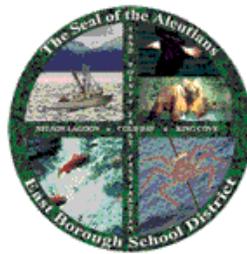
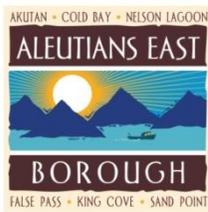


## In the Loop



Bringing the Aleutians East Borough, the AEB School District and Eastern Aleutian Tribes together by sharing common goals.

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## Akutan Geothermal Project to Drill Confirmation Well this Summer



In 2010, the first of two geothermal energy exploration wells in Akutan produced water in excess of 360 degrees Fahrenheit.

Crews are gearing up to drill a 1,500-foot confirmation well in Akutan's Hot Springs Bay Valley this summer as part of the next phase of the city's geothermal project. The goal is to attain a greater degree of accuracy on the location and size of the geothermal resource for a potential 2 – 3 megawatt power plant.

After drilling two geothermal exploratory wells in 2010, the City of Akutan has continued to assess the potential for geothermal power development in

the Hot Springs Bay Valley area of Akutan Island. Development of power and heating from the geothermal project would help to significantly decrease dependence on diesel fuel and provide a clean, inexpensive and reliable source of energy production.

The work done on the project so far has included geotechnical surveys, resource modeling and potential drilling sites.

In January of 2015, the City's project team, RMA Consulting Group; Mead & Hunt Engineers; and Geothermal Resource Group recommended the drilling of the confirmation drill. The cost of this phase of the project is estimated at \$2 million.

Funding for this phase of the geothermal project has come from a variety of sources, including \$1.5 million from the Alaska Energy Authority, the City of Akutan's matching funds, and a \$931,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Energy, part of the funding that the City of Unalaska had intended to use for a geothermal power plant at Makushin Volcano until that project was terminated due to a lack of support.

"We heard they were going to return the money," Hermann "Tuna" Scanlan said. "So we chatted with them and DOE to redirect these funds to help with our project."

Crews will mobilize in July to drill an exploratory confirmation well in Akutan's Hot Springs Bay Valley to confirm the resource.

"Hopefully, by the end of August or early September, they will be done with drilling," Scanlan said. "By then, well testing and resource confirmation should be completed.

Scanlan said the next phase of the geothermal project would be to assess the results from the well testing activity and system design to produce the resource, cost estimate of producing the resource, infrastructure and a business plan to attract companies interested in developing the resource and benefiting from the returns of their investment.

"We're looking at Trident as a major stakeholder," Scanlan said. "They might be willing to invest in developing this alternative power source. If so, it could save the City of Akutan and Trident a lot of money."



Crews will mobilize in July to drill an exploratory confirmation well in Akutan's Hot Springs Bay Valley to confirm the resource.

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## Witnesses Provide Compelling Testimony on King Cove Road Issue during Congressional Hearing



Several witnesses testified in favor of a single-lane gravel road linking remote King Cove, Alaska to the all-weather airport in Cold Bay. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

transportation in the remote, mostly-Native community.

“The Interior Department’s heartless decision to reject access to life-saving emergency medical care was callous and cynical,” Senator Murkowski said during her opening statement. “It shattered the trust responsibility that the federal government is supposed to have to our nation’s Native peoples. It has left the people of King Cove in the same situation they have been in for decades: at the mercy of the elements, left to suffer needless pain, and perhaps even death, should they ever have a medical emergency. It’s time to ensure that King Cove finally has reliable access to emergency medical transportation – something that virtually every other American takes for granted.”

Alaska’s Lieutenant Governor; a retired Coast Guard commander; and a representative from the National Congress of American Indians were among the witnesses who testified last month (April 14, 2016) during an emotional congressional hearing focusing on a life-saving road in King Cove, Alaska. Senator Lisa Murkowski, Chair of the U.S. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, conducted the oversight hearing

highlighting the continuing lack of dependable emergency medical



“It’s time to ensure that King Cove finally has reliable access to emergency medical transportation – something that virtually every other American takes for granted,” Senator Lisa Murkowski said. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott testified that over the past three decades, scores of King Cove residents have been medically evacuated from King Cove to the nearby community of Cold Bay and, regrettably, more than a dozen individuals have passed away – either due to weather-related aircraft accidents or the inability to obtain timely medical treatment.



**“We also need to recognize that we are as important on this land as anything else and we probably are the most fragile,” Alaska Lieutenant Governor Byron Mallott said. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.**

“Certainly we need appropriate and timely public policy to frame our ability to manage Alaska’s lands and other lands. But we also need to recognize that we are as important on this land as anything else and we probably are the most fragile,” Mallott said. “Particularly those who live in rural and remote Alaska, those living breathing human beings who have been there for generations, and those who have arrived yesterday and desire and choose to live for

continuing generations, that their reality, their importance, their aspirations, their desire for their ability to live on that land needs somehow to be recognized and brought into a proper balance that does not exist today.”

Retired Coast Guard Commander John Whiddon testified about recovering the bodies of four people who died in a 1980 plane crash about 8 miles south of Cold Bay during a medevac from King Cove.



**Retired Coast Guard Commander John Whiddon testified about recovering the bodies of four people who died in a 1980 plane crash about 8 miles south of Cold Bay during a medevac from King Cove. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.**

“In hindsight, this could have been avoided if there had been ground transportation between King Cove and Cold Bay,” he said. “In addition to the loss of lives, the two helo crews and a C-130 crew were put at risk as they flew many hours in heavy snow and high winds to locate the crash site and recover the bodies.”

King Cove (Native) Corporation spokeswoman Della Trumble said she knows residents are living on borrowed time with their transportation access problem. Six years ago, she witnessed her daughter’s plane crash. Fortunately, there were no serious injuries.

“No mother should ever have to witness her own precious daughter crash land at the King Cove



King Cove Corporation spokeswoman and Agdaagux Tribe member Della Trumble testified about witnessing her daughter’s plane crash land in King Cove several years ago. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Airstrip due to our highly unpredictable turbulence and downdrafts from the volcanic mountainous terrain that surrounds the narrow valley where our 3,000’ gravel runway is located,” Trumble said. “It was the scariest few minutes of my life as I sat there watching the plane be pushed downward by the wind when it crash landed on the runway without its landing gear down.”

National Congress of American Indians Policy Director Denise Desiderio said this is first and foremost an issue of public safety. NCAI passed resolutions of support for King Cove’s road access in 2007, 2014 and again in 2015.

“Access to emergency medical assistance is one of

the most basic rights afforded to American citizens,” she said. “Nowhere is this more relevant than in American Indian and Alaska Native communities who ceded millions of acres of land to form the United States. In exchange, Native communities expect the U.S. to uphold its federal trust responsibility in areas such as education, land management and health care. NCAI’s members have shown consistent and long-standing support for road access to and from King Cove.”



“NCAI’s members have shown consistent and long-standing support for road access to and from King Cove,” said NCAI Policy Director Denise Desiderio. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

In 2013, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell rejected a small gravel road that would have linked the Native community to the nearby Cold Bay Airport through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. Jewell claimed the road would have caused irreversible damage to the Refuge and to the wildlife that depend upon it.

“Unfortunately, as you know, the Fish and Wildlife Service concluded in the Record of Decision that a road is not an appropriate option,” Mallott said. “Specifically, they noted their concern that a road through the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge would be disruptive to wildlife, particularly the black brant species of goose. This is rather ironic, as the Izembek National Wildlife Refuge’s own website promotes hunting of various waterfowl, including the black brant. One hunter may take home up to two black brant per day during the hunting season.”

Aleutians East Borough Mayor Stanley Mack said marine alternatives suggested by Jewell and other critics in the past are simply not reliable or viable. In the past, injured or seriously-ill residents have been medevaced by boat when air travel was impossible because of severe weather.



AEB Mayor Stanley Mack said marine alternatives suggested by Jewell and other critics in the past are simply not reliable or viable. Photo courtesy: U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

“Strapping injured or sick patients into a gurney and hoisting them up from the deck of a boat, which can be as much as 20-25 feet below the Cold Bay dock, is always a scary situation,” Mack said. “Putting elders inside a crab pot and using a crane to hoist them up to the top of the dock is frightening. Most people do not realize that both high winds and ice can prevent us from using boats as large as 125’ from accessing the Cold Bay dock that extends out from shore a quarter of a mile. The trauma and high risk that these marine medevacs require is very frightening to all of us.”

Mack said the proposed road is the most logical, safe and affordable alternative.

“I respectfully ask all committee members to support Senator Murkowski’s efforts to authorize this road, which would significantly enhance the quality of our lives,” Mack said. “Our lives do matter.”

Since U.S. Interior Secretary Sally Jewell denied the road on Dec. 23, 2013, there have been a total of 44 medevacs. Of those, 16 involved the Coast Guard and 28 were non-Coast Guard medevacs.

# DOE Announces Technical Assistance for Self-Sufficiency, Lower Energy Costs for Rural Alaska Communities

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced the 13 recipients of Remote Alaska Communities Energy Efficiency (RACEE) technical assistance. DOE also released its “Sustainable Energy Solutions for Rural Alaska” report, and released its “Sustainable Energy Solutions for Rural Alaska” report at the Rural Energy Conference in Fairbanks.

The RACEE Competition is a \$4 million joint effort between DOE’s offices of Indian Energy (IE) and Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE), focused on significantly accelerating efforts by remote Alaska communities to adopt sustainable energy strategies. During phase one, 64 communities pledged to reduce per capita energy use by 15 percent by 2020 and were designated as Community Efficiency Champions, incorporating them into a peer network and making them eligible to apply for technical assistance to prepare implementation plans. DOE is providing \$600,000 in funding to the Alaska Energy Authority to deliver technical assistance to 13 communities selected in Phase two of the RACEE Competition. Chris Deschene, Director of DOE’s Office of Indian Energy, said, “The U.S. Department of Energy is working with Alaska communities to find solutions to high energy costs. These rural community grants, and our report on sustainable energy for Rural Alaska, are part of the Obama Administration’s commitment to partner with American Tribes and Alaska Native villages to provide clean energy solutions that will save communities money and reduce carbon pollution.”

The Alaskan communities selected for this phase of the RACEE awards are: the **City of Akutan**, Village of Chefornek, **City of False Pass**, City of Galena, Village of Holy Cross, Village of Kiana, Village of Klawock, City of Kotlik, City of Noorvik, City of Port Lions, City of Ruby, **City of Sand Point** and the City of Shishmaref.

The 13 selected communities will work with Alaska-based technical assistance providers to develop project plans to meet or exceed their pledged 15% energy reduction. This technical assistance is intended to position the communities to successfully obtain loans or compete for funding to fully implement their plans. Later in 2016 during phase three, the communities selected to receive technical assistance will be eligible to compete for up to \$1 million in funding (\$3.4 million total) to implement energy saving measures. This opportunity is focused on energy efficiency; however, building integrated renewable technologies and replacing other inefficient forms of power are eligible.

[Continue article](#)

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## Tiffany Jackson of Sand Point Elected to National School Boards Association

Tiffany Jackson, President of the Aleutians East Borough School Board and Executive Director of the QT (Qagan Tayagungin) Tribe of Sand Point, was recently nominated to the National School Boards Association (NSBA).

“It’s very exciting,” Jackson said. “I’m thrilled about this opportunity.”

Jackson said the Association of School Boards forwarded her name as a nomination.

“Then Chris Nation from the Washington School Boards Association seconded the nomination. I presented a speech to the delegation, and there was a vote right there.”



Tiffany Jackson was elected to the National School Boards Association on April 8, 2016.

Jackson is the second person from Alaska to serve on this board. However, she’s the first Native American to serve on the National School Boards Association Board of Directors.

“I’m also involved with the NSBA’s National Caucus of American Indian/Alaska Native School Board Members,” she said. “I was recently elected president-elect of that board. They told me that I’m the first Native to be on the National School Boards Association.”

The NSBA advocates for equity and excellence in public education through school board leadership. Jackson hopes as she moves forward in this position, she can do more to advance that mission for Alaska Natives.

“We need equity for all students,” she said. “To me, it’s just unacceptable that Alaska Natives are the lowest performing demographic in the nation when it comes to education,” she said. “What can we do from a governance level to be more effective in delivering public education so that all of our students can succeed? They all have the potential.”

We just need to figure out how to meet their needs, and how, at the school board level, we can make that happen.”

In June, Jackson will attend her second board meeting. She’ll also take part in NSBA’s Equity Symposium and the Advocacy Institute. She’s hopeful she will be able to meet with some of the lawmakers in Washington, D.C. and express the needs for public education in Alaska at the federal level.

“I’m honored and excited to be in this position,” she said. “I hope I can do well and be a positive voice for all of our students. It’s always about the kids and what we can do to help them achieve and live up to their potential.

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## **City of King Cove Hosts Meeting about How to Stem the Flow of Drugs into the Community**

Concerned citizens gathered at the King Cove Community Center last month (April 18<sup>th</sup>) to discuss how to prevent hard drugs, such as methamphetamines and heroin, from entering the community and hitting the community’s streets. The meeting was led by King Cove Mayor Henry Mack.

“Most of it is getting here by plane,” said Mayor Mack. “There’s more street activity. We hear about individuals that travel out of town for a few days at a time and come back bringing drugs. The problem is we usually hear about it several days later. What would be helpful is if the Police Department hears about it when these folks are leaving and coming back.

During the meeting, King Cove Police Chief Robert Gould said when he was growing up here, there were no drugs in town. He said over the years, marijuana and cocaine appeared, but it has only been during the last couple of years that he and others started seeing meth and heroin entering the community.

Police officer Bradley Schneider appealed to the community to provide tips about drug dealers. He said this would greatly help the Public Safety’s mission to intercept drugs coming into the community and to prosecute those responsible.

Mayor Mack asked the community to help by keeping their ears open. He also said the public can report tips anonymously by using **the city's drug tips hotline: (907) 497-7676**.

"We need people to give police a call when they see people taking part in drug activities, or if they know drug deals are going down, or if people are packing drugs into town," he said.

Detailed, helpful tips include information such as "Dealer (name) is bringing heroin into King Cove tomorrow into his backpack" or "Dealer (name) offered one of my kids drugs on Tuesday at 5 p.m."

Chief Gould and Officer Schneider said that while probable cause is necessary to obtain search warrants which could lead to arrests, all tips are requested and welcome. They said even less specific tips will help police make their cases when dealers are arrested. Officer Schneider said the police department can call upon established crime-fighting partnerships, including the Alaska State Troopers and the Anchorage Police Department, if the tips provided are detailed and solid.

The public, elected officials and police officers discussed possible cooperation between the City, Eastern Aleutian Tribes, the tribes and the Borough in order to positively impact the drug problem. One suggestion included drafting a King Cove City Council resolution to request the cooperation of the City Council of Cold Bay and other towns in the Aleutians East Borough. Another idea was a request to research and discuss the concept of creating an Aleutians East Borough Police Department. Other ideas presented by the public included donating time and expertise, to teach and include kids in creative outlets such as guitar playing and story-telling.

Chief Gould said he's disappointed that the DARE program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) is no longer active within the King Cove School after funding for the program dwindled nationwide. He agreed to present a seminar at the school for middle school-aged students. Other residents suggested creating and distributing pamphlets to educate children about the dangers of drugs. Another suggestion was to distribute educational brochures describing signs to look for in drug users as well as resources available to drug addicts who want to stop using.

Following the discussion, police officers showed the public what heroin, crystal meth and cocaine looks like to raise awareness.

"It's helpful for the kids and adults to see what these products look like so if they see other kids on drugs, they can let somebody know, like mom or dad," Mayor Mack said.

For Mayor Mack, the police and other residents who want to stop drugs from coming into the community, the meeting was the first step in chipping away at a problem that has plagued many communities across the country and within Alaska, urban and rural, large and small.

"It's a start," he said. "We're going to continue with this and host another meeting in August or

September. More than likely it will happen when school is in session because that's when more people are in town. We want to get our community back and families whole again.”

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## **Akutan to Build Duplex this summer to House VPSO, Health Professionals**

The City of Akutan is planning to break ground this summer to construct a new 2,200-square foot duplex to provide much-needed housing for a VPSO and health professionals.

“We don't have enough housing in the village,” said Akutan City Administrator Tuna Scanlan. “That's the reason we went after this grant, so that we'd have housing for the VPSO and a nurse.”

A grant from the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation for \$694,586.62 will pay for the construction, which will begin this month. The program (The Teacher, Health Professional and Public Safety Officer Housing Program grant) awards funding for new construction or rehabilitation of housing, specifically for teachers, health professionals or public safety professionals working in rural Alaska.

Originally, the city was seeking a modular design for the duplex. However, the proposal exceeded the grant amount.

“So a redesign was made for a stick built,” said Scanlan. “That proposal came within a comparable cost estimate.”

Crews from Pylar Contracting are scheduled to begin construction on May 8, 2016. They already have a head start. Some earth work began last year (in October) at the building site on foundation preparation work, sewer, water and electricity hook-ups. Crews plan to wrap up by October 15, 2016.

# False Pass, Sand Point & King Cove Student Athletes Compete in the Native Youth Olympics

Six student athletes from False Pass, Sand Point and King Cove gave it their all at the Native Youth Olympics (NYO) last month in a competition that has roots stretching back thousands of years.



“They not only meet other kids across Alaska doing the same thing, focusing on Alaska culture, but they learn so much about pride and sportsmanship,” said Sand Point NYO Coach Michelle Gundersen.



Justina Parami of Sand Point jumps during the Scissor Broad Jump. Photo courtesy: Michelle Gundersen.

Two student athletes from Sand Point, Justina Parami and Charles “Wolf” Jackson, both sophomores, participated in the traditional athletic contests. They took part in six out of nine events.

Justina focused most of her energy on the Seal Hop, the Scissor Broad Jump and the One-Foot High Kick while Charles concentrated on the Alaskan High Kick, the Scissor Broad Jump and the Seal Hop.

“It’s pretty grueling,” said Gundersen. “You have to focus on a variety of muscles – arms, legs, stomach. You have to have your mind in this to do it.”

The athletes trained for four weeks before heading to the statewide competition.

“We worked on the events five days a week and sometimes on weekends,” Gundersen said. We worked on leg strength and weight training every day. We wanted to keep up on their leg strength and mid-core section strength because these events are pretty tough.”

Both of the kids primarily worked on kicks. Charles put a lot of his energy into training for the Alaskan High Kick. Justina targeted the One-Foot High Kick.

“Charles came up approximately 6 to 8 inches on his Alaska High Kick from where

he was at practice,” said Gundersen. “Justina

came up six inches this year. They both had great attitudes and really enjoyed it.”



Charles “Wolf” Jackson of Sand Point competes in the Indian Stick Pull at the 2016 Native Youth Olympics. Photo courtesy: Michelle Gundersen.



Regan Hoblet of False Pass competes in the Alaskan High Kick event at NYO. Photo courtesy: Kevin Barnett.

One student from False Pass, 13 year-old Regan Hoblet, strived to reach her personal best in several contests testing her strength, skill and knowledge. She started training in March with Coach Kevin Barnett.

“I ran her through the same kind of conditioning I used when I was on a rowing team in high school,” Barnett said. “We built up her core and upper body strength. I started her off with 40 push-ups and 40 sit ups. She, on her own, got up to 100. She was truly driven! She did the conditioning every day, whether we had practice or not, and she ran everywhere. She was very engaged and committed to

the training.”

Barnett said he and Regan got on YouTube and watched videos of past competitions and techniques.

“We just followed along with what seemed to be a good technique for people who won in previous years, and she imitated them. Her Auntie Jolene also gave her some pointers because she used to compete in NYO during the 90s. So we basically drew from whatever resources we could find. She worked and worked and worked.”



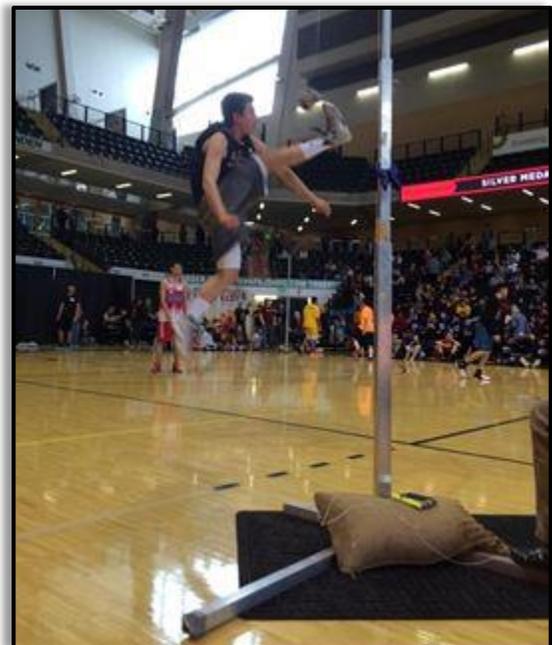
Sadie Newton of King Cove competes in the Indian Stick Pull. Photo courtesy: Etta Kuzakin.

committed trainer.”

Three student athletes from King Cove, Gary Gould, Sadie Newton and Marylee Yatchmenoff competed in NYO. Sadie participated in the Scissor Broad Jump, the One-Foot High Kick and the Indian Stick Pull. Gary took part in the One-Foot High Kick, the Two-Foot High Kick, the Scissor Broad Jump and the Indian Stick Pull. Marylee competed in the Alaskan High Kick, the Seal Hop and the Kneel Jump.

King Cove Coach Etta Kuzakin said one of the best things that happened at NYO was getting approached by several coaches who mentioned how well-mannered her kids were.

“Coming from a small community, it really means a lot,” Kuzakin said. “That means my kids were there to learn. The talent at NYO is above and beyond. In our district, it isn’t something we practice year round like they do in other districts.”



Gary Gould of King Cove competes in the One-Foot High Kick. Photo courtesy: Etta Kuzakin.

We get about a month of practice before we go out, but it's not about beating the other person in front of you. NYO is about making yourself better. For example, my two One-Foot High Kickers, Sadie and Gary, got four inches higher than during practice. That's absolutely phenomenal!"

Barnett echoed Kuzakin's sentiments, and said NYO was a chance for Regan Hoblet to lay down her personal best and build on it.



Marylee Yatchmenoff of King Cove competes in the Alaskan High Kick. Photo courtesy: Etta Kuzakin.

"It's a very non-threatening atmosphere," he said. "It's a very collaborative competition where even the refs are showing the kids better techniques."

Gundersen said her student athletes learned about the differences in the cultures throughout Alaska as well as the togetherness it brought to them.

"For the students in the Borough, I think this is extremely important," Gundersen said. "It allows the kids to go beyond their small, isolated communities and open up to learn about other people and cultures."

"Even for kids who aren't participating in NYO, they should go just to watch and understand what it is and how it's done," said Kuzakin. "It's an experience that's

needed. It's not about winning at NYO. It's about making yourself better. That's what NYO and our culture is all about. We want our children to better themselves every day."

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## Sand Point, King Cove High School Juniors See Washington, D.C. and New York Close Up

It's one thing to read about history and government in the classroom. It's an entirely different experience to see both in person. That's exactly what 14 high school juniors from Sand Point and King Cove did last month, creating a remarkable learning experience and extraordinary lifelong memories.



Chaperones Karen McMillan and Chris Babcock accompanied 14 high school juniors from Sand Point and King Cove for the Close Up trip to Washington, D.C. and New York City. Photo courtesy: Karen McMillan.

“I definitely think it’s a very valuable opportunity for the students to see their government in action and to see how things work,” said Sand Point teacher and Close Up chaperone Karen McMillan. “It’s a great experience, and they were able to do so much.”

The Sand Point and King Cove students left Anchorage on Friday night, April 15<sup>th</sup>, and arrived in Washington, D.C. Saturday morning, a day and a half before the Close Up program began. So the chaperones decided to start the students’ learning experience early. The group visited the Natural History

Museum during their first day there.

“Just seeing those artifacts that are in there – it’s just so different when you’re actually experiencing it versus seeing a picture of it,” said McMillan.

On the following day, the group walked around the National Mall and visited the Holocaust Museum.

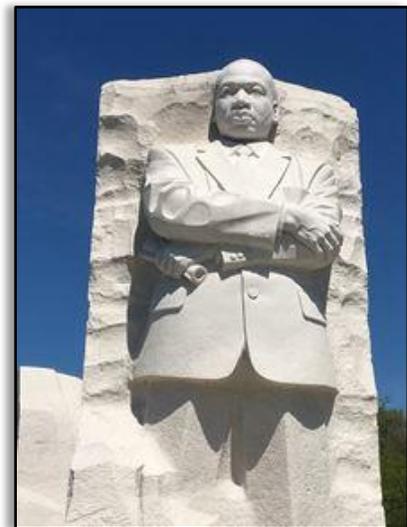
“I know the Holocaust Museum touched all of the kids,” said Chris Babcock, AEB Assemblyman and the chaperone from King Cove. “You can read about it in text books, but to actually see things that were there and used in that situation really brought it home for the kids.”

On Monday, it was a busy day with visits to monuments and classroom instruction.

“Basically, their day starts around 7 o’clock in the morning when they get a wake-up call,” said Babcock. “They have breakfast, and by 8 o’clock, they’re boarding buses to go to

whichever sites they’re going to see that day.”

On the first day, the students visited the Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorials. Each day, the kids also participated in workshops with Close Up instructors in Washington, D.C. in a classroom setting.



The King Cove and Sand Point students visited the MLK Memorial, among others. Photo by Chris Babcock.

“They took part in collaborative learning and discussions on some of the things that they saw and did,” said McMillan.

On Tuesday, they headed to the National Mall to visit the war memorials.

“I think the war memorials really touched them,” said Babcock. “Actually being there and touching the Vietnam Wall and with all the names on it was an experience that really affected the kids. Seeing the Korean Memorial with the soldiers and the World War II Memorial also made a big impression,” he said.

On that day, the students saw war veterans there from Missouri who were transported to Washington, D.C. by a non-profit organization called the Honor Flight Network. The organization provides the war heroes an opportunity to reflect on the memorials that pay tribute to their service.

“Our kids got a chance to shake hands with these veterans, thank them for their service and see how these memorials really touched our veterans,” said Babcock. “I know a lot of the kids were really excited about being able to witness that.”

On Wednesday, it was Capitol Hill day. The group visited the Library of Congress and then went on a tour of the Capitol Building. Next, they went to the House of Representatives and sat in the gallery.



The Close Up students visited several war memorials including the Korean War Memorial. Photo by Chris Babcock.

“They were able to watch a debate on an IRS bill that they’re trying to work out,” McMillan



King Cove and Sand Point students met with Senator Lisa Murkowski, Senator Dan Sullivan and Congressman Don Young. Photo by Chris Babcock.

said. “The kids were really fascinated with that process and enjoyed watching that because various lawmakers stood up and spoke their mind regarding the bill and explained why they were either for it or against it.”

That afternoon, they met with the Alaska Delegation: Congressman Don Young, Senator Lisa Murkowski and Senator Dan Sullivan.



Sand Point and King Cove Students also visited the National Air and Space Museum. Photo by Chris Babcock.

“They described their typical day and answered questions about issues they’re currently working on,” McMillan said. “The students were also able to ask questions. So that was interesting for them to meet their representatives in Congress, find out what’s going on and get an inside look at their jobs.”

Next, was a visit to the Supreme Court where the group listened to a lecture on the Supreme Court process.

“That was pretty interesting,” McMillan said. “It was a busy, busy day and a lot of walking.”

On Thursday, the kids took a break from the Close Up workshop and visited the

National Archives.

“I wanted them to see the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the Constitution before they disappear because they’re deteriorating pretty quickly, even in the climate they’re keeping them in,” Babcock said.

The group also visited the Air and Space Museum.

“You can’t go to Washington, D.C. without seeing that museum,” Babcock said. “The kids really enjoyed that.”

The next morning, the group boarded a bus for a five-hour road trip to New York City where their adventure continued. Activities included going to a musical On Broadway to see “Finding Neverland.” Then they visited Times Square.

“They thought that was pretty cool,” said Babcock.

The following day, the group visited the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

“We were able to tie a lot of things together,” said



The Close Up students visited the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island while visiting New York City. Photo by Chris Babcock.

McMillan. “They were talking about immigration laws in Washington, D.C. Then we went to see the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. They were able to see exactly what our immigrants faced, especially during the early 1900s when so many came in and were processed through Ellis Island. So they made a lot of connections there and that was interesting for them.”



Students from Sand Point and King Cove pose in front of the Washington Monument during the Close Up trip. Photo courtesy: Karen McMillan.

They also visited the 9/11 Memorial, a tribute of remembrance to honor the nearly 3,000 people killed in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center site; near Shanksville, PA; and at the Pentagon. The memorial also pays tribute to the six people killed in the World Trade Center bombing in February 1993.

“That really touched Kristopher, my son,” said Babcock. “He really enjoyed the 9/11 Memorial.”

The Close Up Washington, D.C. and New York City trip packed a lot of events, sites and memories into a 9-day excursion. McMillan

and Babcock said it was often hectic and filled with very long days. However, the kids were very happy with what they experienced.

“They did a lot of fundraising to pay for the trip,” McMillan said. “I think it really paid off for them. It was an experience they’ll never forget.”

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## **City of King Cove Wishes Administrative Manager Bonnie Folz a Fond Farewell as She Retires**

After nearly a decade of working for the City of King Cove, Administrative Manager Bonnie Folz is retiring – but not without a fond farewell and heartfelt wishes from community residents and colleagues.



King Cove Administrative Manager Bonnie Folz retired on April 30<sup>th</sup> after a decade of working for the City. The community held a potluck for her last month to wish her well. Photo courtesy: Carisa Mae Brandell.

Last month, Carisa Mae Brandell, Coordinator of the City’s Recreation and Teen Center, decorated the community center walls and tables with cut out flowers. As the community often does during celebrations and big events, residents brought in a variety of mouth-watering potluck dishes, from ham, turkey and all the

fixings to delicious desserts.

“It was just delightful,” Bonnie said. “It was a lot of fun. Many people, including the mayor, said very nice things. It was very touching, and I was very appreciative.”

“Bonnie has been such a great asset to our community,” said King Cove Mayor Henry Mack. “She took on her job with compassion and grew to love the community and the people of King Cove. Because of that, she loved her job.”

“I was very fortunate to have hired Bonnie back in 2006,” said Gary Hennigh, King Cove City Administrator. “She has been an excellent employee with a great disposition, personality and work ethic. I don’t know how I previously “survived” in this position for 14 years before I hired Bonnie. Without a doubt, it has been the smartest decision I every made!”



“Many people, including the mayor, said very nice things,” Bonnie said. “It was very touching, and I was very appreciative.” Photo courtesy: Carisa Mae Brandell.

Bonnie has enjoyed working on the many projects the City has been involved with, including the fuel tank farm, the new power plant, the city streets paving project, the LED lights installed throughout the community and the small boat harbor rehab project. However, for her, the recoverable heat project has been the most memorable and satisfying project in which she played a key role.

“I feel like I have a very broad understanding of how recoverable heat works,” she said. “It is a win-win because it’s environmentally-friendly. We’re capturing produced kWh in the form of heat that would otherwise escape into the atmosphere, and we’re heating the school, the clinic,

the professional building behind the clinic and the AHA apartments. The savings (in diesel fuel) is enormous.”

While the project was a team effort, Bonnie said this project was one of her favorites.

“I went out there with Steve Stassel of Gray Stassel Engineering and the group when the project was pretty much completed to see the facilities and make sure they were running properly. When we were flying there and back, Steve was feeding me information, and I hung on every word. I felt enriched.”

Bonnie said all of the projects have been interesting, challenging and inspiring. She said her job has been very satisfying, and she has enjoyed working for a small government in a small borough.

“It was a great learning experience for me and a very interesting time,” she said. “But it was always about people for me. It was always about how I felt about the people of King Cove, and how they reacted to the new infrastructure, how working with them was so easy and how grateful

they were. They really take pride in the community and keep the city up.”

Now that Bonnie is entering a new chapter in her life, many are wondering what her plans are for retirement.

“Nothing,” she was quick to answer. “I don’t want to make any plans. I’m not



Carisa Mae Brandell decorated the Community Center for Bonnie’s retirement party in King Cove. Many residents brought in potluck dishes and desserts. Photo courtesy: Carisa Mae Brandell.

the kind of person that will make plans. I know I’m very offbeat in many ways, but my desire is to exist – to just enjoy being and not following a schedule.”

Bonnie said she would like to put more time into exercising.

“I’ve missed having as much exercise as I’d like to have.” she said. “I have given a lot to this job, and I have given a lot of energy to it. Although I’m energetic, I’d like to give that energy back to myself. I’m a gardener, a sewer and a knitter. I have a variety of hobbies that I do.”

Bonnie also recently took the training for Visit Anchorage. So as you stop through the airport, you might find her working at the Visit Anchorage kiosk.

“I’ll probably volunteer out of the airport for the travel industry three to four hours a week,” she said. “It’s not too much. I don’t want to fill my days with too much scheduling. I’m looking forward to just the existence and doing stuff around my house. How about getting up and reading the newspaper and drinking coffee, and not feeling rushed?”

While Bonnie is officially retired as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, we haven’t seen the last of her yet. She plans to do some contract work for the City.

“It’s very open-ended,” she said. “It depends on what’s going on with the City. In any case, I feel that I’m heading out in a very upbeat manner.”

“Bonnie will indeed be missed,” said Hennigh. “It is my hope that she is willing to work on a number of special tasks for the City administration. There will always be room for Bonnie to help!”

“The people of King Cove have really appreciated Bonnie,” said Mayor Mack. “She is going to be missed – big time!”

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## City of King Cove Hires Amber Jusefowytch as Assistant City Administrator



The City of King Cove hired Amber Jusefowytch as Assistant City Administrator.

Amber Jusefowytch joined the City of King Cove as the Assistant City Administrator on April 1, 2016. Her background includes heading up a grants department for the City of Barrow and assisting a project manager of a construction company.

“What attracted me to this job is there are interesting projects going on in King Cove, and several of them are grant-funded,” she said. “So it’s a great way to combine my two past career paths. It seemed to me that this job

was tailor made for me. I also have a real fondness for bush Alaska, and I love traveling around Alaska and seeing it.”

Amber recently traveled to King Cove with City Administrator Gary Hennigh and outgoing Administrative Manager Bonnie Folz.

“I feel strongly that Amber is going to be good in this job,” said Bonnie. “I think she will be a nice addition to the community.”

City Administrator Gary Hennigh said, “After a very thorough advertising process, detailed review of applications, and interviewing, Amber emerged as the preferred choice for the position. I am very pleased to have Amber as my new assistant.”

After interviewing Amber, King Cove Mayor Mack also felt strongly that she’s a good fit for the job.

“I thought, we have to offer her this job,” he said. “It just felt right.”

Since taking the job, Amber has jumped in with both feet – getting a good feel for the community and its people. She also got a taste of King Cove’s weather.

“It rained the whole time I was there – three and a half days – sheets of rain,” she said.

However, that experience didn’t dampen her enthusiasm for the community.

“King Cove is beautiful,” she said. “It just seemed like a little shining town. It’s so progressive compared to a lot of bush towns I’ve been in. The people were super friendly and very sweet.”

Amber is looking forward to working with and getting to know the residents as well as the City’s projects, including the landfill and Waterfall Creek.

“The hydro is a really exciting project,” she said. “It’s really cool that the work we do impacts the entire population of King Cove, and by extension, Alaska.”

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## Eastern Aleutian Tribes Monthly Update

### Service

- **Adak - Upcoming Services:**
  - May 2 – 6<sup>th</sup> – SCF Village Doc, Summer Cuttings
  - May 19 – 29<sup>th</sup> – Ben Steward, DHAT

- **Akutan - Upcoming Services:**
  - May 7 – 18<sup>th</sup> – Ben Stewart, DHAT
  - June 20 – 25<sup>th</sup> – SCF Optometrist, Dr. Lesniak



Adak Clinic Staff, Board members & Directors (from left to right) Esther, Jennifer, Joe, Samantha, Betty, Phyllis, Edgar, Dr. Koehler, Senta and Brant. April 2016 Board Meeting and trip to Adak.

- **Cold Bay - Upcoming Services:**
  - April 18 – 22<sup>nd</sup> – Dr. Costa and Gaby, DA
  - May 2 – 3<sup>rd</sup> – SCF Optometrist, Dr. Lesniak
  - May 13 - 14<sup>th</sup> – SCF Optometrist, Dr. Humphreys and Optician
  - June 20 – 23<sup>rd</sup> – Jennifer Harrison, Executive Director to host community potluck

- **False Pass - Upcoming Services:**
  - April 22 – 29<sup>th</sup> - Dr. Costa and Gaby, DA
  - May 16 – 18<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Leoncio, SCF Village Doc

- **King Cove - Upcoming Services:**
  - April 19 – May 6<sup>th</sup> – Ben Stewart, DHAT
  - May 9 – 13<sup>th</sup> – SCF Optometrist Dr. Humphreys and Optician
  - May 16<sup>th</sup> - Dr. Costa and Gaby, DA
  - June 13 – 17<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Saunders

- **Nelson Lagoon - Upcoming Services:**
  - May 3 – 6<sup>th</sup> – SCF Optometrist, Dr. Lesniak
  - May 19 – 21<sup>st</sup> – SCF Village Doc, Dr. Leoncio
  - June 7 – 11<sup>th</sup> – Jennifer Harrison, Executive Director to host community potluck

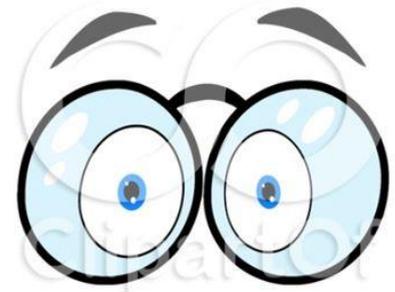


- **Sand Point - Upcoming Services:**
  - April 18 – 23<sup>rd</sup> – SCF Dentist
  - April 19 – 21<sup>st</sup> – Luz Smeenk and Ann Mayer (Diabetes Management)

- April 25 – 29<sup>th</sup> – Jennifer Harrison, Executive Director
- April 25 – 29<sup>th</sup> – SCF Village Doc, Dr. Hartman
- April 25 – 26<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Koehler and Sharayah Foster, QI Manager for HRSA Site Visit
- April 26-28<sup>th</sup> – ANTHC Oncology (cancer) Doctor – Dr. Olnes
- April 27<sup>th</sup> – Potluck with presentations by Dr. Hartman on Opioid treatments and Dr. Olnes on Oncology/cancer
- May 17 – June 17<sup>th</sup> – Dr. Smith

- **Whittier - Upcoming Services**

- April 29<sup>th</sup> – SCF Optometrist, Dr. Rennard



## **People**

- Open Positions:
  - **Behavioral Health Aide/CHR\*** – Akutan (An itinerant is working in Akutan, but she could help other villages if we could fill this position with a full-time person.)
  - **Behavioral Health Clinician or Psychologist** – Sand Point
  - Internal Opening: **CHAP Director/NP or PA** – Any Site
  - **Clinical Information Clerk (CIC)/Janitor\*** - Akutan
  - **Community Health Aides\*** – Adak and Nelson Lagoon
  - **CIC/Community Health Representative (CHR)\*** – Akutan
  - **House Coordinator/Behavioral Health Aide (BHA)\*** – Sand Point
  - **Immersive Learning and Education Program Manager** – Any Site
  - **Janitor (intermittent)\*** - Adak
  - **Nurse Practitioner/Physician Assistant** – Adak, Akutan, King Cove, Sand Point, and recruiting for Itinerants
  - **Physician** – King Cove, Sand Point, and recruiting for itinerants
  - **Planning and Development Manager** – Any Site

\*Note: No experience necessary. Training will be provided.

## **Report on Events:**

The **Board Meeting** was held in Adak on April 17, 2016. **Joe Bereskin from Akutan, Samantha McNeley from Nelson Lagoon, Betty Calugan (Administration Director), Brant Mursch (Finance Director), Dr. Danita Koehler (Medical Director), Edgar Smith (Operations Director),** and me arrived in Adak on April 14<sup>th</sup>. On April 15 -16<sup>th</sup>, we toured the facilities and the island. On April 16<sup>th</sup>, we attended and **presented during the City's 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and community potluck.**

## "EFFECTS OF EXCESSIVE ALCOHOL USE"



- ◆ Excessive and appropriate alcohol consumption leads to accidents, absenteeism and lost revenue.
- ◆ 25% of people who die in road accidents have blood alcohol levels greater than legal limits.
- ◆ Aggressive and criminal behavior and the consumption of alcohol are linked.
- ◆ Alcoholics and heavy drinkers are especially susceptible to the other diseases.
- ◆ Alcoholics and problem drinkers also undoubtedly contribute to the deterioration of the mental health of other members of their families through verbal, physical and sexual abuse.



You may be surprised by how much alcohol is in your drink.

What is a standard drink anyway?

[Find Out >](#)

They All Contain the Same Amount of Alcohol!



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King Cove Behavioral Health

1-907-497-7110

Sand Point Behavioral Health

1-907-386-1227

We are here to help so reach out to your local Clinic and make an appointment or just walk in and we are there for you.

Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.

3380'C' Street, Suite 100

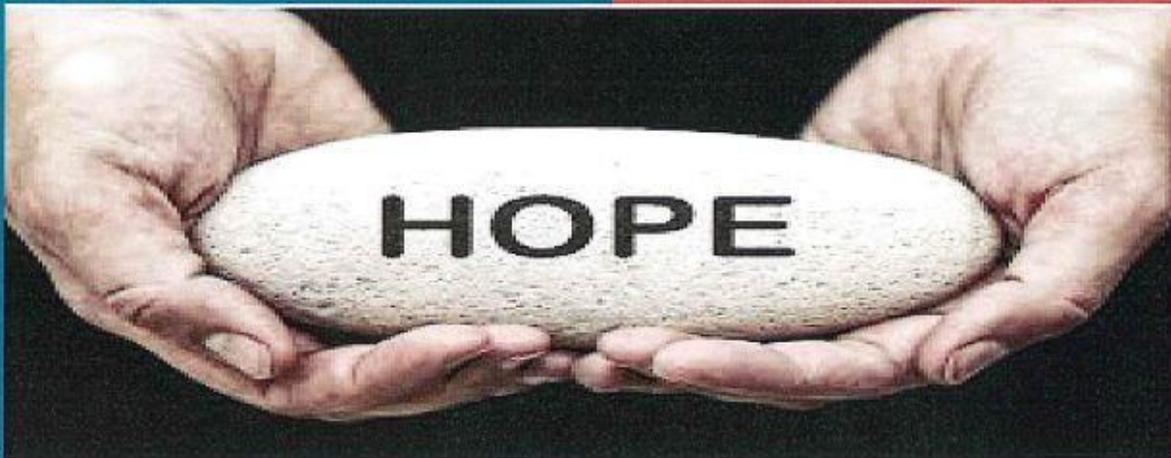
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907-277-1440

1-866-328-4911



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**Do you suffer with depression?  
Signs And Symptoms**

- ❖ Constantly feel irritable, sad or angry.
- ❖ Feel bad about yourself
- ❖ Changes in eating and sleeping habits
- ❖ Thoughts of death or suicide
- ❖ Feel helpless and hopeless
- ❖ Anything and everything makes you sad and/or cry.
- ❖ Difficulty concentrating
- ❖ Loss of interest in social activity

<http://www.extremeanxietydisorders.com>

**Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc.**  
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**We are here to help so reach out to your local Clinic and make an appointment or just walk in and we are there for you.**

**IN THE  
DARKEST TIMES,  
HOPE IS SOMETHING  
YOU GIVE YOURSELF.**

-UNCLE TROH



HEALTHYPLACE.COM

**SUBSTANCE USE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

**Alcohol & Drug Use (Higher)**

- Depressed
- Hopeless
- Worthless
- Heavy Drinkers on Average are more likely to feel depressed.

**Drug Users and Non-Drug Users**

- Hopelessness
- Nervousness
- Worthlessness (1.5%)
- Depression (5%)
- Drug users report being depressed a little or some of the time about 5% more often than non drug users.



Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association

# Photo Contest

**2016** *Get Ready, Get Set, Get Snapping!*



We are looking for images from the APICDA communities of:

**Atka • Akutan • False Pass • Nelson Lagoon  
Nikolski • St. George • Unalaska**

All original photos must be maximum resolution for quality reproduction use in the APICDA 2017 Calendar and/or 2016 Holiday Card. Capture the seasons, holiday traditions, cultural events, people at work, children at play, wildlife and scenics.

Click often and send us your best shots by 5:00 pm on September 30, 2016

APICDA • 717 K Street • Anchorage, Alaska 99501 • 1-888-927-4232 • [media@apicda.com](mailto:media@apicda.com)

## Got News?

If you have news you'd like to share or if you'd like to subscribe, please email [ltanis@aeboro.org](mailto:ltanis@aeboro.org) or call Laura Tanis at (907) 274-7579.



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