

# The Current



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## Kayhi votes in midterm elections

by **Cheyenne Mathews**  
Editor in Chief

Some Kayhi seniors exercised their right to vote Tuesday, Nov. 4, in the mid-term elections.

Senior Erika Wiberg said she voted because it was a part of turning 18.

"I voted because when I turned 18 it was a new privilege I was given and I want to experience everything I'm able to do... it's our civil duty as the people of the United States to vote because this government is meant for us to control," said Wiberg. "If we don't vote how do we have a say in how our government runs?"

Another senior, Savannah Scanlon, also voted.

"I voted because it was my first time voting and my parents wanted me to see how the voting process works," Scanlon said. "In my opinion voting can be important if you're interested enough in everything that is going on in the elections."

Wiberg said it is important for those age eligible to be able to vote.

"I don't believe seniors are too young to vote. When we turn 18 we step into the "adult world" and should be able to make adult decisions," said Wiberg. "For instance, if our government is willing to have 18 year olds get shipped to Iraq and Afghanistan to fight for our American safety and beliefs, they should be able to have their voice a part of the voting tally."



Ketchikan's annual snowfall is 36.9 inches. The first snow of the season came on November 30.

Gabby Clark

## Gain knowledge, lose daylight

by **Kodi Goodman**  
Staff Writer

There were 818 minutes of daylight on the first day of school. By the time the shortest day of the year comes, we will have lost 328 of those precious daylight minutes. To put that in perspective, you could walk from Kayhi to Totem Bight State Park and back in the amount of time we've lost. Not that you would of course because that would be a waste of time. Waking up in the morning is getting harder due to the sun not shining in our faces telling us to wake up.

"It is harder waking up in the morning," said junior Daniel Stepper, "and I find myself wanting to sleep at 7 p.m. because it's so dark."

The circadian clock is what makes it possible to order behavior with changes in the day to night cycle. Circadian is a

biochemical device that oscillates within 24 hours exactly; it gets restorative signs from the environment, usually sunlight and the dark.

"[The circadian clock] makes it possible for all living things adapt with biology and behavior with seasonal changes," said registered nurse Sherity Kelly. The circadian resets when the environment changes, such as summer to winter, it has the ability to keep track of time externally like from day to night.

All kids handle sleep differently, some will be more affected by the time change than others. Kids need more sleep than teenagers and adults so they are more than likely affected worse when it comes to time changes, their schedule is messed up and some kinds need a while to get use to the new time.

"Some kids function and focus fine with not enough sleep and other kids do

not function or focus well at all if they don't get enough sleep", said Mother of five Sarah Gardiner, "so, it depends on the kid as to how important a sleep pattern is."

After losing an hour in daylight savings time you lose an hour of sleep, the human body thrives on sleep because it restores energy that was lost. When you're young you sleep at least 40% of a day away, the change in time can greatly affect mood in a person.

### By the numbers

**First day of school:**  
**818 minutes of daylight**  
**Shortest day of the year:**  
**December 21**  
**Amount of daylight lost:**  
**328 minutes of daylight**

## Get your sled, it's snow machine season

by **Danyelle Barry**  
Staff Writer

Christmas is coming up soon, do you know what that means? Snowmobiling season is also close. Are you in need of a new sled, or even snowmobiling gear this year? Never been snowmobiling? Ask Santa for a sled and some good quality gear that will keep you warm this Christmas and get out there and have some fun. Here are some opinions on what sleds are best for younger, or less experienced riders;

**The Arctic Cat Sno Pro 500:** Sno Pro 500 is extremely agile, which means its modest power output can teach your young rider handling prowess at relatively low speeds

while giving him/her an exceptional performance feel. The Sno Pro 500 offers a youthful rider the opportunity for hands-on suspension tuning as the sled comes equipped with Cat's AWS 8 front end with Fox Zero Pro shocks and the race slide action rear suspension with adjustable torsion springs plus Fox Zero shocks. The Sno Pro 500 offers exceptional value in a sled that's loaded with performance features. <http://www.snowmobile.com/manufacturers/polaris/top-five-snowmobiles-for-beginners-1497.html>

### Arctic Cat F5 LXR

For a few more bucks, you can provide a true trail sled experience by choosing Arctic Cat's 2012 F5 LXR. This is a tried and true performer and is based on the previous generation Twin Spar chassis. While this sled

won't offer the sport stylings of the Sno Pro 500, it will provide exceptional on-trail value as it comes standard with the same Suzuki-built two-stroke 500cc twin. The added value here is that the engine gets standard electric start. This is a good sled for a new rider who is learning the ropes of snowmobiling because it is built for a comfortable and enjoyable ride. The F5 LXR also offers Arctic Cats adjustable handlebar and seat settings. <http://www.snowmobile.com/manufacturers/polaris/top-five-snowmobiles-for-beginners-1497.html>

### The Yamaha Phazer RTX:

With a similar price tag as the Cat, the 2012 Yamaha Phazer RTX brings a lot of technical sophistication to a young rider for not a lot of money. The key to the lightweight packaging is Yamaha's 80-hp 499 cc four-stroke twin. This

is a technical achievement as the engine revs to about 12,000 RPM to develop its power. For snowmobiling, that means the twin must be geared down to about 8500 revs to work with the variable ratio YVRC clutching. Add into this equation a very smooth 43mm electronic fuel injection system that uses digitized ignition and three-valve intake. The Phazer's Power is smooth and reliable. <http://www.snowmobile.com/manufacturers/polaris/top-five-snowmobiles-for-beginners-1497.html>

### The Ski-Doo Tundra 550F:

The 2012 Tundra is a light-footed snowmobile with a claimed weight of 433-pounds and a 15-inch wide by 137-inch long footprint.

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## Supreme Court Live at Kayhi

by **Connor Bird**  
Staff Writer

Students had the opportunity to watch the judicial system in action Wednesday, Nov. 19, when the Alaska Supreme Court heard an appeal in the Kayhi auditorium.

Students witnessed a conflict between the State of Alaska, and the Tlingit & Haida Indian tribe of Alaska. There were a total of five Justices attending, as well as representatives from the State and Tribe. The representatives were tasked with bringing the facts, and reason to believe the Supreme Court should overrule or retain their decision. Acting as a requirement for all Government classes, all of the senior class attended, along with many other classes and students.

Senior Cassi Adams has plans to attend law school, and said she was very excited for the event.

"It was nice getting detail on how the court system works [with the prep]," said Adams. And afterwards she was satisfied.

"It was nice to see first hand," said Adams. "Its easier to learn as you see it happening than it is in class, where you only read about it."

Judge Steven's law clerk (a representative for the prep) Casandra Wisecaruer said she loved coming to the school.

"I think this is an awesome experience for the students," Wisecaruer said. "When I was in high school [in Michigan], we never had any exposure to this sort of thing."

### About The Case

The Supreme Court was hearing an appeal placed by the State of Alaska's Superior Court. It started with the Tlingit and Haida Indian tribes of Alaska, and their attempt to implement a Child Support procedure or two; they only needed the State of Alaska to enforce it. But once they had made a request for them to do so, the State refused, stating that this sort of matter was out of their jurisdiction. So the Tribe filed a lawsuit against the State of Alaska, where it was heard in the Superior Court of Alaska. The court had ruled in favor of the Tribe, granting them the authority to issue child support orders; and that the State would have to help implement the decisions. The Court didn't like the ruling, and decided to place an appeal within Alaska's Supreme Court; where we saw the case on Wednesday.