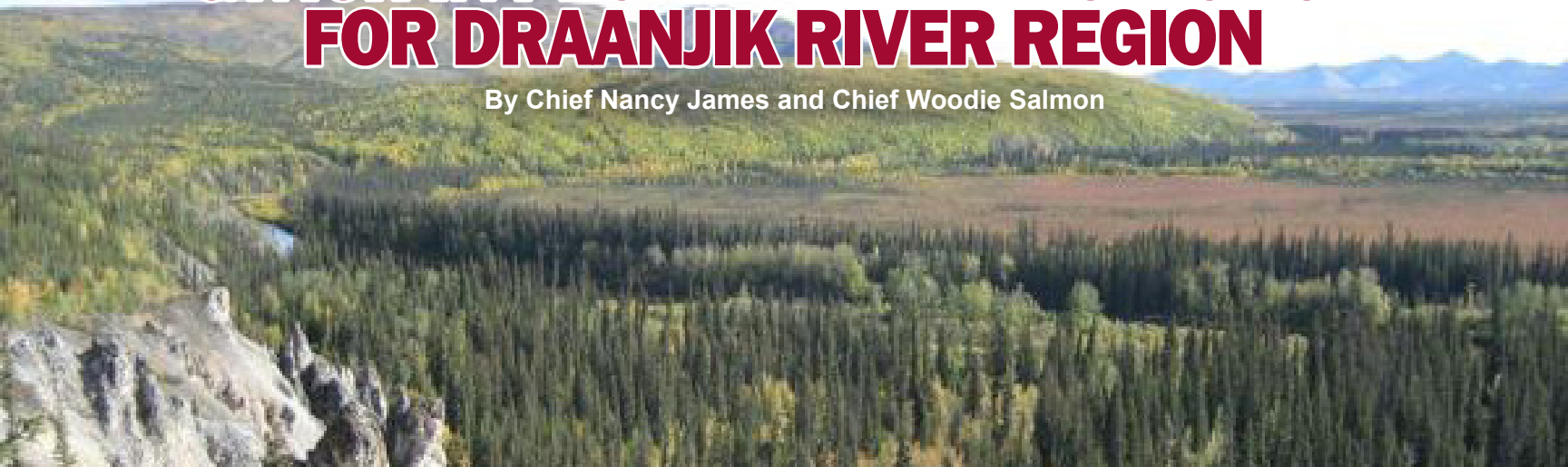


## GWICH'IN PEOPLE NEED PROTECTION FOR DRAANJIK RIVER REGION

By Chief Nancy James and Chief Woodie Salmon



For millennia, the Draanjik Gwich'in people in Alaska's Eastern Interior have known the place that surrounds and sustains them as the land that gives their communities life.

The Draanjik River region extends from the Yukon Territory into an undisturbed wildland that includes 2.4 million acres of public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. The vast, pristine region includes watershed tributaries of the Yukon River and encompasses the traditional territories of the Draanjik and Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in. In a world where nature is increasingly diminished and threatened by human activities, the Draanjik is that rare

place with room to breathe. It looks today much like it did at the end of the last ice age about 12,000 years ago.

[The Federal Government recognize Native names for major Alaska river system.]

Entirely free from mining, logging or oil and gas development, this land matches like a puzzle-piece with contiguous protected areas across the Canadian border and is subject to two international treaties: one for salmon and one for caribou. The intact forest and wetlands support more than two dozen species of mammals, including the Porcupine caribou herd that requires large and isolated tracts of intact habitat to thrive. The river

supports spawning populations of three species of salmon, including chinook, and is one of five known locations in the Yukon drainage where sheefish spawn.

The Draanjik Gwich'in people have been the keepers of this land for more than 10,000 years, maintaining a culture rooted in respect for an environment that has provided food, water and shelter people need to survive. That relationship with the environment is evident in the Draanjik burial sites, seasonal settlements, early travel routes, and age-old traplines that have become part of the fabric of the place.

BLM recently released its long  
*Continued on page 3*

### 2015-2020 Strategic Plan Update

## TCC Achieves AAAHC Accreditation

TCC has received another 3-year accreditation from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc. (AAAHC). At the beginning of August, AAAHC surveyors visited the Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center as well as our health care facilities in Galena and Nenana to evaluate the quality and environment of care provided at our clinics. Out of over 1,000 AAAHC standards, there were only six partially-compliant findings.

**Congratulations to all TCC Health Staff who contributed to the success of the survey and who continually go above and beyond to ensure that TCC meets this standard of excellence.**

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## MISSION STATEMENT

Tanana Chiefs Conference provides a unified voice in advancing sovereign tribal governments through the promotion of physical and mental wellness, education, socioeconomic development, and culture of the Interior Alaska Native people.

## VISION

Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Conference

## TCC EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Donald Honea Sr./Ruby  
*1st Traditional Chief*

Trimble Gilbert/Arctic Village  
*2nd Traditional Chief*

Victor Joseph/ Tanana  
*Chief/Chairman*

Julie Roberts-Hyslop/Tanana  
*Vice President*

Pollock 'PJ' Simon, Jr. /Allakaket  
*Secretary/Treasurer*

William "Chaaiy" Albert/Northway  
*Upper Tanana*

Nick Alexia Sr./Nikolai  
*Upper Kuskokwim*

Nancy James/Fort Yukon  
*Yukon Flats*

Eugene Paul/Holy Cross  
*Lower Yukon*

Frank Thompson/ Evansville  
*Yukon Tanana*

Leo Lolnitz/Koyukuk  
*Yukon Koyukuk*

Peter Demoski/Nulato  
*Elder Advisor*

Isaac Ticknor/Anvik  
*Youth Advisor*

# CHIEF'S REPORT



Dear Tribes and Tribal Members,

It has finally arrived, my favorite time of the year hunting season! Many of us are already planning our hunting trips and making the necessary arrangements to provide for our families and communities. If you are planning on going hunting, please stay safe while travelling and review our hunting safety tips on page 4 of this newsletter. I wish all of you the best of luck this hunting season.

In August, I along with Vice-President Julie Roberts-Hyslop and TCC staff started our subregional meetings with the Upper Kuskokwim meeting in McGrath, the Yukon Flats meeting in Fairbanks, the Yukon Tanana meeting in Rampart and the Lower Yukon meeting in Shageluk. I would like to send my appreciation to the communities that hosted us and the cooks. We are scheduled to meet with the Yukon Koyukuk and the Yukon Tanana in the upcoming months. I look forward to having further discussions with our tribal leadership and members, as these conversations help our 2015-2020 strategic plan remain in alignment with our tribes and keep us working towards achieving our visions of healthy, strong, unified tribes.

Part of our strategic plan is to promote voting in among Alaska Natives and TCC has developed both radio and video public service announcements to promote this initiative. TCC has also been working closely with the Get Out the Native Vote Committee to host several community events to encourage people to vote and to register new voters.

I would like to remind everyone that the Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention will be hosted in Fairbanks this year from October 20th-22nd. This year is AFN's 50th anniversary and they will be celebrating with the theme '50 Years: Reflect, Refresh, Renew'. I encourage anyone who has the opportunity to attend to get involved in these meeting, as next year the conference will move back to Anchorage. Before the convention begins, a potlatch will be held on October 19th at the Big Dipper Ice Arena in Fairbanks to welcome our AFN guests and to honor the Fairbanks Four. The potlatch is being sponsored by TCC, the Fairbanks Native Association, and Doyon, Limited.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that September is Suicide Awareness Month. The suicide rate among Alaska Native men is nearly four times the national average. It's important that we not only shed light on this subject, but learn the warning signs in others and in ourselves so that we may seek help. More information on suicide prevention is provided on page 8 of this newsletter.

I hope that all of you stay safe and spend time with your loved ones this fall.

Ana Bassee',  
**Victor Joseph**  
*Chief/Chairman*

...Continued from page 1

## Protection for Draanjik River

anticipated Eastern Interior Proposed Resource Management Plan and final Environmental Impact Statement after eight years of planning. Once finalized, the plan will serve as a guide for the next 20 years in the management of approximately 6.5 million acres of public lands. The Upper Draanjik River Subunit makes up about a third of Alaska's Eastern Interior, nearly 2.4 million acres, in a region that has never had a land use plan and one that has sustained indigenous communities for thousands of years.

Two tribes in the Draanjik region, the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government and the Chalkyitsik Village Council, committed significant time, energy, and resources to work closely with BLM through the lengthy planning process to voice concerns and advocate for protections for the Upper Draanjik region. For nearly a decade the tribes encouraged BLM to create a final plan that would preserve the region's subsistence resources, watersheds and the habitats upon which people depend. The tribes have

been passionate in defending the traditional homeland of the Gwich'in Athabascan peoples to ensure the lands and cultural resources are sustained for future generations.

[Young hits Interior secretary with complaints over Alaska lands]

A compromise of 623,000 acres is contained in the proposed Salmon Fork Area of Critical Environmental Concern in Alternative E. It is of great concern to the tribes to maintain this designation. Over the years, the tribal governments have invested limited financial resources and staff to travel from rural villages to Washington, D.C., to educate federal decision-makers on the significance of the Eastern Interior region and to support the tribally nominated Salmon Fork ACEC to protect fragile and irreplaceable subsistence and water resources.

Tribes believe the current plan provides balance that goes a long way toward fulfilling the BLM's trust to federally recognized tribes. The tribes support BLM's decision to recommend both the Salmon Fork ACEC and important watersheds remain closed

to development through Alternative E.

While the plan does not include all of the protections the tribes sought, the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government and the Chalkyitsik Village Council acknowledge the plan is a compromise that strikes an appropriate balance between protection of important areas of traditional use in the Upper Draanjik River subunit and development in conformity with the BLM's multiple-use mandate.

The Gwich'in people believe they are inseparable from the land because of their sacred connection, because of their sacred responsibility of looking after the land. The Gwich'in people want to protect the Draanjik because they are part of it, says First Chief Nancy James of the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government. "Without the land," she says, "our people cannot survive."

Woodie Salmon is chief of the Chalkyitsik Village Council. Nancy James is chief of the Gwichyaa Zhee Gwich'in Tribal Government.

*This article was originally published online by Alaska Dispatch News. The views expressed here are the writers' and are not necessarily endorsed by Alaska Dispatch News, which welcomes a broad range of viewpoints.*



# Seeking Volunteers

The Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention is taking place October 17th-22nd here in Fairbanks and AFN Convention Fairbanks is looking for volunteers to help. Come volunteer for a few hours and show AFN how welcoming the Fairbanks community is!

Sign-Up to Volunteer at [www.afnfairbanks.com/volunteer/](http://www.afnfairbanks.com/volunteer/)



# Fairbanks Police and Body Worn Cameras

Mayor John Eberhart, City of Fairbanks

Police officers with Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) are becoming more common nationwide. I want transparency and accountability of police operations. Employing a device to capture and record video and voice during police operations helps solve “he said/she said” situations and what happened. With allegations of misconduct by police, recordings may vindicate an officer who performed professionally; conversely, questionable conduct by officers may be shown and remove doubt, leading to remedial action by the department to address misconduct.

Unrest due to allegations of police misconduct in Ferguson, Madison, Baltimore, and other cities, led President Obama to form a “think tank”

named the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing to look at improving police-community relations. The President charged the task force with identifying best practices and offering recommendations on how policing practices can promote effective crime reduction while building public trust.

The final report suggests that BWCs for use by law enforcement should be considered and supported. The final report refers to a 12-month study in California, which found that officers wearing BWCs had 59 percent fewer complaints than officers not wearing BWCs. The California study pointed to the impact BWCs might have on the self-awareness of officers and citizens alike. When police officers know

their behavior is monitored (because they turn on the cameras) and when officers tell citizens that the cameras are recording their behavior, everyone behaves better. The California study results strongly suggest that this increase in self-awareness contributes to more positive police-citizen interactions. The Fairbanks Police Department has purchased and equipped its officers with BWCs.

Transparency, employee accountability, and professional/civil conduct by both City employees and those we serve are key ingredients to foster public trust and positive community interactions and partnerships. BWCs help to attain these goals.

**NOW THAT HUNTING SEASON IS UPON US, WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND EVERYONE TO STAY SAFE!**

## Hunting Safety Tips

Below we have compiled a few hunting safety tips for those who will be going out this month:

- Always wear a life jacket when traveling on the waterways.
- Never go hunting without telling somebody where you’re going and when you expect to return.
- Be sure to stock your boat or four-wheeler with safety gear; first aid kit, rope, flare gun, hand axe, etc.
- Treat every gun as if it is loaded, even when you are sure it isn’t.
- Before each hunt check the muzzle for obstructions.
- Wear bright clothing or reflective gear when hunting, that way other hunters can be aware when you are nearby.

# Blueberries

## Wild and Citified



By Heidi Rader, Tribes Extension Educator

University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative Extension Service and the Tanana Chiefs Conference

Picking berries is something that brings us together. Wild or citified, learning a little about these marvelous blue pearls can help us protect and boost their production for generations to come.

First, the land may need protection. The Blueberry Preserve in Goldstream Valley exemplifies how a community coalesced to protect a popular and productive blueberry spot. See <http://bit.ly/2boFZ11>. On private land, protect your berries by not building or landscaping over them. Trust me, it's easier to maintain a blueberry patch than a lawn.

Invasive species, such as bird vetch, are another looming threat to blueberries. Although there are many invasive species to weed and control, bird vetch is particularly onerous because it can invade undisturbed areas, unlike many invasive species that only thrive in disturbed areas.

The way in which you get those blueberries into your bucket can also affect blueberry patches.

I asked Pat Holloway, professor emeritus of horticulture at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and expert on berries, what her thoughts were on using the rake to pick berries. She said, "Blueberry rakes can cause an enormous amount of damage if people are in a hurry to fill their buckets." If you are going to use the rake, she admonishes, "Very slowly comb the bush from the bottom up, and when you encounter resistance, don't

rip the rake through the plant, use your hands to push through the foliage." She said that a rake with flexible wire loops is better than one with wooden tines and that lingonberries are better suited to raking since they're firmer.

If you're not careful, you're going to harvest a great deal of leaves, which will, over time, result in a less vigorous plant. More imminently, you may be stripping off flower buds that would have turned into next year's berries, according to Holloway.

How do you keep a backyard blueberry patch productive? There are several easy things you can do in a privately owned patch to increase production and ensure they keep producing:

- Selectively clear brush that threatens to outcompete blueberries - willows, alders, birch trees, spruce trees, etc.
- Raise bees to improve pollination and fruit set.
- Prune half of your bushes each year, when they're dormant in late fall after a killing frost and the leaves have dropped or in early spring before the leaves have emerged. I pruned my backyard blueberries with hedge shears, which improved production and ease of picking.

Unfortunately, we don't have well-researched guidelines on cultivating lowbush blueberries in Alaska. You can use other blueberry production guides like this one, <http://bit.ly/2bfRaZu>, as a general guide. Just keep in mind that you're dealing with a different species, a different climate, and a different growing season. In Maine, it's possible to produce 10,000 pounds per acre.

If you don't have a blueberry patch in your backyard and want one, there are a few ways you can establish a patch. Don't bother experimenting with non-native blueberries, although the plants do grow, only the part of the plant below snow level survives and produces

berries — and not many at that. Papa Meunier and Charlie Knight proved that bog blueberries could be propagated and cultivated (<http://bit.ly/2bly73i>). You can propagate your own blueberry plants from seed or cuttings, too. You'll want to choose plants with large and plentiful berries. Remember, it's illegal to dig up or take wild blueberry plants on public lands without a permit and on private lands without permission.

Enjoy your blueberries, however you come by them. And if I see your blueberry photos online, I'll ask you where you picked them but I'll never share my spots!



Heidi Rader's daughter, Kinsey, picking blueberries in the backyard before she could walk.

# Fairness in Justice

## 33rd Annual Tribal Court Development Conference



In August TCC, in partnership with the National Judicial College and the University of Alaska, hosted the 33rd annual Tribal Court Development Conference. Each year the conference is held in order to bring tribal members together to discuss current topics and basic tribal court knowledge. The intent is to continue to assist those who are either new to tribal court development or wanting to enhance a system that they already have in place.

The theme this year was “Fairness in Justice.”

Chief Victor Joseph of TCC said, “Talking about Fairness in Justice, it’s like the puzzle pieces are coming together.” As the conferences continue to grow each year Joseph reminded those in attendance what TCC has been doing, “We have been looking at what we have done so far; where we are at today, and what we need to do

to be successful in the future.”

Numerous panels were held throughout the three-day event in discussion of hot topics such as drug and alcohol abuse in the villages, the case of the Fairbanks Four, Sentencing Circles, and addressing domestic violence in our communities. Panel members came together to discuss both the success and issues that they have been experiencing in hopes that they could learn from each other.

“If a local tribal court is not afforded respect for their authority and is considered unprofessional or unknowledgeable then I ask, according to what and who’s standard?” said panel member and former TCC President, Jerry Isaac.

Also in attendance were numerous state lawmakers including Senator Lisa Murkowski, Governor Bill Walker,

Attorney General Jahnna Lindemuth, and Senator John Coghill. Each of whom spoke to our community members about the importance of growing our tribal courts in the villages and how far we have come. “This speaks volumes about how far we have come as a state, how far your influence as a tribal court system has come and how much we have achieved” said Senator Lisa Murkowski.

The theme of ‘Fairness in Justice’ hit hard with the Fairbanks Four case and one of the panelists April Monroe, long-time advocate for the men, spoke to the audience, “Participating in the justice system is paramount and it is time for us to stand up and take some responsibility as a community and do that,” she continued “if you see something wrong you have to stand up and say this is wrong.”



**The next Tribal Court Development Conference is scheduled for April 24th - 26th, 2018.**

# Meet Our Interns

This summer Tanana Chiefs Conference had three youth interns working in various departments where they gained hands-on experience and learned more about their prospective career fields.

## Cherise Beatus

I was born and raised in Fairbanks, but my late father, Norman Beatus was from Hughes and my mother, Barbara Beatus is from Allakaket. I'm 23-years-old, a graduate from Effie Kokrine Charter School, and I am currently going into my senior year at Stanford University, majoring in International Relations.

This summer I spent my time here at TCC as an intern for the Legal Department. Some of my daily duties involved either working directly with Get Out The Native Vote (GOTNV) or



assisting with important legal issues. My favorite part of the internship has been able to work with GOTNV. The committee members of Get Out The Native Vote are all very upbeat, kind, intelligent people and being able to sit in a room with full of influential people who are all passionate about voting was inspiring.

Once my internship is over I will be studying abroad in Santiago, Chile as a requirement for my degree and then will return to Stanford to finish

my B.A in International Relations. After I graduate, I will be applying to law schools that have a joint-degree program for both a Juris Doctorate and a Master's in Public Policy. Afterward, I would like to work either with a non-profit in Alaska or with the State in updating human trafficking laws.

I would like to thank Natasha Singh for replying to my job inquiry earlier this year and allowing me to work with such a great department! I would also like to thank Marna Sanford and Nick Gasca for constantly keeping me busy throughout the summer and for the committee members at GOTNV for allowing me to be involved in their meetings and events.

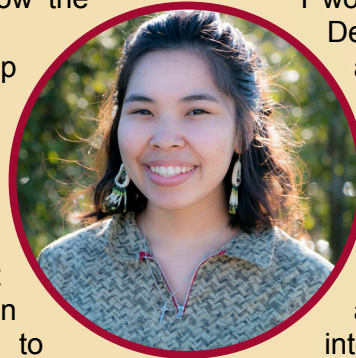
## Justin Kokrine

I am 21-years-old and was raised in Fairbanks but my mother is from Huslia and my Dad is from Tanana. This summer I worked as a transportation intern here at TCC in the Tribal Development Division. I applied for the internship because I thought it would be a good opportunity to see first-hand how TCC works.

During my internship I learned about how roads in our villages came to be and who maintains them. This was great because I had never thought about the roads whenever I would go out to the villages. I really enjoyed

contributing in getting the Long-Term Transportation Strategy written out and learning about how the region works together.

After my internship I plan on continuing going to school to achieve my bachelors in Biology. I hope to be accepted into the Pacific Northwest Medical School in Washington. I plan to attend school here for two years and finish the remaining two here in Alaska. If I don't get accepted there, I plan on going into the PA



program through the University of Alaska Anchorage.

I would like to thank the Tribal Development staff for being an awesome work group. Truly the people I work with get along so well and are very welcoming. I look forward to finishing out the rest of my internship and will miss them. Also all of TCC for starting the internship and allowing me to be one of the first interns here. I loved learning more about how our people and culture are still a concern and are being well looked after.

## Julia Fisher-Salmon

I was raised in the village of Beaver, but my family traveled back and forth between both Beaver and Chalkyitsik because my Father's family lives there. I am 19-years-old and currently live in Fairbanks while I attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

This summer I spent my time at TCC as an intern for the Tribal Development Division. My supervisor was Mishal Gaede,



TCC's Tribal Court Facilitator. I had the opportunity to sit in on tribal court hearings to learn more about the courts within our region. I also attend two of the subregional meetings in Rampart and McGrath, which was my favorite part of the internship!

I am currently a junior at UAF, majoring in Criminal Justice with a minor in paralegal studies.

After I graduate, I hope to work as a paralegal while I apply to law schools.

I would like to thank the Tribal Development division for being so welcoming and helpful when I first started, and for including me in the sub-regionals, and also the tribes who allowed me to sit in on a few of the Tribal Court hearings. I learned a lot from Mishal this summer about the Indian Child Welfare Act, and the Tribe's jurisdictional rights when it comes to child protection.

# Suicide Prevention

September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, a time to educate ourselves about the risk of suicide and the warning signs so that we may help our communities.

## How to Help

A suicidal person may not ask for help, but that doesn't mean that help isn't wanted. Suicide prevention starts with recognizing the warning signs and taking them seriously. If you think a friend or family member is considering suicide, you might be afraid to bring the subject up. But talking about suicidal thoughts and feelings can save a life.

### WAYS TO BE HELPFUL TO SOMEONE WHO IS THREATENING SUICIDE:

- Be aware. Learn the warning signs.
- Get involved. Become available. Show interest and support.
- Ask if he/she is thinking about suicide.
- Be direct. Talk openly and freely about suicide.
- Be willing to listen. Allow for expression of feelings. Accept the Feelings.
- Be non-judgmental. Don't debate whether suicide is right or wrong, or feelings are good or bad. Don't lecture on the value of life.
- Don't dare him/her to do it.
- Don't give advice by making decisions for someone else to tell them to behave differently.
- Don't ask 'why'. This encourages defensiveness.
- Offer empathy, not sympathy.
- Don't act shocked. This creates distance.
- Don't be sworn to secrecy. Seek support.
- Offer hope that alternatives are available, do not offer glib reassurance; it only proves you don't understand.
- Take action! Remove means! Get help from individuals or agencies specializing in crisis intervention and suicide prevention.

## Depression and Suicide

Research has consistently shown a strong link between suicide and depression, with 90% of the people who die by suicide having an existing mental illness or substance abuse problem at the time of their death.

The diagnosis and treatment of depression and depressive illnesses can be made by a medical doctor, or mental health professionals such as a psychologist, social worker, or psychotherapist.

### SYMPTOMS OF DEPRESSION:

- Difficulty concentrating, remembering details, and making decisions
- Insomnia, early-morning wakefulness, or excessive sleeping
- Persistent aches or pains, headaches, cramps, or digestive problems that do not ease even with treatment
- Irritability, restlessness
- Feeling sad for two or more weeks
- Feeling lethargic — feeling like you have no energy
- Unable to concentrate
- Sleeping too much or too little
- Eating too much or too little
- Feeling worthless
- Feeling hopeless
- Feeling helpless
- Feeling negative or pessimistic
- Losing interest in activities that you previously enjoyed
- Crying frequently
- Withdrawing from others
- Neglecting personal appearance
- Feeling angry
- Feeling guilty
- Unable to think clearly
- Unable to make decisions

## The Warning Signs of Suicide

When someone is contemplating suicide, there are always warning signs. The more we are educated about these signs, the more likely we are to save someone's life. The following signs may mean someone is at risk for suicide. The risk of suicide is greater if a behavior is new or has increased and if it seems related to a painful event, loss, or change.

- Talking about wanting to die or to kill themselves.
- Looking for a way to kill themselves, such as searching online or buying a gun
- Talking about feeling hopeless or having no reason to live.
- Talking about feeling trapped or in unbearable pain.
- Talking about being a burden to others.
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs.
- Acting anxious or agitated; behaving recklessly.
- Sleeping too little or too much.
- Withdrawing or isolating themselves.
- Showing rage or talking about seeking revenge.
- Displaying extreme mood swings.

If you or someone you know is displaying signs of suicide, it is important to seek help immediately.

**CALL US.  
WE CAN HELP.**

Alaska's Careline:

1-877-266-4357

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:

1-800-273-8255

TCC Behavioral Health:

907-459-3800 or 907-496-1621

# Bird Vetch

## An Invasive Plant and how to Control it

Bird Vetch (*Vicia Cracca*) is a fast spreading invasive plant that has made its home in Alaska. According to research by the University of Alaska Fairbanks Cooperative extension, the plant is able to reproduce through seeds and through the spreading of rhizomes. (Rhizomes are a continuously growing horizontal stem that is underground that produces roots in intervals).

Once the Bird Vetch has laid its roots it can survive in a range of climate and outdoor conditions which makes the plant very hard to get rid of. Bird Vetch is able to withstand climates that could

include both fire and extremely dry conditions, and can be found anywhere from vegetable gardens to natural areas, and fields.

Regular mowing of the plant and regular pulling is a good start to rid your areas of Bird Vetch.

In order to control its growth it is important to immediately act once you see the vegetation in your area. Since the plant spreads

both by seeds and rhizomes it is hard to control but you can begin by pulling the plant from its roots. Pulling the plant can help but the infestation can easily reoccur so herbicides or covering are also an effective method.

Source: UAF Cooperative Extension Service



## TCC's Guide to NATURAL MEDICINE

### The Healing Properties of Rose Hips

**Symptoms:** Rose hips are high in Vitamin C, A, B, E, & K. Good for immune system, heart/circulatory systems, nervous system, anti-inflammatory.

#### HOW TO USE

**Skin:** Rose hip oil can help with moisturization, and can be used to treat scars and acne.

**Burns:** Rose hip oil can be used as a soothing treatment in skin burns.

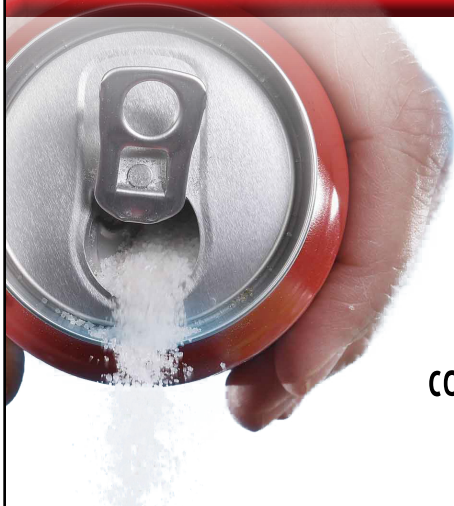
**Organ Systems:** Can help with the immune, digestive, reproductive and heart/circulatory/nervouse systems.

**Most common uses:** Rose hips are used in tea, eaten raw, cooked and made into jelly.

*Always be sure to consult your physician before making any medical or dietary changes.*



## Did You Know?



A 20-Ounce bottle of soda contains the equivalent of 16 teaspoons of sugar.

(The American Heart Association recommends that Americans consume no more than five to nine teaspoons of sugar a day.)

# 2016 Alaska Youth Academy

*Better Choices, Brighter Futures*



Tanana Chiefs Conference hosted the 2016 Annual Alaska Youth Academy. Each year participants apply and are selected to attend the weeklong training.

Teenagers between the ages of 14 to 18 are able to learn about skills that are essential in the career field of public safety. Over 50 students attended this year and were taught not only essential

life-saving skills like CPR/ First Aid, but also survival skills and defensive tactics.

On top of that, the students were able to learn how to solve crimes using CSI skills and how to safely use a firearm. The learning took



place both inside and outside of the classroom for the week and ended with a ceremony at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

Each year TCC hosts the event and participants that are selected from their villages are able to attend free of charge with transportation provided from TCC.



To see a full video recap of the 2016 Annual Alaska Youth Academy, you can visit our YouTube page [www.youtube.com/tananachiefs](http://www.youtube.com/tananachiefs).

## Paving Career Paths to the Future

*2016 Education Summit*

In August Tanana Chiefs Conference hosted our annual Education Summit in partnership with the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

The theme, "Paving Career Paths to the Future" was meant to help our young people secure a healthy and strong way to continue on with their education.

"Our youth have to have hope, whether they want to have higher education after high school or if they just want to enter into a career field after high school, they have to be prepared" said Chief Victor Joseph "And that is our responsibility. Not just with math and science but about who they are, about saving our culture because really they are our future



leaders and we need to be recognizing that."

Through multiple panel discussions and guest speakers, not only was the importance of education highlighted, but the need to plan ahead for our youth and help them in securing a successful future was discussed. Keynote speaker and recent University of Alaska Fairbanks Doctorate recipient Dr. Trimble Gilbert said, "Cultures are forever and I think this is a time for us to look forward for the future."

Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Superintendent Dr. Karen Gaborik was in attendance and during her presentation spoke about the numbers of Alaska Native



people in education. The numbers reflected the low amount of Alaska Native teachers per student and per population of Alaska, something through education many hope to turn around. She also provided helpful information on different programs both through continued education and even technical on-the-job training that could help to secure a strong future for young people just out of high school.

In closing his keynote address Second Traditional Chief of TCC Dr. Trimble Gilbert said, "I always talk about sharing and keeping the fires going for our people." He continued, "So, Tanana Chiefs, keep the fire going... keep the light on for us."



# Healing Circle Concert

*kkynooaeleyo tenh noltudenyhtl*



On September 2nd, the First Annual Healing Circle Concert (Kkynooaeleyo Tenh Noltudenyhtl) was held in Fairbanks at UAF. The event was hosted by Get Out The Native Vote-Interior Alaska and Azreal ENT. and included performances by Supaman, Drezus, Bishop Slice, Rappin' Athabascan and the Dina Huto' Nesoon drum group.



# The Council Newsletter

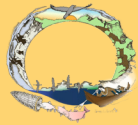
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Letters to the Editor, other written contributions and photo submissions are welcome. However, space is limited and program-oriented news has priority. We reserve the right to edit or reject material. Letters and opinions are not necessarily the opinions of Tanana Chiefs Conference.

Material submitted anonymously will not be printed.



Tanana  
Chiefs  
Conference

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## JOIN THE TCC FAMILY APPLY ONLINE

[www.tananachiefs.org](http://www.tananachiefs.org)

### Village Vacancies

- Behavioral Health Aide (Anaktuvuk Pass, Chalkyitsik, Rampart)
- Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant (Tok)
- Community Health Aide/Practitioner (Rampart, Dot Lake, Manley Hot Springs, Stevens Village, Healy Lake, Ruby, Chalkyitsik)
- Tribal Administrator (Alatna)
- Tribal Workforce Development Specialist (Holy Cross, McGrath)
- Village Public Safety Officer (Tanana, Eagle, Nulato, Huslia, Northway, Tanacross, Allakaket, Tok, Holy Cross)
- VPSO-Regional Rover (Fort Yukon)
- Wild Land Firefighter Type II Crew Member (Tok)

### Region Wide

- Community Health Aide/Practitioner - Itinerant
- Village Public Safety Officer

### Fairbanks Vacancies

- Acupuncturist
- AR Payment Poster
- Certified Medical Assistant
- Child Care Coordinator
- Director Health Information Management
- HIM Technician
- Mid-level Practitioner (PA or ANP)
- Nurse Manager
- OB/GYN Physician
- Physician
- Residential Care Coordinator-Relief

JOB LISTED WERE OPEN AS OF SEPT 8, 2016

## NOW ACCEPTING PHOTOS FOR TCC'S 2017 CALENDAR

The deadline to submit is October 21st, 2016  
Photos can be sent to [thecouncil@tananachiefs.org](mailto:thecouncil@tananachiefs.org)



### Photos must include:

- **A Caption**  
(who, what & where)
- **Your Contact Information**  
(e-mail/phone)

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

**Indigenous Peoples Day** - October 12th, 2016

**AFN Welcome & Fairbanks Four Potlatch**

October 19th, 2016 • 6:00 pm

Big Dipper Ice Arena - Fairbanks, AK

**Alaska Federation of Natives Annual Convention**

October 20th-22nd, 2016

Carlson Center Event Arena - Fairbanks, AK

**General Election Day** - November 8th, 2016

## Scholarship Deadline

**November 15th, 2016** is the deadline to get all your paperwork in for the TCC Spring 2017 Scholarship.

If your tribe has given the higher education funding to TCC and you would like to attend college or long term training,

please call Blanche Murphy

907-452-8251 ext. 3185 or

e-mail [blanche.murphy@tananachiefs.org](mailto:blanche.murphy@tananachiefs.org)