



Kelt'aeni Newsletter

February/March 2010

Volume 10, Issue 1

"It is an honor to be chosen to go to Washington DC and represent my community and the Dental Health Aide Therapy Program. I think that this will be the beginning to new doors opening for the DHAT program, not only here but also in other areas of the United States. To sit here and think that I have been a part in all this is awe inspiring and humbling at the same time." ~Danielle Boston

Dental Health Aide Program

Danielle Boston has been invited to do a presentation on the Dental Health Aide Therapy Program on February 25-26, 2010 in Washington DC. Danielle will be presenting at the Dental Therapist Project Kickoff sponsored by the Community Catalyst Group. She will be presenting on why she became a dental health aide therapist, the training aspect, the benefits to the community and the advantage she has being from the community. We look forward to hearing more about her travels to Washington DC when she returns. Good Luck Danielle and safe travels!

Ahtna Animals

MSTC: Ahtna Language Program

*i n u u n i i g
i g i i n e d h
s o g g a t o i
e u g b a d g z
n a e n k i a d
x d i d i n z u
d d l l t e g e
t u d i n i n n*

Dzen
Dliigi
Deniigi
Debae
Udzih
Tikaann
Ggax
Taggos
Nuuni



"With Honor, Dignity, and Respect, empowering our people by enhancing our traditional values to ensure a healthier and more positive future for our children."

In the Spotlight

Barbara Blake



"My Athabascan family that I would love to recognize..."

Irene Johnson –
Grandmother Kenneth Johnson – Father
Nathaniel Blake – Son
Merle Long – Aunt
Robert Johnson – Uncle
Sandy Moore – Aunt
Brenda Johnson – Aunt
Richard Johnson – Uncle
Melody Johnson – Aunt
Eddie Johnson – Uncle

"She who kneels before
God can stand before
anyone."
~ Anonymous ~



MSTC would like to recognize and encourage our youth who keep their eye on the long journey ahead. Barbara Blake is one of these exceptional role models. She completed her internship with the USDA-Rural Development Native American Program and the Office of Tribal Relations under the Secretary of Agriculture. She shares, "I can't even begin to describe how much I learned while in DC, it definitely makes a difference to experience these processes first hand."

Barbara will be graduating with both her AAS in Tribal Management and a BA in Rural Development in May 2010. She enjoys activities centered around her rich Haida/Tlingit/Athabascan heritage like language, dancing, artwork and learning.

We look forward to hearing more from Barbara in her bright future. Tsin' Aen Barbara for being such a shining star!



Contact Information:

Barbara Blake (Waahlaal Gidaak)
Office of Senator Albert Kookesh - First Alaskans Fellow
State Capitol, Room 11
Juneau, AK 99801
Office Phone: 907-465-5286



"Leaders must overcome adversity through learning and adapting. Alaska Natives have consistently set ourselves apart through cooperation with each other. It is important to continue these bonds as we develop into leadership. You must have a voice and you must be strong in your ability to express that voice. Conduct your life and your leadership honestly. Finally, it is important to be able to laugh at events or circumstances that would otherwise make you jaded and angry."

~ Barbara Blake



Chistochina Fun Days Race Results

Six Dog	Four Dog	Two Dog	One Dog
1 st Evelyn Beeter	1 st Bjorn Beeter	1 st Doreen Northway	1 st Romeo Northway
2 nd Alfred Grant III	2 nd Colene Charley	2 nd Preston Paul	2 nd Raven Northway
3 rd Agnes Denny	3 rd Kaelyn Charley	3 rd Sierra Northway	3 rd Michael Jordan
4 th Lemmie Charley	4 th Sammie Ellsworth	4 th Sammie Ellsworth	4 th Alexandra Hoke
5 th Bernie Paul	5 th Zach Walker	5 th Taylor Vollman	5 th Cheyanne Northway
6 th Carroll Johnson	6 th Conner Verfailliz	6 th Justin Johns	6 th Mathias Hoke
7 th Jessica Denny		7 th Conner Verfailliz	7 th Macaiah Denny
8 th Cecil Martin			



MSTC EPA PROGRAM UPDATE

Jim Sharpe, Environmental Coordinator

2010 Alaska Forum on the Environment

MSTC Environmental Coordinator, Jim Sharpe and Environmental Assistant, David Ewan of Mentasta Lake, recently attended the Alaska Forum on the Environment in Anchorage. The annual event is a showcase of the many facets of Environmental issues and interest's in Alaska. Topics included in the forum ranged from issues concerning contaminants, hazardous waste cleanup, hazardous materials management, pollution prevention, and a wide array of training sessions for participants. The Alaska Forum on the Environment is a non-profit organization dedicated to education, promoting cooperation, and protecting our environment.

In other EPA News, we have begun to enhance our recycling efforts in Mentasta by setting up an aluminum recycle drop off site at the laundry facility there in Mentasta, and installing can crushers at residences. We hope to increase all recycling efforts, which include aluminum, used oil, antifreeze, batteries, and e-waste (electronics). We will have our annual e-waste roundup this summer. Let's all do our part to help recycle!

Please offer a big welcome to our new Environmental Assistant, David Ewan when you see him out and about. David is based at our Mentasta office and can be reached at the Tribal Office, phone # 291-2319 or 291-4014 . Please call David with any environmental concerns you may have.



The Legality and Function of Advisory Boards in the Tribal Health Systems

by, Wilson Justin

Like Board Committees, Advisory Councils often function as a tool for research or a sounding board for major policy concerns or even basic issues like advice on directions, goals and outcomes. In the Alaska Tribal Health System these things can get a little tangled and very confusing so let's take a look at one such model in this column.

ASU-THC stands for the Anchorage Service Unit Tribal Health Council. This Council directly advises the ANTHC Board of services and health concerns among 52 tribes with direct ties to the AMMC as the primary Hospital for all care and services. Members of the governing council of ASU-THC include MSTC and CRNA, which respectively are a Title V Compact (MSTC), and a Title III 638 Contractor (CRNA). Other members of the ASU-THC Council include independent Self-Governance Tribes like the Chitina Tribal Council.

The first question we should dispense of is where did ASU-THC come from? ASU-THC came with the territory so to speak. In the days of the direct Indian Health Service Management of Statewide Health for Alaska Natives, those Tribal Communities who were directly tied to the old ANS Hospital were given a voice in an advisory capacity regarding the management of the ANS Hospital by the Indian Health Service Alaska Area Director via the formation of the ASU-THC. In the 1990's the Title V legislation came into being, which in 1998 led to the formation of ANTHC. At the time ANTHC retained the new Indian Health Service Hospital now located on Tudor road and referred to as ANMC or the Alaska Native Medical Center. ASU-THC was more or less adopted by ANTHC since it had preceded ANTHC by at least a generation under the old Indian Health Service Regime. There was no question that ASU-THC had a legal standing of some sort and no one differed on the issue of the role that ASU-THC was to assume. The role was to be the main advisory council to ANTHC on behalf of 52 Anchorage Area Tribes. This is the membership portion.

ASU-THC membership consists of the 52 Anchorage Area Tribes. The governing council is split between small Providers like MSTC and CRNA and independent Tribes like Chitina and Chickaloon. I am going to skip any discussion on finances, by laws, historical levels of services or even the intent of the Indian Health Service Director when ASU-THC was formed. Instead I'll focus on a question or two that are current and germane to the discussion. First, let's take a look at the governing board, as mentioned; the council is made up of Consortiums, 638 Contractors and Tribes. What happens to when we meet? For the most part consortiums and Contractors have quality of service issues to present and discuss, whereas Independent Tribes have very basic and fundament question of access to the ANMC that they want to bring to the table. So at any given time there is a difference of opinion of how to precede on fundamental questions such as radiology, appointments, travel and even population issues. The bottom line is that we focus on the Quality of the Service contracted for or accessing the Hospital at any given time.

Another question is: how do the health needs and specialty services evolve through time. Is the ASU-THC preparing to address this ever changing environment with dependable information or pertinent observations critical to policy discussions at the ANTHC Board Level? One such "new" service is the development of the Behavioral Health Aide Program which came into being over a period of about 6 years between now and 2004. The BHA program will have direct impact at the village and regional level on all kinds of health issues outside of behavioral health. This occurs since physical and mental health goes together like peanut butter and jelly. How then do you make the BHA program interface with ASU-THC at any given level? I'll stop here since there not much room for extended discussions in these columns. But you see there are questions we have to deal with at all times as to who we represent, why we represent those that we do, where and with what. ASU THC is always split on the question of Access to the Hospital or Quality of Service at the Hospital, dependent on which kind of service provider you represent at the table.

Everything on the Earth has a purpose, every disease a herb to cure it, and every person a mission. This is the Indian theory of existence.

~Mourning Dove - Salish



On Line Resources

Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium
<http://www.mstc.org>

Cheesh'na Tribal Council
<http://www.chistochina.com>

Mentasta Traditional Council

Alaska Native Knowledge Network
<http://ankn.uaf.edu/>

Yukon Native Language Centre
<http://www.yukoncollege.yk.ca/ynlc/>

Wrangell - St. Elias National Park
<http://www.nps.gov/wrst/>

Copper River Native Association
www.crnative.org

Health Links

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
<http://www.anthc.org/>

Alaska Native Medical Center
<http://www.anmc.org/>

Alaska Community Health Aides
<http://www.akchap.org>

Alaska Department of Public Health
<http://www.hhs.state.ak.us/dph/>

Indian Health Service
<http://www.ihs.gov>

Alaska Native Health Board
<http://www.anhb.org>

South Central Foundation
<http://www.southcentralfoundation.com>

South Central Foundation Health Info
<http://www.scfhealthinfo.com>



News from the Mentasta Traditional Council

There will be a Dispatch Chainsaw Class

For Ages 18-24 Years in Tok

In March 2010

Please contact James (Jimmie) Folan

The Premises Foreman for Forestry at 907-883-5134

The Alaska Ablazin Family Camp

Will be at the Mentasta School

July 22, 2010

The Arkansas Church Group

will be in Mentasta

August 2-5, 2010

If you would like to send a card or contact Lotha Wolf,

You may reach her at this address:

Lotha Wolf

9100 Centennial Circle

Anchorage, AK 99504

*May the stars carry your sadness away,
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,
May hope forever wipe away your tears,
And, above all, may silence make you strong.*

Chief Dan George

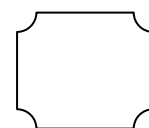


February 2010

March 2010

- 2/2 - Benny Funk
- 2/4 - Romeo Sanford
- 2/6 - Lee Nicolai
- 2/7 - Doreen Northway
- 2/7 - Sierra Northway
- 2/10 - Robert Johnson
- 2/11 - Abraham Albert
- 2/12 - Smitty Sanford
- 2/14 - Allison Booshu
- 2/14 - Latha Wolf
- 2/16 - John Sanford
- 2/17 - Crystal Ewan
- 2/17 - Michael Boston
- 2/20 - Lena Charley
- 2/24 - Nicholas Patrick
- 2/25 - Cierra David

- 3/7 - TreAnn Ewan
- 3/9 - Cecil Sanford
- 3/9 - Houston Sanford Jr.
- 3/14 - Teryn Pence
- 3/15 - Ruby Hyatt
- 3/22 - Calvin Justin
- 3/24 - Donna Pennington
- 3/24 - Duane Kaase
- 3/24 - Ronald Pitka
- 3/24 - Ryan Charley
- 3/27 - Marvin Sanford



PO Box 357 ● Gakona, AK 99586

907-822-5399 ● www.mstc.org

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Penel