Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell kicked off statewide hearings on Ballot Measure 2, an initiative to legalize marijuana in the state.

The initiative, if passed, would create an “Act to tax and regulate the production, sale and use of marijuana.” If the measure succeeds, Alaska could become the third U.S. state to legalize recreational pot use.

Voters in Colorado and Washington passed a similar measure in 2012. If passed, the initiative would make use of marijuana legal for persons over 21 years of age, allowing them to possess, use, display, purchase or transport up to one ounce of marijuana. It would impose some restrictions on personal cultivation, public use and the operation of marijuana related facilities.

Under the measure, the state Legislature could create a Marijuana Control Board under the Dept. of Commerce, Community and Economic Development.

It proposes to levy a $50 per ounce excise tax on the sale or transfer of marijuana from a cultivation facility to a retail store or marijuana product manufacturing facility. The producer would pay the tax.

Lt. Governor Mead Treadwell said that there would be seven more hearings held in Barrow, Juneau, Ketchikan, Anchorage, Wasilla, Bethel and Fairbanks.

He explained that several state departments were asked to submit their cost estimates associated with the bill. The Dept. of Revenue estimated that it would need to create three more positions to oversee the new excise tax, at an annual cost of $300,000.

The Department also estimates a continued on page 4

candidates for city offices run unopposed

By Diana Haecker

This year’s Municipal election will offer the voters slim pickings as all candidates running for Nome Common Council. Utility Board and School Board are unopposed.

On Monday, Sept. 15, the filing period for people interested in running for office ended and produced the following names:

Running for seat ‘A’ of the Common Council is incumbent Tom Qujaka. The term is for three years.

Seat ‘B’ also a three-year term, is occupied by Louis Green Sr., who is also the sole candidate to run for that seat.

Utility Board seat B, a two-year term is held by Fred Moody, who submitted his name again for election.

Moody runs unopposed.

Carl Emmons is the incumbent for Utility Board seat E, a three-year term. Emmons has filed for election and also runs unopposed.

School Board seat ‘A’ is occupied by Jennifer Reader. She runs unopposed.

School Board seat ‘B’ incumbent Barb Nickels decided not to run for re-election. Brandy Arrington declared candidacy for that seat.

“Since coming to Nome in 1999 I served three years as Board President of the Nome Preschool,” said Nickels in a statement to the Nome Nugget. “I resurrected the Nome PTA and served as president for three years, have fulfilled two terms, on the Nome Board of Education, and five years on the NACTEC Board of Directors.” She said she has truly enjoyed every year of service.

“Not applying as a candidate for the upcoming election was not an easy decision,” Nickels stated. “I would love to see some of our younger parents get more involved. I will still be quite active with our Nome youth as a member of a variety of groups and partnerships that have our students’ education and futures as a priority. It has been an honor to serve on the Board of Education and play a role to effect positive change.”

Also on the ballot will be a proposition that puts the question before the voters whether or not the City should raise alcohol and tobacco taxes from 5 percent to 8 percent.

The municipal election is scheduled for October 7.

continued on page 5

Oil suspected on two harvested seals near Gambell

By Diana Haecker

Laboratories have yet to confirm that two spotted seals harvested near Gambell on St. Lawrence Island last week had swum through an oil slick, but the hunters are pretty sure it was.

The hunters notified Sheffield, who set into motion alerts to a multitude of agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard, Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, NMFS Office of Response and Restoration, NMFS Office of Protected Resources also the sole candidate to run for that seat.

The two animals were harvested near Gambell on September 6 and 12 off the beach.

Gambell BIA president Eddy Unpetto phoned UAF Marine Advisory Program Agent Gay Sheffield and reported that there was oil on the seal.

Leon Antoghame harvested the second spotted seal on Sept. 12 near Gambell. He didn’t see anything unusual about the seal until he brought the animal ashore and noticed a dark colored spot on the young seal’s back and side. “It had a bold spot on its head and was yellow at the belly,” Antoghame described.

Antoghame took tissue samples from the internal organs, blubber, flipper and jaws. He said the substance on the seal’s coat looked and smelled like oil.

“It hurts to see our food spoiled like that,” said Antoghame.

Since the seal was not fit for consumption, the carcass was discarded.

“Anytime we have oiled wildlife it is a serious concern,” said Gay Sheffield, UAF’s Marine Advisory Program Agent in Nome.

“This is our third oiling event in three years. We still don’t know the source,” she said.

The hunters notified Sheffield, who set into motion alerts to a multitude of agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard, Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation, NMFS Office of Response and Restoration, NMFS Office of Protected Resources.
Nome Superior Court has new magistrate judge

By Diana Haecker

Longtime Nomeite and well-known attorney Bob Lewis, 61, was chosen to fill the vacancy left by Brackett Brookwa Alva, who last month accepted the position as the chief of enforcement for the Alaska State Commission on Human Rights in Anchorage.

Lewis began working at the Nome Superior Court on September 8.

Second Judicial District Presiding Judge Michael Jeffery hired Bob Lewis out of an applicant pool of 15 candidates.

Bob Lewis is currently "Magistrate in Training" as he embarks on a new career as Magistrate Judge. Since 1977 he has worked as a private practice lawyer, Public Defender and attorney for the Alaska Legal Services office.

Lewis — born in Anchorage — returned to Alaska as a young lawyer in 1977 after graduating from Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. He was hired to work at the Alaska Legal Services office in Nome. Then he went into private practice for two years in Nome before moving to Anchorage in 1980. For a short time, Lewis worked in Anchorage for the Public Defender’s office and then went into private practice. Lewis returned to Nome in 1999 and joined the law office of Conner Thomas, Brian Timbers and Jon Larson. Timbers and Larson retired, the successor law firm was named Thomas & Lewis.

Bob Lewis went into "semi-retirement" in 2012. Once the Magistrate position became open last month, he became intrigued with the possibility of gaining insight into a new aspect of the law. "It seemed like a good opportunity to see things from a different perspective," Lewis said in a recent interview with The Nome Nugget. "It is an interesting challenge." When the position became open, an acquaintance suggested Lewis if he had applied, and he answered in the affirmative. "Then I tried to come up with a good reason why not to apply," Lewis said. Apparently he couldn’t assess things in a case the way a judge would. "They have to consider both sides, so that is not remarkably different. But what I find remarkable is that you have to consider all the agencies that are involved and go way beyond and expand my world view beyond that," he said. "This expands my world view beyond that."
Strait Action

BP to cut jobs in Alaska

BP is announcing plans to cut around 275 staff and contractor jobs in Alaska in early 2015.

BP said it would continue expanding its interest in Prudhoe Bay, bringing in two additional drill rigs. It also considers production of liquefied natural gas from reserves in Alaska.

A press release announcing the sale of the four oilfield interests to a privately held company Hilcorp could not provide clarity about their future in Alaska as possible.

The majority of those BP employees at or supporting Miluk Point, Endicott and Northstar are expected to continue working with Hilcorp with no break in employment.

This apparently changed.

Even Governor Sean Parnell was blindsided by the BP announcement. "I'm extremely disappointed at all of BP's interests in the jobs reduced, and I am especially concerned about the disruption for families who work in the energy sector," Parnell said in a statement.

BP confirmed it would also push the "Vote No On One" campaign to try to repeal the law.

"If we're going to talk about the issue of the size of the amount of the fine the company is committed to providing for the pollution concerns associated with these fields," BP said.

According to BP's website, the company employs 2,300 employees and more than 6,000 contractor jobs in Alaska.

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**Oiled seals**

NMTIS Office of Protected Resources, Kawerak Subsistence Program and the Eskimo Walrus Commission. The lead federal agency that responds to oil pollution in the ocean is the U.S. Coast Guard, Sector Anchorage.

The Alaska Dept. of Environmental Conservation leads the State’s response.

Samples from both seals were sent to a U.S. Coast Guard laboratory to determine a possible source. More samples were sent to DEC to confirm the substance is oil-based.

Tissues samples were also sent to the North Slope Borough’s Division of Wildlife Management to determine the health of the seals and the levels of pollution in their bodies.

This marks the third year in a row that oiled wildlife was found around St. Lawrence Island in the fall time. No other region in Alaska — not the North Slope Borough, Yukon-Kuskokwim region, or the Atlenants — have reported oiled wildlife in the past three years.

“It seems to be only affecting the St. Lawrence Island, Bering Strait area,” said Kawerak Subsistence Director Brandon Ahmasuk.

“This is a big concern for all subsistence users,” added Ahmasuk. He also said he would like to see a more vigorous response from the government to search for the source of the oil that seems to leak into the waters around the North Slope.

An often-voiced concern is that there could have been a research vessel — possibly on the nearby Russian side of the International Dateline. However, a Coast Guard spokesman said, “This is an isolated incident but now we will get it to the USCG to trace it to the source of the oil. Again, no oil slick was seen. Just as in the previous two years, last week’s reports of oiled seals leave responders and the region’s residents wondering about the source and location of the oil slick that the seals likely swam through.”

Coast Guard Sector Anchorage spokesman Shawn Eggert said the Coast Guard received tissue samples, will split them with ADEC, and then analyses will begin in both the State and Federal labs.

At this point, Eggert said, “If someone does see oiled wildlife and is able to get the animal to Nome, we will get it to the USCG to trace it to the source of the oil. Again, no oil slick was seen.”

To schedule a pickup.

**FREE DUMP Saturdays:**

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**A dump truck will be located at one convenient location:**

- East End Park

**Fall Clean-Up Week!**

Public Works will be available Monday, September 29th thru Thursday, October 2nd to pick up vehicles!! Must fill out a release form at City Hall. Please call 434-6663 to schedule a pickup. Includes ATV’s and snowmachines.

**Free Dump Saturdays:**

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**A dump truck will be located at one convenient location:**

- East End Park

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ALASKA’S ONLY LOCAL REFINER

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Oxford does not give away trips to Hawaii or gold nuggets, but we do provide the highest return for your gold and precious metals. So you walk away with more money in your pocket, not just a “chance to win.” Buying, selling, or trading — Oxford provides the service, value, honesty, and integrity that Alaskans have counted on for generations.

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A dump truck will be located at one convenient location:

- East End Park
Fall is in the air as Nomeites could tell by stormy weather that brought some good-sized rollers onto Norton Sound. Choppy seas kept gold dredges anchored at Belmont Point for the better part of the week.

Other ship traffic was also held over in Nome due to weather. With Harbormaster Lucas Stotts on leave this week, Project Manager for Port Expansion and Development Joy Baker reported last week’s harbor and port activity.

On Tuesday, Sept. 9, the tug and barge Fishhawk/Logistics Provider completed their cargo operations and departed in the afternoon. The landing craft Devon departed late evening, carrying construction equipment for a coastal project. Tanka vessels Themsestern and Diamond Express anchored in Nome’s roadstead to load lighter vessels as needed. The Diamond Express left before the weekend.

On Sept. 10, the tug and barge Arctic Bear/Alaska Provider arrived to discharge contaminated soil from an ongoing clean up of a formerly used military site at St. Lawrence Island. The tug and barge remained in Nome to wait for better weather conditions before returning to SLI’s Northeast Cape to load equipment.

On Sept. 11, the landing craft Greta arrived to discharge and backload cargo for another village delivery. The vessel departed midday. The tug and barge Seahawk/Madison Rose arrived early in the morning and discharged and loaded cargo at the high ramp. The crew decided to layover due to winds and swell activity. The Arctic Bear also had over another day due to bad weather.

On Sept. 12, the vessel Alaska Endeavor, chartered for NOAA research, arrived in the early morning and moored alongside the Arctic Bear’s barge due to swell at the City Dock. All other traffic remained at the dock due to high winds.

Winds decreased on Saturday, Sept. 13. The improvement in weather conditions allowed the research ship Alaska Endeavor, the tug and barge Arctic Bear/Alaska Provider and the Seahawk/Madison Rose to depart.

On Sunday, Sept. 14, the Paragon/DBL79 arrived at the dock mid-morning for a fuel discharge to shore. On Monday, Sept. 15, the Paragon fuel discharge was still underway at the Causeway. The tug and barge Sesok/165-1 arrived at the East Dock mid-morning for a fuel discharge to harbor tanks.

The Pacific Raven/Kay’s Point line haul barge waited offshore for dock space at the Causeway to discharge fuel product. The tanker vessel Themsestern remained offshore to reload lighter vessels to bring more fuel product to shore.

Baker also reports that the harbor repairs and upgrades project, including lighting, is nearing completion.

Requests on the Fish Dock fenders and installation of light poles on East and South sides of harbor should be complete within the next week to 10 days, she reported on Monday.

SPENDING AN EXTRA DAY IN NOME—Due to high winds and choppy seas, the barge Madison Rose didn’t leave Nome until Sept. 13.

PARKED—The tanker vessel Themsestern remained offshore for reloading lighter vessels bringing more fuel product to shore.
Nome Homeschoolers go geocaching on Anvil Mountain

By Mallory Conger
On Monday, Sept. 8, 26 Nome homeschool students searched out a geocache on Anvil Mountain.
They did this to learn how to use a GPS.
Geocaching is like hide-and-seek, but with a GPS.
A GPS is a small, handheld device that uses satellites. A geocache is a small plastic container that someone hides in the outdoors.

The GPS shows the location of something far away. Before the kids started hiking, they had to put the latitude and longitude for the geocache location in the GPS.

The older kids held the GPS units that they borrowed from the Nome
Community Center. The kids followed an arrow that showed the direction of the geocache. The GPS also showed the distance of how far the kids were from the geocache.

Homeschoolers hiked up Anvil Mountain and found a geocache named The White Alice Towers Geocache.
The first kids there were Clara Hanson and Tobin Hovak. Emelyne Hovak, who was the oldest homeschool kid, wrote all of the names in the log book. Most of the kids put a small item in the geocache, and took something from the geocache.

Then they closed it and put it back in the hiding spot.

FOLLOW THE GPS—Homeschool families ascend the south side of Anvil Mountain to search a geocache hidden somewhere above. Many geocachers hide small containers and then record the location using a GPS. The geocache’s coordinates are downloadable on Geocache.com where other people can use them to search for the cache. There are over 60 geocaches in the Nome area, and over 2.5 million hidden world-wide.

Nome Trooper post has new officers

By Diana Haecker
In the last few months, the Nome Post of the Alaska State Trooper received new additions. In May, Wildlife Trooper Mike Cresswell transferred from Bethel to Nome. Cresswell fills the vacancy left by Jay Sears.

Patrol trooper Tim Smith joined the Nome Post in July. Smith came from the AST post in Kotzebue, where he served the villages of Ambler, Shungnak and Koyuk. In this region, Smith will cover the villages of Golovin, Wales, Teller, Koyuk, Savoonga and Shishmaref.

He came to Alaska with the Navy from Wisconsin in 2005. Smith joined the Alaska State Troopers in 2009. He first worked in the Palmer and Wasilla area before transferring to Kotzebue and now Nome. He fills the vacancy left by Trooper Aime Sears, who along with her husband Jay Sears, transferred to Fairbanks earlier this year.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF IDENTITY OF CANDIDATES

The following people have filed for elected office for the October 7, 2014 City of Nome Municipal, Utility Board and School Board Elections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<td>Common Council</td>
<td>Three (3) Year Term</td>
<td>Louis Green, Sr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Common Council</td>
<td>Three (3) Year Term</td>
<td>Tony Sparks</td>
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<td>Utility Board</td>
<td>Two (2) Year Term</td>
<td>Fred Moody</td>
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<tr>
<td>Utility Board</td>
<td>Three (3) Year Term</td>
<td>Carl Emmens</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Board</td>
<td>Three (3) Year Term</td>
<td>Jennifer Reader</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Board</td>
<td>Three (3) Year Term</td>
<td>Bradly Scotts</td>
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Any person with information intending to establish that a municipal candidate may be ineligible to fill that office may challenge the eligibility of the candidate. A challenge may be submitted at any time preceding the date and time of the Municipal Elections and must be submitted to the City Clerk, City Hall, located at 900 Dimond Street, Nome, Alaska.

PROPOSITION NO. 1

Should The City Of Nome increase the rate of Sales Tax on sales of Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products from five percent (5%) to eight percent (8%)?

Shall section 17.10.010 of the Nome Code of Ordinances of the City of Nome, Alaska, be amended by the addition of a new subsection to read as follows:

There shall be levied and collected a sales tax of eight percent of the selling price on all retail sales of alcoholic beverage and tobacco products in the city, except as provided in Section 17.10.020.

The proposition shall be printed on a ballot and the following words shall be added as appropriate and next to them a square or space provided for marking the ballot:

PROPOSITION NO. 1 Yes (____)
No (____)

GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE

Open 1-6 pm
RASMUSSEN’S MUSIC MART
School district receives gift for JROTC, highlights cultural awareness

By Kristine McRae

Since the inception of the Alaska Native Education Program, Nome has been an integral part of the Nome School District's efforts to improve educational outcomes for its students. As part of this commitment, the Nome School District has been able to support the development of programs that align with the cultural heritage of the students.

The Nome School District recently announced that it had received a $37,000 donation from the Sitnasuak Regional Urban Native Association (SRUNA) to support the JROTC program at Nome-Beltz High School. This donation is part of the Sitnasuak’s ongoing commitment to supporting education in the Nome area.

In addition to the financial support, the Sitnasuak also provided a virtual field trip for Nome-Beltz students, which included a visit to the Alaska Sealife Center in Seward. This experience was part of a series of virtual field trips that the Nome School District has been able to offer through the Alaska OWL (Online With Libraries) Project.

The Sitnasuak also provided a virtual field trip to the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, which was attended by classroom teachers and students. This experience was part of a series of virtual field trips that the Nome School District has been able to offer through the Alaska OWL (Online With Libraries) Project.

In addition to the virtual field trips, the Sitnasuak also provided a virtual field trip to the Nome Youth Facility. These virtual field trips have allowed students to participate in the free breakfast and lunch program and have also provided a hands-on squid dissection workshop. This experience was part of a series of virtual field trips for elementary students. Videoconferences have been attended by classroom teachers at the elementary school, and Avril City Science Academy and the Nome Youth Facility. These virtual field trips have allowed students to participate in the free breakfast and lunch program and have also provided a hands-on squid dissection workshop.

In addition to the virtual field trips, the Sitnasuak also provided a virtual field trip to the Nome Youth Facility. These virtual field trips have allowed students to participate in the free breakfast and lunch program and have also provided a hands-on squid dissection workshop.

The Sitnasuak’s continued support for the Nome School District’s efforts to improve educational outcomes for its students is a testament to the importance of cultural awareness in education.

Library offers students virtual field trips

By Sarah Miller

This week, a group of homeschool students from Nome paid a visit to the Center for Puppetry Arts in Atlanta, Georgia. Thanks to modern technology, the students were able to attend a live presentation on rainforest birds, followed by a workshop session during which they created a tropical bird puppet. This presentation is part of a series of videoconferences that Nome librarian Margarette LaRiviere has been able to offer to Nome and the surrounding area through the helfenfield School (Online With Libraries) Project. By securing grant funds through the OWL Project, the library has been able to acquire broadband services and to provide a series of virtual field trips for elementary students. Videoconferences have been attended by classroom teachers at the elementary school, as well as by Nome’s eligibility for the free lunch program. It’s a three-year eligibility program, and the Nome School District staff are working to ensure that all eligible students are able to participate.

In addition to the virtual field trips, the Nome School District has also been able to provide virtual field trips to other destinations, such as the Alaska Sealife Center in Seward. These virtual field trips have allowed students to participate in the free breakfast and lunch program and have also provided a hands-on squid dissection workshop. This experience was part of a series of virtual field trips for elementary students. Videoconferences have been attended by classroom teachers at the elementary school, as well as by Nome’s eligibility for the free lunch program. It’s a three-year eligibility program, and the Nome School District staff are working to ensure that all eligible students are able to participate.

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

From the Northwest coast of Alaska comes an artistic surprise

By Kathleen McCoy
Most Alaskans wouldn’t link the word opera with Unalakleet, a community of 700 located just at the mouth of its namesake river on Norton Sound.

Maybe not, until now. University of Alaska Anchorage vocal performance student and coloratura soprano Kira Eckenweiler grew up in Unalakleet. Dad Gary Eckenweiler moved there to teach school more than two decades ago and married Willa, a local Inupiaq woman.

Kira, 21, is the youngest of their two daughters.

Last month, while home working her third summer counting fish for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Kira was joined by UAA piano professor Tim Smith for a concert in Unalakleet’s Frank A. Degnan High School gym; he on the piano, Timothy Wolcott, the local music teacher who arrived four years ago from New York to encounter Kira as a high school senior. “They were really listening.”

Tears followed the recital, but not from Kira. Smith, Wolcott and Kira’s parents all recounted how community members moved toward the young vocalist, wiping their eyes. “I don’t think people expect to hear opera come out of a village girl’s mouth.” Kira said later. “I am so glad people were touched by my music.”

Some of that emotion may be linked to a custom Willa Eckenweiler shared with me over the phone from Unalakleet. “We have a naming process in Inupiat culture,” she said, “a way to keep a name alive and the biggest salary. Kira plays one of those songs in this comedy about artists and vanity.

Her dad’s voice has a hint of both pride and sadness over the phone from Unalakleet. “I think this may be the last summer we’ll see her at home.” Gary said. “She’s set her sights on traveling.” Indeed, Kira is preparing audition pieces to apply for a summer music program in Europe. Italy is her goal; it gets her closer to learning Italian, the language of many operas.

All this, from the little girl who would sing her way through long family canoe trips. Who won the school talent contest in fifth grade by singing from Disney’s “Pocahontas.” Who, in high school, set her mind to winning not just regionals, but statewide competitions for her singing, including earning one of only three “command performance” slots for vocals in her senior year.

That performance program from 2011 is peppered with names from big Alaska high schools: Dimond, Lathrop, West Valley, South, Palmer and Grace Christian. Unalakleet appears only once, next to Kira’s name.

“Probably, hands down, the most gifted singer I have ever worked with,” said Mari Hahn, associate professor at UAA. “She’s got depth, strength, courage.”

Hahn acknowledged the power of supportive parents and a home community that will come out to hear her sing.

Opera is a hugely competitive field, Hahn said. She predicted Kira will spend the next few years at a larger music center, polishing her skills and preparing for a national or international career. “She has the inner strength and character to withstand all the pressures,” Hahn said.

Besides, she quipped, “Kira’s the only student who ever told me she needed to miss class to go hunt, then brought me back a big slab of moose for my freezer.”

Kathleen McCoy works at UAA, where she highlights campus life through social and online media.

LESSEN — Kira Eckenweiler performs during a voice lesson with professor Mari Hahn in Hahn’s office in the Arts Building on the University of Alaska Anchorage campus in Anchorage on Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014.

Photo by Phillip Hall, UAA

UNALAKLEET PERFORMANCE — Kira Eckenweiler sang opera selections in the gym at the Frank A. Degnan High School in Unalakleet on August, 2014. Tim Smith is at the piano, Timothy Wolcott, the local Unalakleet music teacher, is turning pages for him.

Photo by Gary Eckenweiler

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Jake Stettenbenz to swim for Southwest Oregon Community College

By Kirsten Bey

2014 Nome-Beltz graduate Jake Stettenbenz is heading to Cosy Bay, Oregon to swim for the Southwest Oregon Community College. Jake, son of Bonnie Picoya Reynolds and Dave Stettenbenz, started swimming with the Nome Northstar Swim Team when he was in grade school and continued with the Nome-Beltz Nanooks High School team. NNSST Coach Sharon Keeney said “I think it is exciting to have a swimmer who began with the Northstars as a newbie and continued consistently swimming every season through graduation and now beyond to the next level.” It has been a delight to watch someone who loves the challenge of the water develop as a swimmer, as he has grown. I look forward to seeing his swimming career continue in college.

Jake is the first Nome-Beltz graduate to commit to a college to participate in a swimming program. Liz Korenrek-Johnson was a walk-on to the swim team at Pacific Lutheran. According to John Gunther of the Cosy Bay World, 6/12/14, “Southwestern Oregon Community College... is exciting to have a swimmer who hopes to give local swimmers an opportunity to continue their careers in college.”

Coach Bullock is excited to have Jake commit to the program and is looking forward to having him on her first team. Coach Bullock said that SWOCC hopes to give local swimmers an opportunity to continue their careers in college and also to provide an opportunity for swimmers in the region who don’t quite have the background to compete in Division I or Division II schools. Coach Bullock confirms that Jake is the fastest north recruit and she is looking forward to his arrival saying that Jake will challenge and be challenged by his teammates.

The SWOCC Lakers will compete in meets with several of the smaller 4-year colleges in Oregon and Washington. So far, meets have been arranged with Willamette University and Pacific University in Oregon and Pacific Lutheran University and Seattle-Pacific College in the Tacoma-Seattle area. There is also a National Swim Meet in March that SWOCC swimmers could qualify for. Focusing on just one sport for the school year will be a new experience for Jake. Like most Nome-Beltz athletes, he participated in a variety of sports during his high school career. Jake is excited to see how his swimming will develop when he is able to really concentrate on swimming.

Classes start at SWOCC on September 29 so Jake in the final process of getting ready to head to Cosy Bay. Wish Jake well if you see him around town before he takes off to college.

Nome volleyball girls nipped by Kotzebue in Nanooks’ season opener

By Keith Conger

The Kotzebue girls volleyballers made up for a two-year winless streak against the Nome-Beltz Lady Nanooks on Friday by defeating their rivals to the south three games to one on the Huskies’ Senior Night in Kotzebue. The Huskies duplicated that feat in the Saturday morning contest with the Nanooks three to one victory.

While Nome would begin the season 0 – 2, the Huskies remained undefeated. They were able to take care of the perennial powerhouse, the Barrow Lady Whalers, last week at home and are off to their best starts in years with a 4 – 0 record.

The Nanooks, Huskies, and Whalers are joined by the Bethel Warriors in the Western Alaska Volleyball Conference. According to Huskies coach Jessa Baray, this is geographically the largest high school sports region in the United States.

Two of the four teams will advance from the Western Conference to the state tournament in November. A team’s winning percentages within the conference determine seeding at this year’s regional tournament in Nome, so these early matches mean a lot.

On any given year, with so few members in the conference, there is a high degree of familiarity between the teams. That has been magnified in recent years by a coaches’ game of “musical chairs.” Third year Nanooks’ coach Lucas Frost led the flurry of coaching changes. He was formerly the middle school volleyball coach in Kotzebue three years ago.

Kotzebue, however, seems to have gained the most potential for knowing its conference opponents. First year Huskies coach Barry is the JV coach in Bethel last year. Her assistant coach Garrett Danner was the JV coach in Barrow last season.

Some of the girls that Frost coached in the middle school will be returning in defeating their former coach. Freshman Cassidy Kremer led the Huskies in blocks. Double sport standout, freshman Calia Siis, who won the high school girls cross country running race in Kotzebue last weekend, led the team in digs (the stat given when a player reaches low to the ground to keep a ball in play that has been sent over the net by an opponent).

Nome was led in blocks by senior June Tidwell, a transfer student who played for Eielson High School in Fairbanks last year. Junior Allaryce Aho was a key in kills shot (the statistic given for when a player sends the ball across the net and scores a point).

The Nanooks JV squad beat the Huskies JV squad Friday night 2 games to 1. The Huskies came back to defeat the Nanooks on Saturday 2 – 1. The Lady Nanooks varsity squad will travel to Anchorage next weekend to play in the West High Volleyball Tournament.

Scoreboard Volleyball

Nome-Beltz Nanooks vs Kotzebue Huskies Girls Varsity Volleyball, Kotzebue, Alaska

Friday, September 13

Nome 3 – 1 over Nome
Kotzebue 1 – 2 over Nome
28 – 26, 25 – 18, 15 – 25, 25 – 14

Nome-Beltz Nanooks vs Kotzebue Huskies Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball, Kotzebue, Alaska

Friday, September 12

Nome 2 – 1 over Kotzebue
Kotzebue 2 – 1 over Nome
26 – 24, 12 – 25, 25 – 18

For the latest sports scores, visit kitakobuk.com/sports.
Hoogendorn sets new course record at Nome Invitational running meet

By Keith Conger

In a five-kilometer (3.1 mile) cross country race, a second of time can be lost in many ways. On Saturday, Nome-Beltz sophomore Wilson Hoogendorn found a way to save every second — and gain exactly one — as he set a new course record at the 2014 Nome Invitational running meet.

Hoogendorn’s time of 19 minutes, 19 seconds, was exactly one second faster than the record breaking time put in by Spencer Woods of Kotzebue last year. His strong performance was much needed, as the Nome and Kotzebue boys teams met for the third time this year, the first time with both teams at full strength.

Nome’s freshman Harrison Moore made a positive statement for the youth of the Nanooks by finishing in third place with a time of 20:29. The first and third place finishers of Nome’s top two runners helped the team edge Kotzebue for the team award by a score of 26 to 34.

Kotzebue, led by second place finisher Gary Eakin, had more runners in the top five than did Nome. Harry Baldwin and Eakin’s brother Zeke came in four seconds apart, placing fourth and fifth respectively.

Although Eakin ran a fast race at 20:20, he was still a full minute behind. Showing classy sportsmanship, Eakin said that Hoogendorn had what it took today to climb the big, centerpiece hill on the course. “The hill is pretty tough. It’s all mental,” he said. “When you get to the top, if you still have that mentality, the race is yours.”

The Nanooks’ victory at home made up for a defeat at the hands of Kotzebue two weeks ago, the Region 1 North Championships in Norkvik on September 20 will be quite a test for the young Nanooks boys team.

With the Lady Nanooks top runner Christine Buffas resting a sore leg, the Nome-Beltz girls needed someone to step up in their showdown with the Kotzebue girls. They found just what they needed in freshman Mary Fiskraa, who won the gold medal in a time of 25:56.

Fiskraa, surprised herself at the meet. “I’m pretty excited. I didn’t expect to be first. I want that fast last year. But this year I pushed myself more,” said the second year runner.

Nome-Beltz sophomore Bianca Trowbridge and senior Alexis Hudson completed the podium sweep for the Nanooks. Kotzebue’s Moira Sheldon’s fourth place finish paced the Lady Huskies, who ended up with 47 points. They fell short in the team award to Nome which scored 20.

The meet was attended by Bering Strait School District teams from Teller, Golovin, and Koyuk. The top BSSD finishers for the high school races were both from Teller. Jazlynn Garnie cracked the top five in the girls race, and Jared Topkok’s effort led to an eighth place finish in the boys race.

The Nome-Beltz junior high girls copied their older teammates by taking the top three spots. They were led by seventh-grader Ava Earleman, whose time of 26:24 would have earned her a second place in the high school girls’ race. She was followed by Starr Eriksen and Daynon Medlin respectively.

Kotzebue’s Trevor Hickerson won the junior high school boys race in a time of 21:44. He was followed by Nome teammates Benjamin Cross and Brayden Baluke.

The top BSSD finishers in the junior high race were Teller’s Kiara Okkakik who came in fifth place, and Teller’s Nicholas Topkok who came in seventh place.

Elementary aged children had the opportunity to run a 1-mile race. The top three finishers in the boys were Son Erikson, Colin McFarland, and Tobin Hobbs. The top three finishers for the girls were Natalie Tobuk, Cathy Okkak of Teller, and Katie Smith.

In the fall of 2010 the Nome-Beltz cross country running course was slightly redesigned. Hoogendorn now has the record on that course.

Photos by Diana Haecker
**2013 PFD books on sale for $900 each until gone.**

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Lowest prices in twenty years.

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Mindful eating without guilt

By Sarah Miller

“It’s OK to enjoy food without guilt,” says NSHC dietician Olivia Meyers. The philosophy that weight loss is the goal of eating is achieved without forgoing the pleasures of eating is part of “mindful eating,” an alternative to dieting that the hospital’s CAMSP (Chronic Care Active Management and Prevention Program) department is making available to the community through its 10 in 10 Program. The 10 in 10 program started in 2011, and was originally designed to support participants in losing ten pounds in ten weeks, with weekly weight ins and education on weight loss topics.

Mindful eating represents a shift from “dieting” that emphasizes calorie counting and food tracking, to enjoying food, and being conscious of one’s eating habits and the feelings that accompany eating. “Many of our program participants are repeaters in the 10 in 10 program. We wanted to provide them with something that allows them to think differently about food. Mindful eating is a diet-free approach,” explained Megan Timm, Prevention Program Coordinator.

Mindful eating seeks to focus attention on the act of eating and preparing food, truly savoring and tasting it, and thinking consciously about factors that influence how, when and why we eat. “We don’t eat to live anymore,” explained Meyers. “We eat to go to the car, on the couch, when our minds are occupied with tasks, lists, etc.”

Eating with awareness can lead to healthier food choices, more control over habits and cravings, and can train people to eat for hunger and satisfaction, rather than in response to emotional needs. It is crucial we begin with understanding God’s mission. God calls each of us to participate in his actions in our world. As God’s people we are occupied with tasks, lists, errands in the 10 in 10 program. We went into its harvesting and preparation efforts for the past 15 years.

Saying it Sincerely

Pastor Charles Brower

Community United Methodist Church

Member of the Nome Ministerial Association

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Empl0yment

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:

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Experience

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3 year(s) 2 year(s)

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Real Estate

FDI SALE – Lot 14, BK 81, Nome, by school / hospital, line on at 907-846-1926

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Prepare a career in the seafood industry

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEC) is sponsoring entry-level seafood processing training through the Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AV/TEC) in Seward for Norton Sound residents. NSEC will pay tuition, employment documentation costs, transportation, food and lodging expenses for selected applicants. Class size is limited to 10.

Training dates: October 13-22, 2014

Application deadline: October 3, 2014

Applications are available online at www.nsecdc.com or by contacting Jerry Ivanoff. Completed applications should be returned to Ivanoff at the following address:

Jerry Ivanoff, NSEC EET Director
PO Box 193
Unalakleet, AK 99784
(800) 385-3190
(907) 624-3183

NSEC does not guarantee employment for trainees or place trainees directly into employment. However, trainees who successfully complete the program will become certified seafood processors who are eligible for them to continue working plans and an employer/procressor. NSEC works with harvesting partners to attain a job agency for Norton Sound residents as possible. During the training, Observer Fish ‘Compliant Human Factors Personnel will be interacting with trainees for a successful employment.

www.nsecdc.com

Classified

WANTED: MARKETED TUG AND FISHER VESSELS, NEAR GOOD PORTS. Good buyers will pay more for your vessel. Call 1-907-500-8000, or send photo to: marinetraining@gmail.com or 360-351-5500 907-351-5500 For Sale.

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Legals

STATE OF ALASKA - DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

SITNA NATIVE CORPORATION

Solid Waste Permit

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC) proposes to issue a Solid Waste Permit to the City of Koyuk, to operate a Class III Community Municipal Solid Waste Landfill. Permit Application No. 679898.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Located at the mouth of the Koyuk River, at the northeastern end of Norton Bay in the Bering Peninsula, at 66.02 north latitude and 162.96 east longitude, and is referenced in Section 21, Township 75 South, Range 12 East, Second Meridian West.

Landowner: Koyuk Native Corporation

LANDLORD OPERATOR: Clip Yeung

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: This public notice is for an existing landfill that has operated as an unpermitted facility since the 1950's. This application is to expand the landfill and to provide a liner. This expansion will allow the landfill to accept construction and demolition waste and will be operated as a Class III Community Municipal Solid Waste Landfill, which will be developed for a period of 20 years and closed within 10 years of closure.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This application is for a Solid Waste Disposal Permit. For contact, please contact Trisha Bower at (907) 443-7824 or by e-mail at trisha.bower@alaska.gov.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: ADEC is seeking comment regarding the proposed Permit only. Notice is given that any person may file comments with ADEC, by mail at ADEC, 1111 K Street, Suite 600, Juneau, AK 99801, or by email at info@alaska.gov prior to 4 p.m. on October 14, 2014. Written comments and a detailed assessment of the proposed Permit will be made available for public review prior to the permit decision.

For more information regarding this Solid Waste Disposal Permit Application, please contact Trisha Bower at (907) 443-7824 or by e-mail at trisha.bower@alaska.gov.

The State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation complies with Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Trisha Bower at (907) 443-7824 or by email at trisha.bower@alaska.gov.

House for sale: 1000 East Front Street

Reason for Selling: Retiring in 3 years. Call Ray Drosby (443-6675).

Sitnasuk Native Corporation

P.O. Box 905
Nome, Alaska 99762
(907) 387-1200
Fax (907) 443-3063

TO:

Sitnasuk Native Corporation Shareholders

FROM:

Sitnasuk Native Corporation Land Department

SUBJECT:

Cabins for Sale by Sealed Bid

DATE:

September 8, 2014

BID DEADLINE:

September 30, 2014

Dear Sitnasuk Native Corporation Shareholders:

Sitnasuk Native Corporation Land Department is soliciting bids for cabins, and other campsite improvements that have been inactivated. Sealed bids will be opened on September 8, 2014. The highest bidder may purchase the building. The building or improvement must be removed from the site or the winner of the award. This process will be completed by the campsite permit with the SNC Land Department within 30 days from the date of purchase of the awarded bid. Following Land Use Policy. The minimum starting bid for each improvement is identified below. Please place your bid in a sealed envelope. Sealed bid delivery by mail or in person is acceptable. Please mark bid as “Campsite Improvement Bid #”. Bids are due on or before September 8, 2014.

BID NO. ROAD LOCATION GENERAL DESCRIPTION MINIMUM BID PHOTO

1. Nome-Council Mile 11 Cabin, Shed & Outouses $500

2. Keegark Mile 13 16X20 Cabin $500

3. Nome Mile 18 Small Cabin $100

4. Nome Mile 19.5 Tent Frame $100
State of Alaska, Division of Elections
Notice of Absentee Voting

Absentee in-person voting for the November 4, 2014 General election begins October 20th. Ballots for all districts will be available in each of the Division of Elections offices and other locations throughout the state.

If you would like to vote by mail, you must submit an absentee ballot application to the Division of Elections by October 25, 2014.

For a list of absentee voting locations, or to obtain an absentee ballot application, visit the division’s web site at www.elections.alaska.gov.

The State of Alaska, Division of Elections, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need assistance and/or accommodation to vote, please contact your local Division of Elections office to make necessary arrangements. STATEWIDE TDD: 1-866-322-3020.
Absentee ballots for the October 7, 2014 City of Nome Municipal Election will be available at the Office of the City Clerk, located in Nome City Hall, by September 19, 2014. Application may be made by mail to: City Clerk, City of Nome, P.O. Box 281, Nome, Alaska 99762, or by fax at (907)443-5262. Mailed ballot applications MUST be received in the City Clerk’s Office no later than October 2, 2014. Ballot applications submitted in person MUST be received by October 6, 2014.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC, GUIDES, PILOTS & HUNTERS

Game Unit 22A - Unalakleet River Area

• The public is reminded the land ownership within the outlined areas on the map are predominately privately owned by Unalakleet Native Corporation and its Shareholders.

• Hunting by non-shareholders is not allowed. Hunting by Shareholders, spouses of Shareholders, and descendents of Shareholders for subsistence purposes is permitted. For other allowable uses of land by non-shareholders, please contact:

Unalakleet Native Corporation
907-624-3411
• Seawall

continued from page 15

was arrested for driving while intoxicated and the vehicle was impounded. The driver failed to come to a complete stop at the stop sign. The vehicle struck a parked vehicle and the driver fled the scene without incident.

On 9-14 at 1:05 a.m. Nome Police Department responded to a report of a disturbance that occurred at 9-14 at 11:52 a.m. Nome Police Department

received a report of a shoplifter located at a business on Bering St. The offender was con-

Visuals and an interview with the shoplifter were taken, and the offender was returned to the District Attorney for disposition.

On 9-14 at 12:52 p.m. Nome Police Department Of-

received a report of a disturbance involving a�$*croft. The offender was located at a residence in Nome and observed to be intoxicated. She was warned for criminal trespass at the residence. She was able to stand and was released from the site without further incident.

On 9-14 at 7:44 p.m. Nome Police Department received a report of a disturbance involving a�$*croft. The offender was located at a residence in Nome and observed to be intoxicated. She was warned for criminal trespass at the residence. She was able to stand and was released from the site without further incident.

On 9-12 at 6:38 p.m. the Nome Police Department

received a report of a disturbance involving a�$*croft. The offender was located at a residence in Nome and observed to be intoxicated. She was warned for criminal trespass at the residence. She was able to stand and was released from the site without further incident.

On 9-12 at 3:35 p.m., John Kokuluk, Ladd Soon-

and John Agrook, and Rebecca Takak were issued Public

Notice Port Commission Seat Vacancies

The Port Commission has two seats open for appointment. Anyone interested in serving on the Commission should submit an application to the City Clerk’s Office by Thursday, October 13, 2014 at 5:00 PM.

Applications are available at City Hall or at www.nomealaska.org. Please call 443-6603 for more information.

Unalakleet Native Corporation

P.O. Box 100

Unalakleet, Alaska 99684

To the Unalakleet Native Corporation Shareholders

Nomination forms are now available for shareholders interested in running for a two (2) year term for the Board of Directors. Closing date is 3rd of October 2014. Please write to Box 100 or call at (907) 624-3411 *FAX: (907) 624-3833

Unalakleet Native Corporation

P.O. Box 100

Unalakleet, Alaska 99684

PH: #(907) 624-3411 *FAX: #(907) 624-3833

Notice

Mary’s Igloo Native Corporation

Corporation Lands

For permission to enter Teller Native Lands please contact:

Phone: (907)542-9132, Fax: (907)542-9133, email: tellernativelandscompany@yahoo.com

Endangered: Teller’s Chukar

A male chukar was rubbed out by a hunter on Tuesday, September 10th, 2014. The last reported sighting was by a hunter in the area on August 29th, 2014. The Teller Chukar is considered to be endangered, and it is illegal to hunt or possess. Anyone having any information is asked to call Nome Police Department at (907)443-5262. 

Public Notice

This notice is given in accordance with the Chukar Decree No. 240 of the Nome City Council, and anyone having any information is asked to call Nome Police Department at (907)443-5262.
Tyler S. Weyiouanna and Molly M. Bach are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Annie Sophie Kimniq Weyiouanna. She was born on August 26, at 9:36 p.m. at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 inches.

• More Letters
continued from page 2

of recent official actions by candi-
dates, so we can make decisions that
support substance this coming
election. Every vote does count.

• More Troop Beat
continued from page 27

try to shut and lock the door. The girl was able
to push her way past the officer, and
her grandmother’s bathroom. Snyder was ar-
ested and charged with the court of Assistant
Chief Douglas Duvall was transported to Kotzebue Regional Jail.

• New magistrate
continued from page 2

opposing party.” But as a lawyer one
does not see the ramifications proce-
sures have on collateral entities, such as
the Department of Corrections, Nome Police
Department, AST, Behavioral Health

All Around the Sound

Tyler S. Weyiouanna and Molly M. Bach are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Annie Sophie Kimniq Weyiouanna. She was born on August 26, at 9:36 p.m. at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. She weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 19 inches.
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Alaska Court System’s Family Law Self-Help Center
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Bering Sea Women’s Group
BSWG provides services to survivors of violent crime and promotes violence-free lifestyles in the Bering Strait region.
24-Hours Crisis Line 1-800-570-5444 or 1-907-443-5444
EMAIL execdir@nome.net
P.O. Box 1596 Nome, AK 99762

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Please call 443-6768 for appointment
113 E Front St. Ste 102
Nome, AK 99762
(907) 443-7477

NOME OFFICE
NOME COURT HOUSE
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. Kab
443-6000
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1-800-222-1222

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All applicants must have extensive experience working in marine environments.

We will be conducting multiple shifts throughout the 2014 placer mining season in Nome, Alaska. Phoenix Offshore Mining is an equal opportunity employer. Safety and Quality is our top priorities. All applicants are subject to background checks. Interested parties must submit a resume and provide references in order to be considered. Please fax all inquiries to 732.390.2831 or email jackolexy@phoenixmarine.com. We look forward to hearing from you!
By Keith Conger

Representatives from health corporations, schools, and private industry met on Thursday at the Northwest Hospital in Kotzebue to discuss the expansion of TERRA, GCI’s broadband network. “This is a celebration for connecting the Arctic,” said Bob Walsh, GCI’s director of Rural Broadband Development. TERRA stands for Terrestrial, providing a reliable, land-based connection to the faster fiber optic cable backbone in Anchorage.

The goal of TERRA, said Ron Duncan, GCI’s chief operations officer, is to give rural villages access to the same 21st century technology that most people in the lower 48 are already in place,” said TwoSix.

“We have been driven by the tremendous growth in education and health care in the past 20 years,” Smith explained. “We as a nation in this region pushed the envelope in education and health care the past 20 years.”

“I’ve never been happy about how slow information moves up here,” said Eugene Smith, COO of Maniilaq Association, who has been a driving force in making things happen. “We have been driven by the technology that we can pass that information to the schools and hospitals, and health care.”

“The reason I came to Alaska is excited about being a part of bringing these technologies to the northwest. We did back in the 1950s with bringing television, and internet, they can be accessed and decreased, which results in cost savings, says TwoSix. This represents a “shifting focus from reactive medicine to a proactive method.”

Walsh says that high latency translation of images is a problem. When a signal has traveled 26,000 miles up to a satellite, and then 26,000 miles back, things slow down, says Walsh.

TERRA provides a terrestrial, or land based, connection to the faster fiber optic cable backbone in Anchorage.

The TERRA maps provided by Duncan showed that fiber optic cable has been laid as far as Unalakleet in northwest Alaska. There are many challenges encountered, however, when trying to produce fiber optic cable in the northwest. The logistics and costs of maintaining cable over vast stretches of tundra and melting snow makes optical cable from village to village impossible.

The TERRA project, with its microwave towers, was the answer GCI came up with when they envisioned connecting the Arctic said Duncan. TERRA provides.

In Alaska, the structure is already in place,” said TwoSix. “Broadband is actually changing the lives of people in the area.”

One of these changes comes through TeleHealth Services. According to TwoSix, the new broadband capabilities greatly enhance health care providers’ ability to deliver assistance to rural communities.

“People can actually live in another place like Thailand, and still provide services,” says TwoSix.

Many villages now have the ability to be directly connected with health care providers in the larger hospitals in Nome, Kotzebue, or even Anchorage. By increasing TeleHealth services, trips to the acute “brick and mortar” facilities are decreased, which results in cost savings, says TwoSix. This represents a “shifting focus from reactive medicine to a proactive method.”

An added benefit, says TwoSix, is that employee retention is increased. Veteran health care providers with important knowledge of the population and customs of the region, who no longer wish to, or are not able to, live in rural communities, can stay active in the system.

Northwest Arctic Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Annette O’Brien, who represents nearly 200 students, is also excited that refinements are coming their way. O’Brien says that she has seen big changes in education in her rural Alaska. She is happy that TERRA will bring students in her district greater access to technology in school.

O’Brien says that the increased access demands of modern education requires more bandwidth. Her district has computerized MAP testing three times a year, and is getting ready for the upcoming electronic state standardized testing.

O’Brien looks forward to the benefits greater bandwidth will provide her staff, saying the “opportunities this has opened up for professional development are truly phenomenal.”

The other added benefit O’Brien anticipates for her school district is having services on the internet, as opposed to a local server, will put less stress on district maintenance and upkeep.

Any advances in helping to alleviate the many hours the district requires for local repair services will be a plus.

Betty Huntington, CEO of Gana-A-Yuul Limited, a corporation whose shareholders come from the Yukon River villages of Galena, Koyukuk, Nulato, and Kaltag, cant wait for TERRA and its high speed internet to get to the interior. “Our people have changed over the years. For hundreds of years our people have had to be flexible. Broadband internet will allow us to have healthier communities that can live the way we want to live.”

Duncan says that delivering TERRA to the Yukon River will bring GCI another step closer toward “closing the ring” by connecting the current system of towers with Fairbanks. The next phase of the project, TERRA Yukon, is slated for finalization in 2016. In a circuit that explains Duncan, “will allow for double bandwidth.”

Dennis Meiners, CEO of Intelligene Energy Systems, added to the themes of the day by saying “we must innovate to maintain a high quality life.” He reminded the group at the meeting that another big advantage that greater bandwidth can provide is to help the “affordable energy in rural Alaska problem.”

Meiners explained that once the wind turbine systems can tie into the internet, they can be accessed and monitored from somewhere else. This can provide service people with the ability to “remotely pinpoint power problems down to the individual transformer or the actual individual pole.”

Changes in technologies such as those provided by TERRA can lead to increases in opportunities for economic expansion is an idea not lost on Art Irvinoff, CEO of Bering Sea Alliance, LLC. Irvinoff says this is happiness that his hometown of Unalakleet is receiving TERRA services. The villages most affected by the increases in traffic in the Bering Sea, such as Gambell, are often the least accessible villages. These villages have a lot to gain from an economic standpoint, and from a public health standpoint, but they need high-speed communications to realize these gains.

“Projections of global warming are true, then we must continue to find ways to get services like TERRA to even the most isolated of villages,” says Irvinoff. “We need to make sure that we do not leave any segment of the population behind.”

KIANA CLINIC — Brad Reich, manager of Inuket.net, a company that offers wireless internet connections to the Northwest Borough, displays the two TeleHealth video monitors that link patients in Kiana to health care providers in Kotzebue. “These are especially important in trauma situations,” states Reich, referring to the all-important time between the initial moments in an incident and when medevac personal can arrive in his village. Reich was leading a tour demonstrating how Kiana’s progressive clinic is ready for the next phase of GCI’s TERRA expansion.

Photo by Keith Conger

Photo by David Herman

BRAVE NEW WORLD (Right)—North Sound Health Corporation’s chief information officer TwoSix explains about the edges of TeleHealth. He says rural Alaska and the Arctic are the places to be in the US right now in terms of future implementation of new technologies.