

2007 Migratory Bird Calendar Winners

Statewide Winners

Literature Grand Prize Winner -Alexis Seifert, Atqasuk 7th Grade, Meade River School. Poster Grand Prize Winner - Leah Chingliak, Goodnews Bay, 10th Grade, Rocky Mountain School

Poster Winners

Grade K-2: Rhiannon Olsen, 2nd Grade, Dillingham; Kingukaq Lowe, Bethel, 1st Grade, Ayaprun Elitnaurvik School; Kameron Bartman, 2nd Grade, Dillingham.
Grade 3-5: Julianna Nicholson, 4th Grade, Dillingham Elementary; Eli Freitas, Atqasuk, 4th Grade, Meade River School; Cameron Samuelson, King Cove, 4th Grade, King Cove School
Grade 6-8: Raven Samuelson, 8th Grade, King Cove School; Arimie LeFevere, Egegik, 6th Grade; Christine Francis, Toksook Bay, 7th Grade, Nelson Island School.
Grade 9-12: Valyne Shugak, Pedro Bay, 10th Grade, Dena'ina School; Teresa Stalker, Kiana, 12th Grade, Kiana School

Literature Winners

Grade K-2: Emerald Sherman, Adak, 1st Grade, Adak Public School; Everett Evanoff, Naknek, 2nd Grade; I. Narull'aq Liu, Bethel, Ayaprun Immersion School
Grade 3-5: Elizabeth Stanley, Nulato, 5th Grade; Perez Tunguing, Dillingham; Auna Springer, Bethel, 5th Grade,
Grade 6-8: Cody Cossairt, Naknek, 8th Grade; Karstin Hadley, Buckland, 8th Grade
Grade 9-12: Paul Askoak, Newhalen, 11th Grade; Ben Bromiley, Iliamna, 11th Grade; Darin Krukoff, 9th Grade, Nikolski School.

Wellness Warriors Wanted

Promoting wellness for Native communities, families and individuals continues to be a priority for BBNA and other Alaska Native organizations, including the Southcentral Foundation (SFC), the Cook Inlet Region's Alaska Native health corporation.

SFC has made wellness the focus of its vision and mission statement. Below are strategies excerpted from SFC's web site at www.southcentralfoundation.com.

Family Wellness is about healthy relationships in families. These values support men and women providing for their families by being able to bring food to the table, provide shelter and clothing for each family member and protection from all forms of harm. But families do not always look this healthy anymore. We need

to reassert these values.

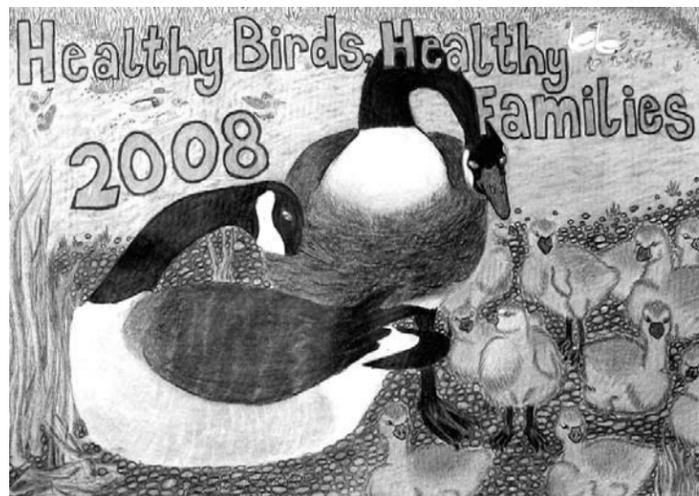
Men: First and foremost we need all men to step forward to take back their place as the protectors of family values. We need men to teach their sons to hold each member of a family precious and safe. Anger can bring strength when it is in service of protecting the family. We need fathers to teach their sons that it is not OK to throw a chair or pound a fist when one is angry. We need grandfathers to teach their granddaughters that all women deserve to be loved well, and treated with respect and dignity so they may continue to pass on nurturance and love. We are looking for the warriors of family wellness.

Women: We need women to step forward and take their place as the instillers

of family values...to teach their daughters to seek relationships with men who respect them and who will join them in creating families that are a fortress against harm. We need women who believe and understand that a child raised in violence may continue the cycle of violence, as a child raised in peace and love will often continue the cycle of peace and love. We need women to teach their sons to understand their emotions and to use these emotions to make wise and careful choices. We need grandmothers to teach their grandsons that all men need to be loved and respected so that they can love others well. We are looking for the warriors of family wellness.

Children: We need children of all ages

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Goodnews Bay 10th grader Leah Chingliak's poster will grace the cover of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's 2007 Alaska Migratory Bird Calendar. Chingliak's drawing was the grand prize winner in annual contest, intended to raise awareness about environmental issues effecting migratory birds.

Regional Winners: Grade K-2: Rhiannon Olsen, Grade 2, Dillingham; Kameron Bartman, Grade 2, Dillingham; James Gregory, Grade 2, Dillingham
Grade 3-5: Julianna Nicholson, Grade 4, Dillingham; Connor Ito, Grade 5, Dillingham; Samantha Ishnook, Grade 5, Koliganek
Grade 6-8: Sandra Larson, Grade 8, Koliganek; Kermit Ramey, Grade 7: Aleknagik; Willis Small, Age 13, Quinhagak
Grade 9-12: Roberta Ouya, Grade 6, Goodnews Bay; Leah Chingliak, Grade 10, Goodnews Bay; Karin Merritt, Grade 12, Goodnews.
Regional Literature Winners: Grade K-2: Katirina Mowrer, Dillingham; Rhiannon Olsen, Grade 2, Dillingham; Andrew Akelkok, Grade 2, Dillingham. Grade 3-5: Makenzie Flensburg, Dillingham; Roxanne Roehl, Dillingham; Perez Tunguing, Grade 3, Dillingham.

Looking for a
cool summer job?

Up'nerkaq!
(Springtime)

"If you listen you can hear
the lonely sea, calling
back the gull of summer."

Emily Ann Smith Staup 1973 - 1992



Michael Smith of Quinhagak counts harbor seals at Narvaq Bay during a Summer Youth Stewardship Program internship organized by the Qayassiq Walrus Commission. (Helen Chythlook Photo)

BBNA has several exciting summer internship positions open in field of natural resource management. Visit BBNA's job website at <http://www.bbna.com/jobs/jobs.asp#Internships>.

Campus fish class plumbs marketing mysteries

A dozen fish catchers, sellers and entrepreneurs gathered at the Bristol Bay campus in Dillingham April 12-13 to compare notes on their plans for selling Bristol Bay fish products.

The gathering was the last classroom session of a direct marketing course paid for by the Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation. Participants also attended the Boston Seafood Show in mid-March, thanks to funds secured by the Bristol Bay campus from the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's Environmental Entrepreneurship Program.

The program was intended to fos-

ter small business development, which Campus Director Dr. Deborah McLean-Nelson called "extremely important to our area."

"Micro-enterprises built on adding value to fishery products are multifaceted endeavors," she said. "Packaging, advertising and promotion, sales and distribution, building a customer base and supplier relationships are just a few of the components needed to build a successful business."

Local fish processors and marketers attending included Roland and Victoria Briggs, owners of Ugashik Wild Salmon Co., (www.briggsway.com), Pearl and

Swallows, seagulls, ducks and geese -- the first signs of Spring -- are already showing up in Southwest Alaska. It won't be long before the trees begin to leaf, green sprouts start poking their heads from the ground, and the first king salmon hit the beaches. The change of seasons from the short cold days of winter to the longer warm days of summer is as refreshing as the warming political climate in Juneau, and promising signs from the nation's capitol, where BBNA has been at work on an initiative that holds great promise for our region.

For more than a year now, BBNA has been cultivating a concept we're hoping will soon take root and flower in Congress. Working with the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) and the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN), we are persuading Congress that the future of Southwestern Alaska is just as important as that of developing nations that receive assistance through the Bush

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Nicole Strub of Dillingham's Dancing Salmon Co. (www.dancingsalmon.net), and Heidi Weaver and Ronny Neubert of the Diamond Lodge Smokehouse in King Salmon (www.aksmokehouse.com). Weaver's halibut lox, made from locally harvested halibut, won the top award for the best new retail product at the Boston show.

Materials gathered from vendors at the seafood show illustrating processing equipment, packaging and other seafood marketing innovations will be available at the BBNA Economic Development Program's small business development library.

Warming trend a welcome change

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Administration's Millennium Challenge Account program.

Described as our country's third great economic development initiative since World War II —following President Truman's Marshall Plan and President Kennedy's Alliance for Progress -- the goal of the Millennium Challenge is ambitious: to double the size of the economies in the world's poorest countries within a decade. In spite of increasingly stringent funding concerns, during a visit to Washington in March BBNA President Ted Angasan and I learned there is renewed interest in improving the delivery of services to Alaska Natives and Native Americans, and in improving rural Alaska's economic health.

Indian Roads Update

The Bureau of Indian Affairs is in the process of notifying tribes of their Indian Reservation Roads (IRR) tribal share funding amounts for FY 2007. There are still more than 60 tribes statewide that took no action in regard their Indian Reservation Roads funds in FY 2006. When that happens, the funding is returned to the Federal Highway Administration.

Tribes that have self-determination act contracts directly with the BIA will have to provide a control schedule (budget) based on their FY 2007 tribal shares. The BIA has also advised that it will be monitoring for program compliance, and that tribes will have to be in compliance with their existing contracts in order to receive additional funds.

BBNA operates the program under compact for some Bristol Bay tribes, and other tribes that wish to join the compact for this purpose are welcome to do so. An authorizing resolution will be required.

For more information contact Bruce Baltar at 842-5257 (bbaltar@bbna.com).

Prepare To Stand Up & Be Counted!

The U.S. Census Bureau is making plans for the 2010 census, and because state and federal money is often allocated by population, BBNA urges everyone in our region to stand up and be counted when the tallying begins.

Census enumerators -- people counters -- will be needed for every Alaska community. Enumerators are paid by the number of households counted.

The first U.S. census was taken in 1790, when U.S. marshals on horseback counted 3.9 million inhabitants. Since then, as of April 17, 2007, the population has grown to 301,626,793, according to the Census Bureau's website.

That and other interesting Census facts, including information about plans underway for the 2010 count, are available at <http://www.census.gov>.

Many of our people live under the same or similar conditions to those in developing nations. BBNA, AVCP and AFN have proposed to an innovative development program that will demonstrate the strengths of the Millennium Challenge Account on American soil. Our initiative is seen in Washington as one of the most innovative economic initiatives in recent years. At the suggestion of our friends in Congress who support our initiative, and in keeping with our cultural tradition of sharing, we are welcoming similarly situated Native Americans and Native Hawaiians to help promote legislation we have developed -- called "The Native American Millennium Challenge Demonstration Project Act" -- and forwarded to decision makers in Washington, D.C.

On the state level, our new Governor, changes in the Administration, and unique coalitions in the Alaska Legislature appear to be very promising for rural Alaska in general. Speaking to the AFN Board in February, Governor Palin and her cabinet members expressed a clear desire to work with the Native community. The new Administration's positive attitude toward rural Alaska and Alaska Natives is a fresh breeze from Juneau.

There are many reasons to believe the warming trends will continue. As we prepare for the harvests ahead, BBNA wishes everyone a safe and bountiful season. Good luck and good fishing!

Ralph Andersen, CEO

ADF&G forecasts 2007 red catch of 26.3 million



The Alaska Department of Fish & Game's 2007 Bristol Bay sockeye salmon forecast is for a harvest of 26.3 million from a total run of 34.4 million. Forecasts for the various fishing districts are:

Egegik.....	8.1 Million
Naknek-Kvichak.....	7.44 Million
(Naknek 4.54; Kvichak 1.88; Alagnak 1.03)	
Nushagak.....	7.04 Million
(Nushagak 1.32; Igushik .97; Wood 4.75)	
Ugashik.....	3.33 Million
Togiak.....	.44 Million

The University of Washington's Fisheries Research Institute (FRI) forecast is higher by about a million, with most of the difference predicted from a higher return to Ugashik.

The Nushagak district's 2007 chinook forecast is for a harvest of 145,000 from a total run of 215,000.

The total catch for the Togiak herring sac-roe fishery is forecast at 23,643 metric tons: 16,544 tons for the purse seine fleet and 7,090 tons for gillnetters.

Wellness Warriors

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to be viewed as the reflectors of family wellness. We need to listen to and learn from them - to understand that their behaviors are a reflection of all that has been modeled for them by their fathers, mothers, siblings, grandparents and community members. They will seek healthy foods if that is the way they were raised. They will seek healthy relationships if that is the way they were raised. Watch the children in your community. They will tell you if we as a community are raising more of these warriors. Raise your child to become one. For more information, see <http://www.scf.cc/fwwi.cfm>.



Elders Living Alone?

BBNA Elderly Services recently purchased 24 telephones that come with a bracelet or necklace that acts as emergency dialer. If an elder falls or needs emergency help, a press of the button directs the telephone to dial emergency numbers to call for help. The remote dialing works from as far as 70 feet away from the phone.

The phones are available to qualified elders and can give peace of mind for caregivers. Please call me or Pete Andrew at BBNA Elderly Services at 842-4139 to request a phone.

Carolyn Smith, Care Coordinator

Dillingham Senior Center Lending Closet

The Dillingham Senior Center has the following items available to loan: Wheelchairs (4); Wooden Canes (4); Four-footed Metal Canes (2); Four-footed Walker with Gripper; Light Weight Walkers with Wheels (3); Heavy Duty Walkers with Wheels (3); Walkers with no wheels (5); Shower Seats (2); Stand Alone Toilet; Screw On Toilet Seats (3); Toilet Seats (4); Toilet Seat Riser Handle; Crutches (4); Foot Cast; Knee Braces; Miscellaneous Cane tips & grippers.

Advocacy Workshop May 8
Learn how to influence policy makers at an advocacy workshop set for May 8 at the Bristol Inn Conference Room in Dillingham. Sponsored by the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, the five hour workshop starts at 9:30 a.m. To RSVP or for more information, contact Heather Hwang with the UAA's Center for Human Development, 272-8270 ext. 253.

BBNA's interactive community calendar is at <http://plus.calendars.net/bristolbay>.



Alcohol test kits required on boats

According to a spokesperson for the U.S. Coast Guard, Bristol Bay fishing vessels are required to carry blood alcohol testing kits.

Speaking at halibut workshops coordinated by BBEDC in Togiak, Naknek and Dillingham, Coast Guard Lt. Danielle Wiley said anyone on board a vessel involved in a "serious marine incident" needs to be tested and the results recorded unless they are within two hours of a Coast Guard approved testing facility.

Serious marine incidents are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (46 CFR 4.03-2). They include any loss of life or injuries requiring medical attention beyond basic first aid, a vessel sinking, oil spills or damages in excess of \$100,000.

Basic saliva-sensitive alcohol blood level test strips cost just a few dollars each, but like emergency flares, they eventually expire and need to be replaced. According to Marine Advisory Program Agent Liz Brown in Dillingham, the test kits will be available at local fishing supply dealers.

'Barrier Crimes' may ban employment

Convictions for shoplifting and driving under the influence are among a growing list of crimes for which job applicants may be barred from employment with state agencies under new stricter regulations recently adopted by the State of Alaska.

"What individuals may have been able to get away with in the past, they may not be able to get away with now," a spokesperson for the Alaska Department of Labor said.

The list of "barrier crimes" is long, ranging from violating court orders and substance abuse -- which can bar employment for up to 10 years -- to more serious convictions for crimes involving weapons, assault and murder, which can bar employment for life.

The regulations, the latest in a series of changes that started in 2004 aimed at increasing public safety and streamlining the administrative process for the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, took effect in February. Other recent changes included the creation of a background check unit in 2006.

The goal is to protect the health and safety of individuals in state care, according to DOL. The bottom line for people seeking work with the state is that they will need to disclose their histories, provide fingerprints and permit a state and national background search.