

Big Ben out for season



• Steelers' QB injures elbow,

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Venezuela
opposition splits
over talks with gov't
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KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS



64°/50°
Weather, page 3

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TUESDAY, SEPT. 17, 2019

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12 PAGES

Chamber hosts Assembly candidate forum

Landis, Bynum and Otos vie for two available three-year seats

By SCOTT BOWLEN
Daily News Staff Writer
The three candidates vying for the two Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly seats open in the Oct. 1 municipal election participated in a forum sponsored Monday by the

Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce. David Landis, Austin Otos and Jeremy Bynum cordially provided brief opening and closing statements, in addition to answering four questions posed by chamber President Chelsea

Goucher and two questions from audience members at the Sunny Point Conference Center.

The opportunity to speak rotated among the candidates, with Landis beginning by highlighting his current and past experience in public service.

Landis is completing his second term as borough mayor, and previously served six years on the Assembly. The borough limits elected officials to two consecutive terms in an office, requiring them to step down at the end of the second term.

"I guess I'm the first one that's turned out of both (Assembly and mayor) offices, Landis said.

He highlighted his range of work and public service, from the borough Planning Commission and as a manager and executive who reports to boards to his current service on boards for entities such as the Alaska Municipal League and National Asso-

ciation of Counties. Landis added that he was trained as an ethics officer and served as an ethics compliance officer for a large corporation.

In his closing statement, Landis again touched on his experience.

He said he didn't think there was a bad choice among the three candidates, but "I, among the three of us, have a lot of experience doing this.

"I'm not sure if everyone thinks that's important," Landis continued. "I do think that having folks that are aware of what's going on and they have been there when the times have gotten tough and had a proven track record, that's important."

Jeremy Bynum gave the second opening statement, providing a brief biography from his growing up in the small logging town of Roseburg, Oregon, and joining the U.S. Air Force to becoming an engineer and working

See 'Candidate forum,' page 3



Seated from left, David Landis, Jeremy Bynum and Austin Otos participate in a Borough Assembly Candidate Forum on Monday at Sunny Point Conference Center. All three are candidates for two open three-year seats in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly.

Staff photo by Dustin Safranek



David Landis

Jeremy Bynum

Austin Otos

Assembly supports ferry service to PR

By SAM ALLEN
Daily News Staff Writer

The Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly's 45-minute meeting Monday night saw the passing of a resolution in support of continued year-round Alaska Marine Highway System service to Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

Alaska Rep. Dan Ortiz, I-Ketchikan, spoke in support of the resolution during public comment.

The resolution recognized the shared economic and social ties between the sister cities, and Prince Rupert as a "critical transportation link" between Southeast Alaska and the North American road system.

AMHS ferry service to Prince Rupert is scheduled to end Oct. 1 over a U.S. Customs and Border Protection requirement to have a Canadian armed law enforcement presence at the AMHS terminal in Prince Rupert to protect CBP personnel and the general public.

See 'Borough Assembly,' page 2

Arduin to become adviser to Dunleavy

Taking a reduced role in state gov't

ANCHORAGE (AP) — The top budget official in Gov. Mike Dunleavy's administration will take a reduced role in state government.

Dunleavy's chief of staff, Ben Stevens, told reporters on a conference call that Donna Arduin will become an adviser to the Dunleavy administration.

The Anchorage Daily News reports Arduin was out of state Monday on personal travel.

She was the face of Dunleavy's attempts to balance the budget by cutting services. Opponents have launched an effort to recall Dunleavy. Stevens told reporters that Arduin's job change didn't have anything to do with the recall effort.

Laura Cramer will be interim director of the Office of Management and Budget until a permanent replacement is named.

STOP AND SMELL THE ROSES



Rendezvous Senior Day Services worker Phong Nguyen checks on a cluster of plants, trees and flowers on Tuesday near First Avenue and Jefferson Street. Nguyen plans to have the space converted into a garden and patio by next year.

Staff photo by Dustin Safranek

US gas prices to rise

After attacks on Saudi oil

By TAYLOR TELFORD and THOMAS HEATH

The Washington Post

Attacks on crucial Saudi Arabian oil installations crippled the world's second-largest oil producer and sparked new geopolitical tensions — but how much pain consumers feel will hinge on how long it takes normal output to return, experts say.

The weekend drone strikes marked the biggest disruption to Saudi Arabia's oil industry since the early 1990s, but if crude stockpiles can tide over global markets and production bounces back quickly, the episode will have a negligible effect on pump prices.

Should the recovery take weeks or months, though, the impact could be far-reaching. Higher fuel prices can not only motivate consumers to cut spending elsewhere but also ultimately reach into virtually every corner of the economy.

See 'Oil prices,' page 5

Some CBD vapes contain street drug instead of the real thing



By HOLBROOK MOHR

Associated Press

Jay Jenkins says he hesitated when a buddy suggested they vape CBD.

"It'll relax you," the friend assured. The vapor that Jenkins inhaled didn't relax him. After two puffs, he ended up in a coma.

That's because what he was vaping didn't have any CBD, the suddenly popular compound extracted from the cannabis plant that marketers say can treat a range of ailments without getting users high. Instead, the oil was spiked with a powerful street drug.

Some operators are cashing in on the CBD craze by substituting cheap and illegal synthetic marijuana for natural CBD in vapes and edibles such as gummy bears, an Associated Press investigation has found.

The practice has sent dozens of people like Jenkins to emergency rooms over the last two years. Yet people behind spiked products have operated with impunity, in part because the business has boomed so fast that regulators haven't caught up while drug enforcement agents have higher priorities.

AP commissioned laboratory testing of the vape oil Jenkins used plus 29 other vape products sold as CBD around the country, with a focus on brands that authorities or users flagged as suspect. Ten of the 30 contained types of synthetic marijuana — drugs commonly known as K2 or spice that have no known medical benefits — while others had no CBD at all.

Among them was Green Machine, a pod compatible with Juul electronic cigarettes that reporters bought in Califor-

nia, Florida and Maryland. Four of those seven pods contained illegal synthetic marijuana, but which chemical varied by flavor and even location of purchase.

"It's Russian roulette," said James Neal-Kababick, director of Flora Research Laboratories, which tested the products.

Vaping in general has come under increased scrutiny in recent weeks because hundreds of users have developed mysterious lung illnesses, and several have died. The AP's investigation focused on yet another set of cases, in which psychoactive chemicals are added to products presented as CBD.

The results of AP's lab testing echo what authorities have found, according to a survey of law enforcement agencies in all 50 states. At least 128 samples out of more than 350 tested by government labs in nine states, nearly all in the South, had synthetic marijuana in products marketed as

See 'CBD danger,' page 5



Ketchikan, Alaska

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Page 2: 3 hospitalized in 4-vehicle crash on N. Tongass

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Today's Trivia:

How many buses are used to transport cruise ship passengers from the dock facility to downtown Sitka?

Answer, Page 2

3 hospitalized in 4-vehicle crash on N. Tongass

By SAM ALLEN
Daily News Staff Writer

Three people were transported to the hospital after a four-vehicle crash Monday morning on North Tongass Highway.

A car heading south on North Tongass Highway, had stopped to turn left onto Eichner Avenue when it was bumped from behind into an oncoming pickup truck.

Ketchikan Police Department Lt. Andy Bertson described the collision as glancing. He could not say how fast the pickup truck was going, but said that the incident occurred in a 50 mph zone.

"It looked like a vehicle stopped to make a

turn," said Bertson. "A vehicle stopped behind it, the third vehicle had basically inattentive driving, caused a rear-end collision, pushing the one in front of it into the one in front of it, spinning one of the vehicles into the oncoming lane of traffic, which then clipped a northbound vehicle."

An ambulance rushed three people — males ages 39 and 12, and a female age 14 — to the Ketchikan PeaceHealth Medical Center.

"I don't have a medical analysis," said Bertson. "We don't believe they're overly serious, but they're going to be evaluated based on the severity of the impact."

The injuries appeared to be all upper body, and

impact related, according to Bertson.

Bertson said there wasn't any footage of the accident that he's aware of, and he wasn't certain what specifically caused the distracted driving.

Bertson did say that it doesn't appear to be a vision or a braking issue, and weather doesn't appear to have been a factor.

Authorities redirected traffic through Shoreline Drive for about an hour.

In addition to KPD, local fire department emergency medical staff as well as U.S. Forest Service police officers responded.

By 8:40 a.m. the scene was clear.

The temperature was 53 degrees Monday morning, with light precipitation.

POLICE REPORT

Ketchikan Police Department
Aug. 31, 2019

At about 1:15 a.m., officers contacted a 33-year-old man in the 300 block of Main Street. He was served a summons ordering him to appear in court for a charge of fourth-degree theft.

At about 5:54 a.m., officers contacted a 41-year-old woman in the 400 block of Main Street. A records check revealed the woman to have an outstanding warrant for her arrest. The warrant was for petition to revoke probation. She was arrested and transported to the Ketchikan Correc-

tional Center, where she was held on \$200 bail.

At about 5:59 p.m., officers contacted a 30-year-old woman on East Street. She was arrested for two outstanding warrants for failure to appear for status hearing and violation of conditions of release. She was transported to the Ketchikan Correctional Center and held without bail.

Sept. 3, 2019

At about 6:53 p.m., officers responded to the 3300 block of Tongass Avenue and contacted a 52-year-old man, who had conditions of release not to possess or consume alcohol.

After further investigation, the man was arrested for violation of conditions of release. He was transported to the Ketchikan Correctional Center and held on \$250 bail.

Sept. 4, 2019

At about 4 p.m., officers contacted a 29-year-old man in the 300 block of Main Street. He was served a summons for petition to revoke probation.

Sept. 6, 2019

At about 12:47 p.m., officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle being driven by a 41-year-old woman. A records check revealed that the woman's driver's license was sus-

pending. She was arrested for driving while licensed suspended, and transported to the Ketchikan Correctional Center, where she was set to be released on her own recognizance.

At about 4:14 p.m., officers contacted a 39-year-old man on Denali Avenue due to a report of him picking up a child from school while smelling of alcohol before driving away. He was arrested for driving under the influence and first-degree endangering the welfare of a minor. He was transported to the Ketchikan Correctional Center and held on \$500 bail.

Continued from page 1

Borough Assembly

The Alaska Department of Transportation and City of Prince Rupert have been unable to reach a solution for the requirement, and CBP has declined to extend a previous waiver.

The resolution urges the U.S. Customs and Border Protection to extend its waiver or exempt the AMHS from the requirement.

The resolution will be sent to Alaska's governor, the Prince Rupert mayor, U.S. CBP and all three members of Alaska's congressional delegation.

In other business, the Assembly approved more than \$205,000 in claims forwarded from the Borough Finance Department, with more than 70% of those coming from borough operations. The rest are made up of Ketchikan School District operations and capital improvement claims.

As part of the consent agenda, the borough awarded a \$49,958 contract to Corvus Design Inc. to analyze and recommend development for local outdoor athletic fields. Landscape architect Peter Briggs from Anchorage, owner of Corvus Design, was the sole bidder on the project.

The Assembly had no objection to Frog Mountain LLC's application to the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office for renewal of a marijuana concentrate manufacturing facility license.

Additionally, Borough Transit reported an increase in ridership over 2018. Total ridership for fixed routes and shuttles increased by 9.4%, or from about 287,000 to 314,000 customers. For the months of May-August, total ridership increased about 13%, and for the month of August saw a 30% increase over 2018. Transit operated a third downtown shuttle on Aug. 8 and Aug. 23 because there were more than 13,000 passengers in port those days.

Borough Transit Manager Kyan Reeve said the borough didn't have to operate one of its smaller 15-passenger buses, so that helped with the ridership increase.

Borough Mayor David Landis and Assembly Member Rodney Dial reported on their recent trip to Washington, D.C. to lobby for continued payment from the federal government for federally owned lands in the borough.

Dial said they requested an increase in funding because of expected increased tourism and development in the area and an expected increase in land value. He said Sen. Lisa Murkowski's office seemed receptive to the idea.

This was the final Assembly meeting until after municipal elections on Oct. 1. It was Assembly Member Judith McQuerry's last meeting, because her three-year term is coming to an end and she's not running for reelection. It could also be the last meeting for Landis and Dial.

Landis is running alongside Austin Otos and Jeremy Bynum for one of two open Assembly seats in the Oct. 1 election. Dial is running against Michelle O'Brien and Sidney Hartley for borough mayor.

Landis reminded everyone that absentee voting started taking place in the borough clerk's office Monday and will continue through the end of September.

Assembly members AJ Pierce and Sven Westergard were absent from the meeting.

The next Assembly meeting is Oct. 7.

TROOPER REPORT

Alaska State Troopers
Sept. 3, 2019

At about 5:45 p.m., troopers in Ketchikan received report of an assault that had occurred at a residence at mile 10 of the North Tongass Highway. Investigation revealed that a 23-year-old woman had physically assaulted another family member. She was arrested for fourth-degree assault — domestic violence, and transported to the Ketchikan Correctional Center, where she was held without bail.

Sept. 4, 2019

At about 1:36 p.m., troopers on Prince of Wales Island conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle with an equipment violation. One of the passengers was identified as a 25-year-old woman with two outstanding arrest warrants. The woman was arrested and transported to the Craig Jail on the warrants, which were for third-degree assault and first-degree vehicle theft. She was held on \$8,000 bail.

with license revoked. She was issued a citation and a court date.

Sept. 6, 2019

At about 5:30 p.m., troopers on Prince of Wales Island conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle with an equipment violation. One of the passengers was identified as a 25-year-old woman with two outstanding arrest warrants. The woman was arrested and transported to the Craig Jail on the warrants, which were for third-degree assault and first-degree vehicle theft. She was held on \$8,000 bail.

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Today's Trivia answer: 10

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School Board 1 yr term

Photo by Leslie Becker 2021 Tongass, Ketchikan, AK 1991

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MEETINGS

"Meetings" is a public service column the Ketchikan Daily News provides for use by individuals and nonprofit organizations to announce meetings that are open to the public. The deadline for copy is 2 p.m. the day before the first day the notice is to be published, with a 2 p.m. Friday deadline for Saturday, Sunday or Monday meetings. Telephone numbers, fund-raising events and for-profit activities will not be published. The column may not be used to satisfy advertisement of public meetings. When submitting a notice please include the organization name, meeting time, date and location.

TUESDAY
First City Toastmasters: 6:45 a.m., Presbyterian Church, 2711 Second Ave.
Saxman/Ketchikan Senior Center: 11:30 a.m., Lenorable Photography portrait sign-ups. Noon Lunch: Meal-leaf with mashed potatoes, green beans and sunshine salad, 2401 Eagle Ave.
Out to Lunch Bunch AA: Noon, St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft.
Museum Advisory Board: 4:30 p.m., Ketchikan Historical Museum.
Take Off Pounds Sensibly: 5 p.m., Rendezvous Senior Center. Scales open at 5 p.m. Inspirational meeting at

5:30 p.m.
Sober Sisters AA: 5:30 p.m., Ketchikan Pioneer Home, First Floor Conference Room, 171 Bryant St.
WISH board: 5:30 p.m., iRock, 2106 Tongass Ave. #101
Fraternal Order of Eagles: 7 p.m., lodge, 7 Creek St.
Craig AA: 7 p.m., Craig Presbyterian Church.
Just for Today AA: 8 p.m., 1736 Tongass Ave.
NA Never Alone Group: 8 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft.
WEDNESDAY
Historic Ketchikan: 7:30 a.m., Annabelle's.

Saxman/Ketchikan Senior Center:
Noon Lunch: Beef stew and pilot bread with cabbage and fruit cocktail, 2401 Eagle Ave.
Out to Lunch Bunch AA: Noon, St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft.
Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce: Noon, Cape Fox Lodge.
Breastfeeding and infant nutrition cafe peer group: 10:30 a.m., Ketchikan Public Library.
Kayhi Alumni: 1 p.m., Annabelle's,

no-host luncheon.
Brain injury support group: 5 p.m., Plaza Mall, Room 210.
Saxman City Council: 5:30 p.m., Saxman Community Center, lower level.
Just for Today AA: 5:30 p.m., 1736 Tongass Ave.
Courage to Change Al-Anon: 6 p.m., Presbyterian Church, 2711 Second Ave., lower level.
Just for Today AA: 8 p.m., 1736 Tongass Ave.

CRUISE SAIL Schedule

Saturday, Sept. 14	Tuesday, Sept. 17
Island Princess 11:00a-5:45p	Star Princess 6:30a-3:00p
Disney Wonder 11:00a-7:45p	Total: 2,600
American Constellation 5:00p-11:59p	Wednesday, Sept. 18
Total: 4,789	NO SHIPS
Sunday, Sept. 15	Thursday, Sept. 19
American Constellation 12:01a-6:00p	Eurodam 7:00a-1:00p
Wilderness Discoverer 6:30a-6:00p	Ruby Princess 7:00a-1:15p
Alaskan Dream 7:00a-10:00p	Golden Princess 9:30a-5:45p
Crystal Symphony 9:00a-6:00p	Nieuw Amsterdam 10:00a-6:00p
Carnival Legend 9:00a-8:00p	Total: 9,882
Total: 3,355	Friday, Sept. 20
Monday, Sept. 16	Sojourn 7:00a-3:00p
Norwegian Joy 7:00a-3:00p	Coral Princess 9:30a-6:15p
Volendam 9:30a-6:15p	10:00a-6:00p
SS Mariner 11:00a-6:00p	Westerdam 11:00a-7:00p
Total: 8,489	Eclipse 2:00p-8:30p
	Total: 13,344

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