

# Uqaaqtuaq News

KAWERAK, INC., UAF NORTHWEST CAMPUS, AND OTHERS WITH NEWS FROM THE BERING STRAIT REGION

"Uqaaqtuaq," for experience, happening, history, true story

FALL 2009 ISSUE

## Ties that Bind Project connects to Provideniya

by Eva Menadelook, Eskimo Heritage Program Specialist



Provideniya dancers performing at the Old Village of Avan with a backdrop of rolling fog. Photo by Colleen Reynolds, EHP Program Director.

Colleen Reynolds and I traveled to Provideniya August 4-11, 2009 to interview Russian Native elders who have relatives at Little Diomed and Wales. This project is titled "Ties That Bind" and is funded by the National Park Service. The goal is to reestablish the ties between Big Diomed and Little Diomed that were broken during World War II.

We visited the Provideniya Museum that held species of native birds, sea life and land mammals; Chukchi clothing made from reindeer, walrus and ugruk intestines and seal skins; an original skin tent constructed from reindeer hides, hundreds of implements used for cooking, hunting and daily living from the days of old and exquisite hand sewn crafts created by locals.

One evening Ainana, with the Chukchi Yupik Society invited us to dinner and we were also graced with Native songs and dance by local residents which went late into the evening.

*Continued on Page 7, Ties That Bind*

## CENSUS 2010 It's just around the corner.

The Census is conducted every 10 years, it is your voice to let everyone know who you are and what you need. Census data will help determine the needs for schools, housing, roads and health care facilities. The 2010 Census is one of the shortest forms in history and will count everyone in the United States, including people of all ages, races and ethnic groups. By participating you speak for the generations of Native people who came before and for those who have yet to come.

The majority of households will receive a form by mail in March 2010. However, special procedures will be used in Alaska Native villages, and in other rural communities where homes do not have city-style addresses with a number and street name.

In these areas, members of the community working with the Census Bureau will visit homes to help you fill out the form and take an accurate count. They are only asking for a small amount of time, so please speak with them.

**Did you know there are only 10 questions to**

the Census 2010 questionnaire and one of the most important ones—which affects all that we do here at Kawerak is #9 What is your Race? (See sample question below) When

9. What is Person 1's race? Mark  one or more boxes.

White  
 Black, African Am., or Negro  
 American Indian or Alaska Native — Print name of enrolled or principal tribe

**N O M E E S K I M O C O M M U N I T Y**

Asian Indian  Japanese  Native Hawaiian  
 Chinese  Korean  Guamanian or Chamorro  
 Filipino  Vietnamese  Samoan  
 Other Asian — Print race, for example, Hmong, Laotian, Thai, Pakistani, Cambodian, and so on.   
 Other Pacific Islander — Print race, for example, Fijian, Tongan, and so on.   
 Some other race — Print race.

you mark the 3rd box down for American Indian or Alaska Native; you must also write in the name of your enrolled or principal tribe—not your regional, village corporation or ethnicity but the official name of the tribe you are enrolled to as recognized by BIA (see the official name of Bering Strait tribes in the box below). Alaska has 229 Tribes and just in this region alone we have 20 tribes.

It is very important that if the household is a mixed household that the minority person fill out the form in order to accurately count the

household.

For individuals of mixed race mark

American Indian or Alaska Native then

write the name of your tribe. If an individual marks Alaska Native and White on the questions #9, then the household will not be counted as Alaska Native.

**Who should fill out the Census form?**

The general rule is the head of the household should fill the form out. However there is a deviation to this general rule, when the head of the household may not be the person that needs to fill out the form.

One deviation is when the head of the household is not an Alaska Native (in such cases as mixed marriage by an Alaska Native woman



*Continued on Page 7, see Census 2010*

Official names of the 20 tribes in the Bering Strait Region as recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.  
 If you are not enrolled in a tribe, please put down your tribe of origin (mother or father's tribe).

Brevig Mission Traditional Council  
 Native Village of Council  
 Native Village of Diomed  
 Native Village of Elim

Native Village of Gambell  
 Chinik Eskimo Community  
 King Island Native Community  
 Native Village of Koyuk

Mary's Igloo Traditional Council  
 Nome Eskimo Community  
 Native Village of St. Michael  
 Native Village of Savoonga

Native Village of Shaktoolik  
 Native Village of Shishmaref  
 Village of Solomon  
 Stebbins Community Association

## Bering Strait Development Council receives ARDOR Financial Literacy Award

By Patrice Shook, Community and Planning Director

How can an area flourish unless each individual has the tools needed to grow economically? This is the logic the Bering Strait Development Council utilized to implement its Financial Development and Literacy Program and they just received an award for their efforts. The Council was awarded a plaque for its outstanding performance in the Economic Development Through Education Program. The State of Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development presented the award at the mid-year Alaska Regional Development Organizations (ARDOR) Conference July 30, 2009.

The Council received a grant from the US Treasury early this year to implement the program. The three goals of the program are: to expand personal and business financial education in the region; to increase the number of businesses and individuals utilizing modern banking opportunities; and to increase the potential for new and expanding businesses.

Lahka Peacock of Rural Credit Services is the sub-contractor in charge of instructing the classes. He has divided the curriculum into two parts. The first class starts with the basics such as budgeting, managing bank accounts and improving credit scores. The second class stresses alternative financial technologies. So far there have been 20 financial education workshops. The workshops have been held in Wales, Stebbins, St. Michael, Shaktoolik, Unalakleet, Shishmaref, Brevig Mission, Teller, White Mountain, Koyuk, Savoonga and Gambell. A total of 196 people have attended these

successful workshops. 15 new bank accounts were opened and 66 people reviewed their credit reports. Peacock states, "The workshops are not only a success in terms of the number of people that attend and the positive feedback we receive, but are a success because of what **we** receive from every village. Each attendee gives us new ideas on how to implement future financial education workshops. We realized that all residents of the Bering Strait Region want to be "healthy" and that being "financially healthy" is part of the region's overall health."



Koyuk Class

Our region has many communities that have no banking facilities. That is why alternative banking is so important. Direct deposit, online banking, PayPal and prepaid cards are several alternatives being explored in this course. Peacock further explains, "Traditional banking services are effective for a small population of Rural Alaska. Traditional banking has made efforts to serve those that do not have a brick and mortar bank located in their community with services such as online banking and direct deposit, but for a large population of rural Alaska these nuances of traditional banking

just do not work. Many times these services put people in poorer financial positions due to overdraft fees, account advances, etc."

Peacock believes that rural communities, whether it is Savoonga or a small town in Africa, can benefit from innovative non-traditional banking services that are currently in use or from new technologies on the horizon. Millions of people are without access to banking services due to their remoteness or their unfamiliarity with traditional banking services.

Prepaid card account technology is the fastest growing non-traditional banking service currently serving the unbanked and underbanked around the world. Prepaid banking, for most, is not a 100% replacement for traditional banking services, but is more of a stepping stone and educational tool. Many State and Federal agencies, such as unemployment, child support and Social Security are already seeing the benefit of prepaid card account services and are already offering clients the option to have their checks deposited into a prepaid card account

Peacock believes, "The primary advantages of prepaid banking for rural Alaska are: there is a set amount of money to spend so there are no costly overdraft fees, the cards are accepted anywhere Visa and MasterCard are, and the cards can be used to access cash. Village stores accept credit and debit cards and therefore have the ability to give cash back. In addition, some villages have ATMs and it is feasible that all villages could one day have ATMs."

Inside Uqaaqtuaq News	Page
BSLT meets with Governor Parnell	3
VPSO Program Spotlight	3
EHP: <i>Christmas in the Early Days</i>	4
Community Streets for Brevig Mission & Unalakleet	4
Kawerak Staff attend Beringia Conference in Anadyr	5
Documenting the Knowledge of King Island People	6
Ties that Bind Project continued from front page	7
Relatives from Russia reunite with family in Nome	7
UAF Northwest Campus Horizons	8 & 9
Kawerak Head Start awarded CDA credentials	10
NSEDC 2009 Community Energy Fund	10
Fall 2009 Kawerak Higher Ed & BSLT care packages	11
Kawerak Full Board Village Reports	12, 13 & 15
H.R. Employee of the Month June ~ September '09	14
Kawerak Summer Intern Program	14
Summer Intern gains scientific knowledge	14
Hospital Replacement Project begins Spring 2010	14
Savoonga School dedication and celebration	15
PICK CLICK GIVE PFD Charitable Contributions	15
BSRHA starts Weatherization Program	16



**VISION STATEMENT**

***"Building on the Inherent Strength of Our Cultural Values, We Shall Assist Our Tribes to Take Control of Their Future."***

In keeping with this Vision Statement, Kawerak is increasing training and technical assistance services to tribes.

Kawerak Divisions are:

- Community Services,
- Education, Employment & Training,
- Children and Family Services,
- Natural Resources and
- Transportation

SERVING THE VILLAGES OF:

BREVIK MISSION

COUNCIL

DIOMEDE

ELIM

GAMBELL

GOLOVIN

KING ISLAND

KOYUK

MARY'S IGLOO

NOME

SAVOONGA

SHAKTOOLIK

SHISHMAREF

SOLOMON

STEBBINS

ST. MICHAEL

TELLER

UNALAKLEET

WALES

WHITE MOUNTAIN

## Regional Leadership Team meets with Governor Parnell

by Loretta Bullard, President

The Bering Straits Leadership Team (BSLT) met with Governor Sean Parnell on November 10, 2009 in Nome. The BSLT consists of the Chairman and President/CEO of our regional entities (Bering Straits Native Corporation, Kawerak, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, UAF/North West Campus, Bering Strait Regional Housing Authority and Bering Straits School District. During the meeting, members shared with our new Governor, some of our regional issues for which we requested his assistance. We encouraged the Governor to:

- Direct the Alaska Department of Fish and Game to set aside funds for research and restoration activities within the Arctic Yukon Kuskokwim regions, so that our fish concerns and issues may be addressed;
- Create a State funded transportation program;
- Update the cost to construct for the Gambell Evacuation Road and fully fund the project;
- Provide funding so that VPSO holding cells and housing may be constructed in rural Alaska;
- Make State funding available to the Denali Commission so that needed infrastructure improvements in rural Alaska can continue to be addressed;
- Provide the required subsidy match so that Diomedes is able to have twice weekly passenger service in addition to the weekly mail run;
- Increase the size of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board and set aside a seat for representation from rural Alaska;
- Develop a comprehensive Statewide Strategy for Homeless people and substantially increase funding for inpatient alcohol treatment programs around the state; and
- Develop tax credit language whereby for profits entities can make donations to alcohol treatment centers and homeless shelters and raise the tax credit limit to a percentage of profit – (rather than a flat \$200,000 limit).

Norton Sound Health Corporation representatives shared their priorities which included requests for funding:

- To aid in planning a new Quyanna Care Facility (adjacent to the new hospital), an Assisted Long Term Care Facility and an Alcohol Residential Treatment Center/Detox Facility;
- To purchase fire fighting equipment and train volunteers;
- To hire 11 village based counselors;



Pictured from left, front row: Berda Wilson, Loretta Bullard and Melanie Edwards. Standing in back, from left: Jim Hickerson, Robert Keith, Roy Agloinga, Governor Sean Parnell, Simon Kineen, Dan Harrelson, Lee Haugen, Gerald Brown, Bob Mocan and Darlene Turner.

- To purchase patient transport vehicles and medical equipment for the villages; and
- To set up a cancer detection and treatment center at NSHC.

They also encouraged the Governor to make State funds available to:

- Conduct flooding and erosion studies and to construct projects to protect villages from erosion and flooding;
- Aid in the construction of a breakwater/runway for Little Diomedes;
- To address the unmet water, wastewater and solid waste needs in the region;
- To expand the VPSO program;
- To assist the villages in meeting the Operation & Maintenance costs for the village clinics; and
- To increase state funding to state grant programs to keep current with inflationary energy costs.

We also shared with Governor Parnell, the various village priorities as identified in the Local Economic Development Priority process. All in all, it was a great meeting with Governor Parnell. We will provide updates in the future to keep region residents informed of those areas in which Governor Parnell and his administration are able to assist.

## Village Public Safety Officer Program Spotlight

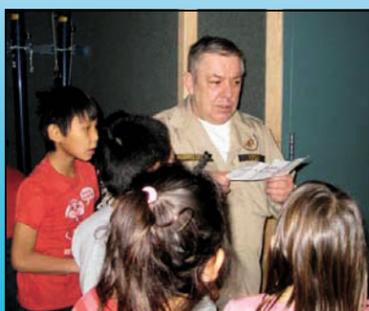
by Gina Appolloni, VPSO Director



Alaska State Trooper Perry Barr sent this in about VPSO Wilfred Olanna from Brevig Mission: "Olanna was assigned to be Sergeant at Arms for the entire 2009 AFN Convention. He completed his duties without complaint and looked darn sharp for the entire week. Olanna is a shining example of his personal dedication to the VPSO Program and his commitment to serve the rural residents of Alaska. A Job Well Done!"

**Thank you to the VPSOs in the Bering Strait Region for all that you do to keep our communities safe!**

- 1) Pictured to the left is VPSO Wilfred Olanna at Alaska Federation of Natives. Photo Anchorage Press.
- 2) Bottom left is White Mountain VPSO Dan Harrelson talking with kindergarten students.
- 3) 2nd photo from the left is Sgt. Leonard Wallner, VPSO training coordinator at the Elim Health Fair.
- 4) 3rd photo from the left is VPSO Gerald Otto at the Elim Health Fair talking with students.
- 5) 4th photo is VPSO Donald McKenzie from Unalakleet with U.S. Coast Guard personnel.



## Eskimo Heritage Program: *Christmas In The Early Days*

Interview with Henry Nashalook & Wassilie Eakon of Unalakleet

The people all over the world have their own holidays, even before civilization came. The civilization came with one of the holidays called "Christmas."

In coincidence, the people of Alaska and the people of Unalakleet celebrate their holiday on what they called "Midwinter Potlatch" which was celebrated for one whole week. A messenger was sent from a certain village to invite the people for a party and all kinds of activities were performed at the party; such as, dancing, singing, storytelling, gift exchange and feasting; very much similar to the Christmas season.

When Wassilie and I were growing up, his family would spend the winter up river and would come down for Christmas and they would usually stop and stay with us. So Wassilie and I used to have one full week of fun. Also, the Epukloaks and their family used to come down for the Christmas season.

We were always proud to wear new denim overalls and homemade flannel shirts. There was no electricity in those days, so candles were put on the Christmas tree and on the window sills. Some of the trees were also decorated with Christmas cards, but the "spirit" was much more than it is today because there was no whiskey, or wine to buy in those days, not even beer.



The men folks who were trapping and hunting used to come home two or three days before Christmas and in doing so, we would be able to have new things to wear. And the women folk spent a lot of time making new boots, mittens, gloves, shirts, dresses, parkas

and kuspuks. There was always a lot of food-Eskimo food, berries of various types and prepared in many different ways. Gifts were exchanged and everybody and anybody was welcomed to eat.

Christmas was very much respected by our older folks. They sang Christmas carols early in the morning; around 4 or 5:00 a.m., both in English and translated songs. They also took part in the church programs while us younger folks recited our Christmas pieces and singing during the program. Christmas was a day to look forward to. It meant a lot of candy and apples and a lot of good things to eat. We had only one trader in the village and on Christmas Day he would give out one bag of hard candy and one apple to everyone in the village; young and old



Pictured above is Henry Nashalook who was the last known Chief of Unalakleet. Photo courtesy of the Eskimo Heritage Program.

alike and the church did the same. Our missionary E.B. Larson used to give out groceries; such as 25 lb. of flour, 5 lb. of sugar, 1 lb. Snowdrift lard, 1 lb. coffee, tea, milk and others to families that needed them the most. Our elders spent the Christmas with respect and reverently believing fully and sincerely that Jesus Christ was born on this day, Christ the Savior is born.

For more information about the Eskimo Heritage Program, review tapes, look at pictures or donate to the collections call: Colleen Reynolds EHP Director at (907)443-4386 or via email at: creynolds@kawerak.org or Eva Menadelook, EHP Specialist at (907)443-4387 or via email at emenadelook@kawerak.org.

## Community Streets for Brevig Mission & Unalakleet begin Construction

by Sterling Gologergen, Regional Transportation Planner

Community streets at Brevig Mission and Unalakleet went into construction this summer. The Brevig Mission streets were completed this fall. The Unalakleet streets will resume construction the summer of 2010. Both projects are the result of hard work, coordination, cooperation, and partnership with the two communities, Kawerak Transportation Program, BIA/IRR and funding partners.

Unalakleet Community Streets are funded by Kawerak Transportation through BIA Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) construction funds, a Denali Commission grant of \$1.7 million and a special appropriation from the State of Alaska of \$1 million to the City of Unalakleet. Kaw-

erak Transportation Program Village Planner, Steve Ivanoff, is based at Unalakleet and was very instrumental in bringing in the additional funding needed for this project to go into the construction phase. Construction costs for roads are very expensive and can go as high as \$2 million per mile in our region, so our hats off to the many people and funding agencies who are assisting in making Unalakleet Community Streets a safer and more efficient means of moving people, goods, and services within the community. This project includes the paving of six miles of community streets, resulting in Unalakleet having smooth, strong and dust-free traveling surfaces. Pro-West was awarded the contract to

build these streets and will resume work during the construction season in 2010. Steve Ivanoff reported that the elevated streets along their beach help alleviate flood damage during their November 2009 storm. Though the streets are not designed for flood protection, KTP was happy to note that the timing of construction along that section was just right.

The Brevig Mission Community Streets went into construction the summer of 2009. These streets were also funded by KTP through BIA/IRR construction funds. Denali Commission awarded this project an additional \$1 million for construction through their Transportation Program grants process. Brevig Mission

streets construction work included upgrading of the existing community streets with an appropriate surface material, dust control palliative, installation of culvert, guardrail and 2,250 feet of snow fence construction. In preparation for community growth, the construction of new roads for future housing was included. The new Front Street at Brevig Mission serves to divert traffic from crossing the school grounds, and connects the school, city offices, community Washeteria, and store. KTP awarded the construction contract to Tumet Industries, LLC. Kawerak's Transportation Program stresses safety, quality work and local hire when projects go into construction.

## Kawerak staff attend Beringia Conference in Anadyr, Russia

by Rose Fosdick, Natural Resources Vice President

Vera Metcalf, Colleen Reynolds, Eva Menadelook and myself represented Kawerak at the Annual National Park Service sponsored Beringia Conference at Anadyr in September. We all presented information about our Beringia research projects. Others from northwest Alaska included Jeanette Pomrenke of Bering Land Bridge Preserve and D'Anne Hamilton of Kotzebue.

There is a 21 hour time difference; we left September 16 with Bering Air at 1:45 pm and arrived at Anadyr approximately 2 hours later; on September 17, 12:40 pm (Anadyr time). We traveled with two chartered planes and upon arrival, the customs officers took several hours to process everyone. We then took taxis to Anadyr and crossed the bay in a small barge (which took about 45 minutes from the airport to Anadyr). Some visitors stayed at the Anadyr Hotel and others stayed at the Chukotka Hotel.

The **Beringia Conference 2009 Anadyr** was held at the Polar Movie Theater, a modern building with a large stage and theater seating. National Park Service brought their own sound, electrical, computer, video, camera equipment and technicians, the audio and visual was good. The presenters had 10 minutes to present their National Park Service funded projects with 5 minutes for questions. There were many presentations but several highlights include the following:

**Lawrence James Van Daele** is working on a project to collect brown bear hair samples to determine genetic origin; noting brown bears originated in China/Russia and crossed the land bridge about 50,000 years ago and divided into 3 groups: Western Alaska, Southeast Alaska and lower 48.

**Edward Struzik** noted that 45,000 years ago trees grew in the high arctic that were 20 foot tall and commented on historical walking seals and 6 foot tall beavers.

**Nuvano Vladislav** noted that in 1927 there were 550,000 reindeer in the region, in 1941-42 the reindeer population started falling, in 1949 collectivization started and reindeer herders were not allowed to kill their own reindeer, reindeer herders were starving. In the 1970s the population rose to 583,000.

**Andrew Kliskey** is doing a project on Percep-

tion of Change in Water Resources in Seward Peninsula Communities in Elim, Golovin, Wales and White Mountain.

**Eduard Zdor**, Association of Traditional Marine Mammal Hunter of Chukotka, noted that the population of walrus at haul outs has increased.

They identified 75 haul outs on the peninsula and further south. In 2007 over 3,600 carcasses were found, TINRO estimated 10,000 walrus died. Current project: monitoring 3 haul outs to identify the impact to walrus from climate change and stress.

**Valery Staryh** is documenting sacred places, noting the name of place, what ethnic group it belongs to, purpose, age, description of construction/border/landscape/GPS. He noted 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century sites are actively destroyed. The sites are sacred, and hold development information that is important to the heritage.

**Amber Lincoln** presented her draft hard copy report about items collected and housed in England.

**Eskimo Heritage Program** received recommendations on interviewees following our presentation on kinship ties and relationships between people of Big and Little Diomed Islands. Following the conference, EHP staff met and interviewed a number of people to whom we were introduced.

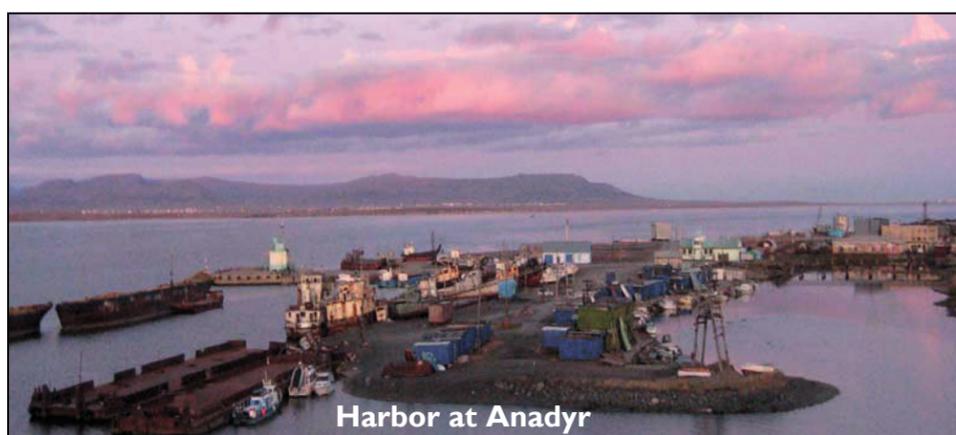
**David Mollett** is documenting James Kivetrok Moses, Inupiaq Folk artist, born at Cape Espenberg. The final document will be a great reference; including life history and photos of paintings that haven't been displayed.

**D'Anne Hamilton** is doing a project involving high school kids who are learning to video tape, featuring dancing. It will be an excellent documentation of both sides of the Bering Strait.

**Peter Schweitzer** is documenting relocations and resettlement on both sides of the Bering Strait. Noting communities that have been moved by the state, 25 residents of Naukan were moved in 1948. From 1898, following the gold rush, over 30 villages disappeared following various epidemics as residents moved to other communities. On the Seward Peninsula, 4 historic relocations were King Island, Mary's Igloo, Council, Solo-



*Ergav Festival started by dance groups gathering in front of the Chukotka Hotel. They moved to the outdoor festival site where a large stage was set up with tents for the dance groups arranged near by. Arts and crafts were also displayed and sold in booths. Photo by Rose Fosdick*



**Harbor at Anadyr**

mon. He noted future relocation threats, based on environmental changes, include Shishmaref, Golovin, Shaktoolik, Unalakleet and Kivalina. He is interested in the spiritual/traumatic aspect of relocation and is doing interviews.

**Carol Zane Jolles** is researching the heritage and identity in Ingaliq and Kuniygen. She is mapping place names on Little Diomed.

**Frank Goebel** is studying where in NE Asia the first Americans came from, when did they disperse from Siberia to Beringia, what routes did they take, how many migrations were there?

Twenty archeological sites contain Clovis points, dated to 13,000 years ago. In 2005 the Serpentine Hot Springs site was discovered by C. Young and four radio carbon dating of charcoal identified it to be 12,000 years old.

**Svetlana Taguiq**, a Chukotka radio journalist, interviewed Vera Metcalf and myself. Svetlana is passionate about her work, translating stories in her language. We visited two sisters at their apartment and Svetlana interpreted several stories in which she spoke Russian and then St. Lawrence Island Yupik to Vera and Vera spoke English to me.

The Ergav Festival followed the conference, it started off on the street in front of one hotel; all the dance groups formed a circle and continuously took turns, dancing in the middle, a very moving experience. They moved to the town square in front of the museum and the festival was held all day, with dance groups, skin tents with cooks making food for the dance groups and booths with arts and crafts.

On September 21 we boarded the flight to Nome about 1:30 pm and arrived Nome time on the 20<sup>th</sup> about 5:30 pm.



*This new Russian Orthodox church is built in the old style with wooden logs. Photo by Rose Fosdick*

## Documenting the Cultural, Geography, Biography and Traditional Ecological Knowledge of King Islanders

By Rose Fosdick, Natural Resources Vice President

In July 2009, eleven King Island people, mostly elders, met for two days at Eskimo Heritage Program offices. They reviewed and discussed Father Hubbard's photo collection at Santa Clara University, Kawerak has copies of these photographs in its collection. Also present during the two days was Larry Kaplan of UAF Alaska Native Language Center who has been documenting and studying the Inupiaq language. Matt Ganley with Bering Strait Native Corporation joined the group on the second day, when the group studied and commented on a map of the island; Matt is working with King Island people in the areas of archaeology and mapping. The group got together through the coordination and efforts of Deanna Kingston who has done several projects featuring King Island.

The King Island people who have distinct memories of life on the island that presented information include: Ted Mayac, Agnes Mayac, Marie Saclamana, Frances Muktoyuk, Slyvester Ayek, Lucy Koyuk, Olga Muktoyuk Kingston, Francis Alvanna, and Edward Muktoyuk.

In speaking with Deanna Kingston I learned researchers, including herself, a direct descendent of King Island, are putting great effort into documenting facts and information about the island and the people.



From left: Larry Kaplan, Ted Mayac, Francis Alvanna and Marie Saclamana study the photo collection. Photo by Rose Fosdick.

Recently she worked with Carol Jolles and as a result two documents were published, one entitled "Walrus Hunting in a Changing Arctic" published as a chapter in a book titled *To Harvest, to Hunt: Stories of Resource Use*, Judith Li, editor. The other document is called "Twice Removed, King Islanders Experience of Community," which will be published in *Human Organization*, was based on interviews she completed for Peter Schweitzer in 2003.

Peter Schweitzer hired Deanna to interview King Island people about moving from the island to the mainland for his project in which he is documenting relocations and resettlement on both sides of the Bering Strait. Peter discusses several communities that have been moved by the state, for example, 25 residents of Naukan were moved in 1948. From 1898, following the Gold Rush, over 30 villages disappeared following various epidemics as residents moved to other communities. On the

Seward Peninsula, four historic relocations were made by people of King Island, Mary's Igloo, Council and Solomon.

When King Island people moved to Nome, they established a community at "East End" where celebrations and dances were held and people visited each other, much like on the island. Much of that closeness was lost after the storm of 1974. And unfortunately with the community disruption there came a sense of loss as people scattered; some moved to Anchorage and Fairbanks while others stayed in Nome but not at their original site at "East End."

What started Deanna in her passionate study of her own family and cultural history was the Masters Degree research she completed at Oregon State University which focused on "Teasing Cousins Songs." She continued her study of King Island culture in the dissertation research she did on the King Island Wolf Dance, titled "Returning: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Performances of the King Island Wolf Dance." She collected stories from Earl Mayac and Lucy Koyuk as they recalled early history of King Island people telling the Wolf Dance story to Knud Rasmussen. Deanna also interviewed other people who performed the King Island Wolf Dance in 1982 in Nome and also in Anchorage in 1991. She completed her dissertation in 1999 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Deanna also wrote an article titled "Siberian Songs and Siberian Kin: Indirect Assertions of King Island Dominance in the Bering Strait Region," which is based on interviews she conducted with King Islanders about their trading relationships across Bering Strait when King Island people would trade at East Cape and Uelen. She was hired by Peter Schweitzer in 1995 to do these interviews. One memorable interview was with three men in regards to their 1947 trip to Siberia: Edward Muktoyuk (Deanna's maternal uncle), Edward Penatac (who was married to Deanna's maternal aunt) and Joe Ignatius who traveled by two boats from Nome to Wooley Lagoon to Wales to Diomedede to Big Diomedede to East Cape to Uelen. They spent two nights at each place.

Today Deanna teaches anthropology at Oregon State University, teaching five classes a year in general Native American cultures, folklore, methods on recording and transcribing oral traditions, contemporary Indian issues, circumpolar people and climate change, and anthropological approaches to ethno-history.



Philip Tattayunna with a cod fish he caught while bullhead fishing. Photo from Father Hubbard Collection at Santa Clara University.

Deanna was born in Portland, Oregon. Her mother Olga Muktoyuk Kingston went to Chemawa Indian School, then attended Western Business School, becoming a key punch operator. Growing up outside of Alaska, Deanna didn't know much about her culture. A friend that she worked with after she finished her undergraduate degree at the University of Portland encouraged her to study anthropology 22 years ago. However she recalls, as a 4<sup>th</sup> grader, reading the Golden Book Encyclopedia and how she loved to read how life used to be in the past. She stated, "Anthropology became my tool to learn about my culture." She also says she was lucky that her uncle Alex Muktoyuk and her mother encouraged her to learn more about her own history and culture.

Deanna recognizes many older people are passing away and her work is a way to pass information on to children. Her aim is to develop curriculum for schools and to allow the King Island people to have control over what is developed.

To review the Father Hubbard collection call the Eskimo Heritage Program at (907)443-4386.



Pictured is Deanna Kingston.

## Continued from front page: Ties that Binds Project

We also visited an old village called Avan that is surrounded by high majestic mountains and is at the edge of a clear lake with fresh water. The village site contains ancient whale bones which remain visible. There are also deep impressions lined with stone that are thought to have been where dwellings once stood erect.

We interviewed one Elder in Novo Chaplino who once lived in these old sites and dwellings before being relocated on or around 1948. During our time at Novo Chaplino we visited another panoramic village site surrounded by high mountains and a harbor. Killer whales hunt at the edge of its' blue harbor and thus keeps all other sea mammals away, forcing hunters to walk, snow-machine or boat the six or so miles to the Bering Sea. Novo Chaplino's beach contains rich evidence of successful whale hunts from the past and present. The village boasts modern homes and running water. Coal is the main fuel for Provideniya, Novo Chaplino and the entire Chukotka region.

Elders volunteered to be interviewed and

shared intimate songs and short stories which were once heard and shared only within the family of those departed.

Emotions poured as one Elder reminisced about the first encounter with relatives on St. Lawrence Island. She relived the physical embraces when she heard and saw family dances once thought lost come to life.

We learned that 'Siberian' is the wrong term for our neighbors and the correct term is 'Chukchi'. Forty villages were relocated on or before 1948. Several villages lost the language spoken with their mothers and fathers after relocation because the entire community was



Novo Chaplino. Photo by Eva Menadelook, EHP Specialist

uprooted and spread across the Chukchi coast. Today, the people are urged to revive traditional cultural life styles and ways.

The Iron Curtain reopened and brought relatives together after 50 years or more. However, future visits and physical embraces remain farfetched with the high costs of travel by air between countries. Contact remains limited despite modern communication techniques and transportation of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

## Relatives from Uelen, Russian reunite with Family in Nome

By Eva Menadelook, Eskimo Heritage Program Specialist

Thanks to Kawerak's Eskimo Heritage Program and Tatiyana Petchetgina; four people from Russia were able to travel to Alaska for the first time in decades to meet with their long lost relatives. Those traveling include Valentina Itevtgina, Nadejda Vukvukai, Sergi Komissarov and Tatiyana Pechetgina. Tatiyana made the initial contact by sending a letter 15 years ago to the Diomed IRA Council to locate her relatives living in Alaska. The names on the letter were not recognized by the council; but when the Eskimo Heritage Program was invited to visit Russia this past fall a copy of the letter was sent to the EHP staff. The names matched with a family tree in Alaska. The last

visit with relatives from Russia was in 1944 with the Tutay and Opoye families (Opoye was the father of Uluqaruk, mother to the Ozenna family and sister to the Tutay family).

A potluck was held in their honor in Nome in November 2009. Our relatives from Alaska and Uelen give many thanks to the King Island and Diomed drummers and dancers who welcomed this family after the potluck and the Catholic Church parish for

granting a place to hold our celebration. Special thanks to Luda Kinok and Konstantine Savva who helped with translation.



Relatives reunited after 61 years: Standing from the left is Valentina Itevtgina and Joann Ozenna. Sitting from the left is Sergi Komissarov, Gilbert Ozenna, Roger Ozenna, Nedejda Vukvukai in the front and Tatiyana Pechetgina.

Photo to the left is Myron Wheeler, Valentina Itevtgina and her daughter Nadejda Vukvukai. Photo to the near left is Nadejda Vukvukai as she addresses the attendees at the potluck held at the Catholic Church.

## Continued from front page Census 2010

to a non-Native husband). In this case, the Alaska Native woman will have fill out the form. Doing this will classify the entire household/family as Alaska Native.

### Census 2010 Timeline

- Present ~ April 2010: Job recruitment.
- January ~ April 2010: Census forms are delivered in remote areas of Alaska and Maine.
- March 2010: Census forms are mailed.

March ~ July 2010: Complete Count Committee activities take place.

April 1, 2010: Census Day. Information provided on the 2010 Census form should represent all family members and non-family members living within the household on this day.

May ~ July 2010: Census workers visit homes that did not return or receive forms.

Dec. 31, 2010: Census Bureau presents popu-

lation count to the U. S. President. *For generations we as Native people have celebrated our culture, our traditions our communities and our way of life. The strength of our people is our voice. Staying silent when given the chance to improve our communities is not the right choice. The 2010 Census is our voice, it's in our hands.* To learn more go to [2010census.gov](http://2010census.gov)



# HORIZONS

NEWS AND NOTES FROM NORTHWEST CAMPUS, PART OF THE COLLEGE OF RURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS

## Still in high school? Try college!

High school students in the Bering Strait region aren't just wondering what college might be like.

They are starting college *now*.

During the fall 2009 semester, 42 Bering Strait School District students from 11 sites enrolled in 14 different college courses, for a total of 92 credits.

"I now have teachers, parents, and even students coming to me and asking for specific types of classes," said Nathan Pitt, distance learning coordinator for BSSD and NACTEC.

"They're looking for something beyond what they can get in school or they're looking to get a head start on college. Some even get a start on degree requirements."

BSSD students have long been taking evening distance college courses.

But participation shot up last year when Northwest Campus started working directly with BSSD to tailor college courses to fit their secondary students.

At BSSD's request, NWC scheduled the courses during the school day (1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.) so that more high school students could participate.

And BSSD created a new position, filled by former Diomedea teacher Nathan Pitt, to recruit students from all 15 sites and help them navigate the process of taking college classes.

As a result, 36 BSSD students enrolled in 13 different University of Alaska courses last year.

The number jumped to 42 students this fall as more students, teachers and parents learned about the opportunity to get college credit.

So far, the NWC daytime courses have included developmental math and English courses, as well

as a college readiness course and The Oceans, a 4-credit course that satisfies a UAF core requirement. A college human biology course will be offered this spring.

While some students are taking NWC's daytime courses, others are involved in evening courses on subjects ranging from medical terminology to trigonometry.

Ken Stenek, a teacher in Shishmaref, actively encourages students to take advantage of the classes.

"As a teacher, I believe it is important for our college-bound students to have a dose of college expectations at a manageable level—one to two classes," Stenek said. "Our dual-credit students get that dose and learn how much effort it will take to be successful in college."

"I'm glad I took the online college course through UAF because it gave me a challenge," said a Koyuk student. "It also showed me a little about how college will be. I've learned not to get so far behind in my work because it is a lot of work to catch up on."

"I really like our instructor, Mike; he's a very good teacher," said Holly Nayokpuk of Shishmaref, who recently completed NWC instructor Mike Rutledge's elementary algebra course. "The class has been



Spring 2009 Oceans lab participants (from left): Heidi Herter, UAF Marine Advisory Program agent and instructor, and students Yvonne Pete, Merlin Johnson, Theresa Olanna, Austen Erickson, Marc Barr, Frieda Grierson, Nelson Crockett and Marcus Barr.

fun and challenging."

The courses are taught with distance technology—a combination of audio conference, video conference, and Elluminate Live (an online classroom program). NWC biology professor Claudia Ihl's spring human biology course for BSSD will involve two weekend lab sessions at NACTEC.

**To register for spring 2010 courses:** Secondary students should

contact their principal or Northwest Campus advisors Kacey Miller (1-800-478-2202, ext. 8416) or Reese Huhta (1-888-624-3158). **Placement testing is required for some courses; test now!** NWC waives one-third of tuition for any high school student taking a Northwest Campus course. BSSD pays other tuition costs and fees for BSSD students. Non-BSSD high school students may enroll in these courses.

## Secrets of a young college student

### This BSSD student started very early

If you're a high school sophomore who has met graduation requirements, what do you do?

For Hazel Freytag of Unalakleet, the answer was simple: Stay in school, play sports, and take lots of free college classes!

Freytag graduated from high school last May with 21 college credits on her transcript.

When she enrolled at the University of Alaska Fairbanks last fall, she was three courses away from being a college sophomore.

"It was very exciting for me to come to college with so many credits," said Freytag.

It all began when Freytag met her social science high school graduation requirement as a sophomore and decided to take a college history course. Northwest Campus advisor Reese Huhta, based in Unalakleet, helped Freytag select the course and navigate

the registration process.

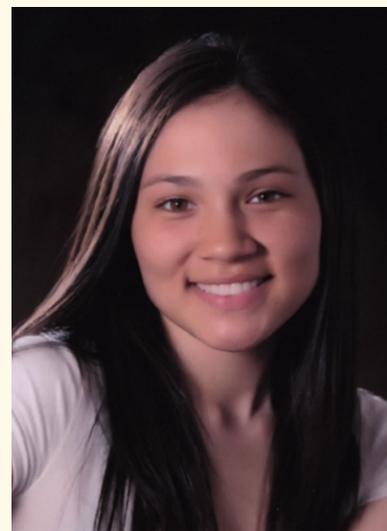
"It just started with one and it was an evening class, so it didn't take away from my regular high school hours or extra-curriculars," Freytag said.

"I didn't do so well in my first college course," she concedes, "but that year I spent a lot of my energy in sports, too."

As she completed graduation requirements, Freytag took more college courses—up to five credits while participating in cross-country, volleyball, basketball and Native Youth Olympics. Bering Strait School District paid the tuition and book bills.

One summer, Freytag joined UAF's Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) and racked up nine college credits in six weeks.

"I spent a lot of my time at the school," Freytag says of her high school years. "I would take time after school to do work and I also had a free independent study hour during the regular school day to do homework."



Freytag plans to major in biology and become a veterinarian.

Toward that goal, she enrolled in calculus, chemistry and biology courses at UAF last fall. Sadly, she withdrew from the courses and returned home after her father passed away during the semester. She will start again at the University of Alaska Anchorage in January.



Oceans student Merlin Johnson conducts an experiment during labs in Nome.

# Carving, sewing, beading, knitting: Traditional craft courses are here!

A growing trend at Northwest Campus is traditional craft courses.

At least nine of these courses have been planned for spring semester in several communities.

In Nome, students will choose from courses in muskox qiviut processing and knitting, with visiting instructor Alice Scherp of Anchorage; attigi-parka sewing, with Marilyn Koezuna-Irelan and Asaaluk Irelan; beginning knitting, with Jennifer Kinneen; skin sewing, with Dora Ahwinona; Koyukon Athabaskan beading, with visiting instructor Selina Alexander of Fairbanks; and ceramics, with Tara Prosser.

Selina Alexander will also travel to Unalakleet to offer her Koyukon Athabaskan beading course.

In Shishmaref, elder Flora Wey-iouanna will teach a course on how to make oogruk hard soles for mukluks.

And in Koyuk, Wayne Nassuk

will teach a traditional wood carving course covering bowls, spoons and berry combs, as a follow-up to his recent course on carving wooden spoons, or qayuutaqs.

Each course is for college credit. Instructors and their course plans are approved through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Kawerak, Inc., and the Northwest Campus Title III program support some courses with tuition and supplies.

If you would like to teach a traditional craft in your community, or if you would like to see a traditional craft course offered in your community, please contact Northwest Campus! You can call Barb Amarok, Title III program manager, at 1-800-478-2202, extension 8406, or Carol Gales, program development manager, at the above toll-free number, extension 8407.



ABOVE: Wayne Nassuk (center) teaches students Sam Otton and Fannie Nassuk during the wooden spoon (qayuutaq) carving course in October. Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation provided tuition funds and Koyuk Malemute School allowed use of its shop. RIGHT: Detail of spoons carved by the instructor.



## Navigating the UAF system

**Q: Where can I get a copy of my transcripts?**

**A:** The Northwest Campus does not have the authority to issue official transcripts. However, the campus can issue unofficial transcripts. You can obtain a copy by calling Liz Guthier at 907-443-8403 or 1-800-478-2202, ext. 8403. For official transcripts, you can place an order on the front page of UAOnline: [uaonline.alaska.edu](http://uaonline.alaska.edu)

**Q: How will I know if I'm registered for my class?**

**A:** By logging onto UAOnline ([uaonline.alaska.edu](http://uaonline.alaska.edu)), you can

check your registration status, whether you have a balance, see your grades for classes, and much more. If you have never logged on, the website talks you through how to log in.

**Q: How do I know what classes are available spring semester?**

**A:** Please go to [www.nwc.uaf.edu](http://www.nwc.uaf.edu) to find information about courses offered by Northwest Campus and the College of Rural and Community Development. To find courses throughout the University of Alaska, visit the Distance Gateway ([www.alaska.edu/distance](http://www.alaska.edu/distance)).

## Prepare now for spring CNA training!

Testing & online tutoring available

The seventh annual certified nurse aide (CNA) training course at Northwest Campus will help 10 area residents start a rewarding health care career.

Do you want to be part of this training?

If so, are you ready to apply? Find out!

The Nome Job Center will test applicants for the required reading level this year by using the state's new online Career Ready 101 program.

If an applicant's test score is too low, the applicant can use Career Ready 101 as a tutoring program to improve skills—and then take the test again.

**The application deadline for the CNA course is March 15.**

Those who hope to take the course should get tested now to find out their skill levels.

CNAs care for patients in settings like Quyanna Care Center in Nome, or the new facility being planned for Unalakleet.

Training this year is April 26-June 17, with three weeks of class in Nome and two in Fairbanks. Students get hands-on practice with patients at the 80-bed Denali Center in Fairbanks.

**Take the Career Ready 101 test, to see if you're ready for the CNA class!** Call the Nome Job Center: 1-800-478-2626, ext. 9355.

**To apply for one of the 10 seats in the CNA class:** call the Nome Job Center (see number above).

High school students should apply through NACTEC; your principal can help.

**Apply by March 15!**

## Plans still underway to base nursing program in Nome

Certified nurse aide training is a stepping stone to a nursing career.

The Bering Strait Health Consortium is working to bring a branch of the University of Alaska Anchorage School of Nursing to Nome by January 2011. New cohorts will likely start every two years. Interested students should start now on the more than 30 credits required before they can start the program.

**For information about the Nome nursing program,** please call NWC advisor Kacey Miller (1-800-478-2202, ext. 8416) or Reese Huhta (1-888-624-3158).



## All bound up

Amber Bradley (foreground) and Karen Rickett prepare to cut heavy book-binding cardboard during the one-credit Creative Book Structures art course offered at Northwest Campus in October by visiting instructor Heather Neal Kasvinsky of Fairbanks. It was Kasvinsky's second Nome course.

Kawerak, Inc.

## Head Start Staff awarded CDA Credentials in 2009

by Malinda Besett, Head Start Director

**K**awerak Head Start Employees: **Louise Simon of White Mountain, Silas Paniptchuk and Gail Evan of Shaktoolik** received their Child Development Associate (CDA) credential in recognition of outstanding work with young children. The credential was awarded by the Council of Professional Recognition in Washington, CD, which represents the early childhood education profession.

The CDA is the only major national effort to improve early childhood education and care by evaluation and recognition of the skills of individuals providing care. The first Credential was awarded over 30 years ago, and now 49 states plus the District of Columbia include CDA in their child care licensing regulations.

Parents who use early education and care are especially concerned today about their children's welfare. With this in mind, as part of

the CDA assessment process, every candidate for the CDA Credential is observed working with young children or families by an early childhood professional. In addition, the candidate must demonstrate the ability to work with families to develop children's physical and intellectual capabilities in a safe and healthy learning environment.

The CDA Credential is having a positive effect on the quality of early childhood education and care. Its impact is evident in center-based and home visitor programs as well as family child care, the most common form of care for children under 5 years old.

Childcare staff and parents wanting information on CDA should write to the Council for Professional Recognition at 2460 16<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington DC 20009-3575, or call the Council at (202) 265-9090 or (800) 424-4310.

**CAMP department "Summercising" in White Mountain July 9th and 10th with their summer interns and Head Start students.**  
**Photos by Thiry Titus, Head Start teacher.**



**CAMP**



## Uiviilat Child Care Center

Pictured to the left, back row is Melanie Edwards, Uiviilat Child Care Center provider Krystal Wongittilin and Loretta Bullard with children from the UCC Center located in Nome.

## NSEDC 2009 Community Energy Fund

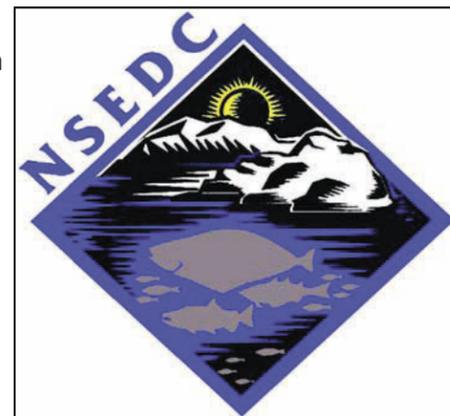
by Kathy Whelehan, Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

**T**he NSEDC Board of Directors have allocated \$1,000,000 to be made available to each of its fifteen member communities with the intent to contribute to long-term solutions that decrease the high costs of energy.

NSEDC supports the improvement and development of safe and reliable energy infrastructure within the Norton Sound Region and recognizes the critical role affordable energy plays in the quality of life and economic development of our communities. The NSEDC Community Energy Fund (CEF) pro-

vides financial assistance for the installation and construction of upgrades to community power generation and distribution systems, alternative/renewable energy projects, and adjustments to power systems that reduce the energy costs of our regional residents. This program promotes the development of safe, reliable, and efficient energy systems that are feasible, sustainable and environmentally sound, supporting the goal of reducing the energy costs for residential customers and community facilities.

It is recommended that proposals be developed in coordination with NSEDC staff to ensure that adequate project planning, review, support, and technical oversight are imbedded into the project. A budget and schedule is also critical to the project, and NSEDC staff will work with communities to provide guidance and assurance that these components are developed to the standards of the CEF Program. The funding will be available for a period of five years so that communities have ample time to actively address energy issues and long-term solutions.



For further information or questions please contact Paul Ivanoff at (800) 385-3190 or by email at pivanoff@nsedc.com.

# Fall 2009 Kawerak Higher Education Scholarship Recipients and BSLT Care Package Project mail 179 Packages

First Name	Last Name	Major	School
Madelyn	Alvanna-Stimpfle	Early Childhood Education	University of Alaska Anchorage
Dianna	Amaktoolik	Medical Assisting	Charter College
Dwight	Amaktoolik	Automotive Technology	University of Alaska Anchorage
Candice	Amaktoolik	English	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Kimberly	Ayek	Exercise Science/K-12 Teaching	University of Alaska Anchorage
Steven	Bailey	Information Technology	Kaplan University
Denise	Baldwin	Culinary Arts	University of Alaska Anchorage
Rachael	Bauman	Dietetics	University of Alaska Anchorage
Calvin	Bell	Mechanical Engineering	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Amber	Bradley	Pre-Nursing	University of Alaska Anchorage
Jenny	Dill	Philosophy	Arizona State University
William	Dixon	Teaching	University of Alaska Anchorage
Giaana	Eckenweiler	Biological Sciences	University of Alaska Anchorage
Kaare	Erickson	Cultural Anthropology	University of Alaska Anchorage
Michelle	Fancher	Undeclared	Alaska Christian College
Hazel	Freytag	Biology	University of Alaska Anchorage
Trisha	Gray	Business Administration - H.R. Management	University of Alaska Southeast
Marian	Green	Human Services	University of Alaska Anchorage
Clarice	Hardy	Elementary Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks - NWC
Michael	Hawkins	Undeclared	University of Alaska Anchorage
Shannon	Hawkins	Undeclared	University of Alaska Anchorage
Brenda	Henry	Elementary Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Tia	Holley	Social Work	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Asaaluk	Irelan	Business Management	University of Alaska Southeast
Kelsi	Ivanoff	Community Development	Portland State University
Gussie	Ivanoff	Doctor of Physical Therapy	University of Minnesota
Tricia	Ivanoff	Physical Therapy	Southwestern Oregon Community College
Renaë	Ivanoff	Pre-Medical (Biology)	University of Idaho
Nolan	Ivanoff	Professional Piloting	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Sasha	Johnson	Biology	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Ruth	Johnson	Elementary Education	Kenai Peninsula College
Shelly	Johnson	Health Services Administration	Alaska Pacific University
Mandy	Johnson	Language Arts & Communication Emphasis	University of Alaska Southeast
Merlin	Johnson, Jr.	Engineering/Construction Management	University of Alaska Anchorage
Kerilee	Katongan	Mechanical Engineering	University of Alaska Anchorage
Sarah	Katongan	Undeclared	University of Alaska Anchorage
Michelle	Kavairlook	Pre-Medical	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Victoria	Kotongan	Mathematics	University of Colorado at Boulder
George	Koontz	Elementary Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Leona	Lien	MBA IT & Communication Technology	Alaska Pacific University
Patricia	Lillie	Educational Administration	Michigan State University
Stephanie	Lincoln	Nursing	University of Alaska Anchorage
Monica	Martinez	Nursing	Community College of Southern Nevada
Roger	McAlear	Medical Assisting	Charter College
Cassandra	Mike	Nursing	University of Alaska Anchorage
Billi	Miller	Elementary Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Kathleen	Miller	Undeclared	University of Alaska Fairbanks
DeAnn	Moore	Teaching - Fine Arts	Lesley University
Lainey	Oates	A.A. General	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Carin	Ojanen	Elementary Education	Walla Walla University
Theresa	Olanna	Health Sciences - PA	University of Alaska Anchorage
Angela	Olsen	Nursing	Green River Community College
Maronda	Olson	Biblical Studies	Belfast Bible College
Yorise	Olson	Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks - NWC
Cheryl	Ongtawasruk	Graphic Design	Fort Lewis College
Tamera	Ongtawasruk	Sociology	Fort Lewis College
Krystal	Orth	Biochemistry & Spanish	Gonzaga University
Nichole	Osterback	Psychology	University of Alaska Anchorage
Nichole	Otton	Accounting	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Heather	Payenna	Liberal Arts Focus Studies	University of Alaska Southeast
John	Penatac, Jr.	Medical Management	UAF - Bristol Bay Campus
Natalie	Perry	Rural Development	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Cameron	Piscocya	Business Administration	University of Idaho in Moscow
Denise	Pollock	Government, Legal services	University of Massachusetts
Donna	Pushruk	Inupiaq Eskimo	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Heather	Santin	General Education	Folsom Lake College
Eugene	Sarren	Process Technology	Kenai Peninsula College
Ralph	Sinnok	Civil Engineering	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Victoria	Sinnok	General Studies	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Jessica	Steve	Biblical Studies	Alaska Christian College
Chandre	Szafran	English-Rhetoric	University of Alaska Anchorage
Shawn	Takak	Engineering	University of Alaska Anchorage
Iris	Topkok	Early Childhood Education	University of Alaska Fairbanks
Marjorie	Tully	A.A. General Studies	University of Alaska-Anchorage
Emmylou	Vial	Psychology	Fort Lewis College
Ibionna	Wemark	Education, biology, art or journalism	University of Alaska Anchorage
Katie	Wilson	Accounting - Business Admin	University of Alaska Fairbanks-NWC
Amber	Wilson	Elementary Education	University of Alaska Anchorage

In October, the organizations from the Bering Strait Leadership Team (see page 3) partnered together to provide care packages for students attending college. Approximately 179 students received a BSLT Care Package containing: alarm clocks, calendar planners, jump drives, canned salmon, a roll of quarters, soup, instant oatmeal, pens, craisins, tissue, ear plugs, pencils, hand sanitizer, trail mix, bath and face towels. It took staff from NWC, Kawerak and NSEDC about an hour to box, fill and tape the care packages. Below is a picture of one of the care packages.



Above, from left is NWC/UAF staff Gretchen Froehle, Lee Haugen, Sarah Weaver & Carol Gales proudly displaying a care package. Below is Kawerak youth employment director Luisa Maucha & Gretchen labeling packages.



If you are interested in receiving a scholarship call Brian James, workforce development specialist toll free at (800)450-4341 or direct at 443-4351 or via e-mail at [bjames@kawerak.org](mailto:bjames@kawerak.org). Applications can be downloaded at [www.kawerak.org](http://www.kawerak.org).

## Kawerak Full Board of Directors Meeting held September 16 ~ 17, 2009 in Nome.

*Below are the Village Reports from each representative.*

### Mary's Igloo Traditional Council by Lucy Oquilluk

MITC was funded a grant through the BSRHA to do a harpoon making class with Sig Wein Omiak in the spring of 2009. The students made their harpoons the traditional way, with the tips made of ivory. They had a lot of fun making them and we hope to do more projects this school year. With the same funds we were able to hire Joe Garnie to teach people how to make sleds this summer. The wood was in poor shape so the class was stopped for the time being. He will teach the high school students this school year sled building. In May the Council was granted funds from NSHC CAMP for Diabetes Prevention, we started having the Healthy Snack Program for all children & youth in the community which they receive three times a week. The snacks are fresh fruits & vegetables. MITC held their 1<sup>st</sup> annual Culture Camp at Bluestone in the Tuk-suk Channel on July 20 to 23<sup>rd</sup>. We took 15 students ages 11 to 20 to the camp. The students learned how to clean, set & check a fish net and how to set up camp. They also learned the different types of plants from the National Park Service. The kids were invited to James & Charlene Isabell's camp to learn how to strip & brine fish for making smoked fish. We also took the kids to the other side of Ptarmigan Point to pick greens and get drift wood. At that time, they learned that the movie Mala was filmed at and around the area which is now known as MGM. The next day we held a potluck and were joined by elders and people from Teller. Before dinner the kids challenged the chaperones to an Eskimo baseball game then everyone swam and ate a good dinner. Everyone enjoyed the camp and they are looking forward to next year's event. In August MITC held their annual meeting/elections, adopted 12 Enrollees and re-organized the council as follows: President, Lucy H. Oquilluk; Vice President, Carol Ablowaluk; Secretary, Albert Oquilluk, Treasurer, Maggie Komok; Member, Sam Komok; Member, Willie Foster and Member, John Topkok. MITC had Council training with Charles Parker, Alaska Village Initiatives in August. School started on August 24<sup>th</sup> with all staff returning except Language Arts Teacher. We also have a new Certified Head Start Teacher. We welcome the new staff. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Teller Cultural Festival was held Sept 25 & 26<sup>th</sup>. Teller is still having issues with the HBT haul system and volunteers are going to be doing a pick up in the end of August for the village. In September there will be an Appliance Repair Training class with Hilmer Kiser through Kawerak after Labor Day. The class will take place in the school building.

### Native Village of White Mountain by Willa Ashenfelter

We would like to thank Kawerak for the council member training opportunity with Charles Parker last month. We always enjoy his trainings. Also for our Summer Youth participant, Yorise Olson who did a very good job at the ITC building and we also have Martha Nelson as the Alternate Tribal Coordinator. The Tribe is funded under the DHHS Nutrition, Transportation, and Support Services for the 2009-2010 Elder's Lunch Program. We also were funded a \$10,000 grant from BSRHA for two representatives from CampFire USA who held various youth activities: basic water safety, swimming lessons, crafts, hiking, a field trip and a picnic. We submitted the HUD's ICDB grant for a new store. This is almost a \$1 million project. The IGAP program sponsored the annual spring clean up and river clean up this year. Each year, our community picks up less bags of trash. The IGAP program also does water testing in various areas of the river, mostly for detecting uranium. Thanks for After School Activities program for our youth. Our grant writer, Adrian, submitted a USDA grant for City to fence in our landfill which is currently underway. The Tribe has been involved in a teleconference with the Center for Water Advocacy in regards to concerns of uranium mining in Alaska and Water Quality issues. George Ashenfelter Jr. and Cynthia were married here on the 8<sup>th</sup> of August.

### Native Village of Shaktoolik by Axel Jackson

We received monies for several programs; including wages for IGAP coordinator, IGAP secretary, grant writer and Wellness director and to hold our annual elder and youth summer camp. The IRA has applied for After School Activity funds 2010 and may apply for the NSHC Camp funds. Upcoming events for IRA Council include training with Charles Parker. The School will be hosting a Teacher's Cultural In-service from Sept 24 - 27. A Welding class will be taught by a local welder for up to 10 people, sometime in October. Decision needs to be made to sponsor an elder and two youth to attend the annual Elder and Youth AFN. Several of our employees will be attending trainings out-of-town. Northland Services will pick up back haul items that were gathered from households. Subsistence activity for berries and fishing was successful; commercial salmon fishing was slow. The school received 3 new teachers and the City received 2 new VPSO's. One tribal couple recently moved away while another returned within the year. Bird and whale hunting season is around the corner. Skin sewing is progressing from being almost non-existent to a regular affair with the women in the community. Finally, Shaktoolik has had a population explosion with many new-born babies since the beginning of the year.

### King Island Native Community by Frank Irelan

We have appointed two new council members: Benjamin Payenna and Frank Q. Irelan. We are in the process of updating our Ordinances. Held a KINC IRR Transportation public meeting for on July 18. Working with OSU's Jesse Ford to obtain a grant from US Fish and Wildlife for additional field work. Maintenance work on Cape Wooley Road continued this summer.

### Native Village of St. Michael by Shirley Martin

NVSM Library Cultural Building is complete. An open house will be

scheduled at a later date. The spring hunting went really well for seals, beluga and spring birds. The herring fish came in heavily and residents harvested them and their eggs. There was an end School's picnic held on the last day-May 22. The City moved their offices to the old School. The IRA EPA/IGAP received grant notification for an award of \$114,061 for 2009-2010. The program also sponsored a Community spring clean up and soon after the Camp Fire Team of three held water/swimming safety and techniques for youth. Lunch and snacks were provided. For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year Rural Cap Weatherization Program returned to complete weatherization on homes for those who met the program requirements. NSEDC held a Beach Clean-up held June 30-Aug 14. A local crew was hired and they collected approximately 50 tons of debris and covered 2,000 yards of beach. There is quite a lot of hazardous metal along the surrounding beaches that need to be removed. The City's garage burned down in July 2009. We believe that two youth started the blaze; however, the investigation is still on-going. There was a IRA EPA/IGAP fall clean up near the dump site that lasted 5 days. The reindeer tri-party herd owners handled approximately 1,100 reindeer for June and July. The IRA received additional funding of \$10,000 for a local Grant Writer from Kawerak to specifically work on Energy grants and other federal stimulus monies available to Tribes. Throughout the summer the IRA DoD/Nalemp Program with Army Corp of Engineers continued clean up of Army debris left behind in the late 1800 and early 1900. The program is in the final funding stages of clean up. The program also applied to EPA Tribal Response Program and was awarded \$95,000 to begin September 1. The project will cover both research and clean-up of contaminated sites within the village. The school started Aug 24 with 7 new teachers. Also through a cooperative effort between Kawerak and the BSSD our Head Start has an additional ECE teacher. The school announced to the community that AAAS students met the AYPR within the BSSD (first time since in 2001). Due to lack of housing our dental therapist moved back Unalakleet, returning to service the area once a month for 2 weeks at a time. With the help of Kawerak Tribal Affairs, Charles Parker of Alaska Village Initiatives, held a Tribal Council training in Aug 24 & 25. Thank you, Kawerak.

### Native Village of Unalakleet by Janice Dickens

This quarter was a time of transition for NVU. Weaver Ivanoff resigned as General Manager effective at the end of June. NVU grant writer, Margaret Hennes, has taken his place and is involved in transition activities which include re-staffing of positions for housing director, grant writer and environmental specialist. In the interim, Mary Freytag, has assumed the position of housing director and Art Ivanoff, as environmental consultant. The NVU expects to be fully staffed by the end of September. We had the airport paved and are now installing 6 wind turbines which should be operational by early winter and will have the capability to supply 33% of Unalakleet's electrical power. Work was completed on relining the sewage lagoon; electrical lines are being extended to building sites in the hills overlooking Unalakleet. The School is building a new gym and making other improvements. This fall the NVU will embark on several projects which are the result of recent Grant Awards: 1) Home modification. ARRA awarded an additional \$128,000 to NVU's current NAHASDA program, permitting the modification of 3 Tribal homes. 2) Home Modification for Elders: Responding to an AK RFP, NVU was awarded a \$224,250—to modify 15 Elder's homes. This project will assist the Elders and disabled with retrofits to enable them to remain in their homes. A 2 year Contract, the program will begin this fall. 3) The Dept of Energy's EECBG (Stimulus package) Grant of \$57,500 will be used to winterize the Tribal Council's offices. On fast track, the work should be completed by mid-December. 4) NVU applied for a competitive Rural Housing & Economic Development Grant to develop a prototype energy efficient home collaborating with w/ local input and the Cold Climate Housing Research Center/UAF, which just completed a similar project in Anaktuvuk Pass. The Grant request was for \$140,865. Notification will be in September. If awarded planning will begin this winter and construction for summer 2010. 5) BIA IRR recovery Act Funding awarded an additional \$220,200 from its IRR program which will be applied to other Road funds. 6) Southern Sub Regional Elder Care and Facility Project: (a partnership with Koyuk, Shaktoolik, Stebbins and St Michael). At the end of September, NVU will host an all day planning meeting with Tribal Leaders from all the partner Villages (as noted above) for the development of a sub-regional Eldercare workforce to be deployed in all 5 Villages. The goal is to develop a comprehensive system of Eldercare delivery to all 5 Villages, and a sub regional Eldercare facility located in Unalakleet, that would work closely with NSHC. In March 2009, the project received commitments for workforce training from AK Dept of Labor, Kawerak and NSEDC. The project also applied for a 2 year ANA Grant to supplement the workforce start-up component as well as cover needs/capacity assessments, the development of a business plan to establish an entity that would operate the care giving program, while it continued to work towards the completion of a facility. The strategy is to be inclusive in planning and realization of the project. Hence the grant would award funds to all Partner Village to support the collaborative team effort and capacity to deliver services in each Partner Village. ANA Notification will be made in mid-September. Unalakleet adopted its Economic Development Plan 2009-2013 which was completed by The Unalakleet Planning Organizations and Kawerak's Community Planning and Development Program.

### Native Village of Savoonga by Gregory Toolie

Tribal coordinator, Sylvia Toolie has been on a month's leave. NVS

contracted with the City and Native Corporation to construct a housing pad for 2 new duplexes for the BSSD with completion in August. The NALEMP program was busy the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter doing a feasibility study on the village at Northeast Cape; Fritz Waghyyi was the project coordinator. There are so many cabins that were demolished by the 1<sup>st</sup> contractors that worked at the NE Cape FUDS site but were never completed. NALEMP will take care of the clean up at the village site. The IRA council had a good training with Charles Parker in July. The airport improvement project has gone well with the apron enlarged, the strip widened and overall improvement completed. The project will close in Oct '09 and resume June, '10. The NVS has approved construction of 2.5 miles of new roads next year. This will include a new road up to the gravel pits. Suicide Prevention coordinator position has been filled with the Native Aspirations program. Amy Toolie was selected. The Rural Cap's weatherization program will hire 12-16 people starting in Jan '10. Island joint meeting took place in Gambell on July 16<sup>th</sup>. There were many items to discuss, among them the military FUDS site clean-up, road construction between Gambell and Savoonga, economic development on the Island and reindeer joint herding. NVS will continue to manage the reindeer herding since Gambell turned over the management in the 1920's. The new school opened on the 24<sup>th</sup> with a dedication ceremony which included the BSSD school board and superintendent on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September. There was a potluck along with Eskimo singing and dancing with groups from Savoonga, New Chaplin, Provideniya and Anadyr, Russia. More is planned for this weekend with Gambell groups and a Sirenkik, Russian group coming. We had a very cool summer with rain, fog and wind. Now that it is fall time, the weather has changed for the better.

### Brevig Mission Tradition Council by Archie Adams

AVEC is working on our new power plant project and also painting the tank farm lines. Tumet is still working on the road improvements; there is a brand new road that wraps around the front of the village. They removed the bridge that connected the oil transfer line from the beach to the school bulk tanks. They removed another foot bridge, connecting East side to West side. They moved Fred Olanna's house, because it was on the right of way. The new Clinic is done. The NSEDC Coastal Waters Clean Up crew work is done. They had a crew of 10 workers, and have rented 5-6 Hondas, and also 3-4 carts from residents. We held a Health Fair Oct 10 at the High School. The BMTC office moved to the multi-purpose facility. School started Aug 24 with 113 students and 4 new teachers. The Head Start Program began September 1 with 18 kids. They now have a certified teacher working there. Our village just had a recent tragedy in August. We have lost 3 young men in the last 8 months. We got a \$10,000 grant for our youth/suicide prevention program. This will really help out our youth start on projects to keep themselves busy instead of getting into trouble.

### Native Village of Koyuk by Merlin Henry

School started Aug 24 with 4 new teachers; Kyle Schneider, Karis Koett, Emily Priest, and Joel Gerweck and 1 long-term substitute; Dianne Hermann. Preschool & Kindergarten started August 31<sup>st</sup>. Welcome to the new and returning teachers! The Coast Guard's and National Guard's medical personnel provided treatment as available, and also gave vaccination to pets. The Coast Guard had a presentation on Boating Safety. Big thanks go out to the dedicated uniformed personnel. The last fuel barge of the season came in August 30, topping off the Corporation's oil & gas tanks and bringing propane. Gas & oil prices are down from last year, from \$7.90 to \$4.13 for oil, and \$7.56 to \$4.49 for gas. The City's heavy equipment is currently in repair, and should be up and running before the winter season. NSHC Representative is Rosemary Otton, with Morris Nassuk as Alternate. According to Patrick Roth, USAF, all of the demolition is complete at Granite Mountain RR Station. All contaminated soil hopefully has been dug up, treated, and/or placed in a landfill or shipped out. All that remains to be done for the season is: cover the landfill, finish shipping off soil and demobilize the camp/equipment. Moose season opened August 1<sup>st</sup>, and there have been a number of moose caught. Subsistence fishing for all who fished was very good, lots of chum, humpies and silvers. The berry crop was about average, with the exception of blueberries, which were not as bountiful in the same places as last year. Hunters are now gearing up for beluga season. ANICA will be installing a Point of Sale system at the Koyuk Native Store and are hoping to have it up and running by October. BLM will be holding New Fire-fighter Training March 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> in Koyuk. The 8-hour HazWoper Refresher Course will be held Sept 21. Agnes Anasogak is the Grant writer for the NVK and is currently being paid under the SNT fund, but the NVK will apply for funding under Kawerak as soon as the cycle opens.

### Nome Eskimo Community by Lester Keller, Jr

NEC has been full of activity over the summer months. With the exception of a couple special meetings, the Tribal Council took time off to enjoy the wonderful weather and partake in camping and subsistence activities. This report highlights a few of the activities and accomplishments since spring. We were asked to assume responsibility for employment referrals and monitoring of Native hire on the new hospital project. In July, we finalized agreements with both IHS and NSHC. Under the agreement, NEC will recruit and screen applicants, conduct drug testing, and make referrals to the General Contractor. This is a Native Preference project, not tribal, local or regional hire preference. In addition, NEC does not retain any authority for hiring on the project; authority is retained by the General Contractor. Under the agreement, we will monitor

*Continued on Page 13*

## Kawerak Village Reports *(continued from page 12)*

Native hire and submit reports to NSHC and IHS; any non-compliance issues will be resolved by IHS and not NEC. Training funds for the project were not approved but we'll partner with Kawerak to identify resources and coordinate training activities. Kendra Nichols will serve as Compliance Officer and we're currently recruiting for an Employment & Training Specialist. This summer, NEC submitted a NAGPRA claim to the New York College of Dentistry for the repatriation of human remains. Upon return, a ceremony and burial will be held at a repatriation burial site located on Sitnasauk Native Corporation lands at Cape Nome. In January, a team comprised of representatives from NEC and Wales traveled to Chicago to assist the Chicago Field Museum with identification of Native artifacts from the Nome and Wales areas. In June, we hosted a luncheon for staff from the Museum to meet with local elders and Native organization representatives and to present an update on the project. A slide show presentation showcasing the artifacts and status of the project was viewed and elders provided additional information to aid in the project. NEC received four binders containing pictures and information on the pieces and project. In August, we hosted a 3-day Progeny and Enrollment training in which tribal coordinators from six regional villages participated. Although other villages expressed a desire to participate they were unable to do so due to limited resources. With this intense training, NEC is better equipped to serve our members and provide more detailed reports for grants management. NEC has once again stepped up to the plate with a contribution of \$18,000 to sponsor the Breakfast Program at the NPS. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year that NEC has sponsored the program. Our 2008 audit was completed and again, we received a clean unqualified audit with no findings. This is due to our strong internal controls and systems, and the exemplary work of our accounting staff. Tribal Services: The Outdoor Club was in full swing this summer and offered many environmental and cultural outings for youth. Our week long cultural camp was held in July, at Tom & BJ Gray's camp on the Fish River. In August, in conjunction with our annual Challenge Life Basketball Camp, we hosted a Community Wellness Festival that included two days of wellness workshops at Old St. Joe's and educational workshops and activities for both youth and parents at the Elementary school. Day three festivities were held at the Rec Center and included a potlatch with entertainment by local and outside groups. During the festival, the Matt Lewis Band held a performance at Airport Pizza and in conjunction with this event we hosted a fund raiser that brought in over \$600 for the NPS Music Program. This event was well received with over 400 people in attendance and we're told that this event is being referred to as "NEC's first annual festival". We hired Jason Floyd as Family Services Director in the Nome office and Glenda Gologergen as ICWA Specialist based in Anchorage. Both bring a lot of experience and expertise that will not only be valuable to NEC but our families as well. More effort is being made to enhance coordination with State agencies to put more focus on intervention and prevention measures when working with families, rather than responding after children are removed from homes. Housing – Under an agreement with Rural Cap and funding from the AHFC, the Nome Weatherization Project is in full swing. Six seasonal positions were created for the project. To date, 9 houses have been weatherized and the crew is working to complete an additional 11 by November 1<sup>st</sup>. We're currently in the middle of a buy-down to purchase a home for a member family and we have two renovation projects scheduled to begin. A HUD review of the program was conducted in June and we're appraised the program continues to run in compliance. Transportation – In June, we passed-thru \$100,000 to the City of Nome for road maintenance activities. In July, an MOA that covers land jurisdiction for our IRR inventory was approved by the Sitnasauk BoD and we're near the point of finalizing an MOA with the City for design & construction activities. We're also taking photos to back-up all routes in our inventory. This summer, we developed Tribal Transportation Improvement Plans for both the IRR and ARRA funds and they've been submitted for inclusion in the national Tribal Transportation Improvement Program. We identified five routes on which to conduct either high float or chip sealing, and are currently working with an engineering firm to complete designs so that we can be "project ready" by next summer. Planning & Development – Our 3-year Communities Empowering Youth grant expires on October 1<sup>st</sup> and Colin Long will be returning to California. Colin has been a tremendous asset and will be greatly missed. Although the grant expires, with carry-over funds we'll continue training activities through the end of the year. The Tribal Council is scheduled to participate in training for ICWA and Council Roles & Responsibilities and we're looking at leadership development as well as other training opportunities for staff. We also retained a consultant to provide recommendations to update our children's codes and ordinances, tribal council and personnel policies, and to draft new enrollment & election ordinances. We will hold our annual meeting on Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> and two tribal council seats will be on the election ballot. Shortly thereafter, the Tribal Council will hold an election of officers.

### Native Village of Shishmaref by Donna Barr

The NVS had a successful Community Wellness picnic that was held July 18<sup>th</sup>. Our local Tannery will be opening again on a seasonal basis that will be from Sept to late Dec 2009. The roads maintenance program has been installing culverts. Our community is concerned about the H1N1 virus spreading. We are thankful that the public health nurses gave prevention information on the Swine Flu virus. We had a successful spring hunt and good berry picking season this year. The seawall project is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of construction. We had a visit from the Coast Guard earlier this month, including their medical team. The Native Store should be receiving

the fuel from the barge; and the prices should drop. We are looking forward to another school year. The Native Village of Shishmaref has been awarded the Integrated Solid Waste management Plan in the amount of \$10,000.

### Native Village of Teller by Norman Menadelook, Sr.

The Community Wellness Coalition was formed with a 2 day workshop involving Kawerak Wellness & NSHC and will meet monthly. The workshop was well attended and generated a lot of good ideas. NVT held their Annual Meeting June 19 that was very informative. Volunteers with the Community Baptist Church held a Bible School this summer and volunteers moved the old playground to the New Elementary School Site. The annual village clean up was held June 30-July 2 with volunteers bringing the trash to the dump and was sponsored by the NVT, with donations from MITC, TNC, MINC and numerous businesses. NVT hosted a Summer Youth Participant from June 22-Aug21. Katie Miller was hired as the Summer Wellness Intern and she coordinated different activities with the youth and held an Elders lunch. NVT donated funds for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Community Picnic and Street Games. Kawerak CPD along with Bering Straits Development Council sponsored 2 Financial Skills workshops (facilitated by Rural Credit Services). Kawerak Tribal Affairs sponsored a Tribal Council Training w/Charles Parker with of AVI on Aug 3-4. The Nome Native Arts Council held a community meeting in Teller August 8. Dust Control solution was applied to all of our streets. The US Coast Guard along with Air Force personnel were here August 21. They brought a Family Doctor, Eye Doctor, and Veterinarians. There were also personnel that came to conduct water and boating safety presentations. JCI School started August 24. Head Start started September 1. An art class was held August 18 for all ages of the community. The School held the Annual Career Fair August 28. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Teller Cultural Festival will be held September 25-26.

### Native Village of Diomede by Patrick F. Omiak Sr.,

The Annual Spring hunt was abundant for walrus, bearded seals, ringed seals and sea birds. Not so often are our spring hunts this fortunate, especially with walrus. There have been a lot of grey whales feeding near the islands as well, been a beautiful site to see. Most everyone that stored and prepared Eskimo foods is pleased with the variety of foods the Bering Sea had to offer. Of course our traditional way of life has changed. We have made modifications for example; the use of freezers for storage, which reduces wooden barrel storage. I am grateful we still have traditional foods even if traditional knowledge has changed. Passenger transportation is at a halt since July 7. This raises a major concern for members of our community to receive regular visits with doctors in Nome or Anchorage. We have been granted emergency medical transport with Evergreen Helicopters. Our Health Aides will not be able to attend NSHC training until transportation services are resolved. All business trips with the City and IRA Council will be cancelled. The City wrote to Congress for emergency support for improving passenger services. There's not much anyone can do but wait to hear from Evergreen Helicopters. We have community members that are stranded on the mainland. During our next annual meeting we will address this issue to find alternatives for passenger transportation services. Drinking water is a major health concern. This year our water had traces of high nitrates and e-coli. We were reminded to boil water to kill e-coli, but boiling water also concentrates the nitrate levels. Not much we can do with nitrates due to the 2.5 million birds nesting here during the spring/summer seasons. The e-coli originated from unchanged filters. The City and Diomede Joint Utilities (DJU) have corrected the e-coli by changing filters and backwashing the water tank. Water Upgrade Project with ANTHC needs to happen. The benefit of this project will bring the water plant building up to code, complete water transmission lines and add another storage tank in preparation of water and sewer. Our storage tanks will not store enough water to handle future water and sewer needs or even to fight fires now. The City is getting impatient with ANTHC and feels our community is being left out. So we wait again for this project that should have already occurred a long time ago. The NVD has applied for a couple of grants. BSRHA-Reduce Crime with Youth Drug and Alcohol activities for \$10,000 for two objectives over a 6 month period. Kuspuk making and traditional hand crab line and equipment making were approved activities for this funding. Once objectives completed, we will celebrate with Eskimo dancing and a potluck. The other grant is funded by the Department of Energy – EECBG \$39,400 repair and retrofit old homes built in the early 70's. Date is unknown for awarding, although the deadline keeps changing. Lt. Diomede Whaling Captains Association had their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting on September 1. The meeting covered elective office consisting of five members, AEWC commissioner, AEWC alternate, and two Elder advisors. Whaling captains would like to have their whaling equipment upgraded. Upgrade block and tackle, pulleys, ropes, handles for butchering blades, ice picks, shovels, tent, camp stove, etc. We may apply for grant funding from NSEDC by November 2009. DJU is willing to store our gun powder in a connex; right now it is stored in each boat captains' home, which is a concern. We are still waiting for community fuel. This year the City and DJU announced they are unable to order community fuel due to cost. Etta Ahkinga, owner of the "Little Store" ordered the community fuel and motor gas with the help of NSEDC Bulk Fuel Loan Program. The fuel order has not been delivered yet but will be happening soon. The City is still waiting for their fuel oil as well. The City and DJU fuel order is for power plant generators, City owned community facilities and heavy equipment. In June 2009 the Native Store installed the first credit card machine in Diomede. The Head Start Teacher's Aide Becky

Kunayak resigned, currently reviewing applicants, unknown when will re-open for school. There are 8-10 children that may attend. Village Clean held June 5<sup>th</sup> & July 10<sup>th</sup>. A lot of trash was collected. More than half were put into the burn box and the rest was dumped directly into the water. This is degrading for our community. We are tired of dumping into the Bering Sea. The only thing we can do now is reduce buying junk and start recycling. NSEDC Clean-Up Program started Aug 16-30. The major beach clean-up consisted of 6 laborers and 1 heavy equipment operator. We did not expect this project to happen until summer 2010. There was enough time and money for the labors to move old freezers, tin and wood that was around the homes. Having this occur early will prepare for next year's barging out bulk junk and debris. Our beach is the main hub of our community where subsistence activities take place, bulk storage such as snow machines, boats, motors, heavy equipment, etc. The beach looks more orderly, which replenishes some community pride. Next year all the bulk junk will be shipped via barge that will be arranged with NSEDC. We are very thankful to the 6 laborers and the heavy equipment operator for all their excellent, hard work. There are 3 projects delayed until further notice that should have been completed. These are: Board Walk Repair, Water Upgrade Project, and Army National Guard Armory Building. The contractor with the board walk was not able to travel to complete what was needed to be done. Waiting to hear from the National Guard Armory officials, they plan to have a community meeting to decide if this building should stay or be torn down. If torn down there are community members and the Native Store that would like to salvage to renovate homes or renovate the Native Store building. The community of is in dire need of assistance with seeking passenger transportation. All information and assistance is greatly appreciated. The NVD is seeking donations for the Thanksgiving feast. We are planning to serve a variety of foods not found in Diomede such as reindeer, moose, fish, musk ox, and an assortment of berries as our salmonberry season was not a very good this year. Arrangements can be made with Frances, Tribal Coordinator at 686-2175. NVD ICWA Department is seeking funding to bring a person from Arizona for one week from the Recovery Foundation for High Risk Kids. This will allow parenting classes, drug and alcohol abuse, anger management, and understanding the importance of our children. The City has 5 seats open for City Council during the Oct elections. AEC will have 3 seats open. Celebration of ending of a good hunt, lots of murr eggs, greens, and Eskimo potatoes gathered. 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities were held on the helio-pad and the community feast had a good turnout. First day of school started Aug 24, students were excited to return to school. This year saw a huge haul out for walruses, there were so many passing and feeding. This hasn't happened in years and the sight was magnificent.

### Stebbins Community Association by Allen Atchak

Subsistence activities from spring to now have been good. My village did well getting ogruks (my crew landed 8) and belugas, no reports of walrus landed. I don't know at this point how we're doing with the moose season, hunters have gone out to Nunaaq and Pitmiktalik drainages and currently unit 18 is open and some people from Stebbins have went to Kotlik to hunt moose. Salmon berry, blue berry and black berry picking was great this season. Canadian and lesser geese, ducks, swans, cranes are plentiful. My community did well with salmon subsistence. Currently we are on "whale watch" for belugas and they have been coming around area waters of St. Michael and Stebbins and reports of killer whales going after the belugas. Stebbins' hunters have landed 8 beluga. And typically we had some bear problems close to the village. We had 2 reindeer operations and handled over 1,000 reindeer and did not get them all as usual. Our reindeer corral will need to be relocated to our traditional reindeer camp at Quyaq, some ten miles south of Stebbins. We currently have the existing corral on SNC land. Handling and driving are problematic with-sightseers- lots of Hondas and trucks that make it harder to drive reindeer when we're trying to herd the reindeer in. Stebbins will be busy in 2010 with planned projects on our routine roads; Bristol Engineering is on the move. Bristol Engineering and Northern Land Use of Fairbanks were in Stebbins recently conducting a preliminary, mandatory research (archaeological) within the town site and area of impact with the roads project. ANTHC Engineers have done studies on the new site for the sewage lagoon; the 14 c 3'd land that was conveyed to the City and pending is the water reservoir and facility building. We will be getting a new water line coming and going to Clear Lake where our water is drawn from. We won't be getting running water or flush toilets for a while yet. The City is the lead entity on the water and sewer project. Census 2010 is on track and met with George Ashenfelter, a Census official. They are currently recruiting for Census takers. Hired Census workers will get training in the village prior to official start of census enumeration. Routine Roads Maintenance Project has commenced as of 9/9/09, to areas identified to be improved. We experienced technical and mechanical situations with equipment. Our roads were in dire need of improvement. Various equipment was rented from the City, Tomet, St. Michael Native Corporation and Stebbins Roads department. Airport improvement is slated for 2010/2011. DOT/PF has funds now. We have requested by resolution that our airport get widened to 75' and 4000' long. The old IRA Office renovation project is being turned into 4-1 bedroom apartments and should be near completion by December. Sorry to report our Foreman Terry Kontagan has suffered a stroke. Our prayers are for him and his recovery and to family and friends. Stebbins Native Corporation is building a new corporation office across from the IRA building. EPA/IGAP Staff Jerome Pete, Tribal Coordinator and Mary Ann Matthias, Council member will be attending the

*Continued on Page 15*

## H.R. Announces Employee of the Month: June ~ September 2009

June 2009

**Dominique Thomas, Courier/Support Clerk**



Dominique is a dedicated and hard working employee. She is always on time with the inter-office schedule she is always accommodating when staff need her to make extra stops. She has a positive attitude and a great work ethic. We are happy to have her in the office, because she likes to break the stress with laughter. We are lucky to be able to work with her.

July 2009

**Krystal Wongittilin, Child Care Provider**



Krystal is the head provider for the 3-5 year old children. She has researched and implemented age appropriate curriculum. She keeps parents up to date about their children and their daily activities. She has spent weekends creating projects, organizing the center and continuing her education towards for a Child Development Associate Certificate.

August 2009

**Frank Myomick, Village Transportation Planner**



In addition to Frank's normal work, he operates the equipment for the bi-annual region wide dust control project for the communities under KTP. He has spent many hours spraying the community streets with a dust control palliative. The program greatly reduces fugitive dust, resulting in decreasing the exposure of residents to the air quality health issues.

September 2009

**Jacob Carol, Information System Technician, Nome**



Jacob is a huge asset to the IS depart, and was able to jump right into the job with virtually no training. He traveled to the villages for antenna installations. He has a great rapport with staff and routinely volunteers to help with various Kawerak functions. When the work in the IS Depart. is slow; he shows initiative to ask if anyone needs help with their projects and finds other tasks to keep the department running smoothly.



### Kawerak Summer Intern Program

by Dawn Salesky, VP Education, Employment & Training

Pictured to the left are some of Kawerak's Education, Employment and Training's Summer 2009 Intern participants. They worked in various departments at Kawerak such as: the Child Advocacy Center, Fisheries, Accounting and the Head Start. From left to right, back row is: Rachelle Tate, Denise Pollock, Candice Amaktoolik,

Curtis Alvanna and Adem Boeckman. Front Row: Ruby Outwater, Tamara and Cheryl Ongtawasruk. For more information about the Youth Employment Services Winter Intern Program starting in January 2010 contact, Luisa Machuca, Youth Employment Director at (907)443-4361 or via email at [lmachuca@kawerak.org](mailto:lmachuca@kawerak.org)

### Summer Intern gains Scientific Knowledge by Adem Boeckmann, Summer Intern

**M**y name is Adem Boeckmann, I was raised in Nome and spend my summers there. Currently, I attend UAA for a Bachelors of Science in Biology. I was employed this summer as an intern for the Kawerak Fisheries Department under Mike Sloan. Some of my day to day duties were being trained to operate most of the technology used by the Fisher-

ies department and act as an office/field assistant for Mr. Sloan.

The minor project of the summer was helping NSEDC set up the Pilgrim and Eldorado River fish counting weirs. As for the main project conducting scientific research, Mr. Sloan and I will be mapping and observing the Eldorado River for the

amount as well as quality of salmon spawning habitat, also known as redds, specifically for chum salmon. All of which helps me by gaining hands on experience in scientific procedure as well as the ins-and-outs of office work.

*Pictured is Adem working on a weir with Martin Lincoln. Photo by Mike Sloan.*



## The Hospital Replacement Project: Construction will restart Spring 2010

by Kendra Nichols, Nome Eskimo Community Employment Officer

**Nome Eskimo Community** will be referring qualified Alaska Native and American Indian applicants to the NSHC Hospital Replacement Project Contractors and Sub Contractors. NEC has no hiring authority. Interested applicants must complete the NSHC Hospital Replacement Project application provided by NEC. The application is available electronically at NEC and Kawerak websites, at the Nome Job Center and applications will be mailed to the local IRA offices.

**\*PLEASE NOTE\*** Per the contractor, the maximum number of individuals employed at the peak of the project is 75 (this includes special skilled workforce such as: sheet metal workers, medical



equipment installers, crane operators, ironworkers, etc.). They are expecting to have a maximum of 20 laborers, however the workforce will fluctuate throughout the project depending on need.

**Tips on completing applications:**

- Complete the entire application, explain in detail the duties completed and equipment/tools you have worked with.
- Highlight all commercial construction experience.

- List all construction and safety training you completed and attach all CURRENT certificates or supportive documentation.

Please check the NEC website periodically for notices and bulletins regarding employment opportunities for this project. All candidates must pass pre-employment drug screening. For more information, please contact the Employment Specialist at Nome Eskimo Community (907)443-2246 or visit our website: [www.necalaska.org](http://www.necalaska.org)

Kawerak, Inc.

## Savoonga School Dedication and Celebration

Photos and article by Karin L. Sonnen, Rangeland Management Specialist with U.S. Department of Agriculture

On August 31<sup>st</sup> Diego Ayala, Nome DC; Rose Fosdick, VP Natural Resources Division of Kawerak; and I traveled to the village of Savoonga, located on St. Lawrence Island, to meet with the IRA and Reindeer Committee to talk about NRCS programs, discuss their reindeer herd, grazing management plan and look at a trail that is in need of improvement which leads to their reindeer corral.

While we were there, the commu-

nity of 800 dedicated their new K-12 school, the Hogarth Kingeekuk, Sr. Memorial School. We were invited to attend the celebration and potluck by the school staff and community. In attendance of the celebration were three dance groups from Russia, the Savoonga Dance Group and Drummers (who perform all over



Alaska) and all the residents of the community.

Three different languages were spoken at the ceremony and the dances and dress were wonderful. Some of the dances were known and performed by both Savoonga and Russian dancers. The dancing and drumming went on for hours; sometimes all the kids from the community would jump to their feet and join in, and sometimes just a few people would come up and dance. Rose, whose family is from Wales, explained to me that

some songs are danced by families who have a relative way back who wrote the song. Some songs the boys danced, and some the girls danced; and all dances told a story. Even a reindeer dance was performed!

I hope all who have the opportunity to travel to remote places in the state can take advantage of witnessing something special like this once in a while. Be sure and accept an invitation to such cultural celebrations when the opportunity presents itself!

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The 2010 Permanent Fund Dividend applications will be available online (no paper booklets) January 1, 2010. Available again this year, you can donate a portion of your PFD to a nonprofit of choice.

After you complete the application you will see the option called **PFD Charitable Contributions Program (Pick.Click.Give)**. Click and follow the instructions to make a donation. You can search for a nonprofit of your choice (including Kawerak) and give a part or all of your dividend to any number of organizations.

In 2009 a total 5,500 individuals gave \$550,000 to organizations across the state. Kawerak is thankful for the generous contributions of the following individuals: Melanie Edwards, Eileen Norbert and an anonymous donor for giving \$275.00. Kawerak will use the donations to further our vision of building the Beringia Museum of Culture and Science.

To learn more about the PFD Charitable Contributions Program go to [www.pickclickgive.org](http://www.pickclickgive.org) and find your favorite nonprofit organization today.

## Kawerak Village Reports (continued from page 13)

EPA/IGAP Region 10 Tribal Leaders Summit. Secretary Becky Odinzoff is in Washington, DC with Emily Hughes on NSHC/Indian Health Service related issues for our region. I am working on getting a Type I Fire Fighter crew established for Stebbins (waiting on a response from Clinton Northway w/TCC who he has experience setting up type I crews). Stebbins has 2 crews and we have enough EFF's to possibly set up one type I crew. Type I crew (i.e.) hotshots and smokejumpers fall in this category and they have more formalized hands-on and classroom training. We'll see how this develops this coming winter, contingent upon a response from Mr. Clinton Northway or BLM. IRA Annual meeting was held September 26. Stebbins will be a busy village next summer in 2010 we will be working on water and sewer, weatherization, roads, town site and the new subdivision. Here's wishing all a safe travels and a successful fall subsistence to all.

### Chinik Eskimo Community by Irene Aukongak

First of all, we hope that everyone had a great summer. Most people in Golovin were able to dry and put fish away for the winter. The salmon and blue berries were plentiful this summer. It seems that summer has gone by too fast. School started on Aug 24. Head Start began Sept 1 with 10 students enrolled. This is the biggest head start class we have had in years. A welcome back to school potluck was held, with introduction of two new teachers. We had a great turnout. Highlights of activities that took place in Golovin since the last report were: We had a Beach Trail Improvement Project; a trail was built above the main high water tidemarks, which lead from the end of the dump road to Kitchavik. Chinik was

able to hire 8 to 10 guys to work on the project, which took approximately 2 weeks to complete. It had to be repaired once already after our first high water/storm. Funds to pay for this project came from Kawerak Transportation. Chinik is also working jointly with the Golovin Native Corporation on the Rock Quarry Project. And also with the Trail Hardening Project, which is in conjunction with the USDA. The projects should start next summer. We would like to welcome Sherri Lewis back to her position and also to welcome Donna Brown, our new Tribal Coordinator. We also would like to welcome Carol Oliver, our new EPA Assistant. She works alongside Toby Anungazuk, EPA Coordinator. Both are doing great jobs and a lot is being accomplished. Golovin will also be getting new Covenant Church Pastors who are Brad and Julie Olsen. They will be arriving in Golovin within the next few months. We are very happy that they have decided to come to Golovin; they were Youth Leaders before and traveled to Golovin every summer to hold "Bible School" with our kids for the last 10 years or so. Dust control was also done around August 2009, it was mentioned that this should be done in early June instead towards fall season which is real late by then.

### Native Village of Gambell by Eddie Ungott

The Village of Gambell had a fairly regular spring with plenty of thick ice forming. Whale hunting was minimal with one whale caught. Walrus hunting was great with more than 100,000 animals passing through, mostly females. Bearded seals were also abundant. Some salmon showed up kind of late. The U.S. Coast Guard came to our village to teach people about boating safety and also came

with a medical team. Our office had a little turnover in our Financial Officer position, but we finally came up with a good qualified person. Gambell, along with Savoonga, drafted a marine mammal ordinance in the event of some kind of restrictions that might arise. Global warming is more evident with permafrost melting causing lots of bumps and lakes drying up. Our 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities were a hit as usual. Everyone had a very good time. There was a run of emperor geese passing thru from Siberia, next will be the snow geese. Also, seal hunters are pretty successful this fall so far. As for berry pickers, there was a bare minimum on those because of not much rain.

### Village of Solomon by Katherine Stettinger

This summer was good with our Bed & Breakfast growing steadily. We've had several customers throughout the summer stay as well as some groups. We received the Roads Maintenance moneys for 2009 and we have projects in mind to be completed within the next few weeks we have left. We also had a Summer Intern, Cameron Piscoya. He helped clean-up our office space. He also organized our summer youth camp but it was rescheduled due to a lack of interest. New incentives as well as other ideas are being worked on to improve youth participation. We are also working with Anahma Saito to develop a Local Economic Development Plan, and Council workshop with Charles Parker for a Strategic Plan will be taking place in early October. Lastly, Walter Rose will be working with us to apply for the Department of Energy block grant. So planning for that is in the works.

Kawerak, Inc.

# BSRHA starts Weatherization Program for the Region

by Carleen Jack, Bering Strait Regional Housing Authority Grant Writer

Bering Strait Regional Housing Authority is providing energy efficient weatherization assistance to all communities within the Bering Straits Region. This funding is made possible by Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC). If you are interested please call us for an application or visit your local IRA. The Alaska State Legislature recently passed a bill authorizing a program aimed at helping all Alaskans reduce their energy bills and making their homes more energy efficient. The weatherization service is free to individuals and families; who are renting an apartment or own their home. Eligibility for this program requires that the applicant's household annual income be no greater than the median income for the region as determined by HUD (see income guidelines below). BSRHA will provide the weatherization service at no cost to qualified applicants. Additionally, the homes or apartments we weatherize do not have to be HUD houses.

For households who are not eligible for the weatherization program, AHFC also offers the

Home Energy Rebate Program. BSRHA will not be directly involved in the Rebate Program; for more information about the program call (877)AK-REBATE.

BSRHA is currently conducting outreach efforts to all communities in the region about the weatherization program; we are receiving applications, soliciting and prioritizing applications, and will be conducting energy assessments on the homes of eligible applicants. We also have enough funds in the program to hire a local person in each of the Bering Straits Region villages as an intake specialist who would be responsible for going house to house collecting weatherization applications and assisting applicants if needed. This is a clerical position as needed and would pay \$15.00-\$19.00 DOE. We are accepting employment applications until the positions are filled.

BSRHA plans to get weatherization projects going in all of our communities simultaneously, or close as possible. This strategy will take a

little more time up front to get things rolling, but in the long run should allow us to speed up the program and meet the needs of more of residents quicker. BSRHA has previously completed roof and attic repairs in Savoonga under the weatherization program. BSRHA is currently weatherizing its 4-plex apartment; replacing siding around the building, installing new windows, electrical upgrades and adding a new heating system. Future weatherization work will include; additional insulation (where needed), air-sealing/tightening, installation of functioning ventilation, window/door replacement, skirting repairs, and other various replacements/upgrades which will be cost effective and reduce the energy consumption to homes in the Bering Straits Region.

Thank you all for attending the annual Indian Housing Planning Conference, it was a great success. The housing authority has sent the IRAs a list of concerns and priorities via e-mail and fax. Please review them and make changes if needed. We are getting ready to write up and submit our housing plan for next year. Your IRA should gather the whole community and review the list of priorities to make sure it addresses the needs specific to your village. If you have any questions please call Boogles or Carleen at (907)443-5256 or toll-free at (800)478-5255. Quyana Cakneq (Thanks much).

Nome Census Area Adjusted Median Income								
Family Size	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Each Add
Income	\$49,100	\$56,100	\$63,100	\$70,100	\$75,700	\$81,300	\$86,900	\$5,608

## Uqaaqtuaq News

Kawerak, Inc.  
 PO Box 948  
 Nome, AK 99762  
 (907)443-5231 phone  
 www.kawerak.org



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### Kawerak Services Directory

Administration	443-5231
Accounting	443-4334
Human Resources	443-4373
Information Systems	443-4357
Planning	443-4345
Beringia Museum of Culture & Science	443-4340
Tumet Industries, LLC	387-0630
<i>Community Services Division</i>	443-4246
Community Planning & Development	877-219-2599 or 443-4248
Tribal Affairs	443-4257
Village Public Safety Officer Program	443-4252
<i>Education &amp; Employment Training Division</i>	800-450-4341 or 443-4358
Childcare Services	443-9073
Community Education	800-478-7574 or 443-4468
Employment & Training	443-4358
General Assistance	800-478-5230 or 443-4370
Higher Education Scholarships	443-4358
Village Based Training	443-4388
Vocational Rehabilitation	877-759-4362 or 443-4362
Youth Employment	443-4361
<i>Children &amp; Family Services Division</i>	443-4247
Child Advocacy Center	443-4379
Children & Family Services	800-478-5153 or 443-4393
Head Start	800-443-9050 or 443-9062
Wellness Program	443-4393
<i>Natural Resources Division</i>	443-4377
Eskimo Walrus Commission	877-277-4392 or 443-4380
Eskimo Heritage Program	443-4386
Fisheries Program	443-4384
Land Management Services	800-443-4316 or 443-4323
Reindeer Herders Association	443-4378
Subsistence Resources	443-4265
<i>Transportation</i>	443-4395

Uqaaqtuaq News is a quarterly newsletter produced by Kawerak with contributions from UAF Northwest Campus, Norton Sound Health Corporation & other partner agencies. Articles and photos can be sent to [djames@kawerak.org](mailto:djames@kawerak.org) or call (907)443-4345.

"Uvlaakun sulii" translated in Inupiaq language means: *More tomorrow!* Quyanna!