



Photo by Nadja Roessek

THERE'S ONE IN EVERY CROWD—Snow buntings on Second Avenue line up to raid a bird feeder. One fellow insists on facing away from the camera.

The Nome Nugget[®]

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VOLUME CXI NO. 8 FEBRUARY 24, 2011



First to Nome

Photo by Nadja Roessek

MCKENNA VAN METER FIRST TO NOME—Marc McKenna (insert) and Dustin Van Meter claimed the half-way prize of \$10,000 in gold as they roared into the Gold Rush City of Nome at 7:41:05 p.m. Tuesday evening on their Ski-Doo MXZX 600cc snowmachines. They were followed by second place team Todd Palin, and Eric Quam at 7:44:22 p.m. and second place half-way prize of \$3,000 in gold. Tyler Huntington and Chris Olds were in at 7:45:20 p.m. for \$2,000 in gold and a winter storm blowing strong behind them on the Iron Dog trail.

Iron Doggers a tight pack

Top talent all in the hunt as race approached Nome

By Tyler Rhodes

Trying to predict the outcome of the Iron Dog before the racers hit its

halfway point in Nome is a bit like riding a rollercoaster blindfolded as it click, click, clicks to the top of that first big climb.

You know it's going to be a hell of an exciting ride with plenty of unknown twists, turns, ups and downs filled with moments of fear and exhilaration. But you're just not sure exactly when and how it's going to end.

With all the different ways a racer can find himself or herself on the scratch list, you're best off just throwing your predictions out the window and enjoying the show that bills itself as the world's longest and toughest snowmachine race. The Iron Dog annually takes teams of

two from Big Lake to Nome before making a U-turn and then heading on to Fairbanks for the finish.

By the time this edition of *The Nome Nugget* hits the streets, the 2,000-mile race will have already roared into Nome. As of press time—in this case, late Monday night—just who would lead that charge into the Gold Rush City to take the half-way \$10,000 prize was unknown.

New to the race this year, Donlin Creek put up the \$10,000 half-way award, and one familiar face to Nomeites was in as good a spot as any racer to try and claim it Monday night. Hometown racer Tre West III

continued on page 16

City and Sitnasuak revise proposal for state office building

By Laurie McNicholas

What is the status of the proposed new state office building?

The question came up during a meeting of the Nome Planning Commission on Feb. 16 as commissioners discussed results of a community survey with Eileen Bechtol of Bechtol Planning and Development. She is helping the city update the Nome Comprehensive Plan.

Bechtol said 156 Nomeites responded to the city's community survey last fall. The survey results she presented to the commission include more than 70 responses to the question: "Do you think it is important to keep essential offices on Front Street, i.e., State Office Building, P.O., Courthouses, etc.?"

Commission Chairman Tom Sparks noted that an access corridor via Steadman Street to the Nome Bypass Road has been discussed in relation to the proposed state office building. The building site proposed by the Alaska Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities is at Sixth Avenue and Steadman Street on land owned by Alaska Gold Co. DOTPF proposed to build a \$40 million, 60,000 square foot building to house Nome offices of state agencies, including those occupying the old, storm-damaged state building standing by the seawall in the flood plain on Front Street.

Bechtol asked about the status of the state office building. Sparks and

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Man found dead on birthday

Dave Wininger was found dead on his 52nd birthday.

Wininger lived at 209 W. D Street. His neighbor, Teddy Cruise, discovered Wininger's body at 12:45 p.m. Friday. Wininger was hunched over the handrail on his front porch. Nome Police and Nome Volunteer Ambulance Service responded during blizzard conditions with temperatures near -3°F. Wininger was taken to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

His body was sent to the Medical Examiner in Anchorage to determine the exact cause of death. His neighbor, Cruise, reported hearing Wininger in the street outside of his home at 3 a.m. yelling and apparently was intoxicated.

Wininger worked at RJ's Auto and was from Indiana. He was born Feb. 18, 1959 and died Feb. 18, 2011. He had no family in Nome, but next of kin have been notified.

Nome Trading burglarized

The Nome Trading Company was broken into sometime between the closing hours of 10:30 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 and 6 a.m. the next morning.

Employees noticed the break-in when they arrived to open the store Monday morning and immediately notified police. Nome Trading Co. is located at the East End of town on Front and N streets.

Sgt. Byron Redburn of the Nome Police Department says the burglar(s) apparently made off with about \$1,500 in cash and no merchandise was reported stolen. Access to the building was through the north door which was hidden by a big trash receptacle and snow drifts. It had snowed heavily the previous day and

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Photo by Nadja Roessek

SURREALISTIC ALIEN PLANET?— View of Bering Sea from behind the Nome Visitor Center last Thursday during blizzard conditions with winds gusting around 35 m.p.h. February has dumped over 15 more inches of snow on Nome than we had last year.

On the Web:

www.nomenugget.net

E-mail:

nugget@nomenugget.com



Letters

Dear Editor,

You and I think alike. Maybe it's because we are from the same era, when the world was not in such a mess. It's always been in a mess, but not like the one it's in now. Anyhow, I wanted you to know how much I enjoy your editorials—short and to the point. They call it as it is. They make sense. Good job, I think, and not just because I agree with you. Thank you for sharing our views with everyone else.

FYI: There is not much you can do about this. It's the problem of the wonderful postal service that we all enjoy and pay for. I am sure my weekly issues go out probably on Friday. I might get them the next week, or maybe in two weeks, maybe even three weeks. What is the real mystery is that they are not in consecutive order. I learned about the final resolve of the school board recall before I learned about the recall election itself. I read about trials before I read about the crimes. It is all very interesting and a good case of mental gymnastics. As said above, there is not much you can do about it, but I thought you might like to know.

Thank you for a grand paper. I am impressed with the writing. It is very complete and thorough. And everything is spelled correctly,

which is more that I can say about our local paper down here. Same goes for the grammar. You have good people working for you. Keep up the good work. Is that little dog with the one tooth that sticks out still with you?

Sincerely,
Sheri Clewis
Rolling Hills Estate, CA 90274-5113

Editor's note: *The Nome Nugget* are taken to the Postal Annex Thursday morning. The little snaggle-toothed terrier, Snoopy, lived 15 good and faithful years. He died this January.

never thought we would see the day come and now, we find ourselves with time on our hands and time to spend fishing and doing other things we love like putting away food.

We have had some meaningful times. If we said it was all fun, we would be lying, but now we look back and there are more things to be thankful for then to regret. Our people, for the most part, have been supportive and thankful for the few good things we have accomplished.

I would ask you to look at Golovin and say, "well look at us now!" Electricity, water and sewer, telephone, internet, computers and cell phones! We embrace them all and are glad we came along in history to be a part of it in small ways. There certainly are things that must be overlooked and forgotten, but that is another story. We have family, friends and lots of loved one who have helped us in many ways—too

many to list, and we hope and wish the best for everyone. We are proud to be a part of the Golovin community!

Proud to say that we are a part of you. We have seen history made in Golovin and watch in wonder as the children, grandchildren and even more generations come and grow in, with and for our village. We have been part of the transition from Territory to Statehood and saw most of the problems and benefits that come—not to mention being some small part of a problem (?) but again that's another story. Our final message is: Be proud of Golovin, be a part of its future—and the only way to do that is be involved with city government, tribal government and, most of all, education. Education is the magic tool for all of us and take advantage of it now and always.

continued on page13

Letters to the editor must be signed and include an address and phone number. Thank yous and political endorsements are considered ads.

Editorial

Captain Zero

Rock-headed stubbornness is just about all we can expect from Gov. Sean Parnell, and what's worse is that we could have to endure this guy for two-and-a-half terms. Heaven forbid we should have such unenlightened leadership. Let's give him a cape and pin a big fat "zero" on his chest. He must think we are all super-healthy and rolling in big bucks. Is he really so out of touch? Not all Alaskans are covered by Indian Health Service. Thousands of us are either underinsured or without insurance because we can't afford it.

When Gov. Parnell was in Nome recently he was very reluctant to discuss the need for health care and did not take time to listen to local concerns. He told *The Nugget* that the Florida judge's ruling was the law of the land and that the health care reform act is unconstitutional and will be decided by the Supreme Court. (It should be noted that lower court judges also ruled that the civil rights laws were unconstitutional). Parnell is holding Alaskans hostage to his intransigence by refusing to apply for federal grants to implement health insurance exchanges. Can we sue the governor for failure to act in our best interest?

Parnell says he is against what he calls one-size-fits-all federal health care mandates. Parnell's stubbornness strips Alaskans naked and leaves us standing in the cold. We should live long enough to see any Parnell plan for health care. Don't count on it. He seems to be telemeditating into the permafrost and thinks the solution to health care reform is to make it easier to enroll in public assistance. How unimpressive. Captain Zero needs a reality check. —N.L.M.—

A Look at the Past



Arthur Bell photo and comments courtesy of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum
ONE OF THE FIRST IRON DOGS – The Auto Sled was invented by W.A. Boice, in Nome, Alaska in 1909. Of course the contraption attracted all the gear-heads down to Front Street.

Illegitimus non carborundum

The Nome Nugget

Alaska's Oldest Newspaper

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Nancy McGuire

Diana Haecker

Nadja Roessek

Amber Ryan

Peggy Fagerstrom

Nikolai Ivanoff

Gloria Karmun

SEND photos to

editor and publisher
nancym@nomenugget.com

staff reporter
diana@nomenugget.com

advertising manager
webmaster/photographer
ads@nomenugget.com

advertising/production
amber@nomenugget.com

photography
pfagerst@gci.net

photography
production
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Weather Statistics					
Sunrise	02/23/11	09:31 a.m.	High Temp	32° 2/17/11	National Weather Service Nome, Alaska (907) 443-2321 1-800-472-0391
	03/02/11	09:07 a.m.	Low Temp	-16° 2/19/11	
Sunset	02/23/11	07:00 p.m.	Peak Wind	44 mph, W, 2/21/11	
	03/02/11	07:22 p.m.	Precip. to Date	2.06"	
			Normal	1.53"	
Seasonal snow fall total (data collected since 7/1/10): 71.8" Current Snow Cover: 47.0" varies with sublimation/melting/blowing of snow.					

Iditarod XXXIX

2011 Iron Dog

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Alaska State News

Compiled by Diana Haecker

U.S. House of Representatives votes on far-reaching spending cuts

Alaska Congressman Don Young voted for a bill that aims to cut government spending and would keep the federal government funded beyond March 4, for the rest of the 2011 fiscal year. The Republican-dominated House voted on spending cuts that affect funding for the health care reform, EPA regulatory functions, the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and Planned Parenthood, among others. The bill allocates \$1.028 trillion in discretionary budget and \$106.5 billion in savings compared to the president's FY 2011 discretionary spending request and \$58.6 billion in savings compared to the current budget. There were 583 amendments to the bill, including two amendments introduced by Young. He proposed to strike language that would have eliminated funding for the Alaska Native Education Equity Act.

Young's other amendment, which also passed, limited funds for the Environmental Appeals Board if they were to negatively impact any permit issued by the EPA for activities on the Arctic Outer Continental Shelf. Other amendments that passed also would cripple the EPA's ability to deny proposed and active mining permits under a section of the Clean Water Act.

An amendment from three Texas Republican Congressmen also passed that defines specifically what greenhouse gases are and prohibits the EPA from imposing regulations on those gasses emitted by a stationary source for seven months. Environmental watchdogs like the Center for Biological Diversity commented on the bill, saying that this bill isn't mere tinkering with policy, but it's carpet-bombing some of the nation's most important environmental laws.

The Public Media Association, an alliance between the Association of Public Television Stations and NPR, expressed deep disappointment with the House. "If this House-passed bill stands, it would endanger hundreds of public radio and television stations that serve as educational, informational and cultural lifelines for millions of people nationwide, and it would be a death sentence for stations serving rural and small-town America," said PMA

president Patrick Butler. "To dismantle a public broadcasting system that 170 million Americans regularly rely on for lifelong learning, in-depth news and public affairs programming, and world-class culture – all for the sake of reducing one year's federal budget deficit by less than three thousandths of one percent – is to recklessly defy the will of the American people, who routinely rank public broadcasting just behind national defense as the best use of taxpayer dollars." KUAC and Alaska Public Radio Network, and PBS would be affected by the spending cuts. The bill now goes before the Democrat-led Senate.



Governor not to implement health care overhaul

In a speech at the Juneau Chamber of Commerce, Governor Sean Parnell informed the public that he wouldn't be applying for federal grants to implement health insurance exchanges in Alaska. He cited a Florida court ruling that called the health care reform unconstitutional and Parnell called it "the law of the land." Parnell said that although he rejects the federal health care reform approach, he would continue to reshape the health care system to fit the unique needs of Alaskans.

According to APRN, two other federal judges have upheld the law, and one in Virginia upheld all of it except the controversial provision requiring citizens to buy health insurance or face penalties. A federal grant of \$1 million would have helped setting up a state-run insurance exchange to give people a tool to compare insurance plans in Alaska. Parnell said he directed the State Division of Insurance to look at ways to develop a health care exchange without using federal money.

Prior to the Friday deadline, seven state Senators delivered a letter to Parnell, urging him to apply for the grant. Senators Hollis French, Johnny Ellis, Dennis Egan, Bettye Davis, Joe

Thomas, Joe Paskvan and Bill Wielechowski signed the letter. They say that Alaska is the only state not to apply for the grant. They reasoned that a state-operated health insurance exchange would connect individuals and small businesses in Alaska with affordable health coverage through tax credits and a competitive marketplace and that the federal money would get a methodical planning process started.

By federal law, Alaska must establish a state-based exchange by 2013 or the federal government will create one for the state.

Begich named chairman of oceans subcommittee

U.S. Sen. Mark Begich is the new chair of the subcommittee on oceans, atmosphere, fisheries and the Coast Guard, which is a committee within the Senate committee on commerce, science and transportation. Begich said it's a key assignment and important for Alaska as the subcommittee is responsible for legislation dealing with oceans, coasts, and climate, including coastal zone management; marine fisheries and mammal management; ocean science, weather forecasting; and overseeing NOAA. The subcommittee is also responsible for overseeing the Coast Guard.

Man arrested after killing, standoff in Scammon Bay

On Sunday night a Scammon Bay man was arrested after a daylong standoff. According to Alaska State Troopers, Mike Simon, 51, is accused of shooting and killing 19-year old Irvin Wilson. The tragedy unfolded when Mike Simon went to the house of his girlfriend. According to troopers, they argued and Simon picked up a gun and shot his girlfriend's son, Irvin Wilson. Simon then forced his girlfriend out of the house and took her to his father's house. There, Simon, the woman and another man were in the house when troopers from Bethel arrived at the scene. Eventually Simon let his hostages go and barricaded himself in the house. Troopers took him into custody on Sunday morning. Simon is charged with murder and kidnapping. ABI took over the investigation regarding the death of Irvin Wilson and the circumstances surrounding the standoff.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

February 24 - March 2, 2011

EVENT	PLACE	TIME
Thursday, February 24		
*Tennis (call ahead please)	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7 a.m. - noon
*School lunch main dish:	Nome Public Schools	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Meatloaf		
*Lunch Laps	Pool	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
*Tennis	Nome Rec Center	noon - 1 p.m.
*NACTEC Swim	Pool	1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
*Labor and Delivery for Teens video	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*The New Mother - Putting it Together	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Wiffleball (grades 3-6)	Nome Rec Center	4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Strength Training with Robin	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
*Kripalu Yoga with Kelly K.	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*City League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*World Dance with Scott	Nome Rec Center	7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
*Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ONLY

Friday, February 25

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7 a.m. - 10 a.m.
*Quiet Time	Kegoayah Library	10 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10 a.m. - noon
*School lunch main dish:	Nome Public Schools	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Zombie		
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	noon - 2 p.m.
*NACTEC Swim	Pool	1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
*CAMP Class	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Soccer (grades 1-9)	Nome Rec Center	2:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
*Soccer (Grades 3-6)	Nome Rec Center	2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Journey Through the Healing Circle video	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Zumba with Elizabeth M.	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
*Youth Climbing (8 & younger)	Nome Rec Center	6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
*Youth Climbing (10 & older)	Nome Rec Center	7 p.m. - 8 p.m.
*Advanced Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do with Dan	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church (rear)	8 p.m.
*Adult Drop in Soccer	Nome Rec Center	8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday, February 26

*UMW Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	noon - 8 p.m.
*Circuit Training	Nome Rec Center	12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
*All About Babies video	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Ear Infections video	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 27

*Water Aerobics	Pool	1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
*The Miracle of Life video	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	2 p.m. - 8 p.m.
*Your Laparascopy video	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Kickbox/Tone with Jennie	Nome Rec Center	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	3:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Water Polo	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Pick-up Women's Basketball	Nome Rec Center	8 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Monday, February 28

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7 a.m. - 10 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10 a.m. - noon
*School lunch main dish:	Nome Public Schools	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Sloppy Joe on a roll		
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	noon - 5 p.m.
*Audiology Class	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Medicaid Class	Prematernal Home	2 p.m.
*Beginning Yoga with Kari	Nome Rec Center	4:15 - 5:15
*Zumba with Elizabeth M.	Nome Rec Center	5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
*City League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Advanced Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do with Dan	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
*Nome Common Council Meeting	Council Chambers	7:30 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church (rear)	8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 1

*Tennis (call ahead please)	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7 a.m. - noon
*School lunch main dish:	Nome Public Schools	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
To be determined		
*Lunch Laps	Pool	11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
*Tennis	Nome Rec Center	noon - 2 p.m.
*NACTEC Swim	Pool	1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	1 p.m. - 4 p.m.
*Denali Kid Care/Medicaid class	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*All About Babies video	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Team Handball Grades 3 - 6	Nome Rec Center	4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Strength Training with Robin	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*City League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Kripalu Yoga with Kelly K.	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
*Kickbox/Tone with Jennie	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*AA Teleconference: 1-800-914-3396	(CODE: 3534534#)	7 p.m.
*Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. ONLY

Wednesday, March 2

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7 a.m. - 10 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10 a.m. - noon
*School lunch main dish:	Nome Public Schools	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
To be determined		
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	noon - 10 p.m.
*Rotary Club	Airport Pizza	noon
*NACTEC Swim	Pool	1 p.m. - 2 p.m.
*Social Services class	Prematernal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Junior High Swim	Pool	2 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Choices in Childbirth video	Prematernal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Gymnastics Grades 3+ with Kelly K.	Nome Rec Center	4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
*Beginning Baton	Nome Rec Center	5 p.m. - 5:30
*Intermediate Baton	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Advanced Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:15 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 8:45 p.m.
*Hello Central (also on Channel 98)	Nome Visitors Center	7:30 p.m.
*Night Owl Yoga with Kelly B.	Nome Rec Center	9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Community points of interest hours of operation:

Carrie McLain Memorial Museum	Front Street	1 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Tu - F)
Additional hours by appointment		
Library Hours	Kegoayah Library	noon - 8 p.m. (M - Th)
		noon - 6 p.m. (F - Sa)
Nome Visitor Center	Front Street	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (M - F)
Northwest Campus Library	Northwest Campus	2 p.m. - 9 p.m. (M - Th)
		1 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Sa)
XYZ Center	Center Street	8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (M - F)



Bering Air

Established in October of 1979

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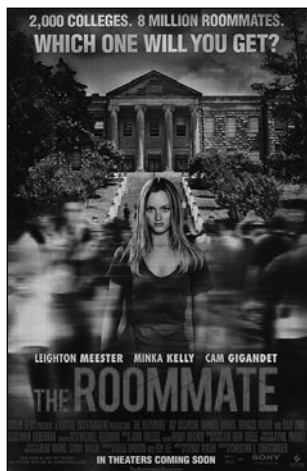
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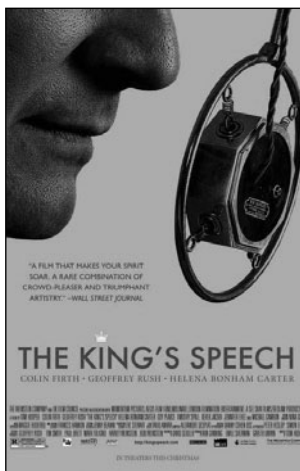


**GOLD COAST CINEMA
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**Starting Friday, February 25
The Roommate (PG-13)
7 p.m.**

**The King's Speech (R)
9:30 p.m.**

**Saturday & Sunday matinee
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• City and Sitnasuak revising proposal for state office building on Front St.

continued from page 1

Commissioners Randy Romenesko and Greg Smith said they don't know. Commissioner Charles Weiss said it is out to bid. Commissioners Jimmy Adams and Jeff Darling did not comment. Commissioner Jerald Brown was not present, nor was City Manager Josie Bahnke.

In March of last year the Nome Common Council approved a resolution endorsing the Steadman Street site and agreeing to vacate a portion of the Sixth Avenue right of way. The action drew protests from downtown property owners and the Nome Chamber of Commerce. During public comments at a council meeting on April 12, speakers said they do not want state offices to leave Front Street, so the council approved a new resolution welcoming the building but asking the state to consider other sites or combinations on or near Front Street. On May 4 the Nome Planning Commission approved a preliminary plat from Alaska Gold Co. for a new state building at the Sixth and Steadman site. The approval of the plat did not mean the commission took a position on the location of the building.

Subsequently the City of Nome sent a letter to the governor's office laying out a plan for a three-story state building on Front Street, as reported by Sandra Medearis in the July 22, 2010 edition of *The Nome Nugget*, pp. 1, 6. Medearis said the letter was sent in response to a call from the Dept. of Administration for letters of interest in providing office space for local offices of state agencies.

"The city's plan possibly provides a way for the state to work around procurement laws that rule out sole-source, non-competitive 'sweetheart' deals, using a loophole in the law that allows noncompetitive deals on a government to government basis," Medearis wrote. "The proposal then clears the way for City of Nome to sign a sole-source, non-competitive contract allowing Sitnasuak [Native Corp.] to build, manage and collect public money in rents from a state building on Sitnasuak's large lot on Front Street. The plan would require Sitnasuak to buy land from two other private landowners, Mark Sackett and Councilman Jim West Jr., for parking spaces.

"The city, in secret meetings with Sitnasuak and landowners, has developed three options, one of which would require vacating Lanes Way and selling it to Sitnasuak," Medearis continued. "The five-page proposal comprises a two-page letter and three design drawings involving

public funds, the discussion of which was not available to the public. Open meeting laws are predicated on allowing the public to witness debate and follow the thinking of their representatives while they arrive at decision involving expenditures of the public money and resources, i.e., sale of a public street...."

Currently the City and Sitnasuak are revising their proposal for a state office building on Front Street. Gov. Sean Parnell recently appointed Marc Luiken as commissioner of DOTPF to replace Leo von Scheben.

On Feb. 14 Mayor Denise Michels reported to the Nome Common Council that she discussed the proposed state office building with Mike Barnhill, deputy commissioner of the Dept. of Administration on Jan. 27 in Juneau. "He was new to the position but had a 30K foot view of the project and asked that we meet with DOTPF and Vern [Jones], procurement specialist for leasing," she wrote. (Michels said she, Councilwoman Josie Stiles and Utility Manager John Handeland met Sitnasuak officials Bill Humphries, chief operating officer, and Janice Dougherty, Nanuaq president in Juneau prior to the meetings.)

Michels also informed the council that Chris Christensen, deputy administrative director of the Alaska Court System told her the General Services Administration will issue a request for proposals in May or June for purchase of the federal building in Nome, which houses the post office and the court. She said the new owner can ask the court to vacate the building or can raise the court's rent (currently \$188,000 per year). "This has pushed the need for a justice center as one of four top priorities for the Courts," Michels wrote.

On Feb. 17 the *Nugget* asked Bahnke for an update on the proposed state office building in a phone interview. Bahnke said the city is working toward a government to government agreement between the city and state that would authorize Sitnasuak to construct a state office building on a vacant lot that Sitnasuak owns next to the Bering Straits Native Corp. building on Front Street.

Bahnke said the city would acquire the state office building by a lease agreement in the form of a lease from Sitnasuak and then lease the building to the state. She said that would meet two goals of the council: (1) They want it on Front Street, and (2) they want it to remain on the tax rolls. "This is how we will make it legitimate," she said. She

said the legal obligation of the City of Nome under the agreement needs to be clarified.

Bahnke said an ordinance is needed for disposing of the property to the state that will involve a first reading followed by a second reading and public hearing. "This has to happen for a true government to government," she noted.

The *Nugget* asked Bahnke if a design concept exists for the building. She said DOTPF prepared a one-page cost estimate for constructing a 26,340 square foot building at \$6.60 per square foot for a total of \$17,384,651 that would accommodate the Nome court, public defender, state troopers and Division of Motor Vehicles, district attorney, office of children's services and adult probation. "Sitnasuak needs to say this is what we can do," Bahnke said. "The mayor says we don't bring it to the governor unless it's open, transparent."

The *Nugget* asked whether Sitnasuak has prepared an architectural design for the project. "That's what's missing," Bahnke replied. "Sitnasuak is talking hiring an architect/engineer." She said Bill Humphries, Sitnasuak's chief executive officer, has been putting together what the state wants to see in a pres-

entation about the proposed project, but he will resign from his position on March 4.

Reached by phone on Feb. 20, Humphries confirmed he is helping to put together a project presentation to submit to the governor's staff or the DOTPF and said he expects to complete it by March 4. Sitnasuak currently is trying to clarify whether DOTPF or the Dept. of Administration is in charge of the project, he added. He referred the *Nugget* to Crystal Andersen Booth, Sitnasuak's board chairman and interim president for additional information.

Booth told the *Nugget* on Feb. 20 that Sitnasuak and the city have a commitment to work together to try to get the state office building on Front Street. She said the presentation Sitnasuak is preparing for approval by the company's board of directors and the state is a concept. If the state commits to the concept, the company will conduct a financial feasibility study for construction of the state office building, present cost figures to the board for review and request its support for the project, she added. Booth said Sitnasuak is advertising for a president to be based in Nome and a chief executive officer for the firm's Anchorage office.

No public hearings held

In May of last year, top officials of Bering Straits Native Corp. criticized the site DOTPF selected for the proposed state office building at the north end of Steadman Street in a letter to then DOTPF Commissioner von Scheben. They called for well-publicized local hearings about the effects of the plan on Nome and the surrounding regions. The letter was published in the May 20, 2010 edition of the *Nugget*.

No public hearings have been held to learn from Nome residents whether they think it is important to keep the state office building on Front Street. The results of the community survey that posed the question reveal mixed opinions among Nomeites, as shown in the accompanying excerpts from the survey report that Bechtol presented to the Planning Commission on Feb. 16. Some of the excerpts also reflect the priority concerns in survey results as a whole—public drunkenness and eyesores such as derelict buildings.

The commission scheduled a meeting for March 8 at 6 p.m. to discuss the need for abatement of abandoned buildings and junked vehicles in Nome.

Nomeites offer views on keeping state office building on Front St.

Editor's note—Following are excerpts from responses by Nomeites to this question in a community survey conducted by the city last fall: "Do you think it is important to keep essential offices on Front Street, i.e., State Office Building, P. O., Courthouses, etc.?"

- In order to keep public service/infrastructure costs down (read construction maintenance, water and sewer maintenance, electrical services, fire and public safety), the city needs to do its best to maintain a compact, walkable community pattern. Otherwise, the city won't be able to sustain itself in a financially responsible manner, and the downtown core will continue to deteriorate and eventually be abandoned to the bars.
- The proposed site for the new State building is a good spot. It's not too far from Front Street that people will still go to the local restaurants, etc. AND the Rec Center usage may go up.

Also, the exorbitant rent rates for unsecured (note Trooper office break-in a year or so ago), under equipped, small office spaces that the State currently uses is a strain on the State's money. We still are part of the State and we need to consider that. A new building would free up some space on Front Street for new/different business opportunities.

- A new building would be a benefit! And the location on 6th and Steadman might help Nome grow! (Opening up that area of town to business/home development too!)
- No driver's license and cannot afford cab fare if they are too spread out.
- It takes all of half an hour to walk across town; not everything needs to be on the same street as the bars.
- I understand the desire for building developers to want to build out of the flood plain, and to have more real estate to work with (off of Front Street), and the costs of renovations; however, a fair portion of our citizens do not have motorized vehicles.

Also, people coming in from the villages do not have

vehicles, and either walk or hire taxi cabs (which can be quite expensive). Many villagers come in to get an ID or a Drivers License from the DMV, as this is the regional hub.

If all of these essential offices begin moving away from Front Street, my fear is there will be empty decaying buildings left behind, ruining Front Street for tourism, which in turn could increase crime and all the issues surrounding abandoned buildings. I do not believe this is in the best interest for Nome's long-term future.

• It's convenient but in no way a death knell to businesses on Front Street. Like State workers are the only ones who eat out. Besides many in Nome are so lazy they will drive two blocks. If they want to eat out they will regardless of where they work. Besides a little extra exercise might alleviate some of the obesity prevalent in our community.

On a side note, City Council sure made us look like we had our act together when we virtually demanded that the State of Alaska abandon plans for a combo-administrative building off of Front Street. Considering it appears as if the State did their due diligence in holding community meetings to seek input, I am sure they are pleased with all their wasted time and money when the citizens of Nome rebelled.

By the way did anyone else find it ironic that most of the City Council discussions regarding the State building were running concurrently with the new flood plain mapping? Thank god we have a mayor that can think on her own and realized how ridiculous Nome looked by warn-

continued on page 14

• NTC broken into

continued from page 1

wind and early morning snow plows obliterated tracks.

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Nome Joint ditches Newton Peak in favor of Banner Peak

LED street lighting planned by Iditarod, fuel delivery in talking stage

By Nancy McGuire

Nome Joint Utilities determined that it is not feasible to put wind generators on Newton Peak; instead they want to redirect their efforts to another site, possibly Banner Peak.

At its Feb. 15 board meeting NJU reviewed discussions with the Alaska Energy Authority and, according to Manager John Handeland, it was determined that additional attempts to monitor wind on Newton Peak should stop. Conditions are too harsh for equipment. The utility documented significant icing conditions on support equipment and there were two unsuccessful attempts to erect monitoring towers. With all these problems in mind, the AEA agreed to let NJU consider installing monitoring towers in the vicinity of the Banner Wind Farm on Banner Peak with the potential of co-locating turbines at that site in the future.

Handeland stated that the presence of an already existing access road and connections to NJU transmission lines are positive factors to consider.

The Banner Wind Farm currently has 18 turbines operating. NJU would consider using 600 KW turbines or 1.5 Megawatt GE turbines. It is projected that the Banner Wind Farm will generate 2 million KW for the NJU system this year.

NJU has hired a consultant to evaluate existing diesel equipment/potential needs, other alternatives for use of wind heat dump loads, etc. The AEA needs this information by mid-April for consideration of the viability of a revised program and potential sizing of wind turbines.

LED lighting

Board chair Berda Willson remarked that the new LED street lighting is quite pleasing to the eye. The new lighting is a result of an NSEDC Community Benefits Share to the tune of \$100,000. Northern Air Cargo provided freight free of charge and Handeland and the board express thanks for the generous freight donation.

The contributions from NAC and NSEDC will allow the replacement of about 70 percent of the street lighting by the beginning of Iditarod. The City of Nome approved an additional \$45,000 to purchase the remaining fixtures. The additional donated shipping has also been agreed courtesy of NAC.

Handeland reported that there will be some change in street lighting patterns in various locations; NJU simply plans to replace the lights in their current location and at a later date

evaluate relocation or additional lighting.

Handeland said the Department of Transportation agreed to the possibility of replacing the DOT operated street lights. However, the lights on streets with higher speed limits can't be replaced because the LEDs aren't bright enough to meet existing highway regulations.

Internet billing

Customers will soon be able to access their bills via the internet. NJU will also be able to check credit history, submit information to the credit bureau, follow customers who skip town, etc. The NJU is also reviewing tariffs relating to customer deposits and changes to the billing cycle. Web access should be available in early April.

Rock Creek circuit damage

NJU reports recent damage to the Rock Creek / Banner Creek circuit along the Center Creek Road. Wind and icing caused bracing on 11 cross-arms to pull loose from the poles. Power was shut off till winds subsided and line crew could perform repairs.

Leaks

There have been problem with water leaks. Where water bubbles to

the surface when the ground is frozen is not always at the location of the leak. Listening devices do not perform well when the surface is frozen solid.

A normal procedure when problem leaks occur is to let the water flow so that it will thaw the ground and make it easier to excavate.

However, a mystery leak has occurred somewhere on N Street between Third and Fourth avenues. Crews from NJU and Public Works have sleuthed out false leads and the water continues to flow and ice continues to build up. NJU is diligently working on a solution. It's not yet been found.

There are two leaks on Sixth Ave. — near the elementary school and the Rec. Center. The leak near the school is excavating to the natural drainage. The leak near the Rec. Center has not broken through the surface yet, but the sinking roadway seems to indicate a problem that might be related to the fire hydrant connection.

EPA

Handeland reported that the EPA Juneau office has submitted NJU's final application package to their Seattle office for a grant to assist with a portion of the Seventh Ave. sewer and Snake River Bridge water line relocation.

Audit

Audit fieldwork from Mikunda-Cottrell is scheduled for April 18.

Meeting time change proposed

Handeland proposed the NJU board consider changing its meeting time to 5:30 p.m. and perhaps a day change to Thursdays.

Fuel pricing, delivery

The Western Alaska Fuel Group has received several proposals in response for 2011 fuel supply and WAFG is continuing to evaluate and secure clarification on various pricing structures.

Before going into executive session, board member Pat Johansen quizzed Handeland about information on NJU going into the fuel delivery business. Handeland stated we still have fuel in our tanks and that would influence the fuel cost in our favor. He said fuel delivery is tabled at the attorney level and Bonanza Fuel wants to make NJU a presentation.

Johansen wants to get the raw numbers on the table to tell us if it is beneficial to be in the fuel delivery business.

Board member Fred Moody said that the current two delivery businesses get together and coordinate the charges and a third party selling fuel would lower the costs. "Our fuel cost at the pump does not make good sense," he said.

Berda Willson commented that, "We represent the general public and the rate payer."

Johansen said, "Let's hear from Scott Henderson (Bonanza Fuel) and listen to his numbers."

Executive session

The board went into executive session to consider negotiation strategies for union labor contracts, the manger's contract, and fuel group proposals. Present at the meeting were Berda Willson, Fred Moody, Pat Johansen and David Barron. Carl Emmons was excused for medical reasons.

Susitna River hydro project creates controversy in downstream communities

By Diana Haecker

While Fairbanks, Anchorage, Palmer and Wasilla residents are excited about the prospect that a large hydro-powered power plant at the Susitna River would give them cheap electricity, residents of the small town of Talkeetna are fearing that the project may wreak havoc with fisheries, the area's hydrology and even threaten the existence of their town.

Talkeetna resident Arthur Mannix said that when the project was discussed in the 1980s, people in Talkeetna protested. Concerns were that a series of large dams, damming a glacial river and located on the Denali fault — a seismic active piece of real estate — would jeopardize the town when a dam failure would occur. A dam failure, they were told, would give the town's residents enough time to say a quick Hail Mary and run for the hills as the water breaking loose from the reservoirs located about 70 miles upriver would flood the low-lying community. Protests took the form of written testimony, tumultuous town hall meetings and even a theater play. The idea to build a major hydro project on the Susitna died back then due to the enormity of the project, its costs and the lack of customers for the produced electricity.

Now things look different with growth forecasted to triple the population living in the Mat-Su valley in a few years and the possibility of mines springing up near the railbelt with the promise of a rail connection to the new deep-water port at Point MacKenzie.

In this legislative session, the 50-year-old idea to dam the Susitna River also surfaced again as the state is under pressure to come up with a means to supply the railbelt region of Alaska with 50 percent of renewable energy needs by the year 2025.

Governor Sean Parnell is actively pushing to make the Susitna Hydro project a reality and submitted a bill to the legislature that would authorize the Alaska Energy Authority to move forward with the project. Parnell said the project must go ahead to create new opportunities for economic development and jobs for Alaskans.

The proposed bill would put AEA in charge to acquire, construct, own and operate new power projects. It

also proposes to end the existing Railbelt Energy Fund and to create a new Railbelt Energy Fund that would be controlled by AEA.

The governor's bill, SB 42, is currently the Senate and will hear expert testimony and would give AEA sweeping authority to go ahead with environmental and feasibility studies and to seek preliminary approvals for the Su Dam project from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

In the governor's proposed budget, he wants to fund the Susitna Hydro project with \$65.7 million for planning, design and permitting.

The Su hydro project, as currently proposed, would dam the Susitna River at Watana. The dam would be more than 700 feet high, 2,700 feet in length and would create a 39-mile long reservoir. The dam would feed a powerhouse capable to handle the 600-megawatt output, and power lines would deliver the electricity via the large power Intertie to Fairbanks and all the way down to Anchorage and beyond. In a preliminary decision document published by AEA, the price tag of the project would run about \$4.5 billion. The lifespan of the hydro project is estimated to be 50 to 100 years.

Karsten Rodvik, spokesman for AEA said that there is a great need for cost effective, reliable energy for the railbelt. When asked why Alaska considers building a significant hydro project and dam, when in the rest of the lower 48 states dams are taken down and dismantled, Rodvik said, "The ultimate goal is the establishment of long term, reliable, sustainable, affordable power on the railbelt. The alternatives are coal or gas."

As the legislature is debating the proposed bills relating to the large hydro project, AEA is planning to study the impacts of the project on king salmon and grayling populations.

Brian Sullivan, a resident of Palmer, recently visited Talkeetna while on the campaign trail for his bid to become mayor of the Mat-Su Borough. When he casually mentioned what people thought of the Susitna project, he got an earful, relating to the potential dangers. Sullivan said the prospect of cheap, reliable power was a good enough argument. He said, until he heard Talkeetna residents voice their con-

cerns, he, like many residents of the lower Matanuska-Susitna valley, never thought of the potential to

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Alaska Airlines pulls away from Iditarod Trail Committee, channels support to mushers

By Diana Haecker

For 32 years Alaska Airlines has supported the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race by being one of the official airlines partner, but this year, the airline chose to support the sport of mushing in a different way.

Instead of providing cash and in-kind contributions and being the presenter of the most coveted award, the Leonard Seppala Humanitarian Award, Alaska Airlines now channels its support directly to mushers.

According to Bobbie Egan, spokeswoman with Alaska Airlines, each finisher will receive a roundtrip ticket anywhere Alaska Airlines flies, each finisher and their dog teams, gear and sleds get a steep discount of 75 percent to be flown from Nome to Anchorage. And each finisher gets a special-made commemorative medallion from Alaska Airlines. "This, by far exceeds our prior support and it directly helps those on the forefront, the mushers," said Egan. "We are absolutely committed to dog mushing."

Asked the reasons why Alaska Airlines discontinued the sponsorship of the ITC organization, Egan said, "We believe this new sponsorship program expands our support of the Iditarod and most directly helps those at the forefront of the Last Great Race."

According to Iditarod executive director Stan Hooley, Alaska Airlines in the past supported the ITC with \$15,000 in cash and roughly \$45,000 in air travel for race veterinarians, officials, personnel and volunteers as well as freight. Hooley said that the ITC very much appreciated Alaska Airlines' support corporately as well as from its employees and the level of service they provided over the last 32 years. "We are sad that the relationship has ended for now," Hooley said. "I say 'for now.' Hopefully we have the opportunity to carve out another relationship in the future. We wanted to have Alaska Airlines grow with us." Hooley said that he is thrilled that Alaska Airlines chose to support the mushers.

The Iditarod made national headlines last week when the animal rights group People for Ethical Treatment of Animals spoiled an \$85,000

deal between the ITC and the Transportation Security Administration. In order to boost their recruitment efforts in Alaska, TSA signed on as a "lead dog" partner with the Iditarod, but PETA inundated the federal agency with protests. TSA panicked and tried to cancel the agreement that was signed in November 2010. Hooley said that the ITC learned of the issue when a *Washington Post* reporter called last week for a comment and only later did the ITC confirm with TSA that they indeed wanted out of the deal. But, Hooley said, that's not going to happen. "Our position is that they [TSA] have a binding financial obligation and they're going to have to meet that obligation whether or not they use the opportunities that came with it," said Hooley.

In response, Senators Mark Begich and Lisa Murkowski came to the Iditarod's defense and sent out letters to the head of TSA John Pistole. "It is outrageous the TSA would act on one complaint from a group with virtually no understanding of the Last Great Race on Earth," Begich wrote. He urged Pistole to contact real experts like Lance Mackey or DeeDee Jonrowe "to understand how sled dogs are trained and nurtured." Sen. Murkowski wrote in a letter to Pistole, "Despite what PETA says, the Iditarod is a race for animal lovers." She urged him to reconsider, as the Iditarod would represent a great opportunity for TSA recruitment to help overcome staffing challenges faced in Alaska.

But there are also positive developments to report, said Iditarod spokesman Chas St. George. Eagle Pack signed on as the official dog food sponsor and Donlin Creek LLC, a joint-venture between Barrick Gold and NovaGold Resources Inc. — the latter also owns the now idle Rock Creek mine in Nome — have signed on as a principal partner. Donlin Creek LLC plans to build a large gold mine on the upper Kuskokwim River and in order to supply the power a large mine would need, they propose to build a natural gas line from Cook Inlet up to the mine site. The gas line, if built as planned, would bisect a stretch of the Iditarod

trail across the Alaska Range.

St. George said the sponsorship is a natural, because it reflects a historical relationship between mining and mushing.

The Iditarod's principal sponsors for 2011 are Anchorage Chrysler Dodge Jeep, Donlin Creek LLC, Exxon Mobil and GCI.

KTUU, Channel 2 News won't be in the finish chute this year. While

KTUU has broadcast live from 2007 through 2010 from the finish line in Nome, St. George said, "We just simply couldn't come to an agreement. We looked at expanding our relationship with KTUU but is just didn't work out."

Instead, GCI, the official communications partner, is now also the broadcast partner and will transmit live on the GCI cable channel the

start, restart and finish of the last great race. The video will also be streamed live online on the Iditarod Insider, which is exclusive to paying subscribers.

St. George said that the GCI expansion is a "big deal" for the Iditarod and that the ITC puts emphasis on outreach efforts with rural communities along the trail this year.



Photo by Nadja Roessek

NOME PRE-SCHOOL AUCTION— Krystal Wongittilin with Kailey, 2, bid on a knitted plastic bag holder at the Nome Pre-school Auction Saturday evening.

• Susitna River hydro project

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damage salmon runs, the possibility of a dam failure and neither did he know about the fault zone or the problems silt could pose in the maintenance of the dam.

In Talkeetna, people are digging through their files collected from 1980 to get ready for a public meeting that is scheduled for February 28.

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Nome science students take part in Arctic research

Courtesy of Todd Hindman, Anvil City Science Academy

On a weekly basis, students at Anvil City Science Academy prepare themselves for winter weather, no matter what the conditions may bring. In a hallway strewn with winter gear, 22 students eagerly bundle up in snow pants, boots, hats, coats and gloves, as their science teacher Todd Hindman gathers the equipment they will need to achieve their goal. So what are they up to? Are they finding a good sled run, or perhaps working on a class project? Actually, it is a little of both.

Eight years ago, students at ACSA began working on a science research project entitled the ALISON Project. The ALISON (Alaska Lake Ice and Snow Observatory Network) Project is composed of a number of schools throughout Alaska in which students and teachers gain experience and knowledge in collecting scientific data to better understand the effect of fresh water lakes and ponds on Alaska's changing climate.

At the core of the project is Dr. Martin Jefferies, currently acting as the Program Officer and Arctic Science Advisor for the Office of Naval Research in Washington D.C. A decade ago, after his experience working with a classroom teacher from the lower 48 in the National Science Foundation's Teachers Experiencing Antarctica and the Arctic, Jefferies began contemplating how to engage classroom teachers and their students in polar science. He began talking with teachers like Todd Hindman to see if his idea was feasible. "Martin began to talk with me back in 2001 after I had the opportunity to participate in the TEA program. I indicated I was eager to get my students involved in a real-life scientific study." Soon thereafter, Dr. Jefferies began to create a network of teachers and students throughout the state to expand the work he had done previously in his research at the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. He concluded, "ALISON teachers and students could be our scientific partners. They could be scientists and do what many scientists enjoy — making measurements, generating scientifically useful data and learning about the environment they live in."

To set up each study site, Dr. Jeffries then began to make his way around the state, including a stop in Nome. "I will probably always remember my first visit to Nome to help set up the ALISON site in late November 2002. The weather was miserable — it was raining, the wind was blowing and the snow on the ice was quickly turning to slush and worse — but five damp people finished the task. I was very pleased to sit down afterwards and enjoy an extra hot café latte at the coffee shop on Front Street."

Now, during each fall in Nome, preparations for the study begin as soon as a sufficient thickness of ice, 10 to 15 centimeters, has developed on a pond near ACSA. This year in late November, after eliciting the help of parents and students to set up the study site for the year, Todd Hindman and parent volunteer Andrew Merrill spent a small part of a sunny, cold afternoon to set up the 100-meter long transect. The transect, composed of 21 trail stakes set apart at five meter intervals, includes an ingenious device called a TWIT, or Thermal Wire Ice Thickness gauge, to measure the thickness of the ice without the need to cut through the ice with an auger. With the study site set up, students were ready to begin collection of their weekly data.

Using relatively simple science equipment and sampling techniques, students measure the depth of the snow at each trail marker, as well as the temperature at the surface of the ice below the snow pack. At each end of the transect, students measure the temperature at the surface of the snow pack. They also collect three snow samples at even intervals along the transect to determine the density of the snow. After these measurements are taken and the thickness of the ice is determined, the data is put into a spreadsheet. The spreadsheet determines the temperature gradient, or difference in the temperature between the water, ice, and air, as well as the rate of heat flow, or thermal conductivity, through the snow. Each plays

a role in the amount of energy that is released to the atmosphere as the ice continues to thicken over the winter.

At the university level, Dr. Jeffries hopes that the data collected by students will help him and other researchers understand the role fresh water ponds and lakes have on the climate of Alaska as they freeze over the winter, through the development and testing of computer models. He also wants the program to lead to further collaboration between teachers, who tend to be isolated in their work. Todd Hindman agrees that collaboration is an important part of the program and states, "The ALISON Project has given me the opportunity to work with teachers throughout the state to create a unique opportunity for my students they would not have gotten otherwise."

At the school level, Mr. Hindman believes that the experience has given the students a better understanding of how energy is transferred throughout the environment, while acknowledging that not all students may be able to completely understand the concepts. "Having a fifth of sixth grader understand the relationship between a temperature gradient and thermal conductivity is not my goal. My goal is to give the students the opportunity to be involved in an actual scientific study, get them out of the classroom and into the real world, and have a little fun at the same time." Mr. Hindman adds, "With that said, students complete lab investigations every other year in a effort to reinforce the science behind the study and by the time they complete the eighth grade they can provide a good explanation of the project."

Early on, about 14 schools joined the network and began collecting data on Alaska's ice and snow. Nine years later, there remains a group of seven dedicated schools and their teachers who continue to engage students in the collection of ice and snow data for his research, despite the fact that funding for the program

lapsed two years ago. Dr. Jeffries is pleased to see that schools continue to participate and reflects on their participation. "Since November 2002, Hindman's enthusiasm for ALISON and its value for his students mean that the Anvil City Science Academy contribution to ALISON has gone from strength to strength. They are now at the beginning of

their ninth winter of measurements and on their way to creating a valuable long-term data set." He is satisfied not only with the scientific data that has been collected but by the effect it has had on students and classroom teachers alike.

"Our experience at Nome and elsewhere in the ALISON network shows that, with appropriate training,

guidance and support, K-12 students can make accurate measurements and be good scientists." He adds, "ALISON students and teachers are learning science by doing science in their own backyard, where they are making measurements of familiar and abundant materials — snow and ice."

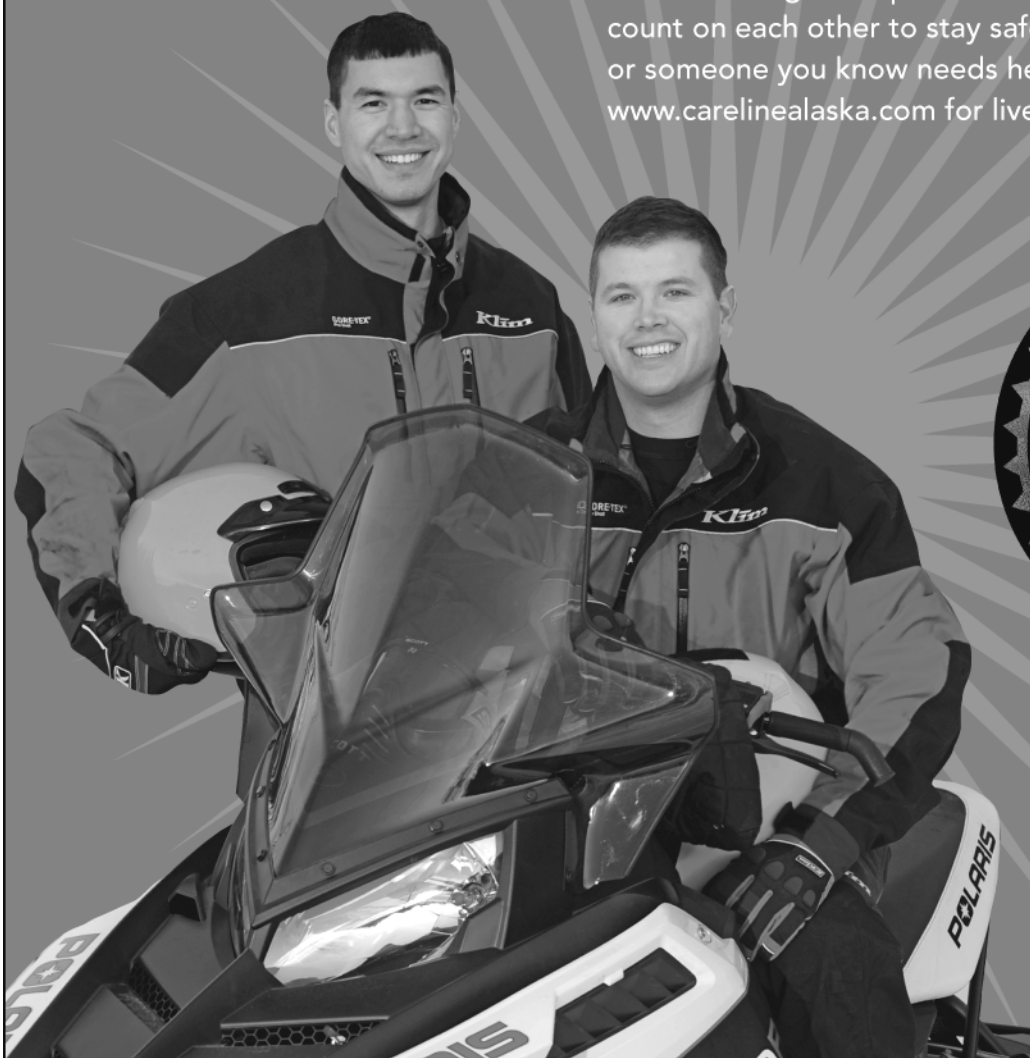


Photo Courtesy of Todd Hindman

RECORDING DATA—Anvil City Science Academy student Kevynn Cox records data collected by fellow students.

Life Is A Team Effort!

2010 Iron Dog Champions Chris Olds and Tyler Huntington count on each other to stay safe. You are not alone. If you or someone you know needs help, call Careline or visit www.carelinealaska.com for live online help.



Statewide Suicide Prevention Council

www.hss.state.ak.us/suicideprevention

The TRUST

The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority

www.mhtrust.org

2010 Iron Dog Champions Chris Olds and Tyler Huntington



Photo by Tyler Rhodes

ROCKING—Singer/songwriter Tim Easton (right) plays an energetic number with drummer Kliff Hopson at a concert Feb. 11 at Nome Elementary School.

Two-man band rocks Nome

Tim Easton, Kliff Hopson bring unique sound to town

With a bit of a rasp to his voice and performances that could jump from searing to soothing, singer/songwriter Tim Easton ventured from southern California to bring a little warmth to Nome last weekend.

Brought to town by the Nome Arts Council, Easton and Fairbanks drummer Kliff Hopson performed an evening show at Nome Elementary School Friday night and delivered a late-night concert at the Board of Trade Saloon Saturday. Hopson and Easton also dropped in to perform for and talk music with fifth and sixth graders at the elementary school on Friday and hosted a set of workshops for Nome musicians over the weekend.

Easton is no stranger to Alaska, but was making his first visit to Nome. Hopson is a familiar face

around town after traveling to Nome last winter to play for the One Voice event featuring Nome divas Sarah Hanson, Bridie Trainor, Anahma Saito and Laura Davis. Members of the Nome Arts Council took notice of Easton at the Alaska Folk Festival in Juneau last year and started hatching a plan to bring him to town.

The shows in Nome did not disappoint. When together Easton and Hopson put on shows that sound as if an entire five-piece band were on stage rocking away. Easton can drive a bass line from the lower strings of his guitar while finger picking melodic runs and rollicking solos. Watching Easton's every move, Hopson compliments some songs with light brushwork on his drum set, and then shares the driver's seat on others as he hammers his kit through crescendos and solos.

Easton delivered a variety of songs, nearly all original works. Much of his performance was well rooted in the blues, but he twisted and turned the genre to make it his own. Some songs were unabashedly pop in style, but delivered so earnestly and energetically you couldn't help but enjoy the ride.

Even though he was far from home, performing in a strange town that was reeling from its first blast of -25°F weather, Nome audiences had to believe Easton was enjoying the ride too as he repeated the refrain "I'm not in a bad mood, I'm just in Los Angeles," from his song "North-Bound." Worlds away from Los Angeles, the Nome audiences could only smile along and dance as Easton ran through the refrain one more time.



Photo by Emily Priest

ALL SMILES — Denin Prentice from Koyuk tries out his skis for the first time. Every student K-4 gets their own set of skis.

Best selling children's author visits Nome schools

Submitted by
Nome Literacy Council

This past weekend, Nome was proud to welcome author Brandon Mull. Brandon Mull is the author of *The New York Times* bestselling Fablehaven series and *The Candy Shop War*, as well as other titles for a wide range of reading ages.

In addition to his writing, Mull travels the country visiting schools and talking with students about his message, "Imagination can take you places." Mull gave a total of four presentations to students at the Nome Elementary School, Nome Beltz Jr. High, and the Anvil City Science Academy. Mull joined the 56ers for a special lunch for those students who had read the first of his Fablehaven series. These presentations focused on writing, creativity, imagination, and encouraging children to persevere in following their dreams. Fourth grader Christopher Gandia said, "I liked how he helped us use our imagination." During Mull's presentation, he called students out of the crowd to help demonstrate creativity. Courtney Merchant said, "He told us to use our imagination." The students then played an Imagination

Game with Mull to see how easy it is to create a story.

Mull's past stints as comedian and world traveler were evident in his humorous and vivid delivery, which proved a big hit with the students.

Mull also showed students how his books got published. Ethan Ahkvaluk said, "He showed us part of his book where he typed and people fixed his mistakes." Mull showed the students how his editors make changes and corrections to his books before they are published, and encouraged them to learn from the comments that teachers give to them on their own writing assignments.

Gabrielle Mostellor commented after Mull's visit that she liked when he told the students how to become an author. The students weren't the only people in Nome that Mull talked with about becoming a writer. Mull also met with Nome Arts Council members, and discussed the publishing process.

The Nome Arts Council, along with the Nome Literacy Council and the PTSA were involved in bringing Mull to Nome. Literacy Council members Joy Hewitt and Marsha Sloan wrote a

Teen Literacy Mini-Grant that was funded by the Alaska State Literacy Council. The Arts Council and PTSA helped pick up the additional costs of Mull's visit. Arrangements and all event planning were done by Marguerite La Riviere, director of the Kegoayah Kozga Public Library, in cooperation with the public school libraries of the Mat-Su Valley.

In addition to his visits to the school, Mull took a dog sled ride, a snowmachine ride to view musk ox, and enjoyed a "taste of Nome" potluck, that included fry bread, salmon, reindeer, muktuk and sura, as well as Nome's favorite – Blueberry Delight – hosted by Nancy and Johnny Bahnke. "He came to my house for dinner, and he was nice," said Brayden Bahnke of Mull's visit. "I liked that he read his 'Humpty Dumpty' story to us out loud." Mull did a special reading at the Potluck for the children in attendance.

Mull was interested in the stories

and legends of the Bering Strait region. Mull mentioned that he is always incorporating things from his own life into his stories, and told the students that they live in a rich com-

munity, full of opportunities to incorporate their life experiences into their own stories. It will be interesting to see if any of Mull's Nome experiences show up in a future book.



Photo by Nadja Roessek

POPULAR—Pupils request Brandon Mull's autograph.

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Photo by Peggy Fagerstrom

TWO SENIOR LADY NANOOKS SAY GOODBYE — Lady Nanooks Liz Luce with dad Rob and Peggy Luce and Renee Lammer with mom Mari and dad Fred were presented with flowers before their last home basketball game. Both girls provided Nome with excellent basketball entertainment for the past 4 years and will be missed sorely in the coming year.

LADY NANOOKS

The Nome Lady Nanooks hosted the Chevak Comets over the weekend. The Nome Lady Nanooks also honored Nome Seniors Renee Lammer and Elizabeth Luce who were both playing in the last home games of their NBHS basketball

careers. Nome won both games and the individual game results are listed below. Nome's season record improved to 13-8 with the victories. Nome will next face Alaska's #4 ranked 3A girls team, the Kotzebue Huskies, this weekend at Kotzebue.



Photo by Peggy Fagerstrom

ALL RIGHT LIZ!—Lady Nanook Liz Luce puts up a good defense as Chevak Comet's Karla Agimuk goes up for a bucket. Nome went on to win both Friday and Saturday night's games. Comet's Kristin Ulroan and Laverna Paniyak stand by to assist.



Photo by Peggy Fagerstrom

UP FOR A REBOUND—The Nome-Beltz JV team took on the Chevak Comets varsity team at the Nome-Beltz gym this past weekend. Here, Nanook John Trigg goes up against a Chevak Comet for a rebound as Jens Irelan comes in to assist. Both teams won a game to split the series.



LADY NANOOKS 60 CHEVAK 22

NBHS 12-23-16-9 = 60
CHS 2-8-6-6 = 22

Lammer 15, Luce 8, Gartung 8, Dy. Johnson 10, Pomeranz 6, De. Johnson 9, Horner 2, S. Johnson 2

LADY NANOOKS 73 CHEVAK 20

NBHS 21-19-21-12 = 73
CHS 5-6-6-3 = 20

Lammer 17, Luce 17, Stiles 6, Gartung 2, Mattheis 7, Pomeranz 6, De. Johnson 14, Horner 4

LADY NANOOKS SEASON RESULTS (13-8)

Galena def. Nome
Galena def. Nome
Nome def. Eielson
Nome def. ACS
Barrow def. Nome
Point Hope def. Nome
Bethel def. Nome
Nome def. Houston
Nome def. Valdez
Nome def. Valdez
Nome 58 Hooper Bay 10
Nome 67 Hooper Bay 29
Nome 58 Scammon Bay 30
Juneau 86 Nome 42
Chugiak 44 Nome 25
Nome 38 South 37
ACS def. Nome
Nome 52 Unalakleet 46
Nome 42 Unalakleet 31
Nome 73 Chevak 22
Nome 60 Chevak 22

NEXT HOME EVENT

The Nome Boys basketball team will play their final home games of the 2010-11 season this Friday and Saturday against Kotzebue.

FRIDAY 2/25

4:00 PM Jv Girls vs Kotzebue JV
5:30 PM JV Boys vs Kotzebue JV
8:00 PM Boys Varsity vs Kotzebue (SENIOR NIGHT CEREMONY)

SATURDAY 2/26

3:00 PM JV Girls vs Kotzebue
4:30 PM JV Boys vs Kotzebue
7:15 PM Nome Boys Varsity vs Kotzebue

NANOOKS ON THE ROAD

Nome Lady Nanooks at Kotzebue, Feb 25 & 26
Nome Junior High Basketball at NW Arctic Tournament, Feb 25 & 26
Western Conference Tournament at Hooper Bay, March 2-5

Photo left:

Photo by Peggy Fagerstrom

NOME-BELTZ CHEERLEADERS —These five young ladies have done a great job in 'pumping' up the crowd with their peppy yells and routines. Back from left are Diana Handeland and Mackenzie Hall. Front from left are Kenna-Sue Contreras, Gwen Trigg-Komakhuk and Elizabeth Herzner. These lovely girls are coached by Dana Sherman and Jackie Reader.



2011 Subsistence Crab Permit-Calendar

A reminder to all subsistence crab fishermen that a Norton Sound subsistence crab permit-calendar is required when crabbing in waters from Cape Romanzof to 66 N latitude (south of Shishmaref).

Permits are free and available by calling 1-800-560-2271, or can be picked up at Fish & Game in Nome.

A sport fish license may be used to crab, but a catch permit-calendar is still required. Sport fishermen are limited to 6 male crabs a day that are 4^{3/4} inches or more at carapace (shell).

There is no catch or size limit for subsistence fishermen and female crabs may also be kept.

No cash sales of crab are allowed, but subsistence caught crabs may be bartered.

Winter permits are valid from December 1 - May 31.

Please have your Alaska I.D. number when calling.

Marine Advisory specialist floats idea for fishermen training program

By Doug Schneider
Alaska Sea Grant Program

Fishermen in Alaska represent the state's largest group of small business owners. But there is some graying going on—the median age of Alaska's commercial fishermen is now close to 50.

Add to that the flight of limited entry permits from coastal residents to people outside the region and even outside the state, and the general consolidation of the state's pollock, crab and salmon fishing fleets that has occurred in recent years, and people like Glenn Haight begin to think there might be fewer fishing jobs for people in Alaska's coastal communities in the future. Haight is a fisheries business specialist with the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program.

"Yet, the jobs that remain have become more valuable and profitable for fishermen," said Haight.

But who will get those better paying jobs? Haight said it likely would be the people best prepared to do them. To help Alaska coastal communities prepare their residents for the fishing jobs of the future, the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program is floating the idea of a professional fisherman's training program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

"It might be that a formal occupational endorsement program can help fishermen succeed in a rapidly changing global economy," said Haight. "But we'd like to know what fishermen, coastal residents and others involved in the industry have to say about it."

To find out what fishermen and coastal residents think of a training program for fishermen, the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program has put together an online survey. Take the online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CommercialFishingTrainingProgram>

"Basically we're asking whether a university training program is needed, and if so what should be in it, and would such a program actu-

ally improve the chances of a young person getting a position as a crew member?" Haight said.

Traditionally, fishing skills have been learned on the job, often from family members passing down their knowledge to the next generation. Currently, there is no formal training program in Alaska that supports the professional development of fisher-

men. A training program for fishermen might look similar to the occupational training for carpenters, electricians, aircraft mechanics, nurses, health aides and other job training programs now run by the University of Alaska.

"Such a program could be tailored for the individual," Haight said. "For an individual with no experi-

ence, it might have an apprenticeship element, where students would work alongside veteran fishermen. For someone with experience, it might focus more attention on advanced mechanics or engine repair, for example."

To learn more, go online to

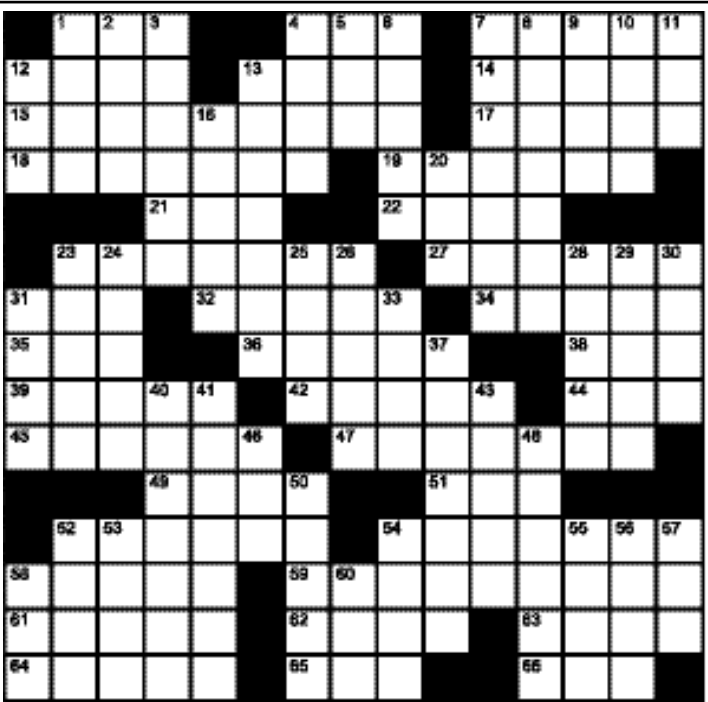
www.marineadvisory.org or contact Glenn Haight, fishing business specialist, Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program, Juneau, Alaska 907-796-6046; glenn.haight@alaska.edu

For news anytime, find us Online at www.nomenugget.net



Bering Strait School District 2011 Activity Calendar

- Feb 28 – March 4**
State Battle of the Books (Grades 3 – 12)*
Video Teleconference
- March 3**
State Spelling Bee*
Anchorage
- March 3 – 5**
Great Northwest Conference Boys & Girls 2A Basketball Tournament*
NWABSD

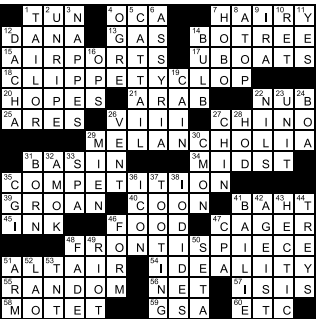


- Across**

 - "Silent Night" adjective
 - Clobber
 - Six-Day War hero
 - Grimace
 - Assistant
 - Accustom
 - Ocean breeding area of bivalve mollusks
 - Hotel employee
 - Any plant used as a flavoring
 - Flowering shrub
 - "... ____ he drove out of sight"
 - Easter flower
 - Different
 - Go at it
 - Good, in the 'hood
 - Clear, as a disk
 - Character
 - "A Nightmare on ____ Street"
 - Buss
 - ____ gestae
 - Exotic jelly flavor
 - Overthrow, e.g.
 - "It's no ____!"
 - Older person
 - Residential districts near outskirts of city
 - Ancient alphabetic character
 - "... ____ moment"
 - Capital of Iraq
 - Near
 - Newsoman Shriver
 - Salutation of farewell
 - Without sight
 - Times to call, in classifieds
 - Blowgun ammo
 - Accumulate
 - "Dear old" guy
 - Tokyo, formerly
- Down**

 - It comes easily to hand
 - Boot
 - Infernal
 - Kind of lettuce
 - "____ to Billie Joe"
 - Organ part
 - To lessen the importance
 - Shrink
 - Christmas season
 - Length x width, for a rectangle
 - After expenses
 - Finish, with "up"
 - Unpaid, overdue debts
 - Like "The X-Files"
 - Clearasil target
 - Care for
 - Pitcher, of a sort
 - Character
 - Finger, in a way
 - Autocrats
 - Bush
 - Fertile soil
 - "____ quam videri" (North Carolina's motto)
 - Panhandles
 - Almond
 - Mischievous sprites
 - Chaste women
 - Wild North African sheep
 - Chatter
 - Biochemistry abbr.
 - Live
 - Barely beat
 - Bee ____
 - "Mi chiamano Mimi," e.g.
 - Like The Citadel, now
 - "Good grief!"
 - "Comin' ____ the Rye"
 - His "4" was retired
 - "Dilbert" cartoonist Scott Adams has one (abbrev.)
 - Egg cells

Last week's answers



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BERING STRAIT SCHOOL DISTRICT BASKETBALL RECORDS
2010-2011 Season Standings ending February 19, 2011

I-A BOYS	Conference Record Win-Loss	Overall Record Win-Loss	I-A GIRLS	Conference Record Win-Loss	Overall Record Win-Loss
Elim	11-1	13-2	Golovin	6-0	6-2
Koyuk	7-3	7-3	Shaktoolik	6-2	8-2
Shishmaref	4-2	8-4	Teller	3-5	5-8
Golovin	3-3	6-6	Koyuk	1-5	1-5
St. Michael	5-5	6-10			
Shaktoolik	4-6	9-9			
Teller	3-5	8-6			
Brevig Mis.	2-7	4-9			
White Mtn.	0-6	0-8			
II-A BOYS	Win-Loss	Win-Loss	II-A GIRLS	Win-Loss	Win-Loss
Savoonga	2-0	2-8	Savoonga	0-2	0-10
Stebbins	0-3	4-11	Stebbins	2-1	10-3
Unalakleet	4-2	12-6	Unalakleet	9-2	11-5

HOROSCOPES

February 24 - March 2, 2011

CAPRICORN
December 22–January 19

Romance heats up with the tiniest of gifts. Travel over the weekend satisfies the thirst for adventure and uncovers some great finds. Enjoy, Capricorn.

ARIES
March 21–April 19

Don't be fooled, Aries. There is always room for more, but if you want to participate, you're going to have to push your way in. Chaos reigns at home.

CANCER
June 22–July 22

Romantic gestures pay off and passion burns bright. Make it a week to remember, Cancer. Mum is the word from a young friend. Don't you dare do otherwise.

LIBRA
September 23–October 22

The world is a warm and welcoming place to be this week, Libra, as old friends return and new ones are made. A change in travel plans is a blessing in disguise.

AQUARIUS
January 20–February 18

Ooh-la-la, Aquarius. Who knew you had it in you. An offer deserves a second look. It is not too good to be true. A trip down memory lane gets the creative juices flowing.

TAURUS
April 20–May 20

Charming you may be, Taurus, but it's not going to get you anywhere this week. Prepare to take another route to the heart. A project at work flounders.

LEO
July 23–August 22

You have too much on your plate to take on something else, but an old friend sure could use your help. See what you can do. A deadline is extended.

SCORPIO
October 23–November 21

You manage to pull off the impossible and are rewarded highly for your efforts. Bravo, Scorpio. Gather everyone together for a little celebration.

PISCES
February 19–March 20

Love is in the air, and this is your chance to let that special someone know how much they mean to you, Pisces. The ordinary will not do. Think outside of the box.

GEMINI
May 21–June 21

Risks pan out, and you receive the green light. Go, Gemini, but take care in who goes with you. All are not as invested or as interested as you are.

VIRGO
August 23–September 22

Feeling like you're at the end of your rope, Virgo? So is everyone else. Do what you can to rally the troops and muster up the motivation to see it through.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22–December 21

Young ones pose a serious question. Be careful how you answer, Sagittarius. You don't want to say something that will steer them the wrong way.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

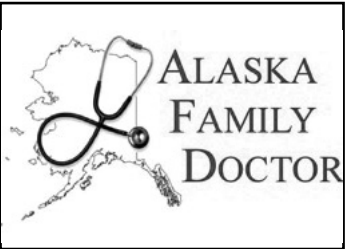
Protecting your family from RSV

Bob Lawrence, MD
Alaska Family Doctor

RSV season has returned to rural Alaska. The Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is one of the more troublesome causes of wintertime illness. It leads to more deep-chest infections in children than any other pathogen, including the flu, and has a unique way of breaking down the normally robust immune system of adults. For

this reason, knowing a little more about RSV can help you and your family deal more effectively with this seasonal threat. In children, RSV starts as a head cold with fever, runny nose, and a decreased appetite. The virus then tracks down the respiratory tract into the lungs over the course of several days causing a severe cough often associated with wheezing. The worst part of the RSV illness lasts 3

to 4 days; however, many children continue to have a cough for several weeks, and some may have wheezing issues for several years.



Almost all children have had their first RSV infection by age 3. Severe pneumonia and bronchiolitis from RSV occurs in only a small percentage of young patients. For most children RSV is not dangerous and serves as a type of infectious disease right-of-passage. There is no way to precisely predict which children are at risk of more severe disease. We know that infants with underlying lung or heart disease are at the greatest risk. Last month, the journal *Pediatrics* published data showing that in addition to this, day care attendance, having siblings in the home, having parents with an advanced education, having a birth weight over 8.8 pounds, and being born between April and Sep-

tember conferred a higher risk of severe lower respiratory tract disease in otherwise healthy children. RSV can be dangerous for newborns and very dangerous for extremely preterm infants born before 32 weeks gestation or babies with congenital heart disease. High-risk children, like those with severe underlying heart or lung disease, are often given a special antibody shot during the RSV season to boost their immune system against the respiratory syncytial virus. Re-infection with RSV can occur at any age, but symptoms tend to become less severe with age. In adults, the virus is usually confined to the nasal cavity and sinuses, and though it does not usually affect the lungs, it causes an upper respiratory illness that is stronger and lasts longer than the common cold, sometimes persisting 7 to 10 days. The respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is transmitted by contact with infected secretions, like shaking hands with people that have just sneezed into their hands or playing with a toy covered with the phlegm of an infected toddler. RSV prevention is one of the most important reasons for people to wash their hands regularly. Here are some guidelines for car-

ing for a child or family member with RSV:

- Wash hands, toys, and utensils regularly.
- Keep ill persons home from public settings like day care, school, church, or the store.
- Stay hydrated. Children may benefit from warm vegetable-based broth or soup. Babies should continue to breast feed or be given formula at regular intervals using a bulb suction to help clear nasal passages when mucus build up hampers feeding.
- Keep infected persons away from second-hand smoke.
- Acetaminophen (Tylenol) or ibuprofen (Motrin) may be used for comfort.
- A bronchodilator like albuterol is occasionally needed for children with wheezing associated with RSV. Antibiotics are rarely needed unless a secondary infection, like an ear infection or bacterial pneumonia, develops from the RSV infection.
- Be patient. RSV lasts longer than most other childhood illnesses.
- See your doctor if signs of serious disease develop including difficulty breathing, extreme lethargy, or trouble keeping down food or fluids.

Saying it Sincerely

By Rev. Julie Yoder Elmore on behalf of
The Nome Ministerial Association
Scripture Reference: Luke 13:10-17

She had no name. She had been bent over, unable to stand up straight for 18 years. Jesus was speaking in the front of the synagogue. She was in the back of the synagogue with the other women – perhaps farther back than anyone because of her deformity. Her faith brought her to the temple. She did not run to Jesus, she was simply there. Jesus noticed her. He was in the place of most power in the synagogue. She is in the place of least power in the synagogue. He went to her. He healed her – unbound what Satan had bound up 18 years earlier. She immediately stood up and praised God! Jesus had set her free!

The synagogue leader was furious. How could Jesus heal, in other words *work*, on the Sabbath? Did he not know the rules that one was not to work on the Sabbath? It was even in the Ten Commandments found in Exodus 20:9 and Leviticus 19:30. Who does Jesus think he is?

Jesus was the Son of God and also God in human flesh. Jesus came to earth not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it, according to Matthew 5:17. At times Jesus proved the point that sometimes relationships are more important than the rules. The woman in the synagogue had been afflicted for 18 years. It was high time that she be healed and relieved of her suffering. Satan’s control of her had to end. Why should she have to continue to suffer just because she happened to encounter Jesus on the Sabbath?

I see this story as challenge for us. Rules are important for bringing order to a society or a group. Many find comfort in rules because there is predictability and clear lines as to what is expected between one person and another. When those boundaries get blurry, we get nervous. The synagogue leader was getting nervous that Jesus was acting outside the rules, outside the boundaries. Others see rules as something to be broken and break them just to spite others. This was not the case with Jesus. Jesus saw someone who had a need and knew that he could care for her. It did not matter what day it was, this woman had suffered enough in her life and needed to be healed today. God was glorified through Jesus’ healing to the woman. Not only was God glorified, but this was an opportunity for Jesus to convey that even the least of these deserve God’s attention and care. When do the rules prevent us from serving our neighbor as God calls us to do? It is often the least of these who are oppressed by the rules. How do we release them in Christ’s name? Sometimes we may have to bend the rules.

Yukon Quest crowns rookie champion

Willow rookie and third-generation musher Dallas Seavey won the Yukon Quest last week. Second to cross the finish line was Sebastian Schnuelle. Ken Anderson, Brent Sass and Kelley Griffin round out the top five. For most of the grueling race, Hugh Neff were leading the pack, but his team didn’t cross Eagle Summit and he ended up mushing to the road, where he had his team trucked to the next checkpoint. He was withdrawn from the race. Out of 25 mushers who started, 13 finished the race. The last musher arrived on Friday night. Nine mushers scratched, three were withdrawn. Seavey won the Rookie of the Year award. Brent Sass’s dog “Silver” was the recipient of a new award named after him, for exhibiting strong character. The Golden Harness award went to Seavey’s dogs Diesel and Chung. The Challenge of the North award went to Kelley Griffin and Mike Ellis received the Veterinarian’s Choice award. Results: 1 Dallas Seavey 10 days 11h 53m; 2. Sebastian Schnuelle 10d 12h 26m; 3. Ken Anderson 10d 14h 24m; 4. Brent Sass 10d 19h 2m; 5. Kelley Griffin 11d 3h 2m; 6. Allen Moore 11d 7h 32m; 7. Jodi Bailey 12d 6h 51m; 8 Mike Ellis 12d 9h 59m; 9. David Dalton 12d 10h 7m; 10. Tamara Rose 13d 0h 58m; 11. Kyla Durham 13d 1h 53m; 12. Jerry Joinson 13d 3h 22m; 13. Hank DeBruin 13d 10h 54m.

Dave Wininger

Who passed February 18, 2011

In Memory

*I have lit a candle,
to illuminate your path.*

*So you do not get lost,
on that long, dark night.*

*And in the morning,
as the sun rises,
may you come safely,
to that Eastern Shore.*

*Rev. R. Gandia
High Priest, Anvil Temple*

Ad paid for by RJ Auto

Church Services Directory

Bible Baptist Church Service Schedule, 443-2144
Sunday School 10 a.m./Worship Hour 11 a.m.

Community Baptist Church-SBC
108 West Third, **443-5448 • Pastor Bruce Landry**
Small Group Bible Study 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Community United Methodist
—2nd Ave. West, **443-2865**
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Tuesday 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Thrift Shop — Tuesday & Thursday 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Nome Covenant Church
101 Bering St. **443-2565 • Pastor Harvey**
Sunday School 10 a.m./Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday Youth Group 7 p.m. (call **443-7218** for location)
Friday Community Soup Kitchen 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Nome Presbyterian Church
405 E. 5th Ave, **443-5450**
Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.
Wednesday Praising & Bible Study 7 p.m.

Our Savior Lutheran Church
5th & Bering, **443-5295**
Sunday Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.

River of Life Assembly of God, 443-5333
Sunday School 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
Wednesday Night Service 7 p.m.

St. Joseph Catholic Church, 443-5527
Corner of Steadman & King Place
Mass Schedule: Saturday 5:30 p.m./**Sunday** 10:30 a.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist
(Icy View), **443-5137**
Saturday Sabbath School 10 a.m.
Saturday Morning Worship 11 a.m.

Nome Church of Nazarene
3rd & Division, **443-2805**
Sunday Prayer Meeting 9:30 a.m.
Sunday School 9:45 a.m. & Worship Service 11 a.m.

It's Hoop Time.

Don't miss a minute as Nome Nanook basketball comes your way on KICY AM-850. Brought to you by The A/C Value Center, Boynton Office Systems, Lewis & Thomas Attorneys at Law, Bering Air, Nome Outfitters, Wells Fargo, Nome Joint Utility System, Mo' Mud, Mo' Paint, Mo' Better, and Outsiders Hardware. Don't get too far away from a radio this season!

KICY
AM-850



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Deadline is noon Monday • (907) 443-5235 • Fax (907) 443-5112 e-mail ads@nomenugget.com

Employment

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) is currently recruiting for the following positions:

Payroll Technician (Anchorage) is responsible for preparation and disbursement of NSEDC & NSSP semi-monthly payroll. Reconciles employee advance transactions and related GL account. Responsible for preparation of quarterly and annual payroll analysis reports, and ERISA reports. Provide assistance with preparation of investment, state and federal reports as directed. Prepare 941 and unemployment reports quarterly, worker compensation, employee personal leave accrual reports, W-2's and 401K reports annually. Assists the Accounting and Finance group in all areas of accounting and financial matters.

Northern NSSP Assistant Manager (Nome) will assist the Northern NSSP Operations Manager in all capacities of Northern NSSP Operations for crab, halibut, cod and other fisheries products, including but not limited to: marketing, inventory, reporting, production, tender operations, packaging & shipping; quality control, plant upkeep and maintenance; supervision of crew and continued improvement of Northern NSSP operations.

All positions are Open Until Filled.

NSEDC offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits package. Please see our website to view the full job description and to download the application at www.nsedc.com, or contact NSEDC at (800) 650-2248. Qualified individuals should submit their application and resume to: **NSEDC, 420 L Street, Suite 310, Anchorage, AK 99501 or Fax: (907) 274-2249.** 1/20 ttn

KAWERAK, INC.
KAWERAK is currently recruiting for the following positions:
• **Accountant II**
• **Beringia Museum Culture & Science Project Director**
• **Child Advocacy Center Director**
For a complete list of vacancies go to www.kawerak.org or stop by the Kawerak Human Resources Dept at 504 Seppala Drive. 2/24; 3/3

Nome Community Center
JOB DESCRIPTION: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
NATURE OF WORK:
The Executive Director is a full-time, exempt position providing administrative and business leadership for the Nome Community Center, Inc. The k

of Executive Director requires sensitivity and the ability to work within a framework of State, Federal and church funding sources and oversight, as well as the personal ability to relate to the needs of a diverse culture and to a variety of community social programs serving the residents of the Bering Strait Region.

QUALIFICATIONS:
A Bachelors Degree is strongly preferred but the agency will consider the substitution of work experience in a related field on a year-for-year basis. The successful applicant will be required to demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired through work experience in agency and social program management and administration, grant writing, grant management and staff supervision. An Alaska drivers license is also required, or the ability to obtain one. The successful candidate will be required to pass a criminal background check.

COMPENSATION:
Annual salary of \$60,000 or more, depending on experience. Salary adjustments can be negotiated with regard to housing. Benefit package may include medical insurance; Social Security and pension contributions; paid holidays; annual and sick leave.

For a complete position description, please contact the Nome Community Center at 907-443-5259 or at ljohnson@nomecc.org.
Open Until Filled
• For application, please contact Nome Community Center at 907-443-5259 or obtain from the Nome Job Center
• For questions, please contact Nancy Mendenhall at 907-443-5259
The Nome Community Center, Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer
2/24-3/1

Real Estate

Nome Sweet Homes

Melissa Ford - Broker

308 E 3rd Avenue \$89,000
WOLF SPRINGS lots \$29,500
FOX RIVER lots \$20,000
Snake River Katie Dr \$75,000
64ac Council \$100,000
303 ABC Prospect. - \$175,000
199 Steadman - \$125,000
205 E 3rd Avenue - \$115,000
107 E 4th Avenue - \$225,000

HUD HOME ~ REDUCED!!
402 E G Street - \$202,500



ARCTIC TRADING POST
Established in 1977
Nome's Only Fresh Flowers
Gourmet Coffee Section
Gold, Ivory, Local & Russian Craft
3bd/2ba Owners Apartment
\$665,000

Melissa 443-7368
Patricia 387-4963

MUNAQSRI Senior Apartments • “A Caring Place”

NOW taking applications for one-bedroom unfurnished apartments, heat included

“62 years of age or older, handicap/disabled, regardless of age”
•Electricity subsidized; major appliances provided
•Rent based on income for eligible households
•Rent subsidized by USDA Rural Development

515 Steadman Street, Nome



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PO BOX 1289 • Nome, AK 99762
Helen “Huda” Ivanoff, Manager

(907) 443-5220
Fax: (907) 443-5318
Hearing Impaired: 1-800-770-8973



Want to Contribute?

Make your donations today!

Adopt a pet and get a **FREE** bag of dog/cat food when you adopt a dog/cat. Dog food, cat food, cat litter and other donations are always welcome at the Nome Animal Shelter!

Nome Animal Control & Adopt-A-Pet • 443.5212 or 443.5262



Norton Sound Health Corporation (NSHC) is committed to providing quality health services and promoting wellness within our people and environment.

NSHC is currently recruiting for the following positions:

- Community Health Aide – Itinerant
- Independent Living Specialist, UNK
- Independent Living Specialist, OME
- Eye Care Assistant
- Clinician I & II

- Manager, Patient Hostel
- Patient Accounts Representative
- Certified Nursing Assistant, QCC
- Tribal Healer
- Licensed Practical Nurse, QCC

For a complete list of our vacancies and more information, please go to www.nortonsoundhealth.org or visit the NSHC Human Resources Department.

Norton Sound Health Corporation
NSHC Human Resources Department
306 W 5th Ave
Nome, AK 99762
907-443-4530

NSHC offers competitive wages and benefits. NSHC will apply Alaska Native/American Indian (under PL 93-638), EEO, Veteran Preferences. To ensure consumers are protected to the degree prescribed under federal and state laws, all applicants are subject to a pre-employment background check and drug screen.

Job Vacancy Notice

Sitnasuak Native Corporation is recruiting for a President

Job Title: President
Location:Position is based in Nome, Alaska
Duties: Serves as Principal Executive Officer for Sitnasuak Native Corporation and is responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of Sitnasuak Native Corporation and subsidiary companies, located in Nome, Alaska. Shall oversee the implementation of policies, procedures, directives, by-laws, strategic plans for Sitnasuak Native Corporation. Maintains regular contact and communications with the Chairman and the CEO. In cooperation with the Chairman and the CEO, represent the Board in relations with shareholders, communicating with shareholders regarding shareholder concerns and corporate shareholder policies, benefits and activities. While directly responsible to the board for the business of the corporation, the President delegates much of the responsibility for the day-to-day functioning of the administration, shareholders and land departments in the implementation of their responsibilities. Oversee the selection and disposition of culturally-designated SNC lands under Section 14(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, home site and allotment programs.

Minimum Qualifications: SNC shareholder/descendant/spouse of shareholder. Bachelors Degree (B.A.) preferred. Two year Associate's Degree (A. A.) in Business Management or related field preferred. Five (5) years experience required in a senior or executive level management role. Effective people manager with innate ability to lead and develop direct reports. Working knowledge and track record of leading and managing the contract acquisition process through previous experience. Excellent communication skills. Strong interpersonal and relationship building skills, self motivation and able to work without direct oversight or supervision.


Closing date: March 4, 2011
Salary: DOE

SNC offers competitive benefits including medical, dental and retirement

To apply: Provide the following to HR Manager: 1.) completed SNC Employment application, 2.) Letter of interest with detailed resume, and 3.) Three (3) letters of recommendation.

Contact: Cynthia Olanna, Human Resources Manager at **387-1228** or email: colanna@snc.org with questions.

Sitnasuak Native Corporation is an Equal Opportunity Employer and conducts shareholder and descendant preference hiring under P.L. 93-638.



SITNASUAK
NATIVE CORPORATION

2/24; 3/3

Trooper Beat

On 2/19/11 at approximately 1900 hours, Alaska State Troopers responded to multiple complaints of Mabel Mitchell, 31, and her live-in boyfriend, Ralph Stalker, 36, shouting obscenities at one another and challenging each other to fight on the VHF frequency utilized by the residents of the Village of Selawik. The VHF frequency is the primary means by which residents of the village communicate with one and another, particularly those that can not afford telephone services. It is also the primary means by which residents of the village request assistance for emergencies. At approximately 8:28 p.m. after Troopers and Village Police Officers made multiple requests for Mitchell and Stalker to terminate their disruptive and obscene challenges to one another on the VHF frequency, Troopers contacted and subsequently arrested them. Both Mitchell and Stalker were found to be highly intoxicated at the time of their arrests. Both were charged with Disorderly Conduct and are currently being held at the Village Public Safety Office awaiting arraignment due to blizzard conditions preventing flights to Kotzebue. The Village of Selawik is a Local Option Dry Community.

On 2/19/2011 at approximately 3 a.m. Village Police Officers responded to a report of juveniles consuming alcohol at a residence belonging to Percy Clark, 20, of Selawik. Percy Clark had been previously contacted by Alaska State Troopers for hosting a juvenile “fight club” at his residence, which earned notoriety on YouTube. Further investigation revealed that Clark as well as a 16-year-old male juvenile and a 17-year-old female juvenile were present at the residence, along with Jody Sheldon, 20. Both juveniles and Sheldon were intoxicated.

When Sheldon, who was currently on conditions of Release/Felony Probation for Theft II, was contacted by the VPO, Sheldon fled the area on a snowmachine. Sheldon was also to be with his Court Approved Third Parties, Sharon Sheldon, 43, or Jessica Sheldon, 22 (both were not present). At approximately noon, VPO confirmed that Jody was not at his residence, not with his Court Approved Third Parties, and neither Sharon nor Jessica had attempted to contact law enforcement as directed by the Kotzebue Court. Jody was later located and arrested at approximately 6 p.m., by VPO, for Violating the conditions of his release. At approximately 6:40 p.m. Jessica was contacted and subsequently arrested by Troopers at a separate residence. Shortly afterwards, at approximately 7 p.m. Troopers contacted a highly intoxicated Sharon Sheldon and arrested her at a family member's residence. Both Jessica and Sharon were charged with Violating Custodian's Duties. Clark was later arrested at approximately 8:20 p.m. for Contributing to the Delinquency of Minors (x2). The two juveniles were issued summonses to appear in the Kotzebue Courthouse for Minor Consuming Alcohol (x2). Jody, Sharon, and Jessica were remanded to the Kotzebue Regional Jail awaiting arraignment. Clark is awaiting arraignment in the Village of Selawik Public Safety Office due to blizzard conditions preventing flights to Kotzebue.

On 2/20/11 at approximately 9:10 a.m. the Alaska State Troopers in St. Mary's were notified of a house fire in Mtn. Village. Investigation revealed that at approximately 6:15 a.m. VPSO Tobeluk responded to a residence in Mtn. Village that was fully engulfed in flames. At that time all occupants were out of the home. A 7-year-old child was able to exit the residence along with the parents who were highly intoxicated at the time. The investigation continues. Charges will be filed with the Bethel District Attorney's Office.

On 2-19-11 at 8:09 a.m., the Alaska State Troopers received a report of a domestic disturbance in Savoonga. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Randy Annogiuk, 23 of Savoonga, for Assault 4, Criminal Mischief 5, and Probation Violation. Annogiuk was remanded to the Anvil Mountain Correctional Center.

On 2/17/11 at about 3 p.m. the Shishmaref VPSO received a report that 49 year old Frank Ongtowasruk and a 5-year-old girl had not returned home after Ongtowasruk picked the girl up at school. The reporter said Mr. Ongtowasruk picked the girl up at school at 2 p.m. and was to have snowmachined home right away. The reporter also said Ongtowasruk was not dressed for the weather which was blowing snow with low visibility. Numerous volunteers started searching immediately for Ongtowasruk and his passenger, checking around the village and the lagoon trail meeting with negative results. At about 5 p.m. Ongtowasruk and his passenger made it to their home in Shishmaref in good condition. Ongtowasruk apparently had gone wide of the lagoon trail when he left the school and ended up about two miles east of Shishmaref. Ongtowasruk waited for a break in the weather and was able to follow his trail back to Shishmaref.

Seawall

2/14
Tia Snowball, 26, was arrested and remanded to AMCC for Assault in the 4th degree, domestic violence.
Logan Annogiuk, 20, received a citation for minor consuming alcohol.
2/16
Dean Stimpfle, 39, was arrested and remanded to AMCC on an arrest warrant.
Walter Reynolds, 61, received a citation for basic speed.

2/17
Kenneth Smith, 23, was arrested and remanded to AMCC for assault in the 4th degree domestic violence.
2/18
Michael Aukon, 20, was arrested and remanded to AMCC for misconduct involving weapons in the 4th degree.
During this period there was one person taken to the hospital for a Title 47 hold.

Legals

OWNER FINANCE AVAILABLE — Land for sale by sealed bid: Marilyn Oyoumick, owner, Native Allotment F17506, 119.20 acres on the Unalakleet River, Alaska, USS 5306, Lot4. Accessible by boat and snow machine. Opening bid of \$120,000.00, cash or terms. Deferred payment plan is available; please ask Kawerak LMS for details. TITLE TO LAND SOLD AS A RESULT OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT WILL BE CONVEYED IN A FEE SIMPLE STATUS BY APPROVED DEED. TERMS AVAILABLE ARE CASH OR DEFERRRED PAYMENT AS SPECIFIED.
Sealed bid opening on March 17, 2011 at 3:00PM. Contact Kawerak, Inc., Land Management Services, P.O. Box 948, Nome, AK 99762
AWARD WILL BE MADE TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER WHO MEETS OR EXCEEDS THE MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE BID, SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE OWNER. Instructions and further info are available at the above office or by phone, toll free within Alaska 1-800-443-4316, direct (907) 443-4326. Terms of sale specified thereon.
1/13-20-27; 2/3-10-17-24; 3/3-10-17

**STATE OF ALASKA
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR
THE STATE OF ALASKA
AT NOME**
In the Matter of a change of Name for:
Nikolai Ivanovich Ivanoff,
CASE NO: **2NO-11-00041CI**
ORDER FOR HEARING, PUB LICATION AND POSTING
Notice of Petition to Change Name
A petition has been filed in the Superior Court (Case # **2NO-11-00041CI**) requesting a name

change from (current name) **Nikolai Ivanovich Ivanoff** to **Nikolai Alexander Ivanoff**. A hearing on this request will be held on **March 14, 2011 at 1:00 pm at Nome Courthouse, 113 Front Street PO Box 1110 Nome, AK.**
2/10-17-24

Request for Proposal
The City of Unalakleet is soliciting proposals from qualified firms or certified public accountants to audit the City of Unalakleet's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011, with the option of auditing the City of Unalakleet's financial statements for the three (3) subsequent fiscal years as well.
Please indicate your interest in providing audit services to the City of Unalakleet by submitting your proposal by Monday, February 28, 2011 at 5:00 pm., to:

City of Unalakleet
Attn: Herb Ivanoff
P.O. Box 28
Unalakleet, AK 99684

All questions and correspondence should be directed to Herb Ivanoff in writing at the above address.
2/10-17-24

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DIOMEDE K-12 SCHOOL
MAJOR MAINTENANCE PROJECT
(RE-BID)**

Bering Strait School District is soliciting Proposals and Statements of Qualifications from general

continued on page 13

• More Letters

continued from page 2

Life itself is an education—never ending.

For City Government: Vote for your council leaders. If you complain, and city government fails, it is your own doing. Your vote counts—elect responsible leaders!

Thank you, Golovin, for permitting us to serve you. May all go well in the future.

Katherine A. Punguk
Thomas E. Punguk
Golovin, AK 99762

To the editor:

As we race the Iron Dog again this year, we'd like to raise awareness of suicide prevention in Alaska. We've got one of the highest rates in the nation, but it doesn't have to be that way.

For a while it was pretty normal to be going to funerals for suicide for me, Tyler, growing up in Galena. I lost my uncle, brother, close friends in high school, after high school, my great-great-grandpa. It seems like people feel like they're in a standstill in life—they don't have a job, they're not going to school, they get depressed.

When you're not moving, you need to get moving, because life is bigger than right now, right where you're at. When you're at a low point in life, hang on and keep moving forward. When you fall off your snow-machine, you get back on and keep going.

When I, Chris, raced the Iron Dog in 2009, a lot of things went wrong. I think a lot of guys would've given up at that point in their careers. I'm glad I didn't, because the next year, Tyler and I won.

So the message from both of us is, don't give up. We're pulling for you. If you're down, we want you to get

help, and there's help out there if you need it. You can call Careline, the statewide suicide prevention hotline, at 1-877-266-HELP (4357). Or go to their website, CarelineAlaska.com, or text them at 907-2-LISTEN (547836). Stay safe, Tyler Huntington and Chris Olds Fairbanks and Eagle River, Alaska

Editor's note: The following letter was submitted prior to Feb. 3 by The Nome Nugget to the council but was omitted from the council packet on Feb. 14.

Dear members of the Nome Board of Education and Nome Common Council:

I am writing in regard to the planned joint meeting for Feb. 3, 2011 between the board and council, and wish to express my concerns.

My first concern is that the meeting be properly noticed for both boards, since a quorum from each body will likely be present. The public should have a clear explanation as to why the two governing bodies are meeting.

My larger concern is over the prospect of this meeting, or a portion thereof, being held in executive session. If the joint meeting is meant to discuss the Nome Board of Education's handling of the superintendent's contract, I question the authority of the Nome Common Council to call a meeting on the issue in the first place, let alone a closed-door session.

The citizenry of Nome did not elect Nome Common Council members to decide the matters of the school district. The members of the Nome Board of Education were elected by a majority of resident voters and, whether one agrees with them or not, they acted within their bounds in their handling of the superintendent contract. While healthy

dialogue between the two bodies should be encouraged, neither independently elected board is required to answer to the other.

The common council has no business participating in a closed-door discussion over how the school board executes its personnel decisions. I would raise the same objection if the school board called an executive session to discuss the common council's evaluation of the city manager. The Nome Common Council has no say over the superintendents' contract, so why should it be permitted to meet with the school board in private to discuss the matter?

I have heard that a concern over legal issues may serve as the justification for the common council calling an executive session in this matter. Unless a lawsuit has been filed or notification has been given of a real and legitimate threat to do so, mere worry that the school board's actions may provoke a lawsuit does not meet the legal standard required for calling an executive session. If this were the case, one could argue executive sessions would be warranted for nearly every decision a government body makes for fear that those who may oppose the body's decision would pursue litigation. If anything, I believe the common council inserting itself into another independent governmental entity's business, and insisting that it be done in private, only increases the city's liability in regard to litigation or sanction.


I have also heard that concern over adverse financial impacts to the city could be used as justification for a closed session. Again I find this reasoning to be false. While the city provides state-required and additional funding to the district, it does not have the power to direct Nome Public Schools in how those funds

are used. A lawsuit against the district will not change how much money the state requires the city to provide Nome Public Schools, and any funding above that requirement is at the city's discretion.

For the stated reasons above, I respectfully ask that any discussion be-

tween the Nome Board of Education and the Nome Common Council be properly noticed and held in public. I am sorry I will be out of town and unable to attend the Feb. 3 meeting.

Regards,
Tyler Rhodes
Nome, AK



Arctic ICANS —
A nonprofit cancer survivor support group.

1-800-478-9355

Arctic ICANS next meeting

The Nome Cancer support group will meet at the XYZ Center on

Thursday, March 3 • 7:30 p.m.

General Meeting

For more information call 443-5726.

Teller Emergency Services Search and Rescue

Thank you to each and everyone for your participation in making our Search and Rescue Appreciation Potluck very successful. This community event was held Feb. 13, 2011 at the Teller School gym. Thank you to all the cooks, everyone who brought a dish, volunteers who helped set up and clean up. Tim Pushruk for all that you did. Also, Shawn Oquilluk, Cheryl Nyberg, Lucinda Menadelook and Scott Dixon. All this was made possible by:

James C. Isabell School
Teller Native Store
Teller Native Fuel
Mary's Igloo Native Corp.
Teller Traditional Council
City of Teller
Teller Dance Group
Julie Lee

Pastor Bruce Landry of the Bible Baptist Church
NSEDG — Joe Garnie
Kawerak, Inc.
Bering Air
Nome Outfitters
Hanson's

Thank you!

Notice of Intent to Repatriate

The National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution plans to repatriate the following to the Native Village of Diomede:

Twelve human remains were collected at an historical cemetery above the village of Inalik, Little Diomede Island, in 1926 by Aleš Hrdlička of the Smithsonian Institution. After a review of the available evidence, the human remains have been found to be culturally affiliated to the Native Village of Diomede.

A total of 12 human remains in 12 catalog entries will be repatriated to the Native Village of Diomede.

For more information, please contact Lars Krutak before April 6, 2011 at (202) 633-0869, Repatriation Office Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, NMNH MRC 138, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012.

2/24

• More Legals

continued from page 12

contractors for the remodel of an 18,912 sq. ft. K-12 School in Little Diomede, Alaska. The selected Contractor will join the Owner and A/E firm in a "Team-Build" approach to project delivery. The selected contractor will provide pre-construction services and assist with the final construction documents. Pre-construction activities are planned to begin in March 2011, with construction anticipated to begin soon thereafter, with substantial completion scheduled no later than December 1, 2012. Proposals will be received at ECI Hyer Inc., 101 West Benson Blvd., Suite 306, Anchorage, Alaska 99503 until 10:00 AM March 1, 2011. Proposals will be reviewed and scored by a selection committee and will not be publicly opened or read aloud.

Any costs incurred in response to this request are at the proposer's sole risk and will not be reimbursed by the Owner. Bering Strait School District reserves the right to reject all proposals and proceed with a different construction process.

Copies of the complete Request for Proposals (RFPs) may be purchased from Digital Blueprint in Anchorage. Please contact Digital Blueprint directly at (907) 274-4060. All questions must be submitted, in writing, by email.

Please submit questions to:

ECI Hyer Inc.
Mr. Chris Chiei,
101West Benson Blvd., Suite 306
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Tel. 907-561-5543
Fax. 907-562-3213
cchiei@ecihyer.com
2/17-24

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G) proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 5 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with waters important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish, including the following:
5 AAC 95.011 is proposed to be changed as follows:

The *Atlas to the Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes and Catalog of Waters Important for the Spawning, Rearing, or Migration of Anadromous Fishes* (Atlas and Catalog), which are adopted by reference in 5 AAC 95.011, will be revised and updated.

Alaska Statute 16.05.871 requires, among other actions, that the Commissioner of the ADF&G "specify" the rivers, lakes and streams or portions of them that are important for the spawning, rearing or migration of anadromous fish. The Commissioner must review plans and specifications of any proposed work or use occurring within a specified anadromous river, lake, or stream. If the Commissioner determines that the plans and specifications provide for the proper protection of fish and game the project will be approved and a Fish Habitat Permit will be issued by the ADF&G, Division of Habitat. The Catalog and Atlas identify and list these anadromous waters and are used by the Commissioner to determine whether such a permit is required for any particular project.

Several revisions are proposed to be made to the Atlas and Catalog. The list of rivers, lakes, and streams will be updated, including additions, deletions, and changes to the legal descriptions of many of these waters. Minor revisions will be made to the introduction of the Catalog and Atlas, including updates to ADF&G regional contact information. Species-specific information will be used in place of undifferentiated species information wherever possible.

You may comment on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to Paul Blanche, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 333 Raspberry Rd. Suite 2068, Anchorage, Alaska 99518 or by e-mail to paul.blanche@alaska.gov. The comments must be received no later than March 21, 2011.

The proposed changes for all six regions of Alaska (Southeastern, Southcentral, Southwestern, Western, Arctic, and Interior) are available for inspection and copying at: the ADF&G offices in Anchorage at 333 Raspberry Rd., in Fairbanks at 1300 College Rd., and in Douglas at 802 3rd St.; the Alaska Resources Library in Anchorage; and the State Library in Juneau. The ADF&G offices in Craig, Palmer, Bethel, Cordova, Delta Junction, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor, Glennallen, Haines, Homer, Ketchikan, King Salmon, Kodiak, Sand Point, Nome, Sitka, Soldotna, Tok, Wrangell, and Yakutat have copies of the proposed changes for their local region. If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Paul Blanche at (907) 267-2812 no later than March 14, 2011 to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided. Electronic equivalents of the review documents and the atlas maps are also available through the ADF&G website at: <http://awc.adfg.alaska.gov>

After the public comment period has ended, the ADF&G will either adopt these or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action on them. The language of the final regulations may vary from that of the proposed regulations. **YOU SHOULD COMMENT DURING THE TIME ALLOWED IF YOUR INTERESTS COULD BE AFFECTED.**

Statutory Authority: AS 16.05.020 and 16.05.871
Statutes Being Implemented, Interpreted, or Made Specific: AS 16.05.871
Fiscal Information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Date: February 11, 2011

Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Alaska Department of Fish and Game

2/24

On Behalf of The Native Village of Deering, EBSC Engineering has completed a draft Long Range Transportation Plan. This plan is available for review at the Deering IRA Office in Deering Alaska. Written comments may be submitted by February 28, 2011, to the Deering IRA Office at: P.O. Box 36089 Deering, Alaska 99736. The Native Village of Deering will hold a public meeting on February 28th at 7:00 p.m. at the Deering IRA Office regarding the Long Range Transportation Plan. For more information call Bonita Barr at (907) 363 2138.

2/24

Notice of Intent to Repatriate

The National Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution plans to repatriate the following to the Nome Eskimo Community:

Three human remains were collected from two unnamed historic sites near Cape Nome, Alaska, in 1926 by Aleš Hrdlička of the Smithsonian Institution. Henry B. Collins of the Smithsonian Institution collected 19 human remains and 7 funerary objects from an historical burial site on Sledge Island, Alaska, in 1928. After a review of the available evidence, the human remains and funerary objects have been found to be culturally affiliated to the Nome Eskimo Community.

A total of 22 human remains in 20 catalog entries and seven funerary objects in three catalog entries will be repatriated to the Nome Eskimo Community.

For more information, please contact Lars Krutak before April 6, 2011 at (202) 633-0869, Repatriation Office Smithsonian Institution, P.O. Box 37012, NMNH MRC 138, Washington, D.C. 20013-7012.

2/24



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Moonlight Wells Permit

A PUBLIC HEARING WILL BE CONDUCTED DURING THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE NOME CITY COUNCIL TO SEEK COMMENTS ON THE FOLLOWING :

Approval of a Permit to be issued to Nome AK Gold Concentrates, LLC: for a Placer Mine in the Moonlight Wells Protection Area.

Copy of the Permit is available at Nome City Hall.

DATE: MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2011
TIME: 7:30 PM
LOCATION: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

2-24

Walrus deemed in peril, but ESA listing postponed

By Diana Haecker

Last week a long awaited decision came out of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service office, saying that the Pacific walrus warrants protection under the Endangered Species Act. But at the same time the ruling says that protection is currently precluded because the agency needs to address other higher priority species. USFWS says that the walrus is added to the list of candidates for ESA protection, on which it can stay indefinitely, and that its status would be reviewed on a year-to-year basis.

A warranted but precluded finding means that the best available information makes it necessary that the species be listed, but that a listing is not possible due to inadequate agency resources and other priorities.

The USFWS found that sufficient data exist to warrant protecting the Pacific walrus under the ESA. Their review found that walrus are indeed threatened by the loss of sea ice in its Arctic habitat due to climate change. "The threats to the walrus are very real, as evidenced by this 'warranted' finding," said Geoff Haskett, USFWS's director of the Alaska Region. "But its greater population numbers and ability to adapt to land-based haul-outs make its immediate situation less dire than those facing other species such as the polar bear."

The polar bear was listed as a threatened species.

Pacific walrus are currently protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

According to USFWS, Pacific walrus have shown an ability to use land-based haul-outs when sea ice is unavailable, and to use those haul-outs to rest between feeding periods offshore. The agency says that over time, walrus would be forced to rely on haul-outs on land to a greater extent. And this would expose all individuals, but especially calves, juveniles and females, to increased levels of stress from depletion of prey, trampling and predation. While the current subsistence harvest of Pacific walrus by Alaska Natives is believed to be sustainable, if sea ice loss occurs as expected, the current level of subsistence harvest would become a threat in the foreseeable future, says the agency.

Several thousand young walruses were killed in stampedes in Russia in 2007, and 133 young walruses perished in a stampede in Alaska in 2009.

In 2008, the Center for Biological Diversity petitioned the Department of the Interior to list the Pacific walrus under the ESA. Reacting to the news that USFWS found reason to list walrus as endangered or threatened but then didn't follow through with a listing, Shaye Wolf with the Center said that "Our government's decision to indefinitely delay protection increases the odds that we might lose walruses forever. If instead we give the walrus the full benefits of the Endangered Species Act and reduce carbon dioxide to a safe level below 350 parts per million, we can protect the walrus and the Arctic."

Wolf said that the Pacific walrus

is also threatened by proposed offshore oil drilling in Alaskan waters where an oil spill in ice-filled waters would be impossible to clean up. The Obama administration is currently deciding whether to permit drilling in the heart of walrus habitat in the Chukchi Sea off Alaska. Listing the walrus under the Endangered Species Act, along with the protection of its critical habitat, would make approval of this drilling more difficult.

Doug Vincent-Lang with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game said that while the State of Alaska appreciates the decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to not list the Pacific walrus under the ESA at this time, the state disagrees with the finding that the listing of the Pacific walrus under the ESA is warranted at this time. "While we concur with the Service that walrus habitat may change over the next 25-50 years, available information about life history characteristics, previous experience with warming climates, and Atlantic walrus ecosystem corollaries suggests that walrus will be able to adapt to these conditions. While the walrus population may decline in response to a smaller carrying capacity, the resultant population will not be threatened with extinction within the next 25-50 years and therefore the decision that listing is warranted is unnecessary at this time." Vincent-Lang, the State's Endangered Species Coordinator

said.

Vincent-Lang added that the state would work with the USFWS Service to examine additional measures that could be implemented to assure the long-term conservation of Pacific walrus.

The State of Alaska has budgeted nearly \$1.4 million for litigation, appeals and challenges related to the federal Endangered Species Act this fiscal year, reports AP. Attorney General John J. Burns held a presentation in front of lawmakers and said that

the largest chunks of those \$1.4 million have been directed to fight ESA designations of Stellar sea lions, beluga whales and polar bears. Burns says a comparable sum is budgeted for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1.



Photo by Kelly Thrun

CUPCAKES FOR THE XYZ SENIORCENTER—Rebecca Callahan, EHS Home Based Teacher and Kimberly Carter, RHA Specialist brought a little bit of Kawerak, Inc. into the classrooms at Nome Elementary School on Friday, February 11. Two groups from the classes known as the 56ers participated in cupcake decorating techniques and design voluntarily taught by Becca and Kim. The children frosted and decorated 150 cupcakes and a sheet cake. Cupcakes were donated to Elders groups around Nome.

• Nomeites' views on state office building

continued from page 4

ing locals not to build in the plain yet demanding that the State of Alaska to do just that.

- I think it is important to keep Front Street alive. The house next to *The Nome Nugget* needs to either be remodeled or torn down. Maybe there should [be] a vacancy ordinance. Where a building is vacant for more than three to five years if it doesn't meet certain criteria some measures should be taken. Earlier I mentioned that the Iditarod is very important to Nome and right next to the finish line we have abandoned buildings. It doesn't paint a positive picture of Nome.

- Front Street is an eyesore now—why is there such a big push to keep Front Street vital when I do not even want to bring my children there except for the post office?

The post office and courthouse are going to be very difficult to get to if we have to walk all the way out to the new hospital. Many people do not have cars. The state building, and things that people don't have to visit on a daily basis could move and no one would notice.

- If we create Front Street like a red light district like in bourbon street in New Orleans, maybe we'll have more a tourist draw as it would be unique. Create more spaces so people can sit down and watch the happenings on Front Street as well. I would like to see the development of a park so we can sit down and have a picnic with nice tables, toilets, and the like.

- Has anyone asked the employees of the state building how they like working in [an] inadequate building and a few people don't want them in a new building that the state will pay for, just stay where you are and deal with it? Heck if I will pay for a new building on Front Street from city taxes. If Front Street wants to be the focal point, then have small businesses occupy spots and make it like any other small town and their "main street" has all the local shops.

- Front Street is an important resource for this community.... Not just because of the economic/commercial buildings, but because of the tourism and development issues. It is the public "face" of our community — our visitors projected during Iditarod, etc.... It is like we have abandoned Front Street, especially after AC moved out. Now I hear parents won't even let their children go to the public library because of the behaviors associated with Front Street. Instead of abandoning it to the drunks, why are we not encouraging more development. Communities in the Lower 48 have had gentrification projects for run down neighborhoods....

- Front Street is has-been. Even bars are moving off of Front Street now. Anyone with sense knows it is a bad place to locate a business. Why do we expect the state and federal governments to put buildings in places where the private sector has already decided it's a bad idea (except for Subway; it is the only exception to that and I'm not sure why).

- This is extremely important. Without our traditional Front Street businesses there is a lack of community gathering places and historical unity. For such a small place as Nome this is essential. Also: It is important to do something with the disgraceful places on Front Street with little or no involvement. Example: Wien Building.

- With the fire hall, hospital, both grocery stores, and all the hardware, lumber and snow machine shops nearer to city field, then Front Street the center of town has already shifted. Even for population, the center of town is closer to city field than the ocean. The only people who don't seem to understand how far Front Street has strayed from the center of town is the government. Maybe everyone in government has cars already and don't need to walk anywhere.

- If Front Street is to remain Nome's Main St., I think it would be more important to keep these

types of buildings and services on Front St. than the run down buildings, houses, and bars.

- It depends on what kind of other improvements are and can be designed for downtown. Will there be a walking only area like many European cities and town[s]? Then sure. Is it going to stay the same as it is with everyone driving anyway? Then why promote congestion on Front Street? The entire town can adapt to being more spread out. Sentiments are not a good enough reason to stifle development.

- Front Street and downtown should remain the focus of Nome's business and government district. Many people in Nome walk, and downtown is convenient for the bank, post office, utilities, and some shopping. Don't screw it up! Please.

- I was unaware that the state building is an essential office...actually, the only building that you list there that I frequent is the post office. The government should be bound by the same economic principles that dictate the private sector. Build where it makes sense. Just because state or federal money is paying for it doesn't mean that a building should be located on a more expensive property.

- I see the value of having professional offices located on Front Street. Without them, it would be trashed with litter/bottles/cans/raw sewer.

- I think the city needs to look ahead. The sea is going to increasingly take its toll. The whole city should move back from the coast and not waste money fighting mother nature. In 50 years Front Street will be gone due to rising water and erosion. No sense putting any more new buildings on Front Street.

- Where else would they go? Front Street is a consolidated commercial hub for town; it makes sense to keep it that way.

- This issue involves excessive conflicts of interest for city officials.

Court

Week ending 2/18 Civil

Nassuk, Jolene R. vs. Lincoln, Martin E.; Domestic Violence: Ex Parte with Children Ozenna, Vernon vs. Hannon, Harland et al; Personal Injury Other - Superior Court Elianna, Lisa vs. Brandt, Erik; Domestic Violence: Ex Parte with Children

Small Claims

Cornerstone Credit Services, LLC vs. Ozenna, Bessie M. et al; SC \$2500 or Less: 1 Deft. Cert Mail

Criminal

State of Alaska v. Leroy Martin (8/19/90); 2NO-10-186CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 2/10/11.

State of Alaska v. Leroy Martin (8/19/90); 2NO-10-207CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: VCR; Filed by the DAs Office 2/10/11.

State of Alaska v. Leroy Martin (8/19/90); 2NO-10-750CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: VCR; Charge 002: MCA; Filed by the DAs Office 2/10/11.

State of Alaska v. Lynne Lee Noongwook (5/21/73); Dismissal; Charge 001: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 2/18/11.

State of Alaska v. Alexandria Okpeluk (10/20/85); Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: DC; Filed by the DAs Office 2/11/11.

State of Alaska v. Justin Ahkinga (1/23/91); 2NO-10-638CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Burglary 2; Filed by the DAs Office 2/16/11.

State of Alaska v. Justin Ahkinga (1/23/91); 2NO-10-638CR Count 2: Criminal Mischief 4*; Date of offense: 10/15/10; Binding Plea Agreement; Counts (Charges) Dismissed by State: count 1 (001); Any appearance of performance bond is exonerated; Jail Surcharge: \$150 with \$100 suspended; Shall pay unsuspended \$50 within 10 days to AGs Collections Unit, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation until 2/16/12; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law; Shall not possess or consume alcohol; Alcohol Assessment by 5/31/11; Participate in and complete recommended treatment and aftercare available in community; Other: Perform 40 hours work service and show proof to court by 1/1/12; Pay \$500 fine by 10/1/11.

State of Alaska v. Rachel Monica Ozenna (7/28/93); Possession, Control, or Consumption of Alcohol by Person Under 21; First Offense; Date of offense: 10/9/10; Fine: \$300 with \$100 suspended; Unsuspended \$200 is to be paid to the court by 8/1/11 or show proof of 66 hours Community Work Service by that date; Probation until 2/16/12; Comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Defendant may not consume inhalants or possess on consume controlled substances or alcoholic beverages, except as provided in AS 04.16.051(b).

State of Alaska v. Kendall Lee (8/25/93); Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: MCA; Filed by the DAs Office 2/16/11.

State of Alaska v. Yvonne Aukon (2/5/89); Disorderly Conduct; Date of offense: 12/4/10; 5 days, 0 days suspended; Unsuspended 5 days shall be served with defendant reporting to Cordova Center, Anchorage, 7-45 a.m., 2/24/11; Jail Surcharge: \$50 with \$0 suspended; Shall pay unsuspended \$50 within 10 days to AGs Collections Unit, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days.

State of Alaska v. Edward R. Ongtowasruk (4/16/70); Dismissal; Charge 001: 4° Mischief Involving a Controlled Substance; Filed by the DAs Office 2/15/11.

State of Alaska v. Jobeth Adsuna (6/27/83); Dismissal: Count 1 Only; Theft 2°; Date of offense: 1/20/11; Minute Order; On this date (1/31/11) in open court the Prosecuting Attorney for the State of Alaska gave notice that the State does not intend to proceed with a preliminary hearing in this matter; On motion of the defense, the Court hereby dismissed the above named case for failure to timely proceed with preliminary hearing pursuant to Rule 5/5.1.; Accordingly, it is ordered that the defendant shall be released from custody, any bond executed on behalf of defendant be exonerated, and any cash or other security posted as bail be refunded to the depositors; (Re-copied with correct date).

State of Alaska v. Kyle Crump (6/16/81); Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Resisting Arrest; Filed by the DAs Office 1/31/11.

State of Alaska v. Daniel G. Horne (4/9/79); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 110812365; Violated conditions of probation; Probation terminated; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: All Remaining Time, shall report to AMCC by 2/21/11, 5 p.m.

State of Alaska v. James D. Bloomstrand (3/18/80); 2NO-10-142CR Order to Modify or

Revoke Probation; ATN: 110010609; Violated conditions of probation; Probation terminated; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: All Remaining Time; Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage.

State of Alaska v. James Bloomstrand (3/18/80); 2NO-10-505CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 110005128; Violated conditions of probation; No Action Taken; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.

State of Alaska v. Jennifer Adsuna (1/30/91); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 110006901; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: 15 days, remanded into custody; Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.

State of Alaska v. Tommie Otten (7/30/73); 2NO-11-50CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 1/28/11.

State of Alaska v. Tommie J. Otten (7/30/73); 2NO-11-50CR Count 2: Harrassment 2°; Date of offense: 1/23/11; Binding Plea Agreement; Counts (Charges) Dismissed by State: count 1 (001); Any appearance of performance bond is exonerated; 90 days, 85 days suspended; Unsuspended 5 days shall not exceed time served; Jail Surcharge: \$150 with \$100 suspended; Shall pay unsuspended \$50 within 10 days to AGs Collections Unit, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation until 1/28/12; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law; Shall not possess or consume alcohol.

State of Alaska v. Kevin Kava (12/21/65); Disorderly Conduct; Date of offense: 1/15/11; Any appearance of performance bond is exonerated; 5 days, 0 days suspended; Unsuspended 5 days shall be served; Jail Surcharge: \$50 with \$0 suspended; Shall pay unsuspended \$50 within 10 days to AGs Collections Unit, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days.

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HEADING FOR HOME—Cliff Johnson, right, and Stacey Green from Nome take off as the flag drops from the start of the Iron Dog Snowmobile Race in Big Lake on Sunday Feb. 20.

Photo by Al Grillo

• Iron Dog a tight pack: Top talent all in the hunt as the tight race approached Nome

continued from page 1

and partner Andy George were the closest team to Nome as they took their required layover in Kaltag. The duo pushed farther than any of the other front-running teams to take their 10-hour layover in the last possible location. Racers are required to take three layovers on their way to Nome. Racers can choose between three different stops for each layover.

But being the farthest along the trail didn't necessarily mean being in first place as a truckload of talent was resting on layover in Galena and Ruby. Of those teams waiting to take the trail approximately 100 miles behind West and George were Tyler Huntington and Chris Olds, the 2010 champions—and judging by the clock Monday night—part of the tight pack that formed the race's true frontrunners. Olds and Huntington arrived in Galena at 3:28 p.m. Monday, meaning they could saddle up and get back on course around 1:30 a.m. on Tuesday. West and George didn't arrive in Galena until 4:50 p.m., nearly an hour and a half after Huntington and Olds had declared their layover there.

When Huntington and Olds arrived in Galena on their Polaris Rush 600s, they had company breathing down their neck. Legendary rider Scott Davis and his son, Cory Davis, blazed into Galena a mere two minutes behind last year's champs. It only took seven more minutes before veterans Doug Dixon and Wayne Wold piloted their Arctic Cats into

town. Twelve minutes after that both team No. 21 of Matthew Spornak and David Branholm and team No. 2 of Andrew Zwink and Ryan Sotosanti would arrive. All in all, five leading teams piled into Galena over the course of 20 minutes.

While Galena housed several contenders, it was impossible to ignore what was going on in Ruby, 52 miles back on the trail. There waited Iron Dog heavyweights Marc McKenna and Dusty Van Meter riding as a team and the duo of Todd Palin and Eric Quam. The four racers who held 10 championships among them rode into Ruby like a traffic jam with Huntington and Olds in the mix. Palin and Quam, and McKenna and Van Meter all could have possibly started riding again at 12:30 a.m. Tuesday.

While all those teams were holed up and resting, the only other Nomeites on the course this year were still making their way toward Ruby—the first place they could have the option of parking the machines and declaring their layover. Team No. 23 made up of Cliff Johnson and Stacey Green still had approximately 60 miles to go before hitting the Poorman checkpoint and then another 72 miles until Ruby, judging by the race's GPS tracking system as the clock struck midnight Tuesday morning. This is Green's first Iron Dog. Johnson raced in 2009, scratching in Nome.

With so many top-tier racers spread out between the three possible layover spots, even hazarding a guess at who would make it to Nome first was a worthless endeavor. While

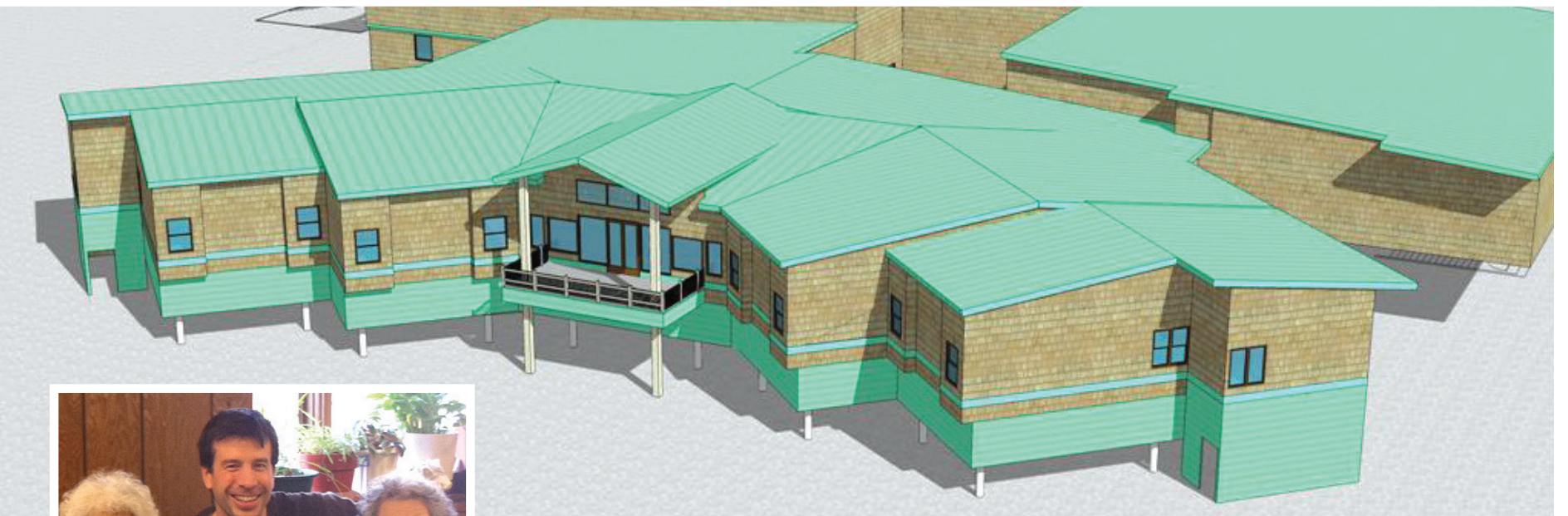
skill and experience go a long way in making Iron Dog champions, there is also a fair amount of the race that is left to chance. Nearly every race winner also has a string of runs where they finished well out of the money or they didn't see the finish line at all.

Several teams had already seen their races come to an early end due to injury or mechanical failure. Past champs Todd Minnick and Nick Olstad were forced to scratch just after the race's start when Minnick was thrown from his machine at high speed and suffered a leg injury. According to the Iron Dog's website, Minnick was recovering "without any life-threatening injuries," but the crash was enough to end the duo's race.

Another handful of racers had to bow out by Monday night with mechanical problems. An unconfirmed report said team No. 8 of Tyler Aklestad and Tyson Johnson had to bow out after an engine fire burnt an oil line on one of their machines. Unaware that the line was toast, the duo rode off only to seize an engine. Johnson and Aklestad have both raced to runner-up honors twice in their Iron Dog careers.

Teams were expected to start arriving in Nome by the later afternoon or evening Tuesday. Racers get an extended layover in Nome, complete with a banquet Wednesday night before hitting the trail again Thursday. The race is expected to finish on Saturday in downtown Fairbanks.

ALASKA GROWTH CAPITAL and MANIILAQ Congratulates RURAL CREDIT SERVICES and owner LAHKA PEACOCK



**for successfully completing the Tax-Credit financing transaction
for the Maniilaq Elder Care Nursing Wing in Kotzebue, Alaska.**

We would like to recognize and thank Rural Credit Services for providing leadership and successfully navigating this complex tax-credit transaction. It has long been a goal of Maniilaq Association to keep their elderly in Kotzebue near friends and family. This goal has been realized through Rural Credit Service's efforts. We look forward to more of your great work.

