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Vol. XI No. 21 June 7, 2007

NENANA MESSENGER

"Interior Alaska's neighboring communities:

# NEWS

**\$1**

sharing our events, news, ideas and views along the roads, rails, rivers & trails."

## Chilcott honored

Article and Photos by Tim Horn

Kathie Chilcott, who retired at the end of the school year after more than 25 years teaching here in Nenana was honored by students, staff and other teachers on the last day of school, May 24th. The event, organized by teacher Jimmie Putman, was a surprise to the honoree.

The assembly started with Mr. Black asking everyone if they knew why they were there in the gym.

Everyone said "Yes!" Then Mr. Black asked if they knew why they were there. "Mrs. Chilcott!" everyone shouted.

A long line of past students then arranged themselves across the gym floor, each one holding a rose and a piece of cardboard with the year that Mrs. Chilcott taught them. Mrs. Chilcott had a seat of honor in front of them.

Each person, starting from Jacob Knutsen, who represented his aunt Suzanne Hill, went up to the mi-

(See CHILCOTT, Page Two)



Karen Lord shows Kathie Chilcott the memory books her three children had made when they were in Mrs. C's kindergarten class. Mrs. C said she had wondered if anyone actually still had any of those books, and Karen assured her that they were very precious possessions!

## Potato Shoot debut

by Diane Jensen

Nenana River Daze added a new activity to their repertoire this year. They wanted something that could become the headliner for the annual event. They wanted something exciting.

Saturday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> at four o'clock in the afternoon on the Tanana River bank, contestants competed with home made "guns" made of pvc pipe.

Entrants "loaded" their guns by forcing a potato into the barrel of the gun, tamping the vegetable further up the barrel with a stick.

The handful of competitors each vied for placement in two categories, one category



Photo by Marc Hors

In photo above, potato gun shoot contestants shoot their home made guns at the first Nenana River Daze Potato Gun Shoot on Saturday, June 2, 2007.

## EA Available for Public Comment

DENALI PARK, AK---The National Park Service (NPS) is considering alternatives for managing subsistence-related off-road vehicle use in the Cantwell area of Denali National Park and Preserve.

(See ORV, Page Two)

## NPS Fee input needed

The National Park Service (NPS) will host a public meeting on the proposed new fees for sled dog demonstrations and backcountry permits in Denali National Park and Preserve on Thursday, June 14 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Murie Science and Learning Center located at Mile 1.3 on the Denali Park Road. The meeting will provide

(See FEE, Page Four)

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Photo at right shows some of Mrs. Chilcott's current students (with at least one former student), along with her aide, Donna Mather, and good friend and co-worker, Bill Black. In inset photo above, Morgan Duggar speaks of her time as one of Kathie's kindergartners. Photos provided by Tim Horn



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### Nenana Messenger NEWS

is published weekly, on Thursdays. Any news submissions pertinent to our rural Interior Alaska communities are welcome, and should follow rules of journalism. Please email the editor for further information on submitting items.

### Basic rules of journalism for deciding what news to publish:

1. Importance of event
2. Timeliness
3. Prominence of people involved
4. Proximity to our readership
5. Conflict
6. Uniqueness
7. The interest our readers have in the event

(CHILCOTT, from Front Page)

crophone and said thank you to Mrs. C. Some had stories of what they best remembered from kindergarten, the grade she had taught most of them.

One student presented Mrs. Chilcott with a marble that his mother had sent -- it was a marble his sister had swallowed when she was in Mrs. C's classroom years ago. He assured Mrs. C that it had been completely sterilized. Another student brought the memory book which she had made in Mrs. C's kindergarten class. One young woman spoke movingly of how Mrs. C had been such a friend to her when her parents divorced. There were plenty of tears flowing, with some laughter too!

(ORV, from Front Page)

In July 2005, the NPS published the final "Cantwell Subsistence Traditionally Employed Off-Road Vehicle Determination" which opened the entire 32,159 acre Cantwell traditional ORV use area (TUA) to the use of off-road vehicles (ORVs), for subsistence purposes by NPS qualified subsistence users.

"The NPS is proposing this current action to assure subsistence ORV use in this area is proactively managed," said Superintendent Paul Anderson.

"This is necessary in order to minimize adverse impacts to the resources and values for which the park was established while also providing reasonable access for subsistence purposes."

Four alternatives for managing subsistence off-road vehicle (ORV) use in the Cantwell TUA were considered in the environmental assessment. Management alternatives were developed with input from the State of Alaska, the Denali Subsistence Resources Commission and other members of the public.

The four alternatives evaluated were: **Alternative 1** (No Action). Under this alternative, the TUA would remain open to ORV use by qualified subsistence users for all subsistence purposes. This No Action Alternative is a required alternative under the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act. **Alternative 2**. Under this alternative, the TUA would remain open to off-trail ORV use by qualified subsistence users only by permit for retrieval of subsistence harvested moose or caribou. ORV use for all subsistence purposes would be authorized on the new Bull River Access Trail and on several NPS-managed existing trails and routes (the Windy Creek Access Trail, Windy Creek Bowl Trail, Cantwell Airstrip Trail, Pyramid Peak Trail, the Upper Cantwell Creek Floodplain Trail/Route, and the Bull River Floodplain Trail/Route).

**Alternative 3**. Under this alternative, ORV use for all subsistence purposes would be authorized on the new Bull River Access Trail and on several NPS-managed existing trails and routes (the Windy Creek Access Trail, Windy Creek Bowl Trail, Cantwell Airstrip Trail, Pyramid Peak Trail, the Upper Cantwell Creek Floodplain Trail/Route, and the Bull River Floodplain Trail/Route). A winter subsistence moose hunt would be

Then came presentations from Mrs. C's fellow staff members. Jimmie commented that it wasn't hard to get donations for the gifts -- she didn't have to track people down; she had people tracking her down.

Mrs. C was presented with a signed painting by Barbara Lavalley of a school house, and a necklace with a gold nugget and a diamond to represent what a gem Mrs. C is.

Wanda Haken, the current kindergarten teacher, then presented Mrs. C with a book that had been signed by as many of Mrs. C's former students as she could find.

A few of Mrs. C's co-workers spoke movingly of what a wonderful teacher and friend Mrs.

C is.

One of the most moving was by Bill Black, who has worked and commuted with Kathie and been a friend of hers for many, many years).

The tears were really flowing by then.

As everyone started leaving, Zelma Axford spontaneously went to the microphone and sang an Athabascan song in honor of Kathie's many years of service to the Nenana community. The song, written by Zelma's grandmother, was about a bird and Zelma said that Kathie was like a bird who flew in from far away and took so many people under her wing.

possible.

**Alternative 4**. This alternative would be the same as Alternative 3, except the NPS would not construct the new Bull River Access Trail or allow ORV use on either the Bull River Floodplain or the Upper Cantwell Creek Floodplain. The NPS would authorize ORV use for subsistence purposes on NPS-managed trails from one week before the beginning of the fall moose and caribou hunting seasons through to the end of these hunting seasons.

Printed copies of the EA will be distributed to local libraries, visitor centers, and those who request printed copies. The EA is posted on the new NPS public comment website at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov>. It will also be posted on the Denali National Park and Preserve web site at: <http://www.nps.gov/dena/home/planning/home.html>.

The EA will be available for public review from June 1 through July 31, 2007. Two public meetings will be held:

July 9, 2007 Cantwell Community Hall 5-8 pm  
July 12, 2007 Z.J. Loussac Public Library 5-8 pm

3600 Denali Street, Anchorage

Both meetings will begin with an open house format, followed by a presentation at 6 pm that includes an overview of the alternatives. This will be followed by a question and answer session. Both written and oral public comments will be accepted. If you are unable to attend either of the meetings and would like to comment in writing on the project, please submit your comments to Superintendent, Denali National Park and Preserve, P.O. Box 9, Denali Park, AK 99755. Comments may be faxed to (907) 683-9612, or may be e-mailed by going to the new NPS public comment website at:

<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>

The NPS will make a decision about managing off road vehicle use soon after the close of the public comment period. If you have any questions about the environmental assessment, please call the Superintendent's office at (907) 683-9581.



# River Daze



Nenana River Daze is celebrated in Nenana each year on the first weekend in June. Various groups in the past have organized and held the annual celebration of the arrival of summer in Nenana, Alaska. Nenana Lions Club has been the official sponsor for the past few years. If you are interested in learning how to participate, call Nenana Lions Club President Jason Mayrand at 907 832-5614, or River Daze Committee Chair Suzanne Hill at 907 832-5808.

In photo at left, a visiting motorcycle rider takes a photo of youth waiting for the start of a bicycle race. The visiting motorcycle rider is part of a group of “bikers” that sponsor kids activities during River Daze.

Photo by Marc Hors



In photo below, Jack Coghill drives his miniature car in the River Daze parade. Jack is wearing his Shriner’s “fez”. Jack, with his Shriner’s group, have helped many families with children in need of medical help, among them several from Nenana.

Photo by Marc Hors



In photo above, Shauna Mitchel, facing camera, rides with Nenana River Daze Princes and Princesses. Not shown are Nenana’s King, Ken Frye and his wife, Queen Nancy.

Photo by Marc Hors



In photo at left, members of Nenana Volunteer Fire/EMS Department demonstrate how they use power equipment to cut apart a car. The extrication equipment is used for rescuing auto accident victims who are trapped in their vehicles.

Photo by Diane Jensen



In photo above, Lion Aaron Shaw supervises as local dog mushers and other community members dig into the milk can supper cooked by Lion Ken Eggleston. The dinner was both to recognize “mushers” and to let them know that the Lions Club is interested in starting a junior dog mushing league in Nenana.

Photo by Diane Jensen

for distance and one for accuracy. In the distance category, the judge stood a couple hundred feet away and yelled out the distance in footage. For the accuracy component, a target was placed, and competitors tried to hit the bulls eye. The guns had igniters, that, when the trigger was tapped, fired the hair spray that was sprayed into the

ignition chamber. Their seemed to be some problems with the igniters, as time after time, some of the homemade guns didn’t project the potatoes as planned. Most of the guns were constructed during potato gun workshops held by the River Daze Committee of the local Lions Club. There were ignition problems

from the start, and volunteers working with entrants tried hard to get all the potato gun bugs worked out. The competition and the workshops proved to be interesting and exciting.



Samuel Minnema

# A word from God's Word

## Christ's Example

In 1 Peter 2:21-25 we read about the great example that Christ gave us. It reads the following: "For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously: Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. For ye were as sheep gone astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."

We're told here of the perfect example Jesus left us. When someone hurts us, the human nature is

to hurt back. It says here that Christ threatened not. He was perfect and without sin. When Christ was crucified on Calvary, he became the sacrifice that covered all our sins. By his blood the sins of every human being was and is covered. All we must do is acknowledge that we are sinners and ask Him to cover us with His blood. His was a perfect example, we must just follow.

Nathan Minnema

## OUR "WHIPPING BOY"

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3

A "whipping boy" is a person who pays for someone else's sin. This term dates back to the royalty of Europe. A prince would be raised alongside a commoner of the same age. When the prince did something wrong, the commoner, who was his "whipping boy," would be punished.

The Bible teaches that "God is light" and "God is love." Because "God is light" He sees our sin and He can't allow it to go unpunished. Because "God is love" He provides a sacrifice for our sin, and Christ became our "whipping boy."

For the Bible says, "Christ died for our sins."

May 26, 2007 Volume 27, No. 5

For more information, visit [www.the-sower.org](http://www.the-sower.org).

Prayer: Lord Jesus, we thank Thee for taking the sting out of death and robbing the grave of its victory. We are so glad that when we die and leave these bodies, we will have wonderful new bodies in heaven: in the precious name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

## Blaine tribute

Photo at left shows Baha'is from Nenana attending the recent 51st Alaska Baha'i Convention in Anchorage included (left to right): Virginia Young (delegate), Tim Horn (delegate), Bonnie Reed, Carl Horn, and William Horn. They are standing in front of a memorial display honoring Blaine Reed, who passed away in March and who was loved by Baha'is (and others) throughout Alaska for his friendly, loving nature and his beautiful tenor voice. Blaine had served for many years in the 1960s and 1970s as a member of the Alaska Baha'i Spiritual Assembly, the faith's elected administrative institution. Blaine and Bonnie's son, Gavin, currently serves on that body.



(FEE, from Front Page)

information on the proposed new fees and give members of the public the opportunity to make formal comments. The new fees will pay for expenses specifically related to the kennels and backcountry operations and would provide the supplemental funding needed to maintain the current level of operations in these two programs.

The meeting will open with an overview of the new fees. The portion of the meeting for providing comments will begin by 6:30 p.m. The meeting will end at 8:00 p.m., but staff members will be available afterwards to answer questions about the new fees, this summer's projects and other issues.

The proposed fee for a sled dog demonstration is \$10/adult. This fee will help cover the costs required to provide the interpretive sled dog demonstrations.

The proposed fee for a backcountry permit is \$15 per permit. The new fee would allow the park to partially recover the costs of operating the Backcountry Information Center (BIC) and backcountry patrols. BIC staff orient backcountry users to the potential hazards and wildlife issues in Denali's wilderness and issue permits so that

backcountry use, and human impacts, remain within the limits allowed for each backcountry unit.

For additional information about the meeting or the proposed fees call the Superintendent's Office at (907) 683-9581 from 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

## Please attend the Church of *your* choice:

- ☞ **Bahai Faith Activities**  
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For more information, email [nenana@akbahai.org](mailto:nenana@akbahai.org);  
or phone 832-1047 or 832-5849  
Devotions are held every Wednesday, 7 p.m., at the Reed home (510 East First Street, Nenana).  
Baha'i Education Class for all ages is held every Sunday at the Reed home (510 East First Street, Nenana), beginning with class at 4:30 p.m., and ending with a light supper at 6 p.m.
- ☞ **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**  
Corner Front and Market Street  
Sunday: Worship 11:00 am  
Sunday School after Worship  
Call Marilyn at 832-5422
- ☞ **St. Theresa's Catholic Church**  
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Mass 11 am Sundays  
with Fr. Jack deVerteil
- ☞ **Nenana Assembly of God**  
Mile 303.6 Parks Highway.  
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Sunday Worship 12:00 A.M.  
Wednesday night  
5:00 P.M. Soup, 6:00 P.M. Praise  
For information call 832-5539
- ☞ **Nenana Bible Church**  
Corner of 2nd & Market St.  
Sunday Morning at 10:45
- ☞ **Nenana Community Church**  
Meeting at Nenana Senior Center  
Corner of Market & B Street  
Friday Nite Youth Group 7:00pm  
at 306 First Street. Call 832-5540
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## Rx

### for cooking

by Jackie Suckling

- 1 cup sourdough starter\*
- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 2 cups flour

Mix peanut butter, butter, brown sugar and flour. Add butter and remaining ingredients; form into small balls and press down with fork. Bake at 350 degrees F for 12 to 15 minutes on ungreased cookie sheet

\*Sourdough starter was in a previous issue

### Sourdough peanut butter cookies

- 1 tsp.. baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 teaspoon salt



**Obituary**

**Nadene Hummel Gaetz-Lebert**

Nadene Hummel Gaetz-Lebert, born March 28, 1932 in Finley, passes away Sunday, May 27, 2007 at the Sutter Lakeside Hospital in California. A graduate of Kelseyville High School's class of 1950, she also graduated from the Provident Hospital School of Nursing in Oakland. She worked as a registered nurse in Juneau, Alaska, in Elko, Nevada, at Lakeport for 20 years and in Tanana, Alaska - where she met and married Jim Lebert 25 years ago. The made there home in Nenana, Alaska during that time. Nadene made her final home in Kelseyville due to the severe cold of Alaskan winters. She loved fishing, cooking, quilting, playing cards and being around people. She was an excellent story teller and was always ready to share a good joke.

Nadene was preceded in death by both parents, Alden K and Adelaid Hayes Hummel, as well as her first husband George Gaetz. She left behind her husband Jim Lebert, two sisters - Claudette and Thressa, a brother Ronald, two nieces, 3 nephews and 6 grand nieces and nephews. She is also survived by her step-daughter Peggy Lebert Dubose and Peggy's husband and four children. Besdies family, Nadene left behing friends here in Alaska who had become her family. Her passing has left a huge hole in many people lives and she will/can never be replaced to her Alaskan family. She is survived by good friends Marige Riley and Geeg Castro who kept in touch Nadene on a continual basis. They remember her with love and can see her "dancing in her red dress and shoes - she loved to dance."

Graveside services were held on June 4th at the Kelseyville Cemetery following visitation on June 3 at the Chapel of the Lakes Mortuary in Lakeport. Friends and family attended a potluck at Highland Springs following the services.

Donations in her remembrance may be made to the Clear Lakes Gleaners at P O Box 266, Finley, California 95453.

Have a good trip our friend - we were blessed to have you in our lives!



*Appreciation from the Reed Family*

We would like to (belatedly) thank everyone in Nenana who gave us such extraordinary support and assistance during the loss of my beloved husband, Blaine M. Reed, a man who was also a much-loved father, grandfather, and great-grandfather.

Special gratitude goes to the Nenana Native Council and Chief Mitch Demientieff for providing such a beautiful spot on Toghothele for Blaine's grave, for allowing us the use of the Tribal Hall for the funeral and potluck, and for the incredible honor of adopting Blaine and me as honorary tribal members.

Words cannot express our appreciation and respect for the amazing gravediggers who braved sub-zero weather to dig Blaine's resting spot: Albert Ketzler, Steve Ketzler, Danny Ketzler, Craig Sunnyboy-Ketzler, Willie Lord, Gerald John, Richie Peter and Clinton White, with assistance from Rowland Powers, Tallan Baumfalk, Grady Baumfalk and Ray Fox, and under the watchful eye of Gilbert Ketzler. You are our heroes!

Thanks also go to our dear friend, Scott Axford, for building Blaine's casket with such love, and to Scott's wife, Zelma, who assisted us in lining the casket. And of course to Ted Suckling and his crew who finished the casket and made the rough box and grave marker. Vickie Moyle and Mary Kleinschmidt of the Nenana Senior Center also gave us such tremendous assistance in so many ways.

It would be impossible to thank everyone by name, as the list would be too long and we would no doubt forget to name everyone (and couldn't name those who did such behind the scenes work that we don't know you all!). Thank you, thank you, thank you.

The entire process of laying Blaine to rest was so touching, memorable and spiritually significant for our entire family. We feel very blessed to live in such a community where people arise to help others at such a time. May God bless you all.

With deepest gratitude,  
Bonnie Reed and the entire Reed family

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