

# The Cordova Times



Historical  
society  
celebrates  
40 years  
Page 3

Cordova, Alaska

Volume 92, Number 38

Thursday, November 9, 2006

\$1.00

## Alaskans pick Palin for governor

### Alaska statewide election summary

#### U.S. House District 1

431 of 439 precincts -  
98 percent

x-Don Young, GOP (I)

113,209 - 57 percent

Diane Benson, Dem

79,997 - 40 percent

Alexander Crawford,

Lib 3,345 - 2 percent

Eva Ince,

Grn 1,407 - 1 percent

Bill Ratigan,

Oth 1,395 - 1 percent

#### Governor

431 of 439 precincts -

98 percent

x-Sarah Palin, GOP

98,347 - 49 percent

Tony Knowles, Dem

81,836 - 41 percent

Andrew Halcro, Ind

19,446 - 10 percent

Don Wright, AKI

1,004 - 0 percent

Billy Toien, Lib 569 -

0 percent

David Massie, Grn 456 -

0 percent

#### Ballot Measure 90-

#### Day Session Limit

431 of 439 precincts -

98 percent

Yes, 100,803 -

51 percent

No, 96,602 -

49 percent

#### Ballot Measure

#### Natural Gas Tax

431 of 439 precincts -

98 percent

Yes, 68,258 -

34 percent

x-No, 130,952 -

66 percent

- By The Associated Press

### Knowles loses race despite rural vote

By Matt Volz

Associated Press Writer

There was no anti-Republican sentiment in Alaska's election.

Voters kept the governor's office firmly in the hands of the GOP by sweeping self-described "hockey mom" Sarah Palin into office. She turned back Democrat Tony Knowles in his bid for a third term in office.

Likewise, Alaska voters returned Republican Don Young back to Congress for an 18th term, though he won't be in the majority since Democrats took control of the U.S. House.

Palin, a 42-year-old mother of four, celebrated with a cheering crowd of supporters at election headquarters in Anchorage on Tuesday night.

"We don't want to be presumptuous, but The Associated Press has called it for us so I think we're

going to go ahead and call it, also," Palin told the crowd.

Knowles refused to concede the race, hoping for a late surge of votes from rural Alaska and Southeast to turn the tide.

Palin has now won handily twice over veteran Alaska politicians. Besides knocking off Knowles, who served from 1994-2002, the former Wasilla mayor also beat incumbent Gov. Frank Murkowski in the August GOP primary.

Palin will become Alaska's 11th - and first female - governor on Dec. 4.

"I think she's very vocal. I think she's very acceptable. I think she'd be refreshing, said Juneau voter Donna Peel, 74, a self-described "Republican with an R tattooed on my backside."

Young, 73, won the election over Democrat Diane Benson with about 57 percent of the vote, a tight race for a man who won most congressional terms with 70 percent of the vote.

Alaska voters shot down a proposal to tax North Slope oil companies \$1 billion a year until a natural gas pipeline is built.



Courtesy photo/Ed O'Neill

Alaska's governor-elect Sarah Palin celebrates her election victory with Therese O'Neill, president and publisher of Alaska Newspapers Inc., at the Egan Convention Center in Anchorage late Tuesday night.

The other proposition fared better. With about 98 percent of votes counted, more than 51 percent of voters gave a "yes" to shortening the state's legislative sessions to 90 days.

## Plane crash kills former city manager

### Engine failure to blame

By Joy Landaluce

The Cordova Times

Larry Hancock, a Cordova pilot, former city manager and past owner of Copper River Air Taxi on Lake Eyak, was killed in a crash on Hawkins Island at 1 p.m. Sunday.



Hancock

Hancock was flying from Wasilla to Cordova, when he called a "mayday," reporting engine failure a mile east of Cordova.

At 2:21 p.m., the aircraft was spotted near Mud Bay on Hawkins Island. The aircraft was intact but no signs of survivors were observed.

At 5:02 p.m., Alaska State Troopers landed at the crash sight and recovered the body of the 57-year-old pilot, Hancock. His dog, Tanner, was onboard and survived.

Cordovans expressed shock and disbelief at the death of this past Cordova city manager and local pilot.

Lori Gates, city of Cordova financial director, remembered what kind of person he was.

"When Larry was the city manager, he was very appreciative of all his employees," Gates said. "Just a great guy to work for."



Courtesy photo

Ben Hancock, left, and his father, Larry Hancock, shared a love of flying and Alaska. Last summer at Tokon Lake, father and son enjoy some time together before their next flight.

Steve Ranney, a fellow pilot, remembers a man full of life.

"Always looking for yet another new adventure," Ranney said. "Copper River Air Taxi was going strong when he decided to sell and headed off to the North Slope to

work with his son, Ben.

"He spent most of the summer flying out of Bettles. He and his son had fallen in love with flying the past few years and were building a place near Palmer, he was coming down to do some work on his house," Ranney said.

Son and fellow pilot, Ben Hancock remembers a father who was loved all over the world.

Memorial services will be Saturday, Nov. 11, 4 p.m. at the Anchorage Funeral Home, 1800 Dare Ave.

## Alaska seafood highlight of China Fishery, Seafood Expo 2006

By The Cordova Times staff

Alaska Seafood drew a crowd at Asia's largest seafood show.

Seafood traders were queuing up at the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute booth recently to receive premium quality tasting samples of Alaska black cod,

king crab, smoked sockeye salmon and salmon roe, together with information about the products and Alaska suppliers.

"The China Fishery and Seafood Expo 2006 here in Qingdao, China, has drawn thousands of seafood trade members from all over Asia, and it's a tremendous international trade event

for Alaska Seafood," explains Ray Riutta, executive director of the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute.

During the three-day trade show, the institute's booth collected trade leads and dispensed literature, offering samples of Alaska Seafood together with Alaskan Amber beer generously

donated by the Alaskan Brewing Co.

"The Alaskan beer was a perfect complement to our Alaska seafood products," commented ASMI international program director KC Dochtermann. "This is always a great opportunity to promote the superior flavor of a multitude of offerings from Alaska."



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

*The Cordova Times community calendar is a free service listing. Submissions should including date, time, place and brief description of the event and can be e-mailed to [cdvtimes@ctcak.net](mailto:cdvtimes@ctcak.net) by 3 p.m. Friday prior to the following Thursday's publication. Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.*

**Friday, Nov. 10**

- Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, 8-9 p.m., at emergency area at Cordova Community Hospital.

**Monday, Nov. 13**

- Iceworm Committee Meetings at 5 p.m. at the Salvation Army Meeting room. Come and help plan our 2007 festival. Volunteers needed. If you have questions call Darrel Olsen 424-5756
- Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, 8-9 p.m., in the emergency area at the Cordova Community Hospital.

**Wednesday, Nov. 15**

- November's Funtastic After-School Schedule – Hand-colored flying airplanes at the library.
- Class offered on Board Financial Oversight. Learn what board members should know about the financial picture of an organization. Offered from 9 a.m. to noon at Prince William Sound Aquaculture Corp., 500 First St. Register at [www.forak-ergroup.org](http://www.forak-ergroup.org), click on Class Calendar, or call 743-1200. Open to the public.
- Class offered on Understanding Financial Statements from noon to 2 p.m. This course is designed primarily for finance committee members and staff who need a more

detailed knowledge of financial systems. Learn about the budget process and develop the tools you will need to create and improve your organization's budget from 3-5 p.m.

- Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, 8-9 p.m. at the emergency area at Cordova Community Hospital.

**Thursday, Nov. 16**

- City and Planning Commission meets at 7 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room. All items for the agenda must be submitted 21 days prior to the meeting. For information, call 424-6220.

**Meetings, gatherings and public information**

- Arts and Pageants meets at 8 p.m. the last Tuesday of the month in the Library Meeting Room. The public is welcome to come and share art ideas for the community. For information, call 424-3632.
- Cordova City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of the month in the library meeting room. Public comment is taken during the first half-hour of the meetings. For information call Cordova City Clerk Lila Koplin at 424-6200.
- Cordova Historical Society evening program at 7:30 p.m. on the third Thursday of the month in the library meeting room. Refreshments will be served. Call the museum at 424-6665 with questions.
- Cordova Public Library – Cordova Public Library Book Bags are still available. All proceeds from the sale of bags goes to buying more books for the

library. Susan Ogle created the wonderful design on the bags.

- Friends of the Library – The Friends of the Library urge you to join their organization. Remember the books for sale in the Friends section of the library. All proceeds go to support the Public Library.
- Cordova Family Resource Center office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, or call 424-5674 for an appointment. In case of emergency, call the 24-hour help line at 424-4357 (HELP).
- Chugachmiut Women, Infants and Children Program offers free food and nutrition education for pregnant and breast-feeding women, their infants and children under age 5. Call 424-5731.
- Parent Support Group has information addressing many needs such as attention deficit disorder, dyslexia, fetal alcohol syndrome and other disabilities. Call 424-8196.
- Childcare Assistance Program is available for qualified working parents and parents in school. Call 424-7738.
- Respite care programs are available to give a break to families that have a child with a developmental disability. Call 424-8300.

**Upcoming events:**

**Sunday, Nov. 19**

- The Northwind Quilter's Guild would like to invite the community to the sixth annual Tea and Auction. Please join us at the Reluctant Fisherman on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

# Author says all children born gifted

Schools said to not meet current needs

The Cordova Times staff

Almost five million children drop out or fail to enroll in high school each year. One child out of 12 goes to school medicated for a learning disability.

Diagnoses of autism and ADHD are on the rise. Even children identified as gifted and talented often have no way to use their gifts in school. Our one-size-fits-all educational system cannot address the varied needs of today's kids.

The current system was designed 120 years ago to turn farm children into assembly-line workers for the Industrial Revolution. Today's kids are of the Information Age, an age of electronics and fast media. They have different needs. Today's schools are not meeting them; parents and educators are looking for answers.

"The Call to Brilliance," A new book, by Resa Steindel Brown, an award-winning educator, describes the first successful school model where all children excel. In this book, Brown reveals the insider truth behind our educational system.

"The fact is," says Brown, "all children are born brilliant. If we would stop processing our children in an assembly-line fashion, and search for every child's interests, talents and passions, we would find them. All children would succeed, none would drop out and many learning disabilities would become irrelevant."

The book challenges current educational practices with true-life experiences. Brown's sons, unable to read until ages nine and ten, entered college in electronics and computer sciences at eleven and twelve. By fourteen, one was a system administrator for Warner Brothers. By fifteen, the other became the chief technology officer of an online sports magazine with more than 60 sales representatives. Brown's children were not atypical.

"The Call to Brilliance" abounds in the success stories of children who did not fit into our current structure. From the programs Brown created, these children

*"The fact is all children are born brilliant.*

*If we would stop processing our children in an assembly-line fashion, and search for every child's interests, talents and passions, we would find them.*

*All children would succeed, none would drop out and many learning disabilities would become irrelevant."*

— Resa Steindel Brown

trained with the Berlin Opera, created digital images used in the film "Lord of the Rings," presented software solutions to TRW, Pacific Bell, Industrial Light & Magic, NSA, Sony and more, all before the age of eighteen – and all in a pressure-free environment. They were never tested and received no homework. Instead they spent half a day, every day, playing, climbing trees, creating, inventing, and learning to pursue their passions and talents.

"The Call to Brilliance" is based on Brown's 35 years of experience in education. It shows parents and educators how to redirect their children's' challenges into strengths, discover their children's' interests, fuel their interests into passions and their passions into brilliance.

"When we break away from a one-size-fits-all education, children start to manifest amazing gifts past their age or grade level," Brown explains.


"The Call to Brilliance" will be published in January. Dr. William Glasser, author of "Choice Theory," has written the foreword and Joseph Chilton Pearce, author of "Magical Child," the introduction.

Advanced Reading Copies are available to trade professionals by contacting [info@fredricpress.com](mailto:info@fredricpress.com).

**Native Village of Eyak Notice of Election  
Regular Tribal Council Election  
December 16th, 2006  
Ilanka Cultural Center  
2nd Floor**

Two seats on the Village Council are open this term. Notice of intent to run must be filed on or before 5:00 P.M., December 6th, 2006 with

**Native Village of Eyak  
ELECTION COMMITTEE**  
c/o Barbara Beedle  
P.O. Box 819  
Cordova, Alaska 99574



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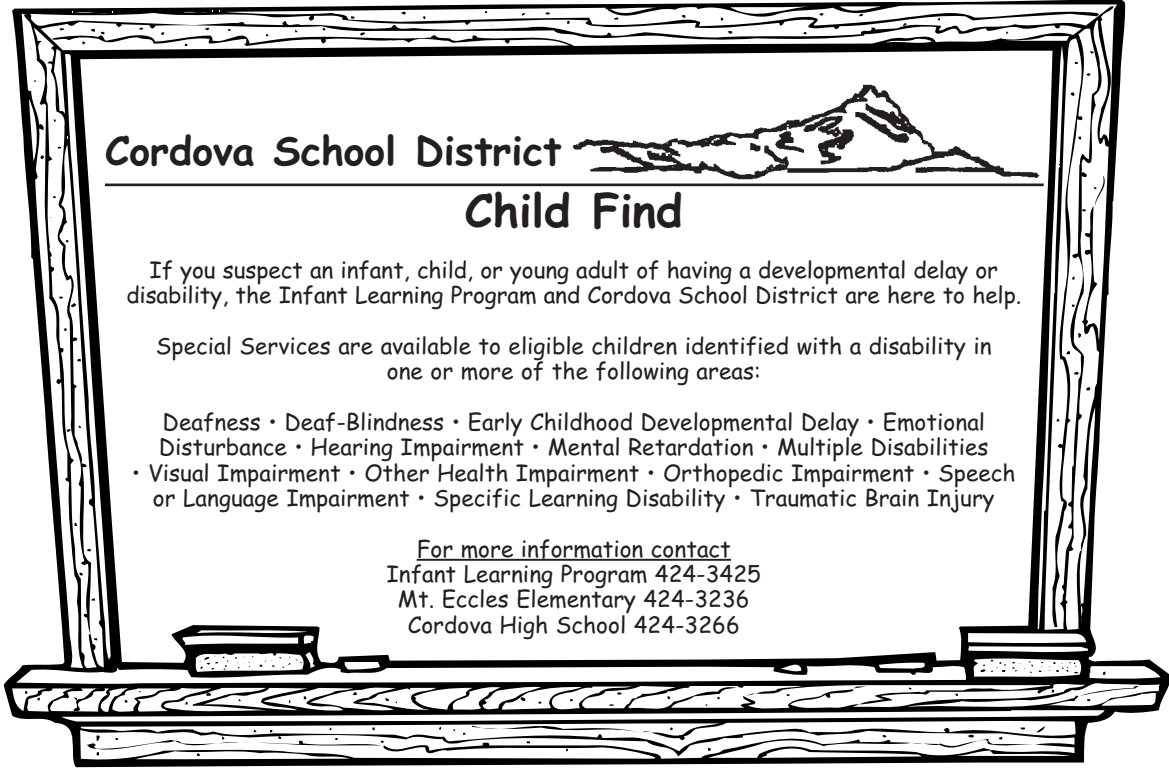
If you suspect an infant, child, or young adult of having a developmental delay or disability, the Infant Learning Program and Cordova School District are here to help.

Special Services are available to eligible children identified with a disability in one or more of the following areas:

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For more information contact  
Infant Learning Program 424-3425  
Mt. Eccles Elementary 424-3236  
Cordova High School 424-3266





# Cordova Historical Society celebrates 40-year anniversary

## Thomas is awarded for appreciation

By Joy Landaluce  
The Cordova Times

Under the costuming and decorations of World War II, the Pioneer Igloo was transformed in time. The Cordova Historical Society celebrated the support and commitment of its members on Oct. 28.

It was founded in March of 1966 by a group who understood the importance of preserving the past. The original founders gathered around a table in the Cordova Café, but by the following January had a new home inside the First Bank of Cordova.

Meetings during the first year included establishing paperwork and acquiring artifacts. Ed King brought in a pair of horseshoes from the Bering River coalfields to serve as a lucky omen for the beginning of the collection.

“Rationing safeguards your share,” is just one of the many war slogans, butter rations and canned cakes the Cordova Historical members would enjoy during the four-course meal.

A potato-slicing contest and an award for appreciation was bestowed upon Virginia Thomas. Thomas jumped right in and has volunteered endless hours to the Cordova Museum and Cordova Historical Society.

Cathy Sherman told of the great team that surrounded Thomas.

“Over 250 original photographs were archived and documented in this huge pioneer project,” Sherman said. “Virginia patiently trained staff, assisted with educational work at the museum, fixed computer problems and even painted the bathrooms.”

Thomas came to town as a military spouse who had a great passion for lighthouses, history and writing. Also awarded for volunteer hours and work were given by the Historical Society to, Virginia Lacy, Mike Webber and Judy Fulton.

Neil Schultz ended the award portion of the evening with a special thanks to Cathy Sherman.

“We all want to thank you for the work that you do for Cordova and its history,” Schultz said.



Photos by Joy Landaluce/Cordova Times  
**Boatswain Richard Thomas and Virginia Thomas at the Cordova Historical Society and Museum annual dinner. Virginia Thomas was awarded the annual appreciation award for her volunteer work for the Museum and Historical Society.**



**Bob Bercceli and Milo Burcham try their skills at the traditional potato-peel race.**



**Michelle Fisher, Kay Groff and Piper Harding entertain guests as part of the singing group, False Alarm, sings a series of assorted songs from the 1940s.**



**World World II army poster depicts a workforce filled with women.**



**Cathy Sherman and Sharon Ermold greet guests with butter rations and dog tags at the Cordova Historical Society and Museum annual dinner on Oct. 28.**



**Vicki Hall and Virginia Lacy show off the fashions of the forties at the Cordova Historical Society and Museum dinner.**



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# It's time to unite Alaskans on common ground

Alaskans awaken these post-election mornings with a new hope for unity and a common sense of purpose for a positive change.

Indeed, our future is big and bright across all of Alaska.

On election day, Alaskans – rural and urban – spoke to the issues and that future by selecting new leadership.

Our new governor is Sarah Palin. Our new lieutenant governor is Sean Parnell.

This team, along with the new governor's chief of staff, has the opportunity to unite Alaskans after a rigorous campaign debate that carved out some distinct differences and a great deal of common ground.

And to the winners of Tuesday's election goes the torch for leadership that keeps Alaskans focused on the common ground – the place where we step into the future together by renewing our commitment to civility and common sense.

In addition, it's a fresh, new opportunity for the Palin-Parnell team to help us put the campaign rancor behind us and to focus on people and policies that will guide the course of Alaska for the next four years.



## COMMENTARY

By Randall Howell  
Arctic Sounder

One of the governor-elect's major responsibilities in the days, weeks and months ahead is to make key personnel appointments that will range from boards and commissions to cabinet-level state department heads.

In that regard, we urge Palin and her lieutenant governor to search among all of Alaskans – Republican, Democrat or Independent – for those leaders who will continue to pursue creative and constructive ideas and policies to keep this great state on the cutting edge of both economic development and preservation.

We urge the winners to unite Alaskans – Native and non-Native – for a higher purpose that preserves a well-balanced approach to such issues as subsistence rights priorities and the privileges of sport hunting and sport fishing.

Alaskans are diverse and leadership in Alaska needs to celebrate that diversity, capturing the creativity and common sense that comes with preserving traditional cultures and embracing the culture of new ideas.

For instance, we urge the new governor-elect to practice policies of inclusion rather than exclusion. That will mean seeing – more and more – the common ground that united rural and urban Alaskans, rather than the differences they may or may not have.

It will mean a long-term commitment by the new administration to select rural and urban representation for study

groups, ad hoc committees, special panels, boards, commissions and departments.

It will mean a transparent and shared kind of leadership that enables all Alaskans to share in the winning spirit of a new government, a new sense of fairness, a new commitment to purpose and a new hope for tomorrow.

Certainly, there are winners and losers on the day of an election.

But just as certain, all Alaskans are winners for having participated in the democratic process that continues to place this state first among the 50 bound together in our sacred union.

Unfettered by divisiveness, we have the freedom to think and act with a First Frontier kind of certainty and confidence that comes from cooperation, compromise and commitment.

We urge the new governor, Sarah Palin, to continue listening and learning as she shapes her administration and the future of our state.

It takes courage to do so; but she has that courage – the courage to unite all Alaskans for the tasks and challenges at hand.

*Randall Howell is managing editor of Alaska Newspapers Inc., which publishes The Arctic Sounder, The Tundra Drums, The Bristol Bay Times, The Dutch Harbor Fisherman, The Seward Phoenix Log, The Cordova Times and First Alaskans magazine.*

## Enrollment decline may force further school budget cuts

### Special meetings create opportunity

By Don Clark

Special for The Cordova Times

October is the official school-enrollment count-month in the state of Alaska.

Unfortunately for the Cordova School District, the number of students enrolled continues to decline.

There are 419 students enrolled in the district. Mount Eccles Elementary School has 201 students and Cordova Junior/Senior

## COMMENT

High School has 218.

This is a trend that began in the 2002-2003 school year when there were 479 students enrolled in the Cordova School District as of October of that year. Since then there has been a continual decline in enrollment numbers.

These numbers are significant because they determine the district's funding amount from the state of Alaska. Currently the state allots \$5,380 for each student enrolled in a school. So, a decrease of even a few students can be

very significant, especially to small school districts.

When declining enrollment numbers are coupled with a 100 percent increase in the school district's required contribution to the TRS/PERS retirement systems it could be devastating to our district.

While I believe the state is going to provide relief from this dramatic increase in our TRS/PERS contribution we will not know that until late spring. Within the next few weeks we need to get a balanced budget approved by the school board and then the city council.

There have been several special school

board meetings already in October for the purpose of developing a school budget for next year and there will be more during November.

These meetings provide an opportunity for the public to learn more and make suggestions regarding next year's budget. Of course, if you are unable to attend any of these meetings your suggestions can be delivered either in person to the district office, by phone, 424-3265, or email, donclark@gci.net.

*Don Clark is the Superintendent of Cordova Junior/Senior High.*

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### Mailing address:

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### E-mail comments to:

rhowell@alaskanewspapers.com

**Publisher:** M. Therese O'Neill

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## Revisiting the short-tailed shearwater stranding

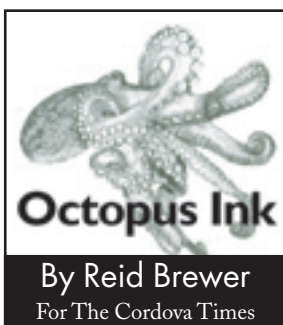
From 5,000 to 10,000 dead or injured short-tailed shearwaters washed ashore on Unalaska beaches on Aug. 30.

That evening, marine biologists Reid Brewer, Caleb Livingston and Scott Svarny measured, photographed, and tagged about 50 birds on Front Beach between Carl's and the Sailors Memorial.

The next day, volunteers counted bird carcasses on six of Unalaska's beaches to document the massive die-off.

The total number of shearwaters directly counted that day was 2,155 whole birds, though many of the volunteers suggested that many more were tied up in kelp wracks on the beaches.

Volunteers counted birds again on the



By Reid Brewer  
For The Cordova Times

Sept. 4 and again on the Sept. 8, and the counts decreased to 1,538 and 1,412, respectively. From Aug. 31 to Sept. 4, the removal rate of the carcasses from these six beaches averaged 28.4 percent. From Sept. 4-8, the removal rate was 7.2 percent.

After the Sept. 8 count, bird carcasses became so tattered and torn, it was difficult to get an individual count. The carcass removals may have been the result of scavenging, weather, natural decomposition, wave scour, tidal transport or burial.

The number of birds involved in the incident was very difficult to determine since counts were made on only six of many beaches due to limited volunteers, logistics, weath-

er and accessibility.

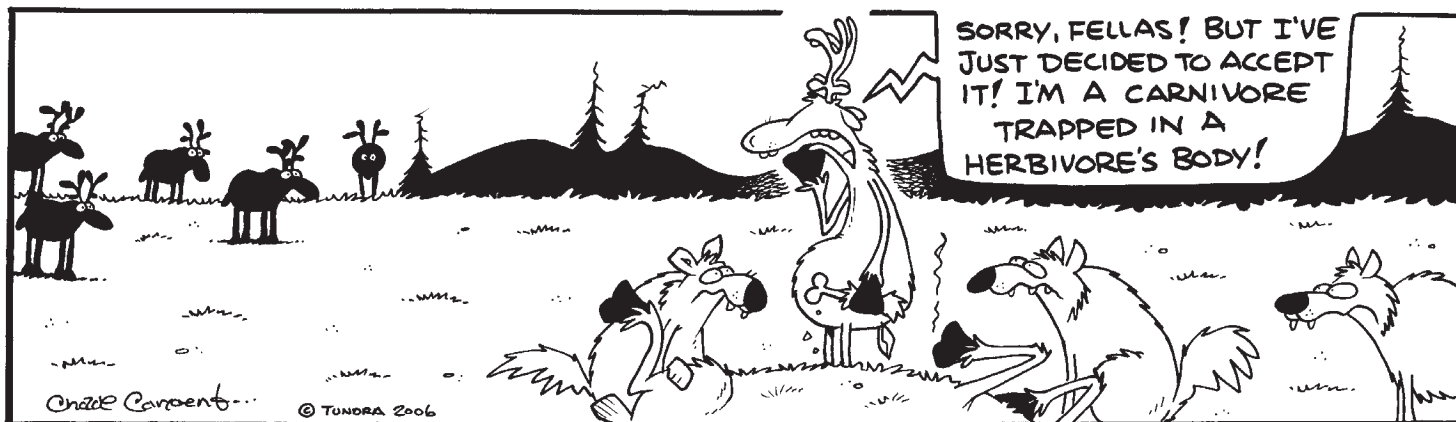
On Sept. 5, 11 of the dead birds were sent to the National Wildlife Health Center for tissue testing and cause of death analysis.

On Sept. 20, Grace McLaughlin, a wildlife disease specialist for the center, reported that the birds tested negative for avian influenza, negative to Newcastle disease and showed no apparent signs of starvation or weigh loss.

Conspiracy theories aside, the only known cause of these bird deaths was the boat strike reported to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game on the morning Aug. 30.

Brewer would like to thank those involved in counting and collecting birds in very adverse weather.

*Reid Brewer, a marine biologist in Unalaska, is with the Marine Advisory Program.*



## LETTERS POLICY

This publication welcomes letters to the editor as part of a continuing dialogue on matters important to area residents.

All letters must be signed and must include an address and daytime telephone number for verification. Your address and phone number will not be published, however, we will not with-

old your name, and anonymous letters will not be printed.

We may edit letters for length, clarity and taste. We may also refuse to print letters that would place this publication in legal jeopardy.

If you absolutely do not want your letter edited, please note that and we will return it if

editing is necessary.


The deadline for letters is 4 p.m. Friday. Letters and commentaries submitted before the deadline will be considered for the following week's issue upon space availability. Meeting the deadline does not guarantee immediate publication.



# Holiday Baking Headquarters

November 10-16


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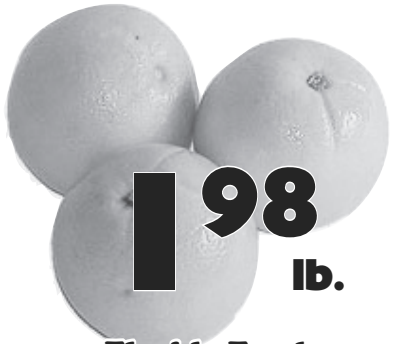
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98¢


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198

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288

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648

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2/\$8

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98¢

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# Ghouls, goblins and witches enjoy Halloween

Events report  
record numbers

By Joy Landaluce  
The Cordova Times

Children's Halloween Party is just one of the functions available on Halloween in Cordova. More than 100 cupcakes were given out as prizes for the cupcake walk at the Moose Lodge Halloween party. Penelope Oswald, women of the moose senior region, praised the decorations this year and said they were the result of many hours of volunteer work of Dawn Orey.

"Dawn put so much work into this function, as well as hand-fill-

ing hundreds of candy bags," Oswald said. "This is such a fun project to work on and it just gets better and better."

Fire Chief Mike Hicks and the Cordova Volunteer Fire Department also had record numbers of ghostly goblins, witches and ghouls.

"This year guests were met by the new Dalmatian mascot," Hicks said. "A big thanks to everyone who helped and attended with the Halloween fun."

Rev. Gary Barnes also celebrated the holiday with a Harvest Festival. This was the first Harvest Festival held in the newly built Little Chapel Church on Lake Avenue. "We had over 250 people stop by," said Barnes.



Courtesy photos  
Dharma  
Tracksinger  
enjoys the  
Halloween festi-  
vities. Gladah  
Hicks, below gets  
a hug from the  
newest member  
of the Cordova  
Volunteer Fire  
Department.



Joy Landaluce/Cordova Times  
Heidi Wiese, above, as a princess, at the Moose Lodge Halloween party. Erin Smith, right, dresses ghoulishly with a large amount of make up. Dawn Orey, left, chose her favorite monster to give a Halloween hug. Decorations at the Moose Lodge this year were the result of many hours of volunteer work by Orey.



Joy Landaluce/Cordova Times  
More than 100 cupcakes were given away at the traditional cakewalk at the Moose Lodge Halloween event.

Jargon

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**Seagull Manager:**  
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# Alaska salmon fishermen gain ground on pricing

Alaska salmon fishermen received higher prices for the 2006 season for all species but sockeye and the preliminary values are likely to climb higher.

Figures just released by state fishery managers show that the 2006 statewide salmon harvest totaled 141.5-million fish. That ranks as the 15th largest catch on record since Alaska became a state 47 years ago. The preliminary value is \$308 million, compared to \$334 million for last year's record harvest of 221-million salmon.

Average dock prices this year for chinook salmon increased to \$2.77 a pound, up from \$2.23 last year. Coho prices averaged 99 cents a pound, an increase from 75 cents in 2005. Chum salmon prices increased year to year by five cents, a 19 percent increase. For pinks, the price crept up to 13 cents a pound, an increase of one penny from last year.

The statewide-average price for sockeye of 67 cents is seven cents less than last season. That's due pri-



**Fish Factor**  
Laine Welch

marily to a drop of a nickel-a pound at Bristol Bay, which by far provides most of the state's sockeye catch – nearly 29 million pounds this year compared to about 12 million pounds from elsewhere in Alaska.

“Anytime you have an average price for a particular species, it can be deceptive. If you end up with a larger share of the fish being caught where the price was lower it will contribute to the statewide price going down. But that can be deceptive,” said University of Alaska fisheries economist Gunnar Knapp.

On a brighter note, Norton Sound had its best commercial coho harvest ever at 131,000 fish. Healthy chum runs also continued in the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers.

“In fact, if there were more buyers for chum salmon from that region, our statewide harvest would’ve been much higher. There were hundreds of thousands of fish there that could have been harvested but were not, due to no markets,” said Alaska

Department of Fish and Game Deputy Commissioner Geron Bruce. The statewide chum salmon harvest of 21.4-million fish ranks as the second best of all time in both numbers of fish and in the dockside value of \$56.3 million.

Here are some comparative catch values – in millions of dollars – for the 2006/2005 salmon fisheries per region:

	2006	2005
Southeast	\$95,229	\$85,444
Prince William Sound	\$51,046	\$55,118
Cook Inlet	\$15,204	\$33,585
Bristol Bay	\$93,935	\$96,515
Kodiak	\$25,770	\$27,353
Chignik	\$5,036	\$5,545
Alaska Peninsula	\$17,190	\$26,371
Kuskokwim	\$1,142	\$1,208
Yukon	\$3,694	\$2,551
Norton Sound	\$ 390	\$ 236
Kotzebue	\$ 228	\$ 125

Preliminary salmon prices do not include bonuses or other post-season adjustments. That means 2006 salmon values will likely increase after Alaska processors file their final reports on purchases and prices paid. That information will be available in April. Find complete details on regional salmon catches and prices at [www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us](http://www.cf.adfg.state.ak.us).

### Pebble hopefuls talk fish

Representatives of Northern Dynasty hope to meet with as many fishermen as possible this month in Seattle to talk about the Pebble Project, one of the world's largest open-pit gold and copper mines the Canadian company hopes to operate someday at headwaters of Bristol Bay. Why so far away from the proposed mine site?

“Of the more than 1,800 drift net permits in the Bristol Bay fishery, 1,100 are held by non-residents of Alaska. That means we really have a problem with local participation in the fishery,” said Trefon Angasan, an outreach coordinator for Northern Dynasty.

Angasan, who now lives in Anchorage, is a lifelong Native

rights advocate and former state Fish Board member. He claims his clan goes back 10,000 years in the Bristol Bay region, and his family currently holds more than 50 local salmon permits. Angasan calls himself a “connector between Northern Dynasty and the people.”

“I’ve taken a lot of heat for that but I think it is a necessary step to be sure that at least what was being said within the inner circles is conveyed to the local people,” he explained. “They really haven’t shown me they can do it safely yet. Until they do, I am going to withhold my comments and keep an open mind at least until they are finished with their permit applications.”

The fisheries’ meeting, which coincides with the start of the Pacific Marine Expo, will feature updates on the Pebble project by Northern Dynasty Chief of Operations Bruce Jenkins, and a presentation by Fisheries Biologist Jim Buell. It is set for 2-5 p.m. on Nov. 15 at the Leif Erikson Building in Seattle. Get more information from Angasan at [trefonangasan@gci.net](mailto:trefonangasan@gci.net) or by calling (877) 450-2600.

# American Seafoods opens grant program to Alaska communities

## Cordova’s baseball field funded

The Cordova Times staff

The Community Advisory Board of American Seafoods Co., one of the nation's largest seafood processors, announced it is accepting applications for its Alaska community grant program. The deadline to submit an application is Nov. 20.

The CAB community grant program awards \$75,000 annually to community projects throughout rural Alaska. In December, the CAB will allocate a total of \$30,000 to various Alaskan community projects that tackle issues such as hunger, housing, safety, education, research, natural resources and cultural activities.

In February, the CAB program awarded \$29,500 in grants to a variety of Alaskan community pro-

grams, including Cordova Little League Baseball – \$1,000; Southeast Alaska Boy Scouts – \$1,000; St. Paul Department of Public Safety – \$2,000; and Illiuliuk Family and Health Services – \$3,500.

“We are appreciative of the support provided by American Seafoods and their CAB grant program,” said Jeff Hawley, city of Cordova parks and recreation director.

CAB evaluates each proposal using the need in the community, project benefits, the number of people that will benefit from the program, which individuals the award is intended for and the ability to garner additional funding as the criteria.

Since 1997, the board has granted more than \$600,000 to organizations and programs in rural Alaska. Grant recipients will be chosen at

the Dec. 4 meeting in Anchorage.

“We feel that our Community Advisory Board’s grant program is a great way for American Seafoods to give back to the communities we operate in,” said Inge Andreassen, president of American Seafoods Company. “It’s exciting to be able to provide added opportunities to organizations that are doing great works, and we look forward to once again honoring

that commitment in December.”

Applications for the grant program are available online at [www.americanseafoods.com](http://www.americanseafoods.com), or by contacting Kim Lynch at [kim.lynch@americanseafoods.com](mailto:kim.lynch@americanseafoods.com) or (206) 256-2659. Completed applications should be returned to Lynch at American Seafoods using email, fax at 206-448-0300, or mail at 2025 1st Ave, Suite 900, Seattle, WA, 98121.

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# EVOS presents update to injured resources, services

Whales added to still-recovering list

By Joy Landaluce  
The Cordova Times

Michael Baffrey, executive director of the Exxon Valdez Trustee Council, appeared at the Cordova Public Library on Oct. 30 to present the Draft 2006 Update to Injured Resources and Services List and record Cordovans comments.

Almost two decades after the Exxon Valdez oil spill, it is clear that some resident species injured by the spill have not fully recovered. According to Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's Injured Resources and Services site, the council recognizes 30 resources and services as injured.

Riki Ott, author of "Sound Truth, Corporate Myths\$," was not encouraged by much of the public meeting.

"The EVOS Trustee Council must be watched very carefully now, especially in the waning days of the Murkowski Administration," Ott said.

"The Restoration Reserve has



Joy Landaluce/Cordova Times

Fisherman Ross Mullins, Micheal Baffrey, executive director of the EVOS Trustee Council, and Ken Adams, fishermen, discuss the herring species recovery at the Prince William Sound Research Application and Planning group in the Cordova District Fisherman United building on Main Street.

over \$150 million in it and it looks ripe for the plucking to some," he said. "The restoration of the sound is not complete, we need herring restored before we have full recovery. Until the herring are restored, that pot of money should be used for what it was intended – restoration of areas damaged by Exxon's

spill, including science," Ott said.

Ott also said he was encouraged that the council did not adopt the recommendations of the latest \$1.2 million peer review.

"That expensive review by Integral Consulting basically concluded everything in the sound had recovered. We wish. But it's just not so," Ott said.

"The proposed injured-species list reflects, I think, the status of the Sound's recovery," Ott said. "It listed for the first time the Alaska Transient stock of Orcas. Some of the species like harbor seals and harlequin ducks are recovering. That phase can take years."

Public Advisory Member Mark King is also encouraged by the fact that the AT1 group of Orcas is now listed.

"The group has gone from 25 to 13," said King. "No calves have been observed since the spill. This group has definitely been impacted by the spill."

If you want more information about the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council's Injured Resources and Services site, visit <http://www.evostc.state.ak.us/Habitat/injuredresources.htm>

# October warmer than expected for many Alaskans

Highest temperature reported, 64 degrees

By The Cordova Times staff

Warmer than normal weather prevailed across much of Alaska this October. The strongest positive departures were found in the Interior, west central coast and the Arctic.

It was especially warm Oct. 9-10 as a chinook event from a strong low-pressure system in the Gulf of

Alaska brought some record high temperatures, high winds and areas of heavy precipitation.

A few areas in the Panhandle had monthly average temperatures below normal. Precipitation varied widely across the state with both above and below normal totals.

The strongest positive departures – 200 percent of normal – occurred in the west central part of the state.

The weather in Fairbanks this October can be characterized by unseasonable warmth with a lack of snow. In fact, it wasn't until the Oct.

21 that there was any snow cover and only 3 inches covered the ground at month's end.

Snowfall for the month was 4.6 inches, down from the normal 7.7 inches. Precipitation totaled 0.56 inch, just 0.2 inch below average.

The average monthly temperature of 31.7 degrees Fahrenheit was just over 8 degrees warmer than normal for October. The average high and low was 39 degrees and 24 degrees, respectively. The highest temperature of 64 degrees Fahrenheit occurred on Oct. 9, and

was associated with a chinook event. The low for the month, minus 2 degrees Fahrenheit, occurred on Oct. 28. Heating-degree days totaled 1,026 units, which is about 250 below average.

In a warmer than normal October, Anchorage had five new record-high temperatures. From the Oct. 8-11, highs of 53 degrees, 64 degrees, 55 degrees and 53 degrees set new records for their respective dates.

On Oct. 20, the high of 51 degrees Fahrenheit also set a record. The 64-degree high on the Oct. 9 was the highest temperature observed for the month and 17 degrees on Oct. 28 was the lowest. The average high for the month was 43 degrees, and the average low was at freezing, 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

The monthly average temperature, 37.5 degrees, was 3.4 degrees warmer than normal. Precipitation totaled 2.02 inches for the month, which is slightly less than normal. Snowfall totaled 8.7 inches, 0.4 inch above normal that came during the last week of the month. Five inches of snow was on the ground at the Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport by the start of November.

It was quite warm in Barrow this October, with an average temperature of 25.5 degrees Fahrenheit, a departure of almost 11 degrees. One has to go back to the early twentieth century to find a warmer October. Not surprisingly, heating-degree days totaled 1,218 units, well below average for the month.

The average high was 28 degrees and the average low was 23 degrees. The absolute daytime high of 39 degrees Fahrenheit occurred on Oct. 10, while the absolute low of 3 degrees fell on Oct. 27. Precipitation totaled 0.30 inch, a few hundredths of an inch below

average. Snowfall totaled 10.2 inches, a few inches more than normal, and 5 inches were on the ground at the airport by month's end.

Similar to the weather in September, Nome had a warmer and wetter October. The average temperature for the month was 36 degrees Fahrenheit, which is 7.5 degrees above average. The average high and low was 40 degrees and 32 degrees, respectively. The highest and lowest temperatures observed were 49 degrees on Oct. 9, and 18 degrees on Oct. 25. Heating-degree days were below average at 891 units. Precipitation was 1.66 inches above average at 3.24 inches, and occurred on 24 days during the month. Snowfall was at 1.4 inches for the month. This is below average by 4.2 inches.

Temperatures in Juneau were quite close to average for October. The average for the month, of 42.4 degrees Fahrenheit, was just 0.1 degree above climatology. The highest and lowest temperatures for the month were 59 degrees on Oct. 10, and 20 degrees on Oct. 29. In contrast, the average high and low for the month was 47 degrees and 37 degrees, respectively. Heating-degree days also were near climatology with 700 units. Precipitation totaled almost 3.5 inches more than normal, with 11.78 inches and occurred on 24 days during the month. A mere trace of snow was reported at the airport on the last two days of the month.

This information consists of preliminary climatological data that was compiled at the Alaska Climate Research Center, Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks. For more information on weather and climatology, contact the center at 474-7885 or visit the center Web site at <http://climate.gi.alaska.edu>. Please report any errors to [webmaster@climate.gi.alaska.edu](mailto:webmaster@climate.gi.alaska.edu).

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# Cordova wrestlers half way through season

First-year coach excited about team

By Joy Landaluce  
 The Cordova Times

Cordova High School wrestling team, varsity and junior varsity, attended the first tournament of the season on Oct. 6 and 7.

Ron Horton, first-year head wrestling coach, said the successful season is already halfway over.

“This is my first year as head coach of this year’s Cordova High School wrestling team,” Horton said. “I have been the coach for the Cordova Pounders wrestling program for the last 16 years. Many of these wrestlers have dreams of state championships,” he said.

“James Wiese, Cordova High School graduate from 2003 has been volunteering his coaching assistance. I felt having James coming to practice these last few weeks has been a big help,” Horton said. “Showing the importance of basic skill as well as some finer points of the sport. I would like to thank James for his help with the team.”

“The Moose Lodge is also very generous with support of the

*“No wrestler goes below 1,600 calories a day. Losing weight the healthy way is very important to this team.”*

— Ron Horton,  
 head wrestling coach

wrestling program,” Horton said.

Many of the wrestlers have been wrestling up a division, according to Horton. He says they are taking their time working their way into where they would like to be before the Regional tournament. Their attempts also include “getting in shape the right way,” according to Horton.

“No wrestler goes below 1,600 calories a day,” Horton said. “Losing weight the healthy way is very important to this team.”

Horton said he would like to thank Don Clark and Thorne Popelka for the opportunity to coach this team.

“I look for big things to happen this year on the mat,” Horton said. “See you on the mat.”

Cordova hosts the 2006 Denali Conference this year.

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