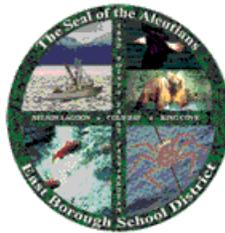
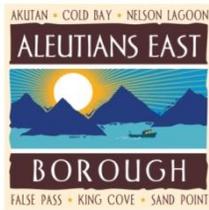


In the Loop



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

Cold Bay Pulls Together to Host Passengers After Delta Airlines Plane Makes Emergency Landing



A Delta Airlines Boeing 767-300ER made an emergency landing at Cold Bay's Airport yesterday with 167 passengers and 11 crew members on board. Photo by Dawn Lyons.

When residents learned that a Delta Airlines jet originating from Tokyo was coming in for an emergency landing yesterday, the small community of Cold Bay responded in a big way.

“We had the majority of the community involved in one way or another,” said Cold Bay Airport Manager Jeff Doerning. “There aren’t a lot of folks here, but everybody was willing to help out in any way they could.”

At about 5:30 yesterday morning (Oct. 30, 2013), Kenai Flight Service notified the airport and other DOT personnel residing in the community about the emergency landing. Delta Airlines spokesman Michael Thomas said the Boeing 767-300ER aircraft had received an indication in the flight deck about a possible issue with one of the aircraft’s engines. There were 167 passengers and 11 crew members on board Flight 207. Word spread quickly throughout town.

“It gets everybody’s heart pumping pretty hard,” said Cold Bay City Clerk/Administrator Dawn Lyons.

Her husband works for DOT, so he and others woke up and quickly arrived on scene to respond.

“We got our gear on and staged two fire trucks nearby,” said Cold Bay Mayor Jorge Lopez. “We parked our vehicles in front of the plane with our lights on in case anything happened. We stood by in case there was anything that we needed to do.”

Cold Bay has the third largest public runway in Alaska. The airport also serves as an emergency runway for aircraft flying across the north Pacific.

“Out here, we’re the largest airport on this side of Alaska,” Doerning added.

Before Lyons left home to head for the office, the plane was safely on the ground.

“I could see out my kitchen window that it touched down, and I didn’t see anything else bad that had happened. I was relieved they were on the ground and safe,” she said.

At first, the Delta Airlines flight crew had decided to keep passengers on the plane.

“After talking to the crew, they said all the passengers were fine,” Mayor Lopez said. “They were comfortable and many were asleep. When we found out later that they were going to offload them, we started making phone calls and got everybody in line to see where



Early during the afternoon yesterday, Delta Airlines passengers got off of the plane to eat lunch and relax until a second plane arrived. Photo by Dawn Lyons.

we were going to send the passengers.”

It was clear that the 167 passengers and crew members couldn't be comfortably accommodated in one place. So the decision was made to host the group at three different locations. Meanwhile, Lyons took photos of the plane for DOT and the media. She later prepared the Community Center for possible guests.

“I turned on lights, set out chairs and got the coffee and hot water ready,” she said. “Then I called people around town to give me a hand.”

Help arrived soon afterward. Hours later, a group of passengers filled the Community Center, ate lunch provided by Delta Airlines and drank coffee, tea and hot cocoa.

“They seemed really happy to get off the plane and were all in good moods,” Lyons added. “They took pictures and asked a lot of questions about where they were.”

Just down the road, teacher Kerry Burkhardt was busy setting up on one side of the gym, while the visiting King Cove wrestling team demonstrated wrestling techniques to the fascinated Cold Bay students on the other side. Not long afterward, a group of 85 passengers and crew members from the airplane were bussed over and filed into the gym.



The Cold Bay Community Center hosted one of three groups of passengers for lunch yesterday. Photo by Dawn Lyons.

“It was all very orderly,” Burkhardt said. “They were very kind and gracious people.”

Burkhardt invited the passengers to use the school computers so they could contact family and friends to let them know they were alright.

“They just needed to relax and contact people,” she said.

The teacher was delighted to meet a couple from California who had just come from China after adopting a one-year old little girl.

“That was very exciting. This was her first stop on American soil,” she said. “She was darling.”

Burkhardt said later, the little girl experienced a mild allergic reaction to something she ate.

“Suddenly, there was a need for baby Benadryl,” said Burkhardt.

She called the store and they had the medicine, but the school’s vehicle was unavailable. So a pilot offered to drive to the store and bring the medicine to the school.

“The little girl was fine, and the mom was very appreciative,” said Burkhardt.

The store and the adjoining bar inside of the nearby Bearfoot Inn were busy hosting the third group of passengers.

“We just made them as comfortable as we could,” said Bearfoot Inn owner Connie Newton. “It was kind of neat when the crew came into the bar where everybody was sitting down and eating. “A group of passengers clapped and said, ‘Yeah! Thanks for getting us here!’”

Delta Airlines sent a second plane for the passengers. A few hours later, they boarded the jet bound for San Francisco.



Delta Airlines sent a replacement plane that arrived at about 1:30 p.m. yesterday. A couple of hours later, passengers boarded the jet and headed to San Francisco. Photo by Dawn Lyons.

“When they left, they seemed happy and in really good spirits,” Lyons said. “They thanked all of the people that helped.”

“Everybody in town that helped did an awesome job,” said Mayor Lopez. “I was really happy to see this community come together to

assist with this situation.”

“The people here are just fantastic,” Lyons added.

“When it gets down to a crunch, we’re a tight-knit group of people here,” said Mary Martin, owner of the Cold Bay Lodge. “I watched it go off beautifully. All of the EMT and disaster preparedness training really pays off. They know how to get it done.”

But Martin’s job wasn’t done, even after the passengers left on the second Delta jet. Today, she

and her husband, Bill, were still busy making meals and accommodating overnight guests for a total of 14 people. Some were Delta's flight crew from the first plane. They were planning to take the plane to Seattle once repairs were completed. Others were maintenance crew members who were removing the jet's troubled engine and replacing it with a new one.

"Yesterday, I made five lunches to go to the airplane, and the crew came here to eat. Then they went to sleep. Later, they got up and had dinner. So it's just been about meeting their schedules," she said.

Even though it's been very busy, Martin says she has enjoyed getting to know people.

"It's just been a good experience all the way around," she added.

"I think overall, everything went great," Mayor Lopez said. "We were relieved that the plane landed safely, and we all worked together as one unit. Everybody pitched in to get the job done."

"I'm glad it all worked out as well as it did," said Doerning. "It was a pretty smooth operation."



Cold Bay Mayor Lopez said the community response was great. "Everybody pitched in to get the job done," he said. Photo by Dawn Lyons.

Significant Increases to Capacity at Bering Pacific Seafoods

By Gary Chythlook, APICDA Communications and Marketing Director

Bering Pacific Seafoods (BPS), a seafood processing plant owned by APICDA Joint Ventures, Inc., is finishing up a busy construction season in False Pass. The expansion includes cold storage, a generator house, an over 20,000 square-foot steel building, a case-up area between the new building and the new cold storage, and the construction of a new dock and fish off-loading area. The larger cold storage capacity means BPS increases the amount of processing ability to around 300,000 pounds of salmon per day.

The first of what will be three duplexes was also built. These buildings will provide housing for returning or new residents in False Pass who will make their home in the community while being employed at BPS. This reflects the commitment and desire of APICDA and the community of False Pass to stabilize the economy of the community and increase its population.

The plant's increase in capacity will result in the expansion of processing to a year-round basis and the addition of new species for production, such as Pacific cod. Plant management is also investigating the possibility of processing pollock, herring and crab at the new plant - along with the continued production of salmon, halibut and sablefish. "The key component here is that we're spending millions of dollars in building infrastructure in False Pass," says John Sevier, APICDA Chief Operating Officer. "We are focused on putting a lot of money back into the community and ensuring the community has a stable future."



The increase in capacity at Bering Pacific Seafoods will result in the expansion of processing to a year-round basis.

Akutan Geothermal Development Project Proceeds to New Phase

Submitted by the City of Akutan

The City of Akutan and Alaska Energy Authority have executed a grant amendment for continuation of the City's geothermal development project. Funding for Phase III, Design and Cost Estimating consists of \$2,695,000 Alaska Renewal Energy Fund grant and \$355,000 of City matching funds. Work on Phase III began in mid-September with a variety of field activities in Akutan's Hot Springs Bay Valley. Fieldwork was completed in late September. Results of that work will be used to develop design criteria for a number of engineering tasks, including:

- Access road and infrastructure design
- Project permitting
- Production and re-injection drilling

- Steam and power plant design
- Transmission routing and design
- Power integration estimates for Trident Seafoods' Akutan Shore Plant, the new small boat harbor, and the Village of Akutan

Phase II of the project concluded that sufficient geothermal resources are available in Hot Springs Bay Valley to support one or more 5 Megawatts steam plants, with a total project construction cost estimated at \$60 million. Additional resource confirmation work was completed in 2012, and the project team will incorporate those findings and this summer's



Work on Phase III of the Akutan Geothermal Development Project began in mid-September with a variety of field activities in Akutan's Hot Springs Bay Valley.

engineering work into the system design.

Well targeting indicates the need to drill up to four production/reinjection wells to an estimated depth of 7,000 feet. This will require the use of large diameter drill rigs and tons of heavy equipment and supplies, which dictates the need for a six-mile resource access road from Akutan harbor to the Hot Springs Bay Valley well drilling site.

The project team, consisting of RMA Consulting Group, Mead & Hunt Engineers, Geothermal Resource Group and URS Engineers, will be meeting to begin implementation of the design and cost estimating tasks. In addition, RMA/Mead & Hunt will focus on the preparation of required environmental reports and a permitting package to be reviewed by State and federal agencies. The integrated permitting, design and cost estimating work is expected to last 5 – 6 months.

Final cost estimates for construction will be used to prepare an economic and financial analysis, which also considers economic factors such as the price of diesel fuel, rates of return on investment, and other funding requirements. Phase III will culminate with preparation of a business and operations plan that will be presented to funding agencies and potential investors in 2014. If funding becomes available, road construction and production drilling could begin as early as 2015.

Sand Point Administrator Paul Day Announces Resignation

City Administrator Paul Day recently informed the Sand Point City Council that when his contract expires in January, he will be leaving the position he has held for nearly sixteen years.

“I’ve thought about moving on for the past few months,” Day said. “With the small boat harbor rehabilitation project under construction and nearing completion, I thought this would be a good time to make a graceful exit.”



Paul Day is resigning after serving nearly 16 years as Sand Point's City Administrator.

During Day's tenure, he cites numerous accomplishments and improvements to the city's infrastructure that he is most proud of.

“When I first started back in 1998, driving into the city from the airport meant you had to pass the old garbage dump along the side of the road where smoldering garbage gave an unfavorable ‘first impression’ of just what a beautiful city Sand Point was,” Day said.

“Working first with Mayor Gundersen and later on with Mayor Gardner, we took on the task of building a new DEC-permitted landfill (with help from the QT Tribe and BIA to construct a new road to the site). The ‘new’ landfill has been functioning for nearly 15 years now”.

The city has received several accolades over the years about the condition and operation of this facility.

Moving the Public Works Department out of the cramped building across from City Hall and into the new building; getting the road built across the bridge; allowing a second road access from the harbor to town; a new clinic; a new water treatment facility; paving the School Loop Road; building two gear sheds; filling in tidelands expanding the harbor uplands; and, the \$10 million harbor project are some of the things accomplished while Day has been the Administrator.

“All these projects were a team effort and would not have happened without the on-going and positive support from the various city council members that I had the pleasure to work with as well as the hard-working men and women employed by the City,” he added.

Day also mentioned that he is not leaving the city without some projects to do and working capital to do them with - citing a \$2.5 million grant that he helped secure that will be used to repave the road from the airport into town.

Asked what the future holds, Paul wouldn't admit that he's retiring, adding, "With a daughter just starting high school and my penchant for golf trips, unless my wife Carmen wants to get a second job, I'll probably stay busy doing something – what that is, I'm not too sure."

The City Council has been soliciting applicants to fill this important position and should be making a hiring decision within the next few weeks.

Rehab Work on Sand Point's Robert E. Galovin Small Boat Harbor Continues



Repositioning barge to drive CF-9 CF-10

The contractor, Pacific Pile & Marine, installs finger float piling on the C float in the Sand Point Boat Harbor.



AM start pulling pile and main walk "B"

Out with the old and in with the new. PP&M begins demolition of the B floats.



Beautiful mid-morning photo shows PP&M crane working on a C float installation.

Photos by Keith Cronin,
Pacific Pile and Marine

AEB Gears up for 2013 Pacific Marine Expo

Aleutians East Borough public officials, staff and residents are gearing up for the 2013 Pacific Marine Expo (a.k.a. “Fish Expo” or “Boat Show”) in Seattle Nov. 20 – 22, 2013. The Borough will showcase its harbors and other infrastructure at its booth, located in the Alaska Pavilion (Booth #507) at the CenturyLink Field Event Center (previously known as the Qwest Field Event Center).



The Pacific Marine Expo draws a large crowd every year to the CenturyLink Field Event Center.



AEB's 2014 calendar photo was taken by Paul S. Duskin.

Recent exhibit display

updates include photo enlargements of the False Pass and the Akutan Harbors, a new diagram of the Robert “Babe” Newman Harbor in King Cove and revisions to the Borough’s Harbor Facilities and Amenities Poster. All of the flyers have been revised, reflecting the progress made in each of the communities. The refreshed flyers also present a more polished and professional look.

One of the highlights of the giveaways at Expo is the Borough’s annual calendar. This year, it features a breathtaking photo of the F/V Four Winds, as King Cove skipper Robert Gould Jr. heads out to beach seine on a gorgeous morning in Belkofski Bay. The photo was taken by Paul S. Dushkin.

AEB Fishermen’s Meeting Scheduled Nov. 21st at Silver Cloud Inn

During the second day of Expo, the Borough is hosting the AEB Fishermen’s meeting across the street at the Silver Cloud Inn. The meeting will be held in the Avenue One South meeting room on Nov. 21, 2013 at 9 a.m. It’s located on the 9th floor.

AEB Natural Resources Director Ernie Weiss and Borough Fisheries Consultant Sam Cotten will lead the meeting. Topics to be discussed include recent actions taken by the Alaska Board of Fisheries, upcoming issues at the North Pacific Fishery Management Council and a cooperative

effort between the AEB and ADF&G to conduct a possible survey on shellfish and groundfish in the Unimak Bight area. Breakfast will be served during the meeting, so bring your appetite!

Resource Permitting Story Update

By Anne Bailey, AEB Community Development Coordinator



Consultants Susan Harvey of Harvey Consulting, LLC, and Joe Levesque of the Levesque Law Group listen to comments made during the AEB Planning Commission. Photo by Anne Bailey.

The AEB's Resource Development Land Use Permitting System Project is making great strides, thanks to the AEB Planning Commission and community participation. The Planning Commission held a workshop in Sand Point on October 10, 2013 and another via teleconference on October 15, 2013. The commission discussed the Proposed Code Revisions to AEB Code Titles 1, 2, 40 and 45; the

Fee & Penalty Schedule for AEB Land Use Permits; and, the permit applications for different resource development permit types.

“The comments received at the workshops were extremely helpful and really appreciated,” said Anne Bailey, the Borough Community Development Coordinator. “The participants considered how to best approach certain aspects of the project with the public in mind.”

The comments ranged from the need to develop a fish processor permit to the need to clarify who will be exempt from the new requirements. Comments were also solicited from the public. Harvey Consulting, LLC, Solstice Alaska Consulting Inc., and the Levesque Law Group, LLC, the project consultants, are currently revising the documents for the Planning Commission's review and approval, based on the input received.

The upcoming schedule is summarized below.



Comments ranged from the need to develop a fish processor permit to the need to clarify who will be exempt from the new requirements. Photo by Anne Bailey.

November 14, 2013 Planning Commission Workshop and Meeting Review changes made to address the October 2013 recommendations. The Planning Commission will consider approval of a resolution recommending the Code Revisions and the Fee & Penalty Schedule to be approved by the Assembly. The Planning Commission will review the final drafts of the Permit Applications, Standard Operating Procedures and the Standard Stipulations.

December 2013 Assembly Meeting. Introduce the Code Revisions and Fee & Penalty Schedule for Assembly Approval.



A Planning Commission workshop and meeting will be held Nov. 14th to review changes made to address the Oct. 2013 recommendations. Photo by Anne Bailey.

January 2014 Assembly Meeting. Hold a hearing on hearing on the Code Revision and Fee & Penalty Schedule. The Assembly will consider approval of the Code Revision and Fee & Penalty Schedule.

February 2014 Planning Commission Meeting. The Planning

Commission will consider approval of a Resolution to approve the Permit Applications, Standard Operating Procedures and Standard Stipulations.

Public input is welcome at all of the meetings.

For more information on the permitting project, visit the link below:

http://www.aleutianseast.org/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={E09154BE-3ADD-4B27-8A82-8974C1B1830}

Rural Airport Contractors Get Training on Operations, Safety and Maintenance

Rural airport contractors responsible for maintaining state airports recently received training on airport operations, safety, equipment operation and maintenance, lighting system maintenance, and education on how vital the contractors are to their community and the statewide aviation system. Airport contractors from Koyukuk, Nulato, Golovin, Emmonak, Savoonga, White

Mountain, Hooper Bay, Mekoryuk, Kipnuk, Akiachak, Port Heiden, Sand Point, and King Cove participated in weeklong classes held at the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center.

“A trained and skilled workforce is a valuable community asset that will benefit the department, local communities, contractors, and the State of Alaska,” said Mike Coffey, Chief of Statewide Maintenance and Operations. “We hope to continue this training.”

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) partnered with the Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center, the Construction Education Foundation of the Associated General Contractors of Alaska (AGC), and the Alaska Operating Engineers Employers Training Trust to provide the training, with major funding coming from a



From left to right: Al Odom, Operator Instructor; Carl Kiunya, Kipnuk; Ed Kiokun, Mekoryuk; Paul Gundersen, Sand Point; Larry Hale, Hooper Bay; Warren Wilson, King Cove; John George, Akiachak; Kathleen Castle, Executive Director, Alaska Construction Academies; Derek Schraffenberger, Port Heiden. Photo courtesy of Todd Hanley, ADOT&PF.

Denali Commission grant.

"These rural residents are responsible for maintaining a valuable state transportation asset and a critical component of rural Alaska - airports. Improving their skills has been a big boost to public safety in their communities," said John MacKinnon, Executive Director of the AGC. "This also adds these contractors to our inventory of a well-trained rural workforce. I'm pleased with the partnership and cooperation that made this happen and look forward to it continuing."

Take UAF Classes With Out Leaving Home

Registration for Spring Semester Begins Nov. 12

By Leona Christensen Long, Marketing Coordinator, UAF, Interior-Aleutians Campus

Whether you want to earn a university or degree or learn something new, you can take college classes without leaving home through UAF's Interior-Aleutians Campus. Registration begins November 12 for spring semester. Classes start January 17.

“At Interior-Aleutians Campus, you can take classes right from home and in your slippers,” says Teisha Simmons, I-AC campus director. “All you need is a commitment to learning. We are here to help you succeed. Call or drop by our center in Unalaska. Shawn Dickson can help you



In December, I-AC will offer the next sequence of facility maintenance classes in Sand Point. These classes offer hands-on training in repairing walls and installing windows, doors and floor coverings.

with advising and answer your questions. I-AC is also hiring facilitators in Sand Point and King Cove, so no matter where you live, there is a local I-AC staff member to help you.”

Students who register early have the best chance of getting the classes they want and staying on track for graduation. I-AC’s student services staff is here to help and just a phone call or email away. The staff can help you improve your grades with FREE math and English tutoring, resolve computer problems or answer your financial aid questions.

This December, I-AC offers the next sequence of facility maintenance classes in Sand Point. These classes offer hands-on training in repairing walls and installing windows, doors and floor coverings. The credits apply to an occupation endorsement in Rural Facility Maintenance, which is the first step toward earning an associate’s degree or certificate in Construction Trades Technology.

“I-AC’s Construction Trades Technology curriculum teaches students solutions to the challenges unique to rural Alaskan structures,” says Michael Hirt, CTT Program Head and Assistant Professor. “The skills learned in facility maintenance classes help you do your own home repairs and improve your qualifications for jobs in the construction industry.”

With prior approval, high school students may be able to earn both high school and college credit for taking classes at I-AC. The Aleutian-Pribilof Center can offer face-to-face classes, if there are enough people interested. Previously the local center has offered classes in art, computer sciences, welding technologies, foreign languages, marine and atmospheric science classes. Students can also choose from a wide selection of distance learning courses to earn credits toward a certificate, associate’s, bachelor’s or master’s degree.

For more information or to register, call Interior -Aleutians Campus 1-888-474-5207 or visit

www.uaf.edu/iac and on Facebook. You can also contact Shawn Dickson, Coordinator for the Aleutian-Pribilof Center at 877-581-1666 or email her at sldickson@alaska.edu. The center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Got News?

If you have news you'd like to share, please email ltanis@aeboro.org or call AEB Communications Manager Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.



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