

Adak's Monthly Newsletter featuring Local News and Events



**Diaz-Plummer  
A Wedding on Adak**

Chris Diaz and Lacy Plummer were wed August 10, 2013 on the hill above Clam Lagoon with most of Adak present to witness the nuptials. Diaz, works for Eastern Aleutian Tribes. The Diazes will call Adak their home. The Best Man and Maid of Honor were both from Kansas. Guests in attendance were from as far away as Manhattan. The themed wedding used several natural resources from Adak, including the Bride's bouquet, which was wild cotton. Drift wood pieces that had been bored for candles decorated the tables along with vases full of Adak wild flowers. Guests feasted on pork, chicken, salads and beans. The cake and cupcakes displayed on cut rounds of wood, were made by Donelle Porter; a local favorite flight attendant with Alaska Airlines.

**Congratulations!**

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**Adak City Council Approves Lease Agreement with Trident**

The City Council, at tis August 21 meeting, approved the terms of a negotiated agreement with Trident Seafoods, consisting of a 10 year lease/purchase agreement of the fish plant assets acquired by the City at auction last June. The terms of the agreement include the initial purchase of the 2MW power generator and an annual lease payment for the remainder of the equipment for 10 years, after which time the ownership of the assets would be transferred to ratification by the City Council, upon a final review by each party's legal team.

As had been expected, Trident Seafoods is not the only part interested in the processing plant. During the month of August, the current owners of Ekuk Fisheries in Bristol Bay, John Lowrance and Joe Kelso, came to Adak to inspect the equipment, dock facilities and associated facilities to investigate the possibility of acquiring and operating the fish plant.

The interest of the two parties in the processing plant presents a better probability that the plant will be in operation for A season fisheries next year.

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Joe Kelso (l) and John Lowrance (r) make an eleventh hour visit to Adak in hopes of acquiring the Adak land plant. Current owners of Ekuk Fisheries in Bristol Bay, Kelso and Lowrance have extensive experience in processing salmon. Can they make the change to Cod and crab processing? Kelso and Lowrance think they can. They were very happy with the type and amount of processing equipment at the plant. The pair met with the Aleut Corporation after leaving Adak.

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**Adak Fresh** has had success shipping halibut from Adak across the United States.

L) Halibut is being offloaded with the dock cranes.

R) Halibut at the plant waiting to be packed in totes for fresh shipment via Alaska Airlines.



The Aurora anchored in Sweeper Cove



"The Aurora" a masterpiece from Nordhavn Shipbuilders seeks refuge in Sweeper Cove. The 120 foot privately owned yacht was on its way from China to Vancouver, Canada when a squall spread over the Western Aleutians. The yacht reportedly cost 20 million and included, a professional galley with chef, parlor with 60" dropdown LED TV, cherry wood finish, and all marble his and her bathrooms. The Aurora needs a crew of 3 to sail.

Elaine Smiloff, Sharon ? Selena Lopez w/Aurora Owners



## BEWARE OF THE HUNT!

***Southern Region Emergency Medical Services Council, Inc  
Anchorage, Alaska 99507-[www.sremsc.org](http://www.sremsc.org)***

### Public Service Announcement Hunter Safety

Whether using a rifle or shotgun, the rules for gun safety while hunting are not very different. In addition to the gun safety rules you already follow, these rules preserve the safety of you, your hunting partners, and four-legged hunting companions.

- Always point the muzzle away from yourself and others.
- **Positively identify your target before pulling the trigger.**
- When in doubt don't take the shot.
- Never use a scoped firearm for binoculars.
- During a fall, control the direction of the muzzle. Make sure it is not pointing toward anyone or any animal.
- After a fall, check the firearm for damage or barrel obstructions.
- Know when to unload! DURING the hunt, unload before climbing a fence, a steep grade, or a slippery slope. AFTER the hunt, unload before returning to camp or your car.

***This message brought to you by Southern Region EMS Council and your local EMS Personnel.***

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### Community Events

9/02/13 – Labor Day, City Offices Closed

9/18/13 – Public Hearing, Ordinance 13-2014-082, 5pm Council Chambers

9/18/13 – City Council, 5pm Community Center

| September |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Su        | Mo | Tu | We | Th | Fr | Sa |
| 1         | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8         | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15        | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22        | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29        | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

# NOTICE OF ELECTIONS October 1, 2013

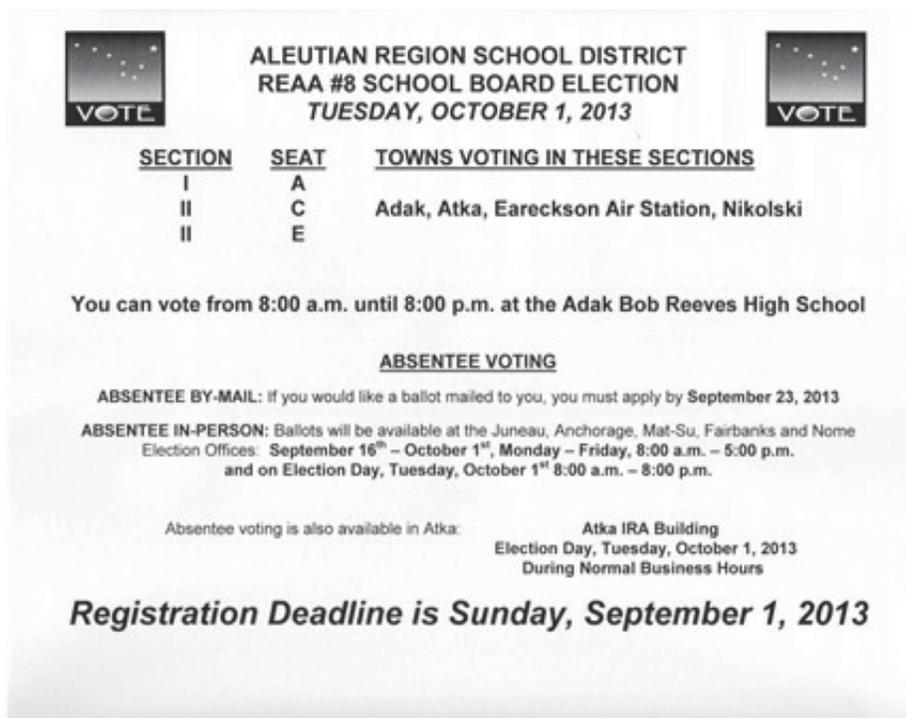
All persons interested in running for City of Adak Council may apply for candidacy from 8 am, September 8, 2013 until 8:30 am, September 30, 2013.

The following seats will be open for election:

- \*3A – 3 year term
- \*3B – 3 year term
- \*3C – 3 year term
- \*1A – 1 year term

Candidacy Forms may be obtained from the City Clerk at the City of Adak.

\*All persons interested in filing for candidacy must be an eligible voter residing in the City of Adak.



**ALEUTIAN REGION SCHOOL DISTRICT  
REAA #8 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2013**

| SECTION | SEAT | TOWNS VOTING IN THESE SECTIONS              |
|---------|------|---------------------------------------------|
| I       | A    |                                             |
| II      | C    | Adak, Atka, Eareckson Air Station, Nikolski |
| II      | E    |                                             |

You can vote from 8:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. at the Adak Bob Reeves High School

**ABSENTEE VOTING**

**ABSENTEE BY-MAIL:** If you would like a ballot mailed to you, you must apply by September 23, 2013

**ABSENTEE IN-PERSON:** Ballots will be available at the Juneau, Anchorage, Mat-Su, Fairbanks and Nome Election Offices: September 16<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Election Day, Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Absentee voting is also available in Atka: Atka IRA Building  
Election Day, Tuesday, October 1, 2013  
During Normal Business Hours

**Registration Deadline is Sunday, September 1, 2013**

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Ordinance 13-2014-082 A Non-Code Ordinance

September 18, 2013  
5:00pm in Council Chambers

Please visit our website [www.adak-ak.us](http://www.adak-ak.us) to view and read the Ordinance

### Ooey Goey Butter Cake

Oven 350 degrees

- 1 Package Yellow Cake Mix
- ½ Cup Melted butter
- 1 Egg

- 8 ozs. Cream Cheese
- 2 Eggs
- 3 ¾ C Powdered Sugar

Grease and flour 13x9 inch pan. Mix together cake mix, melted butter, and one egg. Press into 13x9 pan.

Mix Cream Cheese, 2 eggs, and confectioner's sugar then pour over cake mix layer in 13x9 pan. Bake for 40 minutes.



## Harbingers of Summer's End

### Fireweed

You've probably noticed the hills aren't quite so colorful these days, as wildflowers give way to seeds (and berries!), and the lush green of summer is overlaid with a tinge of autumn gold. But every year there are two late-bloomers you can count on to brighten up the last days of summer.

Around town fireweed grows in gravel lots and other disturbed areas—it's said that no soil is too thin, poor or unlikely for fireweed. Indeed, the name fireweed arose because the plant quickly colonizes burned areas after a forest fire. It became famous in northern Europe for springing up in areas devastated by bombing during World War II, even amidst the rubble of inner city London. In Italy fireweed is known as the Herb of Saint Anthony (Erba di Sant Antonio), because it was believed Saint Anthony used it to treat an affliction known as Saint Anthony's Fire, a horrific disease of the Middle Ages caused by poisoning from ergot-contaminated rye, which caused berserk rages, hallucinations, and a feeling of being burned at the stake, before fingers and other extremities turned black and dropped off. (Kind of comforting to know we have the alleged cure in our backyards, if the disease ever strikes Adak!).

Fireweed is a tall perennial herb with many dense, narrow leaves. Bright fuchsia flowers grow in long terminal clusters and are very showy. Blooms begin at the base of the cluster and mature up the stem as the season progresses. Alaskans say that summer has started when the blossoms lowest on the stem open, and when the topmost buds on the fireweed begin to bloom, summer's end is in sight.

In addition to reminding us to make the most of the last days of summer (not to mention curing our berserk rages!), fireweed has many other uses. Flowers are followed by fluffy wind-borne seeds which Native people used to start fires, or mixed with fur or feathers to make blankets; in Europe fireweed fluff was combined with cotton for the manufacture of stockings. The stems were peeled, and the peelings dried and used to weave strong twine for fishing nets or combined with reeds or rushes to form tough mats.

Fireweed is also edible: early season shoots are a delicacy when peeled, and can be eaten raw or steamed as a substitute for asparagus. Very young leaves are edible in salads and soups or steeped to make a pale, sweet (and slightly laxative) tea. Buds and flowers can be sprinkled in salads, mixed into scones, or used to make vinegar, syrup or jelly. (Be sure when harvesting flowers to select young, undamaged blossoms, as older blossoms will be bitter.) Summer stems can be split and drawn through the teeth to remove the sweet marrow. Kamchatkans and pioneer Alaskans used the pith combined with cow parsnip stems to make a stupefying ale, rendered potentially hallucinatory with the addition of Fly Agaric, a poisonous and psychoactive mushroom (which doesn't grow on Adak!). Google "fireweed recipe" for heaps of inspiring ideas.



Fireweed  
photo by Tom Doyle



Monkshood  
photo by Natalie Macke

**POISON : DO NOT EAT !**

### Monkshood

Here on Adak the fading of summer also coincides with the flowering of monkshood. Another showy plant, monkshood has sharply toothed and deeply lobed leaves and large, violet-blue blossoms formed in the shape of a monk's cowl. The flowers are beautiful, but so deadly poisonous eating a single blossom can cause severe distress or even death. Poisoning may also occur from touching the leaves without wearing gloves, as the toxin can be absorbed through the skin. Please resist the temptation to include these lovely but lethal flowers in a summer bouquet, and if you do touch the plant, be sure to wash your hands thoroughly.

Monkshood was used by physicians up until the mid-1900s as an effective pain reliever, heart and nerve sedative, and fever reducer, but has since been replaced by safer drugs and treatments. The plants' role in medicine, however, is overshadowed by its death toll. Since ancient times, people used monkshood extracts to poison the tips of arrows and spears for hunting and warfare, and roots were placed in water sources to poison pursuing armies. One legend states that monkshood (also known as wolfsbane) placed around the necks of suspicious men during the full moon prevented them from changing into werewolves. It is also said to be one of the ingredients in witches' flying ointment—witches smeared the root on their broomsticks and bodies and then went "flying" (like many poisons, monkshood in small doses can act as a sedative and induce delirium).

### Before it's too late...

Fireweed and monkshood in bloom: take heed! Summer is really almost over, so get out and enjoy Adak's hills and dales while the weather is still mild, the slopes still green, longspurs still singing, and the blueberries growing ever more firm and sweet. Enjoy!!!

Finn racing to make the most of summer's last days

