

HAINES ALASKA NEWS AND COMMENT

An Online News Magazine for Southeast Alaska

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October 13, 2011

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Miles Furniture Store has New Owners

Bradforas invest in Haines with the purchase of this mainstay business.

By Roger Maynard

For years, Haines folks have had the luxury of a locally owned source for furniture, carpets, floor coverings, appliances, home electronics and more. Today, Scott and Candi Bradford are the proud new owners of Miles Furniture Showroom.

The new owners are enthusiastic about their new purchase. "We're not making too many changes right away," said Scott Bradford, "The only immediate change will be some hobby items, Yankee candles, and some pet supplies in that corner in the front of the store. Otherwise, the store and the business will remain the same." Then he smiled and added, "I'm one of only a half-

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Photo by Roger Maynard

Candi Bradford, Mary Miles and Scott Bradford in the furniture showroom.

Haines Borough Regular Election

October 4, 2011 —Post-canvassing results including absentee ballots.

Mayor	Assembly Seat C	School Board Seat G
Jan Hill (554) Stephanie Scott (601) Write-in (6)	Jerry Erny (503) Debra Schnabel (645) Write-in (4)	Anne Marie Palmieri (925) Write-in (13)
Assembly Seat E	Assembly Seat F	Proposition 1
Karen Hess (490) Norman Smith (670) Write-in (2)	John Brower (534) Jerry L. Lapp (621) Write-in (1)	Recall Joanne Waterman? Yes (379); No (760)
School Board Seat C	School Board Seat F	Proposition 2
Brian T. Clay (905) Write-in (24)	Write-in (128)	Recall Daymond Hoffman? Yes (367); No (771)

The election will be certified by the assembly on October 25, 2011, and the term for new Assembly members begins Monday, October 31, 2011.

The first meeting of the new assembly will be November 15, 2011.

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Guest Opinion: Steve Jobs and Haines Alaska News

By Gary Lidholm

DENVER, CO—Some days certain “themes” keep showing up in your daily life: On Wednesday as I was returning to my urban Denver home, I passed the United Airlines training facility in the Stapleton area of East Denver. The large buildings of the United complex house simulators and training rooms used by all pilots of United Airlines as well as other carriers. Recently, it was announced that United had purchased 11,000 iPads to give to their pilots. There will now be an iPad in the cockpit to reduce the paper clutter and the amount of aeronautical charts needed on board.

When I returned home my mailbox contained only one item for the day – the current issue of Macworld magazine. Much of the October issue was devoted to the departure of Steve Jobs as Apple CEO, who was leaving for serious health issues. Little did I realize that five hours later, Steve Jobs would pass away. I learned of his death by browsing on my iPhone, another instrument like the iPad that Jobs had created.

Our house and that of our daughter are filled with Steve Jobs’ creations – we have come to depend on the iPods, iPhones, Macbooks and iPads. Today’s news is filled with commentary

about Steve Jobs’ contribution to the world from all these electronic marvels and the company that produces them. Apple is now one of the largest, if not the largest corporation in the world, and certainly one of the most profitable. According to public relations research, the Apple icon is the most recognized logo on the planet.

What does Steve Jobs have to do with Haines News? Virtually all the news analysts today are commenting how Steve Jobs created a “need” in society before one existed or at least before we realized we needed it. A few years ago, no one “needed” an iPad. Now I know people who say they can’t live without it. United Airlines sees a “need” to the point that they purchased 11,000 of them. The pastor of our church in Denver preaches from an iPad. Not only are all his sermons on the tablet, but his theological research material is housed there – volumes that used to fill up an entire wall with books.

Recently there have been some disparaging remarks made about Haines News in the comments sections. That in itself is interesting because in order to compose a negative comment about the paper, you have to first be reading it. As a former writer for the paper and now looking at it

from afar, I realize that Roger Maynard has made many realize a “need” in the Haines Borough before they even thought about the need. Haines News brings a conservative, pro-business, pro-natural resource management philosophy before the public that is not part of the other Haines media agenda. Even though it might be a minority “need” at the moment, as evidenced by the last election, it is a legitimate one. Haines News is now getting up to 1000 page hits a day. Before Haines News came online I didn’t realize I had a “need” for such fair and balanced reporting. Now, even living in Denver, I log on every day.

In his last editorial, Roger pointed out the incredible organization and resources that the liberal left brings to promote their agenda. No one knows that better than “yours truly” who underestimated their power in the 2009 election when I lost by a handful of votes in a contested election for assemblyman. I ran on a pro-business, pro-energy and natural resource development ticket and caused the opposition to work hard to defeat me. That they did and it should have been a wake-up call to how powerful the liberal anti-business, anti-development group has become. Apparently the wake—up

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Vandalism to lights and buoys endangers mariners

USCG Press Release

SITKA, AK — The Coast Guard is asking for the public's help to put a stop to the vandalism of aids to navigation throughout Southeast Alaska.

Several navigational lights in the region have been vandalized rendering them inoperable. Recently the batteries were deliberately and illegally removed from a light marking an offshore hazard at Tenakee Springs.

"The loss of this equipment costs taxpayers and the Coast Guard in many ways: first is the obvious financial burden of replac-

ing the damaged or stolen equipment, second is the slowing of commercial and recreational traffic and third, is the possibility of environmental damage that could result from a collision or grounding that occurs because a hazard is not marked," said Lt. Cmdr. Dan Gray, commanding officer of the Coast Guard Cutter Maple.

Those found guilty of vandalism to ATON can be fined up to \$2,500 and imprisoned for up to five years. Anybody witnessing vandalism to a navigational aid or finding a damaged aid should contact their nearest Coast Guard unit.

"The marine highway is the lifeblood of commerce and transportation in South-east Alaska and it is vitally important that these aids to navigation remain a reliable tool for mariners in the region," said Gray.

Maple's crew is responsible for servicing many of the buoys, lights and beacons in Southeast Alaska. Commissioned on Oct. 19, 2001, Maple is a 225-foot Juniper-Class buoy tender home-ported in Sitka. Maple is operated by seven officers and a crew of 46 men and women. To find out more information about the cutter Maple visit, <http://www.uscg.mil/d17/cgcmple/>.

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STEVE JOBS & HAINES NEWS

(Continued from page 2)

call was not loud enough because I suspect there are a lot more conservative folks in Haines who could have showed up at the polls on Tuesday. As Haines News editorials have pointed out, the “left” is highly organized – the “right” is not.

One of the needs in Haines is to have honest reporting about the economic conditions facing the borough. My wife and I recently left Haines for a variety of reasons including medical, a new grandchild, and the need to be near ag-

ing parents. But the truth is, we may have been faced with leaving in the near future without those other reasons because of the high costs in Haines. In the seven year period of time we owned our house, we watched our property taxes increase over 60% and the utility bills more than double. Higher shipping costs due to fuel prices drove up the cost of goods and services in Haines to an uncomfortable level. And with the political bent of the current Borough Assembly, it is probable that the business tax base will

decline even more further compounding the problem. Many of the innovations of Steve Jobs make possible electronic media like Haines News. Just as Jobs showed us how we sometimes had needs we didn’t know we had, Haines News reminds us the need for a viable economic and energy environment in the Chilkat Valley. So as the new slate of elected officials takes office, pay attention to how they are going to spend your tax money; to how they will treat energy and natural resource development; and how they will promote the business environment in general.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Request for Qualifications Special Projects Consultant

Requesting qualifications from individuals who have experience in the areas of econ. dev’t, grant writing, planning, and project dev’t and mgmt. Responses will be used to select and negotiate with a qualified individual to serve as a special projects consultant. Interested individuals should contact the Borough Clerk for a complete RFQ document: 103 Third Ave S., 907-766-2231 ext.31, jcozzi@haines.ak.us, or visiting www.hainesborough.us. Submission deadline: **2:00pm AST, 10/19/11.**

Posted 10-10-11
 Jamie Heinz, Deputy Clerk

Request for Qualifications Haines Port Development Plan

Requesting qualifications from consulting firms licensed in AK w/experience creating port development plans. Contact the Borough Clerk for a complete RFQ document: 103 Third Ave S., PO Box 1209, Haines, AK 99827, 907-766-2231 ext.31, jcozzi@haines.ak.us, or visit www.hainesborough.us. Submission deadline: **1:00pm AST, Fri., 10/21/11.**

Posted 10-3-11
 Julie Cozzi, MMC,
 Borough Clerk

Request for Proposals Website Redesign & Development

Requesting proposals from qualified firms to submit written proposals to redesign and develop the borough’s website. A firm that can handle all site planning, interface design, programming and production is required. Interested firms should contact the Borough Clerk for a complete RFP document: 103 Third Ave S., 907-766-2231 ext.31, jcozzi@haines.ak.us, or visit www.hainesborough.us

Submission deadline: **5:00pm AST, 11/4/11.**

Posted 10-10-11
 Jamie Heinz,
 Deputy Clerk

BRADFORD'S

(Continued from page 1)

dozen Lionel Model Train dealers in Alaska.”

The Bradfords’ two children, Casey, age 13 and Brittany, age 11, will eventually be helping out with the store. ”We’ll be a family business, but for now Candi will be here daily,” said Bradford. “Our hours are 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

In the 1970’s, Dennis and Mary Miles originally started the furniture store on Main Street where Bearitto’s Restaurant is presently located. Scott Bradford worked for them for a time, delivering furniture and doing manual labor. The business moved to its location at 5th and Main after the present building was built by Dennis Miles, using plans drawn by Dave Nanny.

Mary Miles is equally enthusiastic about the sale. ”Dennis and I talked for years about finding someone to take over the business. We thought the Bradfords would be the ideal people.” Now that the sale is complete, Miles said she will be doing some traveling and then return to Haines. She still has a summer rental business, Eagle View Lodge, and will be assisting the Bradfords with



Miles Furniture Showroom, 5th and Main in Haines.

the business operation for a time.

For the Bradfords, the step is a big one—and they’re all smiles. Candi is leaving her job at Olerud’s Market Center to run the new business; Scott still works for Haines Borough Public Works. Both are confident of a bright future for Haines though he is quick to point out that the borough needs to take some positive steps, like encouraging the new hydro project at Connelly Lake.

The sale of the business was complete on Friday. Asked Tuesday whether they were planning a big announcement or celebration, they thought it might be a good idea, but “For now, today is a big day for us.”

In a town that has seen too many businesses close, and too many boarded-up buildings, the sale of Miles Furniture is a bright spot in the economic picture. It’s

business people like the Miles and the Bradfords—folks who are willing to take a risk and do all the hard work—who create the underlying economic foundation of places like Haines.

Stop by, congratulate them on their purchase, and browse a while!

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