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VALDEZ TRAILER EXPLOSION

*UPDATE: For immediate release
05/29/2015 9:00 a.m.*

Valdez, AK – City of Valdez Fire and Police Departments responded Wednesday to an explosion in the Aleutian Village Trailer Court. At approximately 8:30pm Wednesday, City Fire and Police Dispatch received a report of an explosion and smoke coming from a trailer home at Lot 34 of Aleutian Village. City emergency personnel responded immediately and found no active fire upon arrival. Firefighters observed flash damage to the home's bathroom as well as heat damage underneath the trailer. Debris from the bathroom's window was also found in an adjacent vacant lot. Fire Department personnel secured the home's propane tank as a

VALDEZ POLICE AND FIRE REPORT

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the police and fire report from this last week.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do you feel about the School Board trying to move the shortened school day from Friday to Wednesday?

- I think it is a good idea

- I think it is a terrible idea

- I would need more information on this matter

[CLICK HERE](#) to answer this week's Question of

safety precaution. No injuries or damage to neighboring properties were reported.

Upon investigation, Police Department officers found the trailer home's resident, 55 year old Richard Ayotte, had been utilizing liquid butane fuel as a solvent to extract active components from dried marijuana in the form of hash oil. This extraction process is legal under current Alaska state law. During the process, Mr. Ayotte utilized a hot water bath to evaporate the butane fuel from the mixture. Butane vapor is flammable and highly explosive in a confined space and appeared to have ignited causing the explosion. Nineteen mature marijuana plants were also found in Mr. Ayotte's residence. The Palmer District Attorney directed police seize the plants and retain them at the Police Department until further notice. No arrests have been made in the case as of Friday morning.

**VALDEZ SCHOOL BOARD
LOOKING TO MOVE EARLY
OUT DAY FROM FRIDAY TO
WEDNESDAY**

the Week.

RESULTS FROM LAST WEEK'S QUESTION

How do you feel about the recent construction of the new boat harbor near Dock Point?

40% - I am a full supporter of it

32% - I do not support the construction

28% - I support the new harbor but not the location

STAN STEPHENS FEATURE PHOTO



Pictured above: A puffin spotted with its catch during a Stan Stephens Cruise [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the Stan's Stephens

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, June 1st, 2015

at City Council Chambers

Worksession – 5:30

Permanent Fund Managers Report To Council

Regular Meeting –7pm

Items include:

Valdez School District is considering moving the Friday afternoon collaborative time to Wednesday afternoon (collaborative time is scheduled teacher inservice training that occurs weekly). Students would now attend a full day on Friday and partial day on Wednesday, using existing early release schedule currently being used on Fridays.

The School Board will revisit this issue at their regularly scheduled board meeting Monday, June 22. A letter from the School Districts encourages parents to attend this meeting or to contact a board member, your child's building principal, or the superintendent and speak to your concern(s) or support.

Joe Prax – President
jprax@alaska.net

Kathy Todd – Vice President
ktodd@valdezcityschools.org

Dolores Gard – Treasurer
dgard@valdezcityschools.org

Bill Comer – Board Clerk

1. Approval to Purchase a 2015 Caterpillar 450F Backhoe Loader from NC Machinery in the Amount of \$183,517
2. Approval to Purchase a 2015 GMC 3500 Double Cab 4wd Service Truck from Alaska Sales and Service in the Amount of \$48,699.68
3. Approval of Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity Renewal for Valdez Yellow Cab

[CLICK HERE](#) for full agenda

All meetings of City Council and School Board are held in City Council Chambers, broadcast on 1230AM KVAK and streamed LIVE on www.kvakradio.com

ADVANCED BLASTING SERVICES

Advanced Blasting Services would like the general public to be advised of blasting operations in the Valdez Harbor and the Glacier Rock Pit area. Please stay clear of moving equipment, be alert for flagging personnel and listen out for blast warning signals. Blasting will begin Friday, May 29, 2015 between the hours of 7am – 11pm.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Advanced Blasting Service
907- 357-2900

bcomer@ci.valdez.ak.us

Bill Connell – Bd member
bconnell@valdezcitieschools.org

Alan Sorum – Bd member
asorum@valdezcitieschools.org

Darryl Verfaillie – Bd member
dverfaillie@civaldez.ak.us

Jim, Nygaard – Superintendent
jnygaard@valdezcitieschools.org



Pictured above: Josh Hughes with his 123.6 pound halibut caught on May 27th

HALIBUT DERBY OFF TO A GOOD START FOR JOSH

VALDEZ, Alaska – Warm weather and an early Spring have given Valdez charters and boat owners an opportunity to get their boats into the water and get fishing a bit early. Harbormaster Jeremy



RELAY FOR LIFE

6pm Friday, June 5th thru 3pm Saturday, June 6th

at Ruth Pond

This Friday, June 5th for 21 hours more than 100 walkers will go around the clock in the battle against cancer when the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Valdez gets underway.

Teams will gather across from Ruth Pond on June 5th at 6pm, participants will be helping the Society mark a major milestone in the fight against cancer.

During Relay For Life events, participants will camp out overnight and take turns walking or running around a track. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event. Because cancer never sleeps, Relay events take place overnight. The public is encouraged to come out and enjoy good food, fun games, great prizes, and other cool activities sponsored by local teams as they continue to raise money to help fund research and support local services. A small donation is encouraged to participate in the events.

Funds raised at Relay For Life of Valdez help the

Talbott said he has seen a lot of private boaters hitting the waters to set pots for shrimp and has already seen two 75 pound halibut come across the docks. The Halibut Derby began Saturday the 23rd and the leaderboard is dominated by Josh's. Young Josh Hughes of Wasilla Alaska is currently leading the derby with a 123.6 pound halibut he caught May 27th aboard the *Jaime Lynn*. Josh Kramer of Fredricksburg, Texas is currently in 2nd place with a 116.0 pound halibut he caught May 25th and Josh Wendt of North Pole is currently in 3rd place with a 109.4 pound halibut he caught May 23rd aboard the *Aleisha*.

[CLICK HERE](#) for full press release

SAFeway ELECTRICAL FIRE
UPDATE: For immediate release
05/26/2015 5:30 p.m.

Valdez, AK – The City of Valdez Fire Department responded to a report of an electrical fire at Safeway Tuesday afternoon. At approximately 2:09pm, City Fire and Police Dispatch received a report of a strong electrical odor

American Cancer Society get closer to bringing an end to cancer as we know it.

To learn more about Relay For Life, please call [1-800-227-2345](tel:1-800-227-2345) or visit RelayForLife.org.

For updates on Valdez event, LIKE the Facebook page, "Relay For Life of Valdez." You'll find the event schedule at www.kvakradio.com

[CLICK HERE](#) for schedule of events

MOUNTAIN SKY RESTAURANT OPENS FOR DINNER

Located Inside Mountain Sky Hotel

Appetizers * Burgers * Sandwiches * Steaks *
Pasta

JUNE SPECIAL

Free Glass of Beer or Wine With Any Steak

[CLICK HERE](#) to view restaurant menu



Click the graphic above to view the Parks and Recreation page.

HAWK MT. BIKE TRAIL RACE

Saturday, June 6th at the Civic Center

Registration fee is \$10/ person or \$20/ family

in the kitchen area of the Valdez Safeway grocery store. Fire Department personnel responded within minutes and evacuated the store as a precaution.

Responders discovered a small electrical fire in Safeway's baking oven, with light smoke being circulated into the store through the air intake system. Fire department personnel secured electricity to the oven.

No injuries were reported and the store was cleared to reopen at approximately 3:19pm. Electricity to the oven will remain secured until repairs can be made.

**VALDEZ GRADUATE EARNS
BP PRINCIPALS
SCHOLARSHIP**



Kathryn Keeney, a graduating high school senior from Valdez High School is a 2015 BP Principals Scholarship winner. She will receive a \$4,000 scholarship and is among 25 winners of the BP Principals and

The Valdez Race Series is celebrating National Trails Month 2015 with a special hybrid road/trail bike race, hence, the HAWK Mt. Bike Trail Race on Saturday, June 6th, starting at 10AM at the Civic Center. This unique race is designed to be an introductory mountain bike racing event. The trails that will be ridden will be the East and West Dike Mineral Creek trails, which offer a more "beginner" type of trail riding along mostly dirt and rock roads and trails.

For details and online registration, visit the Valdez Parks & Rec website, or the event website at

www.runningguru.com/event/ValdezHAWKbiking.

or call 907-835-2531.

CIVIC CENTER MOVIE SPECIAL
Thursday, June 4th - Sunday, June 7th
at the Civic Center

This weekend at Valdez Civic Center Cinema, along with "Mad Max: Fury Road" it's "Moose The Movie" made by Alaskans, for Alaskans. Chad Carpenter is the cartoonist author of Tundra Comics, published in 650 newspapers around the world. He and his brother Darin Carpenter wrote MOOSE the Movie, and Chad produced it. It was filmed in the Mat-Su Valley, Alaska. MOOSE is a comedy spoof of horror movie. It is set in the fictitious Alaska town of Gangrene Gulch. Two zany park rangers and one lovely coroners' assistant attempt to solve the mystery

Commissioner Scholarship program state wide. Since 1985, BP has awarded more than \$3.5 million to 775 Alaska students who have excelled in academics and community service.

GILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL GIVES THANKS



Rod Morrison - Gilson Middle School would like to thank the community of Valdez for their support of the GMS Community Appreciation Day. For the past many years, Marcie Robertson and her staff at Parks and Recreation have helped coordinate GMS Community Appreciation Day. This year's activities included volunteer work by students, staff and parents at Meyring Park (including installing the soccer goals, bleachers, picnic shelter preparation, raking and general clean up), moving and setting up the picnic tables for the Military Appreciation Day,

of why a moose-type creature has gone on the rampage, targeting humans. This movie is made by Alaskans, in Alaska and starring Alaskans, and is full of belly laughs. It also shows a lot of beautiful Alaskan scenery. It's a nice change from the reality show side of our state that we see too often on TV. For more information visit www.moosethemovie.com.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view flyer

NEW ARRIVAL

Emma Lynn Kinnen came into this world on May 22nd at 6:54am. She was 6lbs. 5.5oz and was 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches long. Her parents are Taylor Davids and Jackson Kinnen.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- June 4 thru June 7 – Civic Center Movie Event
- June 5 thru 6 – Relay for Life Event
- June 6 – HAWK Mountain Bike Trail Race
- June 13 – HAWK Half Marathon
- June 14 – Valdez Labor Day Event
- June 14 – Aladdin Puppet Show
- June 20 – Big Top Circus
- July 4 – Uncle Salmon's Freedom Fun Runs
- July 12 – 21 – Halibut Hullabaloo

Senior Center and dog park brush removal, skate park clean up, Crooked Creek Forest Service preparation work, Valdez Animal Shelter assistance, fire pit clean up and trash duty at Old Town Cemetery, Gold Fields, Dock Point and the dike trail system maintenance.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view full article

GMS TRACK CLOSED FOR MAINTENANCE

The GMS Track and Football field will be closed to all activity from June 1, 2015 until the rubberized track surface is installed. The installation can take between two and four weeks depending on the weather conditions.

For any questions please call the Valdez City Schools at 835-4357.

TRAIL CLOSURE THIS SATURDAY

Valdez Parks & Rec announces a TRAIL CLOSURE for Mineral Creek East & West Dike Trails on Saturday, June 6th. These trails will be closed to public Saturday, June 6th from 9:00AM-12:00PM

July 18 – Kids Pink Salmon Derby

July 18 – Silver Salmon Derby

July 24 – Silver Salmon Big Prize Friday

July 25 – Colors of Cancer Fun Run

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information

August 8 – Women’s Derby

August 28 – Silver Salmon Big Prize Friday



HAPPY BIRTHDAY VALDEZ

June 1 – Sheryl Morton, Tammy Holmes,
Cameron Wilson, Donna Henry

June 2 – Tyson Bryant, Crista Anderson,
Aeinimanr Vigorda, Toni Emerald

June 3 – Carol Bearman, Teresa Marchinek

June 4 – Jennifer Boyer, Kristen Reid, Gene
Thiewes, Kym Torres

June 5 – Ldaeberlinta Holland, Jill Mike

June 6 – Peggy Day

June 7 – Sheldon Mehlberg, Nate Houston, Sara
Wyman

for the Valdez Race Series'
HAWK Mt. Bike Trail Race for our
racers safety. Trails will re-open
immediately following the race for
public use.

Any questions or concerns can be
emailed to Sarah Jorgenson-
Owen at sjowen@ci.valdez.ak.us
or call the Parks & Rec office at
907-835-2531.

PARKS AND REC SUMMER EVENTS

Valdez Parks and Recreation has
scheduled several throughout the
summer months for Valdez to
promote outdoor activity around
the city. With HAWK (Hike
Alaska's Wild Kountry) underway
there is also a mountain bike race
schedule for this Saturday, along
with many others such as the
Freedom Fun run. Registration for
the bike race will be in the Civic
this Saturday starting at 10am.
The race will then promptly start
after at 10:30am.

[CLICK HERE](#) for more information
on Parks and Recreation events



HIGH SCHOOL TRACK AND FIELD

The VHS Track and Field athletes recently participated in their state track meet for the year. The meet overall was a success and VHS had nine athletes compete for the state tournament.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view state results

BLASTING BEGINS FOR HARBOR

Valdez, AK – Blasting operations will commence at the Valdez New Harbor construction site Friday as part of the Phase One Uplands development project.

Blasting will occur daily from May 29th through October 1st between the hours of 7:00am and 11:00pm. Exact blast times will be scheduled to minimize impact to pedestrian and vessel traffic, as well as local business operations and community events.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view full press
release

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