



Photo by Aprille Pitt

**TEST RIDE**— Maligiaq Padilla of Greenland launched a traditionally built qayaq at East Beach, on Monday, June 10. For two weeks, Padilla was a guest instructor at NACTEC and helped a group of students to build two qayaqs as part of a business entrepreneurship course. See complete story in next week's *Nome Nugget*.

# The Nome Nugget®

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VOLUME CXIII NO. 24 June 13, 2013

## DNR rejects two controversial bids in mineral lease sale

By Sandra L. Medearis

Gold prospectors Mike Benchoff and Scott Meisterheim have 35 days to appeal loss of tracts on which they were highest bidders in the 2011 offshore lease sale.

On June 5, Commissioner Dan Sullivan of Alaska Dept. of Natural Resources ruled that their failure to submit required paperwork stating their qualifications on the day of the auction meant the two miners had no right to bid.

The ruling may end more than a year's chess game among the two

and those, including Solomon Gold, who underbid Benchoff and Meisterheim for the unimpeded right to suck and sift the gravel of the lease areas with their suction dredges.

The tracts affected are 1, 5, 6, 13, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 28, 36 and 39.

At the same time, a look at DNR records has shown that Ken Kerr, who also did not submit a statement of qualification before the cry-out auction, nevertheless did receive a tract award.

Brent Goodrum, director of the DNR Division of Mining Land and

Water, said Monday that his office would check into the award for the rest of the story.

The ruling affects a dozen leases on Norton Sound, offshore Nome's storied golden beaches and reverses an October 2011 finding by Brent Goodrum, director of the DNR Division of Mining Land and Water, that Meisterheim and Benchoff could submit a qualification document after the auction.

The directions had been made clear that a bidder's statement of qualification had to be submitted be-

fore the auction, according to Sullivan. Still, without submitting a statement of qualification, Benchoff, Meisterheim, Kerr and others without statements on file received bid cards and did bid.

These leases will be offered to the second-highest bidders and then third highest, unless at least one of the disqualified bidders appeals the decision according to Brent Goodrum, state DNR's director of Mining Land and Water. However, the tracts cannot be offered to second-highest bidders until the court has ended jurisdiction after an appeal or after the 35-day appeal period has

ended.

A letter from Commissioner Sullivan, issued to all concerned announcing the ruling, states that Goodrum's "determination improperly provided Scott Meisterheim and Mike Benchoff, who were bidders at the Sept. 28, 2011 auction for the Nome Offshore Mining Lease Sale, the opportunity to submit a statement of qualifications form after the auction."

Following the auction, the mining division staff found they had no qualification statements from three winners—Meisterheim, Benchoff

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Photo by Nils Hahn

**FROZEN FINGERS, GOLDEN BEACHES**— Modern day stampedeers Robert Keeley, Vincent Spagnuolo, Ed Flaherty and John Kennedy (left to right) look for colors at East Beach in Nome. Hailing from New York, they are in Nome for the summer to pan for gold.

## Anvil Square chosen site for new museum

By Sandra L. Medearis

The Nome Common Council named Anvil Square as the site for the Richard Foster Building following a 30-minute work session Monday.

It is the latest selection of floating sites for the facility to house the museum, library and displays and storage set up by Kawerak, Inc.

The City owns the site. Choosing it will cut expenses to erect a building that loses 1,000 square feet of footprint for each year of delay due to rising construction and labor costs.

Old St. Joe's currently sits alone at the park where Seppala Drive meets Bering Street.

Architects would create a new design to build a structure which complements the historic church that greets tourists coming into town.

The City of Nome has secured \$16 million in funding for the design

and construction of the Richard Foster Building.

The project has been trying to find a home for the past two years, balancing considerations of cost, location out of the flood plain, and allocation of space to the library, museum and Kawerak.

In other business, a lengthy agenda ran smoothly until the Council got to the question of whether or not to approve spending a legislative appropriation of \$300,000 secured by Sen. Donny Olson to fund checking into affordable energy for Nome.

John K. Handeland, manager for Nome Joint Utility Systems, lobbied without wavering to spend the money as a match to a federal grant to further investigate geothermal production at Pilgrim Hot Springs.

Handeland spoke of the sum as a lottery ticket that would bring posi-

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## Nome's housing crunch expected to worsen this summer

By Diana Haecker

Nome's housing situation is bad and it's getting worse, Nome realtors and city officials say.

The annual migration of summer miners and construction workers to Nome has begun; people who ex-

pected to just show up and rent a place are struggling to find a roof over their heads.

According to Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Barb Nickels, the reality TV show Bering Sea Gold has again generated the interest of many Lower 48 wanna-be miners trying their luck in Nome.

"We had about 300 inquiries last year and about the same amount of calls this year," Nickels said.

However, things are not the same as last summer.

Last year, Nome Gold Alaska Corp. opened a campground for miners on their land near Dredge 6 at West Beach, but according to Nome Chamber of Commerce sources, this won't be repeated this year.

Inquiries to Nome Gold Alaska by the *Nome Nugget* to confirm the

campground closure were not answered as of press time.

Last year, Mitch Erikson with Nome Gold Alaska fought hard to create the campground. Miners and dredge workers were allowed to pitch their tents or bring in Conexes as living quarters.

The idea was to alleviate the pressure the influx of miners would have had on the housing situation in Nome and thus had many supporters.

This pressure valve does not exist this year.

"We have people show up and they are not aware that there is no campground and nowhere to stay," Barb Nickels said.

At least four miners, she said, already came into the visitor center asking for social services.

"They arrive with suitcases, a

sleeping bag and no money in their pockets," Nickels said.

"I don't know where to send them, we don't have services dealing with homelessness and transients."

Some make it to Nome hoping to be hired by those miners made famous by the TV show Bering Sea Gold.

Others have far-fetched ideas on how to get to Nome. "One call came in from New York," Nickels said. "The man wanted to drive a truck over the sea ice from Anchorage to Nome."

Unrealistic expectations and poor planning on the part of new arrivals are now becoming a problem. "What are you going to do about it?" is the most unpopular question asked these days.

The Nome Visitor Center has

opened up the Iditarod overflow housing program. However it is not as successful as during Iditarod when Nomeites open their homes to Iditarod sled dog race fans, mushers and their families.

So far only three families have responded and are renting out rooms to miners.

But the demand is higher.

### Rents skyrocket

Out of city limits tents are springing up. According to local realtors, landlords are renting out gravel pads to those who are organized and arrived with their fifth-wheel campers.

Some landlords have remodeled their garages, upgraded them with a toilet and a microwave and rent them out.3

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### On the Web:

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[nugget@nomenugget.com](mailto:nugget@nomenugget.com)





Sound Off

Alaska’s oil, Alaska’s loss

Democratic legislators post oil wealth giveaway cost to Alaskans in real time

JUNEAU –The House Democratic Caucus published a real-time counter on its website (akdemocrats.org/giveaway/) to show Alaskans up-to-the-minute losses from the governor’s oil wealth giveaway, SB21. While the Governor’s giveaway is extremely generous to corporations in London and Houston, the giveaway will adversely impact individual Alaskans.

“It’s important that the public sees just what we’re giving up to multinational oil companies, since it’s really uncertain what we’re getting in return for this ‘crapshoot’,” said House Democratic Whip Chris Tuck (D-Anchorage) who announced his intention to publish a counter at a post-session news conference in April. “The only guarantee in this bill is that Alaska is giving up billions of dollars over the next few years and that Alaskans are going to have to pay for it by depleting our savings and forgoing educational opportunities, road maintenance, and public safety.”

This counter shows the amount of money Alaska residents have lost — and the oil companies have gained — since the first part of Governor Parnell’s oil wealth giveaway (SB21) took effect retroactively to January 1, 2013. The number on the counter is based on the governor’s cost estimates from the fiscal note for the final bill. It takes into account the different times various sections of the bill take effect. Once the full bill is in effect on January 1, 2014, the rate of losses to Alaska will speed up dramatically. The caucus will update this counter over the coming months as more data becomes available for oil price, production levels, and the various deductions and allowances oil companies claim.

Democratic legislators offered an alternative oil tax plan that would have increased production, brought new competition to the North Slope, and added balance to Alaska’s tax structure. Neither of those bills was granted a hearing during the 2013 legislative session.

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

Editorial

SPAM-iban

Our government is peeking into our phone records and e-mails. They are looking for terrorists but they haven’t a clue that the biggest terrorist that wreaks havoc, disgust and total annoyance is right in front of their terror-sniffing noses. Is smells like SPAM!

As long as the feds are prowling in our private accounts you’d think they’d do us a favor and send a drone through our junk mail. Give the collapsible garden hose a kink. Send Dr. Oz off to the flying monkeys. Put the green coffee beans into the grinder. They should put a red flag on the Russian SPAMers, and the Chinese e-mailers selling either tea or teeth should have the bite put on them. The feds could do us a real favor by deep-sixing the junk that takes up so much valuable space. Is it a commie plot to bring down the Internet with the sheer weight of SPAM?

So, Uncle Sam, do us a favor while you are doing government business snooping in our can of e-mail worms and letters to mom. Please, in the name of national security, do an O-Dark-30 on terroristic SPAM. Meanwhile, if we don’t want the feds to read our e-mail to grandma we should just write a letter and drop it in the U.S. Mail, Granny would like it and snail mail would be back in fashion. —N.L.M.—

Letters

Dear Editor,

Some of you know me/of me, grew up with me, or may not know me at all. I have spent my entire life victimizing others through my negative attitude, behaviors and actions. I’ve spent my “adult life” incarcerated because I chose to make wrong choices, to feed my addiction to alcohol/drugs, idiocy, parties, physically harming others (my family included) and negativity.

I don’t have anything positive to share about the “lifestyle” that I took upon myself—and that being a career criminal. Every time that I had an opportunity to negatively affect someone I capitalized on that and I hurt someone through my words, choices, actions, attitudes, behaviors and addiction.

The ripple effect of my victimization is vast and has stretched its ugly fingers to try to continue to touch people’s lives negatively. I am not proud of myself for victimizing any of the people that I have nor do I condone any of the terrible actions, behaviors, words that I chose to bring into people’s lives that I’ve negatively affected. I was given an ultimatum by my Anchorage parole officer and it was: do some substance abuse treatment and anger management then be re-paroled or do time for my new felony charge plus my 22 months of suspended parole time.

I reluctantly chose the substance abuse treatment and anger management and I’m so glad and proud that I chose that particular choice. I have graduated the substance abuse/anger management programs; I learned a lot about myself, my addiction to alcohol, addictive behaviors and anger.

I know how to properly deal with both my addiction and anger because I’ve gained tools to help me do so. I am not cured, far from it. I do have life skills now; that all responsible, respectable, working class, pro-social citizens have. I try my best everyday to be better than I was before. I am not entirely free of my past because the past exerts an inhibiting effect on my ambitions—the boy I am looms larger than the man I

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A Look at the Past



History and photo courtesy of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum  
**ONE OF NOME’S FINEST** — Pioneer Alaska Aviator Jack Jefford wrote in his book, *Winging It* that Hans Mirow’s “Mirow Air Service was one of the finest air taxis in Alaska.” Operating out of Nome beginning in 1931, Mirow’s illustrious and courageous career ended tragically in December 1939 when he died in a plane crash while searching for another downed plane piloted by Fred Chambers. Chambers lived. Mirow is credited with developing air transportation on the Seward Peninsula and even offered flights between Nome and Seattle. He was the first pilot to land a plane on the International Dateline in the Bering Strait between Big and Little Diomedes. Hans Mirow is the grandfather of Kegoayah Kozga Library Director Marguerite LaRiviere!

Nome Norton Sound Tide Predictions (High & Low Waters)

Date	Day	Time	High Tide	Time	High Tide	Time	Low Tide	Time	Low Tide
06/13	Th	10:42 a.m.	+1.3	8:27 p.m.	+1.1	3:02 a.m.	-0.1	3:36 p.m.	+1.0
06/14	Fr	11:09 a.m.	+1.4	9:21 p.m.	+1.1	3:41 a.m.	-0.0	4:30 p.m.	+0.9
06/15	Sa	11:33 a.m.	+1.4	10:18 p.m.	+1.0	4:17 a.m.	+0.1	5:21 p.m.	+0.8
06/16	Su	11:56 a.m.	+1.4	11:18 p.m.	+0.9	4:52 a.m.	+0.1	6:08 p.m.	+0.7
06/17	Mo	12:18 p.m.	+1.4			5:25 a.m.	+0.2	6:52 p.m.	+0.6
06/18	Tu	12:22 a.m.	+0.9	12:41 p.m.	+1.5	5:58 a.m.	+0.4	7:35 p.m.	+0.4
06/19	We	1:27 a.m.	+0.9	1:06 p.m.	+1.5	6:34 a.m.	+0.5	8:19 p.m.	+0.3

Daily variations in sea level due to local meteorological conditions cannot be predicted and may significantly effect the observed tides in this area. All times are listed in Local Standard Time. All heights are in feet referenced to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

Weather Statistics

Sunrise	06/13/13	04:23 a.m.	High Temp Low Temp Peak Wind Precip. to Date Normal Snowfall to Date Snow on Ground	+64° +30° 18mph, 4.63" 4.43" 65.8" 0"	06/02/13	National Weather Service Nome, Alaska (907) 443-2321 1-800-472-0391
	06/20/13	04:18 a.m.			06/11/13 W, 06/07/13	
Sunset	06/13/13	01:40 a.m.	Normal Snowfall to Date: 75.6"	Normal Snowfall to Date: 75.6"		
	06/20/13	01:48 a.m.				

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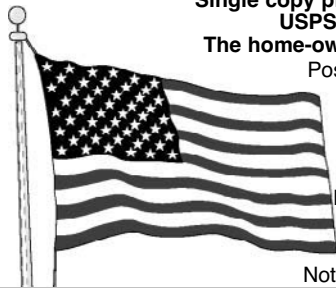
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Saturday and Sunday

Not published the last week of December





Strait Action

Compiled by Diana Haecker

Galena flood leaves contamination behind

The Dept. of Environmental Conservation reports that several locations in Galena were contaminated during the Memorial Day flood that devastated the Yukon River community. Drums containing used motor oil, pallets of batteries, dislodged heating oil fuel tanks, electrical transformers, cars, propane bottles and containers of paint were released into the environment. The quantity of contaminants released is unknown. A DEC responder is working with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management incident management team, the City of Galena and the city's response contractor to develop plans for cleaning up and recycling, reusing, or disposing of hazardous substance.

They focus on containing hazardous materials, determining the extent of contamination, assembling cleanup resources and setting up a temporary staging area. The contractor has pumped flood-contaminated water from the city swimming pool into one of the sewage lagoon cells.

Local residents trained in working with hazardous materials are assisting with the cleanup.

US-Russian Polar Bear Commission approves conservation management plan

At last week's meeting of the U.S.-Russia Polar Bear Commission in Russia, commissioners approved development of a conservation management plan for the shared Alaska-Chukotka polar bear population. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the plan identifies important habitats, high priority research activities and traditional ecological knowledge studies necessary to provide information for the sound management of the shared population.

Federal Commissioners Geoffrey Haskett, Regional Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services' Alaska Region, and Amirkhan Amirkhanov, Deputy Head of the Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service, described the activities of the Commission as an example of one of

the best working relationships and collaborative partnerships between the two countries. Commissioners Jack Omelak, Executive Director of the Alaska Nanuq Commission and Sergey Kavry, representative of the indigenous people of Chukotka Autonomous District, said the activities of the commission will ensure future conservation of the polar bear and preservation of Native peoples' culture.

The meeting took place June 5 through 7 at the Arctic and Antarctic Research Institute in St. Petersburg. Participants included federal, state and Native representatives from the United States and Russian Federation.

The goal of the meeting was to continue to implement the Bilateral Treaty for the Alaska-Chukotka polar bear population, which inhabits the Bering and Chukchi seas and is shared between the two countries.

The treaty between Native and government representatives of the U.S. and Russia was signed in 2000 due to the need for coordinated management of the shared Alaska-Chukotka polar bear population that inhabits the Chukchi and northern Bering seas.

USFWS allows incidental take of marine mammals

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Alaska Region announced the publication of Incidental Take Regulations in the Federal Register for the non-lethal, incidental take of small numbers of polar bears and Pacific walrus as a result of ongoing oil and gas activities in the Chukchi Sea and the adjacent western coast of Alaska.

Similar regulations have been in place in the Chukchi Sea since 2008. USFWS claims the regulations have been successful in minimizing the effects of industrial activities on polar bears and walrus, while monitoring the levels of such interactions.

In Alaska, the Marine Mammal Protection Act protects polar bears, Pacific walruses and sea otters by prohibiting "take" of these animals. But the law offers exceptions to the prohibition by allowing U.S. citizens to take small numbers of marine mammals incidental to specified activities. This is contingent on the USFWS's determination that the

kills would have a negligible impact on the species and does not have an adverse impact on the availability of the species for subsistence uses.

The Alaska Oil and Gas Association petitioned the USFWS to develop these ITRs. The law says that the Secretary of the Interior can allow, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals including polar bears, Pacific walruses and sea otters.

Incidental Take Regulations can be issued for up to five years.

USFWS argues that without incidental take authorizations, commercial activities would still continue. However, the USFWS would have no formal means to require monitoring and mitigation of specific activities under the marine mammal Protection Act. Any form of resulting "take" would be a violation of the MMPA.

The regulations were proposed on January 9. A 30-day public comment period closed February 9, 2013. The regulations will go into effect on June 12, 2013, and remain effective through June 12, 2018.

Preservationists sue Army Corps over NPR-A drill site

The Center for Biological Diversity challenged in court an Army Corps of Engineers permit granting ConocoPhillips permission to build a bridge across the Colville River to reach oil leases within the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska.

The lawsuit challenges the lack of environmental review for the expanded project, its impacts on endangered species and the Corps' rejection of a less environmentally damaging alternative.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court in Anchorage.

ConocoPhillips' plan approved by the Army Corps allows the oil company to build a drilling site within the boundaries of the reserve and connect it by a road and a bridge to oil infrastructure outside the reserve.

Reversing an earlier decision, the Corps rejected an alternative that would have minimized impacts to the Colville Delta, which provides habitat for myriad migratory birds, overwintering fish, caribou and marine mammals — including endan-

continued on page 4



Photo by Diana Haecker

GALENA RELIEF— Haley Olanna and her sister Melody braved the chilly temperatures and ran their Sunshine Gurls lemonade stand last week to raise money for the Galena flood victims. Teller hosted a pancake brunch last Sunday to benefit Galena.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, June 13

*About RSV: Play it Safe	Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Discipline: Toddler Years	Prenatal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, June 14

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - noon
*Choices in Childbirth	Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*The First Year	Prenatal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
*League/Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Drop-in Soccer (15+)	Nome Rec Center	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 15

*Why Breastfeed	Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*AKBody Tundra Challenge	East End Park	2:00 p.m.
*Family Safe from Botulism	Prenatal Home	2:30 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 16

*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
*Adult Pool Time	Pool	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
*Car Seat Safety and TXT 4 Baby	Prenatal Home	1:00 p.m.
*We're having a Baby Again	Prenatal Home	2:30 p.m.

Monday, June 17

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - noon
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 8:00 p.m.
*Yelling, threatening, & putting down-Prenatal Home	Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Child Nutrition and Learning	Prenatal Home	2:00 p.m.
*Fitness Fusion	Nome Rec Center	5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Pregnancy-Mom & the Unborn Child-Prenatal Home	Child-Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*The First Years are Forever	Prenatal Home	2:30 p.m.
*Summerize Program	Nome Rec Center	3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
*Open Gym:	Nome Rec Center	4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Strength Train	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Vinyasa Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 19

*Pickup bball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - noon
*Tundra Tots Program	Bering Land Bridge-VC	10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.
*Ranger Talk	Bering Land Bridge-VC	1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
*Relax Video	Prenatal Home	1:30 p.m.
*Close To Your Heart	Prenatal Home	3:30 p.m.
*Vinyasa Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:00 p.m. - 6:00 a.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Red Pin Bowling:	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. (Tue-Sat)

Additional hours available by appointment. Call 907-443-6630

Keigoayah Kozga Library: noon - 8 p.m. (M-Th) • noon - 6 p.m. (F-Sat)

Nome Visitors Center: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (M-F)

XYZ Center: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. (M-F)

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GOLD COAST CINEMA 443-8200 Starting Friday, June 14th

Epic 3D-PG - 7:00 p.m. Star Trek Into Darkness 2D-PG-13 - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday matinee Epic 3D-1:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Star Trek Into Darkness 2D-4:00 p.m. & 9:30 p.m.



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# Police officer shoots dog in town

*City initiated full administrative review of the incident*

By Diana Haecker

The circumstances that led to an incident in which an unidentified Nome Police officer shot a pet dog on Wally Merrill's property in town are under full administrative review, Nome Police Chief John Papasodora told the *Nome Nugget* on Monday.

The chief declined to comment further on the incident. He said not until the facts are sorted out will there be an official statement. Chief Papasodora was out of town when the shooting occurred.

According to the dog's owner Wally Merrill, he received several phone calls from his neighbors on Friday morning while he was at work, driving a Checker Cab.

"I was driving cab when my neighbors called saying the police shot my dog," Merrill said.

Another neighbor told the *Nugget* that he heard shots, went outside his house and saw a police officer walk to his patrol car with a rifle after three shots were fired.

The dog had been hiding under a white abandoned van on Merrill's property at Moore's Place, according to the neighbor. He said there were several children who were watching the scene unfold until their parents or babysitters tried to get them out of the area.

By the time Merrill arrived at home, the dog was dead and the officer had put him in a body bag.

Merrill said that his dog, "Bully", an eight-year old black shepherd/rotweiler/ husky mix, had been tied up.

Merrill said he had never received any complaints about the dog being vicious or biting people.

"Supposedly he bit a city worker a few days before. That's what the officer told me," Merrill said.

He added that he was not notified by the police or the city that there was a problem with his dog.

"I was so mad that they shot my dog. The wife is still crying about it," Merrill said.

"The incident is under full administrative review," confirmed City Manager Josie Bahnke. "Until the facts are all known, answers are difficult to provide," Bahnke said.

She said she didn't receive complaints from anyone other than the pet owner, but she encourages concerned citizens or witnesses to bring their complaints to her.



Photo by Diana Haecker  
**ATTACK—** A sea gull defends her nest against an attacking long-tailed jaeger near Fort Davis.

## • Anvil Square

*continued from page 1*

tive results to Nome, even if only to rule out Pilgrim Hot Springs once and for all as an energy source after decades of speculation.

Council members, albeit some with misgivings, voted to go along with Handeland in spending the money at the Springs.

The Council tentatively planned to hold a work session with a group from the University of Alaska currently studying the potential.

Drilling work has shown the Springs to have the temperature required; further studies this summer will see if the flow would sustain at least two megawatts, the yield needed to justify development.

Councilman Tom Sparks voted a "reluctant yes," noting that he would like to explore other uses for the \$300,000. Otherwise, he wanted to see a benefit from investing the money at Pilgrim Hot Springs for Nome down the road.

"I don't see that clearly," Sparks said.

According to Handeland, Pilgrim Geothermal, a Washington company, had been in discussions with the owners of Pilgrim Hot Springs, the consortium Unataaq LLC.

The company arrived at a deal allowing development based on a royalty agreement.

If the venture capitalists did not put their money into Pilgrim Hot Springs—along with the City's—they would put it somewhere else, Handeland told the Council.

Councilman Louis Green, Sr. wondered how the Council could make a good decision on the issue without knowing the outcome of the July drilling to determine if there was sufficient flow of hot water.

In other business:

- Mayor Denise Michels renewed appointments of members of advisory groups: Jimmy Adams to Nome Planning Commission; Lura S. Leahu and Doug Johnson to Nome Port Commission, and new member Robert H. Cahoon to Nome Planning Commission. Cahoon is a field engineer and geologist who has worked for several mining projects in Nome.

neer and geologist who has worked for several mining projects in Nome.

- Sent the 2014 municipal and port budget process into first reading. The measures will come up for hearing, discussion and final passage at the June 24 meeting of the Council. The Council set the 2014 mill rate at 11 mills, same as last year's.

- Approved sale of a note for \$8.3 million to finance fuel for the NJUS generators, including \$150,000 worth of fuel to heat and light the Nome Public School facilities.

- Accepted loans from the state Dept. of Environmental Conservation to finance water and sewer systems maintenance and construction equipment.

- Approved four fee waiver requests for City facilities—Northwest Campus for Cultural Planners, Myrtle Fagerstrom Agialak Johnson's services, Anvil City Science Academy and Norton Sound Health Corp. Healthy Start programs.

## • Strait Action

*continued from page 3*

gered ringed and bearded seals and polar bears.

The lawsuit claims the Corps granted the permit by relying on a nine-year-old environmental review conducted before ConocoPhillips made its current access proposal. The lawsuit claims the Corps did not consider impacts on whales and seal species and did not require the least environmentally damaging, practical alternative.

The group asserts that a planned pipeline over one of the Colville River's largest channels would increase the risk of a catastrophic oil

spill when spring ice breakup leads to unpredictable conditions on the ice-choked river. They say that such a spill would be devastating to birds and could dump oil into the Beaufort Sea, vital habitat for endangered bowhead whales as well as threatened polar bears and ice seals.

The lawsuit is the second legal action challenging the permit.

Trustees for Alaska, representing residents of Nuiqsut sued the Corps in February, claiming petroleum development on the Colville River Delta will harm their subsistence life of hunting and fishing.

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**NEW SHIRT** (*top right*)— Maggie Miller, left, received a City of Nome logo shirt from City Manager Josie Bahnke for her efforts to help with Nome's annual cleanup event.

**By Diana Haecker**

Although foggy weather and temperatures hovering near the freezing point are usually not conducive to voluntary trash pick up activities, the city's clean-up week did have the intended results and Nome is a cleaner place than two weeks before.

Jessie Miller, new city manager assistant, said that the "U Call - We haul" crew hauled large amounts of unwanted appliances, cars, snowmachines and other large objects from people's yards - of course, only upon their owner's request.

Spring took its sweet long time to arrive so the city extended the cleanup program for one week.

The clean up event, scheduled for June 1, also had been postponed to take place a week later, on June 8.

Public Works employees removed 16 refrigerators, ovens, freezers and dishwashers; nine washer and dryers and seven couches. They also towed at owners' requests 14 vehicles and snowmachines.

Ninety dump trucks full of old junk and trash were taken to the landfill over a two-week period.

On the last day of the 2013 spring clean up effort, people collected trash and turned in over 1,500 yellow trash bags.

Miller said that Boys and Girls Scout troops turned in close to 200

yellow bags.

Girl Scout troop 303 staffed the dump truck at the Elementary School parking lot between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday, the annual clean-up event day.

They also collected trash around the school's playground whenever the constant slight drizzle let up. The girls picked up plastic wrappers, large pieces of plastic shrink-wrap, cans with cigarette butts; they also found a dollar bill ripped in half.

The girls also helped city employees give out prizes at the Clean-up event raffle inside Old St. Joe's Hall on Saturday.

They assisted City Manager Josie Bahnke and Jessie Miller hand out berry buckets, City of Nome logo t-shirts and long sleeve shirts, Frisbees and water bottles.

The Nome Aviation Museum donated money to purchase seven bikes which were raffled off. The winners are Nancy Bahnke, Linda Steiger, Richard Schulling, Hunter Bellamy, Mulla Daniels, Harry Karmun and Georgia Booshu.

Outside, the Lions Club bus served as mobile kitchen as members feed hungry trash pickers hot dogs and soda. The first 50 trash collectors in line received a movie pass from Gold Coast Cinema and ice cream from the Polar Café.

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## 2013 Folk Fest Schedule

**Tuesday, June 18**

7:30PM BARN DANCE W/ LANDBRIDGE  
TOLLBOOTH @ ELEMENTARY - \$3

**Friday, June 21**

• 1:30PM RHYTHM & DANCE FOR KIDS  
W/ DAVID WAX MUSEUM  
@ ELEMENTARY - FREE!

**Friday, June 21**

7:30PM DAVID WAX MUSEUM CONCERT  
@ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
- \$5 (YOUTH/ELDERS), \$8 ADULTS, \$20 FAMILIES

## Saturday, June 22

• 4:30PM - 10PM MAIN STAGE  
PERFORMANCES, CRAFT FAIR, DAVID  
WAX MUSEUM @ ELEMENTARY - FREE!

• 10PM DAVID WAX MUSEUM @ THE  
BERING SEA BAR & GRILL- FREE!

Nome Midnight Sun  
**FOLK FEST** 

**Musicians! The deadline is June 13 to sign up to play on the Main Stage! Contact: [k\\_brabec@hotmail.com](mailto:k_brabec@hotmail.com) or 443-7543.**

**Food & Craft Vendors! Get your table for the Saturday, June 22 Folk Fest craft fair before they're all gone!**  
**Text 920-540-4234 or e-mail [eforton@gmail.com](mailto:eforton@gmail.com).**





*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**ICE CUBES IN JUNE**— Small ice bergs still float around Norton Sound in front of Nome, while some chunks piled up ashore of East Beach. Persistent ice and cold weather slowed down the arrival of spring and summer.

# Alaska Airlines cuts down to two daily flights to Nome

**By Diana Haecker**  
Starting August 25, Alaska Airlines will make changes to the Nome and Kotzebue flight schedules. There will be only two flights between Anchorage and Nome/Kotzebue. The new schedule has flight 152 depart from Anchorage to Nome at

9:50 a.m. with arrival in Nome at 11:24 a.m. Flight 153 will depart Anchorage at 4:30 p.m. with a stop in Kotzebue and arrival in Nome at 7:25 p.m. Between Nome and Anchorage, flight 151 will leave Nome at 12:10 p.m. arriving in Anchorage at 1:34 p.m.

Flight 153 will leave Nome at 8:10 p.m. and will arrive in Anchorage at 9:33 p.m. The flights are all served by 737 jet planes. Alaska Airlines spokeswoman Marianne Lindsey said the changes came about “to better utilize our aircraft in all our markets, for the best

advantage of our customers, and for the airline.” “We will have more seats available for sale as one of those flights will be a nonstop, fully dedicated passenger aircraft to Anchorage,” Lindsey said. She explained that in the past, Alaska Airlines utilized a combi (part

cargo and part passenger) aircraft, leaving fewer seats for passengers. “The new direct routes will provide better aircraft utilization and actually mean more seats in both markets for sale,” she said.

# NJUS establishes new water point

**By Diana Haecker**  
Nome Joint Utilities has created a new water point for the community just in time as transients and miners flock to town. Instead of tapping into the city’s water source at the NJUS power plant on Port Road, a pump house at Sixth Avenue next to the Rec Center is now equipped with a hose connection to get potable water without having to enter the pump house. There is a male hose connection outside the building to connect a water hose -water haulers will need to bring their own hose – and a push button to start the water flow. NJUS manager John Handeland


said the water flows at 55 gallons per minute. In the past, those without their own water source have hauled water from the power plant directly. This came to a stop last year when an out-of-towner took the wrong hose and almost poisoned himself. Instead of taking the water hose, he tried to get water through the glycol hose. After the incident, the inside water hole was shut down and NJUS established a watering point at a fire hydrant outside the power plant for the summer of 2012. From now on, NJUS announced, water will only be available at the Sixth Avenue pump house.



*Photo by Nikolai Ivanoff*  
**STAY AWAY**— Musk oxen made their way down from the hills and to the Nome plain, grazing on barely sprouting willow greens.

A Repeal SB 21 petition booklet is located at the *Nome Nugget* newspaper for interested voters to sign.

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Despite the weather, 2013 Stroke-n-Croak Triathlon takes place

With dense fog, constant drizzle and low temperatures, participants of the 2013 Stroke-n-Croak Triathlon were glad for the hot chocolate and cookies at the finish line at the Rec Center.

Twenty-seven intrepid athletes did not let the crummy weather deter them from participating in the annual Stroke-n-Croak Triathlon, a fundraiser for the high school swim team. Eleven individuals did the entire race, other folks made up 9 teams. Times ranged from 1 hour 22 minutes and 47 seconds ( Phil Hofstetter) to 3 hours 17 minutes and 38 seconds (Christine Schultz) At the end of the race, Christine saw that she had not removed a piece of packing material on her bike which seriously impeded her pedaling – so her time isn’t a fair representation of her abilities. The youngest participant was speedy runner Aaron Rose (13 years old) doing his leg of the race in

36 minutes and 49 seconds. The oldest participant was Kirsten Bey (57) who did the swimming leg for 2 teams.

Five NACTEC students participated in various teams. Maliqiaq Pudilla came the farthest to participate. Originally from Greenland, he is currently living in Alaska but is in Nome as a visiting instructor at NACTEC, teaching the students to build a traditional Greenland kayak.

Jackie Hrabok-Leppäjärvi came from The Sámi Education Institute in Inare, Finland to time all the runners and bikers. Thanks go to everyone who counted laps for the swimmers, Todd Hindman for lifeguarding and Vicki Erickson for watching bicycles and helping at the rec center. Several people who had never done a triathlon before did the whole race. So think about participating next year.

Stroke-n-Croak Triathlon results

<b>Male Individual</b>	
Phil Hofstetter	1:22:47
Tyler Rhodes	1:38:06
Maliqiaq Pudilla	1:51:16
Kevin Keith	2:06:29
Jay Sears	2:08:01
Sean Penetac	2:20:57
<b>Female Individual</b>	
Erika Rhodes	2:00:42
Darcy Perkins	2:01:02
Daisy Chiskok	2:35:54
Christine Schultz	3:17:38
<b>Teams</b>	
Phil Hofstetter, Sarah Hofstetter, Phil Hofstetter	1:37:08
Liz Korenek - Johnson, Tyler Johnson, Tyler Johnson	1:39:28
Kirsten Bey, Jane Lando, Jane Lando	1:40:18
Mikey Lean, Jane Lando, Jane Lando	1:48:33
Deb Trowbridge, Gail Lewis, Liz Korenek-Johnson	1:52:27
Darcy Perkins, Aaron Rose, Darcy Perkins	2:01:02
Maliqiaq Pudilla, Grace Ongtowasruk, Andy Nayokpuk	2:07:34
Brian Volk, Season Haugen, Andy Nayokpuk	2:11:28
Rebecca Pikonganna, Samuel Tocktoo, Andy Nayokpuk	2:11:42



Photo courtesy of Kirsten Bey

READY, SET, GO— Participants in the 2013 Stroke-n-Croak Triathlon get ready to tackle the first part of the event at the Nome-Beltz Pool.

Semester 2 Honor Roll, Nome-Beltz Jr/Sr High School -

Students with at least a cumulative 3.0 (B), no grade lower than a C, and at least 4 classes Bolded CAPITALIZED names signify a 4.0 average.

**7th Grade**  
Kerry Ahmasuk  
Elizabeth Alowa  
Taeler Brunette  
**KURTIS BUSHEY**  
Annalise Contreras  
Kelsie Crisci  
**KEON EVANS**  
Orlin Gologergen  
Lonnie Gooden  
Randel Iyatunguk  
Madison Johnson  
Joseph Kinneen  
Robert Koezuna  
Stacie Outwater  
Emily Pomrenke  
Aaron Rose  
RaeAnne Scarlett  
Katherine Scott  
Rebecca Seeganna  
Donald Smith  
Chance Thrun  
Michael Tocktoo

**8th Grade**  
Deja Acoman  
**HANNAH ALOWA**  
Emmanuel Asher  
Tatiana Chanar  
Kimberly Clark  
Megan Contreras  
Wilson Hoogendorn  
Daphany Iya  
Timothy James  
Cody Johnson  
Kyrie Milline-Cardenas  
**MARILYN MOORE**  
Audra Murdock  
Ivory Okleasik  
Erica Outwater  
Maria Pelkola  
Zachary Tozier

**9th Grade**  
Allaryce Agloinga  
Senora Ahmasuk  
Tanis Bjorgen  
Leif Erikson  
**JAMES HORNER**  
Nolan Horner  
Ethan Kelso  
Jeremy Knudsen  
**DEGNAN LAWRENCE**  
Tonja Osborne  
Brayden Scarlett  
Tamara Spivey  
Victoria Thomas  
**TEHYA TUCKER**  
Kailey Witrosky

**10th Grade**  
Matthew Appolloni

Nathaniel Appolloni  
Isaiah Klay Baker  
Hunter Bellamy  
Mary Bobby  
Emery Booshu  
**ALYSSA BUSHEY**  
Tate Coler  
Joseph Cross III  
Jamie Evak  
Jason Gilder  
Joshua Gologergen  
John Habros  
**DANIEL HEAD**  
Fred Henry  
Oliver Hoogendorn  
Alexis Hutson  
Gabriel Smith  
Jannelle Trowbridge  
Jaqulyn Viner

**11th Grade**  
Adelaine Ahmasuk  
Sara Clark  
Tyler Eide  
Junyor Erikson  
Mackenzie Hall  
**ARIANA HORNER**  
Katrina Jepson  
Shayla Johnson  
Sun Kim  
Bruce Landry  
Cass Mattheis  
Conner Merboth  
**LEWIS PAYNE**  
Justin Schield  
Victor Spivey  
Jake Stettenbenz  
Ashley Tobuk  
John Tocktoo  
**TAMAIRA TOCKTOO**  
Hannah Tozier  
Gwendalyn Trigg-Komakhuk  
Matthew Tunley  
Dawn Wehde  
**ALLYSON WUKOVICH**  
Jenny Yi

**12th Grade**  
Curtis Alvanna  
Alex Bahnke  
Scott Brown  
Kenna-Sue Contreras  
Jessica Gologergen  
Dominique Hall  
**DIANA HANDELAND**  
**CHRISTOPHER HARVEY**  
Devynn Johnson  
Dylan Johnson  
Ashley Ledford  
Nicholas Morgan  
Miranda Murphy  
**TAYLOR POMERANZ**  
**CAMERON SMITH**  
Russell Smith  
**ZACHARY SULLIVAN**  
Pamela Tocktoo

Nome-Beltz Jr/Sr High School Perfect Attendance

Fourth Quarter 2012-2013

**JUNIOR HIGH**  
Emmanuel John Asher  
Joseph Campbell Kinneen

**HIGH SCHOOL**  
Matthew Thomas Appolloni  
Nathaniel Michael Appolloni  
Isaiah Klay Baker  
Alyssa Renee Bushey  
Tate O’Neal Coler  
Tyler Knute Eide  
Leif Anthony Erikson  
Jason Ronald Gilder  
James Marcellas Horner  
Nolan Thomas Horner  
Bruce Paul Landry  
Lewis Harlan Payne  
Tamara Janette Spivey  
Pamela Catherine Tocktoo  
Tamaira Signa Tocktoo  
Allyson Marie Wukovich

Perfect attendance for the entire 2012 – 2013 school year Nome Elementary School

Bahnke, Sarah K  
Ferreira, Darius Gaige  
Nashalook, Andrew Martin  
Nguyen, Amy Thi  
Okleasik, Heidi Piper  
Sinnok, Julia Rae Lillian  
Thrun, Colten Jay Ralph  
Tocktoo, Nicholas Harry

Halleran, Shylah Naomi  
Immingan, Avery Iris  
Johnson, Kaitlyn Stephenie  
Keller, Joshua Daniel-Fredrick  
Kobuk, Rachel Julia  
Lewis, Tanner Mason  
Lyon, Devon Alexander  
Marble, Isaiah Ezra  
Marble, Sophia Elizabeth  
Martinson, Joseph Adam  
Marvin, Lucas Banner  
McFarland, Colin Frank  
McGuffey, Duke A  
Moore, Ethan L  
Moore, Micah Jeremiah  
Nashalook, Andrew Martin  
Nguyen, Amy Thi  
Okbaok, Lisa Jane  
Okleasik, Heidi Piper  
Outwater, Ryan  
Reynolds, Kyle Patrick  
Sinnok, Julia Rae Lillian  
Teesateskie, Savanna Eva May  
Thrun, Cirsten Ann  
Thrun, Colten Jay Ralph  
Tocktoo, Nicholas Harry

Perfect Attendance for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of school year 2012 - 2013

Arrington, Cash R.  
Bahnke, Audrey P  
Bahnke, David Reese  
Bahnke, Sarah K  
Barr, Jadyn  
Craft, Danika  
Ellanna, Peter Onosa’i  
Erikson, Son Anthony  
Evans, Kylie Renae  
Fagerstrom, Aliya Alysa  
Ferreira, Darius Gaige  
Ferreira, Destiny Paige  
Ferreira, Xander Clyde  
Habros, Celina Nadia  
Halleran, Katrina Faith



Orphaned Wildlife

The Alaska Department of Fish & Game in Nome reminds the community no one except ADF&G and the Alaska State Troopers are authorized to take orphaned wildlife into possession. Here are steps to take when coming upon orphaned wildlife during spring travel.



Do Not

•Do Not touch, handle, or pick up any animal or bird.

•Do Not approach muskox groups. Newborn muskox calves are easily trampled and killed when groups run.

• Do Not approach cow moose and new calves. Cow moose can be aggressive and dangerous.

Do

•Report the location, type, and behavior of animal that appears orphaned to wildlife officials.

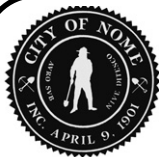
•Avoid approaching or touching animals or birds that appear orphaned. It is illegal and may result in a fine up to \$10,000 & one year in jail.

Help protect wildlife and yourself!

Report an orphaned animal to the following Nome offices:

Alaska Dept. Fish & Game  
443-2271

Alaska State Troopers  
443-2835



Thanks Nome, for a great Spring Clean-Up! Special thanks to the following:

Bering Sea Lions Club (for the bus and volunteers)

Nome Aviation and Military (for donating 5 bicycles)

AC “Alaska Commercial” (for donating hot dogs and buns)

Nome Joint Utility System (for donating soda)

Polar Cafe´ (for donating ice cream cones)

Nome Trading Company (for donating water)

Hanson’s Eagle Quality Center (for donating catsup, mustard and pickle relish)

KICY (for free public service announcements)

KNOM (for free public service announcements)

Nome Nugget (for discounted advertising)

KICY (for truck sitting)

Girl Scout Troop #303 (for truck sitting)

Nome Alumni Association (for truck sitting)

Teen “ACTION” Group (for truck sitting)

Nome Youth Hockey (for truck sitting)

Alaska Department of Transportation (for the use of dump trucks)

Public Works and all City of Nome Employees

City Council

GCI (for free public service announcements)





Photo by Nils Hahn

**DREDGING BEGINS**— Ice bergs still float in Norton Sound in front of Nome and morning fog lifts as a lone dredge putters to work the ocean floor for gold on Tuesday, June 11.

## • *DNR rejects*

*continued from page 1*

and Ken Kerr, according to the commissioner's decision sent out to 17 highest, second highest, and third highest bidders on the 12 affected tracts.

However, scrutiny of the Division of Mining, Land and Water web site shows that DNR did award Ken Kerr Tract 3. Dan Murphy bid highest on Tract 3, but did not purchase the lease. Kerr was second-highest bidder, and was awarded Tract 3 effective Feb. 27, 2012.

He will research the issue within the department, Goodrum said. "This is an evolving process."

Other miners who attended and bid at the auction claimed they had been told that those with mining permits were set without making out and submitting another statement of qualification. Others said they had not submitted the qualifications document, had bid, but did not win a chance to buy a tract from DNR.

Both Benchoff and Meisterheim possessed mining permits.

A person signing a statement of qualification affirms that he is at least 18 years of age and a U.S. citizen.

Sullivan said in his decision that Kerwin Krause of DNR, according to Krause's typed agenda, had announced for the outcry bids that all miners had to sign in, submit their qualification form and receive a bidder number card.

The history briefly goes like this:

Oct. 27, 2011, Goodrum found that because of an excusable "inadvertence," Benchoff and Meisterheim did not file a statement of qualification. Goodrum allowed and received a late submission from both bidders within a required 10 days.

On Nov. 10, Norm Stiles appealed the award of tracts 4 and 6 to Meisterheim.

Goodrum sent out a letter Jan. 26, 2012, to bidders for the dozen disputed tracts on which Benchoff was high bidder, giving them notice of

their right to join Stiles' appeal.

Meisterheim cut a deal with Stiles to withdraw his interest in Tract 4 in exchange for Stiles' withdrawal of his appeal. After submission of paperwork, Sullivan sent out a letter May 14, 2012 approving the deal, declaring the appeal resolved and thus clearing the way for Stiles to receive Tract 4. The letter contained boilerplate language on the opportunity to appeal Sullivan's decision in state superior court according to law. Meisterheim's high bid on Tract 6 remained in the dozen disputed tracts.

During this appeal process, the DNR received four responses to the appeal, including one from Solomon Gold on Feb. 16.

On June 14, Solomon Gold, Inc., appealed Sullivan's May 14 closing of the appeal to Anchorage Superior Court.

Solomon Gold argued that Sullivan was "capricious and abused his discretion in dismissing the appeal in his decision dated May 14, 2012, because arguments of Solomon Gold were not addressed."

DNR and Sullivan countered that the appeal had been withdrawn by

Stiles.

Bob Retherford, president of Solomon Gold, argued in his Feb. 16 letter that there could be "no misunderstandings during the sign-in process," given the ample amount of notice bidders had of the rules for the upcoming auction—the Aug. 23, 2011 public notice, the links to the qualification statement, that bid forms included a reference that the statement of qualifications form was required.

On July 3, Solomon Gold filed a motion in court to remand (send the appeal back to DNR) and stay the awards of tracts in question.

On July 27, the DNR filed a motion to dismiss Solomon's appeal for lack of standing and failure to exhaust administrative remedies.

On Aug. 6, Solomon filed a brief in support of the DNR's request to take the issue back, but filed another motion opposing dismissal of the appeal.

On Aug. 29, the DNR and Solomon Gold filed a joint agreement to get the issue back to DNR for another look by DNR administrators.

The next day, state court Judge Jack W. Smith signed an order approving the request to kick the appeal back to DNR for another try at resolution on the merits of whether DNR properly provided Benchoff and Meisterheim an opportunity to submit statements of qualification and on the merits of Solomon Gold's appeal.

Sullivan reversed Goodrum's decision to allow the two to file their statement of qualifications late.

Solomon Gold, registered five days before the lease auction in Sept. 2011, comprises Robert Retherford, local Nome resident Bryan Weyauvanna, Craig Coggins, David Whitmire, Edgar Schwoyer, Kevin Gray and Marc Taylor, according to the firm's 2013 Biennial report shown on the state Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development corporations web site.

Other Nome bidders affected by the dispute over the tract awards are Frank McFarland, Tina Yi, Shawn Pomrenke and Douglas Martinson.

Asked whether he would appeal, Benchoff said he was considering his options.

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Phone: (800) 385-3190 • Fax: (907) 624-3183



## • Nome housing crunch

continued from page 1

New Frontier Realty broker Jim Stimpfle said landlords are taking advantage of the market and are charging hefty rents. “I know of a 3-bedroom house that was rented for \$3,500 per month with \$2,000 deposit,” Stimpfle said.

Rents go up in the summer, making the situation worse for low-income families and transient miners with big dreams and empty pockets.

Nome Sweet Homes realtor Melissa Ford has a waiting list of 18 local families looking for a home and 10 out-of-town seasonal transients looking for temporary accommodations.

Ford noticed that landlords switch from monthly to weekly rentals so they can charge more. It is not uncommon, she said, that a rented room goes for \$80 per night. She also noticed that foreclosure sales of predominantly non-functional homes are being snatched up as soon as they become available, with the new owners making them somewhat habitable.

Land sales have picked up a lot, Ford said. The sad part, she noted, is that local families are forced to pay a lot more in rent or if they decide to buy homes, it is at a higher price. One of Ford’s irritations is that people show up in Nome without having done their homework. “Don’t get me wrong, I like the miners and all, but some hit Nome with no place to stay and they want to rent a house. Well, I don’t have anything open until Oct. 1,” she said.

But then there are also those who did their homework and whose tenacity paid off.

### Smart planning pays off

Thomas Palmer and his wife, of Shelbyville, Kentucky decided that gold mining in Alaska sounded like a fun way to spend their retirement. The Palmers did their research and decided that Nome would be the place. “I wasn’t even aware of the gold show,” Palmer said when asked if their interest was spurred by Bering Sea Gold. The retired couple embarked on an investigative trip to

Nome in 2011, bought a few offshore leases from the state in the 2011 lease auction and began looking for accommodations. They brought their two dogs with them, so renting in town was not an option. The Palmers looked for land to buy which turned out to be not as easy as they thought.

“There was not a lot of selection,” Palmer said. Despite cash money in hand, a couple of land purchase deals didn’t come through. But in the end, the Palmers found their lot near the Dexter Pass Road. Last year, they shipped two 40-ft. Conexes to Nome. The containers were fashioned to be turned into living quarters with kitchen, bathroom and once in Nome, welded-in windows.

The Palmers are on the City’s electricity grid, but are not hooked up to sewer or water like most in that area. They are on water delivery and have rented a porta-potty.

Palmer, a 66-year old adventurous soul, said although last summer’s weather was quite disappointing; he spent most of it learning the ropes of gold dredging and working on equipment. “We didn’t get much dredging done,” he said.

Weather is always a complicating factor in the business of gold mining, but Palmer said he enjoys the challenge of it. “We came early this year, and we got to enjoy a snow storm in May,” he said with a hint of delight in his voice. The Palmers are warm and cozy in their wood-stove heated Conex and are not subject to cold and damp living conditions like their fellow miners living in tents.

The Palmers have invested in mining leases, land and other assets in order to spend their summers mining in Nome, but other visitors haven’t been so thorough in planning their summer in Nome.

### Solutions in the works

Realtor Melissa Ford echoed Barb Nickels’ frustration that the problem is not of Nome’s making, yet the Chamber, realtors and the City get stuck with having to come up with a solution.

City Manager Josie Bahnke also is not pleased. “What blows me away is that those guys show up without a

plan,” Bahnke said. “The City tries to provide essential services and that’s all we can handle.” She said the City neither has the property suitable nor the money to set up a recreational campground with adequate facilities and security to accommodate miners.

Bahnke said that the City is grateful for the economic boost Nome gets in the summer via sales tax – although it is difficult to determine hard numbers on the miners’ impact on city coffers. And there are those expenses on the other side of the ledger that arise from increased activity at the harbor. The city continues to support legislation that would provide for mineral revenue sharing with the City. The state receives royalty and taxes from gold extraction and Nome deserves some of the boon as the city is impacted by those who extract the gold, city officials argue.

If the city were to receive revenue sharing, it may be in a better financial position to propose a solution.

In a meeting of the minds prior to last Friday’s public miner meeting hosted by the Dept. of Natural Resources, state as well as city officials and Sitnasuak Inc. representatives discussed short term and mid-term solutions. Nobody proposed creating another camp ground, but there was agreement that the campground near Dredge 6 would be a near-perfect solution.

Bahnke reached out to the Alaska Miner’s Association to engage them in a dialogue in the hope to form a partnership. She said that there are other successful partnerships which could serve as a model. She cites the Nome Sportsmanship Association that maintains the city-owned Sunset shooting range and city’s relationship with the Nome Rotary Club, which helped to develop and maintain East End Park. Bahnke envisions a similar cooperation with a mining related entity that could help with the perennial housing problem without stretching the city’s limited resources.

“It’s the city’s goal to work with the Alaska Miner’s Association and we want to be part of the solution,” Bahnke said. “The last thing the City wants to do is turn miners away.”



Photo by Nils Hahn

**PREPARED**— Ed Flaherty, left, and John Kennedy pan for gold at East Beach on Tuesday, June 11. The visiting New Yorkers are not caught wanting for a roof over their heads as they arranged to stay at the Nugget Inn hotel.



Photo by Diana Haecker

**PUT ON NOTICE**— Signs at East Beach across from Swanberg’s Dredge inform the public that mining on Sitnasuak land is prohibited. The Dept. of Natural Resources, Sitnasuak Native Corporation and Bering Straits Native Corporation have erected the signs to educate beach users of the do’s and don’ts when using the beach.

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# Avoiding sugary beverages may raise your good cholesterol

**By Bob Lawrence, MD  
Alaska Family Doctor**

You have heard that raising your High Density Lipoprotein (HDL), or good cholesterol, is beneficial to your health. But increasing the HDL is not easy and many people have difficulty raising the HDL even when taking a medication to control the cholesterol. It turns out that the problem may be in the way we use sugar.

So here is the new recommendation: If you are looking to raise your HDL, try limiting added sugars, especially in the form of sugary drinks. According to researchers, there is a connection between limiting the consumption of added dietary sugars and a positive increase in a person's High Density Lipoprotein (HDL), or good cholesterol.

People who consume a higher amount of added dietary sugars from sodas, fruit drinks, foods with high fructose corn syrup, or boxed cereals are twice as likely to have a low HDL cholesterol compared to those who get less than five percent of their energy intake from added sugar, according to a 2010 study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.

Worse, researchers also find that high sugar consumption is associated with high triglycerides, a harmful type of fat found in the blood.

The new data is important because the pattern of having a low HDL and high triglycerides in otherwise healthy individuals is called dyslipidemia, a condition known to be associated with underlying problems in the cardiovascular system.

But many patients find it hard to raise their HDL and lower their triglyceride numbers even when taking cholesterol medications. The research suggests the problem is our ever-growing sweet tooth.

Added sugars are defined as sugars or syrups added to food during processing. The added sugar provides energy just like natural sugars, but unlike the natural sugars found in fruit and vegetables, added sugar provides no additional nutrients such as vitamins, minerals, or fiber. Dieticians often call added sugars "empty calories."

A growing body of evidence has linked added sugar in the diet to metabolic and cardiovascular problems including obesity, diabetes mellitus type 2, and cardiovascular disease. Research from the Framingham Heart Study suggests a link between consumption of one or more sugary sodas daily and a person's increased risk for developing high blood pressure.

People in rural Alaska have witnessed the effects of a high sugar diet first hand. Historically, people

in coastal Alaska had one of the healthiest diets in the world, one that is low in added sugar and high in healthy fats. The Genetics of Coronary Artery Disease in Alaska Natives (GOCODAN) has shown that a diet rich in traditional Native foods like salmon, seal oil, and sea mammals is associated with lower triglycerides and LDL (bad cholesterol) and a higher HDL

(good cholesterol).

Unfortunately, economic and social pressures in the region have resulted in a transition away from a healthy diet to one that is high in simple carbohydrates full of added sugar. These unhealthy dietary changes are linked to the increasing levels of diabetes mellitus type 2 and heart disease seen throughout rural Alaska.

So where is the added sugar in your diet? The primary sources of added sugar in a typical American diet are soft drinks (pop), fruit juices, and sugary beverages. Switching to water and unsweetened beverages

can significantly reduce the number of empty calories consumed daily.

You may also consider using half the syrup, jelly, or dressing you would normally use on foods. If given the choice between fruit and a sugary snack, consider the fruit, which will satisfy the craving for something sweet while supplying additional fiber and vitamins.

For women, the American Heart Association recommends limiting the total number of calories consumed from added sugar to 100 calories (about 2 tablespoons) daily; and for men, the recommendation is to

limit added sugars to 150 calories (about 3 tablespoons) daily. For reference, one 12 oz can of soda contains about 3 tablespoons of added sugar (130-140 calories).

Giving up a favorite pop or juice may sound difficult at first. However, fresh fruit or berries will provide the calories needed in a way that promotes overall good health and may even help improve your cholesterol numbers. Remember, according to research, it is an apple, rather than apple juice, a day that keeps the doctor away.



## All Around the Sound

**New Arrivals**

Cecelia Tingook and Wesley Komonaseak are proud to announce the birth of their son **Seth Curtis Analook Komonaseak**. He was born April 5 in Nome and was 7lbs. 8oz. and 19' in length. His maternal grandparents are Carlson Tingook of Teller and Anna Oxereok of Wales. His paternal grandparents are Luther and Christine Komonoaseak of Wales.



Seth Curtis Analook Komonaseak

Proud parents Joel and Brooke Alowa of Nome, introduce **Mavis Reed Adeline Tenuwghaq Alowa**. Mavis weighed in at 8 lbs and 20



Mavis Reed Adeline Tenuwghaq Alowa.

*continued on page 11*

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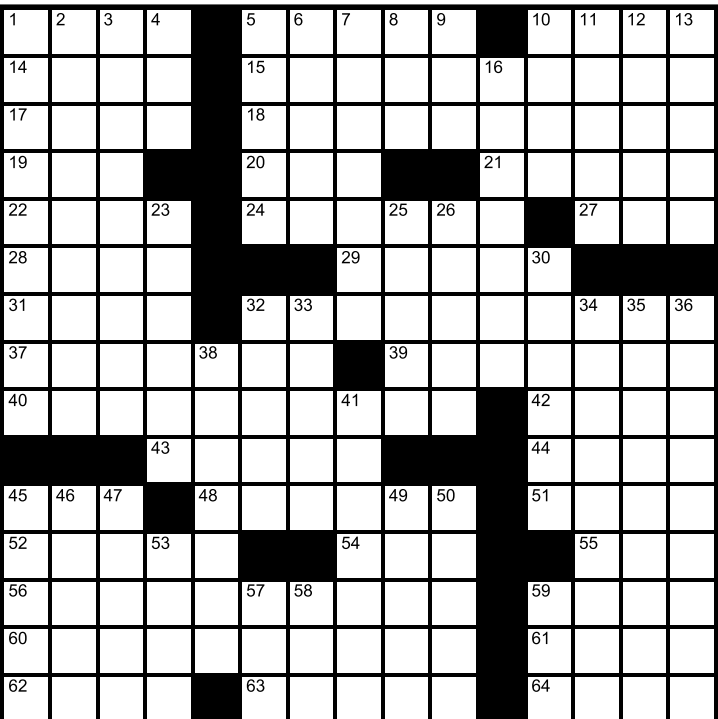
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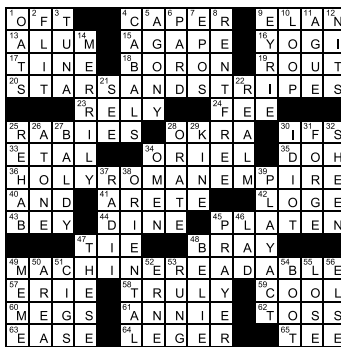
### Across

- Chums
- Lieu
- \_\_\_ Verde National Park
- Christiania, now
- Another name for Murcotts
- Fall follower
- Nullify
- Athletic supporter? (golf)
- Barely get, with "out"
- Brightly colored perching birds
- Eyes, poetically
- Gambia's basic unit of money
- Long, long time
- Change from a solid to a liquid
- Architectural projection
- Ancient colonnade
- Star explosions
- Impractically ideal
- Those opposed to 1960s liberalism
- Walker
- Gout-causing \_\_\_ acid
- Assassinated
- Baby's first word, maybe
- Appear
- Acute anxieties
- Cicatix
- \_\_\_ terrier
- Foot digit
- 1969 Peace Prize grp.
- Excessive

### Down

- Informal drinking toast (2 wds)
- Female theater assistant
- Member of aristocracy (2 wds)
- Ground cover
- Enclosed in a pigpen
- Five-line Japanese verse
- Wrap
- \_\_\_ Khan
- Vina \_\_\_ Mar, Chile
- Calf-length skirt
- Related maternally
- Begin (2 wds)
- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (acronym)
- Full orchestra
- Stirrup-shaped bone in middle ear
- "Gladiator" setting
- Femme fatale
- Doctors who temporarily substitute for others
- "Paradise Lost" character
- Strip a ship's sails of its ropes
- Ravenous
- Theory that humans lack a spiritual nature
- Variety of endive (pl.)
- Hawaiian \_\_\_
- Establish in office
- Litmus reddeners
- Brief appearance of a prominent actor
- Kitchen counter?
- Carries
- Top competitors, often
- Lariat
- Common Market inits.
- "Go team!"
- Mr., in India

### Previous Puzzle Answers



# HOROSCOPES

June 12, 2013 — June 18, 2013

**CAPRICORN**  
December 22–January 19

Play your cards right at an upcoming event, Capricorn, and you could be in for a promotion. A new friend spins an unbelievable tale. Who knew?

**ARIES**  
March 21–April 19

Organization is key to smooth operations at home. Start with that pile near your front door, Aries. Confidences are broken at work, just in time!

**CANCER**  
June 22–July 22

Crikey, Cancer. You've kept your talents under wraps for so long that people are starting to forget what a star you are. Sign up for an upcoming event.

**LIBRA**  
September 23–October 22

Live, love and laugh. That should be your mantra this week and always. You've become much too serious for your own good. Snap out of it, Libra.

**AQUARIUS**  
January 20–February 18

Heads up, Aquarius. An acquaintance has their sights set on you for assistance with an unusual task. Don't take the bait unless you're ready.

**TAURUS**  
April 20–May 20

Eavesdropping is unavoidable, Taurus. Consider the source and take what you hear this week with a grain of salt. A trade at home is more than fair.

**LEO**  
July 23–August 22

Alas, Leo. Whatever the situation, you always manage to keep it together. That trait will come in handy at work and lead to a new responsibility.

**SCORPIO**  
October 23–November 21

The torch is passed, and you must find something else to do with your time. You won't have to look far, Scorpio. A young friend could use a mentor.

**PISCES**  
February 19–March 20

An organization reaches out. Heed the call, Pisces. You have the resources to see it through. A development at work is no reason to panic.

**GEMINI**  
May 21–June 21

Itching to get started, Gemini? You might want to wait until you have all of the facts. A debt is repaid—with interest. Put it to good use.

**VIRGO**  
August 23–September 22

Impossible, Virgo. There is no way you messed up, or is there? Look a little closer and make amends before it's too late. A memo settles a matter.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
November 22–December 21

Tirades do not become you, so stop with the dramatics and try a new tactic to make yourself heard. People will listen with the right mode of attack, Sagittarius.

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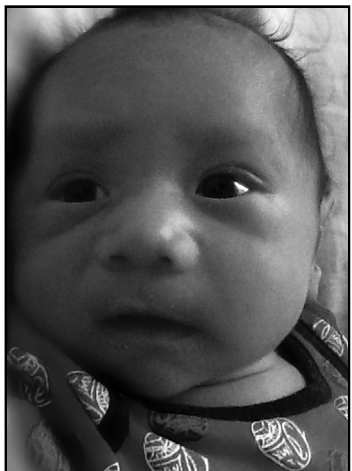
• More All Around the Sound

*continued from page 10*  
inches when she was born at 8:42 a.m. on April 24, at ANMC. She



Jesse James Rowe

joins siblings Ahsaiyah, Hannah, Elizabeth and Fox Alowa of Nome. She is welcomed by grand-



Andrew Alexander Winfred Avzraq Paniulaq Obruk

parents William Downey of Springfield, Massachusetts; Julie (Alowa) Downey of Anchorage; and Doyle and Susan Browning of Sylacauga, Alabama. Mavis has many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends all over the world waiting to meet her.

**Jesse James Rowe** was born on February 15, at 4:07 p.m. to Sandra and Russell Rowe. He was 22.5 inches long and weighed 9 lbs 13 oz. He was born in Anchorage at Providence Medical Center and now resides in Nome.

Susie Obruk and Mickey Ningealook are happy to announce the birth of **Andrew Alexander Winfred Avzraq Paniulaq Obruk**. Andrew was born on March 25, at 4:17 a.m.; he weighed 6 lbs. 4.4 oz and was 18 in. long. Proud big brother is Brian Trevor John Taft

along with sister Elsa Taft and brothers Winfred, Delbert, Kane and Daniel Taft. Proud grandparents are Winfred Obruk and Lucy Obruk, also Daniel and Evelyn Olanna all of Shishmaref.

**Awarded grant**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service last week awarded Tribal Wildlife Grants to Native American and Alaska Native tribes funding a wide

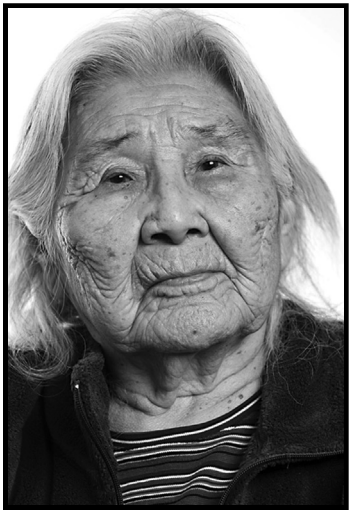
range of conservation projects across the country. Among the three recipients for Alaska is the Native Village of Wales. Wales will use the grant of \$33,352 to conduct systematic beach surveys along the northern Seward Peninsula to perform coastal marine mammal surveys and to monitor seals and walrus found washed up along the coast. Surveys will also in-

*continued on page 14*

Obituary

**Katie John**

Katie (Sanford) John was born to Charley and Sara Sanford at Slana, Alaska on October 15, 1915. Katie's father was the last Chief of Batzulnetas. Katie moved to Batzulnetas when she was six years old. Batzulnetas would later be where Katie made her stand and changed how we define subsistence hunting and fishing in Alaska today.



Katie John

When Katie turned 16, she married Fred John, Sr. and moved to Mentasta. Fred and Katie had 14 children and adopted 6 other children. Katie and Fred lived in Mentasta all of their married life and raised their 20 children off of the land. Fred and Katie worked hard to provide for their large family. Katie never applied for welfare to support her children. Katie raised her children knowing who they were, where they came from, their history and how to live off of the land. Katie also taught other survival skills. Katie's strong work ethic was a lesson she passed on to her children and her over 250 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

When she was 14, Katie took a job washing clothes at the Nabesna Mine. This was when Katie started to learn English. A beloved storyteller and teacher, Katie recalled many "firsts" in her lifetime— seeing an airplane and a car and riding in both and getting a perm! Katie grew up in a time when families used pack dogs to haul supplies and carry heavy loads. People walked to where they needed to go— even if that was a village 100 miles away. Katie's idea of transportation changed dramatically over the course of her life;

she truly went from dog sled to planes, trains and automobiles.

Though she learned to operate in a modern, faster moving world, Katie was most comfortable among her family at her home in Mentasta or at Fish Camp.

Katie John's blessing to all of us will be for insisting in 1984 that her Batzulnetas fish camp be opened for subsistence fishing. Katie's spirit and determination challenged the State of Alaska and the Federal Government in a way the legal systems had never been tested and she won.

The signs carried through Anchorage during a demonstration march said it best **"Don't mess with Katie!"**

In honor and recognition of her work and service to the Ahtna people, Alaska Natives, and all of Alaska, the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) presented Katie with an honorary doctorate of laws degree at the 2011 spring commencement ceremony.

**Katie's children said these things were important to their mother – "honesty, trust, love and forgiveness." Till the very end, Katie John lived what she believed.**

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108 West 3rd Avenue • 443-5448 • **Pastor Bruce Landry**  
Sunday Small Group Bible Study: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

**Community United Methodist Church**  
West 2nd Avenue & C Street • 443-2865  
**Pastor Julie Yoder Elmore**  
Sunday: Worship 11:00 am

Monday: Bible Study 6:30 to 8:00 pm  
Tuesday & Thursday: Thrift Shop 7:00 to 8:30 pm  
Wednesday: Faith Followers 5:45 to 7:30 pm

**Nome Covenant Church**  
101 Bering Street • 443-2565 • **Pastor Harvey**  
Sunday: School 10 a.m./Worship 11 a.m.  
Wednesday: Youth Group 6:30 p.m. (443-8063 for more info)  
Friday: Community Soup Kitchen 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
5th Avenue & Bering • 443-5295  
Sunday: School 9:45 a.m./Worship 11 a.m.  
Sunday: worship 7 p.m. (2nd and 4th Sunday only)  
Wednesday: worship 7 p.m. (during lent)  
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**River of Life Assembly of God**  
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Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Youth Meeting: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
(Ages: 6th grade thru 12th Grade)  
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
Corner of Steadman & W. King Place • 443-5527  
Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m./Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Weekday Masses: Mon. & Tue. 9:00 a.m., Thur. 12:10 p.m.  
Friday Hospital Mass: 12:10 p.m. (NSRH Meditation Room)

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**Seventh-Day Adventist**  
Icy View • 443-5137  
Saturday Sabbath School: 10 a.m.  
Saturday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

**Nome Church of Nazarene**  
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Sunday School: 10 a.m.  
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.



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6/6

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**Northern NSSP Operations Manager:** Located in Nome, this position oversees the northern Norton Sound Seafood Products department and its seafood operations, including buying, processing and selling seafood from the northern Norton Sound fisheries in both Nome and Savoonga within Norton Sound subdistricts.

**Facilities Engineer:** Located in Nome, this position maintains mechanical systems according to industry standards and regulations, and ensures proper operation of facilities and equipment in northern Norton Sound. Certification in the safe use and operation of refrigeration systems, EPA, and basic electrical operations is required. A minimum two (2) years experience in applied refrigeration systems and successful completion of appropriate school is required. A valid driver's license is also required.

**Help Desk Technician:** This position provides IT technical support to staff, board and users of NSEDC's network. High school diploma or G.E.D., and at least three years of experience in a Help Desk related position required. Microsoft Desktop Support Technician Certification and/or A+ Certifications required.

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For an application or complete job descriptions, contact **Tiffany Martinson, Human Resources Director, at 443-2477 (Nome), 888-650-2477 (toll-free) or tiffany@nsedc.com.** Applications and further employment opportunities can be found at [www.nsedc.com](http://www.nsedc.com).



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is currently recruiting for Conscientious, Dedicated and Highly Motivated person to be our **Associate Director.**



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- Able to pass a criminal background check
- Possess solid accounting skills including knowledge of double entry accounting and use of Quickbooks
- Ability to work with other staff, to meet the public, and to render service cordially.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality as it pertains to agency and staff records.
- Experience in personnel management and organizational leadership highly desirable.

For more information, please contact Nome Community Center at **907-443-5259** or email [nccdir@nomecc.org](mailto:nccdir@nomecc.org) with the subject "Recruitment Notice"

6/13

### Kawerak Recruitment Notice as of May 24, 2013:

Nome Based Positions:  
**\* Executive Assistant**  
**\* EHP Specialist**  
**Workforce Development Director**  
 Positions in surrounding villages:  
**VPSOs** in several villages -  
 Diomed  
 Elim  
 Gambell  
 Savoonga  
 Shaktoolik  
 Shishmaref  
 Stebbins  
 Saint Michael  
 Teller  
 Wales  
**ON CALL positions:**  
**Alt. Tribal Coordinator** – White Mountain  
**Alt. Tribal Coordinator** - Council, Solomon and KINC  
**Alt. Tribal Coordinator** – Wales  
**Substitute Teachers** - Child Care Center- multiple needed  
 \*Recently Added  
**Interested individuals are encouraged to contact Human Resources with questions at (907)443-5231. Applications can be accessed via Kawerak's website at [www.kawerak.org](http://www.kawerak.org) or by contacting Human Resources. Applications can be faxed to (907)443-4443 or sent via email to [personnel@kawerak.org](mailto:personnel@kawerak.org). Quyanna!**  
 6/—

### Nome Eskimo Community is recruiting for three (3) positions located in Nome, AK:

-Laborer: non-exempt, regular, full-time position. The pay range is \$19.93/hour - \$22.43/hour (DOE). The application deadline is open until filled.

-Housing Coordinator: non-exempt, regular, full-time position. The pay range is \$21.15/hour - \$23.79/hour (DOE). This position is open until filled.

-ICWA Specialist: non-exempt, regular, full-time position. The pay range is \$22.43/hour - \$25.24/hour (DOE). The application deadline is open until filled.

To ensure the safety of children who receive services, Nome Eskimo Community will complete a Criminal History Background Check on all applicants considered for the ICWA Specialist position.

To be considered for employment, the report must be free of crimes involving sexual assault or sexual abuse of a minor, unlawful exploitation of a minor indecent exposure, crimes of violence against persons, and must show that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony within the past ten years.

Native preference per Public Law 93-638  
 A full copy of the job descriptions and an employment application can be obtained from the Nome Eskimo Community Website [www.necalaska.org](http://www.necalaska.org) or from the Nome Eskimo Community Office at 200 West 5th Avenue.

For any questions, please contact the Human Resources Manager, Emma Pate, at 907-443-9125 or by email to [emmamate@gci.net](mailto:emmamate@gci.net) 6/13

## Classified

For sale:

### Norton Sound Salmon Permit

Asking Price:

\$14,000

Contact Virginia

Nashalook:

(800) 650-2248

[virginia@nsedc.com](mailto:virginia@nsedc.com)

WANTED — Mark Knapp at The Cutting Edge in Fairbanks is buying legal ancient walrus ivory, musk ox horn, mammoth teeth and mammoth ivory. Prices have gone up, 907-452-7477, [cuttingedge@gci.net](mailto:cuttingedge@gci.net). 5/9-7/11

### Koyuk Native Corporation

P.O. Box 53050

Koyuk, ALASKA 99753

Office (907) 963-2424 Fax: 963-3552

Store: 963-3551

June 3, 2013

The Koyuk Native Corporation has extended its deadline for the reconveyance program under 14© of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The extension begins June 3, 2013 and ends August 10, 2013. The reconveyances will be for the lands occupied on or before December 18, 1971. These lands include, individual subsistence campsites, non-profit organizations, businesses, non-profits, and reindeer husbandry. All individuals who were 18 years old as of December 18, 1971, and businesses, non-profits, and reindeer herdsman are encouraged to apply. Application are available at the corporation office and can be obtained by calling 907-963-2423 Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Our fax number is 907-963-3552.

Our mailing address is: Koyuk Native Corporation PO Box 53050 Koyuk, Alaska 99753

6/6-13-20-27, 7/4-11-18-25, 8/1-8

## Real Estate

FOR SALE — Lots 1-6, BK 81, Nome, by school / hospital, financing / joint venture, 907-444-1854 5/4-tfn



**Nome Sweet Homes**  
907-443-7368

**REDUCED! 3BR near hospital**  
 Great kitchen, vaulted ceilings  
 One of the largest decks in Nome!  
 406 E F Street - \$190,000  
**HELENA SUBDIVISION**  
 Just outside city limits on Dexter Bypass  
 All lots 1+ acres, starting \$22,000  
**SMALL LOT WEST END OF NOME**  
 Low down, owner finance, variance req to build  
 Lot is 17.5' x 50' only \$13,000  
**5 ACRES WATERFRONT**  
 Snake River lot on Katie Drive - \$55,000  
**DUPLEX**  
 Very well maintained duplex, high rents  
 209 E Tobuk Alley \$299,000  
**TRIPLEX**  
 Great central location, 3 studio apartments  
 Walk to rec center, hospital, shopping, movies  
 302 East Kings \$150,000  
**FOURPLEX**  
 Fantastic commercial location on Front Street  
 Commercial zoning!!!! 101 Front Street \$250,000



**AFFORDABLE!**  
**3br/1ba centrally located**  
**New high efficiency boiler**  
**New high efficiency hot water**  
**low utilities**  
**'great room' w/vaulted ceiling**  
**212 W 3rd Avenue**  
**\$179,000**

MORE LISTINGS AVAILABLE AT: [www.nomesweethomes.com](http://www.nomesweethomes.com)

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### 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**



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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

## Trooper Beat

On May 26, at about 6 p.m., Nome Alaska State Troopers was notified possible importation by a passenger flying to the local option community of Stebbins. On May 28, at about 2 p.m., Nome AST contacted a juvenile male checked in for Stebbins. Incident to Nome WAAANT's investigation four 750 ml bottles of distilled spirits were seized from his checked bag. Investigation is on going.

On May 30, at about 10:40 a.m., Nome AST was notified of a suspicious piece of mail addressed to a resident of the village of Gambell. Nome AST seized the mail and incident to investigation suspected narcotics were seized. Investigation is on going.

On June 1, at about 5:30 p.m., Moses Soonaa-  
*continued on page 13*

## GOING TO CAMP?

**Save time and money, buy a dome.**  
**Costs less than a cabin, goes up in one day!**

**Easy to transport.**  
**Fits into one truck or boat.**  
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**20ft. or 14ft. diameter.**  
**(314 and 155 square feet.)**

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**Nome Representative: Nils Hahn**

**[nilsh@arctic.net](mailto:nilsh@arctic.net)**





Legals

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA  
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME  
CASE NO: 2NO-13-00147CI  
ORDER FOR HEAIRNG, PUBLICATION AND POSTING  
In the Matter of a Change of Name for Teresa Lynn Miller,  
Current name of Adult  
Notice of Petition To Change Name  
A petition has been filed in the Superior Court (Case # 2NO-13-00147CI) requesting a name change from (current name) Teresa Lynn Miller to Teresa Lynn Lawvor Miller. A hearing on this request will be held on June 28, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. at Nome Courthouse, 113 Front Street PO Box 1110, Nome, AK.  
5/30-6/6-13-20

NOTICE TO INTERESTED PARTIES SPACE FOR UAF-AFES NOME HOUSING EXTENSION  
The University of Alaska currently leases a four bedroom, two-bathroom, residence with a washer/dryer and garage for housing space in Nome, Alaska. This lease is due to expire on June 30, 2013. The Lessor has expressed a willingness to renegotiate a lease extension for a one (1) year period with one (1) additional one-year renewal Option, which will include an increase in rent. The University feels that the facility offers unique advantages for the operation of its research programs, thus best meeting the needs of the Nome community. Owners of other facilities, or interested parties, who have space of a comparable size, quality, and price that they are willing to provide to the University under the same terms and conditions, including an occupancy date of July 1, 2013, please submit a written offer to: University of Alaska Fairbanks, Facilities Services, Attention: Real Estate Management, PO Box 757380, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7380 or via facsimile to 907-474-2661 by the close of business on June 25, 2013. Such offers, if deemed suitable, may be considered for acceptance by the University, or it may be determined that a competitive process is necessary, in which case all interested parties may be given the opportunity to participate. If the University does not receive any such offers by the close of business on June 25, 2013, it will presume that no other comparable space is available and may enter in to direct negotiations for space from the current Lessor. If you have any questions please contact Crystal Leach at 907-474-6962 or cml6ach3@alaska.edu.  
6/6-13-20

NOTICE OF FY 2014 GOAL PRELIMINARY APPLICATION  
In September 2013, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) will announce the FY 2014 Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for its Greater Opportunity for Affordable Living (GOAL) Program. Under this NOFA, AHFC will make grants, zero-interest loans, and Low-Income Housing Tax Credits available for competitive allocation to successful pre-application respondents to acquire, rehabilitate, or construct rental housing. For eligibility to apply for GOAL Program funds, all applicants are required to submit Pre-Applications to AHFC through an online application system.  
Application for GOAL funding is a three (3) step process. Applicants must (1) register for the online application system, (2) submit a Pre-Application using the online application system and (3) submit a GOAL Application using the online application system. This Notice contains requirements and deadlines for Steps (1) and (2). Applicants will NOT be eligible to apply for GOAL funding unless they meet both deadlines for Steps (1) and (2).  
Step (1): To submit Preliminary Applications through the online system, AHFC must receive Registration Requests for the online system by 4:30 p.m. (Anchorage time) on July 5, 2013.  
Step (2): Completed Pre-Applications must be submitted through the online application system by July 19, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. Anchorage time.  
The preliminary application will, in part, provide sufficient information for AHFC to determine if the project proposal meets the minimum criteria for invitation into the full FY 2014 GOAL competition. A full list of items that will be reviewed during the pre-application is available in the GOAL Program Rating and Award Criteria Plan. The full FY 2014 GOAL application, to be submitted in the Fall of 2013, will address other aspects of the proposed development in greater detail. These additional aspects are outlined in the GOAL Program Rating and Award Criteria Plan. Supporting information on all of these components will be submitted in the full GOAL application.  
The deadline to submit Registration Requests for the online application system is 4:30 p.m. (Anchorage time) on July 5, 2013. All entities wishing to submit a Pre-Application must submit Registration Requests for access to the online application system according to this deadline. To obtain a Registration Request

continued on page 14

• More Trooper Beat

continued from page 12  
grook, 52, was arrested after investigation by the Gambell VPO revealed that Soonagrook was in violation of his probation by consuming alcohol. Soonagrook is on probation for the original charges of Reckless Endangerment.  
On June 2, at 12:30 a.m., Dawny James, 26, of Gambell was arrested after investigation by the Gambell VPSO revealed that James was in violation of her felony probation by consuming alcohol. James is on felony probation supervision for the charges of Felony DUI.  
On June 2, at 12:50 p.m., Edwin Campbell, 38, of Gambell was arrested after the investigation by the Gambell VPSO revealed that he violated his probation by consuming alcohol. Edwin Campbell is on Probation for the charges of Importation of Alcohol.  
On June 4, AST received a report of a sexual assault in the Norton Sound region. A suspect has been identified. Investigation continues.  
On June 5, at 3:30 p.m., Timothy Hank, 49, was arrested on an outstanding warrant for failing

to appear for arraignment. Hank was transported to Anvil Mountain Correctional Center.  
On June 5, at 8:30 p.m., David Angi, 46, was arrested after investigation by Gambell VPOs determined that Angi was intoxicated while driving his four-wheeler. Investigation showed Angi to be Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Angi was arrested without incident.  
On June 6, at 4:30 p.m. Koyuk resident Evett Henry, 30, was arrested with a warrant for failing to appear to a remand hearing. Henry was remanded to AMCC to serve a 60-day sentence for probation violation.  
On June 6, Unalakleet AST received a report of a domestic violence incident that occurred on June 1. Investigation revealed that Morgan Pleasant, 47, of Unalakleet had assaulted his wife with a hard object and threatened her with a firearm. The victim sustained minor injuries during the assault; she had been in hiding since the assault. Pleasant was arrested and transported to Nome and lodged at AMCC, on charges of Assault in the Third Degree DV, Assault in the Fourth Degree DV, Coercion DV, and Misconduct Involving a Weapon in the Fourth Degree.



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**For Sale:**  
**John Deer JD 650 Dozer**  
**with a backhoe attachment.**  
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**Contact Larry at 443-4312**

**FOR SALE:**  
**CATERPILLAR 235 EXCAVATOR**  
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**ITEM IS LOCATED IN ICY VIEW ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT LARRY AT 443-4312. WILL BE SOLD AS IS WHERE IS WITH NO WARRANTIES.**

REGULAR TRANSFER

*SACKETT INC.*, d/b/a *ANCHOR LIQUOR STORE*

(Current licensee(s)) (Name of Establishment)

located at *229 FRONT STREET, NOME*

(Premises Address and City)

is applying for transfer of a *PACKAGE STORE* AS 04.11. *150*

(Type of License) (Statute Reference)

liquor license to *THE NORTH WEST COMPANY (INTERNATIONAL) INC.*

(New Licensee(s))

d/b/a *AC VALUE CENTER*

(Only if Different)

located at *MILE 1 TELLER HIGHWAY, NOME, ALASKA*


(Only if Different)

Interested persons should submit written comment to their local governing body, the applicant and to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board at 2400 Viking Dr, Anchorage AK 99501.

5/30, 6/6-13

**Stebbins Native Corporation**

P.O. Box 71110  
Stebbins, AK 99671  
Phone: (907) 934-3074  
Fax: (907) 934-2399



**Stebbins Native Corporation**

**Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

**Friday, September 6, 2013, @ 7 p.m.,**

**To be held in Stebbins, Alaska, City Community Hall.**

Shareholders who are at least 18 years of age and want to run for one of four ( 4 )Board of Director's seats open for election are requested to send a letter of Intent, including current address, telephone numbers and a resume' listing qualifications to:

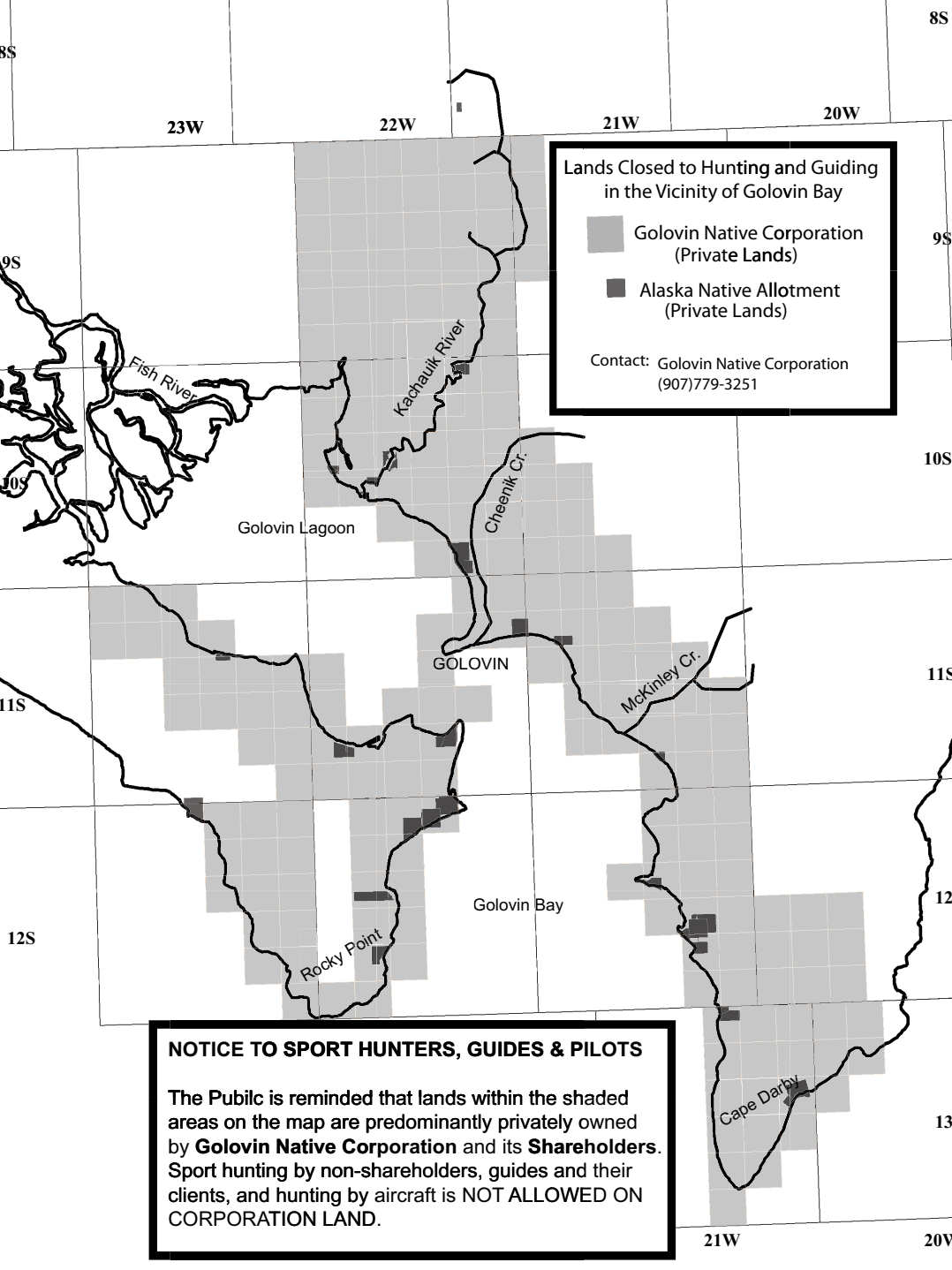
**Stebbins Native Corporation**

**P.O. Box 71110**

**Stebbins, Alaska 99671**

**Important:** All letters of intent and resume must be received by August 9, 2013.

6/13-27, 7/4-11-18-25, 8/1



**Lands Closed to Hunting and Guiding in the Vicinity of Golovin Bay**

- Golovin Native Corporation (Private Lands)
- Alaska Native Allotment (Private Lands)

Contact: Golovin Native Corporation (907)779-3251

**NOTICE TO SPORT HUNTERS, GUIDES & PILOTS**

The Publc is reminded that lands within the shaded areas on the map are predominantly privately owned by **Golovin Native Corporation** and its **Shareholders**. Sport hunting by non-shareholders, guides and their clients, and hunting by aircraft is NOT ALLOWED ON CORPORATION LAND.



# •More All Around the Sound

continued from page 11

clude documenting any debris associated with the Japanese tsunami of March 2011 and reporting findings to the NOAA's Marine Debris Program.

These grants provide technical and financial assistance for development and implementation of projects that benefit fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, including non-game species. The grants have enabled tribes to develop increased management capacity, improve and enhance relationships with partners (including state agencies), address cultural and environmental priorities, and heighten tribal students' interest in fisheries, wildlife and related fields of study. Some grants have been awarded to support recovery efforts for threatened and endangered species.

## • More Letters

continued from page 2

hope to become. Until I can step up to the responsibilities of a pro-social person my past consigns me to a caste system in which I docilely participate. A felon remains a felon. I'm willing to give up being this hard

### New AFN vice pres.

The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) announced that Maude Blair, formerly of NANA Development Corporation, will join AFN's Anchorage-based staff as the organization's new vice president. "Maude is extremely talented and will bring valuable knowledge and experience to the staff leadership of AFN," said AFN President Julie Kitka. "We are very much looking forward to welcoming her to the team." Ms. Blair most recently served as a staff attorney at NANA Development Corporation, where she provided legal support to the NANA Regional Corporation Board of Directors and senior management, including advising on corporate governance, Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act ("ANCSA"), and general business issues. At NANA she worked with

both internal and external stakeholders on issues ranging from corporate structure to shareholder relations. Ms. Blair also created the NANA Elders' Settlement Trust. Ms. Blair worked as a reporter before joining NANA in 1998, initially in Communications. She also served as the Kellogg/NARF Education Grant Coordinator for Alaska with the Native American Rights Fund. She sits on an array of volunteer boards of directors, including the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center Inc., Alaska Native Heritage Center, and LifeCenter Northwest.



Photo courtesy of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

**DENTAL HEALTH AIDE—** Elsie Pelowook is a new Dental Health Aide graduate. Elsie will spend a week with her family in Savoogna before moving to Nome where she will finish her training as a Dental Health Aide Therapist at Norton Sound Hospital. After that, she will work out of the medical clinic in Savooga. She will also serve Gambell and possibly other villages. Elsie has completed two years of training in Anchorage and Bethel. She graduated in Anchorage at ANTHC headquarters in Anchorage.

## Seawall

### NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT MEDIA RELEASES 6-3-2013 through 6-9-2013

Disclaimer: This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not assign guilt to any identified party:

On 6-3 at 4:42 p.m. the Nome Police Department responded to a call on Second Avenue on the report of condition violation. Investigation led to the arrest of Donald Oliver, 33, for Violating his Conditions of Probation and Violating his Conditions of Release. He was remanded to AMCC.

On 6-3 at 8:42 p.m. Nome Police responded to a residence on Third Avenue on a report of an assault. Investigation led to the arrest of Ann Soolook, 42, for Assault in the Fourth Degree DV and Violating her Conditions of Release. She was remanded to AMCC.

On 6-4 at 7:30 p.m., Nome Police were dispatched to a Front Street location on the report of a trespass. Officers arrived and made contact with Amos Slwooko, 29, who was highly intoxicated.

Slwooko was arrested for Drunk on License Premises and remanded to AMCC. Slwooko's bail was set at \$500.

On 6-5 at 11:34 a.m. the Nome Police Department received a call regarding a hit and run. Nir-mala Soysa, 62, was issued a citation for Leaving the Scene of an Accident.

On 6-5 at 10:50 p.m. Nome Police made contact with Yvonne Pete, 22, who was highly intoxicated. Pete was arrested for Violating Conditions of Release, Disorderly Conduct and Violating Conditions of Probation. No bail was set.

On 6-6 at 4:33 a.m., Nome Police were dispatched to a residence at Fourth Avenue on the report of a disturbance. Officers arrived and made contact with Kristen Kulowiyl, 29, who was intoxicated in the home and yelling. Kulowiyl was asked to leave the home and refused. She was arrested for Criminal Trespass in the First Degree. Bail was set at \$500.00.

On 6-6 at 11:59 p.m., Nome Police were dispatched to a residence on Fourth Avenue on the

report of people fighting in the home. Investigation revealed Amos Slwooko, 29, had not been welcome in the home. Slwooko was being escorted out and started fighting with persons in the home. Slwooko was arrested for Criminal Trespass in the First Degree and Harassment in the First Degree. Slwooko's bail was set at \$1000.00.

On 6-7 at 2:31 a.m. Shane Mike, 21, was arrested for Disorderly Conduct and Violating his Condition of Release after he attempted to fight with a couple on Fourth Avenue. There was no bail set.

On 6-7 at 9:05 p.m. Lani L. Foster was pulled over after he was observed driving a four-wheeler on Seppala Drive. He was issued a citation for operating a motor vehicle on a highway. He was fined \$60 for the infraction.

On 6-8 at 2:15 a.m. Nome Police were dispatched to a residence on K Street on the report of a disturbance. Officer arrived and made contact with Nancy Goldsberry, 60, who was intoxicated and in Violation of her Conditions of Release. In-

vestigation revealed Goldsberry and been in a verbal argument with her domestic partner. Goldsberry was remanded to AMCC where her bail was set at \$1,000.

On 6-8 at 3:23 a.m. Nome Police were dispatched to a residence on Third Avenue. Upon entering the home, Officers made contact with Colin Kulukhon-Lincoln, 29, who was intoxicated. Kulukhon-Lincoln was found to be in Violation of current Orders and Conditions of Release and Conditions of Probation. Kulukhon-Lincoln was remanded to AMCC no bail was set.

On 6-9 at 3:14 a.m., the Nome Police Department responded to a residence near Fourth Avenue on the report of juveniles consuming alcohol. Amanda Noyakuk, 21, was arrested for Violating her Conditions of Probation. She was transported to AMCC.

On 6-9 at 5:23 a.m., Nome Police Department Officers responded to Third Avenue for the report of a fight in progress. Upon arrival, both parties indicated that the fight was verbal only. As a result

of the investigation conducted, Xavier Kowchee, 20, was found to be under the influence of alcohol and was subsequently issued a Minor Consuming Alcohol Citation and released from the Nome Police Department.

On 6-9 at 11:09 p.m., Nome Police Department Officers responded to Third Avenue for the report of a highly intoxicated male harassing a resident in the area. Upon arrival, the subject had fled the scene, but one witness stated that the intoxicated individual was Charles Alvanna, 20. Charles was also found to be on current conditions of probation that prohibited the consumption of alcohol. Charles continued running from officers and was finally apprehended south of the AC store, at which time he physically resisted being placed into custody. Charles was arrested and remanded to AMCC for Resisting Arrest, Habitual Minor Consuming Alcohol and Probation Violation, where he was held without bail.

## • More Legals

continued from page 13

form, preliminary application materials, or find out more about these development programs, please visit the AHFC website at: <http://www.ahfc.us/pros/grants/development-grants/goal/>

Or contact:  
Daniel Delfino  
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation  
P.O. Box 101020  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510  
907-330-8273  
1-800-478-2432  
[ddelfino@ahfc.us](mailto:ddelfino@ahfc.us)

## Court

### Prior to 6/7 Civil

Jennings, Marcia A. v. Jennings, Carl D.; Divorce without Children  
Youngblood, Ruth I. v. Analook, Nancy; Civil Protective Order  
Weylouanna, Nellie J. v. Goodhope, Marilyn J.; Civil Protective Order  
Weyanna, Harvey v. Lake, III, Warren; Civil Protective Order  
Weyanna, James v. Lake, III, Warren; Civil Protective Order  
Weyanna, Lillian v. Lake, III, Warren; Civil Protective Order  
Weyanna, Calvin v. Lake, III, Warren; Civil Protective Order  
Kuzuguk, Florence v. Kakoon, William; Civil Protective Order  
Minor Party v. Kakoon, William; Civil Protective Order  
City of Nome Property Taxes 2008-2010 v. 2008-2010 Delinquent Real Property Taxes  
Prentice, Ruth F. v. Brown, Jessica; Civil Protective Order  
Minor Party v. Brown, Jessica; Civil Protective Order  
Haskell, Paul G. v. Atherton, Brian; Civil Protective Order  
Atherton, Brian v. Haskell, Paul; Civil Protective Order  
Kittess, Bruce E. v. Guest, David; Forcible Entry/Detain-Dist Ct  
Capital One Bank (USA) NA v. Davison, Bud; Civil District Court  
Capital One Bank (USA) NA v. Davison, Bud; Civil District Court  
J.G. Wentworth Origination, LLC v. Bouchan, Ephraim; Superior Court Misc Petition

### Small Claims

No current claims on file (start 2NO-13-00035SC)

### Criminal

State of Alaska v. Brad Apassingok (3/5/90); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 113671854; Violated conditions of probation; Probation extended by 2 years (date of Order: 6/5/13); Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain

### 6/13 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME

CASE NO: 2NO-13-00128CI  
JUDGMENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME  
In the Matter of a Change of Name for  
**Aloysius S Muktoiyuk**,  
Current Name of Adult  
Notice of Judgment—Change of Name  
A judgment has been issued by the Superior Court in Nome, Alaska in Case # 2NO-13-00128CI ordering that the petitioner's name will be changed from Aloysius S Muktoiyuk to Aloysius S Muktoiyuk, effective on the effective date stated in the clerk's

Certificate of Name Change.  
6/13  
6/13-20

### CITY OF NOME PUBLIC NOTICE

**O-13-06-01 An Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of an Interest in Real Property by the City of Nome from Sitnasuak Native Corporation, Second Reading,**  
**O-13-06-02 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve and Adopt the FY 2014 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorizing the**

**Levy of a General Property Tax, Second Reading,**  
**O-13-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve and Adopt the FY 2014 City of Nome School Bond Fund Budget, Second Reading,**  
**O-13-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve and Adopt the FY 2014 City of Nome Special Revenue Fund Budget, Second Reading,**  
**O-13-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve and Adopt the FY 2014 City of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget, Second Reading,**  
**O-13-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Ap-**

### prove and Adopt the FY 2014 City of Nome Port of Nome Fund Budget, Second Reading

These ordinances had First reading at the regular meeting of the Nome City Council on June 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. and were passed to second reading, public hearing and final passage at a regular meeting of the Council scheduled for **June 24, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers of City Hall located at 102 Division Street. Copies of the ordinances are available in the office of the City Clerk.  
6/13-20

# SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF NOME

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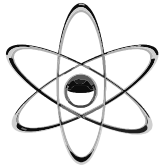
**443-5838  
310 Bering Street**



## SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF NOME

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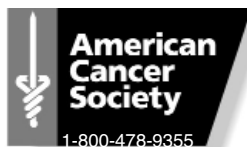
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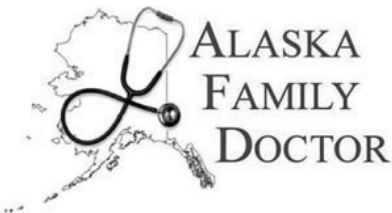
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# State DOT draws up new statewide railroad plan

By Diana Haecker

What is your vision for a railroad system in Alaska over the next 20 years? This was the question that Bob Laurie with the Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities asked the thin crowd of three who attended a public meeting on the Alaska State Rail Plan last week. Such plans, Laurie said, generally look 20 years into the future and are updated every five years. To update the existing one, a host of government employees came to find out what Nomeites envision when it comes to rail.

Laurie, Murray Walsh, the Roads to Resources manager of the DNR office, Bruce Carr with the Alaska Railroad Corporation, a public relations specialist with HDR Consultants and two additional DOT employees hosted a meeting to learn the public's ideas on a statewide railroad plan.

Only three Nomeites found their way to the open house event, held Thursday, June 6 at Old St. Joe's Hall. Two older children wandered into the event, leaving valuable feedback on a post-it note, pointing out the benefit of freight brought in by rail rather barge.

Laurie with the DOT held a power point presentation. He explained that a statewide rail plan is mandated by federal law if Alaska wants to apply for federal rail funding and investment. The plan is supposed to include an inventory of the existing rail system, an assessment of safety, freight rail and passenger rail needs, transportation economics, a long-range service and capital investment program and a long-term vision for the future of rail in Alaska.

Currently, there are two main railroads in Alaska. The Alaska Railroad Corporation operates the Alaska Railroad between Fairbanks and Seward. The White Pass & Yukon Route operates a railroad between Whitehorse and Skagway.

Last year, the Alaska Railroad hauled 415,000 passengers and 6 million tons of freight. None of that, of course, to Nome.

Considering long-term vision, thoughts were voiced about connecting a potential Arctic port in Nome or Teller to the existing rail system.

Bruce Carr pointed out that freight — not passenger service — pays for the operation and maintenance costs of a rail system. To be cost effective, rail works well when high volumes of freight are moved over long distances and long periods of time. Carr pointed out that the Ambler mining district with its large low-quality ore of copper, zinc and other low-value minerals would be a prime candidate for rail, because it would move large quantities of ore over long distances to market.

Laurie pointed out that railroad construction is expensive and that Alaska's geography places constraints on building railroads, because there can only be a two-foot rise over a length of 100 feet. This necessitates long routes and that doesn't play favorably into the economics of a rural rail construction project. Murray Walsh, DOT manager for the Roads to Resources program said it costs \$10 million to build one mile of rail. A rail from Fairbanks to Nome would cost approximately \$5 billion at current prices. To make this a reality, the experts said, a great deal of mineral resources would have to be discovered and mined to make it worthwhile to build a railroad.

Clearly, the romance of rail and the pioneering spirit of busting a railroad through unopened country still has some allure and was cited quite

often during the event. Bruce Carr said railroads have traditionally helped open up undeveloped parts of the nation and Alaska. Provided there could be a large freight user to foot the bill of \$50,000 per mile to maintain a 500-mile Nome-Fairbanks rail, passengers could travel in train cars in style, see the grand landscape go by or watch movies on drop-down screens. Never mind that the trip between Nome and Fairbanks would take about 10 hours. Walsh said that offshore oil development could really open up the future of rail to the northwest coast of Alaska. "A 100-car train could move 2.6 million gallons of oil," added ARRC's Bruce Carr.

Nomeites thought more practically. There would be a whole lot more cars coming into Nome, if Nome were connected via rail to the rest of the state, commented Jim Hansen.

The DOT also held railroad plan meetings in Anchorage, Wasilla, Haines, Skagway, Seward and Fairbanks. The DOT plans to hold two online open house events before drafting the 2013 statewide rail plan to be released in the fall. A final draft plan will be submitted to the Federal Railroad Administration in December 2013. For more information or to comment on the rail plan, go to [www.dot.alaska.gov/railroad](http://www.dot.alaska.gov/railroad).



Photo by Diana Haecker

**RAIL TO THE COAST**— Nomeite Jim Hansen, left, and Alaska Railroad Corporation's Bruce Carr discuss the most reasonable route to bring rail to northwestern Alaska, during last week's meeting on updating a statewide rail plan for Alaska.

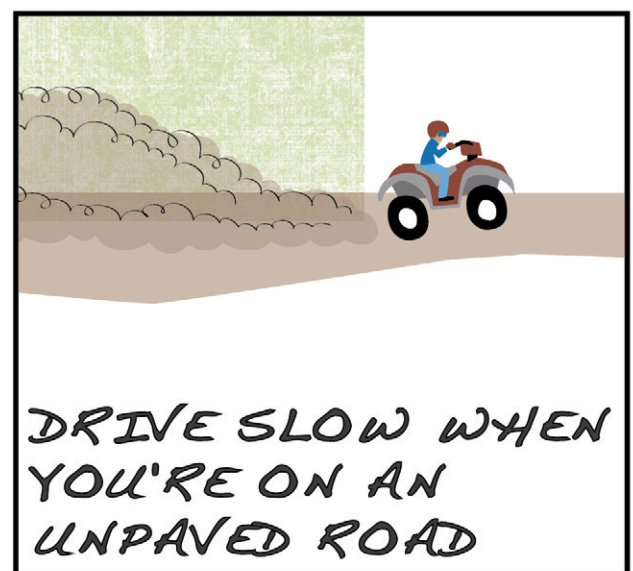
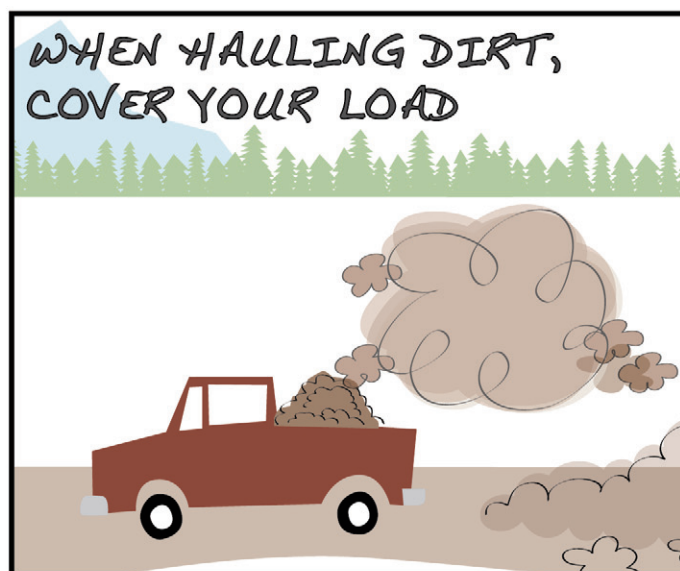
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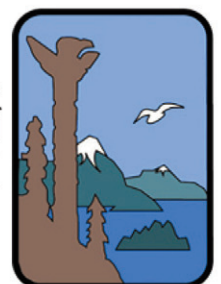
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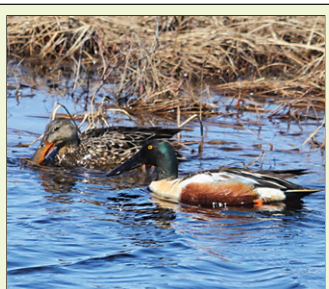


Photo by Diana Haecker  
**DABBLING DUCKS**— A pair of Northern Shovelers forage in a pond outside of Nome.