

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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

Employment

Real Estate

Seeking Qualified Applicants



NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION

In Nome

Behavioral Health Services: Recovery Coach - Provide guidance and motivation to community members as they work toward their goals of a healthy lifestyle.

Dental: Dental Assistant Trainee, I, II or III -

Laboratory: Medical Laboratory Technician - Performing sample collection while providing a pleasant patient experience and quality specimens to the laboratory.
Phlebotomist Uncertified

Materials Management: Materials Support Technician ensure receipt, storage and distribution of all materials delivered to the materials management Department by various vendors.

Nutrition Services: Relief Food Service Worker and Cook provides customer service in the cafeteria accepting payments from customers.

Patient Financial Services: Health Information Technicians, Patient Account Representatives, and a Business Office Trainer. Performs financial support in billing, filing, handling records, and more.

Patient Hostel: FT Manager of Patient Hostel - by directing assigned employees, demonstrating leadership, providing work direction, motivation, training, assistance and performance evaluations.

Plant Operations: FT Maintenance Engineer I provides skilled maintenance and complex repair work on the physical plant, hospital, campus grounds, and limited medical and non-medical equipment.

Summercise Assistant: Ages 14+ \$16.00/hour. Call soon to apply.

In Our Village Communities:

Certified Medical Assistant:
Unalakleet FT
CHAP Supervisor Instructor
- In Region

Community Health Aide Positions:
2 Elim (PT625)
1 Golovin (PT625)
2 Koyuk (PT75)
2 Little Diomed (PT625, PT75)
3 Stebbins (PT625, PT75)
1 Unalakleet (PT75)
1 Wales (PT75)
1 White Mountain (PT625)

Certified Travel Specialist
Elim - Relief
Koyuk - Relief
Little Diomed - PT85
Shaktolik - Relief
Shishmaref - Relief
Savoonga - Relief

Clinic Maint. Tech
Little Diomed FT
Elim FT

EVS
1 Elim PT50
1 Golovin Relief
2 Koyuk PT, Rel
2 Little Diomed PT50, Rel
1 Savoonga Relief
1 Shishmaref Relief
1 St. Michael Relief
1 Stebbins Relief
1 Wales PT50
2 White Mountain PT50, Rel

Village Based Counselor:
White Mountain PT625

Dental
Dental Assistant Trainee or I
- Savoonga FT
Dental Assistant Trainee
- Unalakleet FT

For more information or an up-to-date vacancy list, go to www.NortonSoundHealth.org or contact Human Resources at (907) 443-4573

NSHC is a drug-free workplace and will apply Alaska Native/American Indian preference for hire (under PL 93-638 and Veteran Preferences). NSHC will also initiate a criminal history/background check for all positions.

Retail / Office /Storage Space Available in Nome on Front Street

Small Office Suites starting at \$585/month

Front Properties LLC is offering space in the building to suit your needs

Front Properties has heated dry storage spaces and office space for rent, starting at \$585.00/month. Prices vary dependent on length of lease and size of space but are very reasonable. The location is the Nome Federal Building (Post Office and Court House).

For more information contact Chad Myers (907)715-4230 or Thomas Vaden (907)952-1000

Coming available soon retail and office space on the Second Floor next to Post Office, suite size from 234 rsf - 7,000+ rsf, street views and ocean views. This is a great opportunity to start your business in a perfect location that everyone comes to.

JOB OPENINGS

The Nome School District is hiring for an experienced and skilled **Maintenance Technician III** to join and support their team. Interested applicants should have knowledge of HVAC systems, electrical systems, plumbing oil fired boilers, hydronic water systems. Basic computer skills with Gmail, Google Suites and Microsoft Office applications required. Starting rate of pay is \$30.00/hr plus benefits. To apply, visit: nmsusa.com/employment (Job ID# **NOM00188**). For more information, contact John Mortensen, Facilities Director, at (907) 244-4121 or John.Mortensen@nmsusa.com.



JOB OPENINGS

NMS is seeking to hire an experienced **Janitorial Supervisor** to join the Nome Public Schools team. Starting rate of pay is \$28.00/hr plus a competitive benefits package. Minimum job requirements are as follows:

- Must have at least three (3) years of directly related experience and supervision of employees
- Basic computer skills with Google Suites, Microsoft Suite applications, and email.
- A valid Driver's License and an acceptable driving record for the past three (3) years.

Apply today and start your new career by visiting: nmsusa.com/employment (JOB ID **NOM00184**). For more information, contact John Mortensen, Facilities Director, at (907) 244-4121 or John.Mortensen@nmsusa.com



Advertise with us

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

Classifieds

WANTED—Large bull muskox horn, moose/caribou antler, old ivory, Eskimo artifacts. Call Roger 304-1048 or email nomerog@hotmail.com

WANTED – Mark Knapp at The Cutting Edge in Fairbanks is buying legal ancient walrus ivory, musk ox horn, mammoth ivory and teeth. Very good prices. 907-452-7477. Knapp's Cutting

Edge 1971 Fox Ave Fairbanks AK 99701. cuttingedge@gci.net

Legals

CITY OF NOME PUBLIC NOTICE

O-20-06-01 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome General Fund Municipal Budget and Exercising the Power to Assess and Authorize the Levy of a General Property Tax

O-20-06-02 An Ordinance the Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome School Debt Service Fund Budget

O-20-06-03 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome Special Revenue Fund Budget

O-20-06-04 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget

O-20-06-05 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome Construction Capital Projects Fund Budget

O-20-06-06 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome Port of Nome Fund Budget

O-20-06-07 An Ordinance to Establish, Approve, and Adopt the FY 2021 City of Nome Port of Nome Capital Projects Fund Budget

The ordinances had first reading at the rescheduled regular meeting of the Nome City Council on May 26, 2020 and were advanced to second reading/public hearing/final passage at the regular meeting of **June 8, 2020**. The meeting will take place in Council Chambers of City Hall, located at 102 Division Street. Copies of all ordinances are available in the Office of the City Clerk.

5.28, 6.4.2020

PUBLIC HEARING

THE NOME PLANNING COMMISSION WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING DURING A REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2020 AT 7:00 P.M. IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
RE: VARIANCE APPLICATION BY CITY OF NOME FOR
DARRIN OTTON
BLOCK 96 LOT 7 NORTH HALF
THE REQUEST IS FOR A VARIANCE FOR LOT SIZE.

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

5.28

Carpenters needed for residential remodel and repairs in St Michael, AK
The Bering Strait School District (BSSD) has a teacher housing 5-plex, duplex and small house requiring general carpentry skills over the summer, 2020. Work involves: roofing repair, resetting windows and flashing, drywall repair, replacing carpeting, flooring, painting and installing drop ceiling. Materials will be provided by BSSD. Pay and method of pay will be negotiated. A small group of 2-3 skilled general carpenters is preferred. This carpentry work will take place over the summer of 2020.

If interested and for more details contact:
Bering Strait School District
Gary Eckenweiler, Director of Facilities
907 624-4249 geckenweiler@gmail.com
5.21-29.2020

Court

Week ending 5/22/2020

Civil

No current civil cases on web site; start 2NO-20-00135CI

Small Claims

No current cases filed on website; start 2NO-20-00006SC

Criminal

State of Alaska v. Bert Weeksuk Iyatunguk (12/26/88); Assault 4; DV; Date of Violation: 9/14/19; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; 45 days, 45 days suspended; Police Training Surcharge due; No Contact, effectively immediately, until unconditional discharge, no direct or indirect contact with Jackie Eningowuk without her consent; Probation until 5/19/21; Shall comply with all court orders by the deadlines stated; Shall obey all state, federal and local laws and ordinances.

State of Alaska v. Chantal Ruby Starr (12/6/99); 2NO-20-131CR Dismissal; Count I: Criminal Trespass 1°; Filed by the DAs Office 5/19/20.

State of Alaska v. Chantal Starr (12/6/99): 2NO-20-149CR Count 001: Assault 4; Date of Violation: 3/28/20; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; Counts Dismissed: 002; 30 days, 10 days suspended; Unsuspended 20 days shall be served with defendant remanded immediately to AMCC; Initial and Suspended Jail, and Police Training, Surcharges due; No Contact, effectively immediately, until unconditional discharge, no direct or indirect contact with Eugene Fenton without consent; Probation until 5/19/21; Shall obey all state, federal and local laws and ordinances.

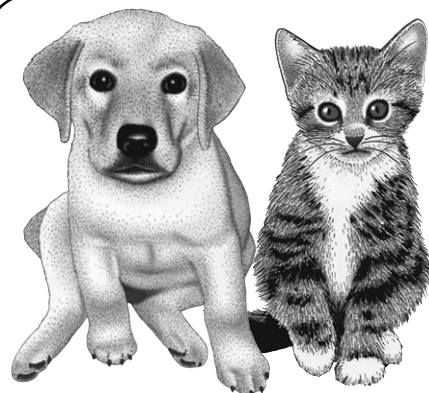
State of Alaska v. Chantal Ruby Starr (12/6/99); 2NO-20-169CR Dismissal; Count I: Criminal Trespass 2°; Count II: Violation Of Conditions Of Release; Count III: Disorderly Conduct; Filed by the DAs Office 5/19/20.

State of Alaska v. Chantal Starr (12/6/99); 2NO-20-230CR Count 001: Violating Conditions of Release; DV; Date of Violation: 5/3/20; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; CTNs Dismissed: 002, 003; 5 days, 0 days suspended; Unsuspended 5 days shall be served with defendant remanded immediately to AMCC; Police Training Surcharge due.

State of Alaska v. Chantal Ruby Starr (12/6/99); 2NO-20-239CR Dismissal;

Count I: Assault 3°; Count II, III, IV, V: Violation Of Conditions Of Release; Filed by the DAs Office 5/19/20.

State of Alaska v. Bessie Stalker (6/9/90); CTN 001: Disorderly Conduct; Date of Violation: 1/28/20; Any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; CTNs Dismissed: 002; 10 days, 10 days suspended; Suspended Jail, and Police Training, Surcharges due; Probation until 5/20/21; Shall obey all state, federal and local laws and ordinances.



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

Seawall

Nome Police Department activities reported between Mai 18, 2020 – May 24, 2020. During this period there were 375 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center; 127 (33%) of these calls involved alcohol. The Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department responded to 12 ambulance calls. The Nome Volunteer Fire Department responded to no fire call during this period.

NPD responded to 8 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. Nobody was remanded to AMCC as protective holds; and nobody remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

NPD issued four citations for minor consuming alcohol, two curfew violations and one violation of “unattended animal”.

Arrests
A total of 55 arrests and charges made with 51 (92%) alcohol related.

Monday, May 18, 2020
Charges: Two counts of Violation conditions of release. Name: Anna Burmeister. Location: E. 4th Ave.
Charges: Violation conditions of release. Name: Isaiah Ahkvaluk. Location: River St.
Charges: Two counts violation of conditions of release, probation violation. Name: Agnes Etageak. Location: W. 2nd Ave.
Charge: Criminal trespass, second degree. Name: Reva Boolowon. Location: Seppala Rd.
Charges: Two counts violation conditions of release. Name: Wayne Penayah. Location: Front Street.
Charges: Criminal Trespass first degree, DV; Violation of conditions of release. Name: Trevor Green. Location: K Street.
Charges: Criminal Trespass first degree, two counts violation conditions of release, two counts probation violation. Name: Christopher Gandia. Location: K Street.
Charges: Criminal Trespass first degree, violation of conditions of release. Name: Minor. Location: K Street.
Charge: Assault in the fourth degree. Name: Dinah Toolie. Location: Greg Kruschek Ave.

Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Charges: Driving under the influence, two counts of reckless endangerment. Name: Molly Clausen. Location: W. Front Street.
Charges: Two counts of violating conditions of release. Name: Duane Johnson. Location: E. G Street.
Charges: Criminal mischief fourth degree, DV; Violating conditions of release. Name: Cory Wells. Location: E. H Street.
Charges: Harassment second degree, Violating conditions of release, Probation violation. Name: Michael Walker. Location: E. 6th Ave.
Charge: Violating conditions of release. Name: Daniel Ahmasuk. Location: E. 3rd Avenue.
Charges: Two counts violating conditions of release, probation violation. Name: Agnes Etageak. Location: W. 2nd Ave.
Charge: Criminal trespass in the first degree. Name: Ryan Okleasik. Location: Lomen Ave.
Charges: Burglary in the first degree, Criminal trespass in the first degree, Criminal mischief in the third degree. Name: Lori Van Dyke. Location: Lomen Ave.
Charge: Endangering welfare of a child, second

degree. Name: Darryl Aukon. Location: E. 3rd Ave.
Charge: Endangering welfare of a child, second degree. Name: Justina Adams. Location: E. 3rd Ave.
Charge: Impersonating a public servant, second degree. Name: Daniel Angusuc. Location: Front Street.
Wednesday, May 20, 2020
Charge: Assault in the fourth degree, DV; violating conditions of release. Name: Gabriel Muktoyuk. Location: Moore Way.
Friday, May 22, 2020
Charge: Warrant arrest. Name: Cory Wells. Location: E. H Street.
Charges: Two counts violation conditions of release; probation violation. Name: Alexandria Okpealuk. Location: W. Front Street.
Charges: Two counts violation conditions of release. Name: Duane Johnson. Location: E. G Street.
Charge: Assault in the fourth degree, DV. Name: Kristian Ahwinona-Smith. Location: W. 2nd Avenue.
Saturday, May 23, 2020
Charges: Sexual assault in the first degree, DV; Assault fourth degree, DV; Criminal mischief fourth degree; Interfering with a report of a crime involving domestic violence. Name: Darryl Aukon. Location: E 3rd Ave.
Charges: Assault in the fourth degree, DV; Cruelty to animals, DV. Name: Annie Sockpick.
Charges: Assault in the fourth degree, DV; Criminal mischief in the fourth degree, DV. Name: Minor. Location: Moore Way.

Traffic
A total of 6 traffic stops were conducted during this reporting period. NPD responded to no report of a Motor Vehicle Accident during this reporting period.
Tuesday, May 19, 2020
Offense: Speeding (more than 20 mph), Operating ATV without license. Name: Michael Castel. Location: Nome-Council Highway.
Wednesday, May 20, 2020
Offense: Failure to yield for an emergency vehicle. Name: James Mason. Location: Nome-Teller Highway.
Thursday, May 21, 2020
Offense: Driving while license suspended/cancelled/revoked. Name: Richard Thompson. Location: Bering St.
Friday, May 22, 2020
Offense: Driving while license suspended/cancelled/revoked; Proof of insurance to be carried on demand; Fail to carry vehicle registration. Name: John Culp.
Sunday, May 24, 2020
Offense: Proof of insurance to be carried on demand. Name: Chase Kowchee. Location: Nathan Barron Alley.

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

Koyuk Native Corporation
P.O. Box 53050
Koyuk, ALASKA 99753
Office (907) 963-2424 Fax: 963-3552
knoyn2015@outlook.com



ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS
POSTPONED

The May 7, 2020 Koyuk Native Corporation Annual Shareholder meeting at the Koyuk School has been postponed until July 7, 2020. Koyuk Malemute School doors open @ 10:00AM, meeting scheduled to start by 12:00PM.

Attention Nome Eskimo Community Tribal Members



The NEC Tribal Council would like to invite NEC Tribal Members to provide input on using NEC's CARES Act Funding. We are hosting a series of listening sessions to collect your input. Listening sessions will be held on:

Thursday, May 28 12:00PM
Tuesday, June 9 12:00PM
Wednesday, June 3 6:00PM
Monday, June 15 6:00PM

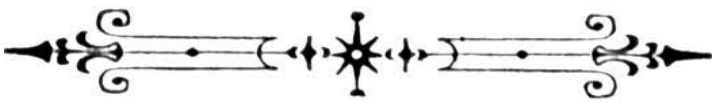
Meetings will be held at Trigg Hall located at 200 West 5th Ave however we will have to limit the amount of attendees due to health concerns or you can join the meeting by phone: 1-800-315-6338 CODE: 33156. You are also welcome to submit written comments to covid.relief@necalaska.org.

NEC is also seeking up to 2 interested Tribal Members to participate in the CARES Act Planning Committee. Interested applicants must meet NEC Tribal Council Candidacy qualifications: 1. Enrolled member of NEC; 2. At least 21 years old; 3. Must not have any substantiated child protective history 4. No felony convictions and no more than two misdemeanor convictions; and 5. Reside in the vicinity of the City of Nome for the last year. To apply submit a detailed resume and a cover letter that describes your interest and qualifications to information@necalaska.org. Deadline to apply is 5PM June 19, 2020.

Your input is important to us. Please contact call 907-443-2246 or email us at information@necalaska.org if you have any questions.

Trooper Beat

C Detachment, Nome Post; No news reported (5/18-22/2020)



•Seppala’s house

continued from page 15

is recognized as the founder of the Siberian husky breed in the English-speaking world. When the 1925 diphtheria epidemic hit Nome, Seppala was one of the mushers on the serum run, a relay of dog teams to deliver the medicine from Nenana to Nome. The serum run is memorialized in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, which commemorates the mushers who saved Nome. Seppala went on to participate in the Olympic Games in 1932 where mushing was a demonstration event. After the serum run Seppala moved to Fairbanks and never returned to Nome.
“The old pictures of Leonhard Seppala show the house. He did live there at one time,” said Patrick Krier.
The big obstacle is funding to rebuild the house and to find a lot to set it on. “It is estimated that restoring this building could run up as high as \$100,000,” said Trish Neal of AAHP. “Right now our funds are under \$3,000.”
The Nome Kennel Club donated money for Lenharr to form a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the house. Lenharr

says he is looking for a certified Nome contractor to give an estimate of cost of materials and labor. Those costs might be as high as \$100,000 in the Lower 48, but construction costs in Nome are a lot higher. “To rebuild a structure identical to the Seppala House and using as much of the salvageable material from the original as much as possible” is Lenharr’s objective. He is also hoping to find an architect to do a design plan of the house from what is there and from the photos posted on the Seppala House website.
On Lenharr’s Facebook page dedicated to the Seppala house he lists donations coming from around the country to support his efforts. Apart from the Nome Kennel Club donation, there are no donations from Nome. But there are a number of donations from Siberian husky clubs around the country. To the Siberian owners Nome is hallowed ground.
“Nome played an important role in dog mushing,” Lenharr said. “It was here that long distance sled dog racing was born. His home was a historical part of Nome, and it is my intent to preserve it, with the good folks of Nome’s help.”

Photo by Nils Hahn
FIXER UPPER (photo right) — The building is in pretty rough shape.

TO: General Public
FROM: Sitnasuak Native Corporation Land Department
SUBJECT: 24’ X 34’ Building/Structure for sale as is, where is by sealed bid
BID DEADLINE: June 15, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. AKDT



Sitnasuak Native Corporation (SNC) is selling one used 24’ x 34’ wood building/structure “AS IS, WHERE IS, WITH ALL FAULTS AND DEFECTS AND NO WARRANTIES EXPRESS OR IMPLIED” (located at 702 East 1st Avenue in Nome, Alaska). Land is not included in the sale.

Offers for the building/structure are invited from the public and are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “Bid: Structure 702 East 1st Avenue.” Only those offers or bids received on or before June 8, 2020 by 4:00 p.m. AKDT will be considered. The minimum bid for the structure is \$3,000.00 (USD). SNC Shareholders will be given a preference of ten percent in their bid amount.

Sealed bids shall be submitted to SNC by (a) delivering to the secure drop-box located in the lobby area at SNC offices located at 214 Front Street, 2nd Floor, Nome, Alaska; or (b) mailing to SNC, Attention Land Department, PO Box 905, Nome, AK 99762 (note mailed bids must be received, not postmarked, by the deadline).

Bids will be opened by SNC personnel on June 16, 2020. The winning bid is due and payable to SNC in cash or cashier’s check no later than 4:00 p.m. AKDT on June 19, 2020.

The successful bidder is responsible for removing the building/structure from the site within 30 calendar days from the date of awarded bid and will be responsible for any damages caused while removing the building/structure. If a bidder fails to remove within the required timeframe, the bid awarded will be revoked and another bidder will be awarded. In such event, SNC in its sole discretion may refund all or part of the bid. Bid award is made in the sole discretion of SNC and not subject to appeal and SNC may change the terms of this sale at any time and for any reason. Transfer by Bill of Sale.

Please call SNC Land Department at (907) 387-1220 for information, inquiry and/or an appointment to view.

LOCATION	GENERAL DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID	PHOTO
702 East 1st Ave., Nome, AK	24’ X 34’ building/structure	\$3,000.00	YES





Photo by Nikolai Ivanoff

SAFETY SOUND— Countless swans and other waterfowl can be seen in the Safety Sound area.

Fish Factor: Fishermen give guidance on virus relief funds, Kelp farms sprout, Halibut scholarships

By Laine Welch

A rapid response by nearly 800 Alaska fishermen will provide a guideline for giving them a hand up as the coronavirus swamps their operations. An online survey from April 14 to May 3 by Juneau-based nonprofit SalmonState asked fishermen about their primary concerns both before the Covid outbreak and in the midst of the pandemic in April. It also asked what elected officials at local, state and federal levels can do to help them directly. Over half of the 817 responses came in over four days, said Tyson Fick, Salmon State communications adviser. “Clearly, people were interested to have their stories heard and to weigh in. In several ways we feel like we had a very broad swath of regions and gear types and fishermen,” he said.

A total of 779 responses (95 percent) were accepted of which 50 percent were Alaska residents, 28 percent were from the Lower 48, and 22 percent did not provide resident information.

Nearly 95 percent said they participate in a salmon fishery, with the majority fishing for both salmon and a mix of nearly all other species commercially harvested in Alaska.

Some takeaways:

Prior to Covid, the top three concerns among fishermen were fish prices (65 percent), the Pebble Mine (60 percent), and climate change (53 percent).

After Covid hit, concerns shifted to loss of income (75 percent), preventing the spread in coastal communities (69 percent), and bad policy decisions being made while fishermen are distracted (58 percent).

Fishermen are combatting the negative impacts by using a combination of strategies while doing more work with less time and resources. Over half said they would look for non-fishing related work, 27 percent said they would fish a longer season, and 26 percent plan to fish with fewer crew. Nearly a quarter expect to venture into direct marketing or increase dock sales. Just over 4 percent said they would sell their fishing businesses.

By far, affected fishermen said giving them direct payments from emergency relief funds would be the biggest help (82.73 percent). The second and third most popular options were favorable debt consolidation opportunities (33.25 percent) and debt forgiveness (28.61 percent).

Fishermen provided thoughtful responses when asked about actions of policy makers that revealed several themes.

At both the congressional and state levels, stopping the Pebble Mine was the most frequent request, at 24 percent and 18 percent, respectively; keeping fisheries open also was a top issue.

For Governor Dunleavy and the Alaska legislature, respondents said they should focus on Covid-related health and safety support for fisher-

men and provide help with marketing. Fishermen also shared their perceptions of the Dunleavy administration, saying it favors other interests over commercial fishermen, naming mining, oil and gas, sport and personal use fishing.

At the local level, fishermen expressed confusion over unclear guidelines for following local health mandates and suggested that signs at airports and boatyards along with a one-page guidance document would be helpful. They also mentioned that local communities should do all they can to support processors and their workforce. Fishermen also shared ideas on local taxes and harbor fees, and changing infrastructure to include things like cold storages in recognition of dynamic market patterns.

Less than half of the fishermen respondents are members of a commercial fishing organization or trade association and the survey brings their voices into the conversation, said Fick. “These are frontline workers, small business owners who are pretty tight lipped and they don’t have fancy spokespersons or lobbyists speaking on their behalf. So they often just get left out,” he added. The goal now is to get the goods into the hands of those making the decisions on how COVID relief funds are spent and invested.

“Our commitment was to help get these results to decision makers on behalf of fishermen,” said Lind-

sey Bloom, SalmonState campaign strategist. “We will do our best to get the information out as far as wide as possible for the fleet.”

The fishermen’s survey is a project of the group’s Salmon Habitat Information Program. Find it at www.alaskasalmonhabitat.org

Kelp farms sprout!

Interest continues to grow for startups of shellfish and seaweed farms - and in more remote regions of Alaska.

Eighteen growers put in applications for new or modified farms in the 2020 time slot that runs from January through April, an increase of three from last year. Fifteen plan to grow kelp only, two aim to grow oysters, and one will farm kelp and geoduck clams.

Most of Alaska’s growing operations occur in Southeast, near Homer and at Prince William Sound, but the trend is heading west, said Karen Cougan, Aquatic Farming Program Coordinator for the state Dept. of Natural Resources, which leases the farm tidelands. Kodiak pioneered the first kelp harvests in 2017 and could soon have more than five farms operating around the island, including one by the Afognak Native Corporation.

Sand Point is the first to grow kelp on the Alaska Peninsula, and this year an application came in from Adak. In all, Alaska has 70 open farm permits, which include eight

with nurseries and five hatcheries to provide seed stock to aquatic farmers. In 2019, Pacific oysters were the biggest crop, making up 95 percent of sales of \$1.5 million, up slightly from the 10 year average.

For sugar and ribbon kelp, a crop of 112,000 pounds - up from about 17,000 pounds two years ago - was valued at \$60,000.

The advantage of kelp is the short grow-out time, said Flip Pryor, Aquaculture Section Chief for the Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, which issues the permits. “While interest is high, kelp farming production is just starting to come online,” Pryor said. “The growing process is pretty straight forward, but it sometimes takes a couple of tries to work the proverbial bugs out of each farm site. I expect to see that value increase significantly in the next couple of years.”

Alaska’s mariculture task force predicts a \$100 million industry by the year 2040.

Halibut scholarships

High school students who feel a special pull for halibut might merit a scholarship to a university or technical college.

Every two years the International Pacific Halibut Commission funds several \$4,000 scholarships to U.S. and Canadian students connected to the halibut fishery. The IPHC and its scientists have been stewards of the Pacific stock from British Columbia

to the Bering Sea since 1923.

“If I was to highlight some of the candidates who’ve been successful in receiving the scholarship, it’s been those who are dependents of active fishers within the directed Pacific halibut fleets, but we will certainly consider others if they are involved in charter or recreational fishing,” said David Wilson, IPHC executive director. “We look at candidates from a broad spectrum of backgrounds, and somebody who expresses the desire or is more likely to come back to the industry postgraduate.”

The scholarships are renewable annually for the normal four-year period of undergraduate education.

The IPHC also offers other outreach teaching tools for all school ages. An Ocean Literacy Program package is downloadable, including lesson plans. And the colorful Flat or Fiction booklet is a keeper for any halibut lover!

For example, did you know that the treaty that formed the IPHC was the first international treaty in the world for the protection of a marine resource?

Back to the halibut scholarships: they will be available for school entrance or continuation this fall. Deadline to apply is June 30. Find applications at the IPHC website under opportunities. Questions? Contact secretariat@iphc.int or 206-634-1838.

