

NPFMC Grants Protections to Western Aleutian Communities

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) met in Anchorage from October 5 – October 13. City Manager, Layton Lockett, attended the meeting as a representative of the Adak Community Development Corporation and the City of Adak. Adak was at the center of a couple of decisions made by the NPFMC.

Request #1: Amendment to regulation to allow for delivery of partial offloads of Aleutian Island Western Aleutian Golden King crab (WAG) to the Adak plant.

Decision: An exemption to the full delivery requirement, set as part of the Crab Rationalization program, was granted. This exemption allows a crab harvester the option of landing a partial load of WAG into Adak without incurring additional, significant costs to deliver the remaining load into Dutch Harbor before resuming fishing.

Impact: By allowing “partial offloads”, both the crab harvester and shoreside plant can coordinate harvesting and delivery to take advantage of live crab shipments using virtually any air carrier that can land in Adak.

Request #2: A priority, shoreside delivery requirement of 5,000mt of Non-CDQ AI (Aleutian Island) fishery pacific cod.

Decision: Subject to certain conditions, prior to March 21, 5,000 mt (or 10 million lbs) of non-CDQ AI Pacific cod is set aside for catcher vessels to deliver to shoreplants west of 170° (Adak or Atka). For specific conditions, visit the NPFMC’s website at www.npfmc.org.

Impact: Without the set aside, in times of low total allowable catch, such as the present time, there would not be enough Pacific Cod to enable the plant to economically justify operating the facility. In the future, as the biomass increases, several of the restrictions will have less industry impact as the total resource would be larger.

With access to the federal fishery set aside, in addition to the state fishery of Pacific cod, the processing plant and fleet will have access to an amount that will make a processing operation economically justifiable. This limitation to resource has caused past operators to lose confidence in the ability to operate in Adak.

In support of the set aside request, Premier Harvest made a firm commitment to the NPFMC that cod processing in Adak would occur starting in 2017. In the meantime Premier Harvest is preparing for ensuring cod production capacity will be available for the 2017 A Season.

Note to Readers: The pacific cod shoreside set aside was the result of many years of hard work and efforts by Dave Fraser, Clem Tillion and the Adak Community Development Corporation.



All You Can Eat Crab Feed Success



On October 17, 2015, Premier Harvest held a fund raising crab feed. The proceeds, \$2,550, benefitted the Adak Public School. The school staff plans to help each

student purchase books for home reading.

Adak City Council 2015 Election Results

Seat 1A – Sunrise Patterson Seat 2A – Phyllis Borts
Seat 1B – Estrella Rizo Seat 2B – Jerrett Patterson

The Adak City Council certified the 2015 election results at a special meeting held Tuesday October 20. The first regular meeting of the new City Council was held Wednesday October 21 at 4:30 pm, with election of Mayor as the first item under new business. Tom Spitler was re-elected Mayor.

Ordinance 15-2016-097 – Adding Chapter 7.03 Marijuana Regulation to the Adak Code of Ordinances was introduced and read aloud by Mayor Spitler. A public hearing for Ordinance 15-2016-097 was set for November 25 at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.



Back) Phyllis Borts, Sunrise Patterson, Mayor Thomas Spitler, Mike Eickhoff, Vice Mayor Jerrett Patterson
Front) Mary Prince, Estrella Rizo

USCGC Munro Crew on Adak



Part of the USCGC Munro Community Service Club

The United States Coast Guard Cutter, Munro, arrived in Adak on September 29. The crew was fun and engaged in many activities in Adak while in port for 2 days. Aside from removing tiles, the “Coasties participated with Adak community members in a dance lesson session with Eddie Woods, and a dodge ball tournament in the gym. A community and “Coastie” bon fire was planned at the beach, but 55 mph winds with pelting rain kept the crew aboard the Munro.



Carrie Plant and USCG serviceman learn to dance

A Community Thanksgiving

The Community Thanksgiving this year will be held on Friday November 27, the day after Thanksgiving. Each year so many members of our community who work for Alaska Airlines, miss this special dinner. This year we want to make sure everyone can attend. Please contact Debra if you can cook one of the following: Turkey, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes or Gravy.

The Recreation Department will provide all of the core ingredients to the dinner and pies for dessert. Please bring a side dish to share.



ADAK PUBLIC SCHOOL SETS NEW HOURS

If you have noticed that there is a lot less traffic in the morning at 8 am, you are not alone. The Adak Public School, based on research that shows students perform better if allowed to sleep longer in the morning, decided to try an experimental school day; 10am to 5pm instead of 8am to 3pm.

After the two week experimental run, a ballot was sent home to the parents of the children. By a vote of 11 to 8, the Adak Public School has changed the school day schedule permanently to 10am to 5pm.

Jr. & High School Students perform with Eddie Woods



MANY THANKS

To the High School Class, Miss Molly, Miss Julie and Miss Ruth for decorating the community center for Halloween.

The Penitani family, the Patterson family, Nicole Gordon and Dustin Tannehill for the fantastic Haunted House.

Esther Bennett for the witch's Brew station. Gloria Oberholtzer and Skip Oberholtzer judges for all of the Halloween contests.

Halloween Time



Ryan Laguna and Alicia, Esther and Auggie Bennett getting pumpkins



The Butcher Shop, Jerrett Patterson & Krystle Penitani



Elementary School class sings spooky songs for everyone

Halloween Contest Results

- Best Cake – Estrella Rizo
- Best Pumpkin – Rizo Family
- Best Costume ages 0-5 – Gianna Rizo
- Best Costume ages 6-12 – David Rizo
- Best Costume ages 13-18 – Aiyana Patterson
- Best Adult Costume – Marilea Prater

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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					

- 11/11 – Veteran's Day, City Closed Flag Raising 9am Veteran's Point, weather permitting
- 11/16 – 19 AML Conference. Hours to be posted
- 11/25 – Public Hearing Ordinance 15-2016-097 Marijuana Regulations 5pm
- 11/25 – City Council 5pm, after hearing
- 11/26-27 – Thanksgiving Holidays City Closed
- 11/27 – Community Thanksgiving Dinner & Pot Luck 4pm.

NEWS FROM EASTERN ALEUTIAN TRIBES' ADAK COMMUNITY HEALTH CLINIC

It's not too late to get your flu shot!

Call 592-8383 to get an appointment today!

Who Should Get Vaccinated This Season?

Everyone who is at least 6 months of age should get a flu vaccine this season. It's especially important for some people to get vaccinated.

Those people include the following:

People who are at high risk of developing serious complications like pneumonia if they get sick with the flu. This includes:

- People who have certain medical conditions including asthma, diabetes, and chronic lung disease.
- Pregnant women.
- People 65 years and older

People who live with or care for others who are high risk of developing serious complications. This includes: household contacts and caregivers of people with certain medical conditions including asthma, diabetes, and chronic lung disease.

The Affordable Care Act: *Improving the Consumer Experience at HealthCare.gov*

Key dates and deadlines

- **November 1, 2015:** Open Enrollment starts for 2016
- **December 15, 2015:** Enrollees who want to change plans must act by December 15; new coverage will start January 1
- **December 31, 2015:** Coverage ends for 2015 Marketplace plans
- **January 1, 2016:** Coverage can begin for 2016 Marketplace plans
- **January 31, 2016:** Open Enrollment ends



If you have questions or need further assistance, please see our Certified Application Counselors – Phyllis & Esther at the Adak Clinic.

Medicare Part D enrollment for 2016
Call Judith, Jeanne, or TJ at 1-800-478-6065



Medicare.alaska.gov



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Online Application for Health Benefits Renewal

1. Requires Adobe Acrobat Reader* Version 9 or later.
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readermain.html>
2. Do not save the Application for Health Benefits Renewal to a public storage device. You may save a partially completed or completed Application for Health Benefits Renewal to any private storage device.

[Start Online Application](#)

[Print Blank Application](#)

To apply for state assistance, Food Stamps, Denali Kid Care, Medevac Flight Insurance, Sliding Fee Scale to help pay for medical visits, Home Heating Assistance, and other programs, see Esther, at the Adak Clinic, for applications, assistance and information.



Rare, beribboned visitors to Adak

At least two ribbon seals were seen on Adak this year, for perhaps the first time ever. An apparently healthy adult male was spotted by Larry Hodge in Clam Lagoon in August. The second ribbon seal, a young female, showed up on NavFac Beach in October; she seemed in good shape for the first couple of days but quickly deteriorated and eventually died without ever leaving the beach. We sent her remains to the Alaska Wildlife Health and Disease Surveillance Program veterinarian in Fairbanks for necropsy, but haven't heard the results yet. A number of other veterinarians and marine mammal researchers were very excited at this opportunity to collect a wealth of samples providing baseline information about a species currently listed on the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species as "Data Deficient".

Very little research has been carried out on ribbon seals because they haul out mostly on pack ice, usually in very remote areas far from shore where cracks and leads are available. Much of the year they remain at sea, but no one knows exactly where. There are no reliable up-to-date counts of ribbon seal populations. An "unusual mortality event" involving ice seals in 2011 is still under investigation.

Every ribbon seal is patterned with four light bands - one around the neck, one around each of the front flippers, and one around the lower back - but their size and exact location differ from seal to seal, and the base color varies from very dark in males to paler grey in females and juveniles. This distinctive patterning may help camouflage seals on ice floes, when seen from a distance against a background of bright ice and dark shadows. Ribbon seals are also unique in that they have the biggest internal organs (relative to body weight) and the highest volume of red blood cells and hemoglobin of all known seal species. These features enable ribbon seals to store more oxygen, allowing them to dive to depths of up to 600 metres in search of food and contributing to their ability to swim faster than other seals.

As those of you who ran across one of the ribbon seals on Adak noticed, they are very complacent around people, and don't react the way our harbor seals normally do. This may be in part because ribbon seals aren't thought to be the primary prey of any predators, though this may change as sea ice conditions are reduced and their range overlaps with more potential predators. As their habitat changes, their distribution patterns may also be affected, and it is possible we will see more of these guys in the future - in recent years they've been showing up in a number of unlikely places. Please call the Refuge office (592-2406) to report observations of any seals or other wildlife that look "different" or are acting strangely. Thanks for your help!



Adult male ribbon seal in Clam Lagoon, 19 August 2015
photo by Larry Hodge



Young female ribbon seal on NavFac Beach, 11 October 2015
photo by Kimberlee Beckmen



Fall foraging on Adak

We took one last Wednesday Walkabout last month, in search of blueberries and chocolate lily bulbs, two of autumn's tastiest treats. Blueberry plants abound on Adak, but only a few bear fruit, not always the same ones each year, so when you find a berry-laden patch, it is a real treasure. Easier to find are chocolate lilies; all the damp drainages and meadows are full of them. Once the flowers have died and the whorled leaves are turning yellow, the bulbs are at their best, flavorful and nutritious. This is because as the growing season ends, the plant stores starches and sugars in its bulbs for the coming winter. You'll notice when you harvest bulbs that at least a few of the little bulblets remain in the hole--don't try to pick them all out, as those left behind will grow into new plants next spring.



Chocolate lily bulbs can be eaten raw, cooked, or dried for later use, then used whole or pounded into flour. If you happen to get a batch that tastes slightly bitter, just soak them in water overnight before using. The traditional method of dipping or storing them in seal oil is also supposed to sweeten their flavor, and mixing them with berries is said to be very nice. When you're out hiking in the hills, chocolate lilies provide a great excuse to take a little picnic break--kids especially love digging up the bulbs, rubbing them between their hands to remove the dirt and nibbling them happily.



If you can manage not to eat all the bulbs you collect before you get home, have fun experimenting with them in the kitchen. Try them steamed and topped with garlic butter, boiled and mashed like potatoes, sauteed with onion and celery, or baked with other vegetables around a nice roast. They are also excellent thickeners for soups and stews, and wonderful in casseroles. Bon appétit!

