**Sled dog racing**

Mushers ready to kick off season's biggest races.

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**Life at 40 below**

Exploring the physics of deep subzero temperatures.

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**Whalers take title**

In a showdown of the state’s last two Class 3A state champions, the Barrow Whalers came out on top.

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**Book sheds light on North Slope history through family stories**

Beverly Patkotak Grinage recently published her first book

**BY SHADY GROVE OLIVER**

The Arctic Sounder

When Beverly Patkotak Grinage sat down to write a book about her family, she went wherever the story took her. She pored through library books and old reports, sought out help from archivists and experts from Washington to the North Slope and put together all the stories her mother had told her that she’d meticulously collected on scraps of paper over time.

Her journey of exploration, study and memory culminated in her new book, “Starvation to Salvation: Paul Patkotak, Apostle of the North.” The Sounder spoke with Grinage about her family, history and what it means to remember. This is a portion of that interview.

**Q:** Can you tell me about when you started writing this book and how the idea came to you?

**A:** The idea of writing a book about my family’s history came to me in 2016. My mother, Beverly Patkotak, was a central figure in our family’s history on the North Slope, and I was inspired by her stories and the legacy she left behind. I started with her journals, which were filled with detailed accounts of our life in the arctic, and began to compile her stories and mine into a narrative.

**Holiday storm wreaks havoc in Kivalina**

Residents report dislodged roofs, broken stoves after blizzard

**BY SHADY GROVE OLIVER**

The Arctic Sounder

A winter storm in Kivalina brought challenging conditions to the village around the start of the new year. Residents reported dislodged roofs and broken stoves in the wake of the storm, which saw wind gusts topping 65 mph for the better part of two days.

“The storm was unusual for me,” said local resident Colleen Swan. “The gusts went up as high as in the 70s according to some people in town. People on social media were talking about their houses shaking. An Elder in Kivalina was advising...”

**Kiana fox tests positive for rabies**

Residents warned to take precautions

**BY SHADY GROVE OLIVER**

The Arctic Sounder

City officials are asking residents to take extra precautions this week after a fox shot in town on New Year’s Eve tested positive for rabies.

“About a week ago, my two dogs were outside and a fox came up to it and... ended up biting one of my dogs,” said City Administrator Ely Cyrus. “The fox came back and started to attack my dogs again, so I shot it and sent it out.”

**People We Know**

**GRAND FINALE**

Above, the sky over Utqiaġvik is aglow with the bright pinks, blues, greens, purples, and yellows of the annual New Year’s fireworks display.

**PHOTO BY JERICA AAMODT**

Utqiaġvik residents climb up onto snow berms for a better look at the New Year’s fireworks display.

**PHOTO BY BRADLEY MANULUK STEVENS**

Utqiaġvik is aglow with the bright pinks, blues, greens, purples, and yellows of the annual New Year’s fireworks display.
Tribal groups condemn federal plan to open up millions of acres to mining interests

**BY ALEX DEMBARAN**
Arctic Daily News

More than two dozen Alaska tribes are protesting a Trump Administration land-use proposal that, if approved, could open millions of acres of Alaska to future mining in a large chunk of rural Alaska.

For the first time in decades, the Bureau of Land Management is taking public comments on proposed updates of resource management plans for 13.5 million acres it manages in the state's western and Interior regions.

Agency officials say they won't select a final plan, known as the Bering Sea-Western Interior Resource Management Plan, until next year.

The agency announced its preferred plan in March, generating alarm among villages in an area larger than Switzerland, where subsistence hunting and fishing is the primary land-use, tribal leaders say.

The preferred proposal, known as Alternative C, would make mining an option on 13.4 million acres, nearly all the land under consideration. That is up from the current 8.7 million acres, established in plans developed in the 1980s.

Officials with the agency said last month that four land-use drafts are still on the table for possible selection, including two that would greatly restrict mining and other development compared to the preferred plan.

They say they're not ignoring the tribes. They have held dozens of public meetings in the region to understand tribal concerns as the draft proposals were developed in recent years.

“We are analyzing comments and taking them into consideration,” said Ted Murphy, the agency’s associate state director in Anchorage.

The tribes say the agency has repeatedly ignored them. Officials have rejected their requests for special protections along rivers where they lay claim to runs of sockeye, chinook and Coho salmon. That includes lands near the Yukon and Kuskokwim rivers where they say mining would be an optimal activity for the first time.

This summer, 26 tribes from the state’s northwest, southwest and Interior regions formed the Bering Sea-Western Interior Tribal Commission to fight the proposal.

They argue that the agency wants to make a “massive change to allowable land use.” Resource extraction is the “overriding principle” of the update to the land-use plan, according to a statement from the group last month.

“We want our watersheds in particular protected,” said Paul Mountain, a group member and president of the village of Shishmaref, which is 23 miles from False Pass and 20 miles from Nome.

“We want to make sure our salmon will be there for future generations.”

The proposal has drawn national attention, with left-leaning groups such as the Center for American Progress asserting that it’s part of an effort led by the Trump Administration to liquidate federal lands for the benefit of commercial interests.

A major Alaska Native corporation and landowner in the area, Calista Corp., has told the agency it supports a land-use proposal, known as Alternative D, that could open the door for more development than the preferred plan.

Calista has also expressed concern about the agency’s interaction with tribes, including a letter to the agency in September sent with Doyon Limited, another major Native corporation and landowner in the area.

Thom Leonard, a spokesman with Calista, said the regional Native corporation has “advocated for direct and proactive consultation” between the agency and tribes, Native village corporations and Calista.

Eric Tausch, a BLM spokesman, said in an email that it’s very unlikely mining would actually occur on the land, based in part on minimal past interest.

Most of the acreage has low mineral potential, he said. Only about 54,000 acres has “medium-to-high” potential.

Also, mining would not occur in any fish-specific state and federal environmental permitting reviews and limits.

“It’s important to understand that the Resource Management Plan does not authorize any specific activity,” the email from Tausch said.

Mickey Stickman, first chief in Niyok, said the tribes don’t oppose mining. They just want to protect fish spawning grounds and other areas that are important for wildlife.

He said he’s not reassured by the agency’s claim that mining probably won’t occur. “If that’s the case, then why open it up?” he said.

Eugene Paul, the chair of the new tribal commission, said the preferred plan could allow mining starting 10 miles outside Holy Cross along the Yukon River where salmon travel.

“We don’t want it that close to our village,” said Paul, first chief in that village of about 200.

“We live off the land, but the agency won’t listen to the group’s concerns, he said.

He and others say the tribes have asked the agency to designate millions of acres near rivers as “areas of critical environmental concern” to help protect important fisheries or cultural sites.

The preferred plan identifies no such areas, a fact sheet from the agency says.

However, that plan would include “some management actions to minimize impacts,” the statement said. If mining were allowed, operators would have to follow the resource agency’s best-management standards and practices, Tausch said.

Murphy said the agency had heard the concern, even if they were “not fully agreeing.”

“With the limited amounts of mining that we do have in the state, we have to continue those taxes, or are we going to flip to something that’s more equitable?” the governor said

**State Troopers report**

At about 7 a.m. on Dec. 24, an off-duty Alaska State Trooper reported an unknown vehicle hit the rear bumper of one of the trooper patrol vehicles that were parked near the roadway by trooper housing, which caused the trooper vehicle to hit a second vehicle, which also belonged to troopers, that was parked next to it.

Following an investigation, troopers arrested Russell Williams, 41, of Kotzebue, for driving under the influence and reckless driving. He was transported to Kotzebue Regional Jail.

A volcano in Alaska’s Aleutian Islands began erupting Friday morning, with a pilot reporting an ash cloud estimated as high as five miles above the ground.

Shishaldin Volcano, which erupted briefly last month, was sending up a cloud of volcanic ash that was moving southeast at 50 knots, the National Weather Service said. No communities were expected to see ashfall as of late Friday morning.

Shishaldin Volcano erupted for about three minutes the morning of Dec. 12, producing an ash cloud that reached up to 25,000 feet.
Remote attendance option is open for rural Alaska practitioners

BY SHADY GROVE OLIVER

The Arctic Sounder

This week, the Alaska Nurses Association is hosting a confer- ence to work with rural Alaskans who think about caring for victims of violence.

“I think this is going to be a new way of looking at respond- ing to violence in our communi- ties and helping us make a change,” said Dr. Angela Trujillo, an associate professor at the University of Alaska Anchorage’s School of Nursing.

The association is partnering with the Academy of Forensic Nursing and the Alaska Council on the Prevention of Health to host the event, which will present a multidisciplinary approach to this type of patient care.

“We all have specialty practice, but we all recognize that really, the best way to help our communi- ties and help patients who have been victimized and who have suffered different kinds of vio- lence is to get evaluated and pro- vided care,” she said.

Trujillo has been working for over a year urging the state to adopt this framework, she said.

The conference will bring together nurses, social service providers, law enforcement and others to talk about the intersection of their work and patient care.

One of the things that kind of goes along with that is if you’re going to develop a new training program, you have to have the ability to say hey, this is why you got to have health care,” she said. “And so we thought about how can we best promote the generalist model of care.”

That led to the idea for a confer- ence. While it’s being held in Anchorage, it will be open to practitioners throughout the state who want to attend remotely.

“At the Alaska Nurses Association, we’ve talked about how we do improve our rural attendance options. We actually have a monthly one-hour event that we’ve been doing. About a year ago, we added a Zoom option so people in rural communities can get online and Zoom in,” she explained. “It had some hiccups, but we’re going to trial it for this conference, so we’re seeing if it’s a virtual atten- dance option.”

There’s a diverse lineup of speakers for the event including one who will talk about the demand side of sex trafficking. Another will address updates to mandatory reporting. There will also be a panel of experts to cover relevant Alaska laws and statutes.

Anecdotal evidence shows that it can take patients anywhere from seven to 11 visits with a health care provider to begin addressing issues of violence in their home or personal life, Trujillo said. That’s one of the motivations behind this type of well-rounded approach; she wants to see that number go down.

“That’s provided that the pro- vider has actually asked the questions,” she said. “There’s lots of providers who are super uncomfortable asking these ques- tions, so this is another way of putting that out there, that pro- viders need more training and understanding on how to improve their questioning of patients so we’re giving them more holistic care. Patients want to talk about what’s happening and they want advice, but a lot of times they won’t discuss it unless they’re asked.”

She hopes through this type of educational opportunity that more providers from different back- grounds can get comfortable broaching the subject with their patients and providing access to resources on getting additional help.

The other impetus behind the conference is to have a conversa- tion about different types of vio- lence Alaskans may face. There has been a lot of focus in recent years on sexual assault, which is good, Trujillo said, especially given the prevalence of that type of violence in the state.

“But I actually have developed a generalist training so that you can train nurses and providers how to respond to victims of vio- lence regardless of age, regard- less of whether it’s a sexual assault or not,” she said. “The goal behind it is the providers will have this training and those providers who need the specialty child abuse or sexual assault evaluations will go to those pro- grams, but that we’re taking care of the needs of other patients who have experienced violence.”

The conference will also take a look at the benefits of a trauma-informed care approach. Trujillo said she’s excited to see how a speaker who will delve into that topic in depth.

“(Trauma-informed care) really applies to all patients that you see because we live with a num- ber of people who have been vic- timized, whether it’s sexual assault, domestic violence, or something else, many of our patients come in with a trauma background, and so knowing how to work with any patients with that trauma-informed care focus is really essential,” she said.

The conference is slated to take place Jan. 8-9 at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Virtual event options will be set up at https://www.uaa.alaska.edu/knhs/ or on the event page at https://www.aapaonline.com/ CourseDetail.aspx?Course-Id=204979.
T he revelation that Gov. Mike Dunleavy parroted corporate talking points in his efforts to lobby the Trump administration to open the Pebble Mine concerns every Alaskan who cares about wild salmon and strong local economies. And it reveals a disturbing trend that ignores the rule of law and poses a direct threat to our democracy.

Recent media reports show Dunleavy took verbatim the words and arguments framed by the Pebble public relations team to influence the Trump administration’s permitting decisions. Of course, the governor has tried to normalize this behavior by suggesting it occurs all the time.

But it’s not normal, and it shouldn’t happen, ever. Our Alaska Constitution embraces the right to life, the right to travel, the right to own the fish and water resources of our great state. Our state government is charged with a solemn responsibility — a fiduciary duty to protect those resources. And the Dunleavy administration is failing to meet that promise of our current and future Alaskans. That means the state is supposed to act as a neutral arbiter, calling balls and strikes but not taking sides.

Gov. Mike Dunleavy is failing Alaska

By Bob Shavelson
For the Arctic Sounder

Gov. Mike Dunleavy shouldn’t wait to get real about IDs

More than 70,000 Alaskans live off the road system, according to the U.S. Census. But they also live off our commercial airline trips are a part of daily life. For many rural Alaskans, air travel is a necessity for everything from medical care to grocery shopping.

Soon, however, all Alaskans will have to request a “REAL ID,” a new requirement issued from the Department of Homeland Security in response to recommendations by the 9/11 Commission in 2005 in an effort to guard against terrorist attacks on the United States.

According to the federal agency, the new identification standards are an effort to make IDs more secure for Alaskans, that means a plane ride that can cost hundreds of dollars on top of lost time and the $40 cost of the new identification.

When the REAL ID was originally proposed more than a decade ago, it was largely rejected by Alaska lawmakers, who called for a delay of the program and later voted against the use of state resources to comply. But more recently, federal officials warned Alaska that it would not be granted any extra time to comply.

While the state DMV site says the agency is working with community partners to increase access to DMV services, funding for that outreach is still unapproved. The Alaska Department of Administration Commissioner Kelly Tshibaka asked for $60,000 to help rural Alaskans obtain the REAL ID. That’s not a huge number, but the state has made local communities even on the road system have been overwhelmed with the stampede of residents applying for the new identification.

In Anchorage, DMV officials may have to set up an additional lane to focus on processing the requests for REAL IDs.

Sen. Donny Olson of Gulkovin recently raised the issue, asking Alaska Gov. Mike Dunleavy to ask federal officials, and even the president, for an extension of the REAL ID deadline, as well as funding for outreach efforts to rural Alaska.

As he pointed out in an interview with KNOM, a rural Alaskan could find him or herself stranded in Anchorage, unable to fly home out of our community this fall and didn’t have their REAL ID yet.

For most of America, air travel is optional, a choice that can be replaced by traveling to your destination by car. For a large portion of Alaska, however, air travel is almost a form of public transportation, albeit an expensive one. While nine months may seem like plenty of time for Alaskans to all find their way to the DMV office and obtain their new flight-worthy ID cards, this will require them to consider the expense, the time needed to travel to a hub community and the number of documents one has to round up. It is almost certain that many rural Alaskans won’t be ready by the Oct. 1 deadline with a significant and widespread outreach effort. And then, could rural Alaskans be kept from essential medical appointments, work-related training, educational opportunities and other important activities by this new regulation?

If no relief comes from the federal level, it is essential that the state quickly figure out how to ensure that rural Alaskans are not stranded in their communities by a regulation that could have been phased in over the past decade instead of thrown together in less than two years. In the meantime, rural Alaskans who are traveling to hub communities would be well-advised to put in some time gathering your documents and plan to spend an afternoon in the DMV office getting properly papered. You can find a full list of accepted documentation for the REAL ID at doa.alaska.gov/dmv/akol/ID News.htm.

Kelly Tsibaka asked for $60,000 to help our communities, funding for that outreach is still unapproved. The Alaska Department of Administration Commissioner Kelly Tshibaka asked for $60,000 to help rural Alaskans obtain the REAL ID. That’s not a huge number, but the state has made local communities even on the road system have been overwhelmed with the stampede of residents applying for the new identification.

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January 9, 2020

Time for a conversation about the Alaska we want

In a matter of weeks, our Legislature will begin deliberations on our state’s budget for the Fiscal Year 2021. There is no doubt we have challenges. The reserve funds that once held more than $16 billion lie nearly empty. Our energy-dependent government, Alaska possesses no cash-printing machines. Any solution to our fiscal crisis must come from within the revenues we have. The current programs and services on which we spend money. However, we must have to look at the state we have built well. According to economists, our three-year recession is finally at an end. Our private sector economy is leading the way with a 4.1% increase in gross domestic product — the third-highest in the nation. Unemployment remains at historic lows, and the jobs we created are outsourced over the past year. Perhaps telling, hundreds of these jobs are in the construction industry.

Our state’s fiscal situation is the result of a renaissance is underway. Private investment has increased by $1.1 billion, and last year was the region’s best year in more than a decade. Oil industry wages also grew at 7% — nearly double the national average. In fact, taxis are already active in Alaska with a testing facility in Delta Junction and a battery energy storage project in Homer. But economic growth alone will not solve our budget issues in the short term. Shared sacrifice is the only path forward to get our fiscal footing. The proposed budget I have submitted to the Legislature for its review and discussion acknowledges this reality while also protecting the priorities of Alaskans — the same priorities that I promised to fight for when I was elected last November.

That means continuing our path toward a safer Alaska. After passing landmark sexual assault legislation and hiring more troopers than in any other year in the past decade, my proposal budgets funds an additional 15 troopers and three prosecutors. The Department of Corrections budget will see an increase of 7%, and the judiciary will receive extra funding for public defenders and guardians.

It also means fully funding K-12 Education. Having decades as both a teacher and school administrator, it pains me to see our state consistently ranked as one of the worst for K-12 education. Funding, however, is just one piece of the education puzzle — our delivery of education services must be improved.

I recently met with federal officials to discuss how we can move forward with tribal compacting in education as well as ideas to boost reading performance. I believe that our children must be reading at grade level by the third grade and proficient in algebra by the eighth grade. We must achieve these milestones to ensure our children can pursue any career they set their sights on. We must invest proficiency in reading and algebra be a moral imperative for Alaska’s children. Finally, it means protecting the Permanent Fund as well as the Permanent Fund dividend.

BY MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY
For the Arctic Sounder

*Economic growth alone will not solve our budget issues in the short term. Shared sacrifice will be required as we regain our fiscal footing.*

-Gov. Mike Dunleavy
Alaska governor

**GOV. MIKE DUNLEAVY**

Alaska governor

BY MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY
For the Arctic Sounder

In preparation for these conversations, my staff has compiled and published extensive budget data. This includes an unbiased set of scenarios that could be used to balance our budget. I truly hope you spend some time reviewing this information ahead of these discussions. Most importantly, I urge Alaskans not to lose sight of the big picture. Our present budget woes are not simply a math exercise. The long-term solutions will come from people like you — Alaskans with ingenious ideas and a commitment to delivering better government services with less resources. Alaskans who understand that the decisions we make today will shape the world we leave our children. I’m confident that, together, we will secure for them a safer and more prosperous Alaska.
Mushers ready to kick off season’s biggest races

Although the snow has just arrived in the Anchorage area, sled dog racers from throughout the state are preparing to hit the trails for the biggest three races remaining on the schedule, including the annual Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race in March.

The first race to capture the state’s attention will happen far from the lights of Anchorage on Jan. 17 when the 41st annual running of the Kuskokwim 300 gets underway in Bethel. Six mushers had preregistered for this year’s event at the start of December, according to the K300 website. Among those set to participate in the state’s premier mid-distance race is defending K300 champion Matthew Failor. The Willow musher edged out Iditarod champion Matt Kaiser, Burmeister and sled dog racing legends Jeff King and Lance Mackey are among 58 mushers from across the globe already registered for the race.

Another familiar face returning to the K300 will be Aaron Burmeister. A native of Nome, Burmeister has competed in more than 10 races in his career. Also registered are Travis Bels of Seward, Tony Browning of Nenana, Richie Diehl of Aniak and Matt Hall of Two Rivers.

The K300 serves as a qualifying race for the state’s largest race, the Iditarod which is slated to get started on March 7 with a ceremonial start in Anchorage. Fallon, Kaiser, Burmeister and sled dog racing legends Jeff King and Lance Mackey are among 58 mushers from across the globe already registered for the race.

The final major race of the 2020 season will again take place far away from the big city lights. The 2020 Kobuk 440 is scheduled to start on April 2 in Kitzbuea.

Skagway’s Ryan Redington is the defending Kobuk 440 champion. Crown, Kaiser, who is also returning to the field, won the Kuskokwim title four straight years from 2015-2018.

Another pair of familiar mushers that will be taking to the trail are veterans Jeff King and Lance Mackey. King, a former Iditarod winner, has won the K300 race a record nine times. Mackey, a three-time winner of the Iditarod, will be making his first appearance in Bethel since 2016.

Veterans Aaron Burmeister and Nicolas Petit will also be in the field, as will Magnus Bjarnarwic, Wade Marris, Dave Turner, Joar Leifseth Ulsom, Aaron Peck, Richie Diehl, Travis Beals, Tony Browning, Matt Hall, Ramey Smyth, Jim Lanier, Joanna Jagow and Dakota Schlosser.
Father.  
Whale Captain.  
Census Taker.  

Usually, Sam spends his time out at sea. Today, Sam and others like him will be out in the villages and communities to help us get an accurate count for the 2020 Census. By opening your door you will ensure our voice is heard for all American Indians and Alaska Natives.

It's not too late. Start here at 2020CENSUS.GOV

Paid for by U.S. Census Bureau
Whalers roll to ACS tournament title

Kotzebue Huskies go 0-3 in the tournament

BY TOMMY WELLS
The Arctic Sounder

In a showdown of the state’s last two Class 3A state champions, the Barrow Whalers came out on top. The Whalers, the 2018 state champion, dominated the Anchorage Christian Lions on the boards on Saturday and powered its way to a 55-47 victory over the state’s defending champ in the finals of the 2020 ACS Denali Auto Glass/Pepsi Invitational. The 16-team tournament was played Jan. 2-4 in Anchorage.

As a team, Branden Matthews and Anthony Fruean helped Barrow out-rebound ACS by a staggering 36-22 margin. The Lions looked as if they would run away early, ACS pounded out 15 points in the first eight minutes and built a 15-8 lead in front of their home fans. Barrow took some of the air out of the Lions’ sails in the second. Fruean and the Whalers knocked down several clutch shots in the frame and pulled to within one, at 25-24, at the half.

After fighting to within 37-36 at the end of the third. The Whalers shifted into high gear offensively. Barrow outscored ACS by a 19-13 clip down the stretch and walked away with a 5-point victory. Fruean turned in an outstanding effort against ACS, finishing with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Timothy Gerke also reached double figures offensively, netting 10. Matthews, one of the Whalers’ rising stars in the 2018 title run, was tabbed the tournament’s MVP.

Barrow finished the tournament with a perfect 3-0 mark. The Whalers kicked off the three-day meet on Thursday by pounding out a 55-47 victory over the Homer Mariners. They earned a berth in the finals on Friday with a 62-52 decision over Kenai in the semifinals.

Like the Whalers, the Point Hope Harpooners made their presence felt in the tournament. Point Hope, the defending Class 2A state champion, rallied back from a first-round loss to ACS to win their final two games and place fourth overall. In the fourth-place game on Saturday, the Harpooners knocked off their second 3A squad in as many days by taking down Bethel, 75-74.

Point Hope, which suffered a narrow 80-77 loss to ACS on Thursday, earned its way into the consolation finals with a 71-66 victory over Homer on Friday.

The Kotzebue Huskies went 0-3 in the tournament, falling to Kenai 44-42 in the opener before succumbing to Homer (59-36) and Bethel (79-24). Kotzebue’s biggest victory came against rival Eielson Jan. 10-11. The Whalers will face off against rival Eielson Jan. 10-11.

Barrow’s only setback came in the semifinals on Friday, falling 64-61 to Astoria, a Class 4A power from Oregon.

Following the loss to Astoria, Barrow rallied back to take third by upending Eielson, 81-56.

Kotzebue, which is expected to make a run at one of the Western Conference’s two state tournament berths in March, went 2-1 overall. The Lady Huskies lost their opener, 66-39, to Astoria but rallied back to earn a trip to the consolation finals by downsing Kenai, 45-39, on Friday.

Kotzebue’s biggest victory came on Saturday when they defeated conference rival Bethel, 40-33. The Point Hope Harpoonerettes went 0-3 in the tournament, including a 37-18 loss to Kenai in the seventh-place game.

Federal Subsistence Regional Advisory Councils

Help advise the Federal Subsistence Board on the management of fish and wildlife resources on Federal public lands and other subsistence issues in your region.

Application Deadline
February 14, 2020

For an application call
(800) 478-1456 or (907) 786-3888 or visit www.doi.gov/subsistence/regions

When you’re finished reading, why not share this paper with a friend?
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Alaska Army National Guard, Shungnak Readiness Center
Finding of Suitability to Transfer (FOST)
Shungnak, Alaska

Interested parties are hereby notified that AKARNG has prepared a FOST report regarding the proposed action described below. The Alaska Army National Guard (AKARNG) plans to dispose of and terminate its license for a 0.66-acre parcel on which the Shungnak Readiness Center (formerly known as “Army”) is located in Shungnak, Alaska. In compliance with Section 121(h) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), a FOST report was prepared for the property and is available for a 30-day public comment period from January 5, 2020 to February 5, 2020. The document is accessible online at the following website: https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Default.aspx and conduct a Title search for “Shungnak FOST.” Comments can be sent electronically to: patrick.geary@alaska.gov or written comments should be sent to:

Patrick Geary, ECPP Program Manager
State of Alaska DMVA, AKARNG Environmental Section
P.O. Box 5169, JBER, AK 99505

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA
SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT KOTZEBUE

KIC Bison, LLC, vs. JAE & TRACY ENTERPRISES, INC., an Alaska Corporation, and TRACY INSOOK KIM, Defendants.

Case No. 2KB-17-00229 CI

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY

By virtue of a decree of foreclosure in the judgment of the Superior Court for the State of Alaska issued September 13, 2018 in the above captioned cause, the Center Multi-purpose room at Barrow, Alaska.

Notice of Trilateral Meeting between the North Slope Borough Assembly & North Slope Borough School Board of Education & Illisagvik Board of Trustees

To: General Public:

You are hereby notified that the Trilateral Meeting between the North Slope Borough Assembly and the North Slope Borough School Board of Education and the Illisagvik Board of Trustees will be held on January 17, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Inupiat History, Language & Cultural Center Multi-purpose room at Barrow, Alaska.

Dated: January 9, 2020

Sheila H. Burk
Borough Clerk

North Slope Borough Assembly / Clerk’s Office
P.O. Box 68
Barrow, Alaska 99723
Phone: 907-653-0438
Fax: 907-653-0229

Borough Clerk, Sheila H. Burk
Deputy Clerk, Elaine B. Salmon
Executive Assistant, Tanya R. Ogypak
Sr. Office Specialist, Doreen Lampe
Sr. Office Specialist, Fabrice E. Hopson

www.north-slope.org

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THEME: MOVIE CHARACTERS

ACROSS
1. Curacao neighbor
6. Lungful
9. Not on a rolling stone
13. British unemployment checks
14. Schiller's famous poem, e.g.
15. "Will comply" in radio communication
16. Opposite of liability
17. Napoleon Bonaparte or Louis Vuitton, e.g.
18. Embedded design
19. "Teen with telescopic powers"
21. "Adventurous professor with fear of snakes"
23. "He played it in "Casablanca"
24. Sign of escape
25. Steampunk decoration
28. Thanksgiving tubers
30. Fear of flying, e.g.
31. "She takes on PG&E"
32. Sacrificial spot
35. Bun Baker
37. "CliffsNotes," e.g.
39. Bound by oath
40. Nay, to a baby
41. Bread spreads
43. "She takes on PG&E"
44. Sacrificial spot
46. Wedding promise?
47. Not yet final
48. Eats between meals
50. Blood-related problem
52. Ship pronoun
53. Diamond's corner
55. Be obliged
56. Pitching stat
60. Dry or salt
61. Brewer's kiln
62. Great Lake
63. Retired, shortened
66. Spanish river
68. Like a wallflower

DOWN
1. Palindromic title
2. CISC alternative
3. "Female Superman foe alongside General Zod
4. Afrikaners' ancestors
5. Off course
6. First-rate
7. Nuptial agreement
8. Version of a song
9. Mr. Bean's ride
10. Paua pot
11. Diagnostic test
12. Bean that rhymes with Goya
13. Distance from side to side, pl.
14. Insect in adult stage
15. Tiny bite
16. Like a disreputable neighborhood
17. Napoleon Bonaparte or Louis Vuitton, e.g.
18. Afrikaners' ancestors
19. First-rate
20. Diagnostic test
21. "Adventurous professor with fear of snakes"
22. "Teen with telescopic powers"
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68. Like a wallflower

My roommate says that our house is haunted but I've been living here for 300 years and haven't noticed a thing.

Contrary to Hollywood films, the Velociraptor was about the size of a modern turkey and was fully feathered. They lived about 75 to 71 million years ago.

Did you know?

2m
2m

Answers. No cheating!

ARUBA AIR MOSS GIRO ODE WILCO ASSET NOM INLAY CARRIE INDIANA SAM EXIT COG YAMS PHOBIA GOWN GIST SWORN NONO CLEOS ERIN ALTAR KNOT NISI NOSHES CLOT SHE BASE OWE MALCOLM COYER AMOUR ERA NARES YEARN LIS EDITH ANNE LOT SEEDY

8 3 6 2 1 7 4 9 5 2 9 5 6 4 8 3 1 7 4 7 1 3 9 5 8 2 6 9 5 4 7 6 2 1 3 8 1 8 7 5 3 4 9 6 2 3 6 2 1 8 9 7 5 4 6 4 3 8 2 1 5 7 9 7 2 9 4 5 3 6 8 1 5 1 8 9 7 6 2 4 3

That's A Good One!

My roommate says that our house is haunted but I've been living here for 300 years and haven't noticed a thing.

© Scott Petri Mada
Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Do you have a joke? Email them to jhansen@reportalaska.com

Do you have a fun fact? Email them to jhansen@reportalaska.com
BOOK
From Page 1

A: “Oh, it’s been something I’ve been interested in doing for a long time and then my mother passed away (and a lot of these stories came from her). She would repeat the stories over and over. . . It’s almost three years since she passed, so I started working on it two years ago, about four or five hours every day, about six days a week.

First, I put what I had together, and then the stories, and also my grandpa’s diary — his journal, — tapes, and so forth, and put that all together. I did an inventory after I wrote it, so the whole thing, all these little pieces and then started conducting a lot of research.

I went to the National Archives in Seattle. I worked with an archivist out of (the Alaska and Polar Regions Collections and Archives) at the Rasmussen Library at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. From the North Slope Borough Inupiat History, Language, Culture, I requested some of their traditional land use inventories. With Seattle Pacific University, I worked with their archivist there. Then, I interviewed family members and put my questions together.

I initially started out wanting to write about my great-grandparents and a family history from that angle, but what I found was there was very little there in terms of (what was) written and people’s memories. I kind of shifted my attention to what was being presented to me and that was about my grandma. So, I spent a year writing and researching and then the next year, 2019 in January, I started the editing process, the proofing process, the layout, restoring the old photos that we had, and then just verifying everything several times, as much as I could, like family stories, doing the family tree.”

Q: A lot of people don’t ever get the chance to go so deep into their family history. What was that like for you to be in your family’s stories and their history and this research for a year?

A: “Oh my gosh. I grew so much. I became stronger just realizing what a struggle and what devastation they experienced and how strong I am and we are to be here today. I mean, I just couldn’t believe it. For example, I thought a lot of the suffering and starvation and disease was contained pretty much in my immediate family. And I didn’t realize how widespread the devastation for the Inupiat people really was until I began my research. For example . . . during the Inupiat mania. (2,500 people in the early 1800s, that went down to about 200 people by 1905) from the epidemics that began around 1890. I didn’t realize all that had happened, even though you hear bits and pieces from our family stories.

And then I was surprised at how quickly some of the specifics or details about our history have been lost or forgotten. Like the village where my grandfather was born or came from, Utqiaq, was one of the major villages on the North Slope prior to 1900 and now we can’t even pinpoint exactly where that village is located. I’ve worked with North Slope Borough GIS, HILLC, and we don’t know where it is exactly.

And with so much of the Elders passing during his time, around his birth and teen years and childhood, they were just trying to survive in all that devastation. When 70% of your people die, a lot of that history goes too.”

Q: When you think about him and the time he lived in, do you think about that differently?

A: “It shows me just how much hope and the will to survive is so critical and how much the way the Inupiat culture worked so hard to have family ties through name-sakes and trading partners, even spousal exchange, adoptions. Those were really important mechanisms for our family to expand their family base so if something terrible happened in one area, they had other areas and family members they can go to. And that’s kind of how he survived.”

Q: Looking back, did you have any idea you’d eventually write a book?

A: “I had wanted to do this. I had wanted to do this way back in the 1980s, Uncle Steve who helped raise me, my grandfather’s son, my mom’s brother — there’s a biograph written about my grandma already by a non-family member. When she came up to Barrow to interview him, he had said, ‘No, I’m not speaking to you because my niece Beverly is going to write that book’. And then my cousin, who’s like my sister, my uncle’s daughter, she also would send me — whenever I was — documents, like the 1978 Elders’ Conference. She sent me a book back in the early 90s then and she sent it to me again about three years ago just in case I forgot to write our family history.

Q: Has it felt like to be on the other side of the project, now that you’ve written the book?

A: “I still can’t believe it actually happened. It wasn’t easy. It really wasn’t. There were days when I would become really discouraged, but I would take a couple days off and do something else to distract myself and then I’d get right back into it. I just felt something gave me a really strong sense of urgency to get as much written as possible.”

Q: It can be hard to trace histories, especially in families that have been broken apart or who have gone through boarding school and experiences like that. What advice would you give to someone who wants to find their own family history and isn’t sure how to do it?

A: “Well, I would start by talking with family members, elderly family members, and talking to them, doing some initial research, buying some books or borrowing some books from the library. Know about the time frame, the area, the village, and the camps, and seeing what you can find from there. You know, the center of the village, that they were really difficult to follow sometimes and find family members — because we don’t have our written history — we didn’t have a written language — but those really helped, too. Just sifting through all that is a good start.

I started pulling as much as you can from wherever you can and then just start finding what you’re missing and where it leads you. And it’s OK to shift direction, but I did find that. This was going to be about my great-grandparents and their story and their children and their great-grandchildren and so forth. But, like I said, I had to shift to gears and go where the information was presenting itself and where it was leading me.”

Q: Coming from a tradition of oral storytelling and passing these stories on from family member to family member, why do you think it’s important to be writing these stories down now?

A: “In our school, a lot of it is about reading and writing and social studies, so we have to have that. We need to have those. We have libraries. We need to really document that history before it’s lost forever. And we need to keep re-telling our stories.

You know, I would tell my mom in my mind, oh my gosh, she’s told me that like 500 times, and then I got to the point where I just started writing them down each time she told me, on a shopping receipt or on the back of an old envelope. Wherever I was, I’d stop somewhere, and I’d just start writing and putting them in a folder.

When I finished it and started reading the book, oh my gosh, I could see, especially the stories that I felt such a connection to her — not only her but my other family members whom I’ve never met before because they passed away long before, but I felt such a sense of closeness to them and to my mom. I could hear the way she would tell a story, or I would come across something in the story, like how she would put emotion in this part and that part and oh my goodness, it was wonderful. It’s wonderful.”

Q: Is there anything you’d like to mention that I didn’t ask you about?

A: “The book also talks about — it’s really the history of the United States, the history of Alaska, World War II and how the Inupiat, despite not being part of a state — it was just a territory then — voluntarily so willingly to defend the United States. Also, some of the things I thought about from my grandfather’s life story and what I found in doing the research is how the Inupiat people handled resources and resource management in the past and how and why the Inupiat may have converted so quickly and thoroughly to Christianity. I thought about the native religion. And those are some of the things I talk about in the book, too, in my grandfather’s story.”

You can find out more about Girnage’s book and purchase copies on her website, starvationsalvation.com.

Shady Grove Oliver can be reached at sgrove44@gmail.com.
RABIES

From Page 1

against being out and also advising people to not allow the children to walk on their own from place to place. He mentioned that his grandson brought him home from the gym that night when Christmas events were taking place and his driver’s face was frost bitten and he himself was very cold. The distance from his house to the gym is not even half the length of the whole town.

Locals shared photos of snow blown into tall drifts around the village on social media, along with video footage from the storm. In several of the videos, it’s hard to see past the edge of a front porch to the road.

“It was blizzard conditions all day on the 30th into the 31st with strong winds, 50 knots or greater for much of the day,” said Joe Kryston, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Fairbanks. “It was mainly due to the pressure gradient being pretty tight between high pressure over Alaska and low pressure in the Gulf of Alaska.”

There were strong northerly winds along the northwest coast in those final days of 2019, along with blizzard conditions around the Bering Strait, as well, he said. Along with occasionally damaging houses and creating dangerous or inconvenient drifts, blizzard conditions can be challenging for communities, like Kivalina, which already have less reliable infrastructure.

People in town were running short on stove oil because it was so cold that stoves were burning oil, Swan said. “The other problem was the waterering point was frozen and we were running low on water.”

Swan said before the storm got to its worst point, her stove caught on fire when it “backfired” after the exhaust backed up. It had to be replaced by her daughter, she said, and she’s lucky to have a son certified in basic firefighting.

“The next day, the storm had worsened and all outdoor Christmas activities were suspended,” she said.

Her new stove continued to ice up and her oldest grandson, Elijah, had to keep de-icing it.

“Dealing with all of this and sitting on my couch, which was shaking from the storm, as I was looking at my phone for one reason or another, all of a sudden there was a very loud boom and the house shook suddenly like an explosion had happened,” Swan said.

She got off the couch and started to put on her warm clothes to go outside and see what had happened.

Before I went out, I went on the VHF radio and said, ‘Something just hit my house.’ That is when another lady said, ‘I think my roof’”

Swan went outside onto her porch. Her eldest son, who lives next door, also came outside as it hit his house, too.

“Part of it was resting behind my house against the wall,” she said.

“After a brief exchange, he went back to his house and just as he stepped into his qanitchaq, within seconds, a piece of tin whizzed right past his door.”

Swan said she’s glad the roof landed where it did, and didn’t hurt anyone in the process.

“The roof hit our house with so much force that I don’t think anyone would have survived a hit like that,” she said.

It’s definitely not the first time a storm has taken a roof off a home in a Northwest Arctic village, but every time it happens it’s a hair-raising experience for everyone involved, locals say.

Those blizzard conditions calmed a bit after New Year’s Day. Now, the Arctic is in the midst of a cold snap that’s chilling much of the state. In recent days, there have been temperatures anywhere from the minus 20s to the minus 40s. With wind chill, it got down to minus 70 in Deadhorse over the weekend. These cold, but calmer, conditions are expected to last well into the end of the week.

Shady Grove Oliver can be reached at sgowrites@gmail.com.

WELCOMING THE NEW YEAR

The sky over Utqiaġvik is aglow with the bright pinks, blues, greens, purples, and yellows of the annual New Year’s fireworks display. The colors stand out against the snowy winter backdrop of the community and the otherwise clear skies.

PHOTO BY KIRK N. KOENIG

PHOTO BY BRADLEY MANIILAQ

PHOTO BY KIRK N. KOENIG

Get your free rabies vaccinations for dogs and cats at the animal control office to all residents.

If residents see a dog that’s been bitten by wildlife or that is known to have been fighting with wildlife, they are asked to report it to the city office. Additionally, the city wants residents to know that loose dogs around town may be killed during this period, per the city’s loose dog ordinances. In order to prevent that, residents are reminded to ensure that their dogs are safely confined.

Any person who is bitten by a dog or a fox is advised to seek immediate medical attention at the clinic.

People should also keep an eye out for foxes or dogs exhibiting possible signs of rabies, which include weakness, paralysis, seizures, difficulty breathing, swallowing excessively, saliva dripping or foaming at the mouth or abnormal behavior like aggression or self-mutilation. Those signs do not necessarily mean a dog or fox is rabid, but could be indications the animal has contracted it.

For more information about getting your dog vaccinated for free in Kiana, you can contact Cyrus directly at 475-2136.

For questions about rabies, you can contact Chris Dankmeyer at Maniilaq at 442-7175.

For additional information about any related concerns, you can contact:

• The on-call community health aide at 475-5000
• The village police officer (VPO) at 475-5017
• Maniilaq Environmental Health at 442-1349
• Kotzebue Department of Fish and Game at 442-3420
• Alaska Section of Epidemiology at 269-8000.

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