



Photo by Diana Haecker

IDITAROD TRAIL— The Iditarod trail at Farley’s Camp about two miles east of Nome has barely enough snow to allow for smooth traveling by snowmachine or dog team.

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VOLUME CXV NO. 8 February 26, 2015

Port of Nome in the finals for Arctic deep-draft port

By Sandra L. Medearis

The U.S Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District has released a study that calls for an estimated \$118 million deep-water port to be built in Nome’s harbor on Norton Sound.

The selection is tentative, subject to further analysis including examinations by an independent agency and a peer review.

The proposed deep-draft arctic port’s navigational improvement would take Nome’s 2,700-foot existing harbor causeway, built in the

mid-1980’s, an additional 2,100 feet farther into Norton Sound to better serve increasing numbers of deeper draft vessels coming to arctic waters.

Additional work would include removing the existing spur that turns southwest at the end of the breakwater and dredging the entrance channel to a depth of minus 28 feet Mean Lower Low Water. The project would deposit dredged materials to the east of the existing harbor to augment the beach.

The draft plan includes a 450-foot

long dock to go on the harbor side of the causeway extension to provide moorage to vessels requiring depths of minus 28 feet.

The study is a segment of an ongoing consideration of navigation improvements as part of a larger system of port facilities in the Arctic and sub-Arctic region.

A larger deep-water port at Nome could be among the answers to needed marine infrastructure to meet safety and supply issues coming from increased shipping traffic in

northern waters.

“This is a historic beginning for the Alaska Arctic, its people and our nation,” Nome Mayor Denise Michels said Monday in a statement.

“Together we can forge a strong economic center for the region, strengthen our national security, increase marine safety in this remote area, and protect our food resources and environment through responsible mineral resource development.”

Nome had been working with the Corps since 1917, Michels said.

While climate change has caused receding ice to open millions of square miles of circumpolar waters to red hot interest in resource recovery, increased marine shipping and reductions in time and cost for transference of goods along the Northern Sea Route, additional navigation in the Arctic has also exposed a dearth of infrastructure for meeting life and death issues of search and rescue and oil spill prevention and response.

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Photo by Keith Conger

CHEERING THEM ON— Members of the 2015 Nome Cheerleading squad root for the pink Lady Nanooks as they play the Barrow Lady Whalers on Saturday night at the Nome-Beltz gym. Jadyn Otten looks to pass the ball to Rayne Lie (right), while Taeler Brunette backs her up in the corner. The cheerleaders are (from left to right) Kalani Suemai, Trisha Llesis, Cydney West, Kelsey Immingan, Allaryce Agloinga, and Bailey Immingan-Carpenter. See story inside.

Man arrested after shooting spree

By Diana Haecker

A 22-year old Nome man went on a shooting rampage inside his home on Tuesday, February 17, firing off at least 30 guns shots inside the home and through the window in the direction of the Children’s Home across the street.

Jordon Lyon was arrested by Nome Police and was charged with firing a gun inside dwelling, a class B felony, Reckless Endangerment and misconduct involving weapons while intoxicated.

Police responded to a call from Joe Lyon at 4:01 p.m. stating that his son Jordon was shooting off a gun inside his home at 203 C West C Street.

Three officers, including Nome Police Chief John Papasodora, responded and found a juvenile waiting in the street for them. The young boy said that when he came home, he smelled gun powder in the house and saw several bullet holes in the

walls. The boy stated that his uncle Jordon Lyon was inside the home alone. Police took up position outside the residence and directed Jordon Lyon to step outside.

Lyon followed police commands to leave the home, placed his hands on his head and was arrested without incident.

The 22-year old had shot at least 30 .22-caliber gunshots inside the house. Six shots were fired through a window, busting the glass and traveling towards the Children’s Home, where five children ages 2 to 16 and two adults were at the time. Nobody was hurt in the incident. One shot was fired out the east window.

Lyon admitted to have been drinking and his breath alcohol content was .244 – three times the legal limit of .08.

Lyon is in custody and was arraigned on February 18. A preliminary hearing is set for February 27 at 1:30 pm.

Weird weather: Very rare “thundersnow” strikes Nome

By Diana Haecker

In a series of unusual weather events involving unseasonably warm temperatures, Nome saw something that has not been recorded in its 106-year old weather data history: a mid-winter lightening and thunderstorm.

On Tuesday morning, February 24 at 8:10 a.m. a lightening strike

and thunder happened right over Nome, followed by another lightening strike at 8:14 a.m. “This is a lifetime event,” said Jerry Steiger, meteorologist-in-charge at the Nome post of the National Weather Service. Meteorologists call the phenomena “thundersnow” and works just like a regular summer thunderstorm: a pocket of warm air rising, clashing with cold air and the friction causes lightening and thunder.

Steiger said he did not see the lightening bolt but saw the sky light up. “It was windy and gusted before the strike happened, but our station didn’t record any big increase of wind,” he said. However, the thundersnow was accompanied with a brief dump of heavy snowfall.

Steiger said, many people saw the event and called the NWS office to report it or ask for an explanation what they’ve seen.

This comes as weather cooled

down after a record-breaking weekend of high temperatures. On Saturday, Feb. 21 Nome set a new record with 40°F, shattering the old one set in 1957 at 36°F. Saturday saw some snow fall, but that turned into rain on Sunday. Sunday tied the record of 35°F set in 1940. In terms of precipitation, Friday saw an inch of snowfall, on Saturday it snowed one and-a-half inch and on Sunday, it rained .05 inches. On Sunday and Monday, the Weather Service reports record high minimum temperatures hovering just above the freezing mark. Monday saw a temperature 36°F, breaking the previous record of 33 degrees set in 2011.

Jerry Steiger noted that the weekend saw 48 hours with temperatures above freezing. In combination with rain, this translated into quickly deteriorating trails, overflow and slush on lakes and rivers. Steiger said that

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Photo by John Handeland

A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT— Front Street in Nome turned into a river during last Sunday’s warm spell.

On the Web:

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nugget@nomenugget.com



Letters

An open letter to all Alaskans regarding Common Core in Alaska,

Today we are on the precipice of determining whether Alaska should follow the guidance of Commissioner of Education Michael Hanley and Alaska School Board President Esther Cox as they direct our entire educational K-12 foundation to align with the national and international standards and curriculum of Common Core.

Certainly, there are convincing arguments that there should be standards of achievement for students and that there should be a method of assessment periodically throughout what is commonly held as the “formal years of education.” The argument evolves into a sense that without these standards, our Alaskan children will not be able to properly compete with all citizens for work in a global market.

And certainly, one can argue that our current educational standards are subpar both globally (ranked 26th in the world) and nationally (Alaska is 39th overall) which are issues we need to take into account specifically when Alaska spends more money per capita, per student than anywhere in

the world at approximately \$22,000.00 per student. When you factor in the Taj Mahal brick and mortar structures, we have no financial competition. We get the financial “Blue Ribbon” with very little accountability, which brings me to my next point.

Most people do not know that the Commissioner of Education does not answer to the Governor in the state of Alaska. To add insult to injury, neither does the Alaska School Board. These are officials who are appointed through the Legislature and do not answer directly to the electorate. I find it fascinating that the most important resource Alaska has is directed by administrators, who are not directly accountable to “We the People.”

Perhaps, this is why we get the results we have, which brings me to my next point.

Esther Cox, President of the Alaska School Board, recently made remarks in the House Education Committee hearing when asked what implementing Common Core standards would cost the state over a period of ten years, Ms. Cox answered:

“I could not possibly answer that question. I don’t live and breathe this

daily as do those through the department.”

Commissioner of Education, Michael Hanley has made statements all over the map regarding whether the State of Alaska is Common Core compliant, and whether or not our children’s personal data has been shipped away to a national database. His changing testimony over the last few years has been less than stellar and one could certainly argue extremely deceptive and definitely not forthright and transparent.

Through it all, even a passive observer will come away with a sense that the education network in Alaska is run by a very selective “education cartel.”

Generally speaking, the Alaska Legislature has had somewhat of a “hands off” approach in directing educational policy, and those few legislators who have actively engaged in the promotion of ideas of educational excellence seem to be met with some form of ostracizing as

“educational zealots.” One comes away with a sense that the professionals are in place to promote the monopoly of an average educational experience and nothing more, which brings me to my next point.

Common Core is being “sold” to the Alaskan legislature and to the citizen’s of Alaska as the “new” best way forward. I find it disconcerting that Bill Gates recently stated that Common Core is a 10-year experiment. One must wonder if we should expend an entire generation of our children on an educational experiment cooked up in the “Bill and Belinda Gates” education kitchen, but I divert.

Common Core is actually similar to the same national conversation we are having regarding global warming or it’s new label “Climate Change.” There is a fascinating similarity especially here in Alaska for instead of Commissioner Hanley calling our standards “Common Core” he just promotes them as “Alaska Stan-

dards”, but any reasonable assessment would indicate that they are 95 percent compliant to Common Core, so much so that the federal government has been willing to shovel some educational dollars into our coffers all with the idea that we will be a “good little state” and be compliant. Why do I hear that catchy tune from the movie Chicago playing in my head “Give them the old Razzle Dazzle.....” which brings me to my final point.

We are on the verge of an educational explosion based on technology. Today we have the opportunity to deliver a massive array of educational packages that are interactive in real time for pennies on the dollar. We can either embrace this new technology and begin directing the definition of excellence in educational content, or be bound to the convention of the “horse and buggy” of Common Core which is simply put,

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

Editorial

Go Where You’re Not Invited

In her visit to address the Alaska Legislature last week Sen. Lisa Murkowski commented on Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell’s visit to Kotzebue. It seems the meetings were top secret and the Anchorage TV folks were not invited to take part in the meetings.

The layers of secrecy that have enveloped our government on all levels is alarming. This isn’t the first time federal officials have come to western Alaska and hid from the press. Why the secrecy? The public should not have to demand a seat at the table. Officials should go out of their way to demonstrate and promote open government. The stealth mode of operation is brewing at the state level with an annual attempt to hide public legal notices on obscure web pages.

Not to be out shadowed— the city is no exactly forthcoming in revealing public information. Who is at fault? We are. We, the public, do not get involved with local government. We do not attend public meetings. Why? —N.L.M.—

A Look at the Past



GOOD LOOKING UNGULATE — Photographer F. H. Nowell made this image of a well-dressed man with his reindeer, taken during the Elk Day parade in the early 1900s.

Weather Statistics

Sunrise	02/26/15	9:21 a.m.	High Temp	+40 (record temp)	02/21/15	National Weather Service Nome, Alaska (907) 443-2321 1-800-472-0391
	03/04/15	8:59 a.m.	Low Temp	+17	02/19/15	
Sunset	02/26/15	7:10 p.m.	Peak Wind	32 mph, E,	02/21/15	
	03/04/15	7:29 p.m.	Total Precip. for 2015 (as of 2/23)	1.39"		
			Normal Total to Date (as of 2/23)	1.68"		
			Seasonal Snowfall	38.80"	Normal 54.10"	
			Snow on Ground	9.00"		

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Nancy McGuire

editor and publisher
nancym@nomenugget.com

Diana Haecker

staff reporter
diana@nomenugget.com

Kristine McRae
Laurie McNicholas
Sarah Miller
Nils Hahn

education reporter
reporter at large
reporter at large
advertising manager
ads@nomenugget.com

Keith Conger
Peggy Fagerstrom

sports/photography
photography
For photo copies: pfagerst@gci.net
photography
production
photos@nomenugget.com

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Chief’s Notes: Marijuana – What’s Legal and What’s Not?

By Nome Chief of Police John Papasodora

In November 2014, the voters approved proposition 2 – which allows for the commercial sale and taxation of marijuana. It also allows for personal recreational use. Under the initiative a person, AGE 21 and OVER, may possess up to one ounce of marijuana; may grow up to six plants with three being ‘mature’ plants; and transfer (gifting) of marijuana between persons. This all took effect on Tuesday, Feb. 24.

However, the commercial aspect does not take effect until the State develops the regulations to manage this commercial industry.

For the average citizen, this isn’t that great of a change; except that you will be able to transport up to an ounce of marijuana and have marijuana paraphernalia. You will not be allowed to sell or receive ‘remuneration’ for marijuana.

I have heard various theories that a person can accept a ‘donation’ for marijuana, however this may lead to the person receiving the ‘donation’ being in a bad position, as this is a form of compensation.

Under the Alaska alcohol laws, a

person can’t receive money in any form for alcohol, as it is considered ‘selling’. Since the intent is to regulate marijuana like alcohol, the definitions will likely be the same. Please keep this in mind when considering a transfer of marijuana from one person to another. It must be a gift and free of any transfer of money, goods or services.

Under the initiative, the City of Nome can enact ordinances allowing for or restricting the commercial sale of marijuana and control the methods for the implementation of the initiative. Nome Code of Ordinance changes have been proposed to establish a Marijuana Advisory Board and to enact ordinances to manage the public use aspects of marijuana. These changes should be forthcoming in the near future. Over the course of the next several months, the City will be looking at what the State passes through legislative action and taking appropriate action in regard to commercial operations.

So, what’s legal?

A person may possess up to one ounce of marijuana

A person may possess marijuana ‘accessories’

A person may consume marijuana where it is legal for them to do so

A person may grow up to six plants, three of which may be ‘mature’, ‘flowering’ or producing buds.

Keep in mind that if you live in a rental property, the owner may not allow the smoking or cultivation of marijuana. You should check with your landlord to avoid unpleasant circumstances.

What’s not legal?

IF UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE - You can’t possess, use, grow, transport, or otherwise engage in behaviors involving marijuana.

Adults can’t allow someone under 21 to do any of the acts listed above, or contribute to the use by a person under the age of 21.

You can’t smoke marijuana and drive or drive after smoking, if you are impaired. You could be cited for having an open container of marijuana or arrested for DUI.

You can’t smoke marijuana in public places. It will result in a fine and seizure of your marijuana.

You can’t sell marijuana or receive any form of payment for it. Legal commercial sales will require

the proper licenses (which won’t be available for quite some time).

You can’t grow more than the amount ‘legal’ under the initiative, and you will need a license to grow for commercial purposes (which is not yet available).

You can’t have it at school or at certain other locations where it is prohibited (Federal properties). Possession on certain properties will remain a felony.

You can’t smoke marijuana if you live in an apartment complex where the owner does not allow smoking (you may get evicted). This is particularly relevant in Nome where many residences are rentals.

And, you can’t engage in behaviors that may endanger others (like trying to make hash oil) in an area that exposes others to risk (such as in

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Letters

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reinventing the same experiment which has given us questionable results. Recently, the “education cartel” passed legislation that “distance learning” or internet educational content must come from Alaska-based educators. Given this notion, if Albert Einstein were alive today and wanted to provide Alaskan children with physics lessons via the cyber world, he would be turned down unless he wanted to take up residence in Alaska. This is an excellent example how decisions are made inside the narrow confines of the “cartel.”

For me, it is a clear picture. On one hand, we can continue to assist in the development of a condensed curriculum of educational content controlled by a select few for their own proprietary reasons, which is generally associated with force,

fraud and money, or we can embrace the open source market and explore all the options available to direct educational content truly as a learning tool instead of the convention of the global model which simply exists to socialize our citizens to “fit” into a global construct.

Is there any reason why any motivated student cannot accelerate at their own pace far beyond the convention of any “minimum standards” of education. Don’t we owe our very intellectual existence to assist in the development of true “brain power” based on the spirit of an individual and their desire to want more than the conventions of an educational cartel working on a “Common Core” design in the backwater of an archaic workshop simply to move the money around within their legions?

Our constitution was written for the individual to protect our personal liberties from an oppressive govern-

ment. At the very least, shouldn’t our education construct reinforce the strength of our individual nature in assisting us to reach for the stars? Is our educational salvation going to find it’s greatest achievement in social doctrine?

I say we are on the shore of a great educational journey. We should not lack the common sense it will take to reclaim our destiny. “Common Core” is nothing but an expensive and embellished anchor. One we do not have the luxury to afford.

To accept the nomination of Commissioner Michael Hanley and President Esther Cox is to purchase the anchor. We deserve better.

Respectfully,
Michael Chambers
Chair: United for Liberty
Chair: Alaska Libertarian Party
Former Public School Educator



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Jupiter Ascending 4:00 p.m.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, February 26

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
*Lunch Laps	Pool	11:45 a.m. - 1:15 a.m.
*Weekly Women’s Circle	Prematernal Home	3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
*Wiffleball (grades 3-6)	Nome Rec Center	3:15 p.m. - 4:14 p.m.
(grades 5-8)	Nome Rec Center	4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
*Strength Training	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*PM Lap Swim	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Vinyasa Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering and Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*US Army Corp. of Engineers		7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 27

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*AM Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - Noon
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 8:00 p.m.
Lady Nanooks/Cheerleaders/Pep Band SENIOR NIGHT - Prior to 8:00 p.m. Game		
*Varsity/JV Girls, JH Basketball	Nome-Beltz Gym	Games start at 4:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Drop-in Soccer (15+)	Nome Rec Center	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 28

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 8:00 p.m.
LAST HOME BASKETBALL GAMES OF THE SEASON		
*Varsity/JV Girls, JH Basketball	Nome-Beltz Gym	Games start at 3:30 p.m.
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 1

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
*PM Laps	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 2

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*AM Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - noon
*2015 Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 3:00 p.m.
*Floor Hockey (grades 3-6)	Nome Rec Center	3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
(grades 5-8)	Nome Rec Center	4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
*League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*Nome Common Council	City Hall	7:00 p.m.
AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 3

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
*Library Story Hour	Kegoayah Kozga Library	10:30 a.m.
*Lunch Laps	Pool	11:45 a.m. - 1:15 a.m.
*Volleyball (grades 3-8)	Nome Rec Center	4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
*League Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Strength Training	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*PM Laps	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Vinyasa Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Zumba Step	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Nome Planning Com: Reg. Meeting	City Hall	7:00 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 4

*Pick-up Basketball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
*AM Lap Swim	Pool	6:00 a.m. - 7:30 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - noon
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 3:00 p.m.
*Team Handball (grades 3-6)	Nome Rec Center	3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
(grades 5-8)	Nome Rec Center	4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:45 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Water Aerobics	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Tae Kwon Do	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum

Hours available by appointment. Call 907-443-6630

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

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

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

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Nome man charged after hitting police officer, resisting arrest

By Diana Haecker

Nome resident Scott Aningayou, 33, faces eight charges after he hit a police officer with his car, resisted arrest and gave chase to two Nome Police officers on Wednesday, February 18.

According to court papers, Nome Police Dept. officers James Edson and Justin Timm stopped Aningayou at 2:35 a.m. near the intersection of West Third Avenue and Steadman for failing to signal a right turn and for the lack of brake lights. The routine traffic stop then turned ugly.

When officer Edson asked Aningayou to step out of the vehicle, he put the car in reverse, accelerated and hit officer Timm in the right hip. The officers commanded Aningayou to stop the vehicle, but he shifted into drive and took off at a high rate of speed, running over two stop signs, speeding down Seppala Drive and turning off the car's headlights. According to charging documents,

Aningayou had with him in the car Franklin Adams, Bessie Milligrock-Ozena and Danitra Oxereok.

Aningayou stopped the car near 206 West D Street and tried to escape the officers on foot. As officers caught up and tried to take the man into custody, Aningayou continued to resist arrest.

When he was subdued, officers found marijuana on his person. The officers noticed the smell of alcohol, red watery eyes and slurred speech. Aningayou admitted to have been drinking that evening. It also turned out that Aningayou operated the car with a revoked driver's license and had breath alcohol content of .228 – the legal limit is .08.

Aningayou faces eight charges. Being in possession of marijuana within 500 feet of the Nome Boys and Girls Club – a youth center – earned him a charge of misconduct of a controlled substance in the fourth degree, a felony offense.

Aningayou was also charged with assault in the third degree for hitting officer Timm and failing to stop at the direction of a peace officer, also two felony offenses. Aningayou was also charged with reckless driving, driving under the influence, reckless endangerment, driving with license revoked and resisting arrest.

An arraignment set for the same day of the incident had to be postponed to the next day because the defendant was too intoxicated for the court appearance. Aningayou was arraigned on Thursday, Feb. 19. Judge Tim Dooley set bail at \$10,000 and appointed a public defender to represent Aningayou.

The next court appearance is a preliminary hearing set for February 27 at 1:30 p.m.

According to Nome Police Chief John Papasodora, officer Timm was not seriously injured and didn't need medical attention.



Photo by Diana Haecker

ICE MINING — Despite fickle weather, the sea ice near Farley's Camp is stable enough for gold miners to set up their operations to mine for gold under the ice.



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Weather

continued from page 1

on average, temperatures are six degrees higher than the "normal" average temperature of 7°F. For snowfall, there were only 38.8 inches of snowfall measured this winter, normal would be 54 inches.

Steiger reports that January was closer to normal temperatures, sparing the region the dramatic warm-up that turned the region into an ice rink as rain fell on ice in the last two

weeks of January 2014. This year, the first 20 days of January were slightly above the normal temperature. January 21 through 29 saw below normal temperatures and the last two days saw normal temperatures.

On average, the temperature measured 9.2°F, about 4°F warmer than the normal average temperature for this region in January.

Statewide, the Iditarod Trail

Committee decided to move for the second time in the 43-year old existence of the race the race start to Fairbanks since there is no snow north of the Alaska Range. In Anchorage, the Fur Rondy World Championship Sled Dog race was cancelled altogether.

Iron Dog racers en route to Nome at press time on Tuesday morning are dodging severe overflow between Golovin and White Mountain.

• Chief's Notes

continued from page 3

an apartment complex). This activity may result in fires and explosions and subsequent criminal charges for Reckless Endangerment or Criminally Negligent Burning as well as civil liability for any damages.

If you are a commercial driver, equipment operator, or employed by an agency/company that requires drug testing, you can still lose your job for marijuana use.

Even where it is not illegal to possess marijuana, an employer or the person controlling the property may have rules against having it at that location. Possession may subject you to disciplinary action – so be sure before you act.

Some of this may change as statutes and ordinances are developed. But please keep in mind that until these changes are made, the

'old' laws are still on the books. This should all be covered under the Alaska Statutes section 17.38.

So, what can I expect from the Nome Police Department?

Your officers will follow the law. If you are not violating the law, there will be no enforcement action taken. If you are over the age of 21 and are in possession of a legal amount of marijuana, are not endangering another person or are not creating a situation requiring police intervention, there should be no issue.

We will treat public consumption in the same manner that we treat consuming alcohol in public. We will seize the alcohol or marijuana, issue a citation to the person(s), and release the person(s) at the scene. We will address large growing operations by applying for the proper warrants and executing them within the

boundaries of the law. We will continue to enforce DUI statutes whether induced by alcohol, drugs or both. And we will aggressively protect youth by enforcing the 21-year age limit and prosecuting those who supply, entice, or provide marijuana or alcohol to youth.

We will continue to focus on professional delivery of services with the goal of security and safety of our community.

This message is issued to inform and hopefully, allow people to make good judgments and avoid problems.

The Nome Police Department is committed to providing professional public safety services to our community. If you have questions; want to report a crime; or have information about an incident; you can call us at 443-5262 or report anonymously at 443-8509. We are here to help make Nome a safe and secure place to live.

Clarification:

Last week's article on the Norton Sound Economic Development board meeting stated the board did not act on NJUS's request for limited participation in NSEDC's Consolidated Bulk Fuel program, when indeed the board acted on the request. However, the board approved to have NSEDC reimburse NJUS for its interest costs of up to 3 percent for its financing of 2 million gallons of fuel. This allows NJUS to participate in NSEDC's Consolidated Bulk Fuel Program, which offers to pay interest costs of up to 3 percent for participants who finance fuel purchases since NJUS is exceeding the program's 500,000 gallon limit.

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• Port of Nome

continued from page 1

The expansion of Port of Nome would make deep-draft vessel facilities available where currently the nearest deep-draft harbor is more than 1,000 miles south at Dutch Harbor.

Alaska Army Corps' Chief of Civil Works Bruce Sexauer, project economist Lorraine Cordova and Michael Lukshin with the state Dept. of Transportation and Public Facilities, met in a joint work session with the Nome Port Commission and Nome Common Council on Feb. 17. The study is a joint federal-state project with the cost of the study split down the middle between the state and federal governments.

"As fuel and petroleum products pass by Nome through the Bering Strait, as numbers go up, there will be groundings and collisions," Sexauer said. "There are potential incidents of something bad happening. We want to be prepared. There are the U.S. Coast Guard at Kodiak and deep-draft vessels at Dutch Harbor. More advanced port facilities in the Nome hub are very important." Large companies like Shell Oil are supplying out of Dutch Harbor, Sexauer noted, indicating the need for a more northern port.

Indeed, at the October 2014 meeting of Arctic Circle Assembly 2014 in Reykjavik, Iceland attended by approximately 1,200 representatives of arctic marine interests ranging from environmental, business, science, political and humanitarian sectors, to heads of state, a notable consensus formed that the most serious threat in the Arctic was not military, but lack of search and rescue and spill response infrastructure.

When and if the project is approved by Congress next year, the way will be open for the project to receive federal funds in what could be a federal government—City of Nome—private investment project.

In the report, Commander Col. Christopher Lestochi with the Corps' Alaska District recommends navigational improvements in Nome at a federal cost of \$97.4 million with federal money for federal maintenance. A non-federal sponsor would invest additional \$52.4 million. The City of Nome has expressed an interest in assuming the lead role of non-federal sponsor for design and construction phases of the project.

City involvement

The report does not identify Nome as the non-federal sponsor, but does sketch out the obligations that such an entity would shoulder. Nome would be a logical fit concerning operation of the port, provision of rights-of-way, easements, lands and relocation of utilities and other logistics to provide for operation of navi-

gational aids.

The non-federal sponsor would garner additional funds for completion of the project. If the sponsor were the City of Nome, credit would be given against costs for accommodation of infrastructure such as rerouting of utility lines and such. City of Nome has already set aside money for port improvements from a government bond provided by the State of Alaska.

The City is already doing value engineering on the project to assure the lowest cost for the project, City Manager Josie Bahnke said. She added that the state would continue to act as the non-federal sponsor.

The tentative selection of the Port of Nome, a milestone on the way to becoming the "recommended" site, follows a study ordered by Congress on the feasibility of establishing a deep-water seaport in the Arctic to advance and protect strategic U.S. interests in the Arctic region.

With such a broad expanse to be served with emergency response capabilities, a system of deep-water harbors would make sense, Sexauer said.

The Corps evaluated a number of alternatives during the progress of the study.

Thirteen arctic sites in northern and western Alaska came under initial analysis for potential placement of a deep-draft port. Several sites came through the screening for a more detailed look: Cape Darby, Nome and Port Clarence.

The studies involved a two-day charrette in 2011, vertical team collaboration and risk analysis to establish study specific planning criteria, select project sites develop measures and alternatives and select the recommended alternative.

The population of Nome currently numbers around 3,700. Local dreams about the selection of Nome for an expanded arctic deep-draft port and a larger stake in marine commerce will come true for sure only after the study passes more milestones leading to the blessing of Congress.

City of Nome staff and legislators have lobbied for some years for the port project, keeping port improvements at the top of state Legislature and federal government wish lists, citing Nome's strategic placement on the route to resource development in the Chukchi and Beaufort seas.

This week City of Nome staff members expressed elation with the release of the study tentatively naming Nome as a federally selected port site.

"We are is confident that our community shore-side infrastructure, transportation links, health care center and marine resupply services highlighted Nome as the natural and most logical choice for the optimal location throughout the study



Nome Nugget file photo

PORT OF NOME— The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has released a study that calls for an estimated \$118 million expansion of the Port of Nome to prepare for increased Arctic shipping traffic.

process," Josie Bahnke said Monday.

The approximately 200-page draft study addresses an integrated feasibility report on the expansion project along with an Environment Assessment and a draft Finding of No Significant Impact.

In conforming to the National Environmental Protection Act, the study has appendices with draft reports from state Dept. of Fish and Game and other environmental agencies.

A supporting study has weighed the impacts on issues of environmental concern and predicted no adverse effect on wild life covered by federal marine mammal and migratory birds acts or fish habitat protected under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district commander Col. Christopher D. Lestochi, said in addressing the environmental effects of the port expansion.

"After evaluating the anticipated environmental, economic and social effects, it is my determination that the proposed project does not constitute a major federal action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment," Lestochi wrote. The appropriate resource agencies have been involved, with no significant issues remaining, so therefore, the project did not require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement, Lestochi added. The Corps has issued a determination of no adverse effect to historic properties associated with the port

expansion.

On Jan. 21, Corps archeologist Shona D. Pierce conducted a review of the Alaska Historic Resources Survey database, Alaska State Register of Historic Properties and National Register of Historic Places as concerns the area of potential effects of the deep-water port project. She noted two sites on the beach east of the south dock breakwater—a cultural site associated with the European settlement at Nome and a site of two house pits on the Snake River spit, with animal remains and Thule period artifacts associated with the sites. The latter site, discovered in 2006 has already been memorialized by a data recovery report and the provision of a museum display case at Nome's Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum. Up to seven feet of fill covers the European site throughout town and has totally or partially destroyed the site, according to Pierce in a letter to Mayor Denise Michels and Cynthia Ahwinona, president of Nome Eskimo Community.

The length of construction would be expressed in seasons, not in months, Joy Baker, harbor development manager said Monday. That would be a question for the Corps further down the line, she said. During construction, the port would remain open, she said.

For right now, Sexauer emphasized that people need to make their comments before the March 23 deadline.

Following the public comment period will come reviews, then a design phase.

If Nome elects to be the non-federal sponsor, an agreement would have to be signed between the Corps and the City of Nome.

"Until that is signed, Nome won't be on the hook," Sexauer said. When the construction agreement has been signed, then all parties will talk about financing, Sexauer added.

"My goal is transparency. I want to share as much as I can when I can," he said.

Sexauer complimented Baker and the harbor staff on researching historical details for the study. "Without their incredible assistance in researching many detailed facts, we would not be here," Sexauer said. The study would undergo scrutiny from another U.S. Army Corps of Engineers district, a Corps headquarters review, another public agency to be named, and an internal peer review.

"When spending money of this magnitude, we have to have an outside agency do an independent review," Sexauer said. Such a review would be paid for with federal dollars. Key decision points are the public comment period, the design agreement and the construction agreement, he said.

After signoffs, the project would go to Congress for approval, which is expected to happen in April 2016.

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Photo by Diana Haecker

ARCTIC TRAVELER— A snowmachiner transports gear on the Iditarod Trail near Nome, on Monday, Feb. 23. Many in the Arctic rely on snowmachines to travel between communities, but most communities rely on air services to deliver mail, groceries and medical supplies.

Little Diomeders still without helicopter service

By Diana Haecker

Residents and guests to Little Diomedes continue to be stranded on the island after a combination of broken-down helicopters and bad weather prevented the regularly scheduled mail, grocery and passenger service via helicopter to the island in the middle of the Bering Strait.

On Friday, Feb. 13, one helicopter made it in to deliver essential goods and mail, but no passengers were taken off the island. The helicopter reportedly lost engine power of one of its two engines as it approached Wales, landed at the runway and is still parked there as of press time.

Diomedes is an island community 27 miles west of the Alaska mainland. The island is steep and can only be reached by helicopter, boat or when the sea ice freezes up enough by spring to allow for the creation of a runway to be used by fixed-wing aircraft.

In order to connect the community to the rest of Alaska, a federal-state cost shared program contracts with a helicopter company, Erickson Aviation out of Oregon, to deliver mail, bring in groceries and to fly passengers on and off the island. When the contract was initially awarded to Evergreen Helicopters in 2012, the contract was \$400,000 annually to provide passenger service to Little Diomedes. Evergreen was sold to Erickson in March 2013.

In addition to 90 residents at Little Diomedes, family gathered at the island for a funeral and Catholic priest Father Ross Tozzi have not been able to fly back home after the last scheduled passenger helicopter made it to Little Diomedes on January 22.

Erickson spokeswoman Susan Bladholm responded to an email inquiry by the Nome Nugget saying, "We have been frustrated with weather and mechanical challenges." According to an internal briefing log, Erickson organized for another Alaskan pilot to fly to Oregon in order to ferry a newer helicopter, a

Bell 412SP, north to Alaska.

The idea was to get the aircraft to Nome and on to Diomedes and to replace the older Bo 105, an older German-built helicopter.

On Monday, the log says, the Eurocopter Bo 105 helicopter, currently parked in Wales, has a "maintenance issue that will require additional time before it's airworthy again."

The second helicopter, a Bell 212 helicopter, was in Anchorage for repair and was to be sent to Nome to resume service to Diomedes. But then weather did not cooperate and the Bell 212 enroute to Nome had to wait out bad weather in McGrath. By Wednesday, the newer Bell 412 arrived in Anchorage, was undergoing "reconfigurations" in order to be replacing the older Bo105 as the primary aircraft to service Diomedes.

On Thursday, weather allowed the Bell 212 to continue on from McGrath and to arrive in Nome. According to the log, poor weather conditions prevented the new Bell 412 to be flown up to Nome and weather in the Bering Strait region also did not allow for a flight to Diomedes.

In the meantime, Erickson arranged for Era in Dead Horse to assist, but bad weather hampered any chance of assistance. These unfavorable weather conditions lasted until press time on Monday.

While Diomeders patiently wait out the situation and don't complain about the lack of service, several state agencies are watching the situation carefully. The Dept. of Community and Economic Development, the Dept. of Health and Social Services, and the Dept. of Military and Veteran Affairs' Division of Emergency Management were fully briefed on the situation. David Lee with the Emergency Management division commented that one of the problems is that there is lots of food filling containers in Nome and Wales to the brim, but that the groceries don't get to their destination.

DMV spokesman Jeremy Zidek

said that it is the division's understanding that there is no immediate threat to life, health or safety at this time. "Based on that, without a request from the community, we don't act until there is a critical need," Zidek said. However, if a medical or other emergency should arise, Zidek said, there are a lot of people on standby and ready to go. "If there is an urgent need, we will activate all of our resources," he said.

Background

In 2012 the U.S. Department of Transportation selected Evergreen Helicopters to provide air transporta-

Erickson Vice President explains helicopter situation

The *Nome Nugget* contacted Erickson for an update on the helicopter service to Little Diomedes.

Erickson's Vice President and General Manager Government Aviation Services Chris Bassett responded to the *Nugget's* questions.

Nome Nugget: There seems to be still a helicopter in Wales. Are there any repairs planned to the helicopter?

Chris Bassett: Yes, we are waiting for parts to be delivered to Wales. We expect it will be at least 10 days before this aircraft is ready to fly again.

NN:What happened to the aircraft that was flown up from the Pacific Northwest? Did it get to Anchorage or Nome?

CB:It has been in Anchorage for over a week now waiting on a weather break to get to Nome.

NN:What is the updated timeline on getting the aircrafts repaired and back in service?

CB:The aircraft awaiting repairs (10 days +/-) will become the backup to the larger, faster air-

tion to Little Diomedes under the department's Air Transportation to Non-eligible Places, ATEP program for short. Little Diomedes Island had been without scheduled air service since 2009. At the time, the only passenger service came by way of a contract with the U.S. Postal Service to provide mail to the island.

In 2012, the Alaska legislature appropriated \$200,000 in funds to match DOT funds from the federal ATEP program and to issue a contract for service to Little Diomedes from Nome.

The "noneligible" part of the program name refers to communities not

included on the list of airports eligible for subsidies through the federal Essential Air Service program. When the original list of eligible communities was created in 1978, Little Diomedes was inadvertently left off the list and has been struggling with the issue ever since.

The regional non-profit organization Kawerak Inc. has been advocating for regular passenger air service to Diomedes and administers the federal and state grants to allow for the helicopter service to continue.

craft we are moving into place as the primary aircraft to service Little Diomedes.

NN:When does Erickson expect to fly to Diomedes again?

CB:Today (Tuesday) if weather permits. (weather pending of course)

NN:Could you give our readers a sense of how often Erickson flew to Diomedes last year?

CB:We fly approximately twice per week to Little Diomedes.

NN:Are the passenger runs separate trips from the mail and grocery runs?

CB:Sometimes yes, sometimes passengers fly with mail and groceries.

NN:Could you maybe describe the program for our readers, what the flight and rate schedule is?

CB:Flight schedules are established by the USPS and EAS and then up to the pilot in command to accept.

NN:How many times was the helicopter service to Diomedes delayed due to weather?

CG: Regularly. We do not keep count. This service is conducted

under visual flight rules meaning we must have at least 3 miles of visibility and ceilings of at least 1000'. Also, rules and conducting safe operations prevent us from flying in freezing rain and snow.

NN:How many times due to mechanicals?

CB:Helicopters are complex machines that require an enormous amount of maintenance. We schedule maintenance at night and take advantage of weather down days to perform maintenance. That said, there are maintenance requirements that take more than one day and occasionally interrupt service. We have committed a second aircraft to this service to put to use when this happens. That said, the extremely rare occurrence of both aircraft needing maintenance at the same time occurred causing this lapse of service.

NN:The newer Bell 412 helicopter, is that going to be the primary helicopter for Nome-Diomedes?

CB: Yes.

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Nome-grown racers participate in 2015 Iron Dog

By Keith Conger
It's hard to argue with the Iron Dog's moniker as the "World's longest, toughest snowmobile race." Last Sunday, 37 Pro Class teams, which included two racers from Nome, headed out on the incredible 2,031-mile journey from Anchorage to Nome to Fairbanks.
John Bahnke, 42, is taking the challenge of the Pro Class category for the fourth time. His first crack at that pro division came in 1998. Bahnke completed it for the first time in 2002, with his brother Dennis.
Bahnke was born and raised in Nome, and has been around snowmachines his whole life. He is the owner and operator of Wilderness

Ski-doo, which has been the family business for years.
This year, Bahnke teamed up with Kotzebue's Chris Collins, 34, who has run the Iron Dog twice before. Both racers can claim Nome-Golovin victories as part of their resums. Bahnke says he has found a very compatible partner in Collins, one who rides at the same speed and ability as he does.
Bahnke will be riding a Ski-doo Renegade 600 sled that he has worked on extensively in his shop. He says that the main modification goals were to on make his sled more durable rather than faster. "It's really important to be able to go the distance without having to work on

them," he said.
Like Bahnke, Mike Morgan, 29, was born in Nome, was raised around sleds, and is a former Nome-Golovin champion. His great-grandfather Stanley started Morgan and Sons (now Morgan Sales and Service) in 1956. Morgan says he grew up around the shop and rode every day after school.
Morgan currently lives in Anchorage, working construction as a welder and pipefitter for the Local 367 Plumbers and Pipefitters Union. This marks Morgan's sixth time to run the Iron Dog race. Morgan again teamed up with Chris Olds, 43, of Eagle River.
Olds won the Iron Dog in 2010 and 2011 with Tyler Huntington. When Huntington decided not to race in 2012, Olds looked to Morgan to be his partner. Olds has helped Morgan continue his streak of never crossing the finish line lower than fifth place. The pair is inching closer to a victory having come in fourth in 2012, and third in both 2013 and 2014.
Morgan says he feels fortunate to have corporate sponsorship through Polaris. He was able to get his Polaris Axys Switchback 600 sled, as well all parts, directly from Polaris engineering.
Olds is a compatible partner, explains Morgan. "We are laid back and work well together," he says. "We don't get overexcited, and we take things with a grain of salt." Morgan explains that the two have discovered they work best when Morgan is out front, so he will lead the pair for much of the race.
Bahnke thinks that he and Collins have a sort of home field advantage over the rest of the field, since not many riders have gotten to see the trail this year. Whiteout conditions

may affect riders from down south, but both Bahnke and Collins are used to those coastal weather conditions.
Positions for starting order were determined the Friday before the race. Team #34 Bahnke/Collins will take off in 21st position. Team #10 Morgan/Olds left the start line in 30th position.
Bahnke says that the best starting positions are closer to the front since

everyone will be bunched up to refuel at the first checkpoints. Teams in the back often have to wait 20 to 30 minutes to gas up, pushing them further off the pace.
Morgan is expecting a brutal trail this year and a very interesting race. He says there is open water between Galena and Kaltag, so the race has been rerouted overland to bypass that section.



Photo by Christy Hedrick
ALL READY— Nome product Mike Morgan sits on his Polaris Axys Switchback 600 snowmachine waiting for the ceremonial start of the 2015 Iron Dog on Saturday, February 21. Morgan has teamed up with two-time champion Chris Olds of Eagle River.

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SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE (top)— Radio broadcasters Josie Stiles and Paul Clark deliver the Lady Nanooks girls varsity contest against the Barrow Lady Whalers from the Nome-Beltz gym on Saturday night. The game was received in both Nome on KICY and in Barrow on KBRW.

HIGH SCORER (right)— Sophomore point guard Sonja Hukill led the Lady Nanooks in scoring against the Lady Whalers of Barrow this past weekend at the Nome-Beltz gym. Hukill scored seven points on Friday night, and poured in 17 points on Saturday.



Nome Girls drop home set to Barrow

By Keith Conger

The wait for the Nome-Beltz Varsity girls basketball team's second season is down to two weeks and counting. That is the time period between the contest the short-handed Nanooks had this weekend at home with Barrow and the Western Conference Championships in Anchorage on March 5-7.

The circumstances have been tough for the Lady Nanooks as of late. They continue to look toward attaining an offensive rhythm prior to the return of junior Senora Ahmasuk and sophomore Ivory Okleasik. And the situation was not made any easier by hosting the number two-ranked Whalers at the Nome-Beltz gym this weekend.

The Whalers opened the game on Friday night with a full court press that led to enough turnovers by the Nanooks to cause them to fall behind by 20 points, at 28-8. Barrow was able to extend that lead by the intermission, and headed into the locker room up 37-10.

The Nanooks did their best work in the fourth quarter. Their 16 points nearly doubled their score for the first three quarters. Junior Rayne Lie hit one of the team's four final-frame three-pointers, and ended up leading the team with 11 points. Freshman Taeler Brunette connected on two 3-point shots to bring her game total to 10. The late flurry, however, was not enough for a come-from-behind Nanooks victory, as they fell 65-33 to the Whalers.

After the Friday night game, freshman Sierra Tucker and sophomore Sonja Hukill said they noticed the team's trend of falling behind early. "We try to start off strong," said Tucker, "but we seem to end up strong."

Asked why they seem to do better in the second half of games Hukill said, "Because we don't give up."

Tucker noted that they have been making improvements over the season. She says that earlier in the year the team got down by quite a bit to Bethel. But the second time they played the Warriors they were able to keep it closer.

The Lady Nanooks played inspired defense to start the second contest on Saturday night. Mid-way through the first quarter the Nanooks were only down 6-4. That is when the Whalers re-instituted their full court press, and extended their lead to 12 by the first break.

The Whaler defense proved too much for the Nanooks as they extended their cushion each quarter and went on to beat Nome 69-28. The Nanooks were at their best during the

third quarter, as Hukill connected on three three-pointers to bring her game high total to 17. She led the team over the weekend with 24 points.

Okleasik, who has been out for five weeks, says the hairline fracture on her foot has nearly healed. She hopes to be back next week for the home games against 2A Unalakleet. She has not missed practice since her injury, and has recently been working on non-weight bearing set shots to keep her shooting sharp.

Ahmasuk has been relegated to the Junior Varsity squad due to an ASAA ruling that would not allow her to play with the Varsity team during the regular season. She had transferred back to Nome from Mount Edgecumbe earlier in the school year. Hukill thinks that Ahmasuk's insertion into the starting five will go smoothly, since the junior power forward has still been able to practice with the varsity squad all season.

Nanooks head coach Don Stiles says he had Ahmasuk play with the starting five the last few weeks in practice to get the team ready for the conference tournament. He likes the team's chances when she and Okleasik return.

If Ahmasuk's scoring during the JV games is any indication, the team could be set up to surprise Kotzebue and Bethel at the conference championships. Ahmasuk scored 28 points in a Friday night 69-41 loss to the Barrow JV girls. She followed that up with a 19-point performance in Saturday night's 51-27 loss.

In other action at the Nome-Beltz gym, the Nome junior high boys played host to junior high squads from Kotzebue. The Nome boys split into two teams. Team A lost to the Huskies 35-12 on Friday, and 57-43 on Saturday. They were led in scoring by Cordell Lockwood and Kenneth Hafner, who each scored seven points. Team B lost to Kotz 53-33 on Friday, and 66-48 on Saturday. They were led by Dawson Evans and Ian Smith, who scored 13 and 12 points, respectively.

Nanook varsity boys lose both games in Barrow

The Nome-Beltz varsity boys also had their hands full with a ranked Barrow team. The Whalers came into the contest as the number one-rated 3A school in the state. Nanooks coach Pat Callahan says his squad got down by 23 points early on Friday night before losing by 13 points. Senior Alex Gray had a team-high 20 points in the 62-49 loss. The Whalers had four double-digit scorers, and

were led by freshman sensation Kamake Hepa, who had 15 points.

Callahan says the team again fell behind early in Saturday's rematch. His squad would only score four first-quarter points, and ended the first frame down by 14.

The Nanooks mounted a furious fourth quarter comeback, outscoring the Whalers 24-16 in the final frame. With 30 seconds remaining, Nome was down 54-52. They had the ball, but were without seniors Alex Gray, Klay Baker, and Wink Winkelman, who had all fouled out. The team was able to get the ball into a scoring position, but missed a three-point, game-winning shot.

Baker led the Nanooks in Saturday's game with 22 points. Winkelmann and sophomore Mikey Scott grabbed 10 and 8 rebounds respectively.

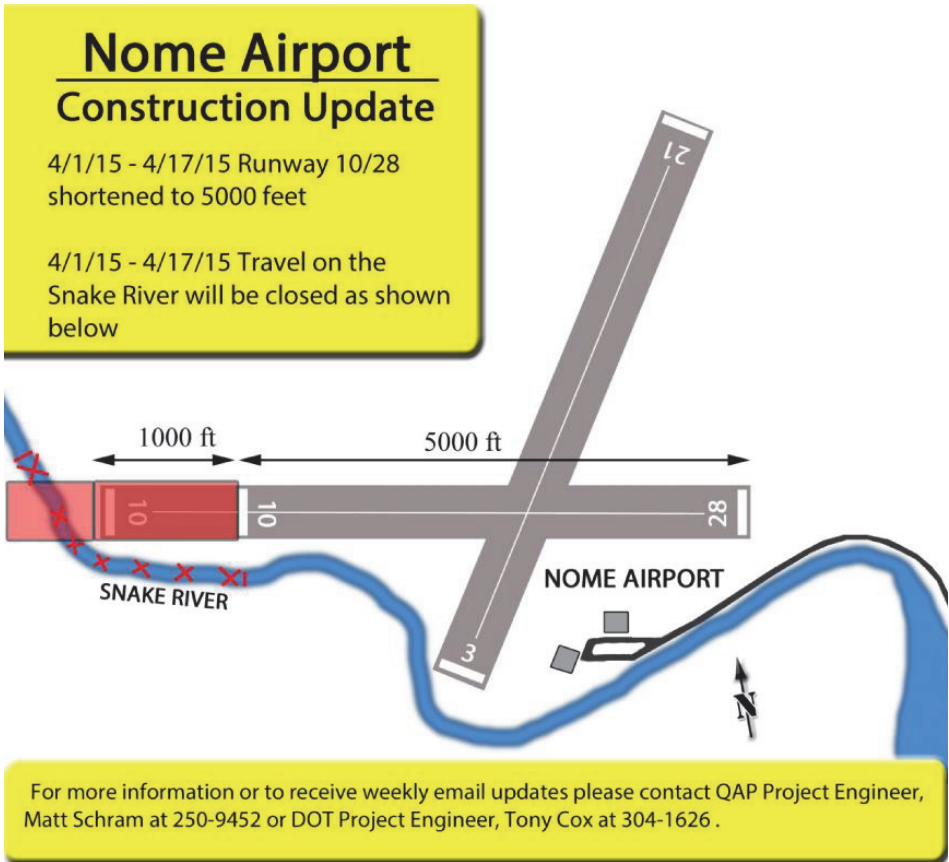
Hepa led Barrow with a game-high 23 points.

The two wins over the Nanooks have cemented the Whalers spot as the number one seed in the upcoming conference tournament. Nome's position is set as the number two seed. The outcomes of games between Bethel and Kotzebue in Kotzebue next weekend will determine the Nanooks' first round challenger. Their likely opponent will be Bethel, unless Kotzebue wins both games.

The Nanooks will travel to Unalakleet next weekend for a pre-conference tune-up against the 2A Wolfpack.

Nome Airport 2015 Construction Update:

Construction to improve runway safety areas at the Nome Airport will tentatively begin April 1st, 2015. Current 2015 milestones of the project include reducing the length of Runway 10/28 to 5,000 feet by relocating the Runway 10 threshold 1,000 feet to the east from April 1st thru April 17th. During this phase of construction the section of the Snake River adjacent to the Airport will be closed due to construction activities in that area. Please see the graphic below for further details:



Runway 10/28 will then be returned to full length from April 17th thru May 31st. On the evening of May 31st Runway 10/28 will be shortened to 5,000 feet once again thru June 27th. There will be no restrictions of Snake River traffic during this phase of construction.

Nightly closures of Runway 10/28 will also begin on May 31st and are expected to last until June 25th. In addition, nightly closures of both Runways 10/28 and 3/21 are scheduled to occur on June 20th thru June 25th. All closures of main Runway 10/28 will occur during night hours to reduce impacts to the traveling public. For more information or to receive weekly email updates please contact QAP Project Engineer Matt Schram at 250-9452 or DOT Project Engineer Tony Cox at 304-1626.

Three Nome Northstar swimmers travel to meet in Juneau

By Keith Conger

Alaska Swimming, the USA Swimming affiliated group that organizes swim events in the state, uses "Too Fast To Freeze" as their motto. Three girls from the Nome Northstar Swim Team, NNST for short, cer-

tainly did not freeze last weekend as they participated in the Alaska Age Group Championships at the Diamond Park Aquatic Center in Juneau. Not just anyone can attend this meet.

Long-time NNST coach Sharon

Keeney says participants must have met certain time qualifications to be invited. Each of the three NNST swimmers – Ava Earthman, Brianna Menadelook and Katie Smith – satisfied the necessary qualification times during the past year.

There were 365 swimmers ages 14 and under at the event in Juneau. Races were run one after another for three days from February 13-15. There was quite a lot of action, said Keeney. "All the girls were very focused. They set goals and achieved

most of the goals. They were able to channel their energy and not get overwhelmed," Keeney said.

Qualifying for the finals, or top eight, in an event was Earthman's main goal. She accomplished that by earning a spot in the 200-yard breaststroke in the thirteen year-old category. She entered the weekend as Alaska's number 12 seeded swimmer in the event for her age group, and ended up as the eighth.

Earthman's best time in the 200-yard breaststroke came in the preliminary rounds where she swam a 3 minute, 1.76 second race. By dropping nearly five seconds off her previous personal best, Earthman qualified for the upcoming Alaska Junior Olympics, or JO's. Her time in the final was 3 minutes, 4.41 seconds.

Smith also earned the right to attend JO's. At 10 years old, she was the youngest member of the NNST age group qualifiers. Swimmers in the 10-year-old-and-under category are lumped into one big group for each event. Her best stroke is the butterfly, the event most consider the hardest to learn. Smith entered the Age Group meet seeded number nine in the 100-yard butterfly, and moved up to number six after her race.

Keeney says Smith established her meet qualification time of 1 minute, 45.5 seconds at the Valentine's Invitational at Bartlett High School in Anchorage just two weeks prior to the Age Groups event. Her time at the Aquatic Center of 1 minute 37.09 was over eight seconds faster. This kind of improvement is

hard to do in such a short time says Keeney.

All three NNST swimmers dropped time off their personal bests in at least one event. Menadelook had qualified for the 50-yard freestyle in the eleven-year-old category. She came in as the 14th seed and her time of 32.99 seconds bumped her up to number 13. She took nearly a second off her previous best time.

Earthman qualified for three other events. She competed in the 100-yard breast stroke, where came in 14th with a time of 1 minute, 24.4 seconds; the 100-yard freestyle, posting a time of 1 minute, 10.61 seconds, good for a 26th place finish; and the 50-yard freestyle, coming in at 31.61 seconds, placing 23rd.

Smith had qualified for two other 10-year-old-and-under events. She took part in the 50-yard freestyle, finishing in the 16th position, with a time of 35.38 seconds; and the 100-yard breaststroke, placing 32nd in 1 minute, 51.5 seconds.

The NNST website states it has 39 USA Swimming members. The nearest USA Swimming team is 500 miles away. The club's membership ranges from ages 7-16. Keeney explains that it is a separate entity from Nome's high school team.

NNST competes as part of Alaska's Northern Area Aquatics, which consists of teams from North Pole, Fairbanks, Galena and Nome.

In late March NNST team members will be heading to the Northern Area Championships in Fairbanks.



Photo by Brenda Menadelook

ON THE BLOCK- Nome Northstar Swim Team member Brianna Menadelook (far left) gets ready to start her 50-yard freestyle race at the Alaska Age Group Championships in Juneau on Saturday February 13.



Photo by Sharon Keeney
QUALIFIED- Nome Northstar Swim Team member Ava Earthman swam a personal best in the 200-yard breaststroke at the Alaska Age Group Championships in Juneau on Saturday, February 14. Earthman's time in the event qualified her for the Alaska Junior Olympics.

Nanook Cheerleaders gear up for regional competition

By Keith Conger

Nome's Varsity cheer squad, which plays a huge role in setting the mood and tone of each home game, used halftime of the Nome/Barrow girls basketball game on Friday night to work a few dance routine moves. The squad is set to perform their full 2015 routine for the first time next weekend when the Nanook Varsity basketball team hosts the Unalakleet Wolfpack in Nome.

This year's squad is under new leadership in Rebekah Albertson, a first year teacher and first year coach. Albertson, a former high school cheerleader, has added a new dimension to the team as she brings with her a background in competitive

dance drill. Albertson says she started to gain experience in ballet and tap when she was quite young. She then branched out to jazz and other dance forms.

Cheerleading senior Cydney West, a veteran of three cheer seasons, likes the new direction the team is taking, especially in regards to their dance routine. West explains that Albertson has given each girl a stake in the creation of their program. "Everyone contributes at least one move to the routine," she says.

West describes her and her teammates' contributions to the routine as 8-counts. A typical dance performance portion of a competition will last 1 minute, 30 seconds, which

translates to 27 8-counts.

"I wanted all the girls to have an investment, to validate all the girls," said Albertson. "I also want to hit every genre of dance in the routine." To that end, Albertson has even begun to incorporate some hip-hop movements into their performance.

West says the team is still working out the finishing touches of their routine. It will be ready when the squad travels to Anchorage for the Western Conference Tournament with the basketball teams March 5-7. During that weekend, the team will be judged not only on their dance routine, but on their sideline cheers.

The Nome-Beltz team will be assessed on their traditional cheers as they root for the Nanook teams during the first two rounds of the basketball tournament. West explains

that the judges are especially looking for coordinated movements between the cheerleaders, as well as loudness and facial expressions.

West says that portion of the competitive weekend is nerve-racking because neither the team nor the coach knows who is doing the judging. She explains the judges are not identified, and are sitting anonymously among the people in the crowd.

If the team takes first or second place during the Western Conference Championships, they will qualify for the Alaska Cheerleading State Championships on March 17.

Albertson says she recently got her Stunting License so the team could work on adding stunts to their cheerleading program. Stunts have their roots in the classic gym class

pyramid, and are achieved by having team members elevated in the air in some fashion.

West is the team's resident stunt expert, occupying the roll of the flyer. The team has worked out several stunts where West is elevated by team members who serve as bases and spotters. The flyer must have great balance and body control, and they must have strong bases. Veteran cheerleaders junior Allaryce Agloinga and senior Bailey Immingan-Carpenter served as the main bases for West last weekend.

Immingan-Carpenter, a seven-year cheerleading veteran, likes the level of organization in this year's squad, and says Albertson has really helped establish a sense of teamwork.



Photo by Keith Conger

HIGH FLYER— Nome Varsity cheerleading senior Cydney West is the "flyer" for a stunt performed during halftime of the Nome/Barrow girls basketball game at the Nome-Beltz gym on Saturday night. Junior Allaryce Agloinga (left), senior Bailey Immingan-Carpenter (right), and sophomore Kyrie Cardenas act as her bases and spotters.



OUR GREATEST INVESTMENT

**Katya Wassillie,
White Mountain**

B.A in Political Science,
minor Alaska Native
Studies, *University of Alaska
Fairbanks*, 2012

- Magna Cum Laude
- 2012 UAF Political Science student of the year
- 2009 ASUAF student senator of the year

While completing her master's degree in Rural Development from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Katya Wassillie takes time to enjoy subsistence activities around Nome and White Mountain. An NSEDC scholarship recipient, Katya plans to graduate with her master's degree in 2016. She currently works for the Eskimo Walrus Commission and is greatly passionate about their advocacy work for subsistence hunters. Find out how NSEDC can help you reach your educational and career goals at www.nsedc.com.



Brevig Mission • Diomed • Elim • Gambell • Golovin • Koyuk • Nome • Savoonga • Shaktoolik • St. Michael • Stebbins • Teller • Unalakleet • Wales • White Mountain

“Free” Community College not yet a reality

By Sarah Miller

In his State of the Union address given in January, President Obama pitched a proposal to offer two years’ worth of free community college tuition, with the goal of making college “as free and universal as high school.”

Under his proposal, titled “America’s College Promise”, the federal government would provide 75 percent of the funding, with states covering the remainder. Students whose family incomes are less than \$200,000 per year, who are enrolled at least half time, maintain a 2.5 grade point average and who demonstrate steady progress toward a certificate or degree completion would qualify to have their tuition and fees paid for a maximum of four years.

The program would be open to students of all ages, to accommodate the “non-traditional” students who compose the bulk of community college student demographics. The proposal also requires states to enact reforms in community college performance, offering better advising to students, as well as improved student support in terms of tutoring and assistance in scheduling classes that would enable students to complete their programs more efficiently. With an estimated cost of \$60.3 billion over ten years to the federal government, the plan has yet to be passed by Congress, so unanswered questions about how it would be implemented remain.

“There are some very positive aspects to the proposal,” said Bob Metcalf, Director at UAF’s Northwest Campus here in Nome. “It recognizes that community college, which can often include vocational and technical education, is much more cost effective, with a greater return on investment by the student, than four year college. In two years, students have a marketable skill or degree. So I’m happy that there is more of a focus on community colleges.”

However, clarified Metcalf, the promise of free tuition is not yet a reality. The Board of Regents for the college are not considering it in their planning at this point, and have not encouraged Metcalf to consider its implications for NWC. Should the plan be approved at the federal level, it may still undergo revision from its current draft form, and it is unclear from the proposal how the funds are intended to be distributed. “It will

be interesting to see how free tuition is implemented- whether the money will be given directly to students or indirectly to the institutions. If it’s given to the institutions, they get to make the decisions about how to use it, which courses will be offered, and so on. If the student holds the economic power to make choices about how to use the money, it may be a way to make community colleges more accountable to students.”

This would enhance an increasing call among those concerned with higher education to establish better measures of performance and effectiveness for colleges. The most common ways to “rate” colleges include gathering data about student retention rates, average times for degree completion, and average loan accrual among students.

More relevant to students, explained Metcalf, is how effective schools are at helping students attain their educational goals while balancing life.

Here in Nome, most of the stu-

dents at NWC attend classes part time. “Our students don’t necessarily want to complete a two year degree program in two years. They are more interested in being able to work, to raise their families, to participate in subsistence activities, and take classes along the way.” Metcalf went on to describe one measure of success used by the college to determine its effectiveness at serving students. “We don’t use a retention rate measure, which is commonly used at other campuses. We use a persistence rate, which is the percentage of students who come back to enroll in courses.” Metcalf said the rate is between 75-80 percent, high compared to the retention rate in Fairbanks, which is around 40 percent.

One obstacle to the President’s proposal is the 25 percent required contribution by the state. For Alaska, this would place additional strain on an already tight state budget. The state presently funds higher education with money given directly to institutions from the gen-

eral fund at a higher rate per student than many other states.

Asking for more, given Alaska’s currently grim financial outlook, would be difficult for the state to absorb, Metcalf explained.

While the outcome of America’s College Promise is uncertain and far off at this point, it has already broadened a national conversation about the potential benefits offered by a community college education.

“If this bill passes, and depending on how it was implemented, it could help our students substantially,” said Metcalf.

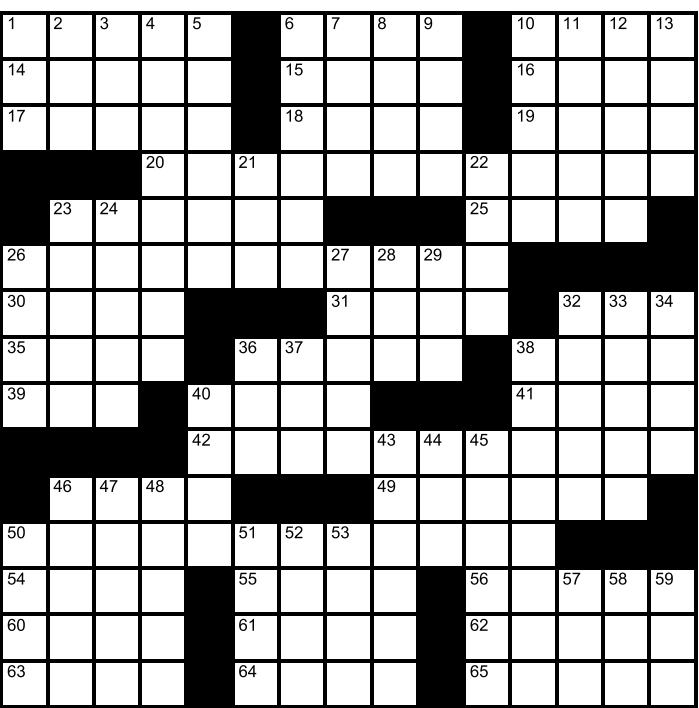
University of Alaska board approves tuition hike

Far from President Barack Obama’s vision of students enjoying free community college classes, the University of Alaska Board of Regents last Friday approved a 5 percent tuition increase. The regents voted 8-2 to ok the increase. Last fall, the board refused to pass a four-percent tuition increase. According to a report by APRN, the Board of Regents chair Jo Heckman said that circumstances changed drastically over the last few months.

The University system faces a

budget shortfall of \$28 million. The tuition increase is to bring in \$5 million.

The tuition increase will affect all University of Alaska campuses, including the Northwest Campus in Nome. The rate increases are going into effect this fall. For in-state undergraduates, per-credit tuition will increase from \$8 to \$11 for a maximum of \$221 per credit for upper-level courses. All others will pay \$20 to \$22 more per credit.



Across

1. A lot
6. Hot spot
10. ____ Cooper, Am. actor
14. An inverted circumflex diacritic mark
15. ____ vera
16. Fencing sword
17. Foe
18. Pink, as a steak
19. H.S. class
20. Measure of antiknock properties of gasoline (2 wds)
23. Chocolate trees
25. Successful runners, for short
26. Type of beds with curtains and canopy (hyphenated)
30. Halo, e.g.
31. Chill
32. Bean counter, for short
35. Clash
36. Domestic animal skin disease
38. At liberty
39. ____ el Amarna, Egypt
40. Bite
41. Back
42. Certainly
46. Have a sudden inspiration?
49. Leisurely walks
50. Irish version of burgoo (2 wds)
54. Aquatic plant
55. Palm berry
56. Blotto
60. Chowder morsel

Down

1. "____ Loves You," Beatles song
2. Jail, slangily
3. Trick taker, often
4. Member of Obama's party
5. Airline porter
6. Ride, so to speak
7. Brio
8. Elders' teachings
9. Bad look
10. Affect (2 wds)
11. Fourth month
12. Controls, symbolically
13. Burglar
21. "____ bad!"
22. ____ line (major axis of an elliptical orbit)
23. Two-door
24. Acoustic
26. Certain protest
27. Argentine dance
28. Baby carrier?
29. Morgue, for one
32. Belief
33. Rings
34. Ethereal
36. "Gee whiz!"
37. "Go on ..."
38. Voluntary
40. S. Am. Indian of Brazil and Paraguay
43. Advantages
44. Dracula, at times
45. ____ fly
46. Channel cut by heavy rainwater
47. Pond buildup
48. Putdowns
50. Defensive spray
51. Battering wind
52. Maple genus
53. Indian bread
57. Amigo
58. Schuss, e.g.
59. "Absolutely!"

Previous Puzzle Answers

1	B	O	O	N	E	6	S	H	R	E	W	10							
14	S	U	B	T	E	X	T	15	W	H	O	O	P	E	16				
17	I	N	S	T	A	T	E	18	R	O	S	E	H	I	P				
19	E	T	C		P	R	A		L	I	N	E							
21	G	E	E	S		A	R	I	S	E									
23	E	N	I			O	A	T			H	A	R	E	M				
25	S	E	N	A		T	O	R			T	A	T	A	R				
27						G	R	A	M			N	O	V	A				
29						S	T	I	L	T		R	E	N	E	W	A	L	
31						C	O	R	N	Y		T	O	W		N	A	B	O
33						D	R	A	G		M	E	A	N	S				
35						R	O	M			B	E	N	N	E	T			
37						O	R	P	H	A	N	S			S	E	A	M	I
39						M	A	L	A	I	S	E			S	E	X	I	S
41						L	E	P	T	A					P	I	T	H	Y

HOROSCOPES

February 2015 — Week 4

CAPRICORN
December 22–January 19

Ugh, Capricorn. You despise drama, yet it seems to follow you wherever you go. Remove yourself from the picture completely and see if that doesn't help.

ARIES
March 21–April 19

Try as you might, Aries, little will come to completion this week. Don't let it get to you. Keep plodding along, and progress will come. An idea is sound.

CANCER
June 22–July 22

Affairs of the heart take precedence this week, Cancer. Attend to matters at home, and then you will be able to tackle tasks at work with ease.

LIBRA
September 23–October 22

Spruce-ups at home make for a quick week, Libra. Coworkers begin to lose steam. Plan something fun to break up the monotony and boost spirits.

AQUARIUS
January 20–February 18

A dear friend has good days and bad. While there is nothing you can do to improve the situation, Aquarius, you can be there to offer your support.

TAURUS
April 20–May 20

Money matters come to the forefront with a small windfall. Save some for a rainy day, Taurus. A party is transformed with a novel idea. Enjoy!

LEO
July 23–August 22

Stranger things have happened, Leo. Don't get bogged down in the details. Accept the situation for what it is and move on. A buddy makes an offer.

SCORPIO
October 23–November 21

A change in weather leads to a flurry of activity at home. Join the fun, Scorpio. A news piece motivates you to help out with a worthy cause.

PISCES
February 19–March 20

Want to be closer to someone? Make the effort, Pisces. Take the time to visit with them and listen to what they have to say. There is so much to learn.

GEMINI
May 21–June 21

Golden Gemini. There is nothing out of your reach this week. Dreams come true and friendships are built. A project at home is in need of reevaluation.

VIRGO
August 23–September 22

Victorious Virgo. The competition heats up and you, the underdog, will emerge the winner. Celebrate with a night on the town. A text is received.

SAGITTARIUS
November 22–December 21

Seniors prove to be a good source of inspiration this week. Look, listen and learn. So many amazing opportunities are in store, Sagittarius.

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY

Winter Products

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

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

ULU News

OUT OF OFFICE STAFF

One of my part time staffers didn't make it to the last newsletter! Cynthia Erickson's parents are Harold and Florence Esmailka and is originally from Ruby. She and her family have been residing in Tanana going on 29 years. Cynthia's passion are the youth and the health and future of our villages. She loves being the worker bee behind the scenes and helping our communities in any way. If you need to get ahold of her, her email is Cynthia.erickson@akleg.gov and her number is 907-750-9123.

FINANCE

Details of the Governor's budget have been released and many areas have been substantially reduced. In his initial budget, funding for community jails (just over \$10 million) was completely removed, but he submitted an amendment to add back approximately two thirds of that (\$7 million). I was glad to see that action taken although the community jails will still be funded at a much-reduced amount. In the Finance committee, we have been hearing a lot of updates on the status of some of the State's biggest expenses such as PERS and TRS, the Permanent Fund, AHFC and many others, as well as our general fund and general operating expenses. Everything is being looked at under a microscope in light of our fiscal situation. We are now working on the capital budget. We received confir-

mation from the Finance Co-Chair in charge of the capital budget that indeed, there would be no funding for discretionary projects this year. Those are the projects added based on the priorities submitted by each of the communities to their legislators. In her memo she said: "... I am recommending the legislature forgo discretionary funding for the FY2016 Capital Budget. With your support, we will manage expectations of our communities. Capital budget spending will focus on areas where we can leverage federal dollars or other matching funds. It will also address health, life, and safety needs in our communities and provide opportunities to increase state revenues or decrease state expenses." I will still be requesting funding for the projects each of your communities have put forward - and my staff will write (or edit if a project has already been added by a community) the narrative for each to emphasize the effect on health, life and safety needs - but I have to say the outlook for funding is bleak.

ARCTIC POLICY

I visited Kotzebue and Kivalina this week with AFN, Secretary Sally Jewell, and other legislators to discuss the Arctic. The main focus of this visit was to show that this land, is the land of the locals. The focus needs to be on the people of the region and I believe that no one should pass laws and regulations that affect the people without talking to the people first. I would also like to put the spotlight on the people of Kivalina. People need a safe place to

stay; that is a plain and simple necessity for life. The erosion of the village and the waves crashing over the spit, is destroying the area and we need to be able to get those people to a safe place. We need to come up with an option to sustain the life of the people of Kivalina.

PFD REMINDER

I was informed that the number that was given out for the last newsletter is no longer in service. If you have any questions or need to appeal to the department, your local LIO can assist with PFD related issues. You can find contact information HERE. The deadline to apply for the Permanent Fund Dividend is March 31st, next month. You may file <http://www.pfd.state.ak.us/>.

IDITAROD

As you may know, the Iditarod is starting on March 7th in Anchorage this year. I want to wish all the mushers a good race but I want to take a moment to recognize these mushers from our district: Katherine Keith from Kotzebue, John Baker from Kotzebue, Chuck Schaeffer from Kotzebue and Aaron Burmeister from Nome. Good luck this year at the last great race!

CONSTITUENT VISITORS

Autumn Williams-	Koyukuk
Ava Earthman-	Nome
Ben Frantz-	Barrow
Ben Glover-	Barrow
Bonnie Douglas-	Shungnak
Brandy Arrington-	Nome
Brendan Patsy-	Nulato

Saying it Sincerely

Rev. Karen Sonray

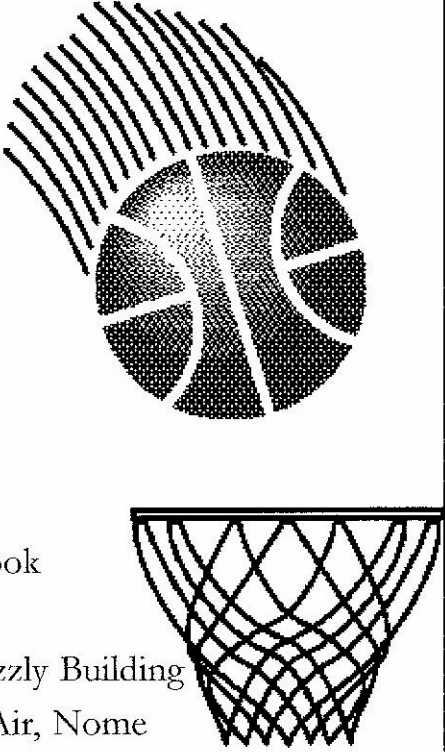
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
"In this world you will have many tribulations, but fear not for I have conquered the world." (John 16:33)
Fear can paralyze a people - whole communities, nations and individuals. It seems too that the news we hear predominately in our nation is one that generates fear. It is rare we hear a news story that inspires us or tells of the good deeds of individuals or nation.
"Fear not," is one of the consistently emphasized biblical messages from God. It is usually the first greeting from angels when they encounter people. In the stories of Mary, Joseph and the shepherds at the news of the upcoming birth of Jesus, the first message is, "Fear not!"

Jesus also repeated this message to his early disciples. As they encountered dangers, storms, challenges, stress, events out of their control - his message to them was, "fear not."
This does not mean we will not have fears. Everyone has fears. It is part of being human. But the trick is to not let our fears rule our hearts and plans.
General George Patton, in WWII, said something to his men before they faced an upcoming battle that I find useful. Heroes are not people who are unafraid. It is human to be afraid, but "the real hero is the man who fights even though he's scared."
As God's people we are called to live by faith despite our fears. Here is some good advice:
• Pray. Pray for your family, com-

munity, neighbors and enemies, the world and your self.
• Don't get stuck in patterns of loneliness and isolation. One of the ways the Enemy destroys the Body of believers is by keeping us isolated and unaware of one another's sufferings and joys. Praying for one another, picking up the phone, visiting with one another can break that destructive power. Don't wait for someone else to make the first step.
The Church is one of the few places in society where people of many generations gather together. This is very formative of character and faith for each of us. Find a church to worship at. Don't postpone. Do it this week!

It's Hoop Time.

Don't miss a minute as Nome Nanook basketball comes your way on KICY AM-850. Brought to you by Grizzly Building Supply, The A/C Value Center, Bering Air, Nome Outfitters, Hanson's Safeway, The Nome Community Center's Tobacco Control Program, Nome Joint Utility System and Tundra Toyo. Don't get too far away from a radio this season! Or, listen on-line at www.kicy.org.



Briana Charlie-	Minto	Madison Johnson-	Nome
Brian Henry-	Allakaket	Magdalene Lake-	Hooper Bay
Cash Arrington-	Nome	Mark Springer-	Bethel
Cheyenne Ticket-	Selawik	Mayor Agnes Dayton-Koyukuk	
Cindy Pilot-	Koyukuk	Mayor Richard Tuluk-Chevak	
Craig Hunter-	Scammon Bay	Mayor Rick Ross-	Bethel
Dan Distor-	Mt. Village	Michelle Benisek-	Scammon Bay
Dennis Jones-	Chevak	Nile Aguchak-	Scammon Bay
Emily Pomrenke-	Nome	Pauline Tickett-	Kobuk
Jermaine Augline-	Nunam Iqua	Pearl Brower-	Barrow
Jes Cynthia David-	Huslia	Randall Charlie-	Scammon Bay
John Atchak-	Chevak	Rodney Fancyboy-	Pilot Station
Jolene Snyder-	Kotzebue	Sharon Keeney-	Nome
Karen Edmond-	Alakanuk	Shawn Arnold-	Nome
Karen Teeluk-	Kotlik	Sheylenne McGruffy-Emmonak	
Kathy Leary-	Barrow	Stephanie Williams-Ruby	
Katie Smith-	Nome	Steve Smith-	Nome
Kayla Jeffress-	Barrow	Tali Henry-	Huslia
Kevin Hawley-	Kivalina	Vanessa Tahlbone-	Nome
Larry Parker-	Chevak	Virginia Walsh-	Barrow
Larson Hunter-	Scammon Bay	Wayne Arrington-	Nome
Latisha Roberts-	Minto	Wilmer Beetus-	Hughes

Spinach & Moose Lasagna

Recipe by Miller Health Consulting, LLC

Makes Approximately 8 Servings
Preparation Time: 25 minutes
Bake at 350°F for 60 minutes
Difficulty Level: Medium

Ingredients:
9 whole-wheat lasagna noodles
1 lb. ground moose
1 Tbsp. Italian seasoning
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 (24 oz.) jar pasta sauce
1 (10 oz.) package frozen chopped spinach
1 (16 oz.) container low-fat cottage cheese
1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese

Directions:
1. Cook lasagna noodles according to package directions.
2. Steam frozen spinach according to package directions.
3. Brown moose in a skillet over medium-high heat. Sprinkle with Italian seasoning and garlic powder while cooking. Drain any remaining fat. Add pasta sauce and steamed spinach to meat.
4. Spoon a thin layer of sauce mix on the bottom of a 9x13 inch casserole dish to prevent sticking. Layer 3 noodles, sauce mix, and 1/2 of the container cottage cheese in the dish. Repeat layer. Top with 3 noodles and sauce mix. Sprinkle mozzarella cheese on top.
5. Cover with foil and bake for 60 minutes at 350°F. Remove foil and bake 10 more minutes. Let sit 10 minutes before serving.

Tips:
* Enjoy with a light salad for a healthy, well-balanced meal.



Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size	1 Slice
Amount Per Serving	
Calories	279
Total Fat (g)	5.5
Saturated Fat (g)	2.5
Cholesterol (mg)	60
Sodium (mg)	296
Total Carbohydrate (g)	32
Fiber (g)	3
Protein (g)	31
Vitamin A (%)	35
Vitamin C (%)	4
Calcium (%)	17
Iron (%)	12

Church Services Directory

- Bible Baptist Church**
443-2144
Sunday School: 10 a.m./Worship: 11 a.m.
- Community Baptist Church-SBC**
108 West 3rd Avenue • 443-5448 • Pastor Aaron Cooper
Sunday Small Group Bible Study: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
- Community United Methodist Church**
West 2nd Avenue & C Street • 443-2865
Pastor Charles Brower
Sunday: Worship 11:00 am
Monday: Thrift Shop 4:00 to 5:00 pm
Tuesday & Thursday: Thrift Shop 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Wednesday: Faith Followers 5:45 to 7:30 pm
- Nome Covenant Church**
101 Bering Street • 443-2565 • Pastor Harvey
Sunday: School 10 a.m./Worship 11 a.m.
Wednesday: Youth Group 6:30 p.m. (443-8063 for more info)
Friday: Community Soup Kitchen 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
- Our Savior Lutheran Church**
5th Avenue & Bering • 443-5295
Sunday: Worship 11 a.m..
Handicapped accessible ramp: North side
- River of Life Assembly of God**
405 W. Seppala • 443-5333
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Last Sunday of each month Worship: 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Worship: 7:00 p.m.
For more information contact Pastor Austin Jones
- St. Joseph Catholic Church**
Corner of Steadman & W. King Place • 443-5527
Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m./Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Weekday Masses: Mon. & Tue. 9:00 a.m., Thur. 12:10 p.m.
Friday Hospital Mass: 12:10 p.m. (NSRH Meditation Room)
- Patients going to ANMC and want to see a Catholic priest please call Fr. Brunet, OMI: cell 907-441-2106 or Holy Family Cathedral (907) 276-3455
- Seventh-Day Adventist**
Icy View • 443-5137
Saturday Sabbath School: 10 a.m.
Saturday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.
- Nome Church of the Nazarene**
3rd Avenue & Division Street • 443-4870
Pastor Dan Ward
Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

Employment

KAWERAK

Recruitment Notice: Children & Family Services Division: Open until 3/3/15 (COB)

DIVISION: Children & Family Services Division
JOB TITLE: **Head Start Program Director**
POSITION STATUS: Regular, full-time
EXEMPT STATUS: Exempt
PAY SCALE GRADE: 18-19-20
(\$ 73,837 - \$96,341 DOE)
REPORTS TO: Vice President, CFS

The Head Start Program Director has overall administration and management responsibilities of the Head Start Program and Early Head Start program. Excellent management, organizational, communication and leadership skills are essential to ensure all aspects of the program requirements are met.

QUALIFICATION:

- 1) Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, Education or Early Childhood Education, Human Services/Social Work or related field. Supervisory work experience in a related field may substitute for the degree requirement on a year-for-year basis. Candidates without a BA must Demonstrate a willingness to obtain their degree within a reasonable time frame.
- 2) Two years experience in supervisory or management required.
- 3) Computer, keyboarding and office skills required. Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, Windows and Internet skills required.
- 4) Must possess strong oral and written communication skills, organizational and budgeting skills. Experience managing State and Federal funds

preferred.
5) Must be willing and able to travel.
6) This position is a Covered Position subject to all requirements of the Alaska Barrier Crimes Act AS 47.05.310-47.05.390, 7 AAC 10.900-10.990, and to the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Prevention Act, 25 USC 3201-3211 (ICPA). A background check clearance is required, including fingerprints, and the employee's name will be submitted to the Background Check Unit of the State of Alaska Department of Health and Social Services and entered into their central registry. Barrier Crimes Act and ICPA requirements apply and must be complied with at all times in order to remain in the position.
EEOC Approved (2-18-15)

Interested individuals may **contact Human Resources with questions at 907-443-5231**. Applications can be accessed via Kawerak's website at www.kawerak.org or by contacting Human Resources at 907-443-5231. Applications may be faxed to Kawerak Human Resources at 907-443-4443 or sent via email to: personnel@kawerak.org

2/26, 3/5

Nome Eskimo Community

is recruiting for a position located in Nome, AK:

• **Youth Services Assistant:** non-exempt, seasonal, full-time position. The pay range is \$18.79/hour - \$21.15/hour (DOE). The application **deadline** for the recruitment period is **Friday, February 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.**

To ensure the safety of children who receive services, Nome Eskimo Community will complete a Criminal History Background Check on all applicants considered for the After School Activities Coordinator position.

To be considered for employment, the report must be free of crimes involving sexual assault or sexual abuse of a minor, unlawful exploitation of a minor indecent exposure, crimes of violence against persons, and must show that the applicant has not been convicted of a felony within the past ten years.

Native preference per Public Law 93-638

A full copy of the job description and an employment application can be obtained from the Nome Eskimo Community Website www.necalaska.org or from the Nome Eskimo Community Office at 200 West 5th Avenue.

For any questions, please contact the Human Resources Manager, Cathy Lyon, at 907-443-2246 or by email to cathylyon@gci.net

2/19-26

Nome Eskimo Community

is recruiting for one (1) position located in Nome, AK:

Subsistence Specialist: non-exempt, regular full-time position. The pay range is \$23.79/hour - \$26.78/hour (DOE). The position is open until 3/13/15.

Native preference per Public Law 93-638

A full copy of the job descriptions and an employment application can be obtained from the Nome Eskimo Community Website www.necalaska.org or from the Nome Eskimo Community Office at 200 West 5th Avenue.

For any questions, please contact the Human Resources Manager, Cathy Lyon, at 907-443-9131 or by email to cathylyon@gci.net

2/26, 3/5-12

Job opening

MECHANIC:

Light and heavy duty vehicle experience.

Must have own tools. Self-starter. Able to work w/little to no supervision.

Apply to:

www.elitelineservices.com click on 'careers'.

EOE Minorities/Women/Disabled/Veterans

NSEDC Job Opportunities

Office Manager (Nome): This position is responsible for organizing and coordinating office operations and procedures, and day-to-day management of the Norton Sound Seafood Center retail store.

Mechanic: This position performs highly skilled and complex repairs, including inspecting, repairing, fabricating, rebuilding, and maintaining plant equipment and machinery associated within the fishery operations in the Norton Sound region.

Assistant Plant Manager (Unalakleet): This position is responsible for supervising the production and packaging of seafood products at the Southern Norton Sound Seafood Processing Plant.

All positions are open until filled.

NSEDC has competitive wages and an excellent benefits program!

For an application or complete job descriptions, check www.nsedc.com or contact Tyler Rhodes at 443-2477 (Nome), 888-650-2477 (toll-free) or tyler@nsedc.com.

Start your career in the fishing industry! Get trained in April for potential work this spring Training dates: April 20-29, 2015, AVTEC, Seward, AK



Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSEDC) is sponsoring entry-level seafood processing training for Norton Sound residents. NSEDC will pay tuition, employment documentation costs, transportation, food, and lodging expenses for selected applicants.

Details and application available at www.nsedc.com.
Application Deadline: April 9, 2015. Questions? Call (800)385-3190

Classifieds:

WANTED—Muskox horn, moose/caribou antler, old ivory, Eskimo artifacts. Call Roger 304-1048.

MAMMOTH IVORY WANTED by honest and good ivory buyer, call David Boone 1-800-423-1945, email photos to boss@boonetradng.com or text to 360-301-2350, thank you.

NOME WOMEN needed. We are looking for women aged 20 to 35 who are social drinkers to participate in a 2-hour focus group discussion on Saturday, February 28 from 3-5 p.m. You will be paid \$100 for you time (food and beverages provided). Contact Cory to reserve your spot and get additional information: cory@nwstrat.com work: 907-261-8626; cell: 757-642-8336.

2/26

Legals

CITY OF NOME PUBLIC NOTICE

O-15-02-01 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 General Fund Municipal Budget

O-15-02-02 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 School Debt Service Fund Budget

O-15-02-03 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 Special Revenue Fund Budget

O-15-02-04 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 Capital Projects Fund Budget

O-15-02-05 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget

O-15-02-06 An Ordinance Amending the City of Nome FY 2015 Port of Nome Fund Budget

O-15-02-07 An Ordinance Adopting Chapter 3.07 of the Nome Code of Ordinances

O-15-02-08 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10.50 of the Nome Code of Ordinances

These ordinances had first reading at the regular meeting of the Nome City Council on February 9, 2015 and were advanced to second reading/public hearing/final passage at a regular meeting of the Council scheduled for February 23, 2015, which was then rescheduled until **March 2, 2015** at 7:00 PM in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street. Copies of the ordinances are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

2/26

State of Alaska Department of Natural Resources

Notice of Public Scoping for Possible Updates and Revisions to DNR Regulations 11 ACC 86, Article 6 Mining Rights – Offshore Permits and Leases

The Alaska Department of Natural Resources is beginning the process of revising regulations which deal with mining leases for locatable minerals on state-owned tide and submerged lands. Specifically, DNR is seeking to create a body of regulations to set standards and establish the lease renewal process for leases of locatable minerals on tide and submerged lands. As part of the process the DNR is requesting that members of industry and the public who are affected by potential offshore lease renewal provide preliminary input regarding the administrative processes and requirements leading to renewal of offshore mining leases.

Background

Until 2012, AS 38.05.250 (c) provided that after a primary term of up to 20 years an offshore mining lease could be maintained "for so long a there is production in paying quantities from the leased area." The statute contained no provision for renewal of the lease, so there was no mechanism for a lessee to secure the lease for any extended period beyond the primary term of the lease. After the primary term the lease could only be maintained through production in paying quantities.

In 2012 the Alaska State Legislature passed legislation that enabled the renewal of offshore mining leases. Chapter 27, SLA 2012 was enacted amending AS 38.05.250(c) to read:

(c) Each submerged land mining lease shall be for a period of up to 20 years and for so long as there is production in paying quantities from the leased area. A submerged land mining lease may be renewed for a period of up to 20 years at the discretion of the director if the director determines that the renewal is in the best interests of the state.

The Need for Regulations

The amendment to AS 38.05.250(c) mandates that the Director of the Division of Lands determine whether an offshore mining lease renewal is in the best interest of the State. The DNR is considering drafting regulations to guide the determination of the State's best interest, and to ensure that the decision making process is consistent from one lessee to another. The regulations must also provide an efficient process for lease renewal, both for the State and the lessee. The DNR needs a consistent process for determining whether a lease renewal is in the State's best interest, and if the lessee is actively developing, mining, and producing minerals from the leased property. If a lease is not being developed properly through exploration, mine planning and actual mining, the State's best interests may lie in re-offering the ground for competitive lease sale rather than renewing a lease that is not being developed.

Public Input

The DNR is asking affected members of the public and the mining industry for their input regarding regulations for offshore mining lease renewal. The DNR is interested in the public's ideas that will make the lease renewal process efficient for both the State and the mining public.

The DMLW is asking for your suggestions regarding how to develop regulations that both protect the interests of the State, and are reasonable for lessees. In formulating your suggestions the DMLW asks that you consider the following:

- What benefits should the State and people of Alaska derive from a renewed offshore mining lease?
- How can the DNR best determine that the interests of the State are being adequately met with regard to an offshore mining lease? At what point are the State's needs not being met?
- What is an appropriate level of either production or exploration to demonstrate that the lessee is seriously developing the lease in the best interests of the State?
- What requirements for lease renewal might help the lessee further their ability to effectively develop and mine the lease?
- What requirements and documentation will create the least regulatory burden on the lessee?
- What system of lease renewal application will be least burdensome for the lessee, and most efficiently administered by the DNR?
- Other questions/issues/suggestions you find pertinent to offshore mining lease renewal?

Written comments, suggestions, questions and other input must be received by the department no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2015**. Written comments, suggestions, questions and other input to may be submitted by mail to:

**Bill Cole
Alaska Department of Natural Resources
550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 900B
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3577**

Written comments, suggestions, questions and other input to may be submitted by email to william.cole@alaska.gov.

Once public input has been received the DNR will consider the information if and when it drafts proposed regulatory revisions. Any proposed regulatory revisions will subsequently be released for public review and comment under AS 44.62, the Administrative Procedures Act.

The division of Mining, Land and Water Management reserves the right to waive technical defects in this publication. The State of Alaska, Department of Natural Resources, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who may need auxiliary aides, services or special modifications to participate in this scoping request may contact the above address, email or the TDD number (907) 269-8411.



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

Available position:

EVS/Maintenance workers

Norton Sound Health corporation is seeking people with experience in housekeeping and light maintenance in the following villages:

- Brevig Mission
- Elim
- Gambell
- Golovin
- Koyuk
- Savoonga
- Shaktoolik
- Shishmaref
- Stebbins
- Teller
- Wales

Please fax your application to 907-443-2085.

Or email to jnorris@nshcorp.org.

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

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

2.12



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

Available position:

Certified Nursing Assistant, Quyanna Care Center

PURPOSE OF POSITION:

Assist professional nursing staff by performing simple treatments and related bedside patient care as well as transporting patients and performing some clerical duties.

EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE and CREDENTIALS:

Education	Degree High School Diploma or equivalent Certified Nursing Assistant Training
Experience	General (Non-supervisory): 0 year(s) Supervisory: 0 year(s) Type: Must have both general and supervisory experience if indicated.
Credentials	Licensure, Certification, Etc. Alaska State Certification as Nursing Assistant

Starting pay \$19.91 + DOE

For an application, detailed job description or more information, please contact us: recruiter@nshcorp.org

(907) 443-4573

(907) 443-2085 fax

www.nortonsoundhealth.org

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

2.26

MUNAQSRI Senior Apartments • "A Caring Place"**NOW taking applications for one-bedroom unfurnished apartments, heat included**

"62 years of age or older, handicap/disabled, regardless of age"

- Electricity subsidized; major appliances provided
- Rent based on income for eligible households
- Rent subsidized by USDA Rural Development

515 Steadman Street, NomeEQUAL
OPPORTUNITY
EMPLOYERPO BOX 1289 • Nome, AK 99762
Jessie Miller, Manager(907) 443-5220
Fax: (907) 443-5318
Hearing Impaired: 1-800-770-8973**Bush Orders • Custom Cuts
Meat Packs • Pork and Chicken****907-349-3556 • www.mrprimebeef.com**Retail: 907-344-4066 • Wholesale: 907-349-3556 • Toll Free 800-478-3556
7521 Old Seward Highway, Ste. E • Anchorage, AK 99518 • Fax 907-522-2529**Request For Proposals****General Contractor
St. Lawrence Island Clinics
Site Work and Foundation Construction**

Norton Sound Health Corporation (NSHC) is soliciting qualifications and pricing information from contractors for the first phase of construction, to include site & foundation work for two new clinics on St. Lawrence Island, one in Savoonga and one in Gambell.

This RFP with a complete set of exhibits is available at www.stlawrenceislandclinics.com and can also be accessed from DOWL's website (www.dowl.com) under the Portfolio, Client Projects Tab. Copies are available at the Plans Room in Anchorage and Fairbanks. A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held at DOWL's Anchorage office on March 4th, 2015. Proposals are due March 13th, 2015 at 4 p.m. at DOWL's Anchorage office (4041 B St).

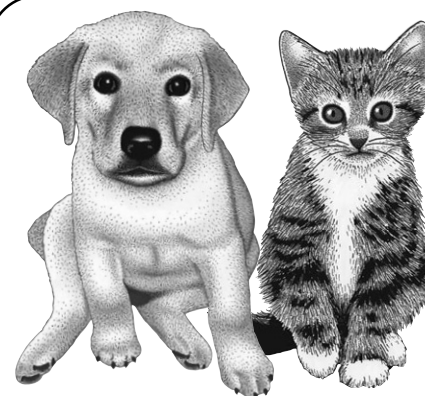
Trooper Beat

On February 14, at 12:57 p.m. the Alaska State Troopers were notified of a 4-month old male child that was not breathing. The child was a passenger inside his mother's parka during a snowmobile ride from Golovin to White Mountain. The child was medivaced from White Mountain to an Anchorage hospital where he remained on life support until February 17. On February 17, the child was removed from life support and he subsequently died. No criminal activity is suspected.

On February 15, at about 11:45 a.m., AST received a report of an intoxicated driver in White Mountain. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of Randall Huffman, 44, of White Mountain, for Driving Under the Influence and Resisting Arrest. Huffman was remanded to the Anvil Mountain Correctional Center.

On February 16, during a Commercial winter Red King Crab patrol west of Nome, Alaska Wildlife Troopers cited David J. Kowchec, 38, of Nome, for No Commercial Crewmember License. Permit holder Robin C. Thomas, 57, of Nome, was cited for employing an Unlicensed Crewmember. Bail: \$250.00 each.

On February 19, following a Commercial winter Red King Crab patrol west of Nome, AWT summonsed permit holder Donald T. Johnson, 25, of Nome, for Unmarked King Crab Pot(s). Arraignment in Nome District Court on March 3.

**PLEASE
HELP****Adopt a Pet
or make your
donation
today!**

Dog food, cat food, cat litter and other donations are always welcome at the Nome Animal Shelter!

**Nome Animal Control & Adopt-A-Pet
443-8538 or 443-5262****REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
FOR RESIDENTIAL HOUSING UNITS
FOR****NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION****INTRODUCTION**

Norton Sound Health Corporation ("NSHC") is an Alaska nonprofit corporation providing healthcare and related services in the Norton Sound Region. NSHC is Alaska Native organization and tribal entity operating pursuant to P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self Determination and Education Assistance Act, 25 U.S.C. § 450, et seq, and applicable regulations. NSHC offers a preference to Alaska Native/Indian owned entities in accordance with 25 U.S.C. § 450e(b). However, NSHC is not subject to the federal acquisition regulations ("FARs") in its procurement of services, and preferences afforded entities under those regulations do not apply to NSHC pursuant to 25 U.S.C. § 450j(a)(1).

NSHC is seeking proposals for development of new or remodel of existing residential housing units located nearest possible to the front door of the NSHC Hospital in Nome, Alaska. NSHC intends to lease such units for use by its employees, consultants, guests, invitees and other third parties. This document contains the general instructions for submitting a proposal to provide these residential housing units. The nature and type of residential housing units needed are more fully set forth in this RFP. The successful proposer will enter into a commercial lease with NSHC containing terms acceptable to both parties.

Entities desiring to submit a proposal must register with NSHC by submitting a request for a copy of the RFP Packet to John Kitchens by telephone 907-443-3206 at NSHC administrative officer or email: jkitchens@nshcorp.org.

Written proposals will be accepted at NSHC administrative offices located at Norton Sound Hospital in Nome, Alaska until Noon April 16th, 2015.

Please refer to the formal RFP for more details.

**Sitnasuak Native Corporation
Notice of the 42nd Annual
Meeting of Shareholders**

- Saturday, June 6, 2015
- 10 a.m.
- Nome Elementary School
- Nome, Alaska

BUSINESS CONDUCTED WILL INCLUDE:

- Election of Four (4) Directors for three year term
- Other shareholder business

SOLICITATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BOARD POSTIONS

- Written Letter of Candidacy and Nominee Information Questionnaire
- Candidates must be 19 years old or older by filing date.

MUST BE RECEIVED BY March 6, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.**SHAREHOLDER PROPOSAL**

A proposal form (signature requirements) will be provided, please contact the Sitnasuak Native Corporation Office 907-387-1200 or 1-877-443-2632 (toll free)

MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE CORPORATION OFFICE ON OR BEFORE March 6, 2015 by 5:00 p.m.Please contact **Dave Evans**,
Shareholder Liaison, for more
information at **387-1226** or
devans@snc.org**SITNASUAK**
NATIVE CORPORATIONwww.snc.org

2/19-26, 3/5-12-19-26

Bering Sea - Western Interior*Resource Management Plan***You're Invited**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invites you to a meeting to discuss preliminary alternatives for the Bering Sea-Western Interior (BSWI) Resource Management Plan (RMP). Come learn about the planning process and ask questions. BLM will accept comments through March 20, 2015 for the preliminary alternatives outreach period.

For more information and schedule updates, please visit the project website at: www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi

You may also email: BSWI_RMP_Comment@blm.gov, or contact Jorjena Daly at (907) 267-1246.

Refreshments will be provided.

Please contact Elizabeth Appleby at (907) 375-9019 with special needs requests.

BSWI preliminary alternatives outreach meetings:

2/23/15 McGrath
1:00 PM - Village Council Meeting Room

2/24/15 Unalakleet
1:30 PM - Aaron Paneok Myles Gonangan Memorial Hall

2/25/15 Lime Village 11:00 AM - Tribal Office

3/2/15 Holy Cross
1:00 PM - Community Hall

3/3/15 Nulato
2:00 PM - Recreation Center

3/4/15 Kaltag
2:00 PM - Community Hall

3/5/15 Grayling
1:00 PM - New Tribal Building

3/10/15 Bethel
11:00 AM - Yup'it Piciryarait Cultural Center (401 Chief Eddie Hoffman Hwy.)

3/11/15 Kalskag
10:00 AM - Tribal Office

3/11/15 Lower Kalskag 1:00 PM - Town Hall

3/12/15 Russian Mission
1:00 PM - School Commons

3/16/15 Aniak
1:30 PM - Community Hall

3/17/15 Chuathbaluk
12:00 PM - Tribal Office
3/18/15 Crooked Creek 1:00 PM - Tribal Office

3/19/15 Anchorage
Open house 4:30 PM;
Presentation 6:30 PM
Campbell Creek Science Center (5600 Science Center Dr.)

www.blm.gov/ak/planning/bswi

Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASES 02/16/2015 through 02/22/2015

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

During this period there were 116 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center. 52 (44%) involved alcohol.

There were 12 arrests made with 12 (100%) alcohol related.

NPD responded to 12 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. 1 was remanded to AMCC as protective hold; and 1 remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

There were 12 ambulance calls and 0 fire calls during this period.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2015

03:28 a.m., Nome Police Officers, while on routine patrol, observed a vehicle swerving and driving on the wrong side of the road way. A traffic stop was conducted and Officers contacted Justin Schield (18), who showed clear signs of impairment. Further investigation revealed that Schield was too intoxicated to drive and was subsequently placed under arrest for Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol. Justin was remanded to AMCC, where he was held on \$1,000 bail.

04:32 a.m., Nome Police Department responded to the east side of town on the report an assault. Investigation revealed that Rebecca Alvanna, who was found to be highly intoxicated, assaulted a member of the household, causing physical injury. Alvanna was subsequently placed under arrest for Assault in the Fourth Degree, DV and was remanded to AMCC, where she was held without bail.

03:08 p.m., Nome Police Department responded to the east side of town on the report that a snow machine track had been cut up. A suspect has been identified, and a report will be forwarded to the DA's office.

06:48 p.m., NPD Community Service Officer responded to the sea wall on the west side of town for a report of an intoxicated male sleeping on the ground. Upon arrival, the male was identified as Eddie Muktoyuk, who was roused and then provided transportation to his residence, where he was left in the care of a sober family member. No further action was required.

08:14 p.m., NPD Community Service Officer responded to the east side of town on the report of five juveniles causing a disturbance in the street. The juveniles were contacted and observed "play fighting" with each other. No assault or any other crime was reported and no further action was taken.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2015

00:54 a.m., the Nome Police Department responded to the report of a possible trespass on the west side of town. Upon arrival, the subject was identified as John Garrison, who was found highly intoxicated and happened to be one of the workers remodeling the residence. Garrison was transported to a sober friend's residence and left in their care. No further action was taken.

01:51 a.m., the Nome Police Department responded to the west side of town for the report of a possible fight in progress. The combatants were located, separated and during the course of the investigation, one of the subjects, identified as Steven Hoogendorn Jr, was found to be highly intoxicated while driving a motor vehicle; and doing so without a valid license. Hoogendorn Jr was subsequently arrested and remanded to AMCC for DUI and Driving without a Valid License, where he was held on \$1,500 bail.

02:56 a.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a male entering an abandoned apartment on the west side of town. Upon arrival, the subject had fled the scene and was not able to be identified by the reporting party.

08:07 a.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a dead animal located on Nome Teller Highway. Officers located a deceased fox and it was moved out of the roadway, no further action taken.

01:01 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of an intoxicated male that was unresponsive, but breathing on the west end of town. Officers arrived on scene and informed the Communications Center to dispatch an ambulance. NVAD arrived on scene and transported the individual to Norton Sound Regional Hospital and was left there for medical care.

02:31 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a loose animal on the west end of town. Officers made contact with the animal and the owner; the owner was advised to keep his dog in sight and on a leash when outside. No further action taken.

04:01 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a call concerning a firearm going off inside a home located on the west end of town. Officers arrived on scene and Jordan Lyon was arrested for Misconduct Involving Weapons in the 4th degree and Reckless Endangerment and was remanded to AMCC, his bail is set at \$1000.

05:18 p.m., the Nome Police Department served Colin Kulukhon-Lincoln his court ordered paperwork on the west end of town.

06:20 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a trespass on the north end of town. Officers made contact with the reporting party and the alleged perpetrator. James Saunders was warned to not return to the property or he would be arrested for criminal trespass, James was given a transport back to the west end of town.

11:09 p.m., NPD received a report of a disturbance on the east end of town. Investigation led to the arrest of James Alvanna for Assault in the 3rd Degree, Domestic Violence; Assault in the 3rd Degree on a Peace Officer, Resisting Arrest and Violating Conditions of Probation. He was taken to AMCC and no bail was set.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

02:35 a.m., NPD conducted a traffic stop on the west end of town. Investigation led to the arrest of Scott Aningayou. Aningayou was charged with Driving Under the Influence, Driving While License Revoked, Misconduct Involving a Controlled Substance in the 4th Degree, Failure to Stop at Direction of a Peace Officer, Assault in the 3rd Degree on a Peace Officer, Resisting Arrest, Reckless Driving and Reckless Endangerment. Aningayou was taken to AMCC, no bail was set.

04:52 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of an intoxicated male who had fallen on the east side of town. Officers made contact with Edward Muktoyuk and he was given a transport to a sober family member's residence, no further action taken.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015

08:56 a.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a vehicle obstructing the roadway for the City Road Crew. Officers made contact with the owner of the pickup and it was moved, no further action taken.

09:41 a.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a drive off at Bonanza Express; Officers made contact with the reporting party and the situation will be taken care of with the driver returning to pay for the fuel.

02:39 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of an intoxicated female on the west end of town. Officers made contact with June Koonuk. She was then taken to Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical clearance, and then remanded to AMCC for a Title 47 hold.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2015

04:30 p.m., NPD responded to a report of a person possibly being suicidal on the east side of town. The investigation led to the determination that the report was unfounded.

05:09 p.m., NPD responded to a disturbance on the west side of town. Upon arrival, Officers were informed of an argument which ended with one participant leaving the residence. The investigation led to the arrest of Michael Dewey for Violating Conditions of his Probation. He was transported to Anvil Mountain Correctional Center and remanded to their custody, no bail was set.

06:35 p.m., the Nome Police Department responded to a residence on the west side of town for the report of a disturbance. Upon arrival, the situation was resolved by separation within the residence. The reported suspect, Charles Taxac, was also found to be on probation that prohibited the consumption of alcohol, but did not specify warrantless arrest. Charges for Probation Violation will be sent to the District Attorney for disposition.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2015

00:40 a.m., NPD responded to a report of a disturbance on the west side of town. Upon arrival, Officers were informed of a verbal altercation which ended with possible threats being made against two adult males. The investigation led to Deshaun Williams being found in Violation of Conditions of his Probation. A report will be forwarded to the District Attorney for a Summons/Warrant.

04:20 a.m., NPD responded to a report of an intoxicated female on the street on the west side of town. The woman was contacted and identified as Jennifer Redfox, who was then provided transportation to her residence on the east side of town.

07:16 p.m., the Nome Police Department received a welfare check request from a family member residing outside of town. Officers arrived at the residence of the female and made contact with her; finding that she was in good health and sober. No further action taken.

08:38 p.m., Officers, while on routine patrol, observed a person looking through the

cab of a pickup truck with the alarm going off. Upon contact, the person was identified as the registered owner, who had misplaced their keys. The owner was provided transportation to their residence, then back to her vehicle without further incident.

08:59 p.m., Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle showing expired registration tags. Upon contact, the driver was a travelling worker who was renting the vehicle from a local resident. The driver was issued a verbal warning and was informed to contact the owner to get the deficiency corrected.

09:52 p.m., NPD responded to a report of an injury assault on the west side of town. The investigation led to the arrest of Nora Brown for Assault III (DV) and Probation Violation. She was transported to the Anvil Mountain Correctional Center, no bail was set. The victim was transported to Norton Sound Regional Hospital for evaluation and treatment of his injuries.

11:20 p.m., NPD Community Service Officer responded to the west side of town on the report of a male yelling in the street. John Luke Pete was contacted and observed highly intoxicated. John was provided transportation to his home, but due to his level of intoxication, his roommate refused to take him. John was then transported to the NEST shelter, where he was left in the care of the staff.

11:23 p.m., NPD responded to a report of a disturbance on the west side of town. The investigation led to the arrest of Aaron Milligrock for Disorderly Conduct and Violating Probation. He was transported to the Anvil Mountain Correctional Center, no bail was set.

11:55 p.m., NVAD and NPD responded to the west side of town on the report of an intoxicated female who had slipped on the ground, and possibly hurt her ankle. The female was contacted, and transported to Norton Sound Regional Hospital via Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department staff. One open bottle of alcohol was found on her person, no citation was issued due to her injury.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2015

00:55 a.m., NPD responded to the west side of town on the report of a fight between members of a household. Initial investigation revealed that the assault was unfounded, but Max Iyapana was contacted and found intoxicated, which was in violation of his current probation conditions. Iyapana was placed under arrest for violation of probation and conditions of release. During the same contact, Nichole Sherman-Luce (18) was issued an MCA citation after she admitted to drinking alcohol.

02:50 a.m., NPD responded to the east side of town on the report of two intoxicated males who had slipped on the ground and had trouble getting up. The two were contacted and identified as David Walluk and Jacob Seppilu, who were assisted into a cab, along with a family member who indicated they would help them home. Officers ensured their safe arrival home and no further action was necessary.

03:10 a.m., the Nome Police Department received a report of a disturbance between three individuals on the east side of town. Upon arrival, one of the persons had fled the scene and the remaining two did not wish to pursue charges. No further action was taken.

03:53 p.m., while on routine patrol on the west side of town, NPD Community Service Officer observed Michele Kulukhon in possession of an open bottle of alcohol outside a licensed premise. Kulukhon was contacted and issued an open container citation. She was released from the scene without further issue.

06:02 p.m., the Nome Police Department responded to a residence on the east side of town for the report of an assault occurring. Upon arrival and further investigation, Darryl Aukon was found to have injured a member of the household, causing injury. Aukon was subsequently arrested and remanded to AMCC for Assault in the Fourth Degree, DV, where he was held without bail.

07:54 p.m., the Nome Police Department responded to a residence on the east side of town for the report of an intoxicated male pounding on a door to the home. Upon arrival, the subject was identified as Donald Oliver and he was advised to cease the disruptive behavior. No further action taken.

10:33 p.m., Nome Police Department Community Service Officer, while on routine patrol, was waived down by several persons on the west side of town. Upon contact, the individuals were identified as June Koonuk, Michele Kulukhon and John Saclamana. Kulukhon and Saclamana were provided courtesy transport to the NEST for the evening while Koonuk refused transportation. No further action taken.

11:29 p.m., NPD responded to a report of a disturbance on the west side of town. The investigation led to charging documents being forwarded to the DA's Office for Michael Saclamana regarding his Disorderly Conduct and Violating his Probation.

Court

Week ending 2/20	
Civil	
Lyon, Jolene D. v. Sharpe, Jzyzk J.; Civil Protective Order Minor Party v. Sharpe, Jzyzk; Civil Protective Order Jack, Benjamin E. v. Sharpe, Jzyzk; Civil Protective Order Minor Party v. Sharpe, Jzyzk; Civil Protective Order Brown, Leslie v. Kulukhon-Lincoln, Colin; Civil Protective Order Scholten, Daniel J. v. Harrington, Tracey R.; Civil Protective Order Ellanna, Jason John; Contempt of Ct Non-Case Related Goldsberry, Harry v. Johnson, Donald; Civil Protective Order White, Robert v. Richards, Teresa; Civil Protective Order	
Small Claims	
No new claims on file; start 2NO-15-00007SC	
Criminal	
State of Alaska v. James Alvanna (8/14/84); Redistributed 2/18/15; CTN 001: Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 8/4/13; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 002; 360 days, 300 days suspended; Unsuspended 60 days shall be served immediately; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 5 years (date of judgment: 3/4/14); Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no jailable offenses; Shall not contact, directly or indirectly, or return to the residence of Theodora Katheak without consent; Shall not possess, consume alcohol; Shall not have alcohol in his residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to warrantless breath testing at the request of any peace officer; Alcohol/Mental Health Assessment by 2 weeks after release; Participate in and complete recommended treatment and aftercare; Follow rec. for alcohol and anger management.	
State of Alaska v. Aaron Milligrock (9/10/89); 2NO-15-40CR Criminal Mischief 4; Date of Violation: 1/17/15; 120 days, 100 days suspended; Unsuspended 20 days shall be served immediately; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Restitution: Defendant shall pay restitution as stated in the Restitution Judgment and shall apply for an Alaska Permanent Fund Dividend, if eligible, each year until restitution is paid in full; Hearing Date for Restitution March 3, 205 at 10:00 a.m.; Probation for one year, 2/17/16; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law, assaultive or disorderly conduct, or domestic violence; Shall not contact, directly or indirectly, or return to the residence of Nancy Analook or Richard Schulling; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol in any dry or damp community, and any stated ID issued under AS 18.65.310 must list the buying restriction until the restriction expires; Shall not have alcohol in his residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to a warrantless breath test by any peace office with probable cause to believe he has consumed alcohol; Subject to warrantless search of residence for alcohol, upon probation cause.	
State of Alaska v. Aaron Milligrock (9/10/89); 2NO-15-91CR Dismissal; 001: VCR; Filed by the DAs Office 2/17/15.	

State of Alaska v. Elmer Campbell, III (3/22/93); Dismissal; DUI, Chg. Nbr. 1; Filed by the DAs Office 2/17/15.	State of Alaska v. Michael Tucker (4/10/71); Judgment and Order of Commitment/Probation; CTN 002: AS11.41.220(a)(1)(A): Assault 3- Cause Fear Of Injury w/Weap; DV; C Felony; Offense Date: 3/15/14; The following charges were dismissed: CTN 001: AS11.46.300(a)(1): Burglary 1- In A Dwelling; CTN 003: AS11.41.220(a)(1)(A): Assault 3- Cause Fear Of Injury w/Weap; 004 and 005: AS11.41.220: Assault 3; CTN 006: AS11.61.210: Misconduct w/Weapons 4; All counts Offense Date: 3/15/14; Defendant came before the court on (sentencing date): 2/13/15 with counsel, Erin Lillie, and the DA present; CTN 002: 24 months, 23 months suspended; Unsuspended 1 month is time served; Police Training Surcharge: The defendant shall pay the following surcharge to the court pursuant to AS 12.55.039 within 10 days: CTN 002: \$100 (Felony); Initial Jail Surcharge: Defendant was arrested and taken to a correctional facility or is being ordered to serve a term of imprisonment; Therefore, the defendant immediately pay a correctional facilities surcharge of \$100 per case to the Department of Law Collections Unit, Anchorage; AS 12.55.041(b)(1); Suspended Jail Surcharge: Defendant is being placed on probation; Therefore, the defendant pay an additional \$100 correctional facility surcharge; This surcharge is suspended and must only be paid if defendant's probation is revoked and, in connection with the revocation, defendant is arrested and taken to a correctional facility or jail time is ordered served; AS 12.55.041(c); DNA Identification: If this conviction is for a "crime against a person" as defined in AS 44.41.035, or a felony under AS 11 or AS 28.35, the defendant is ordered to provide samples for the DNA Registration System when requested to do so by a health care professional acting on behalf of the state and to provide oral samples for the DNA Registration System when requested by a correctional, probation, parole or peace officer; AS 12.55.015(h); Other: Rifle seized will be returned to defendants designee; Probation for 3 years (date of judgment: 2/13/15); General and Special Conditions set, as stated in order; Any appearance or performance bond in this case: is exonerated.	State of Alaska v. Steven Hoogendorn (10/7/91); CTN 001: DUI; Date of Offense: 2/17/15; 60 days, 40 days suspended; Report immediately to AMCC; Pay the fines and others costs listed in this chart: \$3,000.00 fine due 2/18/17; Police Training Surcharge: \$75 with \$0 suspended; \$75 due in 10 days; Pay to Collections Unit, AGs Office, Anchorage: Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case, \$0 suspended; \$50 due; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; \$0 due; Cost of Imprisonment: \$1467 (2nd off.) with \$0 suspended; Full amount ordered due; Bail to: Fine \$3,000, Police Surcharge \$75; Driver's license revoked for 90 days; Concurrent with DMV action; Use an Ignition Interlock Device: After you regain the privilege to drive or obtain a limited license, you must use an ignition interlock device (IID) as directed in the IID Information Sheet (CR-483) for (no information provided); Costs of the IID will be deducted from the fine if you file proof of payment before the fine due date; Other: Fine due date 2/18/17; Probation for 1 year, expires 2/18/16; Obey all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Commit no jailable offenses; Do not possess, consume, or buy alcohol for a period ending 2/18/16 from date of this judgment (2/18/18); You are required to surrender your driver's license and identification card; Your license and ID are subject to cancellation under AS 28.15.11 and AS 18.65.310; and any new license or ID must list the AS 04.16.160 buying restriction during the restricted period; AS 28.15.191(g); You are subject to a warrantless breath test by any peace officer with probable cause to believe you consumed alcohol, and are subject to warrantless search of residence for alcohol, upon probable cause.	State of Alaska v. Delbert Acoman (2/5/74); Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 10/30/14; 365 days, 200 days suspended; Unsuspended 165 days shall be served; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail
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Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 2 years, 2/8/17; Shall comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law, assaultive or disorderly conduct, or domestic violence; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol in any dry or damp community, and any stated ID issued under AS 18.65.310 must list the buying restriction until the restriction expires; Shall not have alcohol in his residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to a warrantless breath test by any peace office with probable cause to believe he has consumed alcohol; Subject to warrantless search of residence for alcohol, upon probable cause.	State of Alaska v. Bobbi Miller (7/7/91); CTN 002: Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 2/1/15; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 1, 3, 4, 5; 120 days, 100 days suspended; Unsuspended 20 days shall be served; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 2/19/15); Shall comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law, assaultive or disorderly conduct, or domestic violence; Shall not possess, consume or buy alcohol in any dry or damp community, and any stated ID issued under AS 18.65.310 must list the buying restriction until the restriction expires; Shall not have alcohol in her residence; Shall not enter or remain on the premises of any bar or liquor store; Subject to a warrantless breath test by any peace office with probable cause to believe she has consumed alcohol; Subject to warrantless search of residence for alcohol, upon probable cause; Alcohol/Mental Health Assessment by BHS within 5 days of release; Participate in and complete recommended treatment and aftercare.	State of Alaska v. Trevor Tungiyen (6/5/91); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 110670282; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: 150 days.	State of Alaska v. Elliot Olanna (4/13/75); 2NO-14-204CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 114796116; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: all suspended time.	State of Alaska v. Elliot Olanna (4/13/75); 2NO-14-818CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 114802767; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: all suspended time.	State of Alaska v. Richard Kostiew (9/11/57); Reckless Driving; Date of Violation: 10/1/14; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated upon reporting to serve as ordered; 30 days, 20 days suspended; Unsuspended 10 days shall be served; Report to Nome Court on 2/25/15 for a remand hearing; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case; Due now to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 2/20/15); Shall comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Shall commit no violations of law pertaining to alcoholic beverages; Do not drink alcohol to excess.
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Photos by Sarah Miller

GEAR TALK— Leonard Lastine checks out Phil Hofstetter's fat tire bike during the presentation given at the UAF Northwest Campus on Thursday, February 19.



NOT YOUR AVERAGE BIKE (top)— Phil Hofstetter's fat tire bike is packed and ready to hit the Iditarod trail from Big Lake to Nome, a 1,000 mile long journey.

NOME PARTICIPANT (left)— Nome resident Phil Hofstetter will once again embark on the 1,000 mile long journey across Alaska on two wheels March 1.

Nome resident to embark on his seventh Iditarod Trail Invitational

By Sarah Miller

When Phil Hofstetter crosses the finish line of the Iditarod trail, there won't be sirens blaring or throngs of fans gathered to cheer him on. No prize money will be offered. Few will have tracked his progress traveling the 1,000-mile trail. He will have journeyed most of the way alone, lacking even the company of furry companions. There are no checkpoints staffed by volunteers and supporters to encourage or aid him during the two-week trip. His family may not even know when he has arrived in Nome, as happened last year. The race is the Iditarod Trail Invitational, also known as "Idita-Bike". He will ride the Iditarod trail by bicycle, over snow, ice and overflow, just as mushers will do in the more well-known dog sled race.

"It's kind of a crazy race. I still don't know why we do it," said Hofstetter, at a presentation given last Thursday at UAF Northwest Campus. Part of the college's Armchair Travel Series, Hofstetter presented photos, stories, and of course, his bicycle, to an audience of Nome residents. Joking aside, Hofstetter clearly thrives on the adventure, the challenge, and the mystery of the race. This has kept him coming back year after year, since he began competing in 2008.

"It's not just about the race. I love the whole process— looking at gear, figuring out how to load the bike,

thinking about my strategy and what I can do better each time. It's an accomplishment, but I also love to have a goal, and I get excited about the lead-up to the challenge," Hofstetter said.

The race begins March 1 in Knik. Participants include cyclists, walkers and skiers. It is part of the Iditarod dogsled race founder Joe Redington's vision for the Iditarod trail to be used for competitive races of all kinds.

Some will race 350 miles to McGrath in the short race series, whereas others will complete the entire route to Nome. Hofstetter has participated in both versions of the Invitational over the years, completing six races so far. Those who wish to participate in the 1,000-mile version must qualify by completing the short race first.

All competitors are screened, explained Hofstetter, to ensure they have the experience and ability to participate in an extreme winter endurance event that is unsupported. While racers must check in at mandatory checkpoints by calling the race organizers, they are free to make their own way along the trail, and must be self-sufficient along the way.

Food and supplies can be mailed in advance to village post offices where riders may pick them up as they pass through, but there is no guarantee that racers will be able to

access them while on the trail. "It depends on timing- when you arrive, the post office might not be open because it's the middle of the night or a Sunday," said Hofstetter. In those, and other situations in which racers are confronted with challenges, they must solve the problems on their own.

Tracking tools, such as GPS and SPOT devices, had been banned by race organizers in the past, but will be allowed this year. Hofstetter, however, will opt not to use one. "It's a different experience, just being out there on your own. Having them definitely affects the race. For me, the technology just takes some of the mystery away. It takes you out of the moment," he explained.

This is what unsupported extreme racing is all about, and it is one of the things the athletes love about it. "I love the outdoors, and adventure. I'm just a regular person who loves to go out into the country," he said.

In addition to mailing supplies to the villages, racers are also permitted one bag to be airdropped between Ophir and Shageluk. Only food, batteries and consumable supplies are allowed in the drop bags. Racers must pack all other gear, including clothing, and camping, first aid, safety and repair gear.

Hofstetter demonstrated how his bicycle is loaded to carry the supplies. "I spend a lot of time thinking

about my gear, what to bring, how to reduce weight, how to load the bike optimally for my riding style and balance," he said. "On some parts of the trail, I'll have to be pushing to get uphill, and I want to get everything off the front of the bike so I don't have to fight steering, and the back weight helps keep the tires grounded. But everybody has a different strategy."

Hofstetter fielded questions from the audience about training. "Just get on the bike and ride," he laughed, but then elaborated on the detailed process of optimizing his training methods, physiology, nutrition and injury prevention. "I love collecting the data and analyzing it to think about how to maximize my time, my efficiency, not over-training," said Hofstetter as he displayed a slide of graphs tracking his heart rate data from previous races. He also went on to describe the myriad of physical issues he has contended with on the race, despite his physical fitness and preparation. "Edema, knee pain, saddle sores, blisters, hunger, sleep deprivation, hallucinations," he said, when asked what he thinks about while riding.

Each year, Hofstetter takes the experience and information about his race performance and uses it to plan for the next one. "You look at the cracks in your body and mind and you try to see where you can fill those in and improve the following

year."

While Hofstetter has always enjoyed outdoor activities including climbing and kayaking, he hasn't always been a cyclist. "I lived in Nome for years before I first heard about the Idita-Bike in 2000. That year, Mike Curiak beat some of the dog sled teams, finishing the race in 15 days on his bike. It was a huge accomplishment, but no one was there to see it."

The idea of the race intrigued Hofstetter, as did the remarkable accomplishments of its athletes, such as Jeff Oatley, who completed the 1,000-mile ride in just over ten days last year. Hofstetter purchased a used bike and began training for his first race as a novice cyclist.

Last year, he finished in third place, with a time of 12 days and 6 hours.

Hofstetter hopes that drawing attention to the Iditarod Trail Invitational will highlight the potential Nome holds for athletes of all pursuits.

"A lot of the racers who participate in Idita-bike don't know much about Nome, just that the race ends here. Nome is a place that offers so much opportunity for adventure and I want to help promote that," said Hofstetter.