



Igiugig News and Notes

Issue 1

January 2011

Volume 14

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Birthdays This Month:

- January 3rd
Aiden Wassillie
- January 8th
Kaleb Hill
- January 23rd
Annie Wilson

Citizen of the Year by Christina Salmon

This year, our Citizen of the Year is a quiet elder, answering office phones, cleaning trash bins, and quickly shoveling snow from public buildings, usually while we are still in dream land. Without the need for recognition or bragging rights or even for anything in return, she silently fills the void wherever it is needed. In a small community where our workforce is strung tight, Mary A. Olympic happily helps out whenever she can. This year her hard work and dedication was recognized by our council board and citizens alike. Always with a smile on her face and some encouraging words of wisdom to boot, this 79 year old great grandmother puts the work ethic of our younger generations to shame. We can



Mary proudly shows off her Citizen of the Year Award



learn a lot from a steady working elder like Mary and we are extremely proud and honored to give this award to her. May her perseverance and determination be an example for us all, young and old, to emulate. Thank you again Mary for your commitment to your community.



Mexican Vacation by Kaleb & Kaylee Hill



The Hill family had the chance to go to Mexico in November for a family vacation. They had a wonderful time while they were there. While in Cabo San Lucas, Kaleb and Kaylee's favorite things to do were swimming in the pools and in the ocean. They spent many hours of the day swimming and playing in the sand. In the ocean it was salty and they could float a lot better. There were lots of fish under water. They body surfed and liked being wiped out by the waves after riding them. Swimming in the pools was fun because they got to jump off the bridges. There were twelve pools, the favorite being the endless pool because it was deep and they could swim under water. They liked fetching items from under water thrown by Karl (dad). Kaleb and Kaylee saw many types of wildlife in Mexico including iguanas, lizards, geckos, humming birds, butterflies, ghost crabs, dragonflies, turtles (tortugas), and cucarachas (maybe baby horse shoe crabs?). They got to help release baby sea turtles twice. The first time 98 baby turtles were released and Kaleb got to release two. The second time they released over 100, and Kaylee got to release four. The turtle eggs came from a big hole in the sand that the mom turtle dug. They were dug up by a man who lets other people release them into the ocean. These were some of the Spanish words that they learned in Mexico:

No calvados = No diving

Tortugas = Turtles

Gracias = Thank You

De nada = Your Welcome

Kaleb shows off a ghost crab



Hill family photo

Kaylee releases a baby turtle



December Graduation by Christina Salmon

You only get one graduation from high school, so the day Krystine Decker graduated we worked hard to make sure it was a memorable one. Principal Bill Hill, Jr., Blaise, Amara, Josephine, Tony, Krystine and I spent the morning transforming the gym into a graduation paradise! We had our school colors draped on the doors, walls, floors, you name it, we decorated it! After some quick edits to her Senior slideshow, choice music



picked out and a practice walk, we were ready to roll. After the introduction, speeches and

handing of the diploma, cake and refreshments were enjoyed by all. Ms. Decker walked away with a good chunk of change and a shiny new diploma that day, not to mention a wonderful start to her future. Below is the commencement speech I gave, seeing as many community members were unable to make the ceremony, I thought I'd share it with you via our favorite newsletter.

I first met Krystine only a few months ago, but she instantly became a soft spot in my heart, her sense of humor, her spunk and personality meshed easily with mine. We were fast friends.

When Krystine told me she was finally graduating on the 18th, she also said she had to pick a guest speaker. In the hall, happily dropping my kids off with Andrew, rushing to get to the office (how dare I be a minute past 8 late) I quickly told her she better be on that!

Later that week we were eating lunch at my grams and Krystine told me again that she still needed to find a guest speaker, I just smiled and thought to myself she had better hurry, the 18th is right around the corner! And I'd once been in her shoes, worried



IVC Annual Meeting

by Christina Salmon

This year's Annual Igiugig Village Council Meeting, like every other, was full of laughter, good company and amazing door prizes. President Salmon, called our meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. and those who arrived early were in luck for the early bird door prize drawing, 100lbs. of propane. The Alvarez household won this prize, but since they don't use propane in their home, a shy Jolynn Decker picked again, this time pulling out the name A. Salmon House. AlexAnna happily claimed the bottle of propane, joking that she used all hers up baking for this meeting.

The meeting was kicked off with a slideshow, highlighting the year in pictures. After some technical challenges, the music and pictures started rolling, laughter and crooning could be heard throughout the audience. Once the slide show ended, Sandy Alvarez, our long time Director of Accounting and Finance gave her presentation of our year in dollar signs. We made some and lost some, but in the end, it was all a sign of advancing forward to bigger and better things for our small community. AlexAnna followed with the Administrators Year End Report, highlighting our movement towards becoming a self-sufficient community. She noted a few of our great

achievements, our first Village Public Safety Office, completion of our Lodge Support Facility Building, start of our new clinic, completion of our greenhouse and installation of 3 wind turbines, awarding our first Dan Salmon Scholarships, and the birth of two new tribal members, Avery Nelson and Cole Decker. She concluded her presentation with the award for Citizen of the Year, Mary A. Olympic. She thanked Mary for her relentless support and assistance in day to day drudgery of office life. She is a constant beacon of light, helping the council staff, and any community member who needs an extra hand. Mrs. Olympic is proof that hard work and persistence pays off. She has dedicated her life to this community, never asking for anything in return.

AlexAnna also surprised the crowd with yet another award! This time recognizing Dallia Andrew as a 25 year board member of Igiugig Village Council. Dallia attends every village council meeting and can be heard frequently telling anyone who will listen, that it is time for the younger generation to step up and run this village. After her speech, the next big prize was drawn and the Alvarez family won 50 gallons of oil.

Christina Salmon presented next on the environmental program and noted that following AlexAnna's gig was a hard act to follow, she had no awards to give out and generally, talk about recycling is only so exciting for a minute! We continue to advance as a role model community in our constant recycling and reusing

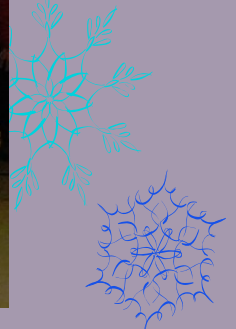
Continued on pg 5

Graduation *continued from page 3*

about finding someone who would have something nice to say about my high school career. That seems like ages ago!

At that same moment, I glanced at her and she had a mischief twinkle in her eye and her little finger was pointing right at me! Surprised, I asked her me? She just smiled even bigger and nodded her head yes, that was that, and here I am. I would like to give Krystine a lot of credit for moving to a new community, quickly fitting right in and getting down to business to graduate from high school. Being a super senior, a term that isn't exactly ego boosting, she set her pride

aside and dug in. I wish her the best of the luck in whatever endeavors she decides to take a shot at in life. You don't have to be the smartest, fastest or in our case, the tallest to be successful in life, you just need the drive and commitment to make your life what you want it to be. I'd like to end with a quote from Dr. Seuss; "You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own. And you know what you know. And YOU are the one who'll decide where to go..."



The 4 1 1 in the 5 3 3

By AlexAnna Salmon

Another year is closing & a new one opening. We have accomplished many activities these past 365 days. Below are our old goals, our accomplishments, & plans for the future.

In 2009, this is what we projected for 2010:

“2010: Where We Are Headed”

Igiugig has been working towards achieving a sustainable self-sufficient community. This involves a healthy community, a healthy economy, and healthy environment. It also includes taking a proactive approach by anticipating the needs and desires of the community. In 2010, we are looking at:

- Improved Law and Order
 - Our first VPSO
- Improved Health Care
 - Trying to secure 2010 Construction funding. This season we used our ILC profit sharing funds to help develop the clinic site on Lot 13 to improve our chances of funding. Valued at \$400,000 worth of work.
- Energy Efficiency and Conservation that will reduce Diesel Dependence.
 - Anticipating a Rural Power Systems Upgrade.
 - Expect to use the \$718,000 renewable energy towards developing local hydro-kinetic power by 2012.
- Population Increase, welcoming Karl Hill and family.

2010: What We Did Accomplish

- Built a VPSO office and 2 jail cells.
- Hired a new health aid—Stacie Garrison, and we will be completing the new clinic in early 2011.
- Secured the funding for the Rural Power Systems Upgrade, which will be completed in spring of 2011.
- Population Increase: we won some, and lost others.

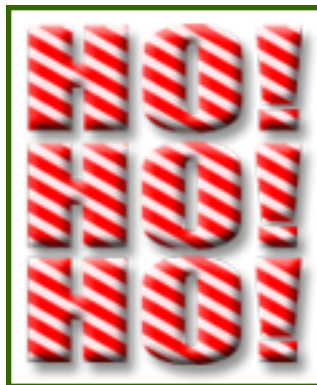
Other Highlights

- Completed Census 2010.
- Built a beautiful new rental home: Igiugig Lodge Support Facility.
- Finished the green house and installed three wind turbines.
- Awarded our first Dan Salmon scholarships.
- Received a 4-year Environmental Grant to keep Christina busy.
- Welcomed new tribal members and new residents: Avery Nelson and Cole Decker!
- Said Goodbye to teachers Mark and Kristin, Teresa and Jason and welcomed Andrew and Katy.

What Could Possibly be Left for 2011???

- Construct a 50,000 gallon Water Storage Tank and move to a Surface Water In-Take System.

Continued on page 9



- Rural Power Systems Upgrade.
- Construct a VPSO House with grant funding.
- Start Igiugig Library's very first photo collection with the 2-year Institute of Museum and Library Sciences Enhancement Grant.
- Construct a Barge Landing and Access Road
- Finish Float Plane Lake Road.
- Install solar collectors on the new rental home.
- Welcome another health aid family to Igiugig!
- Host a Farmer's Market!
- Complete the Fiber Optic project for fast internet.
- Recycle More and Waste Less.

THANK YOU IGIUGIG FOR ANOTHER WONDERFUL YEAR. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Bits 'n Pieces

“Winter Complaints or Allergies?”

It's because we are indoors and using air that is much drier and stuffier than humans like. If you think tropical breezes you think 'warm and moist', unlike our crackly dry air.

According to experts there are a lot of things about our general living environments that are really not too healthy. So if it's dry skin, bloody noses, actual asthma symptoms, or the flu that just keeps coming back, here is the quickest way to fix what ails you:

Map out your day

Example:

Bedroom (Sleeping) - 8 hours

Kitchen (Coffee and breakfast) - 2 hours

Office or School (Work) - 8 hours

Outdoors - 2 hours

Livingroom (Evening meal and TV) - 4 hours

Make sure you have a total 24-hours since you are somewhere all day!

Find your biggest blocks of time in a single spot

(in the example above that would be bedroom and office tied for 8 hours each)

Chose the easiest area and fix the environment in that room

For example if dry chapped skin is the problem, moisten the air—humidifier, boiling water or more plants.

If allergies are the problem and you know what causes them—dust or cats for example—make sure one of the 8-hour areas is free of the reaction causing substance. A bit more cleaning or shut the door so pets can't go in.

If you find a way to give your body 8-hours of an environment that it likes—warm, cozy, airy, clean, and moist—you may just find that most of your winter complaints will vanish and you have the happiest and healthiest of seasons.

You Are What You Breathe!

REMINDERS:

- PFD applications are available at the Office for those who do not electronically submit them.
- The Village Council is accepting applications (& donations) for the Dan Salmon Scholarship Fund. Stop by the Office to pick up an application or e-mail Tanya at tjsalmon@hotmail.com & she can send you a copy online.
- Interested in having an article or picture(s) published? Please submit an article to Tanya. A variety of authors always make the newsletter a more interesting read!

Library/Computer Lab News by Betsy Hostetter

Happy New Year! Martin Luther King Jr. Day is on the 17th. Martha Crow and I will go on training in Fairbanks on the 19th -21st of December. We will be learning how to digitize photographs and slides as part of our IMLS Enhancement Grant funding for our 2 year project. We will be learning what equipment will work well with the computers we have. After Slavi, we will be asking you if we could visit while we browse through your photographs. We may ask if we could include a story that could go along with it. I am excited! Our December library gathering was "Let's have a BALL!" We designed our own Christmas ornaments during this gathering. The gathering will be held on the 12th of December, just before everyone leaves for the Christmas holiday.

Easy fiction

Don't need Friends!- Carolyn Crimi

"After his best friend moves away, Rat rudely rebuffs his efforts of the other residents of the junkyard to be friendly, until he and a grouchy old dog decide that they need each other."



Junior Fiction

"Arthur and the Crunch Cereal Contest"- Marc Brown

"Arthur wants to enter a jingle in the Crunch Cereal Contest, but he can't seem to come up with anything."



Adult Fiction

True Believer- Nicholas Sparks

"...He was one of only half a dozen men in attendance on that mid-December afternoon."

ALASKA FICTION

Winter Camp- Kirkpatrick Hill

"It is fifty below zero. They are alone, with no one to help them..."



Alaska Nonfiction

Qanruyuteput Linruugut- Our Teaching Are Medicine- Alice Rearden

"...is a product of an unprecedented gathering of Yupik Elders from villages throughout southwestern Alaska."



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Website of interest

www.bizarrejanurayholiday.com

January 5th; Bird Day- January 18th; Winnie the Pooh Day... I advise you to look up the 12th day of January. This site should make you happy!!!



Skiing Adventures by Tanya Salmon

I've never really been interested in skiing before. Sure, I attempted snowboarding a few times, although I wasn't very successful (I am scared to strap my feet in & besides that, I have pretty much zero balance). So it came as a surprise when I told Jared that we should make a stop at Play It Again Sports to look around.

I am sure I made the salesman's day when I asked to check out skis. "What kind of skis are you interested in?" he asked. "Cross country, there is no way I am going downhill," I responded. He then proceeded to ask what TYPE of cross country skiing that I planned on doing. "I didn't know there was a difference," I said. He looked at me curiously before explaining all the different types of skiing.

After a 10 minute rundown on the various types of XC, I told him I wanted to do the easiest one possible. 30 minutes later & a dent in my piggy-bank, Jared & I walked out of the store loaded with two sets of skis, poles, boots, & wax. The salesman looked at the two of us like we were crazy & completely clueless.

Jared tried the skis around the yard the first night that they arrived. Jeremy & I hovered over the kitchen window as we watched him teeter about on his unstable skis. He was flailing his poles about desperately trying to keep his balance. Jeremy & I laughed at his attempts before watching him wobble off in the darkness.

Jared would ski to the pumphouse to shower, to the office for a quick visit, or wherever he was going. Every time he came back from one of his journeys he would go on & on about how great skiing is & how he found his new passion. He would urge me to try with him, but I somehow I kinked my back (honestly, I truly did) & could barely walk around upright, let alone ski!

On December 9th, I flew to Anchorage for training & arrived back at home on the 11th. The next day Jared told me I had no choice but to put on my boots, grab my poles, & get the hang of skiing because we were going out to look for a Christmas tree whether I liked it or not! We dropped Avery off at my mom's & were on our way.

He taught me the basics of skiing & showed me where it was easier to go on fluffy snow, compared to compacted snow, which tends to be very slippery. After leisurely crossing Christina's Lake, Jared decided it was time to take to the tundra trails. We stayed on the trails for the first mile before we veered off the beaten path & gave our XC a true test of going XC.

"Jared, this is really hard," I said as I tried to conquer a tundra bump. Clumsy with my skies, I could barely budge. "It's hard when you first learn," he told me, "even I am having trouble." "I learned just an hour ago! You have been doing this for over a week. Give me your pole & pull me up." Together we conquered the tundra trails & all the swamps in between.

After 3 hours of searching, we FINALLY found our Christmas tree (& not far from the village). Jared sawed the tree down while I ran around collecting pinecones for fire starters. We dragged the tree to the side of the trail & skied on home to grab the four-wheeler & trailer.

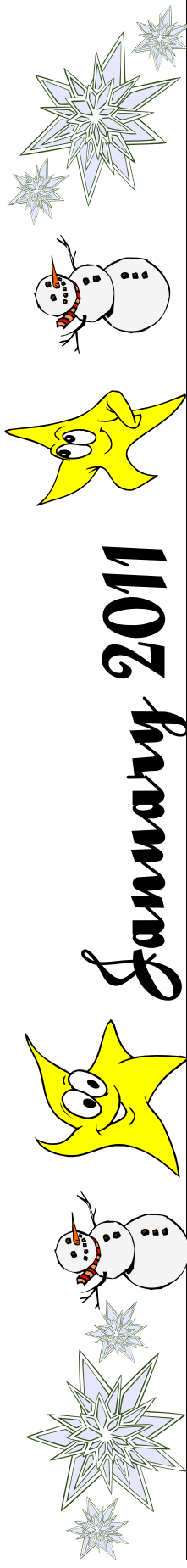
Once the tree was inside, Avery couldn't stop laughing & clapping her hands while staring at the tree. She would crawl around under it & try to bite at the pine needles. Now she is accustomed to the tree & she loves the lights. A few times a day we will find ornaments in our boots or our water jugs.

Skiing was a great experience. I loved "exploring" my backyard with the only sound being the swish of the skis on the snow. I find it to be a very relaxing activity & am eager to head out on another long adventure.



2010 Snapshots





January 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 HAPPY NEW YEAR
2	3 Happy Birthday Aiden Wassilie	4	5 Winter Break Ends	6 Back to School!	7 Slavi begins	8 Happy Birthday Katie Hill
9	10	11	12	13	14 HAPPY NEW YEAR Russian Orthodox New Year	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Happy Birthday Annie Wilson	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 <i>IVC Time-sheets due</i>					IVC Meeting to be announced

Igiugig Village

AlexAnna Salmon, President
Randy Alvarez, Vice President
Dallia Andrew, Member
Christina Salmon, Member
Mary Olympic, Member
AlexAnna Salmon, Interim Village Administrator
Sandy Alvarez, Director of Accounting & Finance
Christina Salmon, Environmental Director
Tanya Salmon, Social Services Director
Betsy Hostetter, Library Director
Dan Decker Sr., VPSO & Fire Chief
Tanya Salmon, Newsletter Editor

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Front page photo credit: Stacy Hill
Kvichak River view
Back page photo credit: Christina Salmon
Mouth of the Kvichak via Denaina Air

Igiugig Tribal Village Council Newsletter