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THE MEMBER JANA CHIEFS CONFERENCE

New SEIS Confirms Threats to Subsistence in Ambler Road Project

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) final draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) released last month reinforces Tanana Chiefs Conference's (TCC) opposition to the proposed Ambler industrial mining road.

The 37 Tribes of Interior Alaska have lived on and with the lands being threatened by the proposed industrial mining road for millennia. Our ancestors recognized in forming TCC that traditional Indigenous knowledge was critical to the survival of our way of life, our people, the animals and fish, and the lands to which we are all inextricably linked.

The Tribal people of Interior Alaska developed our understanding of these lands over generations of careful and uninterrupted observation. "The land does not belong to us," Alatna first chief Harding Sam said, "we are like the fish or the caribou. We belong to the land."

While the current Administration has added some helpful analysis as compared with earlier stages of the environmental review, the Draft SEIS is still inadequate, particularly in its analysis of subsistence and environmental justice impacts. Despite Tribes' repeated request that the agencies include a tribal alternative, the SEIS Continued on page 3

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	NPFMC	Helidey Decines w/	TCC Broadband	October Head
In This Issue:	Call to Action	Holiday Recipes w/ Traditional Foods	Efforts	Start News
	Page 5	Page 6	Page 8	Page 11

Mission

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



TCC Executive Board Members

Trimble Gilbert/Arctic Village 1st Traditional Chief

> Andy Jimmie/Minto 2nd Traditional Chief

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> Lori Baker/Minto Yukon Tanana

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Peter Demoski/Nulato Elder Advisor

Alex Hanna/Minto Youth Advisor

Chief's Report

Dear Tribes and Tribal Members.

As we head into the holiday season, I hope that you are all able to spend quality time surrounded by friends and family.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) Annual Convention is scheduled to take place in New Orleans from November 12th to 17th. Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC)

encourages all Tribes who are able to attend to do so, as this convention will have several important elections.

One of the central focuses of this year's NCAI Annual Convention is the election of key leadership positions within NCAI. I am pleased to inform you that, as many of you may be aware if you attended the Alaska Tribal Unity Gathering in Anchorage last month, I have declared my candidacy for the position of NCAI Alaska Area Vice-President. This decision was not taken lightly and has been the result of careful consideration. If elected as Alaska Area VP, I promise transparency in everything I do and will provide regular reports to our tribal delegates so that you are informed about the work being done at the national level on your behalf. Furthermore, I will make it a priority to gather and consider everyone's opinions on issues - I am not there to bring my personal opinion to the table. Instead – I promise to be representative of our State as a whole and provide comments that represent our collective voices.

In October, the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) held a meeting in Anchorage where I had the opportunity to testify. During my testimony. I emphasized the immediate need for regulatory action to reduce Western Alaska chum and chinook bycatch/prohibited species catch. Unfortunately, the Council has been moving at a slow pace to implement meaningful action on these critical issues. The next NPFMC meeting is scheduled for December, and I strongly encourage all subsistence fishers to attend and provide their testimony. Learn more on page 5.

Additionally, NPFMC will be appointing an individual to the Alaska Native Tribal Advisory Panel Seat. TCC has already sent a letter of support for Eva Burke of Nenana, who is running for this important seat. We urge others to join us in sending letters of support to ensure an indigenous voice is represented on the Council.

As many of you are aware, our Special Convention took place earlier this month in Fairbanks. I hope that you were able to join us for this significant gathering, as it provided a platform to discuss and address the pressing issues and opportunities within our tribal communities. Our Tribes identified the topics being presented on during the meeting as a top priority. More information on this will be provided in our December newsletter.

In conclusion, the NCAI Annual Convention and the upcoming NPFMC meeting present important opportunities to make our voices heard and to work towards a better future for our Tribes. I encourage all of you to participate in these events. and I am committed to representing our interests. Together, we can continue to strengthen our communities and advocate for the well-being of our people. As always, TCC will continue to work towards our vision of Healthy, Strong, Unified Tribes.

> Mahsi' Choo. Brian Ridley, Chief/Chairman Tanana Chiefs Conference

Road Project

...Continued From Front Page

does not include one. These entities know that evidence suggests the most intact ecosystems on the planet rest in the hands of people who have remained close to nature.

Traditional Indigenous knowledge informs our certainty that the proposed Ambler industrial mining road would devastate the already struggling Arctic caribou, the suffering Yukon and Koyukuk River salmon populations, place Interior Tribal residents at significant risk of violence and sexual violence. cause widespread food insecurity, and magnify the impacts of climate change in the Arctic.

Tanana Tribal Council First Chief Julie Roberts stated, "We live in a world facing unprecedented environmental crisis and the decisions we make today will impact many generations. This generation living today needs to take responsibility for the state of the world. Those who live to see such times have a sacred obligation to be good ancestors."

The Tribes of TCC have carried the

warnings. Stop Ambler Road!

volved/ambler-road-project/



New SEIS Confirms Threats to Subsistence in Ambler

incredible financial cost and burden of labor involved in securing as robust a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement as possible. They have done so through the tenacity, bravery, commitment, and, at the unanimous direction of our Tribal leaders, the support of our dedicated staff. We are bolstered by the solidarity of Tribal and non-Tribal allies across the State. TCC is still in the process of reviewing the SEIS in detail, and it will be submitting extensive comments in the public comment process.

This release marks a critical sixty-day comment period during which BLM will hear again, as they have in Tribal consultation and previous public comment periods, that the people of the Tanana Chiefs Conference unequivocally oppose the proposed Ambler industrial mining road. "Our hope" said Chief Frank Thompson of Evansville Tribe, "is that the Biden administration will protect this place not just today but forever. This is the last great wilderness in all of North America, perhaps the Western hemisphere."

The public comment and decision-making period begins, October 20, in conjunction with publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register. TCC urges the BLM and the Biden administration to look to their own guidance and give the widespread Indigenous opposition to the proposed project the weight it deserves.

We urge our Tribal members, Alaskans, and fellow Americans to send their comments opposing the road to the Bureau of Land Management.

"Despite the shortcomings in the analysis, it is nonetheless clear, clear that the no-action alternative is the only reasonable choice. Based on the significant impacts described in the SEIS, it would be irresponsible for agency officials to choose any of the action alternatives." says Brian Ridley, Chief and Chairman of TCC. "Our Tribal communities have been gathering to protect and preserve our way of life for thousands of years. I continue to call on our people to stand in solidarity with us on this priority issue that threatens everything we stand for."





Community Health Aide Spatlight Betty Jo Schmitz - Clinical Coordinator

By Linden Staciokas

Most people have some under- changed. Family health issues sud- Meanwhile, B.J. continues taking problem. Often this means

a physical problem but it can also mean finding the right treatment programs for addiction, mental health issues or escaping an unhealthy living situation such as domestic violence. What many don't know, however, is that becoming a health aide can open doors to other careers or opportunities. This is what happened to Betty Jo Schmitz, known as B.J.

When B.J. was first profiled, three years ago, life was going along pretty much as planned for her. After years of home schooling her two daughters, at last they were launched into successful careers, one as a nurse and the other as a veterinarian. of the entire village." Looking for a new challenge, B.J. looked around for a job that would combine her love of science and her desire to help people, when she spotted an advertisement looking for a health aide. She was in her 60s when she applied to the program, considerably older than their usual student, but TCC was willing to invest in someone other companies might have considered too close to retirement; in 2019 B.J. became the health aide for Evansville, a village of about 30 people, located on the banks of the Koyukuk River about 180 air miles from Fairbanks. B.J. was not the only one thrilled with her assigned village—her husband, a retired science teacher, finally had a chance to indulge in all of the outdoor activities he loved but had not always had time to do.

tion, but in 2022, life circumstances

standing of what being a health denly appeared, and she needed to occasional assignments as an aide means: helping people get be closer to more substantial med- itinerant health aide. To keep her the treatment they need for a ical care, so she and her husband moved into Fairbanks and B.J.

became an itinerant health aide. Those positions are not full time, so she also continued her search for some other way to use her health aide training while remaining with TCC. That was when she heard about a new initiative designed to improve health care in the villages.

"The job is called Community Health Aide - Clinical Coordination," explains B.J. "It is a project currently focused on just three villages. The purpose is to figure out how to use the clinic staff and visiting physicians and providers to improve not just the health of people who come to the clinic, but the health outcomes

The program is only a few months old, so right now B.J. and Amanda Turner, a clinical pharmacist implementing the initiative, still are figuring out how to collect data and interpret it in ways that will mean more comprehensive and effective village-wide health services. The beginnings of new projects can be frustrating, when it seems like there is nothing but a lot of information gathering, meetings, and memos without a final purpose visible. However, B.J. and other project employees are committed to not imposing solutions generated by employees working in Fairbanks. They truly want this chance to improve the health of entire villages to be a collaborative effort involving as many people as possible, and that means a lot of talking, talking, and more B.J. loved her job and her loca- talking, especially including village residents.

certification current, she must see a certain number of patients, and only going out to the villages will insure that. "I wanted to cut back on my travel due to responsibilities at home. However, I loved working in the village clinics, so being able to still do that to a more limited degree, while also working on this new project is pretty perfect for my situation."

Listening to B.J. talk about how she approaches patients, it is clear that one of her superpowers is something that some consider a negative: her age, or rather, the gift of humility that it gives those lucky enough to survive into old age. She doesn't rush into situations, sure that the "latest and greatest" thing she has learned will be the perfect answer to a problem. She works collaboratively, committed to remembering that the patient is in charge of his or her own life and is the one who makes the final choices about services. This ability to keep the focus on what the patient and indeed the entire village wants, will be crucial if this new project is to accomplish one of the main goals of helping everyone who lives in a community, not just those who visit the clinic.

Continuing to be given new challenges outside the narrow definitions often given to the career of health aide is what makes the TCC program attractive to B.J. She and the other health aides who have agreed to be profiled in this newsletter over the months, have done so partly to showcase the many possibilities available to graduates. The hope is that getting the word about the many opportunities will attract applicants who might never before have considered becoming health aides.

North Pacific Fishery Management Council Meeting The Time for Action is Now!

The North Pacific Fishery Management Council (NPFMC) meeting was held in October where the NPFMC reviewed a preliminary analysis on the Bering Sea Chum Bycatch Management. Chief/Chairman Brian Ridley provided testimony, as did Secretary/ Treasurer Charlie Wright and Yukon River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission Chair Karma Ulvi. During Chief Ridley's testimony, he asked the NPFMC to take immediate regulatory action and define the set of options (alternatives) to anzlyze to reduce Western Alaska Chum and Chinook prohibited species catch (bycatch). Chief Ridley said the 3 NPFMC should include a zero Chum and Chinook cap in its analysis despite industry perspectives saying that such an alternative is unrealistic. 4.

On October 9, the NPFMC approved analyzing a set of options that change current Chum bycatch management measures. The next step is to do an impact analysis as required by Federal law, which includes analyzing potential environmental, social and cultural, and economic impacts.

The impact analysis will evaluate the following four management measures:

1. Status quo

- 2. Overall bycatch limit for Chum salmon. This looks into three options to limit bycatch:

A Brief Discussion on the Importance of Science to Salmon Hatchery Production

The complicated dialogues around fish hatcheries is often emotional and political. For almost 200 years, salmon hatcheries that release fish into the wild have been part of salmon management, operating under the belief that we could grow more salmon to replace what industrial civilization displaced with over-fishing, dams, roads and other barriers. Rather than regulate the industry, the thought was just to "grow" more fish.

Unfortunately, we are now discovering that salmon hatcheries, along with

- a. A Chum bycatch limit (cap) taken by the Pollock fishery with a range from 200,000 to 550,000 total chum, or about 35,400 to 97.350 coastal Western Alaska Chum salmon.
- b. A Chum bycatch limit triggered by the prior year's Western Alaska Chum salmon abundance or strength indicators of Western Alaska Chum Salmon.
- c. Chum bycatch limits allocated to the different commercial fishery sectors.

An annual cap on Western Alaska origin Chum salmon bycatch, ranging from 40,000 to 53,000 Western Alaska Chum salmon.

Additional regulatory requirements and incentives for the Pollock fleet to avoid Chum salmon with Incentive Plan Agreements. These agreements are industry-developed and managed by the commercial fisheries.

The first review of the impact analysis will be in mid-2024, and the NPFMC is scheduled to take final action by December 2024.

Get Involved in the Upcoming NPFMC Meeting

The NPFMC has been slow to take

action on these issues, which is why it is important that Tribal representatives continue to show up to these meetings and provide testimony. We need to emphasize the need for immediate action.

The NPFMC is seeking nominations for the Alaska Native Tribal Advisory Panel Seat. This position will serve in the Alaska Native Tribal Seat for a three-year term beginning in 2024. Nominations are due November 17th. More information can be found online: https://meetings.npfmc.org/Meeting/ Details/3013

The next NPFMC meeting will be held December 4-12 in Anchorage, where the NPFMC will be reviewing Bering Sea/Aleutian Island (BSAI) Groundfish Management. Last year, the NPFMC increased the groundfish catch limits based off an outdated programmatic environmental impact status, prompting TCC to take suit.

At the NPFMC meeting held on February 5-12, 2024 in Seattle, the NPFMC will be refining alternatives for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for all NPFMC -managed fisheries, where TCC hopes the NPFMC adopts a more adaptive ecosystem-based management policy and objectives.

By Gale K. Vick, Fairbanks Fish & Game Advisory Committee Member

all barriers and poor management, may have precipitated the demise of wild salmon stocks rather than enhanced them

The growth of hatcheries has been a failed promise. Even with a growing body of evidence on negative hatchery impacts, both in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest, we continue to spend billions of dollars (In loans, subsidies, and management) to support hatchery production.

Most hatcheries have operated for decades without benefit of significant research. The negative consequences are just recently being realized. Including Alaska state research on hatchery straying, there is a proliferation of academic and independent research that we should be incorporating in our quest to save Alaska's wild salmon stocks.

Access more resources and information about this topic on our website!



Native American Cultural Heritage Month

By Victoria Campbell, Suicide Prevention Project Coordinator

November is Native American Cultural Heritage Month and with multiple holidays around the corner, this means gathering with friends and family and cooking food creates the perfect opportunity to pass along your favorite subsistence food or traditional recipes. If your freezer is full of game meat and fish, foraged berries, and preserved garden veggies, why not choose to create something reminiscent of our time in this beautiful land surrounded by generations of knowledge and history? Add your own flair or keep it simple; just be sure to enjoy! Here are some of my favorite tried and true recipes for Alaska harvested foods.

Moose Roast Barbacoa Tacos

This one is SO good and you can use old frozen moose because the slow roast process makes it very tender.

- 1 tablespoon oil 1. Heat the oil in a pan over medium-high heat in a large heavy bottomed oven-safe pot. Add the moose and brown on all sides 2 pounds moose roast cut into 1-2 inch (about 10-15 minutes) before setting aside. chunks 2. Add the onion and cook until tender, about 3-5 minutes, before 1 onion. diced adding the garlic, cumin and oregano and cooking for a further 4 cloves garlic, chopped minute. 1 tablespoon ground cumin 3. Add the broth, chipotle chilies, lime juice, vinegar, salt, pepper cloves, and bay leaves. Then: 1 tablespoon oregano a. Bring the broth to a boil, reduce the heat and simmer covered $\frac{1}{2}$ cup broth until the meat is pull apart tender, about 3-4 hours. 4 chipotle chilies in adobo sauce, chopped b. OR transfer the pot to a preheated 275F/140C oven and ¹/₄ cup lime juice braise until the meat is pull apart tender, about 3-4 hours. 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar c. OR transfer to a slow cooker and cook on low for 8-10 hours 2 teaspoons salt 4. Remove the bay leaves and discard. 1 teaspoon pepper .
- ¹/₄ teaspoon ground cloves
- 3 bay leaves
- 5. Remove the roast, shred, and place back in the pot. 6. Assemble the tacos in tortillas with your favorite taco toppings!

Salmon Wellington

An easy, great way to change up baked salmon. The puff pastry, salmon, and spinach can all come from frozen too!

12 ounces spinach	1. Preheat oven to 400F.
8 ounces cream cheese, softened	2. Combine spinach, cream cheese, Worcestershire sauce, salt,
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce	onion powder, garlic powder, black pepper, and parmesan cheese in a bowl. Mix until fully combined.
1 teaspoon salt	3. Season salmon with a little bit of salt and pepper. Lay puff pastry
 ½ teaspoon onion powder 	on flat surface and roll until smooth. In the center of the pastry,
 ½ teaspoon garlic powder 	add half of the spinach mixture, then lay salmon on top. Add
 ¼ teaspoon pepper 	remaining spinach mixture on top.
 ½ cup shredded parmesan 	4. Fold over sides of puff pastry to enclose spinach and salmon inside the pastry. Flip the pastry over and place on sheet pan
 1 pound skinless salmon fillet 	lined with parchment paper. Score the pastry with a paring knife
 1 puff pastry sheet, thawed 	and brush egg over the pastry.
• 1 beaten egg	5. Bake in preheated oven for 30-35 minutes or until the top is nice and golden.

In Loving Memory Chief Wilmer Beetus

It is with heavy hearts that we at Tanana Chiefs Conference mourn the passing of First Chief Wilmer Beetus of Hughes. Chief Beetus was an exceptional leader and a tireless advocate for his community and the region. He not only served as First Chief but he also served on the local school board, the village corporation and other economic development boards. He was always willing to share his knowledge and expertise with others. Under his guidance, Hughes embarked on groundbreaking initiatives, including a solar energy project, the development of new housing subdivisions, a long-awaited road to the cemetery and the recent opening of an Elder and Youth Facility this summer.

Chief Beetus's unwavering commitment to the well-being of his people was truly inspirational. His dedication and vision have left an indelible mark on the community of Hughes. Our thoughts and prayers are with Chief Beetus's family, friends, the entire Koyukuk River and the region during this difficult time.

Improving our Patient Travel Processes

Over the past several months, the Patient Travel team. Patient Travel program at Chief Andrew Isaac has been working behind the scenes to identify issues with their services and implement-

ing several improvements to address the problems and improve services.

Meal tickets for patients and escorts traveling into Fairbanks for health services are authorized starting immediately. Patients staying

at Bertha Moses Patient Hostel will still obtain their meal tickets on-site; complete all paperwork. Our goal is to for all other meal tickets, patients may pick up at CAIHC during regular business hours or by coordinating with the







Lorraine Ginnis

Willis Derendoff

SUBMIT TIPS ANONYMOUSLY: Text AKTIPS followed by your tip to 84711 or visit <u>https://dps.alaska.</u> gov/ast/tips

In addition, we are also working on a new approach for requesting and coordia pilot project will connect our Surgery and Dental teams to daily to review travel authorizations, verify and coordinate flight and appointment information, and eliminate unnecessary rescheduling/ cancellations, improve communication, and ensure the travel authorization

process goes smoothly. We hope to roll out this process to the rest of our healthcare teams soon.

Also, our Patient Travel team is grownating travel. Currently, ing! We are currently hiring for Patient Travel Coordinators, Patient Travel Administrative Assistants, and the Patient Travel and Housing Manager our travel coordina- Positions. If you know of anyone who tors. They will meet would be a great asset to our team, would like to be part of improving our health care, and be part of a fantastic company with great benefits, please tell them to apply!

> You can find all open positions at www.tananachiefs.org/careers.



or TCC Public Safety at 907-452-8251 ext.3269. Visit www.tananachiefs.org/missing for more information.

TCC Broadband Efforts Improving Telecommunication **Options Throughout Our Region**

By Dave Messier, Infrastructure Division Director

Poor telecommunication options have been the reality for many years across the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) region. As the TCC infrastructure division looked into the reasons for these challenges, we realized that many of the statewide telecommunication firms were not investing in the region due to the poor return on investment. To them, the TCC region is huge, remote and sparsely populated making any project high risk with low return. TCC's goals in involving ourselves in broadband are to minimize the risk of these projects, create telecom partners, and offer telecommunication options at affordable rates.

High-Level Project Goals That Will Lead to Improved Telecommunications in All of Our Region's Communities

Apply for funds to benefit the region and partner with existing telecommunication companies for long-term operations and management of any of the systems that are deployed.

Ensure telecommunication partners commit to providing residential internet rates that are at or below the rates in Urban Alaska.

Provide high-speed internet coverage to all parts of our region to enable economic independence

Main Grants We Are Pursuing

We believe we have very good odds of getting these grants for a few reasons. As a large, healthy, Tribal nonprofit, federal agencies want to fund our projects. Additionally our non-profit organization makes us tax exempt. which means that, unlike for-profit companies, we do not need to pay taxes on any federal grants received. This makes it desirable for existing telecommunication organizations to partner with us.

USDA Reconnect

Round five is expected to be released in January 2024 with a maximum amount of \$35 million.

NITA Tribal Broadband **Connectivity Program (TBCP)**

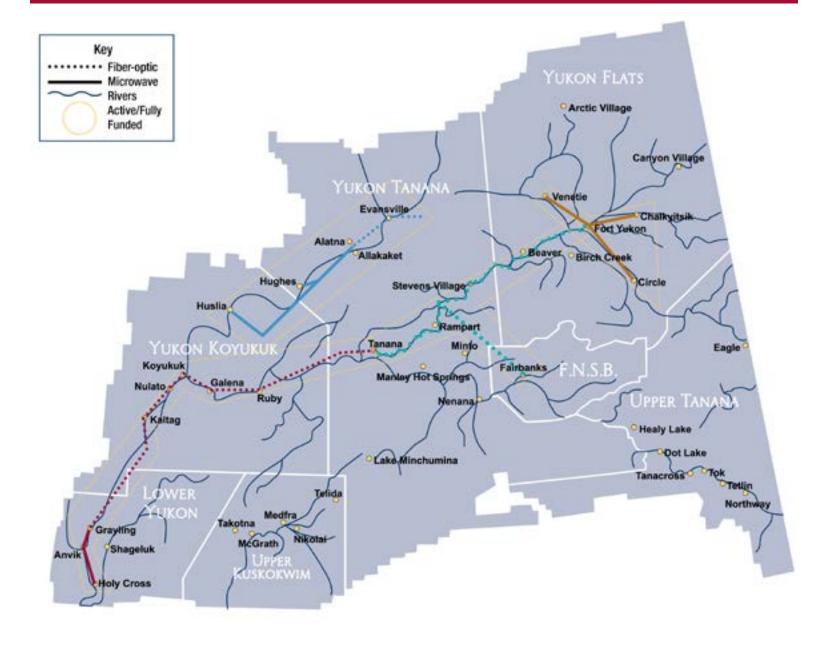
FCC received \$4.5 million in round one and is prepping an application for round two in January 2024 in partnership with ACS to connect Tanana to Holy Cross via an in-river fiber optic cable.

Broadband Equity Access and Deployment (BEAD) Funding

The Alaska broadband office has \$1.2 billion in funding from the federal government and will be accepting applications in 2024 for proadband deployment across the state.

There are two ways to bring broadband to our communities: through fiber optic cables or through microwave radio. Fiber Optic Cables (Fiber) are physical cables that are laid between communities and homes. Microwave Radio (Microwave) is line-of-sight wireless communication technology that uses high-frequency beams to send information. Microwave is often used in places where laying fiber is not possible. Both of these systems provide high-speed internet and phone service. The map below shows the projects that are already underway in our region.

Funded Projects to Date in the TCC Region:



Next Steps:

The next step for TCC is to prep an application for the NTIA TBCP Round 2 funding opportunity, which will provide fiber from Tanana to Holy Cross in partnership with ACS. We are also evaluating a potential USDA ReConnect R5 application and monitoring the state BEAD program opportunities so that we are positioned well with an application when the funding opens up.

Learn more about the broadband projects TCC has in the works by scanning QR code:



Meet Our Team Mara Becker

Meet Mara Becker, Employee Health Lead at Chief Andrew Isaac Health Center and cherished member of the TCC family personifies the spirit of Alaska. Born and raised in Fairbanks, Mara proudly embraces her Alaska Native

(Iñupiaq) heritage. Together with her partner, she is nurturing their family in downtown Fairbanks while immersing themselves in all things Alaskan.

Their life revolves around the unique experiences Alaska offers, from idyllic summers by the lake and spirited sand volleyball games to thrilling boat rides, fishing adventures on rivers, skiing in the snow-covered landscapes, and exploratory weekend trips around the state. However, they also hold the tradition of winter escapes to warmer climates close to their hearts.

Mara's journey with TCC began in 2015, and she deeply appreciates the organization's commitment to supporting its

Galena Mini Wellness Week

TCC Wellness & Prevention employees Jennessa Miller, Kameron Reitan, and Victoria Campbell cooking up fry bread with the GILA students in Galena, AK.

The "Galena Mini Wellness Week" was held in August 2023 and hosted by Jennessa Miller, the community of Galena, Galena High School, GILA Boarding School, and all of the awesome teachers and people of Galena.

Thank You to the community of Galena for hosting the awesome event!

Looking for Money for College or **Vocational Training?**

Applications Due November 15th, 2023!

Eligible full-time Higher Education students may qualify for \$2,000 a semester, while part-time (6 or more credits) may qualify for \$1,000. Adult Vocational Training (AVT) students must be full-time and the scholarship amounts vary based on program, need and amount of time in the program.

The 2024-2025 FAFSA will not open in October this year due to changes being made in the program. Look for it to open December 1, 2023 and file as guickly as you can. More information can be found online here: https://financialaidtoolkit.ed.gov/tk/ learn/fafsa/updates.jsp

Ouestions? Contact:

Email Education Dept@TananaChiefs.org or call 907-452-8251, extension 3185 or 3447.

employees' personal and professional growth. Reflecting on her early years at TCC, Mara recalls a memorable adventure from her first trip to Galena. She humorously shares, "We flew out during a snowstorm, and I was dressed in so many

layers because I was told, 'Dress like the plane is going down!' I woke up mid-flight, extremely hot and with completely numb feet – turns out I was wearing my bunny boots to bed! What a memorable journey!"

> One of Mara's true passions in healthcare is the satisfaction of making patients feel heard. She also values the wisdom of Elders and cherishes the opportunities to engage with them, enriching her understanding of the rich cultural tapestry that makes Alaska unique.

Mara Becker is a vital part of the TCC healthcare team, and her dedication to the community and patient care makes her an invaluable asset. Her journey embodies

the essence of Alaska and the spirit of TCC, and we are proud to have her on board!

Traveling to Alaska Native Medical

Center and Need Assistance?

The ANMC-TCC Patient Advocates work closely with the medical teams at the Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) to ensure TCC patients receive clear

communication about their care, excellent patient experiences, safe discharge plans, and access to

support if concerns arise while at ANMC.

Please reach out to our ANMC-TCC Patient

Advocates if needed.



October Head Start News

It's November and we've been busy at to receive dental checkups and have Head Start! We've spent the last two months visiting staff in all of our villages to conduct required site visits and support our teachers as they established their classrooms. It was a joy to spend time with all of the Head Start staff and families and see all of the wonderful work our teachers do firsthand.



limmv in Northwav making pizza

This month staff will be traveling to Fairbanks for another in-person training from the 13th to the 17th. During this time, we're going to provide training on child development with speech pathologists, physical therapists and occupational therapists. We're also going to provide training on autism, child assessments, referrals, developmental plans and how to successfully individualize lesson plans.



Everleigh, Judah and William fishing with their homemade rods

Give Your Child a Head Start! Children in Head Start are more likely

- Friday, December 1, 2023
- **David Salmon Tribal Hall in Fairbanks**

NOTE: These events are subject to closure if there are dangerous levels of respiratory illness. IF the bazaar is closed, the event will be postponed.

April Johnson ANMC-TCC Patient Advocate 907-687-9193

Lucy Frank

healthy eating patterns than non-par-



Fliiah in McGrath picking

ticipants.

There are still spots available for children in the classrooms across our Region! If you have a child under the age of four that you'd like to enroll. please contact Waverly Neal at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3998 for more information.



Ava in Tanacross "rowing" her boat

Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

TCC Head Start has teamed up with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library! Every month enrolled children from the ages of birth to 5 will get a free age appropriate book! Reading together is a wonderful way to build a lifelong love for reading with children and to promote family time. If you do not have a local Head Start educator, please contact Waverly Neal at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822 ext. 3998.

HEAD START IS HIRING!

- Family Visitors: Allakaket, Holy Cross, Huslia, & Tok
- **Preschool Assistant** Teachers: Nenana & Northway
- Infant/Toddler Teachers: Nenana
- Substitute Teachers: Nenana. Nulato, & Tok
- Preschool Lead Teacher: Fairbanks

Please visit our website at www. ananachiefs.org/careers to see what's open in your area or call Kristi Walmsley at 907-452-8251 or 800-478-6822, ext. 3015.



TCC Annual Christmas Bazaar

 If you are an artist interested in reserving a table at the bazaar, please contact Felicia Alexie at 907-452-8251 ext. 3145 or at Felicia. Alexie@tananachiefs.org

The Council Newsletter

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> Tanana Chiefs Conference

f @ V 🛛

Find Your Purpose

Join our Team at Tanana Chiefs Conference www.tananachiefs.org/careers

New Vacancies

RN Data Scientist
Coordinator/Instructor Mid Level Practitioner
Instructor - CHAP Training Center
Facilities Maintenance Technician
Medical Assistant Apprentice I
Physician Assistant - Primary Care
Nurse Practitioner - Primary Care
Certified Nurse Midwife
Administrative Assistant II - Clinical Services
Rural Lab Program Coordinator
Certified Medical Assistant
Licensed Practical Nurse
Patient Safety Specialist
Business Office Cashier
Tribal Administrator - Onsite Supervisor
Reentry Case Manager
Reentry Clinical Lead
Reentry Peer Support Specialist
Administrative Assistant II - Accounting
Release of Information (ROI) Specialist I
Senior Audio Video Engineer
Patient Travel Biller
Village Bookkeeper
Service Coordinator
Substance Abuse Prevention Project Coordinator
Home Care Provider
Elder Nutrition Cook
Home Care Provider
Clinical Support Staff/Medical Assistant
UTHC Environmental Services Technician I
Dental Assistant Intern

UPCOMING EVENTS



Correction from October Council

The October 2023 edition of The Council included an error in the Emerging Leader Spotlight of Kristen Law. We're happy to share that Kristen's grandmother, Kathleen Demientieff of Nenana, is still with us.