



Yuut Elitnaurviat

PEOPLE'S LEARNING CENTER

Alaska National Guard • Association of Village Council Presidents • Association of Village Council Presidents, Regional Housing Authority • Bethel Community Services Foundation • Calista Corporation • City of Bethel • Lower Kuskokwim School District • Orutsararmuit Native Council • UAF - Kuskokwim Campus • Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation



Winter Edition

Volume 4, Issue 2

December 30, 2012

Along with colder temperatures and shorter days, many new changes have come to Yuut Elitnaurviat over the past three months:

- Although our wind turbines don't have to be adjusted, we put our solar panels at a ninety-degree angle to aid us in collecting the decreasing amount of light.
- Plans for the Yukon Dorm are progressing on schedule. The new dorm will increase our ability to offer training,

and is expected to be open by January of 2014.

- We have received a new grant for our Driving Program which will allow us to start offering expanded CDL training.
- Our Healthcare classes should start up again in 2013 with PCA and CNA trainings.
- In a partnership with the Adult Basic Education (ABE) center, Career Guide Orianne Reich taught a week-long Writing Intensive to eight students from

Akaik, Nunapitchuk, Quinhagak, Pilot Station, and Bethel. According to ABE Regional Director Kathy Hanson "Every single one of them passed the test on the first try and one graduated as a result. The others are returning in February for a week of math instruction and testing and should graduate after that".

- Jeremy Osborne
Director of Programs

Structural Certificate with a Welding Focus

Thanks to a partnership with the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP), Yuut Elitnaurviat (YE) is able to offer a Structural Certificate with a Welding Focus program from November 2012 to February 2013.

The idea of the training is to develop a group of regional welders, and satisfy Rodney P. Kinney and Associates (RPKA) employment needs for constructing the Eek Community Boardwalk project scheduled for Spring of 2013.

Students in the program were drawn from an applicant pool of over fifty people. Since the training is employer-driven, the applicants needed to meet both YE and AVCP specifications, such as having

a GED or High School Diploma and being able to pass random drug and alcohol screening. Preference was also given to applicants from villages with boardwalks which compact with AVCP for funding.



Above: Structural Certificate Students on a piece of the handicapped accessible ramp built for the City of Bethel's Log Cabin.

The training is twelve weeks long, and the students completed the first session December 15th. While they were here they built a handicapped accessible ramp for the City of Bethel, twelve doghouses for Bethel Friends of Canines, "Kids Don't Float" stations for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation, and various projects at YE.

They have taken NCCER Construction Core and Construction Math, and will take NCCER Carpentry I and Welding I in January and February 2013. At the end of the



class the students will take a State of Alaska Certified Welding Exam.

The class is going well so far, and we at YE are excited not only for the partnership with AVCP, but for the chance to train local students for lifetime careers.

- Annie Pavilla
Apprenticeship and Programs Coordinator



Above: Structural Certificate Students building a doghouse for the local organization Bethel Friends of Canines.

Inside this issue:

YDA Winter Driving Lessons	2
Rural Law Enforcement Training	2
The Career Guide News	3
DHATs Serving The Delta	3
RANSEP Students Heading Home	4

YDA Winter Driving Lessons

Are you new to Bethel? Are you a new or inexperienced driver? Are you uncomfortable with driving in the extreme weather conditions of Western Alaska? The Yuut Driving Academy, the only State Certified Driving School in Western Alaska, can help. We offer one hour Winter Driving lessons that will help you gain the confidence you need to know how to drive safely in our extreme Alaska winter weather. During the one hour lesson, you will learn the proper use of ABS (Anti-Lock Brake System) during winter driving, as well as experience skid control in a controlled environment. This lesson is perfect for inexperienced drivers as well as anyone who is not familiar with driving on snow and ice.

We also offer for people wishing to earn their license for the first time, the full Driving Academy Package. The package includes eight one-on-one behind the wheel lessons, the Winter Driving Lesson, Parallel Parking, up to eight hours of

classroom instruction on Defensive Driving and the State of Alaska DMV Road Test.

Yuut Elitnaurviat recently received a grant from the Alaska Workforce Investment Board (AWIB) to purchase a Commercial Class vehicle and work towards offering Professional Truck Driving Insti-



Above: The Yuut Driving Academy is offering Commercial Driver License Road Skills Testing which will not be available at the Bethel Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) until the Spring of 2013.



tute (PTDI) certified CDL training. We hope to begin offering full CDL training for those interested in obtaining their Commercial Driver License sometime in the near future. The Yuut Driving Academy also received certification this past year from the State of Alaska as a Third Party CDL examiner, conducting over 35 CDL Skills Tests.

Our mission is to help as many people in the YK Delta region earn their Alaska Drivers license, which is a necessity in gaining employment for most employer's, as they drive to success in Southwest Alaska. For more information about the Yuut Driving Academy and to schedule your lessons or road test, contact Gerry Graves, Driving Instructor, at 907-543-0978 or email Gerry at ggraves@yuut.org

- Gerry Graves
Driving Instructor



tics, Probation and Parole, Computer Skills, Juvenile Procedures, and other topics.

YE is looking forward to hosting more Public Safety Training in the future. The State of Alaska will be moving eight weeks of the twelve week VPSO Academy to the YE training facility. We are excited about the development of this partnership and the opportunities it will bring to the people of the region.

- Yuut Elitnaurviat Communications Staff



Above: Students at V.P.O./T.P.O. Academy #25 are trained in Rural Fire Protection techniques.

Rural Law Enforcement Training

It was a big quarter for the Yuut Elitnaurviat (YE) Public Safety Program. Starting late September and extending into October, twenty trainees attended Village Police Officer (VPO)/Tribal Police Officer (TPO) Training #25. Students learned 1st Aid/CPR, Defensive Tactics, Ethics, Use of Force, and Fire Response, just to name a few of the subjects.

A short while later, VPO/TPO Advanced Academy #6 took place at the YE facility.



Above: Students in V.P.O./T.P.O. Advanced Academy #6 practice Crime Scene Investigation techniques in the Yuut Elitnaurviat Health Lab.

Fifteen officers from around the region were picked to fly into Bethel and receive training in CSI, Defensive Tactics, Search Warrants, and other subjects.



Above: The graduating class of V.P.O./T.P.O. Academy #25 pose for a group photo along with some of their instructors .

To round out the quarter of law enforcement training, AVCP held it's regional Village Public Safety Officer (VPSO) training for VPSO's stationed in villages around the YK Delta. The regional training involved included classes on Critical Incident Stress Debriefing, Defensive Tac-

The Career Guide News

As the Holiday season nears, our Career Guides are still working hard to finish the year strong. Since October the career guides have traveled to Tuntutuliak, St. Mary's, Kongiginak, and Mekoryuk.

While in the villages they offered individual career guidance in searching for employment and training opportunities.



Above: A pile of reindeer antlers next to a rusted piece of equipment. Photo taken by Career Guide Valerie Byrnes during her trip to Mekoryuk.

They also helped people create resumes, and provided participants in the villages a chance to take the rural driver's permit class and test.

Writing a resume, and practicing for an interview are often the easiest part of gaining employment. The hard part can be staying employed, and enjoying one's work. In "soft skills" training our goal is to learn how to deal well with those with whom we work. After all, knowing the job skills is important, but knowing how to enjoy our daily employment requires a lot more.

To this end, Yuut Elitnaurviat offers a "Workin It Out" course which covers communication skills for success on the job. So far the class has been given to our GED program students, as well as inmates at the Bethel Youth Facility. To date, the course has been very well received.

When the career guides aren't traveling to the villages you can find them in their



office, or providing services in the Bethel community. If you live in Bethel or you plan on traveling to Bethel in the future please feel free to call (907) 543-0999, ask for a Career Guide, and set up a time where you can also explore job opportunities, create a resume, apply for a job, or just come in and talk about your future in the work place.

- The Yuut Elitnaurviat Career Guide Staff



Above: Career Guide Orianne Reich (left), and Career Guide Valerie Byrnes (right) standing with a Career Guidance recipient during a recent trip to Mekoryuk.

DHATs Serving the Delta

The Dental Health Aide Therapy (DHAT) students at Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic (YEDTC) are excited to be entering the second half of their education in Bethel. The students have been very busy this fall completing various rotations. These rotations included: observing Dr. Olivia Hougén, a pediatric dentist,



Above: DHAT Students Cora Roberts and Elsie Pelowook working with a patient at the Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic.

Photo Courtesy of Dr. Anthony Brusca

in the YKHC operating room, treating patients at YKHC with dental emergencies, and traveling to Pilot Station to provide dental care. In Pilot Station, the students have been focusing their efforts on the prevention of tooth decay in young children. The DHAT students have been focusing on children from birth to age five applying fluoride varnish. The hope is that this generation of children will never experience cavities.

The students have also been studying hard at the YEDTC. Some of the courses they had this fall included oral pathology, complex restorations, behavior management, epidemiology, and dental tooth anatomy. Starting January 7, 2013 we will have appointments available at 10:00 AM, 1:00 and 3:00 PM Monday through Friday. Please call (907) 543-0987 to schedule an appointment.

If you are planning travel into Anchorage this summer, please join us in celebration of the students completing their training. Graduation is scheduled for June 6, 2013



at 2:00 PM at the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Office Building.

The Dental Health Aide Therapist Educational Program is currently recruiting for next year's class. Please visit: <http://depts.washington.edu/dentexak/> for more information.

- DHAT Program



Above: DHAT Student Savannah Bonorden chair-side with a patient in the Yuut Elitnaurviat Dental Training Clinic.

Photo Courtesy of Dr. Anthony Brusca

P.O. Box 869
Bethel, AK 99559
Phone: 907.543.0999
Fax: 907.543.0998
Website: www.yuut.org
Facebook: www.facebook.com/YuutElitnaurviat

Preparing Local Workers for Local High-Wage Jobs For the Past Ten Years

RANSEP Students Heading Home



Twelve students completed the Fall RANSEP semester, and are heading back to their home villages to finish out the school year. The students came from Lower Kuskokwim School District (LKSD) villages to Bethel Regional High School to take advanced math and science classes which will better prepare them for college.

During their stay in Bethel, students lived with host families around town so that they wouldn't have to leave a family environment in order to participate in the program. The students participated in a week-long experiential camp at Donlin Gold Mine, as well as activities ranging from recitation study groups to scavenger hunts.

The seniors who completed this program semester were Brandon Beebe of Eek, Nick Joekay of Oscarville, and Megan John of Newtok. The juniors who completed this program semester were Sarah Alexie of Toksook Bay, Alan Carl of Kipnuk, Desiree Cleveland of Quinhagak, Zacharias Evan of Napaskiak, Andrew Fairbanks of Newtok, Randall Friendly of Tuntutuliak, Daniel Inman of Toksook Bay, Sarah Williams of Napaskiak, and Jerome Williams of Napaskiak.

The students will have an opportunity to participate in different Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) activities over the summer. Graduating seniors can take the Summer Bridge Component at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and graduating juniors can take the Acceleration Academy course and earn a scholarship to any of the University of Alaska schools.

We wish them all the best!

- Yuut Elitnaurviat Communications Staff



Above: RANSEP students watching an end-of-year slideshow put together by the program's coordinators.

Page 4



Yuut Elitnaurviat is a 501(c)(3) Corporation dedicated to providing training and education opportunities for the people of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta Region. Yuut offers culturally relevant and regionally responsive training programs, in response to the suffering regional economy and high unemployment rate.

Building programs that combine intensive academics and on-the-job training, Yuut is the first regional vocational center to grace the tundra of Western Alaska.