



## March & April Birthdays

Mar. 1 - Chaske Turningheart  
 Mar. 3 - Martha Crow  
 Mar. 10 - Lydia Olympic  
 Mar. 21 - Jon Salmon  
 Mar. 24 - Terek Anelon  
 Mar. 26 - Jeff Bringhurst  
 Mar. 28 - Lukas Zackar  
 April 5th - Sherry Nelson  
 April 14 - Renae Zackar  
 April 18th - Halay Turningheart  
 April 27th - Randy Alvarez  
 April 30th - Teagan Wassillie



## Spring into Action

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2018 with 9 more months to go and you seem to be moving along pretty fast already. I feel like I didn't get a chance to even blink. We've had a lot going on here in our little village from learning how to make dance fans and headdresses to 3-man District basketball jamboree. First, you will read a wonderful article written by Kiara on learning how to make dance fans with Emily Johnston, and in there you can read how laughter filled the hall way with joy and glee. Following her article, you will read Ella's poem and find out What We Want. In the short month of February the school had a Valentine's Day Fundraiser that you can read about and take a look at your favorite Valentine's Day people. For the first time in seven years Igiugig School hosted the LPSD 3-man District Basketball Jamboree. On page 7 you can take a look at some of the action. Thank you to Levi Tinney of Levelock for the photos used in this article. Next you will find an update for Wangkuta Qanriarait Navarparmiut Yugestun by Apapi. Thereafter, you can take a look at your favorite people and view our announcements. Remember to always file a travel plan with a family member or friend before venturing out to the wilderness. Pack survival gear for you and your travel mates and be careful, mother nature is not as forgiving as she seems to be.

## Dance Fan Making

By Kiara Nelson, 8th Grade



Kiara's Dance fan she made

On Thursday, January 25th, a woman named Emily Johnston led a dance fan making class for the people who are apart of the yup'ik program. It took place at the Hangar where 13 people attended. Emily is a master grass weaver and can make anything from baskets to dance fans, and I happened to be in that class. I have always wanted my own pair of dance fans and it was a thing I could look forward to and be proud of.

Our first day was slow. Emily started us all out with a grass knot and she wove around it with another grass blade.

Obviously she is very skilled. She didn't even have to look down at what she was doing. she said that she does it only by feel. She turned and looked at me, then down at the grass, "She is still young, she will pick it up quickly." She said in a relaxed tone. After Emily gave me my grass and needle, I started to sew. It was very challenging since it was my very first time ever making a dance fan. We had 3 to 4 foldout tables stretched across the room, covered with grass, water bowls, and busy hands.

After an hour or so, I saw that I was sewing in the same place, and I looked at everyone else's and saw that their sewing was neat and symmetrical. I looked at mine in disappointment, in my hands was a sloppy, frayed and thick grass spiral. Seeking for help, I asked Emily what I could do to make it better, but she was proud, she said that mine was very good for a start. She took my developing dance fan and held it up in the air, "Look!" Everyone's eyes turned to my fan, a series of gasps and awes echoed through the room. I gained a little more confidence from her compliment, but still, I asked my mom to do some stitches so I could follow along. I then realized that I had to stitch on top of the other stitches. So it would create a spiral and increase in size. (instead of stitching in the same area.)

It was already 7:00. Too soon, Emily told us to store our fans in the fridge to keep them dry and decrease the chance of them molding. At the end of the day, my spiral was probably only the size of a silver dollar.

Friday morning, I was excused from school early so I could participate in the class. By lunch my dance fan was slowly getting bigger. And I had just gotten the gist of it. We had lots of fun exchanging laughs and funny stories when we were all little babies. "Slow by slow," that was our motto in the class. Kids and other people came and went, observing our hard work, and eating the complimentary snacks on the table.

Continued on page 3

## Dance Fan Making

Continued from page 2

We powered through the day. One by one, people were already starting on their color designs, while I was still trying to get my dance fan bigger. I envied my mom, for she was just finishing her color and almost starting her other dance fan.

When I would get frustrated, because my grass kept fraying from not wetting it with water, I would thrust the grass spiral in my mom's direction and ask her if she could do a couple stitches. By the time she handed it back to me, she had sewed the whole length of the thread, so my requests were starting to lessen. Time went by fast once again, but I still wasn't ready for color. So I took mine home and worked on it through the night.

It was Saturday. Although I was very close to doing color designs, I still had to sew one or two more times around. At last, I was onto color. I glanced at my other sewing comrades and got an inspired design. We had all kinds of colored grass, from a deep rich blue to grass that had multiple colors on it. So I had my mom once again help me start out on my color design. I wanted my design to look like berries. I took pieces of multicolored grass, and the deep rich, shiny blue and wetted them with water. Julie was way ahead of the game, since she was already finished with her first and halfway finished with her second dance fan.

The dancefan design I did wasn't the way I wanted it to look. The dips of blue were uneven and the multicolored grass didn't match. I turned to Emily, frantic for help, "Do you think that you can..... um, take these out?" I said somberly.

"I am afraid that you've went too far for me to undo it. I like that design very much, I would hate if you were to redo it," she replied.

The compliment didn't help me very much and I sulked while I sewed. When I went all the way around the dancefan, the color looked pretty good, it was surprising. But my excitement receded, since I had to sew one last time around before I can start on my handle.

To take a break, Alexanna and Sister led an icebreaker called bumpitybumpbump. It was where people stood around in a circle and there was one person in the center. The person in the circle would turn to a person and either say

"left, right, me, you" so you had to say the Yupik name for the person to the right, or left, or you, or the person in the circle. The goal was to say the person's name before they said "bumpitybumpbump." As they played, howls of laughter echoed through the hangar.

Continued on page 4



## Dance Fan Making

Continued from page 3



Dance fan making class with Emily: Left to Right: Olga, Sheryl, Jeff, Julie, Kiara, Ida, Emily, Sherry, Sharolynn, Tanya and AlexAnna. Not in the photo: Christina and Alicia

carefully stitched the fur on, I wanted my dance fan to be just right. (although I did have my mom sew some stitches.) And I was done! It was such a relief, but I had to start all over with my second one, so it was a bittersweet moment.

That night we had a small potluck as a thank you to Emily. We had all kinds of native foods and cupcakes I had baked earlier that morning. After the potluck I stayed to start off my second dance fan which Emily helped me out on. She left on Sunday morning but we still had a couple hours left before she returned to Anchorage. So I took that opportunity and got as much help and advice as I needed. When Emily left, I spent the day working on my second dance fan. It wasn't as good as the first, since the color and size didn't quite match up. But I did finish it faster than expected. Now that I know how to, I look forward to making more dance fans in the future.

I decided not to join in the game because it was an opportunity to catch up to everyone while they were taking a break. By the time they were done, I was finished with the grass part of my dancefan and was ready for the handle. My mom had showed me to wrap strands of grass with another piece of grass tightly all the way to the end where I had to sew the end of the handle.

I looked at my almost finished dance fan in triumph, it looked awesome. Emily and my mom helped me with my fur attachment.

"Take your time, it's best to go slow, you don't want to go too fast or it will rip," she said. So I



Sharolynn's completed dance fans

## What We Want

By Ella Gooden

Pebble wants the glinting gold copper  
Like a treasure from a sunken pirate ship  
We want our ruby red salmon  
Like gems floating up our river as clear as diamonds

They want the thin wrinkled money  
To fill their bottomless pockets  
We want our pure blue berries  
To fill our worn, white buckets

They say they give jobs  
that may be true  
But Igiugig won't be Igiugig  
If it becomes a mineral slough

They want the business  
we want the land  
They want the income  
Why can't we live hand in hand?

Because we want Igiugig  
The moose and caribou too  
we want the ducks and geese  
We want our river, our lake and our nature

You can't take her from us  
It runs in our blood like the salmon  
It beats in our hearts like the wings of an eagle  
We are from Igiugig...

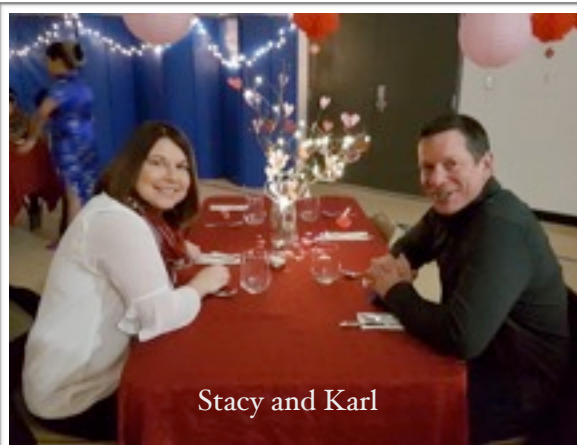
This is our way  
This is our life  
You cannot take it  
No matter the price



On Saturday, February 17, the Igiugig students sponsored an Asian-themed Valentine's Dinner as a fundraiser for their 2019 trip to Washington, D.C. Preparations for the dinner began weeks prior to the event, starting with the planning of the menu and ordering of supplies by the student council officers—Kaylee Hill, Teya Olsen, and Kiara Nelson. These student leaders did a wonderful job of spearheading the event, and every single student, from elementary to high school, helped to decorate, prepare food, serve, and clean up. This year's menu included Thai Coconut Shrimp soup, gyoza and fresh spring rolls, and a choice of desserts: chocolate mango mousse, mango lime coconut tart, or a Vietnamese coffee sundae. All the food was researched, prepared, and served by the students, who spent many hours on Friday and Saturday setting up. The community members turned out in best dress to enjoy the tasty meal and festive atmosphere. The Igiugig students would like to thank to everyone who supported the students in their latest fundraising endeavor.



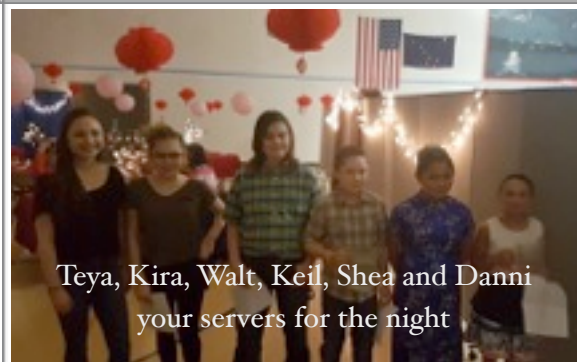
Valentines day Dinner Fundraiser



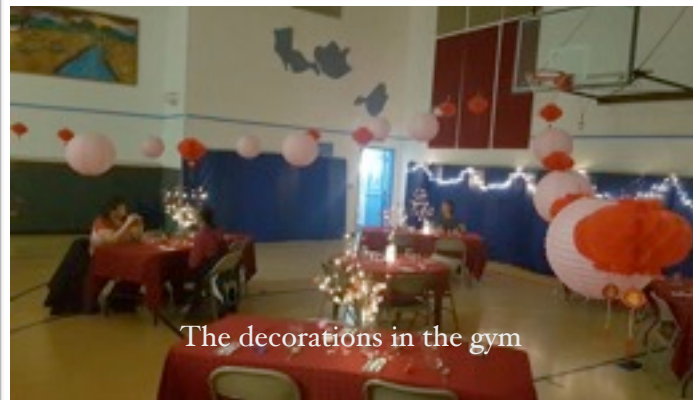
Stacy and Karl



Greg & Renae



Teya, Kira, Walt, Keil, Shea and Danni  
your servers for the night



The decorations in the gym



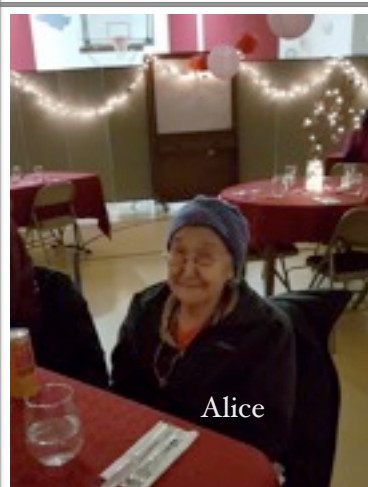
Randy and Sandy



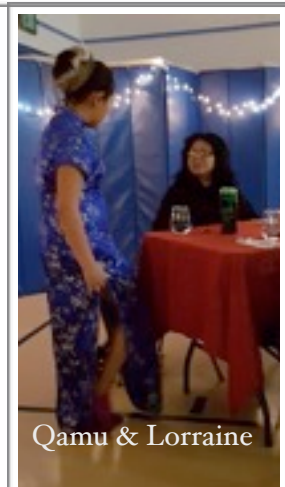
The waiting area: Dallia, Tate & Samantha



Jeff, Karl, Stacy & Terek



Alice



Qamu & Lorraine

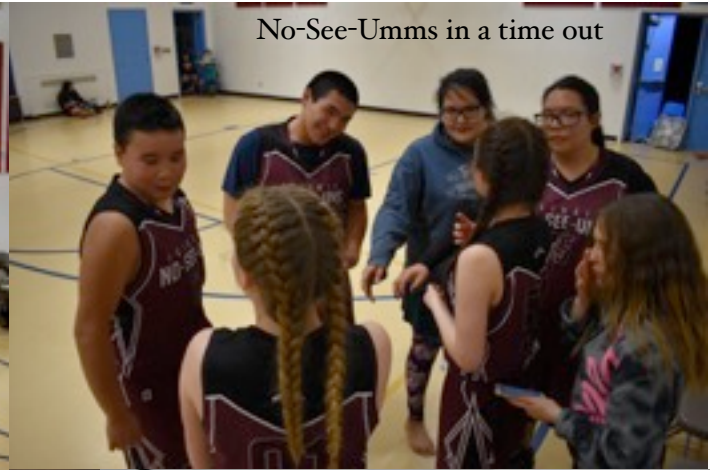




The 3 Man District Basketball Jamboree players and coaches!



No-See-Umms in a time out



Perryville Eagles Team



Kaylee guarding Daren from Perryville



Nondalton playing against Chignik



Levelock VS Kokhanok



Eftekia and Samara



Kokhanok VS Nondolton



Nondolton VS Levelock



Igiugig Larval League coached by Tate



Service project the high school did for elders



Your LPSP 3-man basketball all tourney

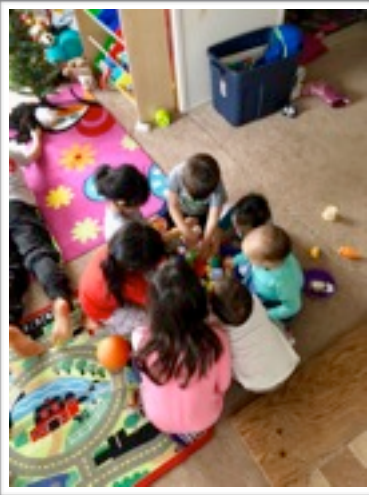


3-man District Basketball Champions and Sportsmanship Award - Port Heiden



# Wangkuta Qanriarait Nanvarparmiut Yugestun

By Appi

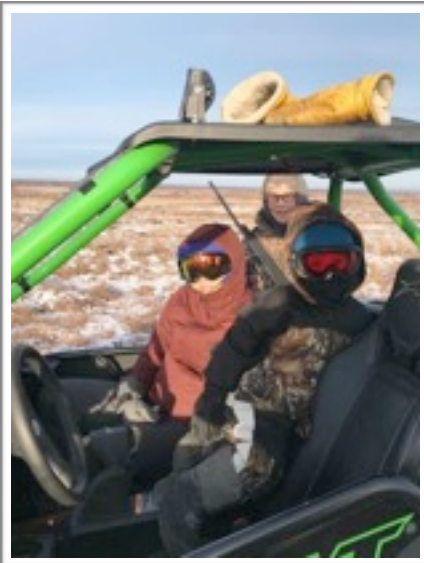


Unglu class at the Triple  
Wide

It has been a very long time since I have provided an update on our language revitalization program. It is partially because we have been a flurry of activity. Here are some highlights:

- August 2017: Visited Ayaprun School in Bethel, an immersion school, and the Lower Kuskokwim School District headquarters which operate bilingual schools, to learn about curriculum materials and development, and immersion techniques. On our return home we routed through Anchorage to sit in on Marie Meade's Yup'ik language class at UAA, and to also meet with Yaari Walker of the Alaska Native Heritage Center about the unique whistling language of St. Lawrence Island.
- September 2017: Community classes commenced at Igiugig School with Yup'ik lunch with our elders and then an activity such as bingo, jeopardy, and "Total Physical Response". Piipiit unglu, the main focus of the final year, is held anywhere from 8-15 hours in a given week.
- October 2017: Nita Rearden taught a Doll-Making or "Inniaruaq" workshop, and we completed program evaluations.
- November 2017: Annie Wilson, Halay and Jiles Turning Heart and myself attended the annual grantee meeting of the Administration for Native Americans where we were able to meet directly with our program officer about budget modifications that we needed in the final year of the grant to ensure funds are expended. We sat in on an inspiring session by the Kodiak Alutiiq language group and the head-start immersion program that they run as well as many other ANA funded language programs across the nation.
- December 2017: Our class size momentarily doubled and we needed a larger space so we rented the "Triple Wide" from the council and set up a new, large and improved classroom. We are enjoying the new space and are able to accommodate several age groups at once.
- January 2018: Aiggayagaq, Apapi-Illu attended a "Where Are Your Keys" training (and Sherry for the first evening). Learned exciting new language learning and teaching techniques to share with our team. Then our program hosted an immersion dance fan making class with master Emily Johnston. This was followed by a beaded headdress workshop with our elder mentor Evelyn Yanez. We also discontinued daily/weekly classes at the school to concentrate on unglu, but Yuraq continues on Fridays at school right after lunch.
- February 2018: We began hosting weekly "soup-making M-A" at my house, modeled after what we learned from the Kodiak language group and it is working to keep apprentices a little more involved in language learning. It is convenient because as busy as our lives are, we all need to eat!
- March 2018: Mark your calendars – Dr. Walkie Charles of University of Alaska Fairbanks will be traveling to Igiugig to teach a custom language workshop! The dates are March 13-16. We are also hoping he can return in May.
- This is our third year of the grant, and it will be ending on July 31, 2018. Keep on learning!

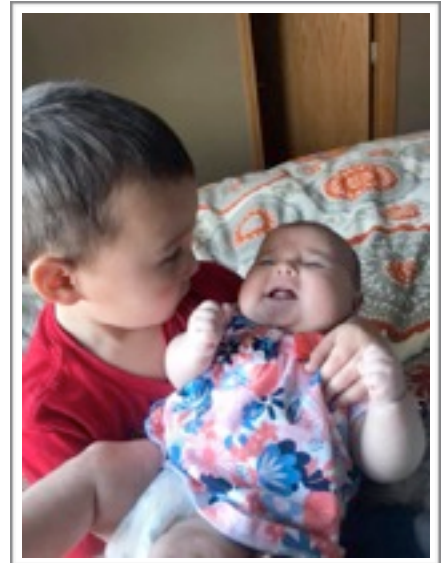




Aiden, Fewnia & Mav out hunting for caribou



Erika fishing by the barge landing



Mav babysitting Baby Bea!



Sherry demonstrating WAYK training



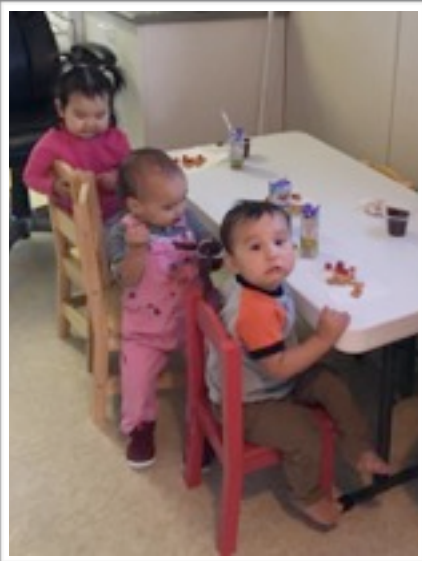
Head-dress making with Evelyn: Taty, Alicia, Sharolynn, & Ida



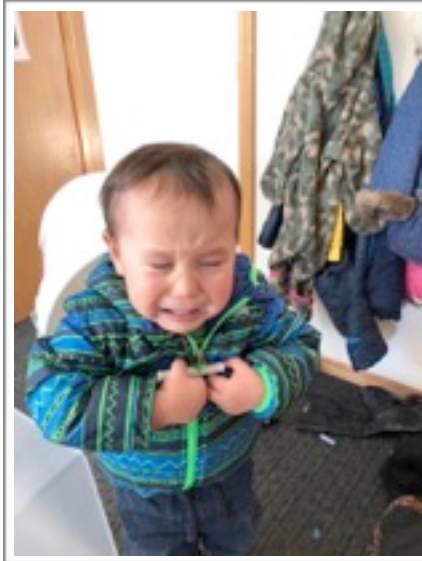
Sue, Tammy, Marsha, & Betsy.



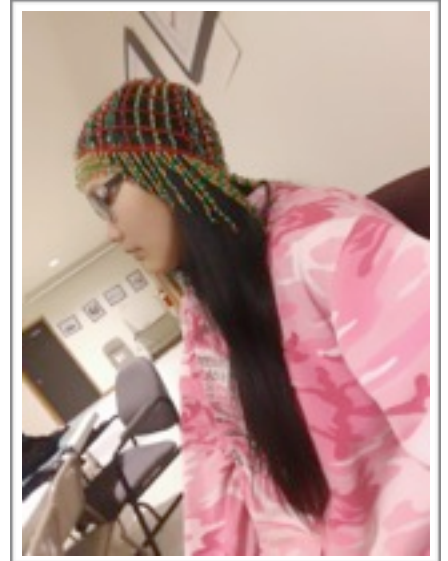
Julie enjoying lunch with Lydia, Martha and Susie



Teagan, Addi and Luke during snack time in Unglu



Luke stuck in a bucket



Sharolynn with her finished head-dress



MacKenzie playing in the Larval League



Beatrice Newest member of Unglu



Erik and Lorraine out enjoying the winter wonder land



Addi and Sing working with their daddy



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Remember in IGIUGIG We:

- Keep Our Dogs Tied Up or on a leash.
- Turn Off Lights when leaving a public building
- Recycle: #1 to #2 plastics, aluminum, glass, tin cans. We also separate batteries and e-waste.
- Do Not Park in front of the hanger or the white trash trailer.
- We compost! Bring it to the greenhouse, please no dairy or meat products.
- Contribute to the newsletter! Send photos, news, important events to Ida @ [igiugignewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:igiugignewsletter@gmail.com)
- Love our village? Join Igiugig Village Info Zone on Facebook if you haven't already.

## Library Hours:

Monday to Friday

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM &

4:00 PM to 5:00 PM

Saturday 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

## *The Store Hours!*

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

5:00 PM to 6:00PM

Stacie G @ 907-378-7416

## Important Dates:

March 9th - 11th: Kokhanok Carnival.

March 11th - Day light savings!

March 13th - 16th: Dr. Walkie Charles hosting a Yup'ik learning workshop.

March 21st - LSAC and last day to revise cultural awareness standards.

March 20th - First day of Spring.

March 21st - 25th: Beaver Round-Up.

March 26th - UTBB Meeting @ the Hanger.

April 1st - Easter!

April 8th - Russian Orthodox Easter.

April 2nd - 6th: SCF Dental team @ the Clinic.

April 13th - Tatyanna Zackar Graduation.

April 13th - 15: TBC Family Camp.

## Clinic

The Igiugig after-hours emergency number is **907.533.6020.**

If there is *no heath 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 Services Director/  
Member**

**AJ Gooden - Librarian**

**Stacy Hill - IGAP Director**

**Ida Nelson - Tribal Clerk & Newsletter Editor**

**Halay Turning Heart - Grant Administrator**

**Loretta Peterson - Tribal Clerk**

**Sheryl Wassillie - Procurement Clerk**

Visit us on the web and like us on Facebook  
[www.igiugig.com](http://www.igiugig.com) & <https://www.facebook.com/IgiugigVillage/>



P.O. Box 4008

Igiugig, Alaska 99613

First Class Mail

Front Page Photo Credit: Kiara Nelson: A pretty Igiugig sunset.

Back Page Photo Credit: Randy Alvarez: Alagnak River headwaters.

**Igiugig Tribal Council Newsletter**