



Photo by Nils Hahn

MADE IT TO NOME— Ray Redington Jr., grandson of Joe Redington Sr. who was the co-founder of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race, mushes his dog team into Nome, finishing his Iditarod 2014 on Tuesday, March 11. Redington Jr. came in eighth place, after nine days, four hours and 11 minutes on the trail.

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2014 Iditarod wraps up in record time

By Diana Haecker

When the red lantern musher Marcelle Fressineau of Whitehorse, Canada drove her nine dogs into Nome and under the Burled Arch on Saturday, March 15 at 7:42 p.m., she

officially ended the 2014 Iditarod race. She did so in the fastest time a Red Lantern musher ended the race in its 42-year history.

"Looking at the winning times of 20 days in the early years, this year's

finishing times almost look like misprints," mused Iditarod Awards Banquet Emcee John Handeland as he introduced the finishing mushers.

First place winner Dallas Seavey broke the record set by John Baker in

2011 by more than 5 hours. Also arriving in record time were runner up Aliy Zirkle and third place winner Mitch Seavey.

Out of 69 mushers who started in Willow, Fressineau was the 49th dog driver to finish the Last Great Race. Twenty did not make it to Nome. Among those were mushing greats Jeff King, up-and-coming Big Lake prodigy Jake Berkowitz, former Quest champion Hugh Neff, top contenders Ramey Smyth and DeeDee Jonrowe, as well as veterans like Mike Santos, Linwood Fiedler, Karen Ramstead, Scott Janssen, Jim Lanier and Nicolas Petit.

Ten mushers scratched in Rohn, after getting beat up on a wild roller-coaster ride on icy trails down the most dangerous part of the trail. Berkowitz broke a sled beyond repair. Jonrowe said she was physically beat up and couldn't go on. Scott Janssen broke a leg and suffered hypothermia as he lay on the ice contemplating his options. Jim Lanier scratched because of an injured leg. Ramstead suffered a significant injury that prevented her from going on and taking care of the dogs. Linwood Fiedler sustained an injury in the Dalzell Gorge. Ellen Halverson scratched because of a damaged sled and in fear of what was yet to come "in an abundance of caution due to the experiences of teams ahead of me."

Most mushers who continued were busy nursing their battle

wounds all the way to Nome.

Mitch Seavey said he tore near every shoulder muscle and other muscles in his upper body and was not able to do much running to help his team.

Nome musher Aaron Burmeister severely injured his leg past Rohn and is in need of surgery soon. Martin Buser badly sprained his ankle. Quest musher Hans Gatt sported a beat up face. Mushers offered open criticism at the finish line for the ITC to send mushers down a trail that was not only unsafe but also downright dangerous. A week prior to the race the committee contemplated moving the start to Fairbanks but decided to go forward with a Willow start. Trail blazers went out to build and improve trail conditions, but warm weather and rain just before the start turned the trail in the first portion into an icy nightmare.

However, 49 teams made it and did so in record time.

One tough race

Judging by the tales told as mushers arrived under the Burled Arch and during the Iditarod Awards Banquet on Sunday night, this race will go into the history books for its drama, its challenging trail conditions of glare ice, rocks, stumps, frozen dirt and lack of snow in the early part. But nothing prepared the mushers for the winds that awaited them on the coast and especially the

continued on page 5



Photo by Diana Haecker

LAST MUSER OFF THE TRAIL—Marcelle Fressineau extinguishes the widow's lantern upon her arrival in Nome after 13 days, four hours and 42 minutes on the trail.

Alaska is first Right-to-Mush state

By Sarah Miller

In the early morning hours last Tuesday, the first mushers to complete the 2014 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race arrived under the Burled Arch in a dramatic and exhilarating finish that had crowds abandon their warm beds for Front Street, and fans across the state glued to their com-

puter screens for updates from the Iditarod's website.

On that very same day, legislators in Juneau heard testimony from dog mushers advocating for protection of mushing, a beloved sport, lifestyle and iconic image of Alaska.

House Concurrent Resolution 24, sponsored by District 39 Representative Neal Foster, declares Alaska a "Right to Mush" state, recognizing the practice of dog mushing as part of the "past, present, and future culture of the state."

"When the mushing community brought the issue to me, it was a natural fit to sponsor the resolution," Foster said. "I was born and raised in Nome and have grown up around it. It's exciting and brings people together, brings life to the villages along the trail, and so many people are proud of and excited about it."

Since resolutions do not carry the

legal weight of a bill, it is solely a formal statement of support for Alaska's mushers by the state legislature.

Still, Foster said, "I'm very happy to see all the support for mushing."

The resolution has passed both Legislative bodies unanimously by Monday March 17.

Past, present and future

HCR 24 calls attention to the value of mushing as it weaves together the threads of culture, tradition and survival that have shaped Alaska. Mushing has been an invaluable part of Alaska Natives' way of survival in the Arctic for centuries. The practice was adopted by Russian and American settlers as the primary means of transportation for hunting, exploring, and during the

continued on page 5



Photo by Diana Haecker

TOP DOGS— 2014 Iditarod winner Dallas Seavey presents his lead dogs Beattie, left, and Reef, right, to the crowd at the finisher's banquet. Beattie also won the Golden Harness award.

On the Web:

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Letters

Dear Editor:

We all love dogs in Nome — our own family pets and Iditarod dog teams. However, how smart is it to take your pet pooch to Front Street or out on the trail when the Iditarod dogs are finishing their very long run?

Tuesday afternoon I was several miles out of Nome at the road crossing awaiting the arrival of Martin Buser. There was a Nome person there with a beautiful German Shepherd. The dog was on a leash, but when Martin's dog approached the very icy road, the German Shepherd started barking and jumping (as dogs will do) which set Martin's dogs off course and Martin's sled into a very dangerous slide. His sled came within inches of hitting a parked truck. Because Martin is the great musher he is, he brought his dogs and sled under control and continued on his way. This scene could have been very sad if the sled had flipped —ending Martin's run.

I was not polite in addressing the gentleman on his stupidity, and he responded, "My dog is tethered to me." My polite response is not printable. I really thought Nome residents had more savvy than what I saw at the finish of Iditarod 42. I want to express my sincere apologies to Martin Buser for any stress this act of stupidity caused him. On a whole, real Nomeites are very considerate and caring and don't take their family pets to the finish of the Last Great Race.

Jay Peterson
Nome, AK

Dear Editor?"
"ECONOMIC GENOCIDE?"

A rose is still a rose, but unfortunately, a polecat will always remain a skunk! And when personal greed and limitless control flagrantly overrides equal treatment under the law, or our elected government attempts to obliterate the mandates that were initiated by "Our Magnificent

Founding Fathers," then the meaning of equality has definitely lost something in the current translation of the word! "In other words, many politicians currently need a refresher course on who the true masters of this nation really are!"

Like many of you out there, our family fought gallantly in most of the wars that this nation of ours has engaged in over the past 238 years, all the way back to the American Revolution, and even before that in fact! As such, it appalls me when some arrogant cuss in politics attempts to rewrite the Constitution, and in particular The Bill of Rights!

After all is said and done, every right that you give up now, no matter how insignificant it may be in the eyes of those who would attempt gain absolute control, is a right that you may never again regain, and a right that was paid for in the blood, sweat and tears of patriots that had forgotten more about what it truly

continued on page 16

Foster's Report

By Rep. Neal Foster House District 39

Greetings to everyone in House District 39. We are in the second half of a two-year cycle, and that means legislators are anxious to see their bills get through before we adjourn on April 21. After that all bills must be reintroduced and go through the committee process next year.

In this report I will address three things: (1) Major issues; (2) Speeches by Governor Parnell, Chief Justice Fabe, and Senator Murkowski, and; (3) Bills that may be of interest to constituents. The last part of my report will be a permanent section that lists funding opportunities for both communities and individuals. The major issues have been the state deficit and a proposed constitutional amendment to fund private and religious schools.

State Deficit. As for the state deficit this is a product of both decreasing oil production, lower than forecast oil prices, and growing budgets. Oil taxes and royalties account for 93 percent of the State's income. In the mid-1980s the pipeline transported 2 million barrels per day. When I started working in the Legislature in 2010 that was down to 630,000 barrels per day. Last year that number stood at 530,000 barrels. It has been decreasing at a rate of about 6 percent per year. State spending, on the other hand, has been increasing at an unsustainable rate of 6 percent per year. The 2013 spring revenue forecast showed that the State might have a \$667 million deficit. But when the forecast was updated in December 2013 oil prices fell to a point that we were now facing a \$2 billion deficit. In contrast the State built up \$17 billion in savings over a few short years just prior to 2013.

So what does a \$2 billion revenue shortfall with no reversal in sight mean to Alaska? It means that capital and operating budgets will have to be cut. Two-years ago we saw perhaps the largest capital budget of \$2 billion. Last

continued on page 17

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

Editorial

Where is the Outrage?

There was a public testimony session for pending state legislation where public testimony was cut short. The irony is that it was a meeting about the need to hold public testimony. At times we may feel that our politicians operate in stealth mode and we must wear night vision goggles to see what they are up to. During this current Juneau legislative session the house tried fly below radar and get a bill passed that would not require public notices to be published in newspapers. It makes one believe that politicians would be very happy if they did not have to operate under the light of public scrutiny.

On the local level our city council chambers are not exactly overflowing with citizens wishing to observe democracy in action or to give testimony pro or con. One wonders if folks are afraid to speak up because they fear for repercussions. Well—no guts, no glory. We can't just shut up and live with it. It is not right to let the super rich sprinkle their outrageous ads because they think we are ignorant enough to believe them. How many of us have witnessed public meetings where the state or the feds won't spend a few bucks to let folks know they are coming to town? They spend a lot of public money getting themselves here and are so shocked when folks don't beat a path to their meeting because it was not publicized.

We need to grow a public backbone and demand that local and state officials support open government. We all need to care about government from the grass roots level to the very top. We can't be complaisant, or we will smother in half-truths and horse pucky.

—N.L.M.—

A Look at the Past



Historical Comments by Laura Samuelson with photo courtesy of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum

BALTO OF NOME — Balto was the lead dog of the team run by Gunnar Kaasen which carried the diphtheria antitoxin into Nome in late January 1925. Balto was in the right place at the right time. He became the mascot of the Serum Run which actually involved 20 U.S. Mail Delivery dog teams from villages between Nenana and Nome. A bronze statue of Balto located in New York City's Central Park still stands today. It is "Dedicated to the indomitable spirit of the sled dogs that relayed the antitoxin ... to the relief of stricken Nome in the winter of 1925." "Endurance – Fidelity-Intelligence" Balto is the half-brother of Fritz.

Illegitimus non carborundum

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Sunrise	03/20/14	09:01 a.m.	High Temp	+30° 03/17/14	
	03/27/14	08:36 a.m.	Low Temp	-9° 03/13/14	
Sunset	03/20/14	09:18 p.m.	Peak Wind	34mph, E, 03/17/14	
	03/27/14	09:40 p.m.	Precip. to Date	2.69"	
			Normal	2.25"	
			Snowfall to Date	66.2" Normal 62.1"	

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Photo by Diana Haecker

LAST MUSHERS ON FRONT STREET— Red Lantern musher Marcelle Fressineau, left, follows musher Lisbet Norris, right, on Front Street toward the Iditarod finish line. Norris drove a team of Siberian huskies in this race, some of which her father JP Norris drove in past years’ Fur Rondy World Championship races.



Photo by Diana Haecker

THANK YOU — Red Lantern musher Marcelle Fressineau plants a kiss on her lead dog Mr. X after arriving in Nome under the Burled Arch.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, March 20

*Lunch Laps	Pool	Noon - 1:30 p.m.
*Port Commission Reg. Mtg.	Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
*Vinyasa Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*City League VBall:	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*City League Basketball:	Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 10:00 pm
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Thrifty Shop	Methodist Church	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, March 21

*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
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*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, March 22

*Water Aerobics	Pool	11:00 - Noon
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 23

*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
*Adult Swim	Pool	1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 24

*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
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*Nome City Council Reg. Mtg.	Council Chambers	7:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 25

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Lunch Laps	Pool	Noon - 1:30 a.m.
*Strength Training	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*City League Vball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 10:00 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.
*Open Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00p.m. - 9:00 p.m..

Wednesday, March 26

*Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

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FIRE— A fire at the Trigg residence on Fifth Avenue on Monday, March 17, was contained to a downstairs bedroom. Nome firefighters doused the flames inside and knocked out a window upstairs to ventilate the building. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Photo by Diana Haecker

NVFD brings house fire under control

By Diana Haecker

The Nome Volunteer Fire Department, the Ambulance Department and Nome Police were called on Monday evening to respond to a house fire on Fifth Avenue in Nome. Smoke was billowing out of the windows of the green, two-story home, owned by John Trigg.

According to Nome Volunteer Fire Department Assistant Chief Jerry Steiger, the fire started in a downstairs bedroom and was contained to that room. Three people, who were in the house when the fire started, made it to the outside and called the NPD dispatch for help.

Steiger said NVFD responded with 20 to 25 firefighters and got the fire under control within an hour. The fire was confined to the bedroom but smoke filled the house. A fire fighter climbed up a ladder and smashed in an upstairs window to create more ventilation for the smoke to escape.

Steiger said the fire was not

caused by an electrical malfunction or faulty house equipment. The NVFD is investigating the cause of the fire. Steiger also said that there was no working fire alarm in the house. He said it's the obligation of a house owner or landlord to have proper smoke detectors and fire alarms installed in a home. "If needed, get a hold of a fire fighter and we will install it for you," Steiger said. NVFD has fire and smoke alarms available, but will not just hand them out to people.

According to Steiger, the three inhabitants of the home were transported to Norton Sound Regional hospital for a check up.

The house sustained damage in the room where the fire broke out. Steiger said it is not habitable at this moment, but the main structure did not suffer during the fire and only smoke damage needs to be taken care of before people move back in.

NJUS readies to vote up or down on Pilgrim geothermal

By Sandra L. Medearis

Nome Joint Utility System has come to a point where it needs to decide on going ahead with a contract to buy geothermal power from developers at Pilgrim Hot Springs.

NJUS must sign a contract with developers very soon to keep the money flowing for drilling and infrastructure.

Without long-term revenue from power sales to amortize development and other costs, Pilgrim Limited would not move forward with development. The project needs to continue for Pilgrim Limited to hang on to investment tax credits available through the end of 2013. These are integral to the financial viability of a two-megawatt geothermal power development.

This week the NJUS Board of Directors met in work session with Antony Scott, economist from University of Alaska to study the dollars and cents issues in a proposed contract. Throughout Monday evening, certain truths became well evident. One of these is that no one can foresee price of diesel fuel during the next 20 years, but that predictable price for power is good. NJUS derives the lion's share of its electrical power from diesel generation.

A historical correlation between diesel and crude prices explains only half the variation in electrical costs, Scott said. One must figure the efficiency of generation and other local costs as billing, salaries, distribution and transmission, Scott said.

"I make oil price predictions for a

living, and I am always wrong," Scott chuckled.

However, Scott believes that oil price projections suggest a reasonable chance that geothermal could provide a good deal considering diesel prices. If the ink went on the contract as it stood Monday, NJUS would agree to buy a geothermal power output of up to two megawatts at the flat price of 25 cents per kilowatt over the next 20 years. The cost of two megawatts would be nailed down and predictable for the duration of the contract as a hedge against the fluctuating price of diesel that would be required to generate them.

"Price predictability is worth quite a bit, whether diesel is higher or lower in anyone year," Scott said, "It is insurance against price shock."

The diesel portion of kilowatt price currently costs NJUS 21¢. Geothermal power under the proposed contract would be locked in user-ready at only 4¢ more.

Nome's current cost of electrical power is based on subsidy from the Power Cost Equalization program. The PCE endowment could be very attractive for spending as money becomes tighter and tighter. PCE is not guaranteed, but depends on legislation, Scott observed, and the power of the rural caucus to preserve this money.

The two megawatts of power from Pilgrim Hot Springs would cost 24¢ without PCE. Geothermal power partially insulates local consumers against loss of PCE for part of the power supply.

"You are in control of your destiny," Scott said. "You are not subject to whims of someone in Juneau."

No professional economists predict the price of diesel right out. More often, according to Scott, crude prices are predicted long into the future. From there comes an idea for diesel fuel prices and then one can take a stab at the price of diesel generated electrical power.

Diversifying the source of power over diesel, wind and geothermal would be a portfolio approach to supplying Nome's needs, Scott added.

Over the year, Nome's power demand is four megawatts—roughly six megawatts in winter and as low as two in the summer, according to John K. Handeland, utility manager. A megawatt equals 1,000 kilowatts. A kilowatt equals 1,000 watts, so a megawatt equals a million watts.

The utility could extend the contract with Pilgrim Limited for an additional 20 years, with the potential availability cheaper geothermal power down the road.

"The cost to the company is start up, not maintenance, according to Handeland. Howard Trott of Pilgrim Limited was to be in Nome to meet with the board at their regular meeting March 18 to answer further questions.

NJUS would take delivery of the geothermal power at a transformer at the terminus of NJUSS' transmission line at the Rock Creek Mine near Nome. NJUS would pay Pilgrim Geothermal 22¢ per kwh, and in addition, 4¢ would go to the owners of

the hot springs, Unaatuq, LLC. For use of its connection at Rock Creek, NJUS would receive 1¢ per kwh. Pilgrim Limited would build and maintain the transmission line as well as the infrastructure at Pilgrim Hot Springs.

Wind generation has already been added to Nome's utility picture. An initial development by Banner Wind LLC has been in production for nearly five years. In 2013, NJUS added two 900 kwh generators using money from Alaska Energy Authority and Norton Sound Economic Development Corp. Next New Year's Day, NJUS will assume operational control and flexibility to reconfigure Banner Wind assets under a land use agreement.

Unaatuq, owners of the Pilgrim mission plot, comprises Native Village corporations of Sitnasuak, White Mountain, Teller, Mary's Igloo, Kawerak, Bering Strait Native Corp., and NSEDC.

Potelco, a construction company and investors in the geothermal development and production is a Washington corporation that is a subsidiary of Quanta Electrical Power Services of Houston, Texas.

University of Alaska's Alaska Center for Energy and Power coordinated a drilling program with financial support from Unaatuq and its partners, U.S. Dept. of Energy, ACEP, City of Nome (\$300,000) Nome Chamber of Commerce and other contributors.

Additional drilling remains to isolate the red-hot source of water, due

to start soon, according to Gwen Holder, heading up the University of Alaska project.

Based on their belief that at least two megawatts of power production can be attained from the site, Potelco has contributed to the drilling program as well as conducted engineering development and design activities. They are willing to take the risk to build the 50-mile high voltage transmission line from Pilgrim to Nome and develop the two-megawatt generation facility at the site, according to Handeland.

Subject to entering an agreement to sell power to Nome in early 2014, additional drilling would start in April. The goal would be to have the power line constructed and the plant and other development ready to begin power production in January.

Nome police investigate death

According to Nome Police Chief John Papasodora, NPD was called for a welfare check at a residence on W. First Ave. Sunday, March 16. When officers arrived on scene, they found David Chung, 60, deceased. It appeared that the victim succumbed to a self-inflicted gunshot wound. Police said the body was sent to the medical examiner in Anchorage.

No foul play is suspected and next of kin have been notified.

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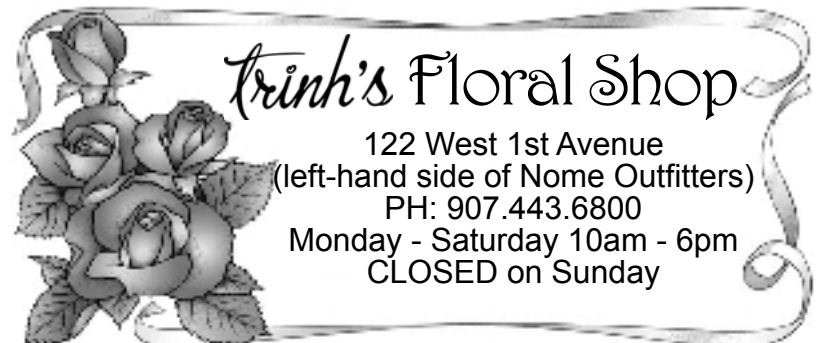
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Photo by Diana Haecker

AT THE END OF THE TRAIL— Iditarod and Yukon Quest veteran Hans Gatt drives his 11 dogs up the ramp and onto Front Street to finish in 9th position on March 11. Gatt was nine days, four hours and 40 minutes on the trail.

• Right to Mush

continued from page 1

Gold Rush, carrying freight, mail and even passengers to the furthest reaches of the vast Alaskan wilderness.

Mushing's value has always been more than utilitarian, though, distinguished by the deep emotional connections between the people and the dogs they depended on for survival and companionship in a harsh and rugged landscape and unforgiving weather.

The movement to establish Alaska as a Right to Mush state has been championed by individuals and organizations around the state who share one common goal — the desire to preserve the accessibility of a time-honored, truly Alaskan activity for future generations without restriction.

Mike Williams Sr., a native Yup'ik and tribal leader who has run the Iditarod race 15 times and is renowned for his personal mission to promote sobriety and healthy living within his community, lives and raises sled dogs in Akiak with his son, who placed 11th in this year's race. Williams was pivotal in getting the Native community on board with the Right to Mush resolution last fall, a task he took on willingly.

"We face challenges more and more to our traditional ways of life," Williams Sr. explained. "This is what I've been doing all my life. There was never a time when I didn't have sled dogs. I explained to the Tribal Council in Akiak that this is about educating people to respect the mushing community and to respect our way of life. As Yup'ik people, we have lived with our dogs for thousands of years. There is a rich history. They are our family. The Council agreed we need to make sure mushing stays alive in Alaska without restrictions — they didn't even hesitate."

Williams presented the proposed resolution to the Association of Village Councils in Bethel, where it passed unanimously by representatives of 56 villages.

In October, Williams presented the resolution proposal at the Alaska Federation of Natives' annual convention. "There was no opposition," he said. "It is a strong statement by the Native community of how important this way of life is. Without those dogs, our people couldn't have survived the elements."

A vanishing lifestyle?

With an event as monumental as the Iditarod, which focuses international attention on Alaska every year

and draws in millions of tourism dollars to the state, it seems improbable that a piece of legislation to protect mushing would be necessary.

It's a problem that has arisen with the increasing growth and urbanization of Alaska. Due to the costs of raising and training sled dog teams, keeping the dogs close to home is the best and, in many cases, the only option for competitive mushers. "There are many mushers in the villages who have many dogs, but expenses don't allow village teams to compete in the big races," Williams observed. "There are expenses of food, transportation and travel costs, and in economically depressed communities many mushers have no corporate sponsors at all."

As the costs of shipping dog food, straw, and equipment to bush Alaska, as well as transportation costs to locations of the state's big races is prohibitively expensive for most village residents, fewer and fewer in the villages can afford to raise and maintain competitive dog teams even if they might wish.

Lance Mackey, four-time Iditarod champion commented, "The number one thing I hear when I'm in the villages is 'I can't afford to do this.' The Natives started it all, yet there are very few of them in it now."

Many of those who can afford to maintain kennels and participate are concentrated in the state's more populated communities. These areas also happen to attract residents who want to experience the solitude and wilderness of Alaska without giving up urban conveniences or the road system.

Inevitably, friction among neighbors occurs over the presence of dog kennels in developed areas and the use of trail systems for dog sleds.

Christine Roalofs, Iditarod finisher and winner of 2013 Red Lantern, owns and operates a kennel within Anchorage city limits and has worked diligently with her dogs to control barking and howling so that she can maintain her kennel while abiding by animal control ordinances. "We want to be in the city and we work hard to be good neighbors," Roalofs said.

Roalofs explained the fine balance mushers work with to help their dogs to develop acceptable and desirable behaviors. "I'm careful with my dogs. They are not allowed to routinely bark," she said, "but during harness hookups, you want them excited and enthusiastic. That's the wrong time to train barking out. Barking gets them excited and ready to run. And eating, that's also the right time for them to bark. If you let

them get excited when it's mealtime, they learn to eat when they are presented with food. That's a big thing on the trail because you don't have routine mealtimes out there."

Roalofs pointed out that she was invited to become a member of the Anchorage's Animal Control Advisory Board to represent the interests of mushers in regard to operating kennels and using trails for dog sledding. "The number one complaint we hear is not about mushing," she notes. "It's about the family pets that are chained up outside, bored, not given exercise or attention, who bark incessantly."

Out of conflicts over mushing, many of which have resulted in litigation, momentum for the movement to declare Alaska a Right to Mush state has quickly grown.

Organizations including kennel clubs and the Alaska Federation of Natives adopted their own resolutions that included stronger language than that which passed the Legislature this week.

The Willow Area Community Organization, Akiak Tribal Council, Association of Village Presidents, Pioneer Igloo #1, the Nome Kennel Club and Willow Dog Mushers As-

sociation each adopted similar Right to Mush resolutions, declaring a state of attack on mushing from within.

AFN's resolution in part reads: "Whereas sled dog mushers around the state are experiencing harassment through frivolous lawsuits, the hampering of kennel operations, sled dog training runs and obstruction of trails" and "Whereas mushers all over the state are being bullied, intentionally disturbed and bothered by individuals who have no respect for the art of dog mushing, dog husbandry, and the traditional Alaskan way of life."

ITC stays out of it

Interestingly, the Iditarod Trail Committee was presented with the resolution proposal last October, and declined to endorse it, citing some of the language as "confrontational" according to board meeting minutes.

However, ITC Executive Director Stan Hooley commented last week, "There needs to be some level of common sense protections for mushers in Alaska. The committee would want to take a look at the revised language to decide whether it's something they want to consider endorsing."

In an interview with the *Nugget*, Lance Mackey expressed frustration with the ITC's hesitancy to endorse the resolution.

"The ITC doesn't want to change, doesn't listen to the people. But they wouldn't exist if not for the mushers. It's time for them, and the State of Alaska to step up."

AFN's resolution also called for the creation of the Code of the North, which entails that "people who choose to live in Alaska should embrace the fact that sled dog mushing is still alive and practiced."

Leo Rasmussen, former mayor of Nome, has worked closely in various capacities with the Iditarod race since its beginning. "Alaska was a dog mushing area long before it ever became a territory, long before the U.S. purchased the land from Russians, long before it became a state," Rasmussen said. "People in Alaska need to learn to co-exist if we are going to preserve our history for the future of great events that have been taking place for a long time."

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continued on page 6

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• Right to Mush

continued from page 5

historic way of life. It isn't going to happen if people in bush Alaska can't live with their dogs — it's the only way they can afford to raise them."

Among most mushers, the Code of the North is a given when it comes to perceptions of Alaska.

Mackey remarked, "I'm almost laughing this is even an issue. This is the state sport. This is what we are in Alaska. If you move to the state of Alaska, you know the road system is minimal, and you know what you're getting into with trails and dogs in subdivisions." Ray Redington Junior, grandson of the founder of the Iditarod race and fresh off the trail, mused, "It's funny to have people complaining about dogs when dogs have made this state what it is. I think if you own your property, you ought to be able to do what you want, especially the things you enjoy doing."

Step in right direction

HCR 24, which focuses on the importance of mushing for the historical identity, cultural image and economic significance the sport brings to the state, omits language about the attack on mushing and Code of the North. The state's resolution focuses on mushing as a positive means to promote physical and spiritual health, and as an expression of Alaskan cultural identity.

Representative Foster pointed out that declaring anything as a "Right to" often generates attention and sometimes, opposition, even on an issue that would seemingly be undisputed.

However, the consensus among representatives was overwhelmingly supportive of the resolution. Some mushers, while in support of the resolution, would still prefer to see more specific and firmer laws protecting mushing.

Mitch Seavey, 2013 Iditarod champion and one member of a famous Alaskan mushing family dynasty, has been through his share of litigation challenging his own kennel operations. "Of course as a musher, I support the Right to Mush, but what really needs to happen are laws with teeth," Seavey said. "I hope that in addition to this resolution, there would be laws in the state of Alaska in favor of mushing. It's just so important to the state."

Mike Williams Sr. still describes it as a step in the right direction, however. "I describe the legislative process as the sausage mill," he said. "When we have the intention to put strong language in, it gets watered down. It's just part of the political process. But the statement is still there. Now we can have an ongoing debate on the issue, and in the end, hopefully people will be in a position where they will support it."

Rep. Foster sees it as a positive step for the sport as well. "Now the dialogue is open. We can reference

this resolution, that all Representatives supported, if we need to build on this legislation later."

Mushing's significance to Alaska is certainly evident in economic terms. The ceremonial start of the Iditarod in Anchorage garners worldwide media attention, as does the Iditarod's website, and this year, the race will once again be featured on national television, with coverage by the Sportsman Channel. All of this attention helps draw thousands of Iditarod fans to the state to witness mushers and their dog teams participate in the Last Great Race.

Foster remarked, "What I think makes mushing great, is that it never loses its magic. The Iditarod comes and goes every year, but it never gets old. The excitement and pride is still there." The race generates much-needed winter tourism dollars for the communities of Anchorage and Wasilla, and provides an invaluable boost to the economies of Nome and other communities along the trail. After the devastating spring flood that hit the Yukon community of Galena last year, race marshal Mark Nordman inquired if the town could tolerate the Iditarod coming through again this year. Their response was that they need the Iditarod to come through, to provide some much needed positive activity.

HCR 24 acknowledges the contributions mushing makes, stating, "Dog mushing attracts millions of fans and tourists from around the world, and contributes to the economies of the state and communities in the state."

ITC's Stan Hooley describes mushing as "one of the most unique things about Alaska. Thousands of people travel here to witness this great event."

"Certainly if it's that intriguing to them, we as Alaskans ought to be interested in protecting and taking care of it," he said. Hooley believes that the experience of mushing best captures its appeal. "It's hard to believe if anyone takes the time to visit a kennel or gets the opportunity to stand on sled runners and experience the sport, they would feel that it needs to be pushed off into a corner somewhere."

Standing on a sled behind a team of dogs heightens one's sense to experience the spectacular beauty of Alaska in a way that is unmatched. "It's a magical, wonderful activity. I'm an avid snowmachiner, but I don't have a bond with my snowmachine," he smiled.

Those who live the life of a musher can attest to the value of the sport beyond the positive economic impact to the state. Training and caring for the dogs requires physical conditioning, fitness, and time, eliminating the tendency toward less-healthy ways of beating boredom. Williams explained, "It's a positive activity for the communities and it sure does beat the cabin fever." Williams, who used mushing as a platform to campaign for sobriety



Photo by Diana Haecker

CONGRATULATIONS— Iditarod checker Tom Vaden, right, shakes Ray Redington Jr.'s hand as Redington finished his 2014 Iditarod Sled Dog Race.

within Native communities, also spoke to the capacity of dogs to literally save lives. "In the diphtheria epidemic, dogs brought the serum to the people and saved them from the disease. I'm seeing needless deaths in my community to alcoholism and suicide. So I'm advocating for mental, physical, and spiritual wellness but I let the dogs do the job."

Raising dog teams is truly a lifestyle for mushers, one they choose to pursue, even with its hardships and sacrifices, out of love for their dogs. "Ask any musher — no one would say their dogs are anything less than family," commented Rasmussen.

"There are sacrifices I have to make because I choose to raise dogs," Roalofs explained. "I might like to go out and spend time with my friends after work, but I have dogs depending on me to come home and take care of them. And it's something I want to do because I love them."

Mitch Seavey laughed as he recalled the sketchy conditions around the "blow hole", that section of the Iditarod trail between White Mountain and Safety, where mushers traveled through out-of-this-world winds and contended with glare ice, drifts, poor visibility and extreme temperatures. "I have tremendous respect for the dogs," said Seavey. "I really had to rely on them to do the right thing most of the time, there were times when I had no ability to use my brakes or snow hooks. That's the neatest thing this race brought out in the dogs. It was a different kind of relationship, one of mutual trust instead of me calling the shots all the time. And it was tough on the mushers but the dogs had a lot of fun. I'm

getting beat to death on the trail but I check in with the dogs and their tails are wagging, they're ready to go, and then I'm laughing. We feed off each other."

That relationship and shared experience between the musher and the dogs is the core of what the sport is about, and what mushers hope to preserve by making Alaska a Right to Mush state.

"Mushing is still alive in the villages, and as long as I'm alive, I will never let it die," declared Mike Williams Sr. "We do it because we love our dogs," explained Mackey simply.

"It's the first time I've ever been glad to see it over," Redington about this year's Iditarod, but he softened as he spoke about his team.

"The sled dogs, their personalities, their desire to run, the enthusi-

asm of it... someone living in an apartment building with a pet doesn't get to experience that.

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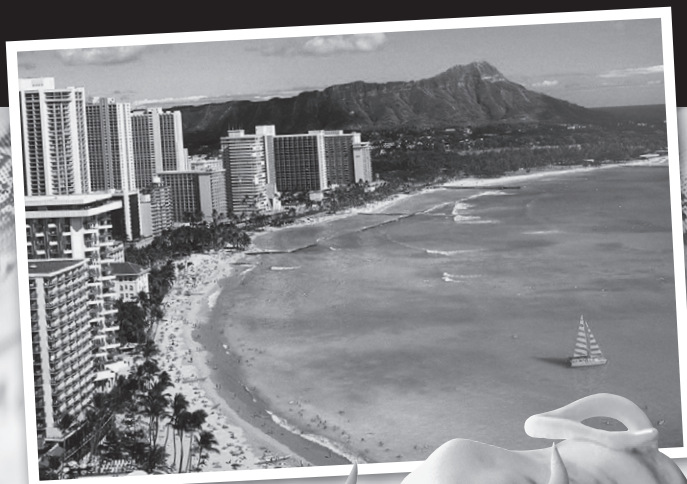
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Photo by Diana Haecker

ARE WE READY?— A dog in Joar Leifseth Ulsom's team looks back to see if his master is ready go. Ulsom arrived in Nome in fourth position.



Photo by Diana Haecker

IN GOOD HANDS— Iditarod Chief Veterinarian Dr. Stu Nelson checks in with the Monica Zappa's lead dogs. Nelson said the mushers this year did an outstanding job taking care of their canine athletes.

• 2014 Iditarod

continued from page 1

last stretch between Topkok, Safety and Nome.

It seemed that the country took some mushers by their words when they declared at the beginning of the race "Bring it on."

The Norton Sound coast took a deep breath and exhaled even longer and deeper, blowing mushers and their teams like rag dolls about.

Dramatic finish

As Nomeites anticipated the arrival of the race's winner, it seemed clear that it was going to be Jeff King. Leaving White Mountain with 11 dogs, posting fast run times and having a lead of an hour over Aliy Zirkle, it seemed like a done deal. However, after descending Topkok Hill and hitting the beach trail, it became clear that winds had picked up dramatically. According to an Iditarod Insider interview with Jeff King the winds blew King's dog team off the trail. "The wind would catch my sled, I would roll and take the whole team sideways with me," King says in the interview. "I was like a rock around their neck."

As the wind gusts got too intense, the dogs couldn't stay on their feet. Two dogs in particular pulled at his heartstrings, King said. King wrestled his sleeping bag out of the sled and put these two dogs in there, spooning with them for a while. Then, the whole dog team shared the sleeping bag and huddled together. Staying out there was not a feasible option, so when a group of snowmachiners approached, King asked for a ride to Safety. There he saw Aliy Zirkle, who gave him a huge hug, relieved to see him.

Zirkle said at the musher's banquet that on a normal day, she would not sit down and have coffee with King, but in that moment she felt relieved to see him alive.

King only said, "My dogs aren't here."

Race marshal Mark Nordman then saw to it that King got his dogs off the icy trail and into Safety with the help of the Iditarod Insider crew. That was the end of King's race. "Until you have experienced the chill and the wind and the darkness and the feeling of approaching incapacity, then you have the full ability to make your own opinion," King said.

While the wind denied King passage, Zirkle and later Dallas Seavey somehow made it through.

Zirkle made it to Safety without ever seeing King and his huddled team. And a couple of hours later, Dallas Seavey had fought his way to Safety, pushing on to Nome, totally oblivious that he took the lead.

But all who lived through that stormy night on the trail said that the race became irrelevant and that it was only about survival.

Prior to leaving White Mountain, Zirkle gave herself a 25 percent chance to catch King and she said she had a great race up to that point. "The winds that my dog team endured were phenomenal. Many times I thought we would get blown into the open ocean, which was not a good option. I always knew that we were going to make it, but I was this close to not making it to Safety,"

Zirkle said.

While there at the checkpoint, Zirkle had a cup of coffee. "I was tired, I was mentally exhausted," she said. When Dallas Seavey pulled into the checkpoint, Zirkle went outside, looked over his team and decided that it was time to go. "The last 22 miles of my race were fun," she said. "I did my darnest to catch that young man."

Zirkle almost did. For the third time, she narrowly lost her first Iditarod Championship to a Seavey: in 2012 to Dallas, in 2013 to his father Mitch and again in 2014 to Dallas. But it didn't matter, she said. "I have no regrets. It was a fantastic race and congrats, Dallas," she said to roaring applause at the Rec Center during the finisher's banquet.

Dallas Seavey in an interview with *The Nome Nugget* remembers the last 20 miles as an attempt to make it to Nome alive. He said for a short time he had contemplated staying in Safety for a bit, but then decided to push on and get his dogs to the finish line where they would be out of harm's way and could rest. Asked if he really had no idea that he was about to win the race, Seavey said, no, he didn't. This final night of a taxing Iditarod race was very confusing to begin with. In Seavey's mind, King had a commanding lead, the wind battle left him exhausted, he only saw Aliy Zirkle's name at the clipboard at Safety, but thought Jeff King went past before checkers arrived. Thinking that the leaders are out of reach and that his father Mitch Seavey is no less than two hours behind him, Dallas Seavey thought he could coast to Nome and not be in a hurry. But wrong. Not knowing that Zirkle left Safety at his heels, Seavey assumed that his father caught up with him when he saw a distinctive move of a musher's headlamp bobbing up and down behind him on the trail. Seavey began pumping, running and pedaling up Cape Nome, down Cape Nome and the last 13 miles into town. There he collapsed onto his sled. When he mustered some strength again, he crawled to his wheel dog Glitter and there learned from a cameraman that he just won the 2014 Iditarod. "Where are Aliy and Jeff? Where's my dad?" Seavey asked confused.

Then, things made sense: The crowds on Front Street, the glaring lights, the roaring welcome. "I was the first person to make it across the finish line and the last person to realize it," Seavey said at the banquet.

Zirkle came in two minutes after the 26-year old Seavey. She looked shell-shocked and plain relieved to be at the finish line. She classified the mushing she just did as the hardest she's ever done and said it was a matter of life or death.

In hindsight, Seavey muses that having only seven dogs left in his team during the storm ordeal may have been the pivotal part of being able to make it through. The lesser amount of dogs on the gang line meant that as the dogs were spun around and got hung up on driftwood, it took less time to untangle them each time and keep going.

At the finisher's banquet he said that unlike wrestling, mushing is not a sport against somebody or some-

thing, but something a person does with his or her dogs against the trail, the weather and circumstances. "We are hearing a lot of stories about mushers putting the race behind and helping each other," Seavey said. And that's the spirit of this race and mushing in general.

Camaraderie

The Iditarod Official Finishers Club voted that Michael Williams Jr. receive the Sportsmanship award. IOFC president Aaron Burmeister said, "It seems that wherever help was needed, there he was. I know that he helped me when I needed help the most."

Williams Jr. of Akiak, came upon Burmeister as he had just suffered a horrendous wipeout. About 18 miles outside of Rohn, Burmeister hit a stump, which sheared off his drag, pinned his leg under the brake and basically ripped the knee out of its socket. "I blacked out, it was so painful," said Burmeister. He recovered best as he could and moved on to where he came upon Sonny Lindner, Aliy Zirkle and Nick Petit camping. Lindner gave him some vet wrap. Burmeister kept on moving and finally stopped near Farewell Lake, where Mike Williams Jr. found him in excruciating pain.

Burmeister asked Mike Williams for help to pop the dislocated knee back into place, to which the pale Akiak musher responded, "I think I'm going to throw up." But he didn't and assisted Burmeister in the painful task to align the Nome musher's leg again and wrap it up with vet wrap. Burmeister still had 55 miles of icy, side-hilling, challenging trail to go. "There was no way I was going to quit," Burmeister said. His dogs got him to Nikolai and there, a nurse from McGrath fitted him with a knee brace and a lot of painkillers.

Burmeister said once he knew that only the ligaments were broken and that the damage was done and couldn't get any worse, there was no doubt in his mind to give up. However, checkpoint routines that usually take him 45 minutes now took him two hours because he kept slipping and falling because the knee gave out. This cut into the meager sleep schedule Iditarod front-runners allocate themselves and he grew more and more tired.

Reaching Golovin Bay, Burmeister encounter beautiful conditions. But that was about to change in a hurry and suddenly he found himself on the glare ice with north winds blowing him backwards. Burmeister opted to veer off to the eastern shoreline and take a detour since walking on the ice was not feasible. Seeking a local trail leaving Golovin also led him on a detour, but he made it to White Mountain safely with eight dogs, arriving there sweaty from walking and crashing and chilly from the cold wind finding its through the heavy winter gear. In White Mountain, the mushers were advised about the crazy out-of-this-world winds that blew through the blowhole. Burmeister, Ray Redington, Jessie Royer and Hans Gatt opted to stay longer than

continued on page 8

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Photo by Nils Hahn

MUSHING ICON (top)— Sonny Lindner, 64, finished his 22nd Iditarod and seventh time in the top 10. In 1978, Lindner ran his first Iditarod and won the Rookie of the Year award. In later years, he would receive the Sportsmanship award twice, the Herbie Nayokpuk award and the Most Inspirational Musher award.



Photo by Diana Haecker

FIRST WOMAN TO WIN THE IDITAROD (right)— Libby Riddles, the first woman to win the Iditarod in 1985, visited Nome for the Iditarod finish. She checks on the dogs and gives a team dog in Jason Mackey's team some loving on Thursday, March 13.

• 2014 Iditarod

continued from page 7

their mandatory eight hours to ease their passage. After an extra eight hours rest, Burmeister drove his 7-dog team into Nome in 10th place. "I have never ran a race that was so tough for so long," he said.

Burmeister, for not giving up when suffering an excruciating knee injury, received the Musher's Choice award, which honors the most inspirational musher.

One of the more memorable images that brought home how severely challenging the 2014 Iditarod trail was, was the image of 31-time Iditarod finisher Martin Buser down on his knees at the finish line.

He just knelt there for a while, with his face buried in his hands.

Buser had also spent the entire course pretty much in pain. A dislocated pinky on his left hand was at first only a little inconvenience, Buser said. But it got progressively worse and painful until it turned into excruciating pain all the time. He managed to navigate what race officials called "technical" but meant ice, rocks and stumps littered trails north of the Alaska Range. Buser lost his drag, a mat that is used to slow down dog teams without using the pointy brake, about 9 miles out of Rohn. That coincided with trail conditions getting worse, Buser said. His dogs raced up and down those hills, over ice and dirt, stumps and sticks. "And then whack, whack my leg went under the sled and the brake bar and from then on, it was a struggle," Buser said. He said the trail was so challenging that he made his con-

cerns known how rookies and less-experienced mushers would be able to master the trail without sustaining severe injuries.

Buser badly sprained his ankle and — like Burmeister — had to depend on his dogs to pull him all the way to the finish line, when they would usually help running up hills or pedaling or ski-poling at least. Despite limping along on a bad left ankle and having a hurting left hand with the buddy-taped pinky, Buser managed to finish in sixth place and was awarded the Leonard Seppala Humanitarian Award. He said he had received this coveted award for the fifth time.

Hans Gatt, who came out of semi-retirement, reached the Burled Arch and said this race confirmed that he'll now commit to fully retiring from 1,000-mile sled dog racing. Travis Beals spoke to a low point when he sat on his sled, not knowing how to gather the strength to go on when Allen Moore came by and asked him "What's the matter, boy?"

Beals said he was bummed out and had doubts do go on, to which Moore answered, "Put on your big boy pants and get zesty!" Beals did and wondered the whole way up to Nome what Moore meant by "getting zesty."

Jason Mackey, greeted by his mother Kathy in Nome, also said that if he would've known how "challenging" the trail was, he doubted that he would've been participating. His brother Lance Mackey, four-time Iditarod champion, sat this Iditarod out for health reasons.

Near-death experiences

Hugh Neff did not hold back when telling his story of nearly freezing to death as he sat on the sea ice at Golovin Bay. Neff was also caught in the windstorm, just as he tried to cross Golovin Bay enroute to White Mountain. "I was stuck in a no-win situation," said Neff in Nome. "I had no footing myself, and me and my team were blown over backwards." Neff said he had only seven dogs left and couldn't power against those strong winds, so he hunkered down right there on the sea ice, chopped a hole in the ice and set his hook. "It was a long night in a tiny sled bag, shivering away and all I kept on saying to myself, 'I want to live, I want to live.'"

Neff said he kept on pushing the emergency button on the SPOT device mushers carried with them this year. "I was only nine miles from White Mountain but it took them over 10 hours to come." When Dave Branholm showed up on his snow-machine, Neff said it was about time. "For some reason they were thinking I was taking a rest break or something, but when you're out on the sea ice, you're not starting a campfire and hanging out, resting your dogs — you're surviving. I barely survived," Neff said. "It was brutal, it was Mother Nature at its finest."

Neff kept feeding himself jellybeans to stay awake and not fall asleep. "My legs and my lower arms were starting to freeze up. I could literally feel my body freezing," Neff

said. "I could feel myself dying. So when the guy finally came and looked at me, I said 'What took you so long?' I've been pressing the emergency button the whole night, maybe I was doing it wrong, not holding the button down long enough."

By accepting outside help to get himself and the dog team to White Mountain, Neff was forced to scratch. Although he doesn't know if there will be more Iditarods in his future, he said him and his new best friend Dave Branholm will be penning a book called "Surviving the mushing madness — The Last Great Race 2014."

The emotional strain of a 1,000-mile long dog race cannot be understood by those of us who have not done it. But 49 people know what it feels like to have survived what most Iditarod veterans called the most challenging trail ever. Some even seemed to have had fun, as the

smiles on the back of the pack rookies Monica Zappa, Lisbet Norris and Marcelle Fressineau showed.

When Aliy Zirkle gave her speech at the banquet, she talked about a very quiet young woman who approached her in Unalakleet to have her photo taken with Zirkle. "She said, 'My boyfriend thinks that women are sissies. I'm going to show this picture to him when you win'," Zirkle said, ending her speech asking all 13 female Iditarod 2014 finishers to stand up. "Do you think we're sissies?" Zirkle asked the crowd. "I don't think we're sissies." To roaring applause she left the stage.

Mitch Seavey, third place finisher, could at least find humor in the fact that his kid beat him and also a woman. But he said he'll be back to change that. "I just can't get used to losing to women and children," he said.



34th Annual Shishmaref Spring Carnival

Hosted by Shishmaref Dog Mushers Association

Herbert Nayokpuk, "The Shishmaref Cannonball"

Tentative dates for Annual Spring Carnival Race

April 7-12, 2014

April 7: Drawing for Open Class Race • April 8-10: Open Class Race

April 12: Run, Harness, Go and Award Ceremony

Shishmaref Spring Carnival
Basketball Tournament
April 8– 12, 2014

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Thursday, March 27





BRING'EM HOME— Kasilof musher Kristy Berington arrived in Nome in 30th place with a trail time of 10 days 19 hours and 20 minutes.

Photos by Diana Haecker



ROOKIE NO MORE— Kotzebue musher Katherine Keith is accompanied into the finish chute by her daughter Amelia on Thursday, March 13. Keith finished the race in 10 days 20 hours and 43 minutes.



K9 FAIRY— A so-called K-9 Fairy — a group of educators and cancer survivors who support the Iditarod race — shows her loot of used dog booties at the Iditarod finish line in Nome.



SNOOZE TIME— A dog in Jason Mackey's team catches a few minutes of sleep as Mackey is being checked in to the last checkpoint of the 2014 Iditarod race.



JASON AND MASON— Musher Jason Mackey is greeted by Mason Omiak of Little Diomed. Mason is a huge mushing fan and welcomed nearly every musher into Nome. One day, he said, he too will run the Iditarod.



Photos by Diana Haecker
PROUD— Dallas Seavey's lead dog Beatle won the Golden Harness award.



FAST— Nome Kennel Club President Chrystie Salesky presented the award for the dog team posting the fastest time between Safety and Nome. Jessie Royer, middle, and Ray Redington Jr. tied for the honor.



GOOD DOG CARE— Martin Buser, left, won the coveted Leonard Seppala Humanitarian award. Buser received the trophy from Alaska Airlines Nome Station Manager David Booker, middle, and Iditarod Chief Veterinarian Dr. Stu Nelson.



SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD— Iditarod Official Finisher's Club President Aaron Burmeister, left, presented Akiak's Michael Williams, Jr. with the Sportsmanship Award.

IDITAROD XLII Award winners

PenAir Spirit of Alaska Award
Presented since 2000, to the first musher to reach McGrath, the musher receives an original "Spirit Mask," specially created for this event by Bristol Bay artist, Orville Lind, and a \$500 credit on PenAir towards travel or freight shipments.
Winner: Sonny Lindner

GCI Dorothy G Page Halfway Award
Presented by GCI since 1994, in honor of the late Dorothy G. Page, the "Mother of the Iditarod". Presented at the halfway checkpoint, Iditarod in odd numbered years and Cripple in even numbered years. First musher to the checkpoint receives a trophy and \$3,000 in gold nuggets
Winner: Aaron Burmeister

Millennium Alaskan Hotel First Musher to the Yukon Award
Presented to the first musher to the Yukon, this year presented in Ruby, Alaska
The Millennium Alaskan Hotel First Musher to the Yukon Award is a five-course meal the meal consisted of Alaskan Sablefish & Blue Mussel Stew, followed by Red King Crab Cajun Bruschetta, The third course was Baby Arugula & Smoked Spotted Shrimp Salad. The entrée was Peppercorn Crusted Filet Mignon & Fried Oysters. For dessert, Roasted Pear Crème Brulee Tart. Wine and champagne pairings accompanied each course.
"After Dinner Mint" of \$3,500 presented on an Alaskan Gold Pan accompanied by a bottle of Dom Perignon it was presented by Patrick Cashman, Millennium Alaskan Hotel Food and Beverage Director. The meal was prepared by Executive Chef, Bobby Sidro.

The Millennium Alaskan Hotel First Musher to the Yukon Award
Presented by Patrick Cashman, Millennium Alaskan Hotel Food and Beverage Director, at the musher's finisher's banquet.
Winner-Jeff King

Bristol Bay Native Corporation Fish First Award
Presented to the first musher to Galena.
Check for \$1,000 and 25 Pounds of Bristol Bay salmon and a commemorative jacket
Re-presented at the Nome banquet by Jason Metrokin, President & Chief Executive Officer, Bristol Bay Native Corporation.
Winner-Aliy Zirkle

Wells Fargo Gold Coast Award
Presented by Wells Fargo since 1993, to the first musher to the "Gold Coast" given at checkpoint and again at Awards Banquet in Nome
The award was presented by Jake Slingsby, Nome Business Manager & Scott Johnson, Northwest Community Banking President at the checkpoint and re-presented in Nome by Scott Johnson, Northwest Community Banking President.
Winner-Aliy Zirkle

Jerry Austin Rookie of the Year Award
Presented since 1980, to the top place rookie (defined as a musher who has never before started the Race)
Musher receives check for \$1,500 and trophy
Presented at the Nome banquet by Clara Austin (wife of Jerry Austin) and Family of St. Michael
Winner-Nathan Schroeder

Nome Kennel Club Fastest Time Safety to Nome Award
Presented by the Nome Kennel Club since 1973. The winner must be in top 20. Musher receives \$500.00. Presented at the Nome banquet by Chrystie Salesky, president Nome Kennel Club
Winner-Jessie Royer and Ray Redington Jr.

Horizon Lines Most Improved Musher Award
Honors the musher who has bettered his/her last previous finish by the most number of places. Winner receives an engraved trophy plus \$2,000.00 Presented at Nome banquet by Kenny Gill, Senior Director of Operations for Horizon Lines.
Winner-Richie Diehl

Sportsmanship Award
Musher receives an engraved trophy
Recipient chosen by fellow mushers
Presented at the Nome banquet by Aaron Burmeister, President of Iditarod Official Finishers Club
Winner receives a check for \$1,049.00 from ITC and a plaque.
Winner- Michael Williams Jr.

EXXONMOBIL Mushers Choice Award
Each year the official finishers make the decision as to who was the most inspirational musher on the trail. The award has been presented by EXXONMOBIL since 2010. The Iditarod Limited Edition Gold Coin is valued at \$3,900.00 and it's surrounded by a gold chain rope.
Presented at the Finishers banquet by Karen Hagedorn, Production Manager for Alaska
Winner-Aaron Burmeister

Northern Air Cargo Herbie Nayokpuk Award

Presented to the musher chosen by vote of the checkers along the coast, which incorporate the Bering Straits Native Corporation who most closely mimics Herbie: "The Shishmaref Cannon Ball" in his/her attitude on the trail "Recipient receives free freight allotment on Northern Air Cargo and a trophy, plus \$1,049.00 in "pocket change" inside of a NAC jacket.
Presented at the Nome banquet by Blake Arrington, Director of Marketing, for Northern Air Cargo.
Winner-Newton Marshall

Golden Clipboard Award
Presented by the mushers since 2000 to a special checkpoint. Voted on by the mushers
Presented at the Nome banquet by Mark Nordman, Race Director/Race Marshal
Winner-Checkpoint of Galena

Alaska Airlines Leonard Seppala Humanitarian Award
Presented since 1982 to a top 20 team
Based on specific criteria to determine who has best demonstrated outstanding dog care throughout the Race while remaining competitive. Recipient received a lead crystal cup on an illuminated wooden base. Presented by David Booker, Station Manager of Alaska Airlines and Chief Veterinarian, Dr. Stuart Nelson, Jr., D.V.M.
Winner-Martin Buser

City of Nome Lolly Medley Golden Harness Award
Originally presented by the late Lolly Medley, Wasilla harness maker and one of two women to run the second Iditarod in 1974. The embroidered gold colored harness goes to an outstanding led dog, chosen by

the mushers and is presented at the Nome banquet by Denise Michels, Mayor of Nome
Winner-Beatle, Dallas Seavey's Lead Dog

Wells Fargo Winner's Purse Award
Awarded at the finish line and again at the Awards Banquet in Nome by Scott Johnson, Northwest Community Banking President
Winner-Dallas Seavey

Anchorage Chrysler Dodge Official Truck Award
Presented to the Iditarod winner since 1991; 2014 Dodge Ram 4x4 quad cab pickup truck or similarly priced new Dodge, Jeep, or Chrysler vehicle valued at \$39,200. Presentation made at finish line by Chuck Talsky and again at the Nome banquet by Kathy Nicolson, Events/Social Media Manager of Anchorage Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram Center.
Winner - Dallas Seavey

Wells Fargo Red Lantern Award
Presented by Wells Fargo Bank since 1993, given to the last musher to finish the race. Musher receives a trophy made from a red lantern. Presentation made on the street as musher comes to finish line and again at the Red Lantern banquet by Tyler Hull, Store Manager, Wells Fargo Nome
Winner-Marcelle Fressineau

Northern Air Cargo 4-Wheeler Drawing
New 4-Wheeler will be given to a musher who has finished the race, and whose key, is chosen randomly by the mushers, and starts the 4 wheeler. Presented at the Nome Banquet
Winner-Robert Sorlie



SIBERIAN DYNASTY — Kari Skogen, left, welcomes her daughter Lisbet Norris under the Burled Arch. Norris drove the Norris family's team of American Kennel Club registered Siberian huskies in her rookie Iditarod.



MADE IT — Monica Zappa's team trots under the Burled Arch, on March 15.




PROUD OF DADDY — Hunter Burmeister, 5, proudly holds daddy Aaron Burmeister's trophy for finishing the 2014 Iditarod in 10th place. Burmeister also received the ExxonMobil Musher's Choice award, aka Most Inspirational Musher award, for not giving up despite a debilitating knee injury he sustained past Rohn.



GIMME A KISS — Longtime musher Tim Osmar greets his dogs, driven by Monica Zappa, at the Nome finish line on Saturday, March 15. The team finished the 2014 Iditarod in 13 days, four hours and eight minutes, in 47th position.

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Iditarod showcases Nome and regional artists

Artists from Nome and surrounding Norton Sound Villages competed in the 15th Annual Iditarod Fine Art Show sponsored by the Nome Arts Council. The show was held at Old St. Joseph Hall March 10 - 15. This year's judges were Jeanne Seward of Eugene, OR, Kathy Chapoton of Big Lake, AK, Nina Grimes of Nome and Jeff Rigo of Fairbanks. They all have a love for art and were excited to be a part of this year's event.

A reception was held Friday afternoon and the public enjoyed refreshments while admiring the artwork and visiting with the artists. Event organizer, Angela Hansen extended a welcome and thanked those who participated in and helped with the show, especially the Nome Arts Council for their continuous encouragement and financial support.

Special thanks went to Delores Orman for receiving entries and helping throughout the week, Todd Hindman who set up the picture racks, Jeanne Seward and Lisa Leeper for hanging the art and Tricia Walters for advertising the event. Great appreciation was also expressed to Nora Nagarak for typing the artist information cards and to

Cheryl Thompson and Karen Olanna for making the art and craft show possible in Old St. Joe's.

In memory of Nome artist, Patrice Shook a new award was developed by fellow artist, Karen Olanna. It was awarded to the best animal art in both the Adult and Youth Divisions. Josie Stiles, President of the Nome Arts Council, addressed the crowd and announced the winners as they came forward to accept their prize money and ribbons.

2014 Iditarod Fine Art Show Results

Oil/Acrylic

1st - "Nighthawks at the Dog Lot" by Bob Lewis
2nd - "Agnes" by Wendy Whitaker
3rd - "Penny River" by Karen Olanna

Honorable Mention - "Mosquito Parts #1" by John Thomas

Watercolor/Ink

1st - "Old Banner Creek Train Station" by Claudia Ihl
2nd - "Santa Paul" by Bob Lewis
3rd - "Strong Woman" by Cassandra Johnson

Honorable Mention - "Sweet Picking" by Nora Nagarak

Photography

1st - "Mrs. Karmun" by Esther Pederson
2nd - "Last Standing" by Katie O'Connor
3rd - "Summer Harvest" by Katie O'Connor
Honorable Mention - "Siesta" by Bryan Weyauvanna

3-Dimensional/Mixed Media

1st - "Salmon" by Charles Pullock
2nd - "Subsistence" by Kim Knudsen
3rd - "Fish Skin Hat" by Marjorie Tahbone
Honorable Mention - "Day and Night Mask" by Edwin Weyiouanna

Judge's Choice (Best Overall)

Adult Division
"Bluestone River, September" by Claudia Ihl

Patrice Shook Award (Best Animal Artwork) - Adult Division

"Pudden: Happy Faces" by Claudia Ihl

Youth Division 11 and Under

1st - "Sleeping Cutie" by Shaina Hobbs
2nd - "Our New Church" by Luke Hansen
3rd - "A Whale of a Tail" by Clara Hansen
Honorable Mention - "Twins" by Bethany Daniel

Youth Division 12 to 18

1st - "Pink is Blue" by Emelyn Hobbs
2nd - "Cloudy with a Chance of Fireweed" by Ava Earthman
3rd - "Brown Bear" by Jerry Asila
Honorable Mention - "Illusions of Wind" by Audrey Lawrence

Judge's Choice (Best Overall)

Youth Division
"Reds" by Elsa Hobbs

Patrice Shook Award (Best Animal Artwork) - Youth Division
"My First Bear" by Gareth Hansen

Iditarod Theme Award

"Nome-Coming" by Angela Orman Hansen

Orman Hansen

People's Choice

"Nome-Coming" by Angela Orman Hansen

The votes for the People's Choice Award were tallied and this year's winner is "Nome-Coming," a watercolor painting of Iditarod musher, Martin Buser, racing up the chute toward the burled Iditarod Arch by Angela Orman Hansen.

The three raffled pieces of artwork this year were: "Pilgrim River, September" print by Claudia Ihl, "Whiskered Auklet" original woodblock print by Patrice Shook and "Nome-Coming" print by Angela Orman Hansen. The happy winners were Michelle Bonham of Nome, Wiletta Stehlik of Palmer, AK and Cory Hilby of Olympia, WA.

To end the program, Hansen said it was another excellent showing of local artwork and encouraged people to begin their showpieces for next year's 16th Annual Iditarod Fine Art Show.



RED— Elsa Hobbs, 12, won the Judge's Choice in the Youth Division with her vibrant watercolor entitled "Reds."

Photo by Angela Hansen



SALMON— Charles Pullock proudly shown with his award winning whale bone and ivory carving of salmon swimming upstream.

Photo by Angela Hansen



NOME-COMING— This year, the Iditarod Theme and People's Choice Awards went to Angela Orman Hansen, Art Show Coordinator, for her "Nome-Coming" watercolor depicting Martin Buser coming in under the burled arch. She's pictured here with her mother, Delores Orman from Nebraska, formerly of Nome.



ON ICE— Megan Alvanna-Stimpfle tees off glare ice during the Bering Sea Eliot Staples Golf Classic held on Saturday, March 15. Alvanna-Stimpfle works in Senator Lisa Murkowski's office in Washington D.C. and enjoyed a few days off from work in her hometown of Nome.

Juneau Juice

Alaska’s GOP Governor Sean Parnell Sues Kochs Over Closed North Pole Refinery, Sullivan Remains Silent

Kochs Fired 80 Alaska Workers, Now Attempting To Stick Taxpayers With Future Cleanup Costs

Since August, Koch-Funded AFP Has Spent \$30 Million On Political Attack Ads, Including More Than \$640,000 In Alaska To Prop Up Dan Sullivan

While spending millions every month to buy themselves a U.S. Senate that is good for them but bad for almost every other American family, the Koch brothers closed an Alaska refinery, citing “excessive costs,” and fired 80 Alaskan workers in the process. Now the Kochs are attempting to escape liability for future cleanup costs of groundwater contamination that the refinery is responsible for.

In a new development, Alaska’s Republican Governor Sean Parnell is suing the Koch subsidiary in order to hold them accountable for cleanup costs. The lawsuit charges that Koch subsidiary Flint Hills failed to properly clean up the spill and spread of chemicals into the area’s groundwater and alleges that they should foot more of the bill for the cleanup. Earlier this week in a Tuesday interview with KFAR, Mark Begich threw his support behind Parnell’s lawsuit.

Unlike Mark Begich and Republican Governor Parnell, Dan Sullivan has refused to criticize or hold the billionaire Kochs accountable, because he wants to go to Washington to push their reckless and irresponsible agenda that includes ending Social Security and Medicare as we know it, eliminating student loans, stopping the renewal of unemployment benefits, fighting against raising the minimum wage, and pushing our country to the brink of default in order to pay for bigger tax breaks for the wealthy and big corporations.

“In a show of bipartisanship Mark Begich has announced his support for Republican Governor Sean Parnell’s lawsuit against the Koch company because that’s what’s best for Alaska, but Dan Sullivan still refuses to criticize the Koch brothers’ actions, proving that he doesn’t care about the Alaskans the Kochs fired or the families they hurt,” said Justin Barasky, a spokesman at the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee. “By staying silent while the Kochs attempt to escape all liability, Dan Sullivan is making it clear that if elected to the Senate he will be a vote for the Kochs’ reckless and irresponsible agenda, not for Alaska families.”

Koch brothers ads in Alaska have been roundly criticized by independent fact checkers like FactCheck.org who called a recent attack “not true” and *Politifact* who deemed the Koch brothers’ latest Alaska carbon tax ad “false,” and last year the Kochs’ credibility took a major hit when the New York Times reported that Americans for Prosperity was caught using a Maryland actress to claim that Mark Begich had lost touch with Alaska.

The DSCC’s GOP is “Addicted to Koch” campaign holds Republican Senate candidates accountable for the millions of dollars in help they are receiving from the Kochs in exchange for their support of a reckless and irresponsible agenda that hurts America’s middle class.

Democrats move pro-job, public education and cost-saving budget amendments

Amendments to provide opportunities and save money long into the future

March 14 Alaska House Democratic legislators offered a series of amendments to the state operating budget to improve public education, promote workforce development, and trim wasteful spending.

“Our focus is always on jobs and education,” said House Democratic Leader Chris Tuck (D-Anchorage). “These amendments target proven, cost-effective ways to improve public education at all levels and to help Alaskans get good jobs.”

“Making these investments now can provide opportunities and save the state money long into the future,” said House Democratic Whip Max Gruenberg (D-Anchorage).

The caucus’ first amendment would have added \$101 million for school districts to offset recent budget cuts and reverse statewide cuts to teachers and other staff.

“We would rather have public education funding in the base student allocation so schools can count on it year after year, but until that happens, we need to try to get it into the budget any way we can,” said Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage). “It’s time to reverse the teacher and staff cuts, and stop next year’s. Cutting over 600 educators since 2011 has been bad enough.”

The next amendment would have added \$2 million to support the successful voluntary public preschool program which began as a pilot program five years ago and has families and school districts lined up to participate.

“The results are in, and pre-K works,” said Representative Andy Josephson (D-Anchorage). “If we want to improve student performance, preschool is the proven answer.”

The third amendment the caucus introduced would have restored the appropriation for the Alaska Youth First program in the Department of Labor to what the governor had originally requested before the House Finance Committee cut it. The program administers career readiness counselors in and out of schools to help young Alaskans get good jobs and prepare for better ones.

“The Alaska Youth First program helps young Alaskans, both inside the school system and outside it, to match their skills and goals with the jobs that are right for them,” said Representative Sam Kito III (D-Juneau). “Having the right career advice and support can make all the difference in getting on a positive career track for young people struggling to enter the workforce.”

The caucus’ fourth amendment would have restored money requested by the University of Alaska to continue popular courses and prevent tuition increases or keep them at a minimum. That money was cut in the governor’s budget.

“The University is an economic driver and offers high performance programs with proven track records for training Alaskans to get jobs as nurses, engineers and other high demand jobs,” said Representative David Guttenberg (D-Fairbanks). “We need to grow the University, not cut it, if we want to prepare the next generations to take the reins of tomorrow from us.”

In addition to the above amendments, the caucus ran amendments to increase caregiver support and to restore additional money proposed by the governor for behavioral health grants.

Members of the caucus also ran two amendments to cut wasteful spending from the budget including amendments to reduce funding for the Alaska Aerospace Corporation and to remove salary increases for executives of the recently-created Alaska Gasline Development Corporation who are already making over \$175,000 a year.

Governor Proposes Funding to Preserve Senator Stevens’ Records

March 12 Governor Sean Parnell will submit a budget amendment seeking funding to preserve, digitize, and allow the public to access Senator Ted Stevens’ records, notes and photographs. The request comes after the governor’s work with the Ted Stevens Foundation to secure funding for the Ted Stevens Papers Project.

Governor’s Education Bill Passes Committee

Alaska’s Education Opportunity Act Moves to House Finance

Governor Sean Parnell March 13 applauded the House Education Committee for passing his compre-

hensive education bill, HB 278, Alaska’s Education Opportunity Act – legislation that will strengthen Alaska’s public education system.

“I applaud the House Education Committee for thoroughly reviewing our legislation and passing it out of committee,” Governor Parnell said. “I remain committed to signing legislation that grows charter school opportunities, improves career and vocational programs, and provides more funding for our students. Although the committee removed the SAT and ACT element of our bill, I recognize that this is only the beginning in a long process.”

The governor also thanked the committee for adopting his amendment that supports the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program and other programs throughout the state. This tax credit for nonprofit scholarships awarded to dual credit students now captures all costs associated with in-state dual credit programs, including tuition, registration, on-campus room and board, and transportation costs.

House Democrats comment on withdrawal of Governor’s controversial appointee

March 13 Representative Scott Kawasaki (D-Fairbanks), Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage) and Representative Andy Josephson (D-Anchorage) released the following statements upon hearing Dennis Mandell had withdrawn his name from consideration for the Alaska Assessment Review Board after concerns were raised about his residency, his history of working for the oil industry in disputes against Alaska, and his failure to pay taxes.

“At least Mr. Mandell had the integrity to do the right thing when the governor would not,” said Kawasaki. “This governor tried to stack the deck against everyday taxpayers in Fairbanks with another big oil appointment who isn’t even from Alaska. It continues a troubling trend that the governor who also pushed us off a fiscal cliff with SB21 continues to work against Alaskans in favor of the big oil corporations.”

“The governor keeps bending over backwards to give the oil industry control over the taxes they pay to Alaskans,” said Gara. “Firing a fair tax assessor and trying to break the law to let oil company executives control how little Alaskans receive for their oil-related property taxes is yet another giveaway. Mr. Mandell made the right decision.”

“I am pleased with the announcement of Mandell’s withdrawal. His California residency was not the only concern here. The governor needs nominees who represent Alaskans, not corporate interests,” said Josephson.

House says consider economic impacts of injunctions

Feige’s HB47 levels the playing field in state court proceedings on projects

Wednesday, March 12 the Alaska House of Representatives today passed Rep. Eric Feige’s bill to highlight that the courts should follow their own rule in making filers post bonds when requesting the courts to stop legally permitted industrial operations.

House Bill 47 levels the playing field when injunctions or stays are considered by state judges. “The bill puts filers on notice,” Feige, R-Chickaloon, and the Co-Chair of the House Resources Committee, said. “Those who file suits should have financial consequences to contend with. Ultimately, as the law is written today, those who feel the most immediate impacts of these cases are workers and their families and that’s not right, because workers are laid off and the economic activity and benefits grind to a halt.”

Under current state law, the cost to bring a lawsuit against a legally permitted project is almost zero, as the risk is borne by the defendants. Injunctions cause delays to projects, shutting them down completely in

most cases, at a significant cost to working Alaskans, businesses and the state treasury.

“We’re not limiting public access or involvement,” Feige said. “We’re protecting our respected process and looking to strengthen our economy and provide a fair level of protection to those pursuing projects.”

“The State already has a rigorous, deliberate, science-based permitting system with many opportunities for public participation, and we trust their process,” Feige said. “We also trust the courts to uphold the laws we pass. This bill brings fairness and equity to the process and will make those who look to stall or kill worthwhile, legally-permitted projects, think twice and pony up in order to make their case.”

HB 47 parallels the bar set out in Alaska Civil Rule 65(c), which states: “no restraining order or preliminary injunction shall issue *except upon the giving of security by the applicant, in such sum as the court deems proper*, for the payment of such costs and damages as may be incurred or suffered by any party who is found to have been wrongfully enjoined or restrained.” (Emphasis added)

Judges already have the ability to require security. In most cases they are not doing so. This bill works with the existing civil rule and requires that the party requesting the court to ask for a bond or security present evidence of the costs and damages incurred and that the court consider this as one of the relevant factors when it determines a bond/security amount; setting the amount of the bond remains with the courts.

The bill was clarified to make it clear that no such security is required of the state or a municipality. Exception language was also added to avoid any unintended consequences with federal programs that the state has assumed primacy for, specifically Clean Air, Clean Water and Surface Coal.

HB 47 now moves to the Alaska Senate for consideration.

Senate Finance Committee moves Corrections Reform Bill

Bill reduces recidivism, cuts costs, and maintains public safety

The Senate Finance Committee moved Senate Bill 64 out of committee, a criminal justice and corrections reform omnibus bill sponsored by the Senate Judiciary Committee with the help of Senators Ellis, French, and Dyson, and carried by Senator John Coghill (R-North Pole).

“It’s encouraging to see progress

being made,” said Senator Coghill. “If we don’t do something, we’ll need to begin planning a new prison in just two years.”

The current version of SB 64 creates several proven programs to address Alaska’s high recidivism rate. The bill establishes innovative methods of doing probation, including a 24/7 Sobriety program, raises the felony theft threshold, expands assessments of inmates, and creates a recidivism reduction fund to finance re-entry programs.

Judiciary Committee passes Senator Meyer’s ‘Spice’ Bill

Senate Bill 173 would make misleading packaging illegal and establish fines of \$500 per package

The Senate Judiciary Committee passed Senate Bill 173, sponsored by Senator Kevin Meyer (R-Anchorage), which aims to stop the sale of illicit synthetic drugs by banning misleading statements on packaging. Currently, the synthetic drugs, which are commonly used as alternatives to marijuana and cocaine, are being sold legally in stores statewide as potpourri, bath salts, plant food, and even iPod cleaner.

If passed, the new law would require ‘Spice’ packaging to include labels which specifically say what is contained in the packets, the intended use, and the name of the manufacturer. The packaging cannot be “false or misleading” and must carry accurate directions for use. The penalty for possession is \$500 per packet.

“This is a rabbit I have been chasing for many years. Despite our best efforts to outlaw the most common chemicals, manufacturers changed the compounds slightly to make them legal,” said Senator Meyer. “That’s why we needed to take a new approach and focus on stopping the sale of these dangerous drugs based on their misleading packaging.”

The idea for Senate Bill 173 comes from an ordinance passed by the Anchorage Assembly earlier this year.

“The effects of these drugs are so incredibly dangerous— this law needs to be in effect statewide. A lot of kids think Spice and other synthetic drugs are a cheap way to get a buzz or a high, and even worse, they think it is safe because it is legally sold,” said Senator Meyer. “In Anchorage, the ordinance had an immediate effect and is a tremendous success so far with most stores pulling the dangerous drugs from the shelves. By making this a civil matter rather than a criminal penalty, it

continued on page 14

Enjoy the Taste of Eating Right during National Nutrition Month®

Mixed Bean Musk Ox Chili

Recipe by Miller Health Consulting, LLC

Makes Approximately (7) 1 cup servings
Preparation and Cook Time: 30 minutes
Difficulty Level: Medium

Ingredients:

Olive oil cooking spray
1 pound ground musk ox
3 Tbsp. chili powder (divided)
1 tsp. garlic (divided)
½ tsp. crushed red pepper
1 diced yellow onion
2 cups presoaked mixed beans
1 (15oz.) can diced tomatoes
1 (15oz.) can tomato sauce
½ tsp. basil
Shredded mozzarella cheese (optional)

Directions:

1. Spray hot skillet with cooking spray. Add the diced yellow onion and brown on medium-high heat. Add ground musk ox to skillet on medium heat. Mix in 1 Tbsp. chili powder, ½ tsp. garlic, and the crushed red pepper. Continue cooking until meat is brown. Set aside.
2. Combine musk ox, mixed beans, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, the remaining chili powder and garlic in stockpot with the basil. Bring contents to a boil then reduce to low heat and cook for 20 minutes.
3. To serve, place 1 cup in bowl and sprinkle with mozzarella cheese if desired. Savor and enjoy.

Tips:

- * Use dried beans for a less expensive, yet still healthy, meal.
- * If you don’t have musk ox, substitute with beef, caribou, or moose.



Nutrition Facts

Serving Size with cheese	1 cup
Amount Per Serving	
Calories	372
Total Fat (g)	6.5
Saturated Fat (g)	2.2
Cholesterol (mg)	163
Sodium (mg)	343
Total Carbohydrate (g)	14
Fiber (g)	3
Protein (g)	65
Vitamin A (%)	21
Vitamin C (%)	61
Calcium (%)	11
Iron (%)	19

•More Juneau Juice

continued from page 13

doesn't flood our police or courts with cases. Instead, stores stop selling the packets because the fine is so high, they won't make any money off of it."

Senate Bill 173 now heads to the Senate Rules Committee for further consideration.

State Files Suit Challenging ANWR Decision

Governor Sean Parnell announced Friday March 14 that the State of Alaska has filed a lawsuit challenging the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's refusal to consider the State's carefully developed exploration plan for the coastal plain, or 1002 Area, of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

"It is both disappointing and disturbing that the Obama administration, which claims that it is pursuing an 'all of the above' energy policy, is afraid to let the people of the United States learn more about ANWR's oil and gas resources," Governor Parnell said. "The modern technology that we are seeking to use is responsibly utilized all across the North Slope with extremely limited environmental impact, and would dramatically improve our understanding of ANWR's resources. The State has filed this lawsuit to ensure all Americans have an opportunity to learn about the vast resource base Americans own in the 1002 Area of Alaska."

The State's complaint asserts that exploration of this area was mandated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act and is still authorized by the plain language of law today, despite the Fish & Wildlife Service director's assertion in his final administrative decision in September 2013, that his agency did not have authority to review the State's plan.

The Fish & Wildlife Service's position was primarily based on a legal opinion, issued by a Department of the Interior solicitor in the final days of the Clinton administration, claiming that these provisions of ANILCA had expired. Despite the numerous legal issues raised by the State in its filings, the Fish and Wildlife Service in 2013 refused to revisit its interpretation of the still-existent federal law.

The State's exploration plan was submitted to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell in July of 2013 and complies with existing USFWS regulations. The plan called for using advanced three-dimensional seismic imaging that would provide the people of Alaska and the United States with valuable information about the extent and accessibility of the significant oil and gas resources in the 1002 Area.

Are State retiree benefits under fire?

Senator Wielechowski urges Parnell Administration to uphold the

Constitution and reconsider its new retiree health plan

Concern is mounting among retirees that the Parnell Administration is poised to reduce constitutionally-protected health benefits they were promised as state and local employees.

The Administration recently came out with a revised retiree health plan. A public comment period on the draft plan was set to close on February 28 but has been extended to April 30 in response to public concerns.

The plan provides health coverage to 67,000 Alaska retirees and their families.

"The Alaska Constitution prohibits any diminishment or impairment of retiree benefits," said Senator Wielechowski, who recently urged the Parnell Administration to review and reconsider the draft plan.

"These benefits provide the foundation for a happy and healthy retirement," Wielechowski added. "They are part of the agreement struck with employees when they were hired. Changing the terms now of those agreements violates the Constitution and commitments made to many, many Alaskans."

Recently the Retired Public Employees of Alaska contracted with a health care expert to review the proposed plan. The contractor, a former benefits manager with the state and representative of AETNA, identified about 75 potential reductions and 10 enhancements of benefits in the plan.

To view an analysis of the changes, click here:
http://alaskasenatedems.com/docs/2014_changes_retiree-health-plan.pdf

Gary Miller, the Southeast Alaska chair of the RPEA, said his group has been working with the Adminis-

tration for several months to address retiree concerns.

"Many retirees are worried their benefits are being cut," Miller said. "The state must honor its commitment to Alaskans who devoted their lives to bettering their communities and Alaska as a whole."

Wielechowski noted that the Administration has said its intent is not to reduce benefits. "If that's the case, they need to clarify the plan because it has certainly created lot of angst."

He said he looks forward to seeing the Administration's response to the specific issues raised by the RPEA contractor.

State Helping Find New Partner for Pebble Project?

Northern Dynasty CEO contradicts Governor's statements on the Pebble Mine Project

Representative Andy Josephson (D-Anchorage) and Representative Les Gara (D-Anchorage) revealed statements from Northern Dynasty CEO, Ron Thiessen contradicting Governor Parnell's stated position on that he would reserve judgment until completion of the permitting process for the Pebble Mine.

In previous comments Governor Parnell has stated, "Politicians shouldn't be picking which projects get developed and which don't — that leads to a corrupt "buddy-buddy" system where friends are rewarded rather than science and the public dictating outcomes."

However, earlier this winter at a presentation to the Resource Development Council and members of the Legislature, Ron Thiessen (Northern Dynasty CEO) said the state has said that it will "help us attract the next

continued on page 15

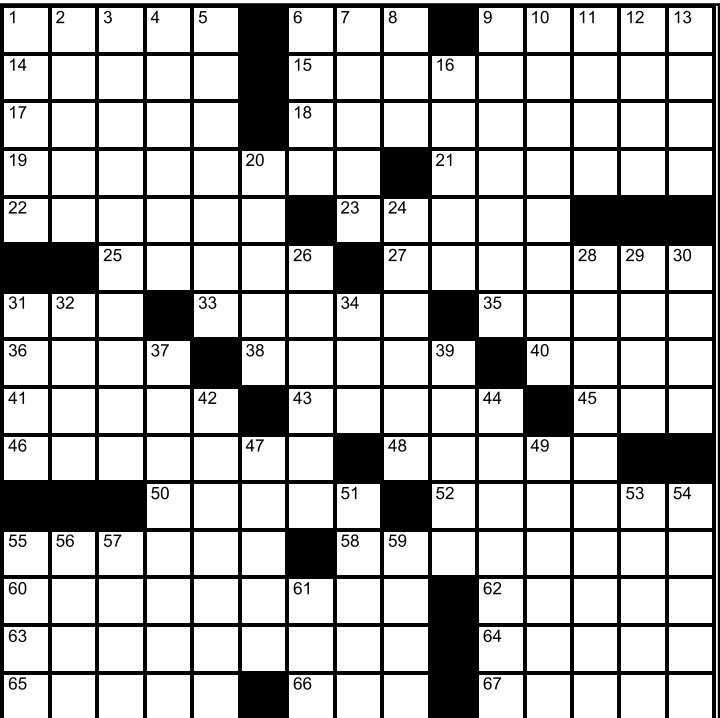
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Across

1. Chip dip
6. Consumes
9. Call used to incite hunting dogs
14. All thumbs
15. Altitude
17. Star in Orion
18. Military flare with parachute (2 wds)
19. Starbucks order
21. For all to see
22. Kind of network
23. Go bad
25. Disinfectant brand
27. Anthology
31. Carpentry tool
33. Dweeb
35. Distort
36. Honoree's spot
38. ____ and Crofts, soft rock duo
40. Delight
41. Moorehead of "Bewitched"
43. ____ Earp, lawman
45. Boy
46. Boat race
48. Browning's Ben Ezra, e.g.
50. Salvors
52. Festive celebration
55. One-celled aquatic protozoa (var. spelling)
58. Divine inspiration
60. Ancestry
62. In a manner without warmth of feeling
63. Burned with little smoke and no

Down

1. Femme fatale
2. Biscotti flavoring
3. Playing a practical joke (hyphenated)
4. ____ Glacier in Glacier National Park
5. If nothing else (2 wds)
6. Amerada ____ (Fortune 500 company)
7. Low female singing voices
8. Caribbean, e.g.
9. Fastening with a hinged metal plate and a bolt
10. Anglo-Saxon prince
11. Bank claim
12. Hang loose
13. The "O" in S.R.O.
16. Indy 500 sound
20. Decreases in speed
24. Tulip tree
26. Latitude
28. Study of the motion of projectiles
29. Product of protein metabolism
30. Coaster
31. Jewish month
32. "Minimum" amount
34. Beam
37. Car safety device
39. A flat place?
42. Wisps of hair
44. Capital of Georgia, Russia
47. Spoonful, say
49. Guiding light
51. Having more wisdom and calm judgment
53. Gown fabric
54. Heretofore (2 wds)
55. ____ line (major axis of an elliptical orbit)
56. One of The Three Bears
57. "Aeneid" figure
59. Revenuers
61. Branch

Previous Puzzle Answers

1	S	E	A	M	E	N	2	B	E	N	U	M	B	S				
3	P	E	N	T	A	N	E	10	I	R	O	N	O	R	E			
4	I	N	D	O	R	S	E	11	G	E	I	S	H	A	S			
5	L	O	W	L	Y	12	D	E	W	13	R	E	A	C	T			
6	O	R	A	L	14	O	L	D	I	E	15	T	I	K	E			
7	S	A	Y	F	R	E	I	G	H	T	16	R	E	T				
8	E	S	S	A	Y	I	S	T	17	R	O	U	S	T	S			
9	U	K	E	S	18	S	L	U	G	19	H	E	I	G	H	T	E	N
10	D	A	R	K	E	N	20	H	E	I	G	H	T	E	N			
11	E	R	A	21	S	T	22	A	U	N	C	H	23	E	V	E		
12	F	A	T	24	S	U	R	A	H	25	F	R	I	T				
13	A	M	A	H	26	B	L	T	27	R	A	N	C	H				
14	C	A	T	A	L	28	P	A	29	D	E	R	A	T	E			
15	T	I	A	R	A	E	D	30	R	E	A	C	T	O	R			
16	O	C	T	E	T	T	E	31	S	P	R	Y	E	R				

HOROSCOPES

March 19, 2014 — March 25, 2014

CAPRICORN
December 22–January 19

Trust your instincts, Capricorn. But don't act on them. It is not your place. A financial proposal is legitimate, but there are strings attached.

ARIES
March 21–April 19

Organization is not your strong suit, Aries. Look to a loved one to help you clear away the clutter. An idea at work is not as crazy as it seems.

CANCER
June 22–July 22

Come on, Cancer. Get going. Your fitness goals are moving far out of your reach. A new friend could provide the motivation you seek.

LIBRA
September 23–October 22

A business proposal is far from ideal but doable. Give it a whirl, Libra. A senior's need supersedes all others. Help if you can. A text is received.

AQUARIUS
January 20–February 18

Work before fun this week, Aquarius. You will have to make some sacrifices, but the rewards will be worth it. A meal with a pal reveals more than you bargained for.

TAURUS
April 20–May 20

Travel plans are up in the air, Taurus. They will come together in due time. A young friend needs a favor. Help only if your resources permit you to.

LEO
July 23–August 22

Now, now, Leo. Just because someone you know is not playing nice doesn't mean you shouldn't. Continue to be fair, and you will come out on top.

SCORPIO
October 23–November 21

It's unanimous. You are a star this week, Scorpio. Wherever you go, whatever you do, you will succeed. An heirloom returns to its rightful owner.

PISCES
February 19–March 20

Shucks, Pisces. You knew it all along, but there was no point in saying anything. Some people need to see a situation for themselves. A financial endeavor takes off.

GEMINI
May 21–June 21

Romance heats up at the office and sparks fly. A charitable gesture makes a big difference in the life of someone you know. Way to go, Gemini.

VIRGO
August 23–September 22

Home sweet home. There's nothing like it this week, Virgo. Your home will serve as your refuge time and time again and provide you with the strength to overcome.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22–December 21

Good deals are hard to find, so make sure you take advantage of any and all that come your way, Sagittarius. A break in the action at work gets the creative juices flowing.

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Nome Animal House

443-2490

M-F: 9 am - 6 pm, Sat: 10 am - 2 pm, Sun: closed

8/22

Today, March 20 is the first day of spring.

• More Juneau Juice

continued from page 14

investor for the development of the Pebble project.”

“The governor has said the state is not putting a thumb on the scale with Pebble, but that seems suspect when hearing this from the project’s major backer. Let’s focus on attracting responsible resource development to the state, not a mine that jeopardizes the greatest wild salmon fishery in the world,” said Josephson.

“The argument by the state that it is neutral on this mine always seemed highly questionable. If the state’s promised to spend public funds to promote Pebble, Alaskans need to know about it,” said Gara. “Pebble is located at the headwaters of the world’s greatest fishing streams. It is a threat to them.”

Removes hydroelectric feasibility study for Chikuminuk Lake

In response to testimony heard on Wednesday March 12, the Senate Resources Committee has adopted a new committee substitute for House Bill 77, which includes two changes. Senate Resources Chair Cathy Giessel (R-Anchorage Hillside/Turnagain Arm/N. Kenai) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) support these changes.

“DNR was present during Wednesday’s hearing, listening to Alaskans, and responding by making adjustments to HB 77 that reflect the concerns of Alaskans,” said Senator Giessel. “This ongoing conversation between the public, DNR and the Legislature over the past year has produced a bill that addresses Alaskans’ concerns.”

First, the new committee substitute removes the hydroelectric feasibility study for Chikuminuk Lake. This change was underscored by Senators Lyman Hoffman (D-Bethel) and Gary Stevens (R-Kodiak), and Representative Bryce Edgmon (D-Dillingham) who represent the region where Chikuminuk Lake is located. The region has decided to move in a different direction and public testimony supported this change.

Last year, the Senate Finance Committee added the language for Chikuminuk Lake into HB77 from Senate Bill 32, which was originally

sponsored by Senator McGuire (R-Anchorage). Senator McGuire also requested the language be removed from HB77 and removed Senate Bill 32 from the Legislature during Senate Floor Session earlier this afternoon.

The second change to the bill requires DNR to develop a work plan which sustains sufficient water in identified rivers necessary for the abundance and productivity of Chinook salmon. DNR will work with the Department of Fish and Game, legislators, consultants, interested organizations, persons and other departments as necessary for the purpose of properly protecting Chinook salmon stocks and habitat.

These changes are in addition to changes introduced Monday on HB77 in the Senate Resources Committee.

Senator French: “Why TransCanada?”

New reports raise red flags, call into question economic benefits of TransCanada partnership

JUNEAU – Recently released reports from independent legislative consultants indicate that a potential partnership between the state of Alaska and TransCanada could have significant and negative long-term economic impacts on the State.

“Independent consultants have presented substantive, data-backed arguments indicating a partnership between TransCanada and the state of Alaska could cost Alaskan families who burn natural gas to heat their homes hundreds of dollars per year,” stated Senator Hollis French (D-Anchorage).

Administration presentations have leaned on TransCanada’s expertise as a pipeline owner and operator, yet as consultant Roger Marks points out in his recent report, “the expertise to build and operate the facilities comes largely with the producers’ involvement.” (Marks, Pg 12)

Marks suggests the state should solicit bids, if a partnership concept is indeed the best economic and operational model for the state moving forward, stating: “If the enabling legislation is enacted, the state will essentially be giving TC a sole-source contract worth tens of billions of dollars to transport the state’s gas.” (Marks, Pg 11)

Another analysis, by Analytica, suggests TransCanada’s involvement could cost the state upwards of \$500 million per year in cash flow, versus a scenario in which the state proceeded as a partner in the LNG project alone. Furthermore, in the same analysis a stress test case scenario found the only situation in which Alaska could experience annual negative cash flow is by partnering with TransCanada. (Analytica, Pgs 1-2)

“These reports raise considerable questions about the administration’s proposal to enter a long-term business deal with TransCanada. As legislators our obligation is to enable and negotiate the best business deal for the citizens of Alaska. We all want a gas line, but a sole-source contract that could potentially cost Alaska tens of billions of dollars and runs in the red every year is not a good business deal for the State,” said Senator French.

Saying it Sincerely

By Rev. Karen L Sonray
Our Savior Lutheran Church,
Member of the Nome Ministerial Association

Below is a creative “new version” of Psalm 23 written by 16 middle school youth from our Youth Group/ Confirmation Class at church. They wrote this version to coincide with Iditarod:

The Lord is my Lead dog, I shall not scratch.

He makes me move on soft tundra snow;

He leads me over the frozen waters;

He restores my spirit.

He takes me to the finish line, for my team’s sake.

Even though I mush through the coldest of valleys,

I fear no fear, for he is the team leader.

His fur blows in the wind, his mind a compass and light—

These comfort me.

He prepares the trail before me in the presence of my competitors.

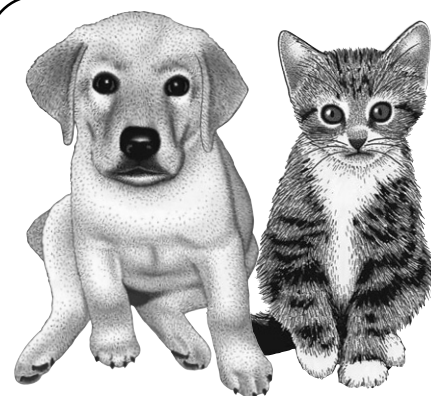
He barks when I forget my sealskin hat.

My sled overflows with joy.

Surely good views and the wind at our back,

Shall accompany me all of my journey.

And I shall mush with the Lord as my lead dog all my life long.



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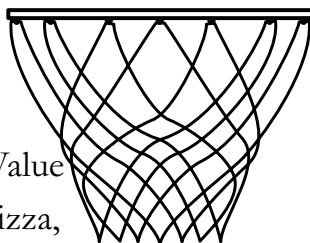


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Church Services Directory

**Bible Baptist Church
443-2144**

Sunday School: 10 a.m./Worship: 11 a.m.

**Community Baptist Church-SBC
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 Charles Brower**

Sunday: Worship 11:00 am
Monday: Thrift Shop 4:00 to 5:00 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: Worship 11 a.m.
Sunday: worship 7 p.m. (2nd and 4th Sunday only)
Handicapped accessible ramp: North side

**River of Life Assembly of God
405 W. Seppala • 443-5333 • Pastor Mike Christian Jr.**
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)

Patients going to ANMC and want to see a Catholic priest please call Fr. Brunet, OMI: cell 907-441-2106 or Holy Family Cathedral (907) 276-3455

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

**Nome Church of Nazarene
3rd Avenue & Division Street • 443-2805**
Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Worship Service: 11 a.m.

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Employment

Nome Eskimo Community is recruiting for two (2) positions located in Nome, AK:
• Accounting Specialist: non-exempt, regular, full-time position. The pay range is \$23.79/hour - \$26.78/hour (DOE). The application deadline for the recruitment period is **Friday, March 22, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.**
• After School Activities Coordinator: non-exempt, regular, part-time position. The pay range is \$17.71/hour - \$19.93/hour (DOE). The application deadline for the recruitment period is **Friday, March 22, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.**
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 After School Activities Coordinator 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 or from the Nome Eskimo Community Office at 200 West 5th Avenue.
For any questions, please contact the Human Resources Manager, Cathy Lyon, at 907-443-9114 or by email to cathylyon@gci.net
3/13-20

NATIVE VILLAGE OF UNALAKLEET
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
OPEN: 3/13/14 CLOSING: 4/17/14 or UNTIL FILLED
JOB TITLE: Housing Director
DEPARTMENT: Housing Department
SALARY: DOE - HOURS: M-F 40 /wk

JOB SUMMARY:
The Housing Director would be responsible for planning and administering, directing, supervising and coordinating all phases of NVU Housing Department operations: i.e. construction, procurement, contract negotiation, selection of applicants for hire, reporting to NVU General Manager and HUD, management of housing development programs and budgets and/or monitors the work of qualified specialists, assistant, and temp or p/t workers. Other duties as assigned. Full job description provided upon request.
Submit application and resume postmarked by the closing date to:
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Unalakleet, AK 99684-0270
Phone: (907) 624-3622
Fax: (907) 624-3621
Applications available at the NVU Office.
3/20-27 4/3-10

KNOM—News Director
KNOM AM & FM in Nome, Alaska, is seeking a creative team-oriented management professional to join award-winning KNOM as a News Director. This position is responsible for day-to-day operation of KNOM's news programming and acts as supervisor for the news staff. Interested candidates are encouraged to visit the knom.org website to download the job description and employment application, and gain insight into KNOM's mission and programming. The close date for this KNOM position is March 31, 2014. KNOM is an equal opportunity employer.
3/20-27

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3/13-20

Regarding Scott Travis— Your rent payment of \$140.00 (2012) \$280.00 (2013) and annual labor payment of \$1,120.00 (2013) for our claims in Nome, Alaska are due. Failure to pay will result in forfeiture of your portion of these claims.
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1/30 thru 4/24

LOST during the Iditarod banquet: Dallas Seavey Cache. Substantial reward. Email: outdoorslass@aol.com Phone: (907) 334-4479
3/20

Trooper Beat

On March 5, the Alaska State Troopers received a report of an intoxicated person in Saint Michael. The suspect is on probation and is not allowed to consume alcohol. The suspect will be charged with Probation Violation.

On March 7, AST in Nome received a report of an assault in Shaktoolik. Investigation showed that Ronald Katchatag, 24, of Unalakleet assaulted a family member and damaged property belonging to the family member. Katchatag also assaulted the responding Village Police Officer by threatening the use of a knife. Katchatag is on probation and was violating his probation by consuming alcohol. Katchatag was remanded to Anvil Mountain Correctional Center for Assault 3, Assault 4 DV, Criminal Mischief 4 DV and Probation Violation.

On March 7, AST in Nome received a report of a probation violation in Koyuk. Investigation showed that Valerie Henry, 30, of Koyuk violated her probation and conditions of release by consuming alcohol. Henry was arrested for the violations.

On March 7, at 10:30 a.m., AST arrested Matthew Andrews Jr., 41, of Mountain Village, with an arrest warrant for Probation Violation. Andrews' original charges were Assault 3 and Assault 4. Andrews was remanded to AMCC.

On March 7, at 1:00 p.m., AST arrested Jordan Otten, 21, of Stebbins, with a warrant for Probation Violation. Otten was remanded to AMCC. Otten's original charge was Habitual Minor Consuming Alcohol.

On March 7, at 3:45 p.m., Thomas Ablowaluk, 63, of Teller was arrested after investigation by the Teller Village Public Safety Officer revealed that Thomas had assaulted a family member.

On March 8, at 1:00 a.m., Brandon Apangalook, 20, of Gambell was arrested by Gambell VPOs after investigation revealed that he was in violation of his felony probation by consuming alcohol.

On March 8, at 5:30 a.m., Tyler Oquilluk, 21, of Teller was arrested after investigation by the VPSO in the village determined that Oquilluk had assaulted two family members.

On March 8, AST in Nome received a report of a DV assault in Gambell. Investigation showed that Tony Iworriggan, 48, of Gambell assaulted a family member. Iworriggan was arrested for the assault.

On March 11, at 2:53 p.m., AST arrested a 16-year-old juvenile in Koyuk with an arrest warrant. The juvenile was wanted for Probation Violation. The juvenile was remanded to the Nome Youth Facility.

On March 12, at 9:41 a.m., AST arrested Lane Okpealuk, 32, of Brevig Mission, with an arrest warrant for failing to serve his sentence at jail. Okpealuk's original charge is Importation of Alcohol. Okpealuk was remanded to AMCC.

Real Estate

FOR SALE— Lots 1-6, BK 81, Nome, by school / hospital, one or all.
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3/13-20

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All Along the Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT
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 3/9 at 10:18 p.m. Nome Police Department responded to a call for a welfare check on the east side of Nome. The investigation led to the arrest of Derrick Johnson for felony probation violation. He was transported to AMCC, no bail was set.

On 3/10 at 2 a.m. officers responded to a call for a disturbance on the east side of town. The investigation led to the arrest of Audrey Tate-Walunga for Assault in the 4th Degree and Criminal Mischief in the 5th degree. She was transported to AMCC. No bail was set.

On 3/10 at 4:20 a.m. officers responded to a call for a disturbance on the east side of town. The investigation led to the arrest of DeeDee Adams for Criminal Trespass in the 2nd Degree. She was transported to AMCC. Bail was set at \$250.

On 03/11 at 2:47 a.m. NPD received a call about a highly intoxicated female on the corner of West Front Street and Division. Upon arrival, officers were able to place the intoxicated female inside a cab. The female did not require any medical attention. No further incident occurred.

On 3/11 at 5:11 a.m. NPD responded to a report of being served after the mandatory closing time at a Bar in Nome. The investigation led to a summons being forwarded to the District Attorney charging Benny Piscoya for Drunk On Licensed Premises and Selling Alcohol after the mandatory closing time.

On 03/12 at 2:56 a.m. NPD Officers observed two adult intoxicated males arguing outside of a bar on Front St. Officers made contact with both individuals. The investigation led to resolve by separation and each were given a Drunken on License Premises and left the area without further incident.

On 03/12 4:49 a.m. Police Officers observed a highly intoxicated male passed out in front of a bar on Front St. The adult male did not require any medical attention was transported to his place of residence on the east side of town. The adult male was left in the care of his family without further incident.

On 3/12 at 0005 hours, NPD responded to a call for a welfare check on the East side of Nome on a female who was alleged to be a victim of spousal abuse. The investigation led to the finding that the allegations were unfounded.

On 3/12 at 12:55 a.m. Nome Police Department responded to a report of a domestic assault on the west side of Nome. The investigation led to the arrest of Daniel Goldy for one count of Assault in the 3rd Degree. Goldy was remanded to AMCC and no bail was set.

On 03/12 at 5:04 p.m. NPD received a call of a high intoxicated male was on the ground asking for assistance. When officers arrived, Gilbert Pootoogooluk was highly intoxicated and cold. Gilbert was taken to the local medical center for treatment and medically cleared. Gilbert was taken to AMCC and remanded for a Title 47 protective hold.

On 03/12 at 9:49 p.m. NPD responded to an Animal Abuse call on the west end of town. The investigation led to Dan Goldy receiving a Cruelty to Animal citation. The dog was taken into protective custody and referred to the Nome Veterinarian clinic for medical attention.

On 03/13 at 1:16 a.m. Police Officers observed two men engaged in a verbal dispute on Front St. The two men had been drinking. Both males were given a Drunken on License Premises warning and sent home in a cab. No further incident occurred.

On 03/13 at 1:43 a.m. the Police Department received a call of highly intoxicated female passed out on Bering St. When Officers arrived, the intoxicated female had left the area. Officers patrolled the area and were not able to locate the intoxicated female.

On 03/14 Nome Police Department responded to a report of an intoxicated male lying on the ground in front of the Nugget Inn hotel. Upon arrival Officer's observed Gilbert Pootoogooluk lying on the ground highly intoxicated. Gilbert was transported to NSRH for medical treatment, then to the N.E.S.T.

On 03/15 at 5:33 a.m. Police Officers responded to an Icy View residence for the report of an assault. Upon arrival Officers observed Archie Adams sitting on the steps. Adams was taken into custody for two (2) counts of Assault in the 4th Degree, and one (1) count of Assault in the 3rd Degree, DV. No Bail was set.

On 03/15 at 5:50 a.m. Police Officers responded to an Icy View residence for the report of a male aiming a firearm at people. Officers observed the male, identified as Michael Tucker, walking with the firearm in hand. Tucker was remanded to AMCC for Burglary in the 1st Degree, five (5) counts of Assault in the 3rd Degree, and Misconduct Involving a Weapon in the 6th Degree. No bail was set.

proudly proclaims the period that Wyatt Earp was a proprietor in its business community.

Icons of another sort remain today, in these two descendants of the gold and silver rush. One cannot visit Nome without noticing the giant forms and outlines of the gold dredges, now silent testaments to the herculean efforts expended to extract gold from the frozen environment. Likewise, no visit to Virginia City can escape the visual image of the towering head frames that once lowered iron willed men into the sweltering depths of the mountain, and brought out such riches that almost defy imagination. In one city, the bone chilling cold made extracting the precious gold a nightmare at times. In the other city, the sweltering heat in the depths of the mines sapped men's strength, as they struggled to claim the Comstock's silver wealth. Dredges and head frames, post card images today, that attest to

continued on page 17



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

Available position:

Manager of Environmental Services

Purpose of Position:
Oversee and maintain the operations of the Environmental Services and Linen/Laundry Departments, planning, directing and coordinating the activities of the department to provide services that enhance patient care; Direct assigned employees, demonstrating leadership by providing work direction, motivation, training, assistance, performance evaluation and corrective action.

Minimum Requirements:
Education:
High School Diploma or Equivalent

Experience:
General, Supervisory 3 years
Type: working in environmental services; work experience must have included a minimum of three years in a cross-cultural environment in a supervisor or manager role.

Credentials:
Alaska Driver's License

Pay starting at \$30.11 + DOE

For an application, detailed job description or more information, please contact us:
recruiter@nshcorp.org
(907) 443-4573
(907) 443-2085 fax
www.nortonsoundhealth.org

NSHC will apply Alaska Native/American Indian (under PL 93-638), EEO, and Veteran Preferences. To ensure consumers are protected to the degree prescribed under federal and state laws, NSHC will initiate a criminal history and background check. NSHC is a drug free workplace and performs pre-employment drug screening. Candidates failing to pass a pre-employment drug screen will not be considered for employment.

3/20/14

• More Letters

continued from page 2
means to be an American than most of those currently in power will ever know, in my opinion! “They just don’t make men like Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln or Teddy Roosevelt any more.”
H. Rick Tavares
Campo, California, 91906,

Dear Editor:

A Tale of Two Cities
The last time I laid eyes on my adopted city of Nome, I was leaving her. As my flight circled out of Nome and headed to Anchorage, I looked once more over the landscape I had come to love, and a people who had befriended me and welcomed me into their hearts, their homes and their unique city. I had spent two winters here, and in that short time, Nome and its inhabitants had completely captured me. I would never be the same, and I would never forget the experience.
When I had first arrived, the say-

ing “There is no place like Nome” struck me as a poorly disguised cliché. Now that I was leaving, the truth of that saying was driven home with bitter impact. There really is no place like Nome, and yet, perhaps there is a place with surprising similarities. I have discovered two cities, sister cities in so many ways but distinct as night and day. That other city is Virginia City, in Nevada, and this is a tale of two cities.

Nome and Virginia City are thousands of miles apart but share a legacy that makes them sister communities to a degree that is remarkable. Both born of the quest for precious metal, both carved out of difficult terrain, and both built from the character of a people that knew no quit! Yes, these are two cities that are siblings of the west— unmistakably the progeny of guts and grit.

As these two communities have woven their way into my heart, I have come to appreciate those special features of these two that make them so similar, and celebrate even

more, the uniqueness that makes them so distinctive. I am forever bound to both and eternally grateful for what they have given me.

If you are to truly know either of these cities, you must first learn of their origins and past. It is there, that you come to grasp the fabric of their character. Both began as tent cities, the rough and tumble conglomeration of make do accommodations that every boom community of the nineteenth century started from. At first glance, the new arrival might wonder what kind of folks would choose to live like that. But every newcomer soon realized it was not the tents, shanties and shacks that defined these two infant towns. It was the strength and metal of the people that embodied the nature of both. It was the adventurous and self-reliant spirit that not only spawned Nome and Virginia City, it was that same spirit that would, through much effort and trial, over time, build them into lasting signature communities.

Today, each city is first noticeable

by their hallmark mountains. Nome has Anvil Mountain as its picturesque backdrop, while Virginia City sits comfortably in the shadow of Mt. Davidson. From the heights of either, one can gaze down on the panorama and testament to fortitude and fortune. Postcards and advertising would be lacking if these bigger than life stone monuments did not add their beauty and mystery to these twin communities.

Speaking of bigger than life, both of these illustrious cities have been visited by the famous and the royal. In their day, when at the apex of their glory, Nome and Virginia City were the biggest, the brightest, and the must visit place on every socialite's list. The lure of fame and fortune, as well as the bragging rights of saying “I was there,” brought presidents, millionaires and captains of industry, to walk their narrow streets. Their brief time in the spotlight also produced snapshots of western icons. From Virginia City, Samuel Clemens grew into Mark Twain, and Nome

Foster’s Report

continued from page 2

year it was \$1 billion. The Governor’s request for this year is \$426 million. We don’t know how much the legislature will add, it may be as little as \$75 million. That means fewer projects for infrastructure such as health clinics, water and sewer, heavy equipment, community buildings, energy etc. In terms of cuts to the operating budget it means fewer programs, less road maintenance, fewer state employees, and much more.

Whereas in previous years we tried to get as much additional funding as possible...the game has now changed to being one of trying to minimize the cuts that occur in every legislator’s districts. This has profound consequences for Rural Alaska because there are already so few jobs, and the programs that do exist are much needed. My mantra has been cutting 1 job from a village of 300 people is like cutting 1,000 jobs in Anchorage with a population of 300,000. Or cutting 1 job from a town of 3,000 is like cutting 100 jobs in Anchorage. One of the guiding principles within our Bush Caucus is that any cuts made should not fall disproportionately on Rural Alaska.

What’s being done to address the revenue shortfall? SB21 is legislation that passed last year to incentivize oil companies to invest more in Alaska and thus increase production. The incentive is in the form of tax relief. The question is whether or not this tax relief will lead to more production or just less tax revenue. I voted against SB21 as I did not believe that production increases (in any) would be sufficient to offset lost revenue. There is a citizen’s initiative that will appear on this November’s ballot asking voters whether the law should be repealed.

Constitutional Amendment. The Alaska Constitution states: “No funds shall be paid from public funds for the direct benefit of any religious or other private educational institution.” House Joint Resolution 1(HJR1)/Senate Joint Resolution(SJR9) is the first step to remove this sentence from the Constitution. In order for this to happen it must receive a 2/3 vote in both the Alaska House and Senate. Then it would go before the voters and need a majority vote. And finally legislation would need to be pro-

posed and passed to formally make the change. Supporters of HJR1 call this “school choice” that allows parents to decide where they want the money to go to fund their child’s education. Opponents call them “vouchers” that would decrease the already limited funds that public schools receive. Some folks have said this is not a rural issue because there are few if any private or religious schools in Rural Alaska that are eligible for this funding. Others have said that both rural and urban schools have been receiving one-time energy and transportation funds over the past few years that could be in jeopardy if the State starts funding thousands of privately funded students. So far our school districts and constituents have come out against such an amendment.

I will be listening closely to expert and public testimony to make a fully informed decision.

Speeches. Each year the Legislature is addressed by various dignitaries on issues important to the State. Senator Lisa Murkowski gave her annual address about our federal government. Alaska Supreme Court Chief Justice Dana Fabe gave her State of the Judiciary. And Governor Sean Parnell gave his State of the State address.

In her February 19 address Senator Lisa Murkowski talked about federal overreach on a number of fronts (for example EPA involvement with the Pebble Mine), her defense of gun rights, her support of efforts to promote safety and economic opportunities in the Arctic, and fully funding Alaska Native Health Care.

Alaska Supreme Court Justice Dana Fabe gave her State of the Judiciary on February 12. She talked about the role that therapeutic courts have had in helping to reduce the rate of alcoholics going back to jail. She talked about the need to lessen the adversarial nature of child-custody battles. And she addressed the need to assist judges in rural areas by getting them more resources. In last year’s speech Chief Justice Fabe stated: “For courts to effectively serve the needs of rural residents, justice cannot be something delivered in a far-off court by strangers, but something in which local people...can be directly

and meaningfully involved.” This has led to a renewed emphasis on “circle sentencing” where a small local community can help a judge to hand down a sentence.

In his January 22 address Governor Parnell talked mainly about education, pension funding, and a natural gas pipeline. For education the Governor supports school choice (otherwise known as vouchers), and increase in the base student allocation (from \$5,680 to \$5,765 per student), repealing the high school qualifying exam, and increasing digital learning and rural access. For the State pension the Governor would like to take \$3 billion from the State’s current \$17 billion in savings and apply it the pension liability. By making a lump sum now this would reduce the yearly payments required in the future. For the natural gas pipeline the Governor would like for the State to take an equity position and thus be able to share in the profits of the pipeline. The total cost of a large diameter pipeline is estimated to be \$45 - \$65 billion.

As a side note our district is a member of both the Bush Caucus and the Interior Delegation. Both groups recently had lunch with the Governor to talk about issues important to our constituents. Two significant issues that we discussed were the challenges and opportunities of the Arctic and the high cost of energy.

With regard to the Arctic we are seeing climate change open up routes within the Arctic that were previously inaccessible. As a result there has been an increase in ship traffic through the Bering Strait for the shipment of goods, resource exploration, and tourism.

Opportunities exist to increase economic development and jobs in Alaska. But the challenges are that much-needed infrastructure has yet to be built including ports, navigation aids, spill response capabilities, Coast Guard bases, logistical support chains and more. The Governor also sees ports as being important because they show we have a presence and thus convey state and national security value.

During our lunches with the Governor I brought up the issue

More Letters

continued from page 16

the richness of the history of Nome and Virginia City.

My adopted cities, my two favorite locations in this great nation, have so much more to offer. In Nome, if you stay any length of time, you will become acquainted with her quarrelsome mascot, the Muskox. Temperamental, definitely not domesticated, and not the least afraid to wander into town, the muskox is the epitome of wild Alaska, yet, there they are, sometimes right in town. As for Virginia City, nothing says the Wild West like a band of wild Mustangs, grazing on the hillsides as you

drive up to town, or seen running with wild abandon along a ridgeline just outside the city. A wild mustang stallion, mane flowing in the wind, looks at you and seems to say, “Freedom is such a precious thing”!

For all their history, for all their rich heritage, the twin cities of Nome and Virginia City are not just about the past. They are both alive today, committed to a future full of promise. In both, the precious metals that brought them into existence, still contributes to their economy today. The technology has changed, and the methods are different, but miners, and a broad assortment of other busi-

ness enterprises, still provide the essential foundation of a living, active community.

My wife and I were married in Virginia City some 36 years ago. We loved the city then and we love her now. I have the privilege of working on the Comstock today, of being intimately involved in living history, in present stability, and in future benefit. Having been fortunate enough to live in Nome for a wonderful period of time, that community likewise has taken hold of my heart. Were it possible, I would be a delighted citizen of both. As I have listed all the amazing similarities between these two,

you can see, I hope, why each is so special. However, at the end of the day, it is not the sights, the history, or the beauty of the land, as awesome as it is, that most endears these two places to me. More than anything else, it has been, and is, the people, the citizens of both Nome and Virginia City, that I celebrate. The depth of character, the spirit of adventure, the honest hardworking soul that does the right thing, just

because it’s the right thing to do, that is what ultimately makes me proud to say, “I know these folks, and they are what make American communities strong.”

Thank you for being who you are, and for sharing what you have, with me!

Rick Martin
(Former Nome resident 2007-08)
Virginia City, NV

NSHC

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The Norton Sound Health Corporation (NSHC) Board of Directors Board Meeting is scheduled to meet on **March 31 – April 2, 2014** at the Norton Sound Regional Hospital Conference Room #306/308 located at 1000 Greg Kruschek Avenue beginning at 9:00 a.m. each day.

Portions of the meeting may be conducted in executive session. The public is invited to attend the meeting. Testimony from the public may be limited. Members of the public wishing to receive information or a copy of the agenda may contact the Administration Office at (907) 443-3226 as soon as possible, but no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting so that arrangements may be made.

If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in the meeting, please contact Administration at (907) 443-9672 as soon as possible, but no later than three days before the meeting to ensure that any necessary accommodations can be provided.

3/20-27

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

Major Subdivision

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

Approval of a preliminary plat for a major subdivision from Norton Sound Health Corporation for the property located at Block 115, Lot 1B (704 E. N St.) and Blocks 116 & 117, Lots 1-12 (Greg Kruschek Ave. and E. 6th Ave.).

DATE: Tuesday, April 1, 2014
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
LOCATION: City Hall Chambers

Major Subdivision

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

Approval of a preliminary plat for a major subdivision from Nikolai Ivanoff for the property located at Sons Subdivision, Lots 1-5.

DATE: Tuesday, April 1, 2014
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
LOCATION: City Hall Chambers

3/20-27

Legals

INVITATION TO BID
Nome High School – HVAC Controls Upgrades Project
Nome, Alaska

Owner: City of Nome
P.O. Box 281
Nome, Alaska 99762
907-443-6663 (phone)
907-443-5345 (fax)

The Nome Public School District will receive sealed bids for Nome High School HVAC Controls Upgrades Project. Interested persons may receive a bid package by registering with the City Clerk by email at tmoran@nomealaska.org, phone at 907-443-6663 or by fax at (907)443-5345. Contract Documents will be available March 6, 2014.

One complete set of Bid Documents will also be available for review at The Plans Room, 4831 Old Seward Hwy # 102, Anchorage, Alaska 99503, (907)563-2029.

The deadline for submission of sealed proposals is March 27, 2014 at 3:00 P.M. local time and shortly thereafter the bids will be opened publicly and read aloud. Bids must be physically submitted to the City Clerk at City Hall. Bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope and marked clearly on the envelope as “Bid Enclosed: Nome High School – HVAC Controls Upgrades Project” along with the name and address of the Bidder. Fax submissions are not allowed.

A five percent bid bond or cashier’s check is required. Payment and performance bonds will also be required. The contract will be awarded to the lowest qualified Bidder as determined by the City. The City of Nome reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive informalities, and to reject non-conforming, non-responsive, or conditional bids.
3/6-13-20

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME
In the Matter of:
J. K.,
D.O.B. 08/24/2007,

A Child Under the Age of Eighteen (18) Years.
Case No. 2NO-13-32 CN
NOTICE AND SUMMONS TO ABSENT PARTY

To: Vadim Yenan, d.o.b. 11/27/73
PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights under AS 47.10.080(c)(3) has been filed in the Superior Court, Second Judicial District, Nome, Alaska concerning J. K. d.o.b. 08/24/2007, a minor, who is believed to be your child. This petition may result in an order terminating your parental rights.

A copy of the petition is on file in the Superior Court in Nome, Alaska. The Court’s physical address is 113 Front Street, Second Floor, Nome, Alaska 99762. The Court’s mailing address is P.O. Box 1110, Nome, Alaska 99762.

A termination trial is scheduled to be held in Courtroom A, Superior Court, 113 Front Street, Second Floor, Nome, Alaska 99762, on May 13, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

You have the right to be represented by an attorney. An attorney has been appointed to represent you at state expense. The court has appointed Gregory Parvin to represent you in this case. You may contact him by calling him collect at (907) 376-2800. His mailing address is 900 South Check St., Wasilla, Alaska 99654.

If you or your attorney cannot appear at the hearing, you must file with the court a response to the petition within thirty (30) days after the last date of publication of this notice.
DATED: 3/4/14
CLERK OF THE TRIAL COURTS

By: Brodie Kimmel s/s
Deputy Clerk
3/13-20-27-4/3

Koyuk Native Corporation
P.O. Box 53050
Koyuk, ALASKA 99753
Office (907) 963-2424 Fax: 963-3552
Store: 963-3551

Notice of Waiver

The Koyuk Native Corporation Annual Meeting of Shareholders is postponed until June 7, 2014 at 1p.m. in the Koyuk Communtiy Hall due to Proxy Errors.

3/6-13-20-27

• More Foster’s Report

continued from page 17

of energy. I told the Governor that just as our nation looks to become energy independent so must our rural communities strive to become energy independent. The Power Cost Equalization (PCE) program is a great program in the short-term. Some see it as a subsidy program. But I do not see it that way. The PCE program is no different than a hydro dam or a natural gas pipeline. The goal of PCE, dams, and pipelines is they all help to make energy affordable. The problem with the PCE program is, however, that it’s a fund with nearly a billion dollars in it today. As deficits loom the risk that this fund could be raided increases. A dam or a pipeline cannot be raided. And that’s why in the long term we need energy independence that includes actual infrastructure.

The challenge in rural Alaska is that there is no one energy solution such as hydro or natural gas. It will take a variety of energy projects to achieve our rural energy goals. Such projects include biomass in the interior, renewable wind energy in Western Alaska, geothermal in places such as Nome and more. There are bold plans to connect Rural Alaska to a network of high voltage direct current (HVDC) lines that would be electrified by a natural gas plant on the North Slope. We’re looking at ways for the State to fund a portable drill rig to send out to small communities that have natural gas. One energy solution that can be applied in all areas of the State is weatherization. This has been referred to as “picking at the low hanging fruit.” It is easy and yields a big return on investment. Ultimately my message to the Governor was that as we contemplate spending billions on Rail Belt energy projects we must also be investing in Rural Alaska

as well.

Bills of Interest

The following is a list of bills that may be of interest to folks in House District 39:

- HJR1: Change the Alaska Constitution to allow for private & religious school funding.
- HCR24: Honoring Dog Mushing
- HJR26: Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) revenue sharing.
- HB39: Increases the PCE cap to 600kwh and extends it to small businesses
- HB171: Extend sunset of the ARDOR’s (Alaska Regional Development Organizations). Includes the Bering Strait, Copper Valley, and Interior Rivers within House District 39.
- HB166: Increases the population and loan amount caps for rural communities.
- HB174: Resets the PERS contribution floor for communities losing more than 25% of their population in the previous census.
- HB181: Allows for funds from the mining license tax to be distributed to local communities (such as Nome).
- HB199: Allow VPSOs to carry firearms.
- HB205: Double fines for traffic offenses committed in a school zone.
- HB220: Repeal high school qualifying exam.
- HB245: Repeals the required local contribution to school funding.
- HB263: Senior Benefits Extension. Extends the program to 2021 and pays between \$125 - \$250 to approximately 11,000 eligible seniors.
- HB275: Changes state and municipal public notice requirements
- HB278: Educational funding
- HB288: Funding by Alaska Industrial Development & Export Authority (AIDEA) to fund Arctic infrastructure.
- HB289: Establishing May 31 of each year as Katie John Day. She passed away in 2013 and was a constituent of House District 39 living in Mentasta Lake. She fought for and was successful in her fight for

substance rights.

- HB336: Extend prohibition of sale of alcohol near a school from 200 ft to 400 ft.
- HB360: Prohibit smoking in public areas.
- HB362: Prohibit the sale of illicit synthetic drugs including “spice”.

Funding Opportunities

In terms of funding for communities & organizations please keep the following opportunities in mind:

- Alaska State Legislature
- Renewable Energy Fund (administered by the Alaska Energy Authority)
- Bulk fuel loan program (administered by the Dept of Commerce, Community & Economic Development)
- Community Development Block Grants (administered by US Department of Housing and Urban Development)
- Rural Development Grant Assistance (administered by the US Department of Agriculture)

In terms of funding for individuals please keep the following opportunities in mind:

- Alaska Senior Benefits Program
- Low-Income Heating Assistance Program otherwise known as LI-HEAP (administered by the Dept of Health & Human Services)
- Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend
- Low Income Weatherization Program
- Home Rebate Program for Weatherization
- Economic Development Loans (administered by the Dept of Commerce, Community & Economic Development)

If you need assistance with regard to any of these funding sources (or anything else) please feel free to contact my office at 907-465-3789 or email me at Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov. Thank you.

Court

Week ending 3/14

Civil
Remter, Corey A. - Old Name; Erikson, Corey A. - New Name; Change of Name lyatunguk, Kirsten A. v. Alvis, Wayne J.; Civil Protective Order

Small Claims
Potter, Ardyth P. v. Harkovitch, Peter; Small Claims Less Than \$2500

Criminal
State of Alaska v. Charlene Brown (11/22/89); Corrected Dismissal; Count I/Charge 001: Interfering With a Report of Domestic Violence; Filed by the DAs Office 3/11/14.
State of Alaska v. Kalylna Booshu (8/13/93); Possession, Control, or Consumption of Alcohol by Person Under Age 21; Date of Offense: 11/9/13; CT 2 is dismissed; 30 days, 30 days suspended; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Surcharge must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 to be paid to clerk of court within 10 days; Defendant’s driver’s license or privilege to apply for one is revoked for 12 months with 6 months suspended; Community Work Service: Within 120 days, complete 96 hours community work service and give the clerk of court proof of completion on the form provided by the clerk; Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 3/11/14); Comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Defendant must submit to evaluation by the program and pay for and successfully complete any education or treatment recommended by this program; Defendant may not consume inhalants or possess or consume controlled substances or alcoholic beverages, except as provided in AS 04.16.051(b).
State of Alaska v. Luke Topkok (7/8/88); 2NO-13-831CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 114192261; Violated conditions of probation; No time imposed; Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.
State of Alaska v. Luke Topkok (7/8/88); 2NO-13-959CR Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 12/10/13; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated upon reporting to serve as ordered; 120 days, 80 days suspended; Unsuspended 40 days shall be served with defendant remanded immediately to AMCC (per bench warrant); Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 2 years (date of judgment: 3/11/14); Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; No jailable offenses; Shall not contact, directly or indirectly, or return to the residence of Jolene Okleasik without consent; Must leave if J.O. asks; Mental Health Assessment by 5 days after release; Must contact NSHC at 443-3311; Must provide assessor with copies of complaint and judgments; must follow rec. for treatment; Appear 5/2/14 at 1:30 p.m. to show proof of compliance.
State of Alaska v. Jeri Hazel Komonaseak (1/17/63); Notice of Dismissal—PTRP; PTR dated 2/17/14.
State of Alaska v. Alvin Amaktolik (12/29/84); Dismissal; Violation of Condition of Release From a Misdemeanor; Filed by the DAs Office 3/7/14.
State of Alaska v. Kelly Dean Mueller (8/15/99); Dismissal; Minor Consuming or in Possession; Filed by the DAs Office 3/10/14.
State of Alaska v. Troy Mokiyuk (4/1/95); 2NO-14-26CR Judgment and Order of Commitment/Probation; CTN 001: AS11.46.310: Burglary 2; Class: C Felony; Offense Date: 1/10/14; Plea: Guilty; Plea Agreement: Yes; The following charges were dismissed: CTN 002: AS11.46.140(a)(1): Theft 3- In A Dwelling; CTN 002: Theft 2- Value \$500-\$24,999; CTN 003: Issuing Bad Check- Value \$00-\$499; Defendant came before the court on (sentencing date) 3/6/14 with counsel, OPA Bodwell, and the DA present; Incarceration: It is ordered that the defendant is committed to the care and custody of the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections for the following period(s): CTN 001: 2 years with 18 months suspended; The unsuspended 6 months shall be served immediately; Police Training Surcharge: The defendant

shall pay the following police training surcharge(s) to the court pursuant to AS 12.55.039 within 10 days: CTN 001: \$100 (Felony); Initial Jail Surcharge: Defendant arrested and taken to a correctional facility or is being ordered to serve a term of imprisonment; Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that defendant immediately pay a correctional facilities surcharge of \$100 per case to the Department of Law Collections Unit, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: Defendant is being placed on probation; Therefore, the defendant pay an additional \$100 correctional facility surcharge; This surcharge is suspended and must only be paid if defendant’s probation is revoked and, in connection with the revocation, defendant is arrested and taken to a correctional facility or jail time is ordered served; AS 12.55.0471(c); DNA IDENTIFICATION: If this conviction is for a “crime against a person” as defined in AS 44.41.035(j), or a felony under AS 11 or AS 28.35, the defendant is ordered to provide samples for the DNA Registration System when requested by a correctional, probation, parole, or peace officer; Restitution: Defendant is ordered to pay restitution as stated in the Restitution Judgment (form CR-465) and to apply for an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend, if eligible, each year until restitution is paid in full; Probation: After serving any term of incarceration imposed, the defendant is placed on probation for 2 years under the following conditions: General and Special Alcohol Conditions of Probation, as stated in the order; Bond(s): Any appearance or performance bond in this case: is exonerated.
State of Alaska v. Troy Mokiyuk (4/1/95); 2NO-14-35CR CTN 002: Theft 3*; Date of Violation: 10/20/13; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 001; 30 days, 30 days suspended; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Restitution: Shall pay restitution as stated in the Restitution Judgment and apply for an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend, if eligible, each year until restitution is paid in full; Amount of restitution to be determined as provided in Criminal Rule 32.6(c)(2); Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 3/6/14); Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law, assaultive or disorderly conduct, or domestic violence; Shall not possess or consume alcohol in any dry or damp community; Shall not have alcohol in his residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to warrantless breath testing at the request of any peace officer; Subject to warrantless search of residence for alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Frank Kavairlook, Jr. (2/4/80); Criminal Trespass 1; Date of Violation: 1/17/14; 30 days, 30 days suspended; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation until 3/11/15; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no jailable offenses; Shall not possess or consume alcohol; Shall not have alcohol in his residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to warrantless breath testing at the request of any peace officer.
State of Alaska v. Taylor Carl Overpeck (9/16/88); 3AN-11-03953CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 112977684; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: 90 days.
State of Alaska v. Zachary Okitkon (9/26/94); Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: MCA; Filed by the DAs Office 3/14/14.
State of Alaska v. Derek Johnson (8/20/87); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: No Action Taken.
State of Alaska v. Shem Fogelman (11/13/90); Dismissal; DUI; Filed by the DAs Office 3/14/14.
State of Alaska v. Bobbie Ann Slwooko (8/25/91); Order Suspending Imposition of Sentence and Providing For Probation; CTN 001: Burglary 2; Class: C Felony; Date of Offense: 12/12/13; The following charges were dismissed: CTN 002: Criminal Mis-

chief 4; Defendant came before the court on 3/12/14 with counsel, OPA Bennett, and the DA present; It appearing to the satisfaction of this court that the ends of justice and the best interests of the public, as well as the defendant, will be served thereby, IT IS ORDERED that the sentencing of the defendant is suspended for a period of probation in accordance with AS 12.55.085; The defendant is placed on probation administered by the DOC for a period of 18 months under the conditions of probation listed below; IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the defendant pay restitution as stated in the Restitution Judgment and that defendant apply for an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend every year in which defendant is a resident eligible for a dividend until the restitution is paid in full; The Restitution Judgment will continue to be civilly enforceable after the period of probation expires and after any set-aside of the conviction in this case; Criminal Rule 32.6(j); Police Training Surcharge: IT IS ORDERED that defendant pay to the court the following surcharge pursuant to AS 12.55.039 within 10 days: CTN: 001: Surcharge Amount: \$100; INITIAL JAIL SURCHARGE: Defendant was arrested and taken to a correctional facility or is being sentenced to serve a term of imprisonment; Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that defendant immediately pay a correctional facilities surcharge of \$100 to the Department of Law Collections Unit, 1031 W. 4th Ave., Suite 200, Anchorage, AK 99501 AS 12.55.041(b)(1); SUSPENDED JAIL SURCHARGE: Defendant is being placed on probation; Therefore, IT IS ORDERED that defendant pay an additional \$100 correctional facility surcharge; This surcharge is suspended and must only be paid if defendant’s probation is revoked and, in connection with the revocation, defendant is arrested and taken to a correctional facility or jail time is ordered served; AS 12.55.041(c); SPECIAL CONDITION OF PROBATION – IMPRISONMENT: Defendant shall serve the following term of imprisonment: 80 days Shock Time (Not to exceed time already served); General Conditions of Probation set, as stated in Order; Any appearance or performance bond in this case: is exonerated.
State of Alaska v. Mary Lockwood (10/23/76); 2NO-14-25CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 3/13/14.
State of Alaska v. Mary Lockwood (10/23/76); 2NO-14-75CR Violating Conditions of Release; Date of Violation: 1/27/14; 90 days, 90 days suspended; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 1/27/14); Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no jailable offenses; Shall not possess or consume alcohol; Shall not have alcohol in her residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to warrantless breath testing at the request of any peace officer.
State of Alaska v. Louise Martin (3/8/84); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 113677056; Violated conditions of probation; Probation extended to by one year—6/27/16; Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.
State of Alaska v. Dennis E. Thrasher (7/22/89); Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 3/3/14; 240 days, 180 days suspended; Unsuspended 60 days shall be served with defendant remanded immediately to AMCC; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 3/12/14); Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; No jailable offenses; Shall not contact, directly or indirectly, or return to the residence of Sytel Pete.

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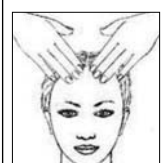
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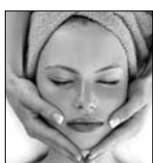


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Photo by Nils Hahn
CAREER BEST— Jessie Royer of Darby, Montana finished in seventh place in Iditarod 2014. Royer is a 12-time finisher of the Iditarod. This year Royer tied with Ray Redington for the fastest time from Safety to Nome, covering the 22 mile section of trail in 2 hrs, 24 minutes.



Photo by Nils Hahn
TWO-TIME CHAMPION— Robert Sorlie of Norway kneels with his lead dogs Svarten, black dog, and Kelly, grey dog after crossing the finish line in 21st place. Sorlie won the race in 2003 and 2005.



Photo by Nils Hahn
TOP FIVE— Sonny Lindner of Two Rivers, Alaska crosses the finish line in fifth place with 10 dogs, after 8 days, 20 hours and 50 minutes on the trail. Lindner has been mushing since the '70s and was the winner of the first Yukon Quest in 1984



Photo by Diana Haecker
MADE IT— Dan Kaduce of Chatanika, Alaska crosses the finish line in Nome with 11 dogs after 10 days, 20 hours and 41 minutes, good for 31st place.



ST. PATRICK VISITS NOME— Surely it's the farthest north and the farthest west Saint Patrick's Day parade on the planet. Saint Patrick and a few of his favorite leprechauns wore their green Monday afternoon. Irish music streamed from City Hall and a Nome Police Department escort made for a top-o-the afternoon event.