



HANGING OUT— A herd of musk oxen with a few youngsters relax on a rock outcropping outside of Nome.

Photo Diana Haecker

The Nome Nugget

Alaska's Oldest Newspaper

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Photo by Keith Conger

FIRST ONE THROUGH — Abu Oquilluk opens the door, while Kakaruk herd manager Jimmy Pushruk, right front, and his crew watch Arin Ablowaluk, left front, release the first reindeer to pass through the Seward Peninsula's newest reindeer corral on Friday, June 26. This "maverick female" was the first of 256 deer to receive one of the new orange Kakaruk ear tags.

First reindeer pass through Seward Peninsula's newest corral

Story and photos
by Keith Conger

Anyone driving to Teller during the summer of 2024 noticed the construction east of the Teller Highway at mile 48. It consisted of gap-spaced walls placed at unusual angles with no roofs.

Locals knew it was a corral building project spearheaded by Teller resident Jimmy Pushruk, a retired State of Alaska equipment operator and long-time reindeer herder. Pushruk and his supporting cast had set up a sort of "if you build it, they will come" situation.

But bad weather and tough snow conditions made it impossible for them to bring the herd in during the corral's first two years, so it sat vacant. By this summer, Pushruk and

his sister Brenda Pushruk were quite anxious to test their creation.

Pushruk, who manages the Kakaruk reindeer herd, knew his deer were out there somewhere. His unfenced grazing grounds start at the Bering Sea and extend from the tip of Point Spencer to around 30 miles west of Imuruk Basin. This 1,200 square mile area was way too big for him to search on foot, as he did in his youth, or even by four-wheeler. So, he turned to a method pioneered by the late bush pilot Jim Isabell in the 1970s — a helicopter.

Pushruk's logical choice for wingman was Patrik Toerdal, who has flown the Teller herder around doing range studies, looking for lichen and other foraging foods. Toerdal had also taken the late reindeer industry stalwart Tom Gray of White Mountain up in the air to move his herd.

Toerdal landed in Teller at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 26, to pick Pushruk up in a Bering Air helicopter. After finding no deer along the hills south of Teller, the pair headed to the Kigluaik Mountain Range, which is surrounded by the Kakaruk grazing grounds. They zigzagged through deep valleys along the range's western edge until they discovered several hundred deer. "They were way up in the mountains on a patch of snow. I couldn't believe how high they were," Pushruk said later.

Toerdal thought the deer were

around 2,700 feet above sea level and just behind Grand Singtook, the mountain also known as 3870.

There, some 15 miles as the crow flies from the corral, the chopper and its hooved partners began a strange dance. The deer had not been driven in some time, so their wild side was evident. "We had a hard time getting them off the mountain because they kept wanting to go higher," said Pushruk.

The men eventually coaxed the cluster into descending by relying on the pilot's flying skills and the herder's knowledge of reindeer body language. "After a while, we got them going in the direction we wanted," said Pushruk.

Once the herd was about four miles from the corral, the fliers took a break to allow Pushruk's crew to drive the 27 miles from Teller. When the first wave of helpers arrived, Pushruk explained his plan. Then the pilot and he went back up to finish guiding the animals into the corral's wing, which is made up of two long lines of posts holding up an eight-foot-tall wire-mesh fence.

A group of approximately 30 escaped. But the ground team funneled the rest into the large circular holding pen enclosure around 1:30 p.m.

At first, the tightly compressed mass kicked up dust as it moved

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Grand jury indicts man on 47 counts of sexual abuse crimes

By Diana Haecker

Ulric Jeffery Ulroan, 48, was arrested in Nome and charged with 47 counts of sexual abuses of minors, sexual assaults and furnishing alcohol to a victim under 21, for alleged crimes against children in his care and a woman over 18 years of age, spanning a period of time from 2009 to 2025.

According to the indictment returned by a Bethel Grand Jury last week, the alleged abuses involved at least five victims. The indictment charged Ulroan, who is from Chevak but now lives in Nome, with Sexual Assault in the First Degree, Sexual Abuse of a Minor in the First Degree, Sexual Abuse of a Minor in the Second Degree, Indecent Exposure in the Second Degree, and Furnishing Alcohol to a Person Under 21. These charges relate to allegations that Ulroan sexually assaulted and

abused various teenage girls between 2009 and 2025 in Chevak, Anchorage, Mountain Village and Nome.

After the Bethel Grand Jury returned a true bill, an arrest warrant was issued and Ulroan was arrested on June 24 on Bering Street in Nome.

Lead Investigator Brian Wassmann with the Western Major Crimes Unit of the Alaska Bureau of Investigation said the investigation began in January when the bureau received a tip by a person who had seen a post on social media about sexual abuse involving an alleged victim. The tip alleged that Ulroan sexually abused a 17-year-old girl in Chevak between 2009 and 2010. "We contacted the victim and got more information about the case, which led to identifying other vic-

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Mizuktata – Nome kids become entrepreneurs

By Ariana Crockett O'Harra

Clouds and occasional rain didn't stop Nome's young entrepreneurs from showing up for Mizuktata last Saturday, June 27. Mizuktata, which means "let's drink juice" in Inupiaq, is Nome's version of Lemonade Day, a national program that aims to teach kids how to start, own and operate a small business.

Mizuktata has been organized for the last few years by local Nomeite Krystal Hensley. This year, the Bering Sea Lions Club, or BSLC for short, stepped in to help Hensley with the effort. Twenty kids participated in a budget workshop on Thursday evening and there were 49

registered stands dotting Nome on Saturday, selling everything from biscuits and gravy to cupcakes and of course, lemonade.

Hensley said that the reach of the Lions Club helped get the word out to more participants. There were 15 more registered stands than last year, but when she went around Nome on Saturday, there were even stands that had signed up too late to be included in the official count. "We had over 50 stands this year. It was amazing," she said.

Hensley said that Mizuktata can

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Photo by Ariana Crockett O'Harra

VENTRESS VICTUALS— Mercy, June, Theo and Elsie Ventress pose in front of their Mizuktata stand on Saturday, June 27 in Nome.

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Letters

Leadership
Good morning, Western Alaska. Today I want to write on leadership, a topic that is actually hard to write about. Why? Mainly because it's a topic that has many writings, thoughts, lectures — leadership is seen every day, whether we realize it or not. There are natural born leaders, and those of that are taught. In early human history a leader was seen as the strongest, most successful hunter, gatherer. Someone at some point became tired of this and began to speak words very carefully, thought out words. Words that inspired other people to follow, or words that were not very pleasant and still people followed. Why? Take

leaders that are in a dictatorship, they use words to force an idea onto its people. The strongest person may use threats and violence to maintain control. People get tired of this form of leadership and wish to move on or wish to overthrow the leader that leads by oppression. In my culture we have observed and lived with both forms of leadership. A form of dictatorship, or a form of a well thought individual that the majority of the people believed in. In my culture, the dictator never stayed for very long being the leader. After all, who wants to follow someone that uses force to maintain a position. In my short life I have been a fol-

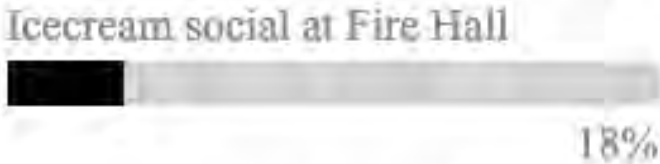
lower and a leader. I have learned from other people's styles of leadership. I have learned through manuals and books of leadership. I have been able to write about leadership, and not in a way that I wanted, but it taught me a lesson when I had the opportunity to do this form of writing. I think a part of this lesson dealt with something like, never do that again. Something I did not like but something that I had to get done or face a different consequence. I have heard lectures by professors, leaders of some form of entity, such as a corporation, even at AFN. Some lectures made me excited, some not so much. One time I was so excited I went back home and tried hard to prove myself after hearing the lecture. Another lesson. One that is hard to learn and understand, we elect leaders sometimes not by how worthy or smart a person may be, but by how much we like that person, by how good a person is in a public setting. This may or may not be the best approach to elect a leader. Who's to say. According to Google, leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality by influencing, guiding, and inspiring others toward a common goal. Google says some qualities of effective leaders are integrity, honesty, social and emotional intelligence and resilience. I have found that my styles are democratic, with servitude, and what's called Laissez-Faire, some-

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Results from our June 24 - June 30 online poll.

(Go to nomenugget.net in order to participate)

What is your favorite part of Fourth of July festivities in Nome?



Total votes: 17

Find The Nome Nugget online at www.nomenugget.net

The Nome Nugget's submission policies:

Letters to the Editor: The maximum length of a letter to the editor should be around 300-500 words. The letters may be edited for length and clarity. You must provide your full name and mailing address to The Nome Nugget. Your name and mailing address are printed alongside your letter. Letters may be submitted by email to diana@nomenugget.com or mail to PO Box 610, Nome, AK 99762. We don't print anonymous letters unless the author is known to the Nugget and/or has reasonable fear for repercussions. We will not print material that is potentially libelous, discriminatory, obscene, threatening, copyrighted or promotional. We do not print letters that contain provable falsehoods and misinformation. We do not print letters written to endorse products or a political candidate. If you'd like to promote your for-profit product or a political candidate, please see our advertising rates and deadlines by contacting ads@nomenugget.com.
OP ED: Maximum length: 700-800 words; must reflect the opinion of an individual with expertise in the subject. OP ED submitted on behalf of political parties, PACS, corporations, or signed by several people for or against political candidates or ballot measures are considered ads.
Announcements: The Nome Nugget publishes obituaries, birth and wedding announcements as a community service free of charge. We require submissions of announcements or obituaries to be factual and fair as they are not independently researched by Nugget staff.

Illegitimus non carborundum

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Alaska's Oldest Newspaper

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Tide Predictions are brought to you by

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

Nome Norton Sound
Tide Predictions
(High & Low Waters)

Date	Day	Time	High		Low		High		Low				
			Tide	Time	Tide	Time	Tide	Time	Tide	Time			
07/02	Th	01:23 a.m.	0.36	10:08 a.m.	1:74	01:04 p.m.	1.63	03:20 p.m.	1.70				
07/03	Fr	02:01 a.m.	0.36	10:27 a.m.	1.76	01:55 p.m.	1.61	04:08 p.m.	1.66				
07/04	Sa	02:40 a.m.	0.37	10:41 a.m.	1.79	02:56 p.m.	1.56	05:19 p.m.	1.60				
07/05	Su	03:19 a.m.	0.42	10:56 a.m.	1.82	04:02 p.m.	1.47	08:54 p.m.	1.54				
07/06	Mo	03:55 a.m.	0.50	11:14 a.m.	1.84	04:55 p.m.	1.33	10:11 p.m.	1.50				
07/07	Tu	04:28 a.m.	0.62	Low	11:33 a.m.	1.87	High	05:42 p.m.	1.17	Low	11:15 p.m.	1.46	High
07/08	We	05:00 a.m.	0.78	Low	11:51 a.m.	1.91	High	06:32 p.m.	0.98	Low			

Daily variations in sea level due to local meteorological conditions cannot be predicted and may significantly effect the observed tides in this area.
All times are listed in Local Standard Time. All heights are in feet referenced to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

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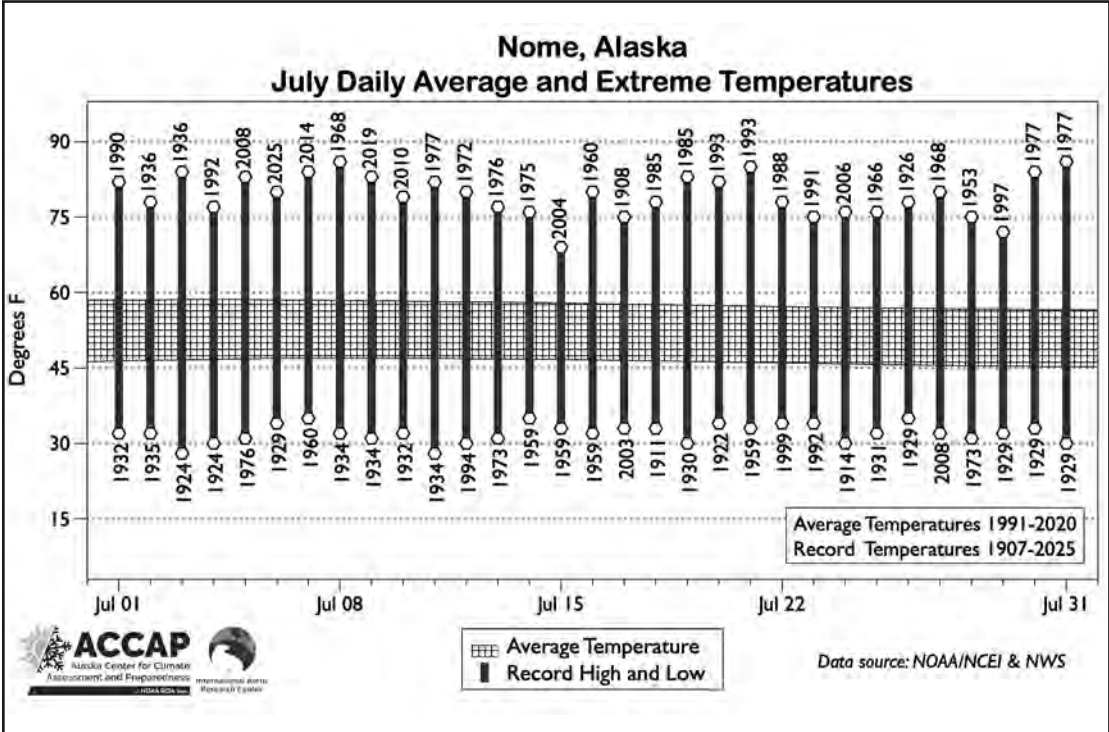
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Climate Watch

By Rick Thoman
Alaska Climate Specialist
Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Preparedness
International Arctic Research Center/University of Alaska Fairbanks

The July outlook from NOAA’s Climate Prediction Center for western Alaska favors neither above nor below normal temperatures. Remember, this does not mean that near normal is likely—it means that it could equally go either way.

Rainfall is slightly favored to be above normal for the Seward Peninsula but neither above nor below normal is favored for eastern Norton Sound coast and St. Lawrence Island. For reference, the average July temperature at Nome is 52°F. Over the past 118 years July temperatures have ranged from 86°F in 1977 to a low of 28°F in 1924 and 1934. Sub-freezing temperatures are uncommon on the coast in July, with the last occurrence at the Nome Airport in 2011.

July also marks the start of the July-September late summer “rainy season.” In the past 15 years, most Julys have had significantly more rain than the long-term average, and three of the five wettest Julys in Nome’s long climate history have happened since 2012. Of course, not every recent July has been rainy. In the past decade both 2018 and 2020 had much less rain than normal.

While July precipitation is not changing much in most of Alaska, western Alaska is a big exception

with a significant increase in rainfall since the 1970s all across the region. Snow is uncommon in July at low elevations though happens occasionally right in the Bering Strait, and occasionally, in the lower slopes of the Kigluik and Bendeleben Mountains.

Airport weather station status update
Week ending June 29, 2026

Community	Status
Brevig Mission	Reporting
Buckland	Reporting
Deering	Reporting
Elim	Reporting
Emmonak	No temperatures or winds
Gambell	Reporting
Golovin	Intermittent
Koyuk	Reporting
Nome	Very Intermittent
Savoonga	Intermittent
Shaktoolik	Reporting
Shishmaref	Reporting
St. Michael	Offline
Teller	Reporting
Unalakleet	Reporting
Wales	Reporting
White Mountain	Reporting

Weather statistics are brought to you by

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

Weather Statistics

Sunrise	07/02/2026 04:33 a.m. 07/08/2026 04:49 a.m.	High Temp +68°F 06/26/2026 Low Temp +45°F 06/29/2026 Max Wind 12 mph SSW 06/27-28/2026	National Weather Service Fairbanks, Alaska (907) 458-3700
Sunset	07/02/2026 01:39 a.m. 07/08/2026 01:24 a.m.		

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday, July 2

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum Tuesday-Saturday 12 noon - 5 p.m.

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
*Drop-in volleyball	Nome Rec Center	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Strong Nation	Nome Rec Center	5:45 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.
*Full Send (Spin Class)	Nome Rec Center	6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Brazilian jiu-jitsu	Nome Rec Center	7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

Friday, July 3

Independence Day Observed - City Hall CLOSED

Carrie McLain Museum will be closed Friday and Saturday
July 3rd and 4th to celebrate the 4th of July Holiday!

Anvil Mountain Run
Friday, July 3
Runners sign up at 7:30 a.m. at City Hall
Start 8 a.m. Front Street

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.
*Free Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	12:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
*Private Gym rental	Nome Rec Center	3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.
*Drop-in Volleyball	Nome Rec Center	5:45 p.m. - 7:55 p.m.
*Drop-in Soccer (Age 15+)	Nome Rec Center	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Pilates Fusion	Nome Rec Center	6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

AA meeting - Nome Church of the Nazarene - 7 p.m.

Have you got a drug problem? Narcotics Anonymous has a solution!
NA Meeting is held on Friday night at 7:00 p.m., at the Katirvik Cultural Center

Saturday, July 4

Carrie McLain Museum will be closed Friday and Saturday
July 3rd and 4th to celebrate the 4th of July Holiday!

City of Nome, Alaska
July 4, 2026 @ 11:00 AM
Parade, Patriotic Program and Street Games

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.

Nome Rec Center CLOSED
Start of Summer Scheduling. Closed on weekends until Labor Day.

Sunday, July 5

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Carrie M. McLain Memorial Museum Tuesday-Saturday 12 noon - 5 p.m.

Nome Rec Center CLOSED
Start of Summer Scheduling. Closed on weekends until Labor Day.

Monday, July 6

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	12:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Strong Nation	Nome Rec Center	5:45 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.
*Summercise (Weather permitting)	Nome Rec Center	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
*Yoga w/ Pete	Nome Rec Center	6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

AA meeting - Nome Church of the Nazarene - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, July 7

Nome Planning Commission Meeting
Council Chambers - 7:00 p.m.

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Richard Foster Building - Museum M-F 12 noon - 5 p.m.

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 6:45 a.m.
*Pickleball	Nome Rec Center	7:00 p.m. - 7:55 p.m.
*Drop-in Indoor soccer	Nome Rec Center	8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Summercise (Weather permitting)	Nome Rec Center	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
*Brazilian jiu-jitsu	Nome Rec Center	7:30 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.

Wednesday, July 8

Richard Foster Building - Library M-Th 12 noon to 7 p.m., F-Sa 12 noon - 6 p.m.
Richard Foster Building - Museum M-F 12 noon - 5 p.m.

*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	5:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
*Kindergym	Nome Rec Center	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
*Open Gym	Nome Rec Center	12:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
*Spontaneous Sweat	Nome Rec Center	6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.
*Summercise (Weather permitting)	Nome Rec Center	12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

AA meeting - Nome Church of the Nazarene - 7 p.m.

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Community Calendar sponsored by Bering Air



Photo courtesy Alaska State Troopers
CHARGED AND ARRESTED— Ulric J. Ulroan was arrested last week and charged with 47 sexual abuse crimes.

• **Grand jury**

continued from page 1

tims,” Wassmann told the *Nugget*. According to an Alaska State Trooper’s press release, Ulroan was a certified foster parent from 2005 to 2023 and served as a high school girls basketball coach. He was the mayor of Chevak, studied to become a teacher, and wrote in a blog post that he planned to teach, and ultimately become Chevak school’s first principal and superintendent. In 2019, Ulroan and his wife received the Parents of the Year award from the Alaska Federation of Natives. According to Wassmann, Ulroan moved to Nome in 2024. During a court proceeding Ulroan said he works as a pilot for Bering Air.

Ulroan is held at Anvil Mountain Correctional Center in Nome and was arraigned in the Nome Court last week, where bail was set at \$250,000 and he stated he would seek an attorney to represent him. On Tuesday, June 30, Ulroan appeared for a continued telephonic arraignment hearing in the Bethel Court. Ulroan stated that his wife is still working on finding an attorney, and despite exceeding the income threshold to qualify for a public defender, Judge William Montgomery temporarily appointed a counsel through the public defender office until Ulroan finds an attorney.

When the judge asked if anybody was on the phone to comment, a caller who identified herself as Ulroan’s daughter spoke up. She said she felt pressured into making the statements against her dad and that she wants to drop the charges brought against him. She said her

dad has been a provider for the family. The judge said he cannot drop charges but that she can take the request to the attorneys to make a motion to drop charges related to her complaint.

Ulroan’s next court appearance is set for August 6.

The state filed a notice of aggravating factors, establishing the sheer number and severity of allegations and citing aggravating criteria for each charge. “The state contends that the defendant’s mandatory minimum if convicted of all counts at trial is 76 years and 5 days and maximum possible sentence is 1,490 years,” the state filing reads.

Investigator Wassmann said that in his time as a special investigator, he has not seen a case with these many counts of sexual abuse and assault.

Wassmann said that more victims may be involved, including victims in Nome and that his office is aware of more allegations of more sexual assaults that may have taken place between 2024 and 2025. Those cases are still being investigated. “In these types of crimes, it is very common when a perpetrator or suspect is arrested, that other victims come forward,” Wassmann said. “Our primary focus now is to encourage other victims that are out there, if there are any, and anybody else with information about the crimes that have been indicted, and any other crimes that we’re investigating, to please contact us.”

The bureau will investigate all the tips and information that come in, he said. The contact is (907) 451-5100.

NEW: The Nome Nugget’s weekly newsletter

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Here is what’s happening on Fourth of July in Nome

As the nation celebrates its 250th birthday, plans are shaping up for the 124th celebration of Independence Day, on Saturday, July 4.

Friday, July 3

Traditionally, the **Anvil Mountain Run** kicked off Fourth of July festivities in Nome at 8 a.m. However, organizers this year decided to hold the run a day earlier, on Friday, July 3. The reason: Several of the participants have mentioned that the date switch would be more convenient for weekend plans, said Reba Lean, one of volunteers organizing the run this year. “We have such a short summer, and a long weekend is a precious thing! We want to make the most of it, which is hard to do when there is a big run right in the middle of the weekend.”

Runners can call Lean at 907-304-1521 for more information or just show up at 7:30 a.m. in front of City Hall.

The run is scheduled to start at 8 a.m. The near 13-mile run starts on Front Street and follows Bering Street, Nome-Beltz Highway to Anvil Mountain, climbing to the top and descending and back to Front Street.

Saturday, July 4

At 11 a.m. the parade starts on Front Street. After the parade, the City of Nome begins the

patriotic program.

The VFW Post #9569 presents the Color Guard.

The Nome Girl Scouts lead the pledge of allegiance, followed by the singing of the National Anthem and the Alaska Flag Song by Jackie Reader.

The Nome-St. Lawrence Island Dance Group provide the traditional welcome.

The invocation will be held by Reverend Keith Bateman and followed by an address by City Manager Lee Smith.

And then the games will begin.

There will be tricycle, bike and foot races, a wheelbarrow race, 3-legged races, gunny sack races, egg races and the shoe scramble. And there will be the fan-favorite, the Chicken Race, which is a race of people wearing chicken suits. The pie-eating contest, sponsored by Hanson’s, is the final event.

As people have worked up an appetite with all the races going on, the Nome Kennel Club will fuel the crowd by holding a hot dog sale fundraiser next to The Nome Nugget on Front Street.

The Nome Volunteer Fire Department will end the day’s festivities with the traditional ice cream social at Fire Hall.

• **Letters**

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thing new I am just seeing today, this morning as I write you. It explains that sometimes, or most times, I take a hands-off approach, allowing people to have high autonomy to make their own decisions. I didn’t always use Laissez-Faire, primarily because being in a situation of danger to myself or those that were with me, at the time. I think this could be understood, in times of great stress, weather conditions, catastrophes... and so on.

I think we should try and strive to become the best person possible, to try and make our communities a better place to live. To stop our survival mode in which the majority of us live, and to continue in balance with each other, and the environment around us. Instead of having a majority of our leaders come from a different part of the region in some of our organizations, we should take the Kaverak full board approach and have leadership come from all the villages. How? We offer a friendly amendment and ask each village to elect two people that are proven to voice concerns, ideas, solutions... and so on. It would make us a better and stronger people.

I don’t think we should stop there, we should strive to govern ourselves for our people, all of us in the region. I mean ALL of us.

Sincerely,
Dick Kugzruk
P.O. Box 85117
Brevig Mission, Ak 99785

best friends, it’s never a question. It’s automatic. Growing up, our Papas taught us how to read the channels in the rivers and in and out the mouth of the river to and from the ocean. If you ain’t paying attention, there are many people that can attest to the fact that if you can’t read the channel from the ocean to the mouth, you’re s.o.l. The struggle then becomes real!

That evening we go check the net and low and behold, there’s 14 kings and a couple early chum. We leave the net to soak overnight in homes for more the next day. As we’re coming up to the mouth, it’s low tide now and there’s four boats stuck in the shallows. Fuji and I look at each other laughing, knowing that those boats got a long push to the river. We’re about to turn right to try our luck; instead he veers left farther out in the ocean and we turn to look at the channel from the distance. We agree that the other boats have gone too far left from the sandbars. We idle south for a bit, turn around, he punches the throttle full blast, we get on step, I’m in the bow as point man

to keep us from the shallows and in the channel. I don’t know if it was the Japanese in him or if God himself was on the wheel, we hug the sandbars, it’s 200 yards of shallow channel to the river. I turn to look at Fuji and he’s hella cheesin’ and got one hand on the wheel and another waving at those pushing their boats to the channel. All the other boats can do is watch us young’uns cruise on by. At the point, there is a handful of people laughing and clapping as we wave up in passing, know we were in the clear, all thanks to our Papas wisdom.

Elders are wise, when they take a moment to explain something, your brain must turn to a potatoe, soak up that knowledge like the potatoe does the seal oil. Ha! Yeah, boiii! I’m hungry!

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Photo by Ariana Crockett O'Harra
INSIDE XYZ— Alyona Chepurko sells hot dogs, baked goods and lemonade at her Mizuktata stand inside the XYZ Senior Center on Saturday, June 27 in Nome.

• Mizuktata

continued from page 1

be a group affair. Some stands have six or seven kids, and parents also help out. "My daughter, she wanted to do something different," she said. "She had just started getting into helping her dad grill, so she asked her dad, 'Can we grill for my lemonade stand?'"

Stands had scattered start times — one selling bagels and cold brew opened at 9 a.m., and others didn't open until 3 p.m.

Koko Barnes had set a table up on Lomen Street and was selling lemon bars, blueberry muffins, cookies, rice Krispies and loaded nachos. Koko spends her summers in Nome and was fundraising so she could participate in a play back in Texas, where she goes to school. This is about her fifth time participating in Mizuktata, and she normally makes around \$500.

"It's really fun. I think it's a great experience," she said. "If you want to make a business at a young age, then it's like a training step."

Karen Olanna had pulled up to Weston Sinnok's stand on West 1st Avenue just after 10 a.m. She said she tries to go to as many stands as she can each year. "I like the entrepreneurial support that the program gives," she said. "It's been fun to watch it grow from just a simple stand to a huge table with parents involved and kids, raising money for specific goals, and the food is awesome."

Sinnok was selling baked goods and biscuits and gravy to a long line of shoppers. He said he was not saving up for any specific purchase and just wanted to earn some extra money.

Mercy Ventress and her siblings were set up outside their house on the west side of town. She said she was trying to save up for a trip to Colorado and excursions on a cruise. "I'm selling Thai iced tea, lots of different colors of slime," she listed off. "There's biscuit bombs, spam messages, bookmarks, there's sparkly stickers and plain stickers."

In Anvil City Square, Kinley and Fisher Krift had set up a table stocked with baked goods, lemonade and antipasto salad. The kids were selling to raise money for the purchase of two ferrets. Kinley said that they already had a couple hundred saved up for the cage and accessories.

"We have \$300 so we would need to make probably at least \$600 — \$300 for each ferret," chimed in Fisher.

Inside the XYZ Senior Center,

Alyona Chepurko was dishing up hot dogs and selling still-warm loaves of cherry chocolate bread, two kinds of lemonade and other baked goods. She's saving the money for buying a car or a house when she's older.

Chepurko said her mom and grandmother had helped her prepare her food, but this isn't her first time doing Mizuktata. She said she makes pretty good money — last year, she made \$300.

By late morning, light rain was making an appearance. Rosalie Richards, helped by dad Keane and sister Amelia had set up a tent in Anvil City Square, selling bread loaves, mini cheesecakes and other treats.

Rosalie has been fundraising to purchase horses that could be used by the 4-H Club. The club in Nome is currently focused on dog mushing, but they want to look into other kinds of animal husbandry. "We've been thinking of expanding that to something bigger, like horses," she said. "It's a lot of money. We have like \$7,000 now, but we're kind of thinking around \$25,000 to \$30,000."

Sheltering from the rain underneath a tent in the Bering Straits Native Corporation parking lot, Rayme Payenna had a table full of chocolate peanut butter pie, raspberry brownies, cheesecake and a chips and pickle flavored dip.

Hannah Joe had ordered from Payenna's stand, and the Joe family was driving around on four-wheelers, trying to hit as many stands as possible. "I do a lot of baking so it's good to try stuff," said Joe.

Hensley said that in the run up to last weekend, Drew McCann with Northrim Bank led a budgeting workshop where he discussed budgeting and paying back sponsors or parents who might help the kids finance their stands, as well as putting money in a savings account. "He even shared about if you want to donate some of your money to organizations, so he got the kids thinking about all of that," said Hensley.

After the selling concluded, there was a "Splash It Up" party at the Pioneer Igloo where Mizuktata participants received prizes and some bigger prizes were raffled off. Sponsors for the event helped pay for the prizes, including five bikes that Hensley shipped from Anchorage.

Hensley said part of the reason why she helps organize Mizuktata is that it provides a big learning opportunity for kids to be entrepreneurs. "They just learned so much from it, from the math to the public speaking to the baking," she said.



Photos by Diana Haecker

CELEBRATION (top)— Sitnasuak Native Corporation celebrated the acquisition of 1,700 acres along the Nome River with a ceremonial ribbon cutting near the shores of the Nome River, on Tuesday, June 30. SNC Board Chair Edna "Becka" Baker, center, assists SNC Land Manager Charles Ellanna to cut the ribbon with an ulu, as SNC CEO Charles Fagerstrom and guests look on.



THE MAP (left) — SNC Land Manager Charles Ellanna, left, explains the land acquisitions boundaries to former SNC Board Member Elmer Hoogendorn.

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Oral arguments held in federal court over Army Corps' issuance of mining permit to IPOP

By Diana Haecker

On June 16 a federal judge in Anchorage heard oral arguments in a case brought by five regional tribes, challenging the U.S. Army Corps' decision to issue a major permit to a controversial proposal by a Nevada outfit called IPOP LLC to dredge for gold in the Bonanza Channel.

Erin Colón, a senior attorney for Earthjustice, is the lead attorney for plaintiffs in this case, which was filed in April 2025. A federal attorney from Washington D.C. traveled to Anchorage to represent the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

IPOP is not a party to this lawsuit.

Earthjustice represents the Village of Solomon, the Native Village of Council, King Island Native Community, Chinik Eskimo Community and Native Village of White Mountain.

Colón said in an interview with the Nugget that the lawsuit challenges the Army Corps' decision to issue the dredging permit for the IPOP mining project, which is the key federal permit required for the project to proceed. The permit triggers the main federal environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act, making the Corps responsible for evaluating the environmental risks. For years, multiple federal agencies raised serious concerns about the project's potential to damage the important estuary at Bonanza Channel and the lack of sufficient information from IPOP. IPOP pushed for a permit decision without providing additional data, leading the Alaska District of the Corps to deny the permit due to insufficient information. IPOP then appealed, alleging bias by the Alaska District and other regulatory agencies, even accusing them of con-

spiring with Alaska Native tribes and corporations and claiming that the Native tribes want to mine the gold themselves.

The Pacific Ocean Division of the Corps reviewed the appeal and, to avoid any appearance of bias, decided to reconsider the permit based on the existing record. However, when the Pacific Division granted the permit, Earthjustice argued that they failed to address the substantive concerns previously raised and they did not provide adequate justification for their decision, particularly regarding the project's environmental impacts and the estuary's ability to recover.

Judge Sharon Gleason presided over the hearing that saw a large contingent of members of the suing tribes in the gallery.

The government's lawyer argued that IPOP reduced its footprint and eliminated over 60 acres of "dredged material disposal sites. The government's opposition brief noted that "after making a series of reasoned scientific judgements about the studies presented and impacts analyzed, the Corps granted the permit," court papers read. According to the government's brief, "the project would not cause significant degradation to waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act."

Judge Gleason noted that the state's Department of Natural Resources has denied IPOP's mining permit application, a decision which IPOP unsuccessfully appealed.

There is no indication when the federal judge will render her ruling, but Colón expects it a timeframe between six months and a year.

In the meantime, IPOP cannot go forward with its mining plans.



Photo by Diana Haecker

CRAB GALORE— King crab deliveries were made to NSSP at the fish dock in the small boat harbor until the commercial king crab fishery was closed on Friday, June 25 as the GHL was met. Pictured are NSSP employees Emily Hudman and Kalynna Booshu, tending to the crabs.

The Dock Walk

A week that started with sunny, bluebird skies and transitioned into clouds and rain, heralded a whole new host of arrivals to the Port of Nome this week. The Port Commission meeting scheduled for June 25 was canceled for a lack of quorum as commissioners were traveling. Here is the report from Harbormaster Lucas Stotts of the comings and goings at the small boat harbor and the port.

On Tuesday, June 23, Alaska Marine Line's landing craft *Nunaniq* and Crowley's *Sesok/165-2*, arrived and departed. The gold dredge *Miss Ginger* departed. Brice's *Marie H/Klamath* arrived with equipment.

On Wednesday, Alaska Marine Line's *Greta* and *Nunaniq*, both village freighters, arrived. Alaska Marine Line's tug and barge *Mike O'Leary/Bering Trader* arrived.

On Thursday, Global Diving's *Peregrine* and *Unalaq* departed.

Global Diving is in town to do fiber cable installs as Quintillion is building out a Nome-to-

Homer fiber optic cable network. The *Greta*, *Mike O'Leary/Bering Trader*, and *Marie H/Klamath* departed. Alaska Marine Line's tug and barge *Polar King/Aleutian Trader* arrived. The gold dredge *Miss Ginger* returned.

On Friday, June 26, Cruz Marine's *Dana Cruz/Innoko* arrived with equipment. The *Miss Ginger* departed.

On Saturday, June 27, NANA Constructions *Capt. Frank Moody/Kotz Sound* arrived carrying equipment. Alaska Logistic's tug and barge *Fish Hawk/DM236* arrived. The *Greta* arrived and departed that same day. The *Nunaniq*, *Dana Cruz/Innoko* and *Polar King/Aleutian Trader* all departed.

On Sunday, the *Capt. Frank Moody/Kotz Sound* and *Fish Hawk/DM236* departed. The tug and barge *Dana Cruz/Innoko* arrived.

On June 29, Global Diving's *Peregrine* and *Unalaq* returned. The *Dana Cruz/Innoko* departed.

No one arrived or departed on Tuesday, June 30.



Photo by Diana Haecker

DUST CONTROLLING— Kaverak Intern Kalem Stevenson puts down calcium chloride for dust control of the Kaverak parking lot, on Thursday, June 25.



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SERVING KALADI BROTHERS COFFEE

Itqaummatiga — My memories

By Tatauq Josie Bourdon

Fort Davis, “Fort”, roughly four miles east of Nome, had the sights, sounds, smells, tasting and tactile experiences one can only imagine growing up as a child and youth on the Nome River. My siblings and I, along with numerous cousins and friends, were fortunate to have been raised there. I hope to take you on a trip to the many places familiar to us as children of Fort and the experiences we had.

On many “hot,” sunny days, we would wade to a special pool called “Warm Pool.” This pool was located about halfway from our cabin and towards the Nome River Bridge on the Nome-Council Highway. Warm Pool was a deep, sandy divot filled with sitting river water that became murky when we played in it. The sun really warmed it up; and boy, were we the luckiest kids to puvraq in it! The pool was not very large nor deep and with our youthful size, many of us kids could swim or doggy paddle comfortably. Other children would join us from the Walluk, Angnabooguk, Hukill, and Senungetuk families, among others. “Don’t splash me,” Leah Senungetuk would yell. I thought that was ironic because we were there to get wet and have fun.

“Can I go to the Warm Pool?” my sister, Mary, asked of our mother, Esther. The weather was not very sunny; perhaps more overcast, and our mom was reluctant to let her go swimming for fear of catching a cold.

Even on cooler days, Warm Pool was always a fun meeting place for Fort Davis children to wade or dunk in. The pool seemed warm to us, even on cooler days.

The seining of amaktut was a routine subsistence activity many families partook on the Nome River. Humpies are a relatively lean fish; quick drying, and routinely have large returns, and were easy to catch by seining. Cutting tiuvut can be seen near the river shoreline; families working together to make pipsrizraq for a winter staple. As a teen, my task was to cut o the heads, opening the belly, removing the anal fin using an ulu, and passing the fish to my mom or Aunt Polly for their expertise in

the final step: the filleting and slitting of the flesh into easy-to-dry slivers while keeping the meat adhered to the skin. “Pilakpaktuzi!” Uncle Andrew would say, joy resounding in his voice. Those kinds of memories are the best!

One chore my siblings and I enjoyed doing was to ivuq three to four five-gallon buckets of humpy waste, usually the guts and heads, in our aluminum ten-foot small boat, to “Seagull Island.” Seagull Island was a sandbar near the center of Nome River which would be across the current KNOM transmitter site and our campsite. Nauyuat would caw and screech, flying with swift, demanding diving, to snatch choice organs like egg skeins, the head, and back bones. “Rinse it out good,” my cousin, Raymond Koweluk, would remind me of our ‘bucket cleaning chore’. Part of our job was making sure the buckets were returned to the tiuvuq relatively free of fish blood and slime.

There used to be a large, skeletal frame which I am guessing was a mess hall or barracks when “Fort” was really Fort Davis. This frame was located across from Floyd Wheeler’s cabin and a few steps east of Lela Oman’s campsite. For the younger generation, this site was ideal for just climbing around in; maneuvering through the rafters and beams, playing tag, “Not it”, or just a place to hang out in. It was covered with a metal corrugated roofing and siding, so if it was rainy, we still had a protected building; more like a skeletal frame, to innauraq under.

Behind Sam and Irene Kakik’s cabin was the flooring of another building. This building was pretty much demolished with only the floor and two-by-fours remaining. We would play on this, too, jumping amongst tilted joists. There is one unfortunate incident when my sister, Mary, and Wendy Langton were playing on the flooring. Mary decided to play Jumping-Jack on a beam that was sticking out. The beam broke with a shard of wood impaling her, which caused quite a deep gash behind her knee. Crying and in pain, our mom had to drive her to the emergency room where splinters



Photo courtesy of Robert “Bobby” Koweluk

OCEANSIDE—Many residents of Fort Davis, like the late Sam and Irene Kakik, utilized the Nome River and adjacent sea, for recreation and food gathering.

were removed and bandages applied. To this day, Mary’s Fort Davis scar is visible; an unhappy reminder of the haphazard injuries of youth.

Near Sam and Viola Ailak’s cabin was a large, cement block; I have no idea what this block was for back in the day, but we would walk over to it and climb up this massive slab. As we got older, we as teens, would “hang out” on it, feet dangling, and converse. Today, this concrete slab is still visible with an overgrowth of willows and grasses.

During my childhood and youth, electronic devices and cells phones were nonexistent and much of our time was spent outdoors at Fort. When VHS movies became popular, along with the loud generators to power the VHS players and heavy over-sized televisions, families would bring these to their cabins for entertainment. Our family never had those at our camp. If the weather prohibited us from playing outside, the cabin radio was dialed for story time called “Big John and Sparky” on

KICY.

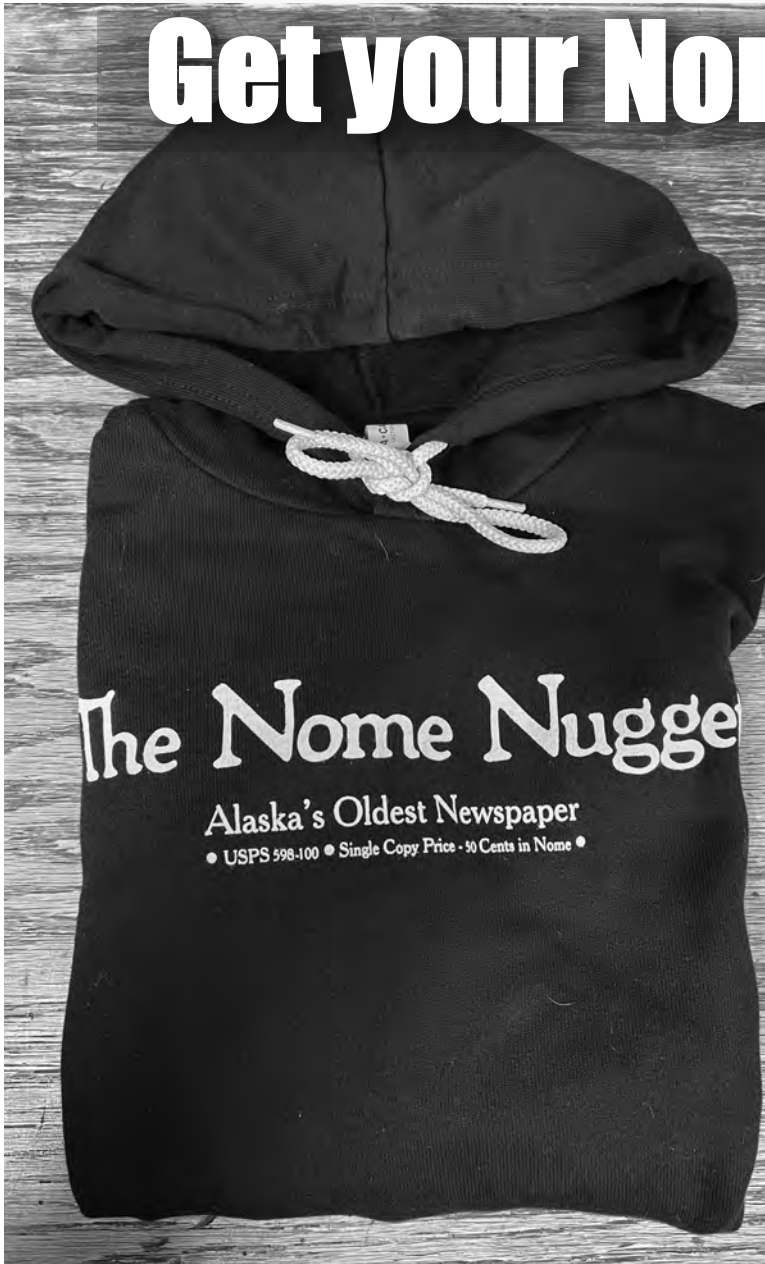
During the 70’s and early 80’s, the radio would be tuned to either Ptarmigan Telegram (KICY) or Hotlines (KNOM). Prior to social media, the radio was a vital way to communicate to friends and families, across communities near and far, detailing birthday greetings, shopping-list needs, appointment dates, family emergencies, and the like. For my uncles, Andrew and Billy, and others across the Seward Peninsula, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game’s fishing report via radio, regarding fishing dates and times announcing openings and closures, was important information.

Fort Davis was a special place to grow up at. There was never a dull moment. We didn’t say, “I’m bored,” because there was always places to go play at, times to hang out with our friends, or siniqsraaq on the beach to pick sea glass, or help family members with a variety of camp chores. There was always plenty to do at little, ol’ Fort.

puvraq	swim
amaktut	pink salmon (plural)
tiuvut	tables (plural)
piqsrizraq	dried fish
Pilakpaktuzi!	You all cut a lot of fish!
ivuq	to oar
nauyuat	seagulls (plural)
tiuvuq	cutting table (single)
innauraq	play
siniqsraaq	beach comb

Editor’s Note:
The column *Itqaummatiga* by Tatauq Josephine Bourdon is going to be a monthly feature in **The Nome Nugget**, focusing on the Indigenous history and the Inupiaq language.
The column is a sequel to the late Esther Bourdon’s column *Inupiaqta* – Let’s speak Inupiaq, that was published in **The Nome Nugget**.

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Photos by Keith Conger

STRANGE DANCE — Bering Air helicopter pilot Patrik Toerdal takes herder Jimmy Pushruk in the air to coax a portion of the Kakaruk reindeer herd toward Pushruk's new corral outside Teller, on Friday, June 26.

• Reindeer

continued from page 1

around nervously in its customary counterclockwise direction. But the long sheets of burlap hanging along the edges of the enclosure helped calm them. Then, the animals rested until the next phase of operations commenced. Some ate leaves. Many grunted. The fawns whined for their mothers until reunited.

Toerdal's job was done, and Pushruk returned to the corral. While he waited for more workers, his life partner, Lucinda Menadelook, distributed donuts and soup that she made for their crew. She is a testament to the fact that everyone in Teller has ties to reindeer. Menadelook grew up around her late Uncle Roger Menadelook's corral near the Kuzitrin River. She was thankful that the sun had come out and was hopeful that the nice breeze would continue to chase the bugs away and keep the heat down.

Abu Oquilluk made it to the corral in the early afternoon. "It's good seeing and smelling them and hearing them again," he said. Oquilluk is the grandson of Mary's Igloo herder, William Oquilluk, who lived during the reindeer fair days at Pilgrim Hot Springs. His grandfather authored the seminal book, "People of Kawerak."

Before long, former reindeer owner Jimmy Noyakuk arrived to install a swinging door on the chute, the corral's tight V-shaped terminus where each deer is recorded and unmarked deer are given ear tags. Noyakuk, a carpenter by trade, was the project architect. He designed three small waiting rooms, called "pockets," that deer would pass through as they were transferred from the holding pen to the chute.

Noyakuk used to keep his reindeer on the north side of Imuruk Basin until they were taken away by caribou. Pushruk told him that he had secured funding from Kawerak Inc. to put up a new structure. Noyakuk wanted to be involved.

"He was a big force in building the reindeer corral. All the young people who helped us build it look up to him, really respect him," Pushruk said.

The corral utilizes gifts from an assortment of reindeer herders. Pushruk salvaged some fencing from the old Menadelook and Noyakuk corrals. Brenda and her life partner, Delbert Okbaok, a former reindeer herder, created fence posts from driftwood collected in Nome. The late Tom Gray sent extra burlap and fencing to Teller. Pushruk said Gray convinced him to add "a mothering pen" at the end of the corral, which makes it easier for females to find their offspring.

For many years, the Kakaruk operations were based at a corral at the mouth of Canyon Creek, where Tusk Channel meets the Imuruk Basin. Storms, both summer and winter, had taken their toll on the aged structures there over the years, so the Kakaruk deer have gone unmarked for quite a while.

According to State of Alaska statistics, the herd's population has fluctuated between 1,500 and 3,000 in recent years. The last time they were handled was in February of 2015, when Pushruk's operation borrowed Brevig Mission herder Leonard Olanna's corral at the northwest end of Grantley Harbor in exchange for a set number of reindeer.

As the deer relaxed in the holding pen, Cameron Okbaok raced from Nome in his truck after work. Both sides of his family were involved in the reindeer industry. Cameron's father, Jerry Okbaok, who was also in attendance, was a herder who spent days walking with various herds. Jerry's ventures included transporting deer to the Canyon Corral from as far away as the Feather River. Cameron says his father taught him the importance of "going out into the country to get your own food."

Cameron's arrival around 4 p.m. was the catalyst for the operations to go into full swing. Before long, he was leading a group of young men to move reindeer from the holding pen into the first pocket. That entailed separating a small group from the main bunch by following them around while waving their arms.

At 4:50 p.m., the first reindeer en-

continued on page 9



REINDEER DAYS — Veteran reindeer men Jerry Okbaok, Jimmy Noyakuk and herd manager Jimmy Pushruk are passing their knowledge and skills to Cameron Okbaok, far right, and a crew of next-generation herders. Pushruk's team had just moved a portion of the Kakaruk reindeer herd through the new corral on Friday, June 26.



STANDING ROOM ONLY — The holding pen outside the new reindeer corral near Teller filled up throughout the afternoon and evening of Friday, June 26. It took nearly five hours for a team of older and younger herders to mark 256 previously untagged deer.



WE DID IT (top) — Siblings Jimmy and Brenda Pushruk are happy to have brought part of the Kakaruk reindeer herd to the new corral that they spent the past several years financing and putting together. The construction was a cooperative effort of former and future Teller reindeer herders.

HOLDING PEN (right)— A portion of the Kakaruk reindeer herd mill about the outer holding pen. The deer were the first to pass through the new corral.



WRESTLING REINDEER — Reindeer herder Cameron Okbaok wrestles a reindeer that the herd managers will use as food. His cousin Kacey Okbaok (middle standing), the official Kakaruk reindeer herd tally person, recorded 256 deer receiving their first tags after passing through the new corral on Friday, June 26.



• *Reindeer*

continued from page 8

tered the chute connected to the smallest and last pocket. Abu Oquilluk held the door shut while Cameron and a few others held the animal in place. Brenda handed a marking device to her brother, who used it to attach a bright orange Kakaruk tag to the animal’s left ear. Pushruk called out “maverick female” to Cameron’s cousin Kasey Okbaok, the round-up’s official recorder, who stood just outside the fence. Then Oquilluk opened the door and released the first-ever reindeer to pass through the new corral. Jimmy Noyakuk and Delbert Okbaok stood smiling a few feet away.

At 4:53, the first Kakaruk fawn received an earmark. Then, for nearly five hours, the team moved deer through the system, one by one, until the outer holding pen was

empty and the mothering pen was full.

The final tally of reindeer receiving their first tag was 256, of which 74 were fawns. There were four previously marked deer carrying the Gray herd’s purple tags, and six that had old Kakaruk marks from 2015. Around 9:50, the pen’s gate was opened, and all were released.

Pushruk says that for the older guys, this round-up brings back memories of wrestling reindeer, cutting horns, and walking long hours with the herd. “All the many young people that helped us build it, they’re actually seeing reindeer now and seeing the whole operation,” he said.

The builder of the Seward Peninsula’s newest reindeer corral often mentions that this endeavor was a collaborative effort. “WE did it,” he says.

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Volunteer Fire Department

Games
Schedule

All Around The Sound

Graduation
It was a double celebration for the Callahan family on May 17, as sisters and Nome-Beltz High School alumnae Guadalupe and Dorothy Callahan both graduated from major East Coast universities with high academic honors.

Guadalupe Callahan, a member of the Nome-Beltz Class of 2022, graduated Cum Laude from Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts.

She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Public Relations, completing her undergraduate studies with high academic distinction.

On the exact same day, her sister **Dorothy Callahan**, a member of the Nome-Beltz Class of 2023, graduated Summa Cum Laude from St. John's University in Queens, New York. Dorothy earned her Bachelor's degree in Anthropology, finishing at the very top of her class with the university's highest academic honor. Dorothy will be returning to St. John's University this fall to begin her graduate studies toward a Master's Degree.

Guadalupe and Dorothy are the proud daughters of Patrick and Rebecca Callahan of Nome. Their parents attended the ceremony at Suffolk University in Boston to celebrate this incredible double-graduation milestone



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ARIES – Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, you are a powerhouse this week. Your energy levels will remain steady as the days go on, and people will notice your drive. Channel this energy into something positive.

TAURUS – Apr 21/May 21
It's your week right now, Taurus, and the stars want to indulge. Indulge in something luxurious and enjoy yourself. You have earned the right to some pampering.

GEMINI – May 22/Jun 21
You are feeling extra sensitive to others' energy right now, Cancer. It is alright to decline social invitations to protect your peace of mind. A creative breakthrough may emerge while alone.

CANCER – Jun 22/Jul 22
You are feeling extra sensitive to others' energy right now, Cancer. It is alright to decline social invitations to protect your peace of mind. A creative breakthrough may emerge while alone.

LEO – Jul 23/Aug 23
Don't shy away from the microphone or the spotlight, Leo. Whether it is at work or in your personal life, your charisma will be your greatest asset this week. You will be the star of the show.

VIRGO – Aug 24/Sept 22
Decluttering can go a long way to making you feel better, Virgo. Clear your desk to clear your mind. Once the physical chaos is gone, you may find the answer to the problem you have.

LIBRA – Sept 23/Oct 23
Libra, the scales start to tip toward your personal life instead of your professional one this week. Focus on your spouse or special someone and make time for extra moments together.

SCORPIO – Oct 24/Nov 22
Let go of a habit or a resentment that no longer serves you, Scorpio. Just like a snake sheds an old skin, you'll feel lighter and ready to tackle anything.

SAGITTARIUS – Nov 23/Dec 21
You might be ready for a trip, Sagittarius. Even if you can't take a flight right now, explore a new neighborhood or try a different restaurant you've been meaning to check out.

CAPRICORN – Dec 22/Jan 20
A small adjustment to your budget now may lead to a big payoff later on, Capricorn. Your financial discipline is a superpower this week, so stick to the plan.

AQUARIUS – Jan 21/Feb 18
Others are finally catching up to all of your big ideas, Aquarius. Pitch that unconventional plan you have been holding back and you'll likely have some fans.

PISCES – Feb 19/Mar 20
Pay attention to any coincidences that pop up during the next several days, Pisces. The universe is trying to tell you something about your next move.

Looking for a **job?**

Make sure to check out
our classifieds section
starting on page 12.

Johnson CPA LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Mark A. Johnson, CPA

For ALL your accounting needs!
Please call for an appointment.

- Business and personal income tax preparation and planning
- Computerized bookkeeping and payroll services
- Financial statements

122 West First Avenue • Nome, AK 99762
(907) 443-5565

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49					50	51					52		53	54	55				
	56						57		58									59	
					60				61										
														63					

CLUES ACROSS

1. __ chat

5. Statue near the Pyramids

11. A process to change the look

14. Herb

15. Think about excessively

18. Bass vocal part

19. Supreme Allied Cmdr. of NATO

21. A major division of geological time

23. New Zealand parrot

24. Cognitive contents

28. Lump of yarn

29. Atomic #109

30. Let go of

32. Indian title of respect

33. Whereabouts unknown

35. Electronic data processing

36. Drivers' licenses count

39. Snakelike fishes

41. They precede C

42. Popular personal computers

44. Intermediate community stage in ecological succession

46. Wings

47. Indicates position

49. Pleasantly smooth or soft

52. Jeweled headdress

56. In slow tempo

58. __ Falls

60. Reassertions

62. Eras

63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

1. Corporate executive

2. A plant used for flavoring food

3. Opinion or belief

4. Sheep in their second year

5. Intensities of sound

6. Indicates support for

7. Expression of laughter

8. OJ trial judge

9. Pointed ends of pens

10. True bugs genus

12. Lawyers argue theirs

13. Body parts

16. Closes tightly

17. World Heritage site in Nigeria

20. Islamic calendar month

22. Commercial

25. "Westworld" actor Harris

26. They __

27. Religious guilds

29. Woman (French)

31. Parts per billion (abbr.)

34. Brew

36. Spiritual leader

37. Indigo bush

38. Burn with a hot liquid

40. Older citizen

43. Scad fish genus

45. Morning

48. Line passing through the center (abbr.)

50. Double S-shaped curve

51. Small, thin person

53. Older

54. Mars crater

55. Humanities

57. Word element meaning ear

58. To the __ degree

59. Residue

61. It cools your home

Previous Puzzle Answers

P	A	C	A		A	S	K	I	N	G									
L	O	A	N			G	I	D	D	I	N	E	S	S					
A	R	M	Y			E	D			D	U	B	A	I					
S	T	E	W	A	R	D	E	S	S	E	S		M	A					
M	A	R	A	C	A		M	A	C	S		D	I	M					
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Obituary



Nobu Terasawa
March 24, 1932 – June 9, 2026

Little Sister Nobu Terasawa was born March 24, 1932 in Honshu, Japan. She was the youngest of six children. Her family was Buddhist, but she went to the kindergarten of Catholic Sisters, where she met very kind and interesting people early in her life. During World War II, she and her family experienced the uncertainties of life. As she was physically weak, she needed to rest for many days.

In her early twenties, she received the gift of faith and she became Catholic. She wanted to be a nun. Almost everyone refused her desire, but she was strong and steadfast in her desire to follow Jesus.

She entered the Little Sister of Jesus in 1960. After her final commitment she was sent to Alaska, in 1971. She spent almost her entire life in Alaska: Nome, Diomed Island, Fairbanks and Anchorage. She loved the Native people and learned the subsistence skills from them. When people were asking her from which village she was from, she answered “I am Eskimo, made in Japan.” People really loved her answer.

She was a steadfast presence for her friends and a source of strength for her community. Her gentle presence touched the life of everyone.

She remained close to the Sisters in Japan and to her family. The last time that some of her relatives came to visit her was few years ago. Her niece Fuyuko was closest to her and some nephews. Her cousin, Fusako, 90-years-old, wanted to see her again before she passed away.

She often said how grateful she was to be at Pioneer Home, thanking every person around her.

We want to remember her in many ways and especially as “a gentle little carpenter” who build a legacy of warmth, hospitality and peace.

Potato Salad With New Potatoes, Zucchini, Olives, and Almond Pesto



Makes 4 servings

For the pesto:

- 3 cups basil, leaves only
- 1/2 cup whole blanched almonds
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, finely grated
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 cups extra-virgin olive oil

For the salad:

- 1 3/4 pounds new potatoes
- 2 zucchinis, halved and sliced
- 1 1/4 cups black olives, pitted
- 1 small handful basil, leaves only
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper

- 1. For the pesto: Combine the basil leaves, almonds, Parmesan, garlic and salt in a food processor.
- 2. Blend on high until broken down and finely chopped. Scrape down the sides of the processor if needed.
- 3. Continue to blend on a low setting, drizzling in the olive oil through the feeder spout until the pesto comes together. Adjust seasoning to taste and chill until needed.

Church Services Directory

Community United Methodist Church
West 2nd Avenue & C Street
Sunday: Worship 11 a.m.

Nome Covenant Church
101 Bering Street • 443-2565
Pastor Mike Zabel
Sunday Worship - 11:00 am
Checkpoint Youth Center - James Ventress - 841-4333

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
5th Avenue & Bering Street 907-443-5295
www.oslcnome.org
Pastor Amanda Van Vliet-Snyder
Sunday Worship and Sunday School 11:00am
Coffee and Fellowship following worship.
All are welcome!

River of Life Assembly of God
405 W. Seppala • (907) 978-3786
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mid-Week Worship: 7:00 p.m.
For more information please contact Pastor Jared Myrick

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Corner of Steadman & W. King Place • 443-5527
Join Us for Holy Mass!
Monday-Saturday: 12:10 pm Mass
Confession: 30 minutes prior to each Mass
Sunday Schedule: 9:30 am Adoration,
10:30 am Mass(Broadcast on KNOM)
Our Priests: Fr. Cezary Ejsymont and Fr. Michael Ulaski

Seventh-Day Adventist
Icy View • 443-5137
Saturday Sabbath School: 10 a.m.
Saturday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

Nome Church of the Nazarene
3rd Avenue & Division Street • 907-443-2805
Pastors Keith & Bev Bateman
Sunday Bible Study: 9:45 am
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 am
AA meets here Mon, Wed, Fri at 7:00 p.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Deadline is noon Monday • (907) 443-5235 • Fax (907)443-5112 • e-mail ads@nomenugget.com

Employment

Bring Your Skills to
Work that Matters
for Our People and Our Future

Competitive Pay | Employer-paid Health Insurance | Great Benefits



Find our Vacancy List here

Find more at www.nortonsoundhealth.org or contact Human Resources at 907-443-4573.



NORTON SOUND HEALTH CORPORATION

NSHC is a drug-free workplace and will apply Alaska Native/American Indian preference for hire (under PL 93-638 and Veteran Preferences). NSHC will also initiate a criminal history background check for all positions.



Featuring this month...

Personal Care Attendant

- \$25 + DOE
- HS Diploma or GED required
- Part-time positions available in multiple communities

Environmental Service Worker

- \$25 + DOE
- HS Diploma or GED required
- Full-time positions available in Nome



www.nsedc.com



NSEDC
Job Opportunities

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation offers an attractive compensation and benefits package including competitive pay, 401K retirement program and comprehensive healthcare options.

Fleet & Facility Technician (Nome):

The Fleet & Facility Technician performs highly skilled and complex repairs including inspecting, repairing, fabricating, rebuilding, and maintaining NSEDC's vessels, vehicles, equipment, machinery and facilities associated with NSEDC's operations in the Norton Sound region. The primary focus of the position during the summer operational season will be on the repair and maintenance of infrastructure and equipment related to Norton Sound Seafood Products and tender vessels.

For an application or a complete job description, visit www.nsedc.com or contact NSEDC Human Resources via phone, (907) 274-2248 (Anchorage) or 1-(800)-650-2248 (toll-free), or via email: hr@nsedc.com.



RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority is recruiting for the following positions:

- Maintenance Compliance Inspector
- Housing Occupancy Specialist
- Part-Time Custodian

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO APPLY:

Application and full job description can be downloaded from the website www.bsrha.org, picked up at the BSRHA Office: 1008 East Front Street, Nome, Alaska, or by emailing HR@bsrha.org. Applications may be turned in, mailed, faxed, or e-mailed to BSRHA.

Seawall

Nome Police Department
Weekly press releases
Activities reported between
6/22/2026 – 6/28/2026

During this period there were 182 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center; 63 (35%) of these calls involved alcohol. The Nome Police Department dispatched 42 ambulance calls to NSHC. The Nome Volunteer Fire Department responded to 1 fire call during this period. NPD responded to 5 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. Nobody remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

Non-Arrests

Two citations were given for Minor Consuming Alcohol and two citations for Open Container violations.

Arrests

A total of 13 arrests were made, with 13 (100%) alcohol related

Monday, June 22, 2026
Charge: Contributing to the delinquency of a minor. Name: Jade Milligrock. Location: Front St.
Charge: False information or report. Name: Annamae James. Location: E. 4th Ave.
Charges: Probation Violation, Assault in the fourth degree, Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Steffan Ozenna. Location: E. N St.
Charge: Criminal Trespass in the first degree. Name: Andrei Mcquesten. Location: H St.

Tuesday, June 23, 2026
Charge: Warrant Arrest. Name: Derrick Henry. Location: Nome.
Charges: Criminal mischief in the fifth degree, Criminal trespass in the second degree and disorderly conduct. Name: Edward Evan. Location: Greg Kruschek Ave.

Wednesday, June 24, 2026
Charge: Warrant Arrest. Name: Robert Lincoln. Location: Nome.

Thursday, June 25, 2026
Charge: Assault in the fourth degree; two counts of Assault in the presence of a child; Probation violation. Name: Cherilyn Kavairlook. Location: E. 3rd Ave.

Friday, June 26, 2026
Charge: Assault in the fourth degree. Name: Raymond Larsen. Location: River St.

Saturday, June 27, 2026
Charge: Criminal trespass in the first degree. Name: Tom Rock. Location: D St.
Charges: Criminal trespass DV in the first degree; Resisting or interfering with arrest and Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Edward Even. Location: E. 5th Ave.

continued on page 13

Classifieds

WANTED – Mark Knapp at The Cutting Edge in Fairbanks is buying legal ancient walrus ivory, musk ox horn, mammoth ivory and teeth.

Very good prices. 907-452-7477. Knapp's Cutting Edge 1971 Fox Ave Fairbanks AK 99701. knappscuttingedge@gmail.com

Legals

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:

BRIAN DAVID BROCKMUELLER
DOB: 03/02/1949

Deceased.

Case No. 2NO-26-00061 PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that LANCE DANIEL BROCKMUELLER has been appointed personal representative of the above-entitled estate. All persons having claims against said deceased are required to present their claims within four months after the date of first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must be presented to Lance Daniel Brockmueller c/o LT Nome Law P.C., PO Box 61, Nome, Alaska 99762, or filed with the Court at P.O. Box 1110, Nome, Alaska 99762.

DATED this 16 day of June, 2026

H. Conner Thomas
ABA # 8006049
Attorney for Lance D. Brockmueller
Personal Representative,
PO Box 61, Nome, AK 99762
06.18-25, 07.02.2026

Unpaid Principal Balance: \$158,051.76
Interest: \$17,188.63
Late Charges: \$425.00
Beneficiary Advances: \$16,878.81
TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF: \$192,544.20

If the default has arisen by failure to make payments required by the trust deed, the default may be cured and the sale may be terminated if: 1. Payment of the sum in default, other than the principal that would not be due if default had not occurred, and attorney and other foreclosure fees and costs actually incurred by the beneficiary and trustee due to the default is made at any time before the sale date stated in this notice or to which the sale is postponed; and 2. If Notice of Default has been recorded two or more times previously under the same trust deed and the default has been cured the trustee does not elect to refuse payment and continue the sale. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to demand of the Beneficiary, the Trustee hereby elects to sell the above described real property to satisfy the obligation, together with all accrued interest and all costs and expenses, at public auction, for certified funds, to the highest and best bidder, at the 2nd Judicial District: Inside the main lobby of the Nome Courthouse located at 306 W 5th Avenue, Nome, AK 99762, on 9/29/2026, at 10:00 AM. Beneficiary will have the right to make an offset bid at sale without cash. Anyone having an objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the same. DATED: 6/17/2026 CLEAR RECON CORP 3333 Camino Del Rio South, Suite 225 San Diego, CA 92108 Phone: 866-931-0036 By Alison Arrendale, Authorized Signatory for Trustee
07.02-9-16-23.2026

NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND ELECTION TO SELL UNDER DEED OF TRUST

Trustee's Sale No: 149141-AK This NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND ELECTION TO SELL is given by CLEAR RECON CORP, as Successor Trustee under that certain Deed of Trust executed by HOMER MILLS, SR AND NORMA M. MILLS HUSBAND AND WIFE, as Trustor, to YUKON TITLE COMPANY, INC., as Trustee, in favor of WELLS FARGO FINANCIAL ALASKA, INC., as Beneficiary, dated 5/12/2007, recorded 9/12/2007, as Instrument No. 2007-000433-0, in the KOTZEBUE Recording District, State of Alaska. The beneficial interest in the Deed of Trust has been assigned to COMPUTERSHARE TRUST COMPANY, N.A., NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR NBE ASSET TRUST and the record owner of the property is purported to be HOMER MILLS, SR. AND NORMA M. MILLS. Said Deed of Trust covers real property situated in said Recording District, described as follows: LOT 1, BLOCK 17, TRACT "B", AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL PLAT OF U.S. SURVEY 4498, KOTZEBUE TOWNSITE ADDITION, AS ACCEPTED BY THE CHIEF, DIVISION OF CADASTRAL SURVEY, FOR THE DIRECTOR ON DECEMBER 5, 1969; RECORDS OF THE KOTZEBUE RECORDING DISTRICT, SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF ALASKA. Commonly referred to as: 878 6TH ST, KOTZEBUE, AK 99752 APN: NOT IN TAXING DISTRICT A breach of the obligation which said Deed of Trust secures has occurred in that Installment of Principal and Interest plus impounds and/or advances which became due on 1/17/2025 plus late charges, and all subsequent installments of principal, interest, balloon payments, plus impounds and/or advances and late charges that become payable. By reason thereof, and under the terms of the Note and Deed of Trust, the Beneficiary

NOTICE OF SALE TO THE HEIRS OF HOMER MILLS, SR and NORMA M. MILLS; The name of the persons who are known by the beneficiary or trustee to be the Heirs and devisees of the deceased person are as follows: HOMER MILLS, JR. and HELEN MILLS Trustee, CLEAR RECON CORP, will sell realty for cash to the highest bidder at 2nd Judicial District: Inside the main lobby of the Nome Courthouse located at 306 W 5th Avenue, Nome, AK 99762, on 9/29/2026 at 10:00 AM with other sales that may be conducted. Proceeds will apply to the Deed of Trust naming HOMER MILLS, SR and NORMA M. MILLS HUSBAND AND WIFE, Trustor, recorded on 9/12/2007, as Instrument No. 2007-000433-0, under KOTZEBUE 2nd District, Alaska, describing: LOT 1, BLOCK 17, TRACT "B", AS SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL PLAT OF U.S. SURVEY 4498, KOTZEBUE TOWNSITE ADDITION, AS ACCEPTED BY THE CHIEF, DIVISION OF CADASTRAL SURVEY, FOR THE DIRECTOR ON DECEMBER 5, 1969; RECORDS OF THE KOTZEBUE RECORDING DISTRICT, SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT, STATE OF ALASKA. A/K/A 878 6TH ST, KOTZEBUE, AK 99752. \$192,544.20 is due, plus interest, advances, etc. Clear Recon Corp (858) 750-7600 TS# 149141-AK
07.02-9-16-23.2026

Adopt your best friend!

Email pawsofnome@gmail.com to start the application process.
Support Animal Rescue & Rehoming - make your donation today!

Make animal control-related reports to Nome Police Dispatch at 443-5262.



Real Estate

Nome Off-shore leases for sale

Lot	ADL	Acres
40 –	603892	63
41 –	603893	37
43 –	603895	100
48 –	603898	63
19 --	603871	45

Total 308

call Thomas 502-419-0796

Court

Week ending 6/26/2026
Civil

No current claims via CourtView; start 2NO-26-99CI

Small Claims

No current claims via CourtView; start 2NO-26-00007SC

Criminal

State of Alaska v. Shane Koozaata (1/20/03); Dismissal; Count I: Assault 4; Filed by the DAs Office 6/17/26.

State of Alaska v. Wagner Mokiyuk (4/25/94); 2NO-25-73CR Dismissal; Count I: Criminal Trespass 2; Filed by the DAs Office 6/18/26.

State of Alaska v. Wagner Mokiyuk (4/25/94); 2NO-25-110CR Dismissal; Count I: Disorderly Conduct; Filed by the DAs Office 6/18/26.

State of Alaska v. Marvin Nassuk (6/27/00); 2NO-25-522CR Dismissal; Count I: Disorderly Conduct; Filed by the DAs Office 6/15/26.

State of Alaska v. Marvin Nassuk (6/27/00); 2NO-26-1CR Dismissal; The following charges are hereby dismissed without prejudice by the prosecuting attorney pursuant to Criminal Rule 43(a)(1) due to prior findings of the Defendant being incompetent and un-restorable under AS 12.47: Count I: Sexual Assault 3; Filed by the DAs Of-fice 6/15/26.

State of Alaska v. Raymond Larsen (8/27/63); 2NO-25-5CR Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 118746954; Violated conditions of probation; The fol-lowing jail term must now be served: Time Served; Any appearance or per-formance bond is exonerated; All other terms and conditions of probation in the original order are terminated.

State of Alaska v. Raymond Larsen (8/27/63); 2NO-26-33CR CTN 003: Violated Conditions of Release for Misd; DOV: 4/29/26; CTNs Dismissed: 001, 002, 004, 005, 006, 007; Any appear-ance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; 90 days, 90 days sus-pended; No credit for time served; Or-dered to obtain BHS assessment within 30 days of release and follow all treat-ment recommendations (must provide proof of BHS assessment to Court and the DAs office, stipulate to release per-tinent criminal and medical records to BHS for proper evaluation) plus required aftercare; Surcharges due; Probation for one year (Effective Date: 6/22/26); Comply with all direct court orders listed above by the deadlines stated; Obey all state, federal, and local law, specifically no jailable offenses.

State of Alaska v. Zachary Milligrock (10/20/84); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 118743525; Violated conditions of probation; The following jail term must now be served: 180 days, any appearance or performance bond is exonerated; Defendant was taken to jail or is being ordered to serve time in jail in connection with this revocation and therefore must pay the preciously sus-pended \$100 jail surcharge, due now; All other terms and conditions of proba-tion in the original order remain in effect.

State of Alaska v. Dana Lou James

(12/20/83); CTN 001: Crim Trespass 2-Vehicle; DOV: 6/18/26; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is ex-onerated; 1 day, 0 days suspended; Un-suspended 1 day is time served.

State of Alaska v. Devin Kakaruk (11/15/02); Order to Modify or Revoke Probation; ATN: 118745658; A PTRP was filed on 6/9/26; Violated conditions of probation by: Admitting to allegation B; The State withdrew allegation A; Pro-bation modified as follows: 18. Undergo substance abuse and/or integrated as-sessment and if recommended, shall enroll in and successfully complete an out-patient program including after-care recommendations, or an in-patient pro-gram up to 90 days, including all after-care recommendations; Shall obtain the assessment within 30 days; 19. Shall actively participate in and successfully complete all treatment programs rec-ommended by the evaluator or treat-ment provider; 20. Shall sign a release of information authorizing the DOC to monitor enrollment, attendance, and progress in required programs, and to receive enrollment, attendance, pro-gress, and discharge records and sum-maries; Shall authorize DOC to release information from its records to the pro-gram; Must serve the following jail term: 90 days; Any bond in this case not pre-viously forfeited is exonerated; All other terms and conditions in the original order remain in effect; Cost of Appointed Counsel: \$100 plus interest; Interest ac-crues on this judgment at the annual statutory rate from the date of judgment (Date: 6/24/26) until paid; The judgment has the same force and effect as a judg-ment in a civil action.

State of Alaska v. Oscar Iyakitan (5/9/02); Order to Modify or Revoke Pro-bation; ATN: 118139823; A PTRP was filed on 12/5/25; Violated conditions of probation by: Admitting to allegations A and B; The State withdrew allegation C; Probation modified as follows: Additional alcohol conditions are added: 1) Must obtain a substance abuse and/or inte-grated assessment and follow all treat-ment recommendations, including any after-care recommendations; Treatment may include in-patient treatment up to 90 days; Must obtain an assessment within 30 days; 2) Must follow all treat-ment recommendations indicated by the assessment and programs; 3) Must sign a release of information for DOC to ver-ify assessments, attendance, progress, and completion; Must sign an ROI for DOC to supply information from their records directly to the assessor and pro-grams; 4) Must submit to random UAs at the discretion of his probation officer; Must serve the following jail term: 15 days; Any bond in this case not pre-viously forfeited is exonerated; All other terms and conditions in the original order remain in effect; Cost of Appointed Counsel: \$250 plus interest; Interest ac-crues on this judgement at the annual statutory rate from the date of judgment (Date: 6/24/26) until paid; This judgment as the same force and effect as a judg-ment in a civil action.

•Seawall

continued from page 12

Sunday, June 28, 2026

Charge: Disorderly Conduct. Name: Keven Rodgers. Location: Spokane St. Charges: DUI, Reckless endangerment and two counts of Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Bernice Penayah. Loca-tion: Front St.

Traffic

NPD made 11 traffic stops, with 2 citations and 9 warnings issued. NPD responded to 2 reports of a motor vehicle accidents.

Monday, June 22, 2026

Offense: Fail to stop at stop sign. Name: Danny Crowe. Location: Bering St.

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Offense: Fail to stop at stop sign Name: John Mehelich. Location: Front St.

This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not as-sign guilt to any identified party. Officers refer all cases to the DA for action.



Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority

PO Box 995, Nome, Alaska 99762 (907) 443-5256-Office (907) 443-8652-Fax

BSRHA is now accepting applications for the 14 Plex, Senior Apartment and The Last Frontier Low Rent Triplex



Market Rent (14 Plex)

- Two Bedroom Apartment
 - \$1800.00 per month;
 - Security Deposit \$750.00
 - Utilities not included
 - Parking
 - No Pets



Senior Apartment on 3rd

- One Bedroom Apartment
 - Based on Income
 - Utilities included
 - No Pets
- Two Bedroom Apartment
 - Based on Income
 - Utilities included
 - No Pets



Last Frontier Low Rent Triplex

- Three Bedroom Apartment East 6th Ave
 - \$1317.00 + Security Deposit equal to first month's rent is required.
 - Utilities included and Shared Laundry.
 - No Pets

We encourage and support an affirmative advertising and marketing program in which there are no barriers to obtain housing because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin.

Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority
1008 E. Front Street
Nome, Alaska 99762
907-443-5256

For more information contact:
Agnes (907) 443-8602
Sally (907) 443-8622



Legal



PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Proposed Issuance of an Alaska Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (APDES) General Permit to Discharge to Waters of the United States

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has tentatively determined to reissue a discharge permit for the activity described below.

Permit: AKG371000 – Medium Size Suction Dredge Placer Miners General Permit

Permit Coverage: The permit authorizes discharges of wastewater from suction dredges with intake diameters greater than six inches and less than or equal to ten inches that process gold placer ores and rely on beneficiation processes based on gravity separation. The permit provides statewide coverage for discharges to waters of the U.S., with certain limitations.

A Fact Sheet, and associated documents are available for review. For inquiries or to request copies of documents, contact: Nick Dallman; (907) 451-2142, nicholas.dallman@alaska.gov.

For office locations or to view electronic copies of the permit documents, please see the DEC website at <http://dec.alaska.gov/water/wastewater/>

Public Notice Start Date: July 1, 2026

Expiration Date: August 3, 2026

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Alaska Supreme Court rules Dan J. Sullivan eligible to run for US Senate

By Corinne Smith, Alaska Beacon

The Alaska Supreme Court on Monday ordered the Alaska Division of Elections to include Dan J. Sullivan of Petersburg on the primary ballot as a candidate for U.S. Senate.

The ruling upholding a lower court's decision came just hours after oral arguments in a fast-tracked case ahead of the division's deadline to certify and print primary election ballots at noon on Tuesday.

A full opinion on the case will be issued at a later date, the court said.

The decision ends a weekslong saga between the state and the challenger with the same name Republican incumbent Sen. Dan Sullivan. The two Sullivans are among 16 primary candidates for the seat, including former Democratic U.S. House Rep. Mary Peltola.

The primary election is Aug. 18.

The general election in November determines who will hold the seat for a six-year term.

On Friday, an Anchorage Superior Court ruled that the division's decision to strike Sullivan from the ballot was unlawful. The judge determined that the division did not have the authority to add additional requirements for candidates beyond what is outlined in the U.S. Constitution. He ruled Sullivan, a retired teacher from Petersburg, is eligible to run for U.S. Senate.

The state appealed that ruling, and the case went before the Alaska Supreme Court on Monday.

Reached by phone Monday afternoon, Sullivan of Petersburg expressed relief. "I'm glad it's over. It was pretty stressful. I've got to admit that," he said.

On the criticisms and questions about his campaign, Sullivan said they were "challenging" to hear.

"It's all because of my name, and you know, there's nothing I can do about my name," he said. "I was frustrated, I felt it's time for a change, and so I wanted to jump into the race and make my feelings and my thoughts known. So there's not a whole lot more to it than that. They tried to make it more than that, and you know, that's their prerogative."

Sullivan said he would agree to be listed as "Dan J. Sullivan" on the ballot. He said he now plans to regroup and make plans to visit Alaskan communities, hear from voters, and continue the campaign for Senate.

Nate Adams, a spokesperson for Sen. Sullivan, said they were disappointed in the court ruling but encouraged by the fact that the division director can "use her expertise" to distinguish the candidates on the ballot in an emailed statement on Monday.

In the decision, the justices wrote the division will determine how the candidates will appear on the ballot.

"This matter is remanded for the Division of Elections to determine, in the first instance, how appellee Sullivan shall be listed as a candidate within the confines of existing Alaska ballot design law," they wrote.

An official with the Alaska Department of Law on behalf of the di-

vision did not immediately respond to a question about how the two candidates would appear on the ballot.

"The State appreciates the court's quick ruling and will work to implement the order," said Sam Curtis with the Department of Law.

Alaska Supreme Court hears oral arguments

Sullivan from Petersburg appealed the division's unprecedented June 15 decision to disqualify him from the U.S. Senate ballot. The Alaska Division of Elections cited complaints filed by the incumbent and Republican groups that his similar name, Republican party affiliation and campaign materials were evidence he was running in "bad faith" and mimicking the Republican incumbent, U.S. Sen. Dan S. Sullivan.

Challenger Dan J. Sullivan has defended his campaign as authentic and genuine. In court, his attorney argued that he met all the constitutional requirements for candidacy, and the division had unlawfully added a subjective criteria.

In oral arguments before the Alaska Supreme Court on Monday, attorney Chris Murray argued on behalf of the division and its appeal of the lower court's decision. He argued that the authority to administer the manner of elections includes disqualifying the challenger, as they deemed his intention in filing was to "frustrate the purpose" of the election and confuse voters.

Justices questioned that authority cited by the state. "A lot of the times people run for office for different reasons, to highlight an issue, to see what the process is like, and maybe start garnering support over time," said Justice Aimee Oravec. "These are not necessarily candidates that are seeking office so much as attention for other reasons that are not necessarily bad faith, and there's no limiting principle."

"It seems amorphous, frankly," said Justice Jennifer Henderson. "A broad, amorphous concept of what a candidate's intent needs to be. So it seems like it's very appropriate for us to worry about what is encompassed by that."

Murray argued that the division has the authority, under current state regulations, and a duty to protect voters from confusion. "Because again, what's the division trying to do? Protect the right to vote," he said. "The division's job is to make sure that people who want to vote for one candidate actually get to vote for that candidate, and their intent is reflected on the ballot."

Justice Oravec questioned that position when the division has the authority to administer and design the ballot in a way that reduces confusion.

"You control the ballot," she said. "So I think you're conflating the potential for confusion when you have the authority to mitigate the confusion."

State statute already prescribes

how candidates with identical names should appear on the ballot. Candidate's middle initials would be included — in this case "Dan J. Sullivan" for the candidate from Petersburg, and "Dan S. Sullivan" for the incumbent senator.

But in the state's appeal filed over the weekend, Alaska Acting Attorney General Cori Mills requested that if the court upholds the ruling restoring the Petersburg Sullivan to the ballot, then the division could list him as "nonpartisan" instead of Republican like the incumbent senator.

Justices questioned whether that affiliation would be within the division's authority. Jeffrey Robinson, arguing on behalf of Sullivan on Monday, objected to that listing. "There's no authority for the proposition that in order to avoid confusion the director can change the party af-

filiation," he said.

Robinson argued that the division adding unwritten, subjective criteria for candidates is unlawful. He again cited the case where the Alaska Democratic Party sought to remove Eric Hafner, a U.S. House candidate imprisoned out of state, and the division did not investigate his motives but found he met the qualifications to run for office.

"When would there be a better time to question the motives of someone's intent to run for office than a convicted felon living out of state who has no potential to come back, or virtually no potential to come back and serve?" Robinson said.

The division has argued that there was no complaint filed against Hafner's candidacy, and so no reason to investigate him.

Justice Oravec asked Robinson whether Sullivan and his legal team also dispute the division's findings in their decision to disqualify him from the ballot. Robinson said the division's points were "unconstitutional and frivolous" and they did not have the authority to make those findings.

In an unusual move, 14 Republican controlled states filed an amicus brief, or "friends of the court" brief, with the state Supreme Court expressing support for the division and its authority to remove Sullivan from the ballot.

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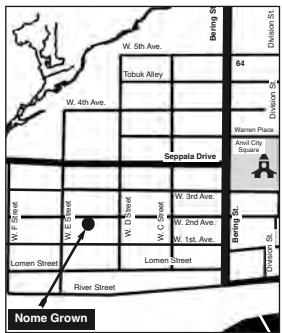
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Summercise wraps up its first session of the season

Story and photo

by Ariana Crockett O'Harra

Last Thursday, the rock-climbing room at the Nome Rec Center was packed with excited kids. Outside in the ice rink, kids practiced soccer skills. At Anvil City Square, kids held a mock farmer's market, complete with cardboard box stalls, shopping lists and fake plastic foods. Summercise was in session.

This summer, 151 kids signed up for Summercise, a program run by Norton Sound Health Corporation's CAMP department. Nicole Santonastaso, who oversees the program, said it aims to teach kids physical activity through play.

"Summercise is really just designed as a way to instill healthy habits with kids to prevent chronic disease," she said. "Through nutrition education, as well as physical fitness, it's really expanding on their knowledge for food literacy."

Kids sign up for weeklong sessions that run Monday through Thursday afternoons, taught by interns who come to Nome from nutrition programs across the country. This year, the program had the standard basketball, biking, and Pirate Club options, as well as rock climbing and a fine dining restaurant class. The water polo class returned for a second year. Santonastaso said it was a popular option.

"Swimming classes in general are going to be the most popular, but sometimes kids really just are in it for the pool," said Santonastaso. "When it came to water polo, the kids are really into getting the actual chance to scrimmage and learn the different rules and techniques."

Katie Anderson taught the Farm to Fork Frenzy class at the garden in Anvil City Square. On Thursday afternoon, she had set her class up with fake farmer's market stalls, plastic model foods and fake cash, an exercise designed to teach them about budgeting, shopping and recipe building. That week, the kids had gardened and learned about food and nutrition.

"They learned all about where food comes from, a lot of gardening skills," she said. "We planted some zucchini, and we planted some peas. We watered a lot of plants and pulled a lot of weeds."

Sophia Cron led rock climbing last week at the Rec Center. She said the kids have been learning beginner rock climbing – grip strength, overall fitness, and how to fuel before an activity. "Our first day, they were super tired because they didn't eat before," she said. "We learned that we need carbs to fuel our workouts. The rest of the week, we have been eating our carbs before we come into the rock wall."

Cron has rotated which activities she's been teaching. Before rock climbing, it was pickleball and

swimming. In the next few weeks, she'll be teaching swimming again and gardening.

She said that the program gives the kids a safe environment to play and helps build community. "The first day was so quiet they almost weren't even talking to each other, which felt sad for them at first," she said. "Over time, this past week, you would think they're best friends in there right now."

She's learned from the kids, too. "Sometimes you don't always need structure to have fun," she said. "Just playing things by ear could be more fun than following a routine. Having some spontaneous days has always been good, too."

Peyton Lewis and Sage Gregg of Nome were both assisting with the Summercise program. Lewis did Summercise as a kid, and she said assisting with the program now is a little nostalgic. "It's pretty fun," she said. "I remember playing all these games, and I still love the snacks."

Gregg said the program teaches healthy habits. "It gives them something to keep them active during the day," she said. "I also feel like it brings community, because they're getting to know people their age, and hanging out with them, getting out of the house."

Maggie Lank taught soccer to a group of five- to seven-year-olds last week in the dried-out ice rink next to the Rec Center. She echoed the themes of community that the others brought up.

"I think it's just so special to see how much they love physical activity when everybody around them is doing it," she said. "I think we bring like a positive experience for them to experience it together."

During the pandemic, Summercise switched to outside activities instead of classes inside the Rec Center. The new format was so popular that they stuck with it. "Parents really enjoyed that their kids were getting more time outside, as well as learning again," said Santonastaso. "A lot of it is introducing them to activity that's not just confined to a gym or a rec center, so spending time in different parts of the community, getting to be familiar with different facilities around the community and outdoor spaces."

In addition to the six weeks of classes in Nome, split into two sessions, Summercise also visits villages in the region. Each year they pick three to five villages and try to cycle them every few years to spread out the program across the region. On Friday, June 26, the program visited Teller. Ahead, they have planned visits to Shaktoolik, Golovin, Wales and Gambell.

The Summercise program in Nome is scheduled to resume on July 13.



GAMETIME— Maggie Lank leads a group of kids taking a soccer-themed Summercise class through a mini game outside the Nome Rec Center on Thursday, June 25.



KING CRAB— After a fast 10 days of commercial king crab fishing, the Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game closed the season in Norton Sound on June 25. Here, NSEDC employees Emily Hudman and Kalynna Booshu show a pair of magnificent king crabs that were delivered to the fish plant in Nome.

Photo by Diana Haecker

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