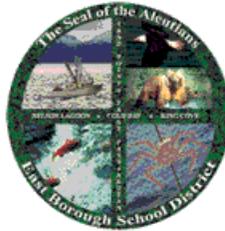
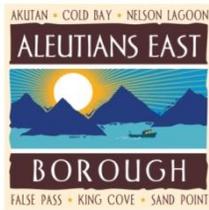


## In the Loop



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

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## **AEBSD School Board Votes to Close Cold Bay School**



On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the AEBSD School Board decided to close the Cold Bay School.

The Cold Bay School will be closing at the end of this school year (May 21, 2015), unless the community can get the student count to ten students or more in the future. This year was the third year in the row that the school had fewer than 10 students. That meant no funding would come from the state, and the Aleutians East Borough School District would have to absorb the entire cost of keeping the four-student school open. Add to that the fact that the district is facing extreme cuts as high as \$450,000 due to far less funding coming from the state because of historically low oil prices causing a budget crisis. That deficit would have risen to \$661,000 if the district chose to keep the school open. On

April 7<sup>th</sup>, the school board voted in favor of closing the school, but the decision wasn't easy for the board to make or for the Cold Bay community to hear.

"Oh, it was incredibly difficult," said Tiffany Jackson, school board president. "There were multiple board members crying. It was an emotional decision, and nobody wanted to do it."

Jackson said prior to that, the board had postponed the decision.

"We were trying to explore every avenue we had to see what creative options the school district or the community could come up with," she said.

Cold Bay Mayor Jorge Lopez said the City of Cold Bay had come up with approximately \$15,000 to help keep the school open. Lopez said some council members had agreed to give up their stipend for a year. The city had also planned on waiving water and sewer costs for the school. In addition, approximately \$900 was collected from a donation page started up by Cold Bay vice Mayor Candace Schaack.



(From left to right) Cold Bay students Matthew Lopez, 12; Wake Kremer, 13; Tommy Mack, 8 (attends 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of the school year); Zenny Lopez, 12; and David Young, 11. Photo courtesy: Kerry Burkhardt.

Lopez and other Cold Bay residents said they were hoping the board would delay the decision for a while longer because a number of job openings in the community could have attracted families with school-age kids, possibly increasing the student count.

However, Jackson said at this point, the school board didn't feel the district had the ability to absorb the extreme cuts as well as the cost (\$211,000) to keep the Cold Bay School open.

"We recognize how devastating it is for a community when a school closes, and it's something we wanted to avoid," she said. "But we felt it was something we had to do."

Meanwhile, residents in Cold Bay are still reeling from the board's decision.

"It's disheartening, and it's all very sad," said Schaack.

"There's no way I can stay here," said Lopez, father of 12 year-old twin boys, Matthew and Zenny. "There's no way I can home school them with my full-time job and having to travel for

work. I'm looking for other jobs (elsewhere) right now. I'll probably end up moving, and I'm probably not the only one that's going to do that. This town is going to shrink because of the board's decision."

Before the decision, Schaack, had planned to have her two-year old daughter attend the school when her toddler was old enough.

"I don't know what to do at this point because I set up camp here," she said. "Matt (her boyfriend) has a stable job. We have a house. I can't imagine raising Brooke anywhere else in the world. We still have about three years until she has to be enrolled in kindergarten."



"We are going to leave the option open that should ten students ever surface or arise, we'll reopen the school," AEBSD School Superintendent Mike Seifert said during a KSDP interview.

Schaack, who is enrolled in full-time college courses, said she's confident she could home school her daughter for at least the first few years unless something better becomes available. However, she's unsure what to do after that.

Meanwhile, many in Cold Bay are wondering what will happen to the school building. Jackson said once the building is no longer functioning as a school, it becomes a Borough facility.

Borough officials plan to find out whether the City of Cold Bay has an interest in keeping the building heated and maintained.

"I think our intent is if it became feasible again, we would like to reopen (the school)," Jackson said.

During an interview broadcast on KSDP Radio in Sand Point on April 8, 2015, AEBSD Superintendent Mike Seifert said he recognizes that closing the school is a very emotional situation.

"I understand the discontent in Cold Bay," he said. "It's real, and we need to honor that. We are going to leave the option open that should ten students ever surface or arise, we'll reopen the school."

**For more information, visit the links below:**

[AEBSB School Board Meeting - 4-7-15](#)

[KSDP - interview with Mike Seifert - 4-8-15](#)

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## **Governor Walker Calls for Special Session after State Legislature Approves Partially funded Budget**

Governor Bill Walker called for a special session earlier this week shortly after the state legislature adjourned with a partially funded state budget. In order for the legislature to balance the state's budget following plummeting oil prices, the state would have needed to withdraw funds from the Constitutional Budget Reserve. However, there wasn't enough support in the House to reach the required three-quarters majority vote. Proposed decreases to education and negotiated pay hikes in labor contracts were among the sticking points. Republicans said Democrats' demands would have increased state spending. Democrats said they offered decreases, rejected by Republicans, which would have resulted in a similar budget that Republicans had approved. Lawmakers ended up adjourning after passing a compromise operating budget that would have funded the state government through next fall.

"The legislature just passed a budget that has a funding shortfall of \$3 billion," Governor Walker said in a press release. "Local governments in Alaska are not allowed to pass a budget that is not funded, nor should we. A partially funded budget that runs out of money mid-year does not provide for the health of Alaskans, and creates uncertainty for businesses, school districts and families," he added.

The governor's call for a special session includes a fully funded state budget, consideration of Medicaid expansion and reform; and legislation relating to sexual assault awareness and prevention programs in schools (Erin's Law).

**For more information, visit the links below:**

[Press release from the governor's office 4-29-15](#)

[KTVA story - 4-29-15](#)

[Press release from the governor's office 4-27-15](#)

[Alaska Dispatch story - 4-28-15](#)

[Fairbanks Daily News-Miner story 4-29-15](#)

[Alaska Dispatch story - 4-27-15](#)

[Juneau Empire story - 4-30-15](#)



## **NOTIFICATION** govDELIVERY<sup>™</sup> ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC FACILITIES

### **Tustumena's Return to Service Delayed**



The MV Tustumena's return to service is delayed due to necessary additional work discovered during the vessel's annual overhaul. The ferry is now scheduled to return to service Tuesday, May 12. As a result, MV Tustumena sailings from May 2 -11, 2015 have been canceled. The canceled sailings include the first Aleutian Chain run for the summer 2015 schedule. Additional Information will be provided as necessary.

AMHS staff is contacting affected passengers. For schedule information, please visit [FerryAlaska.com](http://FerryAlaska.com) or contact your local terminal by dialing 1-907-465-3941 or toll-free at 1-800-642-0066.

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### **King Cove Fire Department Receives Grant Funding for New Turnout Gear**

When a fire breaks out in King Cove, the community knows it can count on its fire department, mostly made up of volunteers, to put out the flames. Thanks to a firefighters assistance grant from FEMA, King Cove firefighters are now better protected with new turnout gear.

"Firefighters are put in potentially hazardous situations when they're battling fires," said King Cove Fire Department Chief Chris Babcock. "This turnout gear protects them from heat, flames

and possible burns. This gear is designed to handle high heat so firefighters can get in or get close to a structure that's on fire and put it out.”

The turnout gear that firefighters had before was about a decade old, showing wear and wasn't meeting some of the standards set by the National Fire Protection Association. Furthermore, additional firefighters have joined the volunteer force during the last ten years. As the need grew, Babcock decided to apply for the grant.

“We were awarded the grant, and the gear came in around the end of March,” Babcock said.

The \$49,000 grant provided turnout gear (jackets, pants, gloves, boots, helmets and protective hoods) for 25 firefighters and EMS personnel. Babcock said the City came up with a match of about \$3,000.



King Cove firefighters Mark Mitchell, Charles Mack, Joe Calver, Chris Lewis and Ricky Dela Cruz try on their new turnout gear. Photo courtesy: Chris Babcock.

“It's a tremendous savings for the city because the cost of the gear would have wiped out my budget,” he said.

Prior to receiving the grant, some of the firefighters had gear, and some didn't.

“We were kind of a mismatched group,” Babcock said. “So when this gear came in, it really boosted the morale of the department. They were pretty excited.”

Babcock said some of the firefighters who have been with the department for years commented that the new gear is much lighter.

“That's important,” said Babcock. “The more lightweight and comfortable the gear is, the better it is for the firefighters when they're battling fires so they're not getting fatigued while doing the job.”

Babcock started a Facebook page called Alaska Rural Firefighters, and included a post that the King Cove Fire Department was interested in donating its old gear to any fire department that



EMS jackets and pants



expressed an interest. Earlier this week, Terry Murphy of False Pass called to say that the community would be interested.

“Donating the old gear is helpful for communities that don’t have a large budget,” said Babcock, “so we’ll be donating our surplus firefighting turnouts to False Pass.”

Babcock is encouraging other rural Alaska fire departments to apply for the FEMA firefighters assistance grant.

“This grant is available to any fire department, no matter what size,” he said. “You just have to articulate in the grant narrative that your department is working towards becoming a firefighter 1 or 2 certification,” he said. “It’s all about selling them with the narrative. We’ve applied for it six times and have been awarded the grant on four occasions.”

Babcock said if other fire departments in the Borough are interested in finding out more, they can contact him by email at: [kingcovedps@gmail.com](mailto:kingcovedps@gmail.com).

**For more information, visit the links below:**

<https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

<https://www.facebook.com/alaskaruralfirefighters?ref=hl>

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## **Sand Point School to Serenade Community with Spring Concert**

Sand Point music lovers are in for a special treat next month. The school’s music department and students in kindergarten through tenth grade are combining fantasy, Disney movies, and the Hobbit into an entertaining spring concert for the community on the evening of May 14<sup>th</sup>.

“It’s kind of a walk through Disney history,” said Sand Point School music teacher Brad Herndon. “Some songs date clear back to the 1950s through 2002.”

About nine Disney songs will be featured, including “You Can Fly, You Can Fly, You Can Fly” from *Peter Pan*; “Bare Necessities” from *The Jungle Book*; “Under the Sea” from the *Little Mermaid*; and “Circle of Life” from *The Lion King*.

The Disney songs are part of the curriculum this year and came from a program called Music Express.

“Music Express includes a lot of dancing and choreography,” said Herndon. “We get magazines every month, which include CDs and recordings on the Internet. So they did an up-to-date version with a lot of the Disney songs this year in the magazine.”

Disney songs are only part of the program. Another program started by the music department is Recorder Karate. Third and fourth grade students receive belts for every song they learn.



Third and fourth grade students at the Sand Point School prepare for the spring concert. Photo courtesy: Brad Herndon.

“I’ve got one or two kids that are ready to get their black belts now, and I have some kids who are still working on their yellow, orange or green belts,” Herndon said. “As an incentive, students get something so they can hang their belts on their recorders when they play. It’s a cute idea to make sure we give them a reason to practice and excel.”



Seventh and eighth grade choir students at the Sand Point School sing in Spanish. Photo courtesy: Brad Herndon.

The Sand Point music students will perform five songs from the Recorder Karate program.

“The kids really get fired up about it,” said Herndon. “It’s exciting to see.”

Other musical pieces that will be performed by fifth through eighth grade students from non-Disney movies include “Happy” from the movie, *Despicable Me* and contemporary songs such as “Brave” by Sarah Bareilles.

Students performing in the school band (7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grades) will perform a popular song from the 80s (“The Boy from New York City” by Manhattan Transfer) and another from 2009 (“Hey, Soul Sister” by Train) as well as four pieces from *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*.

“That piece (from *The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*) is a pretty long piece,” said Herndon. “It’s about 8 minutes long. They’ve been working hard to get that ready to go.”

Altogether, about ninety students will perform in the Sand Point School’s spring concert. Combining all the elements to pull off a polished performance is no easy task.

“The kids are learning the songs and the musical pieces,” said Herndon. “I’m confident it will be just fine. I’m excited about providing the students with this opportunity. I hope people will enjoy a fun evening of getting lost in the fantasy of Disney and *The Hobbit*.”

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# INFORMATIONAL MEETING

**What?** **NELSON LAGOON  
COASTAL EROSION STUDY**

**When?** Friday, May 22, 2015  
11:00 AM

**Where?** Community Center



**YOUR QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, AND INPUT ARE IMPORTANT!**

**Why?** This will be an informal meeting to talk about the coastal erosion study and provide input regarding potential shoreline protection measures. All are welcome!

Come and learn about:

- Potential ways to address erosion in Nelson Lagoon
- Geotextile Container Wall



**Who?**

**If you have questions, contact:**

Laurie Cummings  
HDR Alaska, Inc.  
(907) 644-2065  
laurie.cummings@hdrinc.com

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# CITY OF COLD BAY

## Annual TRASH BASH



Date: **May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Time: **9:00 till noon**

**Weather Permitting!!!**

**PICK UP TRASH BAGS AND GLOVES at the Community Center. There will be a COOKOUT FOR ALL REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS at **12:15pm** at the**

**Community Center.**

**If you have questions,**

**call KURT 532-2684**

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# 2015 City of Cold Bay Dolly Derby for kids

Ages 2 to 15

May 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>

Friday: Pizza

At the Community Center

6:00 to 9:00

Saturday:

Fishing to begin at 10:00

Fishing ends at 4:00 pm

Bon Fire & Hot Dog Roast

To follow...

Remember to catch and release unless you plan to take them home to eat. Limit is 10 per day.



# Eastern Aleutian Tribes April 2015 Executive Director Report

## Growth

- Eastern Aleutian Tribes (EAT) is looking for a **Physical Therapist** to provide physical therapy, massage therapy, and teach exercise classes. Proposals are due May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- EAT is accepting proposals for developing a partnership with a contractor to provide planning, development, and **grant writing services** on an on-going basis. We are inviting companies to submit a proposal to us by end of the day on Friday, May 15, 2015.



False Pass Community Potluck – February 2015

## People

- Welcome our New Hires:
  - **Delores Kochuten**, Clinical Information Clerk (CIC), King Cove (first day April 3<sup>rd</sup>)
  - **Dr. Danita Koehler**, Medical Director, Anchorage (first day April 13<sup>th</sup>)
  - **Lynn Fuller**, Clinical Information Clerk (CIC)/Janitor, Cold Bay (first day May 4<sup>th</sup>)
  - **Gary Williams**, Behavioral Health Clinical Manager, Anchorage (first day May 18<sup>th</sup>)
  - **Marla Moore**, Behavioral Health Clinician, King Cove (first day May 26<sup>th</sup>)
- Open Positions:
  - **Behavioral Health Aides\*** – Akutan and Nelson Lagoon
  - **Community Health Aides\*** – Adak, Akutan, Cold Bay, and Nelson Lagoon
  - **Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant** – Sand Point and recruiting for Itinerants
  - **Planning and Development Director** – Any Site
  - **Registered Nurse (RN) Case Manager / Community Health Aide\*** - Cold Bay

\*Note: No experience necessary. Training will be provided.

## • Service

- “Caught Ya Caring” Winners from April All Hands Staff Meeting:
  - **Kathy Bear** (CHR, King Cove) for going above and beyond. Kathy helped assist with an elders house problems. The elder had no water and heat and Kathy helped

contact people to get the problem fixed and went to the elders' house while someone looked at the pipes.

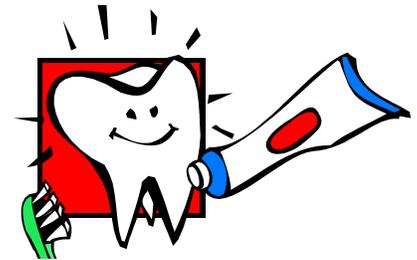
- **Beverly Johansen** (CIC, King Cove) for doing a great job being new to the King Cove Clinic and having to wing it by herself her first week on the job at a busy site.

- **Medical Director – Dr. Danita Koehler:**

- King Cove: May 12 – 21, 2015 (tentative)
- Akutan: June 9 – 12, 2015 (tentative)

- **Dental Services:**

- Adak: April 27 – May 1<sup>st</sup> (Dr. Costa and Gaby, DA)
- Sand Point: May 11 – 22<sup>nd</sup> (SCF)
- False Pass: May 9 - 22<sup>nd</sup> (Ben, DHAT)



- **SCF Village Doctors:**

- King Cove: April 27 – May 1<sup>st</sup> (Saunders)
- False Pass: May 18 – 20<sup>th</sup> (Leoncio)
- Nelson Lagoon: May 21 – 23<sup>rd</sup> (Leoncio)

- **SCF Optometry (eye doctor):**

- King Cove: May 4 – 8<sup>th</sup> (Lesniak) - We are currently negotiating a one-day stopover in Cold Bay.



### Report on Events:

On February 26, 2015, the **Anna Hoblet Memorial Clinic in False Pass** hosted a community listening potluck, 33 community members attended. Here are the community members' responses to our questions:

#### **What do you like about the False Pass Clinic?**

- Massage chair
- They fixed me
- That the Clinic is there for us

#### **What is your dream or long-term goal for the clinic and/or community wellness?**

- Better access to fresh produce
- More people working at the clinic

#### **Do you want any of these new/expanded services?**

- Increase number and frequency of visits from:
  - Optometrist (eye doctor)
  - Dentist/DHAT
- Increase Prevention/Education:
  - Alcohol/Drug Abuse



- Nutrition
- Tobacco Cessation
- Chiropractor

**If we had more resources, what could we do to become the healthiest people in the Nation?**

- Bigger and better playground for children
- Swimming Pool
- Public Workout Room

**What is our biggest barrier or challenge to community wellness?**

- Need more fresh produce (greenhouse and larger store)



On Thursday, March 26, 2015, the **Whittier Clinic** hosted a community listening potluck. 22 community members attended. Here are the community members' responses to our questions:

**What do you like about the Whittier Clinic?**

- Access to the clinic

**What is your dream or long-term goal for the clinic and/or community wellness?**

- A resident PA that is on-call.
- X-ray machine
- Better program for Elder care



**Do you want any of these new/expanded services?**

- Increase Prevention/Education:
  - Exercise
  - Alcohol/Drug Abuse
  - Nutrition



- Increase number and frequency of visits from:
  - Dentist/DHAT
  - Optometrist (eye doctor)
- Physical Therapy and Massage Therapy

**If we had more resources, what could we do to become the healthiest people in the Nation?**

- Indoor Gym, so we can exercise in bad weather.

**What is our biggest barrier or challenge to community wellness?**

- Insurance lists Clinic as out of network
- We need drug/alcohol rehab/help.



# Production Manager

**Position Summary:** Full-time permanent Production Manager at Bering Pacific Seafoods located in False Pass, Alaska. This position oversees the day to day production operations of the seafood processing plant office under the direct supervision of the Plant Manager.

## **Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Manages and monitors plant inventory.
- Assists Plant Office Manager in the design of efficient work practices.
- Organizes and performs all backload and offload operations.
- Enforces and understands OSHA regulations.
- Supervises, as needed, the seasonal seafood processors.
- Informs management of plant equipment and maintenance needs and repairs.
- Conducts and organizes pre-season preparation and post-season clean-up of the seafood processing plant.
- Tallies the vessel fish weights.
- Assists with the backload tally.

**Education and Experience:** Minimum of two years of experience in a management capacity at a seafood processing facility. Qualified applicant must work well with the employees and fishermen, ability to

recognize and solve problems, self-motivated and able to follow direction. High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Possess/maintain a valid driver's license. Equivalent experience may be substituted on 1:1 basis for education requirement.

**Compensation:** DOE

Please visit [www.apicda.com](http://www.apicda.com) for an employment application. Applications should be submitted to: [hr@apicda.com](mailto:hr@apicda.com). Thank you.



## Fuel Farm Manager

**Position Summary:** This position is a full-time, permanent, Fuel Farm Manager located in False Pass, Alaska. The Fuel Farm Manager position is a key role, having responsibility for all aspects of the BPS fuel farm management. It will be critical for the Fuel Farm Manager to have a good working relationship with the BPS plant management team. Per US Coast Guard regulations, this person is designated as person in charge of Fuel Farm management. These responsibilities include system inspection and maintenance functions. The Fuel Farm Manager will also ensure the managing and monitoring the operational load to ensure maximum efficiency. This position will also be responsible for safety, operations and administrative aspects of the fuel farm.

### Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

- Knowledge of developing and improving techniques for the control of operations, quality, reliability, training, security and safety.
- Will oversee the safety and security functions for the facility.
- Responsible for confirming communication exists between vessel, and the pipeline and storage tank watch personnel. Instructs the Pipeline/Header Watchman and Storage Tank Watchman on responsibilities and duties.

- Present at all times during marine transfer operations, ensuring safe and proper operations. Prior to transfer, inspects all transfer equipment to ensure equipment complies with requirements of 33 CFR, Parts 154 and 156. Confirms level gauges and alarms operate properly.
- Responsible for proper completion and administration of documentation and paperwork for operations of the fuel farm.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Education and Experience:** Minimum of three (3) years of progressively relevant experience with project management demonstrating proficiency in coordinating projects. Prior experience in fishing industry, native organizations, and/or corporate level experience is preferred. Equivalent education and training may be substituted for experience. High school diploma or general education degree (GED) preferred. Possess/maintain a valid driver's license.

**Compensation:** DOE

Please visit [www.apicda.com](http://www.apicda.com) for an employment application. Applications should be submitted to: [hr@apicda.com](mailto:hr@apicda.com). APICDA is an EEO employer.

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## Field Office Administrator

**Position Summary:** Full-time permanent Field Office Administrator located in Anchorage, Alaska. The Field Office Administrator is a corporate liaison for the field operation offices, including but not limited to: APS; BPS; NLGS; St. George Fish Handling Facility and FPFC. This position is expected to work with all directors, managers and staff of APICDA, APICDA Joint ventures and its subsidiaries to assist in communication and internal relations of the operations department.

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities:**

- General accounting for operational projects and routine purchasing.
- Develop and implement policies, procedures and processes for the field offices and the position of Field Office Administrator.
- Train Office Managers and assistants in job duties to successfully manage the field offices.
- Person in charge of Parity software training, data entry, inventory and solutions.
- Directs, and or tracks, task priorities, scheduling, and tracking work assignments, ensuring the availability of resources.
- Reports plans, progress, and results to supervisor, as requested.
- Interface with Quota Manager and Vessel Manager regarding quota and regulations for field office management as well as provide back up for Quota Manager as needed.
- Oversee and manage Office Manager's compliance with NMFS, ADF&G (eLandings, tLandings, Daily Production Reports, Prior Notice of Landing, fish Tickets etc.) and other state and federal agencies requiring reporting from field operations.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Education and Experience:** Minimum of two (2) years experience working independently in an administrative position including training and independent thinking. Prior experience in fishing industry, native organizations, and/or corporate level experience is preferred. Equivalent education and training may be substituted for experience. High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Possess/maintain a valid driver's license. Equivalent experience may be substituted on 1:1 basis for education requirement.

**Compensation:** DOE

Please visit [www.apicda.com](http://www.apicda.com) for an employment application. Applications should be submitted to: [hr@apicda.com](mailto:hr@apicda.com). Thank you

APICDA is an EEO employer.

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## Got News?

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





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