

Eyak Echo

ECHOES OF OUR ANCESTORS

Native Village of Eyak | 4th Quarter & Sobriety Edition, 2020



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Native Village of Eyak Employees

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Mark Hoover..... Tribal Council Chairman
 Sylvia Lange Tribal Council Vice Chairman
 Pam Smith Tribal Council Secretary-Treasurer
 Tom Andersen..... Tribal Council Member
 Raven Cunningham..... Tribal Council Member

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK

Bertrand Adams Executive Director
 Brooke MalloryDeputy Director
 Jim Gittleson Finance Director
 Steve Bambakidis IT Director
 Kari Collins Health and Wellness Director
 John Whissel Environmental Director
 Sarah Kathrein.....Tribal Judicial Systems Administrator
 Denna Francischetti.....Human Resources Manager
 Aniessa Hodges Human Resources Assistant
 Reyna Newirth Executive Administrative Assistant/
 Office Manager
 Rebecca Calfina Administrative Assistant
 Joe Cook.....Maintenance
 Jackie Ladd Elder Services Coordinator
 Cheryl Eleshansky..... Tribal Family Services Manager
 Jessica Weaver Family Program Coordinator
 Lori Davis Victim Advocacy/Response Coordinator
 Linda Powell ICWA Coordinator
 Kym Magallanes..... Staff Accountant
 Celeste Gasmen..... Accounting Technician
 Sean O'Brien Capital Projects Director
 Myra Eleshansky Housing Coordinator
 Matt PicheNatural Resources Coordinator
 James Paley..... DENR Engineer
 Ivy Patton..... Environmental Coordinator
 Andy Pfeiffer.....IT Coordinator II
 Russell Mallory.....IT Coordinator I
 Lennette Ronnegard..... Enrollment Clerk

ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Cindy Bradford..... Operations Manager
 Kristel Rush Physician/Medical Director
 Brian Iutzi..... Physician
 Delia Reyes Nurse Practitioner
 Nicole Piche Nursing Coordinator
 Cassi Septien.....Registered Nurse
 Karin SiebenmorgenRegistered Nurse
 Ellen Sheridan..... Case Manager
 Florelyn Adajar Medical Assistant
 Jim Cabusora Medical Assistant
 MaryCris Carino Medical Assistant
 Audrey Cunningham Medical Office Receptionist/
 Outreach Advocate
 Berna QuemadoCertified Nursing Assistant/Patient Services
 Jessica Jones Outreach & Enrollment Specialist
 Cindy Frohnafel Office Systems Coordinator
 Sarah Lamb Care Coordinator
 Reese Plant..... COVID-19 Coordinator
 Jessica Arasmith Operations Assistant
 Matthew Rush Behavioral Health Coordinator
 Susan PowellBehavioral Health Clinician
 John Yakanak.....Behavioral Health Specialist
 Nicko Felix Environmental Services Technician

ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER

Danaya Hoover Cultural Director
 Teal Hansen.....Cultural Center Coordinator
 Angela Butler Eyak Language Specialist
 Shyla Krukoff Sugcestun Language Specialist
 Sara Tiedeman Traditional Harvesting Coordinator
 Mark King Subsistence Boat Captain

TRIBAL ENTERPRISES

Bob Ladd Prince William Marina Manager

THE CORDOVA TIMES

Vivian Kennedy..... Administrative Assistant
 Zachary Smith Staff Reporter/Photographer

***Have a special life announcement, project,
 accomplishment to share in the Eyak Echo?***

EMAIL IT TO US AT [echo@eyak-nsn.gov!](mailto:echo@eyak-nsn.gov)

(Please put "Announcement" in the subject line.)

The Eyak Echo is a special production of

The Cordova Times

in partnership with Native Village of Eyak





Assisting those impacted by COVID-19

At a special meeting in October, the NVE Tribal Council approved an NVE COVID-19 Relief Tribal Household Grant, an NVE COVID-19 Relief Business Grant and an NVE Tribal Member Food Assistance Program.

The programs were created to assist families that have been impacted financially by the COVID-19 pandemic because of loss of employment, closure of businesses and schools, and stay-at-home orders, and that, as a direct result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, Tribal Members and their families are having difficulty meeting basic financial obligations such as rent and mortgage payments, utility payments, and food purchases. Grant awards were mailed out in December.

NVE Tribal Member Food Assistance Program food and gift cards were handed out for each household. If Tribal Members are out of town for a distribution, they are not guaranteed to be included when they return.

In November there was a \$500 gift card, a fresh PWS Golden King Crab, fruits and vegetables, and a case of smoked salmon.

In December there was a \$500 gift card, bison, a small freezer and frozen sockeye.





In times of hardship, ask:

WHAT DOES THIS MAKE **POSSIBLE?**

Native Village of Eyak Tribal Citizens,

To say 2020 had been a difficult year for many people may be an understatement.

The fear of COVID-19 brought overwhelming daily concerns and changes – no work, working from home, grocery shortages, school closures, online learning, and event, travel and wedding cancelations. In addition, we have been concerned for our high-risk and elders. We were worried and the isolation did not help.





As we head into the new year, it is important for us to set personal goals for ourselves. This might seem daunting with all that we have been through. Instead, we would like to encourage you to think of at least one person who has helped you in this past year and thank them. Let that person or persons know how much you value them.

When people go through challenges, troubles, or negative situations, the norm is for them to ask, "Why is this happening?" "What went wrong here?" or, "Why me?" The problem with these types of questions is that they are unproductive and disempowering. The answers we get are usually determined by the questions we ask. One of the best questions you can ask during a challenging situation is: "What does this make possible?" Asking this question shifts your thinking, and your attention, from the past (something you cannot change) to the future (something where you may have more influence and control). It also forces us to start thinking creatively as we actively look for new opportunities.

The next time you don't get that project done early, something doesn't go as planned, or you experience any other negative outcome – simply ask, "What does this make possible?" We can guarantee that you will start to find new opportunities that you likely would not have been seen otherwise. Once you start looking for new opportunities, that is when they begin to appear.

We offer you this quote from Gwendolyn Brooks: "We are each other's harvest; we are each other's business; we are each other's magnitude and bond." We are all responsible for nurturing each other. Brooks states that it is called for people to recognize that they are more than mere individuals and that they are parts of communities that need help to thrive and grow. It is crucial to our culture and identity, especially in a time of crisis, that we care for each other. In the coming months, make sure you reach out to your loved ones, especially those who are self-quarantining, live alone or have medical concerns. We deserve to be a blessing to each other.

May you all stay safe and well. Best wishes for the new year!

Raven Cunningham
NVE Tribal Council member

ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER GIFT SHOP



Now conveniently located at
711 FIRST STREET
(The old trooper building)
907-424-7903

Accepting Cordova Cash Cards!

OPEN 10 A.M.–4 P.M. TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS
ILANKACULTURALCENTER.COM

BECOME A MEMBER!

\$20 for individuals, \$50 for the whole family!
Get notices & priority on upcoming classes.

EMAIL DANAYA.HOOVER@EYAK-NSN.GOV
OR CALL DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS



Notices

Tribal Council meeting schedule

NVE's Regular Tribal Council meetings are scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month unless otherwise noted. Special Tribal Council meetings may be held between regular meetings to address urgent business.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all Tribal Council meetings are being held electronically until further notice. Tribal Members are encouraged to attend.

For more info on Tribal Council Meetings, please contact Reyna at **907-424-7738** or reyna@eyak-nsn.gov.

Upcoming events

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, NVE's upcoming events will continue to be done differently to ensure the safety and well-being of our Tribal members, community members, and staff until further notice.

Stay tuned for updates:
Visit NVE's Facebook page, website eyak-nsn.gov, or by contacting Reyna at **907-424-7738** or reyna@eyak-nsn.gov.

Have a special life announcement to share in the Eyak Echo?

EMAIL IT TO US AT
echo@eyak-nsn.gov

(Please put "Announcement" in the subject line.)

ELDERS & YOUTH CONFERENCE

Kiley Burton

addresses First Alaskans Institute conference as youth keynote speaker

Native Village of Eyak Tribal member Kiley Kanat's Burton served as a keynote speaker at the Oct. 11-14 First Alaskans Institute Annual Elders & Youth Conference. Fifteen-year-old Burton is the daughter of James Burton and Diana Riedel.

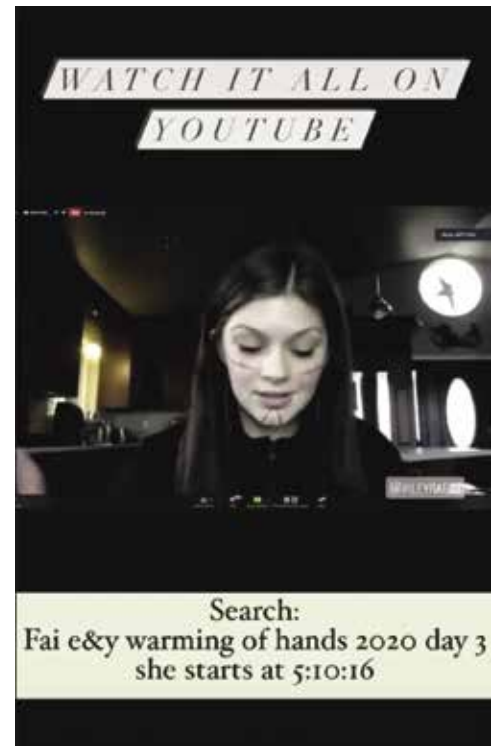
She aspires to become a science professional either as a surgeon or as a marine biologist. Her extracurricular interests include hunting, commercial fishing, skin sewing, sports and fashion. She also appreciates her Alaska Native heritage and culture. Burton's Eyak name, "Kanat's," means "little wolverine."

Other speakers at this year's Elders & Youth Conference were Tribal leader Dr. Rev. Traditional Chief Trimble Gilbert and his wife; Anchorage Unanga Dancers member Dustin Unignax Newman; and Xaadaas Diigwii dance group member Andrea Ts'aak Ka Juu Cook.

Kiley Burton delivered the following youth keynote speech at the Oct. 11-14 First Alaskans Institute Annual Elders & Youth Conference.

Iishuh, hello, I'm Kiley Burton, and my native name is Kanat given to me by my Grandpa which means little wolverine. I am Koyukon Athabaskan, Eyak, Inuit, and of Northern European descent. Though I am most familiar with my Athabaskan culture, I am on Eyak territory. I was born in Alaska and raised in Cordova. I grew up commercial fishing with my parents and have loved it since. I've been active in my culture since a young age, started beading and skin sewing really early on. I made my first beaded flower and a little purse when I was 5.

Today, I chose to talk about the issue of blood quantum as it's something I feel strongly about. I am just under the quarter blood quantum, which by government interpretation makes me not "Native." Growing up, my mom instilled in me to never let someone tell me that I am "not Native enough." That is a phrase that's stuck with me my whole life and continues to stick with me. When given the opportunity to speak at this event, it was the first thing I thought of. This is something very important to we and for all of you, because blood quantum is a system set up to





Kiley Kanat's Burton. Photo courtesy of Diana Riedel

erase Indigenous people. Currently over 60 percent of Alaskan Natives within the Gulf of Alaska are under the one-quarter blood quantum. Culture and identity branch from practices, language, and tradition. It gives a sense of belonging and purpose. For culture to survive it must have the ability to pass on knowledge to future generations. With blood quantum slowly terminating the next generation of Indigenous people, it will eliminate the culture and traditions of our people.

Blood quantum is the amount of native blood you have. Blood quantum was created by the BIA (Bureau of Indian Affairs) but was used since the colonization of Indigenous people to “bleed out the Savage.” The question I ask all of you is why. Why does the government want to erase our culture? Why does the government want to get rid of the Native population? Why have they removed our history from American textbooks? Would the government want to have their culture erased.

Many members of the Alaskan Native community are deeply concerned about the growing numbers of young tribal members who are unable to hunt or utilize marine mammals. Hunting marine mammals, proper hide preparation, and skin sewing are essential components to Alaskan Native culture. These skills are passed down from generation to generation and are crucial to culture. Federal regulations are trying to criminalize us from participating in these traditions, even though it's a skill that has been passed down for thousands of years. When I was younger, I saw my uncle going hunting with his friends and I wanted to go. I asked my mom if I could hunt too and she said “if it's something you want to do I'll continue to fight for you.” I was confused because I didn't see why she had to fight for me to be able to do something she can do.

Alaskan Native people rely on our cultural traditions. Raven Cunningham has said, “blood quantum is a hidden safety net that is placed into the fabric of treaties to ensure that benefits would be terminated. With blood quantum still used as an identifier of Native people, they will one day lose their status and recognition. The moment when Tribal Members are no longer “Native enough” based on colonial tactics that were established to assimilate is the moment Indigenous people are bred out of existence.” Now as I speak to all of you, I hope this resonates within you. I know I want to teach my kids the cultural traditions that have been passed down to me. I want them to know who their ancestors are and where they come from. I'll leave you with one more question. How can we do that legally when we have all these regulations in place?



2020 early season Chinook salmon in sample trough on NVE fishwheel. Photo courtesy of Mike Orr

DENR

A look at the 2020 Copper River salmon run

BY. MATT PICHÉ

Natural Resources Coordinator
NVE Department of the Environment
and Natural Resources

2020 Copper River Chinook salmon

NVE's Department of the Environment and Natural Resources completed analyses of the 2020 Copper River Chinook salmon inriver abundance data. Using mark-recapture techniques and a Darroch estimator an estimated 26,293 Chinook salmon migrated

through Baird Canyon on the lower Copper River (Standard Error = 2,863; 95% Confidence Interval = 20,680 – 31,905). The inriver abundance data was collected as part of NVE's long-term Chinook salmon monitoring program, established in 2003.

The 2020 Copper River District preliminary commercial harvest is estimated at 5,850 Chinook salmon. Combining the estimated inriver abundance through Baird Canyon with the commercial harvest provides a preliminary run size estimate of 32,143 Chinook salmon.

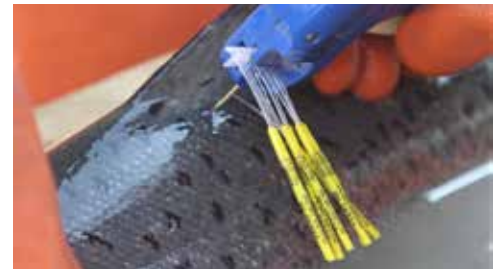
(This run-size estimate does not include subsistence harvest on the flats as preliminary data is not yet released.) The 2020 preliminary data suggests the Chinook salmon run was 34% below the 10-year average run of 48,553 fish and 45% below the historical average run size of 58,408 fish (1999-2019).

The annual sustainable escapement goal (SEG) for Copper River Chinook salmon is 24,000 or more. At this time harvest estimates for the inriver fisheries (state and federal subsistence, personal use, and sport fish) are still being calculated by fishery managers (NPS & ADF&G). A lower river abundance estimates of 26,293 Chinook salmon results in 2,293 Chinook salmon available for harvest in the inriver fisheries for the lower bound of the sustainable escapement goal to be met. The 10-year average inriver harvest is 5,754 Chinook salmon. Once inriver harvests are finalized it will be determined if the escapement goal was met in 2020.



Chinook salmon being captured by Baird Canyon research fish wheel No. 1.

Photo courtesy of Marie Zahn



NVE's specially designed dual T-bar PIT tags assign each fish a unique code, decreasing sampling time when recaptured upriver, and improving data. Photo courtesy of Marie Zahn

2020 Copper River Sockeye salmon

The preliminary sockeye salmon run estimate (see italics below for run calculation method) is approximately 639,000 fish; which is 66% lower than the historical average of 1.8 million sockeye salmon; and 73% lower than the most recent 10-year average run size of 2.29 million sockeye salmon. 2020 was the lowest Copper River sockeye salmon run in 37 years; the second-lowest run occurred in 2018 with an estimated 744,788 sockeye salmon returning. The sustainable escapement goal for Copper River sockeye salmon is 360,000–750,000. By definition this escapement goal represents the level of escapement needed to provide a sustained yield (harvest) over a five-10-year period. Although the commercial fisheries were closed for the majority of the sockeye salmon run, preliminary data suggests the escapement goal was met in 2020.

* Sockeye salmon run size estimate = (Miles Lake salmon passage + commercial sockeye harvest) – (Chinook salmon harvest + Chinook salmon inriver abundance)

2020 Copper River Delta Sockeye salmon

The Copper River Delta salmon are enumerated separately from the Copper River mainstem stocks and are managed using aerial index surveys instead of sonar or mark-recapture methods. Preliminary data suggests that Copper River delta stocks exceeded the lower bound of the escapement goal of 50,000 by at least 500 fish.

2020 Copper River Delta Coho salmon

The Copper River Delta Coho salmon sustainable escapement goal is 32,000-67,000 fish. Preliminary 2020 aerial index survey peak count of 37,225 Coho salmon (abundance index) indicate escapement was likely met. Coho salmon abundance of the Upper Copper River is unknown as there are no studies to enumerate the mainstem Copper River run.



An esophageal radiotag being prepped for placement in Copper River Chinook salmon. Approximately 600 radiotags were deployed in 2020 which are used to track migrating Chinook salmon to their spawning grounds using fixed-wing telemetry surveys and data collected at 10 radio-towers throughout the watershed. This is a joint study with ADF&G and provides data on stock specific run timing, distribution, and tributary escapement estimates.

Photo courtesy of Marie Zahn



Food Distribution Program

on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)

WHAT IS FDPIR AND HOW DO ALASKA TRIBES APPLY?

The FDPIR is a federal program that provides a month's supply of supplemental nutritious foods to income eligible Alaska Native, American Indian, and non-Indian households residing on a reservation or in a federally recognized (Alaska Native) tribal community, or in approved near-areas containing at least one tribal enrolled member of a federally recognized tribe.

Federally recognized tribes in Alaska are all eligible to administer FDPIR provided they can to follow USDA regulations to guarantee food safety, protect client privacy, and meet on-time reporting requirements.

HOUSEHOLD ELIGIBILITY

A household application for FDPIR is available in a few select Alaska tribal communities. Households can apply and be deemed income eligible on the same day they contact a tribal agency that administers the FDPIR program. To view a current list of active federally recognized tribes administering the FDPIR program in Alaska visit:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/fdpir/fdpir-contacts>

WHAT FOODS DOES THE PROGRAM OFFER?

Each month income eligible households receive a food package to help them maintain a nutritionally balanced diet. Participants may select from over 70 products including, but not limited to:

- Fresh Produce
- Canned fruits and vegetables
- Canned meats, poultry, and fish
- Canned soups and spaghetti sauce
- Macaroni and cheese; pastas; cereals; rice; and other grains
- Cheese; egg mix; and nonfat dry and evaporated milk
- Flour; cornmeal; bakery mix; and reduced sodium crackers
- Low-fat refried beans; dried beans; and dehydrated potatoes
- Canned juices and dried fruit
- Peanuts and peanut butter
- Low fat buttery spread, butter & vegetable oil.

Find out more. Contact:

Linda Powell **907-424-7738**

E-MAIL: linda.powell@eyak-nsn.gov



Thank you!
Native Village of Eyak
Food Bank news

THANK YOU, from the Native Village of Eyak Food Bank, for the donation made by the Cordova Community Foundation!

Your generosity made possible the purchase of gift cards for a number of clients and families in need during the month of December!

The NVE Food Bank is supplied by Food Bank of Alaska, available to the income eligible Cordova community as well as Tribal Members.

If you are in need of food support, call 907-424-7738 Monday-Friday to schedule a pickup. Hours are limited due to COVID-19, and masks and distancing required.

REBECCA CALFINA

NVE Administrative Assistant



Chairman's Letter

Together we can make 2021 a

Beautiful new year

Our election was at the beginning of October, so we have had several months to work together as a new Council. I want to thank all of you for giving me the honor of serving you as the Chairman of the Council for this year. We have already been putting out notices of what your Council has been busy with, thanks to Brooke and Reyna.

These past nine months have been very demanding on everyone, but I am so proud of how we have all dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and all the tests and difficulties it has presented to us. With the many distractions from the state of our nation's partisan political breakdown, we have the opportunity to be a beacon of light to the rest of the world that human beings can unify for the betterment of the whole in time of crisis.

As we embark on the beginning of a new year, we have so much to be thankful for in our Village and the town of Cordova as well, including the news that there is a vaccine going out to the communities of the world to protect the front-line workers dealing with protecting and caring for us. If all goes well, it will be dispersed to those among us who decide to take it. I can't help but believe that this is a time when the whole of humanity is standing before the divine physician and receiving the prescription that can save the body of mankind from the

illnesses we have brought upon ourselves.

Each year, we have had the great honor of inviting our friends and neighbors to our homeland to join us in a celebration of sober living and coming together to share our sorrow, to sing and dance that sorrow away for a short period of time and to rejuvenate our dedication to service of humanity and to our communities. We missed all of our brothers and sisters, our grandmothers and our grandfathers, our mothers and fathers, our sons and daughters and nieces and nephews, and our entire extended family that has celebrated with us for 26 wonderful events; all we have learned about other cultures, all that we have shared of ours, and all that the future will bring us as a People.

The Native Village of Eyak sends out so much love and respect for all who have joined us in these years and are dedicated to the healing and health of all people as the prayer of service is dispensed by the Creator to wherever He feels it is needed most. We are all one people. We live on one planet and we all need love. We wish you all a Happy New Year and together we can make 2021 a beautiful new year of positive accomplishments.

Mark Hoover
Chairman, NVE Tribal Council





A YEAR
WITHOUT
*Sobriety
Celebration*

BY ZACHARY SNOWDON SMITH
The Cordova Times

The annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch organized by the Native Village of Eyak did not occur this year due to the novel coronavirus pandemic. The Cordova Times sat down with Belen Cook, who coordinated Sobriety Celebration in 1998 and from 2002-2018, to discuss the importance of the event, and the challenges of making it happen.



What does Sobriety Celebration mean to you?

It's a wonderful time for people to gather and celebrate sobriety. There's an educational part too: people think sometimes that it's just for people that are in sobriety, but it's also to help people to learn more about substance abuse.

How has the event evolved through the years?

When we first started, it was pretty small, just one day. But several individuals decided that it was time to do something with Sobriety Celebration. Robert Henrichs and Mark Hoover got involved and we had a couple of dance groups that came down, and it was well received.

Sobriety Celebration includes both cultural festivities, like these dance performances, and education to help those who are affected in some way by substance abuse. How do these two aspects come together?

Many of our speakers have either worked with individuals with substance abuse, or have family members, or they themselves are recovering from alcohol or drugs. Back in 1998, we came up with the idea of doing a sobriety countdown, and it was very well received: we started out calling people with 40 or 50 years of sobriety down to just a few hours. We were asked to continue doing that — that was one way of acknowledging and supporting individuals in their own sobriety. Throughout the years there have been some dance groups that have said that coming to the Sobriety Celebration and doing the sobriety countdown has helped them stay clean and sober.

Native Village of Eyak has brought in a variety of guest speakers throughout the years. Who was a speaker whose message has especially stuck with you?

I really can't say, because they all speak about what's happened either to family members, or from their own recovery. It's like a pie, and everybody brings a piece to the whole, if that makes sense.

What's a favorite moment from a past celebration?

For me, one of the most special things is always the dance groups. They bring a lot of energy and happiness to everybody that comes. When we pick them up at the airport, many a time, they'd come singing. When they go back home, Alaska Airlines has welcomed them to sing on the plane — of course, sitting down. That brings a lot of joy to people.

What would you like to say to Tribal members this year, in absence of the celebration?

Stay strong, stay safe and we'll all be together again.

Addiction resources

In case of emergency, call 911.

Welfare check

If you're concerned for the safety of a friend, family member or neighbor, you can request a welfare check from the Cordova Police Department by calling **907-424-6100**.

Help & Hope online support group

This group run by Cordova Community Medical Center's Sound Alternatives clinic provides support to friends and family of individuals with addiction. Help & Hope meets from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesdays via Zoom. Anyone wishing to join can obtain login info by calling **907-424-8300**.

Alcoholics Anonymous

AA meets 7 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Additional details can be found by calling **907-244-9406** or **907-347-2286**.

Native Village of Eyak confidential hotline

907-424-2232

Available 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Cordova Family Resource Center helpline

907-424-4357

Available 24 hours per day.

Cordova Family Resource Center textline

1-860-407-8001

Available 7 a.m.-11 p.m.







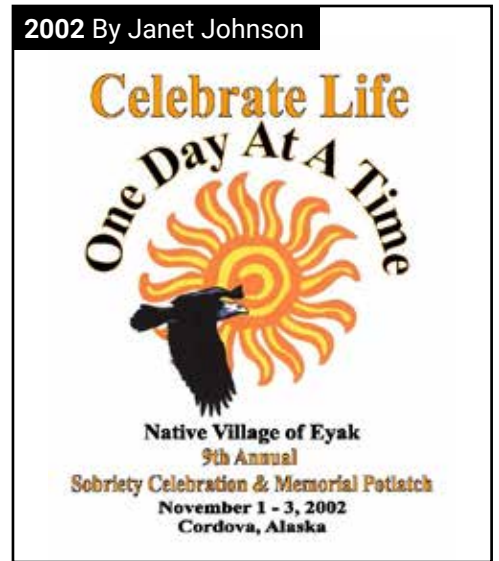
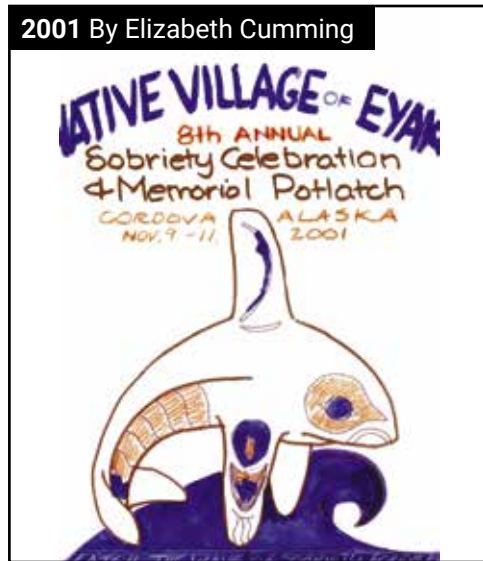
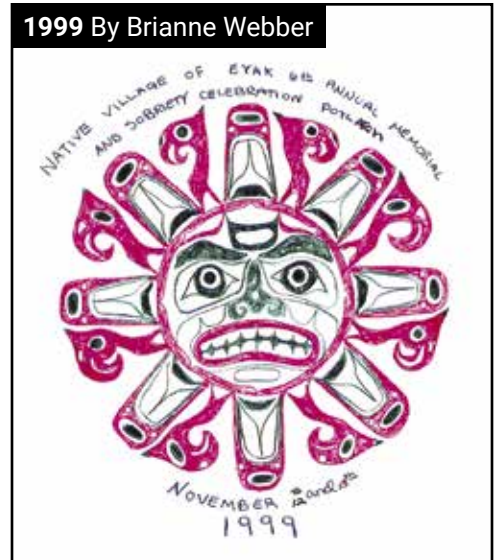
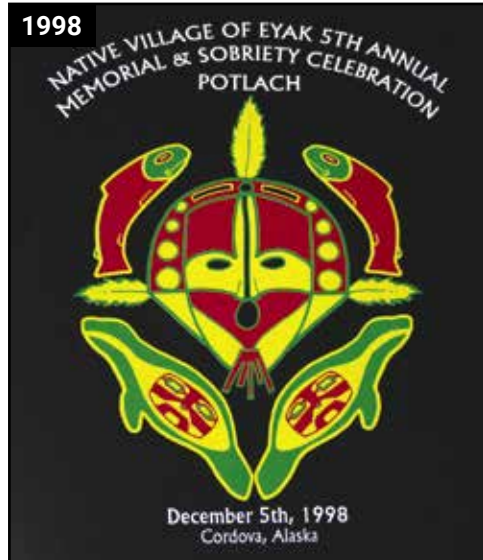
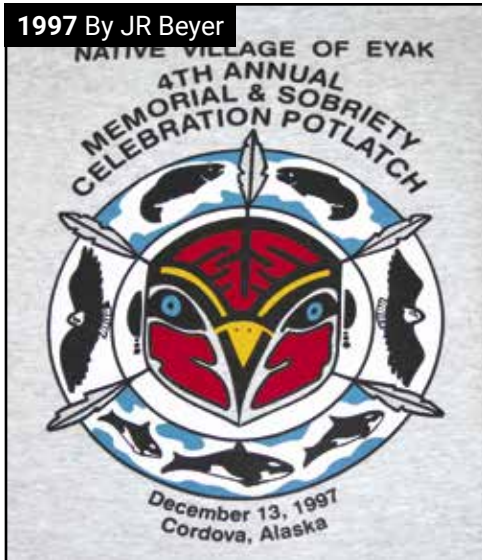
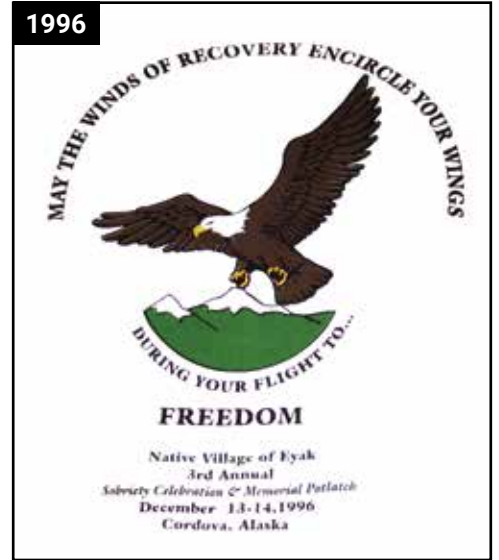
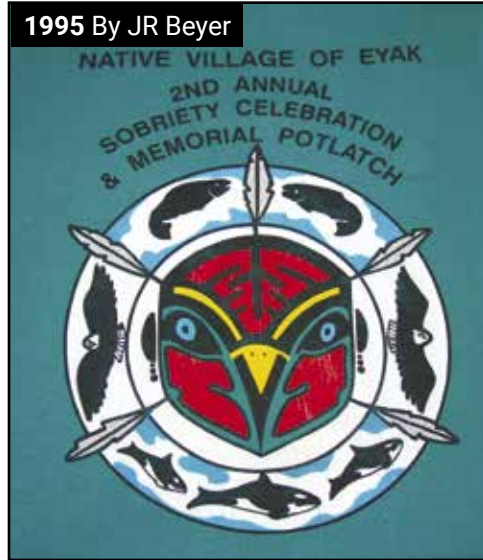
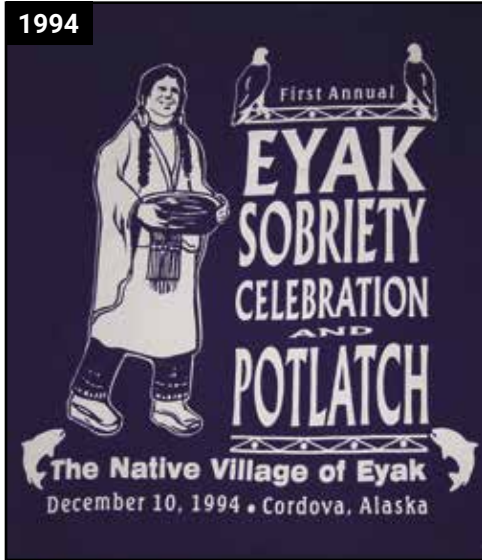














2003

Native Village of Eyak
10 Years...
10 NVE
...WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE
20th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch
November 7-9 2003
Cordova, Alaska

2004

SOBRIETY!
A Celebration Of Life
Native Village of Eyak
11th Annual
Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
November 12-14, 2004
Cordova, Alaska

2005 By Darlene Nichols

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK
12th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
Sobriety is friendship & fellowship
November 11-13, 2005 Cordova, Alaska

2006 By Darlene Nichols

Dance to the Beat of Sobriety!!
Native Village of Eyak
13th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
-- November 10-12, 2006 • Cordova, Alaska --

2007 By Futaba Gittleson

Tell Your Story, Heal Generations To Come
14th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
November 9th - 11th, 2007
The Native Village of Eyak
Cordova, Alaska

2008 By Futaba Gittleson

Sobriety is a life long journey
Sobriety
Family HAPPINESS PEACE
HEALTH Friends Plan
Pride SUCCES LIFE
THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK's
15th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
November 14th - 16th 2008
Cordova, Alaska

2009 By Futaba Gittleson

Live Sober
Live Free
The Native Village of Eyak's
16th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
November 13-15 2009
Cordova, Alaska

2010

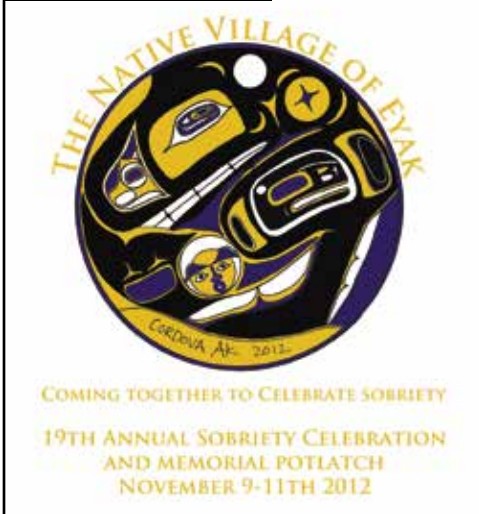
Standing Together For Sobriety
THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK'S
17TH ANNUAL SOBRIETY CELEBRATION & MEMORIAL POTLATCH
NOVEMBER 12-14, 2010 CORDOVA, ALASKA

2011 By Futaba Gittleson

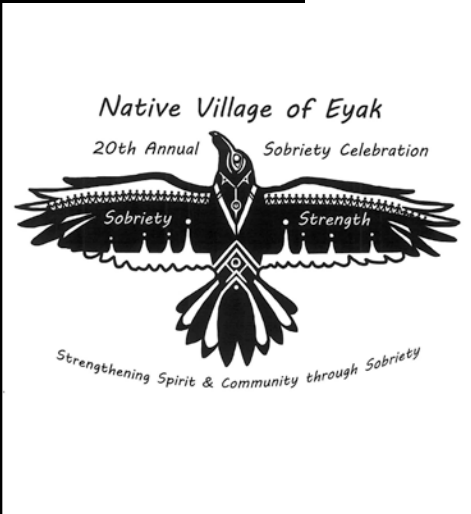
Sobriety is one of the greatest gifts to give to our family
The Native Village Of Eyak's
18th Annual Sobriety Celebration & Memorial Potlatch
November 11-13 2011 Cordova, Alaska



2012 By Casey Pape



2013 By Cadace Moffitt



2014 By Casey Pape



2015 By Rebecca Calfina



2015 By Casea Petersen



2017 By Brittany Banks



2018 By Sean O'Brien



2019 By Teal Hansen





NVE's elder support program gave older community members access to a variety of staple items. All photos courtesy of Jackie Ladd



NVE reaches out to older residents on a monthly basis with food and activities.

Tribal Elder Services

Contact NVE for pharmacy, food, mail and other delivery services

- Pharmacy and mail delivery: Contact Jackie Ladd to have your outgoing mail picked up and mail checked at the post office. Also, get your prescriptions picked up and delivered from the pharmacy.
- Elders may sign up for home delivery meals with CCMC. Contact Monica Shaw at 907-429-3167.
- NVE also has two food bank programs. Call Rebecca Calfina or Linda Powell at 907-424-7738.
- NVE has a group of 100 Elders and can offer resources when available. Jackie Ladd is making daily welfare checks to Elders but if Elders haven't heard from her please contact her at 907-253-5523.

If you need something not listed, please contact Jackie Ladd. Everyone has their own special needs.

Jackie Ladd Elder Services Coordinator
Jackie.Ladd@eyak-nsn.gov



For much of 2020, NVE's elder support program provided mail delivery and transportation for shopping.



NVE's elder support program gave older community members access to a variety of staple items.



Elder distribution events were organized by Elder Service Coordinator Jackie Ladd beginning in April 2020.



NVE's elder distribution events were funded by two Older Americans Act grants.



Ilanka Cultural Center takes a new temporary direction

The Ilanka Cultural Center (ICC) staff, Danaya Hoover and Teal Hansen, spent the months of October and November packing up and moving the cultural center to its new, temporary location on Main Street.

We are now located in the old Trooper building below Northstar Lumber, at 711 First Street. We welcome you to stop on in and peruse the hand-crafted items made by local artists — like the wallets made by Christine Belgarde and Diana Riedel, or the earrings by Melina Meyer, Sean O'Brien and Gloria Cunningham. The Ilanka giftshop also has newly acquired Coco By the Sea Earrings made by Corazon Rocili from King Cove, Alaska.

A limited supply of giftshop items is available to purchase online at ilankaculturalcenter.com. Items within the store may be purchased over the phone and mailed directly to you. Call 907-424-7903.

The ICC Museum also has a small display of new accessioned items, like Jennifer Younger's copper tináa, along with many older items fresh from the collection storage room, like the bone and ivory artifacts gifted by Nils Olson, or the rock anchor found on the shoreline of Bering Lake by Paul Swartzbart during silver fishing season, and the weight rocks that were attached to ancestral fishing nets and used like a lead line, found by William A. Bailey Jr. in the '50s on Hawkins Island and donated by Donald Bailey.

Membership drive

The Annual Membership Drive was planned for early 2021, which included a week-long online auction featuring nearly three dozen local artists. Additionally, we are scheduling cultural classes taught by Gloria Cunningham and Christine Belgarde in late February. ICC's hours of operation are ever-evolving due to COVID 19, so stay up to date with ICC happenings and hours of operation by following us on www.facebook.com/IlankaCulturalCenter or by becoming an ICC member and receiving first updates via email.

Contact us

Feel free to email Teal with any question regarding the museum, cultural classes or NVE Scholarships: teal.hansen@eyak-nsn.gov.

Email Danaya with any questions regarding the gift shop, ICC memberships, or the cultural department: danaya.hoover@eyak-nsn.gov.

ICC would like to congratulate Danaya Hoover on her promotion to Cultural Director! ■





Request for Candidates for Ilanka Cultural Center Committee Members

Two Ilanka Cultural Center Committee terms were open in New Year.

Ilanka Cultural Center Committee Member Qualifications:

- Candidates must be an enrolled NVE Tribal Member.
- Candidates must be at least 18 years of age.
- No person who has been convicted of a felony may be a candidate.
- No candidate may be an employee of Ilanka Cultural Center.
- Ilanka Cultural Center Committee Responsibilities:
 - Have an interest in our culture, history, traditional artistry, and the wellbeing of the Ilanka Museum.
 - Honor Ilanka's mission statement to be a gathering place that promotes the diverse indigenous presence in our community and to educate our people, community, and visitors while perpetuating the traditions, skills, and cultures inherent in our lives as we face today and the future.
 - Terms last three years.
 - Quarterly meetings held in person, or virtually, due to COVID-19.
 - Give direction to the Cultural Department when asked for guidance.



Native Arts Class

BY DANAYA HOOVER

Native Arts is back this year at the high school! In the past, this course has been taught by some amazing teachers. Some of the greats have included Mary Babic, Faith Barnes, Patience Faulkner, and Brooke Mallory.

This year, the course is being taught by Teal Hansen and myself, Danaya Hoover. Students attend two classes a week on Mondays and Wednesdays. There is a morning class of three students and an afternoon class of five.

Two-strand beading

The first quarter, Teal showed the class how to make two-strand beading projects, where the kids learned how to bead designs onto felt. These designs can later be added to other crafts, such as slippers or purses. Everyone in the class was able to choose their own shapes, style and color options for beads. They all did really good job, and their beadwork turned out wonderfully.

Intro to fur sewing

I came in next and started with introductory fur sewing. Students chose either a leather pouch, which they could attach their beading to, or an 8x8 pillow. Materials for both projects included cow and deer hide and beaver. Both the pillows and pouches were sewn inside-out. Once finished, it is always neat to flip it back out the right way to see the finished look. Kids that made pillows stuffed them with batting and were taught the hidden stitch to close them up. Those that made fur-rimmed pouches added leather straps to complete them.

Other projects included soapstone carving, felt ornament making, using the blanket stitch and border beading techniques, mask carving, and earring creation. I really enjoy working with all the students. It has been fun getting to know them and teaching them what I know. Students who attend this class earn high school credit as well as three college credits per semester through the Prince William Sound Community College.



ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER



REGISTERED
DIETITIAN
**JOE
NYHOLM**

Will be at
Ilanka Community Health Center
October 27-30th

PLEASE CONTACT
ICHC AT
424-3622
TO SCHEDULE
AN APPOINTMENT



CALL **907-424-3622**
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT

PERSONALIZED QUALITY HEALTH
CARE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY

ICHC

What's new at your Ilanka Community Health Center

This winter, Ilanka Community Health Center was busy, busy, busy keeping Cordova up-to-date with flu shots and COVID-19 testing! As COVID-19 continues to be a concern, we have remained in contact with CCMC and the city of Cordova to establish the safest community possible during this time.

Please continue to follow CDC, state and city guidelines as we work our way through this pandemic.

Testing

Testing is still available 2-3 p.m. Mondays and Fridays and noon-1 p.m. Saturdays. Please call ahead to register.

Vaccines

The Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine the Moderna vaccine were approved for use. Initially vaccine availability was limited to healthcare workers and other special populations. ICHC expects that by summer 2021 COVID-19 vaccines will be readily available. ICHC reminds you to continue to wear masks, wash hands and maintain social distance. Please watch the ICHC Facebook page for updates. We will also be sending out emails as necessary.

Patient Surveys

Patient Surveys were completed Dec. 18. Names were drawn weekly with four prizes of \$50 gift certificates and one \$200 gift certificate. There will be another opportunity to participate during April. We welcome suggestions and comments. Please feel free to drop a note in our suggestion box located inside the clinic.

Welcome Delia Reyes!

We are excited to introduce you to our new Family Nurse Practitioner, Delia Reyes! Delia is our new full-time provider. She has over 20 years in healthcare and has recently become an Advanced Practice Provider, specializing in family medicine. She studied at St. Philip's College and is familiar with Cordova and its residents, previously having worked at CCMC. Welcome Delia!

Acupuncture, chiropractic and physical therapy services

Tribal Council has expanded the purchase

referred care program to include acupuncture. Tribal member/beneficiaries now have more flexibility in the use of acupuncture, chiropractic and physical therapy services. Members/beneficiaries have a total of 18 visits per calendar year to be used in conjunction with a referral from Ilanka.

Please note it is the patient's responsibility to keep track of the number of combined visits to avoid a bill. Acupuncture services are available through Acupuncture & Wellness of Cordova. Physical Therapy is available through CCMC and there are two options for chiropractic services. Those are Dr. Terry Bartley with Cordova Chiropractic as well as Dr. Richard Bingham with NorthStar Alignment.

Eye Guys and dietician services

The Eye Guys and the Registered Dietitian are scheduled to come to Cordova quarterly. To make an appointment or get a schedule for the Eye Guys, please contact them directly at 907-346-3917. To make an appointment or find out the schedule for the Registered Dietitian, please contact the clinic at 907-424-3622 option No. 3.

NVE is always looking to expand services to Tribal members, and we welcome suggestions and ideas. We are hoping to bring more specialty services and expanded options for care in 2021.

Thanks,

JESSICA ARASMITH

Operations Coordinator
Ilanka Community Health Center
Cordova, AK
PH: 907-424-3622



Ilanka Community Health Center Welcomes Delia Reyes, FNP

Born in Monterrey, Mexico, Delia has always aspired to work in healthcare. Delia moved to California, gained her citizenship and earned her license in Vocational Nursing in 1996. Delia continued with her studies and in 2007, became a Registered Nurse, which is what eventually brought her to Cordova in 2012. This time in Cordova inspired her to continue her education and training to become a healthcare Provider earning the licensure of Family Nurse Practitioner. Delia and her husband have both worked in Cordova as RN's and love the community. Delia's strong desire to help patients along with her compassionate spirit, drives her to go above and beyond for her patients. With a strong background in Emergency Medicine, Critical Care, and bilingual skills, Delia is well suited for Cordova.



Quarantine Need essentials? We can help.

Native Village of Eyak is offering support in the way of errands, food pick-up/delivery, mail pick-up/delivery and general support if an NVE Tribal member or Beneficiary is COVID-19 positive or is quarantining due to being a close contact of someone who is COVID-19 positive.

Please contact
Tribal Family Services
907-424-2257
and he will help you
with the support you need.

The secondary number, should the first be unavailable is 907-424-2238.

*We at Native Village of Eyak
hope you are all doing well
and staying healthy.*

Find out more
For more information
on COVID-19 please visit:

- **Native Village of Eyak COVID-19 Dashboard**
eyak-nsn.gov
- **The City of Cordova COVID-19 Dashboard**
covid19.cityofcordova.net
- **The State of Alaska COVID-19 website**
covid19.alaska.gov
- **Alaska Department of Health and Social Services**
dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epi/id/Pages/COVID-19/default.aspx



PLEASE CALL
907-424-3622
TO MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT



PERSONALIZED QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY



The Eyak Inn on Nicholoff Way near NVE's main office.

Building Demolitions

In the summer of 2020, the NVE Tribal Council approved the plan to demolish both the The Eyak Corporation (TEC) Building and the Eyak Inn. There were open surplus times for both buildings where NVE Tribal Members were able to take items.

The TEC building was supposed to be taken down this fall. However, there was an issue with its title that has now been resolved. The Chugach Natives Association still held part of the title, and in December the Chugachmiut Board of Directors approved signing a quit claim deed for their portion over to NVE.



The Eyak Corporation Building on LeFevre Drive.

Tribal Family Services

TFS expands coverage with 4 new staff members

Renovated Pioneer Building will serve as Tribal Family Services hub

BY THE CORDOVA TIMES STAFF

Native Village of Eyak Tribal Family Services has expanded its coverage with four new staff members hired during 2020.



Advocacy Coordinator, Dania Neal

Advocacy Coordinator Dania Neal leads the TFS Sexual Assault Response Team and is in the process of establishing a Child Advocacy Center to serve Cordova.



Family Violence Prevention Coordinator, Lori Davis

Family Violence Prevention Coordinator Lori Davis organizes programs for prevention and virtual awareness in the area of domestic violence. Davis has also devised policies on the safe shelter services that TFS provides to domestic violence victims.

Pandemic support

During the early stages of the coronavirus pandemic, TFS implemented a plan to reach out to all Tribal elders with pandemic-related updates. Since then, this initiative has shifted toward offering elders support in dealing with isolation.

New location

A section of Cordova's Pioneer Building is currently under renovation by TFS Manager Cheryl Eleshansky, working with David and Bootslyn Roemhildt. This area, formerly used as a museum, will be used to house the TFS Department. Positions operating out of this space will include Indian Child Welfare Act Coordinator, Family Program Coordinator, Elder Services Coordinator, TFS Advocacy Coordinator and TFS Family Violence Prevention Coordinator. Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations programs and Sexual Assault Response Team programs will also offer services from this building, providing an up-town location where all applicable programs will be readily available to Tribal members.

Other news

Other projects underway include establishing a Child Welfare Committee and identifying potential foster homes for both Tribal and non-Tribal children. ICWA Coordinator Linda Powell, acting on behalf of the NVE Tribal Council, also contributed eight Christmas presents to children in foster care around the U.S. Additionally Powell maintains the TFS website.

An online version of the Moms, Pops, and Tots childcare program has been organized by Family Program Coordinator Jessica Weaver, including car seat distribution, car seat safety instruction and a virtual storytime event. Weaver also coordinates Chill Skills, an initiative to help Tribal children adapt positive coping strategies toward pandemic-related stressors. Other associated programs focus on a variety of mental health and wellness issues.



Protecting Cordova's children

My name is Dania Neal, and I am the TFS Advocacy Coordinator. I am heading up the Sexual Assault Response Team and in the process of building a Child Advocacy Center to serve all of Cordova.

I am developing the procedures and protocols for the Child Advocacy Center (CAC). I am also developing the Memorandum of Agreement for the CAC program.

Collaborating with the forensic nurses and law enforcement advocates, I will be getting the child neglect, sexual assault and child abuse training for the individuals involved.

With the forensic nurses, I am working to get the proper equipment for the CAC center: exam tables, a lamp for testing, etc. I am also working with law enforcement to get the proper sound system and cameras. I am in the process of getting the forensic nurses and law enforcement advocates trained for the CAC because it will be different from the SART program.

Dania Neal

Advocacy Coordinator
 TFS Native Village of Eyak
 P.O. Box 1388 Cordova, Alaska 99574
Confidential Tel|907-424-2232
 Fax|907-424-7739

Need help while quarantining?

Native Village of Eyak is offering support in the way of errands, food pick-up/delivery, mail pick-up/delivery and general support if an NVE Tribal member or beneficiary is COVID-19 positive or is quarantining due to being a close contact of someone who is COVID-19 positive.

Please contact

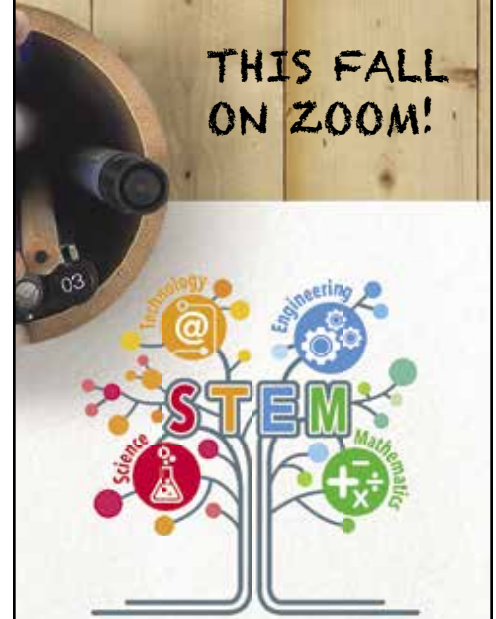
907-424-2257 or 907-424-2238

and we will help you with the support you need.

We at Native Village of Eyak hope you are all doing well and staying healthy.

BUILDER BUDDIES

THIS FALL ON ZOOM!



What is Builder Buddies STEM Club?

Builder Buddies is a STEM club where NVE tribal children Kindergarten-8th grade and their male parent, caregiver, relative, or role model explore science, technology, engineering, and math through fun activities!

What are the expectations?

During the school year, participating families will receive a monthly STEM activity box in the mail from NVE. At the end of each month, families will meet on zoom to discuss how their projects went.

For more information and to reserve a spot Contact Jessica Weaver

nvefamilies@eyak-nsn.gov
907-424-7738



Moms, Pops & Tots Storytime!

You and your child will listen to a story & then you can share your favorite story with the group.

**Mondays
11 a.m.
to NOON
on Zoom**

**OPEN TO THE
COMMUNITY**

*Please register in advance
so you can receive a Zoom invite.*

Ages Birth to 4 years old
with parent/caregiver present

Contact Jessica to register
and for more info.
nvefamilies@eyak-nsn.gov
or 907-424-7738

Tribal Family Services

Ask a Car Seat Technician!

In November, the Cordova community learned about car seat safety during the Second Annual Child Wellness Fair. Child passenger safety education was provided by the Center for Safe Alaskans in partnership with Buckle Up for Life, a national car seat safety program from Toyota and Cincinnati Children's Hospital, that helps to bring critical resources to Alaskan families provide free seats to those who attended. Once the free seats are distributed the Native Village of Eyak and the Center for Safe Alaskans are providing car seat checks (virtual car seat installations).

For those who did not attend, I would like to share some information about car seat safety, by answering commonly asked questions.

Q: What is the Alaska law requirements on car seat safety?

A: The Alaska law requires:

- Children less than 1 year of age or children older than 1 year but less than 20 pounds to be secured in a rear-facing car seat.
- Children 1 to 4 years weighing over 20 pounds to be properly secured in an appropriate child restraint.
- Children over 4 and less than 8 years of age who are under 4'9" and less than 65 pounds to be properly secured in a car seat or booster seat.

Even though these are the required legal limits for child restraints, these are not the best practices. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that you follow your seat's height and weight requirements before transitioning. The height and weight limits for your child's seat will be found on the car seat labels, as well as in your car seat manual.

Q: How do I install my car seat?

A: All car seats are different, so you will want to review your car seat manual. After

looking over your car seat manual, you also want to look at your motor vehicle manual.

If you have a rear-facing seat, use either the seatbelt or the lower anchors (do not use them together). If using the seatbelt, make sure the seatbelt is locked. To lock the seatbelt, pull the belt all the way out, and then you should hear a ticking noise as it goes back into the retractor. It is important to note that if you use the lower anchors, they do have a weight limit, so be sure to check your car seat manual to verify the lower anchor weight limits on your child's seat. Other important things to check when installing your rear-facing seat are the recline angle and making sure you are using the correct belt path.

If you are installing a forward-facing seat, it is similar to installing a rear-facing seat. It has a different belt path and uses the top tether strap. For instance, you would use the tether strap and the seat belt, or the tether strap and the lower anchors.

If you are installing a booster seat, you do not lock the seatbelt. The booster seat helps position a seatbelt properly to fit like an adult. There is a lot that goes into installing a seat,

AAP recommends
that all children
**younger
than 13**
years ride in the back
seat of vehicles

Alaska Law requires:

- Children less than 1 year of age or children older than 1 year but less than 20 pounds to be secured in a rear-facing car seat
- Children 1 to 4 years weighing over 20 pounds to be properly secured in an appropriate child restraint
- Children over 4 and less than 8 years of age who are under 4'9" and less than 65 pounds to be properly secured in a car seat or booster seat



so please review your car seat manual as well as your vehicle owner's manual and contact me if you have any questions.

Q: How do I harness my child in my seat?

A: If you are using a rear-facing seat the harness (shoulder) straps will be below or at the shoulders. If the seat is forward facing you will have the harness (shoulder) straps at or just above the shoulders. The chest clip would be at armpit level.

Q: How do I buckle in my booster seat?

A: First make sure you have a lap and shoulder belt. You do not want to use lap only belt. Make sure the shoulder belt crosses midway between the child's shoulder and neck. If the booster is a highback booster there will be a belt guide that you can use to help get the positioning correct. You will want to have the lap belt across the child's hips and under the armrest; then you can buckle in your booster seat. Even if your child is not in the car, you should buckle in your booster seat to stop it from being a projectile in case of a collision.

Q: Can my child wear a puffy coat when in their car seat?

A: Puffy coats are not recommended when your child is in their seat because the harness straps will not be adjusted properly to keep you child safe in case there was a collision. There are still ways to keep you child warm. Once your child is buckled in you can put the coat on backwards. Place a blanket over your child while in the seat.

Q: Will my car seat expire, and how do I find out if it is recalled?

A: Car seats usually expire six years after their manufactured date. You will find this information on your car seat, usually under the seat. If you registered your car seat, the manufacturer would notify you if there was any recall. If you have not, you can check online for recalls; register your seat online if you haven't already!

**Have further questions?
I would be glad to answer them!**

JESSICA WEAVER
Family Program Coordinator
Car Seat Technician #785533
907-424-2246 Direct line
Native Village of Eyak
PO Box 1388, Cordova AK 99574

Car Seats in Alaska

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) Recommendations



Rear-Facing Car Seats

Rear-facing car seats as long as possible until the highest height or weight limit of the seat.



Forward-Facing Car Seats

Forward-facing car seats from the time they outgrow rear-facing seats for most children through at least 4 years of age.



Booster Seats

Belt positioning booster seats from the time they outgrow forward-facing seats for most children through at least 8 years of age.



Seat Belt

Keep your child in a booster seat until big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. The seat belt should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest.





Tribal Member Photos



Christmas with Rachel, Jessica, Mark and Danaya Hoover.

Photo courtesy of Danaya Hoover

The Babic and McDaniel families out enjoying the PTA's Halloween parade. Photo courtesy of Vivian Kennedy



Tribal Member Photos



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT NVE

View current available positions at

WWW.NVEYAK.COM/JOBS

or call NVE's Human Resources Manager Denna Francischetti at

907-424-7738

Full job descriptions and applications are available at NVE's main office at 110 Nicholoff Way, online at www.nveyak.com/jobs/ and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NativeVillageofEyak/>

NVE TRIBAL COURT

Available to the entire community
Everyone is welcome

Native Village of Eyak's Judicial Department offers:

- Conflict Resolution
- Family Mediation
- Restoration
- Juvenile Diversion
- Child Welfare (tribal members only)
- Intervention

For more information, please contact the Court Administrator Sarah Kathrein at

907-424-7880

500 Water Street, Cordova, AK (next to the Alaska Court System)
sarah.kathrein@eyak-nsn.gov or courtclerk@eyak-nsn.gov



Prince William Marina

2.5 MILE WHITSHED RD. IN CORDOVA, AK

BOAT & LOCKER STORAGE

BOB LADD, MARINA MANAGER
907-253-4332

EMAIL: BOB.LADD@EYAK-NSN.GOV



Contact Jackie Ladd
Elder Services Coordinator

907-424-7738

for information on Elder Services, activities and events.

We want to see what you've been up to!

Share your fun photos.

EMAIL US AT
ECHO@EYAK-NSN.GOV

(Please put "Tribal Member Photos" in the subject line.)



Native Village of Eyak

P.O. Box 1388
110 Nicholoff Way
Cordova, Alaska 99574
(907) 424-7738
www.nveyak.com

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NVE has a new website!

EYAK-NSN.GOV

WE ARE EXCITED TO
ANNOUNCE THE
LAUNCH
OF OUR NEWLY
DESIGNED
WEB SITE!



And find us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/NativeVillageofEyak](https://www.facebook.com/NativeVillageofEyak)