

# Igiugig News & Notes

Igiugig Tribal Village Council

May 2009

Volume 12, Issue 5

## *In Loving Memory*

### GABBY A. GREGORY

March 2, 1942—February 27, 2009

Arsenia “Gabby” Gregory was born on March 2, 1942 to Marsha Mary Wassillie and Alexis Gregory at Kukaklek Lake. His nickname, “Gabby” came from his Yup’ik name — K a n g i p l u k — which means charcoal. It was given by Blind Gramma.

Uncle Gabby, as he was referred to by most, was a quiet man, with a gentle laugh. He spent most of his younger years as a commercial fisherman in Bristol Bay, but during his lifetime he also



worked at Igiugig School, served on the Igiugig Village Council Board, in 2008 was elected Vice-President of Igiugig Native Corporation, and was a devoted starosta for the Russian Orthodox Church.

Uncle Gabby had many passions in life: hunting, fishing, trapping, playing bingo, traveling the country-side, and especially “round tripping it” —drive to another village and returning home on the same day. Most of all, he loved mechanical work. He enjoyed nothing more than taking his four wheeler, boat motor, chain saw or snow machine apart; nearly everyday he worked on his ATV or repaired peoples’ equipment in the hangar just to pass the time. He was famous for taking parts from other broken vehicles and putting them together to make his own “new” vehicle.

Gabby leaves behind his sisters, Mary A. Olympic and Dallia Andrew, Brother-In-Law Mike Andrew, his Godson, Kevin Olympic, nephews Michael & Trefim Andrew, nieces Lydia Olympic, Martha Crow, Julia Salmon; Steven Nowatak & family, Sue Woods & family, Betsy Hostetter & family, and Marsha Wassillie & family. Great nephews, Jonathan & Jeremy Salmon, Shaun & Kyle Andrew, & Leif Richards, great nieces, Christina Salmon-Wassillie, AlexAnna & Tanya Salmon, Camille & Madison Andrew, & many more numerous relatives. In Heaven he is greeted by his parents, several brothers and sisters, his niece Anecia Olympic and nephew Alex Andrew.

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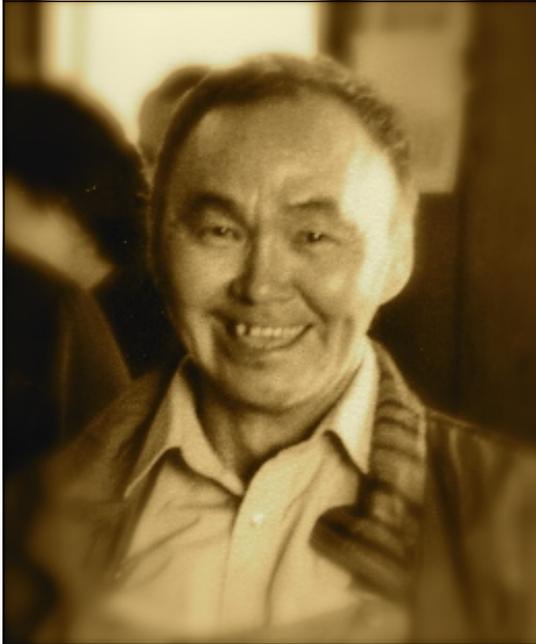
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#### Birthdays this month

- May 6  
April Hostetter
- May 10  
Shaun Andrew
- May 12  
Tanya Salmon
- May 15  
Leif Richards

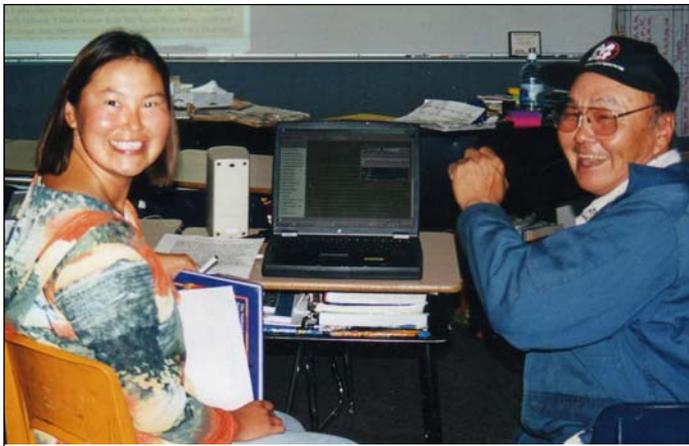
# Reflections of the 27th of February 2009

Sandy Alvarez's testimony for their good friend Gabby



A year ago the Village of Igiugig lost a great man, Dan Salmon, a man of vision and devotion to the people of this place. This day Igiugig lost a founding father, Arsenia "Gabby" Gregory, also a man of vision and quiet devotion. Though they were complete opposites in stature, they shared a striking resemblance in the smile and humor that was always just below the surface no matter what the situation, in their determination to accomplish the task set before them, in their intolerance for laziness, and in their commitment to family and village.

His "handprints" are on many of the village structures, some which he constructed from the ground up. Likewise at the Village Council, unbeknownst to most of the current population (before the memory of anyone who is less than three decades old) Gabby was a village leader and visionary in his own right in the years before HUD housing, before indoor plumbing, before publicly provided electricity, when he advocated for these things that would provide a better life for future generations. And as a testament to that fact, the Village's files of thirty years prior are replete with his signature.



While he was technically a confirmed bachelor, his life has always been filled with children who love him. Gabby's house of yesteryear was filled with people, his sisters, his nieces, and the "greats". Great-nephew, Kevin Olympic lived his early years under his Uncle Gabby's roof, and in the end, Gabby spent his days living under Kevin's roof. There is no lack here, but rather a powerful demonstration of a familial bond that is stronger than many people have with their own children. The last three generations to live in Igiugig have all referred to this man as Uncle Gabby.



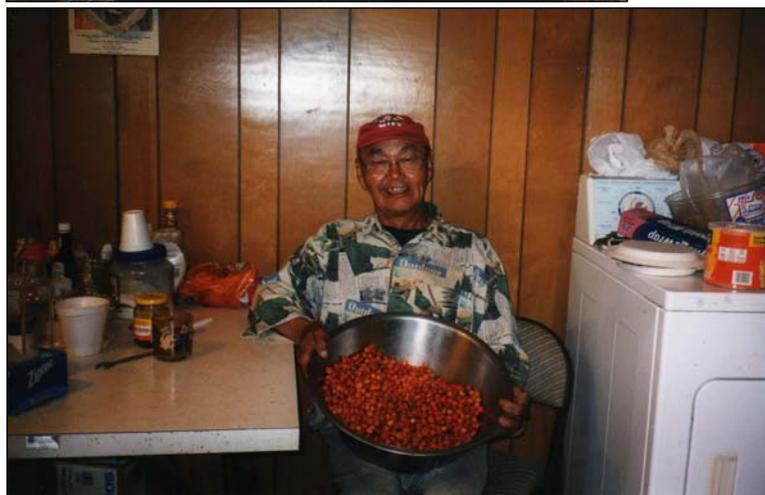
Most of the work Gabby did was for other people it seemed. He was always busy repairing, building or tending to something that needed work. Twenty-six years ago he helped us build our house. In the years since we have shared

*(Continued on page 3)*

*REFLECTIONS* (Continued from page 2)

many a meal with him under that same roof. Since he moved back to the village this fall we've come to expect a call each morning around seven with at least one question and generally both, "What's your temperature out there", and "What's that Randy doing today?", I will miss that, but will treasure the memory of it as well.

Just as Dan left us a year ago doing the things he loved—flying—returning "home", Gabby left us doing what he loved—being in the outdoors, taking a ride around "his" village. We were his people and we are so blessed to have shared these days with him.





## The 4-1-1 in the 5-3-3

By AlexAnna Salmon

Waqaa Igyararmiut! This new monthly column will deliver the 4-1-1, or a routine village update. In mid-April our Tribal Administrator Bonnie Thurston resigned and I have stepped up as the Acting Administrator. First and foremost, on behalf of Igiugig Village, we extend our sincerest gratitude for the time Bonnie served our community. In our time of great need, she came without reservations and we wish her the best.

Now it is my turn to step into these size thirteens, (everyone has reminded me "what big shoes you have to fill"). Trust me, they are larger than life! The main responsibility is to oversee all aspects of Village operations. In realizing that lack of effective communication is often an organizational weakness, I plan to use the newsletter and website as a tool to keep an informed populace, record historical changes, and also to build community pride of the quality of life we enjoy in Igiugig. Hence this monthly column—the 4.1.1.

Igiugig Village Council is still in a period of transition from our tragic community loss in February 2008 that left behind Godzilla-sized workboots; however, community willpower has not slowed, and indeed we have forged ahead ambitiously. For example, this summer will see the construction of six new HUD homes while the older homes continue to undergo intense "weatherization" by BBHA; the installation of three wind turbines to provide renewable energy to the greenhouse made possible by The Pebble Fund grant administered through the Alaska Community Foundation; the establishment of centralized recycling at the landfill; and possibly a pilot in-stream river hydro project accompanied by a powerhouse upgrade. We are also working diligently towards a new clinic facility, re-igniting our local fire-fighting and emergency response efforts, and re-routing our water source to the river rather than ground water. I have just touched the tip of the iceberg; with all the exciting projects and community changes, it is imperative that community members attend the monthly IVC meetings for updates and to offer input—whether a comment, concern, or constructive criticism! I encourage youth to attend as well, because Igiugig has always placed high value on involving youth in decision-making, and I fully intend to continue the tradition.

Within the last week alone, I received two letters from outside visitors astounded by our sense of community, our determination to accomplish goals set forth in the strategic plan, and in general—the people of Igiugig. The fact that they were not only surprised, but actually had the follow-up to send a personal letter regarding their Igiugig experience, are a daily reminder of what a privilege and an honor it is to not only represent Igiugig Village Council, but to live amongst such strong-willed and positive community members as we strive to build the healthiest model community in the US. Assirtuq!

# “Growing Farmers” in Igiugig

By AlexAnna Salmon

Jeff Smeenk and his daughter Nicole traveled to Igiugig to teach “Sustainable Food Development in a Local Environment,”—a class offered by Bristol Bay Campus that effectively transformed eleven villagers into college students for the week. The eldest, Annie Wilson, and the youngest Angel Alvarez, all partook in the weeklong class which involved extensive analysis of local soil conditions, composting locally, what organic methods entail, researching vegetables to grow, and even building a greenhouse. After the soils test, Annie commented: “When you said it would be hard, I didn’t think it would be THIS hard!” I told my Glusna that if anyone ever criticized her gardening methods, she has experience including college credits!

Overall, I was blown away at the level of participation. I expected about six fulltime students and we received eleven. Every day students came to the town meeting hall, where classes were held, with an array of snacks to sustain us through the day, and plenty of questions. Often, we erupted in hysterical laughter to our “What if...” questions—probably due in part to sugar highs. If there was a category for “Most delicious baked goods” Mary Hostetter would surely win. We will turn to her when we are ready to market value-added products!

The class was a mix of quizzes, power point presentations, building construction (where Dave Hostetter and Jared Nelson proved to be handymen), video instruction, and student presentations. Indeed, Martha Crow’s presentation on growing zucchini and the many uses in cooking had all of our mouths watering and our new green thumbs itching to grow. As we continue to wait for the ground to thaw, we will contemplate the arrival of our greenhouse, rototiller named “Berta” and a bountiful first season. Tentatively, the first weekend in June is an opportune time to invite Professor Smeenk back to Igiugig to help prepare the raised beds for the potato garden, and to begin a large compost pile. So stay posted for a weekend class in the near future! And brace yourselves for a summer of overwhelming local foods productivity. I suspect we will be up to our ears in potatoes.

## AkNOS 2009

By Jeremy Salmon

My heart began to pound, my hands began to sweat as I waited for my turn to give my speech. On April 4<sup>th</sup>, April Hostetter, Tess Hostetter, Shaun Andrew, and I competed in the Alaska Native Oratory Society Contest. With nineteen other competitors, the most participants yet, the stakes were high and the competition was fierce.

While sitting in room 211 at UAA, I studied the other storytellers as they gave their story. The first competitor acted out his entire speech, changed his voice for every character, and really moved around as if he was acting instead of speaking. This made me realize if I wanted to have a chance of advancing, I would have to act mine out as well. Then another competitor took the stage and acted out some of the story, but his was mainly a story and explanation. Now it was my turn to give my story. Nervous, I walked to the front of the room and gave my introduction. Then as the story began, I noticed my body was actually moving along with my voice. I drifted off into my story and before I knew it, I had reached the end and said my Thank You to the judges. As I told my story the second time, my story seemed to spring to life as I got more comfortable telling it. After making it to the final round, I gave my best effort and ended up coming in fourth place.

The speeches some others gave was a letter to the president explaining about how you need papers to show how native you are, a story about how mosquitoes came to be which got first, the old Russian Fort story getting second, and How to get rid of Ghosts. The whole experience taught me about the other beliefs there are around Alaska, and how the cultures are different but still similar. We watched Native dancers from northern Alaska and the songs they did were different, and some movements were as well, but most of it was the same as we have done here in Igiugig. I also got to see what the younger generations thinks of their cultures and how most are being affected by today’s world. This was by far the best AkNOS competition yet. While out in Anchorage, we also got to do volunteer work.

First, before the speech contest, on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, we students got to visit the Alaska Native Hospital. There, we were given a tour and we practiced our speeches in front of some staff and patients. We also tried to donate blood but all were rejected for risk factors from previous travels. Lastly, we got to volunteer at the Serendipity Day Spa, a place for patients with Alzheimer’s and other illnesses. We got to give our speeches there as well, but we were also given time to visit with

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Library/Computer Lab News

Days to note this month include: Mothers Day on the 10th, School Awards Ceremony on the 13th and school will be out on the 14th.

Summer Reading Club will begin on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May. This year's theme will be "Counting Your Lucky Stars"



*"Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent those of the Institute of Museum and Library Services"*

## Easy Fiction

The Biggest Fish in the Lake by Margaret Carney

"... In spring we fish for speckled trout in the stream running through the pasture."

## Alaska Fiction

Two Old Women by Velma Wallis

"An Alaskan Legend of Betrayal, Courage and Survival"

## Junior Fiction

A Bear Called Paddington by Michael Bond

"Mr. and Mrs. Brown first met Paddington on a railway platform, that was how he came to have such an unusual name for a bear..."

## Alaska Nonfiction

Alaska Gardener's Manual from Cooperative Extension Service

This manual has chapters on soil, fertilizer and compost. And another chapter is on raising vegetables in mini gardens. If you are planning a garden this manual is for you.

## INTERESTING WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

[www.alaskamastergardeners.org](http://www.alaskamastergardeners.org)

What that garden of yours to grow those yummy vegetables? Want to ask a **Master** gardener a very serious question about why your crops died off last year? Want to smell lilies in your garden this year? This is the site is for YOU.

# A Volunteering Experience by Shaun Andrew, 6th Grade, Igiugig School

An amazing trip to Anchorage was a lot of fun because we spent a lot of time volunteering. Learning at the Serendipity Day Spa showed me that nothing will throw my life away. The Black Violin concert taught me to not give up on anything. AKNOS at UAA showed me that I should continue to public speak even though I am young. AKNOS, Black Violin, and Serendipity Day Spa all surround three major themes.

Visiting the Serendipity Day Spa changed the way I look at mental illnesses. For those who have illnesses keep going don't let one little setback throw your life away. Even though I don't have any mental illnesses I won't let anything throw my life away. Learning from one little saying made this experience unique to me because the way the elder said it made me want to stay and listen. This experience made me patient with others and anyone else who needs help. Volunteering an hour and a half of my time was a lot of fun because I helped a lot of people. I want to go back to the Serendipity Day Spa to help the elders again and play some more dominos.

Experiencing the Black Violin concert stunned me because I got a example of never giving up. If you look where Kevin and Wil are, you can see never giving up can get you a long way. Even though many people would think classical violin isn't their favorite I enjoyed the music because they motivated the crowd. They kept the crowd motivated by inspiring them to put their hands in the air and cheering as loud as we could. This experience taught me to not give up something I

am passionate for. The duo also taught me to not care what others think about what you do or play. This experience was unique to me because I see never giving up getting me a long way in life. AKNOS is a lot different because I had to public speak in a competition against college students.

AKNOS at UAA taught me two important lessons. The first lesson was I practiced public speaking until the competition. This lesson surrounds this theme: don't be afraid to speak your heart out if you are young. I was youngest at AKNOS, but I stuck it out facing the other contestants who were in college. I follow this theme from AKNOS: I will continue to public speak even though I am young and I won't give up on it. Learning that young graduates are still learning Native languages made this experience unique to me.

All these lessons connect giving me one huge theme to follow. Never give up if you are young and help those in need when you can. That summarizes my latest trip to Anchorage with the older kids last week. The last major theme that was combined by all my experiences was if you're young don't underestimate yourself for anything. This is why my latest trip to Anchorage was amazing and why I want to go again. I want to volunteer at the Serendipity Day Spa again because I had fun and want to win a game of dominos.



Answer can be found on page 11.

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

# High School AA Meet by Angel Alvarez, 11th Grade, Igiugig School

Monday, April 13, 2009, sometime around 11:00AM time slowed down. The phones kept ringing, but none of the calls were to inform Jeremy and me that our flight to Newhalen for the High School Academic/Athletic Meet was on its way. Finally Glen Jr. with Lake Clark Air announced on the radio that he was on his way to pick up a couple of passengers here in Igiugig. Bonnie called; Jeremy and I grabbed our snow gear and headed down to the hanger to wait. Glen landed and walked in, "Sorry, wrong flight!" Bummer! We went back to the school to wait. "April Fools!" joked Mark. Bonnie called again to let us know Lake and Pen Air was five minutes out. We looked at each other with hope that this was no joke. Once again we grabbed our gear and headed back. *Phew!* Lyle stepped out and loaded our bags, we climbed in, waved goodbye, and we were off!

We arrived at the Newhalen School sometime around 1:00PM. Newhalen School was still in session so we placed our bags off to the side in the hallway and joined the other schools that were hanging out in the gym. Students were making banners, playing catch, reading, and shooting around; our week wasn't scheduled to begin until 4:00PM. When most of the schools had arrived and 4:00 came around we started out with a few icebreakers. Personally, they involved too much contact for my comfort, and in the end there was probably more ice created than there was to begin with.

When the icebreakers were through we had dinner followed by a short student government meeting. At the end of the meeting all students lined up by their grade and signed up for the classes/activities we would be participating in for the next couple of days. I signed up for Star Planetarium, Biology, Population/Tracking, and GPS. I forgot which class Orville Lind was teaching (turned out to be Native Science) so I had hopes that he was teaching either Population/Tracking or GPS. Oh well, I learned some interesting lessons and gained some amazing new skills from the classes I chose.

In the Stars Planetarium class, I learned that the North Star never moves, and that I have an excellent nose for recognizing different scents! In Biology, I discovered that I am a natural at cutting up dead reptiles. I also learned what a mudpuppy is. (A type of salamander that has both gills and lungs, but they only use their lungs 2% of the time. Their lungs are tiny!) The Biology teacher was loads of fun! She was very upbeat and excited about teaching - she is definitely a people person. Population/Tracking taught me more about how much work fish and game puts into tracking fish in the summer and throughout the

(Continued on page 15)

## WORD BUILDING

Use the following letters to make words in the slots provided.

I E N S H C

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Answers can be found on page 10.

# Hello to a Long Lost Friend

*By Camille Andrew, 4th Grade, Igiugig School*

*When winter waves its final frost and spring is knocking at the door,*

*I feel like a long lost friend has returned.*

*White snow disappears like a turtle into the ocean*

*And green grows graciously.*

*The colorful flowers wave Hello and shout*

*"Spring is here."*

*The sweet smells of roses fill the air, while*

*Bare trees sprout*

*And overflow with leaves.*

*Green grass and trees dance on the landscape, like two dates at the prom.*

*The sight of flowers looks as if we live inside a painting and the painting*

*comes to life every spring.*

*I hear the birds talk like people emerging from their caverns*

*It's time to say, "Good-bye winter,"*

*And hello to a long lost friend:*

*"Hello spring!"*

AkNOS (Continued from page 5)

the patients and play games with them. After giving our speeches, we split up and just started talking with the elders and listened to their stories. One man told us about how he was in the service and now he can travel anywhere in the world. He also talked about vets who can travel anywhere as well, like one vet he said got a job in Egypt working on camels. Then I moved on to a group of people playing a game called Pass the Pig. You roll these two small pigs and try to have them land lying on their back or standing up, to get points. If they land on their side you then have a pair of dead pigs. Time flew and 5 o'clock came by so we had to leave. Staying later than we expected, we said our good byes and moved on to dinner.

This being the first time AkNOS has had Elementary students participate, we hope to continue this on and bring them again next year.

## Annual Village Clean-Up

**Tuesday, May 12, 2009**

Meet at the school at 9:30 am and

we will break into groups.

Be sure to come and help keep

our village clean and beautiful!



**The SCHOOL PICNIC will follow at 12:00 noon.**

**Please bring a salad or side dish,  
and a dessert to share.**

# See you all there!

# Survival

By Dolly Ann Zharoff,  
4th Grade, Igiugig School



After Jeff and Mark taught us how to survive in the wilderness we went home and packed our survival pack. On the next day we slowly walked to Big Hill. My partners were Tess and Joshua.

When we got to Big Hill we had to cut some trees.

Next we built our shelters. After all our shelters were done we built a small fire. But first, I really want to tell you what we quickly packed in our survival pack.

Everyone in the elementary class and in Jeff's class had to have a survival pack. Some of us packed band aids in case we got a cut, a knife to cut stuff, a flash light in case it got dark out, matches or a lighter to build a fire, an emergency blanket or a plastic bag just in case it rained or snowed, a mirror for a signal, foil for slowly cooking food by the warm fire and for a signal, rope or string to tie to the trees to hold our shelter, and hook and line to go fishing. Then we went to build our shelters.

First we had to pick a site and talk about how we were going to build our shelter. Then we had to cut trees for our shelter. We tightly tied string and floss to the shelter to make it hold. We used a trash bag and a space blanket for the soft ground. Next we had to make a signal in case we were really lost a plane would see it. After we were done we built a small fire. Finally, finally, we got to go to the BBQ.

It was a blast! It was fun to learn how to survive in the wilderness. Cutting trees carefully was really fun. Building shelters were super fun. You should try it someday. Even building a fire was fun. At the BBQ we were all a little tired and hungry so we ate some hotdogs and drank some cocoa. We all had a great time.

## Survival Day

By Joshua Brown, 3rd Grade, Igiugig School

Jeff Thurston taught us survival stuff. My mom and I made my huge survival kit. We walked slowly to Big Hill. We cut trees, built shelters, build a giant fire and had a humongous B.B.Q after we built a shelter. But first we made my huge survival kit.

I had 1 knife so I could cut trees carefully. I had 3 band-aids and 1 gauze because I could get cut. I had 1 pack of matches. 30 matches could start a humongous fire. I had a signal so I could be saved if I were lost. Then I had to build my shelter.

I had to make a shelter. I cut trees carefully so I could make a shelter. Then we build a humongous fire. I had a fun day.

I had a blast! I had a very special day. I slowly learned how to survive in the wilderness.

# Survival Lessons

By Kyle Andrew, 1st Grade, Igiugig School

Jeff Thurston taught us how to survive in the wilderness but first we had to pack our massive survival bag. We walked to Mega Hill. Then we cut branches, twigs and trees and we got to build our shelter carefully. After that we built our fire and then we were done. Next we went back to the school and we had a BBQ at the ball field. Then we went home but first we had to make our titanic survival kit.

The things that I put in my survival bag were band aids and gauze in case I got cut, I had my knife so I could cut meat, I had a flashlight so I see in the darkness, I had an emergency blanket and a plastic bag so I could keep warm, I also had a mirror so if a helicopter went over it could hopefully rescue me, foil so I could make a pot and boil my water, rope and string so I could tie the shelter tightly, hooks and line so I could catch fish and then I had to construct my shelter.

The site that I picked was a spot that was hardly level next I got to cut trees and the trees were hard to cut. Then I got to tie the fort together with my floss and string. Then I put a signal on my fort to signal planes for a signal. Last but not least, I built my fire so I could be cozy.

It was a very special day. I had a blast! I learned how to survive in the wilderness and building my shelter was fun. Building the fire was too. Then we quickly went back to the school and had a BBQ. Soon we went back home.

## Learning About Survival

By Fewnia Zharoff, 3rd Grade, Igiugig School

*Jeff taught us this fun thing. He taught us how to make survival kits. Then all of us slowly walked to Big Hill and after that we cut down trees. Then after that we built a shelter. After we built a fire we had to keep on blowing on it. After that we had to slowly walk back to the school. It was 3:30 when we got there. We had a BBQ. The first thing we had to do was make a survival kit.*

*Barbara helped us with our survival kit. She put bandaids with gauze in it just in case we got hurt. Then we got knives from AlexAnna so we can cut down trees. We had flashlights so if we stayed there for two whole days we had light and we had matches so we could be warm. Oh yah, we had our emergency blankets too and our trash bags. We had mirrors and foil so if we were lost we could shine the mirror on a plane and then they could see the shine. After, we put rope and string in our kits so we could tie stuff or carefully climb trees. Then we put hooks and line so we could fish for fish so if we didn't have enough food to eat. Then we went out and built a shelter.*

*First we picked a site and then we carefully cut down trees. Later we tied string and floss on trees. We had trash bags and space blankets so we would stay warm. Then we covered the trees with plastic so people could fined us. Later we built a fire so we could stay nice and cozy. Now it was time to have a BBQ. We had hot dogs and chocolate milk.*

*This was a special day because Jeff taught us how to make our survival kits and taught us to slowly build a shelter. It was a blast! It was so fun to build a fire. Oh yah, my partners were Maggie and Shaun.*

# Lessons for Life by Tess Hostetter, 7th Grade, Igiugig School

It was my turn. Oh great. What did Nancy say? Breath? "Hello, my name is Tess Hostetter. I am in 7<sup>th</sup> grade".... and so that's how my speech started. During the time we were out in Anchorage for the Alaska Native Oratory Society we also went to the Serendipity Day Spa and the Black Violin concert. From the people I met and listened to they taught me to not give up, and that we have to work hard for what we want.

Driving to the Serendipity Day Spa I wondered, what are the people going to be like? I didn't quite know. We walked in and were welcomed by numerous friendly faces. After introducing ourselves, one of the nurses walked us into a back room where many elderly people watched a television. As we prepared to recite our speeches, I was surprised how many people were there when near the end of the day. April, Jeremy and Shaun started talking to this older man. He told them you can't give up on life just because the trouble it brings along because it will bring some. By then, I was talking to this one woman. She watched my performance and gave me helpful evaluations, which I happily took in mind during AKNOS competitions. I have found that the people in the Serendipity Hall were not a bunch of old people that forget what you said to them; in fact they were pretty normal; the advice they gave us wasn't just a random memory.

The Black Violinists--- Kevin and Wil --- also talked about not giving up but brought up that you have to work hard for what you want. By working hard and focusing they succeed in their dreams. As the violins

played and the music mixed in, April turned to me and said "They're good". *They were good.* It seemed as if took them forever for them to learn how to play. From watching them playing their violins it was obvious that they put a lot of time into it.

Then, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of April, it was time for AKNOS. I remembered what I had learned at the Serendipity Hall and practiced it in my mind. I was nervous in the first round, being after a college person who was really good, I reluctantly stepped on the stage. It wasn't as bad as I thought. There weren't many people, and they were very supportive, probably because I was the youngest in the group. I got a few compliments saying I should send a video of my speech to Reading Rainbow. From watching others telling their stories, I got a few hints of what I should do. In the second round I tried moving more and characterizing my voice more, like the others competitors had done. Because Nancy and Jeanne told Shaun and I that we will go through only round one and two, I didn't expect to go on to the final round, nor did anyone else. In the third round I wasn't nervous anymore and tried again to "be in the story". I took honorable mention due to the helpful hints from the competitors and the people at the Serendipity Day Spa.

From watching others tell stories, listening to the advice people gave me, and working hard to apply that advice, I enhanced my storytelling. The advice from the Black Violin helped also; by working hard I went to the final round.

## Answers to WORD BUILDING (game on page 6)

WORD BUILDING answers: SHE, SIC, SIN, HEN, HIS, HIE, ICE, INS, SHIN, SINE, HENS, HIES, CHIN, ICES, INCH, NICE, SHINE, SINCE, CHINS, CHINE, NICHE, NICHES, INCHES, CHINES

Odd Word Definitions: (from [www.dictionary.reference.com](http://www.dictionary.reference.com))

**hie** [hahy] *verb* to hasten; speed; go in haste

**sic** [sik] *verb* to attack, to incite to attack

*adverb* something written parenthetically to denote that a word, phrase, passage, etc., that may appear strange or incorrect has been written that way intentionally or has been quoted verbatim

**sine** [sahyn] *noun* a mathematical term  
a term related to a sound wave

**chine** [chahyn] *noun* a ravine formed in rock by the action of running water.

The backbone or spine, esp. of an animal

A ridge or crest, as of land

the intersection of the sides and bottom of a boat

## GARDENERS GOODIES

### MAY garden activities:

- ❑ MAY – SO MANY things to do—and now that we have completed the greenhouse class we know so much more about how to do it!!
- ❑ EARLY MAY – Plant trays of quick crops that you just want to have a jump start on the growing season—lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, etc. You can use very small ‘cell’ containers because they won’t outgrow them before June arrives. Keep them in the 60°F range to help them sprout quickly and then put them somewhere cooler and brighter as soon as the seedlings emerge.
- ❑ MAY – Prepare those transplants
  - Provide foliar feedings each time you water (fertilizer dissolved in water, sprayed directly onto the leaves).
  - Mid-May begin hardening off with just short amounts of time outdoors, working up to full days by the end of the month. This prepares them gently for full sun and beating wind. Of course be sure to take them in if the wind unexpectedly blows a gale.
- ❑ MAY – Prepare the soil – as we learned in class, this can make all the difference!
  - Have it tested to find out what nutrient and pH adjustments need to be made to ‘amend’ your planting beds. Alex-Anna already took care of this for the potato patch and the new greenhouse site and we were all amazed at the difference in soil content at the two sites! Almost certainly you will need to add lime, and depending on the things you are going to grow, some sort of fertilizer.
  - Consider raised beds—this conserves nutrients because you only amend the soil where plants will be growing.
  - Amend your soil as recommended and rototill if the ground is severely compacted.
  - Cover your beds with clear plastic to bring soil temperature up to the 45-50°F range in preparation for planting in sets or seeds.
- ❑ MAY – make those last minute orders for things that you may have forgotten to stock up for the growing season.



*What’s blooming now? Almost one impatiens.  
By the time we go to print—maybe lots of the transplants growing at the Village Council,  
courtesy of the elementary school student class.*

### **REMEMBER those Re’s**

***Reduce – Refuse – Reuse – Renew – Recycle – Remodel – Refurbish – Rebuild – Recharge –  
Refill – Refinish – Repurpose – Recover – Reclaim  
– Reload – Reinvest – Reinvest – Re...something.***

*“Re-Volunteer”—the village garden/greenhouse project is going to be lots of work, and can use as many repeat volunteers as can be found.*

*Just remember there is no smoking around the garden plots—there are many bad diseases that tobacco products can transmit to our beloved plants (especially tomatoes and potatoes!).*

## Back Yard Farming

**CHECK OUT SUNSET MAGAZINES BLOG**

<http://oneblockdiet.sunset.com/>

For some interesting reading, great ideas, links to other 'farmers', and an occasional good laugh!

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### Brain Defoggers

\*\*\*\*\*

*Losing your mental edge? These four simple strategies can boost your memory*

\*\*\*\*\*

1. Get your B's (as in vitamins)
2. ...and your Z's (as in sleep)
3. Locomote 150 minutes a week (as in move yourself)
4. Mind your Meds (whatever you take be sure to stay on schedule and on dosage)

*Courtesy of AARP M/J 2009*

Favorite Salad Flowers list  
From Sunset Magazine:

- Bachelor's Buttons
- Borage
- Calendulas
- Carnations
- Herb Flowers (basil, chives, rosemary)
- Nasturtiums
- Violas, including pansies and johnny-jump-ups
- Stock

### Locavore

A somewhat newly coined term meaning a person who attempts to eat only foods grown locally

(If your dictionary is older than 2006, you probably won't find an entry for this word!)



Six moose were recently passing through the baseball field on their way to the river.

### Insect Repellent Clothing

Now they weave the repellent right into the fabric of your clothing and according to a Sunset Magazine article in the April 2009 issue, it's still working after 70 washings! It's entirely not toxic to humans, but very effective for mosquitoes,

ticks, fleas, midges, and other insects. Check it out at [www.exofficio.com](http://www.exofficio.com) for bandannas, pants, shirts and hats at [www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com) and [www.insectshield.com](http://www.insectshield.com) for other products!

# Igiugig Participates in Earth Hour

Christina Salmon, Environmental Director

March 28, 2009, 8:30 pm, local time, the community of Igiugig proudly shut off all lights to participate in Earth Hour. Earth Hour began in Sydney in 2007, when 2.2 million homes and businesses switched off their lights for one hour. In 2009, Earth Hour's goal was to have 1 billion people switch off their lights; Igiugig was the only community in Alaska to participate. Earth Hour was started to bring light to global warming.

For weeks before the event Igiugig's Environmental Department (consisting of April and me) sent fliers, put up posters, made home visits and public announcements about our village's participation. We wanted to make sure we had 100% involvement.

The evening was calm and snow drifts quietly formed as each house powered down for an hour. Dolly Ann and I took out the camera and started documenting Earth Hour in Igiugig. Together we walked the empty streets of Igiugig. It was as if each household wanted to savor the moment, enjoy the company of their families, or just enjoy the peace, like Mary Olympic stated, "I like this, this is how it was when I was a kid, no TV, no light(s), nothing, just quiet." She enjoyed sitting in her house, watching the daylight fade to dusk and reminiscing on her childhood.

In the Andrew household, the children had flashlights and headlamps on, excited to participate for the first time in this global event. They sat together as a family and read books until bed time. At the other end of town, Barbara Brown, the local health aide, curled on up her couch covered in a comfy blanket and enjoyed the heat of her wood stove. Next door to her, the Salmon family, grandchildren included lit candles and played card games. The younger kids ate chips and enjoyed desserts won at the dessert auction earlier in the day. The Alvarez's remembered the many days spent at their house before they were connected to the village generator. Distance did not matter for college students Jonathan Salmon and Sheryl Wassillie, both from Igiugig. They participated in Earth Hour at their respected schools, Carroll College and Fort Lewis. Both were excited to participate in an event they knew their entire village was partaking in.

When 9:30 pm neared, it finally became darker out. I went out behind the village one last time to capture our participation in this wonderful movement. All the weeks spent on motivating and encouraging village participation were nearing the end. I was secretly sad the time had gone by so fast. Sitting around with my family and other families participating was peaceful and rewarding.

Igiugig is proof that size doesn't matter; it's the effort that counts. We chose to participate in this world wide event and made a stand for something we believe in, caring for Earth.

## AA Meet (Continued from page 8)

rest of the year. I enjoyed pretending that packing peanuts inside of a plastic trash bag were fish in a river. In my last class, it was great to finally learn how to use a GPS; I knew they had cool digital maps and such, but never knew much else about it. It was fun finding the different locations the instructors mapped out for us. In the end we found a bag full of jolly ranchers and got to snack on them.

It is hard to say which class was my favorite; they were all great. At the end of those couple of days I was glad to look back and reflect on everything I had done. I had truly grasped the power of my nostrils, discovered my amazing dissection skills, tracked down Cody (one of the guides) during Population/Tracking, and I now have a better understanding of how to use a GPS. (Woohoo, Go Angel!) I enjoyed the options we had this year; I would be content if the choices for next year's classes were even half as great.

## Answers to SUDOKU (game on page 5)

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

# Environmental News

Contributed by the Environmental Department

Arbor Day was founded by J. Sterling Morton, a nature lover from Detroit, Michigan. Morton and his wife, Caroline Joy French, moved to Nebraska City so he could be a journalist for the Nebraska City News. When the Mortons moved into their new home, they planted trees, shrubs, and flowers around their house. J. Sterling Morton used his influence as a journalist to encourage other individuals and even civic organizations to start planting trees. The plains of Nebraska were treeless and many of the people listened to Morton and agreed that bringing back the trees was important. He became well known for his efforts and became secretary of the Nebraska Territory where he continued to communicate the importance of planting trees.

On January 4, 1872, Morton proposed a holiday to the State Board of Agriculture. This holiday, which Morton named Arbor Day, would be a day of celebration and planting of trees. The board approved it, and they set the date to be April 10, 1872. To encourage more participants, prizes were given out to the counties and people that planted the most trees properly. Approximately one million trees were planted on April 10, 1872 in Nebraska.



Throughout the rest of the 1870s and 1880s, more states joined in the celebration of trees. In 1882, many schools across the nation participated in Arbor Day and planted trees, making it a national holiday. Today, Arbor Day is most commonly celebrated on the last Friday of April, and has even spread outside of the United States. Not only do all 50 states of America celebrate Arbor Day, but 80 other countries in the world do as well in their own form (including Algeria, China, Australia, and Venezuela).

Trees are important part of our environment because they absorb harmful gases and pollutants from the air and give us oxygen. They also provide shade and protection from the wind. Trees are also the habitat of most of the wildlife on earth. Trees also contribute to the making of products like soap, paper, syrup, chewing gum, lotion, and much more.



# WALK TO BE FIT

Total Village Mileage through May is 71,040

## Great Weather!

*It's finally sort of warm. Be sure to get out and enjoy this season—it's the only bug free & warm time of the year! If you choose late afternoon it might even be in the upper 50\*'s.*

## Dressed to go?

This time of year the weather seems to have mood swings, with wind that may come up unexpectedly, clouds that instantly remove the sun's heat and the occasional rain shower to chill your bones.

**Outerwear?** Whether it's a short walk, or a long trek around the hunting grounds, be sure to wear lots of layers (and something waterproof) so you can remove them as you go until you are a comfortable temperature.

**Footwear?** Pick something that is waterproof at least three or four inches up. You can usually skirt the mud puddle, but the unexpected soggy spot can give you instantly wet socks if you don't have a little clearance.

Consider your summer gear, the spring goes by in a flash. If you have walked enough to wear out last year's "tennerunners" find new ones, or if you have growing kids measure to be sure their shoes still fit well—comfortable feet make all the difference in enjoying or hating the time you are out walking.

## Shop for Summer

**Kids with appropriate gear  
are kids prepared to enjoy their outdoor  
moments of exercise!**

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**Weather Watch**

April 2009

Highest Wind Speed . . . 36.0 mph  
Average Wind Speed . . . 7.9 mph  
Dominant Wind Direction . . . SSW  
Highest Temperature . . . 53.3°F  
Lowest Temperature . . . 1.8°F  
Below Freezing . . . 24 days  
Below Zero . . . 0 days  
Precipitation . . . 0.99 inches

## Recipe Corner

Contributed by . . . Martha Crow

### Spring Duck Pot Roast

1 Duck (goose, mallard, pin-tail) plucked & singed

Directions: Gut the duck & make incision 1 inch below the rib cage. Clean the inside, remove gizzards, cut gizzard along membrane; cut in half, clean, and then cut into quarters.

Cut duck following joints into 8 pieces.

Ingredients:

- 1 Tablespoon Olive Oil
- 3 Tablespoons meat tenderizer
- 1 Tablespoon onion powder
- ½ tablespoon garlic salt
- ¼ cup water

Directions:  
Heat on high in a Dutch Oven roasting pot with olive oil. Coat the duck in a mixture of meat tenderizer, onion powder, and garlic salt.

Brown duck.  
Add ¼ cup water. Bring to a rolling boil. Reduce heat to simmer for 4 hours or until meat falls off the bone. Serve over rice.

