

Eyak Echo

ECHOES OF OUR ANCESTORS



MASTER WEAVER

Crafting cedar woven hats with *Holly Churchill*

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Native Village of Eyak Employees

TRIBAL COUNCIL

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 Sylvia Lange Tribal Council Vice Chairman
 Pam Smith Tribal Council Secretary-Treasurer
 Tom Andersen Tribal Council Member
 Darrel Olsen Tribal Council Member

NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK

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 Jim Gittleson Finance Director
 Steve Bambakidis IT Director
 Kari Collins Health Administrator
 John Whissel Environmental Director
 Aniessa Hodges Human Resources Assistant
 Reyna Newirth Executive Administrative Assistant/
 Office Manager
 Rebecca Calfina Tribal Judicial Systems Administrator
 Joe Cook Maintenance
 Jackie Ladd Elder Services Coordinator
 Christine Belgarde Elder Services Assistant
 Jessica Weaver Family Program Coordinator
 Linda Powell ICWA Coordinator
 Kym Magallanes Staff Accountant
 Celeste Gasmen Accounting Technician
 Sean O'Brien Capital Projects Director
 Myra Eleshansky Housing Coordinator
 Tyler Quiring Capital Projects Office Administrator
 Matt Piche Natural Resources Coordinator
 James Paley DENR Engineer
 Ivy Patton Environmental Coordinator
 Andy Pfeiffer IT Coordinator II
 Russell Mallory IT Coordinator I
 Lennette Ronnegard Enrollment Clerk / ICC Gift Shop Clerk

ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Cindy Bradford Operations Director
 Brian Iutzi Physician/Co-Medical Director
 Benjamin Head Physician
 Delia Reyes Nurse Practitioner
 Nicole Piche Clinical Services Manager
 Cassi Septien Registered Nurse
 Karin Siebenmorgen Registered Nurse
 Ellen Sheridan RN Case Manager
 Florelyn Adajar Medical Assistant
 Jim Cabusora Medical Assistant
 MaryCris Carino Medical Assistant
 Reese Plant Medical Assistant/
 Emergency Management Coordinator
 Audrey Cunningham Medical Office Receptionist/
 Outreach Advocate
 Berna Quemado Patient Registration Specialist
 Jessica Jones Outreach & Enrollment Specialist
 Sarah Lamb Care Coordinator
 Jessica Arasmit Registration and Enrollment Supervisor
 Shannon Mallory Revenue Cycle Supervisor
 Susan Powell Behavioral Health Director
 Sun Young An Behavioral Health Clinician
 John Yakanak Behavioral Health Clinician
 Barbara Solomon Licensed Nutritionist
 Nicko Felix Environmental Services Technician

ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER

Danaya Hoover Cultural Director
 Teal Hansen Cultural Center Coordinator
 Angela Butler Eyak Language Specialist
 Janalie Howard ICC Assistant
 Shyla Krukoff Sugcestun Language Specialist
 Mark King Subsistence Boat Captain

TRIBAL ENTERPRISES

Bob Ladd Prince William Marina Manager

THE CORDOVA TIMES

Vivian Kennedy Office Manager & Sales Representative



TRIBAL FAMILY SERVICES

Tribal Family Services has moved to Main Street

BY JESSICA WEAVER

Family Program Coordinator
jessica.weaver@eyak-nsn.gov

The Tribal Family Services Department has moved to Main Street. Come visit us at the Pioneer Square building. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Tribal Family Services Department is comprised of Elder Services, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), Family Programs, Wellness Programs, Resource Programs, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), Domestic Violence Advocacy, Food Distribution on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) and Food Bank. ■



NVE Elder rides are back!

We are offering rides again but strongly recommending utilizing family and friends to keep a small contact group. It is helpful if you can call ahead of time and schedule rides when you know you want to go somewhere.

We are asking all Elders to please sit in the backseat with your face mask on.

Contact Jackie Ladd

Elder Services Coordinator

907-253-7230

for information on Elder Services, activities and events.

8AM - 5PM Monday thru Friday



Photo by Zachary Snowdon Smith

Department of Environment & Natural Resources

What you need to know about NVE's Brownfield Program

BY IVY PATTON

DENR Environmental Coordinator

Ivy.Patton@eyak-nsn.gov

NVE's State and Tribal Response Brownfield Program, or Brownfield, is part of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources. It is funded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that focuses on cleanup and reuse. A brownfield is defined by the EPA as "real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."

In other words, a brownfield site may not necessarily be contaminated, but the perception that it may be is hindering use or development of the site. Examples of possible brownfield sites in Alaska include abandoned tank farms, old BIA schools, old canneries, former military sites, former dry cleaners, former gas stations, and others.

If you suspect you may have a brownfield in your community, ask yourself the following three questions about the site:

- Does the site have known or suspected contamination?
- Is the site abandoned, under-utilized, or not reaching its full potential?
- Is there a reuse/redevelopment plan for the site?
- If you answered "yes" to all of these questions, the site may be a brownfield.

Cleaning up brownfields can have positive health, environmental, social, and economic impacts on your community. Examples of benefits can include:

- Protecting plants, animals, and water on or around the site from contaminant exposure
- Protecting community members from direct exposure to contamination, or indirect exposure through consuming contaminated food and water
- Increasing the aesthetic appeal of the property
- Increasing the economic value of the property



- Promoting community unity and gathering through redevelopment (for example, by building a new playground or community center, or restoring a subsistence area)
- Creating new economic opportunities for the community (for example, building a new store or community garden)
- Cleaning up and redeveloping a brown-field site is an opportunity for the community to create a vision and complete a project together
- And more!

Common contaminants found on brownfields in Alaska include (but are not limited to):

Gasoline, diesel, asbestos, lead, solvents, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and pesticides. Petroleum contamination is especially common in Alaska.

While small contaminant levels may occur naturally in the environment, most brown-field contamination is the result of human activity, such as spills, leaks, or improper storage of waste or hazardous materials.

The State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation offers assistance by providing a service called DEC Brownfield Assessment and Cleanup (DBAC). In particular, the DEC Brownfields Program can help identify brownfields, assess potential contamination, and assist in arranging for necessary cleanup activities in order to help local governments and tribes achieve their community's visions for reusing those sites. The DEC has a contaminated sites database which shows open and closed sites throughout Alaska.

Visit the online database at dec.alaska.gov/Applications/SPAR/PublicMVC/CSP/Search.

In addition to trying to identify contaminated sites, NVE's State and Tribal Response program is building capacity to prevent and respond to oil spills. We have held numerous HAZWOPER courses at no cost to the public, two 24-hour spill response courses, and participate in all regional spill drills. We encourage interested tribal members to attend these free trainings and be part of our response team.

If you know of a site that may be a brown-field or have any questions, please contact Ivy Patton at NVE to see if it qualifies for a DBAC. Learn more about DEC's Brownfield program at dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields/about. ■

ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER GIFT SHOP



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(The old trooper building)
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ILANKACULTURALCENTER.COM

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Get notices & priority on upcoming classes.

EMAIL DANAYA.HOOVER@EYAK-NSN.GOV

OR CALL DURING REGULAR OFFICE HOURS



Ilanka Community Health Center

Latest news from your community health center

BY JESSICA ARASMITH

Ilanka Community Health Center, Operations Coordinator
Jessica.Arasmith@eyak-nsn.gov

New to the clinic

Ilanka Community Health Center is excited to announce three new employees to our clinic. We have a new Revenue Cycle Team: Shannon Mallory and Stacie Chappell. They will be working together to provide the most up to date billing information and assistance. Sun Young An, MS, CRC, joined our behavioral health staff as our third BH clinician. Sun is a welcome addition to our team and is available for appointments.



Photo courtesy of Jessica Arasmith

ICHC welcomes Stacie Chappell and Shannon Mallory to our Revenue Cycle team.



Photo courtesy of Jessica Arasmith

ICHC welcomes Sun Young An, MS, CRC, to our Behavioral Health team.

Ilanka Community Health Center **Recovery Circle**



*Are you in need of some extra recovery support and social support?
Are you currently struggling with alcohol or drugs and want to stop?
Do you want to learn more about sobriety, abstinence, and recovery?*
We offer a safe environment where you and your anonymity is honored.
We help one another out and lift each other up.



COVID-19 protocols observed.

**Join us for Recovery Circle
Every Tuesday
At Ilanka Clinic Wellness Center**

(across from episcopal church)

7:00 – 8:30pm

For questions call John, (907) 424-3622



Photo by Zachary Snowdon Smith

COVID-19 boosters and vaccinations for ages 5 and up are available. Ask your provider for more information.

Ilanka Clinic takes every step to ensure the best possible care for our patients. To enhance this care, we have joined CommonWell Health Alliance, which is a health data sharing network. This secure network allows Ilanka Clinic to share and receive your medical data with other participating health clinics, hospitals and specialty clinics in the CommonWell network. If you have any questions, please call our front desk staff at 907-424-3622.

Health Portals

We are also actively using the MyHealth patient portal at eyak-nsn.gov/ichc/about-ichc to give patients an option to view chart notes, in-clinic labs, request medication refills, schedule appointments and even send a message to your provider. All of this can be done from the comfort of your home using your smart phone or computer. Ask front desk staff how to enroll at your next visit or call us at 907-424-3622.

Addiction Support

Ilanka Clinic continues to provide assistance to anyone with addiction as well as assist those who it affects. The Wellness and Recovery Circle meets every Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Wellness Center (across from the Episcopal Church). Help and Hope, a group designed to provide a safe place for family and friends of those dealing with addiction to get support and information, meets each Thursday at the Wellness center from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Ilanka Clinic continues to offer FREE Narcan Kits and fentanyl testing strips for anyone dealing with opioid drug use. Whether you are a family member, friend, or neighbor, Narcan kits can save a life; they are easy to use and do not cause harm if accidentally dispensed.

Proper Medication Disposal

To further assist in medication safety, we offer FREE medication disposal bags. Please do not throw medication away or flush it down the toilet. Visit Ilanka Clinic to pick up a free disposal bag whenever needed. ■

ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Flu symptoms can include:

- FATIGUE* (FEELING VERY TIRED)
- HEADACHE
- MUSCLE ACHES OR BODY ACHES
- Runny or stuffy nose
- CHILLS
- COUGH SORE THROAT
- FEVER*

*Not everyone with flu will have a fever

Benefits of Flu Vaccination

- Flu vaccination reduces your risk of getting sick, being hospitalized, or dying from flu.
- Flu vaccination can reduce the risk of having a heart attack in people who have heart disease.
- In people who have diabetes, flu vaccination can reduce the risk of being hospitalized with flu or from their diabetes.
- Flu vaccination has been shown in some studies to reduce severity of illness in people who get vaccinated but still get sick.
- Getting vaccinated yourself may also protect people around you, including those who are more vulnerable to serious flu illness, like babies and young children, elders, and people with certain chronic health conditions.



CALL **907-424-3622**
TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT,
705 Second St.



PERSONALIZED QUALITY HEALTH CARE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY



TRIBAL COURT

NVE welcomes new Tribal Court Administrator

BY REBECCA CAMPBELL CALFINA

Tribal Court Administrator

Rebecca.Calfina@eyak-nsn.gov

Hello, and Happy New Year to the Native Village of Eyak Tribal Member community! As many of you may know, I'm Rebecca Campbell Calfina, a locally raised Cordovan of Alutiiq heritage and Member of Native Village of Eyak. I have also been your front facing receptionist at the NVE Main Office since 2014 and am now transitioning over to the role of your Tribal Court Administrator. It's been a pleasure serving you and I'm honored for the opportunity to continue doing so in this new capacity!

I want to recognize that this past year has brought on great adversity, but it is through adversity that we

often realize our greatest strengths. I am personally grateful for the support our Village and the community of Cordova have provided (and keep providing) to bolster our resiliency.

The Tribal Court Office is here for you as well. Our goal is to address your needs by offering fair and equitable support through restorative justice and diversion programs where the focus is: respect, healing and strength through unity.

As we lean into 2022 and as our daylight grows, my hope is that we can learn to take it day by day, striving to be more mindful and more compassionate to the needs of those around us and to ourselves while creating space and vision for positive impactful change. ■

For more information pertaining to Tribal Court Services, you may reference our webpage at **eyak-nsn.gov** and scroll to Tribal Courts or call **907-424-7880** and ask to speak with me!



Photo courtesy of Mike Webber

Mike Webber receives a sobriety coin while being cheered on by his youngest son, Teague Webber at the 25th Annual Sobriety Celebration at the CHS gymnasium in 2018.

SOBRIETY CELEBRATION

Reflecting on years past

BY MIKE WEBBER

Hi, I have been involved from the beginning of the NVE Sobriety Celebrations. The Celebrations are very important to me in many ways. Honoring the Veterans is always very emotional for me, and they always need to be recognized.

Watching our local Native dance group is like a breath of fresh air. For the youth to learn the dances is tradition and very important to our youth. Watching the out-of-town dancers is epic; the chants and drums are amazing. I kind of feel like I'm with my ancestors watching and listening. It's very powerful to me. I made friends with many dancers and had lots of visiting relatives too.

The food preparation is a huge undertaking, and it is exciting to me to see the community come celebrate what we once did for hundreds of years. I always visited with the out-of-town dancers during the dinners and thanked them for their powerful performances. I loved them for committing to make a difference with song and dance. I always looked up to them like they were giants for being brave enough to dance.

Thinking of my sobriety is as important as the whole event. I have been sober for 23 years now and I've always felt proud to walk down and receive my sobriety coin. Sobriety is something that a person must do for themselves. To help others that struggle is important to us.

Thank you NVE for your commitment that lasted over 25 years, hats off to your team. ■



*Thank you NVE for your
commitment that lasted over
25 years, hats off to your team.*

Photo courtesy of Mike Webber

Teague Webber and Gravina Hansen perform with the Cordova Native dance on the North Star Theater stage during the 26th Annual Sobriety Celebration in 2019.



All photos courtesy of Danaya Hoover

Boxes of produce ready for Tribal Members.

PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Fresh fruits and veggies provided to Tribal families

BY DANAYA HOOVER

Ilanka Cultural Center, Cultural Director
 Danaya.Hoover@eyak-nsn.gov

In November, we had a produce distribution for our Tribal Members at the Native Village of Eyak. With the help of COVID-19 funding we were able to purchase produce through Cordova's School District music program.

It was great to help the kid's fundraising project as well as provide nutritional produce to our Tribal Member Families.

Boxes included apples, onions, sweet potatoes, carrots, lemons, red potatoes, and butternut squash. Produce arrived and was distributed just in time for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

A special thank you to Jamie Foode for coordinating the event and thank you to the helpers who put all the boxes together and helped with the distributing: Stephanie Belgarde, Aniessa Hodges, Jamie Foode and Danaya Hoover. ■



ICC Cultural Director Danaya Hoover.



Jamie Foode and Aniessa Hodges prepare boxes of produce at Native Village of Eyak.



Teal Hansen and Savannah Eike model their cedar woven hats. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen

These classes were funded in part by The CIRI Foundation.



Ilanka Cultural Center class

Cedar woven hats class with Holly Churchill concludes

BY DANAYA HOOVER

Ilanka Cultural Center Director
Danaya.Hoover@eyak-nsn.gov

Ilanka Cultural Center Coordinator Teal Hansen wrote and received a grant from The CIRI Foundation that allowed ICC to proudly offer members the opportunity to learn how to make Alutiiq and Tlingit cedar woven hats from Holly Churchill, a Haida master weaver from Ketchikan.

The three-week class began on Sept. 21 and continued weekday evenings and Saturdays until Oct. 9 at the Masonic Lodge.

Holly also shared her knowledge and skills with the Native Arts class at the Cordova Jr. Sr. High School where students learned how to weave cedar headbands. As they finished their projects, Holly also taught them how to make rope bracelets, ornaments, sashes and baskets. ■



The Copper River Family of Companies Quarterly Update

A Letter from Sylvia Lange, ANGS Chairman

Hello Fellow Tribal Members,

It is my pleasure to offer this update on the latest business in your subsidiary company, ANGS. ANGS manages and oversees, on your behalf, the Copper River Family of Companies. Your NVE Council understands our ownership of these companies to be a vital means of furthering the vision and mission of our Tribe. We have been an active participant in the Small Business Administration 8(a) program since 2006. Building upon that experience, and the contributions of past NVE leadership, I am happy to report that our Copper River Family of Companies have completed our best year in history last year, after a concerted effort of restructuring, and 2022 is shaping up to keep that momentum going. We pledge to continue our increased oversight, transparency, and communication.

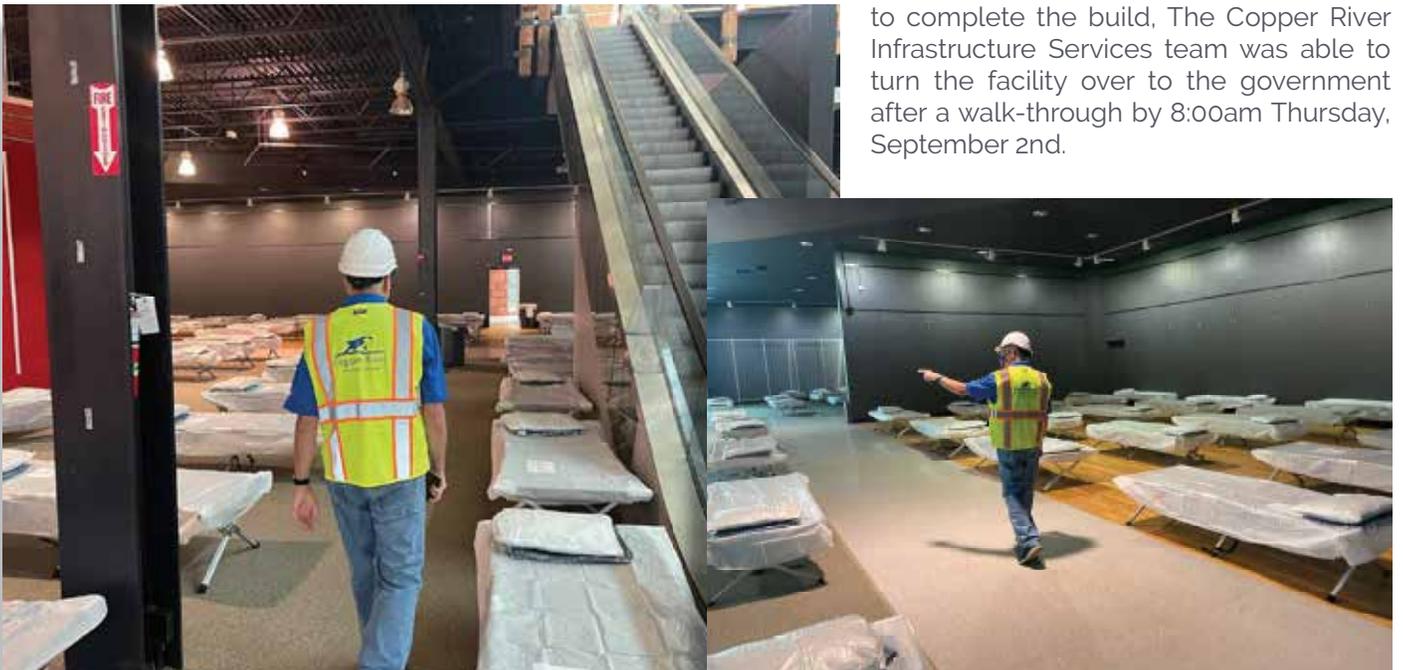
Our CEO, Kevin McLaughlin has included a company wide update, and we are sharing photos and descriptions of the work our companies have been doing. Please feel free to contact me, or NVE for any questions we may answer. Also, please check out our website at CopperRiverMC.com. We welcome any suggestions or comments.

Gunalch'eech and Happy New Year,
Sylvia Lange

Copper River & ReconCraft Provide Support in Critical Times

The Copper River Family of Companies, in addition to providing revenue back to NVE, are also providing support and relief in critical times of need. First, Copper River Infrastructure Services moved quickly to provide Afghan refugee support in early September.

On Monday, August 30th, there were 10-12 commercial planes stuck on the tarmac at Dulles International Airport waiting to process Afghan refugees through U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Once processed, refugees were to be taken from the airport to a holding area. Only one area had been set up at the nearby Dulles Expo Center, and by Tuesday morning it was maxed out to capacity. The CBP contacted Copper River Infrastructure Services around 11:00am on Tuesday morning and asked if they could build-out a new holding area location nearby, which was a former Dicks Sporting Goods location in Fair Lakes, VA. In a very short time frame of only 11 hours, Copper River Infrastructure Services had a subcontractor team ready to go and began working at 8:00am Wednesday morning. With only one day to complete the build, The Copper River Infrastructure Services team was able to turn the facility over to the government after a walk-through by 8:00am Thursday, September 2nd.





ReconCraft Supports Hurricane Relief Efforts

ReconCraft, a Copper River Company, is a leading maritime vessel manufacturer that leverages their advanced, 3D engineering and design techniques to create ruggedized marine vessels for the toughest waterborne missions in the most demanding operational and maintenance environments on earth. To aide in Hurricane relief efforts, ReconCraft provided marine vessels that were used for flood rescues, as well as security patrols.



Closing Remarks from your CEO, Kevin McLaughlin

I'm honored to serve as your CEO and happy to announce another banner year for your Copper River Family of Companies. Our Family of Companies is a unique and powerful alliance of distinct operating companies working together toward our common mission. We have ONE shared mission as a Family- OUR WHY - that binds us all together: Our Mission is to diversify the Native Village of Eyak's ability to facilitate economic advancement. We strive to always work together as a Family with our shared mission at the forefront and our core values of collaboration, integrity, and empathy as our guide to carry us forward to even greater success in the years ahead. The entire team is proud to serve the Native Village of Eyak and we are committed to our mission and to you, the Native Village of Eyak Tribal Members. Under the continued direction of our ANGS Board there is nothing we can't accomplish together. On behalf of over 500 employees in the Copper River Family of Companies, thank you for the opportunity to continue to serve NVE. We are proud of our accomplishments thus far and even more excited for our future together. I am 100% committed to you and I can assure you that your companies will not just survive during these trying times but we will continue to thrive together as a Family. We are excited for 2022 and excited to share more news with you soon. In the meantime, please check our website at www.CopperRiverMC.com for updates on your CR Family of Companies.



The Copper River Family of Companies

Thank you again and Happy New Year!
Kevin McLaughlin



Native Village of Eyak FDPIR Services

(open to the community of Cordova)



Questions & Answers

What is FDPIR?

FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) provides monthly nutritional food to income eligible households (who are not enrolled in SNAP) in a federally recognized tribal community.

What foods does the program offer?

Participants may select from over 70 products including, but not limited to: Fresh produce, canned fruits and vegetables, meats, poultry, fish, canned soups, spaghetti sauce, pastas, cereals, rice, cheese, egg mix, box & canned milk, flour, cornmeal, bakery mix, crackers, beans, juice, nut mix, peanut butter, butter & vegetable oil.

How do I apply?

**Contact a representative to schedule an appointment
Email: linda.powell@eyak-nsn.gov
Applications can be found at <http://www.eyak-nsn.gov>**

Call NVE and ask for a FDPIR representative *Linda Powell* for additional information 907-424-2227





TRIBAL MEMBER PHOTOS

Send your photos to echo@eyak-nsn.gov



Gravina Hansen (7) in the Cutoff in October.



Kaliakh Hansen, 4 months, on Halloween.



Gravina Hansen, age 7, finishing her first "mermaid" beaded glass ball.



Kaliakh Hansen at 5 months.



Brennan Bailey, age 3, falls for Katella Hansen, age 4, at Christine Babic and Matt Adams' wedding.



Elders dishing up first at the Webber's Christmas dinner. From left, Beverly Wade, Bill Webber Sr., Howie Hansen, and Mike Webber.



Katella Hansen, age 4, in her "Hearty Leopard" suit that Angela Butler embroidered.



All photos courtesy of Teal Hansen
Katella Hansen, age 4, and Gravina Hansen, age 7, in their hats that Auntie Misa Webber knitted with love for Christmas.



For information on Elder Services, activities and events

Contact Jackie Ladd
Elder Services Coordinator

907-253-7230
8AM - 5PM Monday thru Friday

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



Native Village of Eyak

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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, contact
Rebecca Campbell Calfina at**

907-424-7880

500 Water Street, Cordova, AK

(next to the Alaska Court System)

Rebecca.Calfina@eyak-nsn.gov or courtclerk@eyak-nsn.gov

