



MERRY CHRISTMAS— Santa Claus and his reindeer delight passers-by as colorful decorations at Nome residence on Front Street. Photo by Diana Haecker

The Nome Nugget

Alaska's Oldest Newspaper

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Nome Common Council ratifies labor agreements

By Sandra L. Medearis

Utility and City workers will start the new year with new compensation packages in place after the Nome Common Council unanimously approved negotiated labor contracts Dec. 16. They will get pay raises on each New Year's Day for three years. Pay increases of 2 percent per year will go into effective retroactively to Jan. 1, 2014 for workers represented by three unions at Nome Joint Utility System, and run to Dec. 31, 2016.

NJUS signed a contract with the Alaska Public Employees Association that represents employees in the NJUS administration offices and in the water and sewer department. Straight-time hourly rate for this contract starts at \$11.30 for a new employee at the lowest range and goes to \$35.57 at Range 19 and five years. A contract negotiated with International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 302, pays new hires as follows: operator, \$32.90; mechanic,

\$32.90; chief mechanic, \$34.95; plant foreman, 36.19. Probationary employees will receive 95 percent of the base hourly rate applicable to their position. A contract with International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers starts power line distribution employees at the following base hourly wages: lineman, \$34.34; wireman, \$34.34; line foreman, \$37.77; and line superintendent, 38.46. The rate for seasonal help is \$22.50 per hour.

Current NJUS employees will receive 2 percent increase retroactive to Jan. 1, and another 2 percent effective Jan. 1 2015 and another 2 percent on Jan. 1, 2016. For those employees represented by City of Nome Employees Association after their current contract ends Dec. 31, the new agreement also raises the hourly wage by 2 percent for each of the next three years for employees who have not reached seven years longevity. Employees at

Step G or above will have their base hourly rate of pay increased by 3 percent each year of the contract to coincide with the employee's anniversary date. Each employee will receive a \$500 lump sum payment on Jan. 1 of the next three years as a regional differential payment. The new base rate pay will cost the City of Nome general fund budget an additional \$150,000 annually.

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Photo by Keith Conger

OH CHRISTMAS TREE DUET— Eighth grader Ayomide Ayowole Obi, right, plays the clarinet, while seventh grader Bethany Daniels plays a trumpet accompaniment at the annual High School/Junior High Band and Choir Christmas Program on Dec. 9 in the Nome Elementary School Commons.

Barrow man indicted in Nome for killing assistant DA

By Diana Haecker

A Nome grand jury last week indicted Barrow resident Ronald Fischer on charges related to the murder of Assistant District Attorney Brian Sullivan, 48, on Dec. 8 in Barrow. The grand jury in Nome indicted

the 47-year-old Fischer on murder in the first degree, murder in the second degree and one count of assault in the third degree. The charges stem from Dec. 8 when Sullivan was killed in an apartment occupied by Mabel Kaleak in Barrow. A police affidavit states in the charging documents that Sullivan was shot twice in the face with a 20-gauge shotgun from a distance estimated at 10 feet as he was seated on the couch, with feet crossed in front of him. The affidavit states Sullivan was unarmed. According to charging documents, Sullivan and Mabel Kaleak had been dating for less than a month. Defendant Ronald J. Fischer formerly had been in a personal relationship with Kaleak. At the time of Sullivan's murder, Fischer had a restraining

order to not be close to Kaleak's residence. A security camera confirmed him entering Kaleak's building on Dec. 8. Kaleak was in the apartment, heard the shots and hid in the bedroom closet. When Fischer found her, she was afraid he would shoot her too and "lunged at Ronald and held onto him tight—to keep the gun compressed between them so he could not point it and shoot," reads the police affidavit. Mabel Kaleak managed to escape, ran outside, got into Sullivan's running car and drove to the police station. Fischer got into his truck and drove away. Fischer contacted North Slope Borough Police dispatch and said he wanted to surrender. He was arrested by NSB police at 11:57 p.m., two hours and 15 minutes after

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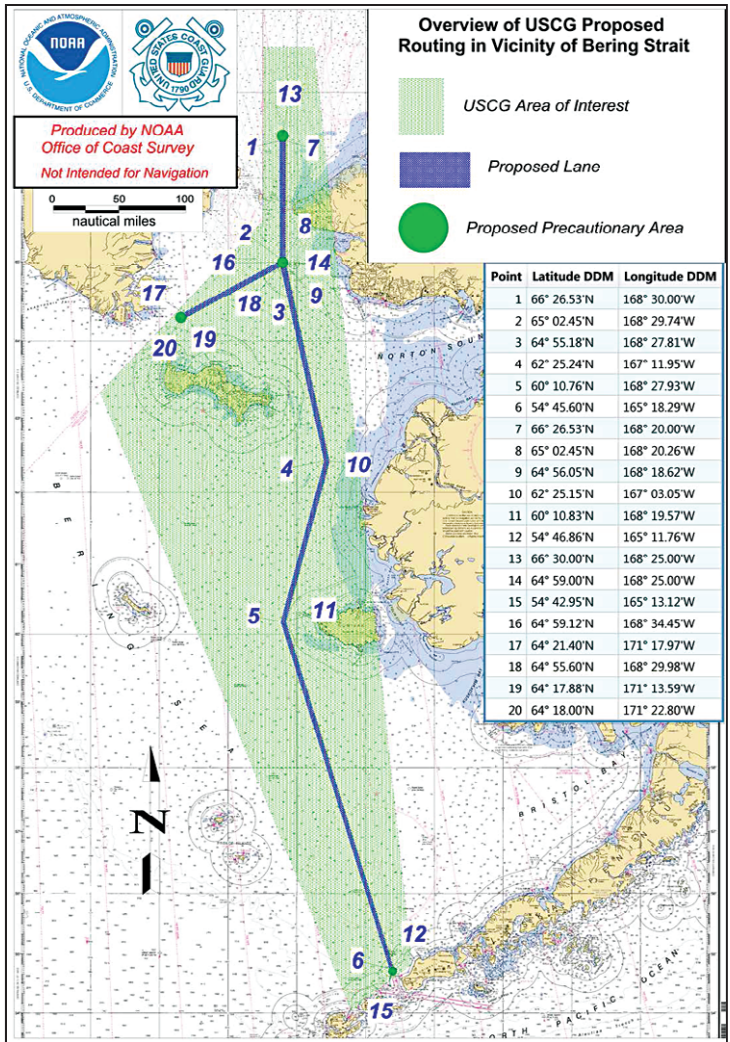
Region gains marine advocacy program

By Diana Haecker

The prospect of increased marine shipping through the Bering Strait and Norton Sound due to climate-change driven summer sea ice decline prompted the regional non-profit Kawerak Inc. to create a new program that aims to advocate for the marine environment, subsistence resources and the people that depend on it. Austin Ahmasuk of Nome was recently hired to fill the position of the Marine Advocate, assisted by Marine Program Specialist Freida

Moon-Kimoktoak. The ice-free Arctic waters in the summer attracted not only the attention of global shipping and resource companies, but also caused worries by regional residents of the impact the increase in traffic through the waters might have on subsistence activities. Ahmasuk said in an interview with the Nome Nugget last week that this lies at the core of the creation of the new marine advocacy program. Kawerak held a workshop in Sep-

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Graphic courtesy USCG

PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDY— The U.S. Coast Guard recommended in a study a ship traffic route through the Bering Strait.

On the Web:
www.nomenugget.net
E-mail:
nugget@nomenugget.com



Letters

Justice for Waylon Zachary Ok-pealuk
Dear Editor,
We will not give up on our son "Waylon Z. Okpealuk." We want justice for him. For the reason that it was premeditated murder. Just as it was when there was the premeditated assault upon him.
Our mistake was we didn't report the assault.
The assault was well thought out before he barged in to our home to his room; and now just as guilty as the premeditated assault. He was witnessed pacing back and forth some time after the assault. That draws suspicions that he lost the fight and could not bear to lose her. That if he could not have her, neither would our son. I cannot dispute that he had perhaps fallen in love with her, his ex-girlfriend. That was too unbearable so there it is beyond the reasonable doubt, "Jealousy." He carried it out, premeditated murder, we know he (our son) would never commit suicide.
Sincerely,
Allan and Sally Okpealuk
Brevig Mission, AK 99785
Dear Editor:

NJUS CFO speaks out
My name is Mike Cusack and I am the CFO for Nome Joint Utility System. NJUS is experiencing a cash shortfall at this time, which is causing concern for our partner, the City, and our consumers.
I would like to tell you a little about my qualifications and more about NJUS.
I came to NJUS as a consultant in September, 1999, and became the CFO in May, 2000. After becoming a Certified Public Accountant in 1974 I managed my own accounting office for 14 years. During that time we audited 11 Rural Electric Cooperatives, 8 municipalities, 5 public schools, a college, a Savings and Loan and several private businesses. After selling my accounting practice I worked as the CFO for a Rural Electric Cooperative for 10 years. After retiring from the REC I became a consultant for Professional Computer Systems (PCS) in Denison, Iowa. PCS sent me to Nome to assist with computer and accounting problems. John hired me. Working for NJUS and living in Nome most of the time for the last 14 years has been my life.

Working for NJUS provides an opportunity to serve a great community and to face the accounting challenges of a growing utility. Working with a very kind and intelligent manager, John Handeland, has been as good as it gets. Let me tell you about the growth of NJUS.
Before telling about the growth of NJUS you should know that John Handeland has directed this growth and worked diligently with the State of Alaska, the federal government and other granting sources to obtain the funds to support the growth of

NJUS. John works day and night to obtain funds and direct the various improvement projects. The projects include water and sewer system upgrades, power line extensions, a new power plant and port improvements. Nome has been blessed.
Consider these facts about NJUS. The audit reports and our books show that our total assets at December 31, 2000 were \$51,627,976 and equity was \$46,335,474. Total assets at December 31, 2013 were \$133,981,064 and equity was \$102,380,765. Growth has come

from contributed capital, long-term financing and utility operations (rate payers). A study of NJUS financial statements will help the reader to understand the complex nature of a utility that has experienced tremendous growth.
At the end of each of the years that I have served as the CFO we have been audited by an independent auditing firm from Anchorage. The firm was known as Mikunda, Cottrell & Co. After a merger, our au-

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

Editorial

Let There Be Peace

It seems we live in crazy times where the earth is set to shake itself apart by horrible deeds and events. We wonder if our world will ever again be at peace.
We hear of families in war torn countries having to flee their homes and become refugees. We hear of suicide bombings claiming the lives of innocent children. We hear of girls and boys being sold into slavery. We see atrocities in the name of religion. Draconian rules are imposed on nations, and of course there are the beheadings. Deadly diseases ravage entire countries. We are so lucky to live in a safe, secure and healthy community.
Let us be grateful that we live in Alaska, where we have family and friends who care about us. Let us not fret over the rising price of fuel, high cost of food and cost of living. Let's take a few minutes to step outside, breathe the free, crisp and clean air and look up into the star-studded heavens and be thankful we are here, safe, sound and happy. Perhaps someday the entire world will enjoy the kind of peace we have here in our fine home in Nome. May all of our readers have a safe, happy and joy-filled holiday season that lasts an entire year.
— N.L.M. —

A Look at the Past



SHOWING OFF THE REINDEER — Photographer F.H. Nowell was the official photographer of the Elk's Club Day, held in Nome on January 10, 1908. He depicted this scene of men wearing their finest outfits while displaying their prized reindeer.

Nome Norton Sound Tide Predictions (High & Low Waters)									
Date	Day	Time	High Tide	Time	High Tide	Time	Low Tide	Time	Low Tide
12/25	Th	559am	+1.4	801pm	+1.4	1219am	+0.8	109pm	-0.2
26	Fr	705am	+1.4	849pm	+1.4	119am	+0.7	201pm	-0.2
27	Sa	814am	+1.4	936pm	+1.4	221am	+0.6	254pm	-0.1
28	Su	924am	+1.4	1025pm	+1.5	323am	+0.5	347pm	0.0
29	Mo	1035am	+1.3	1113pm	+1.4	428am	+0.4	442pm	+0.1
30	Tu	1149am	+1.3			533am	+0.3	536pm	+0.3
31	We	1202am	+1.4	104pm	+1.3	638am	+0.2	632pm	+0.5

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

Weather Statistics			
Sunrise	12/25/14	12:04 p.m.	High Temp +30 12/18/14
	12/31/14	12:01 p.m.	Low Temp -11 12/22/14
Sunset	12/25/14	4:00 p.m.	Peak Wind 24 mph, N, 12/16/14
	12/31/14	4:09 p.m.	Total Precip. for 2014 13.92"
			Normal Total to Date 16.46"
			Seasonal Snowfall 20.50" Normal 27.00"
			Snow on Ground 10.50"
		National Weather Service Nome, Alaska (907) 443-2321 1-800-472-0391	

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Strait Action

Oil sheen reported near Shishmaref

The Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation said that the oil sheen that was reported on the sea ice on June 4 has returned. DEC issued a situation report that stated that the sheen once again appeared on Dec. 15. It was noticed by the community's Village Public Safety Officer Barrett Eningowuk, who also noted a gasoline odor in the area.

The type or the amount of the petroleum product is unknown as is the cause of the release. DEC established a unified command, made up of federal, state and local agencies. One DEC responder was to arrive in Shishmaref and the Coast Guard has hired Emerald Alaska as a response contractor to perform a site assessment. According to a DEC press release, DEC, Coast Guard and Emerald personnel were onsite on Dec. 19 to investigate the sheen source.

Military tracks Santa

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON— The North American Aerospace Defense Command's Alaskan NORAD Region (ANR) will play a significant role in tracking Santa this year as part of the NORAD Tracks Santa program. The NORAD Tracks Santa program began in 1955 after a phone call was made to the Continental Air Defense Command Operations Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. The call was from a local youngster who dialed a misprinted telephone number in a local newspaper advertisement. Instead of reaching Santa, the phone number put kids through to the CONAD Commander-in-Chief's operations "hotline." The Director of Operations at the time, Colonel Harry Shoup, had his staff check the radar for indications of Santa making his way south from the North Pole. Children who called were given updates on his location, and a tradition was born. In 1958, the governments of Canada and the United States created a bi-national air defense command for North America called the North American Aerospace Defense Command, also known as NORAD, which then took on the tradition of tracking Santa.

The NORAD Tracks Santa program has grown immensely since first presented on the Internet in 1998. The website receives millions of unique visitors from hundreds of countries and territories around the world. In addition, a live Operations Center is occupied for 25 hours with more than 1,200 volunteers each year who receive hundreds of thousands of phone calls and emails from families around the world. To track Santa go to <http://www.norad-santa.org>.

NOAA issues 2014 Arctic Report Card

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration issued the 2014 Arctic report card and . Since 2008, the annual report describes the current state of the physical and biological Arctic environmental system and illustrates that change continues to occur throughout the system.

The headlines of the report card are that the warming Arctic atmosphere was strongly connected to lower latitudes in early 2014 causing cold air outbreaks into the eastern USA and warm air intrusions into Alaska and northern Europe.

Polar bears numbers in western Hudson Bay and the southern Beaufort Sea are decreasing because of a decrease of sea ice.

Sea surface temperatures and primary production are increasing as the sea ice retreats throughout the Arctic Ocean.

Snow cover extent in April 2014 in Eurasia was the lowest since 1967 and sea ice extent in September was the sixth lowest since 1979.

The tundra is "browning" as the length of the growing season is decreasing in Eurasia, but maximum tundra greenness and biomass are increasing across the Arctic.

On the Greenland ice sheet nearly 40 percent of the surface experienced melting conditions in summer 2014 and the reflectivity reached a new record low in August.

The report says that the mean annual air temperature continues to increase in the Arctic, at a rate of warming that is more than twice that at lower latitudes. In winter (January-March) 2014, this Arctic amplification of global warming was

manifested by periods of strong connection between the Arctic atmosphere and mid-latitude atmosphere due to a weakening of the polar vortex. In Alaska, this led to statewide temperature anomalies of more than 10°C in January, due to warm air advection from the south. On January 27, Nome saw a record high temperature of 51°F. While Alaska melted, the eastern North America and Russia temperatures were 5°C colder than normal, due to cold air advection from the north.

In April 2014, a new record low snow cover extent for the satellite era (1967-2014) occurred in Eurasia and, in September 2014, minimum sea ice extent was the 6th lowest in the satellite record (1979-2014). But, in 2014, there were modest increases in the age and thickness of sea ice relative to 2013. The eight lowest sea ice extents since 1979 have occurred in the last eight years (2007-2014).

The report card also points out that there is growing evidence that polar bears are being adversely affected by the changing sea ice in those regions where there are good data. Between 1987 and 2011 in western Hudson Bay, Canada, a decline in polar bear numbers, from 1,194 to 806, was due to earlier sea ice break-up, later freeze-up and, thus, a shorter sea ice season. In the southern Beaufort Sea, polar bear numbers had stabilized at ~900 by 2010 after a ~40 percent decline since 2001. However, survival of sub-adult bears declined during the entire period. Polar bear condition and reproductive rates have also declined in the southern Beaufort Sea, unlike in the adjacent Chukchi Sea, immediately to the west, where they have remained stable for 20 years. There are also now twice as many ice-free days in the southern Beaufort Sea as there are in the Chukchi Sea.

As the sea ice retreats in summer and previously ice-covered water is exposed to solar radiation, sea surface temperature and upper ocean temperatures in all the marginal seas of the Arctic Ocean are increasing. The most significant linear trend is in the Chukchi Sea, where the sea surface temperature is increasing at a rate of 0.5°C per decade. In sum-

mer 2014, the largest SST anomalies, as much as 4°C above the 1982-2010 average, occurred in the Barents Sea and in the Bering Strait region, which includes the Chukchi Sea.

On land, peak tundra greenness, a measure of vegetation productivity that is strongly correlated with above-ground biomass, continues to increase. On the other hand, green-

ness integrated over the entire growing season indicates that a browning and a shorter growing season have occurred over large areas of the tundra since 1999. In Eurasia, in particular, these conditions have coincided with a decline in summer air temperatures.

Overall the long-term trends pro-

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR



Thursday, December 25

- *Weekly Women's Circle
- *PM Lap Swim
- *Open Gym
- *Wiffleball (grades 3-6) (grades 5-8)
- *League Basketball
- *Strength Training
- *Vinyasa Yoga
- *Nome Food Bank
- *Zumba Fitness
- *Open Bowling
- *Thrift Shop

- Closed for the Holiday 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 5:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 3:15 p.m. - 4:14 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, December 26

- *Pick-up Basketball
- *AM Lap Swim
- *Open Gym
- *Kindergym
- *Open Gym
- *Zumba Fitness
- *Open Bowling
- *Drop-in Soccer (15+)
- *AA Meeting

- Nome Rec Center 5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 10:00 a.m. - Noon
- Nome Rec Center Noon - 8:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Lutheran Church(rear) 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 27

- *Open Gym
- *Open Bowling
- *AA Meeting

- Nome Rec Center Noon - 8:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Airport Pizza (upstairs) 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 28

- *Open Gym
- *AA Meeting
- *Open Swim
- *Family Swim
- *PM Laps

- Nome Rec Center 2:00 - 10:00 p.m.
- Airport Pizza (upstairs) 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
- Pool 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Pool 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Pool 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, December 29

- *NPS CHRISTMAS BREAK
- *Pick-up Basketball
- *Open Gym
- *AM Lap Swim
- *Kindergym
- *Open Gym
- *Floor Hockey (grades 3-6) (grades 5-8)
- *League Basketball
- *Zumba Fitness
- *Tae Kwon Do
- AA Meeting

- (school restarts on January 5)
- Nome Rec Center 5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Pool 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 10:00 a.m. - noon
- Nome Rec Center Noon - 3:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
- Lutheran Church(rear) 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 30

- *Open Gym
- *Volleyball (grades 3-8)
- *League Basketball
- *Strength Training
- *PM Laps
- *Vinyasa Yoga
- *Zumba Step
- *Nome Food Bank
- *Open Swim
- *AA Meeting

- Nome Rec Center 5:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
- Pool 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Bering & Seppala 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Pool 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Airport Pizza (upstairs) 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 31

- *Pick-up Basketball
- *Open Gym
- *AM Lap Swim
- *Kindergym
- *Open Gym
- *Team Handball (grades 3-6) (grades 5-8)
- *Open Gym
- *Nome Food Bank
- *Zumba Fitness
- *Family Swim
- *Tae Kwon Do

- Nome Rec Center 5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- Pool 6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
- Nome Rec Center 10:00 a.m. - noon
- Nome Rec Center Noon - 3:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Bering & Seppala 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Nome Rec Center 5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Closed for the Holiday 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum

Hours available by appointment. Call 907-443-6630

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

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

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

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GOLD COAST CINEMA 443-8100

Starting Friday, December 26

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1

Rated PG-13 - 7:00 p.m.

Horrible Bosses:2

Rated R - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday matinee

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1 1:30 p.m.

Horrible Bosses:2 4:00 p.m.

Listen to ICY 100.3 FM, Coffee Crew, 7 - 9 a.m., and find out how you can win free movie tickets!

• Council

continued from page 1

ally or around \$450,000 for the three-year labor agreement, according to figures provided by Josephine Bahnke, city manager.

The Council had the pay packages before them at an earlier meeting, but balked at approval until they received specifics on the costs of each position from Bahnke and John K. Handeland, utility manager. Both managers provided them with a hefty 179 pages of contract particulars.

Councilmembers approved the contracts unanimously without comment.

A list of employee compensations provided the Council that included salaries and benefits for approximately 72 City employees totaled almost \$6 million out of the City's 2015 budget. That is roughly 53 percent of the City of Nome General Fund Budget, dropping out the \$284,351 in Port of Nome employee compensation, covered by the Port of Nome 2015 budget. The Port is an enterprise of the City, which earns and spends revenue separately.

The salary of the port project manager, Joy Baker, appeared as \$39,600, which would be a significant drop in pay, except that the small print explains that the amount is for the six-month shipping season.

During citizen's comments, Chuck Wheeler asked for additional information on whether Baker received compensation for airfare, lodging, vehicle or consultation fees during the off-season. Following the meeting, Bahnke explained that Baker receives additional money from port project funds, but for specifics, asked for a written open records information request. Baker also receives port money while wearing the port director's hat for about 20 percent of her job time, Bahnke said.

The Nugget has complied with a letter to Bahnke and Council members asking for the total of general fund money and City of Nome project money going to the harbor project manager and city manager positions. The list of compensations for City positions also gave a lump sum—\$367,614—for finance employees without a breakdown on positions—finance director, three account technicians and one account clerk. *The Nugget* has also asked for any expenses and compensation paid for port and finance department employees who live out of state, as well as a list of consultants on the City's payroll.

Council passed the labor contracts at the special noon meeting without comment.



Photo by Keith Conger

MANY DOGS HAVE THEIR DAY - Long time Nome veterinarian Dr. Derrick Leedy gives vaccinations to Mallory Conger's dog Chena on Friday, December 19 during the four day vaccination clinic. Leedy and his crew served a record number 368 licenses. The clinic has been an annual event since 1977. Leedy has directed all but two.

• Barrow

continued from page 1

the killing of Sullivan. According to court documents, Fischer is not unknown to the court system. His record shows 20 criminal convictions and several recent domestic violence cases pending.

The case was assigned to Assistant Attorney General James Fayette, working at the office of Special Prosecutions, who requested the case be heard in front of a Nome grand jury rather than the Barrow grand jury because Assistant DA Brian Sullivan had been presenting a dozen cases as recently as November 21 to the current Barrow grand jury panel which was seated in September. Fayette also argued that the substantial pretrial publicity, both formal by professional media and informal by internet social media, would have influenced the grand jurors. "Under these circumstances, any true bill of indictment issued in this case will be susceptible to a post-indictment challenge based upon a claim that this grand jury panel was biased against Fischer by Mr. Sullivan's unique role – not merely an acquaintance of one or two of the grand jurors – but as the

entire panel's actual legal advisor," wrote Fayette. The grand jury did convene in Nome.

The grand jury indictment was sent to Barrow and Judge Michael Jeffery arraigned Fischer on Monday morning.

Judge Jeffery formally appointed the public defender agency to represent Fischer.

Fischer's attorney Mark Billingsley at the Fairbanks Public Defender Agency entered "not guilty" pleas for Fischer. A pretrial hearing was set for February 12, 2015 at 3 p.m. in Barrow, and a trial date was set for March 9, 2015.

The Attorney General's office announced last week that a fund for the daughters of Sullivan has been established to allow the public and Brian's colleagues to donate in his memory.

The statement said that Sullivan had worked in the district attorney's office in Barrow since 2012 and formed a strong bond with the small Arctic community.

Prior to taking the post in Barrow, he had worked as a private attorney in the Mat-Su Borough and served in the military as a paratrooper and JAG

lawyer. He also served four years in the Washington House of Representatives.

Deputy Attorney General Richard Svobodny described Sullivan as active in his local community, including his local church. "Brian wanted to expose himself to other cultures—something he had experienced in the military and wanted to continue," said Deputy Attorney General Svobodny. "This is what drew him to Barrow and to the people. He became involved right away and had made Barrow his home."

Sullivan leaves behind three daughters, ages 19, 16 and 14. The fund was established in Brian's memory to benefit his children.

His family has asked that in lieu of gifts or flowers, individuals give money in Brian's name to the memorial fund or to organizations that assist victims of violent crimes. To give a donation to the memorial fund, you can make your check out to "Sullivan Daughter's Donation," account number 2412858512, and send it to: Sullivan Daughter's Donation; Acct. No. 2412858512; Wells Fargo; 705 S. Bailey Street; Palmer, Alaska 99645.

• Strait Action

continued from page 3

vide evidence of continuing and often significant change related to Arctic amplification of global warming.

Bristol Bay protected from oil and gas lease sales

On December 16, the Obama Administration announced a landmark decision to remove the North Aleutian Basin from the federal Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program. This in effect protects Bristol Bay and the southeast Bering Sea, the region's fishing grounds, and world's largest wild salmon run from offshore development. President Obama has removed the area from future oil and gas development under Section 12(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act. In an address posted on YouTube, President Barack Obama said that he took action to protect one of America's greatest resources and a massive

economic engine, namely Bristol Bay. "It's a beautiful natural wonder and something too precious for us to be putting out to the highest bidder," President Obama said.

Because of the work done by local people advocating for Bristol Bay's integrity, Obama could take action, he said. In a press release, the Alaska Marine Conservation Council stated that Bristol Bay and the southeast Bering Sea represent over 40 percent of U.S. domestic seafood production valued at more than \$2 billion annually, including salmon, red king crab, herring and groundfish such as pollock and cod. All four Pacific salmon species migrate through Bristol Bay every year on their way to spawning grounds throughout western Alaska. In 2014, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game reported that 40.9 million sockeye returned to Bristol Bay. Commercial fishermen were paid \$197 million for their catch destined for a global marketplace.

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Build-A-Plane program takes flight at NACTEC

By Diana Haecker

A most unusual sight could be seen at the Nome-Beltz mechanic shop recently when four female high school students clad in dark blue mechanic coveralls, intently worked to wrench parts off a greasy plane engine.

One of the girls was Samantha Penayah. She is a 10-grader from

Savoonga on St. Lawrence Island. Living there, aviation is a crucial part of survival to bring in supplies, groceries and to fly out patients who need medical help in Nome or Anchorage. Samantha attended an automotive engine repair class at NACTEC and was able to return to

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• Marine Advocate

continued from page 1

tember, which brought together representatives from regional tribes and municipalities to ponder how to best prepare for increased shipping traffic through their prime subsistence hunting grounds. Ahmasuk said the workshop, its pending report and additional information gleaned from other Kawerak division's work would form the basis of a regional plan to communicate to the world the priorities of this region and its residents. "The main focus of that plan is to bring local issues into the various ocean policy forums," said Ahmasuk. Those forums include the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, the International Maritime Organization, the U.S. Coast Guard, Joint Ocean Commission, State Department and White House ocean commissions and co-management groups.

Ahmasuk said that one of the first things on his to-do list is to comment on the recent release of a draft of the Coast Guard's Port Access Route

Study. The Coast Guard posted the Port Access Route Study for the Chukchi Sea, Bering Strait and Bering Sea on the Federal Register on December 5.

According to U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Kody Stitz, the goal of the study is to help reduce the risk of maritime casualties and increase the efficiency of commercial vessel traffic movement, in anticipation of increasing vessel traffic in the region. The U.S. Coast Guard began the study in 2010.

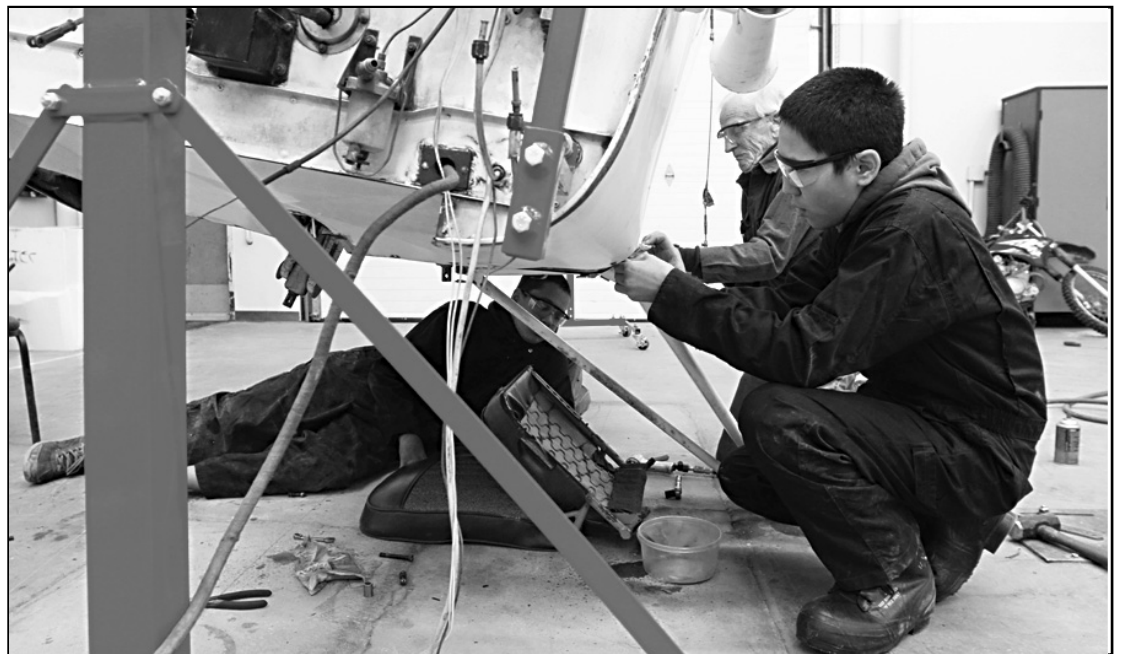
"Over the last couple of years the Coast Guard has used the best available data to develop the route we are now proposing as a possible route through the Bering Sea/Strait," said Lt. Stitz in an email to the Nugget. "We are now soliciting public comment how this specific route will benefit or impact the region." The comment period opened Dec. 5 and will run through June 3, 2015.

Ahmasuk said he would request a public hearing to be held in Alaska, preferably in a hub community such as Nome.




Photos by Diana Haecker

WRENCH TIME— NACTEC instructor Jake Fischer, right, shows Jeanie Koonooka, Annie Awalnun and Samantha Penayah how to disassemble the engine of the Piper Colt.



EXPERT ADVICE—A&P Mechanic and veteran pilot Vic Olsen, background, helps Alec Johnson of Nome and Wyatt Saccheus of Elim to take the 1962 Piper Colt apart, one piece at a time.



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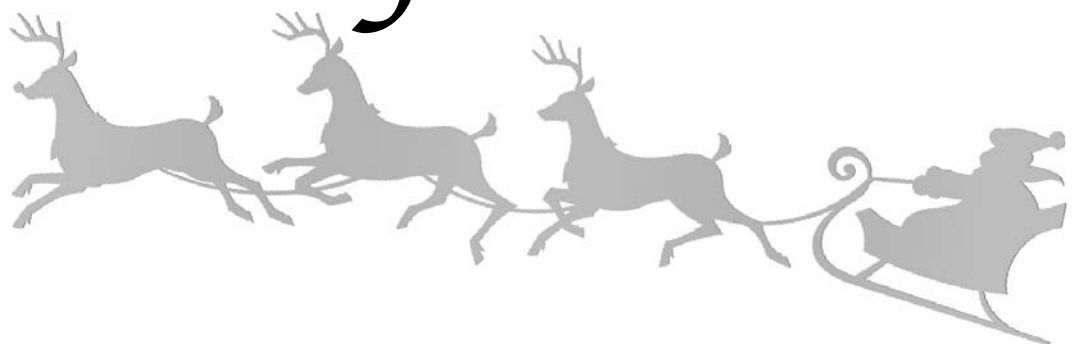


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Photo by Diana Haecker

SECOND GRADERS PERFORM— Nome Elementary School second graders performed Jolly Old St. Nicholas and O Christmas Tree at last week's NES Holiday program.

• NACTEC

continued from page 5

her home community with useful information. "I taught my younger brother how to change the oil on our four-wheeler," she said.

Sam also attended the first build-a-plane program course last summer and signed up for the second course because she would like to become a pilot.

As the girls tinkered with the plane's engine, students Wyatt Saccheus and Alec Johnson worked with veteran pilot and Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic Vic Olsen to pry a latch off the plane.

Olsen has been working with the students to rebuild the 1962 Piper Colt.

Wyatt Saccheus from Elim and Alec Johnson from Nome also envision a career in aviation.

The students were from Nome, Elim, Savoonga and Gambell and were part of the aviation course taught at the Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center in Nome from Dec. 1 to Dec. 12.

The aviation courses are a three-part series of trainings that involved "Introduction to flight", "Aviation Powerplant", referring to engine work, and the yet to be held course in "Aviation Airframe", referring to work on the fuselage.

"The goal is to expose students to aviation and to some of the jobs in this region," said Instructor Jake Fischer.

NACTEC Director Doug Walrath said that student surveys over the last several years have revealed interest in vocational training in the aviation field, as well as in health and construction.

"Aviation was always in the top 3 choices," said Walrath.

The Alaska Airman's Association donated money to buy the Piper Colt

for \$3,000 to be taken apart by the NACTEC aviation students, fixed and rebuild from the ground up.

NACTEC director Walrath said, they have received a \$56,000 grant from the Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development to provide a series of Aviation courses intended to expose students to careers as Airframe and Powerplant Mechanics. Local airlines also chipped in and donated money to buy parts and necessary supplies to achieve the task.

Aside from hands-on mechanical skills, the students start their day with introductions into First Aid and CPR training, swimming and developing a career plan that includes work on a resume, a cover letter and detailed plan of how to achieve the necessary education to qualify for a job in the aviation field. In June, NACTEC will offer the last aviation course in the three-part series.

Walrath said there is an international shortage of qualified airframe and powerplant mechanics. Russell Rowe, chief pilot for helicopters at Bering Air confirmed that it is an ongoing challenge to find qualified people. "Everybody wants to be a pilot but there are a lot of other jobs like cleaner positions, cargo, A&P mechanics, mechanic helpers, accountants, customer service positions and so on," Rowe said.

Rowe said the pilots can come through the ranks and are built up in-house from an existing workforce that proves to be steady and reliable.

It is not unusual that somebody startsworking in cargo, moves on to become a mechanic helper and then a mechanic or pilot.

Mechanics and pilots require federal certifications. The University of Alaska at Anchorage and Fairbanks offer a pilot and mechanic program.



Photo by Diana Haecker

THANK YOU— During the Dec. 16 Nome Elementary School Holiday Program, music director Ron Horner, left, thanked Richard Beneville for his years of dedication to Nome Elementary students as the director of Community Schools. Horner said Beneville would retire from the position next year. The audience broke out into an enthusiastic round of applause and gave Beneville a standing ovation.



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Christmas at a Swedish castle

By Keith Conger

Travel is something the Bering Strait School District's itinerant art teacher does very well. Robin Child spends her winters as an instructor bringing wonderful art projects to the youth of the Seward Peninsula, and her summers as an ice-climbing guide in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. She embodies that Eleanor Roosevelt philosophy of tasting experiences to the utmost. Eight years ago, while traveling the world, she had the most interesting Christmas of her life.

At the time, Child says she was a researcher/student studying abroad in Asia. She had spent time exploring Nepal, was learning the Tibetan language, and was studying a branch of Buddhism. A major source of her fieldwork came as a photographer for a nonprofit organization. One of her most interesting assignments was to work with a set of monks who had acted as art protectorates when China was destroying much of Tibet's cultural icons.

Child was able to photograph protected art works called Thangkas — complicated cultural pictures that were either painted or embroidered on pieces of textile. These textiles were pictorial records of important historical religious or doctrinal information. For years the monks had sewn the Thangkas into their robes, hiding them from their oppressors as they worked in the fields.

In the fall of 2006 Child presented the findings of her work in India, after which she had planned to take a break from Asia. But, she was not quite ready to head back to the states, and wanted to spend Christmas on the road. She was reminded by a family member that a cousin she had grown up with in Col-

orado was now living in Linköping, Sweden. So, she went to spend the holidays with cousin Riley and her husband Henrik.

Riley had a unique occupation. She was the caretaker of a 12th century castle — one of those story book types — dark, dank, super cold, with a moat around it (although the moat no longer held water). The castle did not receive visitors during the winter, but served as a tourist attraction in the warmer months.

Her cousin and husband actually lived in the caretaker's cottage adjacent to the moat. Child was pleased to have access to it, and was most impressed with the classic standing armored statue. One of her most striking observations about that holiday was it was a low snow year, and this was the first time in her life she would not have a white Christmas.

The people of Sweden celebrate Christmas day at a Julbord — a Scandinavian smorgasbord extravaganza. Long, overloaded tables are filled with Nordic delicacies such as herring, ham, meatballs, sauces, cheeses, and breads. Child remembers being very full by the end of the day.

Child says the Swedes had some of the same holiday practices as we do in the U.S., such as Santa and Christmas trees, but they had one very unusual tradition.

In Sweden, there is a custom of gathering the entire family to sit down for a viewing of the 1958 Walt Disney Christmas special "From All of Us to All of You," also known as Kalle Anka och hans vänner önskar God Jul.

Who better to wish you a Merry Christmas, but Donald Duck and his friends!



Photo by Keith Conger

WORLD TRAVELER — BSSD itinerant art teacher Robin Child (shown skijoring outside Nome in 2012) is glad to have snow this Christmas. That was not the case in 2006 when she experienced her most unusual Christmas.



Photo by Diana Haecker

PROVIDING THE MUSIC — Kathy Horner accompanied Nome Elementary School students during their Dec. 16 Christmas Holiday program. With her support, her husband Ron Horner pulled off again the incredible feat to present a flawless Elementary School Holiday program with children ranging from first through sixth grades.



Photo by Diana Haecker

WELCOME — NES Principal Paul Clark welcomed parents to the NES Holiday program held on Dec. 16 at the NES gym.

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A Christmas under the snow

By Genevieve Wheeler

This is yet another fascinating story about life in early Nome taken from the archives of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum in Nome. Here is a special holiday treat.

It appears that "A Christmas Under the Snow" by Genevieve Wheeler was written about Christmas in Nome at some point between 1899 and 1902. It's fun and sometimes a little confusing trying to read your way through the old style of English.

Those who like plenty of snow on Christmas should spend the day at the mining camp known as the City of Nome in Alaska where they will be literally under it, for the huge snowdrifts cover many of the houses completely, making it necessary to tunnel to the doors. Christmas here comes in the darkest season of the year; the sun appears just above the horizon, shines a short time and then disappears again making the winter almost devoid of daylight. The Bering Sea is frozen for miles and as far as the eye can see great hills of ice covered with fine snow are piled high on the ice-bound ocean.

Of course there is snow—vast quantities of it. The average fall is about six feet, but this drifts and covers entirely many small dwellings and reaches to the second-story windows of the larger ones, and sometimes even higher. This snow is very

fine almost flour-like especially that which comes with a blizzard, and it packs solidly as it falls.

During the winter of which I write there were in the neighborhood of six thousand persons at Nome and distributed throughout the adjacent district; many of these were unprepared for the intense cold and were obliged to dwell in thinly boarded houses, and some even attempted to live in tents. Scores of small dwellings were completely buried in the snowdrifts, and as the snow deepened the occupants were obliged to keep adding extra stovepipe so as to keep the top of the pipe above the drift.

A number of times the occupants of some of those small houses lost their lives through their neglect of this precaution. They lighted the fires before going to bed. When the snow stopped, the pipes and the gas and smoke, finding no outlet were driven down into the house and caused death by suffocation. Some of the accompanying pictures show the tunnels leading to the snow-covered houses. Some of the tunnels were 200 feet long in length under the snowdrifts, and they furnished the only means of entrance or exit. Cows and horses also were stabled in quarters deep under the snow, using similar tunnels to come and go.

The approach of Christmas in this cold bleak Northland is in strange contrast with the Christmas season in

the United States. There is of course, a complete absence of the rush and bustle of the busy cities with their toy-dressed store windows and in this far-away spot one cannot rest the eyes upon holly, the ivy and the Christmas tree. Nevertheless, many parents had brought their children young and old, and where little children are there, Christmas must be kept.

To celebrate this day of days in fitting manner was the great question. The country surrounding Nome is wholly deserted of trees, so to obtain Christmas trees it became necessary to make a trip of 175 miles over the ice by sled, but men were ready for this emergency, and the trees were secured. These hardy fellows started off about December 10, and returned to Nome several days before Christmas. The trees were spruce from five to ten feet high, and were sold from \$5 to \$25 for each tree. With Christmas at hand, toys and ornaments must be obtained. The town was well canvassed and everything resembling a toy was secured, as well as a lot of material from which to make toys. Mothers made up rag dolls, and many pretty and useful gifts were made for young and old, so that neither the little ones, who hung up their stockings on Christmas Eve, nor their elders were disappointed.

Even the Eskimos were not for-

gotten, for at the little church, the only one in camp, a festival was held, and from the Christmas trees the native children and their parents received their first gifts when the distribution took place. The church was decorated with paper flowers in place of real ones.

In the preparation of the Christmas dinner, which is not a pleasant nor easy task in the cold land, the housewife had her troubles, and serious troubles enough some of them proved to be. Many days before Christmas the making of the plum pudding was in progress. Water is delivered here in cans costing 25¢ a can, and it is almost solidly frozen. The eggs, butter, popcorn, onions, apples and everything else that can

possibly freeze are frozen, making the work preparing pudding and cakes anything but an easy task. The large pot of water for the pudding seems as though it never would boil, and the stove does not seem to do half its duty.

There are two things – perhaps I can call them virtues – that men and women, but especially housekeepers must learn in Alaska namely, patience and economy, the later especially in the use of water, and in this country of domestic difficulties the men must do their share of the work about the house. With Christmas trees at 45 to \$25 each, eggs \$1 a

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ANYBODY HOME?— Scores of small dwellings were completely buried in the snowdrifts, and as the snow deepened the occupants were obliged to keep adding extra stovepipe so as to keep the top of the pipe above the drift.



BIG DRIFTS— The average snowfall is about six feet, but this drifts and covers entirely many small dwellings and reaches to the second-story windows of the larger ones, and sometimes even higher.



Photos courtesy of the Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum

CHRISTMAS TREE— At the little church, a festival was held and from the Christmas trees the Native children and their parents received their gifts.



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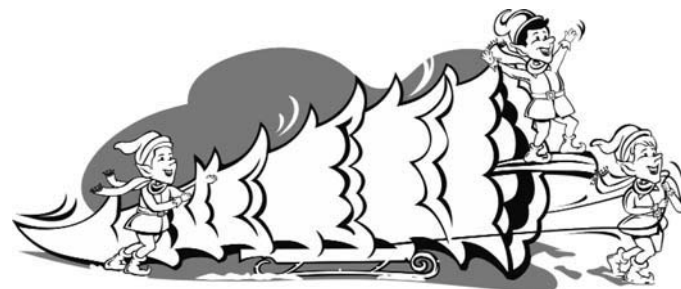
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**Thanks and Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year to all.**





SNOW AND MORE SNOW— Big snowdrifts covered up all of the alleyways.



BURIED— Those who like plenty of snow on Christmas should spend the day at the mining camp known as the City of Nome in Alaska, where they will be literally under it.



FRONTIER STYLE— Early day Nomeites wait for Christmas Dinner while wearing their holiday finest.



BEAST OF BURDEN— Water is delivered here in cans costing twenty-five cents a can, and it is almost solidly frozen. Housekeepers must learn economy, especially in the use of water.

• A Christmas under the snow

continued from page 8

dozen, butter 75¢ to \$1 a pound, coal more than \$100 a ton, and everything else proportionately expensive, it is easy to understand at least some of the differences between a Northland Christmas and one in the ordinary cities.

The pudding completed and boiled it was hung up, to be taken down, frozen solidly, though in the house, for reheating on Christmas Day. Turkey at Christmastime at Nome costs 75¢ to \$1 a pound, and, being taken from cold storage and frozen solid, it is a difficult matter even to guess, much less to determine, when the bird was last alive. The task of getting at the fowl to clean and dress it was no easy matter. It took 10 hours by the stove in cold water to thaw it out. Then after preparing it on Christmas Eve it was laid away carefully in order that it might not become too solidly frozen again.

Instead of crisp lettuce and celery there are canned vegetables, but appetizing salads and other tasty dishes are made as only a woman can do, and after the frozen potatoes and onions had been given a bath in boiling water for a few moments, and had the skins peeled off, and after the turkey and the cranberry sauce, with all the other good things, had been placed on the home-made dinner table covered with oilcloth, and with the plum pudding yet to come, one forgot for at least a time that one was spending Christmas Day in this most

isolated region of Uncle Sam's dominions.

The first Christmas spent in this camp, and one long to be remembered, was an exceptionally clear


one. The sun appeared about midday and seemed at once to set directly south. About three o'clock in the afternoon the moon rose in all its fullness and splendor at a northerly

point, making the great expanse of snow and ice on the Bering Sea sparkle like diamonds, and presenting the appearance of a veritable fairyland. At this time came also the

Northern Lights, and it seemed as though the very portals of heaven had opened, bringing one in closer touch with God and his glorious infinity.

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For more information on the **MYCHOICEMYFUTURE** program, visit necalaska.org/mychoicemyfuture



SKIERS— Two skiers and their dog make their way towards the horizon on December 21, in the Nome Small Boat Harbor.

Photo by Nils Hahn



YOUNG SINGER— Caitlin Johnson enjoys taking part in the Christmas Extravaganza at Old St. Joe's in Nome on December 10.

Photo by Diana Haecker



2014 HOLIDAY DESSERT FUNDRAISER— James Horner, left, and Richard Beneville, right, work the crowd during the 2014 Holiday Dessert Fundraiser.

Photo by Keith Conger



CHRISTMAS SPIRIT – Nome-Beltz flutist Julie Jackson plays What Child Is This? at the recent 2014 Holiday Dessert Fundraiser.

Photo by Keith Conger



ROCKIN' CHRISTMAS TRIO – The NBHS trio of Tate Coler, Maya Coler, and Hunter Manes perform a song in front of a packed Nome Elementary School Commons at the recent 2014 Holiday Dessert Fundraiser.

Photo by Keith Conger



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Christmas Traditions in Nome

By Angela Hansen

It's a joy to think over the traditions Peter and I have developed for our family over our 17 years of marriage. There are many things that make our Christmas celebration special but I chose to share a few of the most significant ones.

It has always been important for Peter and his family to pick out the perfect spruce tree from Council in late October, before the road closes. Tree hunting makes a fun and festive family outing! We leave the cut tree frozen outdoors until the week before Christmas and then saw off a few inches of the trunk so it will start drawing up water when we introduce it to its warm, new environment in our living room.

The first Christmas decoration we put out each year, is elegant, porcelain, white and gold Nativity, which was a gift from my parents early in our marriage. The Nativity is defini-

tely the heart of our Christmas celebration. When my family lived in Nome in the '70s and '80s, my father made a large outdoor plywood Nativity. My parents had given it to Peter's folks when our family moved to Nebraska in the mid '80s and after Peter and I were married in the late '90s, his parents passed it on to us. I am filled with sentimental memories from my childhood whenever we display it in front of our home.

Every year, our children Gareth, Clara and Luke paint watercolors to adorn the outside of our Christmas card, filled with news of our past 12 months. This always feels like a huge endeavor to paint, write, print and send out but it is worth the effort and it makes a wonderful summarized chronicle of our life over the years.

Peter's mother started a collection of nutcrackers for him when he was a boy and we have kept up the tradi-

tion by adding one or two each year. There are so many creative themes, styles and occupations that it is hard to stop buying them! One of Peter's favorites is the gold miner complete with a shovel and pan of gold. They grace our windowsills and stand guard over the tree. The largest one is 4 ft. tall and each of our kids were excited the Christmas when they had finally grown taller than the giant nutcracker!

A few years ago, my sister sent us a stocking for Jesus to hang along with each of our stockings. We fill the stocking with notes of things we've given to Jesus, such as sponsoring children in an orphanage in Peru, shoebox gifts, buying sheep,

chickens, clean water, seeds and tools for needy people around the world through organizations like World Relief and Samaritan's Purse. The kids get excited about using their own money to choose these gifts for others and it helps keep their focus on generosity rather than dwelling solely on what's wrapped up for them under the tree.

We often invite friends to a caroling party around town at the Hospital, Quynna Care and Youth Facility to share the traditional Christmas hymns of joy and hope. Then we return home for hot apple cider, cocoa and an assortment of savory and sweet delights, visiting and playing games into the night.

Church Christmas programs and the Candlelight Service are always highlights as well. The children love to act and sing and dress up as wise men, angels or shepherds. There's something so peaceful and serenely beautiful about singing Silent Night by candlelight, worshipping the Son of God together!

Thanks for asking us to share some of our family traditions. It's a joy to be part of such a vibrant, festive community as Nome — where else do you have Christmas lights strung across Front Street all winter long? Merry Christmas and God bless each of you as we celebrate Jesus Christ, the Greatest Gift who is the Reason for the Season!



NATIVITY SCENE— The Hansen family residence in Icy View displays the Nativity Scene.



NUTCRACKER— Clara, left, Gareth, middle, and Luke Hansen stand next to the biggest nutcracker of their collection. Each of the kids were excited when they had finally grown taller than the giant nutcracker.



LONGTIME NOME RESIDENTS— (Back, left to right) Gareth and Peter Hansen. (Front, left to right) Luke, Angela and Clara Hansen. The Hansen's look forward to spending time during the holidays with their children.



If you're not here you can still be there by reading *The Nome Nugget*.





QUARTERBACK— Nome sophomore Sonja Hukill drives the lane against the Noorvik Bears at the Nome-Beltz gym on Saturday night. Hukill's was the leading scorer with seven points in her team's victory over the Bears on Friday night. Jillian Stettenbenz's 18 points led the team to victory on Saturday.

NANOOK HUSTLE - NBHS freshman Sierra Tucker's defensive effort this past weekend helped her Lady Nanooks beat the Noorvik Bears on both Friday and Saturday night.



TOWERING - Nome-Beltz senior Daniel Head puts up a shot over a Noorvik Bears player on Saturday, December 20. Head is one of three Nanooks players listed at over 6 feet, 3 inches.

• Basketball

continued from page 12

worked. The entire second half she seemed to be around the ball. Her four third quarter points, along with Annalise Contreras' first ever varsity points — a third quarter buzzer beater — helped the team establish a 23-16 lead heading into the final period. Stettenbenz carried her hot hand into the fourth quarter scoring six, leading to a game high 18. The team was really boosted by the ball hawking energy of freshman Sierra Tucker, who also scored her first varsity points. Hukill would score four of her six points in the final frame, as the Nanooks were able to build a comfortable 14 point lead, and take the contest 39-23. Don Stiles, Nome-Beltz head coach, said after the games that he was happy with his team's offensive patience on Friday night even

thought at times they struggled to score. He was particularly pleased with the team's defensive efforts in the second half of Saturday's game. The girls created turnovers and took advantage of their possessions. Stiles is assisted by Doug Johnson, Bivers Gologergen, and Steffen Verdin. Stiles, who is entering his fifth year as the Lady Nanooks head coach, has been involved in Nome basketball in some capacity since 1985. He noted that he coached the parent of one of his current players back in 1993-94 when he was assistant coach to Doug Chadwick. According to Moum, the Noorvik girls team was coming off a pair of recent losses to Kiana. They will be getting three starters back next week. The Lady Bears last went to the 1A state basketball championships in 2013.



CAUGHT STEALING – Nome-Beltz freshman Annalise Contreras steals the ball at mid-court from Noorvik's Dionne Wells at the Nome-Beltz gym on Saturday, December 20. The youthful Nanooks outlasted the Bears both Friday and Saturday.

Merry Christmas

May you and yours
have peace, love, and joy
during this Holiday Season.

From
Nome Eskimo Community
and Staff.



Photos by Diana Haecker

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONCERT— Nome Elementary School students perform during the Christmas Concert on December 16.



Photo by Diana Haecker

VISITING SANTA— Joe Hofstetter enjoys his moment with Santa Claus during the Nome Christmas Extravaganza, held at Old St. Joe's in Nome on December 10.



Photo by Diana Haecker

FIRST GRADE PERFORMANCE— Nome Elementary School First Grade Students dazzled the audience at the Christmas Concert on December 16 with their performance of the song "All I want for Christmas are my two front teeth."

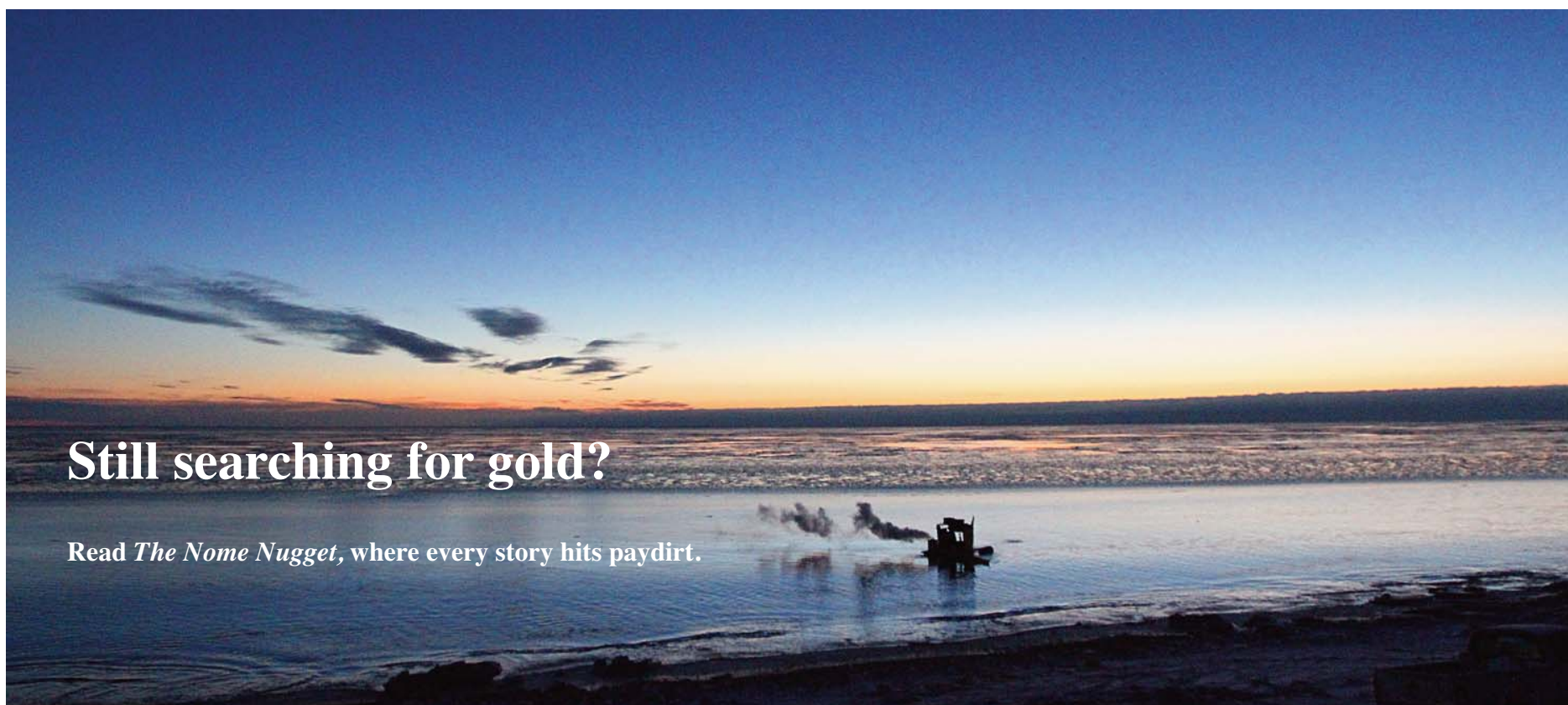


Photo by Keith Conger

TEAMWORK – Five members of the Nome-Beltz wrestling team prove they are as adept on the stage as they are on the mat as they perform in a brass quintet at the 2014 Holiday Dessert Fundraiser. Left to right, James Horner, James Jorginson, Oliver Hoogendorn, Donald Smith, Gabe Smith.

Still searching for gold?

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Germans celebrate holidays with Saint Nikolas and Krampus

By Mia Siebenmorgen Cresswell

Mia Siebenmorgen Cresswell moved to Nome with her parents last summer. She got to spend one Christmas in Germany with her grandparents and tells of the customs in the following story.

In Germany, we keep track of the days leading up to Christmas by “Advents-kalender” (advent calendar). We also have wreaths with candles that we light every Sunday in December; when the candle is lighted, we sing songs and say a prayer. On the 6th of December, Nikolaus (St. Nicholas) and his scary companion “Knecht Ruprecht” or Krampus comes to visit the families of the town to see if the kids have been obedient. Good kids get chocolate, oranges, and other fruit. Krampus gives bad kids lumps of coal or sticks or takes them away in a burlap sack!

We also have “Weinachtsmarkt” (outdoor Christmas bazaar). You can get candy, cookies, toys, food, and so much more.

We have big feasts of yummy stuff like potatoes and goose.

In Germany, we open presents on Christmas Eve, on Dec. 24.

In the US, many kids open presents on the 25th, in the morning. Christmas in Germany is amazing!



When Brevig Mission experienced its first Christmas tree

By Keith Conger

“The season of Christmas was drawing near, and with it came thoughts of a Christmas tree. But whence should a Christmas tree be found in this country where there are no trees. Indeed, one could find in the valleys a species of dwarf willow, small bushes which would attain to a height of two or three feet.”

The preceding passage was written by the pioneer missionary Reverend T. L. Brevig in 1894 from his hut near present day Brevig Mission. In 1895 a young boy heard the story of Brevig’s adventures at a Christmas dinner party in the lower 48. It sparked a life long interest in the pastor’s endeavors. This boy grew up to become a doctor, and was later offered the chance to transcribe Brevig’s writings. In 1944, Dr. J. Walter Johnshoy published them in a book called *Apaurak in Alaska*.

According to the book, in March of 1894 the Norwegian Lutheran Synod communicated with Brevig, who was living in the Midwest, about whether he would be willing to act as pastor for a few Norwegian Lapp families. The government had contracted the Lapp group to teach the native people of the Port Clarence area the art of raising reindeer.

Five Lapp families were willing to come to the region to do the instruction but only if they had access to a Norwegian Lutheran pastor. His wife approved the idea, and Brevig accepted. Mr. and Mrs. Brevig, along with their small child, arrived at what was once called Teller Reindeer Station on August 5, 1894.

Brevig had been given the secondary assignment of teacher at the government school. Later in his first year he wanted to have a Christmas celebration at the school, so he made his intent of finding a Christmas tree known to the surrounding people. In the vicinity was a young Indian boy who had once lived on the Tanana River. He had experienced Christmas trees at his former home, and understood what the pastor was trying to achieve.

The boy was able to convey the message to the locals. Some of the natives found Brevig and told him that, “...two days journey inland there was a hill where there grew several trees with beautiful branches and tall as the house (some 12 to 15 feet).”

It was decided that Mr. William

Kjellman, the leader of the Lapps and the first supervisor of the local herd, would set out on the quest. He would take one of the Lapp men, and an English speaking native guide from the Kuskowkvim. The party took a sleigh and four reindeer on a journey 70 miles into the interior. On a hill that is 15 miles southeast of what came to be known as Igloo, they located four birch trees. They took the largest one.

The birch was set up during the week prior to Christmas, and the Brevigs began to decorate the interior of their building. The tree was trimmed with popcorn and candy and adorned with candles. It was to be the centerpiece for a Christmas celebration attended by many of the 200 natives that lived nearby. Mrs. Brevig decided to practice the Christmas tradition of gift giving, so the women of the reindeer station began baking simple rolls covered with sugar.

It took some doing, but the Brevigs were able to keep the local people from seeing the decorations until they were ready. Brevig reported that it was a great joy to watch the people’s reactions to the tree and its lights, even though the native people’s wonder was mixed with some trepidation.

On that first Christmas night, in what is now known as Brevig Mission, Christmas hymns were sung in both English and in the Norse language. It was the first time the people of the area had heard the story of Jesus’ birth.

The Christmas season continues to be a time of major importance in the modern day village that lies on the northern shore of Port Clarence Bay. According to Brevig Mission resident Pauline Olanna, the current format of celebration began in the 1960s. The annual weeklong festivities begin with a Christmas Day feast that is attended by the entire village. All age groups help prepare many delicious foods. One of the mainstays of the feast is reindeer soup, with the meat being supplied from the herd owned by Olanna’s husband Leonard.

The week between Christmas and New Years is filled with outdoor races during the day. These include running races, and dog sled races when there are teams. Eskimo game competitions take place each night.



Photo by Karin Siebenmorgan

MEMORIES OF A GERMAN CHRISTMAS– Mia Siebenmorgen Cresswell at home in Nome with her dog Biscuit.

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Left to right: Nicole Maness, Jayton Grubb, Kallie King, Jessica Osgood and Jake Slingsby. Not pictured: Scott Johnson

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Hunting restrictions proposed for two caribou herds

WACH Working Group discusses harvest reduction at annual meeting

By Laurie McNicholas

Sharp population declines in the Western Arctic caribou herd and the Teshekpuk caribou herd prompted the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game to submit a proposal to the state Board of Game for changes in hunting regulations to reduce the harvest in both herds. The Board of Game has agreed to consider the proposal (number 202) as an addition to the agenda for its Southcentral region meeting March 13-17, 2015 in Anchorage.

The proposal cites the following results of ADF&G's 2013 caribou census. The WAH census showed a population of 235,000 animals, a 27 percent decline since 2011, and a 50 percent decline from 2003 to 2013. Population counts of the TCH in 2013 showed a 42 percent herd reduction since 2011, and a 53 percent decline since 2008.

Proposal 202 notes that population estimates from the 2013 census for the WAH and TCH were completed after the January 2014 report to the Board of Game at the Arctic and Western Region meeting in Kotzebue. The next regularly scheduled board meeting for the Arctic and Western region is in 2016.

"Since both herds have significant range overlap during their seasonal movements, it would be best to consider both herds simultaneously when considering regulatory changes," the proposal states. "If hunting in either herd continues without harvest restriction, over harvest will likely occur and recovery of the population will be delayed."

The WAH migrates over a 140,000 square mile area that includes the Seward Peninsula and is bounded by the Arctic Ocean, the lower Yukon River and the trans-Alaska pipeline. The indigenous people in communities within its range depend on the herd as a staple food source. The TCH is an important subsistence resource to residents of the North Slope. The herd's calving grounds surround Teshekpuk

Lake, located about 80 miles east of Barrow.

Proposal 202 asks the Board of Game to implement the following changes beginning in regulatory year 2015—the next hunting season—in all game management units associated with the WAH and TCH. (1) Shorten the non-resident season; (2) set a one-bull bag limit for non-residents; (3) close the non-resident cow season; (4) stop airborne hunting in GMU 22, which includes the Seward Peninsula; and (5) prohibit the take of calves by all hunters.

WACH working group

The regulatory changes recommended in Proposal 202 are consistent with guidelines developed by the Western Arctic Caribou Herd Working Group for WAH herd management at levels determined by population size, trend and harvest rate.

The working group is composed of 20 voting representatives of communities and user groups dependent on the WAH. They are subsistence hunters from rural villages, non-local hunters, conservationists, hunting guides, reindeer herders and hunter transporters. The working group appointed Charlie Lean to the Nome seat at an annual meeting held Dec. 16-18 in Anchorage. Lean replaces Roy Ashenfelter, a former working group chairman who retired last year after serving as Nome's representative for a decade.

The working group is a forum for sharing information and making regulatory or policy recommendations to the Alaska Board of Game, the Federal Subsistence Board and federal agencies that manage land in the WAH range. Representatives of ADF&G, the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service serve as non-voting members of the working group.

The working group's Cooperative Management Plan recommends conservative management for a WAH



File photo by Seth Kantner

ONION PORTAGE— Caribou of the Western Arctic Caribou herd cross the Kobuk River at Onion Portage.

population of 200,000 to 265,000 animals with an annual harvest of 14,000-18,500 animals. In addition to regulatory changes included in Proposal 202, the conservative management plan calls for voluntary reduction in cow harvests by residents and for limiting the subsistence harvest of bulls only when necessary to maintain a minimum 40:100 bull:cow ratio.

The working group also has de-

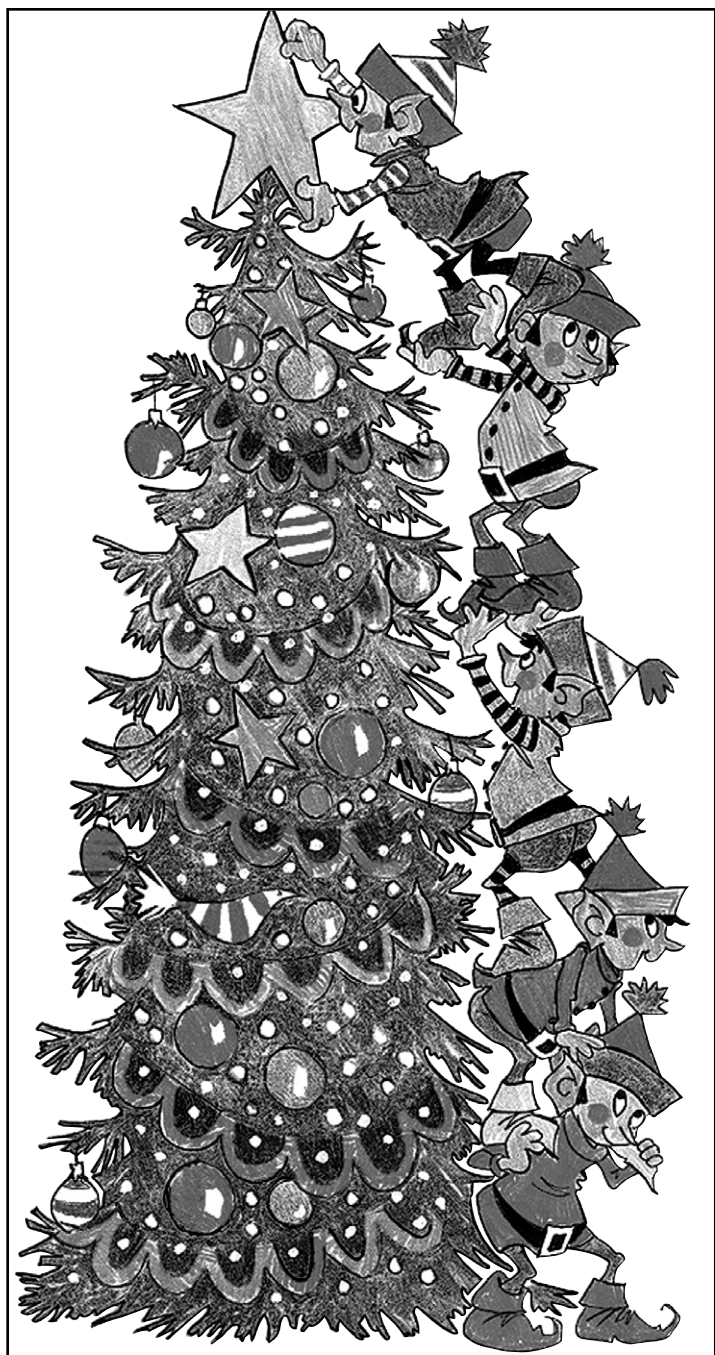
veloped preservative management recommendations for a WAH population of 130,000 to 200,000 animals with an annual harvest of 8,000 to 12,000 caribou. Preservative harvest recommendations may include (1) No harvest of calves; (2) limit the harvest of cows by resident hunters through permit hunts and/or village quotas; (3) limit the subsistence harvest of bulls to maintain at least 40 bulls:100 cows; and (4) restrict the

harvest to residents only, according to state and federal law. The plan adds that closure of some federal land to non-qualified users may be necessary.

Biology and population status

The working group discussed the herd's biology and population status

continued on page 17



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Photo by Meghan Nedwick, ADF&G education and outreach specialist

CARIBOU COLLARERS—Unalakleet high school students Kirstian Haugen, right, and Bobbi Storms, left, pose with their chaperone Jolene Nanouk of Unalakleet at the annual meeting of the Western Alaska Caribou Herd Working Group last week in Anchorage. Haugen and Storms were among six Unalakleet students who learned to place radio collars on caribou last September at Onion Portage on the Kobuk River.

Unalakleet students learned to collar caribou at Onion Portage

By Laurie McNicholas

Last September six Unalakleet high school students gained hands-on learning experience in placing radio collars on caribou at Onion Portage on the Koyuk River with the help of biologists. Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game biologists have conducted research on the Western Arctic caribou herd every fall for decades at Onion Portage.

“Going there helped us understand how much work the biologists do to study the herd,” said Jolene Nanouk of Unalakleet, who chaperoned the students. Nanouk and students Kirstian Haugen and Bobbi Storms presented a report on the Onion Portage Youth Participation Project at the annual meeting of the Western Alaska Caribou Herd Working Group Dec. 18 in Anchorage.

“For most of the students, it was their first time seeing caribou, and for a few of them, it was their first time camping,” Nanouk said. “At first we were nervous to go, but by the end after a few days there they wanted to camp longer. We thank all who were there for their kindness and generosity and for making us feel welcome and just accepting us for who we are.”

The Unalakleet group flew to Ambler and was transported to their campsite. “We spent the first day setting up camp,” said Haugen.

“The second day was cold and rainy.” She said the students spent nine hours on the riverbank watching for caribou with binoculars and learning about gear they would use. On day three caribou were spotted and the students donned lifejackets, got into boats and headed downriver, she reported.

“I held the tail, my partner held the head, and the boys collared caribou,” Haugen said. “I reported the sex. The next day we packed up to go back to Unalakleet and saw thousands of caribou.”

“We loved eating fresh caribou every day,” Haugen said in response to a question from the audience. “I think we could have eaten it for breakfast, lunch and supper. We also ate pike for first time.”

Storms presented a slide show of the students’ activities and their campsite and surroundings. “The scenery on the Kobuk River is very beautiful,” she commented. “It was amazing to know that Onion Portage has been there for thousands of years and that people camped there. Just to be there and experience that was very humbling. Thank you for this opportunity.” Onion Portage is a national historic landmark in the Kobuk Valley National Park.

Haugen presented letters to the working group from the four other Unalakleet high school students who

learned how to collar caribou at Onion Portage—Alan Erickson, Taylor Harvey, Angel Nashalook and Lawrence Bradley.

Ryan Woodruff of Unalakleet helped chaperone the students.

Nanouk told *The Nome Nugget* that youths from Kobuk River villages and some Bering Strait villages had participated in the project in past years, but this was the first year for students from Unalakleet and Nome. She said the Bureau of Land Management provided funds for the project, and representatives of the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service participated in it.

Alan Bittner, BLM’s Anchorage field manager, told the working group that the agency plans to continue funding the project. He said BLM had found funding to bring all of the students who participated in this year’s project to the working group meeting, but only two attended.

• Hunting

continued from page 16

with ADF&G biologist Jim Dau, who has worked with the WAH herd for decades. He told the working group the bull:cow ratio has dropped slowly to the 40:100 level and may drop below that level this year or next year. He said calf survival has been going down slowly, and in the past 10 to 12 years, cow mortality has greatly exceeded calf survival. “We must see more calves live to reproductive age or the decline will continue,” he added. Dau noted that killing a cow also kills her potential daughters and granddaughters.

Proposal 202 provides the following additional details about recent WAH harvests. “Results of community-based harvest surveys and statewide harvest reports estimate that approximately 14,000 caribou were harvested in each of the last two years, RY2012 and RY2013. Each year residents within the range of the herd took 95 percent of the harvest, of which 60 percent were bulls, 30 percent cows and 10 percent of unknown sex. Hunters residing outside the range of the herd, including non-residents, accounted for 5 percent of the harvest and took approximately 90 percent bulls, 9 percent cows and 1 percent unknown sex. At these rates, harvests of the WAH cows have slightly exceeded the 2 percent sustainable harvest rate in each of the three years from RY2011 through RY2013, and harvests of bulls will likely exceed the 15 percent sustainable harvest rate within the next one to three years, RY2015 through RY2017.

“Based on population size and composition, the current WAH harvestable surplus is estimated at 13,100 caribou, approximately 7 percent less than the annual harvest in the last two years,” the proposal notes. “If the decline remains consistent, the projected harvestable surplus for RY2015 is estimated at 11,300 caribou, approximately 20 percent lower than the total harvest during RY2012 and RY2013.”

The board of Game has found that 8,000 to 12,000 caribou in the WAH and TCH herds combined is the amount reasonably necessary (ANS) for subsistence use, proposal 202

notes. The proposal warns that population trends in both herds suggest the combined harvestable surplus will be below the upper ANS threshold in the near future. “In the event that the harvestable surplus drops below the upper ANS level before the next Region V (Western and Arctic) board meeting, the department can close the non-resident season by emergency order,” the proposal states.

Population decline factors

Dau said winter icing (rain on snow) events in the past decade may have started the WAH’s decline. Caribou who can’t reach lichen under snow starve to death. Dau suggested that predation by an increasing number of wolves and grizzlies within the WAH range is a significant cause of caribou mortality. “The predator mortality has been much bigger than non-predator mortality since 2003,” he added.

“(The decline) doesn’t seem to be range related,” Dau said. “We know the winter range has changed, but the caribou are still fat.” He said there is no evidence of chronic disease or parasite loads in the herd.

ADF&G biologists conduct an aerial photocensus of caribou herds every two years and estimate calf survival and cow mortality annually. The next photocensus is scheduled in 2015.

Proposal 202 discussed

ADF&G biologist Peter Bente of Nome, who serves the working group as agency representative, reviewed the hunting regulation changes in Proposal 202 as they apply to each game management unit within the ranges of the WAH and TCH. The group discussed the proposal at length, adopted a few recommendations for amendments and will forward them to the Board of Game for consideration. The deadline for submitting comments on Proposal 202 to the Board of Game is Feb. 27, 2015.

Proposal 202 is posted at www.adfg.alaska.gov under the heading “Additional proposals” to the 2014-2015 Board of Game Proposal Book.

Merry Christmas!

&

Happy New Year!



From Sitnasuak Native Corporation & Subsidiary companies: Bonanza Fuel, LLC, Nanuaq, LLC and Bonanza Express Store, Nome and Anchorage corporate offices.





Photo by the Nome-Beltz Yearbook Class

The Class of 2014 had decided not to present a gift to Nome-Beltz High School at their graduation, but instead to donate all remaining money in their class account to Jens Hildreth, Ethan “Bubba” McDaniel’s little brother. Bubba was a well-liked freshman when he moved away temporarily, so his mother could be with his brother to receive medical treatment. This week, then-class advisors Susanne Thomas and Caleb Weaver, together with a trio of 2014 graduates, were able to present a check for \$1,979.03 to Bubba to help with medical expenses. Pictured are from left to right Susanne Thomas, Caleb Weaver, Rosa Schmidt, Jake Stettenbenz, Cass Mattheis and Bubba McDaniel.

Lower 48 Avian Flu discoveries unlikely to affect Alaska waterfowl hunters

(Juneau) – Avian influenza has been confirmed recently in wild birds in northwestern Washington and south-western Oregon, but risks are negligible to waterfowl and waterfowl hunters in Alaska where hunting seasons remain open in some regions.

“This is primarily a waterfowl issue in Washington and Oregon, but can be a threat to domestic poultry,” said Alaska Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Veterinarian Dr. Kimberlee Beckmen. “It’s unlikely to pose any threat to Alaska’s waterfowl populations and these strains have never been found to infect humans.”

Two strains of highly pathogenic H5 virus – H5N2 and H5N8 – were found earlier this month in Whatcom County, Washington. The H5N2 strain was confirmed in a northern pintail duck, while the H5N8 virus was verified in a captive gyrfalcon that had been fed hunter-killed wild birds. In Winston, Oregon, the H5N8 avian influenza was identified in a small backyard poultry flock that had open access to a pond and marsh that wild waterfowl commonly use.

“The term ‘highly pathogenic’ means it is highly pathogenic to domestic poultry and says nothing about its potential impacts on wild birds or pets or humans,” said Dr. Beckmen. Outbreaks of H5N8 have occurred in domestic fowl across Europe and Asia over the last year with no associated cases in humans.

Avian flu concerns have prompted increased surveillance of wild birds in Alaska in the past. Between 2006 and 2010, nearly 57,000 birds were tested for H5N1, and none tested positive for the virus. The Alaska Departments of Fish and Game, Environmental Conservation, and the U.S. Geological Survey are performing surveillance testing for avian influenza.

“Neither H5N2 nor H5N8 have been found in Alaska,” said DEC State Veterinarian Dr. Bob Gerlach.

Alaska waterfowl hunting seasons remain open through December 31 in Southeast and through January 22, 2015, around Kodiak Island and the Aleutian Chain. While no public health concerns have been associated with either H5N2 or H5N8 avian influenza strains, these

cases serve as reminders that wildlife can carry pathogens of many kinds. As always, Alaska hunters should practice routine hygiene when handling, cleaning and cooking wild game. The Department of Fish and Game recommends the following:

- Do not handle or eat obviously sick game.
- Wear rubber or disposable latex gloves while handling and cleaning game.
- Wash hands and thoroughly clean knives, equipment and surfaces that come into contact with game.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while handling animals.
- All game should be thoroughly cooked (meat internal temperature of 165

°F).

Poultry owners can protect backyard flocks by taking measures to prevent them from interacting with wild birds. Neither H5N2 nor H5N8 have been found in any commercial poultry flocks.

Dead or sick domestic birds should be reported to the DEC at (907) 375-8215; for more information, contact Dr. Bob Gerlach bob.gerlach@alaska.gov in Anchorage at 375-8214. Dead or sick wild birds should be reported to ADF&G Wildlife Health and Disease Surveillance Program, phone: (907) 328-8354, email: dfg.dwc.vet@alaska.gov; or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Avian Disease Hotline at 1-866-527-3358.

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Across

1. "Frasier" actress Gilpin
5. Poker action
9. New moon, e.g.
14. Twelfth month of the Jewish calendar
15. ____ vera
16. ____ pneumonia
17. Luxurious, chauffeur-driven car
19. A Muse
20. "____ bad!"
21. Catch, as flies
22. Affixes in a scrapbook, say
23. Creeks
25. Butter up?
26. "Act your ____!"
27. Bit of dust
28. Witty remark
31. Sycophants (hyphenated)
35. Gloomy, in poetry
37. Face-to-face exam
38. Little people
40. A chip, maybe
41. Resides
43. Safe to fly
45. Calendar square
46. Coastal raptor
48. "____ we having fun yet?"
49. Complain
51. Disrobe
55. Tired
57. "... or ____!"
58. Basic monetary unit of Romania
59. Annoy
60. Acknowledging a new landlord

Down

62. Carries on
63. "Fudge!"
64. "Empedocles on ____" (Matthew Arnold poem)
65. Church recesses
66. Smelter refuse
67. Rip

Previous Puzzle Answers

1	P	O	S	H		M	E	L	D		S	A	E			
2	A	B	E	A	M		O	L	I	O		C	O	N	S	
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4	T	E	E	N	S	Y		S	U	B		T	I	T	L	E
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HOROSCOPES

December 2014 — Week 4

CAPRICORN
December 22–January 19

The season is here. Let the festivities begin. Capricorn. A time-tested recipe gets a family gathering off on the right foot. A work request takes you by surprise.

ARIES
March 21–April 19

Doubts continue to nag at you. Explore your feelings. Aries. More efficient measures are put into place at work. Take advantage of them.

CANCER
June 22–July 22

Hypotheses are all well and good. Cancer, but if you want to make any headway, you're going to have to investigate the situation for yourself. An invitation beckons.

LIBRA
September 23–October 22

Help is always needed, but it isn't always wanted. Put your efforts where they will be the most appreciated. Libra. A crush is exposed.

AQUARIUS
January 20–February 18

The competition heats up at the office. Join in if you dare, Aquarius. A curt discussion with a friend leads nowhere fast. Look to another to inspire change.

TAURUS
April 20–May 20

Disaster strikes, but as always, you rise to the occasion. Bravo, Taurus! Rewards will come in a most unusual way. Travel plans take shape.

LEO
July 23–August 22

Some risks are worth taking, and this is one of them, Leo. Cast aside your reservations and take your friend up on their offer. A cancellation is a blessing.

SCORPIO
October 23–November 21

The time has come for you to make your move. Be bold, Scorpio. Someone important is watching. The debate at home ends with the arrival of guests.

PISCES
February 19–March 20

Enough thinking. Time to act, Pisces. A shopping trip uncovers a treasure. Cherish it for a while and then pass it on. A phone call offers tips.

GEMINI
May 21–June 21

You're a giver, Gemini, and much will be asked of you this week. Be careful that you do not overdo it. A letter makes an objective clear.

VIRGO
August 23–September 22

Veer left, veer right. Oh, Virgo. Your indecisiveness is about to get the best of you. Be firm. Voice your opinion, make a decision and stick to it.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22–December 21

Celebrations of all kinds keep you busy all week long. Enjoy the revelry, Sagittarius. You will soon have more serious matters to attend to.

Winter Products

- LED Collar Lights
- Pet Safe Ice Melt
- Dog Booties
- Dog Jackets
- Dog Beds
- Straw

Nome Animal House
443-2490
M-F: 9am-6pm, Sat: 10am-2pm
Sun: closed

Obituary

Kyle Robert Tundra George

Kyle Robert Tundra George was born on November 21, 1987 at Alaska Native Medical Center Anchorage to Larry George and Jeri Komonaseak. His dad, big brother Travis and big sister Maliya welcomed him home with loving arms. Our heavenly father called him home the early morning of November 12, 2014.



Kyle Robert Tundra George

Kyle spent his early years growing up in Akiachak, with his parents, siblings, great-uppa soi Joseph George, paternal grandparents Fred and Mary, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and other family and friends. He was baptized by his late great uppa George Moses at the Akiachak Moravian church.

He attended Akiachak and Nome Elementary schools. No sooner did he begin his career at Nome-Beltz

H.S. than Kyle dropped out of high school. He signed up at the Palmer Job Corps program and acquired his high school diploma and completed the carpentry program.

Kyle was a restless and free-spirited individual. His relationship with Susie Nelson often found him flying on a jet plane on a whim's notice. He had the tendency to call home and say, "Hi mom, I'm here in Anchorage or Minnesota!" Suzanne Nelson and Kyle were blessed with their daughter Christina Mary George on August 26, 2006. Kyle cared for Christina and her older siblings Gabriel and Lily in Mankato, MN. He was a dedicated dad to his daughter and always kept her very close to his heart.

Kyle loved his nieces and nephews and children in general. Babies and little kids gravitated towards him. After his paternal grandparents died, Kyle often shared how his late Grandma Mary instilled in him the love for our Creator and often felt her presence during life's challenges.

Alongside his childhood buddies (brother) Trevor Lee, Darryl and DeShawn Williams, Ross Outwater and Peter Olanna, Kyle grew to love the sport of BMX-ing. One summer, he walked away unscathed from flipping his BMX bike near the KNOM radio station. That just made him that much more determined to get back on his bike. He also enjoyed snowboarding and riding a fast Ski-doo sled any day. Kyle enjoyed flying, had he remained in Mankato, MN, he would say Ron would have taught me how to fly his single-engine airplane.

At a very early age Kyle was camping, fishing, gathering, and participating in subsistence activities up and down the Kuskokwim River. Kyle was eager to enjoy new adventures in the great outdoors. He was in his element learning new skills and blazing new trails. He purchased his first Ski-doo when he was 16. He

pulled his step-dad Danno out of a crab-pot hole outside of Nome during one winter crabbing season at the age of 14. God showed him his strength that day!

Kyle shared stories with his family and friends of the time he killed his one and only polar bear near the Wales Kingikmiut School. He recently visited his grandma Maggie Komonaseak in Anchorage and said "Gram, maybe I will kill another polar bear! He had hopes to one day marry his sweetheart Jessie Ong-towasruk. He was also blessed to hunt on his uncle Luther Komonaseak's whaling crew.

Kyle is survived by his pride and joy, his only Panik Christina Mary George of Little Fork, MN, maternal grandmother Maggie Komonaseak of Anchorage, mother Jeri Komonaseak, father Larry George of Akiachak, step-dad Daniel Knudsen of Colorado, brother Travis George of Akiachak, Yvonne Renee' "Maliya" George of Wales, Jasmin George of Nome, and Karmen Tittle of Anchorage, Bernard and Yolanda

George of Tuntutuliak, numerous aunts, uncles, cousins from Akiachak, Wales, Nome, Brevig, Bethel, Anchorage and beyond, as well as his brother-from-another mother; Trevor Lee and "Mom" Katherine Lee of Nome.

He is preceded in death by his maternal grandfather Silas Komonaseak of Nome, his maternal great-grandparents Winton and Carrie Weyapuk of Wales; his paternal grandparents Frederick and Mary M. George of Akiachak; paternal great-grandfathers George Moses Sr. and Joseph K. George of Akiachak; great uncle George Moses Jr. of Akiachak, great aunts Ella Lathim and Ella Weyapuk of Wales, first cousins Rochelle Berry of Akiachak and Jeffrey W. Komonaseak of Wales, as well as numerous great-uncles and great aunts from the Bering Strait region and the Yukon-Kuskokwim delta.

God truly blessed Kyle Robert as a tenderhearted soul and a close friend to many!



Women's Conference

"Women After God's Heart"

- Date: Jan. 9-11, 2015
- Location: XYZ Center
- Featured speaker: Laura Rud
- Admission free

For more info contact Brenda Crim phone: (907) 351-5654 or email: brenda.crim@gmail.com

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 Aaron Cooper
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..
Handicapped accessible ramp: North side

River of Life Assembly of God
405 W. Seppala • 443-5333
Sunday School: 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
For more information contact Bob Blake 434-1966

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Corner of Steadman & W. King Place • 443-5527
Christmas Eve Pageant and Vigil Mass 5:30 p.m.
Midnite Mass-Caroling at 11:30 p.m., Mass at Midnite
Christmas Day Mass at 10:30 a.m.

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 the Nazarene
3rd Avenue & Division Street • 443-2805
Pastor Dan Ward • 252-5773
Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

Wake Up To The Breakfast Club!



Join Lon Swanson on the Breakfast Club for News, Weather and Sports each weekday morning from 7 to 9. On Wednesdays, play Bible Trivia. On Fridays, listen for the Riddle Machine for a chance to win a solar powered radio. Find out what happened in our world overnight...and what's coming up for the day. It's like a fresh, hot cup of coffee with The Breakfast Club!

KICY
AM-850

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

Employment



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

Available position:

Food Service Worker, Nutrition Services Department

Purpose of Position:

Perform tasks in support of food preparation, service, and sanitation.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE and CREDENTIALS:

Education	Degree
	High School Diploma or Equivalent.
Experience	General (Non-supervisory):
	0 year(s).
	Supervisory:
	0 year(s)
Credentials	Licensure, Certification, Etc.
	Alaska State Food Safety Course within 30 days of hire

Starting pay: \$17.80 + DOE

Please contact Jeanette Norris at 907-443-4530
or email her at jevan@nshcorp.org to receive an application.

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.

12/18

• More Letters

continued from page 2

diting firm is now BDO. BDO is a huge organization. Check them out on the internet.

Each of the audit reports since the year 2000 includes a letter that states the scope of the audit and the auditor's opinion. It is important that the audit be conducted in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Each of the letters written at the conclusion of their audit work contain their opinion. Of course NJUS wants an unqualified opinion. Here is what our auditors said in their letter included in their report for the year ended December 31, 2013. "We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.[...] In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Nome Joint Utility System as of December 31, 2013 and 2012, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America."

This opinion is considered to be an unqualified, no exceptions, opinion. Each of the audit reports for the years 2000 through 2013 contain the auditor's letter with an unqualified opinion. The accounting staff, the CFO, the General Manager and the Board of Directors are proud of these results.

In connection with the audit, the auditors perform a close review of the records related to federal grants. The auditors put comments in the

Single Audit Section about this and that. They might see an accounting routine that could be improved. NJUS must reply to their comments and describe a course of corrective action. These comments have not caused our auditors to qualify their opinion. The comments are really helpful hints for NJUS to improve accounting procedures. We always welcome the hints so that we can take action to become the best.

NJUS uses software provided by Professional Computer Systems, a company located in Denison, Iowa. PCS is one of the best and serves about 100 utilities across the United States. Check them out on the internet. We use Utilit-e Insight for general accounting and Utilit-e Connect for customer billing and information.

I assisted with the installation of our software for accounting and it is fantastic, second to none. John is the man in charge of the software for customer billing and information. I would not trade our software for any other.

So we have a cash shortfall today as a result of an aggressive approach to utility system improvements. I expect that the City and NJUS will work through this problem as a team. NJUS is a part of the City. We are partners.

Be thankful that when you flip the switch your lights come on. It is big business to keep the power flowing. When you turn on the faucet you expect clear and safe water. Flush your toilet and see what happens in Nome. You have it good here. Say thank you to John and the Utility Board and encourage them to work through this current problem.

Mike Cusack
Nome, AK

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME

In the Matter of:
S. K.,
DOB: 08/06/98, and
M. J. K.,
DOB: 06/13/2000,
Children Under the Age of
Eighteen Years. Case Nos. 2NO-13-16/17 CN

NOTICE AND SUMMONS TO ABSENT PARENT

To: Thomas Iyahuk, d.o.b. 06/20/1976
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 your daughters S. K., d.o.b. 08/06/98, and M. J. K., d.o.b. 06/13/00. 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 February 2, 2015, at 10:30 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 Michael Wenstrup to represent you in this case. You may contact him at 1-855-574-3825 or 1-907-374-3825. His mailing address is 104 Kutter Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

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: 11/28/14
CLERK OF THE TRIAL COURTS By: /s/
Brodie Kimmel, Clerk of Court
By Sue Greenly, Judicial Assistant
12/4-11-18-25

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: BEVERLY FRANCES GELZER,

Deceased.
Case No. 2NO-14-81 PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that Mr. Reginald Joule has been appointed personal representative of the above-entitled estate. All persons having claims against said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to Mr. Reginald Joule, c/o Lewis & Thomas, P.C., Box 61, Nome, Alaska 99762, or filed with this Court at P.O. Box 1110, Nome, Alaska 99762.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2014.
s/Erin M. Lillie, Associate Attorney
Lewis & Thomas, P.C.
Attorneys for Reginald Joule,
Personal Representative
P.O. Box 61, Nome, AK 99762
12/18-25-18

LEGAL NOTICE:

NOAA Fisheries Proposes to Designate Critical Habitat for Ringed Seals

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is proposing to designate critical habitat for the Arctic ringed seal, which is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The proposed critical habitat in the northern Bering, Chukchi, and Beaufort seas provides sea ice conditions that are essential for ringed seal pupping, nursing, basking, and molting. Primary prey resources to support ringed seals also occur within the proposed critical habitat area. The primary consequence of critical habitat designation is that federal agencies are required to consult with NMFS on actions they authorize, fund, or carry out that may affect critical habitat to ensure their actions do not destroy or adversely modify critical habitat. NMFS is accepting comments on the proposed designation during a formal public comment period, and will announce public hearings on the proposed designation in the near future. You may submit written comments on the proposal, identified by Docket Number NOAA-NMFS-2013-0114, by either of the following methods: (1) Electronically: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov/#/docketDetail;D=NOAA-NMFS-2013-0114>, click the "Comment Now!" icon, complete the required fields, and enter or attach your comments; or (2) Mail: Address comments to Jon Kurland, Assistant Regional Administrator for Protected Resources, Alaska Region, NMFS, Attn: Ellen Sebastian, and mail comments to P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802-1668. Comments and information regarding the proposed critical habitat designation must be received by March 9, 2015. All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted for public viewing on <http://www.regulations.gov> without change, including any personal information provided. NMFS will accept anonymous comments (enter "N/A" in the required fields if you wish to remain anonymous). The complete proposed rule to designate critical habitat and the supporting draft impact analysis report can be obtained from the NMFS Alaska Region web site at: <http://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/> and from the federal eRulemaking web site at: <http://www.regulations.gov> at Docket Number NOAA-NMFS-2013-0114. 12/14



Photo courtesy Rev. Ross Tozzi
ENJOYING THE NEW
BISHOP'S RECEPTION —
Orville Ahkinga, Sr. Jamie
Ahkinga, and Jenn Ruckel Dec. 15
at reception for Bishop Chad Zielenski's ordination.

Real Estate

FOR SALE—Hawaii, Big Island, 3 acres in Boon-docks \$20,000
one acre close to Hilo \$35,000. Cash or Terms
brightday99@gmail.com

(808) 959-1117
Hawaii Land Realty
12/4-18-25

MUNAQSRI Senior Apartments • "A Caring Place"

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

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

515 Steadman Street, Nome



EQUAL
OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYER

PO BOX 1289 • Nome, AK 99762
Jessie Miller, Manager

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

Trooper Beat

C Detachment, Nome Post, no news reported through December 19, 2014

Get the news each week

Subscribe

907.443.5235 • nugget@nomenugget.com

Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASES 12/15/2014 through
12/21/2014

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

During this period there were 71 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center. 35 (49%) involved alcohol.

There were 7 arrests made with 6 (85%) alcohol related.

There were 5 ambulance calls and 0 fire calls during this period.

MONDAY DECEMBER 15, 2014:

12:05 a.m. the Nome Police Department conducted a traffic stop on a four wheeler that didn't come to a complete stop at the corner of West Second and Bering. The driver, Jeffrey Elianna, was found to have a revoked license and was on probation. Jeffrey was taken to AMCC and Remanded with no bail for Driving while License revoked and probation violation.

12:50 a.m. the Nome Police Department made contact with an intoxicated female who had fallen to the ground on W Front St. Thelma Ahkvaluk was transported to the hospital for medical evaluation and then to AMCC for a Title 47 protective hold due to her high level of intoxication.

2:21 a.m. the Nome Police Department responded to a business on the east side of Nome for the report of an intoxicated female crying and rolling around on the ground outside. Johnalee Viner was contacted and found to be highly intoxicated. She had a superficial laceration above her eye and was taken to the hospital for evaluation. Upon release, she was taken to a relative's residence who agreed to care for her; however Viner left the residence and began to yell at the top of her lungs in the public area. She was warned multiple times before being arrested for Disorderly Conduct. Viner was remanded to AMCC and held on \$250 bail.

11:06 p.m. NPD responded to a local business on Front Street for a welfare check on an extremely intoxicated female. Courtney Amaktolik was contacted and taken to the hospital for evaluation and subsequently placed into the NEST Shelter.

Tuesday December 16, 2014:

12:52 a.m. NPD responded to the east side of town for a report of an assault. Investigation led to the arrest of Mark Simon for Assault in the 3rd Degree after it was determined that he tried to choke a female victim at the scene. Simon was taken to AMCC where he was remanded with no bail on this felony offense.

11:43 p.m. NPD received a report of a possible sexual assault. The case is under investigation. Wednesday December 17, 2014:

9:22 a.m. NPD responded to a report of harassment near City Hall. NPD conducted patrol of the area and insured there was no further action occurring.

3:41 p.m. NPD responded to a call received about an intoxicated female who was passed out in a business on Front Street. Upon Officer arrival, Regina Kava was found inside the establishment asleep. She was arrested for Drunk On Licensed Premises and Introduction of Alcohol to License Premise; transported to Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical clearance; and then to AMCC; bail was set to \$500.

9:41 p.m., NPD responded to a residence on W. 2nd Avenue to a report of a drunk male exposed to the elements. Donald Oliver was contacted and taken to the hospital for medical evaluation before being placed at the NEST shelter for the evening.

11:00 p.m. NPD responded to an establishment on the west end of town on a report of a disturbance. Investigation led to the arrest of John Penetac for Disorderly Conduct after he tried to fight with others present. He was transported to AMCC; bail was set to \$250.

11:05 p.m., a 12-week-old male puppy was brought to NPD, and surrendered to the City. This animal is up for adoption. To meet your new prospective play partner contact NPD at (907) 443-5262. The puppy has all shots and is ready for a good home!

Thursday December 18, 2014:

8:10 p.m. NPD received a report of a firearm violation at TSA Nome Airport. NPD advises all travelers to check with TSA for rules on firearms transports. Violators may be subject to criminal charges and substantial civil penalties from TSA/FAA.

9:07 p.m. NPD responded to a report of an injured dog on Seppala Drive. The dog was brought to NPD and with the gracious assistance of PAWS of Nome; arrangements were made to transport the dog to Anchorage for veterinarian care. A big thanks to Alyssa Wolf for all her hard work!

9:50 p.m. NPD responded to an establishment on the west end of town on a report of a disturbance. Leo Kobuk was arrested for Criminal Trespass in the 2nd Degree. He was taken to AMCC; bail was set to \$500.

Friday, December 19, 2014:

12:14 a.m. NPD conducted a traffic stop on the west end of town on an ATV. Micheal Aukon was contacted and found to have a revoked driver's license. A report will be forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for Driving with License Revoked. PLEASE NOTE: Operation of any motorized vehicle on City or State Roadways REQUIRES A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE.

3:28 a.m. NPD received a report of a disturbance on the west end of town. Max Iyapana was contacted and Investigation led to a report being forwarded to the DAO for Violating Conditions of Probation.

4:08 a.m. NPD received a report of a disturbance on the west end of town. Investigation led to the arrest of June Koonuk for Violating Conditions of Probation. She was transported to AMCC; no bail was set.

12:50 p.m. a male black Lab was turned into the Nome Police Department. If this is your animal please contact us at (907)-443-5262.

1:23 p.m. NPD received a report that Helen Sockpick was intoxicated and watching a small child. The investigation led to Helen receiving a citation for Endangering the Welfare of a Child in the 2nd degree. OCS was contacted and the child was left in their custody.

7:15 p.m. NPD received a report of a snow-machine that crashed into a parked truck on the west end of town. Investigation found that Robert Milton operated the snowmachine while under the influence of alcohol, and fled the scene after the crash. Milton was found and arrested a short time later. Milton is being charged with three (3) class C Felonies, and two (2) class A Misdemeanors. He was booked at AMCC where he is being held on no bail.

9:42 p.m. Nome Police and Ambulance Departments responded to a house on the east side of town on the report of an infant male not breathing. The infant was transported to the hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The family was immediately notified. Investigation into the circumstances of this unfortunate event is continuing with our condolences to the family.

10:02 p.m. a copper colored female dog was turned into NPD, the owner has been contacted. Saturday, December 20, 2014

8:06 a.m. NPD received a report of a shoplifter who was caught and being held inside the store. The investigation led to the arrest of Peter Longley for Theft 4th degree. Peter was transported to AMCC with a \$250 bail

4:10 p.m., NPD received a report that Courtney Amaktolik was refusing to leave a business when asked. The investigation led to the arrest of Amaktolik for Criminal Trespass 2. Amaktolik was highly intoxicated and was transported to Norton Sound Regional Hospital. Amaktolik was then transported to AMCC with a bail of \$250.

4:45 p.m. While on routine patrol on the west end of town, NPD observed a male lying on the ground not moving. Allen Kost ,31, was contacted, and observed to be highly intoxicated. Kost stated he had been lying on the ground for the previous hour, and felt cold. Kost was transported to the Norton Sound Hospital for medical treatment. Kost was found not to be hypothermic, and was released to a friend who agreed to care for him.

10:03 p.m. NPD responded to a disturbance at an address on W. 2nd Avenue. Investigation resulted in the arrest of George Minix for Disorderly Conduct after it was determined that he continued to make unreasonably loud noise after warned not to do so. Minix was remanded to AMCC with bail set at \$250.

2:50 a.m. NPD responded to a report of a break-in that was in progress occurring at a residence on W. First Avenue. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Paul Nayokpuk for Criminal Trespass in the First Degree. He was remanded to AMCC with bail set at \$500.

4:12 a.m. NPD received a report of a possible domestic assault at a residence on E. Third Avenue. Investigation resulted in the arrest of Nick Gray for Assault in the Fourth Degree (DV). He was remanded to AMCC with no bail for this domestic violence offense.



All Around the Sound

Mattie Weyiouanna and Delbert Jones of Shishmaref announce the birth of their daughter **Kallie Olivia Dawn Qulugaaq Jones**, born December 5, at 1:03 p.m. at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. She weighed 8 pounds, 7 ounces and was 20” in length. Siblings are : Charley Richard Andrew, 13; Madison Ada, 10; and Roxann

Natalie, 7. Maternal grandparents are Reuben and Mina Weyiouanna; and great-grandmother is Edith Okpowruk. Paternal grandparents are Delbert Obruk and Jennifer Olanna.

Crystal A. Taxac and Ross A. Outwater of Nome announce the birth of their daughter **Carly Anita Outwa-**

ter, born December 6, at 1:53 a.m. She weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces, and was 20.5” in length. Her brother is Ryan Outwater, 9. Maternal grandparents are Blue and Guy Martin of Nome. Paternal grandparents are Myrna Outwater of Nome, and the late Frank Outwater.



Photo courtesy of AST
NEW CAPTAIN— Andrew Merrill was just promoted to Captain of the VPSO program, just 2.5 years after becoming a Lieutenant for C Detachment of the Alaska State Troopers. He is shown here with his wife Marcy.

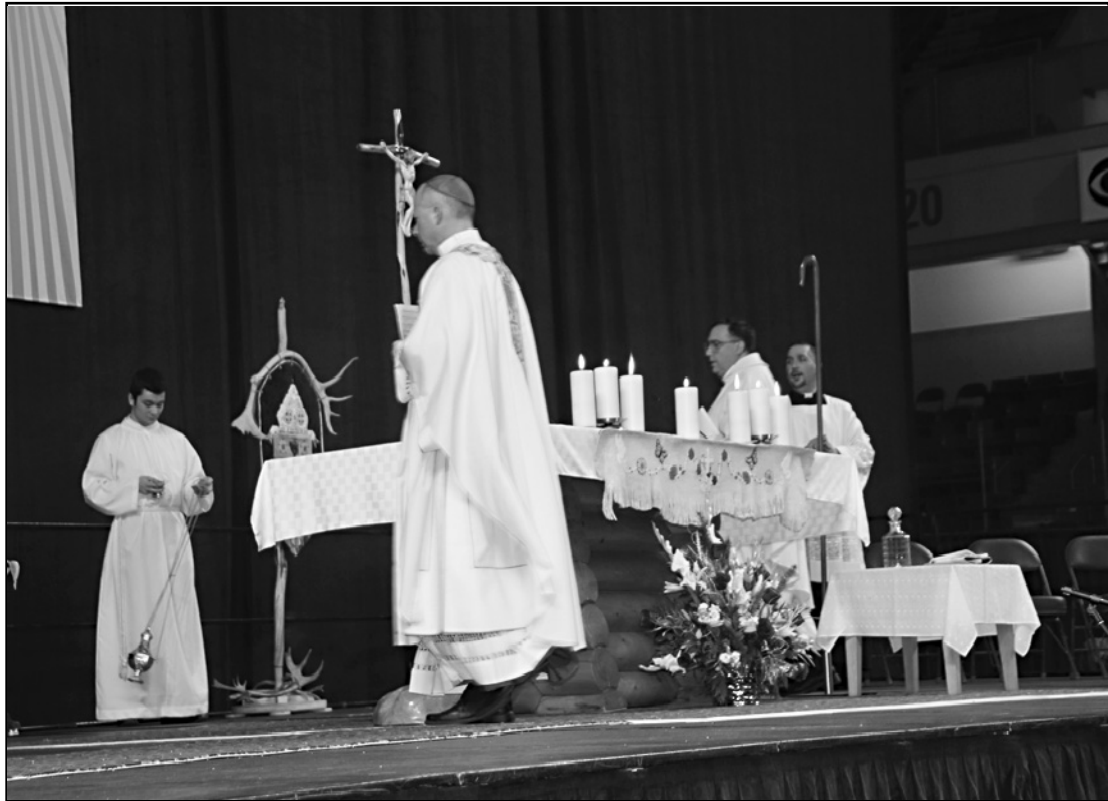



Photo by Sr. Dorothy Giloley, SSJ
NEW BISHOP OF FAIRBANKS ORDAINED— The newly ordained Bishop of Fairbanks, Most Reverend Chad Zielinski (with cross). On left is Daniel Piscoya Thurifer. To the right of the bishop is Rev. Rosas Tozzi of Nome’s St. Joseph Parish and Rev. Robert Fath. The ceremony was Dec. 15 in Fairbanks.

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



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the annual meeting of the shareholders of Koyuk Native Corporation, will be held on **January 7, 2015, at 1:00 p.m.**, at the Koyuk Community Hall, for the following purposes:

1. Election of four(4) Directors

And the transactions of such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Charlie Brown would have been proud

By Nancy McGuire

The holidays are here and it’s time to share Christmas wishes and memories.

The tales of Nomeites getting their precious Christmas trees from Council in the days before air freight and snowmachines hits the old memory button to rewind back to the old days when I grew up in rural Pennsylvania when we’d cut our own tree.


We had a patch of blue spruce trees way at the top of the hill behind our house. Our dad grew Christmas trees for fun, family and friends. My brother Bob and I would trek to the top of the hill with our dad and a saw.

We’d spend about an hour selecting a tree. Our dad was quite particular about his trees. Some blue spruce were deeper blue than others. Some had bare spots where they were too close and needed culled. Some grew on a steep slope and had crooked stumps. Some were brown on one side.


We never got the perfectly shaped straight tree. We’d proudly select the tree with a brown side, a crooked stump and the most pathetic in the patch. It would be escorted down the hill and into our garage where dad would make a Borax fire retardant concoction and spray in on the tree. We’d take it upstairs and prop it up as straight as we could with the bare side against the wall.

We’d decorate it in the evening and by magic it would become the most beautiful Christmas tree on Denny Road.

It’s with this fond memory that I hope all our readers have a happy and merry Christmas.



King Island Native Community Annual Meeting and Election



PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the **General Election and Annual Meeting of the King Island Native Community** will be held on **Saturday, December 27, 2014 at Old St. Joseph Church. Ballots will be available and voting will take place during the hours of 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm.** Tribal members eligible to vote may vote during these hours by obtaining and submitting regular ballots at the Old St. Joseph Church. **The annual meeting will then begin at 4:00PM. Seats up for Election: 3** (3) seats are up for election this year. The potluck will begin at 3:00PM. Please bring a **dish** or **dessert** to share.

PLEASE VOTE AND ATTEND OUR ANNUAL MEETING! We need your participation to make this election and annual meeting a success!

Please call Janice @ 443-2209 if you have any questions about the meeting, potluck, election, or rides for Elders.



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Iditarod names honorary musher

The Iditarod Trail Committee announced last week that long-term Iditarod volunteer Philip Esai has been named the 2015 Honorary musher. Each year the board of directors of the Iditarod Trail Committee has honored one or more people who have made a significant contribution

to the sport of sled dog racing. Philip and his wife Dora have participated in every Iditarod race as volunteers since the beginning. The Athabaskan Indian couple would house mushers in the early years of the race at their cabin along the banks of the Kuskokwim River at

Big River, located half way to McGrath from Nikolai. Their daughter Marty remembers, “There was no room in the cabin because mushers were sleeping everywhere.”

The Esai family would cook pots of moose stew, moose steaks, beaver and the occasional lynx fry. The coffee pot was always on for anyone traveling the trail, not just the mushers. Philip also greeted, fed and housed 50 mushers for several years at the Runkles bison camp located along the Farewell Burn Trail in the Peloc Hills 40 miles out of Nikolai. More recently, Philip and Dora set up a 12 x 14 wall tent complete with a wood-burning stove and spruce

bough floor for mushers to sleep in at the Nikolai checkpoint.

Philip was a hard working volunteer who worked on the original trail from Rohn towards McGrath. Most recently, at age 72, Philip helped with re-opening 28 miles of trail destroyed during the Turquoise Lake Fire in the Farewell Burn. He was instrumental in locating the original trail and helping to chain saw, move trees and brush, all during average temperatures between -25°F and -30°F each day.

Philip had also gone out on the trail over the years in search of lost mushers and lost dogs. He regularly volunteered as a checker and once

stayed up for 48 hours to make sure his duties were complete. Philip loved the race and the trail and would do anything to help the Iditarod succeed. He was a dog musher from his early childhood and felt a special connection to the dogs and the mushers.

Philip died May 21, 2014.

The Iditarod will get underway at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 7, 2015 in downtown Anchorage with a representative from the Esai family wearing honorary #1 bib and riding in the sled basket of the first musher to leave the start line.

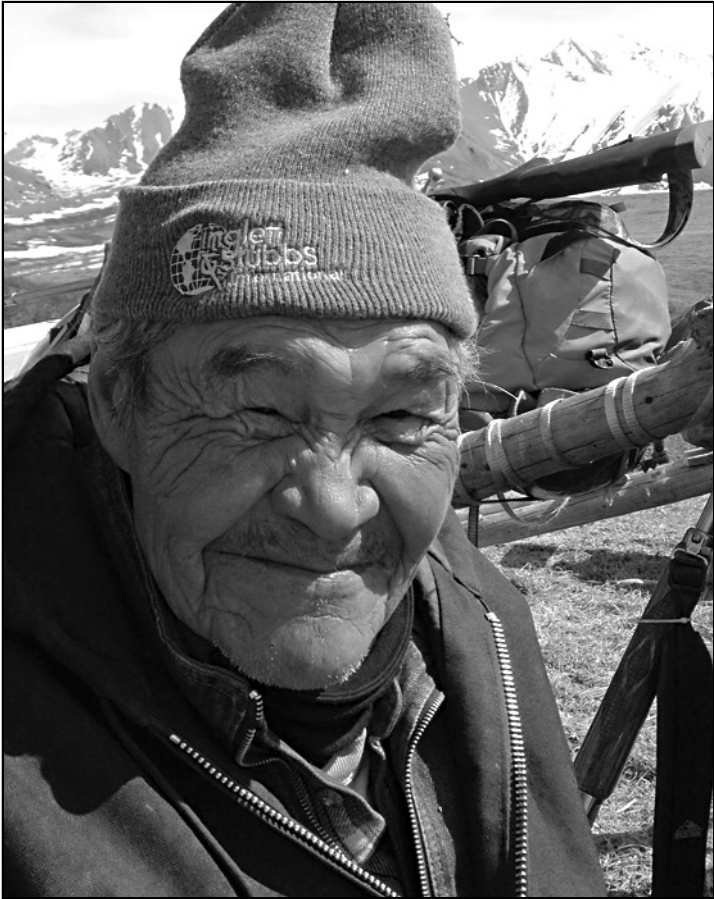


Photo courtesy of MTNT Ltd.

IDITAROD— The Iditarod Trail Committee announced that Philip Esai was named Honorary Musher for the 2015 Iditarod.

Christmas Bird Count results for Nome

The Christmas Bird Count is a national event conducted by the National Audubon Society. Nome volunteers participated in the official count last week. Nome CBC Count Day, Dec 14

- 1 red-breasted merganser
- 1 glaucous-winged gull
- 5 glaucous gull
- 11 rock pigeon
- 143 common raven
- 6 snow bunting
- 41 McKay’s bunting
- 1 bunting sp.
- 5 hoary redpoll

Nome CBC Count week, Dec 11-13, Dec 15-17 (RE- VISED)

- 5 common eider, seen along East Beach on Dec., 13 (Kate/Pete)
- 2 white-winged scoter (Lean)
- 4 other scoters- possibly black or white winged (Lean)
- 2 long-tailed ducks, seen along East Beach on Dec., 13 (Kate/Pete)
- 1 red-breasted merganser, seen at mouth of Nome River on Dec. 17 (Kate/Pete; Reed)
- 8 willow ptarmigan, ~7.5m Kougarak Rd, Dec 13 (Reed)

- 1 ptarmigan sp., heavy blowing snow at near 7.5m Kougarak, Dec 15 (Reed)
- 1 glaucous-winged gull, Nome East Beach, Dec 11 (Bente)
- 70 glaucous gull, Nome River mouth, Dec 11 (Bente)
- 10 glaucous gull, seen along East Beach, Dec 13, (Kate/Pete)
- 4 glaucous gull, Dec 13 (Lean)
- 1 gull sp., mouth of Nome River, Dec 17 (Reed)
- 12 common raven, Dec 13 (Lean)
- 1 great horned owl, Dec 11 (Kauer porch)
- 2 black capped chickadee, seen at Banner Ck. on Dec. 11-13 & 16-17 (Kate/Pete)
- 1 gray jay, at Dexter, Dec 11 (Reed/Sheffield)
- 2 gray jay, seen at Banner Ck. on Dec. 11-13 & 16-17 (Kate/Pete)
- 1 dipper, seen in Nome River near Sparkle Ck. on Dec. 12 (Kate/Pete)

Other sightings

- 1 snowy owl, Dec 6 (Lean)
- 5 dippers at Ophir Creek on Dec 2 (Lean)

Court

Week ending 12/19
Civil
State of Alaska, Dept of Revenue, CSSD v. Larsen, JR., Fredrick J.; Domestic Relations Other
Midland Funding LLC v. Anasogak, Rebecca; Civil District Court
Small Claims
No current Small Claims on file (start 2NO-14-00047SC)
Criminal
State of Alaska v. Austin Kokeok (7/18/94); Possession, Control, or Consumption of Alcohol by Person Under Age 21, First Offense; Date of Offense: 8/21/14; Fine: \$200 with \$0 suspended; Unsuspended \$200 is to be paid to the court 1/31/15; Alcohol Information School (First Offense Only); Defendant must attend the following alcohol information school: if any available from NSHC by 7/21/15; Probation until age 21, 7/18/15; 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 alcoholic beverages, except as provided in AS 04.16.051(b).
State of Alaska v. Michael J. Mayac (12/8/88); CTN 001: Driving Without a Valid Operator’s License; Date of Offense: 9/16/14; CTN Charges Dismissed: 002: 20 days, 20 days suspended; 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; State will file restitution documents within 30 days; Probation for 6 months (date of judgment: 12/15/14); Comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; No new criminal charges; Other: No driving city streets, highway, without a valid operator’s license.
State of Alaska v. Leslie Brown (1/8/90); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 11177018; Violated conditions of probation; Probation terminated; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: balance of sentence imposed.
State of Alaska v. Donald Oliver (12/29/79); CTN 002: Criminal Trespass 2; Date of Violation: 12/13/14; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 001; 5 days, 0 days suspended; Remanded immediately to Anvil Mountain Correctional Center; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days.
State of Alaska v. Justin Annogiyyuk (1/31/95); Possession, Control, or Consumption of Alcohol by Person Under Age 21, First Offense; Date of Offense: 10/4/14; Fine: \$200 with \$0 suspended; Unsuspended \$200 is to be paid to the court 2/15/15; Alcohol Information School (First Offense Only); Defendant must attend the following alcohol information school: NSHC for participation in Alcohol Information School by 1/16/15; Probation until 1/31/16; 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 or possess alcoholic beverages, except as provided in AS 04.16.051(b).
State of Alaska v. Rayne B. Aukongak (9/12/87); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 110675889; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: 45 days.
State of Alaska v. Theresa Kenick (5/1/77); Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Refusal to Submit to PBT, AS 28.35.031(e); Filed by the DAs Office 12/15/14.
State of Alaska v. Chad Wilson (2/25/93); 2NO-14-474CR CTN 001: Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 7/18/14; 90 days, 60 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days shall be served with defendant remanded 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 2 years (date of judgment: 12/16/14); 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; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Chad Wilson (2/25/93); 2NO-14-474CR CTN 002: Furnish Alcohol to Person <21; Date of Violation: 7/18/14; 90 days, 60 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days shall be served consecutive to CTN 001, with defendant remanded to AMCC; 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: 12/16/14); Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Shall commit no violations of law pertaining to alcoholic beverages; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Johnalee Viner (7/19/78); Disorderly Conduct; Date of Violation: 12/15/14; 10 days, 10 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 6 months (date of judgment: 12/16/14); 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 consume or buy alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Victoria Campbell (4/14/63); Criminal Trespass 2; Date of Violation: 12/5/14; 15 days, 0 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 6 months (date of judgment: 12/16/14); 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 consume or buy alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Jerry C. Iyapana (10/25/71); 2NO-14-647CR Criminal Trespass 2; Date of Violation: 10/3/14; 20 days, 20 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 6 months (date of judgment: 12/16/14); Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Shall commit no violations of law pertaining to alcoholic beverages; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol.
State of Alaska v. Jerry Iyapana (10/25/71); 2NO-14-702CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: VOCR / 11.56.757(B)(2); Filed by the DAs Office 12/18/14.
State of Alaska v. Daisy Kiyuklook (6/19/90); 2NO-12-757CR Withdrawal of Petition to Revoke Probation; COMES NOW the State of Alaska, through undersigned Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Slattery, and hereby withdraws the First Petition to Revoke Probation without prejudice; Filed by the Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals 12/19/14.
State of Alaska v. Daisy Kiyuklook (6/19/90); 2NO-13-107CR Withdrawal of Petition to Revoke Probation; COMES NOW the State of Alaska, through undersigned Assistant Attorney General Elizabeth Slattery, and hereby withdraws the First Petition to Revoke Probation without prejudice; Filed by the Office of Special Prosecutions and Appeals 12/19/14.
State of Alaska v. Chadwick Pullock (6/2/91); DUI-Operate Vehicle Under Influence; Date of Offense: 6/24/14; 60 days, 57 days suspended; Report to Nome Court on 12/26/14, 1:30 p.m. for a remand hearing; Pay to Clerk of Court, or pay online at courtrecords.alaska.gov/ep: \$1,500 Fine, \$0 suspended; \$1,500 due 1/31/15; Po-

lice Training Surcharge: \$75 with \$0 suspended; \$75 due in 10 days; Pay to Collections Unit, AGs Office, Anchorage; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case with \$0 suspended; Unsuspended \$50 due; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Cost of Imprisonment: \$330 (1st Off.) with \$0 suspended; Full amount ordered due; Complete Substance Abuse Treatment Assessment: NSHC BHS within 30 days; Complete screening, evaluation and recommended program; File proof by 4/15/15 that you received an assessment, and file proof that you followed all assessment recommendations; Obey Driver’s License Directives: Driver’s license is revoked for 90 days; Concurrent with DMV action; Use an Ignition Interlock Device: After you regain the privilege to drive or obtain a limited license, you must use an ignition interlock device (IID) as directed in the IID Information Sheet (CR-483) for 6 months; Costs of IID will be deducted from the fine if you file proof of payment before fine due date; Probation for 1 year; Obey all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Commit no jailable offenses; Do not possess or consume alcohol for a period ending 1 year from the date of this judgment (12/16/14).
State of Alaska v. Regine Kava (11/6/70); CTN 002: Introduction of Alcohol Beverage; Date of Violation: 12/17/14; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 001; 30 days, 0 days suspended; Remanded immediately to AMCC; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days.
State of Alaska v. Art Lockwood (6/23/83); Judgment and Order of Commitment/Probation; CTN 005: AS11.41.220(a)(5): Assault 3 – Commit Assault 4, 2+ Convictions; Class C Felony; DV; Offense Date: 8/28/14; The following charges were dismissed: CTN 001 and 002: AS11.46.300(a)(1): Burglary 1- In A Dwelling; CTN 003 and 004: AS11.46.484(a)(1): Crim Mischief-Prop Dam \$250-\$749; Offense Dates: 8/28/14; Defendant came before the court on (sentencing date) 12/17/14 with counsel, PD Andrew Dunmire, and the DA present; CTN 005: 24 months, 19 months suspended; Unsuspended 5 months shall be served immediately; Surcharges: 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 005: \$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; The amount of restitution will be determined as provided in Criminal Rule 32.6(c)(2); Probation: After serving any term of incarceration imposed, the defendant is placed on probation for 3 years under the following conditions: General and Special Conditions of Probation, as stated in the order; Bond(s): Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated.

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Photo by Diana Haecker

SANTA AND HIS SLEIGH— Santa stopped at this residence on Nome’s Front Street while in the area on December 21.



Photo by Diana Haecker

HO HO HO— The Neal Foster residence in Nome showed off all kinds of seasonal decorations during the holidays.



Photo by Diana Haecker

SILENT NIGHT— Nome Elementary School six grade students performed “Silent Night” during the Concert on December 16.



Photo by Diana Haecker

GUITAR PERFORMANCE— Virgil Walker performed “Ode to Joy” with the six grade class guitar group during the Nome Elementary School concert.



Photo by Diana Haecker

HOLIDAY FUN— Nome Elementary School second grade students performed “Jolly Old St. Nicholas” and “O Christmas Tree” during the Nome Elementary School concert.



Photo by Keith Conger

THE BAND— The Nome Beltz High School band performed at the annual High School/Junior High Band and Choir's Christmas Program at the Elementary School Commons.



Photo by Keith Conger

HOLIDAY HARMONIES — Nome-Beltz sophomores Chad Callahan and Zach Tozier, and seniors James Jorgensen and Jason Gilder sounded great as the school choir started things off at the annual High School/Junior High Band and Choir's Christmas Program last Tuesday in the Elementary School Commons.



Photo by Keith Conger

HARMONY — Freshman Emily Pomrenke and Annalise Contreras, and Junior Jayden Otten sing a song with the Nome-Beltz High School Choir at the annual High School/Junior High Band and Choir's Christmas Program last Tuesday night in the Elementary School Commons.