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Employment

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Administration: Administrative Specialist III – Ancillary \$30.02 + DOE
Audiology: Administrative Specialist I Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Behavioral Health: Administrative Specialist I Relief \$26.41 + DOE; Recovery Coach \$27.41 + DOE
Dental: Dental Assistant Trainee \$26.41 + DOE; Administrative Specialist I \$26.41 + DOE
Electronic Health Records: EHR Support Specialist \$34.25 + DOE; Population Health CMA \$34.25 + DOE
Emergency Department: Emergency Department Technician \$34.25 + DOE
Environmental Services: Environmental Service Worker I & Relief \$25.00 + DOE; Laundry Worker \$25.00 + DOE
Information Systems: Telehealth Coordinator \$39.20 + DOE
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Materials Management: Patient Driver I Relief \$30.02 + DOE
Nutrition Services: Nutrition Services Dietetic Coordinator \$34.25 + DOE; Food Service Worker & Relief \$25.00 + DOE; Cook I/II/III \$30.02 + DOE
Office of Environmental Health: Environmental Coordinator \$41.90 + DOE; Environmental Health Specialist \$41.90 + DOE
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Sanitation: Remote Maintenance Worker I Relief \$36.65 + DOE
Security: Security Officer Trainee & Relief \$25.00 + DOE
Social Services: Elder Advocate \$30.02 + DOE
 Village Health Services (Nome Based): EHR Support Specialist \$31.73 + DOE
Village Facilities Management: Travel Fleet Maintenance Technician \$36.65 + DOE; Travel Maintenance Technician \$36.65 + DOE
WIC: WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Relief \$20.00

In Our Village Communities:

Brevig Mission: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Environmental Services Worker Relief \$26.41 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
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Elim: Direct Care Attendant Relief \$25.00 + DOE; Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Environmental Services Worker Relief \$26.41 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.51 + DOE
Gambell: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Maintenance Worker Relief \$34.25 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Golovin: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Maintenance Worker Relief \$34.25 + DOE
Koyuk: Environmental Services Worker Relief \$26.41 + DOE; Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Maintenance Worker Relief \$34.25 + DOE
St Michael: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Savoonga: Maintenance Worker Relief \$34.25 + DOE; Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE
Shaktolik: Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Shishmaref: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Maintenance Worker Relief \$34.25 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Stebbins: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Direct Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.41 + DOE
Teller: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE
Unalakleet: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist \$26.41 + DOE
Wales: Village Based Counselor Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Maintenance Worker \$31.73 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant & Relief \$25.00 + DOE; Environmental Services Worker Relief \$26.41 + DOE; Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$26.51 + DOE
White Mountain: Community Health Aide Trainee \$27.41 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$25.00 + DOE

For more information or an up-to-date vacancy list, go to www.NortonSoundHealth.org or contact Human Resources at (907) 443-4573
NSHC is a drug-free workplace and will apply Alaska Native/American Indian preference for hire (Under PL 93-638 and Veteran Preferences). NSHC will also initiate a criminal history/background check for all positions.

WANTED – Mark Knapp at The Cutting Edge in Fairbanks is buying legal ancient walrus ivory, musk ox horn, mammoth ivory and teeth. Very good prices. 907-452-7477. Knapp's Cutting Edge 1971 Fox Ave Fairbanks AK 99701. knappscuttingedge@gmail.com

Local young man with a backhoe looking to work!
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Legal

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME

IN THE MATTER OF THE

KATHERINE GLORIA SCOTT REVOCABLE TRUST dated January 6, 2005, as amended.

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES

Notice is hereby given that Katherine G. Scott, Trustor of the Katherine Gloria Scott Revocable Trust dated January 6, 2005, as amended, (the "Trust"), died on August 12, 2024. Deborah P. Scott and McKenzie G. Hickerson are the Co-Trustees of the Trust.

Pursuant to AS 13.36.368(b)(3) and AS 13.16.450, all interested persons having an interest in the probate Estate or those having claims against Katherine G. Scott or the Trust or any other assets of the decedent are required to present their claims to the Co-Trustees, c/o Peter B. Brautigam, Manley Brautigam Bankston P.C., 1127 W. 7th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99501 within four (4) months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred.

Alaska Statute 13.06.050(26) states that:

"interested person" includes heirs, devisees, children, spouses, creditors, beneficiaries, and other persons having property rights in or claims against a trust estate or the estate of a decedent, ward, or protected person; . . .

MANLEY BRAUTIGAM BANKSTON P.C. Counsel for Deborah Scott and McKenzie Hickerson, Co-Trustees of the Katherine Scott Revocable Trust

By: Peter B. Brautigam
 Alaska Bar No. 8411100
 peterb@mbb.law

1.9-16-23.2025

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND ELECTION TO SELL UNDER DEED OF TRUST
 Trustee's Sale No: 128837-AK This NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND ELECTION TO SELL is given by CLEAR RECON CORP, as Successor Trustee under that certain Deed of Trust executed by ROY A ANASHUGAK AND RACHAEL L ANASHUGAK, HUSBAND AND WIFE, as Trustor, to YUKON TITLE COMPANY INC, as Trustee, in favor of NATIONAL BANK OF ALASKA, A NATIONAL BANKING ASSOCIATION, as Beneficiary, dated 12/16/1998, recorded 12/23/1998, as Instrument No. 002433, in Book 103, Page 887, in the BARROW Recording District, State of Alaska. The beneficial interest in the Deed of Trust has been assigned to ALASKA HOUSING FINANCE CORPORATION and the record owner of the property is purported to be THE HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF RACHAEL L ANASHUGAK, SURVIVOR OF ROY A ANASHUGAK. Said Deed of Trust covers real property situated in said Recording District, described as follows: Lot 4, Block 12, BROWERVILLE ADDITION NO. 3, according to the plat filed August 8, 1983 as Plat No. 83-6; Records of the Barrow Recording District, State of Alaska. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE SUBSURFACE ESTATE AND all rights, privileges, immunities and appurtenances of what so ever nature accruing unto said estate pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 12-18-71 (85 Stat 688, 704; 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613 (f) (1976) as reserved by the United States of America) Commonly referred to as: NHN BOXER STREET, BARROW, AK 99723 APN: R-001-371-07 A breach of the obligation which said Deed of Trust secures has occurred in that Installment of Principal and Interest plus impounds and/or advances which became due on 6/11/2024 plus late

charges, and all subsequent installments of principal, interest, balloon payments, plus impounds and/or advances and late charges that become payable. By reason thereof, and under the terms of the Note and Deed of Trust, the Beneficiary has declared all sums so secured to be immediately due and payable, together with any trustee fees, attorney fees, costs and advances made to protect the security associated with this foreclosure. The sum owing on the obligation good through 12/5/2024 is \$40,612.81 as follows:

Unpaid Principal Balance:	\$37,471.24
Interest:	\$1,587.08
Late Charges:	\$202.85
Beneficiary Advances:	\$1,351.64
TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF:	\$40,612.81

If the default has arisen by failure to make payments required by the trust deed, the default may be cured and the sale may be terminated if: 1. Payment of the sum in default, other than the principal that would not be due if default had not occurred, and attorney and other foreclosure fees and costs actually incurred by the beneficiary and trustee due to the default is made at any time before the sale date stated in this notice or to which the sale is postponed; and 2. If Notice of Default has been recorded two or more times previously under the same trust deed and the default has been cured the trustee does not elect to refuse payment and continue the sale. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to demand of the Beneficiary, the Trustee hereby elects to sell the above described real property to satisfy the obligation, together with all accrued interest and all costs and expenses, at public auction, for cash, to the highest and best bidder, at the 2nd Judicial District: Inside the main lobby of the Nome Courthouse located at 306 W 5th Avenue, Nome, AK 99762, on 3/18/2025, at 10:00 AM. Beneficiary will have the right to make an offset bid at sale without cash. Anyone having an objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the same. DATED: 12/5/2024 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, California 92108 Phone: 866-931-0036 By Alison Arrendale, Authorized Signatory for Trustee
 1.2-9-16-23.2025

NOTICE OF SALE TO THE HEIRS OF RACHAEL L ANASHUGAK AND ROY A ANASHUGAK; The name of the persons who are known by the beneficiary or trustee to be the Heirs and devisees of the deceased person are as follows: MYRNA SARREN, BENJAMIN ANASHUGAK, VERONICA TOOYAK, and JOLENE ANASHUGAK Trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, will sell realty for cash to the highest bidder at 2nd Judicial District: Inside the main lobby of the Nome Courthouse located at 306 W 5th Avenue, Nome, AK 99762, on 3/18/2025 at 10:00 AM with other sales that may be conducted. Proceeds will apply to the Deed of Trust naming ROY A ANASHUGAK AND RACHAEL L ANASHUGAK, HUSBAND AND WIFE, Trustor, recorded on 12/23/1998, as Instrument No. 002433, under BARROW 2nd District, Alaska, describing: Lot 4, Block 12, BROWERVILLE ADDITION NO. 3, according to the plat filed August 8, 1983 as Plat No. 83-6; Records of the Barrow Recording District, Second Judicial District, State of Alaska. EXCEPTING THEREFROM THE SUBSURFACE ESTATE and all rights, privileges, immunities and appurtenances of what so ever nature accruing unto said estate pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 12-18-71 (85 Stat 688, 704; 43 U.S.C. 1601, 1613 (f) (1976) as reserved by the United States of America) A/K/A NHN BOXER STREET, BARROW, AK 99723. \$40,612.81 is due, plus interest, advances, etc. Clear Recon Corp (858) 750-7600 TS# 128837-AK
 1.2-9-16-23.2025

JOB OPENINGS

NMS is actively hiring for several positions at NPS to support its Facilities & Custodial Departments. Each position makes a significant difference and plays a vital role to maintain NPS facilities. Seeking full time Building Maintenance Technicians and Custodians! Competitive starting pay and health benefits available. Each position requires some knowledge and experience. Hiring immediately.

Come work with us! Apply today: careers.nmsusa.com/jobs to get started.

Have any questions? Contact Aaron, NANA Recruiter: (907) 265-4173.



Seawall

Nome Police Department Weekly press releases Activities reported between 1/6/2025 – 1/12/2025

During this period there were 242 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center; 48 (20%) of these calls involved alcohol. The Nome Police Department dispatched 25 ambulance calls to NSHC. The Nome Volunteer Fire Department responded to 1 call during this period. NPJ responded to 5 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. Nobody remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

Arrests A total of 7 arrests were made with 7 (100 %) alcohol related

Monday, January 6, 2024
 Charge: Two counts of Assault in the fourth

degree. Name: Devin Kakaruk. Location: W. D St.

Tuesday, January 7, 2024
 Charge: Warrant Arrest. Name: Hallie Slook. Location: Prospect Pl.
 Charges: DUI, Reckless Endangerment, Endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree, Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Alvina Amaktoolik. Location: Front St.

Thursday, January 9, 2025
 Charge: Warrant arrest. Name: Adam Iyapana. Location: Greg Kruschek Ave.

Saturday, January 11, 2025
 Charge: Probation Violation. Name: Walter Douglas. Location: Nome

Sunday, January 12, 2025
 Charges: DUI, Refusal to submit to a chemical test. Name: Timothy James. Location: W. 4th Ave.

Traffic

Eight traffic stops were made during this reporting period; 2 citations and 6 warnings were issued. NPJ responded to 3 reports of a Motor Vehicle accident during this reporting period.

Saturday, January 11, 2025
 Offense: Fail to carry proof of insurance, child safety seat, operating vehicle with expired registration. Name: Hattie Keller. Location: Nome-Teller Hwy.

Offense: Drive to exercise due care to avoid collision. Name: Hilary Stiles. Location: Nome-Teller Hwy.

This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not assign guilt to any identified party. Officers refer all cases to the DA for action.

Advertise in The Nome Nugget newspaper

Call us at (907) 443-5235 or send us an email to ads@nomenugget.com

Legal



Request for Proposals:

For project #111

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority (BSRHA) solicits proposals to design, procure, manufacture, deliver, set, and finish two triplex apartment buildings in Nome, Alaska, to turnkey completion. The buildings can be modular construction or structurally insulated panel construction. Full details of the project can be seen in the plans room or by emailing enoet@bsrha.org or jevan@bsrha.org.

Request for Proposals:

For Project #050

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority (BSRHA) solicits proposals to design, procure, manufacture, deliver, set, and finish a modular triplex apartment building in Nome, Alaska, to turnkey completion. Full details of the project can be seen in the plans room or by emailing enoet@bsrha.org or jevan@bsrha.org.

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Transportation and Public Facilities
NOTICE OF PROPOSED VACATION (DISPOSAL)
CQD#24-02-002

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State of Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (the Department) proposes to dispose of 79.98 acres of the St. Mary's Airport in Saint Mary's Alaska. The Department intends to return the property to the Federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

This disposal of property by the Department is authorized by AS 02.15.070.

The subject property is Native Allotment F-18532, Parcel B within U.S. Survey 4101. The Department has determined the allotment is not needed for the airport's maintenance and/or operation and is not needed for a public purpose.

The physical file of the proposal is available for public inspection from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, at the Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Right of Way Section, 2720 Picket Place (west side of Peger Rd.), Fairbanks, Alaska. Written comments about the proposed disposal will be accepted by the Department. Comments may be hand-delivered to the above address, no later than 4:30 PM on the projected closing date of Friday, February 14, 2025, e-mailed to laura.back@alaska.gov, or mailed to the following address: Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Right of Way Section, Attn: Laura Back, 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-5399.

If you are a person experiencing a disability who needs a special accommodation to participate, please contact Laura Back at least 48 hours prior to coming into the office so we can make accommodations.

Call 907-451-5462 if you have questions

This notice can be found online at <https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/>

• Employment

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Newly Listed!

<p>HR Director Manage the daily operations of the Human Resources department and provide strategic leadership.</p>	
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Still Available

<p>Executive Vice President</p> <p>Foster Care Recruiter</p> <p>Senior VP Of Infrastructure</p> <p>CUAP-MAS Manager</p> <p>Tribal Coordinator Trainee</p> <p>Head Start Teacher Aide/Janitor (Shaktoolik)</p> <p>Child Care Director</p> <p>Child Care Services Manager</p> <p>Tribal Coordinator (Wales, Elim)</p> <p>Yup'ik, St Lawrence Island Yupik, or Inupiaq Language Mentor (3 separate positions in any Head Start location)</p> <p>Maintenance/Laborer Assistant (On Call, Teller)</p>	<p>Unaatuq General Manager</p> <p>Unaatuq Agriculture Manager</p> <p>Tribal Coordinator Trainee</p> <p>Child Care Provider</p> <p>Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership Teacher</p> <p>Early Head Start Teacher, Elim</p> <p>Client Advocate</p> <p>Tribal Family Coordinator (Wales, Savoonga)</p> <p>Substitute (Any Head Start Location)</p> <p>Program Specialist, Head Start (Nome)</p> <p>Village Public Safety Officer (Diomedes, Elim, Gambell, Koyuk, Shaktoolik, St. Michael, Stebbins, Teller, Unalakleet, Wales)</p>
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Email pawsofnome@gmail.com to start the application process. Support Animal Rescue & Rehoming - make your donation today!
Make animal control-related reports to Nome Police Dispatch at 443-5262.





Photo by Nils Hahn

SNOW AT LAST— Nome and the region finally received a significant amount of snow in the second week of January 2025.

Court

Week ending 1/10/2025

Civil

Rebecca Carlisle v. Kevin Kavairlook; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
Rexodus Pomrenke v. State of Alaska; Legal Malpractice
Emily Henry v. Jonathan Willoua; Stalking: Long-Term
Miranda Evan v. Clayton Barr; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
Not Published v. Clayton Barr; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
Not Published v. Clayton Barr; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
Not Published v. Clayton Barr; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
Not Published v. Clayton Barr; Domestic Violence: Short-Term
This is a record of court filing activity. The civil filings of protective order pe-

titions do not reflect that the court issued an order or made a judgment.

Small Claims

No current claims on CourtView Website (start: 2NO-25-00001SC)

Criminal

State of Alaska v. Ralph Oogelunganna Anungazuk (6/26/48); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 115273647; Violated conditions of probation; Probation modified as follows: Return to probation; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original order remain in effect.

State of Alaska v. Lucas Graham; DUI-Operate Under Influ Alc/Drug; Date of Offense: 5/12/24; Any outstanding appearance or performance bond is exonerated; 30 days, 27 days suspended; Report by 5:00 p.m. on 4/8/25 to remand/serve sentence or schedule a remand or EM (at DOC discretion) date no later than 4/8/25; Fine: \$1,500 due 1/8/26; Police Training, Initial and Suspended Jail Surcharges due; Cost of Imprisonment: 1st Offense: \$330 due 1/8/26; Complete treatment, contact ASAP 264-0735 within 30 days; Complete screening, evaluation, and recommended treatment; Submit proof of completion to court by 1/8/26; Pay all costs; Obey Driver's License Directives: Your driver's license is revoked for 90 days; Concurrent with DMV Action; After you regain the privilege to drive, use an Ignition Interlock Device as directed for 6 months; Costs of IID will be credited against fine imposed if you give proof of

payment to court clerk before the fine due date; Probation until 1/8/26; Obey all direct court orders above by the deadlines stated; Obey all state, federal, and local laws and ordinances; Do not possess or consume alcohol; Your driver's license or state ID is subject to cancellation under cited Alaska Statutes; Any new license or ID must list the AS buying restriction until the restriction expires; Other: Subject to warrantless search of person for alcohol.

State of Alaska v. Travis Morgon Kenworthy (4/16/90); Dismissal; Count I: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 1/6/25.

State of Alaska v. Henry Kakaruk (7/25/87); CTN 001: Indecent Expose 2 - Victim 16+; Date of Violation: 8/10/24; Found and adjudged: Guilty and convicted of Disorderly Conduct; CTNs Dismissed:

002; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; 3 days, 3 days suspended; Surcharges due; Probation until 7/9/25; Comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Obey all state, federal, and local laws; Do not consume or possess alcohol; Do not enter a place where alcohol is the primary item for sale.

State of Alaska v. Crystal FM Gary (6/25/85); Dismissal; Count I: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 1/9/25.

State of Alaska v. Jolene Kuzuguk (5/30/92); Dismissal; Count I: Disorderly Conduct; Count II: Violating Conditions Of Release; filed by the DAs Office 12/30/24.

• The man who preserved Alaska

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"In Alaska, we have a unique opportunity to balance the development of our vital resources required for continued economic growth with protection of our natural environment," Carter said in December 1980 to a reporter for the Washington Post. "We have the imagination and the will as a people to both develop our last great natural frontier and also preserve its priceless beauty for our children and grandchildren."

This was not one of those last-minute stabs at legacy building. Carter was a fan of Alaska. He had a map of the state tacked up in his office for much of his four-year term. He slept on the ground here. He felt the bend of his fly rod while he stood in

Alaska waters.

Carter's foresight — and the immense work of many professionals who drew up proposals for land worthy of protecting — preceded environmental changes that have since come to roost.

Among them is the loss of almost 3 billion birds from the U.S. and Canada since 1970. And the crash of salmon numbers in Alaska's largest waterways, to the point where subsistence fishermen are no longer allowed to catch them.

Alaska, however, is still rich in bugs. Unlike in places like Germany, where scientists recently documented a three-quarters reduction in numbers of insects, Alaska still hosts healthy populations. Entomologist Derek Sikes said that Alaska is almost 200 years behind the Lower 48

and the Tropics in regard to habitat degradation.

Just like hungry kinglets, we depend on insects, which pollinate plants that are food sources for us and for other creatures we like to eat. Without them and other nonhuman creatures that share this planet, we are sunk.

So, on behalf of the kinglet and millions of other creatures, a tip of the cap to the man who helped create more than 43 million acres of new national parklands in Alaska. Here is a partial list of those parks and other conservation units that became reality with the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act: Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, Admiralty Island National Monument, Aniakchak National

Monument and Preserve, Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (expanded), Becharof National Wildlife Refuge, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Cape Krusenstern National Monument, Denali National Park (expanded) and Preserve, Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve, Glacier Bay National Park (expanded) and Preserve, Iditarod National Historic Trail, Innoko National Wildlife Refuge, Kanuti National Wildlife Refuge, Katmai National Park (expanded) and Preserve, Kenai Fjords National Park, Kobuk Valley National Park, Koyukuk National Wildlife Refuge, Lake Clark National Park and Preserve, Misty Fjords National Monument, Noatak National Preserve, Nowitna National Wildlife Refuge, Selawik National Wildlife Refuge, Steese Na-

tional Conservation Area, Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge, Togiak National Wildlife Refuge, White Mountains National Recreation Area, Wrangell-St Elias National Park and Preserve, Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve, Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, Yukon Flats National Wildlife Refuge.

Since the late 1970s, the University of Alaska Fairbanks' Geophysical Institute has provided this column free in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell ned.rozell@alaska.edu is a science writer for the Geophysical Institute.

• Public pension revival

continued from page 10

elected officials and another dealing with the state's derelict boat fund — were vetoed by Gov. Mike Dunleavy last year because they passed the House too late to be legal.

Enacting those bills will require the Legislature to pass them again.

Also among the prefiled legislation is a different pension revival bill from Sen. Jesse Kiehl, D-Juneau. Kiehl introduced a similar bill two years ago but that bill also failed to advance.

Several lawmakers said they expect the pension issue to be a top priority.

Giessel, who has championed the issue in the Senate, has argued that because Alaska lacks a public pension, it's at a hiring disadvantage with state and local governments that do.

Only Alaska and North Dakota lack a public pension system for new employees, and the latter state's change occurred Jan. 1.

Public employee unions, particularly those representing police and firefighters, have repeatedly testified that employees frequently arrive in Alaska, get trained, then move away because other states offer more stability and benefits.

The cost of hiring and training new employees is prohibitive, they have argued in testimony before the Legislature.

Opponents of the revived pension idea point to the state's now-closed pension system, which has a multi-billion-dollar unfunded liability, in part because actuaries underestimated the cost of pensions. The state treasury is now liable for those costs, and skeptics worry about a repeat.

Last year, the state Senate passed

a pension-revival bill intended to meet those concerns by reducing health care benefits and increasing the employees' required contribution rate. If an unfunded gap develops, a special panel is permitted to further boost the required contribution rate.

Despite the changes, the pension bill was referred to a subcommittee in the House and failed to advance from that three-person panel after a single hearing held without public notice.

"We should expect it to end up differently," Giessel said.

The prior House was controlled by a predominantly Republican coalition that opposed the pension bill. This year's House is expected to be controlled by a predominantly Democratic coalition that also includes a Republican who has been a passionate advocate of a pension revival.

"The House will show its commit-

ment to responsible retirement security," said that Republican, Rep.-elect Chuck Kopp of Anchorage.

"I think we could make considerable headway due to the alignment between the House and the Senate," he said.

In the Senate, all 11 senators who voted to advance the pension bill last time are still members, as is Sen. Matt Claman, D-Anchorage, who is a member of the majority but was absent from the prior vote.

The first step in the Senate for the pension bill will be the Senate Labor and Commerce Committee, headed by Sen. Jesse Bjorkman, R-Nikiski and a supporter of the prior bill.

Bjorkman said the labor and commerce committee held eight hearings on the bill in 2023. Most bills receive two or three hearings in a policy committee before advancing.

"We'll take a look at it, and we'll

have hearings — probably not as many," he said. "We'll move it through after thorough and fair hearings, and I'm happy to consider other ideas as well, but we need to take a look at that retirement issue and make sure that Alaska can move forward in a competitive way."

If the pension bill were to advance through the Legislature, proponents' biggest hurdle may be convincing the governor. Giessel said she hasn't yet talked with him about the issue.

"I think the data is pretty overwhelming, that we are in a crisis situation," she said.

This article is printed with permission and was first published on January 13, 2025 at www.alaskabeacon.com