



December Birthdays

- 10th - Tony Wassillie
- 11th - AlexAnna Salmon
- 12th - Tatyana Zackar & Dave Hostetter
- 24th - Sheryl Wassillie
- 25th - Avery Salmon
- 28th - Dannika Salmon



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Turkey Days are Over!

November certainly has flown by quickly! It flew by and now we are approaching December. We have been busy. Now that the hike to Big Mountain and the Native food challenge is over, Jeff has another idea he wants to put in our ear! How about hiking the Telaquana Trail? Inspired by John Branson, long time Park Ranger and Lake Clark Historian. I'll let you read about his idea.

Go No-See-ums is written by Kiara and her first time being involved in sports in Port Alsworth for district volleyball games. Following her article, you can find submitted journal entries from our Larval group and a Moving to Igiugig article written by Clara. Here is something new, that is something old; Throwback! Flip to page 7 and take a look at some of our first volume writers 19 years ago! After you've had a good chuckle, you can view your favorite people and announcements. Its not that cold outside yet, but it does not mean the ice is safe to go on, please be safe and stay off the ice until it has been safe to do so! Quyana!

Telaquana Trail

By Jeff Bringham



Telaquana Mountain, looking East. Photo courtesy of John Branson

At the Annual Igiugig Native Corp meeting on November 15, we had the privilege of hearing two presentations from Park Service Historian and Local Legend, John Branson. For those of you reading this from the outside, John is a venerated resident of Bristol Bay, and has published 11 books documenting the history of our region. In his nearly fifty years in the area he has traveled to corners of Bristol Bay few of us will ever get to experience, and has spent a great deal of time in the homes and on the land with so many of the old salts of our region.

His love for history and his obvious reverence for the land make him a man after my own heart. But what really gets me excited is when he talks about hiking. I've

never hiked with John, but my wife has, as have several adults in our village and the surrounding ones. He never tired they said, and he pushed the students he took out to the limits of their endurance, telling stories all the way. I'm envious of those who went out with him, and envious of John and the experiences he got to have in learning the land and sharing stories with the people who lived on it.

Our hike to Big Mountain this fall was mostly inspired by this kind of learning. While we undertook our Local Foods Challenge, we wanted to connect ourselves a little deeper to the way people used to live (and travel), and although we knew it would be a challenge, we wanted to take even our young ones for a more collective and authentic experience. That said, I did not encourage Christina, seven months pregnant, to make the whole journey, but she would not be dissuaded, citing the strength of her grandmother, Mary Olympic, as her inspiration. I could not be any prouder than to arrive first to Big Mountain, with my 8 year old daughter Danni by my side, and my wife and boys just minutes behind.

Now John has captured my imagination of where I hope we will have our next outing together, the Telaquana Trail in Lake Clark National Park. This historic route connected its users between the old villages of Telaquana, Kijik, and Nondalton. It is roughly fifty miles, through drainages leading to three major waterways, the Kuskokwim, the Nushagak, and the Kvichak. We'd be crossing the upper reaches of the Mulchatna, the Chilikadrotna, and the Kijik rivers along the way. And while John didn't sugar coat these crossings, after our frigid swim of Belinda Creek, I am sure we will find our way across.

Now I know I'm not our logistics guy, but can we please make this happen? Come May, can we touch floats down on Lake Telaquana, lace up our boots and get walking? John, it's my sincere hope you'll be there to show us the way. But I also want to extend an invitation to my own John – the dad who led me down countless trails as a boy, and instilled in me my own love for wilderness. How about it Pop? Ready for a new fifty miler?

Go No-See-ums!

On Monday, November 13th, Sim, Taty, Fewnia, Kira, Teya, Kaylee, Alicia, and I took off to Port Alsworth for the 2017 Volleyball Tournament. In my opinion, I thought it was fun, although we mostly sat around doing nothing other than playing games and talking. But when we did play the 3-man games, I had a great time. We communicated with each other easily, and had great sportsmanship. While we played, family and friends watched from the live -stream. We were soon recognized as the mix 3 champions. We ended 3-man, but 6-man was just beginning.



Warming up at Port Alsworth before a game



GO NO-SEE-UMS!



No-See-Ums: Sim, Taty, Kiara, Coach Alicia, Kaylee, Fewnia, Kira, & Teya

6-man is a whole different story. I was terrified. Our first game was with Port Alsworth varsity, the best team. I usually subbed in for Kira but I had a deep unwanty-feeling to not walk up on the court and take her place. I felt like I wasn't good enough, that I would do bad. I freaked out, and didn't get the ball quick enough. I didn't want to be up there because I knew that I was failing my team. After we lost the three games we rounded the court and slapped hands. Next we played the mixed-6 team from Pilot Point, Kokhanok, and Chignik Lake, and won. Later that day, we played our last game with Port Alsworth JV. On our first round, we didn't play very well. Second game, we did terrible. Alicia told us, if we didn't up our game, that we would have to do suicides in front of everyone. On the third round, I was thinking that we were going to lose, but when it was my serve, I just kept getting more and more points, and soon, we won the game. I was so happy. Overall we earned fifth or sixth place. Still, I was happy.

We watched the other teams play and sat around a lot. Had some food from the concessions, and watched the championship game, which was Port Alsworth Varsity against Newhalen. Port Alsworth won of course. Awards came and went; we got the sportsmanship award and 1st place for mixed-3. After awards we had free time and then it was time for bed. I guess you could say that the volleyball meet was fun.

Give Thanks

Kira Olsen

I am thankful for a lot of things
 Like the wonderful views Mother Nature brings
 I am thankful for the things people do for me
 Like caring unconditionally
 I am thankful for amazing summer nights
 The everlasting sun is a beautiful sight
 I am thankful for four-wheeler rides
 Because it's fun to drive fast and be outside
 I am thankful for my friends and family
 They're very fun and enjoyable, can't you see?
 The things that I'm thankful for can go on and on
 And the list will continue to flow until I'm long
 gone

What Does It Mean to Be a Good Winner?

By Fewnia Zharoff

Being a good winner means that you and your team can show that you collaborate with one another, and give information in a mature way. You show respect to your opponents and have a positive attitude towards players and your team, as well as worthiness and determination.

Turkey Facts

By Aiden Wassillie

Today turkeys are raised on farms. Farmed turkeys weigh twice as much as a wild turkey. You could find wild turkeys in the northern forests in the United States. Wild turkeys can soar through the sky but the farmed turkeys are grounded because they're too fat. Wild or not, only the male turkeys make the gobble sound. And the female turkeys make a click or a chirp. 46 million farmed turkeys are eaten for thanksgiving in the United States every year.

The National Turkey Federation gives the United States president a turkey every year. When they give him the turkey the president doesn't eat it. Sometimes it is sent to Mount Vernon (that's where George Washington's house is). Some of the President's turkeys have been used in the Disneyland parade in California.

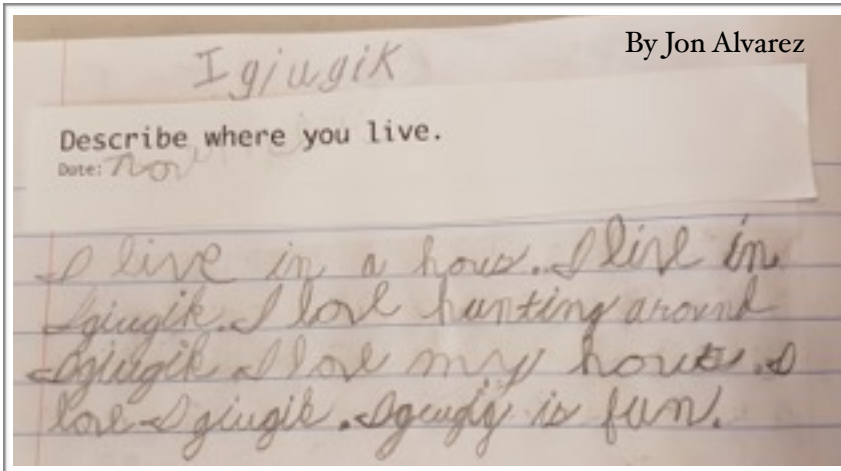
**CONGRATULATIONS
ALEXANNA SALMON!**



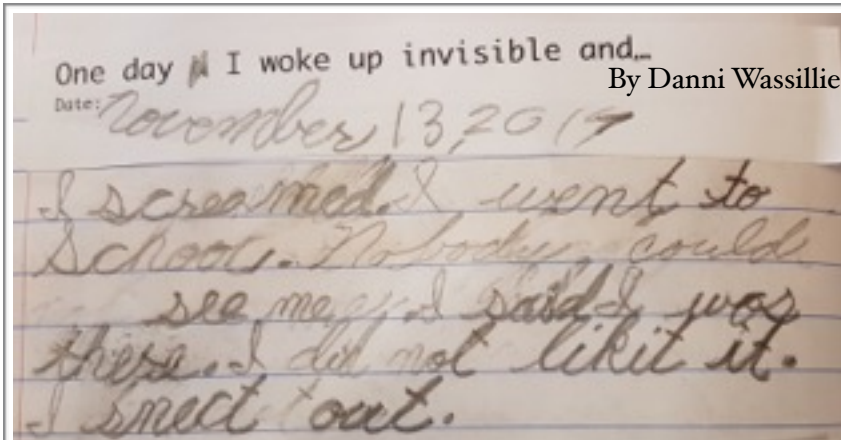
For receiving the First
 Alaskans Institute
 Young Native Leader
 Award at the 2017
 Howard Rock & Ted
 Stevens Smokehouse
 Gala!

Larval Writings:

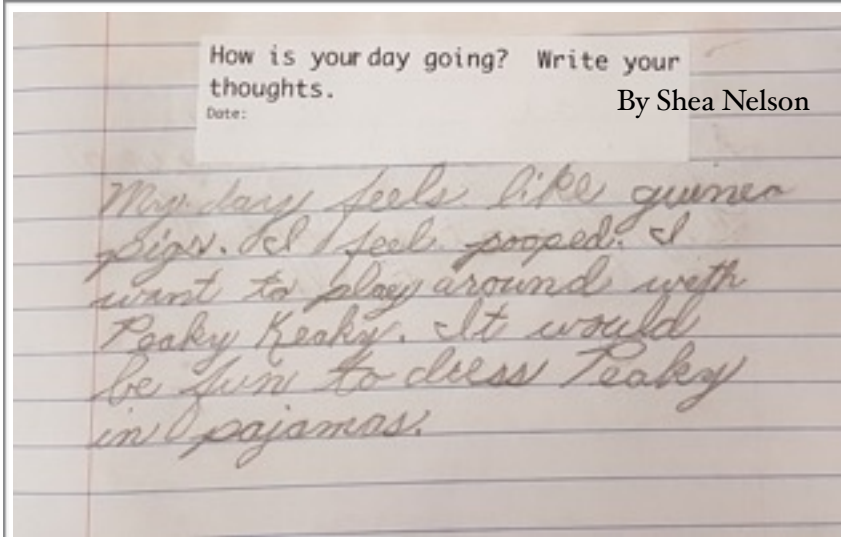
These were submitted by Mr. Gifford's Class: Jon Alvarez, MacKenzie Nickoli, Danni Salmon, Shea Nelson, Erika Salmon-Anelon and Jem Gooden



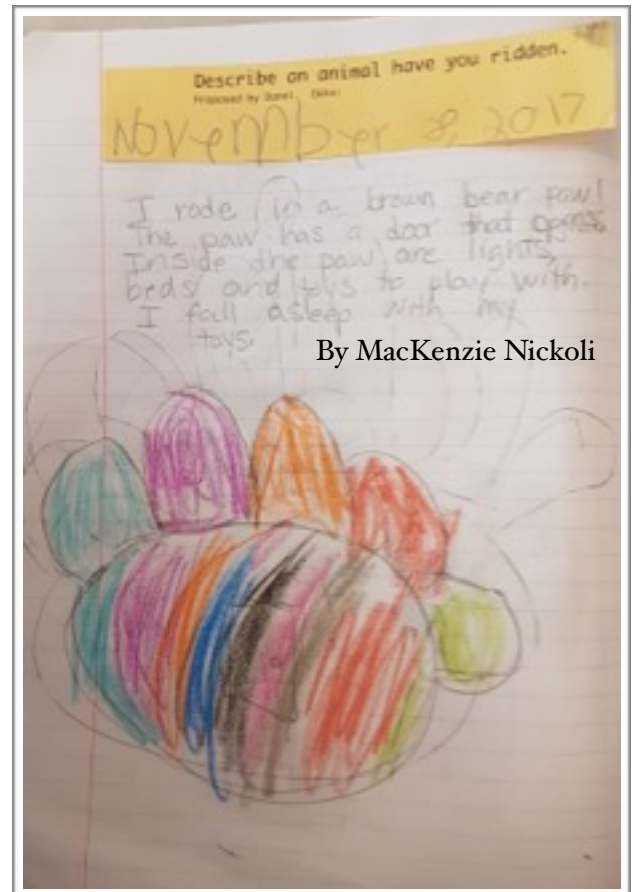
By Jon Alvarez



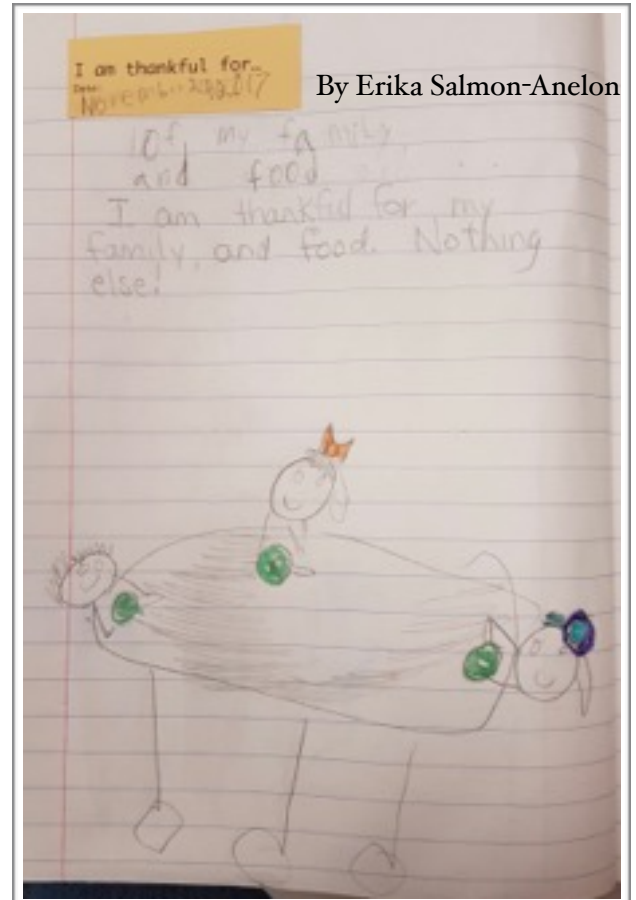
By Danni Wassillie



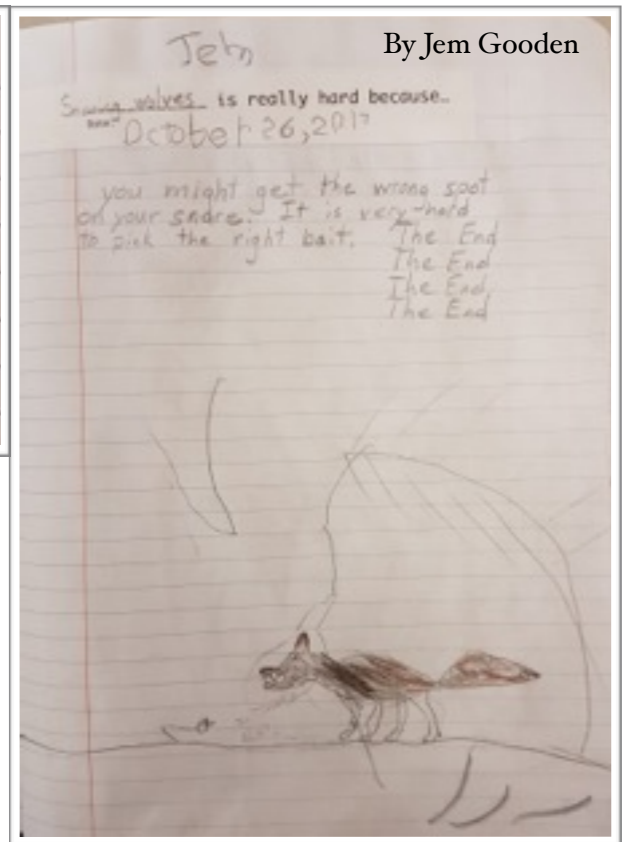
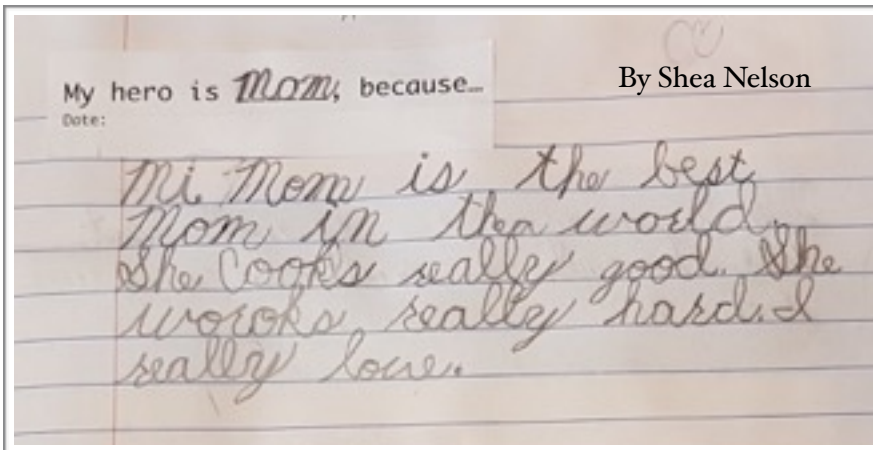
By Shea Nelson



By MacKenzie Nickoli



By Erika Salmon-Anelon



Moving to Igiugig

Waqaa Igiugig!



Clara with her girls: Ruth, Aurora, and Olivia

I just want to let everyone know that moving here was a great choice. The people here are so friendly and

helpful. I am transitioning from the big city of like 300,000 to a community of 65 people. I was a bit nervous to be honest, but once I got here, my friends and family welcomed us and made us feel at home. My twin girls; Ruth and Olivia just love it here.

They have the freedom of riding their bikes on the road with familiar friends and playing outside without me having to worry

so much about them except for the chilly weather making their little noses cold. As for little Aurora, she is getting use to all the new faces. She met a few little friends at Unglu and gym night. Once we got settled, things are going smooth. I get to take a maqii almost every night, eat dry fish, go to birthday parties, play volleyball, and even the smallest things like standing outside listening to Iliamna Lake at night. It is a positive change from a big city. What I like the most about here is the closeness of everyone in the community. There are so many fun learning activities to do and there is never a dull moment. I am looking forward to more exciting days in Igiugig.

Throwback!

These are pictures of articles from our first volume newsletter back in 1998.

Enjoy!

What I want to be when I grow up

By The Primary Students

Angel Alvarez – A doctor that helps people with broken legs.

Essa Jacobsen – A preschool teacher that helps kids learn their A, B, Cs.

Ponty Askoak – A policeman in Anchorage. I would drive around in my truck looking for people doing bad and take them to jail.

Jessica Jacobsen – A kindergarten / first grade teacher. The most important subject would be reading because you have to read when you grow up and have a job.

Jacob Askoak – Work for the school. Just like my dad. I would erase the board then go hunting when I am done.

Alicia Zackar – The clinic helper and fix people. I would give Band-Aids, shots and check their heart and stomach.

Shayna Nelson – A teacher of the big kids. I would teach them to make string telephones and walruses with letters in their mouths to practice their sounds.

Jeremy Salmon – An astronaut and go up to space. I would like to bring dog with me.



1998 Primary class: Sharolynn Zackar, Shayna Nelson, Ponty Askoak, Jerney Salmon, Essa Jacobson, Alicia Zackar, Jacob Askok.

Snow Falling

By Tanya Jo Salmon

Snow falling gently from the sky reminds me of,
Music playing softly with a nice steady flow.
Snow falling gently reminds me of,
Thousands of immigrants making their way home safely, and
peacefully.
Snow falling silently reminds me of,
Bird's flapping their silent wings.
Snow makes no sound as its white, soft, cold flakes touch the
delicate earth.

The First Winter Snowfall

By AlexAnna Salmon

Peacefulness, gentleness, kindness, friendship, joy love, harmony, and forgiveness are all emotions in which I see in the first snowfall.
The powdery snowflakes fall from the sky in a carefree, mellow pace.
The small suspensions cover the ground quickly, making everything look clean, white, innocent, and fresh, as though you pulled out a piece of blank white paper, ready to start over.
My adrenaline starts flowing as I think about sledding, towing, snowball fighting, making ice-cream, and snowmen.
All the little snowflakes hypnotize me, falling ever so steadily.
They show the first signs of winter.

Silent Snow Fall

By Christina Salmon

I sit in silence as I watch the first snow,
Fall to the ground,
Blanketing the ground like a white sheet,
Covering the life of fall,
Yet beginning the beauty of winter.



Shea and Teagan towing



Pumpkin carving at the hangar
before Halloween



Danni, Aiden, Keil, and Jeff
carving pumpkins



Happy 74 Birthday Dallia! Kaylee, Mav, Aiden, Kiara, Ella,
Avery, Shea, Danni, Jon, Keil, Dallia, MacKenzie, Erika



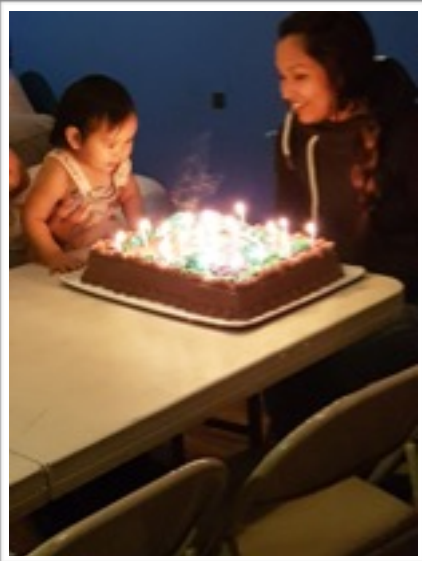
Sherry and Annie at Kaskanak



At the Ball game! Tia, Taty, Erika, Ella, June, Annie,
MacKenzie, Tanya, and Addi



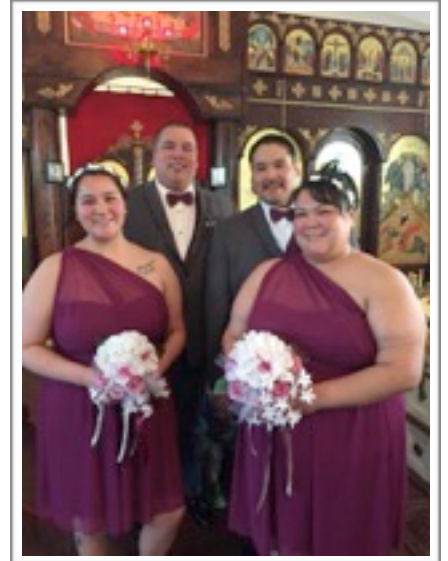
Waiting before the game: MacKenzie, Walt, Ella,
June, Keil, Kaleb, and Jem



Teagan and Loretta on her birthday



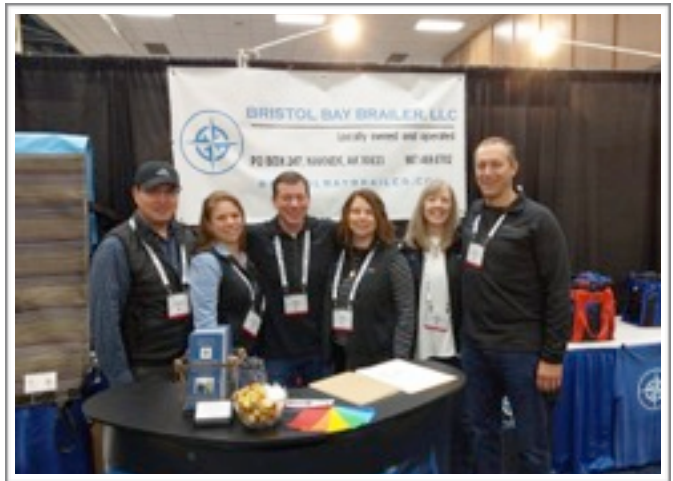
Annie enjoying a fancy dinner



Terek, Elia, Deanne, & Chas at Elia & Jessie's wedding



Formal Day: Ida, Kiara, Ella, Fewnia, Teya, Tate, Aiden, Charlie, Shea, Kira, Danni, Erika, MacKenzie, Jem & Betsy



Fish Expo: Russ, Yvonne, Stacy, Karl, Diane, and Bill



Jon, MacKenzie, Shea, Olivia, Ruth



Olivia, Ruth and Mav



Alice and Eileen



Alice in Wonderland: Taty, Alicia, Sharolynn, Renae, Sim, Greg Sr., Greg Jr. and Alice



Avery Erika and MacKenzie carving pumpkins



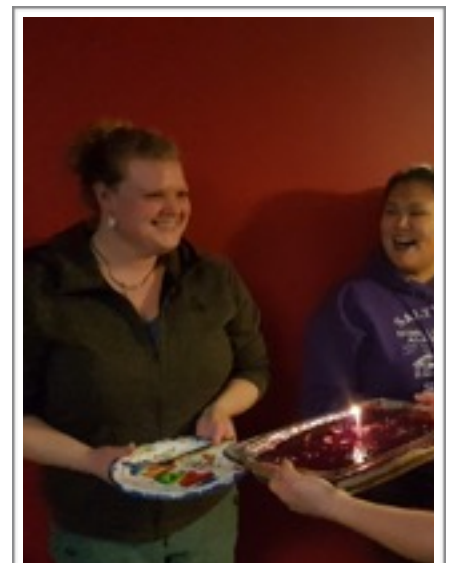
AlexAnna and friends @ the Smokehouse Gala



Stacy and Karl



Randy and Sandy



Happy Birthday Stacie G!

Our Villages Will Teach Our Cultures!

By AlexAnna Salmon, Project Director
Alaska Native Education Program (CFDA
84.356A)

Grant #S356A170005 funded by US Department
of Education



"I believe that cultural learning is so important because it helps us understand who we are and where we come from. For example, learning the history of our area, listening to the stories of our elders, and learning cultural skills, helps build a foundation of self-identity and self-esteem. With this knowledge, no matter where our children go in the world, they know there is always a home to return to that they understand and are a part of"

– Michelle Ravenmoon, Summer Project Director

We hear it over and over – at Alaska Federation of Natives, at Alaska Association of School Boards, in our homes, and at our councils: "The next generation needs to be learning about our connection to the land; they need to know our cultural values and our history." The time for "Communities Teaching Cultures" is now, and we are kick starting it with a three-year grant from Alaska Native Education which will serve thirteen Lake and Peninsula villages. In addition to the revision of cultural awareness standards, each Local School Advisory Committee with the help of community and elder input will set the cultural program; the tribal councils will hire a summer coordinator to implement it (May – August). These coordinators will receive guidance as needed from program staff. Most importantly our students, the future of our region, will have the priceless opportunity to learn directly from local experts, and to also achieve academic credit throughout the subsistence calendar despite 20 days less in the classroom. It is essential that we all work together to make this program successful – our children deserve the best!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Store Hours!

Located behind the Boarding House in a green building: the hours of operation are from:

Stacie G @ 907-378-7416

5:00 PM to 6:00PM

Important Dates!

***December 2nd- Igiugig Bazaar,
6 PM - Gym***

December 15th - Christmas Play

***December 18th - Annual
Meeting***

***December 20th - January 2nd
Christmas Break***

December 25th - Christmas

January 8-9th Slavi Break

Clinic News

The Igiugig after-hours emergency number is

907.533.6020.

If there is *no health aide in the village*, please call the Nilavena Clinic at 907.571.1818 or 907.571.7111 for after-hours emergencies.

Igiugig Village Council

IVC Board & Main Staff

AlexAnna Salmon, President

Karl Hill, Vice-President/Acting Administrator

Kevin Olympic, Member

Christina Salmon, Member

Sandy Alvarez, Director of Accounting
& Finance

Alicia Zackar, Social Service Director/Member

Stacie Garrison, Head of Maintenance, Director
of NAHADA

Tanya Salmon, Librarian

Stacy Hill, IGAP Director

Ida Nelson, Tribal Clerk & Newsletter
Editor

Renee Grounds/Halay Turning Heart,
Grant Administrator

Loretta Peterson, Tribal Clerk

Sheryl Wassillie, Procurement Clerk

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www.igiugig.com & <https://www.facebook.com/IgiugigVillage/>



P.O. Box 4008

Igiugig, Alaska 99613

First Class Mail

Front Page Photo Credit: Stacie Garrison: getting wood: What does it look like to you? An owl, bird, you decide.

Back Page Photo Credit: Eileen Nelson: photo of trees and winter wonderland.

Igiugig Tribal Council Newsletter