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### **Birthdays This Month:**

- **February 2nd**  
**Mary Hostetter**
- **February 7th**  
**Dan Decker, Sr.**
- **February 13th**  
**Blaise Decker**
- **February 14th**  
**George Wilson**
- **February 26th**  
**Tess Hostetter**



# Igiugig News and Notes

Issue 2

February 2011

Volume 14

## **The Dan Salmon Public Safety Building**

**By Christina Salmon**

January 21, 2011 was a bittersweet day for the Salmon Family and the entire community of Igiugig alike. We were proud and honored to name our newly established public safety building after our dad, but at the same time, it brought back a flood of memories, most of which we cling to remember. Blizzard like conditions kept most out of town guests from arriving, but Sergeant Leonard Wallner of the Alaska State Troopers was here along with our local village public safety officer (VPSO) Sergeant Daniel Decker.

We started our ceremony at village time noon, with Sgt. Decker giving an introduction as to why we were commemorating this building after Dan Salmon and the new sign was displayed. Decker told the audience about all the times him and my Dad were on search and rescue missions, how he would drop what he was doing and jump in his plane or boat and begin a search. He always kept the safety of the community members as a top priority and it was only fitting to dedicate our public safety building to him. We chose my Dad's favorite colors, John

*Continued on page 5*

# The 4 1 1 in the 5 3 3

By AlexAnna Salmon

January has been a celebratory month with New Years festivities (twice), Selaviq, a visit from the Bishop for the Blessing of the Waters, namesday dinners, a regular council meeting, a VPSO building dedication ceremony, and Battle of the Books competitions at school.

Life in Igiugig is good. At our Bristol Bay Regional Visioning Project meeting, our residents voted 100% that “We can live healthy and productive lives in this community in the next 25 years.” Of the 23 adults, and 6 children that attended, 52.2% of participants said they plan to live here the rest of their lives and 26.1% plan to move away but return. (Results can be viewed online at [www.bristolbayvision.org/meetings/igiugig/](http://www.bristolbayvision.org/meetings/igiugig/)). It was also stated that “There is always change; you can never go back. But to be able to influence the direction of the community is powerful. This village is unique in that people who live here are self-motivated, and they mind their own business. Everyone is non-judgmental of one another. To maintain control of that is critical.” Although this statement is slightly exaggerated (we do judge each other and there are days of laziness), it has truth. After the two hour meeting, Information Insights personnel commented that they could not believe the laughter in the room. I hear this comment frequently about Igiugig gatherings and it had me pondering how a small group of mixed race, religious beliefs, income levels, political views and a fair share of hardship in a remote Alaskan village could appear exceedingly happy to outside visitors.

Then I read an article called “Happiness and the Classics” by Professor Paul Christesen, and his article tries to convince the reader that the economic depression provides an opportune time to study Classics (*Dartmouth Alumni Magazine* Jan/Feb 2011: 35-36). He says that each culture is built around a limited number of ‘hypergoods’, goods “which not only are incomparably more important than others but provide the standpoint from which these must be weighed, judged, and decided about” (36). In America, the most sought after hypergood is *money*. He continues: “People tend to unreflectively pursue the hypergoods of the society into which they were born. The problem is that there is no guarantee that acquiring large amounts of a society’s hypergoods will make any given individual happy” (36). In translation: incomes beyond \$75,000 have no measurable effects on a person’s happiness (36).

The recent visioning results provide evidence that the people of Igiugig are happy... not relative to our incomes, but to our value of family. We also enjoy uninhibited connection to land, water and subsistence foods (smoked salmon and blueberries were voted our favorites). In reflecting on the month of January, the happy moments feeding the reason why I live here are simple yet significant:

- Listening to my moms hilariously animated storytelling during Slavi;
- Eating a potluck dinner with all my favorite foods and taking platefuls home to relive

Continued on page 3

again the next day;

- Chowing nudlevai sopped in butter after a piping hot steam in a brand new maqay while enjoying the company of neighbors;
- Watching the expression of elementary students while competing in district-wide Battle of the Books;
- Waking up to more daylight, and Big Mountain in hues of amethyst, periwinkle, and pink in the peaceful Igiugig mornings.
- Enjoying a winter maniaq with lifelong friends and cousins.

Yes, there are endless ways to count our blessings in this village of plenty and more to laugh about, so as we embark on 2011, let us remember the reason behind why we do what we do.

## Health Aid Update by Stacie Garrison

The start of a New Year brought the start of Session II! I am more than halfway done with the second of my four health aide trainings, and look forward to coming home with more knowledge and practice. I also look forward to meeting and working with Dr. Norris when he comes to Igiugig for a visit either at the end of February, or sometime in March. In addition to my training in Sitka, I am taking several correspondence courses in order to prepare to apply for PA school once all of my session trainings are completed. Not even a full month into 2011 and I have been kept highly motivated by my peers and instructors in Sitka, accomplished much more than I imagined in a few short weeks, and am still sticking to my New Years resolutions!

### Turn Out The

### Lights

It's a simple task. When you leave any public building, please turn out the lights behind you. Even if you plan on returning later. The next time you look at your light bill and start to complain about the cost of it, remember that we can't keep electric bills down when you keep public lights on! We can only help you if you help yourself!

### REMINDERS:

- PFD applications are available at the Office for those who do not electronically submit them.
- The Village Council is accepting applications (& donations) for the Dan Salmon Scholarship Fund. Stop by the Office to pick up an application or e-mail Tanya at [tjsalmon@hotmail.com](mailto:tjsalmon@hotmail.com) & she can send you a copy online.
- Interested in having an article or picture(s) published? Please submit an article to Tanya. A variety of authors always make the newsletter a more interesting read!

## ***Early Learning Literacy Training*** by Tanya Salmon

On December 10<sup>th</sup> I participated in my second year of Early Learning Literacy Training along with several other women from various locations throughout the District. Together we worked on how to raise literary awareness in our communities, the importance of early learning, & how we can help our students improve academically. Although our focus was on 0-3 year old children, I believe that many of the concepts we discussed are building blocks for life.

This training was greatly different compared to last year's training. First of all, this year our training was held in Anchorage, rather than King Salmon. Because we were in Town, we held our training session at the Loussac Library instead of the District Office. What an excellent way to promote literacy by having our conference at the library! We were able to get a full tour of the Library as well as watch a session of Story Hour (for the 3-5 year olds) or Lap Sit (0-3 years). I chose to participate in the Lap Sit program & I am glad I chose that age group. The librarian was energetic, connected to the children, & was super fun. The children were adorable to watch & they seemed to thoroughly enjoy the training. It is hard to get the attention of a few infants but this librarian was able to captivate the attention of over 20 young children, as well as their parents & of course, me!

An employee for thread was our guest speaker. Thread is Alaska's statewide child care resource and referral network of professionals who work with families and early educators. Our guest speaker went over the importance of paying attention to young children, speaking clearly to them, reading to them, & playing with them. Our guest speaker stressed the importance about early child development because a child has the most brain connections from 0-3 years old & if the brain connections aren't being exercised, then they wither & die. Once that happens those skills are gone forever.

After the thread Representative left, my bosses -Kristin Hathhorn & Glenda Egli- went over our job requirements & responsibilities before asking for every child's birthday between the ages of 0-3 & the pregnant women & their due dates in our communities before our training officially ended.

The Early Learning Literacy Program that the District sponsors is an excellent program. They work hard to train their representatives who then pass their new knowledge onto other parents in their communities. Any child in the District between the ages of 0-3 receives a bag of books for their birthday. So if you're pregnant & living in Igiugig, don't forget to let me know!



For more information about thread, feel free to visit [www.threadalaska.org/](http://www.threadalaska.org/)



Continued from page 1



Deere Green and brown, and a photo. Sgt. Wallner then gave his spiel about how the VPSO program works and encouraged us to call on Decker and "work him like a rented mule." By now, all the local children were screaming and running wild throughout the hangar, so we figured we better let them hit the snack table. We had an impressive assortment of cheese, crackers, chips and dips, and we couldn't forget what my Dad use to call his native food, shrimp and cocktail sauce.

Once stuffed, we all walked to the public safety building, where AlexAnna and I had wrapped it in pink ribbon. I thanked everyone for coming out and supporting us and being here for my family for the past 3 years. A then, very nervous, (I don't know why) Julia Salmon, cut the pink ribbon and a round of applause could be heard throughout our village. We took pictures with the Salmon family and the new sign and then all the small children held it up together for even more photos. A tour was given of the VPSO office, pictures were taken as a joke of us in the jail cells and we went back to life as we know it. That day was a reminder we too easily forget how drastically life can change in an instant. Try to live a happy and fulfilling life, because when you die, how do you want to be remembered?

## Wild Salmon Day!

When: February 24th!

Time: TBA

Where: Hangar

Why: To celebrate our love of salmon

Bring your favorite salmon dish to share and enjoy good food and company!

## Library/Computer News by Betsy Hostetter

February is the month for winter carnivals and ice fishing! Groundhog Day is on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, if he/she sees its shadow, winter lingers on for another six weeks. Valentine's Day is on a Monday this year. Lincoln's Birthday is on the 12<sup>th</sup>, President's Day is on the 21<sup>st</sup>, and Washington's Birthday is on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. February is also Black History month.

### *Easy fiction*

The Valentine Bears- Eve Bunting

*"Mrs. Bear plans a surprise Valentine's Day celebration for Mr. Bear despite their usual hibernating habits at that time."*



### *Junior fiction*

Full Tilt- Neal Shusterman

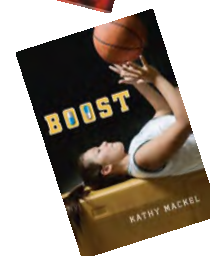
*"When sixteen-year-old Blake goes to a mysterious, by-invitation-only carnival he somehow knows that it could have his comatose brother..."*



### **Fiction**

Boost- Kathy Mackel

*"Thirteen-year-old Savvy's dreams starting for her elite basketball team are in danger when she is accused of taking steroids."*



### **Alaska Nonfiction**

Father of the Iditarod- The Joe Redington Story -Lew Freedman

*"There's no one like Joe. He taught me some about mushing and the Iditarod, but mostly about what being an Alaskan is, and how a true pioneer lives."*- Susan Butcher



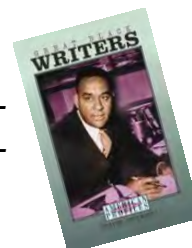
### NONFICTION

Great Black Writers- Steven Otfinoski

*"...This engraving of Phillis Wheatley is the only known likeness of the poet in her lifetime and served as the frontispiece of her first and only published book of poems."*

(Library of Congress)

[www.biography.com/blackhistory](http://www.biography.com/blackhistory)



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

Did you know that Jackie Robinson broke the color barrier? Check out the 101 Black History Facts, you will be amazed what you read. What to take a quiz? Try matching the well-known figures to their famous words in the "Quoting Greatness" quiz.



## Energy News

by Tanya Salmon

I have stressed the importance of saving energy to adults, but kids can help you as well! Here are some examples how your child can help you conserve energy... as well as an explanation of WHY they should do it!

1. Your child can help you replace old light bulbs around the house with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLS). CFLS use 75% LESS energy than a regular light bulb!
2. Tell your child not to leave the outside door(s) open & not to get into the habit of going in & out. Every time you leave the door open you are letting your warm heat out (in the winter) or the outside heat in (in the summer). I notice that whenever I open my outside door for extended periods of time, my Toyo stove immediately turns on!
3. Always turn OFF electronics when you're not using them. Yes, this means the TV, computer, & lights. Electronics are known to use up energy, even when they are on standby mode. Remember, practice what you preach! If you expect your child to follow your rules, you should set a positive example & do the same!
4. Unplug cell phone chargers, video game chargers, or any other type of charger when there's no electronic device plugged in. Chargers use energy, even when they are not charging anything (besides your monthly electric bill)!
5. Don't keep the water running when you are brushing your teeth! Keeping the water on, even while you are in mid brush, wastes water. Turn it off whenever you don't need it!
6. Try to decide what you want to eat before opening the fridge. Standing with the fridge door open takes energy to keep cool air in the fridge. Up to 1/3 of the cool air escapes every time you open the door!

IN short:

TURN IT OFF

KEEP IT CLOSED

BE WARM-NOT HOT

LOOK FOR THE ENERGY STAR LABEL!

For more games, tips, facts for children, & contests, check out these websites:

<http://www.eere.energy.gov/kids/> or <http://www.ecokids.ca/>

## WALK TO BE FIT

### Go For the “D” Vitamin D That Is!

Vitamin D is obtained in several ways, one through the foods we consume such as fortified milk, and the other is through a natural process where your skin converts sunshine into vitamin D at the cellular level. The purposes of this vitamin are still being discovered by the scientific community, but they have long known that it is necessary in building and keeping your bone strong. It apparently is useful in many other bodily functions and they are only just now researching its role in cancer prevention.

Meanwhile researchers are also finding that the kind from the sun is by far the most usable in the body, since absorption from food is affected by many things and sometimes doesn't make it to the cells that most need it.

### What to do?

While it's true that excess sun exposure has a role in skin cancer and sunscreen should be used at times to avoid damage from the sun's rays, common sense should prevail in using these products. This author, as a very fair skinned individual, can tell you that the sunshine in Igiugig is quite safe for most of the year and you will only inhibit your vitamin D production with use of sunscreen. The only time you should be sure to add sunscreen is if you intend to spend all day out on the water or snow.

In an effort to optimize your vitamin D production naturally:

- Spend time working or playing in the sun
- Walk outdoors
- Allow sun to shine directly on your skin (as long as you're not risking frostbite!)
- Go without sun glasses for at least a few minutes

### Take a Sunshine Walk! Tone your Body & Gather Vitamin D

#### *Random February Facts*

February, along with January, was introduced onto the Roman calendar by Numa Pompilius when the calendar was extended from ten to twelve. The word February comes from the word 'februa' - which means cleansing or purification, and reflects the rituals undertaken before Spring.

There is an ancient legend that Augustus Caesar took a day from February and added it to August (the month named after him) in order to make it as long as the month names after Julius Caesar and that is how February ended up with 28 days.



# GARDENERS GOOSES

## FEBRUARY garden activities:

**EARLY FEBRUARY** – Spend some time with your seed catalogs, either the paper kind that come in the mail or browsing online at the various websites that have pictures of amazingly beautiful plants. Be inspired to pick out your varieties of flowers and vegetables so you will be ready to give it a go again next year (despite the fact that last summer was so cold and most gardens were failures, looking at other peoples beautiful plants leaves a true gardener eternally hopeful).

**FEBRUARY** – *Think winter gardens*—protect your beds, particularly the ones with perennial plants in them by encouraging snow cover, strategically placed objects can encourage drifts in areas that you would like them (take a lesson from the way the snow is drifting across roads and other areas behind snow berms, small rocks or trees).

**FEBRUARY** – *Think winter gardens* —hang lights, bird feeders, or other ornaments that will cheer you until greenery begins to grow again.

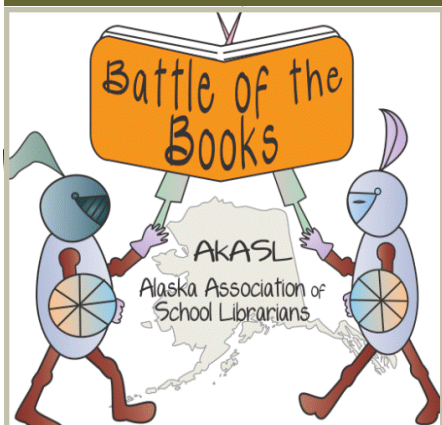
**FEBRUARY** – *Think winter gardens*—make wreaths and swags or bouquets out of spruce boughs or bare twigs and other dried plant material. Nothing says wreaths are only for the holiday season, many people hang various sorts as home decor year around.

**FEBRUARY** – *Think winter gardens*—when we go back to our usual subzero weather, make use of the accidental nearly frozen solid steam bath buckets as gigantic votive candle holders. Just empty remaining water out of the middle, thaw the bucket long enough to allow the ice chunk to slide out and place them in a scenic outdoor spot with a candle burning in the hollow center. These are totally fine on porches and decks because they are such huge chunks of “water” that the candle will have no way of melting through and causing fire problems.



### **REMEMBER those Re's**

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



By Christina Salmon

Battle of the Books proved to be as exciting as previous years, with kids pulling out their hair, yanking at their ears, and muttering as they got a question incorrect.

This year, the Igiugig No-See-Ums, had 4 grades compete: a Kindergarten team of Aiden Wassillie, a First grade team of Jolynn Decker, a Second grade team of Kiara Nelson and Kaylee Hill, and a Third grade team of Kaleb Hill and Caleb Decker.

Team K/Caleb's battled first, with an intense battle with Egegik and Kokhanok. They won with a score of 29, EGE with 16 and KOK with 24. We were all afraid Kaleb would have no hair left he was so busy pulling and twirling it during battle. After moving on, they battled Newhalen, tied, went into a tie breaker session, school was let out, and they had to wait until the next day to battle again! The next morning they battled a sudden death round. The first school to get an answer wrong is out. Igiugig got the first question right, so did Newhalen. The second question Newhalen answered correctly and so did Igiugig! The third question had us all in a tizzy by now, Igiugig did not answer correctly and Newhalen was claimed the victor. Team K/Caleb did an amazing job, everyone was relieved that the battle was over!

Jolynn Decker then, single handedly battled with Kokhanok. She did an awesome job herself, but Kokhanok advanced with a score of 80 and Igiugig 48. Disheartened, but not discouraged, we congratulated her on great effort.

Kaylee and Kiara battled Newhalen next. These two were so cute to watch, I am sure I was partial considering I was their coach! They were full of, cross your fingers, high fives, and whispers of, "Please get it right!" They beat Newhalen with a score of 112, NEW, 104. Squealing could be heard throughout the school. More high fives followed with promises of going to state battle next year.

Aiden, who's team name was Wolverine, played against the Chignik Bay Princesses. He just about pulled his ears off his head during his match! He squeaked by with a 72-65 victory over the Bay Princesses and his battle book career was off to a great start! He did not advance to the next round, but this did not discourage him, he was still living off the high of his first win.

That marked the end of our 2011 Battle of the Books. We are extremely proud of all the reading, studying and teamwork our kids did, we look forward to battling again next year!

## Bits \* n Pieces

### Money Considerations

#### **TAXES!!!**

*Once again we are closing in on the season when we make our annual contributions to Uncle Sam. Preparation for submitting your annual taxes can be okay or not so nice depending on the amount of planning and thought you've put into it during the year.*

*For some unknown reason we all love to NOT think about taxes until we have to. However, a little forethought can actually result in money staying in your own pocket, rather than becoming part of our famous federal budget.*

*Of course the tax deductible spending would have needed to be done already, but with just a little consideration some of the things you paid for last year could save you some money on your tax return. A few possibilities are listed below.*

*Energy Tax Credits - Things that save energy, such as energy star appliances, storm doors, or replacement windows could be eligible for an energy tax credit. Also alternative energy sources like wind turbines, solar panels, etc.*

*Donations – These may be deductible, along with medical expenses, tuition costs if you spent enough to “itemize”.*

*Business Expenses - can off set up to the amount your business earned, and sometimes you are even allowed to “income average” if you have a loss in a business that normally earns you money.*

*If you are the one in charge of your family's tax preparation and most of what you just read makes no sense, it would be a good idea to take a seminar or class to learn some basic things about the taxes you pay.*

*In the long run you may save enough to take yourself on a vacation somewhere fun, rather than pitching in to the financing of yet another government program.*

#### **SPENDING vs. SAVING!!!!**

*A dollar really isn't a dollar—unless you are among the few Americans that don't pay taxes, the dollar in your account today started off as \$1.15 if you are in the lowest tax bracket, up to \$1.35 if you are on the higher end of taxation.*

*With that in mind, not spending money (saving it) for several years can actually give you up to 35% gain. In a roundabout way of thinking by buying a less expensive product or service—say a purse for \$40 rather than \$100 or going to a less expensive restaurant and saving the difference (rather than earning more money and paying more taxes), from the \$60 saved you could actually have a total retained amount of \$81 in the long run. That is of course assuming that you actually keep the savings rather than turning around and spending it on matching shoes or another meal out.*

**Money Saved is worth more than Money Earned!**





# Monthly Snaps



Aiden AKA Team Wolverine gets ready to Battle



Team K (Kaylee & Kiara) are the District Champs for their grade.



Team K/Caleb brought home the Silver



Jolynn, who stuck with the No-see-um name, writes her answers

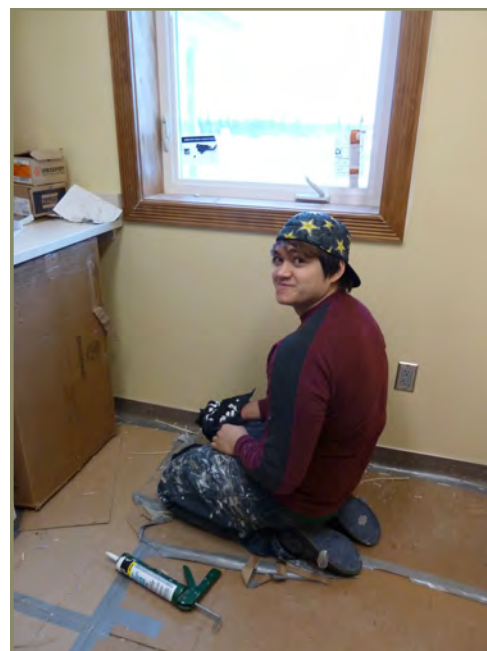
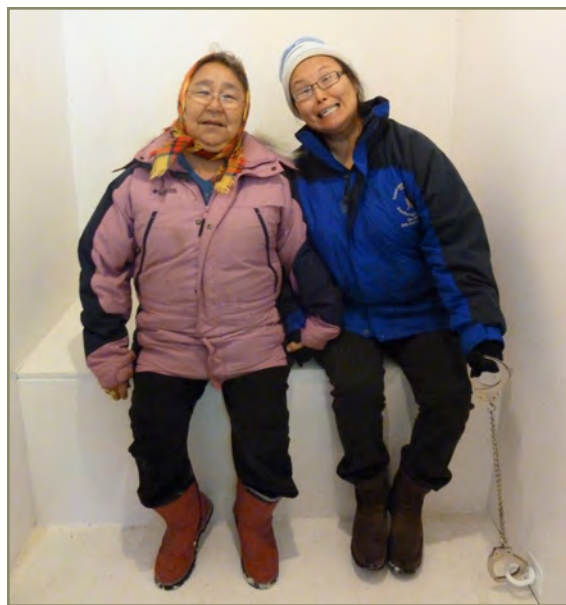


Greeting the Bishop.

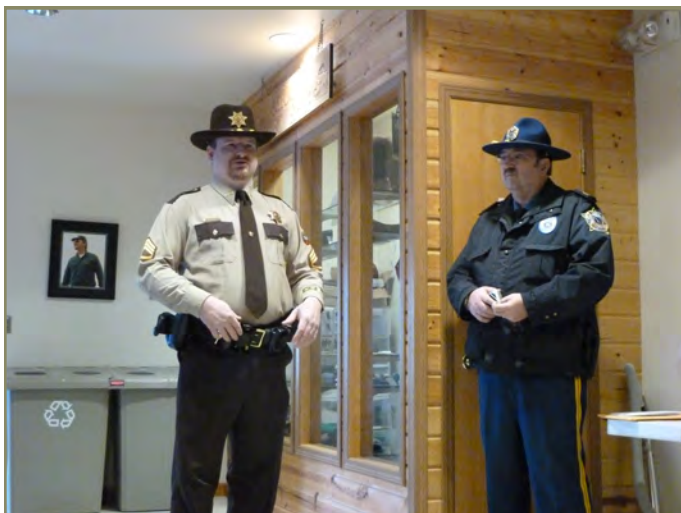


Blessing the water.





Top: Sir Keilan invades Karl's office.  
 Top Middle: Mary O. & Andrew in the slammer!  
 Top Right: Annie & Lydia check out the new jail facilities.  
 Middle Left: Wade busy working on the new clinic.  
 Middle Right: Darryl gives a tour of the new clinic.  
 Bottom Left: Tony hard at work.  
 Bottom Right: Sgt Dan Decker & Sgt. Leonard Wallner.



## Igiugig Village Council

AlexAnna Salmon, President

Randy Alvarez, Vice President

Dallia Andrew, Member

Christina Salmon, Member

Mary Olympic, Member

AlexAnna Salmon, Interim Village Administrator

Sandy Alvarez, Director of Accounting & Finance

Christina Salmon, Environmental Director

Tanya Salmon, Social Services Director

Betsy Hostetter, Library Director

Dan Decker Sr., VPSO & Fire Chief

Tanya Salmon, Newsletter Editor

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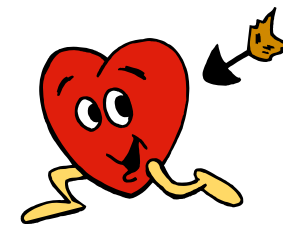
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Igiugig, AK 99613

Front page photo credit: Tanya Salmon  
Kvichak River view  
Back page photo credit: Sheryl Wassillie  
View of Big Mountain on Lake Iliamna

## Igiugig Tribal Village Council Newsletter



# February 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Happy Birthday Mary Hostetter	3	4  3 Man BB @ Chignik Bay	5 
6	7 Happy Birthday Dan Decker, Sr	8	9	10	11 Black History Month event @ the school @ 6 PM	12
13 Happy Birthday Blaise Decker	14 Happy Birthday George Wilson, Sr Health Fair & Valen- tine's Extravaganza @ the school @ 3:30 PM	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 Wild Salmon Day @ Hangar LSAC @ 3:45 PM	25	26 Happy Birthday Tess Hostetter
<b>3 Man BB Tournament @ Perryville</b>						
27	28 IVC Time- sheets Due  Spring Break Begins					