



EAST FRONT STREET— The Sept. 17 storm threw rocks, driftwood logs onto Front Street, peeling off the asphalt and left it impassable. Photo by Diana Haecker

The Nome Nugget

Alaska’s Oldest Newspaper

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VOLUME CXVIII NO. 38 September 22, 2022

Mega-storm hits region, causing massive destruction

By Diana Haecker

“This storm is so big that it will take about three hours for the sun to fully set on.” This was the caption to a Facebook post by the National Weather Service Alaska Region, showing a satellite photo of a gigantic weather system swirl spanning an area south of the Aleutian Island chain to the Beaufort Sea. Everything caught in the middle, about 1,000 miles of western Alaskan

coastline, was in the path of gale and even hurricane force winds, pushing the ocean to batter coastlines and cause extensive erosion. As of press time on Monday, city officials going on three days without much sleep were bleary-eyed, Nomeites began picking up the pieces, pumping out basements and cleaning up an unimaginable mess. School was canceled, the Post Office announced closure until the storm water is

pumped out of the building. The worst part of the storm hit Nome Friday night, Saturday and into Saturday night. After the worst was over, the City, the Dept. of Transportation and residents are clearing debris left behind by one of the biggest storms in recorded history descending on western Alaska. By Sunday, the sea level at Norton Sound has dropped, the wind subsided, and only occasional rain

showers fell. The destruction left by the remnants of tropical typhoon Merbok are mindboggling: piles of driftwood, rocks, and hundreds of red cap bottles and debris lined the streets. A house was dislodged from Belmont Point and floated in the coastal Nome-Council Highway is buried under sand and ocean debris. Aerial video footage posted on social media shows sand covering the road like snowdrifts in the winter and only a few camp sites still standing. The

damage to subsistence camps is unknown as the Nome-Council Road is impassable past mile 24. Yards along east Front Street are torn apart and, courtesy of the ocean, driftwood logs, sand and gravel was deposited in driveways. The asphalt of one of the few paved roads in Nome was peeled off and the boulders of the seawall were rearranged as if a giant had played with marbles. Sounds of

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BERING SEA FIRE— In the midst of the storm, NVFD volunteers fought a fire that claimed the Bering Sea Restaurant and Bar entirely. Three people were treated for injuries, one dog perished in the fire. Photo by Peter Loewi

Fire claims Bering Sea Restaurant

By Peter Loewi

At around 7 p.m. on Saturday, September 17, the Nome Volunteer Fire Department got a call about smoke at the Bering Sea Restaurant. When NVFD Chief Jim West Jr. made it to the scene, it was already billowing heavy smoke, and there were flames visible in the back of the building. “Strange, but true,” he said. “September 17 was also the day

of the 1934 fire.” Hearing that nobody was inside – three people were taken to the hospital for smoke inhalation but were released the same night – West said he didn’t want to risk lives and sent nobody into the fire. Initially, Engine 4 attacked it, and then Engine 9 was brought in on the east side and prevent spread to the Quick Stop convenience store. NVFD had trouble getting to the back of the building because the ongoing storm had washed out access. Nome Joint Utilities brought a loader to move sand, and the airport’s Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting vehicle provided support until Engine 7 could get behind the flames, the firefighters used a backhoe to fold the burning building in on top of itself. While it created other issues with hotspots, he said, it protected the adjacent Nugget Inn hotel. All the roughly 15 people in the Inn at the time were safely evacuated. The first reported casualty of the storm in the region appears to be

a dog that was in the Bering Sea building. Initial reports suggest that the fire started in the basement, but West didn’t want to speculate on the cause of the fire. His job, he said, is putting the fire out, and insurance companies and the State’s Fire Marshall will investigate causes. What he did say, however, was that the old building had been grandfathered into code, and there was poor sheetrock in some areas, including none in the basement. There was a two-hour fire wall adjacent to the Nugget Inn, which remains partially intact. In addition to the building, two propane tanks, stored outside, burned, and a truck parked in the alley, gas, tires, and all, went up in flames, too. The building’s fuel tank was safely removed by a loader. “When a disaster strikes, everyone pitches in,” West said. “I’m very, very thankful the community came together, and that it didn’t happen the

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FLOATING— A Belmont Point house was swept off its foundation by the storm surge and was lodged against the Snake River bridge before a salvage crew removed it from the waters. Photo by Diana Haecker



NOME FRONT STREET— A significant part of Nome’s Front Street was under water on Saturday, Sept. 17. Photo by Nils Hahn



NOME— Massive waves crashed against Nome’s shore on Sept. 17. Photo by Diana Haecker

On the Web:
www.nomenugget.net
E-mail:
Diana@nomenugget.com



Bering Sea 2022 Storm Timeline:
Pressures and approximate locations from NWS Ocean Prediction Center Analyses

Date	Lowest Pressure	Highest Ocean Wind Category	Comments
Sept. 9			Low pressure forms 2500 miles south-southwest of Attu
Sept. 11	1000mb	Gale Force	Low strengths to Tropical Storm Merbok 2300 miles SSW of Attu
Sept. 13 10am AKDT	983mb	Hurricane Force	Tropical Storm Merbok strengthens to a category 1 typhoon 1900 miles SSW of Attu
Sept. 14 10pm AKDT	964mb	Hurricane Force	Typhoon Merbok transitions to mid-latitude storm structure and begins to strengthen rapidly 900 miles SSW of Attu
Sept. 15 5pm AKDT	948mb	Hurricane Force	Ex-typhoon Merbok crosses into the Bering Sea near Shemya
Sept. 16 4am AKDT	937mb	Hurricane Force	Lowest analyzed pressure 300 miles north-northeast of Shemya
Sept. 16 10am AKDT	940mb	Hurricane Force	Significant wave heights 52 ft. at a NOAA buoy 275 miles west of Pribilof Island: highest on record there (since 1996)
Sept. 16 1pm AKDT	942mb	Hurricane Force	Storm center 50 miles west of St. Matthew Island
Sept. 16 10pm AKDT	950mb	Hurricane Force	Storm center 50 miles south of Gambell
Sept. 17 10am AKDT	964mb	Storm Force	Storm center in Bering Strait just west of Little Diomed
Sept. 17 10pm AKDT	978mb	Gale Force	Storm center 100 miles southwest of Point Hope
Sept. 18 10am AKDT	986mb	Gale Force	Storm center 50 miles west of Point Hope
Sept. 18 10pm AKDT	993mb	Gale Force	Storm center 100 miles northwest of Point Hope

Gale Force: sustained winds 39 to 54 mph
Storm Force: sustained winds 55 to 73 mph
Hurricane Force sustained winds 74 mph or higher

The Nome Nugget’s submission policies:

Letters to the Editor: The maximum length of a letter to the editor should be around 300-500 words. The letters may be edited for length and clarity. You must provide your full name and mailing address to The Nome Nugget. Your name and mailing address are printed alongside your letter. Letters may be submitted by email to diana@nomenugget.com or mail to PO Box 610, Nome, AK 99762. We don’t print anonymous letters unless the author is known to the Nugget and/or has reasonable fear for repercussions. We will not print material that is potentially libelous, discriminatory, obscene, threatening, copyrighted or promotional. We do not print letters that contain provable falsehoods and misinformation. We do not print letters written to endorse products or a political candidate. If you’d like to promote your for-profit product or a political candidate, please see our advertising rates and deadlines by contacting ads@nomenugget.com.

OP ED: Maximum length: 700-800 words; must reflect the opinion of an individual with expertise in the subject. OP ED submitted on behalf of political parties, PACS, corporations, or signed by several people for or against political candidates or ballot measures are considered ads.

Announcements: The Nome Nugget publishes obituaries, birth and wedding announcements as a community service free of charge. We require submissions of announcements or obituaries to be factual and fair as they are not independently researched by Nugget staff.

Results from our September 14
- September 20 online poll.

(Go to nomenugget.net in order to participate)

In your opinion, what is the most important federal issue that guides your decision who to vote for in the November election?

Abortion



34%

Inflation



35%

Infrastructure



14%

Federal deficit



11%

Public Safety



6%

Total votes: 65



Weather
Statistics

Sunrise 09/22/2022 8:45 a.m.
09/28/2022 9:03 a.m.
Sunset 09/22/2022 9:01 p.m.
09/28/2022 8:40 p.m.

High Temp +54°F 09/13+15/2022
Low Temp +40°F 09/19/2022
Peak Wind 43 mph 09/17/2022 S
41 mph 9/16 SE • 35 mph 9/18 SW

National Weather Service
Nome, Alaska
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1-800-472-0391

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Nome Norton Sound Tide Predictions (High & Low Waters)

Date	Day	Time	High Tide	Time	Low Tide	Time	High Tide	Time	Low Tide
09/22	Th	5:52 a.m.	1.11	10:09 a.m.	0.04				
09/23	Fr	6:27 a.m.	1.12	10:00 a.m.	0.94	3:21 p.m.	1.02	10:46 p.m.	-0.00
09/24	Sa	6:49 a.m.	1.11	10:43 a.m.	0.87	4:13 p.m.	1.04	11:19 p.m.	-0.03
09/25	Su	6:57 a.m.	1.10	11:24 a.m.	0.77	5:06 p.m.	1.06	11:50 p.m.	-0.03
09/26	Mo	7:01 a.m.	1.09	12:03 p.m.	0.64	5:59 p.m.	1.07		
09/27	Tu	12:19 a.m.	0.00 Low	7:11 a.m.	1.10 High	12:40 p.m.	0.48 Low	6:49 p.m.	1.07 High
09/28	We	12:49 a.m.	0.07 Low	7:26 a.m.	1.11 High	1:18 p.m.	0.31 Low	7:39 p.m.	1.06 High

Daily variations in sea level due to local meteorological conditions cannot be predicted and may significantly effect the observed tides in this area.
All times are listed in Local Standard Time. All heights are in feet referenced to Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW).

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GAMBELL— Huge waves created by the ex-typhoon Merbok crashed onto West Beach near Gambell.

Photo by Chris Koonooka

Climate Watch: The great storm of 2022

By Rick Thoman
Alaska Climate Specialist
Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy
International Arctic Research Center/University of Alaska Fairbanks

The Bering Sea storm of September 16-18, 2022 brought flooding and damage up and down the Alaska west coast, from Kuskokwim Bay all the way to the southern Chukchi Sea coast. In terms of the lowest pressure —important for the strength of the winds— there have be a few stronger storms later in the autumn, but this was by far the strongest storm in the Bering Sea this early in the autumn in many decades.

At Nome water levels were higher than any storm since November 1974 and the damage as documented here

in The Nome Nugget was widespread and will be costly to repair, for both the city and for families that lost camp infrastructure.

This storm vividly illustrated both strengths and weaknesses of western science predictions. The large-scale storm track and evolution were very well forecast by the large-scale weather models many days. By Monday morning, September 12 there were strong indications that an intense storm would impact western Alaska late in the week. The models soon shifted the storm track to the northwest and by Tuesday evening the forecasts converged on a track that wound up being very close to that which actually happened. The computer models used to forecast coastal storm surge were not as accurate, especially for eastern Norton Sound and small coastal indentations

like Hooper Bay. There are many reasons for this, including the lack of historical (and current) ocean water level observations, poorly mapped bathometry and local terrain influences on winds and currents. And there are no computer model forecasts at all for water levels at communities which are not immediately on the coast but are on rivers strongly influenced by tides and ocean levels, yet severe damage occurred in communities such as Newtok and Chevak in this storm.

Recovery is the focus now, before winter weather sets in, but we need to use this storm as a springboard to improve communicating storm forecasts and impact threats because we know with certainty that it’s only a matter of time until the next big storm strikes western Alaska.

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COMMUNITY
CALENDAR

Thursday, September 22

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.

*City League Volleyball

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Mad Muscle

Nome Rec Center

5:45 a.m. - 6:30 a.m.

*Tae Kwon Do

Nome Rec Center

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

*Open Bowling

Nome Rec Center

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*AM NNST

Nome Pool

7:15 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

*Lap/Family swim

Nome Pool

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*Thrift Shop

Methodist Church

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Friday, September 23

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

*Free Kindergym

Nome Rec Center

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

12:00 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

Main Gym Closed for Cleaning: 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*Drop in Soccer (Age 15+)

Nome Rec Center

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Kido

Nome Rec Center

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

*Tae Kwon Do

Nome Rec Center

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*Open Bowling

Nome Rec Center

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*NNST

Nome Pool

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Have you got a drug problem? Narcotics Anonymous has a solution!
NA Meeting is held on Friday night at 7 pm, at the Katirvik Cultural Center

Saturday, September 24

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*Bump, Set, Spike Drills

Nome Rec Center

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*Drop-In Volleyball

Nome Rec Center

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Red Pin Bowling

Nome Rec Center

4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*Rentals

Nome Pool

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 25

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*Open Swim

Nome Pool

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Lap Swim

Nome Pool

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Common Council

Council Chambers

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 10:00 a.m.

*Kindergym

Nome Rec Center

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

12:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

*Afterschool (grades 3-8)

Nome Rec Center

3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

*City League Volleyball

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Kido

Nome Rec Center

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

*Zumba

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

*Tae Kwon Do

Nome Rec Center

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

*AM Lap

Nome Pool

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 27

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 a.m. - 2:45 p.m.

*Afterschool (grades 3-8)

Nome Rec Center

3:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

*Drop in Soccer (Age15+)

Nome Rec Center

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Strong Nation

Nome Rec Center

5:45 a.m. - 6:30 a.m.

*Tae Kwon Do

Nome Rec Center

6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

*Nome Food Bank

Bering & Seppala

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

*Lap/Family Swim

Nome Pool

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28

Nome City Hall Public hours will be 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m./Noon and 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Nome Visitor Center open 7 days a week, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, closed 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Richard Foster Building - Library + Museum M-F 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

5:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

*Kindergym

Nome Rec Center

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

12:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

*Afterschool (grades 3-8)

Nome Rec Center

2:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

*Open Gym

Nome Rec Center

4:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

*Kido

Nome Rec Center

6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

*Strong Nation

Nome Rec Center

5:30 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

*NACTEC

Nome Pool

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

*Lunch Lap

Nome Pool

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

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WASHED OUT— A big section of the Nome-Council Highway near Greg Kruschek Avenue was washed out by the storm.

Photo by Nils Hahn

• Mega-storm

continued from page 1

heavy equipment moving through city streets are now predominant, replacing the roar of the ocean waves and the eerie, high-pitched screams of gale force winds.

In the middle of the storm, another tragedy struck: a fire broke out at Bering Sea Restaurant and burned the entire Front Street building down to the ground in a matter of a few hours. Winds drove thick black smoke all over town, smothering everything downwind. City Hall, directly in the path of the smoke, was still airing out the building on Monday and sent city employees home early as heat was cut to allow for open windows and fans to get rid of the stinging smoke smell.

Chronology of a monster storm

Rick Thoman, Alaska Climate Specialist with the Alaska Center for Climate Assessment and Policy International Arctic Research Center at the University of Alaska Fairbanks advised the region early last week of the approaching storm.

Tropical Storm Merbok formed on Sunday, Sept. 11 over the subtropical Pacific west of Wake Island, about 2,300 miles south-southwest of Attu in the western Aleutians, he said. “This is an area where historically very few tropical storms have formed because the ocean water is not usually warm enough. But this year, this area is in the very large portion of the North Pacific Ocean with (near) record high sea surface temperatures. This is a clear implication of climate change: without the warming oceans Merbok would not have formed there,” Thoman said.

Merbok strengthened to a Typhoon on Tuesday, Sept. 13, about 1,900 miles south-southwest of Attu and tracked north-northeast. As the typhoon transitioned from a small tropical cyclone —fed by energy from thunderstorms and warm ocean water— to the standard mid-latitude storm, getting energy from differences in air temperatures, the wind field greatly expanded. The storm intensified rapidly as it moved toward the Aleutians and into the Bering Sea, which further added to the large size of the storm.

On Wednesday morning, an ominous message arrived in local email boxes. Thoman warned Nomeites that a super storm is headed towards western Alaska, with certain coastal flooding to occur. The alert was frequently updated to show models of the expected surge.

Ex-Merbok reached peak intensity on early morning Friday, Sept. 16 when the center was located about 300 miles north-northeast of She-

mya.

During the day, the storm weakened only very slightly. As the center moved north of St. Matthew Island early on Sept. 17 it started to weaken more quickly.

At Nome, wind speeds increased mid-day Sept. 16 and continued until mid-day Sept. 18. The peak gust at Nome was 59 mph, which is the highest in September in the past 25 years. The highest winds were at Golovin airport before the power went out on Saturday morning. Winds were sustained 50 mph gusting to 65 mph.

The long duration of strong south winds over the entire eastern Bering Sea was the primary contributor to the high water, with the force of the wind effectively acting as a plow pushing water to the north and piling it up along the way, said Thoman. The average wind speed at Nome Airport was 34.5 mph and was the third highest daily average speed in the past 50 years. Only January 17, 2014 (35.8 mph) and November 21, 2017, (34.7 mph) were windier.

How it unfolded in Nome

The Nome City Manager was out of town, and City Clerk Bryant Hammond was the acting manager. He said on Wednesday, city officials started discussing how bad it shapes up to be and what needed to be done. The building inspector informed Front Street businesses to get prepared and make sure there are no unsecured propane or fuel tanks. By Friday, nearly every building on the southside of Front Street boarded up their windows. The city had no adequate supply of sandbags, but sealed off doors with plastic sheets and gravel of the low lying Mini Convention Center. In anticipation for the storm, Nome Schools had called a minimum day, sending students home early. Businesses closed early and scheduled events and NBHS volleyball games were canceled. Hammond said, as the storm progressed on Friday, fire chief Jim West, public works director Cole Cushman and he were periodically checking on the water levels. On Friday night, around 10:30 p.m. it became clear that he needed to stand up the Incident Command Center as the water overtopped the lower dock at the small boat harbor.

From there on the storm began its destruction. Hammond, at his desk on Monday pulled out a yellow legal pad and read from a detailed timeline: Just after midnight, F Street flooded, and the River Street pump station overheated. Front Street began to flood. “That was when the waves really started working at the



STILL STANDING— Waves wash through the alley way between the Bering Sea Restaurant and Quick Stop, on Saturday, Sept. 17. Hours later, the Bering Sea Restaurant would be consumed by a fire.

Photo by Nils Hahn



SMALL BOAT HARBOR—A person in a lifejacket appears stranded in the small boat harbor Saturday morning in Nome.

Photo by Peter Loewi

• *Mega-storm* —————

continued from page 4

asphalt, which would later be completely torn off like a banana peel,” said Hammond. Just after 3 a.m. Bering Air parking lot started flooding, the Mini was surrounded by water. At almost five o’clock, the waves measured at the buoy were up to 16 feet and would top out at 19 feet. About 5:30 a.m. the water height peaked. At 6:20 a.m. the power went out at the north feeder and was restored. About 6:30 a.m. the people living above the Polar Cub evacuated, the city sent a van to get them to the Rec Center. Six people were using the emergency shelter there.

At 8 a.m. just as Hammond was fielding a media call from Channel Two, they got cut off. At that time, the water surges to 9.5 feet and a container floats on Front Street. “This is also when the house came off at Belmont Point,” Hammond said.

Around 9 a.m. reports came in that the pavement was gone from East Front Street at the old Country Store. As the sun rose, people started to get out, taking and posting photos, including pictures of the floating house pinned under the Snake River bridge.

Around 10 a.m. the city got calls from organizations offering help. Around 11 o’clock, as the eye of the storm was at Little Diomed, Hammond first hear reports that subsistence camp sites at Fort Davis were decimated. The exact number is not known yet, but surveying the damage on Sunday, Josie Bourdon said there were at least five cabins gone, swept off. Standing on the shore of the Nome River northern bank, she surveyed a line of driftwood, coolers, lumber, buckets, and belongings that once lived in those subsistence camps. Bourdon pointed to one pink cabinet laying on its side amidst the

rubble. It looks familiar, she said, it belonged into the Koweluk camp. A small cabin sitting also on the opposite side of Fort Davis at first glance does not look out of place. Except, Bourdon said, it’s Fred Larsen’s camp and it got washed from Fort Davis.

Hammond reported that 15 people were taking advantage of NEST opening up.

Around noon time, a fuel tank at the east end of Front Street broke loose and was then secured. The city continued to send out public safety advisories as roads were closed and people asked to stay away. But those advisories seemed to have the opposite effect. “I almost think that our PSAs turned out to be less safety announcements but became tour guides.” As people read which streets were flooded, that’s where they went to take photos.

“Friday night seemed to be a party to people,” Hammond said. “Everybody was like ‘Hey, let’s go see what’s happening.’ We had people on the Seawall, despite repeated PSAs to stay away because a powerful surge is washing up 100-pound rocks and the last thing we wanted is somebody to get hit with some of those things.” Throughout the day, barricades went up and were mostly ignored. Finally, NPD parked a patrol car up at Center Creek Road, lights flashing, to keep people from driving down to Seppala Drive. As things calmed down, Hammond noted an outpouring of help offers and by Sunday afternoon, the DOT was already starting to cleanup roadways. As reports came in that the floating house was falling apart, Shawn Pomrenke offered to demolish the house as it was pinned against the shoreline and haul off the wreckage debris

continued on page 6



Photo by Diana Haecker

FLOODED— Waves crashed over the seawall and flooded parts of the Mini Convention Center, Sept. 17.



Photo by Nils Hahn

TANK RESCUE— A loose fuel tank was secured after being knocked off its stand by water action.



City of Nome Storm Announcement

- The **Monofill** will be open at no charge from

Tuesday, September 20
until Saturday, September 24
from 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

to take flood damage materials.

- **Saturday, September 24 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**
Citywide trash clean up.
Snacks provided by local businesses.
Trucks will be located at Old St. Joe’s to secure debris.
- Business Sales Tax filing deadline has been extended to **Tuesday, September 27.**



Photo by Diana Haecker
MAYOR— Nome Mayor John Handeland driving around Nome to assess the situation during the storm on Sept. 17.

Mega-storm

continued from page 5

with a dump truck. Hammond said, as they talked about prioritizing cleanup activities, he smelled something burning, like an electrical fire. He started to look around the Public Safety Building for the source and when he walked into the dispatch center, he saw on one of the cameras the fire at the Bering Sea. While city officials had been on a text thread throughout the storm to report what’s going on, all texting stopped suddenly as city officials concentrated on containing the fire and communication went on by radio. Power went out as a standard procedure as NVFD rushed to respond to the fire. Three patients were transported to Norton Sound, treated and released. Norton Sound stood up their emergency medical plan and called in extra staff. “Because at that point we still didn’t know if people were in there,” said Hammond. Doug and Robin Johnson were the first at the scene, Hammond said. “They ran in and they were pounding on doors getting people out of the Nugget Inn [Hotel].”

With all NVFD volunteers busy at the Bering Sea Restaurant fire, Hammond said eyes tearing up a little bit, that older, retired volunteer firefighters showed up in the bunker

gear, ready to help. “That was really heart warming to see, they’re not part of the department anymore, but they were right there.”

Hours later, another call came in of a possible fire by the old Country Store. This fire call was a false alarm.

During all of this AT&T was having power issues at their Front Street Station and the FirstNet system which is supposed to have priority access to communications went down. GCI was functional.

As the Bering Sea fire was controlled and floodwaters continued to recede Saturday into Sunday, the Incident Command Center was still stood up, but officials could go home for some rest that night. On early Sunday morning, Hammond drove around to “get eyes on everything” and went to the ICC to confer with Charlie Lean on the next priorities. “We started to transfer into recovery scenarios,” he said. Then the calls began. Crowley, Bonanza what’s the damage? Only minor damage to buildings. Bering Air? The hangar is safe and flights resumed. Also, Alaska Airlines resumed flights to Nome. DOT and city crews coordinated work on the roads to restore access, removing rocks and debris

continued on page 7



Photo by Diana Haecker
HIGH WATER— The Snake River rose over its shoreline and came very close to flooding the Nome north-south runway.

Nome declares disaster, region seeks state and federal help

By Megan Gannon

City Hall still reeked of smoke when Mayor John Handeland walked into an emergency meeting of the Nome Common Council on Monday. He was wearing a reflective jacket and holding a copy of a resolution to declare a disaster in Nome as a result of the weekend’s historic storm, one of the most severe in recent memory. It was one step in the City’s quest for state and federal funds to rebuild and recover in the weeks ahead.

The remnants of Typhoon Merbok brought dangerous conditions and destruction along more than 1,000 miles of Alaska’s coast. In Nome, a record-high storm surge of about 11 feet eroded roadways and flooded buildings closest to the shoreline. The one-page resolution that Handeland presented said the severity and magnitude of this event was beyond the response capability of local resources.

The resolution declared a “disaster emergency” for the City of Nome, as well as for the state-owned roads and the international airport within the town’s boundaries. It expressed that the City would ask for state and federal disasters to be declared so that relief funds would become available. Still, the resolution recognized that the City would likely spend “significant unplanned sums” related to the disaster that would not be fully reimbursable by state and federal programs. The action was passed unanimously by councilmembers Scot Henderson, Jerald Brown, Doug Johnson, Mark Johnson, Adam Martinson and Megan Sigvanna Tapqaq.

During the short meeting, Handeland said that Nome handled the storm “with flying colors.”

“When things like this happen, the community bands together, even more than we try to do on a day-to-day basis,” Handeland said. “We’ll survive this. We’ll rebuild.”

Sept. 17 now has “even more significance” in Nome’s history, he said. On Sept. 17, 1934, much of the city was razed during a devastating fire. Eighty-eight years to the day later, a fire at the Bering Sea Restaurant threatened to spread to other buildings while the storm raged. The Nome Volunteer Fire Department managed to contain the blaze. Two days later, the NVFD was still putting out hotspots in the smoldering husk of the building.

Paul Kosto, executive director of the Chamber of Commerce, piped up from the audience: “I’d like to shine a bright light on our near future—we’re going to have a full-fledged Fireman’s Carnival this December.” COVID-19 had interfered with recent iterations of the annual carnival, an important fundraiser for the NVFD.

Handeland praised other groups aiding in response efforts. Shoni Evans, director of the Nome Com-

munity Center, mobilized to open the NEST shelter for a few nights. Church congregations, teachers and other volunteers quickly helped clean debris and garbage that washed up from the seawall. But as various crews dealt with the immediate public safety hazards left by the storm, the arduous work to assess the millions of dollars in damages was just beginning.

“This is not going to be done in a few days,” said City Manager Glenn Steckman. “This is gonna take a while. And hopefully we’ll be better prepared for the next storm that comes.”

City officials have been strongly urging businesses, individuals and public entities involved in storm response and recovery to document damages, and log their labor, equipment use and expenses in real-time. That documentation will be useful when there’s a clearer picture of the aid available.

Steckman said an estimate for the total damages had yet to be calculated, but it was easily in the millions just from adding up all the labor costs of various Alaska Native corporations, the city and village entities.

“That’s why documenting all of this is important, so that we can try to come up with some type of an assessed value of the costs and damages to this region,” Steckman said.

State and federal help

As of press time on Tuesday afternoon, Gov. Mike Dunleavy was scheduled to arrive in the region to meet with leaders and see damages himself in communities that bore the worst of the storm’s effects, such as Golovin. Dunleavy had declared a state disaster on Saturday morning and had promised to submit a request for a federal disaster declaration.

“If approved, at least 75 percent of eligible disaster costs would be covered by FEMA, with the state picking up the tab for the rest,” Dunleavy said in a statement on Monday. In a call with reporters later that night, Dunleavy’s Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Bryan Fisher, said that so far, the state had counted 63 homes across the entire path of the storm that reported damage locally, but that number did not include the seasonal camps and cabins.

President and CEO of Kawerak Melanie Bahnke has been trying to get the message across to state and federal agencies that “subsistence cabins are food security.”

“It’s where people process fish and seal meat,” Bahnke told The Nome Nugget. “It’s not just recreational. I’ve been trying to communicate that. I think once federal disaster aid kicks in, we’re going to be documenting damages or losses to subsistence cabins in the hopes that we’ll be able to get some aid for those who have experienced losses or damages.”

Bahnke said Kawerak employees who lost camps were given a paid week off to attempt to recover and salvage those sites. The company is also providing airfare for its employees who have family in Golovin, the Norton Sound’s worst-hit village, and want to get out to the village to help the cleanup.

Alaska’s new representative in Congress, Mary Peltola of Bethel, who was just sworn in last week, told reporters on Monday that she was briefed by FEMA, and one of the questions that came up was about vehicles.

“We understand that many boat motors, many four-wheelers, many snowmachines have been impacted and are not useable, and as you all know, these types of vehicles are critical to the livelihood of people who live in these communities,” Peltola said. “Much like folks in Anchorage and Fairbanks and Juneau use their car to get to work and get to the grocery store, ATVs and outboard motors are used in getting out and harvesting food. This is their livelihood. This is the way they put food on the table.”

Peltola said one of the “biggest reliefs” in her FEMA call came when she learned that federal funds may contain a household allowance for one summer vehicle and one winter vehicle, up to \$18,950.

During the special meeting of the Council on Monday, Councilmember Jerald Brown had asked if language could be added to the city’s disaster declaration acknowledging the destruction to the wider region around Nome even if it fell outside the city’s jurisdiction. His suggestion was approved by the other councilmembers.

continued on page 7

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Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breast feeding.



Photo by Diana Haecker

MINIMAL DAMAGE— Sierra and Jon Smith are glad their house held up during the storm.

Mega-storm

continued from page 6

from the streets and starting to work on fixing an entire missing section of the Nome-Council highway, just east of the intersection to Greg Kruschek Avenue.

As access was restored, people got into their cars to check on their camps or survey the damage.

Jon and Sierra Smith live on River Street, just kitty corner from the Mini Convention Center. As Jon was cleaning up debris from around his home he said he got lucky. “Friday night, about 11:30 were the first biggest waves hitting the seawall right here, right behind the Mini Convention Center. The water level rose so much it was coming through the storm drains and flooding the street.” The Smiths decided to leave their home around 12:30 a.m. and sought shelter with friends in Icy View. “River Street literally was a river,” he said. A surveillance camera at their door allowed them to monitor the storm as it battered their home, but the water stopped rising before it flooded their house. “The surge took out all the skirting under the house

and the water level rose just under our deck by about two steps,” Smith said. The surge also broke the propane line and busted loose the propane tank. The trash cans stood by the house as if nothing had happened. “There’s a little damage on the roofing maybe some on the windows a little warping but, yeah, we’re pretty fortunate compared to all the other homes out in our region,” said Smith.

He said he’s considering raising up the house a little bit more. “Definitely, after this one that be nice because, yeah, that was kind of scary.”

Asked about the climate change drive sea level rises, Rick Thoman explained that sea level rise comes from both glacier and ice sheet melt and the thermal expansion of the ocean water itself as it warms. “If you wanted to have a building so it would be above the November 1974, 12 ft water level which was 18 inches above this storm, I would add a foot at least to that to cover just for sea level rise. Of course, if a storm comes along with a 15 ft surge, then all bets are off.”

Nome declares disaster

continued from page 6

The revised resolution included a line to say that “some sections of coastal roadway have been totally erased,” while “seasonal and subsistence campsites were disheveled, and many either flattened or missing.”

Council Road

The room got quiet during Tuesday morning’s meeting of the Nome Emergency Operations Command when Paul Kosto played aerial footage from a pilot who flew over the Nome-Council Road in the aftermath of the storm. In some areas, the road was gone. A new channel had completely cut through one section. In other parts, the road was obscured by mounds of sand or strewn with driftwood, rocks and other debris. Several subsistence camps that lined the beach had been lifted off their foundations and carried to the other side of the lagoon or destroyed.

Calvin Schaeffer, the maintenance and operations superintendent for the Western District of the Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities, said that he was looking at damage basically along the entire 30-mile stretch from Nome to Solomon.

“Right now, we’re still pulling everything together,” said Schaeffer. “The plan is just keep moving with what we have.”

His long to-do list included an assessment of damage to the seawall along Front Street and sending dozers out by Cape Nome to find the road under mounds of sand. Schaeffer’s department is sorely understaffed, but he said he was looking into contracting Knik for some work as they still had equipment in Nome from the recently completed airport renovations.

During the meeting, Schaeffer and other responders discussed what to do about the miners who started flocking to the eroded road, shovel-



Photo by Megan Gannon

DIGGING — “Yukon John” Culp said he believed only a few of the dredge boats made money this summer, which is why East Beach was so crowded with gold prospectors looking to hit pay dirt after the storm.

ing in areas that looked dubious in terms of both safety and property rights.

“They’re digging under the road and saying they’re taking the red material, but it’s still the road,” Schaeffer said. “We don’t need another accident.”

Kawerak had already put out a notice that warned looters to respect private and tribal land rights, especially around the Fort Davis area and down the coast. The City and the Nome Police Department said they were ready to intervene if trespassing continued.

Regional rebuilding

When funds arrive for rebuilding, regional leaders will have to make decisions about how to improve their existing protections.

“It was more severe than any storm I’ve ever seen,” Kawerak CEO Bahnke said. “The storms are coming in more frequently and more powerfully. We need to do a better

job of mitigating damage. There’s federal aid and state aid for disaster response, but we need more investment when it comes to protecting our communities in the first place.”

She said the damages were in some ways not surprising considering that several villages in the region have been listed as being in “imminent danger” by the Denali Commission. While Kawerak receives federal funds for transportation, the organization cannot use that money to build seawalls, which Bahnke suggested might be the most beneficial types of projects for threatened coastal communities. During the special Council meeting on Monday, Bering Straits Native Corporation board member Roy Ashenfelter wanted to acknowledge the usefulness of the seawall in Nome.

“You could see—at least I could anyway—the value of our invest-

continued on page 8



Attention Nome Eskimo Community Tribal Members

If you are experiencing financial hardship directly or indirectly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the following Homeowners, Housing, and BIA Housing Improvement Program services and applications are available during the period of September 6, 2022 to October 14, 2022. These emergency housing services have limited funding, and services are provided on a first come, first serve basis.

Emergency Homeowners Assistance Fund: This fund will provide temporary emergency financial assistance to qualified applicants and no matter where your primary residential home is located. The following services are available for homeowners for up to 3 months each; mortgage, utilities, heating fuel, and gas.

Emergency Housing Assistance: This fund will provide temporary emergency housing assistance to qualified low-income applicants who reside in Nome. The following services are available to applicants for up to 3 months each; rental, utility, and fuel assistance.

Bureau of Indian Affairs Housing Improvement Program: This fund will provide one-time non-recurring assistance to qualified low-income applicants who reside in our service area of Nome, Fort Davis, South of Anvil Mountain, Beam Road, Osborn, and Dexter to maintain home services. Applicants can choose one of the following; repair or install boiler, repair or install toyo stove, and repair or install hot water heater.

Any questions, please contact the NEC Housing Program.
Applications are available and completed applications can be submitted:

www.necalaska.org
By Email to erap@necalaska.org
In person at 200 West 5th Ave. Nome, AK
By Mail to NEC, Box 1090, Nome, AK 99872
By Fax to 907-443-9144



SAFETY BRIDGE— The west end of the Safety Bridge was mangled by the Sept. 17 storm.

• Nome declares disaster

continued from page 7

ment in the seawall,” Ashenfelter said.

But with both freeze-up and the possibility of late-fall storms ahead, rebuilding efforts in the Bering Sea region are also under a time-crunch. Schaeffer said it was just too late in the year to do anything major to the roads; his goal was simply to get the Council Road in good enough shape for people to get out to their camps. Villages that suffered worse damage than Nome are also hoping to make repairs swiftly. In Shaktoolik, a 14-foot berm saved that the community from devastation was itself destroyed in the storm, leaving residents newly vulnerable and worried about what might happen during another more typical November storm.

“If something’s gonna happen, it’s gotta happen fast,” said Gloria Andrew, a custodian at the school in Shaktoolik. She was documenting the stark differences of her village’s coastline before and after the storm. Andrew said the village nearly became an island during the storm and that residents feared they would become cut off from their freshwater source.

The storm has also put an added stress on already rare resource in the Bering Strait region: housing. Golovin now probably needs about 10 houses, said the Bering Strait School District’s new superintendent, Susan Nedza, who visited the community this week.

“It’s devastating,” Nedza said. “Whole houses just floated right off their foundations, including some teacher housing. We’ve had silt and sand, three, four inches deep inside teacher housing, and in their neighbors’ housing as well.”

Nedza hoped that once FEMA mobilized, the agency might be able to offer emergency housing. The BSSD delegation brought in shelf-stable food and water for Golovin. The school’s food stores were destroyed in the storm, which itself was a loss of about a half-million dollars, Nedza said.

While school was canceled for the rest of the week in Golovin, Nedza hoped some of the kids would get back in the building for sports practice and that some might still attend the upcoming dance festival in Teller as planned. She hoped to keep some sense of normalcy for the kids and teachers but was thankful that the district had 12 counselors to help mitigate the emotional damage of the storm.

“It was it was very traumatic for a lot of people,” Nedza said. “Just because the storm has passed, the damage has not.”

Bahnke said some of the best ways to help right now were through donations to the Alaska Community Foundation and the Alaska Red Cross, which has set up a separate fund just for Western Alaska and was sending a six-person team to Nome.



NOME-COUNCIL HIGHWAY— Sand, driftwood and rocks litter the Nome-Council Road at mile 4. Smaller vehicles opted to travel along the beach, while larger trucks plowed over the debris. At least one medium-sized car got stuck.

Photo by Peter Loewi



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FIRE FIGHTERS— Twenty-nine current and former members of the NVFD came out to control the fire on Saturday night.



FLAMES— The Nome Volunteer Fire Department responded to a fire at the Bering Sea Restaurant, which would take around 11 hours to control. This photo was taken one hour into the response.

• *Fire*

continued from page 1
night of the storm.” Two former fire chiefs, Wes Perkins and Matt Johnson, both came to fight the fire, as did around 10 retired members of the NVFD. “I have to admit, the guys did a very good job, working 11 hours, and managed the fire through-

out the weekend.”
In total, 29 past and current members of the NVFD were on the scene, plus six EMTs on standby. The Nome Police Department directed traffic and guarded the Nugget Inn. Not only was the extra help used to combat the fire at the restaurant, but they checked on another call

NVFD received that same night about smoke at the old Country Store, which turned out to be a false alarm.
West left the scene around 3 a.m. but was called back at 6 a.m. to deal with hot spots. The response was finally shut off on Monday.



Photos by Peter Loewi
PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF THE FIRE—Firefighters work to control the fire and prevent spread while combatting high winds Saturday evening.



Photo by Megan Gannon
BLACK SMOKE— Strong winds sent plumes of smoke through downtown Nome.



Photo by Peter Loewi
FUEL UP—A firefighter drank a full bottle of water after reemerging through the smoke Saturday night.

Read

The Nome Nugget

Thank You Nome

Thanks to all the citizens, the Alaska Native Tribes and Corporations, the businesses, the churches, non-profit organizations, the NVFD, NVAD, NSHC, and our City employees for their efforts with Typhoon Merbok .

Working together is what makes Nome special!

The Mayor and Common Council
City of Nome

After the storm



NOME-COUNCIL HIGHWAY— The storm badly damaged a section of the Nome-Council Highway; a trail around the gap allowed traffic to continue to flow.
Photo by Silas Takak



CLEANING UP— Uly Hall began cleaning up debris the ocean hurled onto Front Street.
Photo by Nils Hahn



DRIFTWOOD— Carlee Hobbs helps a friend remove driftwood from her yard on Front Street. Hobbs said the Covenant Church had volunteers help with cleanup and offered dinner served at the church after the work.
Photo by Diana Haecker



RUBBLE— The fire department kept dousing the ruins of Bering Sea Restaurant on Sunday.
Photo by Diana Haecker



MAMMOTH FIND IN KOYUK— Early afternoon in Koyuk as the winds subsided and the sun came out the Hoogendorns decided to head down the beach to see if they would find any treasures after the massive storm and erosion that occurred during it. About a 5 minute fourwheeler drive down the Koyuk beach they checked out the bluffs and found this tusk. “As soon as I seen the blue color I knew it was a tusk. It was so heavy I could barely stand it up. It is now wrapped in saran wrap and clamped so it will not dry too quickly and crack,” Kara said. “We kind of think of this as a reminder that even after a storm good things are bound to come after!” The tusk weighs 99 lbs.
Photo courtesy Kara Hoogendorn



MINERS— Beach miners wasted no time after the storm to dig for golden sands in the eroded sections of the beach.
Photo by Diana Haecker



MILE 16—The Nome-Council Highway is obliterated by last weekend’s storm
Photo by Jeremy Perkins



STORM WATCHING— Leslie and Sheran Elanna take photos of the storm and a major washout on Sept. 17.

Photo by Nils Hahn

We are

Nome Strong

Our heartfelt Thank You to the Nome Volunteer Fire Department and our First Responders for keeping Nome safe.

The Nome Nugget team

Photo by Peter Loewi

Regional communities hammered by ex-typhoon Merbok

By Peter Loewi

Villages around Norton Sound were hard hit by the massive storm raging through western Alaska over the weekend. As the wind subsided and water levels fell by Monday, residents began to return to their homes and assess the damages. Not all communities could be reached by The Nome Nugget. Phonelines in Elim, Golovin and White Mountain appeared to be down.

No deaths were reported as of press time on Tuesday, and while many say they were OK in this storm, everyone feared the next one even more.

Stebbins

City Administrator Daisy Lockwood-Katcheak had been in touch with villages further south and used those experiences to time Stebbins' emergency actions. At around 2 a.m. on Saturday, 40 minutes after the storm hit Kotlik, Stebbins residents were evacuating. With water coming from pretty much everywhere, roads to shelters and to Saint Michael were cut off. Many, Lockwood-Katcheak said, were unable to reach the shelter at the school, and two other buildings were set up emergency shelters, one at the IRA and one at the Native Corporation. Roughly 40 percent of the village evacuated, she said.

With the water came huge quantities of sand, pushing houses off their foundations and displaced eight to 10 families. Streets in all areas of town are damaged, and power poles running from Stebbins to Saint Michael are all leaning. Both Lockwood-Katcheak and Virginia Washington in Saint Michael feared that the next bout of strong winds would blow them over, taking out power from their shared AVEC facility.

Thankfully, Lockwood-Katcheak said, there was no problem with access to the honey bucket lagoon, and there appears to be no mixing of untreated sewage and flood waters. One unique headache they were faced with, however, was two young grizzly bears were chasing people as they evacuated. Nobody knew where they came from, but they are thought to have washed up in the storm. Residents also saw houses floating offshore past the village, though not from the village.

Stebbins declared a disaster and hopes to be receiving assistance from the state soon. Like many villages in the region, they have been in touch with FEMA, as well.

Stebbins did have community meetings to prepare for the storm. "The community came together in the disastrous event. Overall, we'd like to extend thanks and gratitude to the school for housing our elders, children, and mamas," Lockwood-Katcheak said. Additionally, she noted, the Native Corporation donated food to the shelters, and city employees donated time to ensure that everyone was accounted for.

"Right now, we are busy trying to find ways to drain out our com-

munities."

Saint Michael

Up the washed-out BIA road connecting Stebbins to St. Michael, City Administrator and Incident Commander for Emergency Response Plan Virginia Washington was juggling phone calls and dealing with serious erosion. She had just gotten out of a teleconference with Kawerak and was preparing for a meeting the next morning with the IRA and the Native Corporation to discuss the village's SCERP, Small Community Emergency Response Plan.

Ten homes, she said, were in danger of falling into the bay, and many more will need to be renovated. One road was washed out, but residents were still able to access the fuel stand by driving across the tundra. Saint Michael, however, has no heavy equipment to for this kind of clean-up work.

Washington was the only City Administrator interviewed who discussed some of the more bureaucratic issues that Cities and Tribes were facing. Saint Michael has several homes through the Indian Health Service's Housing Improvement Program, including some renovations. There are, however, eligibility requirements such as date since last receipt of funds to get money for renovations. Since these would prevent Saint Michael from rebuilding with those same funds, Washington said that they are calling for Tribal self-governance rule-making rules to change those requirements in the face of rebuilding to a higher level of preparation.

Unalakleet

"We are doing alright," Mayor Thomas Simonsson said on Monday after the storm, sounding exhausted. "We saw major damage to fortifications on the ocean side, all along the shoreline," he continued. Simonsson listed off damages: Erosion on the road to the tank farm, the road to the water source is basically gone, damage to the power grid, and the backup generator at the pump house got cut, resulting in a total loss of pressure in the clean water tanks. "We have to secure our water supply," which was down to six feet on Monday, he said. Even with major conservation efforts, the town uses around one foot per day. On Tuesday afternoon, the city posted on social media that "Consultants from NSHC's CUAP program recommend to build quantity in the tank ahead of colder months instead of focusing on getting off boil water notice which would possibly drain the tank to dangerously low levels with no promise of successful results given the fragile infrastructure at the moment."

Simonsson explained that community leaders got wiser and wiser with experience, and after the 2011 storm, built up the roads, preparing for what would have been a record high 10-foot storm surge. This time, the surge hit 13 feet, and on Saturday afternoon, many people across the



Photos by Gloria Andrew
SHAKTOOLIK— Gloria Andrew took photos before and after the storm to document the damage done.

region received an emergency alert on their phone saying Unalakleet residents were to evacuate.

The phone alerts scared some people outside of the community, but Simonsson gave credit to past leadership for setting up a good community response plan. He had communicated with both Senator Dan Sullivan and Senator Lisa Murkowski, with FEMA and with GCI. It took some calling in circles, but it got went off as needed, and the evacuation order was rescinded around 6 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Their response plan is more than just text alerts, and everyone took their roles as anticipated, including

evacuating elders and families to the school or the elder facility up the hill. Power up the hill was cut off, but the facility has its own generator. The school had over 200 air mattresses ready. It was great, he said, to see the community step up and take it seriously. "If it weren't for past leadership, we'd be much worse off," Simonsson said.

John Henry is the Deputy Director at the Native Village of Unalakleet and has been a key part of the Unalakleet Drone program, which can map coastal erosion and support in disaster management, among other things. The Unalakleet Response Group has given him a list of areas

for damage assessment by drone, which includes the entire coastline and the road from the bridge east. The barge access road is also an active construction road.

Henry also noted that while the airport runways are functional, the FAA AWOS is down, and the FAA is sending someone to look at it.

"The next one will come," Simonsson said. "It always does."

Shaktoolik

"Everyone's OK, but that was a very scary storm," City Clerk Isabelle Jackson said. "We have no

continued on page 13



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continued from page 12

more front berm. It took it all."

There was little serious damage in this storm thanks to the preparations – and to the seawall. Jackson said that there was little to no damage to homes in town, but many had debris washing up into them. The lights at the airport were damaged during the storm but have since been repaired.

While power and water were spared, there was practically nothing in the store on Monday. There was also a concern about access to drinking water, because a few more feet of water would have knocked out the access road, turning the community into an island. "It was so close," she said. "We have miles to run to higher ground, and it was all water. We couldn't see no land."

Shaktoolik has a SCERP, a small community response plan, and Jackson said that people did what they were supposed to. At 5 a.m. on Saturday, everyone evacuated to the school.

Unlike other communities in the region, Shaktoolik does have some heavy equipment, and the city, IRA and Native Corporation are working together to clear debris.

As of Monday, Jackson expected state and FEMA officials to visit soon. "We're afraid of any new storms now, that berm saved us, but we don't have nothing now."

Koyuk

Vice Mayor Robert Hannon seemed remarkably calm when he was reached on Monday morning. Some houses moved, he said, but everyone is safe. A few roads were washed out, one house was off its foundation, there was some damage to the foundation of the store warehouse. The one diesel spill in town was already getting help. The power that was lost to six houses had al-

ready been restored. Utility workers had sandbagged the manholes, preventing the worst of the flooding.

There were minor issues, like the internet being out at the store so people couldn't pay with cards, but their biggest issue as of Monday, he said, was the lack of working heavy equipment. NSEDC has a front loader in town, and they are helping.

People tried to be prepared, he said, and the town came together pretty quick to clear the debris.

Golovin

Alaska State Senator Donny Olson was reached by phone Tuesday afternoon. "Everybody is safe. No injuries. Nobody got hurt," he reported. He shared that there had been a fair amount of damage in low lying areas, and many families evacuated up to the community center. Electricity was turned off in those areas, and was only restored on Monday, two days later. As of Tuesday afternoon, the bay water had gone back down, but parts of town were still flooded.

Everyone, he said, was still in the process of cleaning up. Impacted buildings got as much as four feet of water damage, and all that sand now needs to be shoveled out. To be made livable again, other assessments, such as mold prevention, must also be conducted. Olson said that he had heard, but not seen first-hand, that there might be an issue with sewage in these areas mixing with the flood waters, which could further impact public health.

After some calling around, they received the authority to use the loader at the airport to help move some of the eight buildings which had floated off their foundations towards higher ground, resulting in a number of roads getting blocked off.

continued on page 14



Photo by Chris Koonooka

POUNING THE BEACH—A huge swell caused by the remnants of typhoon Merbok pounded West Beach at Gambell on St. Lawrence Island.



Photo by U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Ian Gray

GOLOVIN—A Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak aircrew flies over Golovin, Alaska, to assess damage to houses and facilities, September 18, 2022. Coast Guard crews are responding to impacted communities following a historic storm, Typhoon Merbok, that hit Alaska's western coast.

COVID booster shots arrive in region

By Peter Loewi

COVID-19 case numbers rose slightly in Alaska last week, in both residents and non-residents. The Alaska Department of Health reported 26 deaths, which occurred between January and August of 2022. Hospitalizations have declined.

Last week, Norton Sound Health Corporation received the first shipment of the new Pfizer-BioNTech bivalent boosters. The boosters target both the original wildtype of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the currently circulating Omicron BA.4/5 variants. Boosters are recommended for anyone 12-years-old and older who received their last COVID shoot at least two months ago.

People who recently recovered from COVID should wait several months before getting their booster. A CDC press release encouraging people to get vaccinated against COVID and the flu said that “You can get them both at the same time if you are eligible and the timing works.”

According to a press release from Norton Sound Health Corporation, "NSHC strongly encourages everyone in the region, particularly anyone over the age of 50 or individuals with underlying medical conditions, to get vaccinated as soon as possible. In villages, residents may contact their local clinic to get on the wait list for a booster. In Nome, please schedule a "nurse-only" booster vaccine appointment by calling (907) 443-3333."

The week in numbers

On Tuesday, September 13, NSHC identified 12 new cases of COVID across the region. Four of the new cases were in Savoonga, three in Nome, three in Teller, one in Shishmaref and one in White Mountain. There were 29 active cases in the region: 11 in Nome, five in Teller, five in White Mountain, four in Savoonga, two in Shishmaref, and

two in Unalakleet.

On Wednesday, September 14, NSHC identified eight new cases of COVID-19. Of the new cases, three were in Savoonga, two were in Shishmaref, Brevig, Nome and White Mountain each had one. Active cases in the region rose to 34, with 12 in Nome, six in White Mountain, five in Savoonga, four in Shishmaref, four in Teller, two in Unalakleet and one in Brevig.

On Thursday, September 15, NSHC identified nine new cases of COVID in the region. Four new cases were found in Teller, three in White Mountain, and one each in Savoonga and Shishmaref. Active cases stayed at 34: Eight in Nome, eight in Teller, six in Savoonga, six in White Mountain, four in Shishmaref and two in Unalakleet.

Over the weekend, as the storm raged, seven new cases were reported across the region. Active cases dropped to 17, with five in Nome, four in White Mountain, three in Savoonga, three in Shishmaref and two in Teller.

On Monday, September 19, NSHC reported six new cases. Brevig, Nome, and White Mountain each had two. As of press time on Tuesday, there were 19 active cases in the region: Eight in Nome, five in White Mountain, two in Savoonga, two in Shishmaref, one in Brevig and one in Teller.

Since the start of the pandemic the United States had 95,552,308 officially reported cases of COVID-19 and 1,048,532 associated deaths.

Alaska had at least 281,727 cases, 3,894 hospitalizations and 1,329 deaths. There are currently 66 people hospitalized due to COVID in the state.

Nome, Norton Sound and the Bering Strait region had at least 6,502 cases, 48 hospitalizations and six deaths.

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• Regional

continued from page 13

Another difficulty Golovin faces is that teacher housing was severely impacted, with two people totally displaced, and another eight temporarily displaced. Bering Strait School District sent a plane with manpower and supplies to assist the community. Olson said that he is working on getting the State Emergency Operations Center to visit, and said he was expecting the Governor in with the National Guard Tuesday evening.

Teller
“We’re good. Teller was the breaking point in the storm. It hit us but not as bad as expected,” said Mayor Makitta Blanche Garnie.

There was some damage, mostly in the form of erosion, and permafrost is showing behind the Teller graveyard. The seawall took extensive damage, and the rocks holding up the fencing are mostly gone. There was, however, minimal erosion to the road out of town, and several elders, a couple of teachers and two people from a church group evacuated to Nome. Most of town evacuated to New Site Friday after work, and everyone came back as early as Sunday morning, Garnie said. Those who stayed, mostly in the new housing, the city office or the school’s housing, were safe.

Brevig Mission
City Clerk Bertha Barr said proudly that Brevig was prepared. “We were ready,” she said. The village had minor flooding, but no houses were damaged and no roofs blew off. Brevig got the tail end of the storm, and some people evacu-

ated to the multipurpose building, they were warm and had food. A couple of boats and cabins were lost along the shore between Teller and Brevig.

Wales
Stanley Oxereok went door to door doing damage assessments after the storm. “Everybody is OK. We had a little bit of damage, siding on a couple of houses, but nobody was hurt,” he said. There was minor flooding and debris on the beach, and wind damage to a couple of houses. “That’s pretty much it,” he said.

Shishmaref
“We’ve been lucky, but we’re gonna run out of luck one of these times,” Stan Tocktoo at Incident Command said. During this storm, the winds were coming from the south, and “the dangers are on the northwest side,” he said, where coastal erosion is always a major concern. No properties were lost during this storm. Tocktoo explained that evacuation paperwork was prepared, and while the tide came up “pretty high,” evacuation wasn’t necessary. Prior to the storm, there was a community-wide meeting, prepared by the IRA, the city and the Native Corporation. As part of the preparation, a buddy system was implemented, and teams of two to three people watched throughout the community. “Everyone came and did their part,” he said.

Gambell
Emily Apassingok was cheery when she picked up the phone at the City. “Everybody’s OK,” she said. “A boat got crushed up like a pop can.” Gambell was in the eye of the storm when Merbok was at its worst,

and was mostly spared because of it. There were “gigantic” waves off West Beach, but the town was spared even power outages. Like many communities, however, cabins outside of town – in Gambell’s case to the south – were moved by the rising water. Apassingok said there were reports of broken doors and windows and lots of sand inside.

Savoonga
“Nothing at all. It just rained quite a bit,” Native Village President Ben Pungowiyi said when asked about damage. “We got lucky and spared.”

Diomedes
Frances Ozenna, incident commander for the Small Community Emergency Response Plan, was candid. Diomedes’ OK, she said, and advised this reporter to focus more on the villages that got hit harder. “We feel for them.” Diomedes was anticipating a big storm, but it came from the east. “So, our mountain saved us,” Ozenna said. There was damage to the seawall, and the biggest issue now is preparing for the next storm. Another issue was that the Connex with equipment and furniture for the new clinic was washed away at 1:12 a.m. It ended up half a mile down the coast. The Connex only arrived earlier that week, and the issue could have been avoided if the contractor had spent another 10 minutes moving it eight feet higher, she said. It was still locked, and nobody knew the state of the contents, but she had sent pictures to both Norton Sound Health Corporation and to the contractor. “We were ready,” she said. There was a community meeting on Thursday pre-storm, and people started to hunker down. On Friday they hauled water and shopped. Critical workers



Photo by Kenneth Noongwook
SAND— A subsistence cabin south of Gambell is filled with sand.

– healthcare, power, fuel, and equipment operators – had their duties, and the school was involved. Normally there are 20 beds, but with other shelters, around 30-36 beds total were prepared. “We have learned from many past experiences,” Ozenna said. Diomedes has a strong SCERP, and Ozenna hopes that other villages will incorporate them, too, saying that while they take time and leadership to prepare, they’re worth it. “Reacting first saves,” she said. Both money and lives.

From the office of Rep. Neal Foster, District 39 - Alaska State Legislature:

Disaster Recovery

Quyana and thank you to the public offices, tribal leaders, volunteers, emergency response teams, and agencies who worked to prepare communities, keep everyone safe, and now help with the recovery process. Your dedication and courage to help one another during this historical typhoon is testament to the strength of our villages.

The Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and other state and federal agencies are working to assist local and regional response teams.

Next steps:

- **Community leaders:** need to send their **City Disaster Declarations** to the State Emergency Operations Center. The SEOC can assist with the drafting of these resolutions. Resolutions should outline scope of damage and assistance needed.
SEOC Phone: 907-428-7100
email: storm@ready.alaska.gov –or– seoc@alaska.gov.
- **Individuals and Families:**
 - Contact your local and regional city and tribal offices for immediate assistance and to share reports of damages; you can also contact the **Red Cross at 907-230-4472**. These local and regional agencies will have the quickest access to immediate resources.
 - When safe to do so, document any damages to your personal property. **Information on how to apply for individual disaster funding will be forthcoming** once local, state, and federal teams address immediate community needs.

Constituents and community leaders can also contact my office for questions and assistance:
1-800-478-3789
Rep.Neal.Foster@akleg.gov

Updates on state and federal support will be ongoing as damage is assessed. Please check my Facebook page or contact my office for additional information.

I am currently visiting some of our villages to see the storm damage and needs. Please also check my Facebook page for travel plans and reports.



FLOODED—Storm surges rose the Snake River and flooded parts of Port Road and caused closure of Seppala Drive past the bridge.

Photo by Nils Hahn



DOCUMENTING CHANGE— Josie Bourdon took a video on her phone of the new landscape and the missing cabins at Fort Davis.

Photo by Diana Haecker



NUUK— The Nome-Council road is buried under mounts of sand and rubble.

Photo by Nikolai Ivanoff



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SALVAGE— Amanda Noyakuk salvages clothes from her grandparents' house as Shawn Pomrenke and crew helped to demolish the house that was washed into the river in the storm.

Photo by Peter Loewi



FORT DAVIS—A young man looks through the sand under his family's camp at Fort Davis. The main portion of the cabin was moved by the storm around 30 feet.

Photo by Peter Loewi



CLEANING UP— The DOT began cleaning up Front Street on Sunday.

Photo by Nikolai Ivanoff

Richard Titus and Jessica Aco-
man of Saint Michael are happy to
announce the birth of our son,
Thomas William Tudu Titus. He
was born on on Sept. 1, 2022 at 10:22
a.m., in Anchorage at the Alaska
Native Medical Center. He weighed
8 lbs. 13 oz. and was 20 ½ inches in
length. The delivery went amazing
and we happily welcome our big and
healthy baby boy.



Thomas William Tudu Titus

Mary Peltola was sworn in on Tuesday, Sept. 13 as Alaska's sole member of the U.S. House of Representatives, becoming the first Alaska Native to serve in Congress.

Peltola, a Democrat from Bethel, praised her predecessor, Republican Rep. Don Young, who died in March, saying that, like Young, she would represent all Alaskans.

"Don Young was a true institution, an Alaska icon," she said. "I'm committed to securing his legacy of bipartisanship."

"It is the honor of my life to represent Alaska, a place my elders and ancestors have called home for thousands of years, where to this day, many people in my community carry on our traditions of hunting and fishing," she said.

The event was celebrated by fellow House members and by

members of Peltola's family and other supporters sitting in the House gallery, with people rising a few times to applaud and cheer the historic occasion. Family members who attended the ceremony included her husband, Gene Peltola, seven children, two sisters and two grandchildren.

They were photographed with Peltola and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi at a ceremony after the official swearing-in.

There were a few things unique about the event. Most House members are joined on the floor by other members of their state's House delegation – with Alaska having only one member, members from different states gathered around Peltola. And U.S. senators usually don't attend many sessions of the other chamber, but both of Alaska's senators – Republicans Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan – joined Peltola.

For more than 20 minutes before the ceremony, Peltola chatted with

Murkowski and Sullivan, as well as House members who lined up to greet her. They included the three most senior House Democrats – Pelosi, from California; Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland and Majority Whip James Clyburn of South Carolina – and Sharice Davids of Kansas, one of the two other Indigenous women in the House.

After Peltola was sworn in, Hoyer said it was an honor to welcome her. He credited her willingness to work with Republicans as contributing to Alaskans electing her.

"Like so many other Americans, they want to be represented by someone who is focused on bipartisanship and not on confrontation," he said.

Alaska Federation of Natives Co-chairs Ana Hoffman and Joe Nelson attended the ceremony. Hoffman said afterward that the event was "spectacular."

"Mary was very much in the place

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2. Military mailbox
3. Unit to compare power levels
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6. Partner to cheese
7. Ancient Greek sophist
8. About hilus
9. Southeast
10. Where actors ply their trade
11. Beloved Philly sandwich
13. Intend
15. Talk excessively
17. Bronx cheers
18. Drain
21. Renews
23. Monetary unit in Asia
24. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
27. Carthaginian statesman
29. Aged
32. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
34. Firearm
35. Consolation
36. An island in the north Atlantic
39. Pitching statistic
40. Disconsolate
43. A part of a river where the current is very fast
44. Call it a career
46. Behave in a way that degrades someone
47. Health insurance
49. Recommend
51. Baltic peninsula
54. Father
59. After B
60. Bar bill
61. Doctors' group
62. 2,000 lbs.
64. Equal to one quintillion bytes

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FRONT STREET UNDER WATER— A Nomeite crosses Front Street in front of the State Building on Saturday, September 17 while Typhoon Merbok pummeled the region.

Photo by Nils Hahn

•Peltola sworn in

continued from page 16

in which she belongs,” Hoffman said. “And she brought Alaska here in such a real way. One of the people from home said by Mary being in Washington, D.C., it makes D.C. feel that much closer to Alaska. And it absolutely does. That is a perfect way to describe what Mary has done here.” Hoffman said hearing Peltola speak some Yup’ik on the House floor brought a sense of belonging to the chamber. Hoffman also said there were probably more people wearing piluguks, a style of mukluk, than has ever happened before during a member’s swearing-in. Nelson compared having Indige-

nous-language words spoken in Congress to land acknowledgements. “There’s no more powerful land acknowledgement than the Native people just speaking and being part of the land,” he said. The ceremony came a day after Peltola announced her staff members, who have a bipartisan background. Alex Ortiz, Young’s last chief of staff, will be her chief of staff. Claire Richardson, who worked in the administrations of Democrat Tony Knowles and independent Bill Walker, will be Peltola’s interim director of constituent services. Larry Persily, who has worked in various federal, state and municipal positions and a longtime journalist, is her senior policy adviser. Hector Jimenez will be her sched-

uler; his background includes serving as her deputy campaign manager and working in the oil and gas industry. And Josh Wilson, who has worked for Republican politicians, is her interim communications director. Peltola’s term in office ends on Jan. 3, 2023. Whether she serves beyond then depends on the outcome of the Nov. 8 election for the next two-year House term, in which Peltola faces Republicans Sarah Palin and Nick Begich and Libertarian Chris Bye in a ranked choice election. *This story is printed with permission and was first published on September 13, 2022 on www.alaskabeacon.com*

Pork Chops in Creamy Mustard-Peppercorn Sauce



Recipe courtesy of Marcia Stanley, MS, RDN, Culinary Dietitian, on behalf of Milk Means More

Pat pork chops dry with paper towels. Sprinkle both sides of chops with salt.

Total time: 20 minutes

Servings: 4

3/4 cup evaporated 2% milk
3 tablespoons spicy brown mustard or Dijon mustard
3/4 teaspoon coarsely cracked black peppercorns
1/2 teaspoon all-purpose flour
4 boneless pork loin chops (1 1/4 pounds), cut 3/4-inch thick
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 teaspoon minced garlic
1/4 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
cooked noodles or rice (optional)
chopped fresh parsley (optional)

In large nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Cook pork chops 3-4 minutes, or until browned. Turn and cook 3-4 minutes, or until thermometer inserted in thickest part of chops reads 145 F. Transfer chops to serving platter. Loosely cover with foil to keep warm.

Add garlic to drippings in skillet. Cook 15 seconds. Stir in broth. Cook, stirring constantly, until most liquid evaporates. Stir in milk mixture and any accumulated juices from cooked pork. Cook and stir until just boiling. Immediately remove from heat and spoon sauce over chops.

Serve with noodles or rice, if desired. Garnish with parsley, if desired.

In bowl, whisk milk, mustard, peppercorns and flour. Set aside.

Church Services Directory

Bible Baptist Church
103 E. 1st Avenue (1st and Steadman)
443-2144

Bible Baptist Church is holding worship services on Sundays at 11 a.m.

Community United Methodist Church
West 2nd Avenue & C Street • 443-2865
Sunday: Worship 11 a.m.

Nome Covenant Church
101 Bering Street • 443-2565
Sunday: Sunday School on break for summer.
Worship 11 a.m.
Checkpoint Youth: James Ventress • 841-4333

Our Savior’s Lutheran Church
5th Avenue & Bering • 443-5295
Sunday:
11am Worship Service
Handicapped accessible ramp: North side

River of Life Assembly of God
405 W. Seppala • (907) 949-6125
Sunday Morning Worship: 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Mid-Week Worship: 7:00 p.m.
For more information please contact Pastor Austin Jones

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Corner of Steadman & W. King Place • 443-5527
Holy Mass schedule
Monday-Friday: 5:40pm Rosary; 6:00pm Mass
Saturday: 4:30pm Confessions; 5:00pm Rosary and 5:30pm Mass
Sunday: 10:30am Mass (Broadcast on KNOM)
Note: If you are feeling unwell or in quarantine, please join us via radio on KNOM.
If you would like to receive holy communion contact Fr. Kumar at 443-5527 to arrange a time.

Seventh-Day Adventist
Icy View • 443-5137
Pastor Chad Angasan
Saturday Sabbath School: 10 a.m.
Saturday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

Nome Church of the Nazarene
3rd Avenue & Division Street • 443-4870
Pastor Dan Ward
Sunday Prayer 9:30 a.m. • Sunday School: 10 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship: 11 a.m.

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CAMP: Administrative Specialist III \$28.32 + DOE
Dental: Dental Assistant Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Electronic Health Records: EHR Support Specialist \$32.31 + DOE
Emergency Department: Administrative Specialist II \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services: Environmental Services Worker I and Relief \$23.52 + DOE; Laundry Worker \$23.52 + DOE
Human Resources: Employee Benefits Associate \$34.57 + DOE; HR Associate \$34.57 + DOE
In Home Support Program: Direct Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE; Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE; Referral Coordinator \$28.32 + DOE
Laboratory: Laboratory Driver \$25.85 + DOE; Medical Laboratory Technician \$39.52 + DOE; Point of Care Testing Assistant \$28.32 + DOE; Medical Laboratory Assistant – Uncertified \$32.31 + DOE
Materials Management: Mail Clerk \$23.52 + DOE; Material Support Technician \$25.85 + DOE
Nutrition Services: Cook \$28.32 + DOE; Cook Relief \$28.32 + DOE; Food Service Worker I/II/III \$23.52 + DOE; Food Service Worker Relief \$23.52 + DOE; Nutrition Services Dietetic Coordinator \$25.85 + DOE
Office of Environmental Health: Environmental Health Technician \$29.93 + DOE
Patient Financial Services: Health Information Technician \$24.91 + DOE; Patient Account Representative \$24.91 + DOE; Revenue Cycle Analyst \$39.98 + DOE
Patient Hostel: Guest Services Coordinator \$24.91 + DOE; Manager of Patient Hostel \$48.69 + DOE; Patient Hostel Attendant \$23.52 + DOE; Patient Hostel Attendant Relief \$23.52 + DOE
Patient Housing: Patient Housing Coordinator \$28.32 + DOE
Pharmacy: Pharmacy Technician I \$25.85 + DOE
Plant Operations: Maintenance Engineer I/II/III \$29.93 + DOE; Safety Officer \$52.27 + DOE; Office Manager \$39.52 + DOE
Primary Care: Certified Medical Assistant \$32.31 + DOE; Registration Technician \$24.91 + DOE
Quality Improvement: Administrative Specialist II \$25.85 + DOE
Quyanna Care: Certified Nursing Assistant \$32.31 + DOE
Sanitation: Remote Maintenance Worker I relief \$32.31 + DOE
Security: Security Officer Relief \$23.52 + DOE; Security Officer Trainee \$23.52 + DOE
Social Services: Inupiaq Language Specialist \$25.85 + DOE
Tribal Healing: Tribal Coordinator \$34.57 + DOE; Tribal Healer/Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Village Facilities Management: EVS/Maintenance Traveler to Diomedes \$29.93 + DOE

In Our Village Communities:
Village Based Counselor Field Supervisor \$36.98 + DOE
Itinerant Community Health Aide PT625 \$32.31 + DOE

Brevig Mission:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Personal Care Attendant \$25.52 + DOE

Diomedes:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker \$24.91 + DOE
Maintenance Worker \$29.93 + DOE

Elim:
Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE

Gambell:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE

Golovin:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE

Koyuk:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE

St. Michael:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Maintenance Worker \$29.93 + DOE

Savoonga:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Dental Assistant Trainee \$25.85 + DOE

Shaktolik:
Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$24.91 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE

Shishmaref:
Clinic Travel Specialist – relief \$24.91 + DOE
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE

Stebbins:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE
Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE

Teller:
Clinic Travel Specialist relief \$24.91 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE

Unalakleet:
Certified Medical Assistant \$32.31 + DOE
Clinic Travel Specialist Relief \$24.91 + DOE
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE
Dental Assistant trainee \$25.85 + DOE

Wales:
Community Health Aide Trainee \$25.85 + DOE
Environmental Services Worker Relief \$24.91 + DOE
Personal Care Attendant \$23.52 + DOE
Village Based Counselor \$25.85 + DOE

\$5,000 hard to fill hiring bonus for qualified positions

For more information or an up-to-date vacancy list, go to www.NortonSoundHealth.org or contact Human Resources at (907) 443-4573
NSHC is a drug-free workplace and will apply Alaska Native/American Indian preference for hire (under PL 93-638 and Veteran Preferences). NSHC will also initiate a criminal history/background check for all positions.

Real Estate

We buy homes!



HANDYMAN SPECIAL – CASH SALE NO OWNER FINANCE
Small single family home with a two unit ATCO trailer
Not currently habitable
Lot is over 6,000 sq feet
Water/Sewer hookup, electric to lot
ONLY \$115,000

907-443-7368
www.nomesweethomes.com



Legals

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT NOME

In the Matter of the Estate of

SHAWN DAVID SACCHEUS,

Deceased.

Case No. 2No 22 00071 PR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Edna Saccheus has been appointed Personal Representative of the Estate of Shawn David Saccheus, deceased. All persons having claims against the decedent are required to present their claims within four months after the date of the first publication of this notice or said claims will be forever barred. Claims must either be presented to the Personal Representative at the offices of Bankston Gronning Brecht P.C., attorneys for the Personal Representative, at 1127 West 7th Avenue, Suite 200, Anchorage, Alaska 99501, or filed with the Court.
DATED this 30th day of August, 2022.


BANKSTON GRONNING BRECHT P.C.
Attorneys for Edna Saccheus,
Personal Representative

By:
Christopher M. Brecht
Alaska Bar No. 0611089
Published: September 8, 15 & 22, 2022

purported to be KALEN K. TEXEIRA. Said Deed of Trust covers real property situated in said Recording District, described as follows: Lot 8, Block 5 of a Resubdivision of BARROW TOWN-SITE, according to the plat filed February 29, 1980 as Plat No. 80- 25; Records of the Barrow Recording District, Second Judicial District, State of Alaska. Commonly referred to as: 2079 AHKO-VAK ST, BARROW, AK 99723 APN: R-001-271-08 A breach of the obligation which said Deed of Trust secures has occurred in that installment of Principal and Interest plus impounds and/or advances which became due on 3/1/2020 plus late charges, and all subsequent installments of principal, interest, balloon payments, plus impounds and/or advances and late charges that become payable.. By reason thereof, and under the terms of the Note and Deed of Trust, the Beneficiary has declared all sums so secured to be immediately due and payable, together with any trustee fees, attorney fees, costs and advances made to protect the security associated with this foreclosure. The sum owing on the obligation good through 8/31/2022 is \$287,341.80 as follows:

Unpaid Principal Balance:	\$239,561.93
Interest:	\$27,063.44
Late Charges:	\$1,996.23
Beneficiary Advances:	\$18,720.20
TOTAL REQUIRED TO PAYOFF:	\$287,341.80

If the default has arisen by failure to make payments required by the trust deed, the default may be cured and the sale may be terminated if: 1. Payment of the sum in default, other than the principal that would not be due if default had not occurred, and attorney and other foreclosure fees and costs actually incurred by the beneficiary and trustee due to the default is made at any time before the sale date stated in this notice or to which the sale is postponed; and 2. If Notice of Default has been recorded two or more times previously under the same trust deed and the default has been cured the trustee does not elect to refuse payment and continue the sale. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to demand of the Beneficiary, the Trustee hereby elects to sell the above described real property to satisfy the obligation, together with all accrued interest and all costs and expenses, at public auction, for cash, to the highest and best bidder, at the 2nd Judicial District: Inside the main lobby of the Nome Court-house located at 306 W 5th Avenue, Nome, AK 99762, on 12/15/2022, at 10:00 AM. Beneficiary will have the right to make an offset bid at sale without cash. Anyone having an objection to the sale on any grounds whatsoever will be afforded an opportunity to be heard as to those objections if they bring a lawsuit to restrain the same. DATED: 8/31/2022 Clear Recon Corp 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117 Phone: 866-931-0036
By Hamsa Uchi, Authorized Signatory for Trustee
9.22-29, 10.06-13.2022



NOME JOINT UTILITY SYSTEM

a component unit of **CITY OF NOME**

P.O. Box 70 • Nome, Alaska 99762 • (907) 443-NJUS • Fax (907) 443-6336

NOTICE OF JOB OPENING

NJUS is accepting applications for positions in the Power Generation Department

Position: POWER PLANT FOREMAN, \$41.82/HR (+ DOE)

Position: POWER PLANT OPERATOR / MECHANIC, \$38 (+ DOE)

To Express Interest: Submit an application for employment (form downloadable from NJUS.org)
Contact Ken Morton at 443-6304 or KenM@NJUS.org

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY:
NJUS is an Equal Employment Opportunity Provider and Employer. Reasonable accommodation will be made available to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. Applicants are subject to pre-employment drug screening.

JOB OPENINGS

NMS is seeking to hire for several openings within its Custodial and Maintenance Department at the Nome Public Schools. Each position makes a significant difference and plays a vital role to maintain NPS facilities. Seeking FT & PT Custodians (**\$20/HR \$24/HR + Benefits**), a Custodian Services Manager (**\$26/HR +, DOE & Benefits**) and a Maintenance Foreman (**DOE + Benefits**). Each position requires some knowledge and experience. Come work with us! Apply today by visiting www.careers.nmsusa.com to get started. Have questions? Contact Aaron Makkar, NANA Senior Recruiter, at (907) 265-4173.



JOB OPENINGS

NMS is seeking to fill multiple **Food Service Worker** openings to join and support the Nome Public Schools Dining Services team. This position will support breakfast and lunch kitchen operations with food prep, food service, dishwashing, cleaning and other duties. Starting pay is \$23-\$24/HR plus full health benefits. Minimal experience required!

Apply today by visiting careers.nmsusa.com. For more information contact Aaron Makkar, Senior Recruiter, at (907) 265-4173.





Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation

Member Representative Election
Public Notice of Election

The Community of Nome shall hold an election for their Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation (NSED) Member Representative seat for a four-year term.

Community	Nome
Election Date	October 4, 2022
Polling Place	Old Saint Joe’s Hall
Polling Times	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The following individuals have qualified as candidates for the 2022 NSED Member Representative Election:

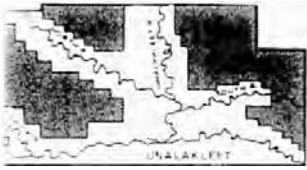
- Derek McLarty
- James T. (JT) Sherman

NSED has arranged with the local municipal government to conduct the 2022 NSED Member Representative election. However, the NSED Member Representative election is not a municipal office. Voters do not need to be qualified to vote in the City’s elections to be eligible to vote in the NSED election. Any registered voter who resides in a state election precinct that encompasses the member community, even if they live outside the community’s municipal limits is eligible to vote in the NSED Member Representative election. To check if you are registered to vote, visit the Alaska Division of Elections site: <https://myvoterinformation.alaska.gov/>

NSED Minimum Vote Requirements:

Minimum Vote: The candidate receiving the highest number of votes and over 40% of the total votes cast shall be the elected NSED Member Representative.

If you have any questions,
please contact your city office or NSED at (800) 650-2248



Unalakleet Native Corporation

P.O. Box 100
Unalakleet, Alaska 99684

To the Unalakleet Native Corporation Shareholders

Nomination forms are now available for shareholders interested in running for a two (2) year term for the Board of Directors. Closing date is 3rd of October 2022.
Please write to Box 100 or call at (907) 624-3411 to request a nomination form.

Unalakleet Native Corporation
P.O. 100
Unalakleet, Alaska 99684
PH: (907) 624-3411 *FAX: (907) 624-3833
Email: uncadmin@ak.net



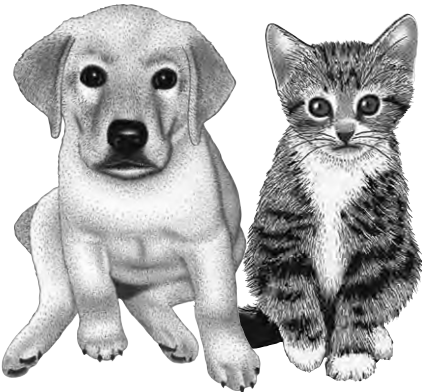
Shaktoolik Native Corporation

P.O. Box 46
Shaktoolik, AK 99771
Phone (907) 955-3241 office 955-3242 store
FAX (907) 955-3243

Shaktoolik Native Corporation

Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders

Shaktoolik Native Corporation will hold its Annual Meeting on **Monday, November 07, 2022 at 10 a.m.** or upon establishment of a quorum. Place to be determined at a later date. This year the shareholders will be electing **three (3) directors**. Any shareholder 18 years of age or older, and in good standing, may file for nomination to the SNC Board of Directors. All candidacy forms must be filed and received, **on or before September 23, 2022** at the close of business day. All interested shareholders of the Shaktoolik Native Corporation may obtain forms from the Shaktoolik Native Corporation at the address listed above.



PLEASE
HELP

Adopt a Pet
or make your
donation
today!

Dog food, cat food, cat litter and other donations are
always welcome at the Nome Animal Shelter!

Nome Animal Control & Adopt-A-Pet
443-8538 or 443-5262

Trooper Beat

Unalakleet
Assault - DV: On 9/8/2022 at approximately 05:59 a.m., Alaska State Troopers received a report of a disturbance. Upon conclusion of the investigation, Troopers arrested Ariel Eakon, 24, of Unalakleet for Assault 4 DV.

Nome
Assault - Non DV: On 9/8 at approximately 3:06 p.m., AST received a report of an assault. Investigation revealed that the report of assault was unfounded.

Norton Sound Region
Sexual Abuse: On 9/9 at approximately 6:05 p.m., AST received a report of Sexual Abuse. Investigation is ongoing.

Norton Sound Region
Assault: On 9/9 at approximately 10:03 p.m., AST received a report of an assault. Investigation is ongoing.

Teller
Assault - DV: On 9/11 at approximately 3:22 p.m., AST received a report of a DV Assault. Troopers responded to the residence where investigation revealed that Ryan Topkok, 25, of Teller had assaulted his significant other, and threatened her with a fire arm. Topkok was remanded to AMCC on charges of Assault 3, Assault 4, Coercion, Criminal Mischief 4 and Misconduct Involving a Weapon 4.

Norton Sound Region
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism: On 9/12 at approximately 12:04 p.m., AST received a report of property damage. Investigation is ongoing.

Norton Sound Region
Burglary: On 9/12 at approximately 12:24 p.m., AST received a report of a burglary that happened the day prior. Investigation is ongoing.

NOTICE OF ELECTION

2022 Regional Educational Attendance Areas (REAA)

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Polling Places will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

REAA #2 Bering Strait School District, Section I, Seat A; Section II, Seat C; Section III, Seat E

Absentee voting official location listed below:
REAA 2, Unalakleet City Office, Monday – Friday, Sept 19 – Oct 3, 8:00am – 5:00pm

Absentee Voting – September 19 – October 3

Absentee voting will be available in the Juneau, Anchorage, Wasilla, Fairbanks and Nome offices, Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm. For more information on absentee voting procedures and polling place locations, please call your Regional Election Office or visit our website at www.elections.alaska.gov.

Assistance

If you need assistance while voting, you may ask an election board member or bring a person of your choice to assist you, as long as that person on not a candidate, your employer, agent of your employer, or an agent of a union you belong to.

For more information, contact the Region IV Election Office in Nome at 907-443-5285 or toll-free at 1-866-953-8683

For Alaska Native language assistance, call 1-866-954-8683

The State of Alaska, Division of Elections, complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If you are a person with a disability who may need special assistance and/or accommodations to vote, please contact your local Division of Elections office to make necessary arrangements. STATEWIDE TDD 1-888-622-3020

Court

Week ending 9/16/2022
Civil
No civil cases posted on CourtView Website; start 2NO-22-00114CI

Small Claims
No small claims posted on CourtView Website; start 2NO-22-00009SC

Criminal
State of Alaska v. Charles John Richards (7/27/91); Judgment; CTN 001: Promote Contraband 1- Contrd Substance; Class C Felony; Date of Violation: 7/3/21; Found and adjudged: Promoting Contraband 2; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; 90 days, 90 days suspended; Surcharges due; Probation until 9/14/23; Comply with all direct court orders; Obey all state, federal, and locals laws and ordinances.

State of Alaska v. Jake Wagner (10/30/64); Judgment and Order of Commitment/Probation; CTN 001: Sex Abuse Minor 1-Penetr Undr 18; Unclassified Felony; DV; Offense Date: 2/17/20; The

following charges were dismissed: CTN 002 and 005: AS11.11.434(a)(2): Sex Abuse Minor 1-Penetr Under 18; CTN 003 and 006: AS11.71.030(a)(2): MICS3- Deliver IVA, VA, VIA U19 Def 3yrs Oldr; CTN 004: Attempt AS11.41.434(a)(2): Sex Abuse Minor 1-Penetr Under 18; Offense Dates: 2/17/20; Dismissal Reasons: Dismissed 43a; Court sentencing date: 9/12/22 with counsel Eric Hedland and the DA present; CTN 001: 8 years, 3 years suspended; Unsuspended 5 years shall be served immediately; Surcharges and Costs due; Submit DNA; Probation for 10 years; General and Special Conditions of Probation set as stated in judgment; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; Must register as a Sex Offender.

State of Alaska v. Zachery Arthur Okitkon (9/26/94); 2NO-20-362CR Judgment; CTN 002: Assault 4 - Recklessly Injure; DV; Date of Violation: 6/15/20; CTNs Dismissed: 001, DV; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is

exonerated; 360 days, 330 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days shall be served immediately; Consecutive to 2NO-21-370CR; No contact, effective immediately, and until unconditional discharge, defendant will have no direct or indirect contact with Lillian Olanna; Probation for two years (Judgment date: 9/19/22); Obey all state, federal, and local laws and ordinances; Do not consume or possess alcohol; Do not enter any bars or liquor stores, or any place where alcohol is the primary item for sale; No alcohol inside your residence; Submit to a portable breath test upon probable cause of an alcohol or probation violation; Obtain a Behavioral Health Assessment and follow all treatment recommendations; Subject to warrantless arrest upon probable cause of a probation violation.

State of Alaska v. Zachery Arthur Okitkon (9/26/94); 2NO-21-370CR Judgment; CTN 001: Assault 3 - Commit Assault 4, 2+ Convictions; DV; Date of Violation: 7/21/21; Guilty and convicted of

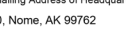

Assault 4; DV; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; 360 days, 330 days suspended; Unsuspended 30 days shall be served immediately; Consecutive to 2NO-21-362CR; No contact, effective immediately, and until unconditional discharge, defendant will have no direct or indirect contact with Lillian Olanna; Probation for two years (Judgment date: 9/19/22); Obey all state, federal, and local laws and ordinances; Do not consume or possess alcohol; Do not enter any bars or liquor stores, or any place where alcohol is the primary item for sale; No alcohol inside your residence; Submit to a portable breath test upon probable cause of an alcohol or probation violation; Obtain a Behavioral Health Assessment and follow all treatment recommendations; Subject to warrantless arrest upon probable cause of a probation violation.

State of Alaska v. Zachery Arthur Okitkon (9/26/94); 2NO-22-367CR Judgment; CTN 002: Violate Conditions of Release for Misd; DV; Date

of Violation: 9/18/22; CTNs Dismissed: 001, 003; Any appearance or performance bond in this case is exonerated; 90 days, 90 days suspended; No contact, effective immediately, and until unconditional discharge, defendant will have no direct or indirect contact with Lillian Olanna; Probation for two years (Judgment date: 9/19/22); Obey all state, federal, and local laws and ordinances; Do not consume or possess alcohol; Do not enter any bars or liquor stores, or any place where alcohol is the primary item for sale; No alcohol inside your residence; Submit to a portable breath test upon probable cause of an alcohol or probation violation; Obtain a Behavioral Health Assessment and follow all treatment recommendations; Subject to warrantless arrest upon probable cause of a probation violation.



NOME MAYOR— Nome mayor John Handeland inspects Front Street during the major storm event on Saturday, September 17.

 UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®			Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation (All Periodicals Publications Except Requester Publications)		
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11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None Full NameComplete Mailing Address					
12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one) The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months <input type="checkbox"/> Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement) PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 1 of 4 (see instructions page 4)) PSN: 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on www.usps.com					
13. Publication Title The Nome Nugget		14. Issue Date for Circulation Data Below 09/15/2022			
15. Extent and Nature of Circulation		Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months		No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date	
a. Total Number of Copies (Net press run)					
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	176		180	
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	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mails Including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®	2217		2217	
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	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies included on PS Form 3541	30		33	
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g., First-Class Mail)	0		0	
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		2638		2648	
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		100		98	
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g)		2738		2746	
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100)		98.29%		98.19%	
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c. Total Print Distribution (Line 15f) + Paid Electronic Copies (Line 16a)		2838		2848	
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I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).					



The following people have filed for elected office to be determined at the October 4, 2022 City of Nome Municipal Election:

Three (3) Year Term
Derek McLarty
Cameron Piscoya

Three (3) Year Term
Mark Johnson

Two (2) Year Term
Derek McLarty

Three (3) Year Term
Larry W. Pederson

Three (3) Year Term
Darlene Trigg

Three (3) Year Term
Marjorie Kunag Tahbone

Any person with information intending to establish that a municipal candidate may be ineligible to fill that office may challenge the eligibility of the candidate. A challenge may be submitted at any time preceding the date and time of the Municipal Election and must be submitted to the City Clerk at City Hall (located at 102 Division Street, Nome, Alaska).

9-1-8-15-22-29 20

9.1-8-15-22-29.2022



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL MUNICIPAL, SCHOOL BOARD, AND UTILITY BOARD ELECTION WILL BE HELD IN THE CITY OF NOME, ALASKA ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2022, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 8:00 AM AND 8:00 PM OF THE SAME DAY.

The polling place for electors will be Old St. Joe's, Anvil City Square, 407 Bering Street, for those persons living in both Nome Precinct No. 1 (39-924) and Nome Precinct No. 2 (39-926).

1. A U.S. Citizen qualified to vote in state elections.
2. A resident of the City of Nome for thirty (30) days immediately preceding the election.
3. Registered to vote in state elections at a residence address within the municipality at least thirty (30) days before the municipal election at which the person seeks to vote.
4. Not disqualified under Article V of the Alaska Constitution.

1. Two members of the Common Council, to be elected to 3-year terms:

<u>Seat</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
"E"	3 Yr.	Jerald Brown (not running)
"F"	3 Yr.	Mark Johnson

2. Two members of the Utility Board, one to be elected to a 2-year term and one to be elected to a 3-year term:

<u>Seat</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
“B”	2 Yr.	Derek McLarty
“D”	3 Yr.	Larry Pederson

3. Two members of the School Board, to be elected to 3-year terms.

<u>Seat</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>
"A"	3 Yr.	Darlene Trigg
"E"	3 Yr.	Barb Amarok

Shall ordinance No. 16-10-09 An ordinance amending chapter 17.10 of the Nome Code of Ordinances thereby to institute an increased seasonal sales tax as approved by the voters be repealed.

Proposition No. 1

Yes ()
No ()

9.1-8-15-22-29.2022



Photo by Nils Hahn

STEADMAN STREET— The remnants of Typhoon Merbok pushed water over the sea wall and onto Steadman Street on Saturday, September 17.

Seawall

Nome Police Department
Weekly press releases
Activities reported between
9/12/2022 – 9/19/2022

During this period there were 224 calls for service received at the Nome Police Communications Center; 51 (25%) of these calls involved alcohol. The Nome Volunteer Ambulance Department responded to 8 ambulance calls. The Nome Volunteer Fire Department responded to 4 fire calls during this period. NPD responded to 4 calls reporting intoxicated persons needing assistance. Nobody was remanded to AMCC as protective hold; and 2 persons remained at the hospital for medical evaluation/treatment.

Arrests

A total of 11 arrests made with 11 (100%) alcohol related. Charges below are referred to the District Attorney.

Monday, Sept. 12, 2022

Charge: Disorderly Conduct. Name: Steven Ahnangnatoguk. Location: Front St.

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 2022

Charge: Assault in the fourth degree. Name: Damian Ashenfelter. Location: Carsten Way.

Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022

Charge: Assault in the third degree; three counts Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Robert Milton. Location: Prospect Place.

Friday, Sept. 16, 2022

Charges: Two counts Probation Violation; Assault in the fourth degree; Criminal trespass in the first degree; Criminal mischief in the fifth degree; Violating Conditions of Release. Name: Renee Elanna. Location: Front St.
Charge: Warrant Arrest. Name: Norman Hagg. Location: Nome

Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022

Charges: Three counts Violating Conditions of Release; Refusal to submit to a chemical test; Driving while license revoked or suspended. Name: Robert Milton. Location: Front St.

Sunday, Sept. 18, 2022

Charges: Assault in the fourth degree; Criminal Mischief in the fourth degree. Name: John Bullock. Location: Kings Place.
Charges: Two counts violating Conditions of Release; Criminal Mischief in the fifth degree. Name: Zachary Okitkon. Location: W. 4th Ave.

Monday, Sept. 19, 2022

Charge: DUI. Name: Henry Brosnaham. Location: Greg Kruschek Ave.
Charges: Three counts Warrant Arrest; Two counts Probation Violation; Assault in the fourth degree; three counts VCOR. Name: Bryan Contreras. Location: Lanes Way.

Traffic

A total of 4 traffic stops was conducted during this reporting period with four warnings issued. NPD responded to 0 report of a Motor Vehicle Accident during this reporting period.

Disclaimer: This is a record of activity. The issuance of citations or the act of arrest does not assign guilt to any identified party. Officers refer all cases to the DA for action.



NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RATES FOR PILOTAGE SERVICES SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA REGION

Cruise vessel rate.
Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association
1621 Tongass Ave, Suite 300
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

A) These rates apply for the provisions of pilotage services by the Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association unless other agreements have been made under AS 08.62.046(a). These rates take effect on January 1, 2023 and supersede marine pilotage rates for cruise ships subject to the Act that SEAPA published for 2021. Figures shown are in U.S. dollars.

B) Port and Waterway Charges:

- 1) Port charges;
 - a) Arrival, \$1,824.32
 - b) Departure, \$1,824.32
- 2) Entry, transit and departure for each of the following areas constitutes a single event;
 - a) Glacier Bay, \$4,190.09
 - b) Tracy Arm, \$2,092.32
 - c) Endicott Arm, \$2,092.32
 - d) Misty Fjords, \$2,092.32
 - e) Sergius and Whitestone Narrows, including transit through both locations on same day in same direction, \$1,289.67
 - f) Wrangell Narrows, \$1,774.00
 - g) Snow Passage, \$ 805.35
 - h) Yakutat Bay \$3,644.55

C) Additional transit charges based on the number of passengers shall be assessed at the millage rate of 13.73 mills times the actual number of passengers on board for sale, times the number of miles transited in the inside waters of Southeastern Alaska Region, excluding miles transited in the areas identified in B.2. (a-g) of this paragraph. The actual number of passenger berths on board for setting the charge may not be less than 329 and not more than 2022.

D) The charge for anchoring is one half the port charge (\$912.16). Anchoring or laying to for loading passengers or discharging passengers is considered as a regular port charge, and all charges may be assessed as if the vessel was moored.

E) All vessels with a draft in excess of 32 feet shall be charged at a rate of \$36.78 per foot or portion of a foot. This charge shall be computed separately for each entry into or departure from a port.

F) The charge based on tonnage and depth shall be calculated using a tonnage unit system at a rate of \$4.01 per unit for all units in excess of 163 units. The tonnage charge shall be computed separately for each entry into or departure from a port, or an area identified in paragraph B.2. Tonnage units are calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Overall Length} \times \text{Extreme Breadth} \times \text{Depth}}{10,000}$$

- 1) For the purpose of determining a tonnage unit:
 - a. Overall Length is the distance between the forward and after extremities of the vessel;
 - b. Extreme breadth is the maximum breadth to the outside of the shell plating of the vessel;
 - c. Depth is the vertical distance of amidships from the top on the keel plate to the uppermost continues deck fore and aft and which extends to the sides of the vessel; The continuity of a deck shall not be considered to be affected by the existence of tonnage openings, equipment space or a step in the deck; and all measurements shall be in feet and inches.

G) The charge for moving a vessel from dock to dock, dock to anchor, anchorage to anchorage or anchorage to dock shall be one-half the regular port charge. (\$912.16)

H) The charge for docking and undocking a vessel in the absence of the use of the vessel's own propulsion system shall be one hundred fifty percent (150%) of the regular charge for the movement.

I) A pilot may charge for the actual cost of travel expenses, including airplanes and ferry fares, ground transportation, telephone calls, and other expenses pertaining to the vessel's business, plus the per diem rate. The per diem rate shall be 60% to hotel, 40% to meals for the current year. In areas where the hotel portion of the per diem allowance does not reflect the total cost of the available hotel accommodations, the actual cost of the hotel accommodations may be charged. If adequate meals and rooms are not furnished to the pilot when on the ship, an additional charge shall be assessed by the pilot in accordance with the distribution of the per diem rate as described in the paragraph.

J) Additional charges shall be assessed for the services of a pilot as follows;

- 1) When a pilot is required to leave in advance to ensure meeting a vessel upon its arrival or departure, or the pilot is returning from a piloting assignment, that additional time shall be charged at a rate of \$160.52 per hour up to a maximum of \$1650.52 per day for each day a pilot is in transit or standby.
- 2) The charge for detention time on board ship shall be at the rate of \$160.52 per hour per pilot up to a maximum of \$1650.52 per pilot per day; a pilot carried to sea shall be paid the same rate for each day the pilot is detained, plus the pilot may charge for first class return transportation and per diem.
- 3) The charge for trip cancellation is \$805.35, plus transportation and per diem charges according to paragraph I).
- 4) When an agent, owner, or master of a vessel does not correct an estimated time of arrival and notify the pilot within four hours of the last time of arrival given, compensation charges shall be \$160.52 per hour or \$963.12 per day may be charged until the actual arrival of the vessel at the pilot station.
- 5) When the sailing time of a vessel is set by an agent, owner, or master of a vessel, any delay over one hour from the set time shall be charged at a rate of \$160.52 per hour or portion of an hour and may not exceed \$963.12 per day.
- 6) When an agent, owner, or master of a vessel requests a pilot to stay on board a vessel on a continuous basis while the vessel is docked or anchored at a port or anchorage, the charge shall be \$160.52 per hour and may not exceed \$963.12 per day.
- 7) When a vessel chooses not to maintain its cruising capability for reasons determined by the vessel and not the pilot, and which are unrelated to the safety of the vessel or its passengers, and when the difference in transit time is greater than the predicted transit time had the vessel maintained its cruising capability, a charge of \$160.52 per hour, and each fraction of an hour, will be assessed for the resultant difference in time. The transit time will be calculated from last line to first line.

K) For the purpose of these rates, travel, standby, and work days begin and end at midnight; each charge accruing at any point within a midnight to midnight time period may be assessed. All pilotage services are provided under AS 08.62.165.

NOTHING FOLLOWS

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RATES FOR PILOTAGE SERVICES SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA REGION

Bulk dry cargo vessel rate.
Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association

These rates apply to all Bulk Dry Cargo vessels, requesting pilotage service from the Southeast Alaska Pilots Association (SEAPA), 1621 Tongass Ave, Suite 300, Ketchikan, Alaska 99901, unless other subsequent rates have been published under AS 08.62.046(a). These rates take effect January 1, 2023. Rates are in United States dollars.

A. For all Bulk Dry Cargo Vessels:

EVENT FEE SCHEDULE		Tonnage/Draft Charges	
Event Charge	Rates	Tonnage	Deep Draft
Port Arrival	\$ 1,516.18	1	1
Port Departure	\$ 1,516.18	1	1
Shift *	\$ 758.09	-	-
Anchoring/Laying-to †	\$ 758.09	-	-
Waterway Area Transit ‡	\$ 1,472.15	2	2
Snow Passage Transit	\$ 648.53	2	2

* Includes anchoring, weighing anchor, mooring, unmooring, docking, undocking.

† Awaiting berth or weather when shift charges do not apply.

‡ Waterway Areas are: Wrangell Narrows, Sergius Narrows, Whitestone Narrows, Tlevak Narrows, Boca de Finas Channel, San Christoval Channel

B. Tonnage Surcharge: A surcharge as indicated in the Event Fee Schedule, (A.) based on the vessel's overall length, extreme breadth, and depth, will be assessed at a rate of \$3.54 for each tonnage unit in excess of 150 units. Tonnage units are calculated as follows (measurements in feet and tenths of feet):

$$\frac{\text{overall length} \times \text{extreme breadth} \times \text{depth}}{10,000}$$

Overall length: The distance between the forward and after extremities of the vessel;

Extreme breadth: The maximum breadth to the outside of the shell plating of the vessel;

Depth: Measured from top of keel to upper most continuous deck fore and aft which extends to the sides of the vessel. The continuity of this deck shall not be considered to be affected by the existence of any tonnage opening, engine space, or a step in the deck.

C. Draft Surcharge: \$32.91 per foot and fraction of a foot for vessels with a draft in excess of 32 feet for every entry into and departure from ports and waterway areas as indicated above.

D. Second Pilot Charges: An additional 50% charge for all charges described in A., Event Fee Schedule, will be charged when a second pilot is assigned as required by 12 AAC 56.960, in addition to Hourly Fee Schedule described in F.

E. Dead Ship: 150% charge of the Event Fee Schedule per movement.

F. Hourly Charges: Charge is per hour and fraction of an hour per each pilot dispatched to provide pilotage services.

HOURLY CHARGE SCHEDULE	Hourly Rate Per Pilot	Maximum Chargeable Hours Per-Day
Continuous Watch Hours in Excess of 8 Hours.	\$129.94	-
Detention*	\$129.94	10 Hours
Sailing Delay over 1 Hour	\$129.94	7 Hours
Travel to/from Vessel	\$129.94	9 Hours
Standby	\$129.94	10 Hours
Slow Steaming †	\$129.94	-
Pilot Carried Beyond the Southeast Region	\$196.00	-

* Detention at the master's/agent's request whether on watch, in transit, or on standby, including carrying pilot(s) beyond a pilot station between ports within the Southeast Region. Detention does not apply on routes between ports within the Southeast Region when transiting solely within pilotage waters. Calculation of on watch/in transit detention time is based on transit time between pilot stations.

† Slow steaming hours equal difference between actual transit time and anticipated transit time at the vessel's posted sea speed plus 60 minutes

G. Transportation and Per Diem Charges: Actual cost of travel to and from the vessel, plus per diem as allowed by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service for the current year, may be charged. If adequate meals and berthing are not furnished on board, per diem may be charged. The points of origin for travel are Ketchikan and Juneau.

H. Trip Cancellation: \$598.98 will be charged when a trip is cancelled less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled arrival/departure time, plus any pilot travel/standby charges incurred including any transportation and accommodation reservation cancellation fees.

I. For purpose of these rates, travel, standby, and workdays begin and end at midnight; each charge accruing at any point within a midnight-to-midnight time period may be assessed. All pilotage services are provided under AS 08.62.165.

NOTHING FOLLOWS

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT RATES FOR PILOTAGE SERVICES SOUTHEASTERN ALASKA REGION

Rates for pilotage services rendered to vessels engaged in operations not covered by other published Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association rates.

Name and Mailing Address of Pilot Organization:

Southeast Alaska Pilots' Association (SEAPA)
1621 Tongass Avenue, Suite 300
Ketchikan, AK 99901

Effective Date of Rate schedule: January 1, 2023

Applicable area of Rate schedule: Southeast Alaska Region

Rates for SEAPA: Rates for pilotage service rendered to vessels engaged in operations not covered by other published Southeast Alaska Region rates.

SEAPA will charge \$183.89 per hour for each pilot assigned to a vessel engaged in operations not specifically covered by other published Rates in the Southeast Alaska Region. A minimum charge of 4 hours shall apply for all assignments. Chargeable time will include bridge time, travel time, detention time and standby time based on the most efficient means of travel to and from the vessel. Air charter services may be used when scheduled air transportation is not available within 6 hours of the vessels request for pilotage services, or completion of pilotage services. SEAPA may charge out pilots for vessels requiring pilotage service in excess of 72 hours, including travel and standby time.

SEAPA will charge for travel expenses at actual cost. SEAPA will charge per diem as revised annually by the federal government for the Southeastern Alaska Region. SEAPA will charge a vessel unwilling or unable to furnish separate sleeping and bathroom accommodations at the per diem hotel rate for each pilot onboard the vessel more than 15 hours. A pilot carried out of region by a vessel may charge for first class return transportation and all applicable per diem.

A vessel that is required to employ a pilot under Alaska law shall be charged for all transportation costs incurred by the pilot, for the minimum pilotage charge and all other charges that would have been incurred had the pilot reached the vessel and provided pilotage services, even if the marine pilot services had not been rendered. A vessel that fails to order a second pilot for pilotage services that exceed 8 hours of actual bridge time shall be charged for the second pilot's services even though the second pilot's services had not been rendered. A vessel that fails to cancel a request for a pilot within 24 hours of the time requested for the vessel movement shall be charged the minimum pilotage charge and all other charges that would have incurred had the pilot reached the vessel and provided pilotage services, even though the pilotage services had not been rendered.

The vessel's captain, owner, or charterer shall accept service of process by SEAPA if the vessel operates in the Southeast Alaska Region.

NOTHING FOLLOWS



CLEANING UP— Seaside residents help NVFD to clean up the fire hoses after the fire, on Sunday, Sept. 18.

Photo by Diana Haecker

Bill to simplify the recognition of political parties becomes law

Parties with at least 5,000 registered voters will be officially recognized

ANCHORAGE – Senate Bill 161, sponsored by Sen. Bill Wielechowski (D-Anchorage), became law last week after Governor Mike Dunleavy declined to sign or veto the bill. Senate Bill 161 creates a new and simple criterion for the state to recognize political parties. For future election cycles, the Division of Elections will now automatically recognize parties with at least 5,000 registered voters. Currently, political parties gain or maintain official recognition by having registered voters equal to at least three percent of the total votes cast for governor, U.S. Senate, or U.S. House in the last election, depending on which office was on the ballot that year. The new registered voter threshold will be adjusted every ten years based on census data.

With the passage of Ballot Measure 2 in 2020, which created Alaska’s new primary and ranked-choice voting system, official party status will no longer be used to determine ballot access except for the president and vice president. Senate Bill 161 is expected to save the Division of Elections the time and expense of reviewing presidential petitions since parties with fewer than 5,000 registered voters routinely secure ballot access by petition.

“Alaska has a long history of diverse viewpoints and traditions within the political sphere. Simplifying the process for political parties to be and stay recognized allows similar viewpoints to come together as a group to showcase their beliefs,” said Sen. Wielechowski. “Our old system of calculating political parties varied significantly based on any prior year’s election turnout. Now voters and parties will have that consistency and expectation of party recognition moving forward.”

Currently, the Democratic, Republican, and Alaska Independence

Parties are the only officially recognized parties. Under SB 161, the Alaska Libertarian Party with 6,922 registered Alaska voters would also have official status.

Recognized political parties have the right to purchase two pages in the Official Election Pamphlet which is mailed to all registered voters, to nominate poll workers and election board members, and to have observers present at polling places and counting centers. In addition, there are different campaign finance limits and reporting requirements for recognized and unrecognized parties. By providing a consistent threshold for the state to recognize parties, they will be able to strategically plan for years out, not just one election cycle with an unknown future.

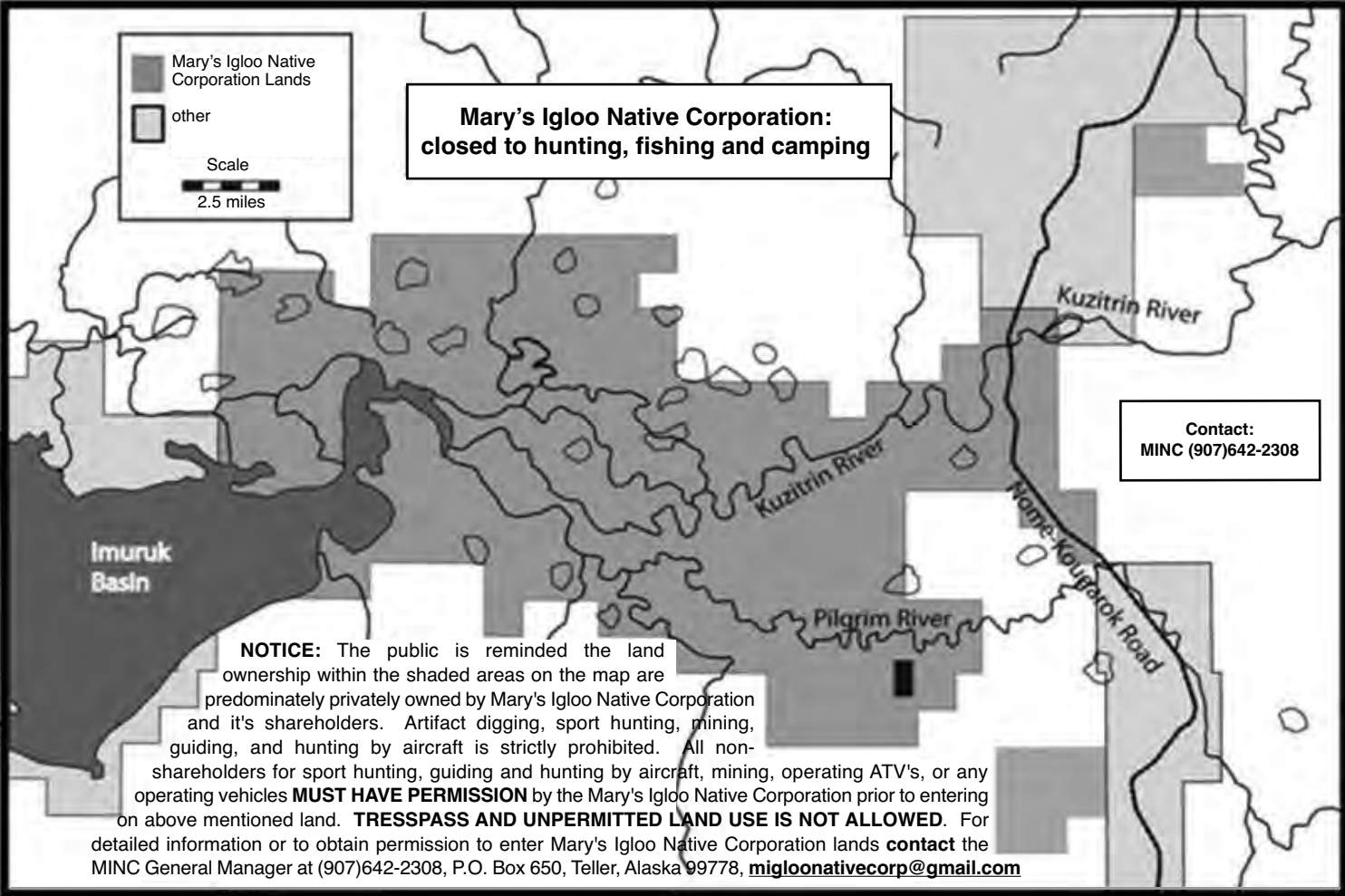
Senate Bill 161 passed the Senate unanimously and by a vote of 37 – 2 in the House. The legislation takes effect on January 1, 2023 and will be in place for the 2024 election cycle.

Notice to All Guides, Transporters, Hunters and Other Persons

Notice is hereby given that the Shishmaref Native Corporation (“SNC”) has put in-place a **complete ban on all guiding for either caribou or moose** on all SNC lands.

This ban is effective immediately. SNC lands include, but are not limited to, those lands within Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Game Management Units 22E. All guides and other individuals are responsible for determining the boundaries of SNC lands and for ensuring compliance with this ban. SNC will take all legal actions necessary to enforce and ensure strict compliance with this ban.

If you are aware of any violations of this ban, you are encouraged to report the violations directly to the SNC corporate office at **(907) 649-3751/2030**.



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their time to keep our communities and people safe.
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