

Wrangell St. Elias News

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"

Vol. Twenty-One Issue Four

July & August 2012

\$2.50

WSEN's 20th Anniversary Issue!



Photo courtesy Jeremy Pataky



WSEN staff photo

Normally guests to the McCarthy area come on two legs, but we do get our share of 4-footed visitors. The lynx enjoyed keeping its feet dry by using the foot-bridge to cross the Kennicott River. The two moose calves, however, didn't mind getting theirs wet while following mom in Clear Creek. Bonnie and I spotted the moose while walking to the July 4th festivities in McCarthy.



WSEN staff photo

"The produce is in!" WSEN Cooking with Peggy columnist Peggy Guntis and editor/publisher Bonnie Kenyon can't wait for McCarthy Center owner Neil Darish to get the produce sorted and on the shelves.



WSEN staff photo

The folks at Copper Valley Telecom have made several trips to McCarthy this spring. First, they brought some of the new equipment such as wireless routers and modems needed to hook up to the new 3G network in McCarthy.

Then, CVTC management brought their big grill and cooked hot dogs and hamburgers for the community. As usual, they also brought gifts such as waterproof cell-phone carriers, sunglass clips and frisbees!



WSEN staff photo

The July 4th parade in McCarthy had many participants this year, as well as an estimated 500 visitors. We always appreciate the patriotism shown by Gary Baugh (Baugh Construction) and his family and friends when they fly this giant flag from the bed of their pickup truck. Very impressive! More parade photos on page 15.

A note from the publisher

BY BONNIE KENYON

Summer “finally” arrived in the McCarthy area! June 21st saw a high temperature of 80 degrees, then next day, 82, and eventually it rose to 83. After a cool and rainy start to the season, local folks basked in the sunshine and warmth that arrived in style. It may not last, say the weather seers, but folks are celebrating, none-the-less.

This July/August issue marks a milestone for Rick and me—20 years of publishing a small town newsmagazine in our log cabin here in McCarthy. Our first issue was the July/August 1992 *Wrangell St. Elias News*. It still remains a bimonthly publication and, even though over the years some folks have suggested we increase the frequency, we chose to stay with the 6 issues a year. Thus, we still enjoy the work, but have not experienced “burn out.”

Sometimes it seems like just yesterday we put together our first issue. It contained 14 pages, was stapled at one corner and sold for \$1. They were ready for distribution in time for the July 4th festivities of 1992. The subscription idea came with that same issue when an interested reader asked where he could sign up for a yearly subscription! And, so, began 20 years of choosing and writing about the happenings of our small town and its interactions with the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve entity. In time, folks began submitting their stories and we discovered a wealth of expertise right here in our own community and state.

We have set aside a portion of this issue to include a couple stories that appeared in that first issue. WSEN certainly had its humble beginnings. We thank our readers, advertisers, and writers who have entrusted us with your subscriptions, ads, and articles. You are greatly appreciated!

Some times, at the last moment, I get a photo of a special event that doesn’t fit anywhere else in the issue. I take advantage of this last bit of space to share it with you. Rick and I, along with several neighbors, were invited for dinner at Bob and Sunny Cook’s cabin. From left to right: Bob Cook, Jim Guntis, John and Bar-



bara Rice, Peggy Guntis, Bonnie and Rick Kenyon, and Marcheta Long. Sunny is taking the picture.

Wrangell St. Elias News welcomes aboard the following subscribers: Greg Oskolkoff, CO; Mike Sullivan, AK; Sheri Henriksen, TX and Jonathan Lazarus, AK; Doug and Ellie Reedy, AK.

Table of Contents

WSEN's 20th Anniversary Issue!	1
A note from the publisher	2
Items of Interest	3
Alaska Grown—McCarthy-Summer '78	6
Thanks to the Pioneers	7
Owners to rebuild Copper Center Lodge after fire	8
McCarthy Road upgrades	9
Experience the Boreal Forest from the Canopy Crown in June 2013!	10
McCarthy Medical Services	11
WSEN celebrates 20th anniversary	12
Copper Valley and Verizon team up to bring 4G LTE service to area	14
The McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum Presents	14
July 4th	15
The tiny universe on the surface of Alaska glaciers	20
Fifth John Denver Tribute in Kennecott, June 30	22
WRST hosts their spring public meeting	23
Community workshop—light touch of historic properties	24
Cooking with Peggy	32
A look at the weather	34
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR	35

Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

Dave Hollis: “Hollis” (he prefers this to Dave) is back in town with his Summer Camp 2012 report. This is his 17th season and his 10th year as a shuttle driver for Wrangell Mountain Air. “I should reach 4,000 shuttle driving trips from McCarthy to Kennecott and back by late July. That will be 40,000 miles on the old Railroad bed covered in gravel—all without a flat tire as of press time! McCarthy has been marvelous, and the summer should be another Wrangell Mountains High!”

Welcome home, Hollis. It’s always a pleasure to see your smiling face and friendly wave when I pass you on the road.

Paul Hanis/Jenny Rosenbaum: Paul and Jenny are back home, too, after their winter stint in Anchorage. It was great seeing them at the annual yard sale this last week. They came in search for those extra items that might making homestead living easier or more enjoyable.

Jenny says they have tripled the size of their garden this year. Potatoes, onions, barley, clover and buckwheat are taking up the new space—all crops that are less maintenance.

Lots of greens and even some pumpkin plants are among the

thriving produce in the original garden site. The greenhouse is full of tomato plants (12 green tomatoes already), artichokes and okra.

Jenny discovered a “bumper crop” of calypso orchids nearby. The morels are slim in her neck-of-the-woods this year but she and Paul still managed to find a good selection in McCarthy.

Looking forward to the fall season, Paul and Jenny are expecting to harvest their own homegrown pork. They were gifted with a pig from Jeremy Keller’s farm down the road. Jenny said it is super friendly but they have not given it a name, except to call it “pig.” Hope you get a lot of good eating this winter!

Porcupines are a problem this year—just ask Jenny and Paul’s two dogs. They both were “very bad dogs,” says Jenny. Tangling with those prickly critters one time is chocked up to a learning experience, but TWO confrontations is not wise. Both dogs survived but suffered the consequences of their actions; the porcupines, on the other hand, didn’t.

Except for a 3 week-long job on the slope, Paul plans on staying home. Jenny is hoping to bring her Anchorage winter job “home” this year; that is, if our local internet service performs well enough for her needs.

In the meantime, a foundation for a new cabin is in the works. They are eager to have a bit more living space in the near future.

Sonny Asbury: Another McCarthy Creek resident is back in town after spending the winter in his home state of Texas. He and dog Mac arrived May 1st. Within a couple weeks, Sonny began his summer job with McCarthy-Kennicott Shuttle as one of their van drivers.

For the last couple of weeks, Sonny and Mac have played hosts to a very special lady, **Dian Cook**, who also hales from Texas. She and Sonny were next door neighbors in their teenage years, went their separate ways, but recently found each other again. They are having a fine time renewing their acquaintance.

Dian has spent the majority of her time in McCarthy meeting Sonny’s friends and neighbors as well as seeing the area’s sights and enjoying a few side trips to Valdez and beyond.

I couldn’t help but think of Mac while writing Paul and Jenny’s item about the porcupines. Mac, too, had his share of quills the other day. Sonny and Dian chauffeured him to the vet at Copper Center where Mac was promptly attended to. He survived the ordeal (the porcupine encounter and the vet’s remedy).

Wrangell St. Elias News (USPS 011301) VOL. Twenty-One, Issue Four, July & August 2012.

Published every two months at McCarthy, Alaska. McCarthy, PO Box MXY, Glennallen, AK 99588-8998. Phone (907) 554-4454. FAX 1-866-487-7657. **E-mail: wsenews@gmail.com**. “Copyright © 2012 by Wrangell St. Elias News. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express permission of the publishers.”

Contributors to this issue: Peggy Guntis, Sunny Cook, Michelle Easty & Scott Yahr, Fredurick Dure, George Cebula, Ned Rozell and Rick Kenyon Jr. Subscription price is \$14 for one year in the USA. Canada \$16. Other countries \$23. Advertising rates upon request. Deadline for publication in next issue is August 15.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT GLENNALLEN, AK. 99588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Wrangell St. Elias News, McCarthy #42, PO Box MXY, Glennallen AK 99588-8998.

As I write this item, Dian is down to just a few more days of her Alaska visit. We hope you enjoyed your stay, Dian, and found McCarthy a place worth returning to in the near future!

Jim and Peggy Guntis: The Guntis' are other returning neighbors. They arrived the latter part of May. Within a week daughter Kim, her husband, Richard and their 3 ½ year old son, Robbie, paid them a visit. The Frosts are from Homer, but, due to Kim's past history of McCarthy living, they visit Kim's old stomping grounds as frequently as they can.

While the "kids" were here, Jim gathered momentum to create a small garden plot for Peggy. She acquired a few plants from Audrey and me. Next summer the hardest work will be done and the harder work will begin. Gardening is not easy but certainly fulfilling!

Peggy and I have taken up where we left off last fall—mail day excursions. Most of the time we find ourselves at the store purchasing a few of those necessary items on our list and enjoying a cup of coffee on the deck with neighbors.

Jim, on the other hand, prefers projects. This week it is sanding logs in their upstairs alcove, readying them for a finishing touch-up. Peggy is standing by for the clean-up work! I hope she won't have to miss a mail day!

Jim's daughter Sue (Miller) and husband Chris Pinhey are expected to arrive for July fourth festivities this year. It is a favorite time for Sue, says Peggy. Sue and Chris travel this way every 3 years, just in time for this special holiday celebration in McCarthy.

Welcome back, Jim and Peggy!

Carol Michals: The telephone rang as I was writing the Guntis' item. It was Carol calling from Keiser, Oregon. Carol and her husband, Harold, lived at Fireweed

Subdivision, Mile 51 of the McCarthy Road up until a few years ago. After Harold passed away, Carol moved to Oregon. Recently she moved in with her son and his family. She is pleased with her new living quarters. It includes a garden (which she loves to tinker in), a fish pond and dogs. She bought her own fish for the pond and enjoys tending to them.

Her phone call had a couple of purposes. One was to tell me that she and her 86 year old sister, Emma, (Carol is 83) are coming to her Fireweed property in early July. They plan on staying for a month. I reminded her about our mail day excursions and told her I hoped she would bring Emma to town for at least one outing while they were here. She assured me that would be on their list to do.

Carol also informed me that she was putting her property up for sale. If you are interested in 5 acres in the McCarthy area, be sure to check out Carol's ad in this issue.

John and Barbara Rice: The Rices just said goodbye to visiting relatives—nephew David Yates, his wife Tracy, their 2 year old son Benjamin and Tracy's mom, Wanda. David is the architect of the Rice's Kennicott-style cottage and the son of Chuck and Sally Yates, frequent visitors to our area. The Yates are from St. Louis; Wanda from Illinois.

A local moose showed up for a "show and tell" during their visit. David was just in time to hunt morel mushrooms, successfully, I might add, and cooked them up for the family. Barbara said they were delicious. Sally is Barbara's sister.

The Rices arrived at their summer home on April 24th. They had plenty of time to get settled in before Barbara began work at the store and gift shop. John's duties as treasurer for the Museum are picking up now that summer is

here and the Museum is open for viewing.

Marcheta Long: Marcheta, Barbara's long-time friend from Battle Creek, Nebraska, arrived May 9th. She is spending another summer season with the Rices and immediately was called into service at the McCarthy Lodge. Her artistic skills include decorating, so she began her job with giving the McCarthy Lodge's two dining rooms a fresh look.

The start up of the gift shop was her handiwork, too, (along with Barbara's input) and now the ladies are busy serving the increasing amount of tourists to our town.

Welcome back, Marcheta!! You're doing a great job.

Bob and Sunny Cook: The Cooks are settling in for the summer's long haul. Sunny is already busy at her volunteer work as the Museum's president. Bob, does his share of service as a driver for McCarthy-Kennicott Shuttle and is presently creating a model of the CR&NW railway which is being housed in the museum's box car.

Speaking of the long haul...the Cooks recently received a load of huge windows for their next building project—a 10' x 12' sun room. The timing was just right. Their neighbor, Sonny Asbury, was heading back from Anchorage with enough room to spare. The drop-off place was our property. A few folks turned up to give Bob an extra hand moving those beautiful (but very heavy) windows onto a pick-up truck and transported to Sunny and Bob's cabin about 5 miles away. The new addition will include their great northern view. Sunny says they hope to have it all framed in by the end of this summer. "Bob has always wanted a greenhouse, but he is settling for the sun room."

Thankful for those extra helping hands, the Cooks invited some

of us to their place for dinner this last week. Rick and I got in on the social action. We were glad to get a tour of their place which is located on the southside of McCarthy Creek. They are doing a terrific job making their summer home comfortable.

Daughter Nancy and the Cooks' granddaughter, Izi are due any day now. That is always a highlight of Sunny and Bob's summer season.

Thanks, again, Sunny and Bob, for hosting such a pleasant dinner party!

Jim and Audrey Edwards: The Cooks are not the only ones giving dinner parties these days. The Edwards hosted one of their own this last week.

Their neighbors and good friends, **Art Phillips**, his wife **Linda Warren**, and their grandson, **Tristan "TJ" (Cooke) Batty** were on hand to help eat Audrey's home cooking. Art is here for the summer working at the McCarthy Lodge but Linda was just here for a week-long visit. Their winter home is in Phoenix where Linda stays busy with her real estate business.

This year TJ, 14, was invited to come along and spend a big portion of the summer with Grandfather Art. He is from White City, Oregon. TJ is helping Art and the Edwards' with odd jobs and was quite taken with a recent flightseeing excursion he took. I hear there may be a glacier walk in the making for the near future.

We were introduced to TJ when Rick and I attended a dinner gathering at Art and Linda's cabin recently. It was a fine evening catching up with Linda and Art and viewing several historical photos Linda had brought with her. Thanks again for the wonderful evening, Art, Linda and TJ!

Audrey says she thoroughly enjoyed her visit with Linda, although she is quick to say that the stay was

too short. I agree! The two ladies, however, did manage to get in a few domino and cribbage games. Shortly before Linda left McCarthy, the two ladies, along with TJ, took a loaf of Audrey's Amish Friendship Bread to the Guntis' and enjoyed a cup of tea with Peggy. Until next visit, Linda....

Eli and Aria Potter: This is the season to be "busy" and that word best describes this young couple. What is Aria up to these days, I ask her. I can tell by the pause in her voice she is trying to decide where to start. I suggest we begin at their recently opened mountain equipment store which features new and "gently used" essentials. This is the first year for the Wild Alpine storefront in downtown McCarthy. It is located in the McCarthy Air log cabin and features gear for mountaineering, alpine climbing and backcountry hiking. Since the store is sharing quarters with the McCarthy Air office, Aria is able to give Gary Green a hand at his day-to-day air taxi operations. Last, but certainly not least, is the mountain guide service Aria and her husband Eli started in 2009. Wild Alpine offers big mountain adventures, training and expedition support in the Wrangell-St. Elias and Denali National Parks, the Chugach National Forest and beyond, says Aria. The bulk of their work takes them to the Wrangell and St. Elias ranges but beginning in the spring of 2013, they will partner up with an established concessionaire on Mount McKinley, enabling them to offer their clients expeditions to the 20,320' summit of North America!

I asked Aria where Eli was and she informed me he was recently back from guiding for Mountain Trip on Denali's West Rim. Next he is off to Byron Peak in the Chugach Range, then back to the Wrangells to train a Japanese climbing team

for their Denali attempt coming up in 2013. It is obvious there is never a dull moment for Eli and Aria!

Chris Epton and Glacier View Campground/Grill: Last, but certainly not least, is an item from Chris. Sunday afternoon, June 24th, Chris experienced his own personal tornado. Campground partner, Chuck, described the unusual occurrence as a "wind sheer or micro burst."

Chris said the winds lasted about an hour, peaked for 15 minutes at, what he estimated, as 80 MPH. Chuck was in town and Chris was manning the campground by himself. "The winds took every table and chair off the deck, tossing them into the woods nearby. The umbrellas, although folded and tied down were tipped over. The log posts (buried 3' to 4') holding the campground's 16' x 4' sign were sheered at ground level. The sign itself broke in half. The screened tent was torn in shreds," said Chris.

Although Chris attempted to rescue the disappearing items, he couldn't keep up with the wind's attack. When the peak winds began, he abandoned the rescue and hunkered down in his cabin. Two campers ran to their cars for shelter. Thankfully, no one was hurt during the ordeal. Chris said Chuck is heading back with a new screen tent for those extra diners.

On a positive note, reservations are up this year, Chris is back serving his famous burgers and Glacier View's July 4th firework festivities are just around the corner.

In his 18 years of serving the public on the west side of the Kenicott River, Chris has never seen anything like what happened last Sunday. We hope it doesn't happen again, Chris, and that all is well with you!

Alaska Grown—McCarthy-Summer '78

BY RICK KENYON JR.

Our new home site would sit on a 2-acre grassy field. Willows and cottonwood were scattered through-out the woods along its edges. It had been a farm in the early 1900's and the remains of farming equipment were here and there on the property. The old barn had long fallen down and all that remained were pieces of wood and iron. We managed to salvage some of the better wood for various projects later on. There also was a hand-dug well within 50 feet of the old cabin but had "fallen-in" and was now just a pit nearly 6 foot deep. I discovered a small dump nearby in the brush and found rusty old tin cans of vegetables and Prince Albert. Behind the old cabin ran a small creek that wound around the cabin itself. We got shovels out and diverted the small stream to prevent future flooding inside the cabin.

Sam enjoyed "exploring" the woods near our new home site. We learned there had been another farm adjoining ours and a blacksmith's shop beyond that. Our property was at the base of a large cliff that ran for miles along the valley floor. To the north were the Kennecott Glacier and copper ore mines. The mining town itself had many buildings that still stood after many years of inactivity. To the south of Kennecott was the town of McCarthy. It boasted of the local airstrip and a dozen or so year-round residents. Five miles from McCarthy to the southwest would be our new home.

It didn't take long to meet our new neighbors. Half a mile

through the woods towards the river lived the Wassermans. Eric, Joan, and their 3 year old daughter Shanna lived in a two-story log cabin and were our nearest neighbors. Approximately a mile to the south lived the Jim Edwards family. Jim, Maxine, and their two children Steve and Shelly lived in a large house just off a grassy airstrip. "Swift Creek" wound its way down the hill and onto their property. They had a small foot-bridge across the creek to their house and I always thought that was neat.

The mosquitoes were in full force and on many days I wore a head-net to keep the bugs off my neck and face. We made a supply run to Anchorage and stayed just long enough to get what we needed. The trip was a slow one, especially the first 60 miles on the McCarthy road. It took 4-5 hours to drive in those days and the road department didn't spend much time working on it. The Edgerton Highway, 35 miles from Chitina to the Richardson, was also gravel but at least it was well-maintained. The rest of the drive to Anchorage was on paved road, but still it was a good day's drive. Glennallen was a favorite stop on the way at a small fast-food restaurant where we could get a burger and fries. I enjoyed the milkshakes, in particular!

There was plenty of work to do on the home-site when we got back. Since there had been no garden in many years, dad helped me dig a small plot approximately four foot square and plant a few vegetables from seed. Mom and I had plenty of logs to peel while Dad worked on the foundation of the new cabin. (Af-

ter building the first cabin, we picked up a few ideas to make job easier. One being that the bark would peel off much easier when the sap was rising in the trees. We were able to peel off long strips of bark at a time and thus speed up the process of debarking. Another idea was to immediately treat the bare log with a finish that would prevent mold and preserve the wood itself.)

Grammy and Grandpa drove up that summer in their motor-home to assist in the new building project. Our driveway was not easily accessible for a motor-home so they parked it at the end and walked a few hundred yards. Later we were able to fill in potholes and widened the driveway to make it easier to maneuver. Grammy was an excellent cook and took over the job of "camp-cook" in the front porch of the old cabin. She used a kerosene camp stove at first but it smoked considerably and the smell was quite strong. We brought back a Coleman camp stove back from a supply run to Anchorage and it worked much better.

Washing clothes was a project with galvanized tubs set up with water in the yard. Dad ran a hose up to the creek and the water was very cold. Mom and Grammy let the water set for several hours in the sun to warm enough to use. They hung up the clothes on a clothes-line and usually dried by evening. The days were getting longer and allowed for more work on the cabin. As I recall, it would still be light enough at 10pm to see without aid of a lantern.

(to be continued)

Thanks to the Pioneers

BY SUNNY COOK

Many thanks are in order to Pioneers who recently arrived from around the state for their second annual McCarthy Pioneers Adventure. The gathering was hosted by Al Clayton. Last year they came to enjoy the Copper River and Northwestern Railway Centennial Event; this year for a Graveyard Party. At the instigation of Erika Miller, the McCarthy Cemetery advance cleanup crew assembled at Clayton's DairyAire Strip on the west side of the Kennicott River. After breakfast they cut down trees and knocked heavy brush out of the cemetery, converting the debris to a pile of wood chips spread at the entrance. Visibility within the cemetery boundaries was drastically improved, the original fence line located.

Saturday dawned bright and beautiful as the Pioneer work party, by now numbering 22, ate breakfast. They were serenaded by a local woodpecker banging his bill against the old metal shed abandoned by Anna and Frank Iverson, the farmer who tried to make a go of a dairy operation during the early days of the Kennecott mining operation. Their major task that day was removing a half-acre of pesky soapberry bushes from the nearly-century old cemetery, a task accomplished with amazing speed. 'Many hands make light work!' The marvelous transformation was truly a sight to behold! One can now walk around



and actually see the curved wood and in some cases more substantial grave markers of McCarthy old-timers. Among those buried in the cemetery are Capt. John P. Hubrick, photographer/pharmacy owner/hunting guide, and

solar-powered electric lights, the warm Hubrick Reading Room in the McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum proudly exhibits a collection of Hubrick's stunning panoramies, many of them in color. Visitors to the museum can read and research history of our locale and study photographs of the hardy pioneers, some mentioned above, who lived here in the early last century. Museum volunteers have recently updated and expanded a McCarthy Walking Tour with fascinating historical tidbits about our town, available for purchase for \$3.00.



Photo courtesy Ruth Jolly Knapman

20 Pioneers of Alaska (plus two family members) from Anchorage, Cordova, Fairbanks, Palmer and Valdez.

John Peter Johnson who with his wife "Ma" ran the hotel in McCarthy that operates to this day.

Recently renamed and equipped with propane heat and

Erika Miller and Ruth Knapman from Fairbanks have spent a great deal of time and effort attempting to map the McCarthy Cemetery. They are eager to hear from anyone with information about folks buried there. They hope others who might have



photographed or traced grave marker inscriptions in past years would share their information, helping update the Pioneer Records and preserve Alaska history. Contact Ruth at knappy@alaska.com.

And while in McCarthy on cemetery business, Jim Casement from Cordova continued his own research of Pioneer Halls around the state. In the *Wrangell St. Elias News* historic centerfolds, there are many notices of fine celebratory evenings in the Artic Brotherhood (AB)

Hall. It once stood on the south side of Barrett Avenue between the Barry barn and two Austin Trimm houses currently owned by Wrangell Mountain Air. The AB Hall became a Pioneer Hall in 1922 and can be seen in photos of McCarthy as late as

1950. A grassy meadow now, a pair of horses grazing this summer, two decades Natalie Bay recalls that bits of the foundation were still visible. Casement is eager to hear from anyone able to shed light on what happened to the building, jcasement@gei.net. Local Museum volunteers were delighted

to be of some assistance to the effort.

Thanks again to Pioneers helping to preserve the history of our area.

The above is a collaborative effort of Al Clayton, local Pioneer who owns property on the west side of the Kennicott River, Ruth Jolly Knapman who provides the photographs and Sunny Cook, President of the McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum.

Thanks to Ruth Jolly Knapman of Fairbanks Pioneer Women's Igloo #8, for the photos.



Owners to rebuild Copper Center Lodge after fire

BY MICHELLE EASTTY AND SCOTT YAH, GLENNALLEN, KCAM 790AM NEWS

An iconic centerpiece of Copper Valley history went up in flames early Sunday morning as the Copper Center Lodge was destroyed by fire.

Officials have not yet determined the cause of the fire, which broke out about 3 a.m. on May 20, 2012.

Lodge owner Tom Huddleston said he believes the fire originated in the laundry room and may have been caused by the building's 64 year old wiring.



Photo courtesy Lindee Satterfield

Three staff members who were living in the lodge, two of whom had just arrived for the

summer season, lost nearly all of their personal belongings.

The fire forced two guests to jump from their second floor

windows, and one staff member escaped from the attic apartment by climbing down the outside of the building.

Everyone escaped with only minor injuries.

It took volunteer firefighters from the Glenn-Rich, Kanny Lake, Tolsona, and Gakona crews about four hours to subdue the blaze.

They successfully contained the damage to the lodge itself leaving surrounding buildings on the property and nearby residences untouched.

Some close neighbors slept through the fire and woke up to the gut-wrenching sight of the lodge's charred shell.

First built in 1896 to serve gold miners, and rebuilt after a fire in 1928, the lodge was one of the last remaining roadhouses in Alaska and was the only historic roadhouse left in the Copper Basin that had been in

continuous use since its construction in the early years of the 20th century.

The lodge was also well known for its sourdough pancakes made from hundred-year-old starter.

The Huddlestons wanted to assure everyone that neighbors have starter they will use to bring the beloved pancakes back when the lodge is rebuilt.

Jim Marchini of Copper Center has been a regular at the lodge for 35 years. He recalls the stories that Huddleston's grandfather would tell about "the old days."

"It was more or less a second home," Marchini said, adding that when he heard about the fire, he cried. "The thing I loved most about this place was the people, the camaraderie."

Despite the devastating loss, Tom Huddleston said he's not going anywhere.

"This is just a bump in the road. [Copper Center Lodge has] been in my family for 64 years as of this year. But, I kind of feel like the community owns it. I don't really feel like it's mine. We want to keep it in the community."

Huddleston said he and his wife, Kim, appreciate the outpouring of support from locals including phone calls and expressions of concern from fans on Facebook.

The Huddlestons hope to use Club 96 as a temporary restaurant space until the new lodge is constructed.

Huddleston also thanked the fire crews for containing the fire.

"I appreciate everything, all the giving," he said. "We've got some really nice people in this community, and that's why we live here."

McCarthy Road upgrades

BY RICK KENYON

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) has contracted with Harris Sand & Gravel and Twin Peaks Construction, Inc. to do some work on the McCarthy Road this summer.

Harris will handle what is being called the McCarthy Road Upgrade. This project consists of road widening, resurfacing, ditch widening and ditch cleaning on the McCarthy Highway between mile 3-59.

The project also includes replacing two culverts at mile 27 on the McCarthy Road. They should be in place by the time we go to press July 1. After that, no work will occur until after the July 4th holiday.

Work after the July 4th holiday will take place at miles 3-9 and 33-55. A detailed schedule of gravel application has not been determined yet, but per contract, any road delays should not be more than 20 minutes.

The cost of this project is \$3.4 million.

Twin Peaks will be doing the McCarthy Rd & Edgerton Hwy Flood Permanent Repairs. This project consists of permanently repairing embankment, drainage and surface areas damaged during flooding. Areas to be repaired are:

- Edgerton Highway, mile 21, ditch repairs, upgraded drainage, slope stabilization.
- Edgerton Highway, mile 28 (5 Mile Creek), replace riprap.

- McCarthy Road, mile 5, ditch repair and stabilization.
- McCarthy Road, mile 14.5 (Strel-na Creek), removal of existing pipes and replacement with a single pipe arch.
- McCarthy Road, mile 16.5, embankment repair.
- McCarthy Road, mile 27 (Chokosna Bridge), riprap replacement.
- McCarthy Road, mile 44.6 (Lakina River Bridge), surface course placement.
- McCarthy Road, mile 57.6 embankment repair.

Construction cost for this project is \$967,365 and the work was started at the end of May 2012.

Experience the Boreal Forest from the Canopy Crown in June 2013!

BY FREDERICK DURE

WOW! Sixty feet up in the crown of a huge white spruce. Views of Sourdough Peak and its rock glacier are just to the north, the Nizina River Valley below and the Chugach Range to the south. It's breathtaking. It's a feeling of being on your own. Remember, keep three points on the tree, move the fourth. I recall climbing trees when I was a kid. The massive oaks and pecans, that's what kids did in a city chocked full of trees. When Boreal Canopy Adventures opens in June 2013, you won't be climbing trees. The landing platforms will be installed this summer. This is a test run zipping the cables.

Our canopy site is 8.5 miles southeast of McCarthy on the Nizina River bluffs. The boreal forest, or the earth's "emerald halo," is also known as the taiga. It covers 6.5 million square miles and stretches across the northern latitudes from Alaska through Canada, Scandinavia and Russia. Alaska and Canada have about a third of that forest area.

"Okay, Fred, you're next," says Joel, course designer and installer for STEPS of Ann Arbor. My friend Mark, chef extraordinaire and systems analyst, had just launched ahead of me from one of the biggest white spruce trees I've seen. Zip Line 3 traverses 400 feet of the river bluffs. The whine of the trolley on the half inch galvanized cable quickly fades as Mark disappears through the tree-tops. Peaking at 30 mph, it doesn't take long to reach the next tree. So Joel hooks my trolley on the cable and then moves the first of two lanyards around the

trolley from the cable yoke that surrounds the tree. "Clear?" he shouts to Brad, who was the lead guide out. Brad is 250 pounds, 6 foot 4. He can move 500 pound spools of cable, no worries. "Clear," says Brad. Joel moves the second lanyard onto the trolley, the one that is still secured to the yoke so you can't launch prematurely. Off I go. It's the closest thing to flying; your senses are bared to the wind as you launch.

The boreal forest has always intrigued me. Over the years I've logged countless miles by river and on foot through this environment. It's an ecosystem of interrelated habitats; forests, lakes, rivers, wetlands and tundra at the northern edge. Mostly a coniferous forest with white and black spruce, there are also broadleaf trees like birch, aspen, and cottonwood.

I still don't understand how these guys pull half inch cable (a pound a foot) hundreds of feet through the forest, up trees, tension it with the proper grade and drape, and secure it where they want it. But they do it with surprising speed and success. The grade, usually about 5%, and the drape are important. The grade assures you can get from point A to point B without getting stuck in the middle. The drape helps control the speed and the subtle slowing effect you get when you exit the drape. Canopy course installers get these right; they don't want you to be too "hot" as you approach the landing platforms. This brings us to the braking system. Most canopy tours use a hand brake system. Participants are responsible (after a thorough

orientation) for braking as they approach a platform. When zipping the cable, both gloved hands rest on top of the trolley, with one (the brake hand) on top of the other. As you approach the landing platforms, you judge your speed and use your top gloved hand (opened flat) to apply the right amount of friction on the cable behind the trolley. The result, you slow down enough to make a graceful landing, like an eagle, on the platform. The technique is simple and you learn quickly.

For me, the one aspect of the forest that really stands out is the birds' songs. The boreal forest is best known for its sheer number and species of resident and migratory birds. Over 300 species regularly occur in the forest and wetlands, most nesting and breeding. The 3 thrushes, Hermit, Varied and Swainson's, are common in Alaska and make up the songs so often heard in the forest.

As I zip the cable, the sensation of speed is awesome. I'm going no more than 30 mph, but it seems faster. It's not long before I pass through the drape and the tree platform quickly approaches. I know the routine, and how to time the braking and adjust the pressure to assure I come in just right, not too cold and short and not too hot. The lead guide has signals to let you know if you should be braking quicker or with more pressure or if you're braking too soon. Braking properly is intuitive. What an adventure in the boreal forest, and in America's largest national park.

I don't hear a lot about where the boreal forest fits in the global

warming debate. However, the forest plays a significant role in the earth's environmental balance. Besides being an oxygen producer, the forest absorbs and stores carbon dioxide helping to mitigate global warming. A huge amount of carbon is stored in the peat and moss organic layers of the forest. Due to cold temperatures that vary little (and permafrost), there is little decomposition. However, even small increases in average annual temperatures can change the equilibrium and release more carbon in the atmosphere.

Last summer we installed most of the cables, support guy lines and milled components for the sky bridges. This summer the sky bridges and tree platforms will be installed in July. We're also building a timber frame Welcome Center, as a reception, interpretive and gear up facility. The canopy course will have 6 zip lines and

2 sky bridges and a short ground hike through the understory. The last zip line ends on a river bluff point about 100 feet from the Boreal EcoLodge where participants will have a brief tour of an off grid solar power (PV) system.

What about requirements or restrictions for the canopy adventure? First, our canopy course is designed for participants of average mobility and strength. No experience is necessary. You must be at least 10 years old, 5 feet tall and weigh between 70 and 250 pounds, and be in reasonably good physical health. You need to be able to follow your guides' directions and ascend a 15 ft staircase and not have a fear of heights or some medical condition or injury that might hinder your safe participation. Your guides will provide a training/orientation to assure you are able to safely traverse the course. All guides are trained to

ACCT standards (Association of Challenge Course Technology at acctinfo.org) and have first aid certifications.

Tours include transport from and returning to the McCarthy/Kennicott area. Total tour time will be about 4 hours with an hour and a half on the canopy course. Price per person will be published on the website (see below) this winter for summer season 2013.

For more info call 907.554.1092 or visit us at AlaskaBorealCanopy.com to learn more about North America's most remote treetop adventure. This winter the website will be expanded to answer all your questions and more. We'll even have online reservation capability. Our planned opening is June 2013. Hope to see you in the canopy crown!

McCarthy Medical Services

BY BONNIE KENYON

For several years Crossroads Medical Center of Glennallen has served the McCarthy area with monthly summer clinics. They held their last clinic in June of 2012.

Jason Brooks MD is pleased to announce a long-term plan to provide scheduled services to the local area. His first summer clinic was held on July 2nd with additional clinics planned for August and September, with dates to be announced in the near future. Further clinics will be planned according to local needs.

Dr. Brooks is board certified in family medicine and has an active practice in Palmer, Alaska. His scope of practice includes family medicine, obstetrics, minor surgical procedures, FAA flight

physicals, and care for hospital patients at Mat-Su Regional Medical Center. His residency training in Wyoming specialized in rural medical care, with expanded training in wilderness medicine and obstetrics. He worked as a hospitalist and emergency physician in Sitka, Alaska, before relocating to Palmer in 2003. He currently works as a solo practitioner at Palmer Family Medicine.

Dr. Brooks was able to attend the last clinic held by Crossroads in June, observe their practice and meet several patients. He is hopeful to make a smooth transition that will be comfortable for all. Appointments can be scheduled through Palmer Family Medicine at (907)746-2345, during business hours on Monday through Thursday. Morning appointments will be

filled first and an afternoon clinic will be held once the morning appointments are full.

Dr. Brooks will be intermittently in McCarthy throughout the summer and other times of the year. At these times he may usually be reached on his local number at 554-1094 or 715-7368.

Says Dr. Brooks: "As the previous model of care for McCarthy has been periodic summer clinics using the community church as a facility, it seems best to continue with this approach for now...It is hopeful that a clinic facility is in the future, where expanded medical services may be offered. In the meantime, the facilities available are greatly appreciated and allow services to this area that would be otherwise impossible to provide."

WSEN celebrates 20th anniversary

BY RICK KENYON

It is with some sense of awe that Bonnie and I realize we have been publishing the *Wrangell St. Elias News* for 20 years now.

From its inception, the *WSEN* has been printed and distributed from our log cabin on the west side of the Kennicott River. While most of our equipment is in our home office, I have to admit the living room gets pretty cluttered when we are printing!

Thank you so much to our readers and contributors who have been so faithful and supportive. We very rarely get "hate mail," and invariably when we do it is unsigned so we ignore it.

We thought you might enjoy reading the cover story from that first issue, as well as our first editorial which was written by a neighbor.

There was no shortage of people to read those publications, either. Several thousand people populated the valley to serve the mining community and the railroad. Blackburn, and later McCarthy sprang up with hotels, restaurants, a photo shop

left. For 54 years there was no real need of a local newspaper as only a few hardy souls remained.

Now in 1992 with modern technology such as radio and satellite TV there is no shortage of World, National or State news available to the few local residents in the area.

But the same technology that brought satellite TV and cellular phones brought the computer and laser printer.

Rather than the 12 hours it took the students at Blackburn School to hand-set a page of type for the Kennicott Star, the computer can do it in less than one. And while we as a community are well informed on worldwide issues, sometimes we don't know when there is a meeting in town about something important to all of us.

Wrangell St. Elias News is an attempt to provide

Wrangell St. Elias News

VOL. ONE ISSUE ONE JULY & AUGUST 1992 ONE DOLLAR

After 54 Years...

McCarthy area gets "New News"

The Copper Bee, the McCarthy Avalanche, McCarthy Weekly, The Kennicott Star. Back in the days of the Kennicott mine there was no shortage of written news in the area. There was no shortage of people to read those publications, either. Several thousand people populated the valley to serve the mining community and the railroad. Blackburn, and later McCarthy sprang up with hotels, restaurants, a photo shop and many other businesses. Homesteads along the railway provided vegetables, milk, lumber and

other necessities of life. While Anchorage was still just a small tent city, the Chitina River Valley was bustling with activity.

Then came the famous "last train" in November of 1938. The mine shut down, and the people left. For 54 years there was no real need of a local newspaper as only a few hardy souls remained.

Now in 1992 with modern technology such as radio and satellite TV there is no shortage of World, National or State news available to the few local residents in the area. But the same technology that brought satellite TV and cellular phones brought the computer and laser printer.

Rather than the 12 hours it took the students at Blackburn School to hand-set a page of type for the Kennicott Star, the computer can do it in less than one. And while we as a community are well informed on worldwide issues, sometimes we don't know when there is a meeting in town about something important to all of us.

Wrangell St. Elias News is an attempt to provide local news items of interest both to the full-time residents of the area and also to the increasing numbers of people who are coming to enjoy their leisure time in this area.

In this first issue we have part one of an exclusive interview with Karen Wade, the Superintendent of the Wrangell St. Elias National Park. Mrs. Wade discusses the Park Service and plans to acquire Kennicott. Mrs. Wade also talked about other subjects such as NPS involvement with the State in upgrading the McCarthy road which we will cover in future issues.

Most of you have been wondering about all of the helicopter activity from the McCarthy airstrip in early June. Sara Glass covers the "BIA" story. An insight into some of the scientific studies being conducted in the area is provided by Ed LaChapelle.

McCarthy has a long history of 4th of July festivities. Look on page 12 for this year's plans. Our hope is that *Wrangell St. Elias News* will be both informative and entertaining. Your input is needed if this publication is to be successful. If you have items that you believe would be of interest to others, please jot them down and give them to Rick or Bonnie Kenyon. (P.O. Box 100, Wrangell, Alaska 99994) Suggestions and comments are welcome also.

We will attempt to publish *WSEN* bi-monthly, with small, special editions when needed to inform of events that are of interest to the community.

Rick Kenyon

Local Explorer returns from Northwest Passage Expedition

by BONNIE KENYON

Christmas 1991 - Paulatuk, Northwest Territories - Malcolm Vance, 29 year old resident of McCarthy, Alaska

While some were writing hate letters, McCarthy residents signed Christmas cards, wrote special notes of encouragement, and even slipped in a little money. All to let a young man named Malcolm Vance know we cared where he was on that particular Christmas. (cont. pg 2)



Malcolm with Greenland Husky

Interview with NPS Superintendent Karen Wade

Page 2

Historic First Issue!

Science in the Park

Page 5



After 54 Years ...

McCarthy area gets "New News"

The Copper Bee, the McCarthy Avalanche, McCarthy Weekly, The Kennicott Star. Back in the days of the Kennicott mine there was no shortage of written news in the area.

and many other businesses. Homesteads along the railway provided vegetables, milk, lumber and other necessities of life. While Anchorage was still just a small tent city, the Chitina River Valley was bustling with activity.

Then came the famous "last train" in November of 1938. The mine shut down, and the people

local news items of interest both to the full-time residents of the area and also to the increasing numbers of people who are coming to enjoy their leisure time in this area.

In this first issue we have part one of an exclusive interview with Karen Wade, the Superintendent of the Wrangell St.

Elias National Park. Mrs. Wade discusses the Park and plans to acquire Kennicott. Mrs. Wade also talked about other subjects such as NPS involvement with the State in upgrading the McCarthy road which we will cover in future issues.

Most of you have been wondering about all of the helicopter activity from the McCarthy airstrip in early June. Sara Glass covers the BIA story. An insight

into some of the scientific studies being conducted in the area is provided by Ed LaChapelle.

McCarthy has a long history of 4th of July festivities. Look on page 12 for this year's plans.

Our hope is that *Wrangell St. Elias News* will be both informative and entertaining.

Your input is needed if this publication is to be successful. If you have items that you believe would be of interest to others,

please jot them down and give them to Rick or Bonnie Kenyon. (PO Box MXY, Glennallen AK 99588 if you are out of town) Suggestions and comments are welcome also.

We will attempt to publish *WSEN* bi-monthly, with small, special editions when needed to inform of events that are of interest to the community.

Guest Editorial - 1992

What an occasion! McCarthy's first newspaper and on the fourth of July. The struggle for independence rode on the newspaper written by Ben Franklin and other patriots in 1765.

They STARTED SMALL too.

Once a month handbills asking why the government of George III could do and say such ridiculous things. How they could be regulated unnecessarily and contrary to the natural order of the land they struggled to subdue.

Imagine. The citizens could be accused of plotting against the English homeland and tried in absentia by an English judge. The governor was warned to use this power judiciously but, of course, he was only human. Many a rich landowner found himself accused of some infraction under the law because he was politically "incorrect." If the pioneer couldn't afford to travel for his own defense, well, he lost the trial, his land, and sometimes his life.

Citizens could be kidnaped and pressed into the military for life, since life was short in those

institutions. These dragooned soldiers could be housed in any citizen's house without compensation at the whim of the governor - often to the ruination of the owner.

Taxes were imposed without questions to the taxpayers and the money collected used to finance the empire far from the struggling population in the colonies. Land was appropriated for the use of the king's governors without payment.

There were laws passed to prevent any citizen from making money without a government permit and the permit system used to create monopolies for loyalists. The government ran roughshod over the men who fed them, housed them, and provided the wealth they enjoyed.

The desperate colonists banded together but found their lack of communication kept them weak and divided.

The newspapers of the time provided the means to weld popular thoughts into the machine of change. The papers were banned, of course, and that only led to their appeal and the eventual success of the revolution.

When you read the Declaration of Independence, you can see the oppression that guided the formation of our current government.

The founding fathers wanted certain rights guaranteed and the articles of the Constitution reflect their times. Free speech was first.

The lesson of the papers was fresh in their minds. The right to bear arms and have a militia was next. Elimination of the privately quartered army was third. Private property was established protection from search and seizure of that property established by the fourth article. The Famous Fifth Amendment made it illegal to compel anyone to incriminate himself or have his property taken without compensation.

No man could be accused of a crime and convicted without a fair trial before his peers and within a reasonable time.

Today the struggle for independence continues and once again it is communication that defines the struggle.

Copper Valley and Verizon team up to bring 4G LTE service to area

BY RICK KENYON

Copper Valley Telecom has announced an agreement with Verizon Wireless that will give some Copper Valley Wireless customers 4G LTE data speeds by the fall of 2013.

4G LTE stands for “4th Generation Long Term Evolution.” It refers to technology that enables users to access the Internet, apps, and other web-based tools at speeds much faster than the currently used 3G system.

“We are enthusiastic to get started on our 4G LTE deployment,” said Dave Dengel, Copper Valley’s CEO. “Many of our customers use smart phones and data cards to stream movies, listen to music, play games, even run businesses. 4G LTE service will provide greater capacity and speeds for these types of applications.”

Copper Valley customers will have access to Verizon Wireless’ 4G LTE network throughout the United States. The agreement

includes a roaming partnership between the two companies which means that Copper Valley customers will be able to use their 4G LTE service at home and also when they travel. In addition, customers of Verizon Wireless and other participants in the LTE in Rural America program will be able to access Copper Valley’s 4G LTE network in Alaska.

Under the agreement, Verizon Wireless will lease CVW 700 MHz upper C block wireless spectrum and allow interconnection with Verizon’s 4G LTE network for routing traffic to the Internet.

“Initially, we will upgrade towers in Valdez, Cordova, Tatitlek, and Prince William Sound to 4G LTE,” Dengel said. “These towers will be operational by the fall of 2013, though we will strive to accelerate construction to the greatest degree possible.”

Naturally, outlying areas such as McCarthy will be last to get the upgraded service. Dave

told me that it will not take a special grant to convert McCarthy’s system, like it did to get 3G. The current microwave system has plenty of capacity to handle the higher speeds, according to Dengel.

The agreement is part of Verizon’s LTE in Rural America program. Through this program, Verizon Wireless is working with telecommunications carriers across the nation to jumpstart the delivery of 4G LTE service to rural communities.

Molly Feldman, vice president of business development said, “Verizon Wireless is in the process today of deploying a state of the art 4G-LTE wireless network in Alaska. We are pleased to have Copper Valley join us in our mission of expanding communication opportunities throughout the state.”

Verizon’s 4G LTE network is the largest in the U.S. and is available to more than 200 million people.

The McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum Presents

Hot off the Presses!

FRIDAY, JULY 27 at 3 pm

Join National Park Service Historian Katie Ringsmuth at the McCarthy-Kennicott Historical Museum for a book signing and presentation of her new book, *Tunnel Vision: The Life of a Copper Prospector in the Nizina Country*.

SATURDAY, JULY 28 at 5 pm

Then join her the following day for a talk on her latest research for the Park: *Wrangell Mountain Skyboys: How Buffalo bill, Buck Taylor, and Bob Reeve Created Alaska’s Skyboy Narrative*.

July 4th

BY BONNIE KENYON

Tom Hepola is not a “McCarthyite” but he certainly has a big heart for our town. Three years ago when he paid our town a visit, he joined in on the annual 4th of July festivities— marching in our parade as The Tin Man. The next year he created a “bubble float” producing giant bubbles. This year he outdid himself. His float this year was a 4 wheeler pulling a trailer load of colorful beach balls. Over a hundred balls were released into downtown McCarthy during the first parade march around town. “We really had fun!” says Tom. And so did the onlookers lining Kennicott Ave. Adults and children alike laughingly reached up for their own special memento from this year’s celebration.

Beach balls in Alaska are a seasonal sight. Tom haunted Walmart, Fred Meyers and Target stores in Wasilla, Eagle River and Anchorage. He suspects he may have cleaned out the area’s supply!

On the second round through town, Tom, his wife Brenda and their friend, Ron Hansen, released nearly 500 bouncy balls and a batch of colorful, plastic rubber balls into the air. Taped to each rubber ball was a dollar bill. The kids had a “ball” collecting these surprise gifts. There was not one ball to be found on the streets of McCarthy by day’s end, reports Tom.

Following the parade, a very unique presentation was made by Tom and Ron. A sign designed and created by these two professional welders was given to the town of McCarthy. The base of the sign is made from railroad track and the town’s name— McCarthy,



WSEN staff photo

Rod Hansen and Tom Hepola with gift to McCarthy

Alaska— is constructed from railroad spikes. A map of Alaska is attached on one side of the sign. “Because McCarthy loves flowers, we made certain there were places to hang flower baskets,” says Tom.

The sign was placed in the care of McCarthy Lodge owner, Neil Darish, who will decide its final home.

Tom and his family reside in Palmer. He and Ron (his boss) work for ENSTAR Natural Gas in Anchorage. When asked why they went to such lengths to give their time, talents and finances to our small-town celebration, Tom answered, “When we asked ourselves, ‘how can we bless McCarthy,’ this was our answer!”





WSEN staff photo

McCarthy's Marching Band did a superb job this year on the National Anthem, leading the parade down Kennicott Avenue!



WSEN staff photo

McCarthy Creek area resident, Jason Lobo, brought his farm "animals" to town. Two goats, one pig, two horses and pet dog. It wasn't clear who was having more fun—the onlookers or the animals.



WSEN staff photo

A group of motorcyclists from Anchorage and California made a stop at McCarthy while on a tour of the state.



WSEN staff photo

The local volunteer fire department always turns out in style with plenty of water in their hoses to wet down the enthusiastic crowd!



Barbara Rice and Christine Johnson

Photo courtesy John Rice

The 2012 4th of July festivities began with a pancake breakfast to benefit the McCarthy Museum. Barbara Rice headed up the kitchen crew with other great helpers such as Christine Johnson, Tamara Harper and family/friends. Peggy Guntis did the honors of collecting the \$10 a plate donations.

According to Sunny Cook, president of the Museum, over \$1,000 was donated through the breakfast benefit. Many thanks to those who participated by eating plenty of pancakes, thanks to the museum volunteers and to Wrangell Mountains Center for the use of their kitchen and facilities.

Following the parade a silent auction was held under the McCarthy Lodge canopy. This, too, was a benefit to raise money for the Museum's operation. "The generous folks and merchants of McCarthy gave over \$2,200 in donations," says Sunny, "and we cannot thank them enough!"

FOR SALE

5 acres in Fireweed Subdivision, Mile 51 McCarthy Road

1/4 mile off the road with easy, road accessibility.

16' x 24' cabin with two porches, good and sound, just needs some limited TLC

Large, two-story barn, well, good outhouse

White spruce and aspen trees

50' mobile home with 3 beds, cooking and heating stove

\$70,000 asking price but willing to negotiate

Seller Carol Michal.

Contact information: 503-463-7155

WRANGELL MOUNTAIN TECHNICAL SERVICES

**Providing Civil Engineering and
Land Survey Services**

Serving the Copper Basin and throughout Alaska

On-Site Water and Wastewater Designs

Engineering Consultation

Residential Home Inspections

Construction Inspection and Management

**As-built Surveys, Boundary Surveys, Sub-
divisions, Construction Surveys & Sanitary
Surveys**

ALLEN MINISH, PE PLS

Mile 32.1 Edgerton Hwy

P. O. Box 118, Chitina, AK 99566

907-823-2280

GOLDEN'S



*I'll take care
of your
handy man needs*

HANDYMAN SERVICE

McCarthy Resident 554-1108

**FLOORING INSTALLED • ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING
ROOF REPAIRING • PAINTING • WINDOWS INSTALLED
SOLAR PANEL INSTALLATION • FRAMING AND SIDING**

"I'll say what I'll do, I'll do what I say"

The McCarthy Weekly News

1921 July & August editions

LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. W. Woodin and nieces Jean and Margaret returned yesterday from Fourth of July Pass where they and John Nickell have been doing assessment work on the Woodin property.

Mrs. R. W. Williams, who was suddenly taken ill and went to Kennecott hospital for treatment last week, made a rapid recovery and returned to the Mother Lode by automobile last Sunday evening.

Mr. E.A. Lottsfeldt, who arrived from the States last week, left on Wednesday to do the representing on the Tjosevig mining property, accompanied by Bill Berry and his horses.

Our community flag pole, which had such a narrow escape the day of the fire, when the flag & rope caught, was scaled its 75 ft. by Bill Berry on Monday, and a new rope and flag attached and Old Glory will wave as brave as ever on the Fourth.

FOURTH OF JULY

Preparations are now all made for the BIGGEST EVER in celebrations and all are waiting expectant for the day to come. The town has a great many visitors and more are continually arriving.

A special attraction for the Fourth will be a boxing contest between Kid Williams, the Demon light weight of Kennecott and Big Bill Weitzel the Heavy weight slugger also of Kennecott, for the championship of the Tramway linemen.

Special decoration will appear on all buildings & a huge Welcome sign will adorn Front St.

CHITINA NEWS

ALASKA ROAD COMMISSION WAGES FOR THIS SEASON

Four horse teamsters \$180.00 per month.

Two horse teamsters \$1665.00 per month.

Truck Drivers \$180.00 per month.

Laborers \$5.00 per day.

With the exception of cooks who receive \$145.00 and board, one dollar and fifty cents per diem is charged against each man for board.

July 2

This evening a baseball game will be played at Kennecott between the camp and the mines. A baseball ground is being constructed at the Mother Lode camp, and the boys will train there also. A series of matches is soon to be arranged between all the camps and probably some teams from the coast.

July 9

OF LOCAL INTEREST

Mrs. Tom Lynch and son Roy returned to their home at Strelina last week after having spent a very pleasant week at McCarthy, celebrating the Fourth with Mr. Lynch and friends.

Mike Knowles and Billy Meyer have decorated the A.B. Hall in readiness for the Big Ball tomorrow night which promises to be one of the best events of the season. The Kennecott orchestra will be on hand with their usual swell music and it is to be hoped that every member of the Athletic Club will be on hand to welcome the Cordova visitors.

A mild form of influenza has been prevalent amongst our canine friends.

Dora McDonnell, one of our most popular young ladies, will leave next week for Cordova, to wait for the Admiral Watson, on which she will travel to Kodiak to visit her relatives. Her little sister Marion Wills, will also make the trip.

Ole Farsvedt, who has been on Rex Creek for several months returned to town yesterday.

Mrs. Roy Burns of Nizina who paid a brief visit to Cordova last week, returned on Sunday and proceeded immediately to the Creeks.

An interesting practice game of base ball was played at Kennecott last

evening between McCarthy and Kennecott, resulting in a win for the visitors by a score of 9 to 4.

Judge O'Connor is a McCarthy visitor, having arrived from Chitina on last Sunday's train.

July 16

BIDS WANTED

For dismantling Commissary building, Saw mill, Residence and Blacksmith shop, all of which are now situated on No. 4 Chititu Creek, for transporting same & reconstructing them on No. 11 Chititu Creek. Work to be completed on or before October 1st 1921. Bond required 50 per cent of bid. The right is reserved to reject any and all bids. Bids to be forwarded to the undersigned not later than August 10th.

L.H. Carvey, Trustee,
Nizina, Alaska.

July 23

KENNECOTT NEWS

This evening a farewell party is being given by the staff of the Kennecott Copper Corporation in honor of Miss Schultz, who is leaving next week for New York. The hall will be elaborately decorated in Japanese style with lanterns and umbrellas.

Mr. A.E. Saari will preside over the evening's entertainment. Arthur Yoshitika will give the farewell address in Japanese, which will be interpreted and rendered in English by Mrs. C.E. Osborne.

Miss Schultz, who has been on the hospital staff for eighteen months, has endeared herself to everyone in camp and has more friends to her credit than any young lady whoever came to the Northland. As may be expected she will not continue long in single blessedness, her engagement to Mr. Victor Megnalia, mine foreman, having been announced.

We take this opportunity of wishing her a happy journey to New York, and that when she embarks upon the

matrimonial ship, she may have a full cargo of happiness.

The camp will miss her indeed, for her musical ability, her personality in everything.

July 30

LOCAL AND PERSONAL

Rudolph Porak, a carpenter employed by the Kennecott Copper Corporation fell from the aerial tramway last Wednesday and was instantly killed. He left no relatives.

Martin S. Jorgenson, the Alaska Road Commission mechanic arrived in town this week from Chitina in charge of a 5 ton tractor, which will be used on the Sourdough trail this summer.

August 6

Mrs. John E. Barrett and son Lawrence will leave here on next Wednesday's train and will sail from Cordova on the Alameda for Seattle, where Lawrence will enter High School.

August 13

A.C. Baldwin, deputy U.S. mineral surveyor, has secured the contract for the representing and surveying of the Rex Alaska Mining Co's group of placer claims at the head of Rex Ck. Mr. Baldwin is expected here about the end of the month.

CHISANA NEWS

Dick Woodman returned last evening from Chisana, where he made a short business trip. All the Chisana miners report a good season, and particularly good in the case of N.P. Nelson, Ed Brigggen and Percy Thornton.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson expect to leave Chisana in a few days, having worked out their ground.

Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Johnson (nee Mrs. Luella Clark) have moved to Canyon City where they will spend the fall and winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Muncaster were expected to arrive at Wellesley Lake some weeks ago, according to word received by North West Mounted Police who were traveling in that direction.

Brenwick and McClellan arrived from Chisana on Friday evening with mail.

Hubrick is this week installing the Eastman "Deep Tank" Developing System for Amateur developing, by this system much better results are obtained than by the old method of Tray Development. He now has a complete Amateur Finishing department connected with his store.

Mrs. Laaniner and two children arrived on the last train from Juneau and will make their home in McCarthy. Mr. Laaniner is employed at the Kennicott mines.

August 20

LABOR DAY EXCURSION TO CORDOVA

The folks down in Cordova are looking forward to having all the Copper River people as their guests on Labor Day, which is September 5th next Monday week. They have arranged a wonderful monster program. During the day there will be a Ball game, a Shooting Contest and Athletic Events. In the evening there will be a dance and boxing contest. Also there will be a number of extra attractions in the way of special movies and musical treats, not to mention getting a whiff of the sea air, and the glad hand of welcome from the Cordova people.

An excursion will be run to Cordova for \$10 round trip, to leave McCarthy on the Sunday morning reaching the Coast city the same afternoon, and start back to the interior on the day after Labor Day. That will give the visitors two nights and one full day and several extra hours.

A guarantee of \$500 has been placed with the McCarthy agent Mr. Sommer, by the residents.

As the committee which is in charge of the Labor Day celebration at Cordova has guaranteed the balance up to \$750 required by the C.R. and N.W. railway to make the excursion a certainty, it is to be hoped that every camp will hustle for passengers to show Cordova we can make good.

It is hoped that everyone intending to make the trip to celebrate Labor Day, will place their names on the list so as to be sure of a seat in the train.

A crowd will also be in Cordova for Labor Day from Valdez and Fort Lis-

cum, and so there will lots of regular fellows from there to mingle with.

PERSONAL

Victor Johnson, Kennecott, J. Davis, Mother Lode, Harry Dean of Kennecott and Olaf Holtet rancher, renewed their subscriptions to the News this week.

Louis Henderson, with twelve head of pack stock left for Chisana yesterday.

Thos. S. Scott deputy clerk of the court at Cordova, made a trip to Kennecott this week and took seventeen applications for naturalization papers while there. Mr. Scott, who is also a vice-president of the Bank of Alaska at the coast city, spent a couple of days in McCarthy, and is now gone to Strelna, where his family is enjoying a short vacation.

L.H. Carvey, suffered an injury to his hand this week, thru a boulder falling on it. He is at present under Dr. Gillespie's care. The bones of one finger are badly broken.

The Pratt hunting party are passengers on the Northwestern reaching Cordova today and will arrive on the next train. Spending one night at Kennecott, they will proceed immediately to the head of the Chitina, hunting bighorn sheep. The guides will be Fagerberg and Slimpert, packer, Harry Boyden, chef, Jack Erickson, and Con Miller, photographer.

Jas. Hussey is dismantling his building next to the schoolhouse this week. The lumber was purchased by L.H. Woodman.

FARMING

All the farmers of this section are working long hours harvesting their crops.

At Long Lake, Oscar Anderson has had his new mowing machine working on his 20 acre field of beardless barley. This grew to a height of 5 ft. 9 in.

Frank Iverson and Olaf Holtet are also cutting their crops this week.

Al Doze is expecting his mowing machine to arrive on the next train. He ordered it from the states some time ago. He will start cutting his season's crop of barley and oats.

August 27

The tiny universe on the surface of Alaska glaciers

BY NED ROZELL

A scientist wearing plastic boots and crampons knelt on Gulkana Glacier and pointed at the king of beasts, a snow flea.

"He is the top of the food chain on this glacier," said biologist Nozomu Takeuchi. The snow flea, a tiny wingless insect also known as a springtail, sprung away at the advance of Takeuchi's finger, landing near a stream of meltwater. Takeuchi opened a notebook and scribbled with a pencil. He was on the Alaska Range glacier on a rainy day to study algae, the food of the snow flea and the key to life on the surface of glaciers.

Algae are microscopic plant-like organisms that use the energy of sunlight to make their own food. The many species of algae on Earth capture more of the sun's energy and produce more oxygen than all plants combined. In adapting to life on ice, algae have provided food for the snow flea and many other wee creatures of the ice.

On that day, Takeuchi, a professor at Chiba University in Japan, was collecting algae with a stainless steel scoop. Millions of algae living on the surface of ice and snow stain the glacier red in some areas, and give it a dusty appearance in others.

A former researcher at the International Arctic Research Center at UAF, Takeuchi has spent hours crouching on the

surface of Alaska glaciers, scooping up individual alga too small to see without a microscope. His face is tanned the color of leather, except for light patches beneath his sunglasses. He calls himself a glacial biologist.

Takeuchi gathered ice from the glacier surface in clean plastic bags. Later, he would dry the bags to measure the earthy material produced by the algae. In plastic bottles the size of his palm, he scooped snow samples in which he will later count the algae. With these, he will try to figure out the population of algae on Gulkana Glacier. It is a staggering amount of life, so dense in areas that it can alter the face of a glacier.

Walking up the glacier, Takeuchi pointed out tiny pocks in the ice filled with water. Called cryoconite holes, they are produced when an accumulation of algae and the organic material it attracts form a dark spot that absorbs sunlight and melts its own pool. Here, the algae have everything they need: plenty of water and sunlight, and a buffer from streams on the surface of the glacier that would flush algae away.

"They want to stay in the same place," Takeuchi says.

Bacteria, snow fleas, ice worms and dozens of invisible species congregate in the cryoconite holes to eat algae. Algae thrive in the summer but die in the winter, when water on the

top of a glacier turns to ice. Algae survive by producing spores that "hatch" the following spring.

In addition to counting algae, Takeuchi also takes note of how they affect the surface of a glacier. Gulkana, for example, is a rather dirty glacier, due in large part to algae and the organic material broken down by creatures that live with the algae. Dark patches of the glacier absorb more sunlight than light patches, and Takeuchi said melting beneath dark areas can be three times as great as that beneath clean surfaces. As part of his studies, he checks the reflection of light from different parts of the glacier with a spectrometer he carries in a backpack.

While scientists have blamed the increased warmth of the air for the shrinking of Alaska's glaciers, the sun absorbed by algae also plays a part. Takeuchi wants to find out how the tiny world on the surface of the glacier affects these giant sheets of ice. To do this, he walks on glaciers, stopping now and then to ponder a snow flea, the glacial equivalent of a polar bear on sea ice.

The Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, in cooperation with the UAF research community, provides this column as a public service. Ned Rozell is a science writer at the institute. This column first appeared in 2001.

"In selecting men for office, let principle be your guide. Regard not the particular sect or denomination of the candidate -- look to his character."—Noah Webster

"The latent causes of faction are thus sown in the nature of man."—James Madison

Kiagna Subdivision McCarthy



Website: <http://kiagnasubdivision.ePropertySites.com>

For more pictures instantly: Text "639920" To 79564

No property taxes! Come back to the land! Plenty of wood! Already subdivided into 4 two and a half acre lots! Two wells on two lots already drilled and ready to go with the sweetest water ever! Also included is a 34 foot 5th wheel trailer with one bedroom that has lots of closet space, a bathroom with shower, 5 gallon propane hot water tank, kitchen with 3 way fridge and freezer, vaulted ceilings in kitchen and living area. The 5th wheel is protected by a 4/12 pitch metal roof on log pilings so no worries about the snow load. The 20 foot ConEx box is also included and is very convenient for secure storage. Or we will sell the lots, 5th wheel, ConEx box individually...Legal Deion: Lots 9, 10, 13, 14 Kiagna Subdivision, located approximately 5 miles away from downtown McCarthy and 10 miles from Kennicott. Call 907-441-0078 for more information.

- 1 bedrooms
- 1 bathrooms
- 420 approx sq.ft.
- Four 2.5Acre Lots
- 1997 460 SqFt 5th
- 2 Wells Lots 9 &
- ConEx Box /Storage
- Solar Panel
- Propane Gas Heater
- Level Land
- Many Spruce Trees
- AC Generator
- Slide Out Living Rm
- Slide Out Bedroom
- 5 Gal Hot Water Tank
- Vaulted Ceiling
- Lots of Storage
- Nice Kitchen Area
- NO TAXES!!
- Easy Care
- Move in Ready!

From approx. Mile 58 McCarthy Road, go straight south on the Airstrip about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile on the new gravel road. Turn (east) right and go about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Turn (south) and go about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Lots are located on the corner of the next left turn.



10 Acres \$99,900
Call 907-441-0078

Fifth John Denver Tribute in Kennecott, June 30

BY TERRY C. BLOSSER

A capacity crowd once again filled the Kennecott Recreation Hall for the Fifth John Denver Tribute on June 30. The fun-filled evening included a potluck social, movie clip showing, and almost two hours of Denver tunes by local singers and musicians.

Denver visited McCarthy as part of a documentary movie project with ABC Television, a program that was telecast in 1977 as, "Alaska: America's Child." The tribute audience was treated to a clip of the movie showing Denver interacting with local residents and a comic chase sequence in the Kennecott Mill.

A strong line-up of local volunteer talent then entertained the audience for almost two hours with broad range of Denver's music spanning almost three decades.

Kelly, Kathryn, and Trevor Hawkins of Valdez contributed a stunning multimedia program of Denver's spiritually-moving "Wings That Fly Us Home." The family also assisted MC Terry C. Blosser's tribute to Denver with another video.

Gaia Thurston-Shaine and Rebecca Boniek opened the concert with a stirring rendition of "Alaska and Me." Boniek later joined her mother Laura for a beautifully harmonized version of "Some Days are Diamonds," accompanied by Scott Mitchell on Guitar.

Tribute organizers Dave Hollis and Terry C. Blosser performed "Rocky Mountain High"



Photo courtesy Terry Blosser

Hiking buddies Dave Hollis and Terry C. Blosser created the Kennecott John Denver Tributes and are retiring from the project after five successful seasons.

with new lyrics under the theme, "Wrangell Mountains High." During choruses, Hollis tossed commemorative mini-frisbees into the crowd.

Local favorite Joe Donahue commanded the stage for two numbers with cellist Bryan Campbell, including a bluesy interpretation "Leaving on a Jet Plane." Tribute newcomer Lena Mann won the crowd's heart with her passionate solo rendition of "Annie's Song."

The audience was howling with laughter as Chef Phil and his Merry Minstrels from Kennecott Glacier Lodge sang, mimed, and danced three Denver tunes. Chef Phil later sailed a flurry of pancakes into the delighted audience during Scott Mitchell's lively performance of "Thank God I'm a Country Boy."

The traditional close to the evening included all performers

on stage leading audience sing-alongs of "Take Me Home (Country Roads)" and "Wrangell Mountain Song," that Denver wrote during his McCarthy-Kennecott visit. Paul Hanis' superb yodeling during the finale was sorely missed this year due to his job commitments on the North Slope.

The Kennecott John Denver Tributes were created by McCarthy resident Dave Hollis and Wrangell Mountain Air shuttle driver Terry Blosser, with the help of many community volunteers, including soundman Chris Epton of Glacier View Campground.

The grass-roots event is part of the Arts and Lectures Series of the Wrangell Mountains Center with sponsorship by the National Park Service.

WRST hosts their spring public meeting

BY BONNIE KENYON

McCarthy:—A public meeting hosted by the Wrangell-St.

Elias National Park Service was held on May 30th at the Tony Zak building. A dozen park representatives were on hand to review and answer questions about park activities in the McCarthy/Kennecott area during summer 2012.

The meeting was a rundown of Superintendent Rick Obernesser's letter to the community dated April 26th. A variety of park-related topics were expanded on by project leaders. Jon Colson of Maintenance addressed the topic of **Kennecott Stabilization** projects. The Mill Building is scheduled for foundation work beginning July 10 at which time the building will be closed to tours through the end of the season. St. Elias Alpine Guides will continue to have tours of Kennecott but they will be able to do all the other parts of town and buildings that they have done, just not entering the Mill Building.

The Park Service has contracted Twin Peaks Construction to do the drilling and anchoring of the cribbing walls.

Blasting cap mitigation will take place on the North side of the mill. Writes Obernesser: "This is an old scatter, of blasting caps, outside of the mill from previous mining activity that was discovered in 2011 by NPS. This clean-up will involve raking, sifting and hand picking spent fuses and potential unexploded caps. Work will take place August 6th and may continue to September 1st."

Jared Stayaert, of Kennicott Wilderness Guides, requested the

Park Service let the guide services know the blasting schedules and pertinent information. According to Colson, Kennecott was not expected to be closed but that people will be stationed at the 4 corners of the site when it is happening. NPS was not expecting the need to close down traffic, but planning to get the word out. It is hoped to be completed by August 16th.

Logan Hovis, NPS mining historian and blasting expert, is scheduled to do a public meeting July 11th.

In his letter, Obernesser continues, "A second blasting cap clean-up will take place behind the Leaching Plant. Due to the size of the scatter, NPS proposes to consolidate the debris and bury it in the existing site. A geotextile fabric will be used to cover the debris, and then will be covered with clean soils. This work will begin around mid-September."

At the meeting Colson answered a question concerning the closure of the Power Plant. "NPS crew is working in there and it is closed completely due to dust, fumes, etc., while doing the interior work on the boilers. When the crane arrives, they will be doing external work, on one side of the building at a time in order to keep some of the building's access open. It is closed for now with the hopes that the interior will be done and then open for most of the season."

Stephens Harper reported that there have been ongoing, positive conversations with the Volunteer Fire Department and Jacob Shultz about a community-based EMS service. The community is encouraged to stay tuned.

Mark Keogh addressed the subject of **Concessions**. He reported that the Kennecott Concession prospectus is 80% complete. It will be coming out in late June or early July. A tour was held on June 14th with the Park Service and parties interested in providing commercial tours of historic buildings within the NHL in the future. St. Elias Alpine Guides (SEAG) is currently the authorized concessioner providing guided tours of certain buildings. SEAG's concession contract expires December 31, 2012. The new concession contract is expected to have a ten year term and begin in 2013. Keogh says he hopes to know the outcome by November.

Eric Veach of **Resource Management** answered concerns about the helicopter traffic into back-country destinations for mine adit closures and cleanup. According to Veach, helicopter traffic would be brief with an estimation of two trips to each site. The Department of Interior has directed all agencies to secure mine entrances. The operations will be based mostly out of May Creek but refueling in McCarthy. Some staging will occur out of the Chitina airport as well as the Kuskulana Bridge material site. Helicopter operations are scheduled for July 20-29.

Adit closures for the Kuskulana and Kotsina Valleys are July 20-27. These include the following mines: Mullen, Silver Star, Valdez Mine and North Midas.

Mine inventory areas include: McCarthy Creek 1601 on the 20th and 21st; Peavine, the 21st; Kuskulana Valley, the 22nd; Kotsina Valley & Lakina, the 23rd; Glacier Creek, the 24th; Kotsina Valley, the 25th; Bremner, the 26th; Niko-

lai-Nizina Ridge, the 27th; Dan Creek Crumb Gulch, the 28th and Nelson Mountain, the 29th. Folks were advised to contact Danny

Rosenkrans (907 822-7240) for more information and updates.

A fall meeting is being planned for a follow-up on the results of summer projects.

Editor's note: The above information was taken from minutes of the May 30th meeting prepared by Elizabeth Schafer and the April 26th letter written by Superintendent Rick Obernesser.

Community workshop—light touch of historic properties

BY BONNIE KENYON

Kennecott:—A community workshop, hosted by Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (WRST), was held in Kennecott on June 5th and 6th. Twenty three folks turned out to participate in some portion of the two-day event.

A nonprofit organization, Friends of Kennicott (FOK), was represented by Sally Gibert and Ben Shaine. They did a brief presentation of FOK's history in raising money to start preserving Kennicott's historical structures. The group played a large part in the creation of some of the planning documents that led to the eventual acquisition by the Park Service of the Kennecott National Historic Landmark (KNHL) and to the Management Concepts as written in the Interim Operations Plan.

The words "light touch" are found in Appendix A of the Management Concepts: "Most interested parties within the community envision a future in which Kennecott is managed with a 'light touch' in which projects are undertaken in small steps, at modest costs, with minimal intervention process. Other bulleted points include a future in which Kennecott is: stabilized to prevent deterioration of historic structures or artifacts, making them available to the public; not just an abandoned mining town, but also a place

that reflects the vitality, creativity, and community spirit of today's residents; retains the slow pace, quiet and spaciousness that fosters contemplation and individual reflection; part of a larger community in which residents act both individually and collectively to guide the future of the area; contributes to a strong, reasonably diverse economy that includes locally owned and operated businesses, community-based nonprofits, and tradition of barter and subsistence; protects and honors small-town values (safety, cooperation, self-sufficiency, personal freedom); a place where tourism is allowed to evolve within the capacity of the community, rather than a place where external intervention and control accelerate growth; seen by local residents and visitors alike in its true context (a remote outpost of civilization in the midst of an enormous mountain wilderness; is managed to protect the cultural and natural resources of this historic mining district and the surrounding glacial landscape and provides a safe, educational, and rewarding experience for the area's visitors and residents.

The National Park Service (NPS) supports the goals depicted in the above concepts and endeavors to implement the plan so these goals are realized; however, if these goals would con-

flict with NPS goals, policies and mandates, NPS mandates would have to take precedence.

The consensus of the workshop group was that the Management Concepts defines the "light touch" concept well, in broad terms, but needs defining more specifically.

The group discussed the "light touch" concept as park service presence minimized. For example: Kennecott would have minimal rangers in the streets, less park traffic, and minimal long-term infrastructure. Enforcement of park regulations can be light touch, too, communicating and educating, rather than writing tickets. As for the future maintenance of Kennecott, NPS agreed that the light touch feel is much more feasible now that the buildings are re-roofed (50 yr. roofs) and have new foundations (100 yr. foundations). Community members conveyed their concern with the interaction of the park and community and the park's long-term presence and how that is managed, not just the work on the buildings in and of themselves.

One key result of the workshop was the desire for cooperative management of NHL by the Park Service, local residents and nonprofit organizations.

Editor's note: The above information was taken from a synopsis of the 2-day workshop written by Elizabeth Schafer.

Copper Valley Telecom's Microwave Project is Complete!

What does this news mean for McCarthy area communications?

New WiFi Hotspot

- Log onto the Internet with your laptop or other WiFi device
- Located in Downtown McCarthy

Better Communication on McCarthy Road

- New towers at Chitina and Gilahina (mile 27 McCarthy Road)
- Weather cams - McCarthy, Gilahina and Chitina (www.cvtc.org)

Many New Benefits

- Faster Wireless Internet speeds (up to 7.5 Mib speed)
- Improved Call Quality and Reliability

Expanded Communication Options

- Smart Phone with data and voice plan
- Data Card for internet access to your laptop or cable*
- Mobile Router for internet access from your laptop or desktop computer



Telecom | Long Distance | Internet | Wireless

Valdez: 855-2231 * Glennallen:
800-478-6666





McCarthy & Kennicott

Managing Canopy Guide for Summer Seasons 2013 +

COMPENSATION

- Salary \$3750 per month

JOB SUMMARY & DESCRIPTION

- Experienced adventure guide with minimum 2 seasons guiding experience
- Summers, mid/late May thru early Sept
- Co-develop guide and tour scheduling (*ACCT guide training late May/early June 2013*)
- Canopy course management including daily safety inspections, light construction projects
- Co-development of risk management plan
- Canopy program co-development & management; logistics, transportation, boreal forest & solar (PV) power interpretation

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 2 seasons of guiding (mountain, glacier, and/or river guiding) or equivalent
- Wilderness First Aid/CPR/First Responder or greater
- Climbing equipment experience, academic and/or practical environmental background in Wrangell-St. Elias Park or Alaska a plus
- Good physical condition, enjoys guiding visitors and environmental interpretation
- Provide own transport to Nizina as needed
- Flexibility in scheduling

SKILLS DEVELOPED & BENEFITS

- ACCT trained canopy tour guide and operations & risk management
- Management and maintenance of cable & course, safety inspections & related
- Travel to tourism shows/conferences

Email or call for more information, submit resume by AUGUST 20, 2012

***info@alaskaborealcanopy.com
554-1092***



McCarthy & Kennicott

Canopy / Zip Line Guides for Summers 2013 +

COMPENSATION

- \$130 to \$160 per 4 hr canopy tour

JOB SUMMARY & DESCRIPTION

- Experienced adventure guide with minimum 2 seasons guiding experience
- Summers, mid/late May thru early Sept
- Coordinate tour scheduling with Manager
- Transport participants in Boreal vehicle to & from McCarthy to Nizina canopy course site
- Participant gear up & orientation
- Guide participants thru canopy course & present a boreal forest & solar (PV) interpret
- Gear down & general office/site duties

QUALIFICATIONS

- Minimum 2 seasons of guiding (mountain, glacier, and/or river guiding) or equivalent
- Wilderness First Aid/CPR/First Responder or greater
- Climbing equipment experience, academic and/or practical environmental background in Wrangell-St. Elias Park and/or Alaska a plus
- Good physical condition, enjoys guiding visitors and environmental interpretation
- Able to provide transport to Nizina canopy site if needed
- Work day scheduling to fit your schedule

SKILLS DEVELOPED

- ACCT trained lead and/or sweep canopy tour guide, canopy operations & safety

Email or call for more information, submit resume by AUGUST 20, 2012

***info@alaskaborealcanopy.com
554-1092***

Scheduled Air Service from Anchorage to McCarthy with stopover in Gulkana!

Now you can leave Anchorage at 8:30 on Monday or Thursday morning and arrive in Gulkana at 9:45, McCarthy at 11:00. Or, you can leave McCarthy at 11:15 and be back in Anchorage by 2:00pm the same day! (Leaves Gulkana at 12:45) This service is year around.

Copper Valley Air

www.coppervalleyair.com

Phone 822-4200

Or toll-free 866-570-4200

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEPARTURES, ARRIVALS, CONNECTIONS.

Copper Valley Air will not be responsible for damages resulting from the failure of flights to depart or arrive at times stated in this timetable, nor for errors herein, nor for failure to make connections to other airlines or of this company. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Schedules shown are based on expected flying times. Because weather and other factors may affect operating conditions, departures and arrivals cannot be guaranteed.

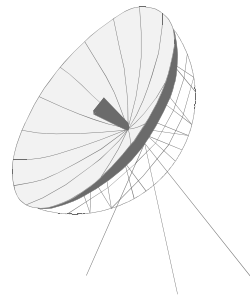
Gulkana Airfield Box 234, Glennallen, AK 99588

The New **Caribou Hotel**

Getting tired?

Stop at the Caribou Hotel!

The coffee pot's always on!



**Warm atmosphere — Hot Tubs — Satellite TV
Full Menu Restaurant**

Mile 187 Glenn Hwy. 822-3302 Glennallen, AK

www.PropertyRightsResearch.org

Julie Smithson, Researcher
213 Thorn Locust Lane
London, Ohio 43140-8844
propertyrights@earthlink.net
740-857-1239 (voice/no fax)

WSEN.NET

Sourdough Drilling Water Wells

Paul Barr
Sourdough Drilling
PO Box 721
Soldotna, AK 99669
907-262-5494 or cell 907-398-7898

MARY KAY®

stress-free
holiday **Shopping**

This season, get **fabulous gifts** for everyone on your list...all from the comfort of your home. Just call me or visit my **Web site**. You'll find pampering products, fragrances and more at your **convenience!**

Tammy Rowland
Independent Beauty Consultant
www.marykay.com/trowland1
(907) 581-5881

MCCARTHY'S GROCERY & HARDWARE CENTER

ALL YOUR GROCERY NEEDS. FRESH PRODUCE.

FULLY STOCKED HARDWARE STORE.

**NEW FOR 2012 — "GRAB AND GO" PREPARED FOODS
FOR YOUR DAY'S ADVENTURE**

MCCARTHY CENTER

**MA JOHNSON'S HOTEL - MCCARTHY LODGE BISTRO - GOLDEN SALOON -
MOUNTAIN ARTS GIFTS - NUGGET LIQUORS - LANCASTER'S HOTEL**

Wood Stove For Sale

Jotul F 400 Castine

Used 4 times. Too much stove for my small red cabin in downtown McCarthy. Will sell for \$2,000 or best offer here in McCarthy. You haul.
Patt Garrett
907-854-7288
Across from Wrangell Mt. Center



- Maximum heat output: 55,000 BTU/hr
- Heating capacity: Up to 1,600 sq.ft
- Max log length: Up to 20"
- Over 75% efficient
- Burn time: Up to 8 hours
- Finish: Matte Black Paint
- Flue outlet: Top, and rear
- Flue size: 6"
- Weight: 375 lbs.

Price lowered to \$1 500. "U still Haul"

**First in Fuel, First in
Service; Family
Owned Since 1892.**



Residential & Commercial
Heating Oil
Gasoline
Diesel Fuel
AvGas and Jet Fuel
Chevron Lube Oils and Greases
Tanks/Accessories

Call Us: 822-3375
Mile 188.5 Glenn Highway
Box 276
Glennallen, AK 99588

CROWLEY®

We've Been A Part Of The Local Scenery Since 1852[®]



© 2008 Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. All rights reserved. Member FDIC. AS-3216 9551

**WELLS
FARGO**

Wells Fargo was one of the first companies to do business around here. So, you might say we've grown up together. Thanks for all your support over the years.

Glennallen Team

Mile 187.5 Glenn Highway

wellsfargo.com

"Criticism is something easily avoided by saying nothing, doing nothing, being nothing."

~ Aristotle

MOTHER LODGE COPPER MINES COMPANY OF ALASKA LLC
201 Barrow Street #1 • Anchorage, AK 99501

COPPER RIVER RECORD

Community Newspaper
for the Copper Valley

Subscribe * Advertise * Contribute!

P.O. Box 277 Glennallen, AK 99588
907-259-5277 fax 888-870-3167
contact@copperriverrecord.net

McCarthy - Kennicott HISTORICAL Museum

OPEN DAILY Until Labor Day
Monday-Saturday 11-7, Sunday 1-7

Railroad Memorabilia
Historic Photos & Panoramas
Model of Old McCarthy
Diorama of Bonanza Mine
Walking Tour Maps Available
and much, much, more!

FREE! Donations Appreciated!



ROWCON SERVICES

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

McCarthy, Alaska 554-4498

Keith Rowland, Owner
Lifetime Alaskan

Excavation & Gravel Products
DEC-approved septic

♪ Over the river and
through the woods, ♪
a-freighting we will go.

Lowboy & Heavy Freight Service



HOMESTEAD SUPPLY

*Lumber, building materials and hardware delivered
to the McCarthy area at Anchorage prices!*

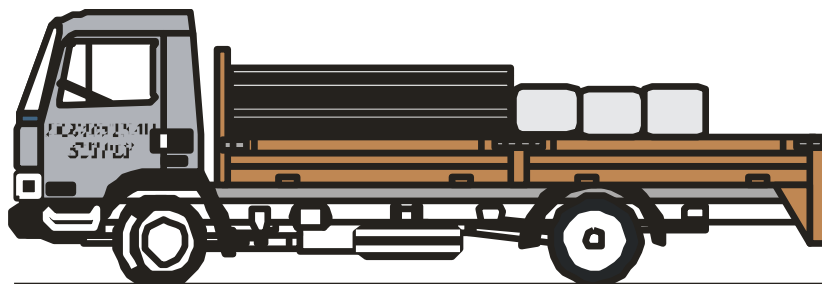
Give us a call or come in and browse our new ACE
Hardware store.

NEW! Greenhouse and potting supplies!

907-822-3987

or

FAX 822-5209



Mile 115.5 Richardson Highway (Box 49) Glennallen

Cooking with Peggy

BY PEGGY GUNTIS

Hi everyone, Greetings from McCarthy! We've been here a couple of weeks now and I'm just so glad to be here. Rick told me the other day that this issue is the anniversary of the 20th year for the WSEN. That's a fantastic achievement for Bonnie and Rick and for we, readers and lovers of the area, it has been absolutely wonderful. Thanks to both of you.

Spring and summer are the times for those wonderful fresh fruits and vegetables AND if you are in the right place, for fresh seafood. Out here in McCarthy, so many people have their own gardens and they either give away or sell at a very very reasonable rate the extras that they don't plan to eat or use for canning. Just before I left Tucson, I discovered a similar thing called "Market on the Move." Starting in the spring, every Saturday morning at a different place, local farmers bring their produce for sale. The first time I went it was held at a church not far from me. When you get there you pay \$10.00 and then you get 60 lbs. of vegetables and/or fruits which no one bothers to weigh when you leave. I filled boxes with eggplant, yellow squash, gray squash, patty-pan squash, 3 different kinds of tomatoes, green beans and green bell peppers. It was so wonderful! I'm telling you this because I suddenly had to come up with some ways to cook these things and I was never a lover of cooked vegetables! Let me share a few

of the recipes I tried and really liked.

Ratatouille

¼ cup olive oil, plus more as needed (I used about ½ of that called for since I'm a Weight Watcher!)
 1 ½ cups small diced yellow onion
 1 teaspoon minced garlic
 2 cups medium diced eggplant, skin on
 ½ teaspoon fresh thyme leaves
 1 cup diced green bell peppers
 1 cup diced red bell peppers
 1 cup diced zucchini squash
 1 cup diced yellow squash
 1 ½ cups peeled, seeded and chopped tomatoes
 1 tablespoon thinly sliced fresh basil leaves
 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley leaves
 Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Set a large 12-inch saute pan over medium heat and add the olive oil. Once hot, add the onions and garlic to the pan. Cook the onions, stirring occasionally, until they are wilted and lightly caramelized, about 5 to 7 minutes. Add the eggplant and thyme to the pan and continue to cook, stirring occasionally, until the eggplant is partially cooked, about 5 minutes. Add the green and red peppers, zucchini, and squash and continue to cook for an additional 5 minutes. Add the tomatoes, basil, parsley, and salt and pepper, to taste, and cook for a final 5 minutes. Stir well to blend and serve either hot or at room temperature.

Fresh Cauliflower Tomato Scallop

1 large head cauliflower
 5 tablespoons butter or margarine
 ½ cup chopped celery
 ¼ cup finely chopped onion
 ¼ cup finely chopped green pepper
 ¼ teaspoon black pepper
 ¾ teaspoon salt
 ½ cup flour
 2 cups milk
 1 ½ cup shredded sharp cheddar
 3 large firm-ripe tomatoes
 bread crumbs or Ritz cracker crumbs

Break cauliflower into florets and cook covered about 5 minutes, or until crisp tender. Drain. Saute celery, onion, green pepper in butter until onion is limp and transparent. Add salt, pepper and flour. Add milk gradually. Cook until thickened. Add cheese and stir until thickened. Add cheese and stir until melted. Remove from heat.

Arrange a layer of cauliflower in shallow baking dish. Top with small amount of cheese sauce. Cover with sliced tomatoes and more sauce. Top with remaining cauliflower and sauce. Sprinkle with bread crumbs or Ritz cracker crumbs. Bake at 400 degrees until browned.

Now one for green beans that I could eat every day! If you are a Weight Watcher, ¾ of a cup is 2PP. I think I found this one in Taste of Home's Light and Tasty.

Zippy Green Beans

4 cups fresh or frozen green beans, cut into 2-inch pieces

2 bacon strips, diced (I use turkey bacon)
 1 medium onion, thinly sliced
 ½ cup white wine or apple juice
 3 tablespoons sugar
 3 tablespoons tarragon vinegar or cider vinegar
 ¼ teaspoon salt
 2 teaspoons cornstarch
 1 tablespoon cold water

Place beans in a saucepan and cover with water; bring to a boil. Cook, uncovered, for 8-10 minutes or until crisp-tender. Meanwhile, in a large nonstick skillet, cook bacon or medium heat until crisp. Remove with a slotted spoon to paper towels. Drain, reserving 1 teaspoon drippings.

In the drippings, saute onion until tender. Add wine or apple juice, sugar, vinegar and salt. Combine cornstarch and cold water until smooth; add to the skillet. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Drain beans; top with onion mixture. Sprinkle with bacon; toss to coat.

6 servings

O.K., here's one I haven't tried but plan to use it this summer. I make Jim alot of soup since the weather in McCarthy is perfect "soup weather."

Seafood Broccoli Soup

4 tablespoons butter
 1 small onion, chopped fine
 1 cup broccoli florets, chopped
 ¼ cup all purpose flour
 ¼ teaspoon salt
 Optional: finely chopped carrots, celery, potatoes
 1/8 teaspoon white pepper
 1 ½ cup chicken broth or bouillon
 1 cup half and half milk
 dash garlic powder
 dash Hungarian paprika

1 tablespoon sherry (see my note below)
 1 cup chopped shrimp
 1 cup chopped imitation crab meat

Note: I know some of you either don't have or prefer not to use sherry so I looked up to see if I could find some substitutes. There are several substitutions that can be used for the sweet sherry that is usually put in soups (vanilla in a lesser amount, and orange, pineapple, or apple juice in equal amounts); but I agree with one of the people who was making suggestions—for soup, none of these sound right so I would just eliminate it all together.

Melt butter over medium heat in a 3 quart saucepan. Sauté onion in the butter. Add broccoli florets (and the carrots, celery or potatoes if you desire). Stir in flour, salt, pepper, garlic. Reduce heat to low. Simmer for 5 minutes, stirring steadily. Add half and half milk and blend thoroughly. Add shrimp and crab and continue to stir to make smooth. Add sherry (or not!) and cook on low heat for 15 minutes. It is best to stir as it heats.

Now for all of you who live in Alaska and can get halibut easily or those of you who don't but have access to other white fish, try this one and enjoy.

Fish Veracruz

12-16 oz. white fish
 2 med. limes
 flour
 2 cloves garlic
 2 stalks celery
 1 medium onion
 2 medium tomatoes
 1 medium bell pepper
 6 oz. green olives with pimento

2 oz. olive oil
 4 oz. white wine (you need the liquid so you could substitute white grape juice, apple juice, vegetable stock, or even water)

¼ teaspoon pepper
 ¼ teaspoon garlic salt
 salt and pepper, to taste

Squeeze juice of limes on both sides of fish and salt and pepper to taste. Cover both sides of fish with flour. Chop garlic into fine pieces and cut celery onion, tomato, bell pepper and olives into larger pieces. Mix these ingredients together and let set. Heat large frying pan, add olive oil and garlic salt. Put the already floured fish into the heated pan, cover and cook for about 5 minutes on each side (or until nearly done—firm but yet flaky). Add all other ingredients, except wine, and stir for one or two minutes. Add wine and stir. Cover and let simmer on medium heat for 5 minutes. Serve with rice and salad.

Serves 2

Here's a hint for cooking fish on the grill that I learned the other night. We were at Paul and Glenda Barrett's house for dinner and Paul was grilling the salmon. He showed me how he prevents the thinner parts from cooking faster than the thicker areas. He lays lemon slices on the thinner area of the whole length of the salmon. It not only adds flavor but it prevents the drying out of that area. Genius, right! Next month I hope to have a number of recipes from local or summer McCarthy people that I can share with you. Can't wait to get them, fix them and eat them myself. Enjoy your summer everyone.

A look at the weather

BY GEORGE CEBULA

April 2012 saw average temperatures and below average precipitation. The high temperature for the month was 59 on the 26th (57 on Apr. 23 '11, 62 on Apr. 28, '10 and 64 on Apr. 30, '09). The low was 4 on the 2nd and 4th (9 on Apr. 11, '11, 5 on Apr. 10, '10 and 0 on Apr. 1 '09). The average temperature for April was 37.1, compared to 34.6 in '11, 34.8 in '10, 34.0 in '09, 34.1 in '08, 34.4 in '07, 33.1 in '06 and 37.4 in '05. The lowest average temperatures for April were 22.4 in 1972 and 24.7 in 1986.

The precipitation for April was below average with only 0.04 inches of liquid (trace in '11, 0.11 in '10, 0.20 in '09, 0.50 in '08, 0.01 in '07, 1.14 in '06, 0.08 in '05 and 0.77 in '04). There was 0.4 inches of snow (0.3 in '11, 1.6 in '10, 2.9 in '09, 7.0 in '08, trace in '07, 10.2 in '06, no snow in '05 and 8.7 in '04).

McCarthy started April with 28 inches of snow on the ground and ended the month with only a trace on the ground.

The temperatures were a bit below average for May 2012. The high temperature for May was 71

on the 23rd (81 on May 29, '11, 82 on May 28, '10 and 78 on May 26, '09). The low temperature was 20 on the 17th (20 on May 16, '11, 20 on May 16, '10 and 23 on May18, '09). The May average temperature was 43.6 this compares with 45.7 in '11, 47.6 in '10, 47.2 in '09, 44.8 in '08, 45.5 in '07, 45.0 in '06, 48.8 in '05, 49.3 in '04 and 44.4 in '03. There was 1 day with a high of 70 or above and 7 days with the low of 25 or lower.

The precipitation for May 2012 was above average with 2.19 inches of liquid. This compares with 0.68 inches in '11, 0.25 inches in '10, 0.86 inches in '09, 0.12 inches in '08, 2.50 inches in '07, 0.47 inches in '06, 1.64 inches in '05 and 1.05 inches in '04. There was 9.5 inches of snow in May, with 2.5 inches on the morning of the 15th the last snowfall.

The total snowfall at McCarthy for '11-'12 was 84.6 inches (66.6 in '10-'11, 85.2 in '09-'10, 121.3 in '08-'09, 73.4 in '07-'08, 44.7 in '06-'07, 84.0 in '05-'06, 79.4, in '04-'05, 110.6 in '03-'04, 46.0 in '02-'03, 74.2 in '01-'02, 85.2 in '00-'01, 65.8 in '99-'00 and 38.9 in '98-'99).

The ice on the West Fork of the Kennicott River began to break apart around April 23rd and water was moving over the top. The river was clear of moving ice by May 5th and all the shore ice was gone by May 10th.

The first week of June was a continuation of late May, with highs in the 60's and low 70's. The lows were mostly in the upper 30's. There was about 0.20 inches of rain.

Summer should be in full swing by late June. June and July are the warmest months with the highs usually in the low 80s. The temperature begins to cool in August with highs only getting into the low 70s. The all time high recorded at McCarthy was 88 on July 8, 2009. Freezing temperatures should be back by the end of August, although they can be observed at any time. Average monthly rainfall is about 2 inches (June-August). Hidden Lake should empty sometime in July, with a rapid rise of the water level in the Kennicott River and some possible flooding. The first snow usually arrives sometime in late September.

ENJOY THE SUMMER
WHATEVER THE WEATHER!

Washington Post interviews Jon Jarvis

Reporter Al Kamen recently did an interview with the former superintendent of WRST, Jonathan Jarvis for The Washington Post. Jarvis is now the Director of NPS. We thought you might enjoy excerpts from that interview.

Fill in the blank: People would be surprised to know that I _____.

Am a wood worker and can hand-cut a dovetail joint.

What's your dream job?

I have it: Director of the National Park Service.

What subject, other than your work, do you know the most about?

Fly fishing.

What's the best job you ever had?

Superintendent of Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve in Alaska, the largest park in the system at 13 million acres.

What's one word you wish people would use to describe you?

Fair.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi

Received the May/June issue today 5/15/12. Loved the exciting story of the Avalanche! as well as the "rest of the news." You do a great job!! I sat in my garage (about 93 degrees) and read the whole thing. Keep up the good work!

Wayne

Daytona Beach, Florida

6/18/12

Sheridan, MT

To Whom it may concern:

Please add us to your mailing list. We are longtime visitors to the area, and were married above Kennicott. We look forward to receiving WSEN!

Doug and Ellie Reedy

Hi Bonnie,

Thanks...glad I remembered right. Was so busy reading your newsletter on my "lunch break," I just love it. A lot of these folks I met doing the census in 2010 and then getting to hang out with the locals when I was over there a few weeks ago. This newsletter makes this old transplanted city girl smile.

I sure do appreciate all of the stories.

-Vicki

Copper Center, Alaska



A few more photos from July 4.



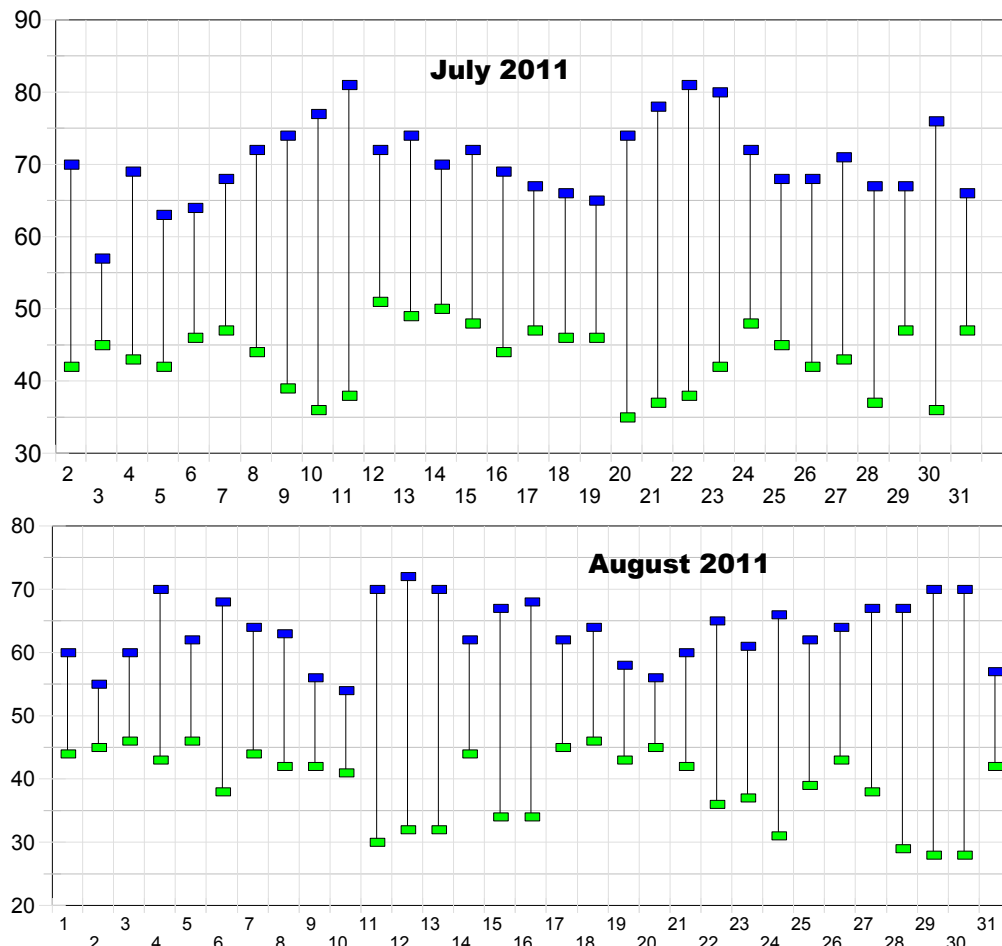
formerly **Wrangell St. Elias News** **B & B**

- ◆ **Private** cabins for 2 to 6.
- ◆ **Convenient** access by automobile.
- ◆ **Historic** homestead setting. Enjoy Alaskan bush living.
- ◆ **Quiet, Peaceful** location away from the crowds!
- ◆ **Private or shared bath**

Phone (907)554-4454 or Email Bonnie.Kenyon@gmail.com

See us on the WEB at <http://www.wsen.net/AspenMeadows/>

Your hosts Rick & Bonnie Kenyon



O taste and see that the Lord is Good!
God loves you — He really does!



Come in anytime and relax in the presence of God.

Sunday services 11am

Inter-denominational—everyone is welcome!

The Church on the Island!

Call 554-4454 <http://wsen.net/mkcc/>