



Staff Connections

Certified Employee of the Year - Martha Demoski



Congratulations to Martha Demoski for being selected as the YKSD Certified Employee of the Year! Martha is retiring at the end of this school year after 32

years of dedicated service to YKSD.

If you ask Martha, her place of birth is the most fantastic place on earth, Nulato. Living along the Yukon in seasonal camps prior to beginning school, and spending summers in fish camps was a nourishing childhood life-style. Her four years in Copper Valley High School, a boarding school, shaped her work ethic and respect for education.

She graduated from there in May of 1970.

Her preparation for her 1985 certification came from the cross cultural program, X-CED, through the University of Alaska, Fairbanks. It allowed her to reside in her hometown while she and her husband Don raised their 3 wonderful sons Russell, Howard, and Jesse Darling. Of course, she went on campus, but a large part (continued on page 2)

**Yukon-Koyukuk
School District**

4th Quarter

May 2011

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Classified Employee of the Year - Katrina Frank



Congratulations to Katrina Frank for being selected as the YKSD Classified Employee of the Year! Katrina has been working off and on at Minto School for close to ten years as a Teacher's Aide. Katrina is a dedicated employee and has a great deal of patience, especially when working with

the most challenging students. She is a person who can be counted on to help out in the village when needed. Katrina rarely takes time off from work and only does so when it is an urgent situation. She is dedicated to the students that she works with and shows great patience and understanding when working with them. She goes out of her way to come up with activities and strategies beyond what the teacher is asking of her. Katrina works well with all staff members and students. She is always optimistic and carries a smile on her face even when she is going through difficult times. She is well liked by staff and students.

This school year Katrina decided to take college courses after attending the PEAK training in February. She is so excited to be going to school and now wants to pursue her degree in Elementary Education. She is highly motivated at work, home and now with college classes

Katrina volunteers at basketball games, carnival, and any function that is happening in Minto. Katrina is the daughter of Joyce Frank and Lloyd Charlie and she grew up in Minto and Kenai. Above all else in her life she is the proud mother to Tyler (14), Seth (9) and Reese (1).

Thank you for another great year. Please take time to relax, have fun, and enjoy your family during the beautiful summer. I look forward to seeing everyone again at the district-wide in-service, September 14-16, 2011. It will be held in Fairbanks at the Rivers Edge Lodge and is for instructional aides and certified staff.

Kerry Boyd

We are sorry to see you go....

(continued from p. 1)

was spent at home living a subsistence way of life and gaining actual teaching experiences. Martha began working for the State of Alaska, at the school in 1972 as a full time Teacher Aide, then continued part time until 1986.

Her first certified position in 1986 was in Huslia, as a high school Social Studies teacher. Following that year, she moved to Nulato to give support to her widowed mother, Amelia Demoski. Her father, Andrew K. Demoski passed away in 1985. This move required her to obtain her Elementary certification within a year. Since then, she has been teaching K-8 grades. Other experiences included a semester of high school Alaska Studies, a K-8 bilingual program, planned and su-

pervised local cultural camps for junior high and high school, and joined Susan Paskvan's summer camps a few times. She has also been Principal/Teacher. She has had the pleasure of working alongside Elders to teach the Athabascan language and culture to her students on many occasions.

Martha believes that a teacher's education never stops. She's attended classes, conferences, and workshops throughout the years, the latest learning PEAK strategies. She's served on various YKSD curriculum committees, including being in the group for our Denaakkenaage curriculum and materials development throughout the years, and has served on the YKSD Indian Education committee. She has continued to support the singing and dancing

that Tassie Saunders and Tim Cline started with students, years back. She became involved by volunteering her time with the Nulato Tribal JOM program, supervising the students learning of memorial songs and stories alongside our respectable elders, and chaperoning them on trips to the Fairbanks Native Festival in March. Presently, she is serving on the Nulato Tribal Council. It was an honor for Martha to accept an award from Doyon, Limited in 2008 for being a teacher who shared her knowledge of local culture, traditions, and language.

Martha wants everyone know what an opportunity it has been to be involved in the many activities in preparation for the students' progress in YKSD.



HAPPY RETIREMENT LADIES!

We are sorry to see you go....



Ruth Folger is retiring after 25 years in teaching. Ruth was raised in Tanana, moved away in 1978, and has lived mostly in Minto except for the past few years in Fairbanks.

She started working as a Teacher's Aide in Minto in 1982 while she was working toward her Bachelor's Degree. She had the opportunity to work for YKSD when a teaching position opened up just as she planned to complete the requirements for her degree that summer.

Ruth's first 17 years of teaching was in Minto. She taught in the K-2 classroom where she had some of her favorite teaching experiences. She moved to Fairbanks in 2002 and taught in a residential treatment center for one year. She rejoined YKSD by taking a position with Raven Correspondence School in 2003. Over the years she has served on

curriculum committees and as the teacher representative on the Indian Education Committee. When asked for some advice for less experienced teachers, she recommends getting out into the community, attending functions and events to get to know the people. This gives people the opportunity to get to know you and in turn, opens the door for a better rapport with them and your students.



Virginia Ned is retiring at the end of this school year after 23 years of teaching. Virginia is from Allakaket, Alaska. She has taught elementary for 22 years. Many of those years were spent in YKSD schools, Allakaket, Huslia and Hughes. She has also been Principal/Teacher in Hughes.

Virginia received a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education in 1980

and a Masters in Educational Leadership in 1997. She began working for YKSD as a teacher aide when the schools were still state operated. She continued working for YKSD because she is from the area and felt that she needed to contribute back to her community.

Over the years, Virginia has been involved with the Allakaket Village Council, a Board Member of Koyitlotsina, Limited, Chairperson of Association of Interior Native Educators, and a Board Member of Alaska Native Education Association.

Virginia's favorite position with YKSD was when she was Principal/Teacher in Hughes. The community was very supportive of the school staff. When asked if she had any words of wisdom for less experienced teachers she said, "All students can and will learn."

In her spare time, Virginia enjoys

reading, berry picking, camping, fishing, hunting, visiting elders, and spending time with her huge extended family which includes many relatives from the NANA and the North Slope regions, people from the Koyukuk and Yukon Rivers, including relatives in Beaver, Rampart and Stevens Village.



Curriculum Distribution

Hello all, hope this spring is treating you all well! This school year we've sent social studies resources out to each site called "The World" and "American Government." Over the past few weeks we've been working with the Language Arts novel rotation. We've sent novels out to each site. Teachers, please let us know if you need more of these resources sent to your site. Mr. White thought it best to send these out early so teachers have more time to prepare curriculum for 2011-2012 school year. Have a wonderful last few weeks of school and a great summer!

Submitted by Ava Vent

iPads for Special Education

As many of you are probably aware, iPads were distributed throughout the district (1 per site), particularly for use with students with special needs. The special education teachers have had training on how to use the iPad and download good educational apps for our students to utilize. Included in the variety of apps for the iPad are: Hearing, Vision, & Mobility, Organization and Memory, Communication (speech & language apps), Elementary and Secondary core curriculum apps, as well as Teacher Support Applications. Each site was given over seven pages of apps ranging in price from free to \$10, just to get started! For more information regarding the iPad use at your site, please contact your special education teacher or aide!



Submitted by Cristina Poage

Library Notes

Grand Openings have been held at all sites, with positive feedback on how nice the libraries look, and how good it is to once again have functioning libraries. Hats off to the library staff who have gone above and beyond to make this happen!

Plans are in motion for next year's library programs and activities:

- Battle books have been ordered. Each site library will receive a cataloged set. Raven sites will receive books in the next two weeks.
- New for fall: Accelerated Reader will take the place of River Readers (at river sites). Students can still select books for prizes, plus there will be other prizes available. With Accelerated Reader, students will read books of their choice, and then take an online quiz. By passing the quiz, they will accumulate points, which can then be redeemed for prizes.
- Library staff will have an Alexandria training in mid-August, so that they can more efficiently navigate the library system. They will learn to track patron checkouts, as well as generate overdue and usage reports.
- Subject kits are being updated for Raven family use beginning next fall.

On behalf of the library staff, I'd like to thank site administrators and teachers for their unfailing support of our library reconstruction. Your input is vital to our success, so please let us know how we can better serve you so that our students will benefit from our joint efforts.

Submitted by Rosalie White



Native Language News

April and May were busy travel months for Susan Paskvan. Here is a report of her travels:

MapTEACH Lessons

In each village Susan Paskvan taught junior high and high school students how to use GPS and AEJEE (Arc Explorer Java for Education), a GIS software. Students learned how to make a map of Alaska with many layers for towns, rivers, and land status. In some of the villages students learned how to use a GPS and played a geocaching game.



April 11- 13, 2011 Manley Hot Springs

I went to the Manley Hot Springs Gladys Dart School, 160 miles down the Elliot Highway. I originally planned to leave at 6 AM, but was thankfully delayed. At Ptarmigan Pass, mile 92 to 106, there were high winds causing snow drifts over the road for three days.

Ten h(barred u)deetlaagge'. The roads are bad.

In Manley the students and I played hands-on interactive games in Denaakk'e. They take the course with me and co-teacher Heidi Wright over two-way video-conference. One student who I had only met on video remarked that "you are really human". They practiced making sentences using two animals and the verbs for sitting, standing, lying down, and looking at.

Deneeje lehaanh. The moose is standing.

Deneeje helhaanh. Two moose are standing

Bedzeyh kkaazene neet'aanh. The caribou is looking at the lynx.

The upper elementary and junior high students created a map using the Arc Explorer Java for Education (AEJEE) software of a trip they took last spring from Fairbanks to Seward. They learned skills like adding GPS points to the map and creating hotlinks to a word document.



April 18-20, 2011 Allakaket

Dallas S., Levi. W., Sidaadza W., and Stephen N., all working hard on lesson on the GIS Lessons in AEJEE (ArcExplorer for Education Edition). The lessons teach students about making maps by adding layers for infrastructure, land management, landscape etc.

More Native Language Activities....

Mary Rose Agnes multi-tasking; she was cutting out moose skin patterns for beaded crosses as she sang traditional songs at the Kaltag Tribal Office. She holds the singing lessons every day from 7 to 9 PM as part of the TCC After-school Language and Culture activities.



Corbin M. and Shawn read their GPS in search of the geocache prize of mandarins in Kaltag.

April 27-29, 2011 Ruby

Tami Thompson's Kindergarten to third grade class proudly show the birds they drew in the video-conference art class with Laura Kaiser. In Ruby, I taught the students the robin song. Ms. Thompson's students rolled on the floor in fits of giggles and laughter every time we sang the robin song.

May 11-13, 2011 Minto

Menh te, Minto- among the lakes

I traveled to Minto this week. The students in the pre-K and Kindergarten, under the tutelage of Madeline Riley, were able to sing Denaakkenaaga songs without adult assistance. A talented kindergartener, Chad, served as the song leader. They sang: a Bible song, Star Spangled Banner, Aah-la-li-ya, and Airplane.

The junior high and high school students took GPS points at landmarks and buildings around Minto. Afterwards, they were asked to write a story or description of the site.

*Submitted by
Susan Paskvan*



Photo by Kerry Frank

Kia HoChee and Gabrielle Titus at the benches, a popular place to stop and visit in Minto. The benches provide an excellent view of Minto Lakes.

Allakaket Students Dance at FNA

Allakaket students in 4th-10th grade danced at Festival of Native Arts, a mix of boys and girls. These photos are from their performance at Hunter Elementary School, where they sang, danced, and then held a Q&A for a number of different elementary classes.

*Submitted by
Camille Varin*



live
dance
sing



Counselor's Corner

Huslia Healthy Lifestyles & Career Fair 2011!

On April 20th and 21st Jimmy Huntington School, in collaboration with the Huslia Tribal Council and Clinic hosted its annual health/career fair! The event kicked-off with a community cover dish at the Huslia Hall where community members, school staff, and guest presenters joined together to share potential student and community opportunities in a number of areas. We were pleased to have in attendance the following guests: Howard Luke (Elder/Motivational Speaker), Kate Wilson (UAF-Distance Edu), Lizeth Ney (TCC Health), Sarah Malamute (TCC Health), Robin Brooks

(IAC Student Success Coord), Megan Gooding (Banner Health), Amelia Ruerup (IAC Rep.), Cesa Sam & Eileen Jackson (Huslia Tribal Council), Sergeant Vigil (US Army), Phillip Albert (TCC Employ Rehabilitation) & Colita Fiorenzi (Doyon Limited).

Day two of the fair offered guest presenters the opportunity to work with each grade level for approximately 35-40 minutes in the classrooms. Community members were invited to attend any session/speaker for the day as we strongly promoted our "open door policy" to all those in Huslia! The guidance office at Jimmy Huntington School wishes to thank all those involved in the fair, the commu-

nity & staff for being so flexible and inviting to our visitors!

*Submitted by
Travis Sutton*

HEALTH &

CAREER



Senior Fly-In (aka Senior Boot Camp)

During the final week of March the Yukon-Koyukuk Counseling Department organized the second annual Senior Fly-In. The fly-in is truly a unique event for senior students that **ONLY** focuses on planning for **LIFE** after graduation. During the course of the event, seniors participated in a number of career & life skills activities including the importance of managing money/banking, preparing for job interviews (mock-interviews), seeking out bargains (virtual grocery shopping event), visiting the

Alaska Job Center/AK Laborers & Apprenticeships/UAF-Campus & much more!

In addition, seniors prepped for the Alaska Driving/Learner's permit exam and once again we had a student receive a permit—congratulations Barbie Sam of Huslia! Throughout the fly-in students participated in a number of small-group interactions that truly aimed to increase socialization to better help students communicate with each other and potential employers in the future. YKSD counselors

strongly utilized strategies from PEAK Learning Systems which enhanced students comfort levels, thereby creating an environment conducive to higher-level learning. The Counseling Department would like to thank all those involved in making the Senior Fly-In a great success once again!

*Submitted by
Travis Sutton*

Class of 2011

Huslia Career & Health Fair



Senior Fly-In



The fly-in is truly a unique event for senior students that **ONLY** focuses on planning for **LIFE** after graduation.

News from Hughes

Even though our school year is rapidly drawing to an end, we still have much to look forward to. Our entire school has worked very hard to earn enough money to go on a wonderful field trip. On May 3, we will be heading to the mid-west. We will be spending time in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Our students will be enjoying a wide range of experiences from peaceful farm settings to the hectic excitement of Chicago. Natasha has been packed and ready for over a week. We don't have a calendar that she hasn't 'X'ed off the days. All students are full of questions, anticipation, and excitement. Madeline is a little nervous, she has never traveled so far from home. The community of Hughes has been totally, wonderfully, and amazingly supportive. Our trip would not be taking place without the financial support they have shown while attending school functions. I know someday our students will realize how important they are to the community of Hughes. We would like to thank those of you who supported our raffle. Here are the winners.

Ralph Williams- Afgan

Marilyn Adams- gloves

Melissa Robbins-slippers

Robin Davis-slippers (red)

Ralph Williams - Caribou Leggins

John Cauffman-Wrights Air Flight (my brother)

Submitted by Dianne Shirrell



Cake walk



We had an appreciation dinner the night of the drawing.



These students are taking down their reading incentive air-planes. Each plane earned them spending money for the fieldtrip. The extra reading was done throughout the second semester in our afterschool reading and math program.

Arctic Care Visits Kaltag

Arctic Care teams were here April 18th-23rd. There was a veterinarian team, optometry, dental, medical and an administration team. The community held an appreciation dinner for them on Thursday April 21st.

As a part of Colleen Stickman's Language Arts class, the junior high students go to the head start class and pick books to read to them one-on-one.

Kaltag's graduation is Monday, May 16th. One senior: Devon Esmailka; four 8th graders: Corbin McGinty, Tyler Saunders, Julie Semaken and Mikey Stickman; five head starters: Taylor Alexie, Kenny Esmailka, Bethany Madros, Trinidad Madros and Kenneth Nickoli.

Submitted by Bernice Moore



The junior high and high school students learning how to help a choking person



Deshaun McGinty learning CPR



Devon Esmailka learning to administer CPR on an infant



The junior high class helping the head start students color eggs



Tristan Madros and Mariah Neglaska snow-shoeing as a part of their P.E. class

Kaltag Library News

I am happy to report that our library here in Kaltag is finally looking good, with most books in alphabetical/Dewey order. The students are using the library more and more. The *Nook and Go Readers* sparked their interest in reading even more. Felecia's class made some book covers of their favorite books, and I made them look like books and hung them in the library for National Children's Book Week.

Submitted by Lina Edwin, Library Aide



Happy Spring everyone! Thank you for all your prayers and support this winter. I am back in Kaltag teaching for April and May and it feels so good. I am so grateful and humble to be completing my chemo therapy and back at work. I am teaching K-2 and I have a great class. Anaa Baasee"

Evelyn Esmailka



Ruby Races

On April 1st Ruby had its Spring Carnival and I competed in the 9 mile woman's dog sled race. Here is a picture of my team (and one borrowed dog) as we sped across the finish line.

*Submitted by
Tamara Thompson*



Koyukuk Students Inside and Out



Leslie Ann Jones teaching violin to Damien Dayton and Antwan Demoski.



George Albert setting a rabbit snare.



School trip to Galena, taken right by Bishop Mountain.



~Galena Swimming Pool ~
Our reward for an excellent week of testing

Permafrost Tunnel By Kjetil J. 8th grade

We went on a field trip to Chena Hot Springs. On the way we stopped at the Permafrost Tunnel. We went in the tunnel and partnered up with younger children than us. I walked in the first door and it was a wave of stink. We went over the "ground" rules and waited for the lights to warm up. Patricia - our UAF guide, brought us into the tunnel once the lights were warmed up and we could see.

The first thing we saw when we went through the second door was a time period placard telling when the tusk and jaw bone had been left there by the owners. We kept

walking back and as we went we got older and older. By the time we were at the back of the first tunnel we were 40,000 years old. While walking along if we looked up we would see ice wedges from various angles and time periods.

The second tunnel we went into had many ice wedges as well. But by the time we got to the end of this tunnel we were 2 million years old. We saw an ice wedge that had been there 25,000 years and the UAF scientist found live bacteria in it. We also saw frozen underground pond and fool's gold.

I thought this was a great experience so if you can you should do it! And of course, a special thank you to Patricia Hieser and Mr. Stern. THANK YOU!



When the Board Came to Manley By Katie - 7th grade & Mrs. Wright

On April 28th the YKSD Regional School Board came to Manley Hot Springs. They had a couple of meetings and then the community came and had a potluck with them. Our students all came and met the board also. There was wonderful food, especially Dian's home-grown ham. MMM, delicious food, as always. Kerry Boyd, our Superintendent, introduced the School Board members that were present. We really appreciate having the board come and stay in our community and talking to them about education issues. The next day several community members attended the meeting.

I wrote a speech for the board of education. I introduced myself. Then I introduced Chase Woods, our K-5 representative and treasurer. I told them a little bit about what we have been doing this year.

I recalled our sleepovers, the medieval dinner theatre, and when we went to the Minto health fair. I told them about when we performed a dance to help spread awareness of childhood obesity. I told them that it would be nice if next year, we could have more team sports. Also I told them about the idea of a classroom pet. They liked that idea. I thanked them for coming and listening to our concerns. Right before my speech, we played the hand bells for them. We played Alaska's Flag and Somewhere Over the Rainbow. I think that they enjoyed that also.



Mines for Minto

On April 25 and 26 students in grades 6-12 visited the Usibelli Coal mine and the Ft. Knox Gold mine. This field trip was to explore the natural resources, energy resources and career opportunities of the mining industry within our region. Students observed the naturally occurring coal seams that exist in Healy and the operation of "The Ace in a Hole" drag line. At Ft. Knox students were awed by the size of the open pit mine for mining the gold bearing ore. The crushing and milling processes were exciting to witness. Tours of the mechanics shops showed students the career

opportunities of the industry. Everyone was able to hold a massive brick of gold valued at over \$385,000. Perhaps the most exciting site was standing next to the giant trucks used by both mines. We greatly appreciated the time and energy given by Bill Brophy, of Usibelli Coal Mine and Rebecca Vieh-meyer Ft. Knox Kinross Mine for



showing us these magnificent mining operations.

*Submitted by
Monica Garza*

Little Minto Students Visit Fairbanks

On April 22, PreK-2nd grade students took a field trip to the big city of Fairbanks. First on the agenda was lunch at McDonalds followed by a trip to Creamers Field. The kids loved seeing all the geese and ducks that were on their way north for the summer. After

Creamers Field, students toured the children's center in the Fairbanks public library. They talked about the different artwork they saw, viewed a short film, and joined in for story time with other kids. Before heading back to Minto, we made a stop at Coldstone

Creamery for some sweet treats. It was a jam packed day but a great trip, nonetheless. The chaperones definitely slept well that night!

*Submitted by
Whitney Adams*



Lets Talk About Health

On Tuesday, April 19th, we held a community wide Career/Health Fair at the Minto Community Hall. We had visitors from Fairbanks and Anchorage set up booths around the hall to present information on what their programs/companies had to offer. Some participants included UAF Rural Student Services, U.S Marines, Interior-Aleutians Campus, TCC Employment & Training, Alaska Public Health and many more.

We were also pleased to have Manley School participate by making their very own

"Healthy Lifestyles" carousel; each student contributed to the project by picking one health topic to focus on. Minto Pre-K and Kindergarten students showed up dressed as "community helpers" and handed out brochures on good health and being safe. They dressed up as firemen, policemen, doctors, etc. It was nice to see such great student participation from Minto and Manley Schools.

We began the day with a luncheon for our visitors. Throughout the afternoon, we had some excellent guest

speakers share about the importance of staying healthy and getting a good education. Our speakers included representatives from Family Wellness Warriors Initiative and Elders from Nenana and Minto. We also gave away some great door prizes throughout the day. This community wide event drew a nice crowd and was an overall successful event!

*Submitted by
Whitney Adams*



Snaring Rabbits In Minto

Mark Snell's K-2 class completed a unit on Rabbit Snaring. The class receive help from Patrick Smith Sr., (Thanks) to construct the rabbit snares and included a nature walk through the woods. The class learned about the life cycle of the rabbit and its habitat. The class learned about subsistence life

style and local traditional beliefs and values regarding the treatment of the rabbit and the environment. Also, the students developed science and math skills and concepts through a Athabascan activity.

*Submitted by
Mark Snell*



Cinco de Mayo Fiesta In Nulato!

On Cinco de Mayo (May 5th), Mr. Lambert's K-4 class in Nulato celebrated the holiday of Cinco de Mayo with a fiesta. The party was just the icing on the cake. We spent the prior week learning Spanish. The students can now count to ten in Spanish and know most colors. In addition to learning Spanish, we learned a bit of Mexican history and culture along with the history of the holiday. The students spent all week making piñatas for the fiesta on Friday. They made bumble bees, happy faces, and fish.. The students worked very hard and learned a great deal about Mexico throughout the week.

The hard work paid off and we had a tremendous time at our party. We began with smashing our piñatas that we worked so tirelessly on. The kids didn't seem to mind, however. The students enjoyed the opportunity to whack at the piñatas and all the goodies that came spilling out of the piñatas were appreciated too. After the piñata carnage, we headed back to the classroom and listened to some musica Latina (Latin music) and ate some very delicious comida Mexicana. (Mexican food) It was a very fun experience for all who attended. Gracias to the parents who attended the party, brought food, and made the



fiesta un gran exito!!! (a great success)

*Submitted by
Nate Lambert*

Nulato Seniors Enjoy Time in Anchorage

It was a great time for all as the Nulato Senior class of Chris Demoski, Nichole Silas, and Gabriel Pitka went with Eddie and Larissa Hornsby on their Senior Trip to Anchorage, Seward, and Palmer.

On April 12th, the crew flew off to Fairbanks, where they met with District Office personnel, then took a tour of the University of Alaska Campus. There, they met up with admissions counselors, Doyon Foundation representatives, UAF Rural Student Services, and even went on a tour of the Engineering building. Afterward, they flew off to Anchorage to their lodgings near the UA-Anchorage campus.

April 13th was the most scenic day of the trip, as the Nulato students headed down to beautiful Seward for a tour of Alaska Vocational Technical Institute, or AVTEC. Prior to the tour, they all enjoyed the sights of Turnagain Arm, Chugach Mountains, Portage Glacier, Resurrection Bay, and the Seward Marina.

April 14th was UAA day, as the students toured the UA-Anchorage cam-

pus. A much more modern school, UAA has much to offer any student, and most of their walkways are indoors. Later, the group traveled northward to Palmer, Alaska, and the Job Corps campus. Surrounded by the Alaska Range, this campus offers many trade, business, and medically-related fields of study, and at little to no cost.

April 15th was highlighted by a tour of Alaska Pacific University, which is right next door to UAA. They are a smaller, private university that offers majors catered more to students' interests, and offer lots of off-site courses abroad. If you like smaller class sizes, a chance to travel, and don't mind paying a higher tuition, it's a great place! Since Gabriel Pitka wants to join the Marine Corps, arrangements were made to travel and tour the Joint Base of Elmendorf and Richardson (JBER), formerly Elmendorf Air Force Base and Ft. Richardson Army Base. The Nulato crew were met by imbedded Marine personnel, and taken on tours of both the Army and Air Force side of the base.

Chris, Nichole, and Gabe were also allowed to take rides in an armored Humvee, and in an all-terrain transport vehicle on belts.

Additionally, fun was to be had with trips to the 5th Street Mall downtown, as well as the Dimond Mall south of town. The students had the most fun at Dimond Mall, which has games, a skating rink, bowling alley, and a movie theater. They had so much fun the first time there, that the students asked for time at Dimond Mall each night!

Vic Lewin, principal at the Andrew K. Demoski School in Nulato, along with counselor, Eddie Hornsby, would like to open this trip up to college and tech-bound Seniors from the entire district next year. Upon approval, it would be an incredible opportunity for students to see Anchorage, as well as look into other programs within the state of Alaska. They also agree that having such a trip earlier in the school year, especially in the middle to late part of 1st Semester would be best.

Submitted by Eddie Hornsby

Arctic Care and the USAF Northern Lights Band Visit YKSD

They could not have come at a better time. The joint arrangement of Tanana Chiefs and members of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force paid visits to villages along the Yukon River, bringing medical and dental aid to hundreds, if not thousands of people in the Alaskan Interior.

In many YKSD schools, there were visits by the Northern Lights Brass Band of the U.S. Air Force, based out of Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage and Eilson Air Force Base in North Pole, Alaska. This band combined the sounds of trumpets, trombones, and saxophones with an acoustic guitar playing singer to play old "Big Band" standards, modern hits, a "super-hero" feature, and some of their own arrangements.

Free medical and dental screenings were given, as well as music, smiles, and the making of new friends. A few fortunate ones, such as Bergman Esmailka, an elder in Nulato, even received gifts of special commemorative coins

given by the Arctic Care and Northern Lights Band members. He was moved to tears, and said, "Seeing that band play reminded me of my time in the service during World War II." Each school visited by the band also received autographed commemorative pictures of the band members in recognition of their coming.

One female Navy member of the Arctic Care staff in Nulato said, "We are very happy to come here. At first, it was a "culture shock" for many of us. Then we met the people, and were greeted with open arms." Another female Army member of Arctic Care said, "The people of Kaltag came to help, and just wanted us to stay. When we loaded up to fly to Nulato, they didn't want us to leave! I didn't want to leave either!" A member of the TCC dental group said, "It's great to see our military in a different light, rather than hearing about what is going on in Iraq and Afghanistan. I'm proud

to be associated with them." The Colonel in charge of the dental team in Ruby said, "It makes me wish that we had more time to stay, and be more of a help to the people of these villages. It's an experience of a lifetime, and I will never forget."

It's not everyday that you see Army helicopters land at your village airport. Nor is it everyday that people in uniform come to offer peace and a "hand up" to civilians in our own country, just as they do that in other nations during conflict. Arctic Care and the Northern Lights Band came, and gave member schools and communities of Yukon Koyukuk School district more than just music, medical, and dental care. They came to offer hope for a bright future, just as the teachers, administrators, and counselors do daily.

*Submitted by
Eddie Hornsby*



Summer Birthdays

June

- 1 OSCAR DAYTON, KRISTINA PETERSON
- 8 MONICA ALEXIE
- 9 MARILYN MARSHALL
- 18 ANNE TITUS
- 26 WAYNE SMOKE
- 29 ORRIN JOHN
- 30 MADELINE WILLIAMS

July

- 4 TAMARA THOMPSON
- 5 TIMOTHY NED
- 12 BILL MONROE
- 16 VIOLETA VOROBYOV
- 17 ELIZABETH PETERS, HENRY MADROS
- 18 CARMEN ROMERO
- 23 LAWRENCE SAUNDERS, TERRI THURSTON
- 25 MICHAEL JOHNSON, LAURA KAISER
- 27 DEBRA CAPTAIN
- 28 CHERYL BRADY, CHARITY WATT

August

- 2 WHITNEY ADAMS, MADELINE RILEY, MARLA LARSON
- 3 JULIANNE SZIDLOSKI
- 4 KRISANN MOUNTAIN
- 7 CORINNA DART
- 10 WINIFRED DEMOSKI, DANIEL BARNES
- 16 CRISTINA POAGE
- 17 LISA SITES
- 19 VALERIE SAM
- 21 RYAN TILBURY

