



Photo by Sue Steinacher

TOWERING CLOUDS— Nomeites observed an unusual phenomena this summer as fluffy cumulus clouds towered high above Nome and the surrounding country. See weather story page 9.

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Council curbs trapping, honors Perkins

By Sandra L. Medearis

The Nome Common Council took rapid action on a dozen items of business Monday that included first readings on a trapping ordinance, and land disposal at the port, resolutions on surplus land sales, garbage processing and fee waivers for use of the town's Rec Center and Old St. Joe's meeting hall.

The trapping ordinance bars trapping in certain places within the city limits except by special permit and requires trappers to register with the City of Nome. The measure will come up for public hearing and a final vote at the next regular meeting Sept. 24.

The trapping cannot occur in the following areas of the city: south of Nome Bypass Road and Little Creek Road to Center Creek Road; within 50 feet of any residence; within 100 feet of the center line of a platted right-of-way; within 50 feet of the center of certain road easements or public use easements, ANSCA trails,

the three main roads out of town and Snake, Buster and Osborne roads.

Additionally, trappers cannot set out their traps without first filling out a form at the City that names the trapper and maps the general area where trapping will occur. Special permits for the areas closed to trapping can be allowed by Council resolution declaring a public interest served by the trapping and setting specific limits on duration and number of traps.

The action stems from incidences and complaints that loose dogs ran into traps during the last season and that traps needed to be where recreationists, tourists, children and dogs would not chance upon them.

In other action the Council:

- Approved extending the contract with Nome Checker Garage (Gary Hart) to manage of the landfill increasing the operator fee by \$1600 a month from \$9,150 to a proposed

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Photo by Sue Steinacher

HEART AND SOUL— Robert Soolook Jr. of Diomedé poured heart and soul into every dance during last week's 8th annual Kingikmiut Dance Festival in Wales. See more photos on page 10.



Photo by Diana Haecker

PRE-SCHOOL— Parker Kenick, 3, discovered the joy of preschool on his first school day last week at the Nome Preschool.

New Nome gold rush is on

By Diana Haecker

A Canadian start-up company, Millrock Resources Corp. and another Canada-based company, An-dover Ventures, were on exploration campaigns this summer near Nome.

Both companies drilled within five miles of each other at different test sites, between mile 22 and mile 27 of the Kougarak Road. Millrock also drilled for test samples at In-machuk, near Deering.

The two-month old junior company Millrock focuses on the dis-

covery of giant metallic mineral deposits in Alaska and mainly on the Seward Peninsula, but also intends "to produce from the high grade deposits, and use existing infrastructure for operational bases in its search for large-scale deposits."

Gregory Beischer, CEO and president, said that Millrock intends to not only explore but also develop small to medium size mines. "I consider Rock Creek a small mine," Beischer told *The Nome Nugget* in a phone interview last week. "If we

make a discovery, yes, we may develop and produce," Beischer said.

But Beischer cautioned that the Divide project is in its earliest stages of exploration, that the results of this year's drillings are not back yet and that no management decision has been made beyond exploring the site.

Millrock drilled five test holes at their Divide project, about 27 miles up on the Kougarak Road, on state land claims. Drilling finished in the

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Two Nome businesses burglarized

Two Nome businesses have reported break-ins and burglaries.

On Thursday morning Nome Police received a report that someone had broken into Morgan's Snowmobile Service building sometime during the previous night. Although the front door had been locked, personnel noticed that the door stuck when they tried to open for business. Money was the only thing taken from the store.

At 9 a.m. Thursday Joshua Osborn reported that the Norton Sound Seafood Plant was burglarized. Preliminary investigation determined that about \$600 in cash was taken from the office area sometime after the plant closed Saturday evening. Police are investigating.

Nome Police ask anyone with information about these burglaries to please call the Nome Police Department at 443-5262.

Nome Police caution folks to install deadbolt locks and properly secure valuables.

Visit the *Nugget* on line at www.nomenugget.net

e-mail nugget@nomenugget.com

• Gold Rush

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last week of August and the company is currently awaiting test results. Millrock also began exploration drilling at Innachuk on the northern Seward Peninsula near Deering. Millrock has the option to earn a 60 percent interest in the Innachuk property from Full Metal Minerals.

Beischer told *The Nome Nugget*, "If the company makes a discovery of some sort, we will introduce our project to the community.

"We want to be a part of the mining community in Nome, but for now it's too early to say if we will go into production," Beischer said.

Beischer gave a brief background of himself, saying that he divides his time between Alaska and Canada, but resides in Anchorage. He has a position at Bristol Bay Native Corporation's subsidiary Bristol Environmental and Engineering as a Senior Earth Resources consultant. Millrock is registered in Canada as most mineral exploration and development business investments are brokered there. According to the *Mining News*, Vancouver-based Millrock Resources was formerly known as First Factor Developments, which was a shell company that had "something to do with computers," but it was listed on the TSX Venture Exchange, which made it a convenient springboard for conversion into a mining exploration company. According to its website, Alaska has been chosen by Millrock as a primary focus area because of its "outstanding geological pedigree, an abundance of undeveloped, under-explored mineral occurrences and deposits, very low degree of prior exploration, very large area of available land; Government supportive of responsible mineral development and stringent but practical environmental regulation."

On August 14, the company

changed the business and its name. On the same day, the company entered into an agreement with a private group of four individuals, including David Lajack, a director of NPN, to acquire a 100 percent interest in a lode gold prospect known as the Divide Property. At the time, Philip St. George was the company's chief financial officer, but recently changed his position within Millrock to be the company's vice president of exploration. Under the terms of the letter of intent with the Canadian Investment Group NPN, Millrock can earn a 50 percent interest in NPN's rights to the Divide property by paying one half of NPN's obligations under its Divide option and one half of the costs to explore the property. Millrock functions as the operator and general partner and together with NPN jointly develops work programs and makes decisions on exploration and development.

On August 30, however, NPN Investment Group Inc.'s shareholders approved management suggestions to move the company from Ontario to British Columbia and to change its name to Alix Resources Corporation.

The other company exploring for gold opportunities just five miles away from the Divide project is Andover Ventures, also in a joint venture agreement with NPN Investments. Andover drilled seven test holes at their so-called Bulk Gold project, on mile 22 of the Kougarok Road. Test results are pending. Andover president Michael England, also director at NPN Investments, told *The Nome Nugget*, "We finished drilling seven holes this summer and are still analyzing the results." England also said that so far Andover has no concrete plans to develop the property. "There are no plans in place yet, we're just checking it out," England said.

Nomeites show little interest in running for office

By Diana Haecker

Nomeites had a chance to throw their hats in the political ring and file their intent for elected office until last Friday, 5 p.m. Up for election on October 2 are two city council seats, the office of mayor, two school board seats and two utility board seats.

Incumbent Denise Michels is challenged by Phil Schobert, who is running for mayor of Nome for the first time. Council members Jerald Brown and Jon Larson are unopposed. Jim West Jr. doesn't face competition for utility board seat A, a two-year term. Utility board seat D, a three-year term, has Steve Brock running against incumbent Berda Willson.

School board member Albert McComas runs unopposed as does Kirsten Timbers in her first bid for a school board seat. McComas fills the remainder of a three-year term. He was appointed to serve on the board when Patti Anderson resigned.

Longley pleads not guilty on murder, assault charges

By Diana Haecker

In a continued arraignment hearing last Friday in Superior Court Judge Ben Esch's courtroom, Darla Longley, 42, pleaded not guilty in response to five charges filed by the District Attorney against her.

The charges stem from a July 28 vehicle crash which killed 31-year-old Victor "Kavi" Goldsberry and injured Longley's teen-aged daughters Trina and Sharina Larsen and John Wellert, 40.

Longley was charged with second

degree murder, manslaughter and three counts of recklessly causing serious injuries.

Judge Esch set a trial date for November 20, and scheduled an omnibus hearing for October 15.



Photo by Diana Haecker

HANSEATIC— The last cruise ship of the season pulled into Nome last week, bringing more than 150 visitors to town for a day. Local tour guides gave tours of Nome including gold panning and a sled dog demonstration.

• Council

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\$10,750 per month. Conditions of the agreement remain the same except that NCG must now pay utilities at the site. The resolution noted that NCG has operated the landfill since 1996 with no request for more money and has performed to the contract as required.

•Awarded bids on the Aug. 16 sale of surplus real property. The five lots went as follows: 407 Steadman, \$34,300, Hatto Eberl; 202 E. King, no bid; 403 East I St., \$37,501, Greg Smith; Block 85 Lot 1 E. 6th Avenue, \$34,101, Smith; Block 85 Lot 2, \$34,101, Smith; Lot 2 Icy View Out of The Way, \$18,950, Bill Potter; Lot 2 Icy View Out of The Way, no bid. Successful bids exceeded the minimum bids set by the City by a range of under \$3,000 to just over \$10,000 (Eberl).

•Awarded a bid for constructing Cell 2 at Nome Landfill to Lakloey, Inc. for \$1.2 million. The money for the work—berms, road surfaces, storm water control and new litter fencing—should not affect user fees, according to City Manager Randy Romenesko. Lakloey slid under another bidder, Pro-West, by about \$200,000. Money for the project will come out of Alaska Clean Water fund Loan and the City's general fund reserve account for landfill improvement.

•Recognized Chief Wesley Perkins for his service to Nome Volunteer Fire Department and the community. Wesley resigned his position in August but will stay on with the fire department where he has served for going on 30 years. He was instrumental in helping 20 firefighters get their Fire Fighter I certification.

•Authorized Nome Joint Utility to take on debt of \$6.3 million to buy fuel to power its generators, anticipating utility charges and investment of revenue to cover the cost.

•Waived fees for use of Nome Rec Center for upcoming activities concerning Pioneers of Alaska Igloo No. 1 (convention) and Norton Sound Health Corporation (flu shots). Kawerak (reception for Alaska delegation) and American Legion/VFW (memorial for Jack "Stud Duck" O'Neal) received fee waivers for Old St. Joe's Hall. Councilman Jon Larson advocated looking at only partial waivers to recoup utility costs. "Our costs are much more than nothing," Larson added.

And finally, during the reading of the Council minutes, Councilman Stan Andersen said The Paper got it all wrong in saying there was unani-

mous consensus at the last work session on putting a high-cockalorum public safety building at the Nome Bypass site with bells, whistles, command post communications, all that. He DID NOT agree on all this out there and never would. Andersen explained after the meeting he favored building a new facility for fire department, and maybe the Nome Volunteer Ambulance, near the existing station on West Fourth Avenue. Then the police could take the added space vacated by the fire department at the current cop shop building. And when he suggested the new fire department headquarters be built by volunteers, he DID NOT mean from the department ranks, he meant by volunteers from trades in town—plumbers, carpenters, electricians. The Council has been considering the site and extent of a new

public safety building to house emergency response and safety services that have outgrown their facilities.

The Council, under Andersen's urging that the process be open to the public and not in a secret meeting, sorted through a number of applications for the desk to be vacated by Romenesko, city manager, in December. The sort left three applications on the table for now with others landing in the trash for a variety of reasons—little experience, job jumping, bad grammar on application, ho-hum resume. The Council approved a three-day advertisement in the Anchorage paper this weekend and directed staff to contact a public administration program at University of Alaska Southeast to attract more applicants.

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