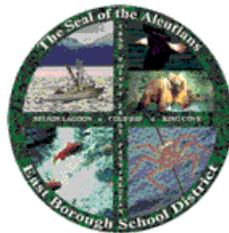
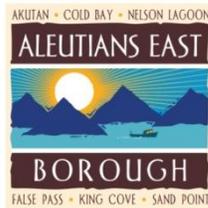


In the Loop



Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

Recent Grumman Goose Collision Adds to Concerns Surrounding Akutan's Looming Transportation Access Problem

Akutan, AK – April 17, 2008 – The Mayor of Akutan and Aleutians East Borough officials are concerned that Akutan's transportation options are diminishing following a recent commercial airplane collision on Unalaska's runway.



“We used to have three commercial Grumman Goose amphibious aircraft serving the Akutan area. Last summer, one plane that is part of the Grumman Goose fleet ended up with a broken wing, so that aircraft was taken out of commission,” said Akutan Mayor Joe Bereskin. “Now after this recent accident, we're down to one amphibious aircraft serving Akutan. Having only

one operating Goose puts everyone in an awkward and precarious position. If something happens to this Goose, Akutan is without air transportation, period. The health and welfare of our 859 citizens are at risk. That's a great concern to us".

[Read More](#)

Alaska's Land Exchange Bill Gets Hearing in U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee

Washington, D.C. – Legislation proposing a massive land exchange between the State of Alaska, the King Cove Corporation and the federal government in return for a small, narrow road corridor, received a hearing in the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday, April 15, 2008. U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski (R) Alaska, who co-sponsored the bill, provided introductory statements. President of the King Cove Corporation and member of the Agdaagux Tribal Council Della Trumble, an Aleut born and raised in King Cove, testified at the hearing.



Sen. Lisa Murkowski

"We are blocked from the construction of a road from our village to the Cold Bay airport, the third largest airport in the State of Alaska," said Trumble. "That means when medical emergencies occur during poor weather, King Cove residents have to risk their lives to try to help someone get out of King Cove to the Cold Bay airport so they won't suffer and possibly die. We are blocked by a wilderness area, the Izembek Wilderness, which Congress and this Committee created. That is why we have come to this committee today to ask that S. 1680 be passed."



Della Trumble

[Read More](#)

News from



The City of King Cove continues its relentless pursuit of the land exchange bill and a road to Cold Bay. Due to unanticipated reliability issues, the hovercraft has not been the hoped-for, all-weather year-round solution to critical transportation needs. So the City of King Cove continues to press forward with this road, in hopes of a resolution to the transportation access problem.

Recently AEB grants were given to all of the communities within the Borough. The City of King Cove received a generous grant of \$107,350. After considering how much the community benefits from the hovercraft operation, the city thought it was prudent and fair to return this grant to help defray the cost of operations. Borough officials have given a heartfelt “thank you” to the city for this much-needed assistance.

Recent Actions Taken by the NPFMC

Fish Council to Eliminate Inactive Trawl Fleet Licenses

Earlier this month, the North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) passed a proposal on a vote of 9-1 to get rid of unused trawl licenses in Alaska waters. The council implemented the limited license program in the mid 1990s to limit access to groundfish and crab fisheries in the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska as the first step toward rationalization. Fishing began under the new program in 2000. According to a draft document published by the council, trawl vessel eligibility is a problem in the Bering Sea, Gulf of Alaska and Aleutian Islands. The result is too many dormant licenses in the Bering Sea and not enough licenses available for trawl catch vessels in the Aleutian Islands. The council considered three options, but approved removing Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands, Western and Central Gulf of Alaska licenses that have not made at least two landings between 2000 and 2006.

[Read More: Link to Kodiak Daily Mirror article](#)

BSAI Crab Management

The council also took up several issues related to the rationalization program for the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands crab (BSAI) fisheries. They include the potential revision to the 90/10 A share/B share split under the program, the economic data reporting program, active participation requirements for holders of captain/crew shares (C shares), amendments to the arbitration program, and the renewal of the cooling-off provision and rights of first refusal for processing shares that are associated with the community of St. George.

[Link to NPFMC newsletter](#)

MMS to Evaluate North Aleutian Basin for OCS Lease Sale

Earlier this month, the Minerals Management Service (MMS) issued a Call for Information and a Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Lease Sale 214 in the North Aleutian Basin Planning Area (proposed for 2011 under the 2007-2012 Oil and Gas Outer Continental Shelf Leasing Program).

The Call for Information and the Notice of Intent, which kicks off the information-gathering and scoping process, are the first steps in the potential leasing and National Environmental Policy Act evaluation processes. This action is to gather information and does not indicate a preliminary decision to lease in this area. It provides an opportunity for the public, industry and state officials to offer comments and suggestions about the potential lease sale, to identify environmental concerns and other uses of the area that may be affected by the leasing, and to propose possible alternatives, lease terms and mitigation measures.

[Read More](#)

News from False Pass

A crew of nearly 20 contractor personnel arrived in False Pass this week to restart work on the construction of the False Pass Harbor. The Army Corps of Engineers' harbor project consists of breakwaters enclosing the harbor basin and a sheet pile dock at the end of one of the breakwaters. The Borough is paying for construction of the floats to be placed in the inner harbor.



The Kelly-Ryan construction company's pile driving crew has already started setting up. Other crew members began taking equipment out of winter storage and setting up their office/camp.

Preparatory inspections of last year's work on the breakwaters seem to indicate that the breakwaters held up well over the winter. Yesterday, the sheet pile crew started placing the template for the new dock. The Corps of Engineers anticipates the project will be complete by fall of this year.

AEB School District Update

AEBSD students completed compulsory state testing the first week in April. The testing included both the standards based assessments (SBA) and the high school graduation qualifying examination (HSGQE). In addition, students in grades 6-12 and staff members took the Initiative for Community Engagement (ICE) school climate survey this past week. Data from this survey will be used to measure student comfort in their learning environment and guide schools to make necessary changes in a positive direction. The survey results will be available in early August. In the Loop plans to publish a summary of results.



A number of AEBSD Board Members, principals and staff members will be in Anchorage later this week to recruit at the annual Alaska Teacher Placement (ATP) job fair. This year we have had higher teacher retention than last year. This is good. However, due to retirement, spouses' relocating and other reasons, AEBSD will be looking for nine new teachers for the 2008 – 2009 school year.

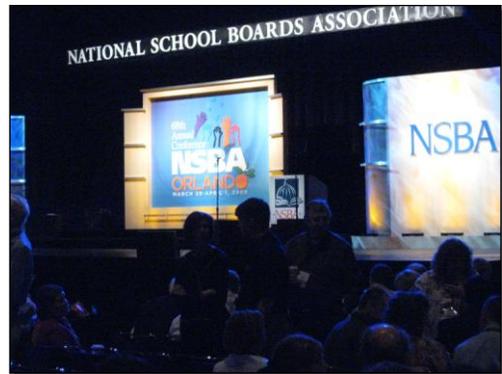


At present, it appears that we will have 19 seniors graduating from AEBSD schools this year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN SCHOOLS

Schools are the cornerstones of our communities. They can unite or divide us; inspire and engage us. Schools are among the most important institutions in our children's lives. Getting our communities involved in our schools is one very important way that we can improve student achievement and enhance experiences for all students in our schools.

The National School Boards Association's president and board member from Kodiak, Norm Wooten, chose community engagement for his theme this year because he recognizes, as all school board members do, the value of connecting the schools to the communities which they serve. School boards value community engagement so much that at NSBA's Annual Conference in March, nearly 40 sessions were dedicated to the subject, including sessions focused on how to engage the community using the Internet; the positive effects of community engagement on English learners; the relationship between engagement and school funding; and reaching out to communities by sharing student success.



The presentations on community engagement were just one aspect of the more than 200 educational sessions that covered issues we are involved in every day, such as how to reduce teacher turnover, understanding new developments in the No Child Left Behind law, and ensuring equity and excellence for every child. A number of keynote speakers, including former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, shared some important leadership lessons, especially for leading our schools into the future.

In one session, we learned new insights about the power each local school board has to raise student achievement and close the academic gap. We also learned how access to meaningful data allows school leaders to make strategic decisions for improving student achievement.

Perhaps the most important lesson we learned at the conference is that we do not have to reinvent the wheel since we now know what kinds of policies and programs other school districts are adopting to address a host of key issues.



Note: AEBSB had three individuals attend the NSBA Conference this year. They are Board Members Tiffany Jackson and Hillary Smith, and Superintendent Dr. Phil Knight

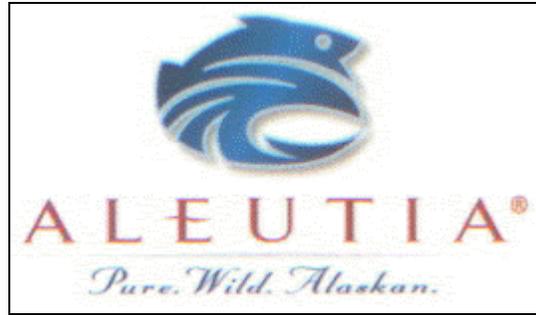
From the left, Hillary Smith and Tiffany Jackson.

In the Loop Wants to Hear from You



In the Loop covers a variety of issues in the Aleutians East Borough (AEB), including capital improvement projects, transportation issues, commercial fishing, subsistence lifestyles, health and potential oil and gas development in the region. The Borough would like to know what you think about these issues. If you'd like to submit a letter to the editor, please email ltanis@aeboro.org and ccorbridge@aeboro.org.

Letters must be no more than 225 words in length. Letters will be edited for length, clarity, grammar and taste. We will publish only one letter a month per writer. Letters must include the writer's address and a day phone number (for verification, not publication). We will not print open letters to third parties and will not knowingly publish letters submitted to other publications.



Aleutia is Seeking a Production Manager Based in King Cove

JOB DESCRIPTION:

The Aleutia Salmon King Cove Production Manager will answer to the Production Manager in Sand Point. The production manager is responsible for overseeing Aleutia's salmon production efforts in King Cove.

The Production Manager will take action as deemed necessary by the Production Manager in Sand Point. Duties will include: coordination of Aleutia salmon fishermen, fish tickets, local processors, Fish and Game, tender operations, supervision of salmon processing, quality inspection and logistics to meet strict quality standards and delivery of Aleutia sockeye salmon in a timely manner, and other duties as assigned.

***** To apply, fax resumes. Attn: Operations Manager, to (907) 383-2017, Mail: Aleutia, PO Box 408, Sand Point, AK 99661, or Email: aleutia@arctic.net *****

Job Duration: Full Time during June and July **Pay:** DOE

Hours: 40 **Closing Date:** April 30, 2008

Aleutia

408 Main St.

Sand Point, Alaska 99661

(907) 383-5909

Aleutia Begins Selling Commercial Crewmember/Sports Fishing Licenses

The Aleutia office now sells commercial fishing crewmember licenses and sports fishing licenses. Those in need of a license can stop by the Sand Point office and see Tiffany Jackson, Aleutia Operations Manager, to purchase one. Tiffany can be reached at (907) 383-5909 or email: Aleutia_tiffany@arctic.net.

Become an Aleutia Member: 2008 Aleutia Memberships Available

Join the Aleutia fishery in one of Alaska's most beautiful, wild and dramatic regions. Capture the flavor of this treasured resource – Aleutia sockeye salmon.



All permit holders can re-apply for 2008 memberships. Membership forms are available at the office in Sand Point or visit the link below. Those who submit their applications and membership fees will receive a free 2008 Aleutia hat and floating permit card holder.

[Aleutia Membership Application Form](#)

[Aleutia Web site link](#)

Figure 1 - permit card holder

Get Your Aleutia Fleece Jacket

Anyone interested in purchasing an Aleutia jacket can contact the office at (907) 383-5909. This is a great opportunity for members and their families to show their support for the program. You can get your name put on your jacket as well. The price for the jackets is \$75.



Find One-of-a-Kind Aleutia Products on Zazzle.com

Looking for a special gift for someone that reflects the fishing tradition of our region? Aleutia has several unique products with the Aleutia logo for sale on Zazzle.com. You can find an Aleutia mouse pad, coffee mug, magnet, keychain, bumper sticker and more. Check out the link below for Aleutia one-of-a-kind products.

[Link to Zazzle.com](#)

Fill Your Freezer with Delicious Aleutia Sockeye Salmon



Craving premium-quality, all-natural Aleutia sockeye salmon? If your freezer is empty and your mouth is watering for the full-flavored, rich taste of sockeye salmon, Aleutia still has some fillets left.

Get 'em while supplies last. It costs \$141.63 for a 25- pound box.

Call the Aleutia office at (907) 383-5909 or email Tiffany Jackson at Aleutia_Tiffany@arctic.net.

Got News?



If you have news you'd like to share, please email ltanis@aeboro.org and ccorbridge@aeboro.org.

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