

HAINES *Alaska* NEWS

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Latest Articles

Online:

- Haines Borough Meeting Notes
- Finding A Niche Pt 2
- The Envelope Please!
- Will The Real Mayer Please Stand Up!
- Women's Health Hosts 'Rally for the Cure' Golf
- Haines Highway Traffic Numbers Up

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The Envelope Please!

Bald Eagle Foundation Receives \$100,000 Anonymous Contribution

by Roger Maynard

The American Bald Eagle Foundation (ABEF) in Haines has received \$100,000 from an anonymous donor, specifically for the purpose of building eagle flight enclosures on the land recently donated by Former Haines Mayor Robert Henderson.

"We received a phone call from the Schwab Charitable Fund last week, and they wanted to know our physical address so they could ship the check by 2-day express," says Director of Operations, Cheryl McRoberts. "It was a total surprise, and at first we were inclined not to believe it. When it arrived, I gave the envelope to Dave to open and his jaw just dropped – it was a check for \$100,000. We have no idea where

it came from – we have over 300 members worldwide."

McRoberts says there is no way to know whether the donation was from a local source (Haines) or from somewhere else. "The accompanying letter from Schwab specifically said not to send a membership, receipt, thank you note, or any other communication because the donor wants to remain anonymous."

Construction: The planned flight



Roger Maynard photo

ABEF Director Cheryl McRoberts (right) and Raptor Curator Dan Hart display letter & check.

enclosures will be in a field that is now used for horse pasture, and are designed to help retrain birds to fly. Each will be 80 feet long, 25 feet wide and 25 feet high, and made of chain-link mesh with a protective covering on the inside to protect the birds. The facility
(Continued on page 4)

Finding A Niche

Part II in a series – "Multi-Tasking in Haines"

By Gary Lidholm

When Leonard and Jan Dubber sold their house and fishing boat in Ketchikan and moved to Haines in 2001 to buy Spruce Grove Mobile Home Park, they expected to be in the mobile home business exclusively. But just as the poor fishing economy a decade ago forced them to change businesses, so also did the slow housing market cause them to rethink the mobile home park enterprise.

If you drive into Spruce Grove

today at One Mile Haines Highway, you will see five mobile homes where there used to be thirteen. But you will see

a relatively new building that has a number of business signs across the front: "Spruce Grove Heating," "Moose Horn Laundry," "Clean Showers," and inside will be "Jan's Place" gift shop. Alongside the multi-



Gary Lidholm photo

Leonard Dubber in Moose Horn Laundry

purpose building sits a huge wood-fired Garn boiler that Leonard sells in another business venture.

As mobile home owners vacated their lots, the Dubbers have left
(Continued on page 3)

Women's Health Hosts 'Rally For The Cure' Golf

Fund raiser for breast cancer Saturday, August 14

SEARHC Press Release

The SouthEast Alaska Regional Health Consortium (SEARHC) Wisewoman Women's Health Program is teaming up with Valley of the Eagles Golf Links and Driving Range in Haines to host the "Rally For The Cure" Summer Scramble Golf Outing in August.

The fourth annual "Rally For The Cure" golf tournament takes place starting at 9 a.m. on Saturday, August 14, at the Valley of the Eagles Golf Links and Driving Range. The tournament raises money for *Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation*, the nation's largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to curing breast cancer at every stage. In addition to raising

money for the Komen Foundation, the event promotes the upcoming mobile mammogram van visit to the SEARHC Haines Health Center on August 10 through September 13 and to Skagway's Dahl Memorial Clinic on September 14-17. The mobile mammogram van is brought to Haines and Skagway as part of a partnership between the SEARHC Wisewoman Women's Health Program and Bartlett Regional Hospital.

"This is a great way to enjoy a healthy activity with others and support breast cancer research," SEARHC Wisewoman Women's Health Program Health Educator, Pam Sloper, said. "So many people are af-

ected by breast cancer. Join the fun and help find a cure."

Teams are forming now for the tournament. The format is nine holes of golf with three golfers to a coed team (players can make their own teams or be assigned one). Every team member must use their tee ball twice, winter rules apply, and there is a prize for the longest putt. "A" level players must use the blue tees, men use the white, and women and children hit from the red markers.

The cost is \$40 per golfer with a \$30 fee for walkers and caddies. The cost covers green fees, a goodie bag from the *Komen for the Cure Foundation*, a one-year subscription to one of the Condé

Nast magazines, and a significant donation made to the *Komen for the Cure Foundation*. While it isn't necessary to pre-register, it is appreciated so the golf course knows how many tee times to set aside for the tournament. A full-service pro shop with club and cart rentals is available, and out-of-town teams are encouraged. Participants are encouraged to wear pink in support of breast cancer awareness. Pink t-shirts are available at the golf course for \$15.

For more information, contact Pam Sloper of the SEARHC Wisewoman Women's Health Program at 766-6367 or Kathy Pardee-Jones of Valley of the Eagles Golf Links at 766-2401. More information about the national Rally For The Cure program supporting the *Susan G. Komen for the Cure Foundation* can be found at www.rallyforthecure.com.

Haines Borough Meeting Notes

By Roger Maynard

The following comments are presented as a service so our readers can stay informed on local current events, and do not constitute the minutes or official record of any meeting. Meeting minutes, agenda and other documents are available at the Haines Borough web site.

The July 27 meeting of the Haines Borough Assembly was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with Mayor Jan Hill, and assembly members Hoffman, Rossman, Waterman, Smith and Lapp present. Assemblyman Vick attended telephonically from Juneau.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Stephanie Scott introduced the presenters for the CIA wood pellet heat study, Chris Brooks from the Vermont Wood Pellet Company, and Andy Boutin, with Pellergy, LLC. They will be presenting tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m.

Nancy Berlin wanted to address the discussion regarding the Energy Sustainability Commission. The ESC came on the heels of the Peak Oil Task Force, which also addressed food sustainability needs in the area. She requested the borough adopt policies favorable to the local production of food because it would spur economic develop-

ment and help with food security issues. She said that 95% of the food in Alaska is imported, and a disruption of our food supply would be troublesome. She suggested that a part of the solution would be borough policies favorable to the local production of food. (Read more public and assembly comments and discussions online at hainesnews.net)

Bill Kurz pointed out that we are about to authorize more money to fix up the bridge to the Chilkat Center, and if we are going to put public money into the center then perhaps the borough should own it.

Ned Rozbicki spoke regarding the high insurance requirements on the taxi business. We have a new taxi in town, but because the borough requires insurance above and beyond all other municipalities in Alaska, the new owner is paying an exorbitant rate for insurance.

MAYOR'S REPORT: The Haines Centennial Celebration continues — the next event on August 15th is the community picnic including a big party and street dance with live music. The

Mayor is challenging all previous mayors to join her behind the grill, serving the public.

The Southeast Alaska State Fair starts Thursday. Governor Sean Parnell and some other political candidates will be present for the parade and the fair event.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: Ordinance 10-07-233 determining whether foreclosed property decided to the Borough shall be retained for a public purpose was advanced to a second public hearing by unanimous vote.

Borough Manager's Report: Posted on-line at hainesnews.net.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Resolution 10-07-218 authorizing the manager to execute a contract extension and change order with Henry Construction for the Chilkat Center Pedestrian Bridge project to construct an additional set of access stairs for an amount not to exceed \$19,500 passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Resolutions- Resolution 10-07-223 authorizing the Borough Manager to enter into a construction agreement with Dawson Construction, Inc. for the Mosquito Lake School Heating System Renovation project for an amount not to exceed \$201,550 passed 4-2 with Rossman and Smith voting "no."

Resolution 10-07-224 authoriz-

ing the Borough Mayor to sign a corrective quitclaim deed to correct a mistaken legal description of certain tidelands in a 1997 quitclaim deed by the City of Haines to Chilkat's Portage Cove Development Company was passed unanimously.

Ordinances for Introduction: Ordinance 10-07-234 providing for amendment of the FY11 budget was introduced by unanimous vote and the first public hearing was set for 8/10/2010.

Ordinance 10-07-235 amending Haines Borough Code Title 12, Section 12-08.110 to clarify how roads with a cul-de-sac are to be measured and to provide a mechanism for allowing temporary roads longer than 500 feet to have one end closed was introduced by unanimous vote and the first public hearing was set for 8/10/2010.

Other New Business: Energy Sustainability Commission – Discussion—Assemblyman Hoffman said he would like to start a discussion about the possibility of creating another commission or committee similar to the Energy Sustainability Commission, to address the issue of food safety and food supply. He would like to make these committees permanent. This committee would func-

(Continued on page 3)

MULTI-TASKING PT 2*(Continued from page 1)*

many of the spaces vacant. With its prime highway location they eventually see the property better served by other uses. "Renting of spaces brings a lot of problems," Leonard commented. "Renters of such spaces have a lot of rights limiting how the owner can control the property."

Wanting to make Haines their permanent home, the Dubbers needed to find more ways to make income from their property. What business is lacking in Haines where they could find their niche? It turns out they would have to be flexible and multi-task to accomplish their goal.

Leonard, who was already mechanically minded, saw a need for a full-time heating specialist in Haines. Knowing that the state offered schooling for qualified displaced fishermen, he took advantage of the funds to attend boiler maintenance classes in Washington State and followed that with other schooling so as to be proficient in heating system installation and maintenance. This gave rise to the red van seen on heating and plumbing jobs around town with the sign — Spruce Grove Heating.

But furnace work in a town of less than 2000 is not a full time job and the Dubbers began work on a new building on a site once occupied by a mobile home. The new metal building was to be the home of "Haines Tire and Lube." Partnering with mechanic John Winge, the express lube business started but was not really the niche Leonard was hoping it would be. "There is just not enough

volume for a business like that in Haines," he said. When he had an opportunity to sell the inventory, he took it and began to consider other uses for the now vacant building. What other niche needed filling?

So what was once a tire and lube shop has undergone modification to be the new Moose Horn Laundry, Showers and Gift Shop. The name comes from the trophy moose rack hanging on the east wall — antlers belonging to a bull moose shot by Jan Dubber on the Koyukuk River.

*Gary Lidholm photo***Jan Dubber in Jan's Place in the Moose Horn Laundry.**

Jan has a streak of creativity when it comes to crafts and was always active in the local bazaars and fairs. Now, with a laundromat building across the street from her home with a spare room that formerly housed the office of Haines Tire and Lube, she had a place for her wares — "Jan's Place." Her small store is open most hours when the laundromat is open. "What you will find there are gift items mostly made in Alaska and Canada," she said. "The items I sell are not found in most stores."

The showers are a recently

completed addition to the laundromat. Again, sensing the need for such a service in Haines, the Dubbers say the showers are used constantly and are a significant part of the building's income. When asked about spending all this time looking after the laundromat and showers, Jan quips that it was a natural. "I have spent most of my life picking up after people, so why not do it for a business," she jokes.

But there is another more serious element to running the business that suits Jan. "I enjoy

to be able to do a lot of the maintenance yourself," he adds.

Many people ask about the big, green monster that sits along the west side of the laundromat. What they are seeing is the product of another business venture — the Garn boiler. The Garn boiler is the heat source of a hydronic wood heating system. A large capacity water jacket surrounds a highly efficient, smokeless combustion chamber that burns cordwood. Leonard is not only the dealer for Garn's in Southeast Alaska, he is currently plumbing his home and the laundromat business to it so that his heat and hot water will be supplied from wood.

Leonard's interest in renewable energy has led him to serve on several local governmental projects. He was on the Peak Oil Task Force a few years ago and now serves on the Energy and Sustainability Commission. He is devoted to getting Haines less dependent on fossil fuels and is putting his devotion into practice in the many business ventures underway at Spruce Grove.

One can lose count keeping track of the businesses Dubbers are undertaking in their multi-tasking and several others are under consideration. Very soon a partnership with builder Adam Quick will offer a blown-in insulation service to complement Spruce Grove Heating. As far as the vacant acreage, several potential opportunities are under consideration.

The Dubbers are long-time Alaskans having lived in Kodiak, Ketchikan, and other towns in the state. Like many Alaskans they are resourceful and have figured out how to make a living by multi-tasking and finding a

MEETING NOTES*(Continued from page 2)*

tion much like the present Energy Sustainability Commission.

Borough Manager Earnest said he thought the discussion was useful, and the subject certainly fits under the Energy Sustainability Commission. From a logic point of view it could be a good

fit. Earnest said the suggestion of renaming the commission "Energy and Sustainability" could easily be done. Also he would like to change it to a committee rather than a "commission," since the term implies that the body has a standing dictated by borough ordinance, rather than being an advisory committee.

When asked, Energy Coordina-

tor Stephanie Scott said she had discussed the proposed changes with Assemblyman Hoffman, but not with the commission members. The state of Alaska has taken steps to address food security issues, and Scott had grant money to enable Nancy Berlin to attend the first ever State of Alaska Food Security Meeting. She said everyone on the Energy Commission may not want to expand, and

meeting people and getting to know them. Many of them have time here to talk and many of them have problems for which they are seeking answers." A devoted Christian, Jan has a supply of spiritually appropriate literature on hand that people can take with them. "You would be surprised how many people take the literature I make available," she said.

Leonard can often be found lying on the floor getting into the guts of a malfunctioning dryer or washing machine. "The only way to make a business like this pay in a small town is

therefore having two committees might be the way to go.

MEETING DATES: Next week the Borough Assembly will travel to Excursion Inlet for the day, to meet with locals there.

The next regular meeting will be August 10th.

Read more public comments, assembly comments and discussions online at hainesnews.net

ABEF \$100,000 GIFT

(Continued from page 1)

will require a couple of mews to house the birds, a place to store feed and a place for employees to work during inclement weather. “Most of the construction materials are on-hand,” according to McRoberts, “and now we actually have the money to make it happen. When Mr. Henderson donated the property, he wanted the facility where he could see it from his living room window — now it looks like we can do that.”

The Foundation already has an ambitious construction project underway, nearly doubling the size of the facility with the addition of a raptor center as a wing on the existing natural history museum. Additionally, three mews and a cage to house the birds are under construction on the southeast corner of the property. The present construction is funded by a combination of state grants and donations by members and others.

N e w P r o g r a m s : Most impressive is the recent addition of live birds to the facility under the supervision of Raptor Curator Dan Hart. A normal day consists of between 1 and 4 live bird showings, depending on demand. The foundation notifies the Visitors Center and other tours of the times for live bird presentations, and they’re becoming one of ABEF’s most popular attractions. “People just love getting close to live birds,” says McRoberts. “Most of our live showings are sold out.”

For the first time ABEF is partnering with the Auburn University College of Veterinary Medicine to host up to four senior and graduate-level avian medicine students. The Auburn curriculum requires each student to complete an “externship”—a research field trip — as part of their graduation requirement. The students will be visiting the raptor center in

Juneau, evaluate their birds, and will then visit the ABEF in Haines and evaluate theirs. Following the externship, the students will develop a thesis regarding either the avian population of the Chilkat Valley, or the raptor rehabilitation program in the Chilkat Valley. The students are scheduled from November 7th through November 20th — and therefore will be here during the Eagle Festival.

Economic Impact: Each year ABEF hosts the annual Bald Eagle Festival, attracting more than 200 people to Haines during November, the beginning of the lean months for local businesses. The Bald Eagle Festival is widely advertised and draws visitors from around the world. And, of course, the attendees buy hotel rooms, eat in local restaurants, shop locally, and take advantage of transportation and other services.

Haines Tourism Director Lori Stepansky confirms that the Eagle Foundation is becoming more of a draw. “The live bird presentation... we love it,” says Stepansky. “Each day the Eagle Foundation calls and lets us know their tour times.” The live bird presentation is popular with cruise ship passengers as well as independent travelers. Overall, there is no doubt that the presence of the Eagle Preserve and the Eagle Foundation is an economic plus for Haines.

This October, Stepansky expects to pitch the ABEF program to the Alaska Media Road Show, the signature event of the Alaska Travel Industry Association. The Road Show offers North America’s most influential travel writers the opportunity to learn about new and developing tour opportunities. ABEF’s program has matured to the point that it is likely to capture the interest of this group.

The 16th annual Bald Eagle Festival: The 16th Annual Alaska Bald Eagle Festival in Haines will be November 10 –

14. This year’s program features wildlife photographer Weldon Lee, the Alaska String Band featuring the Zahasky family, a chocolate extravaganza, a silent auction, workshops in Klukwan and more.

Senator Murkowski (left) admires Sarah, a Great Horned Owl, exhibited by Eva Matthews.

Roger Maynard photo



CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Garden art cement molds! Some are used, some never used! Some are professional cement molds and some are heavy plastic cake molds that can be used for cement garden decor! Some come in 3 sizes. octagon, square, round, sunflowers ladybug, grapes, pear, apple, strawberries, hummingbird, birdbath, leaf, goose, heart, scallop, frog & turtle round, bird & flowers round, spaniel face, butterfly, fish, cat, umbrella, rooster, Scripture, deco square, horse or unicorn, hearts, and more. \$125 for all or will sell individually. Call to see! 766-3996

WANTED

WANTED: My camera didn't store the photos I took of the cheek art I painted at

the July 4th activities! If you took pictures of your child or even pictures of me painting your child (or adult... I did many adults too!) I would appreciate a copy be it digital or print. I have a painting business and want to add it to my portfolio as another aspect of my business! If you can help or know anyone who did take pictures, please have them contact Kris at 766-3996.

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