

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

ACDC Holds Public Forum

ACDC held its December meeting in an open forum setting for the entire community of Adak. The meeting was attended by all of the Board members, with two members calling in on the telephone. It was an info fest on CQE (Community Quota Entity) holdings, financial matters, development of a Red Crab fishery, and strategic planning for the growth of ACDC as the CQE entity for Adak.

Also discussed, was the annual budget, including the contract amount for an independent consulting contractor to help in establishing a local crab fishery while working with NOAA and ADFG.

Following the meeting there were door prizes: natural grass fed beef from California, an electric meat grinder, and a food saver. Food was also served to the public from Bay 5 Restaurant and the Blue Bird Café. A great time was had by all.

TIJAT PRODUCTIONS FILMS TEST for HISTORY CHANNEL

TIJAT, an acronym for "This is Just a Test Productions, finished an 11 day fact finding and test filming mission here on Adak. Paul Lima, Director of Development, Megan Boundy, Camera Assistant/Casting Scout and Michael Lockridge, Director of Photography spent several hours each day meeting with and interviewing several residents on Adak.

Lima attended Southern Methodist University majoring in television. Upon graduation he moved to Los Angeles and started working as an actor, with several bit parts in Stephen Bosco productions. He decided he liked the other side of the camera as it allowed him to travel, explore and meet new people.

When asked why Adak, Lima explained that they were hearing stories about this little island at the edge of the United States that had been built up by the military, then abandoned, that still had a hard core population trying to eke out a living. They came to Adak without an agenda and let the story develop on its own.

What they liked most about Adak was the people, least – the weather (no surprise there). Lima stated their equipment is very high tech, costly, and unfortunately, not water proof.

What are the chances there will be a show about Adak on the History channel – depends on the executive in charge of unscripted television.



L) Megan, Paul and Michael



From Left: Larry Mayes, Mary Nelson (Scty), Layton Lockett, Rick Koso, Clem Tillion, Mike Sharrah and Esther Bennett



TDX and RCA Agree on Rate

Last year, TDX was given an interim rate hike of 24.21%, based on their request of a 60.51% rate increase. TDX Adak Generating, the RCA and the State Attorney General have come to an agreement on the rate increase. A permanent increase of 20.23% was granted. TDX will refund customers the overpaid difference between the 24.21% interim rate increase and the 20.23% agreed upon rate increase, with 10.5% interest. The refund plan must be filed with the RCA no later than January 16, 2015.

TDX Adak Generating, no longer requests the RCA to put the U-13-205 rate revision effect on an across-the board basis. TDX is now looking into a revised rate structure that charges all customers the same rate, with little or no demand charge for the next 12 months. TDX is hoping to reconnect commercial accounts to the grid, now that the demand charge is being removed from their rate structure for commercial customers.



Dr. Costa will be in Adak, January 5 – 16. Call the EAT clinic at 592-8383 if you would like an appointment.

Notice of Public Hearing

There will be a Public Hearing January 21, at 5:00pm for Ordinance 14-2015-094, Addressing the Adak Code of Ordinances *Chapter 3.06.05 – Opening and Closing Time of Polls*, and *Chapter 3.07.05 – Canvass Committee Meeting, Postponement*. Copies of the Ordinance are available at City Hall.

USDOT Issues EAS RFP for Adak

The current Essential Air Services contract, held by Alaska Airlines, expires September 30, 2015. Docket DOT-OST-2000-8556 requests all interested carriers to submit their proposals to the Department of Transportation by February 11, 2015. All affected parties and the community will have a period to respond after Carrier proposals are submitted.

The DOT is giving carriers an extended period of time to submit proposals due to “Adak’s remoteness and unique aspects”. “In addition, in order to comply with Federal Aviation Administration runway safety area standards, significant airfield modifications will go into effect on October 1, 2015 that may impact Carrier’s proposals. These modifications include the closing of the crosswind runway (RWY 18-36) and displacing the west threshold of the main runway (RWY 05-23) 600 feet to the east, effectively shortening the runway by 600 feet.”

ADAK SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM



L) Geselle Vierya, Alicia Bennett, Auggie Bennett on the Zither with Principal Julie Plummer keeping the beat.

R) Elementary Class



SANTA CLAUS ARRIVED ON ALASKA AIRLINES!



Finn Spittler receives a present from Santa



Auggie Bennett is all smiles

MR. & MRS. CLAUS AND SON ELF AT THE COMMUNITY CENTER



Phyllis Borts, Francis Borts, Ozvaldo Rizo



Karina Penitani smiles brother Tarrence waits

JANUARY 2015

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January 1 – New Year’s Day, City Office and Public Works Closed
 January 5 – School re-opens
 January 21 – City Council, 5pm Council Chambers
 Public Hearing Ordinance 14-2015-094 5pm Council Chambers



When Hunters Ask for Help

What may you legally provide?

It is that time of year when every plane delivers a fresh load of caribou hunters to Adak. Some are regular visitors and know their way around. Others are first-timers and ask the locals for assistance. Your initial impulse might be to help as much as you can...but BE CAREFUL! Alaska has strict laws about guiding, outfitting, and transporting big game hunters.

Alaska law requires a big game guide to possess a current active guide-outfitter license. Alaska law also requires anyone moving hunters outside of

developed areas, via plane, boat, ATV, snow machine, or even highway vehicle, to possess a transporter license. Guides are allowed to transport their clients, but transporters are not allowed to guide--they are prohibited from providing hunting advice or accompanying hunters in the field. To see which guides and/or transporters are licensed to operate in Alaska, visit <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/occ/apps/GuiUseReg.cfm> (the Aleutians are in Game Management Unit 10). If you are interested in obtaining a guide or transporter license, applications and requirements are available at <http://commerce.state.ak.us/dnn/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BigGameCommercialServicesBoard/ApplicationForms.aspx>.

Exactly which services and activities are considered guiding and transporting? The Alaska Statutes are available online; perhaps the easiest way to understand them is first to read the relevant Definitions (AS 08.54.790), and then review Unlawful Acts (AS 08.54.720); both are found in Chapter 54, *Big Game Guides and Related Occupations*. Very briefly, unless you are a licensed guide, you may not provide for compensation (defined as payment for services but not including reimbursement for actual expenses incurred) any services, equipment or facilities to a big game hunter in the field, nor may you accompany or be present with hunters in the field. It is also prohibited for a person without a current registered guide-outfitter license to knowingly outfit (provide services or equipment in the field without being physically present) a big game hunt or advertise as an outfitter of big game hunts. You may not provide transportation services (defined as the carriage for compensation of big game hunters, their equipment, or big game animals harvested by hunters to, from, or in the field) or advertise as a transporter without holding a current registered guide-outfitter license or transporter license. Note especially that as soon as you leave the portion of Adak containing year-round dwellings you are considered "in the field" according to the definition in AS 08.54.790 (6). If you are being compensated (or advertising) to drop caribou hunters off at one of Adak's trail heads or to bring their meat back to town, you are required to have a transporter license.

Essentially, as long as you aren't compensated for it, you may legally offer whatever assistance you like. However, if you are receiving payment for things like accommodation, vehicle rentals or transportation between housing and airport, be careful about accompanying hunters to a trailhead, driving around the road system to scout for bou, tagging along on a hunt just for fun, or riding along with hunters in the boat you just rented to them--sorting out which activities you were and were not compensated for could prove difficult. If some new-found buddies offer to pay for your boat fuel if you'll take them hunting, be sure you accept only enough to cover the cost of your fuel; otherwise, you are violating both state and federal (USCG) laws. It is your responsibility to know and understand the law, so if you are unsure about anything, take the time to read the regulations, and check with the Alaska Wildlife Troopers for clarification (Dutch Harbor Post: 907-581-1432); they are very helpful and welcome your questions. The regulations change annually, so it is a good idea to check back each year for any changes that may have been adopted.

If you decide to apply for a guide-outfitter and/or transporter license, be aware of land status on Adak. Lands around town owned by The Aleut Corporation are subject to their regulations. The rest of Adak (and all of Kagalaska) is part of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, where a Special Use Permit is required for any commercial operation. For most purposes, including transporting, applying for a Special Use Permit is a straightforward process (application can be found at http://www.fws.gov/refuge/alaska_maritime/permits/how_to_apply.html), but permits for Big Game Guides are awarded through a competitive selection process which occurs only periodically. Once awarded, these permits are valid for a five-year period with an option for a five-year extension contingent on satisfactory performance. Note also that motorized vehicles are not allowed on Refuge land (if you need clarification about where the boundaries lie, pick up one of our "Know Where You Are: ATVs and Refuge Lands on Adak" pamphlets, available at the Refuge office [146B] and various other places around town). If your business is based in Adak, you'll also need a business license and sales tax charging/remittance information from the City of Adak (907-592-4500).

What about small game hunters?

Waterfowl hunting guides must register with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (contact their Waterfowl Program at 907-267-2527 for more information) and hold appropriate business licenses (plus a Special Use Permit, if operating on Refuge land), but the transport of waterfowl and small game hunters is not regulated by the state, as it is for big game hunters. Thus, you can safely charge a fee to drop ptarmigan or duck hunters off at the end of the road. If you are transporting bird hunters by boat, remember you must have at least a six-pack (i.e. 6 passenger) license issued by the USCG before you can carry paying passengers for any purpose; information can be found at http://www.uscg.mil/nmc/credentials/charter_boat_capt/default.asp.

A reminder about subsistence

To hunt caribou anywhere on Adak, regardless of whether it is sport or subsistence, you need a valid hunting license and harvest tickets. Sport hunting may occur anywhere on the island. **Subsistence hunting may occur only on federal land**, which on Adak is essentially everything south of Expedition Harbor and east of Thumb Bay. There are no additional reporting or permit requirements for subsistence hunting--just have a valid hunting license and harvest tickets. For subsistence hunting there is no harvest limit and no closed season. Any federally qualified rural resident of Alaska can hunt caribou for subsistence on Adak's federal lands. Subsistence bird harvesting questions should be directed to the USFWS Migratory Bird office (800-368-8890).



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