



FORECAST FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND							
23	54°	24	53°	25	52°	26	53°
100%	46°	100%	44°	100%	44°	100%	44°
SATURDAY: EAST WIND 10 MPH, SUNDAY: SOUTHEAST WIND 5 MPH							



DAILY SITKA SENTINEL

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WEEKEND EDITION

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8 Pages

70th Salmon Derby Kicks Off Saturday

GARLAND KENNEDY
Sentinel Staff Writer

The 70th Sitka Sportsman's Association Salmon Derby kicks off Saturday morning, drawing anglers of all ages in the annual competition for prize-winning king salmon.

Rain and high winds are in the forecast for the first three days of the derby, Saturday through Memorial Day Monday.

The derby is a main fundraiser for the Sportsman's Association, a non-profit that runs an indoor shooting range north of town and also hosts events such as pistol leagues, trap shooting contests, and swap and sell meets. In 2024, the association gave away \$6,000 in four scholarships to local students.

This year is not only the 70th anniversary of the Sitka Salmon Derby, but the 25th year at the helm for John McCrehin, derby chairman and president of the Sitka Sportsman's Association.

McCrehin told the Sentinel that he always looks forward to the derby as a signpost for summertime that brings families together on the water.

"It's the biggest family event in Sitka," McCrehin said. "Over the years, I've seen every combination of family members fishing against family members." It's now a tradition for three generations of his own family, he said.

Less than ideal weather may add a layer of concern for small boat anglers on the water this weekend. The National Weather Service calls for rain and wind to hit Sitka today and continue through the weekend. (See weather story, this page). A low pressure system over the Gulf of Alaska is expected to bring rough weather to the region beginning today, the Weather Service says.

Top prize this year is \$20,000 for the heaviest king salmon, with a range of prizes for smaller fish and "hidden weights" in the final standings.

McCrehin said this year's grand prize was donated by Bev Caldwell, who runs Caldwell Business Properties. Last year Caldwell donated the \$5,000 first prize, and McCrehin said when he saw this year's check "my eyes must have bowed."

Second prize is two round trip tickets on Alaska Airlines and \$4,000 in cash, while the third gets \$2,000 and an outboard engine. Other cash prizes are on offer from a host of businesses around town, and not all are related to how large the fish is in relation to others.

There are also memorial prizes in honor of Chuck McGraw Jr., Chief Martin Fredrickson, Louie Baggen, Frank Williams, Mark Bagley and Mike Bagley.

In a change from prior derbies, no check-in station will be set up at Kalinin Bay, as Eric Jordan, who volunteered to run the station for the past 37 years, has retired from that role, McCrehin said.

As usual, the main check-in station and derby headquarters will be on a barge in Crescent Harbor. Sepp and Tracie Castle, aboard the F/V Sheila D, will be at Goddard to check in fish over the first weekend.

North of town, Mike White will check in fish at the Starrigavan boat launch Saturday and Sunday, but not on Monday.

Entry fees are \$35 for a single day; \$40 for two days; \$45 for three; \$50 for four; and \$55 for five. A five-day family ticket is \$85. Prices are \$5 higher across the board compared to last year. McCrehin said he's seen many things in fishing derbies over the years, and recalled the day a few years ago when a woman from Hawaii turned up, asking to fish.

"She came over, thought she could just hop on any boat and go fishing. Couldn't find anybody, even after she showed up with beer and lunch for whoever would take her out," McCrehin said. "She had one of these paddle boards, and we keep a little fishing pole down here for kids. So we gave her some bait from one of the fish getting cleaned out. And she paddled out there in her dry suit, and I think she even bought a ticket, just to participate, and she paddled out there... She was out there for a couple hours and didn't

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Rainy, Windy Days Ahead

GARLAND KENNEDY
Sentinel Staff Writer

The holiday weekend in Sitka will start with rain and high winds associated with a front that will strike southern Southeast with gale force winds, the National Weather Service says.

"We're looking at a front coming up for the weekend. Right around the Sitka area, it might not be gale force, but it'll definitely be blowing," Edward Liske, a Weather Service meteorologist in Juneau, told the Sentinel late Thursday. "Definitely be about 20 to 25, maybe 30 knots out of the southeast in that area."

Sitka enjoyed some fair conditions this week, with only 0.17 inches of rain logged at the airport between Monday and Thursday, but that fine weather is set to end in the coming hours.

"A decent front (is) coming in, and it's going to be for most of the weekend. Saturday is looking the windiest; Sunday, it might let up a little bit, but not all that much. Then we've got another system coming in for Monday into next week. Hope you enjoyed the nicer weather today and possibly the first half of tomorrow, but it's going downhill after that."

The stormy forecast coincides with the start of the annual Sitka Salmon Derby, which casts off Saturday and runs through Memorial Day Monday, and continuing the next weekend, May 31 to June 1.

A marine weather statement from

Continued on Back Page

The Daily Sentinel will not publish Monday, May 26 in observance of Memorial Day



Carrying The Torch

Alaska Department of Public Safety Training Academy cadets and others jog over the O'Connell Bridge Saturday during the national Law Enforcement Torch Run. The event is held to raise awareness and funds for the Special

Olympics programs. The Torch Run was created in 1981 by Wichita, Kansas, Police Chief Richard LaMunyon to help law enforcement be active in the community and support Special Olympics. (Sentinel Photo by James Poulson)

Legislators' Work Sheet: 33 Bills in 4 Months

By JAMES BROOKS
Alaska Beacon

Before adjourning their regular session for the year, Alaska legislators passed 33 bills through both the House and Senate. Two were vetoed before lawmakers left the Capitol. One of those became the subject of the first successful veto override since 2009.

Here's a look at what's passed and is headed to Gov. Mike Dunleavy for final approval or rejection.

Education took top billing

Except for the budget, no subject took more of the Legislature's attention than education. In April, lawmakers passed House Bill 69, which would have increased the base student allocation — core of the state's per-student funding formula for public schools — by \$1,000 per student.

Dunleavy vetoed that bill days later, which caused legislators to switch their attention to House Bill 57, an alternative proposal that had a \$700 BSA increase and some policy measures proposed by the governor. The House and Senate passed that in late April, but Dunleavy vetoed that bill, too. On Monday, legislators overrode that veto by six votes, marking the first time since 2009 that the Legislature has overridden a governor's veto and the first time since 2002 that it did so to a sitting governor.

Legislators also passed Senate Bill



Sen. Jesse Bjorkman, R-Nikiski, gets a chit sheet signature from Rep. Donna Mears, D-Anchorage, on May 16 for an upcoming bill. (Photo by James Brooks/Alaska Beacon)

95 and Senate Bill 96, which would create a tax credit program that rewards companies that invest in child care programs for their workers. It also offers a new grant program for child care and expands the number of families eligible for child care assistance from the state.

The Legislature passed both of those bills last year but had to redo them this year because of a legal chal-

lenge. These new versions have yet to be considered by the governor.

Budget and finances on the table

The veto override for HB 57 likely won't be the last word on education. The new education formula in HB 57 is subject to funding through the state operating budget, House Bill 53. Dunleavy has the ability to veto line items from the budget, and overriding his decisions on that document would take

45 votes, not the 40 it took to override him on HB 57.

In addition, a part of the education bill is contingent upon the enactment of Senate Bill 113, which changes the way the state handles corporate income taxes assessed on internet businesses. It doesn't increase taxes, but it does divert revenue from other states to Alaska's treasury, and Dunleavy implied on Monday that he would veto that bill because he doesn't view it as a stable way to pay for part of the education bill.

In addition to HB 53, the operating budget, lawmakers also passed House Bill 55, the state's comprehensive mental health budget, and Senate Bill 57, the state's capital budget, which is used to pay for construction and renovation projects across the state.

Because of low oil prices and the Legislature's reluctance to pass new revenue measures, all three budget bills were smaller this year than last year.

Few services will see budget increases, and this year's Permanent Fund dividend is \$1,000, down from \$1,403 last year. Alaskans received another \$298 last year as a one-time bonus atop the regular dividend.

Help for tourism

Early in the legislative session, lawmakers approved a bill that allows the state-owned Alaska Railroad to bor-

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Sitkans Will Take to the Streets for Porch Fest

SHANNON HAUGLAND
Sentinel Staff Writer

Porch Fest, the annual street festival in downtown Sitka, on Saturday will again celebrate Sitka artists, art in all its forms and, perhaps most of all, community.

"My favorite thing about Porch Fest is the sense of community, just being able to be downtown and have so many exciting, lively things happening," said Tonia Puletau-Lang, a member of the Greater Sitka Arts Council board and one of the organizers of the all-day event on Lincoln Street.

Porch Fest runs 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and includes art vendors, street performances, art workshops and activities, live music at the Crescent Harbor shelter, food vendors and sidewalk chalk art. Most events are free.

Lincoln Street will be closed 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. for are the street performances in front of St. Michael's Cathedral. Sitka Cirque will perform 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Sitka Studio of Dance 1 to 2 p.m.; Emily's Fitness 2 to 3 p.m.; and Zumba with Kate 3 to 4 p.m.

Sitka Cirque director Frances Donohoe said there will be eight or nine solo performances from the studio's spring show "Fairy Tales from Around the World." The studio will set up an outdoor rig for their silks performances, presenting samples of the pieces the artists worked on all year for the big spring show.

Art vendors will be staged in front of Sitka Mercantile in the 100 block of Lincoln, and art workshops and activities will take place in front of Island Artists Gallery, 205 Lincoln. They include buttonmaking with the Sitka



Maia Carter, facing camera, and other Sitkans dance on Lincoln Street during the 2024 Sitka Porch Fest. Carter is coordinating music for this year's festival, which takes place Saturday. (Sentinel Photo by James Poulson)

Conservation Society; a copper wire bracelet-making workshop taught by Petra Lechner; a watercolor workshop with Pat Kehoe; and a beaded bracelet class by Linda Janacek.

The workshops by Lechner, Kehoe and Janacek are organized by Island Artists Gallery.

Another activity nearby is Poetry on Demand and Creative Writing, in which the public is invited to write po-

etry on a typewriter provided by Tongass Mist. "Share stories about your history and experiences in the Tongass and Sitka," the Porch Fest description says.

The art vendors in front of Sitka Mercantile include Rugged Weaves, Crafting for Justice, Tidal Trove, Gone Feral, The North Art Collective, Forty Nine & Pine, Bizarre Sitka Arts, Uprooted Jewelry Design, Mert's Shirts and Sitka Twisters (balloon animals).

Food vendors next to the shelter include Juan's Cuban Cuisine, The Donut Shack, Jessie's Uptown Dogs and El Oso Cafe.

Before joining the GSAC board, and volunteering to serve as one of the organizers for Porch Fest, Puletau-Lang was a regular attendee with her kids, and enjoyed it personally and as a fun family-friendly event.

Continued on Back Page

NEXT SHIP

Saturday, May 24
Passengers
200 (capacity)

NG Venture
Gary Paxton Industrial Park
7am – 6pm

Sunday, May 25
Passengers
1450 (capacity)

NG Quest
Gary Paxton Industrial Park
7am – 6pm

Riviera
Sitka Cruise Terminal
9am – 6pm

Monday, May 26
Passengers
6785 (capacity)

Summit
Sitka Cruise Terminal
7am – 3:30pm

Norwegian Bliss
Sitka Cruise Terminal
10am – 6pm

Silver Moon
O'Connell Bridge
11am – 7pm

Tuesday, May 27
Passengers
7210 (capacity)

Anthem of the Seas
Sitka Cruise Terminal
8am-5pm

Viking Venus
Sitka Cruise Terminal
8am – 6pm

Serenade of the Seas
Sitka Cruise Terminal
11:30am – 6pm

NOTE: All info based on data available at press time. Subject to change.

Letters to the Editor

Praise to Paraprofessionals

Dear Editor: I write to shine a light on some of the most dedicated professionals in our Sitka school district – our paraprofessionals who work tirelessly with children experiencing special needs. These remarkable individuals deserve our community's recognition and gratitude for the extraordinary work they do every single day.

Walking through our school halls, you'll witness the magic these paraprofessionals create. With patience that seems endless and hearts overflowing with kindness, they meet each child exactly where they are. Whether helping a student navigate social interactions, breaking down complex academic concepts into manageable steps, or simply offering a reassuring presence during challenging moments, our paraprofessionals approach every situation with unwavering dedication.

What strikes me most about these professionals is their incredible organization and attention to detail. They are exceptional team players who bring flexibility and adaptability to every situation. They track progress, adapt strategies on the fly, and main-

LETTERS POLICY

The Sentinel welcomes Letters to the Editor on issues of local interest. Letters should be 500 words or fewer. A letter should be addressed to the editor, and not be a copy of a letter to a third party. Letters must be signed with the writer's name. Anonymous letters or those written under a pseudonym will not be considered. No more than one letter per person per month, please. Letters may be edited for length or content. A phone number must be provided for verification purposes, but it will not be printed. Letters from local residents will be given preference.

Climate CONNECTION

Connecting to the issues, the solutions and each other - a collaborative effort by Sitkans concerned about climate change.

Sharing to Protect Climate

Part of protecting our future and that of our children is to reduce consumerism, to recycle and reuse the earth's resources, and to live within ecological limits. With that in mind, Wales has passed a law entitled "Well-being of Future Generations Act." In 2020, the Welsh initiated "libraries of things" in community settings, shipping containers, housing associations, grassroot groups, and libraries. In 28 Welsh towns to date, these libraries may stock tools, garden and camping equipment, cleaning devices, household appliances, party supplies, and anything that people need only occasionally (e.g., for visiting guests). The idea is to help people save money, space, and resources by borrowing what they need rather than buying it. Borrowing can also facilitate recycling. For example, borrowing a sewing machine may enable mending and patching clothes that otherwise might be discarded.

The initial Transition Town, Totnes in England, has a nonprofit Network of Wellbeing that initiated a library of things in a mobile van to support a more collaborative and sustainable lifestyle and to reduce clutter. It has 350 items at low "rental" cost for 7 days use by members and inspires people to consider social change. The Network has published "Setting Up and Sustaining a Library of Things" and offers free consultation. It has community ShareFest gatherings to share skills, repair broken items, and create new things.

Our own Sitka Public Library has a new Library of Things. It includes food preparation devices like a Cake Pop Maker and Cuisinart Ice Cream Maker; electronic equipment like CD and DVCD players and USB external disc drive; tools like a DeWalt cordless drill, bit set, and stud finder; and energy efficiency devices such as thermal leak detectors and Kill-a-

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tain detailed records – all while making it look effortless. Their ability to juggle multiple responsibilities while keeping students' needs at the center of everything they do is nothing short of remarkable.

But perhaps most importantly, these paraprofessionals put kids first, always. They celebrate the smallest victories with genuine joy, whether it's a student finally mastering a difficult concept or taking a brave step toward independence. They see potential where others might see limitations, and they nurture that potential with incredible skill and compassion.

As a teacher, I can honestly say that working alongside our paraprofessionals has made me better at what I do. They teach me daily through their example—showing me new ways to connect with students, creative approaches to problem-solving, and the profound impact that genuine care can have on a child's development. Their insights about students often show options that I might never have discovered on my own.

Our community is incredibly fortunate to have these professionals working with our most unique learners. They don't just provide academic support; they build confidence, foster independence, and help children believe in themselves. The ripple effects of their work extend far beyond the classroom, shaping the futures of the students they serve and strengthening our entire community.

These paraprofessionals work with some of our most precious children during their most formative years, and they do so with a level of professionalism, creativity, and heart that deserves our highest praise. They are true educators in every sense of the word, and Sitka is blessed to have each of them.

Meggan Turner,
Special Education Teacher

Watt electricity usage monitors. The library also has chess and checker board games, a ghost hunter kit, movies, and access to shared books from other Alaska libraries. Unfortunately, frozen federal monies from the Institute of Museum and Library Services may have eliminated access to some previously available shared resources from outside of Alaska.

Our Sitka Public Library supplements other sharing resources in Sitka. SAIL (Southeast Alaska for Independent Living) lends medical equipment such as walkers, crutches, wheel chairs, knee scooters, commodes, shower chairs, and assistive devices for use by Sitka residents with short-term disabilities. The White Elephant sells donated clothing, household furnishings, and toys, distributing its earnings to Sitka nonprofits in a virtuous circle. The Salvation Army also assists us to recycle for reuse items that we no longer use. Options to de-clutter that allow others to find items they want are on-line (e.g., Sitka For Sale and Facebook Marketplace) and in consignment stores (Tongass Threads, Sweet Peas). Sitka could benefit by sharing construction materials from renovation and bartered skills and goods in a circular economy. Reuse helps reduce our carbon footprint arising from resource extraction, materials production, manufacturing, shipping products to Sitka, and waste disposal.

— Kay Kreiss, Transition Sitka

Sitka Yesterday

20 YEARS AGO' May 2005

The Sitka Amateur Boxing Club won the team title Saturday at a regional competition in Ketchikan. All three Sitka Boxers –Ethan Ojala, Jack See and Wyatt Ojala – won at least one match.

50 YEARS AGO May 1975

The Holy Synod of the Orthodox Church in America has sanctioned a church-wide appeal for the Alaskan Diocese and specifically toward the reconstruction of the historic St. Michael's Cathedral. In addition, all parishes of the church will hold a special collection for St. Michael's Cathedral on Nov. 23. The cathedral was destroyed in a downtown fire on Jan. 2, 1966.

Weather

Sitka Forecast

A rainy Sitka Salmon Derby weekend lies ahead, with 100 percent forecast every day. Tonight, a low of 46 degrees; Saturday a high of 54 and an overnight low of 46 degrees; Sunday, a high of 53, overnight low of 44; Monday, a high of 52 and an overnight low of 44 degrees. The rain will continue Tuesday, with a high of 53 degrees.

Sitka Weather

Temperatures ranged from 37 to 51 degrees, winds were calm and rainfall measured .10 inch.

U.S. Judge Halts Attack On Harvard Enrollment

By COLLIN BINKLEY Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge today blocked the Trump administration from cutting off Harvard's enrollment of foreign students, an action the Ivy League school decried as unconstitutional retaliation for defying the White House's political demands.

In its lawsuit filed earlier today in federal court in Boston, Harvard said the government's action violates the First Amendment and will have an "immediate and devastating effect for Harvard and more than 7,000 visa holders."

"With the stroke of a pen, the government has sought to erase a quarter of Harvard's student body, internationally to the University and its mission," Harvard said in its suit. "Without its international students, Harvard is not Harvard."

The ruling from U.S. District Judge Allison Burroughs puts the sanction against Harvard on hold, pending the lawsuit.

The Trump administration move has thrown campus into disarray days before graduation. Harvard said in the suit. International students who run labs, teach courses, assist professors and participate in Harvard sports are now left deciding whether to transfer or risk losing legal status to stay in the country, according to the filing.

The impact would be heaviest at graduate schools such as the Harvard Kennedy School, where about half the student body comes from abroad, and Harvard Business School, which is about one-third international. Along with the impact on current students, the move would block thousands of students who were planning to come for summer and fall classes.

Harvard said it immediately puts the school at a disadvantage as it competes for the world's top students. Even if it regains the ability to host students, "future applicants may shy away from applying out of fear of further reprisals from the government," the suit said.

If the government's action stands, Harvard said, the university would be unable to offer admission to new international students for at least the next two academic years. Schools that have that certification withdrawn by the federal government are ineligible to reapply until one year afterward, Harvard said.

Harvard enrolls almost 6,800 foreign students at its campus in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Most are graduate students and they come from more than 100 countries.

The Department of Homeland Security announced the action Thursday, accusing Harvard of creating an unsafe campus environment by allowing "anti-American, pro-terrorist agitators" to assault Jewish students on campus. It

DOJ Reaches Deal With Boeing Over 2 Crashes

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Justice Department has reached a deal with Boeing that will allow the airplane giant to avoid criminal prosecution for allegedly misleading U.S. regulators about the 737 Max jetliner before two of the planes crashed and killed 346 people, according to court papers filed today.

Under the "agreement in principle," which still needs to be finalized, Boeing would pay or invest more than \$1.1 billion, including an additional \$445 million for the crash victims' families, the Justice Department said.

In return, the department has agreed to dismiss the fraud charge against Boeing, allowing the manufacturer to avoid a possible criminal conviction that could have jeopardized the company's status as a federal contractor, according to experts.

"Ultimately, in applying the facts, the law, and Department policy, we are confident that this resolution is the most just outcome with practical benefits," a Justice Department spokesperson said in a statement.

"Nothing will diminish the victims' losses, but this resolution holds Boeing financially accountable, provides finality and compensation for the families and makes an impact for the safety of future air travelers."

Boeing today declined to comment. Some relatives of the passengers who died in the crashes, which took place off the coast of Indonesia and in Ethiopia less than five months apart in 2018 and 2019, have been pushing for a public trial, the prosecution of former company officials, and more severe financial punishment for Boeing. The Justice Department noted that the victims' families had mixed views on the proposed deal.

"This kind of non-prosecution deal is unprecedented and obviously wrong for the deadliest corporate crime in U.S. history," said Paul Cassell, an attorney for many of the families in the long-running case. "My families will object and hope to convince the court to reject it."

Javier de Luis, whose sister, Graziella, died in the Ethiopia crash, said the Justice Department is walking away "from any pretense to seek justice for the victims of the 737Max crashes."

"The message sent by this action to

also accused Harvard of coordinating with the Chinese Communist Party, contending the school had hosted and trained members of a Chinese paramilitary group as recently as 2024.

Harvard President Alan Garber earlier this month said the university has made changes to its governance over the past year and a half, including a broad strategy to combat antisemitism. He said Harvard would not budge on its "its core, legally-protected principles" over fears of retaliation. Harvard has said it will respond at a later time to allegations first raised by House Republicans about coordination with the Chinese Communist Party.

Lawrence Summers, a former Harvard president and U.S. treasury secretary, wrote on X that the decision would mean losing key people, "some small fraction of whom are going to go on to be Prime Ministers of countries who've now been turned into enemies of the United States." He said the administration's action "is madness."

The threat to Harvard's international enrollment stems from an April 16 request from Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, who demanded that Harvard provide information about foreign students that might implicate them in violence or protests that could lead to their deportation.

Harvard says it provided "thousands of data points" in response to Noem's April 16 demand. Her letter on Thursday said Harvard failed to satisfy her request, but the school said she failed to provide any further explanation.

"It makes generalized statements about campus environment and 'anti-Americanism,' again without articulating any rational link between those statements and the decision to retaliate against international students," the suit said.

Harvard's lawsuit said the administration violated the government's own regulations for withdrawing a school's certification.

The government can and does remove colleges from the Student Exchange and Visitor Program, making them ineligible to host foreign students on their campus. However, it's usually for administrative reasons outlined in law, such as failing to maintain accreditation, lacking proper facilities for classes, or failing to employ qualified professional personnel.

Noem said Harvard can regain its ability to host foreign students if it produces a trove of records on foreign students within 72 hours. Her updated request demands all records, including audio or video footage, of foreign students participating in protests or dangerous activity on campus.

The lawsuit is separate from the university's earlier one challenging more than \$2 billion in federal cuts imposed by the Republican administration.

companies around the country is, don't worry about making your products safe for your customers," he said in a statement. "Even if you kill them, just pay a small fine and move on."

Boeing was accused of misleading the Federal Aviation Administration about aspects of the Max before the agency certified the plane for flight. Boeing did not tell airlines and pilots about a new software system, called MCAS, that could turn the plane's nose down without input from pilots if a sensor detected that the plane might go into an aerodynamic stall.

The Max planes crashed after a faulty reading from the sensor pushed the nose down and pilots were unable to regain control. After the second crash, Max jets were grounded worldwide until the company redesigned MCAS to make it less powerful and to use signals from two sensors, not just one.

The Justice Department charged Boeing in 2021 with deceiving FAA regulators about the software, which did not exist in older 737s, and about how much training pilots would need to fly the plane safely. The department agreed not to prosecute Boeing at the time, however, if the company paid a \$2.5 billion settlement, including the \$243.6 million fine, and took steps to comply with anti-fraud laws for three years.

Federal prosecutors, however, last year said Boeing violated the terms of the 2021 agreement by failing to make promised changes to detect and prevent violations of federal anti-fraud laws. Boeing agreed last July to plead guilty to the felony fraud charge instead of enduring a potentially lengthy public trial.

But in December, U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor in Fort Worth rejected the plea deal. The judge said the diversity, inclusion and equity, or DEI, policies in the government and at Boeing could result in race being a factor in picking a monitor to oversee Boeing's compliance with the agreement.

The plea deal had called for an independent monitor to be named to oversee Boeing's safety and quality procedures for three years. Under the agreement announced today, Boeing must retain an "independent compliance consultant" who will make recommendations for "further improvement" and report back to the government, according to court papers.



People gather to light candles in a makeshift memorial to honor Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim who were killed as they left an event at the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, during a candlelight vigil outside of the White House in Washington, Thursday. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana, file)

Suspect in D.C. Killings Protested Gaza War

By MICHAEL BIESECKER and JIM MUSTIAN Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In the years before he was accused of killing two Israeli Embassy employees, the suspect in the fatal shootings was an active participant in Chicago's left-wing protest scene, speaking out against police violence and a proposed Amazon headquarters. Then the war in Gaza ignited his fury into violence.

Elias Rodriguez, 31, was charged Thursday with the murder of foreign officials and other crimes in connection with the deaths of Israeli citizen Yaron Lischinsky and Sarah Milgrim, an American, as they left an event at a Jewish museum. The couple had plans to become engaged.

He told police after his arrest, "I did it for Palestine. I did it for Gaza," according to court filings.

Rodriguez lived in a modest 850-square-foot apartment on Chicago's north side and worked as an administrative assistant at a medical trade group. He had no apparent criminal record.

In his activism, he protested police violence against minorities and the power of corporations. His online posts had recently become fixated on the war in Gaza, calling for retaliation against Israel.

In the window of his apartment hung a photo of Wadee Alfayoumi, a 6-year-old Muslim boy killed in a stabbing in Chicago shortly after the start of the war, which was sparked by the Oct. 7, 2023, attack by the Palestinian militant group Hamas that resulted in the deaths of some 1,200 people in Israel, mostly civilians, and the abductions of 251 others.

A neighbor, John Wayne Fry, told reporters that Rodriguez and a woman who lived with him appeared to be "very sensitive people, especially about the issue of Palestine."

Suspect protested outside Chicago mayor's home

An October 2017 article in Liberation, the online newspaper for the Party for Socialism and Liberation, quoted Rodriguez as a member of the group participating in a protest outside the Chicago home of then-Mayor Rahm Emanuel over the police shooting of black teenager Laquan McDonald and the city's bid to be the site for a new Amazon headquarters. A photo of a man holding a protest sign published with the article appeared to match photos of Rodriguez posted on social media.

The organization denied Thursday that Rodriguez was an active member, though it acknowledged a "brief association" in the past. The group also scrubbed the 2017 article identifying Rodriguez as a member from its website.

"We reject any attempt to associate the PSL with the DC shooting," the group said in a statement. "We know of no contact with (Rodriguez) in over 7 years. We have nothing to do with this shooting and do not support it."

As recently as this week, the group's X feed posted pro-Palestinian statements calling for an end to the war in Gaza and characterizing Israel's attacks on Palestinians as genocide.

Family members of Rodriguez and his defense attorney, Elizabeth Mullin, did not return messages seeking comment.

The FBI did not respond to questions about whether he was on the bureau's radar before the shooting.

A GoFundMe page from 2017 sought to raise money to pay Rodriguez's way to People's Congress of Resistance, an event in Washington that September to "fight the Trump agenda and the Congress of millionaires!" As part of the appeal, Rodriguez recounted his father's military service in the Iraq War.

"When my dad came home from Baghdad, he came with souvenirs," Rodriguez was quoted as saying. "One was a magazine pouch with a warning in Arabic to back away or my dad would shoot and kill you. ... He also gave me a patch of Iraq's national flag, one he ripped off of an Iraqi soldier's uniform because he could. I don't want to see another generation of Americans coming home from genocidal imperialist wars with trophies."

The effort raised \$240.

Social media posts show he became focused on Gaza

Social media accounts tied to Rodriguez suggest he had become in-

creasingly focused over the last two years on the Israeli bombing campaign and ground invasion in Gaza, which has resulted in the deaths of more than 53,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its count.

An account on X that used a variation of a screen name Rodriguez had used on other sites, along with his given name and photo, frequently featured pro-Palestinian posts, including a video from an October 2023 protest in downtown Chicago against U.S. aid to Israel.

Last October, the account also reposted two videos of speeches by Hassan Nasrallah, a Lebanese cleric and a former leader of Islamic militant group Hezbollah. Nasrallah had been killed two weeks earlier in an Israeli airstrike.

Less than an hour after the shooting in Washington on Thursday night, the X account posted, "Escalate For Gaza, Bring The War Home," along with screen grabs of a nearly 1,000-word essay signed with Rodriguez's name. It was not immediately clear whether Rodriguez, who was in police custody at the time, had used a feature on X to schedule the release of the post in advance or if another person might have had access to the account.

In the piece, Rodriguez railed against the mounting death toll in Gaza, saying Israel "had obliterated the capacity to even continue counting the dead, which has served its genocide well."

He sought to justify what he called "the morality of armed demonstration."

"The atrocities committed by Israelis against Palestine defy description and defy quantification," he wrote.

Rodriguez also invoked the death last year of Aaron Bushnell, an active-duty member of the U.S. Air Force who set himself ablaze outside the Israeli Embassy in Washington while declaring that he "will no longer be complicit in genocide."

Israel has repeatedly denied that it is committing genocide in Gaza.

Rodriguez's employer, the American Osteopathic Information Association, issued a statement Thursday expressing shock and saying it would cooperate with investigators.

"As a physician organization dedicated to protecting the health and sanctity of human life, we believe in the rights of all persons to live safely without fear of violence," the group said.

Stocks Fall On News Of EU Tariffs

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks fell Friday after President Donald Trump threatened 50% tariffs on the European Union that could begin in a little more than a week.

The S&P 500 lost 0.7% to close out its worst week in the last seven. The Dow Jones Industrial Average dropped 256 points, or 0.6%, and the Nasdaq composite sank 1%.

Trump threatened the tariffs before the U.S. stock market opened, saying on his Truth Social platform that trade talks with the European Union "were going nowhere" and that "straight 50%" tariffs could go into effect on June 1. The European Union is one of the United States' largest trading partners.

Stocks fell immediately afterward in Europe, with France's CAC 40 index losing 1.7%. The U.S. market also took a quick turn lower, and futures for U.S. stock indexes tumbled after earlier suggesting only modest moves at the open of trading.

The S&P 500 lost as much as 1.3% shortly after trading began, but it pared its loss as traders weighed whether Trump's latest threats were just negotiating tactics aimed in hopes of getting a deal or something more.

Apple dropped 3% and was the heaviest weight on the S&P 500 after Trump went after the company specifically. He said he's been pushing Apple CEO Tim Cook to move production of iPhones to the United States, and he warned a tariff "of at least 25% must be paid by Apple to the U.S." if it doesn't.

Look More Closely



Photo Credit istockphoto.com/Cosmonaut

We often hurry through our hectic day, rush to finish the evening chores, climb into bed and wake up in the morning to start all over again...all the while wondering where the days go.... Soon it is a week, a month, a year. If we slow down to look more closely at the meaning of our lives might we find that we are missing our most beautiful moments? God has placed us here with a purpose. To discover it, we must look more closely at our spirit. Take the time to visit God's house...the fulfillment of his purpose will help us discover life's beautiful moments.

Weekly Scripture Reading

Matthew 12.1-21	Matthew 12.22-37	Matthew 12.38-50	Matthew 14.1-21	Matthew 14.22-36	Matthew 15.21-39	Matthew 17.1-23
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Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society

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ASSEMBLY OF GOD

214 Kimsham St. • 747-5848
office@sitkaag.org
Lead Pastor - Ryan Gluth
Family Pastor - Kelly Smith
Sunday Service 10:30 a.m. (Nursery & Kids Ministry Offered)
Wednesday Family Night 6:30-8 p.m. Adult Small Groups & Kid's Ministry
Sitka AG YTH: 6-12th Grades • Sunday 5-6:30 p.m.
www.sitkaag.org • facebook.com/sitkaag

BAHA'I FAITH

The Baha'is of Sitka meet for community prayers via video conference from 6-6:30 p.m., the second Tuesday of each month. All are welcome to join our devotionals. A monthly informational "fireside" will be held from 7-8 p.m. the 2nd Thursday of each month. For details, contact the Baha'is of Sitka: Email: info@sitkabahai.org • PO Box 2444, Sitka • 623-0802 • sitkabahai.org

CALVARY CHAPEL SITKA

Sunday service at 2:30 p.m., at 502 Hirst Street
Sunday pre-service prayer at 2 p.m.
Pastor Dug Jensen, 747-5454, calvarysitka.com
Men's Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 p.m. at 305 Moller Ave.
Women's Bible Study Thursdays 6:30 p.m. at 502 Hirst Street
Thursday Prayer for Christ's Will for our Children, Church & Country, noon at 305 Moller Ave.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

1113 Edgcombe Dr., Preacher Joel Warner
(907) 252-2141 or (907) 747-5859
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Bible Class 10 a.m. Sunday Evening Worship 6 p.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

All are welcome to come and worship with us.
Sawmill Creek Road & Shotgun Alley
www.churchofjesuschrist.org
Bishop Keith Brady: 747-8991 or 738-7047
Sacrament Meeting: Sunday at 10 a.m.
Sunday School, Primary, Relief Society, Elders: Sunday at 11:10 a.m.
Genealogy Library Hours: Wednesday, 7-9 p.m.

ChristImage

215A Smith Street
Sunday night service @ 6p.m.
www.christimage.org

ECKANKAR

Religion of the Light & Sound of God
Worship services held monthly. More information: 747-8902

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SITKA

Pastor: Craig Dunbar. Affiliated Southern Baptist Convention
514 Halibut Point Road, Near AC Lakeside Grocery Store
747-8684
Meeting times:
Sunday 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. age level Bible studies, 11 a.m. worship service
Nursery ages 0-3 provided for Bible studies and worship times.
Wednesday small group meets at 6:30 p.m.

GRACE HARBOR

1904 Halibut Point Road
Pastor Eric Holmgren, 907-747-5706
Please check our website and "Events" for current Sunday School and Teen Offerings
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Children's Church (up to age ~12) 10:30 a.m.
Middle and High School Youth Groups alternating Fridays 5:30
more info: https://www.sitkagraceharbor.com

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH (WELS)

Services Sunday 10:30 a.m.
304 Tilson St., 747-6938
info@sitkalutheran.net • www.sitkalutheran.net/
• www.facebook.com/sitkalutheran/

THE SALVATION ARMY

405 Sawmill Creek Blvd., 747-3358
Majors Joe and Flo Murray
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Women's Ministries at Tuesday 2 p.m.

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

1613 Halibut Point Road, 747-8855 •
http://sitkaadventistchurch.org
Sabbath School 9:30 a.m. Saturday
Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Saturday
KQQS 89.3 FM Christian Radio

SITKA JEWISH COMMUNITY

Information: 747-1608, Shabbas Davening 10:30 a.m., Torah
Mysticism Class, 5 p.m. followed by Mincha. More info &
candle lighting times: 738-1608.

SITKA LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

224 Lincoln Street, 747-3338 • P.O. Box 598
Pastor Mimi Goodwin
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom
Email: sitkalutheranchurch@gmail.com
Webpage: www.sitkalutheranchurch.com
For more information on how to join Zoom services, email
church at sitkalutheranchurch@gmail.com or call 747-3338.

SITKA BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

(Independent/fundamental)
Sun. Service: 10:30am Yaw Chapel (Park at Hames, take trail)
Women's Bible Study: Thurs. 7 p.m., Call for location
Officiator Dale Hanson, 747-6498

SITKA CHRISTIAN CENTER

502 Hirst Street, 747-6771, phone 747-5405 fax
Pastor Scott Hutton
Sunday: Prayer, 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Morning Church Service, 10:30 a.m.;
Sunday Morning Children's Church, 11:00 a.m.;
Tuesday Early Morning Prayer, 6:00 a.m.;
Wednesday Evening Bible Study, 6:30 p.m.;

SITKA CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

305 Lake Street, 747-8115 (office)
Pastor Chuck Haskins
Sunday Morning Worship, 10:30 a.m.

SITKA UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

408 Marine Street, parking behind, off Spruce Street
sitkaufellowship@gmail.com facebook.com/SitkaUU
A Fellowship led by the Members Sunday Service
10:45am, come at 10:30 am for coffee and conversation
A simple lunch of soup and bread follows the service.
SUUF is an inclusive humanitarian community with
shared values including: justice, equity, generosity,
pluralism, interdependence, transformation and LOVE.

ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

605 Lincoln Street • 747-8371
Father Joseph McGilloway
Daily Mass at 12:05 p.m. Monday – Friday in the Main Church.
Saturday: 5 p.m. Mass
Sunday: 10 a.m. Mass
Confessions: Saturdays 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. or by appointment 907-747-8371
Adoration: Saturdays 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. and Sundays 7 a.m.-8 a.m.
Updates placed on the parish Facebook page.
We open the main sanctuary from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S OF THE ARCHANGEL

ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
240 Lincoln Street, Phone: 747-8120
Father Herman Belt
Sunday 9 a.m. - Hours and Divine Liturgy
Tuesday 5 p.m. - Akathist to Our Lady of Sitka
Wednesday 9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy
Thursday 5 p.m. - Akathist (rotating)
Saturday 5 p.m. - Vigil

ST. PETER'S-BY-THE-SEA EPISCOPAL CHURCH

611 Lincoln Street/P.O. Box 1130
stpeters-sitka.org
The Rev. Julie Platson, Rector
The Rev. Kathryn Snelling, Deacon
The Rev. Glenda Quintana, Deacon
Sunday services are held in person at 9 a.m. in person
and on zoom.
The church is open daily for persons to stop in for a time
of quiet, rest, and prayer.
For other current services, programs and Zoom info, please
email the church at stpetersbytheseak@gmail.com or call
(907) 747-3977.

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SITKA

303 Kimsham St., 747-8775
Pastor Bennie Grace Nabua
E-mail: umc@umcsitka.com, Website: umcsitka.com
Sunday Morning Service @10, Sunday Children's Church @10
Service is also livestreamed at https://www.facebook.com/umcsitka.

UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

101 Cascade Creek Road • (907) 690-0292
Pastor Patrick Miller
Sunday Worship Service 3 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30 p.m.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARD – Pioneers of Alaska of Sitka Igloos 12 and 22 provided a \$500 scholarship award to Sitka High School graduate Fiona A. Caalim on May 15. From left are Pioneers of Alaska Life Member John Stein, Caalim, POA President Joe Murray, and Vice-President Florence Murray. (Photo provided to the Sentinel)

UAS Students Named To Fall Honor Rolls

University of Alaska Southeast students are being recognized for their outstanding scholarly achievements by being placed on the deans' and chancellor's lists for fall 2024.

Rianna N. Bergman has been named to the chancellor's list.

On the deans' list are Jillian N. Burchfield, Daria Drobzheva, Hannah Harris and RJ Nine D. Rabadan.

Students are undergraduates admitted to a certificate or degree program at UAS. Eligibility is based on a minimum of 12 credits of graded (letter grades A, B, C, D, and F) coursework for the semester through the UA system.

Salvation Army Leaders to Speak

The leaders of the Salvation Army Alaska Division, Majors Henry and Dina Graciani, will be speaking at the Salvation Army, Sitka Corps, on Sunday May 25.

A high school graduation recognition and senior soldier enrollment will be featured during the service.

Following the Sunday morning worship service a family potluck will be held. Members of the congregation and visitors are being encouraged to take a side dish to share.

Sheldon Jackson Museum Closure

Sheldon Jackson Museum will close Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

Regular hours are 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Museum is closed on state holidays.

Admission is \$9 for adults, \$8 for seniors, free for ages 18 and under, and free for active-duty military and their families (with an identification).

SHS Class of 1975 Set to Celebrate

The Sitka High School class of 1975 will celebrate its 50th class reunion over the 4th of July holiday.

All are invited to join the parade followed by a picnic at Halibut Point Recreation Area – "the rec."

"We would love any 1970s classes to join us – name tags provided," organizers said.

Those with questions can email trish.white75@gmail.com.

SASY Program for Middle-Schoolers

Sixth- through eighth-grade students are invited to join Sitka High graduate Jasmine Wolfe and Sitka Sound Science Center educators for Sitka Adventures Supporting Youth activities this summer.

The once a week program will run 12:30-5 p.m. Thursdays, June 5-Aug. 7. Lunch and snacks are included. Participants will meet and make connections with community members and local experts to gain practical safety, trip planning, and leadership skills.

"Build confidence in your outdoor skills and recreation experience on land and in the water," organizers said. "Find adventure with a cohort of middle school peers."

The cost is \$200 for the summer session and scholarships are available. Register at SitkaScience.org.

Life Celebration For Irene Shuler

A celebration of the life of Irene Shuler, 85, will be held 2-5 p.m. Saturday, May 24, at the See House, behind St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church.

All who knew and appreciated Irene are invited to attend.

Irene passed away peacefully surrounded by family and friends, on April 24, 2025, in Sitka.

Life Celebration For Rance Dailey

A celebration of the life of Rance J. Dailey will be held 2 p.m. Sunday, July 6, at Halibut Point Recreation Area main shelter.

"Please join us to celebrate the life of Rance J. Dailey," family members said. "We will gather to share our favorite memories and stories of the husband, father, brother, uncle and friend who we miss greatly."

Casual attire, dress for comfort, and the weather. Light refreshments will be available. All are welcome.

Sacred Harp Sing Planned Sunday

All are invited to learn to sing four-part a capella harmony in the Sacred Harp (shape note) tradition 3-4:30 p.m. Sunday, at the Pioneers Home chapel.

Beginners and listeners are invited. Singing is from the red Denson book, and loaner books are available. For information call Sara at 907 747-2915.

Salvation Army Closure Monday

The Salvation Army lunch program will be closed on Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

Meals will be served 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 27.

Calendar of Events

FRIDAY

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Early Voting Municipal Special Election, Harrigan Centennial Hall
5:30 p.m. STA Zumba, Blatchley Middle School
5:30 p.m. NA Meeting, St. Peter's Church basement
7 p.m. AA, St. Peter's basement, 611 Lincoln Street, hotline 907-747-8866

SATURDAY

9 a.m.-noon Early Voting Municipal Special Election, Harrigan Centennial Hall
9 a.m. Bike Across Kruzof, Crescent Harbor (Sitkatrailworks.org/events for info)
11 a.m.-9 p.m. Porchfest, downtown Sitka, Greater Sitka Arts Council
Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information
Noon-4 p.m. Salvation Army Little Store open
Noon-3 p.m. White Elephant Shop open
1 p.m. Japoneski Island Walking Tour, sponsored by Sitka Maritime Heritage Society, starts at Japoneski Island Boathouse
7 p.m. AA, St. Peter's Church basement, call 907-747-8866, potluck upstairs at 6 p.m. on last Saturday of the month

SUNDAY

Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information
3 p.m. Sacred Harp Sing, Pioneers Home Chapel
7 p.m. AA, St. Peter's basement, 611 Lincoln St., hotline 907-747-8866

MONDAY

Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information
5:30-6:30 p.m. AA, Sitka Pioneers Home Recreation Kitchen, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information

TUESDAY

6-8 a.m. MEHS Aquatic Center pool open
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Early Voting Municipal Special Election, Harrigan Centennial Hall
10:30 a.m. Sitka Sprouts, ages 3-5 years and caregivers, Sitka Sound Science Center
Noon AA, St. Peter's basement, call AA hotline 747-8866 for information
Noon Rotary Club, UAS-Sitka Campus Room 230

This section is sponsored by:



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and Juneau

flyalaskaseaplanes.com

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cargo throughout Southeast



SENTINEL

Classifieds

Sentinel Classifieds: your BEST BUY for the Sitka market
Your print ad here runs free at www.sitkasentinel.com
Email us at news@sitkasentinel.com or go to 112 Barracks St.

Homes for Sale

Homes for Sale

Good Luck in the Sitka Salmon Derby!



Remembering Memorial Day

Sitka Realty will be closed 5/26



For sale, five bedroom three bath house. House sits on one of four lots. E-mail Eric at fvquicksilver@yahoo.com.

Rentals

Rentals

TILLIE PAUL HOSTEL

CHARMING & BUCET FRIENDLY



BOOK NOW

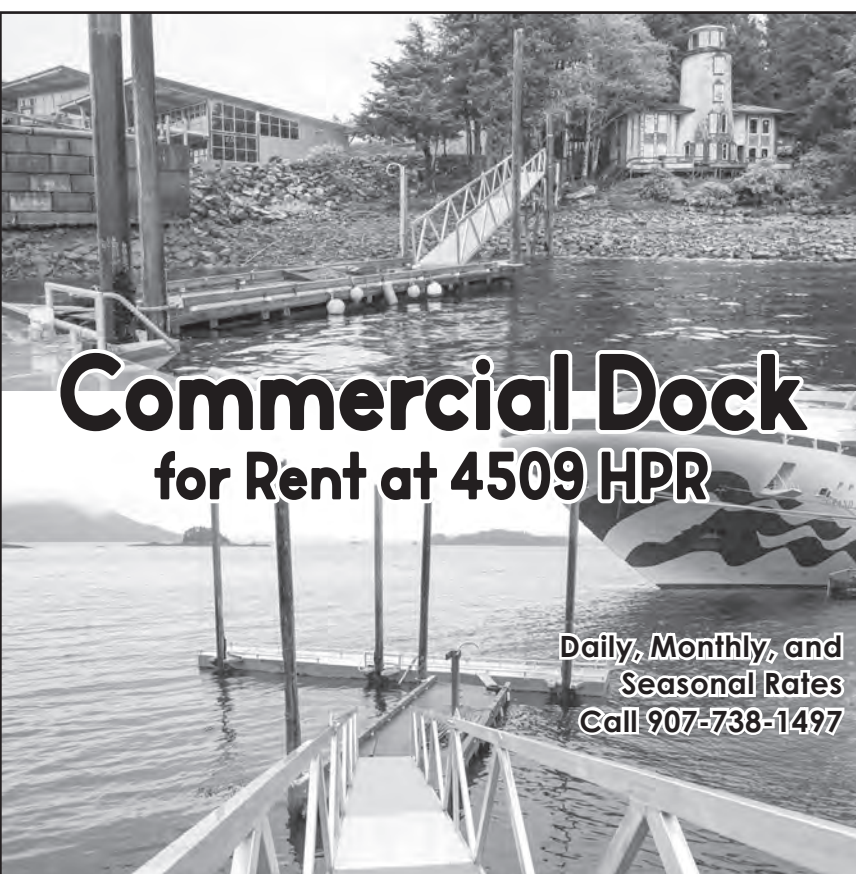
TILLIEPAULHOSTEL.SIRVOY.ME

IN THE HEART OF DOWNTOWN

OPERATED BY SITKA FINE ARTS CAMP

Docks for Rent

Docks for Rent



Commercial Dock for Rent at 4509 HPR

Daily, Monthly, and Seasonal Rates
Call 907-738-1497

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

POSITION VACANCY:

The Sitka School District is accepting applications for full-time and part-time Food Service Assistants (Cooks). Qualifications include high school diploma or equivalent, possession of or eligible to obtain an "Alaska Food Handler" card, and a valid Alaska Driver's license. Position begins August 13th. Starting wage: \$23.19-\$28.25. DOE. Closing date: Open until filled. To apply, go to the district website: sitkaschools.org, click on Employment. The Sitka School District is an equal opportunity employer. Alaska Natives are encouraged to apply.

GARDENER AND/OR

Housekeeper Needed. 907-713-7589.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE

and Custodial position. Average 24 hours/week at \$22-\$28/hour DOE. Duties include sweeping, pressure washing, painting, basic carpentry; repairing, organizing & operating tools, supplies, plumbing, electrical and mechanical equipment. Reply to fishermansquay@gmail.com

Boats for Sale

14' ALUMINUM BOAT. 6hp Mercury 4 stroke. Excellent condition. \$4,000. (907)747-6597.

Marine for Sale

HICKMAN SEASLED, Leecraft. LOA 30'x10'. Twin 200 Optimax. \$116,000. 907-747-6597.

Travel Trailers

2021 DUTCHMAN Coleman Light Travel Trailer. Great condition, 31-feet long, located in Sitka. \$35,000/OBO. 907-738-0449.

Vehicles for Sale

2006-TOYOTA CAMRY. 49,000 miles, standard shift 5 speed, \$6,999. 907-738-4906.

Registration Open For Farmers Market Vendors

Sitka Farmers Market online vendor registration is now open for business at <https://sitkafarmersmarket.eventsmart.com/>.

Sitka Local Foods Network is hosting six markets for its 18th season. They are 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays, July 12, 26, Aug. 9, 23, Sept. 6 and 20 at ANB Founders Hall.

Half tables are no long available. The price of a full table has been reduced to \$35 per market (down from \$40). Vendors who register for all six markets, before the first market happens, will be charged a special rate of \$175.

Vendors can register for one or more markets. A youth vendor program for ages 14 and younger is available for \$20 for all six markets.

The Sitka Farmers Market is a community event hosted by the Sitka Local Foods Network, whose mission is to increase the amount of locally produced and harvested food in the diets of Southeast Alaskans. Its focus is on local – fresh produce, fish, baked goods, prepared foods, cottage foods, arts and crafts – and all products must be made in Alaska (preferably in Sitka or Southeast Alaska, cooked foods may use non-local foods so long as the food is cooked on site).

Indoor and outdoor spaces are available; however, if not enough vendors all will be moved inside.

“Since COVID-19 is still around, we will encourage wearing masks inside the ANB Hall when Sitka is at the moderate or high risk levels,” organizers said. “While most people now are vaccinated against the coronavirus, there still are people who aren’t vaccinated and there are periodic hot spots when the illness flares up. We don’t want the market to be a place that spreads the coronavirus. Even with our outside booths, we encourage vendors and customers to wear masks, to use hand sanitizer, and to avoid bunching up while giving others six feet of space.”

Vendors can pay using PayPal or credit/debit card. If preferring to pay by cash or check, contact Charles Bingham at 907-623-7660.

Debe Brincefield is the Sitka Farmers Market manager this summer. Laura Schmidt is lead gardener at St. Peter’s Fellowship Farm, where the Sitka Local Foods Network grows most of the produce it sells at the market. Charles Bingham is the assistant market manager and the president of the Sitka Local Foods Network.

For questions about the market, email us at sitkafarmersmarket@gmail.com, or call (907) 623-7660 (Charles Bingham’s cell). More details about the market will be posted on the Sitka Local Foods Network website, <http://www.sitkalocalfoodsnetwork.org>, and shared on its Facebook pages — <https://www.facebook.com/SitkaLocalFoodsNetwork> and <https://www.facebook.com/SitkaFarmersMarket> — and on Twitter, <https://www.twitter.com/SitkaLocalFoods>.

OPEN

Monday through Saturday

Mon-Sat 9-5 • Sun Closed

475 Katlian • 747-3171

LFS MARINE SUPPLIES

COMMERCIAL & SPORT FISHING GEAR

CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA			
Legal Notice Notice to Taxpayers			
For the current fiscal year 2025, the City and Borough of Sitka has been allocated the following amount of State aid for school and municipal purposes under the applicable financial assistance acts.			
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM ASSISTANCE (AS 14.17)		\$11,292,443	
STATE AID FOR RETIREMENT OF SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION DEBT (AS 14.11.100)		1,015,078	
COMMUNITY REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM (AS 29.60.850 – 29.60.879)		\$474,353	
TOTAL AID		\$12,781,874	
The millage equivalent of this State aid based on the dollar value of a mill in the municipality during the current assessment year and for the preceding assessment year is:			
	FY25		FY24
MILLAGE EQUIVALENT	\$1,382,590		\$1,309,340
	MILLS		MILLS
PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING PROGRAM ASSISTANCE	8.1676		8.7233
STATE AID FOR RETIREMENT OF SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION DEBT	0.7342		1.1368
COMMUNITY REVENUE SHARING PROGRAM	0.3431		0.3688
TOTAL MILLAGE EQUIVALENT	9.2449		10.2289
Published: May 23, 30, June 6, 2025			

CITY & BOROUGH OF SITKA

PUBLIC NOTICE

City and Borough Assembly Meeting Agenda

ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

330 Harbor Drive

6:00 PM

Thursday, May 29, 2025

REGULAR MEETING
I. CALL TO ORDER
II. FLAG SALUTE
III. RECITAL OF LANDS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
IV. ROLL CALL
V. CORRESPONDENCE/AGENDA CHANGES
VI. CEREMONIAL MATTERS
None.
VII. SPECIAL REPORTS: Government to Government, Municipal Boards/Commissions/Committees, Municipal Departments, School District, Students and Guests (five minute time limit)
1) Alaska Permanent Fund Corporation
2) Sitka Tribe of Alaska Tribal Council, Alana Peterson
3) Sitka School Board - Phil Burdick
4) Department Quarterly Reports - Assessing
VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD
Public participation on any item off the agenda. All public testimony is not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual, unless the mayor imposes other time constraints at the beginning of the agenda item.
IX. CONSENT AGENDA
All matters under Item IX Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.
A. RES 25-08 Supporting Federal Workers & Agencies, Urging Alaska's Congressional Delegation to oppose cuts, and encouraging Congress to work in a collaborative bipartisan way
B. RES 25-07 Setting the millage rates for the fiscal year July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026
C. Approve a liquor license renewal application for Ernie's Bar at 130 Lincoln Street
X. BOARD, COMMISSION, COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
D. Reappoint Wendy Alderson to a three-year term on the Planning Commission
XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
E. ORD 25-10 Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2025 (Homeland Security Grant - Travel for AlaskEX and Fire Department Radios)
F. ORD 25-11 Making supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2025 (Procurement of EV Transit Van for Parks and Recreation Division)
G. ORD 25-12 Amending Title 10, "Public Peace, Safety and Morals", and Title 22, "Zoning" of the Sitka General Code by modifying certain sections throughout these titles to add and regulate onsite marijuana consumption facilities
XII. NEW BUSINESS:
H. Authorize the sale of two pieces of equipment valued at over \$25,000 each, in accordance with Sitka General Code 18.10.020
I. Board of Adjustment: Consideration of an appeal filed by Central Council of the Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska dba Tidal Network for the Planning Commission's denial of a height variance for a communications tower located on 116 Nancy Court
J. Discussion/Direction on Lincoln Street closures for the remainder of the visitor season
K. Discussion/Direction/Decision of terms for new Visit Sitka contract
XIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD:
Public participation on any item on or off the agenda. Not to exceed 3 minutes for any individual.
XIV. REPORTS
a. Mayor, b. Administrator, c. Attorney, d. Liaison Representatives, e. Clerk, f. Other
XV. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Not anticipated.
XVI. ADJOURNMENT
Note: Detailed information on these agenda items can be found on the City website at <https://sitka.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx> or by contacting the Municipal Clerk's Office at City Hall, 100 Lincoln Street or 907.747.1811. A hard copy of the Assembly packet is available at the Sitka Public Library. Regular and Special Assembly meetings are livestreamed through the City's website and YouTube channel, and aired live on KCAW FM 104.7. To receive Assembly agenda notifications, sign up with GovDelivery on the City website.
Sara Peterson, MMC, Municipal Clerk
Published: May 23, 2025

** REVISED **

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
NOTICE OF ELECTION

A Special Municipal Election will be held in the City and Borough of Sitka, Alaska on May 28, 2025. Polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. for casting ballots on the following:

BALLOT PROPOSITION

Proposition No. 1

Shall the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) adopt proposed Ordinance No. 2024-33 to regulate all cruise ship visitation, beginning with the 2026 cruise season, by establishing:

1. regulations on large cruise ships (defined as ships accommodating 250+ overnight passengers) to include:
a. limiting port calls to the cruise season (defined as May 1–September 30);
b. restricting port calls to a maximum of six days per week ensuring at least one day per week with no port calls;
c. an annual cap of 300,000 scheduled passengers ashore per cruise season; and
d. a daily cap of 4,500 scheduled passengers ashore;

2. requirements for the CBS to implement and administer a scheduling and permitting system for large and small cruise ships;

3. requirements for the CBS to enforce provisions for violations (principally through fines, permit revocation, and/or suspending permit eligibility for one year), to be imposed on cruise ship owners or operators; and

4. requirements for cruise ship operators to report visitation data to the CBS.

YES NO

Informational: See proposed Ordinance No. 2024-33.

VOTER QUALIFICATIONS: A person may vote in any municipal election who:
(1) is at least 18 years old; and
(2) has been a resident and registered to vote in the municipality for at least 30 days immediately prior to the election; and
(3) is a citizen of the United States; and
(4) is qualified to vote in State elections; and
(5) is registered to vote in State elections in the precinct in which that person seeks to vote in municipal elections.

ABSENTEE VOTING:
(1) Application for an absentee ballot by mail may be made with the Municipal Clerk until 5:00 p.m. on May 21, 2025.
(2) Application for an absentee ballot by fax or email may be made with the Municipal Clerk until 5:00 p.m. on May 28, 2025.
(3) Early voting is available at Harrigan Centennial Hall on the following schedule:
• Weekdays from Tuesday, May 13 through Tuesday, May 27, 2025, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day)
• Saturdays on May 17 and May 24 from 9:00 a.m. to noon

Meeting room locations by date:
• May 13, 16, 17, 20-24, 27 – Meeting Room 5
• May 14, 15 – Meeting Room 3
• May 19 – Meeting Room 2
(4) Qualified voters who are unable to go to the polls may make application for a ballot by personal representative at the early voting location or at the voting precincts on Election Day.

POLLING PLACES for each precinct on Election Day, May 28, are as follows:
SITKA No. 1 (02-765) HARRIGAN CENTENNIAL HALL
330 Harbor Drive – Meeting Rooms 5 & 6
SITKA No. 2 (02-770) HARRIGAN CENTENNIAL HALL
330 Harbor Drive – Meeting Rooms 2 & 3

NOTE: A wheelchair accessible booth and an ADA compliant voting apparatus are available during early voting and at each precinct on Election Day.

For a sample ballot, absentee ballot request, and other election resources, visit "https://www.cityofsitka.com/SpecialMunicipalElection or contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 907.747.1826 or 907.747.1811.
Sara Peterson, Municipal Clerk
Published April 11, 25, May 9, 23

Police Blotter

Sitka Police Department logged the following calls as of 8 a.m. today.

May 22

At 3:36 a.m. three bears were reported to have dragged a trash can into the street on Toivo Circle. The can was put back in place but trash remained in the road.

A man was reported sleeping in the lobby of a downtown bank at 6:52 a.m. He was gone when officers arrived.

A caller reported child abuse. Police found it involved custody issues and will be taken to court.

Two dogs were reported barking incessantly on DeGroof Street. The ani-

mal control officer was notified.

A man reported luggage, Coors beer and other items were stolen from his truck at Sealing Cove harbor. The items later turned up at the airport and it was found they had not been stolen.

A caller requested a welfare check on a relative who wasn't home. It was found he'd had an altercation with police and was delayed.

May 23

Between 1:28 a.m. and 2:38 a.m. security checks were made at Starrigavan campground and the airport.

Emergency Calls

Sitka Fire Department received two ambulance calls in the 24 hours ending at midnight last night.

Path of Hope Cleanup on Tap

Sitka Cancer Survivor's Society invites the public to help with a spring cleanup event at the Path of Hope noon Saturday, May 31.

"We trim, rake, clean, shine and enjoy each other's company," organizers said. "So bring your gear and join us next to Lower Moller Field."



747-0646

Coliseum Theatre

Lilo & Stitch

(PG) 1hr 48 min

Friday: 5:00 & 7:30

Saturday/Sunday 2:30, 5:00, 7:30

Monday-Thursday: 5:00 & 7:30

BUY YOUR TICKETS EARLY!

LEGAL NOTICE

Hurtigruten Expedition Cruises AS dba MS ROALD AMUNDSEN and MS FRIDTJOF NANSEN located at LANGKAIA 1, 0150, OSLO, 0150, NORWAY, is applying for transfer of Common Carrier Dispensary Vessel AS 04.11.260 liquor licenses to HX Cruises, Ltd. Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant, and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 550 West 7th Ave. Suite 1600 Anchorage AK 99501 or alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov

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- since 1999

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Well Sitka, it's that time of year again. Time to get those trees trimmed or removed.

Are your trees are getting too close to your house making you feel like your living in a cave? Give us a call, we can brighten things up for you.

Are you losing your view? We can top your trees.

If your garden isn't getting enough sunshine, we can help you with that too.

No job too big, no job too small. We have all the right equipment and 40+ years experience.

20% senior discount now through the end of June

10% discount to everyone else

WE WILL BEAT ALL LEGITIMATE ESTIMATES. PERIOD.

Office - 907 747 7342 cell - 907 738 2616



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**Residential • Commercial
Parking Lots • Roads**

SECON Granite Creek Quarry

**OPEN Monday to Saturday
8am-4pm**

• **Delivery available** •

**For a FREE estimate and info on pricing,
please call: 907-747-8514**



SITKA CHESS TOURNAMENT – Participants in the First Bank Sitka Chess Tournament line up following the tourney May 17 in Sitka. It was Sitka Chess Club's first rated U.S. Chess Federation event. Tournament Director Reilly O'Hara, Alaska Chess Federation, traveled from Anchorage to run the event. Final tournament standings are: Rated Open, first Alexander Allison, second Joey Mudry, third Zeke Blackwell. Rated Scholastic,

first Marcus Bakkes, second Syllas Degner, third Riot Lindbergh. Unrated Open, first Stephen Black, second Kaeden Skultka, third Harry Lysons III. Sitka plans to send a contingent to the Alaska State Championship on Oct. 4 in Anchorage. Appreciation was extended to the tournament's corporate sponsors, First Bank, and to the Alaska Chess Federation. (Photo provided to the Sentinel)

Summer Reading Program to Open

"Color Our World" has been chosen as the Summer Reading Program theme at Sitka Public Library. It kicks off Saturday, May 31, and runs through Aug. 2.

Readers of all ages can "embark on a journey of art and creativity, celebrating the myriad ways in which art enriches our lives," the library said.

The program is designed to inspire and engage readers of all ages through a diverse array of artistic expressions. Program highlights include learning challenges, interactive programming, fun and games, and grand prizes.

Registration is free and open to all community members. To sign up or learn more about the program, visit the Sitka Public Library's social media, or stop by the library.

For information call 907 747-4020 or email Maite at maite.lorente@city-ofsitka.org.

Assembly Meet Rescheduled

Due to the special municipal election, the regular Assembly meeting originally scheduled for May 27 has been moved to May 29.

The regular Assembly meetings in May will now be held on May 13 and May 29, the City and Borough of Sitka said.

For information, contact the Municipal Clerk's office at 907 747-1826 or 907 747-1811.

Saturday Vigil For Democracy

Community members are invited to participate in a vigil Saturday, noon to 1, at the roundabout.

Organized by Sitka Voices for Peace and Democracy, the weekly vigil is held to protest actions by the Trump administration that threaten democracy, and advocate for a government that puts people and democracy first.

"Just showing up and being there is important and makes us stronger," organizers said.

8-Ball Banquet Slated May 27

Greater Sitka Pool League will have its 8-ball banquet 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 27, at the Sitka Moose Lodge 1350 upstairs. A social hour will precede at 6 p.m.

Dinner Series Slated to Run

A hands-on cooking series with Paula Veshti focused on preparing healthy, subsistence based, nourishing meals will be held 5-7 p.m. June 2, 23 and 30 at Sitka Lutheran Church kitchen, 224 Harbor Drive.

The free series is open to Tribal citizens. Space is limited to 12 participants per session. Participants will receive a gift basket of ingredients to recreate meals at home.

To reserve a spot, go to: <https://forms.gle/chiwzjtSbNzYTSTy9>

Beginning Beaders Invited to Workshop

Beginner beaders are invited to a workshop led by Tlingit-Dakota artist CeeJay Johnson-Yellowhawk June 7-8, sponsored by Sitka Tribe of Alaska.

Johnson-Yellowhawk teaches from the perspective that beading is medicine. She will include traditional knowledge and encourage imperfection. Advanced registration is required and beading kits will be provided. Attendees must be 17 or older to participate, and a member of a Tribal household. To register, go to <https://forms.gle/97thQKywNEZbnNKx5>.

Porch Fest Set For Saturday

Greater Sitka Arts Council's Porch Fest is scheduled 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Saturday, May 24, in downtown Sitka.

The day will include music and art, vendors, and workshops and activities.

All events are free and open to the public. (See story, Page 1)

Community Picnic Listed for July 12

Sitka Tribe of Alaska will host its annual community picnic 11 a.m.-3 p.m. July 12 at the Keet Gooshee Elementary School playground.

It will be an afternoon of traditional and picnic foods, games, and community gathering. All are invited to attend.

Indoor Plant & Succulent Sale & Bake Sale

Saturday, May 31

8am-Noon

Youth Advocates of Sitka

805 Lincoln Street



UA SCHOLARS



**Congratulations
Class of 2025
UA Scholars**

Visit our website to see the 2025 recipients
alaska.edu/scholars



Congratulations!

Congratulations to Katlian Rhoads and Kaelynn Balovich of Sitka, and Adam Bourgeois of Cordova!

Each of these outstanding students has been awarded a scholarship from the Seafood Producers Cooperative Scholarship Foundation. Their impressive applications, strong academic records, and thoughtful essays truly stood out.



We extend our best wishes to Katlian, Kaelynn, and Adam as they pursue their academic goals, and we hope this scholarship supports them on their journey to success.

VOTE YES ON PROP 1

Don't let cruise tourism overwhelm our small town

Proposition 1

- Gives Sitka control over large cruise ship tourism
- Balances cruise tourism with Sitka's small size & values
- Cruise limitations can be fine-tuned later

Prop 1 opponents highly exaggerate sales tax benefits of cruise over-tourism, yet ignore the costs to Sitkans

**Let's make tourism work for Sitka
Not Sitka work for cruise tourism**

Learn more at: VoteYesOn1Sitka.com

This communication is paid for by: Vote Yes on 1 For Sitka's Small Town Soul
Box 1665, Sitka, AK 99835. Approved: Klaudia Leccese, Chair.
Top donors (all Sitka, AK) are: Klaudia Leccese, Ann Walter, Larry Edwards.



SENTINEL SPORTS

Thunder Overwhelm Timberwolves Again

By CLIFF BRUNT
AP Sports Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 38 points a day after being named the NBA's MVP, and the Oklahoma City Thunder overwhelmed the Minnesota Timberwolves again, winning 118-103 on Thursday night to take a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference finals.

Gilgeous-Alexander made 12 of 21 field goals and 13 of 15 free throws after receiving his MVP trophy from Commissioner Adam Silver before the game.

"I feel like all my emotions were so high, but I was a little bit tired out there, especially at the start," Gilgeous-Alexander said. "I was a little too juiced up. Special moment. I'm happy we won so I can really enjoy the last couple days and soak it up. That really helps."

Jalen Williams had 26 points and 10 rebounds and Chet Holmgren added 22 points for the Thunder.

Oklahoma City's Lu Dort was named first-team all defense and Williams was named second-team all-defense earlier in the day. They helped anchor a unit that held Minnesota to 41.4% shooting.

"When you win games, you do it



Timberwolves forward Julius Randle, center, fights for the ball against Oklahoma City Thunder guard Luguentz Dort, left, and forward Jalen Williams during the first half, Thursday in Oklahoma City. (AP Photo/Nate Billings)

together and you have fun out there, everything else -- all the individual stuff you want -- it comes with it," Gilgeous-Alexander said.

Anthony Edwards scored 32 points but it took him 26 shots to get them. Jaden McDaniels scored 22 points and

Nickeil Alexander-Walker added 17 for the Timberwolves.

Game 3 is Saturday in Minneapolis.

Gilgeous-Alexander hit a 3-pointer with 16 seconds left in the first half, then made a pair of free throws with 3

seconds remaining to help Oklahoma City take a 58-50 lead. He scored 19 points before the break.

"We didn't close the half very well," Minnesota coach Chris Finch said. "I thought if we close the half better then we don't put ourselves on such a razor edge in the third."

In the third quarter, Gilgeous-Alexander drove to the paint and threw up a wild shot that went in as he was fouled by his cousin, Alexander-Walker. Gilgeous-Alexander made the free throw to give the Thunder a 73-64 lead.

A lob by Cason Wallace to Holmgren for a two-handed jam on a fast break put Oklahoma City up 82-65 late in the third quarter. The Thunder took a 93-71 advantage into the fourth.

Minnesota closed to within 10 in the final period, but Oklahoma City kept the Timberwolves at bay late. Now, Minnesota gets to go home, where it is 4-1 in the playoffs.

Finch remained optimistic.

"Every minute in a series is a chance to find something," he said. "So we're going to go back home. This is a good team at home. So we're going to go home and fight for Game 3. Heads up, look at the tape and get ready for Game 3."

Pinch Hit Lifts Nats over Braves

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pinch-hitter Amed Rosario singled home the winning run in the 10th inning and the Washington Nationals topped the Atlanta Braves 8-7 on Thursday night for their fifth straight victory.

Atlanta tied it at 7 in the ninth on Matt Olson's one-out RBI double off closer Kyle Finnegan. Austin Riley tried to score the go-ahead run from first but was thrown out at the plate on the play.

Marcell Ozuna popped out to end the inning.

Automatic runner Robert Hassell III, making his major league debut, advanced from second to third on Alex Call's sacrifice bunt in the bottom of the 10th. Rosario then singled to left field against Dylan Lee (1-2).

The Braves dropped to 24-25 after losing both games in the rain-shortened series.

Olson and Ozuna hit back-to-back solo homers off Trevor Williams in the first to give Atlanta the lead. Olson has homered in four of his last five games.

Playing with his parents in the stands for the first time in his major league career, Keibert Ruiz had an RBI double in the bottom half off Braves starter AJ Smith-

Shawver, who was tagged for seven runs in three innings.

Hassell singled in the second on the first pitch he saw in the majors. He stole second and scored on a single by CJ Abrams to tie it. James Woods followed with a three-run double to give the Nationals a 5-2 advantage.

Hassell finished 2 for 5 and scored twice.

Ruiz had an RBI single in a two-run fourth that gave Washington a 7-5 lead and chased Smith-Shawver.

Ozuna's RBI single in the seventh off reliever Jose A. Ferrer got the Braves within a run. Olson and Ozuna each finished with three hits and two RBIs.

With runners at the corners in the top of the 10th, Jackson Rutledge (1-1) got Evan White to ground into an inning-ending double play that kept the score tied.

Smith-Shawver allowed one earned run over 19 2/3 innings in his previous three starts.

Braves LHP Chris Sale (2-3, 3.62 ERA) starts today at home against San Diego.

Nationals LHP MacKenzie Gore (2-4, 3.67 ERA) faces Giants RHP Landen Roupp (2-3, 4.11) today.

Toluca Holds America to 0-0 Tie

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Top-seeded Toluca salvaged a 0-0 draw against defending champion America on Thursday in the first leg of the Mexican Clausura championship series.

The Aguilas, who finished with the second-best record in the regular season, had the best scoring chances but missed a couple of clear opportunities.

"It was an evenly played match. Toluca came to defend pretty strong. We proposed it, but did not know how to finish our plays," Aguilas coach Andre Jardine said. "It is a wide-open series. I think the second leg will be a different kind of match."

The return leg will be played next Sunday at Toluca, a city located 66 kilometers (around 40 miles) from the nation's capital.

America, which reached the final after knocking out crosstown rival Cruz Azul in a rematch of the CONCACAF Champions Cup quarterfinals, is aiming

to become the second team to win four straight championships in Mexico. Only Chivas, from 1958 until 1962, has won four titles in a row, although with a different format.

Toluca, which is third on the all-time list of champions in Mexico with 11 titles, is trying to end a 15-year drought. The last time Toluca won a title was in the Clausura 2010 tournament. Since then, the team has qualified for three finals and lost them all.

"We played a great match on the defensive side. We need to rest knowing that the second leg is going to be as intense as this one," Toluca coach Antonio Mohamed said. "We know what type of opponent we are facing and it's going to be much harder than today."

After the domestic final, America is set to face the LAFC in Los Angeles on May 31 in a qualification playoff for the last spot in the Club World Cup.

Panthers Roll past Hurricanes 5-0

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — The defending Stanley Cup champion Florida Panthers are rolling. The Carolina Hurricanes are reeling.

Sam Bennett scored one of his two goals in Florida's three-goal first period, Sergei Bobrovsky made 17 saves and the Panthers beat the Hurricanes 5-0 on Thursday night to take a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference final.

Gustav Forsling and Matthew Tkachuk also scored in another tone-setting opening 20 minutes for the Panthers, while Carter Verhaeghe had three assists.

"It might have been natural for us to take a little bit to get going tonight, and it was the exact opposite," said Tkachuk, whose putaway off the feed from Verhaeghe at the crease marked his first goal since Game 3 of the first round against Tampa Bay.

"It was an unreal start from us. The goals aside, just the way we played in the first period was as good as it gets. Yeah, that's just a hell of a road trip."

Florida had already ripped home-ice advantage away Tuesday night with a 5-2 win, the opener in a rematch of the 2023 conference final swept by the Panthers with four one-goal wins. Florida only tight-

ened its grip on the series with this one, and now heads back south to host Game 3 on Saturday night.

Bennett scored a second time by skating in to clean up an attempt at the right post in the final minute of the second period to make it 4-0, ending a long shift in Carolina's end prolonged by Hurricanes defenseman Brent Burns being stuck on the ice after breaking his stick. Aleksander Barkov added a goal midway through the third as punctuation.

Bobrovsky had his third shutout of the playoffs this year and the sixth of his career, with Florida's defense smothering a Hurricanes team that typically peppers the net with shots but found little daylight.

Florida has four straight road games by a combined score of 22-4, this time sending Hurricanes fans fleeing for the exits early.

"It's fun when you're on the road and it goes quiet," Verhaeghe said. "It feels like we're doing our job."

On the other bench, the Hurricanes found themselves on the receiving end of a crushing loss by a jarringly lopsided margin. And it marked their 14th straight loss in a conference final, going back to sweeps in 2009, 2019 and the '23 tilt with Florida.



Mariners starting pitcher George Kirby throws during the first inning of a baseball game against the Astros in Houston, Thursday. (AP Photo/Ashley Landis)

By KRISTIE RIEKEN
AP Sports Writer

HOUSTON (AP) — Seattle's George Kirby didn't get the results he

wanted in his season debut Thursday night against the Houston Astros. The right-hander was still encouraged in his return to the mound after a lengthy

Nadal's Absence Felt at 2025 French Open

By HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

PARIS (AP) — As the French Open enters a new, post-Rafa, era this year, there are a couple of prevailing sentiments among tennis players.

One is: It's a shame the world won't get to see the King of Clay, as Rafael Nadal came to be called, ply his unique brand of topspin-heavy relentlessness on the crushed red brick of Roland-Garros, where he won a record 14 of his 22 Grand Slam titles.

The other, expressed by men who would love to get a chance at carving their own bit of history at the place, goes like this: Whew, it sure will be nice not to have that guy looming in the bracket now that the 38-year-old Spaniard is retired.

Players no longer need to worry about Nadal at the French Open

"Luckily — or unluckily — I never

got to play him in Roland-Garros," said American Tommy Paul, a 2023 Australian Open semifinalist currently ranked 12th.

"It's nice to not have to worry

about him, I guess," Paul added with a laugh. "That's the main thing that

comes to my mind."

Players repeatedly used the word "different" to describe what it'll be like without Nadal around.

"It'll be strange for the fans, above all," said top-10 player Lorenzo Musetti, an Italian who reached the semifinals at Wimbledon and earned an Olympic bronze medal in 2024. "But the history he made in Paris will never be forgotten."

Nadal's 14 French Open titles are a record for any Grand Slam tournament.

To be sure, Nadal's dominance in Paris was unprecedented.

"Impossible," defending champion Carlos Alcaraz said, "to repeat."

Nadal collected more championships than any other player at one major tennis tournament, spanning from his first, which arrived two days after his 19th birthday in his 2005 debut, to his last at age 36 in 2022 on a painful foot that required nerve-dulling injections. He went 112-4 overall in the event.

One measure of just how good Nadal was there is reflected in his head-to-head records against the other two members of the Big Three of men's

tennis, Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer. Nadal went 8-2 against Djokovic in the French Open — accounting for about 15% of all of Djokovic's lifetime Grand Slam losses anywhere — and 6-0 against Federer.

"What a legend. What an ambassador for the sport," Australian player Thanasi Kokkinakis said about Nadal. "One of the greatest athletes ever — not just in tennis."

Nadal will be honored by a ceremony at the French Open on Sunday.

He certainly left his indelible mark in Paris. A larger-than-life statue was erected near an entrance to the tournament grounds in 2021, while he was still active; a ceremony honoring him will be held Sunday in the main stadium, Court Philippe-Chatrier, after the first three matches of Day 1.

One would imagine that Nadal will be treated to the sort of applause and chants of "Ra-fa!" he heard often, including when he played for the final time at the site — at the Paris Olympics last year — and left describing the "unforgettable feeling and emotions" he enjoyed.

And no one who ever faced him, or

watched him, at the French Open will forget his lefty whip of a forehand or the way he stood so far back to return serve or the way he chased every ball. Or the way the arena announcer would list off all of his ever-growing list of championship years before a match. Or the way Nadal would bite his trophies after winning one, something Naomi Osaka emulated after claiming her first clay-court title just last month.

"As a tennis community, everybody's going to miss Rafa, for sure. If I were thinking about it selfishly, I would say, 'Of course I want to watch Rafa play. Of course I want him to be here,'" former No. 1 and two-time Australian Open champion Victoria Azarenka said. "But I see it a little bit differently. I look at it as that was his decision. Same with when Serena (Williams) left. Of course I miss Serena; she was my biggest motivator. But they've moved on in their life to what's best for them. And I just have so much respect for what they've done for the sport. How much they contributed. How much they elevated it. My only thing is to say, 'Thank you,' to players like that."

Visa Threat Could Crush Harvard Sports Teams

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Some of Harvard's sports teams would be virtually wiped out by a Trump administration decision announced on Thursday that would make the Ivy League school with the nation's largest athletic program ineligible for international student visas.

Seven of the eight rowers on the men's heavyweight crew team that just won the Eastern Sprints title — and is headed to the national championships — list international hometowns on the school's website. Mick Thompson, the leading scorer last season, and Jack Bar, who was a captain, are among a handful of Canadians on the men's hockey roster; 10 of the 13 members of the men's squash team and more than half of the women's soccer and golf rosters also list foreign hometowns.

Harvard's 42 varsity sports teams are the most in the nation, and Sportico reported last month that 21% of the players on the school's rosters for the 2024-25 seasons — or 196 out of 919 athletes — had international hometowns. The site noted that some could be U.S. citizens or green card holders who wouldn't need one of the international visas at issue in an escalating fight premised by the admin-

istration's assertions that the school failed to protect Jewish students from antisemitism.

The Department of Homeland Security on Thursday revoked Harvard's ability to enroll international students, saying the school has created an unsafe campus environment by allowing "anti-American, pro-terrorist agitators" to assault Jewish students on campus. The move could force as many as 6,800 foreign students at the school outside of Boston — more than a quarter of its total enrollment — to transfer or leave the country.

Harvard called the action unlawful and said it is working to provide guidance to students. President Alan Garber, noting that he is himself Jewish, said last month after filing a lawsuit to halt a federal funding freeze that the school "will continue to fight hate with the urgency it demands as we fully comply with our obligations under the law. That is not only our legal responsibility. It is our moral imperative."

Harvard athletic director Erin McDermott previously declined an interview request from The Associated Press on the potential impact of the visa ban. A Harvard athletics spokesman on Thursday referred a request

for comment to the school's main media information office, which did not immediately respond. The AP also requested comment from three Harvard coaches, who did not respond.

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney, a former Harvard hockey player, declined to comment when contacted by the AP. Massachusetts Gov. Maura Healey, a Democrat who played basketball at Harvard, said the athletes are among 85,000 foreign stu-

dents who come to the state to "study, conduct research, start businesses, and create jobs and innovations."

"President Trump is punishing our students and hurting our economy, all as part of his agenda to silence anyone who disagrees with him," she said. "The only ones who benefit from Donald Trump's actions are China and other countries who are already recruiting these students. It's the exact opposite of America First."

MEHS Field Public Notice

Mt. Edgecumbe High School staff and students ask people to keep their dogs off the school's softball field. The school is gearing up for the spring sports season and aims to keep the softball field clean, safe, and poop-free. We kindly ask that dogs stay off the field.

SPORTS CALENDAR

BASEBALL at Moller Field
TODAY Sitka v. Juneau
4 p.m. Junior Varsity
7 p.m. Varsity

SATURDAY Sitka v. Juneau
1 p.m. Junior Varsity
4 p.m. Varsity (SHS Senior Night)
7 p.m. Varsity

Medvejie Solstice Run

June 21 at 9 a.m.

Please join us for the 18th running of this SHS Cross Country and Track program fundraiser. The three distance events will begin and end at Herring Cove, adjacent to the Beaver Lake Trailhead parking lot at the end of Sawmill Creek Road. All races will head out toward Medvejie Hatchery and back. The half marathon turn-around is at the Green Lake Power House, 10K near the Medvejie Hatchery, and the 5K at about half-way out to the hatchery. This is a hilly course, please train accordingly.

Registration: <https://runsignup.com/Race/Info/AK/Sitka/MedvejieSolsticeRun> (open until 8 p.m. on 6/20/25). Fees: \$30 - 5K, \$35 - 10K and \$45 - 1/2 marathon. Virtual events are also available for \$30.

In-person registration will be available on race day until 8:30 a.m. at Herring Cove but registration fees are \$5 more on race day. A non cotton T-shirt is included for the first 75 entrants. (SHS students run for free & t-shirt can be purchased separately.)

Volunteers are warmly invited to support this fun event. For more information email runsitkahigh@gmail.com, or send a message on our Facebook page.

Alpine Adventure Run Wait List Open

All 125 limited entry spaces for the Alpine Adventure Run are filled. Wait list registration is open. Email christinemariehoran@gmail.com and request entry. A registration form will be sent to you. Your completed registration form and entry fee of \$50 will place you on the wait list in the order your forms and fees are turned in.

The race will take place on July 19, 2025. Wait listed runners move into the race when confirmed runners cancel. Entry fees are held and returned in full in the event you don't get into the run.

The race is a challenging seven-mile mountain run starting at St. Gregory's Catholic Church. The course climbs Gavan Hill and continues along the Harbor Mountain rim to the picnic area on Harbor Mountain.

Runners must be able to complete the course in 2.5 hours and be at least 15 years old. Registration costs \$50 and includes a t-shirt. For further information contact Chris Horan at christinemariehoran@gmail.com or call 907-747-6471.

The Alpine Adventure Run is conducted under a Special Use Permit with the Tongass National Forest.

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I have known “Sheila” for 30 years. We were once dear friends. She was always a social drinker. Twelve years ago, she lost her husband to cancer and began drinking increasingly heavily. Sheila’s now an alcoholic. Friends and family have tried many times to help her. She went to rehab twice to appease her daughter. She tried AA but said she wasn’t comfortable there. She had an in-home program for months but went through the motions only until it was done.

Over the last three years, Sheila has passed out, fallen and smashed her face and accidentally burned down her house. She has been taken to the hospital by ambulance a number of times, and most recently, got her second DUI conviction. My problem is, she phones me every week to chitchat about various everyday topics like nothing has happened. If I try to talk about her issues, Sheila says she’s sorry and will do better, and then changes the subject. Our conversations are making me sad and angry.

Should I finally confront her, or just cut her out of my life? I have tried to be caring and supportive when most of her other friends have written her off, but I’m ready to give up. -- FINISHED IN MAINE

DEAR FINISHED: Tell Sheila that although you care about her, you are no longer willing to stand by and watch her try to kill herself, because that is what she has been doing. Tell her you would love to continue talking with her, but only once she has confronted

her serious alcohol problem AND has started on the road to recovery. (Tell her daughter the same thing.) Sometimes, an addict must hit rock bottom before they realize what their habit has cost them.

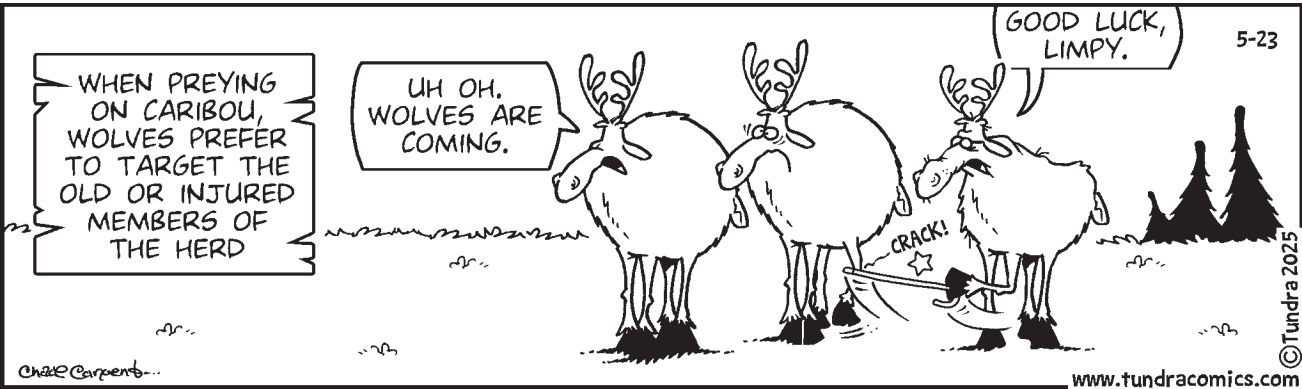
DEAR ABBY: A month ago, I was to fly across the country with my husband to attend my nephew’s wedding. It was a very special event because my nephew had never been married and seemed to be a confirmed bachelor. After we arrived at the airport and were about to check in, I realized I hadn’t brought my identification. I told my husband to board the flight without me.

When my husband arrived, he told his brother that I wasn’t there because I had forgotten my identification. My brother-in-law told my husband he would tell his wife that I was sick, and my husband agreed. I was furious with my husband when I found out.

I had told my husband to tell my sister-in-law (who is my friend) that I had forgotten my identification. I am also angry at my brother-in-law for lying about me. Should I tell my sister-in-law the truth and let her know her husband lied about me? -- NO-SHOW IN VIRGINIA

DEAR NO-SHOW: A better way to phrase it would be to tell your sister-in-law (who is your friend) that you couldn’t get on the plane because you forgot your ID, and STILL can’t figure out why your husband and hers didn’t give her the real reason.

TUNDRA



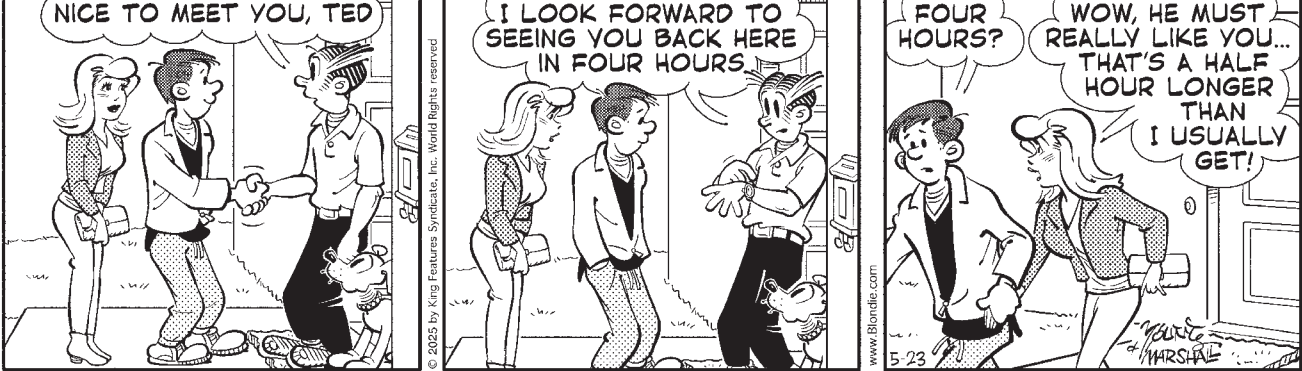
ZITS



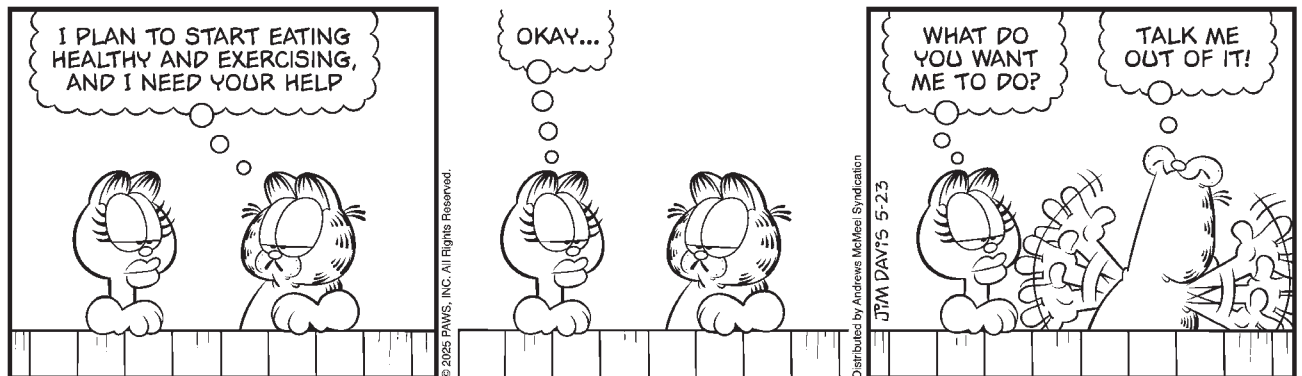
RHYMES WITH ORANGE



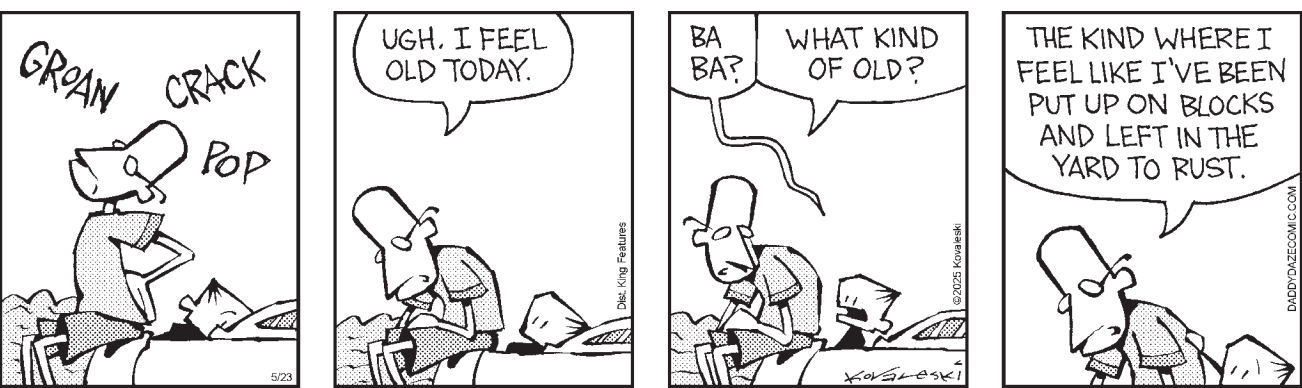
BLONDIE



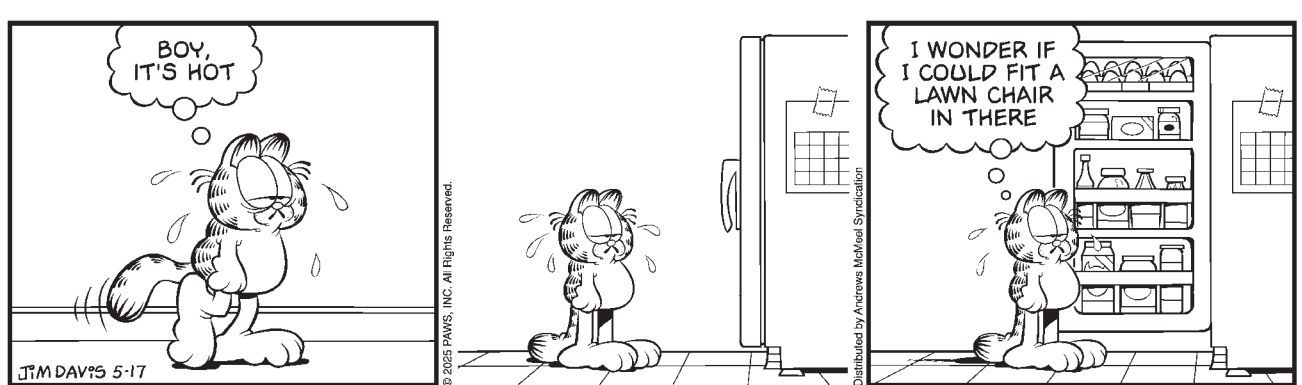
GARFIELD



DADDY DAZE



SATURDAY’S CARTOON...



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Urge forward
- 6 Dominant
- 11 Guy
- 12 Softener ingredient
- 13 Laundry problem
- 14 Spook
- 15 Luke’s teacher
- 17 Pro votes
- 18 Fishing need
- 20 Opposed
- 22 Coffee dispenser
- 23 Pepper type
- 26 Corona, e.g.
- 28 Award for mystery writers
- 29 Wise
- 31 CEO’s deg.
- 32 Metal sources
- 33 Choir member
- 34 Swanky
- 36 Church reply
- 38 English racing town
- 40 Church sight
- 43 Brief rest
- 44 Pizza portion
- 45 Chaser of Bugs
- 46 Rash

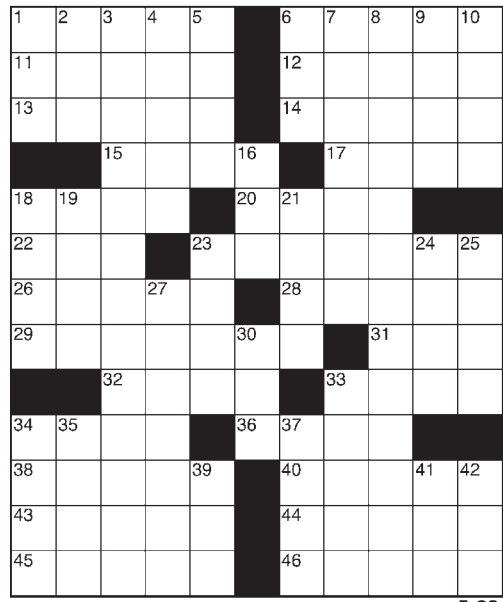
DOWN

- 1 Con-ditions
- 2 Got together
- 3 Pretending to be dead
- 4 “Cats” poet
- 5 Touch down
- 6 Crunch targets
- 7 Found insect
- 8 Slender
- 9 Fast runner
- 10 Chopping tools
- 16 Battery size
- 18 Tampa Bay gridders
- 19 Verdi piece
- 21 Russian refusal
- 23 Ontario tribe
- 24 Collars
- 25 Impor-tant times
- 27 Scuba attach-ment
- 30 Top-secret org.



Yesterday’s answer

- 33 “Twilight” heroine
- 34 Le Pew of cartoons
- 35 Milky stone
- 37 Use a pestle
- 39 Sea, to Simone
- 41 Do something
- 42 Spanish king



Sitka by the Stars

For Saturday, May 24, 2025

Today feels like a day that was made to bring out the visionary, innovator and idealist in us all. We’re encouraged to think positively about the future and put in the work to make this future a reality. Courage will be rewarded now, as well as a willingness to think outside the box. At the most basic level, this could mean meeting new people, opening our minds to new ideas, and visiting places that we’ve never been before. On a larger scale, today is advantageous for making a positive change in our lives, our communities, or all of the above!

ARIES

(March 21 to April 19)

When you pair your brainpower with your drive and determination, you can accomplish amazing things.

TAURUS

(April 20 to May 20)

Your intuition may be noticeably sharp today. If you feel called to do something bold, innovative, or different from the usual, do it!

GEMINI

(May 21 to June 20)

You might have a sudden realization or an “aha” moment that unlocks your next opportunity or adventure.

CANCER

(June 21 to July 22)

You never know who you might meet today, so remain open to the possibilities. Even a fleeting connection can make a lasting impact on you.

LEO

(July 23 to Aug. 22)

If you’re not feeling as sharp as you once were with your current set of skills, perhaps it’s time to learn some new ones. Seek out people you can learn from.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

You’re encouraged to let go of an old way of thinking because it may be keeping you stuck. Open your mind.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

It may be time to move on from a relationship that has become extremely one-sided.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

If you allow yourself to ask for help, you may be pleasantly surprised at who shows up to answer the call.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

Employing balance and moderation in life are the keys to becoming a better version of yourself.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Steeping yourself in art and creativity is a good form of self-nurturing.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

Don’t rush into a decision. Give yourself some time to think on it.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 to March 20)

Engage with the power of curiosity today and see where it takes you.

FOR TODAY’S BIRTHDAY

You enjoy trying new things and meeting new people. Although you live a busy life, you know how to take time out to appreciate the little things. No matter how old you get, you’ll never lose your connection to wonder and imagination. You possess a playful attitude that enables you to find humor in even the most serious of situations. You’re inquisitive, outspoken, and unafraid to ask the questions or say the thing that everyone else is thinking but won’t dare say out loud. This year, making enough time for rest and relaxation will be the key to your accomplishments.

Sudoku

ANSWER TO YESTERDAY’S PUZZLE

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

Difficulty: ★★★

5/22

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Sudoku increases from Monday to Friday. Each day the previous day’s answer will be published.

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 day the code letters are different.

5-23

CRYPTOQUOTE

QFI NBIKIYQ DEDIYQ HK
MHJJIC PHQF TEG ZYC
FZNNHYIKK. HM GEO ZBI
ZQQIYQHLLI, GEO PHJJ KII HQ.

— QFHRF YFZQ FZYF
Yesterday’s Cryptoquote: WE ARE ALL LIVING IN CAGES WITH THE DOOR WIDE OPEN. — GEORGE LUCAS



Take this Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: DAYS OF THE WEEK IN TITLES

Complete the title with a day(s) of the week. (e.g., “_____ Night and _____ Morning,” a novel by Alan Sillitoe.
Answer: Saturday, Sunday.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. “Rainy Days and _____,” a song by the Carpenters.
Answer: _____

2. “_____ with Morrie,” a book by Mitch Albom.
Answer: _____

3. “_____ in the Park with George,” a 1984 musical.
Answer: _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

4. “_____ Bloody _____,” a song by U2 and a 1971 film.
Answer: _____

5. “His Girl _____,” a 1940 film.
Answer: _____

6. “_____,” a song by the Mamas & the Papas.
Answer: _____

PH.D. LEVEL

7. “Never on _____,” a 1960 film (also a song).
Answer: _____

8. “_____ Child,” a David Bowie song (also a book).
Answer: _____

9. “A Month of _____,” a novel by John Updike.
Answer: _____

SCORING:
18 points -- congratulations, doctor; 15 to 17 points -- honors graduate; 10 to 14 points -- you’re plenty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points -- you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points -- enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points -- who reads the questions to you?

ANSWERS: 1. Mondays, 2. Sunday, 3. Sunday, 4. Sunday, 5. Friday, 6. Monday, 7. Sunday, 8. Thursday, 9. Sundays.

Suit Filed for Protection Of Cook Inlet Belugas

By YERETH ROSEN
Alaska Beacon

Conservation groups and a Tribal government have sued to overturn a permit that allows a mining company to build a road and expand an airstrip at a site important to endangered whales.

At issue is the permit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers granted in September to Contango ORE Inc. for construction work at the Johnson Tract mining prospect on the west side of Cook Inlet.

The site is along the Johnson River and near Tuxedni Bay, a place where Cook Inlet belugas gather in winter to feed.

The lawsuit alleges that the Corps failed to properly consider impacts of the development on the endangered belugas, including the impacts of aircraft and vessel noise. The complaint also says the Corps failed to properly analyze the anticipated acid rock drainage and other sources of water pollution. The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Anchorage, alleges violations of the federal Endangered Species Act, Clean Water Act and National Environmental Policy Act.

The plaintiffs are Cook Inletkeeper, the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council, the Center for Biological Diversity and a Soldotna resident, Anna-Maria Mueller.

Satchel Pondolfino, clean water lead with Cook Inletkeeper, said in a statement that the Corps failed to assess the effect on the belugas in the inlet, which is named Tikahtnu in Dena'ina.

"The Johnson River supports an ecosystem rich with salmon, herring, wolves, wolverines and iconic Alaskan brown bears, which are becoming scarcer as Tikahtnu becomes more industrialized," Pondolfino said. "What's at risk is one of the most ecologically rich corners of Tikahtnu and the Army Corps has a duty to carefully scrutinize all implications of this permit."

A spokesperson for the Corps' Alaska district office declined to comment on the lawsuit, citing policies concerning pending litigation.

Cook Inlet belugas are highly sensitive to noise and depend on calls and songs to communicate and navigate. Tuxedni Bay is a refuge for them because it currently lacks the industrial noise widespread in other parts of the inlet, according to scientists.

Last year, Cook Inletkeeper and the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned the National Marine Fisheries Service to

create a protective zone around Tuxedni Bay, limiting traffic and human activities there to keep noise levels low. That petition has not been granted.

The Johnson Tract, comprising about 21,000 acres, is within the borders of Lake Clark National Park but owned by Cook Inlet Region Inc., an Alaska Native corporation. CIRI acquired the inholding through a trade enabled by a 1976 federal law, the Cook Inlet Land Exchange. For decades, the corporation has been considering options for mining development at the site.

In 2019, CIRI leased the site to Vancouver-based HighGold Mining Inc., which conducted some exploration. Fairbanks-based Contango bought HighGold last year, and with that acquisition, the company took over Johnson Tract exploration operations.

Contango is also a part owner of the Manh Choh mine near Tetlin in eastern Interior Alaska, is developing the Lucky Shot mine in the Hatcher Pass area of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough and has other projects in early exploration stages.

The Johnson Tract holds gold, silver, copper, zinc and lead. Contango estimates that the Johnson Tract property holds over 1 million gold equivalent ounces, an industry measurement that combines different types of precious metals. Initial capital costs to develop the mine are estimated at \$214 million, and once built, the mine would operate for at least seven years, according to a technical report the company released earlier this month.

<https://alaskabeacon.com/yereth-rosen>

Rainy, Windy . . .

Continued from Page 1

The Weather Service calls for a low over the gulf today through Sunday, with winds south of Sitka possibly reaching 30 to 35 knots and 10 or 12 foot seas in southern Southeast. The ongoing low pressure system has persisted for over a month, bringing wet weather with it, the weather service said.

"We've been stuck under an upper level trough that's basically a trough of low pressure that's over most of Alaska and the Gulf of Alaska," Liske said. "And it's been sticking there generally since about mid-April. So we're just



John McCrehin works the counter at the Sitka Sportsman's Association Salmon Derby weigh-in barge at Crescent Harbor today. (Sentinel Photo)

Derby . . .

Continued from Page 1

catch anything, but had the time of her life."

Participants must have valid Alaska fishing licenses with a king salmon stamp, and are reminded to stay safe on the water. The current limit for kings is one fish daily, which must be at least 28 inches long to be kept. Fish are weighed in the round for their official derby weight. Afterward, they go to Sitka Sound Seafoods for processing and sale. The fishing derby has an exception from the state law forbidding the sale of sport-caught fish, and the income supports the nonprofit sportsman's association's year-round activities.

Sitka Sound's fish "have gone from everywhere, from supermarket chains

on the East Coast to down the West Coast. They make their money, we make our money and that's what keeps us going," McCrehin said.

In last year's derby, 138 people turned in at least one fish, and a total of 427 fish, averaging 13.5 pounds, were handed in, said Marsha Lysons, who runs the derby fish ladder and statistics.

Last year's winner was Ron Davis with a 39.5 pound Chinook salmon; the all-time record is held by Connie See, who caught a 73 pound, 6 ounce, king in 1956 – the first year of the Sitka Salmon Derby.

Fest . . .

Continued from Page 1

"I love Sitka and I love being downtown, but to be able to take a little workshop and then watch people dance in the street and then go buy art from local artisans, and go to a dance – all in one day, all in the span of just a couple hours is a unique experience to have in downtown," Puletau-Lang said.

She and fellow organizer Hannah Portello-Swagel said one event sure to be popular is sidewalk chalk art near the Crescent Harbor shelter. Participants are invited to pick up a piece of brilliant-colored chalk, and claim a sidewalk square to decorate. Some areas will be covered with a shelter to protect the creations from rain.

Portello-Swagel was born and raised in Sitka, and after 22 years away moved back two years ago with her wife Sarah Prelutsky. Prelutsky recently finished building the trailer for her business, The Donut Shack. The trailer had its trial run today, and will be at Porch Fest.

Portello-Swagel said she heard about Porch Fest in the years she was away, and is excited to be a part of it now. "It's an event for locals and by locals," she said.

GSAC board member Maia Carter organized the lineup at the Crescent Harbor shelter stage:

- 11 a.m. to noon - Pointy and the Birds
Noon - The Song Wranglers
1 p.m. - Summerfall
2 p.m. - Open Mic with Maia
3 p.m. - Trytones
4 p.m. - Dixon Elegant
5 p.m. - Barn Dance, with Fishing for Cats
7 p.m. - Maia, Marshall and Adam
8 to 9 p.m. Zak Kirkpatrick & Friends.

Porch Fest is organized by the Greater Sitka Arts Council, with sponsorship by the Chamber of Commerce and Harry Race. The full schedule is at: sitkaartscouncil.org/porch-fest.

33 Bills . . .

Continued from Page 1

row money for a new cruise ship dock in Seward. The Legislature passed an identical bill last year, but it was one of five that Dunleavy vetoed, citing the fact that the House voted on it after the legal end of the legislative session. This time around, the governor had no problem signing the bill into law.

The governor also signed SB 15, another after-midnight bill that was redone by the Legislature. That law allows teens as young as 18 to serve alcohol in restaurants, breweries and distilleries, but not package stores or bars. Teens as young as 16 may work in those places but not serve alcohol. The measure was intended to increase the labor force during the summer tourism season.

Legislators also cleared up a long-running tax dispute involving the car-sharing company Turo by passing a bill that requires Turo to collect and remit the state's car rental tax. Turo rentals are a common feature of the summer tourist season.

Previously, individual car owners who rented out their cars through Turo were required to independently account for and send in their taxes. State records show few people followed that procedure.

The Legislature passed a different version of the bill last year, and Dunleavy vetoed it. The new version cuts the state's car rental tax and institutes an even lower tax for Turo users.

This version has not yet been examined by the governor.

Changes for commercial fishers

Following some of the recommendations of the state's seafood task force, legislators passed three bills dealing with commercial fishing.

Commercial fishers who sell co-operatives to collectively pay liability and damage claims would see these payments be exempted from being regulated as insurance if House Bill 116 becomes law. At least three co-ops are already operating in the state, but under Washington state law.

House Bill 31 would exempt many commercial fishing boats from the requirement that they register with the state Division of Motor Vehicles. The exemption applies only to Coast Guard-documented boats with a current license from the Commercial Fisheries Entry Commission.

Alaska's Commercial Fishing and Agriculture Bank would receive a small grant from a defunct state loan fund, allowing the bank to issue low-interest loans to fishers. The Legislature passed the change, recommended by the seafood task force, in Senate Bill 156.

All three bills have yet to cross the governor's desk for final review.

Tablet computers in prisons

Alaska is one of the last states to forbid prison inmates from regularly using tablet computers. House Bill 35, passed by the Legislature, would change that by instituting rules for tablet use. The bill was encouraged as a means of rehabilitation and education for people in Alaska's prisons but the 33rd Legislature failed to pass it. Reintroduced this year, the idea moved quickly.

Ban on payday loans

After failing to pass a ban on high-interest, short-term loans during the 33rd Legislature, lawmakers in the first year of the 34th Legislature rapidly passed and advanced Senate Bill 39, which eliminates an exemption from the state's normal lending laws.

If enacted, SB 39 would restrict loans to a maximum 36% annual percentage rate. Many payday loans have annual interest rates that amount to several hundred percent.

The bill has not yet been sent to the governor.

Insurance and accounting updates

Alaska's insurance laws are in line to receive significant updates under two bills that the House and Senate passed this year. Senate Bill 133 regulates the prior authorization process used by doctors and other medical specialists when getting permission from an insurance company before undertaking a procedure on a patient. If enacted, it's designed to speed up the medical treatment process, and the state's division of insurance is required to keep statistics on how well the changes are working.

The House and Senate also passed a broader insurance bill, Senate Bill 132, that includes a series of minor changes to the state's insurance laws. It was amended late in the process to include components of a separate bill regulating pharmacy benefit managers.

Accountants also got some attention from the Legislature this year with the passage of House Bill 121, which eases the work requirements for new accountants to become certified to work in Alaska.

None of the three bills have yet been considered by the governor.

Encouraging local housing growth

The Legislature voted to encourage local governments to make long-term housing plans by passing Senate Bill 50, which amends state law to say that boroughs' comprehensive plans may include housing development. Comprehensive plans are long-term planning documents that set expectations for a borough's growth and future.

The bill hasn't yet reached the governor's desk.

Changes for big-game guides

After more than a decade of work, the Alaska Legislature passed Senate Bill 97, which changes the way the state regulates big game hunting guides. If enacted, SB 97 would permit the state to limit the number of hunt-

ing guides in a specific area by selling hunting concessions, much like the federal government already does on federal land in Alaska.

SB 97 was the result of a yearlong process in 2023 by the state's Big Game Commercial Services Board, which formed a task force to make recommendations and conclusions.

The bill has not yet been sent to the governor for final approval.

Stricter audit procedures by the Legislature

Amid a long-running dispute with the executive branch, the Alaska Legislature passed Senate Bill 183, which would require state officials to turn over data in the format requested by the legislative auditor.

Legislators say that since 2019, they have been unable to properly audit the part of the Alaska Department of Revenue that audits tax payments by oil and gas companies.

The executive branch, legislators and audit officials say, has refused to compile reports that it previously provided without difficulty.

As a result, legislators don't know whether the Department of Revenue is cheaply settling tax disputes with oil companies.

Senate President Gary Stevens, R-Kodiak, and Speaker of the House Bryce Edgmon, I-Dillingham, each sent a letter to Dunleavy, asking him to not veto the bill because of its importance.

The governor has yet to take final action.

No inflation-adjusted raises for state executives

Early in the session, the Legislature voted unanimously to reject a recommendation that the pay of legislators and other top state officials be automatically adjusted for inflation each year.

Dunleavy signed that bill into law on March 6.

Small changes to state laws

The House and Senate passed a handful of bills that make relatively small changes to state laws. In each case, these changes were requested by Alaskans who ran into trouble and asked for help from their legislators.

House Bill 70, for example, would allow ambulance crews to help some police and rescue dogs who are injured on the job and need to be taken to a veterinarian. Existing law allows bystanders to help, but not certified medical technicians.

Some laws pertaining to the Permanent Fund dividend division, which handles the annual distribution of PFDs, would be updated if House Bill 75 becomes law.

The state's rural school fund would be able to pay for teacher housing and Mount Edgecumbe High School in Sitka if House Bill 174 becomes law. Currently, MEHS isn't eligible for grants from the rural school fund under the process used by other rural schools.

Senate Bill 47 clears the way for the Municipality of Anchorage to use local money to pay for pothole repairs on Canyon Road, within Chugach State Park. Those repairs are currently blocked by state law.

All four bills have yet to receive consideration by Dunleavy, who may veto them, allow them to become law without his signature, or sign them into law.

Boards and commissions extended

Alaska has dozens of boards and commissions that regulate various professions and industries, and each of those boards needs to be regularly reauthorized by the Legislature. This year, because of a lawsuit filed by a former legislator, the House and Senate had to redo a boards bill that passed through the Capitol last year, as well as pass their regular bill.

In addition to those two bills, legislators passed a bill that would allow the regulation of some interior designers, affecting the Board of Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors.

All three bills have yet to be considered by the governor.

Ceremonial bills

Every year the Capitol sees at least one bill ceremonially renaming a state-owned landmark or establishing a ceremonial holiday. This year was no different.

Legislators voted to rename the airport in Ruby after Harold Esmailka, a well-known Interior pilot who operated air services, including medevac service, for decades.

They also added two ceremonial marks on the calendar, passing bills that made May 12 the Myalgic Encephalomyelitis/Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Day of Recognition and March as Women's History Month.

Dunleavy signed Women's History Month into law in April; he has not considered the other two bills yet.

Letters of protest and praise

In addition to the bills they passed, the House and Senate also approved 15 resolutions — official letters from the House and Senate that stated their positions on specific issues. Among the approved resolutions were ones opposing cuts to Medicaid, praising the sovereignty of Canada and Taiwan, asking for more international immigration for teachers and Afghans, and celebrating the U.S. Marine Corps' 250th birthday.

In addition to those 15 joint resolutions, the Alaska Senate passed a unilateral resolution asking Congress to allow people from American Samoa to vote in federal elections and serve as officers in the U.S. military.

<https://alaskabeacon.com/james-brooks>

Check out the Sentinel's new & improved web site,

sitkasentinel.com

The payroll is going up on June 21st

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Polling Places - May 2025

Remember to vote in the Special Municipal Election on Wednesday, May 28

Polls are open from 7 AM to 8 PM

Precinct Name	Location
SITKA NO. 1 (02-765)	Harrigan Centennial Hall 330 Harbor Drive Meeting Rooms 5 & 6
SITKA NO. 2 (02-770)	Harrigan Centennial Hall 330 Harbor Drive Meeting Rooms 2 & 3
EARLY VOTING (02-969)	Harrigan Centennial Hall 330 Harbor Drive Weekdays May 13 - 27 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. & Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to noon

A wheelchair accessible booth and an ADA compliant voting apparatus are available during early voting and at each precinct on Election Day.

Other voting options include voting by mail, fax, email, or personal representative.

For more information, contact the Municipal Clerk's Office at 907.747.1826, 907.747.1811 or visit <https://www.cityofsitka.com/SpecialMunicipalElection>.

SAMPLE BALLOT

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER: To vote for the issue/candidate of your choice, fill in the oval next to the issue/candidate you want to vote for. Place your ballot inside the secrecy sleeve and then take your ballot to the ballot box.

If you make a mistake while voting, return the ballot to the election official for a new one. A vote which has been erased or changed will not be counted.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA
OFFICIAL BALLOT
SPECIAL ELECTION
MAY 28, 2025

Instructions:
To vote, completely fill in the oval next to your choice like this: ☒
Use a blue or black ink pen to mark your ballot. NO RED INK. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

Proposition No. 1

Shall the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS) adopt proposed Ordinance No. 2024-33 to regulate all cruise ship visitation, beginning with the 2026 cruise season, by establishing:

- regulations on large cruise ships (defined as ships accommodating 250+ overnight passengers) to include:
 - limiting port calls to the cruise season (defined as May 1 – September 30);
 - restricting port calls to a maximum of six days per week ensuring at least one day per week with no port calls;
 - an annual cap of 300,000 scheduled passengers ashore per cruise season; and
 - a daily cap of 4,500 scheduled passengers ashore;
- requirements for the CBS to implement and administer a scheduling and permitting system for large and small cruise ships;
- requirements for the CBS to enforce provisions for violations (principally through fines, permit revocation, and/or suspending permit eligibility for one year), to be imposed on cruise ship owners or operators; and
- requirements for cruise ship operators to report visitation data to the CBS.

Informational: See proposed Ordinance No. 2024-33.

☐ YES ☐ NO