



KAN DAILY NEWS

KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

VOL. 81 NO. 57 (USPS 293-940)

14 PAGES



Kymerly Harrington Boozer, center left, helps her grandmother, Inga Brinck, blow out 10 candles Monday on Brinck's cake celebrating her 100th birthday. The party took place at the Ketchikan Pioneers' Home. Each candle represents a decade of Brinck's life. Also pictured are Fay Schlais, left and Betty Streeper, far right.

Staff photo by Hall Anderson

Pioneer celebrates 100 years

By SCOTT BOWLEN
Daily News Staff Writer

Inga Hanson Brinck turned 100 years of age Monday, and was joined by family and friends in celebrating a century of living in Ketchikan.

The honored guest, she enjoyed the festivities at the Ketchikan Pioneers' Home dining room, which was brightened by sunlight, smiling faces and yellow and pink balloons.

"Thank you," Mrs. Brinck said, after blowing out 10 candles and helping cut the cake.

Her 2-year-old great-granddaughter, Rayna Louise Boozer, was present, as were her daughter, Louise Brinck Harrington, and granddaughter, Kymerly Boozer — four generations spanning 10 decades.

As noted by Ketchikan Gateway Borough Mayor Dave Kiffer, in joining with City of Ketchikan Mayor Bob Weinstein to proclaim Monday as Inga Hanson Brinck Day in Ketchikan, Mrs. Brinck probably is the first person to be born in Ketchikan, reside here, and reach 100 years of age.

"Inga is a living link to the early days of Ketchikan's history," Kiffer said, reading the borough's proclamation at Monday's party.

The proclamations provide some detail about Mrs. Brinck's life to date.

She was born March 9, 1909, in
See 'Cache,' page 2



Inga Brinck, right, is joined by family members for her 100th birthday party at the Ketchikan Pioneers' Home Monday afternoon. Brinck's granddaughter Kymerly Boozer, left, holds her 2-year-old daughter, Rayna Louise Boozer, while Louise Harrington, Boozer's mother and Brinck's daughter, sits in the middle.

Staff photo by Hall Anderson

ANCHORAGE (AP) — A bomb-sniffing dog at Eielson Air Force Base prompted the temporary closure of the Richardson Highway.

Authorities said the highway was closed for more than an hour Sunday afternoon after the dog alerted its handler of a possible problem.

After determining it was a false positive, authorities reopened the highway.

According to officials, the dog detected the false-positive on an outgoing vehicle. As a safety precaution, Alaska State Troopers and North Pole police stopped traffic on the nearby highway. About 50 cars were stuck on the highway until it reopened.

Eielson officials said bomb-sniffing dogs inspect random vehicles going in and out of the base.

Fairbanks targets tardy taxpayers

FAIRBANKS (AP) — The Fairbanks North Star Borough is eyeing the liquor licenses of several bars and restaurants for late payment of property taxes.

The borough proposed resolutions that would formally oppose attempts by the three businesses to renew state-controlled licenses.

The borough said that, altogether, Chili's Grill & Bar, Soapy Smith's Pioneer Restaurant and the Frontier Club owed more than \$60,000 in back taxes, when the bills, associated interest and fines were combined. The Assembly will hold separate public hearings on each resolution Thursday night.

The simultaneous disputes are unrelated, according to Mayor Jim Whitaker. "It has nothing to do with anything other than ensuring that we comply with the letter of the law regarding liquor licenses," he said.

Local governments can protest license renewals for different reasons, including tax violations by the business owner or landlord. The disputes don't necessarily reflect failure to pay on the part of the business.

DEATH NOTICE

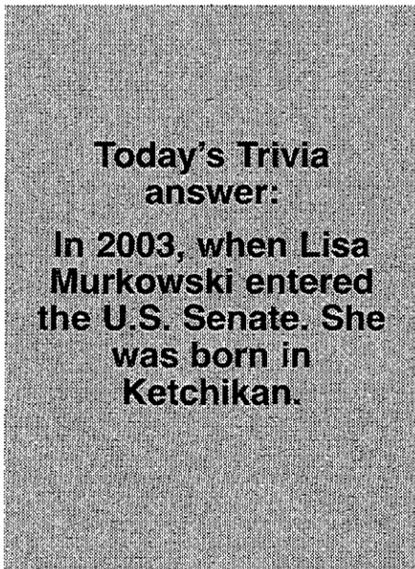
James E. Anderson, 90, died Monday, March 9, 2009, in Ketchikan. A full obituary will follow.

TELECONFERENCE

Legislative teleconferences are scheduled on the following dates at the Legislative Information Office, 50 Front St., Suite 203. The following list is not all-inclusive; check with the LIO for updates. There usually is a time limit on testimony, which is allowed at hearings unless otherwise indicated.

WEDNESDAY

9 a.m.: SB32, Medicaid-home/community based services; and SB13, medical assistance eligibility, by Senate Finance committee.



Cache

Continued from page 1

the rooms above the U.S. Store, a retail business owned by her father, Louis Hanson.

That building at 312 Front St. later housed the Fo'c's'le Bar, and continues to be the oldest commercial building in Ketchikan, according to the proclamations.

When Inga was 4, Mr. Hanson bought tidelands across from St. John's Episcopal Church. He built the Bon Marche building, and moved his family there.

Inga attended Main School in the wood structure that preceded the building that most Ketchikan long-timers now remember as Main School.

After graduating from high school in 1924, she earned a bachelor's degree in business from the University of Washington.

Inga returned to Ketchikan, where she worked at the Bon Marche store and resided in the upper portion of that Mission Street building.

She married George Brinck in 1946. Mr. Brinck owned the Revilla Apartments on Main Street, and man-

aged the Ingersoll Hotel, according to the proclamations.

"All her life in Ketchikan, Inga never lived in a house," according to the borough proclamation. "She always lived in apartments — at the U.S. Store, at the Bon Marche, at the Revilla Apartments, and the at the Louise Apartments on the corner of Grant and Bawden (streets)."

In addition to the Bon Marche, Mrs. Brinck worked for Ketchikan's first television station KATV, and the U.S. Customs Office, according to the proclamations.

She served as grand marshal of Ketchikan's Fourth of July parade in 2008, and has resided at the Ketchikan Pioneers' Home for about 11 years.

On Monday, Mrs. Brinck was presented a corsage of yellow roses by Betty Streeper, president of the Ketchikan Pioneers' Home Resident Council.

"What a wonderful day we have today," Streeper said. "Inga, happy birthday to you."

Mayors Kiffer and Weinstein then

Assembly Member Mike Painter said he would like to know whether the new estimates for the bridges that go over Pennock Island include work that already has been completed.

"They've already spent a considerable amount of money on either of the (Pennock Island) alternatives," Painter said.

The other bridge option that goes over Pennock Island includes a low bridge in the East Channel and a high bridge over the West Channel that is estimated to cost \$304 million.

Assembly Member Todd Phillips said the bridges that cross Pennock Island, while expensive, also offer great economic development opportunity. Phillips said the possibility of paying a toll across those bridges should be explored.

Assistant Borough Manager Cynna Gubatayao said she recommended the Assembly inform DOT to not pursue options that were more expensive than the bridge options that go over Pennock Island.

Only two bridge options were estimated at less than the \$304 million bridge.

One of those bridges would cross Tongass Narrows just north of the Ketchikan International Airport terminal with an estimated cost of \$240 million. The other bridge was estimated to cost \$291 and would cross close to the airport terminal with a navigational clearance of 120 feet.

Borough Mayor Dave Kiffer, who attended Thursday's DOT meeting, said DOT "was curious to know from us if any (alternatives) were dead on arrival."

"Both moveable bridges dead, because of cost," Kiffer said. "I don't like the idea of a float plane (pilot) having to call and ask 'Is it up? Is it down?'"

The moveable bridges were estimated to cost between \$375 million to \$413 million, and a tunnel was estimated at \$417 million. Assembly

like to make sure DOT knew that any significant costs should be paid by the state.

Kiffer said the ferry options included suggestions about shuttles and other improved facilities, but DOT was taking the position that those improved services would be included as part of the ferry rate.

"We really, really need to make sure through this process, or through the Legislature, that these ferries are subsidized by the state," Kiffer said.

Assembly Member Glen Thompson said he would like the Assembly to pick which ferry option it preferred.

"If the best we can do is a ferry option, then we need to decide which ferry option," Thompson said.

The ferry options are estimated to cost between \$16 million and \$84 million in construction costs and have a 20-year life-cycle cost from \$148 million to \$342 million.

The state is seeking public comment until April 6, after which it expects to narrow down the options.

For more information, go to www.gravina-access.com.

Also on Monday, the Assembly provided feedback on an updated borough comprehensive plan.

The borough planning department has been revising the 70-page comprehensive plan document this past year, gaining input from the Planning Commission, Planning Liaison and Economic Development Advisory Committee and the public.

The comprehensive plan is a long-range planning tool to help direct future growth, according to borough information.

Some of the suggestions Assembly members gave Monday were to include a glossary, refine the downtown section, and eliminate the section about a cold-storage business.

Painter said he had a problem encouraging a publicly owned cold storage facility.

"I feel that's a wrong thing to do,"

MEETINGS

"Meetings" is a public service column the Ketchikan Daily News provides for use by individuals and nonprofit organizations to announce meetings that are open to the public. The deadline for copy is 2 p.m. the day before the first day the notice is to be published, with a 2 p.m. Friday deadline for Saturday, Sunday or Monday meetings. Meeting announcements will be published only twice. No guarantee of publication accompanies acceptance of the notice and on occasion the column must be shortened because of limited space.

TUESDAY

Downtown Steering Committee: 8:30 a.m., City Council chambers, 334 Front St.

Senior Services: 10 a.m., movie; noon, pasta with German meatballs lunch; 1:30 p.m., shopping.

Out to Lunch Bunch AA: Noon, St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft.

AI-Anon Family Group: Noon, First United Methodist Church, 400 Main St., upstairs.

Bereavement support group: 5 p.m., Ketchikan General Hospital second floor pastoral care office.

Take Off Pounds Sensibly: 5:30 p.m., Ketchikan General Hospital, cafeteria.

ANB/ANS Camp 14: 6 p.m., 429 Deermount St.

Gateway Center for Human Service: 6:15 p.m., conference room.

Craig AA: 7 p.m., behind C.O.H.O. on Cold Storage Road.

Prince of Wales Island AI-Anon: 7 p.m., Seventh Day Adventist Church, Craig.

Just for Today AA: 8 p.m., 1736 Tongass Ave.

WEDNESDAY

Historic Ketchikan: 7:30 a.m., Annabelle's.

Senior Services: 9 a.m., blood pressure; 10:30 a.m., exercise class; noon, sweet and sour pork with rice lunch; 1:30 p.m., shopping.

Out to Lunch Bunch AA: Noon, St. John's Episcopal Church undercroft.

Greater Ketchikan Chamber of Commerce: Noon, Cape Fox Lodge. Speakers: Kent Miller and William Altman on Alaska SeaRoad.

Kayhi Alumni: 1 p.m., Annabelle's, no-host luncheon.

Ketchikan Lions Club: 6 p.m., The Landing conference room.

North Tongass Community Club: 6 p.m., Community Club, 84 Sunset Drive.

Just for Today AA: 8 p.m., 1736 Tongass Ave.



Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District

Agenda

Regular Meeting, March 11, 2009

6:00 pm

Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly Chambers

A COMMUNITY ORGANIZING EVENT

Ketchikan Wellness Coalition invites the community to join us