

## **Biographical Information**

Sitka has been my hometown for nearly 14 years.

Raised in the small Midwest town of Xenia, Ohio, I earned my nursing degree from Arizona State, then spent 43 years working in emergency departments of critical access hospitals and nursing/hospital administration.

In the winter of 2010, I came here as a travel nurse. Within the first three weeks, I knew I wanted to make Sitka my home. After a year at SEARHC, I transferred to Sitka Community Hospital emergency department as shift manager and co-director in the cardiac rehabilitation program. Now I'm semi-retired, working part-time at the Pioneer Home.

Public service includes:

- Governing Board of Sitka Community Hospital during the time of the SEARHC transfer
- Emergency Planning Committee during the pandemic
- Raven Radio Board of Directors
- Sitka Music Festival Board (current) and volunteer at Sitka Fine Arts Camp

I would love to be your strong voice on the Assembly!

## **Advocacy Statement**

Assembly, city staff, and community members have all been working hard, but the uphill battle continues for some of Sitka's most pressing issues:

**Cruise Ship Tourism.** Great opportunities abound for our city. After the pandemic, visitor numbers grew so rapidly, there wasn't adequate time to plan. We need to catch up so we can share our great town *and* still feel like we own it.

**Haul Out.** As the largest commercial port in Southeast Alaska, we must have a haul-out now.

**School Funding.** We must find a way to consistently fund our schools. Budgets shouldn't be beholden to the last-minute whims of State Legislators.

**Housing and Cost of Living.** A huge uphill battle, it will take many heads to solve this one. Meanwhile, Sitka is losing young families due to the ever-increasing cost of living. I'm in my retirement and chose to make my home on a liveaboard boat. I'm not sure I could afford to stay here otherwise.

One thing I'm hearing consistently on the campaign trail: people feel they are not being listened to. More voices need to be heard on these and other issues, and I encourage you to reach out to me anytime!

I am eager to be a strong voice for the people of Sitka, but to do that, I need to hear from you.

Strengthen our Democracy, vote and participate locally.

Vote on October 1, **Hattle for the Battle! Sitka Assembly 2024**

