for federal subsistence.

During the Q&A period, more information about the plan was outlined. BLM assured the public that day use fees would not be proposed, no limitations around camping at or near the glacier are being proposed, nor are there plans for providing wayside outhouses or restrooms. BLM is, however, working with the Alaska State Department to increase parking space.

BLM wants to hear your opinion about the recreational uses of the Castner Glacier area. Questions they would like you to consider are: How many commercial operators do you want to encounter while in the recreational space and how large of a group size within those commercial operators would you like to see?

Additionally, BLM would like the public to focus on these considerations while

offering their comments: What types of recreation activities and opportunities are suitable for Castner Glacier? To what extent should use permits be modified, enhanced, and/or expanded? What limitations and restrictions, if any, are needed?

You can find information on the proposed plan, view the digital public presentation, view maps of the area along with the proposed management zones and submit your comments to BLM by visiting <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2030733/510>.

These comments will also influence their Environmental Analysis scheduled to be drafted along with the RAMP this spring. A second public comment period will take place over the summer which will be specific to the Environmental Analysis. BLM expects the final plans to be signed and enacted this fall, followed by a 12-month implementation period.

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS**

All meetings of recognized boards, committees, and commissions of the Borough are open to the public and are held at Borough offices, 350 E. Dahlia Ave., Palmer, AK, unless specified otherwise. Three or more Assembly Members may be present at advertised public meetings of federal, state, and local governments or other entities. Meetings are scheduled as follows:

BOARD	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Port Commission	02/26/24	12:00 pm	Lower Level Conference Room
Abbreviated Plat	02/28/24	8:30 am	Assembly Chambers
Transportation Advisory Board (For Telephonic Participation Call 907-290-7880)	02/28/24	10:00 am	Conference Room 203 & Teams ID: 269 802 121
Planning Commission (To Participate Telephonically Call 855-290-3803)	03/04/24	6:00 pm	Assembly Chambers
Assembly Regular Meeting (To Provide Public Comment Telephonically Call 855-225-2326)	03/05/24	6:00 pm	Assembly Chambers
Abbreviated Plat	03/06/24	8:30 am	Assembly Chambers
Wastewater and Septage Advisory Board	03/06/24	2:30 pm	Assembly Chambers
Platting Board (To Participate Telephonically Call 855-290-3803)	03/07/24	1:00 pm	Assembly Chambers

If you would like further information on any of these meetings or are interested in serving on any of the advisory boards, please call the Borough Clerk's Office at 907-861-8683, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Borough website is: <http://www.matsugov.us/publicmeetings>.

Disabled persons needing reasonable accommodation in order to participate at a Borough Board/Commission meeting should contact the Borough ADA Coordinator at 907-861-8432 at least one week in advance of the meeting.

The Planning Team meetings scheduled are: (Planning teams consist of Planning staff and members of the public who are appointed by the Planning Commission to work on community comprehensive plans and special land use districts)

None

The Community Council meetings scheduled are: (Community Councils are not agencies or subgroups of the Borough. There may be a quorum of Mat-Su Borough advisory boards in attendance at community council meetings.)

Glacier View Community Council	02/22/24	6:00 pm	Glacier View School
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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Miscellany

Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska: Are you caring for a family member with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder in the Copper River Basin? Call Alzheimer's Resource of Alaska, Gay Wellman 822-5620 or 800-478-1080 ext 6.

American Legion: Gladys M. Heintz Memorial Post 27. The American Legion provides service to veterans, veteran's families, and the communities where they live. Meetings first Wed. of every month, 7pm Music jams Wed. nights, 7pm, except first Wed of the month, 8pm. The American Legion is a great place for your community event. Call 822-3227.

Caregiver Support Group: available for anyone caring for a loved one either at home or away. Meets twice a month for encouragement, education and support and now meets by phone only and is open for anyone anywhere. We meet from 1-2pm the 1st Saturday of each month and the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Call Gay Wellman for more information at 822-5620

Celebrate Recovery: offers help to overcome hurts, hang-ups and habits by turning to God. Meets Saturdays at 12pm at Mt. Drum Lutheran Church. Call 710-7007 for a ride.

Celebrate Recovery: Celebrating Recovery: please join us every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Gulkana library. We gather for fellowship and celebrate to God's healing power as we work our way along the road to recovery. There will be dinner provided!

Chamber of Commerce Membership Dinners: are held the fourth Thursday of each month except summer season.

Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Monthly Meeting: held the 1st Tuesday of every month at 5:45pm at the Ahtna Headquarters, Glennallen.

Copper Basin Lions Club: meetings 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, various locations. For info call Marianne Williams 259-5335.

Copper Basin Senior Citizens: Seniors meet at the Senior Center in Glennallen for a pot-luck lunch the last Thurs of the month except Nov and Dec. Rent the building at \$100/day for your special occasion: birthday party, graduation party, yard Sale, etc. Call 822-5400.

Copper Valley Community Library:

The Copper Valley Community Library (CVCLA) current hours of operation are Tues, Fri and Sat 1 pm to 6 pm, Weds and Thurs 1 pm to 4 pm. The library will be closed any day it is -30 F at noon according to KCAM. The library is once again charging late fees. There are 2 public computers with printing capability available for public use. For any other questions you might have, please call 907 822-5427, visit <https://www.coppervalleylibrary.org/> or email cvcla@cvinternet.net

Copper Valley Historical Society: needs community support as it continues its mission to protect the artifacts that tell the stories of our area's history, and to share those stories with thousands of visitors each year. Dues and

donations can be mailed to CVHS, PO Box 84, Copper Center, 99573. Call Barb 822-3669.

Copper River Valley- Regional Planning Organization Meetings: are held on the first Wednesday of every other month starting December 2023 at the Gulkana Airport, Gulkana Fuel Pilot's Lounge at 5PM.

Gakona Volunteer Fire Dept: Training, every month, second Tuesday, 6:30pm. Board Meeting, each quarter (Jan/Apr/Jul/Oct), second Saturday at 10am. All are welcome. Gakona Fire Hall is located at Mile 2.3 Tok Cutoff. Call 259-3030 with questions.

Glennallen VFW Post 10682: provides service to veterans, veteran's families, and the communities where they live. Meetings are the Third Thursday of every month @ 1900 hours. Contact: Dana Becker Commander VFW Post 10682 Ph# 907-320-1200

Glennallen DMV: Open Mon-Wed, 9am-5:30pm, closed for lunch 12:30 to 1:30. Call 822-3999 for info.

Glenn Rich Fire Dept: Monthly training third Thursday of the month at 6pm

Glennallen LIO Office: Glennallen Legislative Information Office is open for the Legislative Session. Hours are Monday to Friday, 8:00 to 4:30. 822-5588

Kenny Lake Volunteer Fire Squad: training meetings first Tuesday of every month at 7pm at the Fire Hall in Kenny Lake.

Kenny Lake Community League Board: Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of every other month at 7pm at the Community Hall. (Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, and Nov.) Others will be added as needed. Please come and help make decisions that affect your community.

Kenny Lake Public Library: HOURS: 1-4:00 on Mon, Thurs, Fri, & Sat; 4-7:00 on Tuesdays. Closed at temperatures below -30/emergencies. Call shortly after opening if you need to be sure a librarian is there. Contact us during open hours or leave a message at: 907-822-3015; email kennylakelibrary@yahoo.com; For info and online catalog, go to kennylakelibrary.org. The community is welcome to monthly library meetings: 3rd Thursday, 6:00 p.m.

Local Emergency Planning Committee Meetings: The Copper River LEPC meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am at CVT in Glennallen. Members and the public are encouraged to attend. Call 907-822-3203 for more info. <http://www.copperriverlepc.net>

Reformer Unanimous: Tired of being bound by your addictions? Come and join RU. Meetings every Fri at 7pm at Mt. View Baptist Church (Mile .3 of the Edgerton Hwy). Call 822-5262.

Taking off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS): meets Tuesdays at 5:30 p.m. at Cross Road Medical Center in Glennallen. Focus on goal setting, portion control, exercise, eating awareness, cooking classes and long term weight loss. Contact: Sue Sarafin, ssarafin@crossroadmc.org or 907-822-3203 ext 101.

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When you have extra trash, call to let us know and put it next to your container, (not in front).

Paint is not accepted in the landfill or any refuse container.



Batteries are accepted FREE at the landfill for recycling.

They are not allowed in any refuse container.



No ashes or burned refuse is accepted in any refuse container.



Canyon Conway has been diagnosed with Bone Cancer. If interested in donating to the family the details are below:

- Donations can be made at the Glennallen Wells Fargo branch – no other Wells Fargo branch will take a donation
- Donations must be in the form of a personal check, cashier's check, or money order made out to either of Canyon's parents, Shawn Conway or Carolyn Conway
- Donations can be mailed to: PO Box 676, Glennallen, AK 99588 and they will be deposited into Shawn & Carolyn's Wells Fargo account

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!



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We are looking for direct support providers to work with people who experience challenges!
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and many other benefits!

For more information or an application call Terry at 907-822-3384 or 907-259-3384

Behind the Lens, Continued from Pg. 1

clicks, clicks a shot of the musher's back draped in a pumpkin orange parka lined with wolf fur.

McLaren has been photo-documenting the CB300 since 2015. Based in Fairbanks - Two-Rivers - she was following a local musher, Ryne Olson, closely then, along with Kristin Pace and Mike Ellis, for a photo project on the Yukon Quest with another photographer. On a whim, she drove down to Glennallen for the CB300 that year, camped in a Subaru in The Hub parking lot, and followed the race as a newbie.

McLaren got very involved with the Yukon Quest after that and didn't photograph the CB300 again until 2020. Jason Severs, President of the Board of Directors for the CB300 race, was a judge on the Yukon Quest, and McLaren got to know him and CB300 Vice President Donna Russell Swope through her work on that race. They reached out to McLaren and asked if she would photograph the Copper Basin race. "It was kind of branching out from the Yukon Quest, which was the main race I worked. After Jason asked me to come to Copper Basin, I thought,

'Well, I can go to other races too,' and it kind of built from there," said McLaren.

Photography came first before mushing, said Montana-born McLaren, "I have a lot of photographers in my family. My grandpa always had a camera. My mom took all my senior photos and my siblings' senior photos on film. And two of my brothers are also into photography. One is a professional photographer in the Lower 48. My younger brother kind of got me back into photography."

Her brother upgraded his equipment in 2013, so McLaren bought his Nikon D5200s. A year later, she adopted the two huskies that later camped with McLaren and her wife in the Subaru at The Hub during her first CB300.

McLaren laughed and said, "[My wife] went down there with me and thought I was crazy, but she stuck around. We now have nine huskies, but my two first huskies were my initial introduction to mushing life."

After adopting huskies, McLaren wanted to learn to mush. She met a man who was running a non-profit in Fairbanks teaching at-risk youth and kids with



Whitney McLaren with her dogs Sitka and Archie.

Photo by Cat Strader

disabilities how to mush. He also worked with Veterans, taking them on mushing trips. He needed pictures for his website, and McLaren was a photographer, so

she learned the ins and outs of mushing and got to take photos of mushing trips in the Fairbanks area.

McLaren then went to work for a camera store in

Fairbanks, which helped improve her knowledge of all things cameras. She upgraded to Nikon D810s and

Continued Pg. 16

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- Accounting Assistant - VDZ
- Operations & Engineering Clerk - VDZ/GLN

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NOTICE: ANNUAL TRAINING CLOSURE

On Thursday, **February 29th**, all Copper Valley Telecom storefronts will be closed for our Annual staff training. Please be aware that certain locations may have adjusted hours on Wednesday and Friday to allow for travel time. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this period. Thank you for recognizing that our Annual staff training is crucial for enhancing our service quality and ensuring a better experience for you, our valued customers.

GLENNALLEN OFFICE

02/28 8AM - 4PM | 02/29 Closed | 03/01 8AM - 6PM

Our World: Flying Mammals

KAREN CLINE
- VALDEZ STAR

In my pantry, two rows of jars line up like soldiers on my shelf, all containing dried leaves ready to steep for therapeutic teas. Sometimes I think their largest therapy comes with the memories of collecting these leaves during sunnier and warmer days.

This winter day, I grab a large jar marked Labrador Tea and head towards my tea kettle. Labrador shrubs grow leaves that

spiral around their stem, protruding alternately from the branches. The leaves have a thick yellow or rusty colored fuzz on their undersides. Edges of the leaves curl downwards.

As I drink my tea, I'm caught up with a TV special about bats. Surprisingly, over 1000 species of bats coming in thousands of different body designs inhabit our world. Some bats eat fruit and others eat insects (Such live in Alaska). Some bats eat fish and meat. A final type of bat sucks blood,

using an anti-coagulant as well as an anesthetic in its bite so its victims don't know they are donating blood. Most bats have lice which suck the bat's blood.

All bats have wings, a shared trait among the thousands of different species, but a trait not shared by any other mammal. The closest other mammals come to having wings is the flying squirrel, which grows flaps of skin along either side joining the front and back leg of each side.

These skin flaps allow the flying squirrel to extend its leaps up to 100 feet. But bats are the only mammal that truly can fly. Wings allow bats to travel to remote

islands and even to the far north to set up their colonies.

Bat wings withstand more aerodynamic pressure than bird wings, allowing bats to outmaneuver hawks and owls which prey upon bats during the night. Bats, of course navigate by sonar.

Their flight being far from silent, they fill the air with screams. Bats must immobilize their own ears while sending sonar in order to avoid deafening themselves.

During daytime, bats clean and preen themselves while hanging upside down. Bats roost in colonies in trees where they will block sunlight by wrapping themselves with their wings. In South America, they create

tents for themselves. South American bats snip along the rib of a large leaf, which allows the leaf to fold over the bat.

In Alaska, bats prefer caves for roosting, where they hide safely from their predators, the owl and hawk. A tendon locks their claws, and hanging takes no effort. Even dead bats remain hanging from their roost.

Bats have fair vision, but don't see color. They do have a good sense of smell. These creatures are survivors, the oldest bat fossil dating 50 million years.

This essay originally appeared in the Valdez Star.



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Photo by John Tierney
Sledding at the Kenny Lake school hill.

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve
PO Box 439, Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy, Copper Center, AK 99573 907-822-5234

LOCAL HIRE JOB Announcements

The National Park Service is currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

2024 full time Summer seasonal positions:

Open 2/09/2024 and closes 2/23/2024

Positions located in Glennallen, AK:

WRST-24-017
Maintenance Worker (Trails) WG-05 \$27.33 per hour

Positions located in Kennecott, AK:

WRST-24-018
Park Ranger (PSAR) GS-0025-07 GS-0025-07 \$26.53 per hour + 3.21 Cost of living allowance

Make sure to write the job announcement number on your resume

Send Resume to: wrst_hr@nps.gov

Job Postings Located:
<https://www.nps.gov/wrst/getinvolved/employment.htm>

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Kristin Link

Trees are a great winter subject and I love sketching the colors, patterns, and stories in tree bark. This aspen tree has scars from an animal (probably a bear) climbing up its trunk. Aspen bark is whitish in color though it is also green-yellow-gray under the white. The white comes from dead bark cells that make a powder which can also protect these northern trees from the sun. This coloration makes the dark scars stand out more.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Events

Thursday, February 22, 6:15 pm, Lake Louise Lodge:

Greater Copper Valley Chamber of Commerce meeting. Guest: Jamie Matthews, CVEA CEO.

Friday, February 23, 7pm, WRST Visitory Center or online:

A Pacific Trail Coddwomple, part 2 with Ray Voley. For more information visit www.wise-edu.org or contact WISE at (907) 822-3575.

Saturday, February 24, 2:00 p.m., Chisto Community Hall:

Chistochina Fun Day! Dog race, games, pull tabs, food and more! Contact Barbara Charley at 960-1995 for more information.

Saturday February 24th, 7pm, Valdez Civic Center:

The Valdez Arts Council presents John Damberg. Alaska's Jazz and Latine Jazz driving force on vibes, marimba, steel drum and drum set. Come enjoy a one-of-a-kind exhilarating and enlightening experience. Tickets: \$25 Regular, \$15 Military/Senior and Student, \$5 12 & under.

Wednesday, February 28, 7pm WRST Visitor Center or online:

WISE Science Lecture: Big Changes in an Icy Landscape with Michael Loso, NPS Geologist. Register for the online lecture at www.wise-edu.org. Call (907) 822-3575 for more information.

Wednesday February 28, 5pm, Nummy's At the Old Town Copper Center Inn:

The Copper Valley Development Association, Regional ARDOR for the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development, would like to announce its annual meeting. Meeting discussions will consist of regional projects and initiatives, its history, business and natural resource development, and board elections. For more information, please inquire to jen@coppervalley.org or 822-3071

Thursday, February 29, noonish, Glennallen Senior Center:

Seniors monthly luncheon- a rare treat to have lunch on February 29. If it is your birthday you can join us OLDer folks who have a birthday every year!!

Monday, March 4, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., American Legion Post 27, Glennallen:

Free Narcan Kits and Training. NARCAN or NALOXONE is a medicine that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Occurs the first Monday of every month. For more information, call 907-822-3227 on the scheduled time and day of training event.

Tuesday, March 5, 6:00 pm, Glennallen District Office and online:

Copper River School District regular school board meeting. Executive work session at 5:00 p.m. to perform superintendent evaluation. Contact nstickney@crsd.us for more information.

*Do you have an event, meeting, or fundraiser?
Please email contact@copperriverrecord.net.*

Copper Basin

WEEKEND weather

Glennallen

FRI	SAT	SUN
Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
24 °F	21 °F	14 °F
4 °F	-4 °F	-15 °F

Valdez

FRI	SAT	SUN
Snow	Cloudy	Partly Cloudy
34 °F	30 °F	27 °F
20 °F	15 °F	6 °F

McCarthy

FRI	SAT	SUN
Snow	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy
23 °F	20 °F	13 °F
1 °F	-6 °F	-14 °F

Delta

FRI	SAT	SUN
Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
26 °F	18 °F	11 °F
3 °F	2 °F	-11 °F

Tok

FRI	SAT	SUN
Partly Cloudy	Cloudy	Cloudy
19 °F	15 °F	9 °F
-4 °F	-5 °F	-17 °F

Source: National Weather Service

TEMPERATURES AT MILE 163.5 GLENN HIGHWAY

Courtesy Stadtmillers

Feb	HI	LO
5	0	-6
6	8	-9
7	8	-7
8	11	-7
9	12	2
10	29	12
11	31	11

AHTNA PLACE NAMES

Ben'sdeltsii / lake 2079 / 'someone made lake'

COORDINATES
62.0027, -146.1838

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peck peck peck

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2-25
Chad Carpenter

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 FREE ads for private households! Monday deadline for submission.
 Email contact@copperriverrecord.net or call 259-4486

MISC:

FOR RENT:

MISC FOR SALE:

For Sale, used pop machine (cans) and used candy dispenser, \$100 each. Free to good homes: orange straight-back padded chairs, conditions vary. Contact American Legion on Wednesdays, 907-822-3227 telephone or in person. From American Legion, Terry Keizer, 907-822-3227. Cell 907-259-4516.

2011 Subaru Forester, 172000 miles, 4 winter tires, winterized with plug in. \$12000. 2006 Honda Pilot, 310000 miles, winter tires, winterized with plug in \$5000. 4ft x 8ft heavy duty desk, \$100. LG 34 in Ultra wide computer monitor. USB-C, HDMI x2, DP connections, \$500. Apple Macbook Pro, 2019, 16 gigs ram, 1 terabit SSD, \$1000. Call 259-4486

1992 Ford straight body, extra tires, fancy (parts = rims, runner, overhead lights) \$300 OBO. Overhead camper for truck sold as is- \$200 OBO. Seasoned firewood- variety, also logs for sawmill or firewood-have to discuss price. Mt Dew jelly \$5 for half pint or two for \$9. Diamond willow available upon request. Free cabinet. Contact Carol Holt 360-531-4486.

Priced to Sell, Best offer after 2 weeks will be considered for purchase, Call Rick @ 907-259-5141

Cat D-4 crawler- 2 yrd Bucket \$6,000 OBO, JD 350 Crawler Backhoe JD450 backhoe quick attachment \$5,000, Old State Department snowplow \$2,000 OBO, 48" Bellsaw sawmill 48" livebed cut 24-foot logs 6-cylinder Chevy power and edger \$4,000 OBO, 1947 Greyhound bus 40-foot full basement, new 24.5 tires \$8,000 OBO, In

tires, wood store propane cook stove 900% stainless steel asking \$20,000 OBO, Wind Turbine in 40 ft tower 3 phase w/ Rectorfyer to 12-volt in 8 optimise deep cycle asking \$4,000 OBO, 1989 GMC 4x4 rebuilt motor asking \$3,000 OBO, Toyota swamp buggy 22RE engine w/ 12,000 lb. wench swamping tires asking \$4,000 OBO, 8-10 Jeep snowplow asking \$4,000 OBO, Hand and power tools Turn key shot shell re-loader. Ponsness Warren 375. Hulls, wads, primers, shot & powders. Too much to list. Located in Valdez. Can send pics and discuss over the phone.

Oak Computer Desk \$350. Luggage. 4 Cooper Discoverer Tires \$500 LT 275 / 70 R18, Load Range E, Like new studded, 275 / 70 R18, Load Range E \$250 Kitchen Knives, Hand Forged, MRW Germany, Precision. Call Michael at 907-823-2288

HELP WANTED:

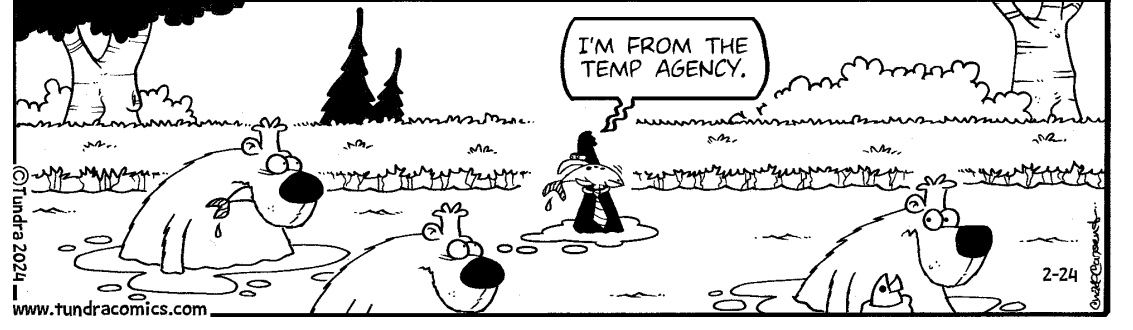
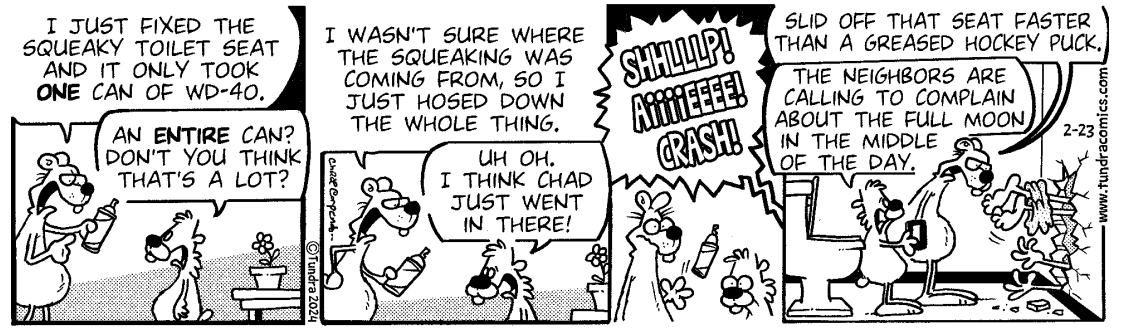
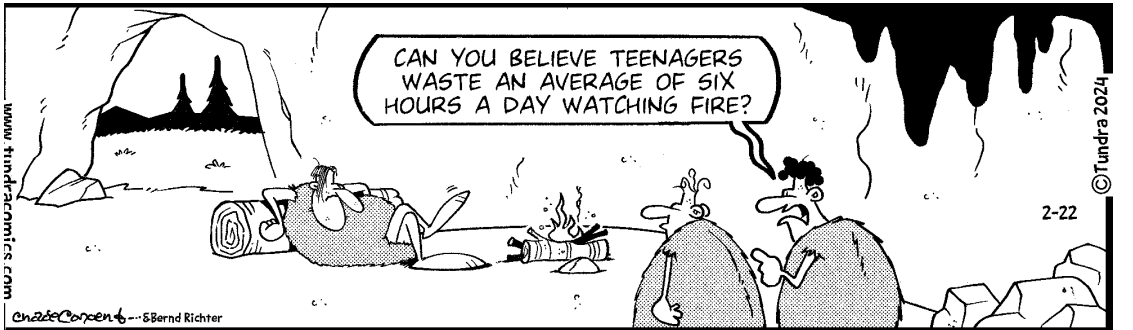
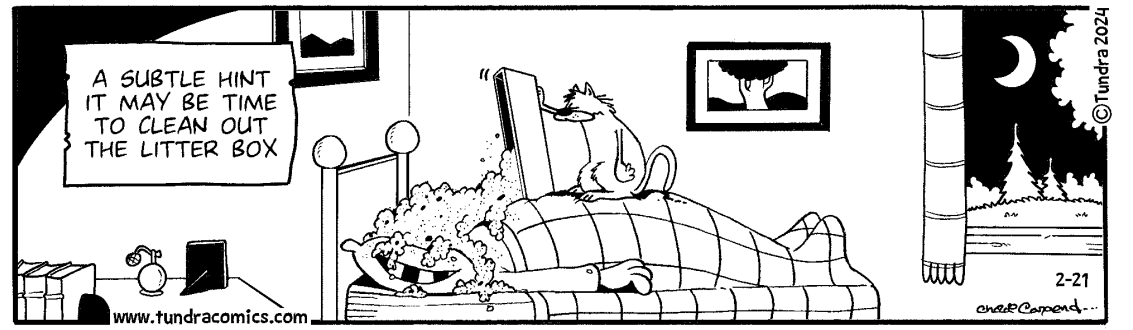
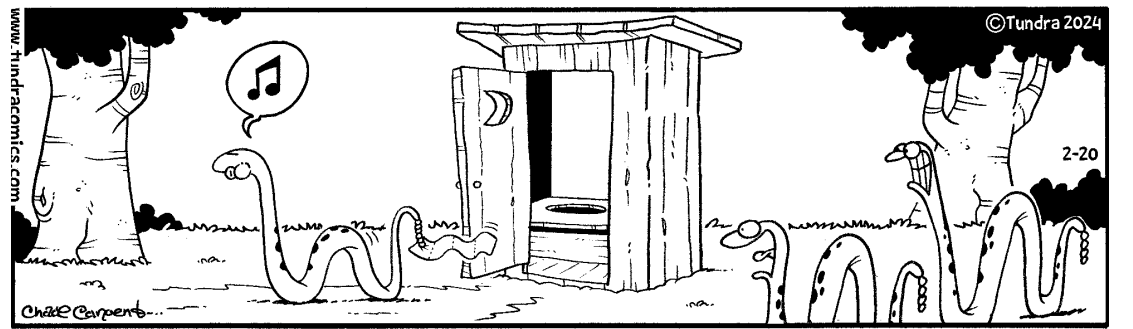
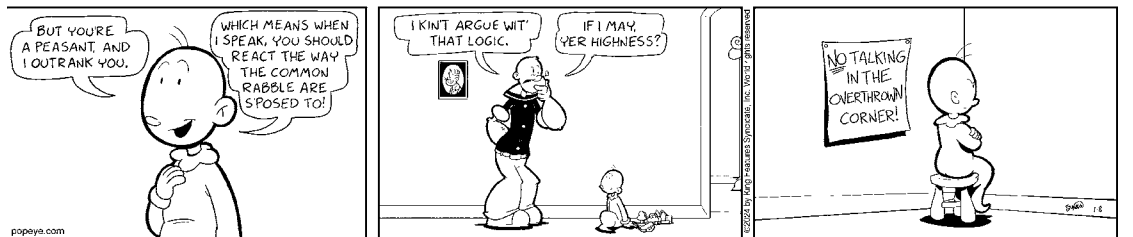
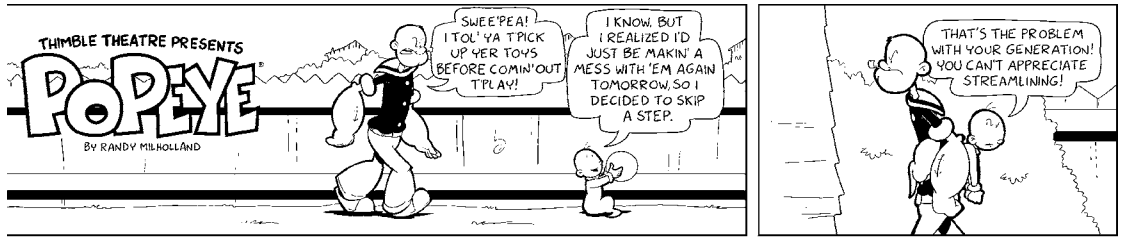
The Copper River School District has numerous positions available at the teaching, support, and administrative levels. Please contact Naomi Stickney at nstickney@crsd.us or (907)822-3234 for current listings and applications.

Glennallen Towing & Recovery is looking for CDL drivers. Call A or B necessary. Towing experience a plus. Please call 907-822-3303.

The Hub: Now hiring for various positions/shifts. Applications available.

Copper Valley IGA is hiring for various positions. Please apply in person.

Glennallen Fuel is looking for full time front desk help. Apply in person at Glennallen Fuel or call 907-822-3303.



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Strange BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

On their urban forest data site, the city of Melbourne in Australia assigned email addresses to each of the city's trees so it would be easier to catch and rehabilitate damaged ones. Instead, the trees received love letters.

Wild female chimpanzees, much like humans, experience menopause.

Giant lily pads in the Amazon River can grow up to 6 feet in diameter and even support up to 100 pounds without breaking.

A man in the U.K. who became paralyzed after a cycling accident spent four years raising 22,000 pounds for an innovative treatment that might enable him to walk again. However, when he heard of a disabled boy who also needed surgery, that had better odds of success, he donated the entire amount to the child instead.

On the moon, it would be possible for humans to walk on water.

Eric Money is the only NBA player to officially score for both teams in the same game.

A group calling themselves Sieged Security hacked into the Idaho National Laboratory with a most extraordinary ransom demand — not cash, but for the lab to research the creation of feline-human hybrids!

In the small Japanese town of Kamikatsu, residents are required to sort their solid waste into 45 different recycling categories.

"Yield the crow a pudding" is an old slang term for death.

Morton's toe is when your second toe is longer than your big toe. It's widespread in art, with the Statue of Liberty being one of the more famous examples.

Jenga blocks have subtle differences in dimensions to make their construction less stable. Each brick is a different size and weight, so no two games will be alike.

Thought for the Day: "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together." — Vincent van Gogh

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Moments in time

On March 4, 1933, in the midst of the Great Depression, Franklin D. Roosevelt was inaugurated as the 32nd U.S. president. He would later notably lead the country out of the Depression and to victory in World War II.

On March 5, 1963, beloved American country western singer Patsy Cline, whose rich, soulful voice made her one of the genre's classic performers of such ballads as "I Fall to Pieces" and "Crazy," died in an airplane crash at age 30.

On March 6, 2018, the world's oldest known message in a bottle was discovered by Tonya Illman in Western Australia as she walked on the beach with her husband, Kym. The bottle had been thrown overboard from the German sailing ship Paula in 1886 as it crossed the Indian Ocean, and said only, "Could the finder please plot the coordinates it was found, and the date it was found, and send it back?"

On March 7, 1965, up to 600 nonviolent activists marched to help African American citizens obtain the right to vote. Despite the peacefulness of their actions, the protesters were brutally attacked, with one woman, Amelia Boynton, beaten to the point of unconsciousness.

On March 8, 1986, 29-year-old tennis star Martina Navratilova became the first in her sport to earn more than \$10 million in prize money when she won the U.S. Women's Indoor Championships in New Jersey.

On March 9, 1611, Dutch astronomer Johannes Fabricius and his father, David, first observed sunspots, which are areas of reduced surface temperature. Johannes wrote and published a 22-page pamphlet on their findings, "Account of Spots Observed on the Sun and of Their Apparent Rotation with the Sun," though his father initially disagreed with his son's conclusion.

On March 10, 1949, Mildred Gillars, aka "Axis Sally," became the first woman in American history to be convicted of treason. Gillars worked for Nazi Germany's state radio program during World War II, and from 1942 to the end of the war broadcasted Nazi propaganda in an effort to convince U.S. soldiers to give up the fight. Records of the broadcasts eventually convicted her when she was later arrested and returned to the States.

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LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Your loyalty to a friend in a tough situation earns you respect from the people you care about. Those who criticize you don't understand what friendship is all about.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Your strong work ethic is rewarded with the kind of challenging opportunity you love to tackle. Now go ahead and celebrate with family and/or close friends.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) A legal matter you thought had finally been resolved could require a second look. But don't make any moves yet without consulting your lawyer.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Taking charge is what you like to do, and since you do it so well, expect to be asked to lead a special group. This could open up an exciting new vista for you.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) An important matter might wind up being entrusted to you for handling. The responsibility is heavy, but you'll have support from people who are able and eager to help.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Avoid getting lost in your thoughts early on in the week. Stay grounded until the week's end, when the aspects will give you a stroke of luck that can spur powerful action.

BORN THIS WEEK: You always try to do the right thing — and for the right reasons. No wonder people have come to depend on you.

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Super Crossword

RULING PARTY

- ACROSS: 1 Gilda Radner character on "Saturday Night Live", 9 Certain martial arts surface, 16 Just OK, 20 Enthusiastic reply to a request, 21 Raised, as a building, 22 Central point, 23 British ruler applying veneer?, 25 Violent anger, 26 Nutrition Facts category, 27 Brewed beverage, 28 Great Plains tribe, 29 The Devil, 30 Nile goddess, 33 Turkish ruler's pungent condiment?, 38 Quaint office transcribers, 41 Sleep study diagnosis, 42 Regarding, 43 Something a French-kissing Arab ruler has?, 46 Small sailboats, 51 Nuptial vow, 52 Really smell, 53 Kind of tide, 56 China's Zhou —, 57 Actress Perez, 59 Hindu ruler's radio sign-off?, 65 Secretive U.S. org., 67 Tehran's land, 68 Jug handle, 69 Skye of film, 70 Save the Russian ruler from tumbling to the ground?, 75 Actors Mineo and Landi, 77 Car club inits., 78 Coin-op hole, 79 Thesaurus entry: Abbr., 80 Afghan ruler caught up in a tornado?, 85 Stared in amazement, 89 Agate playing marble, informally, 90 Lingo suffix, 91 Greek money, 93 Brewed beverage, 94 Exam taker, 96 Very easy task for a Muslim ruler?, 102 Many a war vet's affliction, 105 Behave badly, 106 Yellowstone gusher, 107 English ruler making mouse sounds?, 111 Bomb part, 112 Liquid — (Drano rival), 113 Electees, 114 Iowa college, 116 Louver strip, 120 Hula —, 121 What's revealed by taking an X-ray of a Persian ruler?, 127 Shower affection (on), 128 Butt forcefully, 129 Waters north of Australia, 130 Went swiftly, 131 Visits during a trip, 132 Car mileage recorder, 2 Tibet locale, 3 Bat very gently, 4 Emerging, 5 Actor Studi, 6 Herr's "Alas!", 7 Sits tight, 8 Writer Rice, 9 Pa Clampett, 10 Arg. neighbor, 11 Last mo., 12 Golfer Lorena, 13 Volcano in E. Sicily, 14 — Fables, 15 Six-pt. plays, 16 Shredded, 17 Pontificate, 18 Fructose, e.g., 19 Yoked yaks, 24 Utters breathlessly, 29 Oral, 31 Most vinegary, 32 "Understood", 34 Sch. in the Granite State, 35 Director Ang, 36 Mai — (drink), 37 UFO pilots, 38 Commotion, 39 Commotion, 40 Actress Mireille —, 41 Singer Paul, 44 Ending for cash, 45 Comedian Hart, casually, 47 Hoosier State, 48 Building story, 49 Part-goat god, 50 Where it's at, 54 "It's — real!", 55 Boast, 58 Irritated, 60 Big name in peanut butter, 61 Break out in —, 62 Actress Berry, 63 Set to a slow speed, 64 Bow shapes, 66 Berry of Brazil, 70 Some mollusks, 71 Loathe, 72 Oohs and —, 73 "Lord, is —?", 74 Precursors of embryos, 75 Brief parody, 76 Cry of woe, 81 Person crying, 82 Golf gizmo, 83 Kind of tide, 84 Used a spade, 86 Cronies, 87 Model Macpherson, 88 Doe or stag, 92 Spaghetti sauce brand, 95 GPS calculation, 97 Egyptian — (cat breed), 98 Cold cubes, 99 GPS calculation, 100 Grape cluster, 101 Visual insult, 103 Slope-hitter's headwear, 104 Energetic sort, 107 Small sailboat, 108 Citation, 109 Officiated on the diamond, 110 Vessel used to lure U-boats, 111 Foul-smelling, 112 Profs' degs., 115 Maestro Klemperer, 117 Strong desire, 118 1940s film critic James, 119 "— she blows!", 121 This yr.'s grads, 122 Hosp. VIPs, 123 "Give — try", 124 Obtained, 125 Med. group, 126 DVD- —

19x19 crossword grid with 132 numbered starting points for clues.

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Salome's Stars

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Stop being the wool-gathering Lamb and start turning that dream project into a reality. You have the ideas, drive and charisma to persuade others to follow your lead, so do it.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You've scored some big successes. But remember that all hard-working Ferdinands and Ferdinandas need some time to restore their energies and refresh their spirits.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You're gaining a stronger mental image of what you're trying to achieve. Now look for the facts that will help get this to develop from a concept into a solid proposal.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Some of you eager-to-please Moon Children might want to delay some decisions until midweek, when you can again think more with your head than your heart.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) A new business venture seems to offer everything you've been looking for. But be careful that this rosy picture doesn't betray traces of red ink under the surface.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) A volatile situation needs the kind of thoughtful and considerate care you can provide right now. There'll be plenty of time later to analyze what might have gone wrong.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

- 1. Is the book of 1 Peter (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
- 2. What was a god of the Philistines that had a man's face and hands, but the body and tail of a fish? *Bullock, Elohim, Dagon, Baal-gad*
- 3. Who slew a giant that had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot when he defied Israel? *Sibbechai, Cyrus, Silas, Jonathan*
- 4. From Proverbs 22, what is a good name better than? *Great riches, Scorn, Its own reward, Lust*
- 5. What town was home to Jesse's boys? *Gilgal, Jericho, Hebron, Bethlehem*
- 6. On which day of creation did dry ground appear? *Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth*

ANSWERS: 1) New, 2) Dagon, 3) Jonathan, 4) Great riches, 5) Bethlehem, 6) Third

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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“Ferrari” (R) — From director Michael Mann (“Collateral”), this biopic follows Enzo Ferrari, owner of the car manufacturer Ferrari, during the summer of 1957 as the racing division of his company prepares for the Mille Miglia race. Portrayed by Adam Driver (“House of Gucci”), Enzo is in a state of chaos due to his company facing extreme financial losses and his deteriorating relationship with his wife, Laura (Penelope Cruz). On top of this, kept hidden away from his wife in the countryside of Modena, Italy, is Enzo’s son, Piero, with mistress Lina (Shailene Woodley), who longs to be a true family. But even with the pressure rising from all aspects of his life, Enzo is determined to keep his company out of hot water and pull off the win at the Mille Miglia. Out now to rent. (Amazon Prime Video)

action-drama series based on the novel “The Never Game” by Jeffery Deaver. Hartley plays — cue the burliest name you can think of — Colter Shaw, a “lone-wolf survivalist” with excellent tracking skills. Colter travels around the country to help citizens and law enforcement solve the mind-boggling mysteries and tragedies that have affected their town. In the first episode, Colter heads to Klamath Falls, Oregon, to dig deeper into the disappearance of a 14-year-old boy. Hartley also serves as an executive producer for the series, so here’s hoping this network show will be gripping enough to pull in viewers and get picked up for another season. The first two episodes are out now, with subsequent episodes premiering every Sunday. (Paramount+)



Courtesy of CBS

Justin Hartley stars in “Tracker.”

“Constellation” (TV-MA) — This psychological-thriller series centers on Jo (Noomi Rapace), an astronaut who barely survives a mission gone wrong in space. Upon returning to Earth, Jo starts to notice some eerie differences in her life back home, like a piano suddenly placed in her living room even though she doesn’t play. She also experiences intense hallucinations, and as time goes on, her relationship with her daughter becomes estranged. Despite getting therapy and speaking with other astronauts about her situation, Jo inches closer to the brink of madness and is left to wonder if this terrifying phenomenon will ever cease. The first two episodes premiere on Feb. 21. (Apple TV+)

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“Tracker” (TV-14) — Justin Hartley (“This Is Us”) leads this new CBS

Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

1. GEOGRAPHY: What is the capital of Canada?
2. ANIMAL KINGDOM: What was the first animal to be cloned?
3. LITERATURE: In the children’s book series “The Bobbsey Twins,” what are the names of the two sets of twins?
4. CHEMISTRY: What is the symbol for the chemical element platinum?
5. MUSIC: What is the title of Elvis Presley’s first commercial single?
6. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is the first U.S. national park?
7. MEDICAL: What is a common name for xerosis?
8. FOOD & DRINK: What is a sommelier?
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the first president to visit all 50 states?
10. HISTORY: What were the principal powers of the Axis in WWII?

Answers

1. Ottawa.
2. A sheep.
3. Nan, Bert, Flossie and Freddie.
4. Pt.
5. “That’s All Right.”
6. Yellowstone National Park.
7. Dry skin.
8. Wine expert.
9. Richard Nixon.
10. Nazi Germany, Italy and Japan.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Super Crossword

Answers

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

— Wolfgang Piber
have glasses
that's why pencils
No one is perfect —
ANSWER
CLYBRODHOE

1	8	6	4	5	3	1	2	
4	5	2	8	1	2	6	3	1
1	2	3	4	1	2	5	4	8
5	2	1	2	8	4	3	1	6
3	1	2	5	2	6	8	1	4
8	6	4	1	3	1	2	2	5
6	1	5	2	2	1	4	8	3
2	4	1	3	6	8	2	5	1
2	3	8	1	4	5	1	6	2

ANSWER
— WEEKLY SUDOKU —

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• Sunday School (all ages) 10:00 AM

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COPPER RIVER RECORD - ISSN 1539-1825
Published by John Tierney, USPS 022164
Printed at Mat-Su Valley Frontiersman, Wasilla, AK
Periodicals Postage Paid at Glennallen, AK 99588
Business Location Mile 7 Edgerton Highway
Postmaster, send address changes to:
P.O. Box 277 Glennallen, Alaska 99588

Publisher John Tierney
Editor Allison Sayer
Advisor Matt Lorenz

Copper River Record
P.O. Box 277
Glennallen, AK 99588
phone 907-259-4486
fax 888-870-3167

FREQUENCY OF PUBLICATION:
Published weekly on Thursdays, with exceptions. 48 issues/year.

ADVERTISING AND SUBMISSIONS POLICY:
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CryptoQuote

AXYDLBAAXR
is **LONGFELLOW**

One letter stands for another. In this sample, **A** is used for the three L's, **X** for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.

CN NCJ WX OJSEJHD —
DPVD'X GPL OJCHWMX
PVKJ JSVXJSX.
— GNMEFVCF SWJRJ

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SCRAMBLERS
Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Stash
CHEAC

Froth
HALTER

Deduce
FINER

Lowly
MALINE

TODAY'S WORD

The Buzz

BRAD KIMBERLIN

Greetings Copper River Valley beekeepers, potential beekeepers, and the curious!

It's been a while since we last wrote an article. With spring just around the corner it's time to start thinking about all that entails. If you have ever been interested in beekeeping, now is the time to prepare. Beekeeping can be a very rewarding activity for those who are interested. They are truly amazing creatures; the complexity of a colony is something that we as beekeepers hold in awe.

Beekeeping can be as simple as dumping a package of bees into a bee box and seeing what happens by fall. Or managing multiple colonies raising Queens for next year, making splits (raising more colonies), producing

hundreds of pounds of honey for personal use gifting and sales.

I like to equate beekeeping to fishing:

Just how good do you want to get at it?

There are some really good articles, books and YouTube teachings on how to prepare your bees for the next season. Building up their numbers with young bees also known as nurse bees. Preparing them with enough sugar syrup honey to make it through the winter. How to build an indoor winter barn/shed.

In the last few years there has been more interest in wintering colonies. Part of it is the cost of a package of bees. I believe this year a four pound package of bees with a Russian Queen is north of \$250. Then there's the thing about

being responsible for tens of thousands of creatures in each individual colony—a good strong colony might have 60,000 bees. They are considered to be livestock. As a bee wrangler, my personal opinion is we have a responsibility to take care of our critters even the tiny honeybee. Others see it as livestock that have served their purpose and they are dumped out or vacuumed up in the fall.

We have been wintering bees for about 10 years. The first few years were a let's say dismal failure. There is a pretty sharp learning curve and what needs to be done to winter successfully outdoors is different from what would be recommended to winter in a bee barn. To winter outdoors, the biggest challenge is condensation buildup in really cold weather. It can create frost in the hive. In the spring

when it warms up it melts and water drips down on the bees and it's lights out. It isn't fun cleaning up tens of thousands of wet dead bees trying to get your equipment ready for another season.

In a bee barn the challenge is holding the temperature around 40 degrees. Through trial and error it is generally thought they will do better for reasons I'm not going to go into. Among beekeepers there can be a lot of debate on the perfect temperature. If you get your barn really insulated like R-50 and put enough boxes of bees in there they will create enough heat to keep themselves warm all winter. I've heard everything from 5 watts per box to 25 watts per box.

The trick then becomes how to keep the temperature down. Temperature controllers and fans to remove the excess heat are problematic with our standard power outages. A lot of them don't reset properly. I've got a pile of fancy temperature controllers that just don't work well. If a bee barn doesn't have enough honey boxes to keep it warm enough or it's not insulated sufficiently then heat needs to be provided. That can get expensive quick.

Every year the local beekeepers, potential beekeepers, the curious and other folks who just want to get out and have some fun get together at the Kenny Lake Community league around mid march. This year we are looking at March 15 and 16. We call the annual event the Bee Social.

On Friday evening the Local 4-H program puts on a dinner (donations accepted) followed by a presentation on beekeeping. Then Saturday morning around 9 we have several local beekeepers share some advice and practices on beekeeping.

We generally have a potluck lunch around noon then some hands-on experience building equipment and how to set up your colonies. We try to end with some of the more in-depth aspects of beekeeping like wintering, nutrition and such. This year we are trying to establish a beekeeping co-op. The main goal is to bring in fresh packages of honey bees as a group to keep the expense down and maybe bulk order some equipment.

For the people in outlying areas and Valdez I believe The Ambergs are going to have cabins available at Wrangell Mountain Homestead.

TAZLINA RIVER TRADING POST

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THIS MONTHS SPECIAL:

<p>Christmas Trees</p> <p>Toys</p> <p>Candy</p>	<p>Ammo</p> <p>Ornaments</p> <p>Advent Calenders</p>
--	---



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Beekeeping Clinic

learn the basics of beekeeping!



March 15 and 16

Kenny Lake Community Hall, Mile 7, Kenny Lake, Alaska


Meet & Greet Dinner for Beekeepers and the Curious

Friday, March 15
6-9 PM

Dinner hosted by local 4H Club followed
by first bee lecture



Beekeeping basics - Caring for Your Bees -
Wintering - Harvesting - Bees In Alaska



Saturday, March 16
9AM-4PM

Please bring a dish for a potluck lunch!



Come for a weekend of fun,
learning, door prizes, and more!



Please call Brad at (907) 831-2063 with any questions



Photo by John Tierney

“Telegraph” is the name of this route for Skiing/Snowboarding in Thompson Pass. Getting its name from the still standing telegraph cable towers on the ridge. Only certain years is it ridable.



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve
PO Box 439, Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy. Copper Center, AK 99573 907-822-5234

LOCAL HIRE JOB Announcements

The National Park Service is currently accepting resumes for the following positions:

2024 full time Summer seasonal position:

Open 2/20/2024 and closes 3/05/2024

Position located in Copper Center, AK:

WRST-24-019

Biological Science Technician GS-0404-05 \$21.42 per hour + 3.21 COLA
Biological Science Technician GS-0404-07 \$26.53 per hours + 3.21 COLA

Make sure to write the job announcement number on your resume

Send Resume to: wrst_hr@nps.gov

Job Postings Located:

<https://www.nps.gov/wrst/getinvolved/employment.htm>

Margaret Billinger CRS, GRI, ABR

margaretbillinger.com

maggibillinger@yahoo.com | (907) 841-2188

Featured Listing!



Live and work in your own property with living quarters upstairs and Gift shop gallery below. This historic building has been restored and a work in progress since 1978. Being only 5 minutes from the Copper River this location would be perfect for a coffee or ice cream shop or continue as a gift shop. Seller is willing to sell gift shop inventory on a separate bill of sale.

\$225,000 • MLS #23-5377



Own your own private estate! Property features your own lake, over-sized garage, spa building complete with pool, jacuzzi, and steam room.

\$1,600,000 • MLS #23-857



Nice ranch style home with that off grid feel. There is another cabin that needs work, could use as Airbnb when fixed up.

\$150,000 • MLS #23-8569



Remote cabin with road access on 5 acres with an abundance of wildlife! Property features well, septic, outhouse, sauna house, garage & woodshed.

\$150,000 • MLS #23-4526



Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with large yard, detached garage and carport. Home has private well on 1.27 acres.

\$229,000 • MLS #23-14046

Nice large level treed lot. Lot has good soils and is dry. Has highway frontage on the Edgerton Hwy and is about 35 miles to Copper River.

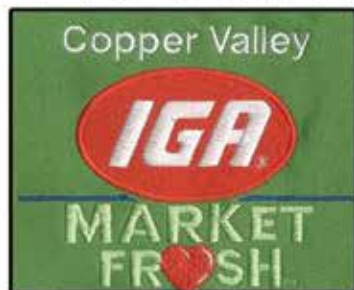
No property taxes.
\$69,000 • MLS #23-8560

Nice treed lot near Dot Lake.

\$25,000 • MLS #23-11441

Jack White Real Estate | 865 N Seward Meridian, Wasilla 99654

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Behind the Lens, Continued from Pg. 1

invested in different lenses. “The best camera is the one you’ve got with you,” said McLaren, “My brothers’ cameras were a good intro into DSLRs.”

The rigors of shooting in frigid temperatures demand a lot from the gear. McLaren has learned techniques that keep her cameras and lenses from collecting moisture or fogging up in the field. One simple technique to keep the eye cup from fogging up is controlling her breathing. When the camera is against McLaren’s face, she pushes her exhale away from the camera instead of next to it. This keeps the eye cup from icing up. Switching to a plastic eye cup instead of glass also helped with the fogging/icing issue.

Once McLaren’s camera has been outside for an hour - sometimes in - 50 below F temperatures - it has to be slowly warmed up for at least an hour before the camera can be used indoors. “When it’s 50 below, we’re looking at a 100 or 110 or more degree difference between outside and inside. Once the camera has been outside in those temperatures, I usually don’t take it inside,” said McLaren.

She often drives her truck to shooting locations along the trail accessible by road. Not running the heater and keeping her photography gear in the backseat helps give some protection to the equipment without warming it too much. Most camera websites will advise not using digital DSLRs below 30 degrees F. McLaren has to push the gear hard to get the shots.

Sometimes the equipment gets cranky, said McLaren, “I have had cameras slow down, and the shutter curtain squeaks. The camera continues to work, but the lenses have lubrication in them, similar to different parts in your vehicle. That can gel up and get solid, making it difficult to push the zoom, and sometimes the focus of the camera doesn’t want to react quite as fast. There are ways to mitigate that - sticking with one focal length throughout the shot.”

McLaren described instances where she rode a snow machine in - 50 below for a long time and had the camera in a bag on her back. When she set up at the spot where the musher came by, her camera went

“crckk,crckk,” low battery. “I got nothing. I was like, ‘Great, I just froze to come say Hi,’” said McLaren, laughing at the situation.

The batteries are what she worries about the most with her work. McLaren carries ten of them and tries to carry a backup camera setup in case her lead camera fogs or freezes up. But sometimes, the most careful planning isn’t enough.

Working on the Kobuk 440 in 2020, McLaren was riding a snow machine to a location on the race trail. Her camera bag, loaded with gear, was lashed on the back of the machine. The bag fell off without her knowing but remained connected to the speeding machine. It was dragging, bumping, and jerking around behind the snowmachine for an unknown amount of miles as McLaren drove down the trail on the Kobuk. When she arrived at the shooting location, she opened the frozen, snow-packed camera bag, and the first thing she did was take a picture of the carnage.

“I looked in the camera bag, and the lens and camera had disconnected themselves. There was snow in the bag, on the back of the lens, and in the camera body where the lens connects. I was like, ‘Uhhhh, how do I not just cry right now.’ But the race was still happening,” said McLaren.

On that same race, at a different location, multiple zippers worked their way




Photo by Cat Strader
Whitney McLaren shooting on the race trail.

undone, and in the swaying back and forth of her backpack, her computer fell into the snow somewhere. McLaren found everything that was in her bag, including papers in the same sleeve as the laptop, but she never found the computer. It’s on the Kobuk River, up by Onion Portage somewhere. A strange find for someone fishing up there this summer.

McLaren is also an archaeologist in Fairbanks in the summer, but her main winter seasonal work is

photographing sled dog races. The CB300 team helps McLaren with gas and finds her a place to stay, but it’s the mushers and fans buying her photos that allow her to continue to do this work.

Her website offers options to buy photos or sponsor McLaren by buying her a coffee, helping with a snow machine ride, a tank of gas, or a plane ticket. You can view Whitney McLaren’s photography at mushing-photos.com. And if you can, kick her a cup of coffee. She’s earned it.



Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve
PO Box 439, Mile 106.8 Richardson Hwy. Copper Center, AK 99573 907-822-5234

LOCAL HIRE JOB Announcements

The National Park Service is currently accepting applications for the Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) position(s):

Open 2/09/2024 and closes 3/29/2024

Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) Positions – these positions are for youth ages 16-18 and begin work on or about May 28, 2024 and end on or about August 9, 2024. These positions work 28-32 hours per week and the pay rate is \$15.00 per hour.

For information on these positions, please contact:

- Russell Scribner at (907)308-1021
- Diane Ellsworth at (907)822-7262

The official YCC application is located on the park’s website at:
www.nps.gov/wrst/getinvolved/employment/ycc

Submit the YCC application to: wrst_hr@nps.gov

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