

# Eyak Echo

ECHOES OF OUR ANCESTORS



**CULTURE PRESERVATION**

Traditional  
*Alutiiq Regalia*  
Replication by  
Mary Babic

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**Bright Futures**

Samantha Eleshansky Villalon  
first NVE Youth Rising Star

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# Native Village of Eyak Employees

## TRIBAL COUNCIL

Darrel Olsen ..... Tribal Council Chair  
 Sylvia Lange ..... Tribal Council Vice Chair  
 Cheryl Eleshansky ..... Tribal Council Secretary-Treasurer  
 Tom Andersen ..... Tribal Council Member  
 Pam Smith ..... Tribal Council Member

Andy Pfeiffer ..... IT Coordinator II  
 Russell Mallory ..... IT Coordinator I  
 Lennette Ronnegard ..... Enrollment Clerk  
 Rebecca Calfina ..... Tribal Judicial Systems Administrator

## NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK

Ted Wright ..... Executive Director  
 Angela Butler ..... Deputy Director  
 Zhiyong (John) Li ..... Finance Director  
 Steve Bambakidis ..... IT Director  
 Kari Collins ..... Health Administrator  
 John Whissel ..... DENR Director  
 June James ..... Human Resource Director  
 Anieessa Hodges ..... Human Resources Specialist  
 Reyna Newirth ..... Senior Executive Assistant  
 Bert Adams ..... Special Projects Manager  
 Carla Bloomquist ..... Receptionist  
 Joe Cook ..... Maintenance  
 Heather Thorne ..... Tribal Family Services Director  
 Jackie Ladd ..... Elder Services Coordinator  
 Christine Belgarde ..... Elder Services Assistant  
 Jessica Weaver ..... Family Program Coordinator  
 Shannon Phillips ..... Family Program Assistant  
 Jessica Jones ..... Wellness Event Coordinator  
 Sarah Trumblee ..... ICWA Coordinator  
 Kayley DeLozier ..... ICWA Assistant  
 Vivian Kennedy ..... Food Assistance Program Manager  
 Savannah Eike ..... Resource Coordinator  
 Kym Magallanes ..... Staff Accountant  
 Celeste Gasmen ..... Accounting Technician  
 Victor Weaver ..... Housing and Capital Projects Director  
 Myra Eleshansky ..... Housing Coordinator  
 Tyler Quiring ..... Capital Projects Office Administrator  
 Carl Rowland III ..... Labor Technician II  
 Charles Hodsdon ..... Labor Technician I  
 Matt Piche ..... Natural Resources Coordinator  
 James Paley ..... DENR Engineer  
 Ivy Patton ..... Environmental Coordinator  
 Caitlin McKinstry ..... DENR Biologist I

## ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Cindy Bradford ..... Operations Director  
 Brian Iutzi ..... Physician/ Co-Medical Director  
 Benjamin Head ..... Physician/Co-Medical Director  
 Nicole Piche ..... Clinical Services Director  
 Cassi Septien ..... Registered Nurse  
 Karin Siebenmorgen ..... Registered Nurse  
 Ellen Sheridan ..... Case Manager/Registered Nurse  
 Florelyn Adajar ..... Certified Clinical Medical Assistant  
 Lara Kreyling ..... HER Applications & Reporting Specialist  
 Jim Cabusora ..... Medical Assistant  
 Julia Merritt ..... Medical Assistant  
 MaryCris Carino ..... Certified Clinical Medical Assistant  
 Reese Plant ..... Laboratory Supervisor  
 Laura Appleton ..... Patient Services Specialist  
 Berna Quemado ..... Patient Services Specialist  
 Joy Grengia ..... Patient Services Specialist  
 Jessica Arasmith ..... Executive Administrative Assistant  
 Shannon Mallory ..... Revenue Cycle Manager  
 Alvin Calad ..... Revenue Cycle Specialist  
 Susan Powell ..... Behavioral Health Director  
 Sun Young An ..... Behavioral Health Clinician  
 Holly Maguire ..... Behavioral Health Clinician  
 Barbara Solomon ..... Licensed Nutritionist  
 Ronald Jacob ..... Environmental Services Technician

## ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER

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

## TRIBAL ENTERPRISES

Bob Ladd ..... Prince William Marina Manager



## BIRTH

# Brookelin Zinaida Eleshansky

Nov. 29, 2022

Kenneth and Denise Eleshansky of Cordova would like to announce the birth of their baby girl. Brookelin Zinaida Eleshansky was born at 5:02 p.m. on November 29, 2022, at Alaska Native Medical Center. She weighed 8 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 21.26 inches long. Maternal grandparents are Arleene Olsen of Cordova, James Asp of Moses Lake, Washington and Paternal Grandparent Doug Bruck of Wilsonville, Oregon.



## ACHIEVEMENT

# Compassion Character Award



Photo courtesy of Jessica Jones  
**CONGRATULATIONS:** Hawk Kennison, Josie Christian and Margrette Lundli received Mt. Eccles Elementary School Character Award for Compassion on Oct. 24.



# NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK

## Employment Opportunities

View available positions at

[NVEYAK.COM/JOBS](http://NVEYAK.COM/JOBS)

or call NVE's Human Resources Manager at

**907-424-7738**

Full job descriptions and applications are available at NVE's main office at 110 Nicholoff Way, online at [nveyak.com/jobs](http://nveyak.com/jobs) and on Facebook at [facebook.com/NativeVillageofEyak](https://facebook.com/NativeVillageofEyak)



### ELDER SERVICES

For information on Elder services, activities and events, contact

**Jackie Ladd**

Elder Services Coordinator

**907-253-7230**

OR

**Chris Belgarde**

Elder Services Assistant

**907-429-7230**

8AM - 5PM Monday thru Friday

### CONGRATULATIONS



Photos courtesy of Teal Hansen

From left, Mike's daughter Ashley Christensen, Mike Webber, wife Katrina Hoffman and son Teague, daughter Misa Webber, grandson Kaliakh Hansen, daughter Teal Hansen and Mike's oldest son Chris Webber's partner Lee-Anne Stouff.

## Mike Webber honored at AFN

Among this year's Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) President's Awards honorees is NVE Tribal Elder and Northwest Coast master carver, Mike Webber. An Alutiiq and Tlingit/Eyak from Cordova, Webber received the Eileen Panigeo MacLean Education Award for being a traditional knowledge bearer, 20-years of teaching and for making outstanding contributions to the Native community.

As a fisherman from the age of 6, Webber endured a life-changing accident in '99 on his family-run seine boat that led to his new beginning: discovering his generational gift.

He has been carving for the last two decades, earning the status of master carver and renowned Alaska Native artist. His work can be found in museums and notable buildings across the country.



Mike Webber receives the Eileen Panigeo MacLean President's Award at the Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention on Oct. 21 at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage.



# NVE Elder Mug-Up

MARCH 23

APRIL 27

MAY 25

JUNE 22

(NOON TO 2PM AT THE TRIBAL FAMILY SERVICES OFFICE)

COME SEE WHAT THE ELDER SERVICES PROGRAM IS UP TO!



## SHARE

Tribal member:

- Achievements
- Life announcements
- Photos

in the

# Eyak Echo

EMAIL

[echo@eyak-nsn.gov](mailto:echo@eyak-nsn.gov)



CELEBRATION OF LIFE

# Robert "Moose" James Henrichs

August 26, 1942 - December 7, 2022

Born in Cordova's "Old Town" or Eyak district of Mother Rose from Nuchek and Father Hollis Henrichs, Bob lived his life here, graduated from Cordova High School, and fished commercially for many years. While serving as Chairman of Native Village of Eyak, Bob is remembered for many things, but what truly stands out is his dedication to enhancing health care by contracting directly with IHS (Indian Health Services), as well as creating our own health clinic. Bob was committed to his own sobriety and bringing that commitment to the membership of the village. The Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch owes its beginnings to Bob's vision, and continues after nearly 30-years, going strong and building yearly. Bob served on many statewide boards, national boards, Chugach Alaska Corporation, Cordova City Council, and most notably, the healthcare board of ANTHC.

**On behalf of the Tribal Council:**

Chairman Darrell Olsen, Sylvia Lange Pam Smith, Thomas Andersen, and Cheryl Eleshansky

Bob Henrichs loomed large, in stature, influence, and presence in our Village for more than two decades. We work daily in programs, with policies, and with mission, all first defined by Bob, and now furthered by this Council, and those who will follow us. Robert "Moose" Henrichs has left an important mark on his Village, and we are thankful for his leadership and will continue the work he began.

**From Kevin McLaughlin, CEO, ANGS**

(dba Copper River):

The Copper River Family of Companies was deeply saddened to learn of Mr. Henrichs' passing. Mr. Henrichs was a founding board member of ANGS and was instrumental in the formation of Copper River Information Technology, the first company in our corporate family that now numbers 14 companies. His vision, determination, and guidance set the trajectory for our growth and continued service to our owners, the Native Village of Eyak. We are deeply appreciative of Mr. Henrichs' many years of service, dedication and leadership and we offer our deepest sympathies.

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**Sylvia Lange, ANGS Chairman:**

Bob Henrichs was someone I've known my whole life, and recently had the opportunity in my roll at ANGS to understand he made our 8(a) companies possible and will forever be associated with creating this vital means for our Village. We now follow in his footsteps, and on whose shoulders, we will continue to diligently care for this legacy.



All photos courtesy of Native Village of Eyak



**Laura Henrichs, sister:**

A Sister's Recollections...

Being the firstborn child, I was thrilled to have a little brother named Bobby! For the first few years I was able to keep him in line, but that didn't last long. We were born into a warm and loving family. Mama Rosie and Dad Hollis would never say "no" where help was needed.

Our household eventually had the addition of Aunt Anna Johnson and little brother Billy came along. The three Andersen boys, David, Cliff and Chuck, joined the household and Uncle Eric showed up too. Our Uncles Andy, Fred, Jimmy and Knute Johnson would be dropping by and we were never bored for sure.

The boys herded Mr. Koch's cows, they would walk them up from the dairy on Lake Road and graze them behind the old hilltop Catholic Church. We all ran around after them and wouldn't you know, little curious Bobby got down on his knees to watch a cow eat (actually a bull named Black Magic) and was butted to the ground and I remember him being rushed home to our Mama. We never failed for excitement.

In the summer of 1945 tragedy scattered our household. Our 32-year-old Mama passed on from appendicitis and the lifelong search for better Native Health Care was born in my dad and continued with my brother Bob.

We moved around for a few years and then we were blessed to live with Nettie Hansen in her Lutheran Home. She and her kind ways were lifesaving!

As my brothers and I entered adult life, we stayed close. Bill spent years in the Army (Special Forces), married a lovely lady Kazuko in Okinawa. Bill passed away in 1977. They had two sons, Shigamasa and Andy. Andy is blessed with twin teen daughters Abigail and Annika. Andy came to Anchorage to spend time with Bob recently, time well spent.

Bob had his commercial fishing career and would occasionally surprise me; one day he called me at my desk in Seattle to describe some beautiful purple flowers growing on a sandbar. He said that he knew I would like to see them. He was right and his sweet gestures to me were appreciated.

We stayed close siblings to the end, I sat in his hospital room in Anchorage, and he would save his blueberry muffin for me. When I entered the room, he would tap the table with the muffin with a little smile. We may have been in our 80's, but we retained a lifetime appreciation for one another.

Goodbye for now Brother, I wouldn't have had you any different.

Laura



**Jack Farrell, nephew:**

He told me, "There are those who do and those who talk about those who do. Be a doer!" I think about that all the time because he was a doer. I will really miss that guy.

**Mark Hoover:**

We were all fishermen. Bob was our tender for herring before the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill and we started talking about the Sovereignty Movement in between openers. Then one summer, Julia Barnes, Ruth Hanson, Cheryl Lettich and Marlena Fonzi held an interim election for Tribal Council and moved to take over the council building which started a chain of events bringing in the BIA to settle the situation. They proposed another election to decide which council would be the legal one for the Native Village of Eyak. Things got off to a slow start for the new council and at some point, someone asked Bob to go down and see what he could do to help. He was made the Chairman of the Council and after paying the electric bill with his own money he began the process of building what we know today as the Native Village of Eyak. From that point on, Bob became a leader not only for the Village but for the Sovereignty Movement statewide and across the Nation.

**Jack Hopkins:**

Bob got rid of the 'OUT OF ANS FUNDS' signs.

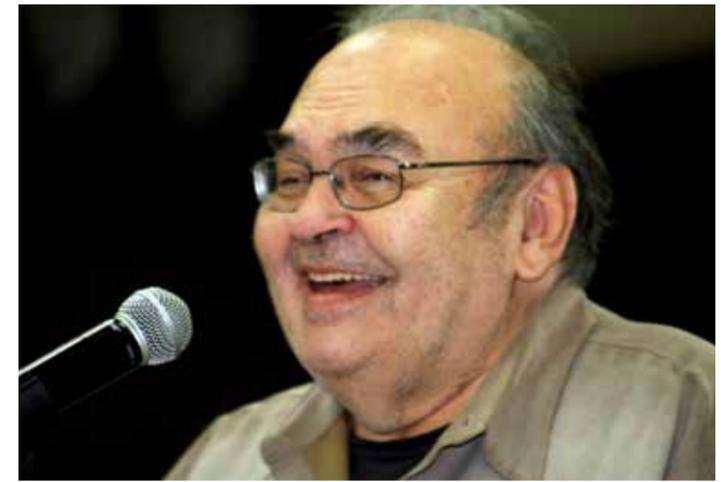
**Bob Ladd:**

I would like to express my appreciation for all that Bob Henrichs has done for the Native Village of Eyak over the years. I know he along with others worked hard to establish health care for the village and the community. He also had a vision for an assisted living facility for village members and a community hall for village functions. He was a firm believer in the sobriety movement! So, my thanks to Bob (Moose) for all his dedication to the Native Village of Eyak.



*Celebrations of Life*

Celebrations of Life were scheduled for 1-4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25, at the Little Chapel in Cordova and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday, March 5, at the Bayshore Clubhouse in Anchorage. Come enjoy an informal gathering with food and stories.





Nora Hodsdon, Eva Hager and Margaret Olson at the Elder Halloween Mug-up. Photos courtesy of Jackie Ladd

MONTHLY ELDER MUG-UPS

Great conversation and delicious food

BY JACKIE LADD

Elder Services Coordinator  
jackie.ladd@eyak-nsn.gov

The NVE Elders program holds a monthly Mug-up at the Tribal Family Services office on First Street (located across the street from the Pioneer Igloo). We outreach about upcoming events and programs offered in our community and provide a congregate setting for Elders to enjoy good conversations and a nutritious meal.

Did you know that Cordova Community Medical Center has a lunch program? Contact them for information on dates, time, location and meal delivery service by calling the CCMC Kitchen at 907-424-8271.

If you are interested in receiving information about income-based monthly food assistance programs, contact NVE's Food Assistance Program Manager, Vivian Kennedy at 907-424-FOOD (2665).

If you are an NVE Elder and would like to learn more about NVE Elder Services, please contact Jackie Ladd at Jackie.ladd@eyak-nsn.gov or 907-424-2230.

HALLOWEEN MUG-UP: Sweet treats and great company.



LEFT: John Graham and Darrel Olsen at the Elder Halloween Mug-up.

CHRISTMAS MUG-UP: Native Bingo, gifts and lots of laughs.



ABOVE: Christmas Mug-up.

LEFT: Native BINGO.



THANKSGIVING MUG-UP:

Thanksgiving baskets included a turkey and fresh produce.



Cousins Arleene Olsen, Darrel Olsen, Glenora Allen, and Lennette Ronnegard.



Martin Faulkner and Patience Andersen-Faulkner on Nov. 18.

Mary Babic with niece Shannon Phillips and granddaughter Beverly Babic.



Lennette Ronnegard, Leona Olsen and Diane Ujioka.

JOIN US FOR  
**MOMS POPS & TOTS**

**AGES 0-4**  
**5PM-6PM**

**1ST WED. OF EACH MONTH**  
**AT THE TRIBAL FAMILY SERVICES BUILDING**

WE WILL HAVE SOFT TOYS & A STORY TO HELP WIND DOWN YOUR EVENING.  
**\*OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY\***

CONTACT:  
JESSICA WEAVER  
SHANNON PHILLIPS  
NVEFAMILIES@EYAK-NSN.GOV  
907-424-2246

**BUILDER BUDDIES**

**STEM CLUB**

LAST WED. OF EACH MONTH  
5PM-6PM  
TFS BUILDING  
SPOTS AVAILABLE  
TRIBAL MEMBERS, K-8TH GRADE

Explore science, technology, engineering, and math through fun activities. Parents, grandparents, caregivers, or role models are all welcome and encouraged to participate.

For more info, please contact Shannon Phillips or Jessica Weaver  
nvefamilies@eyak-nsn.gov  
907-424-2246

**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  
**907-424-7880**  
500 Water Street, Cordova, AK (next to the Alaska Court System)  
Email: courtclerk@eyak-nsn.gov



ICC UPDATE

# Cultural Classes for the Masses

BY TEAL HANSEN

ICC Cultural Coordinator  
teal.hansen@eyak-nsn.gov

The Ilanka Cultural Center (ICC) ended 2022 finishing up our Button Blanket Workshop, and with a Chilkat Weaving Class, a Kuspuk Making Class, a Copper Tináa Class, 10-inch Drum Making Class, and a Glass Ball Class.

Starting in September and ending in early November, we held a Button Blanket Workshop. With funding from The Eyak Foundation, we were able to provide these extensive kits made by Alberta Aspen to 25 members for only \$50 each! We were also able to give a Button Headband to the Alaska Native Arts Class at Cordova High School and to those signed up for the original workshop days for free. Thank you to The Eyak Corporation for your generosity!



Teal Hansen teaching Cora Kocan on Dec. 30, 2022.



Shgen George and class on Oct. 20, 2022.



*“Shgen fights for Native students within a system that was made to assimilate. She deconstructs those systems and rebuilds them with traditional knowledge to clans, land, resources, songs, and language. What she does is powerful.”*



Some students from the Chilkat Weaving Class on Oct. 22, 2022. Teacher, Shgendootan George, in white.



Native Village of Eyak elders gather around Shgen George on Oct. 12, 2022.



Shgen George and Tiffany Beedle on Oct. 13, 2022.

## BEGINNING CHILKAT WEAVING CLASS with SHGENDOOTAN GEORGE

Beginning Chilkat Weaving was an intensive two-week, 40-hour class taught by Shgendootan George in October. Nine Tribal members took Shgen’s class, six of which were elders, where they learned to thigh spin wool into warp and wove a five-and-a-half-inch pendant. She also visited the high schools Alaska Native Arts Class for those two weeks and taught 11 kids how to thigh spin and make a small pendant. These classes were also funded by The Eyak Foundation.

Shgen was raised in her clan house in Angoon, the Ket Oxoo Hit (Killer Whale Tooth House), and was surrounded by her culture and her mother’s artwork, influences that greatly shaped her life and has made her into the ultimate Tlingit Auntie. She has two dozen years of teaching experience within the school system and with cultural classes like ours.

A couple quotes from past coworkers of hers have resonated with me as admirable and something I wish I had growing up. Josh Jackson said, “When I first started working in [Juneau’s Tlingit, Culture, Language, and Literacy program], I was awe-struck with the ways in which Ms. Shgen approached teaching. She didn’t teach to integrate the culture into the standards being taught, she integrated the standards into the culture.”

Another coworker, Hans Chester, said, “Shgen has always used her knowledge of teaching to engage learners through a lens that suits their needs better than a normal classroom environment.”

Jessica Chester said, “Shgen creates a special relationship with each child she works with. They feel connected to their ancestors through her lessons because she intertwines traditional knowledge and skills within all activities. Shgen fights for Native students within a system that was made to assimilate. She deconstructs those systems and rebuilds them with traditional knowledge to clans, land, resources, songs, and language. What she does is powerful.”

We were honored to meet Shgen and learn this traditional skill from such a cultural matriarch.



Eva Hager on Oct. 29, 2022.

**YOUTH-SIZED KUSPUK CLASS with JACKIE LADD**

In a two day, 10-hour class at the end of October, Jackie Ladd taught a Youth-Sized KuspuK Making Class. Seven students attended and learned how to make a kuspuK with Jackie's custom pattern. Jackie hasn't taught this class since 2019, so we were excited to offer this to our members again.



Molly Mulvaney on Oct. 29, 2022.



Jackie Ladd's KuspuK Making Class hard at work on Oct. 29, 2022.



Shane Brown, right, with Alaska Native Art Class students on Nov. 10, 2022.

**COPPER TINÁA CLASS with SHANE BROWN**

In November, Yakutat Raven Shane Brown came up to teach several Copper Tináa classes. First, he taught 11 youth in the high school's AK Native Arts class, then he taught a 14-person class for our local memberships, and then taught another 15-person class to those who were visiting for the 27th Annual Sobriety Celebration. It was a very busy two days for him! This was the first time that ICC taught a Copper Tináa class, and we saw many people running around Sobriety Celebration with their new bling.



Copper Tináa Class on Nov. 10, 2022.



Danaya Hoover's 10-inch Drum Class during the annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch on Nov. 11, 2022.

**DRUM MAKING CLASS with DANAYA HOOVER**

Danaya Hoover also taught a quick 10-inch Drum Making Class to 20 Sobriety Celebra-

tion visitors and a few locals. The Eyak Corporation generously provided funding for the Tináa and Drum classes. We thank TEC for supporting our cultural arts!



LEFT: Agnis Cain on Dec. 21, 2022. RIGHT: Anna Jensen on Dec. 30, 2022.



Cora and Shelly Kocan on Dec. 30, 2022.

**GLASS BALL BEADING with TEAL HANSEN**

I wrapped the year up with a 12-hour Glass Ball Beading class for 10 students. This was my first time teaching a class and it was a lot of fun. I learned the art of beading glass balls in early 2019 from Chris Belgard, the Master of it all. Several of our students have really taken a liking to the craft and have even beaded several balls since!

**LOOKING AHEAD!**

As for 2023, so far, we have Mike Webber's Northwest Coast Design Class scheduled for mid-February, Jackie Ladd's Doll Making Class scheduled for the last two weeks of February, another Drum Class by Danaya will happen in February or March, Mike Webber's Panel Carving Class will be held in March, and then Brooke Mallory's 8-hour Gut Purse Class is scheduled for early March. We have many more class ideas for 2023, such as Fish Skin Tanning, 2-Needle Beading, Alutiiq Embroidery, a small Chilkat Woven Pendant, and/or a Soap Stone Class.

If you are interested in teaching a cultural class or have a class idea, please reach out to me via email: teal.hansen@eyak-nsn.gov. If you are ever wanting to take a class but cannot pay for it, please email me and we will see if there are any scholarships or funding available to you. It is our goal to make these classes as accessible as possible to our tribal members and community. You must become an ICC Member to take Cultural Classes. An annual membership is \$20 per person or \$50 for a family for the whole year and will give you first notifications and priority for classes.

**ILANKA CULTURAL CENTER GIFT SHOP**



conveniently located at **711 FIRST STREET**

(The old trooper building)  
**907-424-7903**

**OPEN**  
**Tuesday through Friday**  
**10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**  
**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**



A Japanese glass fishing float adorned with intricate beadwork.



Beaded holiday ornament.



Closeup of Chilkat weaving.



Student artworks including dreamcatchers on display at CHS.



Alaska Native Arts Class students with their Chilkat woven statement necklaces. All photos courtesy of Kayley DeLozier and Cully Ann Merritt

TRIBAL FAMILY SERVICES

Alaska Native Arts Class

BY KAYLEY DELOZIER AND CULLY ANN MERRITT

Kayley.delozier@eyak-nsn.gov

Hello supporters of Native Village of Eyak! Tribal members Kayley DeLozier and Cully Ann Merritt wanted to give you all an update on Alaska Native Arts Class. We have been co-teaching this year and it's been full of fun and creating! The Cordova High School class has been advancing in their skills and enjoying the projects we have been working on. In September, our class went up to participate and help with Culture Week at Mt. Eccles Elementary School. They had a great time interacting with the younger age groups and helping them create their sun catcher mandalas.

Other projects we have been working on include dreamcatchers, beaded keychains, medicine bag satchels, Chilkat woven statement necklaces (taught by renowned weaver Shgendootan George), linocut print carving creating stamps that were made into holiday cards, beaded ornaments, traditional button headband, as well as some projects students have taken upon themselves using their own creative ideas.

This class is truly a gift to our youth to ensures cultural continuity among Tribal members and their peers. We will continue the school year with enthusiasm, passion and respect for our indigenous ancestors who came before us. We will honor our culture and land by continuing the traditional ways of sharing our knowledge and skills with the next generation. Thank you for your support!

— Quwanakcuk, Gunalcheesh, Awa'ahdah, Kayley DeLozier and Cully Ann Merritt



Co-teachers of the Cordova Jr./Sr. High School Alaska Native Arts Class, Kayley DeLozier and Cully Ann Merritt now and years ago.



Students in their homemade slippers.



Linocut stamps for making holiday cards.

LEFT: Various Alaska Native artworks on display at CHS.



NVE's Cultural Department

Let's Talk About LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Land Acknowledgement is a formal statement recognizing the Indigenous people of a place. It is a public gesture of appreciation for the past and present Indigenous stewardship of the lands that we now occupy. Land Acknowledgement opens a space with gratitude and respect for the contributions, innovations, and contemporary perspective of Indigenous peoples. It is an actionable statement that marks our collective movement towards decolonization and equity.

(Definition provided by the Anchorage Museum)

Consider how you would like to recognize and honor our lands original keepers. The Native Village of Eyak is a federally recognized tribal government that represents four diverse cultures: the Eyak, the Sugpiaq/Alutiiq/Chugach-Region peoples, the Tlingit, and the Athabaskan.

My Land Acknowledgement is posted below my email's signature. Feel free to use in an effort to decolonize our tribal community and thinking:

I work and reside on the unceded territories of the dAXunhyuu (Eyak people), coastal neighbors to the Prince William Sound Sugpiaq and the Yaakwdáat Lingít.

Quwanakcuk ~ Gunalcheesh ~ Awa'ahdah Teal Hansen, Cultural Coordinator



## CULTURAL PRESERVATION

# Traditional Alutiiq Regalia Replication by Mary Babic

All photos by Christine Adams

## BY TEAL HANSEN

NVE's Cultural Coordinator  
teal.hansen@eyak-nsn.gov

The Sugpiat mastered the art of coastal living and thrived in one of the world's stormiest regions for thousands of years. Appropriate clothing was perhaps their most critical tool. Sugpiaq girls learned garment constructions and stitching techniques by working beside their mothers, aunts, and grandmothers. By the early 19th century, the art of skin sewing started to disappear and by the 21st century, these training networks were gone.

With funding from the National Parks Service (NPS) Department of the Interior (DOI), Historic Preservation Fund – Tribal Heritage grant program, the Native Village of Eyak's (NVE) Cultural Department was able to contract Kodiak Alutiiq artist, Hanna Sholl, to teach a Traditional Sugpiaq Dance Regalia Workshop. Tribal families were able to attend two 1-week workshops to learn how to make contemporary dance regalia and traditional Alutiiq embroidery, a skill that was lost to this area for generations but has finally returned. In addition to funding this workshop, we were able to hire Cordova artist, Mary Bab-



ic, to make a replica of traditional Alutiiq regalia.

Mary's mother, Sally Barnes Hottinger, and gram, Exenia Barnes, gifted their Alutiiq heritage to Mary. It was the memory of her mother and gram, along with her two granddaughters, that compelled Mary to take on this monumental task. Mary has dedicated decades of her life to cultural preservation. She started the Alaska Native Arts class at the Cordova Jr. Sr. High School in 1997 and taught it for seven years. In 1997, she and LaRue Barnes worked together to get NVE's Ilanka Cultural Center up and running, where she retired from in 2012. Mary led the revival of our local Ikamat Native Dance group in 1994 and was involved through 2012. She is a master artist in her own right and is one of the four Alutiiq Angels making the prestigious salmon skin earrings. Mary Babic is a cultural matriarch and pioneer in Cordova, and we were very lucky she was interested in this project.

Starting late January 2022 and completing early November 2022, Mary single handedly stitched this traditional regalia, or parka, as they are called, in about 300-350 hours. It took 130 hours for the fringe (puff ball dangles) and embroidery (two vertical chest and back strips) alone. Mary and Hanna looked through the books The Etholen Col-



lection: The Ethnographic Alaskan Collection of Adolf Etholen and his Contemporaries in the National Museum of Finland and The Alutiiq/Sugpiat: A Catalog of the Collections of the Kunstkamera to find a parka she wanted to replicate. Mary decided on taking elements of two different parkas made in the early 1800s. Hanna, having visited Finland to study the Alutiiq regalia in their National Museum and having previous experience replicating a parka from that collection, helped Mary conceptualize and plan the project. Already having extensive experience with skin sewing, the only thing left to learn from Hanna was a few of the traditional embroidery stitches and lend material advise, but Hanna stuck with Mary throughout the project.

Instead of using 160 cormorant necks, like the original, Mary used dyed beaver, which closely resembles the shiny feathers of cormorant necks. Mary also used 64 deer hooves, purchased from Mark King, in place of the puffin beaks that were used on the traditional garment. Other materials used on the original were seal, sea lion, caribou skin, rabbit fur, sinew, woolen threads, woolen cloth, and hair from elders and the hunters. Besides the dyed beaver and deer hooves, other contemporary materials used in Mary's parka was harbor seal (bottom fringe), white ermine (puff balls), white marten (horizontal strips, outlining embroidery), white rabbit (neck), leather, red wool material, and red and green woolen fringe along with silver floss (to replicate elder hair) are sewn into all strips.

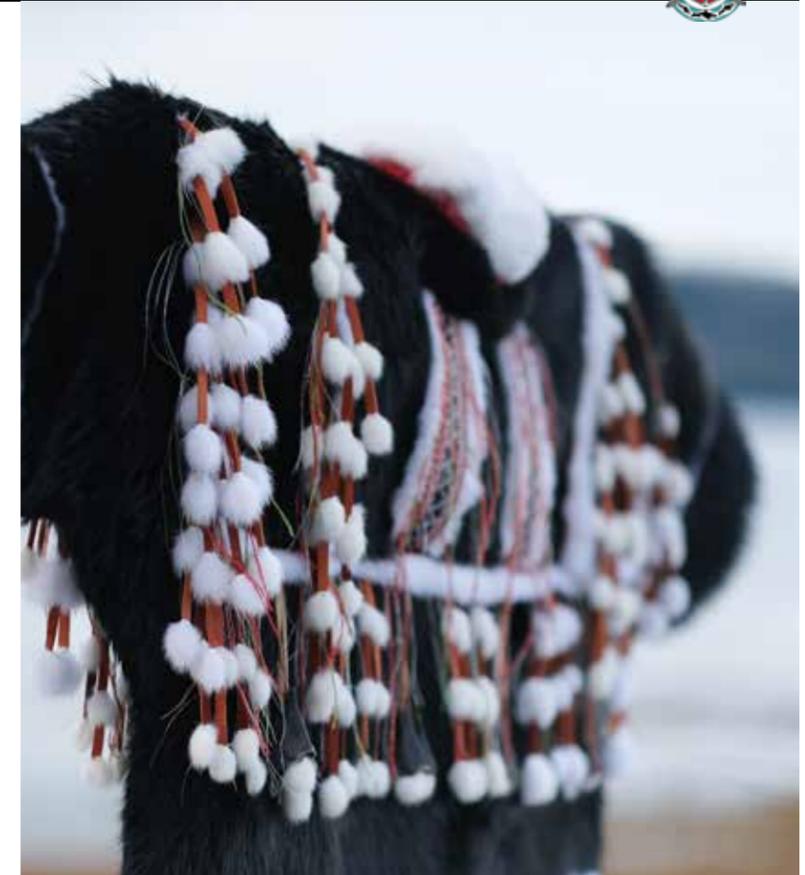
Mary recalls, "I spent many hours on these embroidery pieces. As I was finishing up each strip, I imagined the birds flying over our majestic mountains. I talked with my mentor, Hanna Sholl, and she told me that stories were kept alive through these embroidered patterns. As I sewed each stitch, I thought about all the time, effort, and love put into the original parka."

The stitches on the original parka are evenly spaced with the ermine tufts matching up perfectly. She envisioned women gathering in a dimly lit room around a seal oil lamp. Every material our ancestors used had to be harvested and made. Needles were carved from bird bone. Sinew, their thread, was harvested from whale's tendon. The birds were harvested with tools, weapons, and materials that they needed to carve or make out of other harvested materials. The fat was sucked out of the bird skins and soaked in fermented fish roe or urine, then were cleaned, worked dry by hand, and sewn into decorative and functional garments. The craftsmanship of our ancestors have us all amazed.

Mary's craftsmanship brought tears to the cultural department and Hanna. "The emotional response seeing the first images of the completed bird skin replica parka invoked emotions from a place deep within. It was unexpected and powerful!" Hanna remarked. "Mary, the community of Cordova, Sugpiaq people: great job keeping our culture alive! You are making our ancestors proud!"

This November 11, 2022, Mary danced in her parka at our Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch as well as introduced it with a little presentation. The parka will continue to be danced by our Cordova Ikamat Native Dance Group and accessioned into the Ilanka Cultural Center's Tribal Museum for display.

Thank you NPS Tribal Heritage grant for funding our journey. Quyanaa Hanna, for returning these skills to our area and our Sugpiaq/Alutiiq people. Quwanakcuk Mary, for making a piece of history tangible and real. You stitched your love into the parka and your spirit, and the spirit of our people will shine every time it is danced.



*"As I was finishing up each strip, I imagined the birds flying over our majestic mountains. I talked with my mentor, Hanna Sholl, and she told me that stories were kept alive through these embroidered patterns. As I sewed each stitch, I thought about all the time, effort, and love put into the original parka."*





ABOVE: Dance groups: Nanwalek Seal Dancers (Nanwalek), Ke ex' Kwaan Dancers (Kake), Mt. St. Elias Dancers (Yakutat), Cordova Ikumat Dance Group (Cordova), Yeas Ku Oo (Juneau) and Unangax Dancers (Anchorage). Photo by David Little

SOBRIETY CELEBRATION

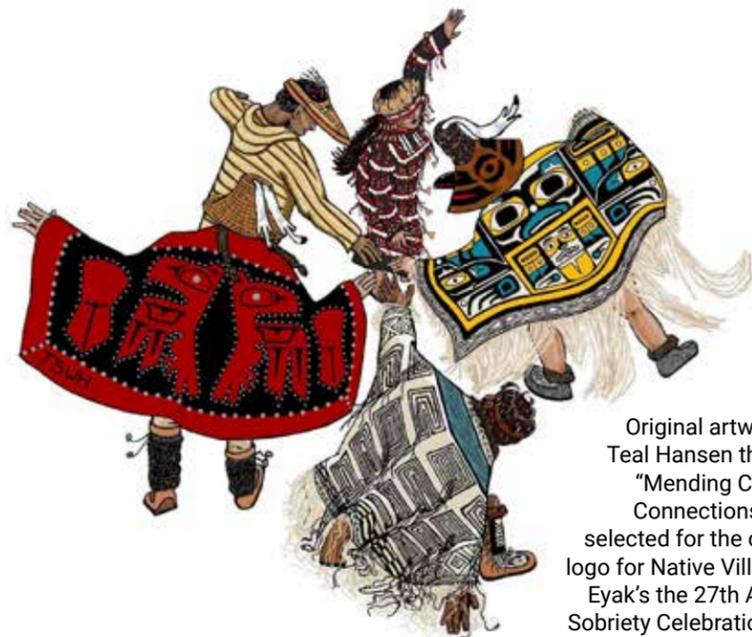
# Mending Cultural Connections

BELOW: Cordova Ikumat Dance Group. Photo by Jacob Ranney/The Cordova Times

BY JESSICA JONES

Sobriety Celebration Coordinator  
jessicca.jones@eyak-nsn.gov

“Mending Cultural Connections” was the theme for the 27th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch. It was a submission from Teal Hansen. What was special to me was watching how this theme was relevant and how important it was to mend the connections we had lost during COVID. We worked hard at bringing our dance communities back to Cordova and continuing this very important event.



Original artwork by Teal Hansen themed “Mending Cultural Connections” was selected for the official logo for Native Village of Eyak’s the 27th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch.

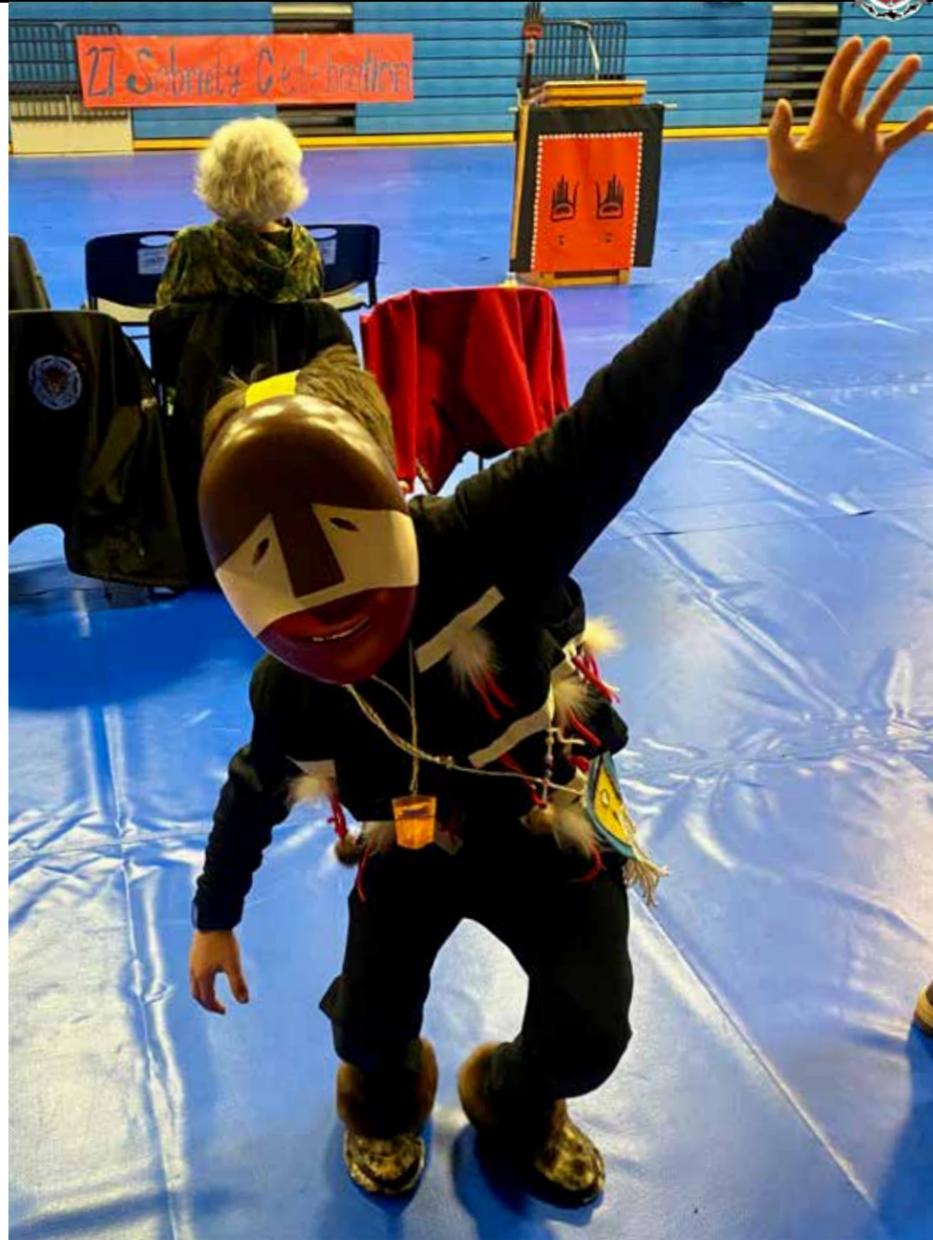




Nov. 11 was Veteran's Day and I worked with The Cordova Moose Lodge to partner with their annual Veteran's Dinner where our Veterans could eat for free. On the opening night of the celebration, we honored our Veterans and presented them with Copper River Fleece blankets! Our Veterans are very important, and it was an honor to present them with this gift. Taylor Kimbarow was the keynote speaker for the evening and was a powerhouse of a speaker. On Saturday, we had a great lineup of speakers from all over Alaska who shared sobriety and its importance to our lives and communities. My emotions were all over the place while listening to the speakers who came from all over Alaska to speak and perform at this event.

Of course, the dance groups are my favorite, and this year Cordova's dance group was fresh and new and preformed with new songs and new regalia, that was so amazing to see. Along with Cordova, we had Yakutat, Juneau, Kake, Nanwalek and Anchorage. Each group brought an element of their own to the celebration!

My favorite moment in "Mending Cultural Connections" was at the community dance. There were all ages, and everyone was dancing. Linda Joule and her husband were dancing together, and the moment screamed to me. It was beautiful to look across the dance floor and see everyone together, dancing and laughing. It was my favorite moment of the celebration and why it is so important to have these celebrations to bring us together and celebrate the moments that we are given!



Savannah and Emmy Eike.  
Photo courtesy of Savannah Eike



ABOVE: Teague Webber dances with the Alutiiq mask made by his father, Mike Webber. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen

LEFT: Cousins Logan Webber and Emmy Eike work on drums Friday, Nov. 11 at Cordova Jr./Sr. High School. Photo courtesy of Savannah Eike



Veteran and NVE Tribal Member Jack Hopkins speaks during the Veterans Ceremony on Friday, Nov. 11 at Cordova Jr./Sr. High School. Photo by David Little



Full bleachers on Saturday morning at CHS for day two of the Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch. Photo courtesy of Anissa Hodges



Cousins Emmy Eike and Logan Webber in regalia. Photo courtesy of Anissa Hodges



ABOVE: The youngest members of the Cordova Ikumat Dance Group. RIGHT: Lloyd Brown of Tatitlek and Emmy Eike of Cordova. Photos courtesy of Savannah Eike





Keynote speaker and Veteran Taylor Kimbarow speaks at the Veterans Ceremony. Photo courtesy of Danaya Hoover



Cordova Ikumat Dance Group performs. Photo courtesy of Anissa Hodges



ABOVE: Mt. St. Elias Dancers. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen



Teal, Katella and Gravina Hansen in regalia. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen



LEFT: Gravina Hansen and Lloyd Brown at the Sobriety Celebration, then and now, eight years apart. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen



Kaliakh Hansen tries out Timmy Brown's drum. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen

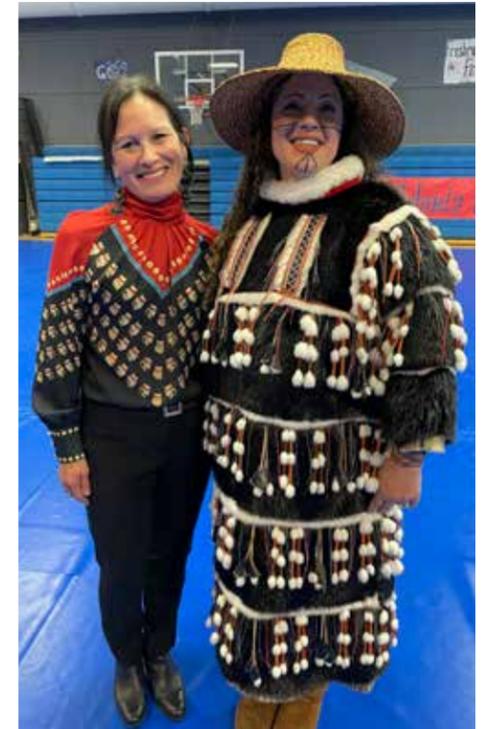


ABOVE: Lloyd Brown of Yakutat performs on a custom cedar drum during Yakutat's dance performance. Photo by David Little

RIGHT: Yakutat dance group. Photo by David Little



Shane Brown and Teague Webber. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen



ABOVE: Mary Babic and Danaya Hoover. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen

BELOW: Mary Babic, Brittney Banks and Teal Hansen. Photo courtesy of Danaya Hoover



CENTER: Holly West and Danaya Hoover. Photo courtesy of Danaya Hoover

LEFT: Emmy Eike with her finished drum. Photo courtesy of Anissa Hodges





Dolores Taylor and Alma Gappe help prepare food for the Memorial Potlatch. Photo courtesy of Jackie Ladd



Grayce Banks, Katella Hansen and Ayla Banks. Photo courtesy of Teal Hansen



NVE's Department of Natural Resources took the lead in the outdoor cook tent during the Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch. Photo courtesy of Jackie Ladd



From left, Janrey Carige, Chris Belgarde, Sue Ervin help prepare food for the Memorial Potlatch.



Bob Ladd, Matt Piche, Jimmy Paley and John Whissel process the bull moose for the Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch Nov. 8. Photo courtesy of Jackie Ladd



Todd Ladd, Robert Cunningham Jr. and McKyer Trumblee after a successful moose harvest on Oct. 28 for the 27th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch. Photo courtesy of Jackie Ladd



Rena Belgarde standing by the finished Birchbark canoe.



Gloria Wolf, Samantha Villalon Eleshansky, Pete Kompkoff. Samantha was elected to the statewide Elders & Youth Council for First Alaskans Institute and represents the Prince William Sound region.

**CELEBRATING UNITY**

Two conferences, one amazing time

**BY JACKIE LADD**

*Elder Services Coordinator  
jackie.ladd@eyak-nsn.gov*

Every year the NVE Elders Program takes a group of Elders to the First Alaskans Institute Statewide Elders & Youth Conference where they share and hear of Alaska's history, values, and ways to be in good relationship with one another and engage in hands-on cultural workshops.

During this year's 39th Annual Elders and Youth Conference that took place Oct. 16-19 at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage, Elders attended discussions about Native vote, cultural education, and food sovereignty. These are just a few topics at this exciting conference.

They finished off the rest of the week at the Alaska Federation of Natives Convention (AFN) from Oct. 20-22, also at the Dena'ina Center. This year's convention, themed "Celebrating Our Unity", took place in-person for the first time in two years.

While honoring the unity among communities, families and organizations that work together, our Elders heard from the candidates for the U.S. Senate, U.S. House, and Governor races as they answer questions about current issues. As NVE delegates, our Elders attended the AFN Convention Resolutions Session. That's not all! They also took in a banquet, art fair and exhibits, Health Fair and Qu yana Alaska which is an evening



Chris Belgarde looking at a finished Birchbark canoe.



Rena Belgarde, Emily Campbell, Nora Hodsdon and Chris Belgarde attending the AFN banquet.



Tina Fox attended a workshop on Birchbark canoe building at the Elder & Youth Conference.

of cultural performances. Elders were up and running to enjoy all the opportunities these two conferences offered.

If you are an NVE Elder and are interested in learning more, please contact Jackie Ladd at Jackie.ladd@eyak-nsn.gov or 907-424-2230.



# NVE Transportation Service

Offered from 9am - 3pm daily



during regular TFS business hours

## Our Services include :

- rides to post office
- grocery shopping
- doctor appointment
- pharmacy pick up
- ride to friends house
- scheduled airport runs
- If you can plan ahead of time to schedule your pick up that helps staff to be available when you need us.

**CONTACT #** →

Elder Services  
Chris - 907-429-7230  
Jackie - 907-253-7230





**BRIGHT FUTURES**

# Samantha Eleshansky Villalon first NVE Youth Rising Star

**BY JESSICA WEAVER**

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

The Native Village of Eyak Youth Rising Star is a new award this year that recognizes a NVE Tribal Member Youth for their accomplishments and for their emerging leadership. The request for proposals for nominations went out to the public on Oct. 27 and closed at 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 4. Thank you to everyone who put in their nominations.

Tribal Council voted and selected a winner on Nov. 8. During the 27th Annual Sobriety Celebration and Memorial Potlatch, Native Village of Eyak recognized the top three nominated youth and announced the winner.

Alice Graves was nominated for her involvement with the Native Village Eyak. She is in the Cordova Ikumat Dance Group, NVE Tribal Youth Council as well as other NVE activities.

Aaliyah Tiedeman was nominated for being involved in the Cordova Ikumat Dance Group, Junior Native Youth Olympics and Native Youth Olympics, for helping every cultural week and for being an intern for NVE for 1.5 years.

Samantha Eleshansky Villalon was nominated for being involved in the Native Village of Eyak programs, Cordova Cheer and for her statewide involvement, for she was nominated and elected as the 2023 Statewide Elders & Youth Council Youth Representative for the Chugach Region.

The winner of the First Annual Youth Rising Star Award was presented to Samantha Eleshansky Villalon. The Native Village of Eyak presented her with a bolo made by the Alutiiq Angels and a star was named after her for her great accomplishments. Here are some compliments from the special people who nominated Samantha. She has amazing work ethic, intelligence and humor. She is involved and has confidence in her voice. She has developed as a person, and they expect to see amazing things from Samantha.

All three of these young women are rising stars. The Native Village of Eyak recognized Alice Graves and Aaliyah Tiedeman for their emerging leadership and accomplishments by presenting them a gift.

Thank you, ladies, for your kindness, commitment, and for going above and beyond. You are all amazing.



TOP: Samantha Eleshansky Villalon with her Star Name Deed. Photo by Shannon Phillips

LEFT: From left, Alice Graves and mother Jill Graves, Nick Tiedeman with daughter Aaliyah Tiedeman and Samantha Eleshansky Villalon with mother, Cheryll Eleshansky. Photo by Reyna Newirth



## NATIVE VILLAGE OF EYAK

visit us online: [WWW.EYAK-NSN.GOV](http://WWW.EYAK-NSN.GOV)

email: [FOOD@EYAK-NSN.GOV](mailto:FOOD@EYAK-NSN.GOV)



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Ilanka Community Health Clinic staff at Christmas.

**ICHC UPDATE**

New hours, a growing team and COVID boosters

BY JESSICA ARASMITH  
jessica.arasmith@eyak-nsn.gov

**CLINIC UPDATES**

Announcing a change in Saturday hours!! Starting January 14, Ilanka Clinic will be open from 8:00 a.m. to noon on Saturdays. Monday through Friday hours remain the same, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Our providers have updated their schedules as well. Delia Reyes, FNP, has moved to one week a month. In addition, Nanette Laufik, PA, will also be available approximately one week a month. Dr. Head and Dr. Iutzi continue with their regular schedules. If you would like to make an appointment with any of our providers, please contact us at 907-424-3622, option #4.

We have expanded our Care Team to include specialized nursing and medical staff which will provide more focused care management for those patients struggling with high blood pressure. If you have not been contacted and would like to participate in our Hypertension management program, please let your primary care provider know.

Soon, we will be looking to expand our Chronic Disease Management programs and will be sending out communication through a variety of mediums.

**COVID Boosters**

Ilanka Clinic would like to remind you that we have COVID Bivalent Boosters available. Call the clinic to schedule your vaccination today. COVID home tests continue to be available for pick-up during clinic hours.

**Additional Clinic Services**

If you do not have transportation to your scheduled Ilanka Clinic appointment, please let us know at the time you make your appointment, and we can pick you up and drop you back home.

Ilanka Clinic offers Behavioral Health counselling services including individual, family and couples counselling. We also offer confidential, personalized counselling and medication assisted treatment and support services for drug and alcohol overuse. Call Ilanka Clinic to speak to one of our counsellors to find out more.

**Purchased Referred Care**

Purchased Referred Care offers many resources to Native Village of Eyak beneficiaries, but did you know that these benefits also require you to apply for alternate coverage? We understand that this can be an overwhelming task, so we have specially trained staff to assist you with the process! We can help you navigate the maze of Medicare, help you sign up for Medicaid, Affordable Care Act coverage or just assist you in exploring your options.



Welcome Joy Grengia, Patient Service Specialist.

**New Employee: Joy Grengia**

Ilanka Community Health Center welcomes Joy Grengia to our Front Desk Team. Joy is a familiar face from around town and has taken the position of Patient Service Specialist. She will be assisting with check-in, check-out, bill pay, scheduling and more. Joy moved to Cordova in 2011. She enjoys traveling, fishing, hiking and is looking forward to contributing to the Ilanka Team.



Are you trying to quit smoking?

Alaska's quit line is a free service to all eligible Alaskan's over the age of 18. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Text **READY** to **200-400** to enroll in Alaska's quit line!

Enrolled participants will receive support with quitting all forms of tobacco, including smokeless and e-cigarettes.

Visit <http://alaskaquitline.com> or email [tobacco@alaska.gov](mailto:tobacco@alaska.gov) for more Information.



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. The ANGS Board of Directors 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 through meaningful and significant dividends and economic opportunities. We have been an active participant in the Small Business Administration 8(a) program since 2006. Building upon these years of experience, I am happy to report that our Copper River Family of Companies finished 2022 strong, fulfilling our budgeted dividend for NVE's Tribal Fund. We are also working closely with the NVE Council to help with future forecasting of dividends and plans. This month, we begin the new year implementing the changes in our newly adopted Operating Agreement. With consultation with NVE, we felt it was advantageous to provide some better protections to our governance and oversight. The ANGS board will have staggered terms to improve institutional continuity and term limits to help promote new ideas and influences. We pledge to continue our increased oversight, transparency, and communication regarding our businesses and their management on your behalf. Our CEO, Kevin McLaughlin has included a companywide update, sharing photos and descriptions of the work our companies have been doing. Please feel free to contact me directly, for any ANGS questions. I am happy to answer any of your questions, or follow up. Also, please check out our website at CopperRiverMC.com. We welcome any suggestions or comments.



Happy New Year and Gunalch'eech  
Sylvia Lange, Board Chair

**Copper River Companies  
Life After 8(a) Graduation**



We often speak of the benefits and successes of the Copper River companies participating in the Small Business Administration (SBA) 8(a) program, but success does not stop upon graduation! Two of our companies that have graduated from the SBA 8(a) program, Copper River Information Technology (CRIT) a 2015 graduate and Copper River Enterprise Services (CRES) a 2021 graduate, continue to expand their portfolio through new awards. Please read on to learn about the excellent work these companies have been doing.

Copper River Enterprise Services was awarded a one-year contract in support of the Department of State, Office of Chief of Protocol for event management. The Major Events division within the Office of Chief of Protocol is often tasked by the White House with planning and execution of high-level summits and meetings for foreign policymakers.

In 2023, the United States is the host for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Senior Officials Meetings and Leader's Week. CRES has been coordinating details for staff and guest accommodations, convention center leases, and transportation, and other logistics in support of these meetings throughout 2023 and culminating with the President of the United States event of Leader's Week in November 2023. This contract also has elements of support for other major events produced by the Office of Protocol team, such as the recent US-Africa Leader's Summit in December of 2022 and prior to that a presence at the United Nations General Assembly in September of 2022.

Copper River Enterprise Services was also awarded a one-year extension to provide information system security assessment support to the United States Agency for



**Copper River Companies  
Life After 8(a) Graduation** (Continued)

International Development (USAID), Bureau for Management (M), Office of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) to enhance USAID's cyber security risk management and compliance position. Supported by a well-trained staff, they provide a standard, agile and cost-efficient approach for performing system assessment and authorization activities for new systems and existing systems requiring re-certification. Copper River Enterprise Services has been performing excellent work on these assessments for the past several years and that superlative effort has led to the extension.

Copper River Information Technology added several new commercial clients to their portfolio in 2022. Expanding their reach into the Healthcare technology space, CRIT has secured projects with two new high-profile customers: Luminis Health, a multi-hospital health system based in Annapolis, MD, as well as Calvert Health, a community hospital in Prince Frederick, MD. Another recent large contract award came from a Nutanix electronic storage expansion at Thales Defense and Security a global company serving the defense, federal, and commercial markets.

**Copper River Leadership Promotions**



Copper River is excited to announce the promotion of several key employees into senior leadership positions. A result of hard work and thoughtful succession planning, these promotions ensure we have the right people in the right roles to allow us to continue to grow and innovate. Kevin Connolly has been promoted from Executive Vice President to President of Copper River Cyber Solutions. He has been instrumental in the development of CRCS and winning the \$45 million competitive 8a award with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Yvette Rogers has been promoted from Director of Services to Executive Vice President of Copper River Enterprise Services. Her leadership and accomplishments have been vital to CRES' continued success. Congratulations to Yvette and Kevin!

**Copper River Information Technology  
Joins Juniper Networks Diversity+ Partner Program**



Copper River Information Technology was selected to join Juniper Networks Diversity+ Partner program that was unveiled earlier this year. Partners who are eligible must be 51% or more owned by a recognized socially or economically disadvantaged person or entity or be operating in an historically underutilized business zone (HUBZone). The benefits of the program include increased visibility inside and outside Juniper and an enhanced profile in Juniper's partner locator. CRIT has been a partner of Juniper since 2010 and this designation further enhances our current partnership by expanding procurement opportunities that Copper River IT is uniquely qualified to fulfill.

**Copper River Information Technology  
Hosts First Annual Golf Tournament**



Copper River Information Technology held its first annual Golf Tournament on October 5, 2022 at Raspberry Falls Golf Club in Leesburg, VA. The event was sponsored by over 10 Partners including A10 Networks, Critical Start, Igel, and TD Synnex. The tournament was an opportunity for our commercial customers and partners to interact as well as show appreciation for our customers. A great time was had by all and planning is already in the works to make next year's event even better!

As we bring another banner year to a close, we are grateful for the opportunity to deliver superior results for ANGS and are very excited to continue our successes in 2023.  
Kevin McLaughlin, CEO



**Tribal Member Photos**

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS IN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER BY EMAILING THEM TO [ECHO@EYAK-NSN.GOV](mailto:ECHO@EYAK-NSN.GOV).

\*1MB+ JPEG images work best. Please Include brief caption info, photo credit and first and last names of those pictured.



Holly West. Photo courtesy of Denise Eleshansky



From left, Denise and Kenneth Eleshansky and Avis Kompkoff. Photo courtesy of Denise Eleshansky



Avis and her boys — Richard, Gerold, William and Lance. Photo courtesy of Denise Eleshansky



Arleene Olsen and her grandchildren, Brookelin Eleshansky, Jazlyn, Jace and Jax West. Photo courtesy of Denise Eleshansky



**TRIBAL MEMBER PHOTOS**

Share your photos in the next newsletter by emailing them to

[echo@eyak-nsn.gov](mailto:echo@eyak-nsn.gov)

\*1MB+ JPEG images work best. Please Include brief caption info, photo credit and first and last names of those pictured.



Holly West and Mary Peltola. Photo courtesy of Denise Eleshansky

**ILANKA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER**

**MyHealth Patient Portal**



MyHealth Patient Portal is a secure health management tool that allows you to access your medical information and contact your providers online or by mobile device. Access includes test results, medication list, view and request appointments, and secure messaging with your care team.

**For more information or to sign up, please call Berna or Audrey at 907-424-3622**



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**NOVEMBER 11-13, 2022  
CORDOVA, ALASKA**



*Thank you for attending!*

**27TH ANNUAL  
SOBRIETY CELEBRATION**

*and Memorial Potlatch*

**MENDING CULTURAL CONNECTIONS**