



DOG'S COUNTRY — Jeffery Nayokpuk mushes his sled dogs to their dog yard in Shishmaref after completing the open class sled dog race on Thursday, April 16. Photo by Nils Hahn

# The Nome Nugget

Alaska's Oldest Newspaper

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VOLUME CXV NO. 16 April 23, 2015

## Nome Common Council kills local marijuana ordinance

**By Sandra L. Medearis**  
The City of Nome's marijuana ordinance has gone into the ashtray. The Nome Common Council voted it down April 13 after attempts to amend the measure failed to bring out a "yes" vote. Nome Police Dept. Chief John Papasodora had urged the panel to approve the ordinance to have something on which to hang amendments,

if needed, after the 29th Alaska Legislature voted in a state law. Instead, Council members voiced a desire to hear both sides drop in Juneau before passing what could be a temporary measure. They would wait until the end of the legislative session. "People have been smoking pot for thousands of years, so I don't think two more weeks is going to

make a difference," Councilman Stan Andersen said. The Council should vote it down and redraft the local ordinance after the state regulations had been adopted, he said. It might be like waiting for a road to Nome or fuel prices to go down. As it stood Monday, the Legislature had passed only House Bill 123 authorizing a Marijuana Control Board.

Senate Bill 30 and House Bill 75, carrying other regulations shaping sales and use of marijuana, waited offstage and not likely to see more action this session. The lengthy SB 30 marijuana crime bill is stuck in House Judiciary Committee. HB75, which limits the number of plants in a household to 24, regardless of the number of dwellers, is

lodged in the Senate Judiciary Committee. This bill also provides for "marijuana clubs" and for a local option election for villages to "opt out" of commercial operations within their boundaries. Meanwhile, marijuana use and sales enforcement regulations are within the language of the November initiative. *continued on page 4*



**STRONG WRIST**— Helen Bruns of Brevig Mission competed in the Wrist Carry event at the 2015 NYO Games Alaska meet in Anchorage. BSSD teammates Cameron Okbaok of Teller and Makiyan Ivanoff of Unalakleet carried her around the course inside the new University of Alaska Anchorage Alaska Airlines Center. See story on page 20.

Photo by Jeff Erickson

## Seaside Center to buy Munn building

**By Sandra L. Medearis**  
Operators of the Seaside Center residential halfway house plan to move the facility across the street and down a block to the corner of Spokane and Front streets. The Nome Planning Commission approved a Conditional Use permit on April 14 for GEO Community Services to move the Seaside facility to the building at 108 Front Street, owned by Thu Lan Munn. GEO is in the process of buying the property from Munn. Document copies included in planning meeting materials show a purchase price of \$800,000. GEO doesn't own the Munn property yet, but needs a conditional use permit before closing the deal, according to Bob Weston, director. "On Dec. 31, we want to be out of the AC building," he said. Munn's building, also known as Gold Rush Theater, sits in a Commercial Zone where a correctional facility cannot exist without seeking and securing a Conditional Use permit by through NPC. When the sale becomes final, renovation will begin on the existing

structure to suit the needs of a residential facility. Councilman Randy Pomeranz, building contractor, told the Nugget he was in talks with GEO concerning the renovation. The facility is currently leasing space from Mark Sackett in the "old AC Building" on the south side of Front Street. The new larger space would permit more "breathing room," more programs and activities for adult re-entry clients and coincidentally would no longer be within steps of the Anchor Tavern and Breakers Bar, Weston noted. The new home for Seaside Center would have 12,000 sq. ft. compared to the current leased space of 9,000 sq. ft. GEO has only one vehicle serving the adult re-entry center, according to Weston. Eileen Bechtol, the City's planner, affirmed that a new parking code under adoption in Nome Common Council exempts Front Street establishments from prescribed parking allowances. *continued on page 4*

## Shishmaref celebrates 35th Annual Spring Carnival

**By Diana Haecker**  
For one week in April, life in the community of Shishmaref centers around the celebration of its rich and unique culture with the annual Spring Carnival. The centerpiece of the week's excitement is the Open Class Herbie Nayokpuk "The Shishmaref Cannonball" Sled Dog race held over three days. The Shishmaref Dog Mushers Association also organizes

men's and women's basketball tournaments held in the Shishmaref School's gym. Last but not least, school teachers and local experts team up to organize the Inupiaq Days, which aim to perpetuate cultural values, the Inupiaq language as well as hands-on skills such as butchering, cooking, fish hook and even qayaq making as well as artistic skills such as theatre, story telling and dancing. Shishmaref's population of about 600 increased from April 13 through 18 as people from Buckland, Deering and Brevig Mission arrived by snowmachine to participate in the basketball games. Jason Omedelina flew in from Nome to ref or play with Bearcreek in the men's games. Others flew in to participate in the prestigious dog race named after the legendary Inupiaq musher Herbert Nayokpuk. *continued on page 9*



Photo by Nils Hahn

**CHAMPION**— Shishmaref musher Daniel Olanna and his sled dog team won the 35th Annual Herbert Nayokpuk "The Shishmaref Cannonball" Open Sled Dog race last week.

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Ulu News

**By Senator Donnie Olson**

**LEGISLATION**

On April 14, SB 84, the language immersion charter school bill was presented by my intern, Jackie in Senate Education Committee. I unfortunately had an obligation to attend Conference Committee but I was certain that she would do fine. The committee heard the bill and some people from the district rose and spoke in support of the bill and even mentioned some changes that they were interested in seeing. It is especially important to me to see people from the district calling down and voicing their concerns or support.

**THE WINTER BEAR**

The Winter Bear project is a free play production based on the life journey of Sidney Huntington. This story is about an Alaskan Native teen who has struggled with his past but overcomes them with the help of a newfound mentor. This production is recommended for ages 12 and older. For more information about this production, please visit <http://winterbearproject.com/>. The April tour of The Winter Bear will be visiting some places in our district this month. They will be in Emmonak, Alakanuk and Mountain Village in April 20-24.

**North Slope Management Plan**

The Department of Natural Resources will be visiting some of the communities in our district to discuss how some of the areas should be managed. If you would like to attend these meetings or learn additional information please visit: <http://dnr.alaska.gov/mlw/planning/mgtplans/nsmp/>

The DNR will visit Nuiqsut on April 21, Anaktuvuk Pass on April 28 and Kaktovik on May 6.

**Chukchi Honors**

One of the things that makes me most proud is seeing young people from the district going the extra mile and furthering their education. Some of the students who have attended the Chukchi Honors Program in Kotzebue have gone onto Yale, Brown, or Dartmouth. One of the key components that makes Chukchi unique is one project where students write their stories and they get published in the Chukchi News and Information Service and are sometimes even published in the ADN. This next week the ADN will be publishing some of the stories from the students in Kotzebue. You can read them here: <http://www.adn.com/list-article/20150404/complete-series-student-voices-chukchi-college-honors-program>

**Kivalina School/ Kasayulie Lawsuit**

It has been nearly four years since the Kasayulie lawsuit was settled with a Consent Decree signed. The decree required the State of Alaska to provide funding for new (or renovation) of five schools. Funding has been provided for four of those schools; only the school in Kivalina remains. The decree requires Kivalina School to be funded by July 1 of this year or the lawsuit can be reopened. In addition to funding of the school replacement, the issue of the

continued on page 3

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

Editorial

Get Involved

Too often we hear folks complain about city politics. When asked why they don't pick up their phone and call their councilman, they squirm and turn. When asked why they don't attend the city council meetings they just shrug their shoulders. Why are folks not interested in local politics? Surely this is not just a Nome feature. We can't be the only disinterested group of citizens.

Grass roots politics is what democracy is built upon. Why are we afraid to take part in the democratic process? Why are we afraid to speak our minds? Surely we don't think there will be retaliation against our concerns? Surely we don't expect to lose our jobs. Surely we aren't so insecure we can't take time to stand up for what we believe. We have a responsibility to take part in government and government needs to encourage us to be part of it. There needs to be adequate public notice of the event. The meetings should be held in a place where the heating, lighting and sound are adequate. The agenda should be available for everyone, and easy to read.

The City needs to encourage each and every citizen to feel welcome and wanted. All city agencies: School Board, Utilities, Planning, Museum, Library, and City Council, etc. should bend over backward to encourage public attendance and public participation. There should be no hidden agendas. —N.L.M.—



*Photo courtesy of Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum*  
**BIG STEAM VENT**— Photographer F.H. Nowell took this photo of a large safety vent manufactured for the steam laundry outfit in Nome. The circumference measured 96 inches, the inside pipe 48 inches.

Illegitimus non carborundum

# The Nome Nugget

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# Strait Action

## NOAA revises ESA Humpback Whale listing

NOAA Fisheries proposed to re-classify the humpback whale into 14 distinct population segments under the Endangered Species Act, providing a more tailored conservation approach for U.S. fisheries managers.

Protection and restoration efforts over the past 40 years have led to an increase in numbers and growth rates

for humpback whales in many areas.

The humpback whale is currently listed as endangered throughout its range. The proposed rule finds that ten of those 14 populations do not warrant ESA listing.

While commercial whaling severely depleted humpback whale numbers, population rebounds in many areas result in today's larger numbers, with steady rates of popu-

lation growth since the United States first listed the animal as endangered in 1970.

Also under the proposal, two of the other four populations would be listed as endangered and the remaining two would be listed as threatened. If the proposal is finalized, the humpback whale populations that would no longer be listed under the ESA would remain protected under

the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

"The return of the iconic humpback whale is an ESA success story," said Eileen Sobeck, assistant administrator for NOAA Fisheries. "As we learn more about the species -- and realize the populations are largely independent of each other -- managing them separately allows us to focus protection on the animals that need it the most."

The two populations proposed as threatened -- the Central America and the Western North Pacific -- at times enter U.S. waters.

Two other populations that do not enter U.S. waters -- in the Arabian Sea and off Cape Verde Islands/Northwest Africa -- would remain listed as endangered.

## • Ulu News

*continued from page 2*

match requirement for the school construction, and the issue of the road to the new school must be addressed. Because without the road, there can be no school.

I have been working with the Northwest Arctic Borough (NWAB), the Northwest Arctic Borough School District, the Native Village of Kivalina, the Citizens for the Educational Advancement of Alaska's Children (CEAAC) and others to try to resolve the issues with the Kivalina School and put the lawsuit to rest.

The NWAB is not able to provide the 20 percent match required of communities within a borough, with the resources they have. I introduced Senate Bill 94 to help the Northwest Arctic Borough meet the match requirement for building the Kivalina School by lowering the match required to 2 percent only for this school. This is the match required for schools in unorganized boroughs, and is what the other four schools had to meet. A hearing has been requested, but none has been scheduled.

In a late night Senate Finance Committee meeting, I was successful getting most of the funding for the new school in the capital budget. But without funding for the road, or a solution to the match, it remains to be seen how this school can be built. I will continue working with all the affected parties on this.

### FINANCE

The operating budget passed out of the Senate, and the House failed to recede from their Committee Substitute (CS), and so a Conference

Committee was appointed to resolve the differences between the two budgets. I was appointed to the Conference Committee. The two biggest issues to be resolved which are of grave importance to our district are K-12 Education funding and public broadcasting. I am working hard on these and all of the funding differences that remain.

The capital budget passed out of the Senate and is now in the House. The budget passed by the Senate is the smallest one we have had in probably more than a decade, if not two decades. Soon the House will introduce a CS (which is simply their version of what they want to fund). It will undoubtedly be different than what the Senate passed.

With only a few days left in the session, a lot of time and effort is being spent on the budget since it is just the only thing the Legislature is required by the Constitution to do before adjournment.

### ARCTIC

This week we finished up the Special Committee on the Arctic with our last meeting that held a presentation from Art Ivanoff with the Bering Sea Alliance and a discussion on House Concurrent Resolution 5 which basically is a letter of support on declaring the years 2015-2017 to be the years of the arctic and to encourage arctic policy development. With all of this legislation going through to support the Arctic, I am very pleased to report that the legislation that I saw had a focus on us as Alaskans, the peoples of the Arctic.

**Constituent visitors:** Arin Ablowaluk-Teller, Leon Aketachunak- KotlikTristen Ashby-Noatak,

Lynnx Beans-Mountain VillageAryn DelaRosa-Kotzebue, Devon Heckman-Pilot Station, Megan Henry-Koyuk, Bernard Pete-Nunam Iqua, Charlotte Leopold-Emmonak, Haley Long-Mountain Village, Jamal Manumik-Nunam Iqua, Kailey Oquilluk-Teller, Richard Oxerok-Koyuk, Jeanette Paul-Pilot Station, Alaina Pete-Brevig Mission, Landon Polty-Pilot Station, Laci Prince-Kotlik, Art Ivanoff-Unalakleet, Aaron Iworrgan - Gambell, Bobby Bolen - Unalakleet, Frank Oxereok - Wales, Henrietta Wilson - Unalakleet, Jane Kava - Savoonga, Jeanette Iya - Savoonga, Carol Nagaruk- Elim, Erika Apatiki- Gambell, Leigh Takak- Elim, Mary Sage- Barrow, Tiffany Immingan- Savoonga, Vi Waghii - Savoonga, Lucinda Ivanoff - Unalakleet, Milton Cheemuk - St. Michael, Alex Russin-Mountain Village, Anthony Edwardsen- Barrow, John Lincoln-Kotzebue, Caroline Ulak- Scammon Bay, Delbert Rexford-Barrow, Kate Thompson- Hooper Bay, Mike Prince- Kotlik, Susie Makaily- Pilot Station, Adriana Bonaparte-Atqasuk, Emma Bodfish-Atqasuk, Mary Gunderson-Atqasuk, Sheldon Albert-Ruby, Bridgette Sherman-Noatak, Morris Teeluk-Kotlik, Ryan Tocktoo-Brevig Mission, Jane Alzner-Kotlik, Cassandra Heaton-Koyuk, Sean Hurdy-Brevig Mission, Pauline Mills-Noatak

Thank you for taking the time to read my ULU Newsletter.

Best wishes and take care,  
Senator Donald Olson

Toll free: 1.800.597.3707  
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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Thursday, April 23

*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.
*Strength Training	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 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.
*Thrift Shop	Methodist Church	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
*NBHS Music:	Nome Elementary	7:00 p.m.
Spring Desert Fundraiser		
*Nome Joint Utilities: Reg. Meeting	City Hall	7:30 p.m.

### Friday, April 24

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:00 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 - 2:00 p.m.
*FitFun Games: Grades K-2	Nome Rec Center	2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.
*Kids in the Kitchen: Grades 2-8	Nome Rec Center	3:15 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	3:15 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*UAF, Community Science Night	Nome Elementary	5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
*Open Bowling	Nome Rec Center	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Adult 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, April 25

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	Noon - 8:00 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, April 26

*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, April 27

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 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.
*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.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	5:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.
*Zumba Toning	Nome Rec Center	6:20 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.
*Water Aerobics: Independent	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Nome Common Council:	City Hall	7:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting		
AA Meeting	Lutheran Church(rear)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 28

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
*MSHA: Mining Safety Training	Northwest Campus	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
*Library Story Hour	Kegoayah Kozga Library	10:30 a.m.
*Lunch Laps	Pool	11:45 a.m. - 1:15 a.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.
*Strength Training	Nome Rec Center	4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*PM Laps	Pool	5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Yoga	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Nome Food Bank	Bering & Seppala	5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
*City League Volleyball	Nome Rec Center	5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Open Swim	Pool	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
*Zumba Fitness	Nome Rec Center	6:45 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*AA Meeting	Airport Pizza (upstairs)	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 29

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 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 - 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: Instructor-Led	Pool	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
*Zumba Toning	Nome Rec Center	6:20 p.m. - 6:50 p.m.
*Family Swim	Pool	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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**Furious 7**  
4:00 p.m.



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## • Seaside

continued from page 1

Citizen Chuck Wheeler, during the public hearing, had concern for residences behind the Munn building and across the street on Spokane Street.

"I believe there should be a public hearing concerning the site location," Wheeler said, anticipating the number of beds would increase with the additional space available.

GEO does not plan to increase the number of beds, but the increase in space would give the facility more program options, Trey Watson of GEO said. The facility would have state-of-the-art security cameras, he added.

GEO is a subsidiary of Cornell Co., Inc. and has operated six cor-

rectional facilities in the state for about 15 years—three in Anchorage, one each in Fairbanks and Bethel.

### Variance request

The planning commission also granted a variance request from Kawerak, Inc. to modify a required setback at a building at 407 East K Street. Kawerak plans to update the structure with an American Disabilities Act access ramp along the Fourth Avenue side. As the entrance is 52 inches from the ground, the ramp would have to have landings, Tony Parsons, Kawerak's representative explained. The project is pinched for measurement because the three-foot ramp should not be tucked under the eaves where there would be hazard from roof runoff and sliding ice. The

Commission approved the variance.

### In other business:

- Planners worked on a manual for zoning code enforcement, which will have a public hearing before it goes anywhere. The manual partly stems from a town meeting where citizens lodged their priorities for zoning enforcement.

- Discussed a name for the incipient Middle Beach park area. Again, Wheeler rose to the podium during comment. He lobbied for naming the park after historic character Ada Blackjack who went to Wrangell Island with an ill-fated expedition and ended up surviving on her own. Blackjack not only was an important figure in history, but also signified international involvement in at-

tempts to claim Wrangell Island, Wheeler reminded the Commission. At the end of the meeting, Commissioner Rob Cahoon thanked Wheeler for his input during the meeting. "Mr. Wheeler's comments always keep us straight," Commissioner Nikolai Ivanoff noted.

- Commissioner Sara Lizak suggested that during planning of the facilities at Middle Beach, planners should keep in mind that dog owners would like a dog park where canines could become socialized with other dogs. People could pay an annual fee

to use the dog park, she suggested.

- Wheeler also chided the Commission for not having enough copies of meeting materials for the public to follow during the flow of business. Planning chairman Larry Pederson thanked Wheeler for his reminder. "We will make the effort to make that [more planning packets] happen," he assured. Nome Planning Commission is a committee of citizens that brings up Robert's Rules of Order frequently as well as Open Meetings Act and transparency in agenda business.

## Pair indicted on embezzlement

By Sandra L. Medearis

Two persons from Nome have been charged on theft from the schools diverting more than \$25,000, according to court documents.

A grand jury convened on April 15 and handed up indictments against Joseph Braxton Grubb, 24, and Ashla Marie Weston, 28 on Theft I—over \$25,000 and two charges on Theft II—from \$500 to less than \$25,000.

Weston, an employee of Nome Public Schools, has six additional charges of falsifying business records concerning requisitions writ-

ten in the period Jan. 31, 2012 through Dec. 4, 2012.

Theft I is a B felony.

The remainder of the theft and embezzlement charges are C felonies.

Grubb and Weston have been ordered to appear in Superior Court on April 24 to answer the charges. They have not yet entered pleas of guilty or innocent concerning the indictments. Neither is in jail custody. Grand Jury proceedings are secret except for release of information to the parties charged, their attorneys and court personnel.

## • Marijuana

continued from page 1

In approving the initiative, voters also approved prohibitions against driving under the influence, against use by persons under 21, against providing the drug to person's under 21 and using marijuana in public or having an open container of marijuana in public. The initiative says a person may have a maximum of six plants in cultivation at one time, only three of which may be budded and mature.

The Nome law, proposed by Papasodora, closely echoed the initiative, but parts of the ordinance that ruled out sales, barter and production of edible marijuana items, even in the privacy of one's home, did not find favor with the public who came to testify at Council hearings or with some Council members.

A person choosing to eat a marijuana brownie instead of smoking a marijuana cigarette should not be breaking the law, Councilman Culley maintained.

The ordinance proposed one could use only glycerin to extract marijuana concentrates. "Why?" asked Council members. Papasodora responded that some would want to use Butane, an inflammable that posed risk to the marijuana user and others in the building.

Others voiced an opinion that requiring marijuana to be contained in a child-proof container except when in use was over the top.

The people who were using would keep on using marijuana; the people who were not using marijuana would not suddenly start up en masse because of the initiative's passage, City Manager Josie Bahnke observed.

"I'm inclined not to vote 'yes,'" Councilman Tom Sparks said, "because I think we are out in front of the cart on this."

Councilman Randy Pomeranz said he agreed with Andersen on waiting to pass an ordinance. "We don't need to jump into this thing," Pomeranz said.

Councilman Louie Green Sr. was also ready to hold off.

Citizen Tim Smith, during the

comment period, urged the Council to vote down the ordinance, observing that it would be a good idea to have just one set of regulations.

The Council voted down a motion to amend the marijuana ordinance to allow edibles in one's home, to change the phrase requiring use of glycerin to banning the use of any inflammables to extract concentrate, and knocking out the child-proof packaging. They then unanimously voted down the main motion to approve the marijuana ordinance.

State or local regulations cannot counter the contents of the initiative as stated on the voter's ballot for two years. Municipalities can establish laws regulating or banishing marijuana business operations, through law or voter initiative. The proposed marijuana law allows for local control of sales but not of personal use or possession.

The major points of the initiative approved in November are these:

- Adults over 21 may possess up to one ounce of marijuana or have six plants in their homes. Adults may possess all the marijuana from their plants at the place where they grew the plants.

- Individuals over 21 may give as gifts to another person over 21 up to one ounce of marijuana or six immature plants. However, they may not receive compensation for the gifted items.

- The State Alcohol Control Board has the power and duty to license and regulate marijuana producers, processors and retailers.

- The Legislature has authority to establish a new Marijuana Control Board to take over the power to regulate marijuana from the state ABC.

- The initiative allows four kinds of marijuana businesses to exist under regulation: marijuana product manufacture facilities, marijuana growing for wholesale, marijuana testing companies, and marijuana retail shops allowed to sell marijuana products and marijuana supplies to persons over 21 years of age.

In other business the Coun-

cil:

- Approved a stipend of \$40 per month for members of the Nome Planning Commission. The measure did not award health insurance for the Commissioners as is provided members of the Nome Common Council. The stipends for the NPC members would cost \$3,360 per year. The City budgets about \$35,000 to provide health insurance for the six Council members and their families, according to Josie Bahnke.

- Approved that Bahnke sign an agreement with Bristol Engineering to pay the company \$35,318 for site prep work on the new ice rink/hockey/basketball and multipurpose facility. Bristol will provide environmental, geotechnical and engineering design services for removal of three above-ground tanks and site preparation on the north side of the Nome Rec Center. The money will be taken from \$108,000 the City has from Norton Sound Economic Development Corp. benefit share money for the rink development.

- Adopted an ordinance adding the international building, mechanical, electrical, residential, fire and plumbing codes to City of Nome building code. The codes have been approved by the state Legislature, according to documentation before the Council.

- Voted an ordinance into first reading that establishes off-street parking regulations. Regulations may be inspected at City Hall.

- Learned that Nome Eskimo Community has received a grant for \$60,868 to improve warning lights near the Nome Elementary School for pedestrian and driver safety. The money came from the Federal Highway Tribal Transportation Program's Tribal Transportation Safety Program.

- Set the Board of Equalization meeting for May 6 at 5:30 p.m. where property owners may register protests and such concerning their property tax assessment.

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# Nome businesses and organizations pledge to reduce plastic bag usage

By Keith Conger

"Almost all the plastic ever created is still on the planet," said Erin Forton as she described part of the reasoning behind her recent endeavor to reduce plastic usage in Nome.

Forton organized the viewing of the independent documentary movie by Angela Sun called "Plastic Paradise: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch" on Tuesday, April 14, at the Nome Elementary School.

The film explained that plastic takes 500 years to fully degrade. One of the movie's main themes was, "What we throw away, does not go away."

Inspired by the movie's message, Forton has set the reduction of single use products, especially single use plastic bags, as one of her goals. She says that statistics provided in the movie state that every year Americans use more than 100 billion plastic bags. That comes out to over 300 bags for every man, woman and child. "Lots are used for 10 minutes, and then thrown away," she says.

Forton, the owner of Bering Tea Company, has convinced ten local businesses and organizations to join her business in committing to be plastic bag free. Each member of this group has made a monetary donation that will be used toward the purchase of reusable grocery bags. The donors' logos will be listed on each bag.

Forton and her crew of student volunteers will be delivering one of these reusable bags to every household in Nome this summer. "Using a (reusable) bag just four times offsets the eco-footprint of making that

bag," she says. "They can fold up into this itty-bitsy ball, and be left in parkies, or in glove compartments."

The list of those enterprises undertaking the challenge includes Quality Auto Parts, Bearing Song, Trinity Sales and Repair, Northwest Campus, Nome Community Center, Maruskiya's, Arctic Chiropractic, Bering Wellness, Sew Far North, Nome Eskimo Community and Bering Tea Company. Independent donations for the free shopping bags were made by John Handeland and Cheryl Thompson.

Forton has used Bering Tea to set an example to achieve her goal. She used tips her coffee shop accrued during the weeks of Iditarod to pay the \$400 "Plastic Paradise" viewing fee. Forton is also working to reduce other single use food containers. While a disposable coffee cup and lid costs her business 20 cents, Bering Tea offers a 40-cent discount to those that bring in their own cups or mugs.

"Plastic Paradise" is a facetious title depicting the huge flotilla of garbage that has accumulated in the Pacific Ocean. Some estimates maintain that its size is equal in area to that of the United States.

Plastic in the ocean will photo-degrade into small pieces, and then remain undetected just under the surface. These tiny pieces of plastic absorb chemicals such as DDT and PCBs. Fish ingest these chemical-laden plastic pieces, mistaking them for plankton. Scientists in the movies showed dissected birds and fish that had plastic in their stomachs. A two-and-a-half inch fish had 83 pieces of plastic in it. When larger fish eat



Photo by Keith Conger

**ONE CUP AT A TIME** – Andy Brunner of Portland, Oregon visited Nome last week. By purchasing a mug at Bering Tea he is helping reduce single-use products.

smaller fish, the scientists say, the plastics, as well as the chemicals absorbed by them, make their way up the food chain.

Plastics affect animals in the Bering Straits region, too. Letty Hughes, an Assistant Area Wildlife Biologist with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game said that a dead muskox calf found on Anvil Mountain was sent to Fairbanks

ADF&G for a necropsy. The determined cause of death was a plastic bag the calf had ingested.

Gay Sheffield, who works for the University of Alaska – Fairbanks Marine Advisory Program, says several species of marine mammal, including ring and bearded seals, have been affected by plastic packing bands. She says that a whale taken in Barrow had visqueen in its stomach.

Forton is getting set to offer a challenge the all the people in Nome.

The proposition is simple: attempt to stop using single use plastics of all kinds from May 1 through May 15.

Forton says products intended for only one use include plastic shopping bags, plastic cups, straws and plastic packing.

## Nome Schools look forward in spite of budget shortfalls

By Kristine McRae

Nome Public Schools remains in a holding pattern regarding next year's budget as the Legislature was unable to complete negotiations by the end of their scheduled session.

The fate of school funding, as well as the expansion of the public Medicaid health-care program, depends on negotiations between Democrats and Republicans in the House, which have pushed the session beyond the 90-day statute.

As of Sunday, April 19, the Senate had not restored an additional \$47 million of school funding, which equals about 4 percent of the state's per-student funding formula. On top of \$32 million in cuts proposed by Governor Bill Walker at the start of the session, the drastic budget cuts

prompted students, teachers and parents to rally at the Capitol building over the weekend. In a statement issued on Saturday, Walker said he didn't agree with the additional cuts. "The \$32 million cut we made was pretty tough," he said. "The \$47 million on top of that went too far."

At last Tuesday's school board meeting, Nome Public Schools' Superintendent Shawn Arnold and District Business Manager Paula Coffman shared an updated version of the budget, but cautioned board members the numbers were subject to change. "There are a lot of unknowns, and it's hard to make changes without knowing what's going to take place," Coffman said. "If the Legislature gavel out and they do reduce the BSA [Base Stu-

dent Allocation] by four percent, it will be about \$471,000, so it's big."

The board will meet again Thursday, April 23 to look at final revisions. They will need to approve the budget before they bring the numbers to the Nome Common Council in early May.

Despite the dreary forecasts for education funding, school board members focused on local successes, including the introduction of the district's new Facebook page, and they celebrated students for their academic and extracurricular endeavors. Nome-Beltz principal Harlan Heinrich introduced Nicholas Tocktoo and Cody Mork as the junior and senior high students of the month.

In addition to his administrative duties, Heinrich is also teaching a

ballroom dance class to students in preparation for their upcoming prom.

High School Social Studies teacher Kent Runion will accompany four students to Fairbanks to participate in an exchange with Nome-Beltz's sister school, North Pole High School.

Nome-Beltz school counselor and testing specialist Janeen Sullivan reported that the new state computer-based standardized test AMP (Academic Measure of Progress) had been administered in several grades and was going well.

Board student representative Jane Tidwell shared achievements from the sports and music programs, adding that several students in band and choir had qualified for the state competition.

Following several months of research by staff and administration,

the board approved the purchase of the Eureka math program for the Nome Elementary School. In a partnership with UAF's Northwest Campus and the Bering Strait School District, NPS is offering an Extreme Math Camp for high school students this summer. The camp, which focuses on place-based learning, will take place in Nome and at Salmon Lake.

The school board will meet in a special meeting on Thursday, April 23 to review any budget changes that might arise from legislative outcomes.



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# Pollock fishery's Chinook salmon bycatch limits tied to low Chinook abundance threshold

By Laurie McNicholas

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council voted unanimously to lower Chinook salmon bycatch limits in the Bering Sea pollock fishery in years of low Chinook salmon abundance at a meeting April 11 in Anchorage.

The council defined low abundance as fewer than 250,000 Chinook, based on a post-season in-river Chinook salmon run size index of the Unalakleet, Upper Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers' aggregate stock grouping.

The Upper Yukon River Chinook salmon are of Canadian origin.

A bycatch hard cap of 60,000 Chinook salmon and a performance standard of 47,591 Chinook have been in place since 2011 under Amendment 91, which the council approved in April 2009. If the hard cap is reached, the pollock fishery will be shut down.

Salmon are prohibited species to be taken in the pollock fishery, but they are taken incidentally in trawl nets.

On April 11 the council decided to lower the Chinook salmon bycatch hard cap by 25 percent to 45,000 Chinook salmon and to cut the performance standard by 30 percent to 33,318 Chinook in years of low Chinook abundance. The performance standard and hard cap would be lowered in the year following the year in which the three-river index is below a threshold of 250,000 Chinook salmon. The three system, post-season in-river run index was below that threshold each year from 2010 through 2014, according to Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game data.

This was the most controversial measure among several the council adopted to reduce both Chinook and chum salmon bycatch and to integrate the management of chum and Chinook salmon bycatch.

Western Alaska residents who depend on Chinook salmon for subsistence food recommended deep cuts in Chinook bycatch limits, while pollock industry participants solidly opposed any reductions.

## Chinook status dire

Disastrously low Chinook salmon runs in Western Alaska in recent years have focused attention on a need to reduce Chinook salmon mortality from all sources. Officials of the Association of Village Council Presidents, Kawerak, Inc., Tanana Chiefs Conference, Bering Sea Fisheries Association and Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association requested a 60 percent reduction in the Chinook salmon bycatch hard cap and performance standard in times of low Chinook abundance in a letter to the council dated March 30, 2015. The five tribal organizations collectively represent 118 communities in the Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim (AYK) region.

The letter notes that in 2014 subsistence fishing for Chinook salmon was closed or restricted by reduced fishing time and/or gear restrictions from Kuskokwim Bay to northern Norton Sound.

"On both the Yukon River and Eastern Norton Sound, subsistence was completely closed," the letter stated. "The Kuskokwim River was almost completely closed. Despite severe restrictions in 2013, very few escapement goals were met in the region that year. In 2014, escapement goals were met in part of the region, but only with the closures of subsistence and commercial fisheries. On the Yukon River, Canadian escapement goals have been met in only 3 of the last 9 years."

The Upper Yukon Chinook salmon run may improve in 2016, Dr. Katie Howard, AYK regional research coordinator for ADF&G, told council members at their meeting this month. She described results of research conducted in the northern Bering Sea by ADF&G in collaboration with the Alaska Fisheries Science Center Auke Bay Laboratory.

"Right now our research only pertains to the Yukon River, but what we

have seen is that in 2013 there was a really strong cohort of juvenile salmon entering the marine environment" Howard reported. "We saw another strong cohort in 2014, so right now, for the Yukon River—I can't speak to the other systems—there are two strong cohorts in the ocean. If we're fortunate enough to see another strong cohort enter the (marine environment) in 2015, it would then be the summer of 2016 that that first strong cohort comes back. And we are predicting that for the Upper Yukon River, the abundance in 2016 will still be below average, but it won't be these historically poor runs that we've seen."

Howard said most Western Alaska Chinook salmon enter the ocean as two-year old fish and return to the river primarily as 5-year old and 6-year old fish. She noted that a survey comparable to the survey of Yukon River juvenile Chinook salmon is needed in the southern Bering Sea to obtain similar information for the Kuskokwim River and Bristol Bay stocks. That would take a few years to develop, she said.

## Amendment 91 measures

Amendment 91 Chinook bycatch management measures were created after a series of high annual bycatch rates in the Bering Sea pollock fishery peaked at 121,770 Chinook salmon in 2007. At that time Chinook and chum salmon taken as bycatch were returned dead to the sea. Amendment 91 requires that all salmon taken as bycatch in the pollock fishery be retained and censused. Genetic samples from each annual Chinook salmon bycatch and chum bycatch are analyzed to determine the stock composition.

Amendment 91 imposes limits on the Chinook salmon bycatch by pollock fishery sector (catcher-processor sector, mothership sector, inshore cooperatives and Community Development Quota groups) and by season. The A season begins in January and the B season begins in June. The measures allow for flexibility by including a performance standard in combination with industry Incentive Plan Agreements (IPAs) to reduce bycatch below the performance standard. The IPAs are intended to increase incentives for vessels to lower bycatch rates even in years when salmon encounters are low.

Chinook salmon bycatch levels have stayed well below the Amendment 91 performance standard limit, totaling 25,499 in 2011, 11,344 in 2012, 13,034 in 2013 and 15,031 in 2014.

Analysis of one out of every 10 genetic samples from the 2013 Chinook bycatch showed that 71 percent were from river systems flowing into the Bering Sea, with Coastal Western Alaska stock contributing 50 percent, the North Alaska Peninsula 14 percent and the Upper Yukon River 5 percent. Other contributors were British Columbia (16 percent) and the West Coast U.S. (7 percent).

The environmental assessment of Bering Sea Chinook and chum salmon bycatch management measures prepared for review by the council and the public in March 2015 estimates that the impact rate of the pollock fishery on Western Alaska Chinook salmon stocks since 2011 has remained low, and projections for 2013 and 2014 indicate that the rate will continue to be just under 2 percent. The 2 percent estimate is based on an adult equivalency (AEQ) model that helps determine the adult equivalent spawning salmon in the bycatch and the effect of the bycatch on future potential spawning runs of salmon. AEQ bycatch estimates take into account the fact that not all salmon caught as bycatch in the pollock fishery in each year would have returned to their river of origin in that year.

## New bycatch measures

New salmon bycatch management measures approved by the council on April 11 will incorporate chum

salmon avoidance into the Amendment 91 IPA. Chum salmon bycatch in the pollock fishery totaled 188,296 fish in 2011, 22,276 in 2012, 125,316 in 2013 and 219,092 in 2014.

The analysis of one out of every 30 genetic samples from the 2013 chum salmon bycatch showed that 45 percent were from northeast Asia, 15 percent from southeast Asia, 15 percent from the eastern Gulf of Alaska/Pacific Northwest, 18 percent from Western Alaska, 6 percent from the Upper/middle Yukon River, and 1 percent from southwest Alaska.

The IPA incorporating chum salmon avoidance into the Amendment 91 IPA must contain a written description of the following:

- The incentive(s) to be implemented under the IPA for the operator of each vessel participating in the IPA to avoid Chinook salmon and chum salmon bycatch under any condition of pollock and Chinook salmon abundance in all years;
- The incentive(s) to avoid chum salmon should not increase Chinook salmon bycatch;
- The rewards for avoiding Chinook salmon, penalties for failure to avoid Chinook salmon at the vessel level, or both;
- How the incentive measures in the IPA are expected to promote reductions in a vessel's Chinook and chum salmon bycatch rates relative to what would have occurred in absence of the incentive program;
- How the IPA ensures that the operator of each vessel governed by the IPA will manage that vessel's Chinook salmon bycatch to keep total bycatch below the performance standard described in federal regulations for the sector in which the vessel participates;
- How the IPA ensures that the operator of each vessel governed by the IPA will manage that vessel's chum salmon bycatch to avoid areas and times where the chum salmon are likely to return to Western Alaska; and
- The rolling hot spot (RHS) program for salmon bycatch avoidance and an agreement to provide notifications of closure areas and any violations of the RHS program to at least one third party organization

representing western Alaskans who depend on salmon and do not directly fish in a groundfish fishery.

## Rolling Hot Spot

The RHS system provides real-time salmon bycatch information so the pollock fleet can avoid high salmon bycatch rates. Using a base bycatch rate system, an RHS Inter-cooperative Agreement assigns vessels to certain tiers based on bycatch rates relative to the base rate, and implements area closures for vessels in certain tiers. Monitoring and enforcement are handled through private contractual arrangements.

The council called for restrictions or penalties targeted at vessels that consistently have significantly higher Chinook salmon bycatch rates relative to other vessels fishing at the same time. A requirement to enter a fishery-wide inseason bycatch data sharing agreement will be included.

The council also approved the following provisions:

- Required use of salmon excluder devices, with recognition of contingencies, from Jan. 20 to March 31 and from Sept. 1 until the end of the B season. The devices allow salmon to escape from pollock trawl nets.
- A rolling hot spot program that operates throughout the entire A and B seasons.
- Salmon saving credits will last for a maximum of three years for savings credit based IPAs.
- Restrictions or performance criteria will be used to ensure that Chinook salmon bycatch rates in October are not significantly higher than those achieved in the preceding months.

The council also reallocated pollock A and B season apportionments to 45 percent in the A season and 55 percent in the B season with A to B season rollovers.

The council gathered input on salmon bycatch management alternatives at outreach meetings early this year in Nome, Naknek, Bethel and Fairbanks and via a statewide teleconference. Two different council members and council staff attended each outreach meeting.

Representatives of the Assn. of Village Council Presidents, Kaw-

erak, Inc., Tanana Chiefs Conference, Bering Sea Fisheries Assn., Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Assn. and the Stevens Village Tribal Council took part in a tribal consultation conducted by the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U. S. Dept. of State April 7 in Anchorage.

Jim Balsinger, who serves as NMFS regional administrator, Alaska region, and is a member of the NPFMC, participated in the consultation. A report on the tribal consultation is posted at <https://alaskafisheries.noaa.gov>.

## Kinneen not allowed vote

Simon Kinneen of Nome is a member of the NPFMC who serves as vice president and quota and acquisitions manager for Norton Sound Economic Development Corp.

In an email to The Nome Nugget, Kinneen explained why he recused himself from voting when the council took final action on Bering Sea salmon bycatch management measures April 11. "The week prior to the April council meeting, the NOAA General Counsel notified me that I would be required to recuse myself from voting on the salmon bycatch action due to NSEDC's interests in companies that harvest pollock in the fisheries being managed by this action," Kinneen wrote. "The determination concluded that I could not vote due to my employer's interest in the pollock harvesting sector exceeding a 10 percent threshold established in regulation through the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

"Shortly thereafter I filed a request for a review of this determination with the Office of General Counsel of the U.S. Department of Commerce, on the basis that the NOAA General Counsel improperly calculated NSEDC's interest in the harvesting of this fishery by attributing 100 percent of the harvest activity of Glacier Fish Company and BSAI Partners to NSEDC, rather than the pro-rata portion consistent with NSEDC's actual level of financial interest," Kinneen continued. "I

*continued on page 7*

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# Public hears more about proposed Nome deep-draft port

By Sandra L. Medearis

About 30 people turned out for a public hearing on April 16 regarding a tentative plan to construct a deep-draft navigational improvement project at Port of Nome that would be the only such facility on the west and north coast of Alaska.

The hearing was part of a joint federal Army Corps of Engineers and state Dept. of Transportation process to study and select a site for an Arctic port for economic improvement, a road to resources, a service to oil and gas exploration in the Chukchi Sea, and to offer maritime safety functions like Search and Rescue, as well as to give the U.S. military a game piece on the Arctic sovereignty game board.

If the plan passes muster with the ACE Chief Engineer, the project would go before Congress for approval and funding next year.

The plan, with a price tag of over

\$200 million, calls for extending the existing causeway by 2,150 feet, adding a caisson dock at the end and dredging out the basin to minus 28 feet Mean Lower Low Water.

The cost split would go approximately 65 percent to the federal government, leaving about 35 percent for a non-federal sponsor to find and fund. The City of Nome wants to be that sponsor.

The planning and selection process looked at port proximity to intermodal transportation connections, upland support, existing depths, airport availability, wind and wave action and the like.

A site shortlist settled on Port of Nome, Port Clarence Point Spencer, Cape Riley and Cape Darby.

Early this year, the planning team announced Port of Nome as a tentative selection.

Lorraine Cordova, ACE economics section chief for the project,

chaired the public hearing.

Exactly when a deep-draft port would be built and start receiving ships in Nome, Cordova could not say. She noted that the process still had to go through steps, including an outside agency peer review and policy and technical reviews.

The preconstruction and design phase will take a couple of years, followed by a process to identify the nonfederal sponsor and finding the money. Construction should take three years, Cordova said.

The plan for a deep-draft port project has to be specific, with measurable outcomes, attainable, timely and risk informed, according to ACE requirements.

The public comment period on the feasibility study and finding of no environmental impact began Feb. 20 and ended last week.

Austin Ahmasuk questioned whether the project required an En-

vironmental Impact Statement. He intended to write down his concerns and submit them.

Roy Ashenfelter wanted to know if the nonfederal sponsor could be a combination of City of Nome and State of Alaska.

It is better to have one sponsor, Cordova responded. "It gets really murky for the attorneys when you don't enter a one-to-one agreement, either with the state or the city, the Corps doesn't care which. It has to be a benefit to the nation."

There is not local demand for a port, Chuck Wheeler said. The fishing fleet is small. Kotzebue, Wainwright, or Barrow could serve Shell Oil as the major leaseholders in the Chukchi Sea, he said. The bottom line was mining, but the anticipated graphite mine would use Port Clarence, Wheeler said. "They won't even see Nome. Where is this pie in the sky?"

Cordova responded that oil and gas industries have said they could use the port.

In May 2013, the planning team hosted a several-day exploratory session where federal, state and local interests, including people from Teller and Brevig Mission, met with entrepreneurs, industry and non-profits to explore the needs for a deep-draft port.

Port proponents say a deep-draft port in Nome would serve emergency Search and Rescue, resupply, crew changes, and traffic wanting to pull out of busy shipping lanes through the Bering Strait.

Comments from the public, spoken and written, will be addressed in the plan before it heads to Congress for approval, Cordova said.

## Legislature passes several Arctic-related resolutions

Last week, the Alaska Legislature passed Senate Joint Resolution 18, directed at Washington State's interference with development in Beaufort and Chukchi Seas.

With the resolution, legislators urged the State of Washington and Seattle to stop interfering with the potential development of large oil and gas deposits in the outer continental shelf in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas by Royal Dutch Shell.

"Recently, the governor of Washington wrote a letter to Interior Secretary Sally Jewell urging the Department of the Interior to refrain from issuing any further leases sales for drilling operations in the Arctic," said Senate Resources Chair Cathy Giessel, R-East Anchorage/Anchorage Hillside/Turnagain Arm.

"The Seattle City Council also sent a letter to Secretary Jewell urging the revocation of the leases in the Arctic, citing that oil and gas development will contribute to global climate change. This resolution sends a strong message to Washington State that Alaska will not tolerate its unsolicited interference in the multifaceted and nationally strategic economic development plan for the Arctic."

"The timing of the resolution is perfect and we want Shell to know we are open for business," said Senator Click Bishop, R-Fairbanks. "We have the assets, the resources, and the work force to support them 110 percent."

SJR 18 also emphasizes that the State of Alaska would support providing Royal Dutch Shell with a port in Alaska, thus taking the potential 500-700 jobs and additional estimated revenue from the harbor rental lease that Washington State seemingly does not want.

"The letters written by the Seattle City Council and Washington State reflect a lack of basic knowledge about Alaska and are offensive to the people who live in America's Arctic," said Senator Giessel.

In another resolution the Alaska House of Representatives reaffirming the legislatures' support for the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan.

House Concurrent Resolution 10, introduced by Representative Louise Stutes, declares the legislature's recognition of the need for the Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board and the Alaska Vo-

ational & Technical Education Center in Seward. It also encourages support and participation by various state agencies already tasked with the mission of workforce development.

"This resolution states that by working smarter with existing training and educational resources, greater benefits can accrue to the citizens and maritime industries of our state," Stutes, R-Kodiak, said. "The goal is to drive outcomes that improve maritime-related blue collar, high dollar job opportunities for Alaskans while strengthening the economic competitiveness of Alaska's maritime industries."

The Alaska Maritime Workforce Development Plan is the first comprehensive effort to understand and address the workforce development needs of Alaska's maritime industry. As defined in the plan, the maritime industry includes seafood harvesters; seafood processors; fisheries research, enhancement and management; marine transportation; ship building and repair; and marine support services. Collectively, this sector is Alaska's largest private employer with more than 500 firms statewide and a workforce of over 68,000.

"Until now, these occupations had not been formally characterized as a unique and related workforce," Stutes said. "The plan is a guide and call to action for the private sector, government, education, and workforce development entities to forge a partnership dedicated to building a globally competitive maritime workforce in Alaska."

HCR 10 passed the House on a vote of 39-0 and moved to the Alaska Senate for consideration.

The Alaska State Legislature also passed a resolution supporting the Arctic Economic Council. Senate Joint Resolution 16, sponsored by Alaska Arctic Policy Commission (AAPC) Co-Chair Senator Lesil

McGuire (R-Anchorage), urges the U.S. Congress to stand with Alaska in its support for the Arctic Economic Council and requests that an Alaskan serve as its chair. The resolution also expresses support for the Arctic Economic Council Leadership to mirror the rotation of the chair of the Arctic Council.

"As the United States assumes the chairmanship of the Arctic Council next week, it's more important than

ever to show our state's support for the US delegates, all of which are Alaskans," said Senator McGuire.

In 2013, the Arctic Council created Arctic Economic Council to serve as its primary forum for interaction with the circumpolar business community.

All three of the U.S. delegates, Lori Davey, Bruce Harland, and Gail Schubert, who attended the founding organization meeting are Alaskans.

## • Pollock

continued from page 7

asserted, and their General Counsel agreed, that regulations do not specify that the entirety of any partially-owned subsidiary corporation's harvest be attributed to the parent.

Calculating NSEDC's actual ownership percentage would result in a less than 10 percent finding, and would therefore not require a recusal. However, in a review determination issued on April 8, General Counsel stated that it was left to their interpretation and that the initial determination would stand.

"The rules regarding conflict of

interest for fishery management council members participating in meetings allowed me to state for the record the nature of the conflicts, and then proceed to participate in discussions, deliberations, informing the council and record how I would have voted, or any other involvement short of casting an actual vote," Kinneen said.

Kinneen added that he did state for the record that he would have voted in a manner that many would consider to favor salmon conservation rather than the financial interests that prompted his recusal.

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# Scientists present research on musk oxen at NW campus

By Sarah Miller

Wildlife researchers Joel Berger and Gana Jamiyansuren Wingard presented a talk about the common challenges faced by wildlife in Alaska and Mongolia at the Northwest Campus's Strait Science Series.

Wingard, a native Mongolian who leads field research programs in Mongolia through the Conservation Biology Department of the Denver Zoo, spoke first about the studies of wildlife population growth currently going on in Mongolia. Current projects there include studies of argali sheep, ibex, hedgehogs, other small carnivores and raptors. Researchers are studying changes in animal migration patterns as well as food sources, genetics, home ranges, and possible reasons for animal mortality rates.

The challenges facing Mongolian wildlife are found in the fairly recent political changes colliding with traditional ways of life. The country, which is of similar size to Alaska, supports a human population of three million. About one million reside in the capital city, and the other two million live the traditional lifestyle of nomads. Some thirty percent of this group raise herds of livestock and relocate thirteen to fifteen times a year to find suitable grazing grounds.

In the 1990's, the country transitioned from a communist economy in which individual herd ownership was limited to 100 animals, to a free market economy in which herd sizes are unlimited. The income available by raising goats to produce cashmere has allowed individuals to prosper and grow their herds, but without private land ownership directing which herds graze in which locations, the land has become overgrazed and domesticated populations may be impacting wildlife population survival rates. Poaching is also a threat to wildlife population growth, as is the environmental impact of mineral mining. Research to determine what is happening with animal popula-

tions in Mongolia continues, along with efforts to develop economic opportunities outside of livestock rearing.

Joel Berger was next to present, speaking about musk oxen, a familiar and occasionally contentious subject among Nome residents. Berger is a professor of conservation biology at the University of Montana as well as a senior scientist with the Wildlife Conservation Society.

He studies the musk oxen populations in Alaska with the aim of understanding whether climate stressors are affecting the population growth of these cold-adapted animals, or whether the growth is impacted by other factors such as food sources, new predator-prey relationships, or disease. Musk oxen herds in different parts of Alaska are showing different patterns of population growth or decline. The effort to find answers is a slow process, as researchers try to take as non-invasive an approach as possible. This includes no longer capturing the animals to fit them with radio collars, said Berger. Rather, they are using fecal assessments and measuring pregnancy hormones as well as stress hormones to determine the pregnancy rates of females and comparing these among the different populations. Photo imaging, in which researchers use long range lenses to photograph the animals and then take measurements of their head sizes, allows researchers to determine the genders and ages of the animals in the herds. This information is charted and then compared with other data, such as seasons, weather, and events, and helps scientists determine juvenile survival rates.

While the research findings offer indications of which factors are more likely than others, Berger emphasized that there are no definite answers yet. "We can't say what the answer is with one paintbrush. There are lots of possibilities. We don't know as much as we want or need to

know," explained Berger. However, researchers are able to determine which factors are more likely than others. If food sources were the reason for the different rates of population growth among the individual musk oxen groups, explained Berger, scientists would expect to see smaller body mass, poor health, and fewer pregnancies within the herds, but this is not the case across seven years of data. As far as predation rates go, there have been no changes among the survival rates of adult musk oxen. The differences in population growth are found among the juveniles, said Berger. This leads to questions of whether human harvests of adult bulls impact the social behavior and structure of the herds, leading to different defensive responses to predators. To gain answers to this question, Berger explained, scientists have used decoy grizzlies and recorded the responses of musk oxen herds with bulls to those herds without. The question will take several years to research.

Bringing the topic around to a question relevant to Nome, Berger addressed the suggestion that has been postulated, that musk oxen may be using humans as a buffer from grizzly bears. In other words, how much do humans affect traditional predator/prey relationships? "It sounds like an easy question, but it's not really straightforward," said Berger. "We do know musk oxen learn and change their behaviors, but we can't really say if it's causal."

Berger went on to present examples of ecosystem dynamics, which may be a factor in the decline of certain musk oxen herds. One was an unusual weather event known to Inupiaq Natives as "inuviq", in which ice forms drastic and sudden pressure ridges due to tidal surges and high winds. Such an event occurred in February 2011 in Cape Espenberg, and is speculated to be the cause of the demise of all but three of a 55-member musk oxen herd.



Photo by Sarah Miller

**MUSK OX EXPERTS— Joel Berger and Gana Jamiyansuren Wingard, biologists, presented findings from their wildlife studies at the Northwest Campus's Strait Science Series.**

Another example provided by Berger is the novel encounters of musk oxen and polar bears, which is occurring on Wrangel Island, a Russian climate refuge for polar bears. "What is known," concluded Berger, "is that the climate is changing fast."

As the presenters took questions from audience members, Claudia Ihl, biology instructor at the Northwest Campus, spoke to the issue of musk oxen seeking refuge from predators within the city. "We need to investigate other factors for why they are coming into town," said Ihl. "The bear numbers haven't increased. Habitat may have a lot to do with it, and we should look at that before we blame the bears. What do musk oxen

do all day long? They eat. We need to look at the nutrient content of what they are grazing on here and compare it to further out in the tundra. Mining has created plant growth and led to prime foraging areas for these animals. The less energy they expend looking for food, the better for them."

Berger and Ihl are in agreement that the impacts on musk ox behavior are complicated. "It's like you're trying to solve a thousand piece puzzle, but you only have twenty pieces. Those twenty pieces give you a little information and some things are known, but there is more to know," said Ihl.

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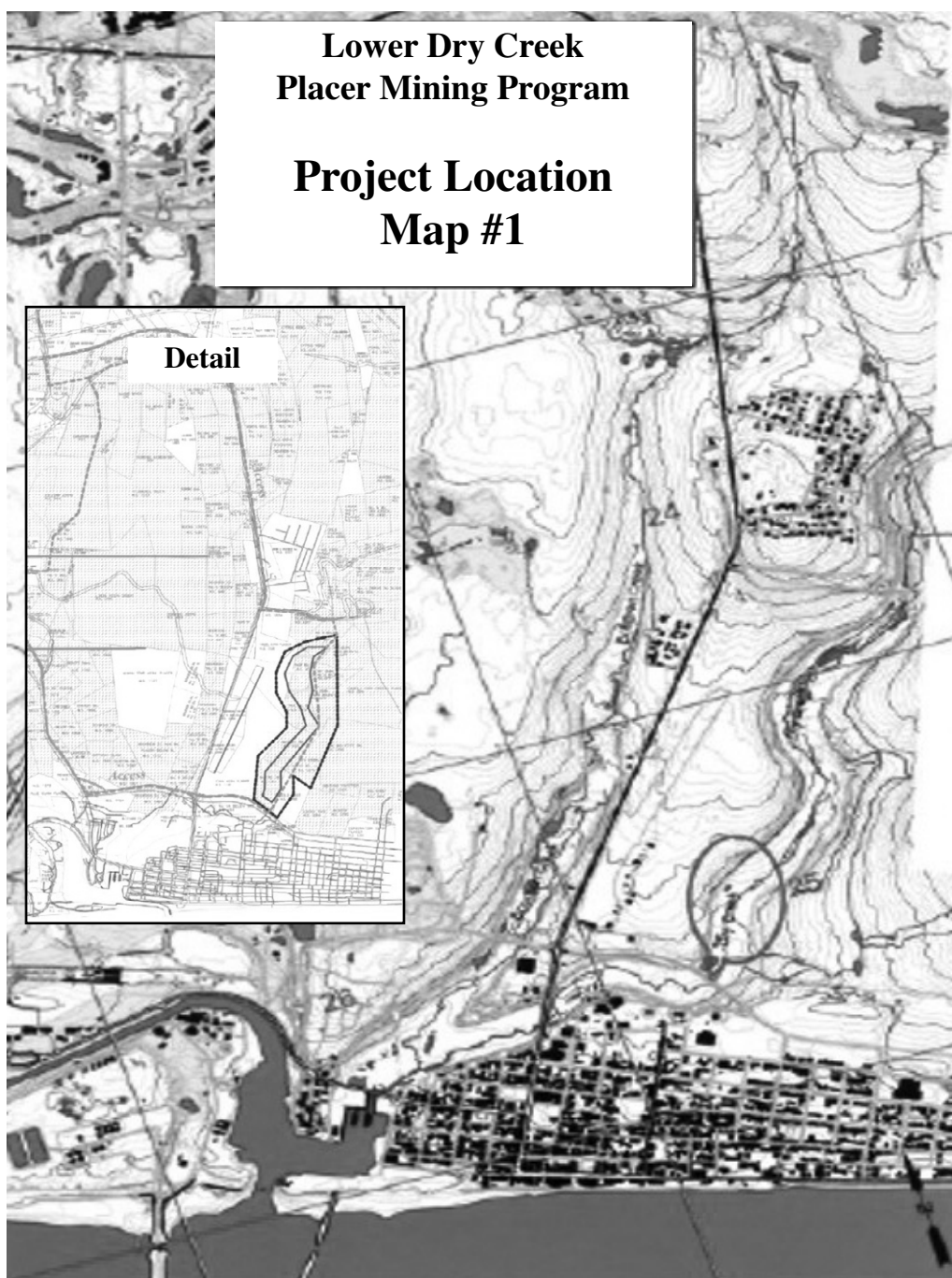
**Nome Gold Alaska Corporation** will hold an open house **Tuesday April 27th 6pm to 8pm** at Old St. Joe's Hall at Anvil City Square in Nome.

Nome Gold representatives will present information on current mining operations and plans for the 2015 and 2016 mining seasons. Nome Gold is currently mining on the North side of the Nome Airport and will be expanding mining operations to Dry Creek, North of the Hospital by-pass road.

Nome Gold is permitted by the State of Alaska for exploration work and is in the process of developing mining plans for the Dry Creek project. The project is expected to take four years to complete and employ six people on a full time year round basis.

Nome Gold is committed to the safety of its employees, and to being a good neighbor to the residents of Nome. Responsible mining is at the forefront of the operation, respect for the environment both pre and post mining. Nome Gold has reclaimed over 30 acres of previously mined areas in the last year as part of its operations.

Nome Gold Alaska Corporation currently has over 50 employees working as Equipment Operators, Mechanics, Welders, Office and Support Staff. NGAC continues to support local hire with over 80% of our employees being from Nome and Alaska. The Company supports local businesses and has purchased over \$4 million dollars in goods and services from local Nome business in the last year.







**RACING**— The teams of Alfred Ningeulook, Jeffery Nayokpuk and Diana Haecker race towards the mouth of the Serpentine River and the halfway point in the 36 mile long Shishmaref Spring Carnival dog race on day 3.

*Photos by Nils Hahn*

# • Shishmaref celebrates

*continued from page 1*

Herbert’s son Jeffery continues the family tradition and ran the race under the watchful eyes of Herbert Nayokpuk’s widow Elizabeth who graced the start and finish line every day of the races out on the ice-covered lagoon.

The open race had locals Daniel Olanna, Percy Nayokpuk, Jeffery Nayokpuk, Helenmarie “Bessi” Sinnok, Alfred “Koozie” Ningeulook race with Nome mushers Nils Hahn and this reporter, Diana Haecker.

The race course took the sled dog teams from the lagoon ice in front of Shishmaref, located on a barrier island, to a seven-mile point to the southeast on the Mainland. From there the trail hugged the shoreline and followed the cliffs until climbing up a short small hill to the mouth of the Serpentine River. From there the trail doubled back to Shishmaref, running about 36 miles in total. Conditions were favorable for sled dog racing, with a mostly hard trail, a little bit of ice fog, cool temperatures and a northwest breeze.

Daniel Olanna set a blistering pace on day 1 of the race, finishing the run in 2 hours, 31 minutes. For the next two days, Olanna held on to

his lead and came in first with a time of 2 hours, 37 minutes on the second day and sealed his overall victory on the last day with the fastest time of 2 hours and 43 minutes. Olanna finished the race with an elapsed time of 7 hours, 52 minutes and 57 seconds.

Nils Hahn of Nome finished second overall, with an elapsed time of 8 hours, 36 minutes and 17 seconds. Overall 59 seconds slower, Diana Haecker took third place with an elapsed time of 8 hours 37 minutes and 16 seconds. Jeffery Nayokpuk placed fourth with an overall time of 8 hours, 47 minutes and 34 seconds. Helenmarie Sinnok completed the three-day race in 9 hours, one minute and 31 seconds. Percy Nayokpuk, hands down the fastest musher to cross the seven-mile lagoon portion of the trail on all three days, had an elapsed time of 9 hours, 29 minutes and 54 seconds. Alfred Ningeulook each day improved on his run times and had an elapsed time of 9 hours and 50 minutes, 23 seconds.

On the last day of the race, the teams traveled close together, racing hard and determined. With the exception of Dan Olanna, who led the race apart from the rest of the field, the other teams passed, re-passed and

stuck close together for the most part. The field finally separated getting closer to the long seven-mile home run stretch between the point on the mainland and the finish line in Shishmaref. Olanna had barely time to drive his team home, hop on the snowmachine and race back to the finish line where people gathered to welcome the mushers, clapping and hollering. As one after the other dog teams crossed the finish, they parked their dogs right there and stopped to talk about their race, laugh and recount their experience of the exciting and friendly yet fierce competition. Elders were pleased and said it has been years since the mushers lingered at the finish to share their stories with each other and the spectators.

After the open dog race, SDMA organized a “Run, Harness, Go” race on Saturday. The race requires mushers to stand apart from their 5-dog team. With only the single leader being in harness and holding out the line, the other four dogs are fastened to the gangline on their neckline and their harnesses are off. Once the race marshal fires off a rifle shot, the mushers must sprint to their team, put harnesses on their four team dogs and then take off on a three-mile course that lead the teams around two barrels on the big white open. No rules apply. Race marshal Glenn Nayokpuk explained that this race is about the best leader finding trail as they had to break trail for the most part and willingly veer off the main trail around the one-mile barrel. Total

mayhem ensued as teams took off, got tangled, wrapped around the barrel and tripods and passed, repassed, racing neck to neck. Hahn won the race, followed by Koozie Ningeulook. A historic first tie for third place happened as Bessi Sinnok and Haecker’s dog teams decided to merge as one and race together across the finish line. Jeffery Nayokpuk brought in the rear, as he had to fix a neckline hook that came off one of his dog’s collars.

## Inupiaq Days

The school children could set the regular academics aside for one week and were immersed in cultural activities that ranged from skin sewing,

*continued on page 13*



**ON THE WAY OUT**— Jeffery Nayokpuk’s team is led by his trusty lead dog “Toby” as the teams travel on the Shishmaref Inlet towards the mouth of the Serpentine River.



**SWAPPING STORIES**— Race winner Daniel Olanna of Shishmaref explains his run on day three of the Shishmaref Spring Carnival dog sled race to Elizabeth Nayokpuk, wife of the late Herbert Nayokpuk, who holds the lead dogs of fourth place finisher Jeffery Nayokpuk.





*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**CATCHING AIR**— A player for the second finishing men’s team *Bear Creek* goes up for two in the championship game against the team from Shishmaref, called *Them Guys*.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**SECOND PLACE**— Jason Omedelina of Nome holds up the second place trophy for the *Bear Creek* team. Omedelina flew to Shishmaref in order to participate in the men’s tournament.



*Photo by Lizzy Hahn*  
**ESKIMO STICK PULL**— Shishmaref students give it their all in the Eskimo Stick Pull during the Inupiaq Days in Shishmaref.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**WOMEN’S CHAMPS**— The “Shishmaref Slick Chicks” won the annual Shishmaref Spring Carnival women’s basketball tournament.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**MEN’S CHAMPS**— The team “Them Guys” won the annual Shishmaref Spring Carnival men’s basketball tournament.



*Photo by Nils Hahn*  
**TECH SAVVY FANS**— Fans capture the moment during the basketball championship awards.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**BASKETBALL**— Matt Turner, playing for the team “Them Guys”, makes his way around Corey Erickson, playing for the second placing team “Bear Creek”.





*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**LASER GUN**— Collin McClement has fun during the spring carnival set up in the Shishmaref School gym, shooting a laser gun used for biathlon practice.



*Photo by Lizzy Hahn*  
**MUSHING WISDOM**— Aaron Burmeister addressed students during the Inupiaq Days with stories of the trail and a few words of wisdom learned from working with sled dogs.



*Photo by Lizzy Hahn*  
**WHAT'S FOR DINNER?**— Matt Turner helped with the workshop on butchering and cooking traditional foods that were later served to the community's elders.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**RAPARTIST**— Allison Warden was the artist-in-residence, exposing the kids to theatre and performing arts. Warden is an Inupiaq rapper and performance artist in Anchorage.



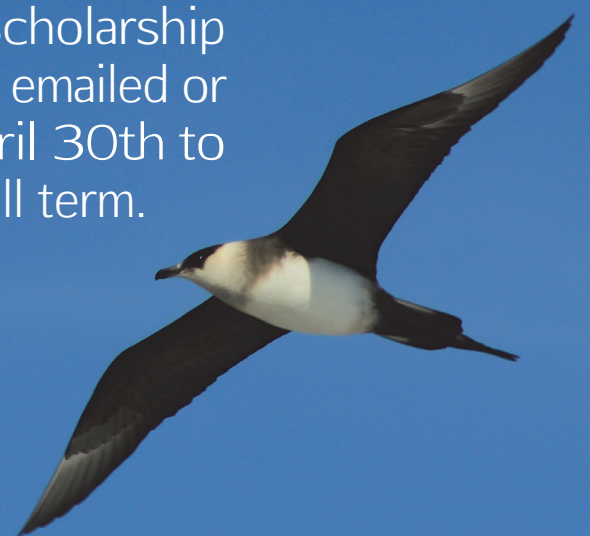
*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**RAINBOW OF HELPING HANDS**— Jennifer Demir with the Norton Sound Health Corporation's Environmental Program had students cut out hands to symbolize that it takes team work to keep the community and the environment clean. Demir hails originally from Shishmaref.



*Photo by Diana Haecker*  
**INUPIAQ SINGERS**— The Inupiaq Singers sang after the assembly on Friday and also taught the children during Inupiaq Days singing hymns in the Inupiaq language.

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*Photos by Nils Hahn*

**MUSHING FAN** (*top left*) — Elizabeth Nayokpuk awaits the start of day three of the race named after her late husband Herbert Nayokpuk.

**KOOZIE** (*top right*) — Alfred "Koozie" Ningeulook is all frosted up at the finish line.

**DONE** (*bottom left*) — Bessi Sinnok of Shishmaref crosses the finish line after day three of the Shishmaref Spring Carnival dog race.

**LOCAL CHAMP** (*bottom right*) — Daniel Olanna of Shishmaref celebrates after finishing day three of the dog race. Olanna had the fastest time on all three days.





Photo by Rachael Scholten

**FIRST LEG – Racers head out on skate skis, classic skis, and snowshoes at the first half of Nome Ski and Biathlon's Ski-2-Sea fundraiser race on Saturday, April 18.**

# Nome Ski and Biathlon holds 9th annual Ski-2-Sea race

**By Keith Conger**

In many parts of the state, there is no more snow on the ground by now, but the Nome Ski and Biathlon Team was able to celebrate the wonderful spring snow conditions in Nome with its ninth annual Ski-2-Sea Race on Saturday morning.

The first person across the finish line was solo participant Wilson Hoogendorn, who completed the 2.2-mile ski and 2.0-mile run in 29 minutes, 28 minutes.

Racers were greeted by stiff winds after a relatively calm week. This year's course started at Greg Kruschek Avenue and K Street and took skiers on an out-and-back trail up and over Gold Hill. Solo participants exchanged ski boots for running shoes and then proceeded to run along Kruschek Avenue to the Swanberg Dredge and back to the finish line at Nome Elementary School.

Nine competitors raced solo. Bianca Trowbridge was the first female across the line. Her time was 33 minutes, 24 seconds. The fastest Jr. High School boy was Tobin Hobbs, who crossed the finish line in 37 minutes, 17 seconds. The top Junior High School girl was Ava Earthman, who recorded a time of 40 minutes, 57 seconds.

Four teams were formed. The top

team was comprised of Nome Ski and Biathlon assistant coach Jano Kralik and Kristen Holzman, who completed the course in 30 minutes, 58 seconds.

This year's Ski-2-Sea was the ninth such race in the last ten years. One year it was not held due to lack of snow. For the first three years, the ski portion of the race was conducted on Newton Peak. Skiers then tagged a bicycle rider who rode to East End Park.

**Results:**

**Solo:** 1) Wilson Hoogendorn, skate ski/run, 29:28; 2) Keith Conger, skijor/run, 31:15; 3) Bianca Trowbridge, skate ski/run, 33:24; 4) Jannelle Trowbridge, skate ski/run, 37:09; 5) Tobin Hobbs, skate ski/run, 37:17; 6) Oliver Hoogendorn, skate ski/run, 37:39; 7) Ava Earthman, skate ski/run, 40:57; 8) Debbie Trowbridge, snowshoe/run, 41:07; 9) Mallory Conger, classic ski only, 25:18.

**Teams:** 1) Jano Kralik, skate ski/Kristen Holzman, run, 30:58; 2) Emelyne Hobbs, skate ski/Tristen Hobbs, bike, 35:03; 3) Maya Kralik, skate ski/Crystal Tobuk, run, 37:43; 4) Katie Smith, classic ski/Gabe Smith, bike, 42:13.

# Baker and Gray participate in All-Star basketball game

**By Keith Conger**

Nome-Beltz High School seniors Klay Baker and Alex Gray attended the Alaska Basketball Coaches Association, or ABCA, Senior All-Star game on April 11 at Dimond High School in Anchorage. The team was comprised for 3A and 4A level players from around the state.

Nome Nanooks head basketball coach Pat Callahan said in an email that the All-Star game was a regular event in the late 1980's and early 1990's. It was re-instated for the 2010-2011 basketball season.

Baker and Gray found themselves on opposing sides of the ball court for the event.

Gray, playing for the Blue squad, scored eight points on three-for-ten shooting in 19 minutes, 48 seconds of playing time. He had three assists and committed two turnovers.

Baker went scoreless in 18 minutes, 50 seconds of playing time for the Yellow team. He had two defensive rebounds during the contest.

Gray's Blue team beat Baker's Yellow team 100-92.

Both Baker and Gray were varsity basketball players in their four years in high school. Their team earned three trips to the state tournament in that time.

During his senior year, Baker led the Nanooks in scoring, free throw percentage and defensive deflections. Gray led the team this year in assists per game, steals per game and three-point field goal percentage.

NBHS Boys Basketball Players Selected to the ABCA All-Star Game: Uly Hall 1986-1987; Christian Leckband 2010-11; Tim Sullivan 2010-11; Nathan Blandford 2011-12; Dominique Hall 2012-13; Tyler Eide 2013-14; Cass Mattheis 2013-14; Klay Baker 2014-15; Alex Gray 2014-15.



Photo Courtesy of Pat Callahan

**MOTHER BEARS - Nome-Beltz High School basketball moms Becka Baker (left) and Cynthia Gray (right) attend the Alaska Basketball Coaches Association Senior All-Star game at Dimond High School with their sons Klay Baker (30) and Alex Gray (3) on April 11.**

# Nome Cannonball Snowmachine Race



**RACING— Tim James slows down in order to safely cross the Beam Road during the Cannonball Snowmachine Race.**



Photos by Rick Outwater

**ROAD CROSSING— Chris Reader crosses the Kougarok Road during the Cannonball Snowmachine Race.**

# • Shishmaref celebrates

continued from page 9

beading, fish hook making, felt ornament making, crocheting, butchering and cooking to story telling, ice fishing, Inupiaq gospel singing and Native Youth Olympics games.

Allison Warden, an Inupiaq performance artist and rapper, was brought in as the artist-in-residence and taught theater and performance. During an assembly, she performed a rap titled "An ancestor from the future", encouraging youth to embrace their cultural values. Maligiaq Padilla traveled from Kotzebue to Shishmaref to teach the youth qayaq making. He brought wood and materials along. Padilla has been to Shishmaref before to make a qayaq with students. This will be the second vessel he built in the community.

Maryjane Litchard came from Nome to teach Native poetry and art. Nome post State Trooper Aileen Witrosky and Shishmaref VPSO Barret Eningowuk held presentations on Safety. They brought the "drunk goggles" which demonstrate to kids how difficult coordination is when inebriated.

The main part of the assembly revolved around Nome born and raised musher Aaron Burmeister, who this year received the prestigious "Herbie

Nayokpuk Award" given out by the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog race. Bessi Sinnok introduced Burmeister and reminded the students that a famous Iditarod musher came from their community: Herbert Nayokpuk. "Herbie was always friendly, always happy and was famous for his exemplary dog care," she said. Since Herbert Nayokpuk's passing in December 2006, the Iditarod gives out an award, honoring the musher who exemplifies Nayokpuk's friendliness, generosity, dog care and upbeat attitude. Aaron Burmeister, who finished in third place in this year's Iditarod, received the award. Burmeister, no stranger to Shishmaref or the Nayokpuk family and

having raced the Shishmaref Spring Carnival for years, addressed the assembly passing on life lessons learned from dog mushing. Burmeister said that like a long dog race, life is a journey with opportunities to learn new things each day. He encouraged the kids that learning is a reward in its own and it doesn't matter if one is dog racing or working or studying for school, in the end all lessons learned are life lessons. For the children who were too young to remember Herbert Nayokpuk, Burmeister said, "Herbie was a man who filled a room with his radiant energy. What I learned most from Herbie is respect. He commended respect just because he respected everybody

else."

The kids hung on to every word Burmeister said as he was relating stories from the Iditarod trail and the elements of his success. "One thing you learn in dog mushing is that it takes team work to accomplish

things. I don't do this alone," he said. "It takes a team of dogs, it takes support from my family, friends and the community behind us. In all that we do in life, it takes team work to be able to get things done."

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MEETING THE PRESIDENT— Geneva Wright, far left, and other students from rural communities from around the U.S. meet with President Barack Obama on Monday, April 13 in the Oval Office of the White House.

# Tanana 4-H member meets Obama

Geneva Wright, a 4-H member from Tanana, met with President Obama in the Oval Office Monday as part of an eight-member 4-H contingent from rural communities around the country.

The students were asked to make a short presentation to the president. A blog post by Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, who also met with the students, noted “each one of them had an inspiring story about how they are opening new doors for kids in their hometowns, and how this work is building stronger communities where they can learn, play and grow.”

Speaking by phone from Washington, D.C., Wright said she was nervous meeting the president. She led the

line of youth to the Oval Office and was surprised when the president himself opened the door. They got photographs taken with the president and he asked about rural poverty, she said.

Wright said she talked about speaking out in Alaska and nationally about domestic violence and rape and how, she said, “I found my voice with 4-H.”

Wright, 18, has been active in 4-H for more than four years. The Tanana 4-H group made headlines when they addressed the Alaska Federation of Natives convention in 2014 and challenged the adults to eradicate rape and sexual assault in rural Alaska.

Photo courtesy UAF



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25. Ancient colonnade
27. Offices of public officials in the Chinese Empire
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36. A chip, maybe
38. Calyx part
39. Scar's royal position in "The Lion King" (2 wds)
42. Eagerness
43. Delhi dress
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45. Idle talk or rumor
47. Acceptances
49. Aromatic ointment used in antiquity
51. Triangular metal bracket for joist strength
56. Thick white paper for pencil and ink drawings (2 wds)
60. Legal prefix
61. Aroma
62. Accustom
63. 20-20, e.g.
64. \_\_\_-mutton
65. Adjust, as laces
66. "Cool!"
67. At one time, at one time
68. Hillsides

- Down
1. "The Beast of \_\_\_ Flats" (1961 sci-fi bomb)
2. Dislike, and then some
3. Twisted
4. Coffee order
5. Rears
6. \_\_\_ fruit
7. Saying popularized by Jonathan Swift (4 wds)
8. Clearing
9. In a spooky manner
10. "Roots," e.g.
11. Bring (out)
12. "God's Little \_\_\_"
13. Male child
21. Essential oil from flowers
22. Catch
26. Aces, sometimes
28. Intro to physics?
29. "Beowulf," e.g.
30. Church part
31. Coaster
32. Catch fly balls
33. "I, Claudius" role
34. Boosts
35. Some Olympians, nowadays
37. Coin featuring Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man
40. Design transferred from an engraved plate
41. Gnatlike insect
46. Early release of a prisoner, subject to continued monitoring
48. Crackerjack
50. Equestrian
52. More rational
53. Expectorated matters
54. Like "The X-Files"
55. Ashes, e.g.
56. Bat's home
57. Length x width, for a rectangle
58. Bluster
59. Small cave
60. Ballpoint, e.g.

## Previous Puzzle Answers

1	C	P	U		B	A	S	S	O		P	L	A	I	G
2	S	A	I	N	T		A	C	T	O	R		A	T	E
3	E	N	G	L	I		S	H	O	R	N		D	O	N
4	O	N	I	A	N		2	E	U	C	A	L	Y	P	T
5	N	E	U	T	R	A	L		2	P	E	T	A	L	
6	E	S	T		2	A	R	I	A		2	R	E	C	I
7							3	T	E	N	T	S	Y		
8	3	C	Y	C	A	D		3	E	L	K		3	D	E
9	P	E	A	K			4	T	R	A	I	L	E	R	
10	A	W	L	E	S		4	S	M	O	G		4	O	R
11															
12	E	N	S	N	A	R	E	S		5	P	A	R	T	N
13	U	K													
14	S	K	I												
15	Y	E	N												

Nothing fishy about this paper.

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HOROSCOPES

April 2015 — Week 4

Capricorn

December 22–January 19

An idea tanks at the office. Relax, Capricorn. All is not lost. With a little fine-tuning, you can make the idea work and turn the tide in your favor.

Aries

March 21–April 19

Ay yi yi, Aries. The chores pile up at home. Time to get the family onboard and make quick work of the to-do list. A letter arrives with a memento tucked inside.

Cancer

June 22–July 22

Communication sorely lacks at the office, and it shows. While you can't resolve the problem, Cancer, you can ensure you don't contribute to it.

Libra

September 23–October 22

It's not easy being green, Libra. Who wants to rinse and sort containers when you could so easily toss them into the trash? You do! For yourself, your family, the world.

Aquarius

January 20–February 18

Complaints at home increase, and you have no choice but to make some major changes. Give others a say, Aquarius, and all will go well.

Taurus

April 20–May 20

Hear ye, hear ye, Taurus. Someone near and dear to your heart has been trying to get a hold of you for months. Return the call. They have amazing news to share.

Leo

July 23–August 22

Review is crucial, Leo. Proof everything you do this week—all of your work, all of your correspondence, all of your financial transactions—everything. Something is a-miss.

Scorpio

October 23–November 21

Great. You do all of the work but get none of the credit. Cheer up, Scorpio. The people that matter know. A challenge is presented and accepted.

Pisces

February 19–March 20

Psst, Pisces. Someone is watching your work intently these days. Continue to perform to the utmost standards, and you will be rewarded.

Gemini

May 21–June 21

Cheer up, Gemini. This is not the first time a loved one has hit rock bottom. They will recover, but it will not happen overnight. Patience and support will be vital.

Virgo

August 23–September 22

Clingy, Virgo? Not you, but definitely a loved one. Be nice but be careful you don't encourage the behavior. You don't want to become their go-to person.

Sagittarius

November 22–December 21

Frustration grows in the planning of an event. Compromise is key, and it is up to you to get the conversation started, Sagittarius. A text inspires.

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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



All Around The Sound

**New Arrival**  
Jennie G. Katchatag and Arthur R. Ballot, Jr. of Unalakleet/Moses Point, announce the birth of their daughter Irina Laurel Katchatag, born February 15, 2015 at 3:41 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 20" in length. Maternal grandparents Sheldon and Darlene Katchatag of Unalakleet; and paternal grandparents Arthur Sr. and Ila Ballot of Noorvik.

**Internship**  
Meghan Topkok was selected to be one of 12 Udall Interns, interning in the Office of the Solicitor, Division of Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior. Sigvanna (Meghan) Topkok is Iñupiaq with roots in Ambler and Nome, Alaska. Sigvanna is a student at the University of Oregon, School of Law and intends to focus her studies on the in-

terstices of federal Indian, environmental, and international law. She plans to return to Alaska after graduation to promote tribal sovereignty as a safeguard for the traditions and knowledge that have been passed down since time immemorial. She is passionate about learning and sharing her language and culture, and looks forward to giving back to her tribe and being an advocate for her people and the land they rely on.

The Udall Foundation selected 12 students from 11 tribes and 10 universities as Native American Congressional Interns. They were selected by an independent review committee on the basis of academic achievement and a demonstrated commitment to careers in tribal public policy. The Interns will complete an intensive, 10-week internship in the summer of 2015. The Native Ameri-

can Congressional Internship Program provides American Indian and Alaska Native students with the opportunity to gain practical experience with the federal legislative process in order to understand first-hand the government-to-government relationship between Tribes and the federal government.

Obituaries

**Dina Asicksik Sagoonick**  
02/20/1922 – 03/09/2015  
Dina was born February 20, 1922 at Ungalik camp near Shaktoolik, Alaska to \*Frederick and \*Baayin Asicksik. Dina attended grade school in Shaktoolik and many times was asked to attend Bilingual/Bicultural workshops because she was very knowledgeable in the rich history of our people, and loved to share her wisdom with both young and old.

She loved to tell vivid & humorous stories, which opened our eyes to the past, passing on knowledge with love and laughter, all while visiting with loved ones. She also loved to prepare native food and enjoyed eating many heart-warming meals with family and friends.

She touched so many lives in Nome, Unalakleet, and Shaktoolik and saw the best in each and every person. She captured the hearts of people everywhere she went, as a witness for God, often encouraging people, both young and old, who respected her, "to pray, love one another, and to know God."

She was a wonderful mother who taught her children about God and was there for all of us. We were blessed with a Godly Mother who was a positive loving example, and who loved her grandchildren, great and great-great, and was loved by them in return.

Dina was a Sunday School Teacher in Unalakleet and Shaktoolik.

lik for many years; she also was a Foster Parent, Homemaker, and worked in Nome Beltz as a Matron. While in Qu yana Care Center in Nome, she was a mother figure to many of the hospital staff. She nurtured many of us with her knowledge of the Bible and her love for Christ. You would think she attended Seminary when she testified of her life

with Christ. Wednesday Service at QCC were not the same when she moved back to Shaktoolik, her absence was felt by all. May her words of wisdom and love live on in our hearts and our actions with one another.



Dina Asicksik Sagoonick  
02/20/1922 – 03/09/2015

Easy Whole Wheat Bread Dough

Recipe by Kendra Miller, MPH, RDN, LD with Miller Health Consulting, LLC

**Makes 1 Batch**  
**Preparation Time: 2 hours**  
**Difficulty Level: Medium**

**Ingredients:**  
2 ¼ t. active dry yeast  
1 T. honey  
1 cup warm water  
1 ½ t. salt  
2 T. olive oil  
1 ½ cup whole-wheat flour  
1 ½ cup bread flour



**Directions:**  
1. Combine warm water, yeast, and honey in a large bowl. Let sit for 10 minutes for bubbles to form.  
2. Add salt, olive oil, and whole-wheat flour to the bowl and stir to combine. Gradually add bread flour until just combined. Knead dough for 7 minutes until it is smooth.  
3. Grease bowl with olive oil. Place dough in the bowl to let rise in a warm area for 2 hours.  
4. Use dough for (1) pizza crust, (1 dozen) rolls, or other recipes immediately. You may also freeze dough for later use.

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size	1 roll
Amount Per Serving	12
Calories	147
Total Fat (g)	3
Saturated Fat (g)	0
Cholesterol (mg)	0
Sodium (mg)	292
Total Carbohydrate (g)	26
Fiber (g)	1
Protein (g)	4
Vitamin A (%)	0
Vitamin C (%)	0
Calcium (%)	4
Iron (%)	5

© Miller Health Consulting, LLC

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.

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## Employment

### Itinerant Maintenance Engineer

Norton Sound Health Corporation is currently hiring for an Itinerant Maintenance Engineer position to service and support our Village Based Clinics. The position is based in Nome, but will require travel to each of the village clinics for maintenance and repairs.

This is a full time position working directly for Norton Sound Health Corporation.

Job Description:

#### Village Clinic Maintenance Technician

Full Time, 40+ hours per week  
Salary range depending on years of experience:  
\$24.93 - \$33.16 / hour DOE

The Position will work directly with NSHC Plant Operations Department to learn skills in maintaining a healthcare facility, boiler maintenance, plumbing maintenance, equipment troubleshooting, building monitoring and other technical skills. The position will work closely with the village staff to identify and resolve issues.

Formal Training will be provided by NSHC, providing a skill set for a career in Plant Operations and Maintenance.

To apply for these positions, please fill out a NSHC Job Application which can be found at the local clinic and send to:

**Norton Sound Health Corporation, HR Department**  
Fax: 907-443-2085 or email to [klyon@nshcorp.org](mailto:klyon@nshcorp.org)

If you have any questions or want any further information on the positions, please contact:

Mike Kruse  
Director of Engineering  
Phone: 907-443-9627  
E-mail: [mkruse@nshcorp.org](mailto:mkruse@nshcorp.org)



**Administrative Services Manager**  
**Full Time, Benefitted**  
**Salary \$27.94+ Depending On Experience**  
**Nome, Alaska**

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority (BSRHA) is seeking a highly skilled individual to coordinate the activities and operations of the Administrative and Housing Management services staff and provide sensitive and highly complex administrative support to the President/CEO, Board of Commissioners and Leadership Staff, as well as providing support for special projects as needed.

For more information or to apply, contact William Kost at (907) 443-8600, at [wkost@bsrha.org](mailto:wkost@bsrha.org), or visit [www.bsrha.org](http://www.bsrha.org).



**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**

**Nome Eskimo Community** is recruiting for one (1) positions located in Nome, AK:

• **Youth Services Specialist:** non-exempt, regular full-time position. The pay range is \$23.79/hour - \$26.78/hour (DOE). The application deadline for the recruitment period is Tuesday, May 05, 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 Youth Services Specialist 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.

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 descriptions and an employment application can be obtained from the Nome Eskimo Community Website [www.necalaska.org](http://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](mailto:cathylyon@gci.net)**

## Real Estate



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A one-day workshop on **placer mining basics** will be offered in Nome on May 2, 2015.

The workshop, hosted by University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service, will meet from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. April 18 at the CES office in the Leonard Seppala Building on the Northwest Campus at 303 Moore Way. Donald Keill, who has nearly 40 years experience as a mining engineer and geologist, will lead the workshop. Keill is also a certified mineral examiner and the owner of Keill Engineering in Fairbanks.

The workshop will cover placer exploration and mining, including placer geology, claim staking, hand and mechanized methods, mining agreements, permitting, mine plans, mining economics, reclamation and more.

The fee is \$50. Register at <http://bit.ly/ces-workshops>.  
**Deadline for registering is April 29, 2015.**

**ADDITIONAL CONTACTS:** Meg Burgett, Extension program assistant, at [asburgett@alaska.edu](mailto:asburgett@alaska.edu) or 907-746-9472

ON THE WEB: [www.uaf.edu/ces](http://www.uaf.edu/ces)



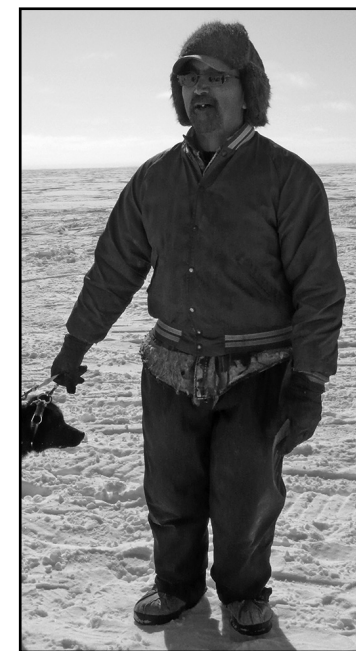
## Classifieds

**WANTED**—Muskox horn, moose/caribou antler, old ivory, Eskimo artifacts. Call Roger 304-1048 or email [nomerog@hotmail.com](mailto:nomerog@hotmail.com).

2/26/2015 th



Photos by Nils Hahn  
**TRAIL GUARD—** Troy Weyiouanna was trail guard at mile 18.



**TOP HAND—** Warren Sinnok holds out the lead dogs of Bessi Sinnok at the finish line.



Photo by Diana Haecker  
**LITTLE FAN—** Wendell Kugzruk keeps Diana Haecker's dog Roxy company after the run.





**TRAVELING**— Jeffery Nayokpuk of Shishmaref leads a string of teams along the mainland to the mouth of the Serpentine River during the 2015 running of the “Herbert Nayokpuk, ‘The Shishmaref Cannonball’ Annual Spring Carnival Race”. *Photo by Nils Hahn*



**IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO HOLD A TEAM**— Volunteers and spectators help holding back the team of Percy Nayokpuk at the start on day three. *Photo by Lizzy Hahn*



**IT’S A TIE**— The lead dogs of Bessi Sinnok, bottom, and Diana Haecker, top, cross the finish line together in the “run, harness and go” race on April, 18. Participants are required to run a single lead dog, harness their dogs at the start on command as well as maneuver with their dog teams in open country. Sinnok and Haecker tied for third place. *Photo by Nils Hahn*



**PASSING**— The leader of the race, Daniel Olanna of Shishmaref, right, head-on passes outgoing dog teams on his way back to Sarichef Island and the village of Shishmaref on day three of the three day race. *Photo by Nils Hahn*



**END OF THE RACE**— Jeffery Nayokpuk congratulates his lead dogs at the finish line on day three of the race. *Photo by Diana Haecker*



**LIFELONG MUSER**— Elizabeth Nayokpuk makes sure the lead dogs of Jeffery Nayokpuk stay out of trouble at the finish line of day three of the dog race. Elizabeth is the wife of the late Herbert Nayokpuk, “the Shishmaref Cannonball”, a member of the Iditarod Hall of Fame. *Photo by Nils Hahn*



Court

Week ending 4/17  
Civil  
DISCOVER BANK v. Ezukameow, Eileen D.; Complaint for Debt Collection  
Discover Bank v. Connors, Vanessa C.; Complaint for Debt Collection  
Small Claims  
Criminal  
State of Alaska v. Barton Johnson (4/23/91); 2NO-14-660CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 114196581; Violated conditions of probation; Suspended jail term revoked and imposed: 180 days; Must pay suspended \$100 jail surcharge to the AGs Office, Anchorage; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.  
State of Alaska v. Barton Johnson (4/23/91); 2NO-15-174CR Notice of Dismissal; Charge 001: Criminal Mischief 3; Charge 002: Harassment 1; Filed by the DAs Office 4/13/15.  
State of Alaska v. Micah Trigg (12/28/88); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 111177063; Violated conditions of probation; Conditions of probation modified as follows: 100 hours community work service due within 6 months; Probation extended by 6 months to 4/25/19 (corrected: 4/13/15); All other terms and conditions of probation in the original judgment remain in effect.  
State of Alaska v. Leah J. Kavairlook (1/30/89); 2NO-12-18CR Dismissal; Count I – VOP, Felony Probation Or Sis Rev., Leah J. Kavairlook – 001; Filed by the DAs Office 4/16/15.  
State of Alaska v. Leah J. Kavairlook (1/30/89); 2NO-14-361CR Dismissal; Count I – 28.15.011(b), Drive w/o Valid OL-exc exp less 1 yr, Leah J. Kavairlook – 001; Filed by the DAs Office 4/16/15.  
State of Alaska v. Michelle L. Kavairlook (8/15/91); 2NO-13-306CR Dismissal; Count III – Misd Prob/SIS Revocation, Misd Probation or SIS Rev, Michelle L. Kavairlook –

004; Filed by the DAs Office 4/16/15.  
State of Alaska v. Michelle L. Kavairlook (8/15/91); 2NO-14-613CR Dismissal; Count I – 28.15.291 Driving w/lic revoked, Michelle L. Kavairlook – 001; Filed by the DAs Office 4/16/15.  
State of Alaska v. Wilma Osborne (1/3/70); CTN 002: Assault 4; Date of Violation: 8/27/13; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 001; 30 days, 0 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days has been served; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case, due not to AGs Office, Anchorage; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days.  
State of Alaska v. Rambo Hunt (5/2/89); CTN 003: Criminal Mischief 4; Date of Violation: 3/14/15; CTN Chrgs Dismissed: 001, 002, 004; 90 days, 60 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days shall be served with defendant remanded immediately to AMCC; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case, due not 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: 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; Amount of restitution to be determined as provided in Criminal Rule 32.6(c)(2); Probation for 1 year (date of judgment: 4/16/15); Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Subject to warrantless arrest for any violation of these conditions of probation; Shall commit no violations of law; Shall not possess, consume alcohol.  
State of Alaska v. Herbert Apassingok (1/23/93); Dismissal; Count I – 11.41.230(a)(1), Assault In The Fourth Degree, Herbert Apassingok – 001; Filed by the DAs Office 4/15/15.  
State of Alaska v. Rebecca Alvanna (1/5/90); Dismissal; Count I – 11.41.230(a)(1), Assault 4- recklessly injure, Rebecca Alvanna – 001; Filed by the DAs Office 4/15/15.  
State of Alaska v. Shelly Kuzuguk (10/12/86); Dismissal; Count I – 11.41.230(a)(1),

Assault 4- recklessly injury, Shelly Kuzuguk – 001; Count II – 11.41.230(a)(1), Assault 4 – recklessly injure, Shelly Kuzuguk – 002; Filed by the DAs Office 4/15/15.  
State of Alaska v. Sean C. Komonaseak, Jr. (7/8/93); Dismissal; Count I – 11.41.230(a)(1), Assault In The Fourth Degree, Sean C. Komonaseak Jr. – 001; Count II – 11.41.230(a)(3), Assault 4–cause fear of imminent injury, Sean C. Komonaseak Jr. – 002; Filed by the DAs Office 4/14/15.  
State of Alaska v. Roger Gomez (8/6/81); Reckless Endangerment; Date of Violation: 2/4/15; 360 days, 360 days suspended; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case, due not to AGs Office, Anchorage; Suspended Jail Surcharge: \$100 per case with \$100 suspended; Must be paid if probation is revoked and, in connection, defendant is arrested and taken to jail or is sentenced to jail; Police Training Surcharge: \$50 shall be paid through this court within 10 days; Probation for 2 years, 4/14/17; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Shall commit no violations of law; Shall not contact, directly or indirectly, or return to the residence of Shelby Mruk without consent; Shall not possess, consume alcohol or controlled substances.  
State of Alaska v. Earl Seppilu (11/28/96); Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 2/10/15; 120 days, 900 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days have been served, CTS; Initial Jail Surcharge: \$50 per case, due not 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, 4/14/16; 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.  
State of Alaska v. Justin Ahkinga (1/23/91); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 112704552; Violated conditions of probation; No Action Taken.

Seawall

NOME POLICE DEPARTMENT

MEDIA RELEASES: 04/12/2015 through 04/19/2015  
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 135 calls for service received at the Nome Police Department Communications Center. 56 (41%) involved alcohol.  
There were 9 arrests made with 7 (78%) alcohol related  
NPD responded to 14 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. 1 was remanded to AMCC as a protective hold; and 1 remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.  
There were 15 ambulance calls and 0 fire calls during this period.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015

03:43 am, NPD was dispatched to a residence on the east side of town for the report of a domestic assault. Upon arrival the reporting party, Jessica Ivanoff, admitted to responding Officers that there had been no assault and she only wanted the family member to leave the residence. Charges for False Information or Report will be filed with the District Attorney's Office.  
09:08 pm, NPD received information that John Fahey, who had a current arrest warrant for a previous charge, was going to be at a given location on the west side of town. Shortly thereafter, Fahey was contacted and placed under arrest for the arrest warrant, as well as Violating his Conditions of Probation and Release for violating a direct court order. Fahey was remanded to AMCC, where he was held without bail.  
09:54 pm, NPD contacted Briar Dickson at a residence on the east side of town while attempting to serve his active arrest warrant stemming from a previous criminal charge. Dickson was subsequently placed under arrest and was remanded to AMCC, where he was held without bail.

MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2015

00:05 am, NPD received a noise complaint from a resident on the east side of town. Upon arrival, the owner of the property was contacted and informed of the inappropriate noise level for the time of night. The owner complied with the request to quiet down and informed Officers that the party would be dispersing shortly. No further action was necessary.  
00:37 am, NPD was waved down by a citizen on the west side of town who informed Officers that his cell phone had been either lost or stolen. The phone is described as a "Verykool" brand touch-screen device that is red in color. If you, or anyone you know, has information regarding the whereabouts of this phone, please contact the Nome Police Department at (907) 443-5262.  
01:22 am, NPD responded to a business on the west side of town for the report of an intoxicated female refusing to leave and that had possibly assaulted another patron. Officers arrived and found that the female had fled the scene, but a male was found with injuries to his face. The male refused to provide Officers with any information regarding the altercation. No further Police involvement was requested.  
02:23 am, NPD Officers were dispatched to a residence on the east side of town for a disturbance within the home between intoxicated family members. Upon arrival, the disturbance was revealed as a verbal argument between two of the occupants and no crime had been committed. The issue was resolved by separation, as one of the parties willingly left the residence for the night.  
05:00 am, NPD responded to the east side of town for the report of a highly intoxicated male who appeared to be sleeping on the ground. Upon arrival, the male was contacted and identified as Zachary Bell. Bell was approximately one house away from his own residence and was escorted home, where he was left in the care of a sober family member.  
06:30 am, NPD was dispatched to a residence on the east side of town for the report of a domestic dispute. Upon arrival, Officers contacted the two involved parties; neither or which reported any crime occurring. Both were separated within the home and no further action was necessary.  
10:33 am, a citizen called the Nome Police Department to report an assault that reportedly occurred several days prior at the hands of a household member. The investigation is ongoing.  
06:16 pm, NPD received a report of an altercation occurring between two intoxicated individuals on the west side of town. Upon Officers' arrival, both parties had been separated and both indicated that there were no injuries and neither wished to press charges. The altercation was resolved by separation.  
09:34 pm, NPD received a report of several intoxicated individuals that were possibly unconscious behind a business on the west side of town. Upon arrival, the individuals were identified as Ronald Kimoktoak, Edward Muktoyuk, Joseph Kakik and Carry Annogiyuk. Annogiyuk refused assistance and the remaining three individuals were transported to the NEST for the evening.  
09:42 pm, NPD was informed of an intoxicated male that had passed out near a residence on the east side of town. Prior to Officers' arrival, the reporting party provided the subject, whom was identified as Burl Johnson, transportation to his residence. No further Police action was necessary.  
10:40 pm, NPD received a report of a disturbance on the west side of town. Upon arrival, Officers contacted Brian Shim and Ronald Kimoktoak; both of whom were intoxicated and given verbal warnings for Disorderly Conduct. The verbal altercation was resolved by separation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 2015

01:42 am, NPD responded to a business on the west side of town for the report of an intoxicated male in possession of a firearm. Further investigation revealed that the item was not a weapon and the subject was released on scene. During the same call, Officers contacted Darryl Aukon, who was found inside the bar intoxicated. Officers were informed by the Nome Police Department Dispatch Center that Aukon was on current Order and Conditions of Release that prohibited him from entering a bar or liquor store, as well as consuming alcohol. Aukon was subsequently placed under arrest for Violating his Conditions of Release and was remanded to AMCC, where he was held on \$1,000.00 bail.  
11:15 am, NPD received a report of an intoxicated male who was in the care of two juvenile females walking on the west side of town. Officers arrived on scene and contacted Edward Soxie, who was found highly intoxicated. One of the juveniles was transported to a sober relative's residence and the Office of Children Services was contacted to take custody of the second child.  
02:21 pm, NPD Officers, while on routine patrol, observed a vehicle double-parked

on the west side of town. Upon contact with the driver, identified as Vernon Adkison, he was given a verbal warning for double-parking and was issued a citation for Failure to Provide Proof of Insurance. Adkison was then released on scene and the vehicle was ordered to be parked until it was insured.  
05:17 pm, NPD received the report of a juvenile that had run away from a temporary residence on the west side of town. After a search of the area, employees made contact with the juvenile, who returned willingly to the establishment prior to Officer intervention. The Office of Children's Services was notified and a report of the incident will be referred to the agency.  
06:59 pm, NPD received a report of a possible assault occurring at a residence on the east side of town. Shortly after the original report, the unidentified female called back to ensure that she was fine and Police assistance was no longer needed. Dispatch was able to make contact with the female, who provided her location. Officers arrived and investigation revealed that the altercation was verbal only and no further action was necessary.  
08:16 pm, NPD responded to a report of an argument between two family members over an internet bill. Officers responded and spoke with both parties, which revealed that the issue was civil in nature. Both parties were informed to seek assistance from the Nome Court to resolve the dispute. No further action necessary.  
09:50 pm, NPD responded to a residence on the east side of town for a reported assault. Upon arrival the injuries sustained by two of the involved parties required the presence of the Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department, who was dispatched to the scene and transported the duo to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical evaluation. None of the occupants of the residence, nor the victims, were able to identify the suspect and a search of the area yielded no results. The investigation is ongoing.  
11:00 pm, NPD Officers conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that had only one operational headlight. Upon contact, the driver was found to have all the proper documentation and was issued a verbal warning for the equipment violation. The driver was then released at the scene.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015

02:07 am, NPD received a report of a noise complaint from a residence on the west side of town. Upon arrival, the two parties causing the disturbance were contacted and warned for Disorderly Conduct. No further action was necessary.  
12:40 pm, NPD responded to a residence on the west side of town for the reports of an intoxicated female refusing to leave the residence. Further investigation revealed that the female had been invited inside the residence and left upon request of Officers. The female was transported to a friend's residence, where she was left in their sober care after being warned for Disorderly Conduct and Drunk on Licensed Premises.  
12:40 pm, NPD received a report of stolen items from a dredge operating on the western edge of town. Information regarding the stolen property was gathered and an investigation was initiated; which is still ongoing.  
07:40 pm, NPD was dispatched to the west side of town for the report of a highly intoxicated male who was having trouble standing and walking on his own. Upon contact, the male was identified as Andrew Ozenna, whom was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical evaluation. No further police action was necessary.  
08:55 pm, NPD received a report of a male sleeping inside of an establishment on the west side of town. Upon arrival, Officers made contact with Brian Shim, who denied any further assistance and left the establishment upon request. No further action necessary.

THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2015

03:10 pm, NPD received a report of a motor vehicle collision occurring at a parking lot on the east side of town. Upon arrival, Officers facilitated the exchange of information, as the incident occurred on private property. No further action taken.  
03:48 pm, NPD responded to a reported assault occurring between two juveniles on the east side of town. Officers arrived and interviewed the involved parties, which revealed that the report was unfounded.  
04:30 pm, NPD received a report of stolen property from the west side of town. The reporting party was contacted, a report was filed and the investigation is ongoing.  
05:27 pm, NPD Officers responded to a business on the west side of town for the report of an intoxicated male that was unconscious on the floor. Upon arrival, Officers identified the male as Foster Olanna, who was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical clearance and was then remanded to AMCC on a Title 47 Hold.  
05:55 pm, NPD responded to the residence on the east side of town for the report of an altercation between two juvenile students on the school bus. Officers arrived and identified the two involved parties, which revealed that no injuries were sustained by either party. A report will be forwarded to Juvenile Probation for review.  
10:35 pm, NPD received a report of a male walking south on the sea ice approximately a mile and a half off-shore after reportedly making suicidal threats. The Nome Police Department, Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department and Nome Volunteer Fire Department were dispatched and made contact with the individual, who claimed to only want to see the edge of the sea ice. The subject was escorted back to land and denied any threats of harming himself. No further action was taken.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 2015

00:27 am, NPD Officers were dispatched to a residence on the west side of town regarding an assault. Upon arrival, the suspect, identified by a witness as Jacob Seppilu, had already fled the scene after causing physical injury to a member of the household. Seppilu was later located and placed under arrest for Assault in the Fourth Degree, DV and was remanded to AMCC, where he was held without bail.  
01:44 pm, Nome Police Department received a report of an assault occurring at a residence on the west side of town. Upon arrival, the suspect had already fled the scene, leaving behind a victim that sustained physical injury. A suspect has been identified and the investigation is ongoing.  
04:20 pm, NPD received a phone call from a concerned parent, whose child had yet to arrive home after school. A search of frequented areas was conducted by Officers, but the child was not able to be located. The parent called a short time later to inform NPD that her child had returned home safely. No further action was required.  
07:41 pm, Officers responded to a residence on the west side of town for the report of a civil dispute over occupancy of an apartment. Upon arrival, the reported instigator of the issue had already left the scene and no further action was requested from the reporting party, who was directed to the Nome Court for any questions or action to be taken regarding tenancy of the residence.  
07:47 pm, NPD received a request to conduct a welfare check on a couple report-

edly driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs while in the care of young child. After a short search, the duo was contacted and both were found to be sober and adequately caring for the child; who appeared content and well cared for. No further action was taken, or necessary.  
09:47 pm, NPD received a report of an intoxicated male that was unconscious behind a business on the west side of town. Upon Officers' arrival, the male was identified as Andrew Ozenna, whom was provided transportation to the NEST for the evening and issued a verbal warning for Disorderly Conduct.

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015

00:11 am, Officers responded to a residence on the east side of town for the report of an assault. Upon arrival and further investigation, Myron Koonooka was found to have struck a member of the home; which he was visiting, causing physical injury. Koonooka was arrested and remanded to AMCC for Assault in the 3rd Degree, where he was held without bail.  
00:47 am, NPD was informed of a female lying in the middle of a road on the east side of town that refused to move. Upon arrival, Officers contacted Louise Martin, whom was found to be highly intoxicated. Martin was transported to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for medical clearance and then taken to the NEST for the evening and was verbally warned for Disorderly Conduct. At approximately 0200 hours, staff at the NEST informed NPD that Martin had ran away from the NEST. Officers contacted Martin approximately a block away and attempted to get her to return to the shelter to ensure her safety for the night. Martin then began yelling loudly after being given multiple chances to stop, as it was disturbing residents in the neighborhood. Martin was then placed under arrest for Disorderly Conduct and was remanded to AMCC, where she was held on \$250.00 bail.  
03:14 am, NPD received a noise complaint from a resident in an apartment complex on the east side of town. Officers arrived and contacted a highly intoxicated female, later identified as Amanda Ozenna, who witnesses stated was the cause of the disturbance. Ozenna was warned for Disorderly Conduct after being escorted to her residence, where she was left in the care of a sober friend.  
02:58 pm, Nome Police Department received a report of a vehicle parked on private property without permission of the owner. The vehicle's owner was identified and moved the vehicle upon request without further incident.  
04:35 pm, while on routine patrol, Nome Police Department CSO observed two individuals behind a business on the west side of town; one of which was in possession of an open container of alcohol on his person. Joseph Kakik was subsequently issued an Open Container citation and was released on scene.  
08:39 pm, NPD Officers were requested to conduct a welfare check on an infant that was in the care of a parent who was not responding to phone calls. The parent was contacted and both child and parent were found to be in good health and did not require any assistance; only attempting to avoid contact with the reporting party. No further action taken.  
08:44 pm, NPD received a report of an underage person that appeared to be under the influence of alcohol walking near a hotel on the east side of town. Officers arrived and contacted Ciyas Okitkun, who was confirmed to be intoxicated and under the age of 21. Okitkun was issued a Minor Consuming Alcohol citation and was left in the care of sober family members.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2015

00:33 am, NPD received a request for a welfare check on a female that was reportedly intoxicated and in the care of her young children. Officers arrived and contacted the female who, while admitting to consuming alcohol, was not overly intoxicated. The female was able to get a hold of a sober family friend to stay the night to ensure a sober caregiver for the children.  
01:04 am, NPD responded to a business on the west side of town for the report of an individual using a credit card that did not belong to the person making a purchase. A suspect has been identified and the investigation is ongoing.  
01:37 am, NPD Officers, while on routine patrol, observed a four-wheeler with three passengers running a stop sign on the east side of town. Upon contact, all of the occupants of the four-wheeler were found to be under the age of 18. The juveniles were all issued curfew citations and interviewed further regarding the four-wheeler as each provided a different story of who owned it. Further investigation revealed that the juvenile driving had stolen the four-wheeler from the east side of town and was in the process of transporting the three other juveniles to his residence. A second juvenile on the four-wheeler provided a false name to Officers, as he was later found to be on current probation through the Juvenile Probation Office. A report will be forwarded to the Juvenile Probation Office for Vehicle Theft in the First Degree for the driver of the four-wheeler and the remaining two juveniles for Criminal Mischief in the Fifth Degree. The second juvenile was remanded to the Nome Youth Facility for False Information or Report and Probation Violation. The four-wheeler was returned to the owner once identified.  
05:53 am, NPD Officers were dispatched to a residence on the west side of town for a reported noise disturbance. Upon arrival on scene, no persons were observed inside and no noise was heard coming from inside the home. A resident of the home was later contacted, interviewed and found to be the victim of an assault. A suspect has been identified and the investigation is ongoing.  
09:11 am, NPD responded to the Norton Sound Regional Hospital for the report of an assault that had occurred earlier that morning. Further investigation revealed that Craig Weston had assaulted a member of the household and was subsequently arrested and remanded to AMCC for Assault in the Third Degree, DV, where he was held without bail.  
05:04 pm, NPD received a report from a resident on the east side of town stating that an unknown person had entered the unlocked residence and had ransacked the residence. The reporting party later called back with the suspect's name and a list of items missing. The investigation is ongoing.  
06:06 pm, Nome Police Department received a report of a missing wallet that had since been recovered, with the exception of \$1,000.00 cash. A suspect has been identified and the investigation is ongoing.  
06:51 pm, Officers were dispatched to a business on the west side of town for the report of an irate customer that was refusing to leave after being asked multiple times, prompting a call to the Nome Police Department. Upon arrival, the employee identified the suspect, who had already fled the scene. The suspect was later contacted and warned for Criminal Trespass. No further action was necessary.  
09:04 pm, a Good Samaritan turned in a cell phone found on the west side of town. The owner was notified and came to pick up his phone shortly thereafter.

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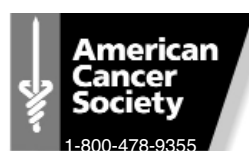
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Photo by Jeff Erickson

**LET THE GAMES BEGIN—** From April 16 through 18 NYO athletes gathered for the State NYO Games Alaska in UAA's Alaska Airlines Center for the annual state NYO competition.

# Campbell and Ivanoff earn gold medals for BSSD at state NYO

By Keith Conger

The Bering Strait School District brought a team of 15 competitors to the 45th annual NYO Games Alaska, held at the University of Alaska Anchorage's Alaska Airlines Center on April 16-18.

According to results on Cook Inlet Tribal Council Inc.'s 2015 NYO Games Alaska website, two Bering Strait School District NYO team members earned gold medals, and were crowned as repeat state champions.

Gambell's Apaay Campbell was the gold medal winner for the BSSD in the kneel jump with a distance of 55 ¼ inches. She is the current world record holder in the event, and her 2015 distance was only one-quarter inch off the 55 ½ inches mark she posted in 2013. Campbell has dominated the event in the years she has competed at state. According to BSSD Athletic director Jeff Erickson, Campbell won her first gold medal in the event as a seventh grader, and has won six straight state titles, a feat no other NYO athlete has ever performed.

Makiyan Ivanoff from Unalakleet won his second gold medal in as many years in the crowd-pleasing One-Foot High Kick event. Ivanoff matched the height of 110 inches that he attained in Brevig Mission the week before. He was four inches off the state record of 114 inches. He

bettered his 2014 gold winning jump of 107 inches.

Ivanoff's BSSD team member Cameron Okbaok of Teller earned the bronze medal in the One-Foot High Kick with a jump of 106 inches. He placed fourth in the event in 2014.

Ivanoff led the BSSD squad with three top-5 finishes. He added two fourth place medals to his gold medal in the One-Foot. Each of his fourth place finishes came within two inches of gold medals. In the Alaskan High Kick, Ivanoff extended to 87 inches. The gold medal went to Kim Gumera of Unalaska at 89 inches. Ivanoff stretched to a height of 62 inches in the One-Hand Reach. The winner of that event was Joseph Panruk at 64 inches. Panruk represented the Lower Kuskokwim School District, or LKSD.

Okbaok walked away from the games with two medals. He added a silver medal in the Toe Kick to his bronze medal in the One-Foot. His touch of 80 inches in the Toe Kick was four inches off the first place mark set by Isaiah Charles of LKSD. Okbaok also took second place in the event in 2014.

Eric Fitka of Saint Michael brought home a top-5 finish for the BSSD squad in the Indian Stick Pull. The gold medal winner in the event was Rodney Dock of LKSD.

Ivanoff was also awarded the

male Sportsmanship Award. BSSD coach Nick Hanson, from Unalakleet, was honored with the Healthy Coach Award.

According to Jeff Erickson, school districts are allowed to send NYO teams that are determined by each district. The BSSD participants were established at a district meet in Brevig Mission on April 9-11. Erickson stated that the BSSD traveling team is selected from the first place finishers in each of the 10 district meet events. This year there were enough competitors that the BSSD could form A and B squads for the state meet, which allowed them to enter two boys and two girls in each contest.

Other BSSD competitors were Jazzlyn Garnie, Grace Ongtowsruk, Isaac Okleasik and Amber Okleasik of Teller, Allie Ivanoff, Talon Erickson and Jayden Wilson of Unalakleet, Chelsea Fagerstrom of Golovin, Isaiah Saccheus of Elim, Tyler Takak of Shaktoolik and Helen Bruns of Brevig Mission.

The games were hosted by Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc.

CITC is the nonprofit social service agency for Cook Inlet Region Inc. It has hosted the games since 1986. At the time of this writing, the CITC website was listing the results as unofficial.

# Nome Native Youth Olympics team competes at state meet

By Keith Conger

The Nome Native Youth Olympics team brought a crew of nine competitors to the 2015 NYO Games held in Anchorage on April 16-18. The three-day competition, which used to be called simply the Native Youth Olympics, took place at the University of Alaska Anchorage's new Alaska Airlines Center.

Nome NYO head coach Hank Irelan said he and assistant coach Marjorie Tahbone selected the squad from team members who participated in the Nome Native Games Extravaganza, held on April 9-11.

Timothy James was Nome's lone High School boys competitor, taking part in four events. He reached the height of 86 inches in the Two-Foot High Kick. Irelan said the jump was a personal best for James, topping his old mark by 12 inches. James was only two inches off the fifth place height of 88 inches. According to the Alaska Native Knowledge Network website, this game came about as a way to honor hunters who used a two-foot kick to signal an unsuccessful hunt.

James jumped to a height of 92 inches in the One-Foot High Kick. Traditionally, a successful hunter would signal the village from a distance with a one-foot kick.

In his third event, James was able to out-pull an opponent three times in the Indian Stick Pull. According to

the CITC website, the greased stick is said to simulate a slippery salmon.

James' final contest was the Seal Hop. He hopped a distance of 88 feet in the event that was designed to imitate a seal moving on the ice.

Kimberly Clark jumped 41 ¾ inches in the kneel jump, a game that was historically designed to strengthen legs for jumping between ice flows. While her distance was two inches further than her 2013 fourth place state meet distance, Clark missed a top-5 spot by only one inch this year.

Ivory Okleasik jumped to a height of 66 inches in the girls Two-Foot High Kick event. This distance was just four inches off the fifth-place finish. She kicked the suspended ball at a height of 74 inches in the One-Foot High Kick. Okleasik was able to move a stick 54 inches from the line in the Toe Kick, the game that mimics hunters moving from ice patch to ice patch.

Madison Johnson was twice able to pull the slippery stick from her opponent in the Indian Stick Pull.

Kalani Suemai won several bouts in the Eskimo Stick Pull, a game originally designed to prepare muscles for pulling a seal out of the ice.

Nome entered a team of girls in the Seal Hop. Ashleigh Minix and Anna Peterson carried Abby Tozier 35 feet. Irelan noted that Calvin Bell's 2009 state seal hop record of 171 feet, 5 inches was broken on Sat-

urday. The new state record of 188 feet now belongs to Sigfurd Dock of the Lower Kuskokwim School District.




Photo by Jeff Erickson

**HAND STAND—** Unalakleet's Makiyan Ivanoff extends in the Alaskan High Kick at the 2015 NYO Games Alaska meet in Anchorage last weekend. Ivanoff took fourth place in the event. He was the gold medal winner in the One-Foot High Kick.



Photo by Jeff Erickson

**GOLDEN GIRL —** Apaay Campbell from Gambell takes the gold medal in the Kneel Jump at the 2015 NYO Games Alaska meet in Anchorage this weekend. Campbell's jump was only one-quarter inch off her own world record. She is the first athlete to win a gold medal in the same event six years in a row.



We would like to thank the following for making it possible for us to participate in the **2015 Herbert Nayokpuk, “The Shishmaref Cannonball” Annual Spring Carnival Race:**

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- Jeffery Nayokpuk
- Glenn Nayokpuk
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- SDMA for putting on the race
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**Thank you and see you next year.**

**Nils and Lizzy Hahn  
Diana Haecker**

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