

the georgetown connection

Connecting generations of Georgetown tribal members to the roots of their traditional community. Spring 2020



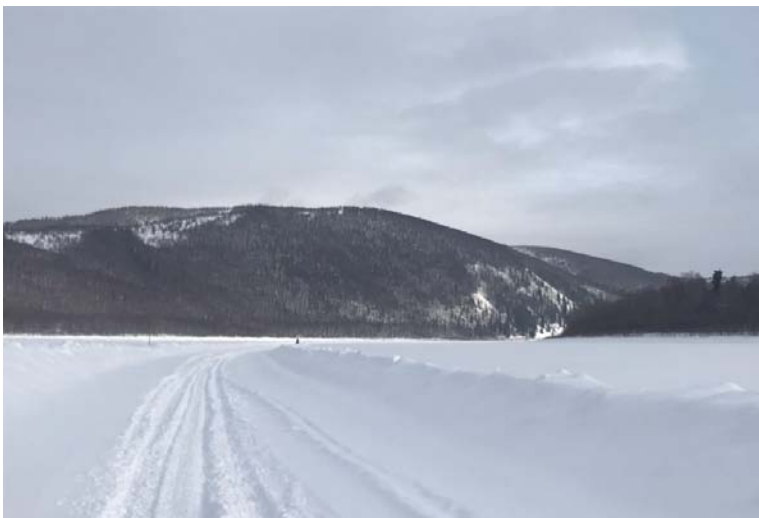
1 COVID-19



2 Updates



4 MKAP Recap



Dear Tribal Members,

As of today, the COVID-19 pandemic is changing our lifestyles and day-to-day activities adjust around updates on the disease. The Native Village of Georgetown wants you to know that we work diligently to protect and support your communities, our employees, and all our tribal members wherever you reside. The Native Village of Georgetown officially declares a state of emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This declaration includes restrictions on employment-related travel outside Alaska and between villages in the Middle Kuskokwim region. Our Anchorage office is closed and will remain so until April 14, 2020, at which point we will re-evaluate the situation and let everyone know next steps. Our staff has been directed to work remotely from home to avoid contracting the disease and we are currently communicating using technology and other solutions that will avoid social interaction. All in-person council meetings and committees administered by the Council are suspended. These meetings will be done via teleconference. In addition, we are monitoring the Covid-19 situation and will keep the best interest of the Tribe in mind when discussing and planning the annual meeting. We will provide ample notice with a date and location in the future.

Remember to remain conscientious while on social media. Find trusted sites that share useful information.

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COUNCIL

Chair

Traci Maczynski
Seat C/ Term expires:2020

Vice Chair

Will Hartman
Seat E/Term expires:2021

Treasurer/Secretary

Valerie Dudley
Seat B/ Term expires:2020

Member

Rebecca Wilmarth
Seat D/ Term expires:2022

Member

David Kutch
Seat A/ Term expires:2022

STAFF

Tribal Administrator

Ozzy Escarate

Environmental Coordinator

Sam Bundy

Program Director

Eric V. Dietrich

Updates

New Environmental Coordinator

Our Environmental Coordinator, Courtney Osolnik, has moved on. Our Environmental Assistant, Sam Bundy, will be moving up into the position as the new Environmental Coordinator so feel free to contact him with your questions and concerns.

Real ID Update

Due to the coronavirus outbreak causing difficulties for individuals trying to get a drivers license or ID card that complies to the Real ID standards, the due date has been changed from October 1, 2020 to October 1, 2021. This is to allow time for the restrictions and closures caused by the COVID-19 virus.

Georgetown's Annual Meeting

With all the parts of our lives that the coronavirus has impacted, the Council is already looking at alternative plans for the 2020 Annual meeting. This may involve having the annual meeting in the fall or later or, if needed, a virtual meeting. While the experts are hopeful that conditions will improve by the summer, the outlook changes each week. We will post more information this summer as the Council make a decision at the next quarterly meeting in June. Elections are still planned for Seats B & C and we will be posting updates as soon as we know more.

COVID-19

Coronavirus Prevention Best Practices

Here are steps that you can take to aid in preventing catching, or spreading, the Covid-19 coronavirus:

- Frequently washing your hands or using hand sanitizer to remove or kill the viruses that could be on your hands. Remember to wash with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue or your arm to help prevent the virus from spreading in the air and dispose of tissues right away.
- A sneeze or cough can spread the virus as much as three feet. Keeping some distance from coughs and sneezes can prevent you from breathing in the virus.
- Avoid touching your face as the virus can spread from your hands and enter your body through the mouth, nose, and eyes. Make sure to wash your hands first if you need to touch your face.
- Stay home if you are feeling sick. This helps in the prevention of spreading the virus to others. If you have a fever, cough, or difficulty in breathing, seek medical care as soon as possible.

Here are a few resources you can use for more information about the Covid-19 coronavirus.

World Health Organization <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation
<https://www.ykhc.org/covid-19/>

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
<https://anthc.org/news/resources-coronavirus/>



Environmental

Middle Kuskokwim Climate Adaptation Planning Update



It has been over a year since the Middle Kuskokwim Adaptation Plan (MKAP) started. We recently completed its third and final phase: bringing tribal leaders from the region and non-profit organizations together to plan out projects that can help develop the region and prepare for climate change. The MKAP has already completed two meetings in which tribal leaders were informed how the Middle Kuskokwim Region is likely to change due to climate change, and what issues should be designated as priorities in order to adapt to climate change.

Climate change is beginning to redefine and drastically alter the environment on a global scale. We can see signs of this in Alaska in the way the permafrost is melting, the arctic oceans are warming, and the way our wildlife are experiencing habitat conditions that they are not adapted to. Climatologists have predicted that

Alaska will become significantly warmer and wetter in the coming decades, which will dramatically alter ecosystems across Alaska, including the Middle Kuskokwim Region.

To prepare the region for the dramatic ecosystem change predicted by climatologists, The Native Village of Georgetown (NVG) began a climate adaptation planning process with the goal of spreading awareness of climate change and cooperating with our neighbor villages on the river to develop projects to help adapt to a changing environment.

On February 7th the NVG environmental staff gathered tribal representatives from the region such as: Aniak, Napaimute, Upper and Lower Kalskag, Chuathbaluk, along with non-profit organizations at ANTHC. We held a lengthy conversation about what projects could be pursued to help reduce the impact of climate change on residents of the Middle Kuskokwim, and how best to collaborate.

Middle Kuskokwim planning continued on page 5



Call Georgetown Tribal Council: 907-274-2195 or toll-free 1-888-274-2195

Environmental

Middle Kuskokwim Planning continued from page 4



There were many great presentations from organizations such as the Alaska Energy Authority, Nuvista and the Chugach Regional Resources Commission. As a result we were able to help facilitate and inspire tribal leaders to pursue projects such as dust suppressant programs in Upper and Lower Kalskag and partnering with the Alaska Energy Authority to help introduce more efficient renewable energy sources to the region. Georgetown's environmental department will be looking to expand our water quality data collection by partnering with Aniak, Napaimute, and Telida. We will be focusing our efforts on collecting temperature data from many points along the river, to further our understanding of river habitat.

As shown by last summer's unusually warm weather, the temperature of the river can have lasting impacts on all the species of fish in the river. Collecting a record of data, such as water temperature, can help us predict what challenges our fish are likely to face in the future, and help us understand how we can protect them.

Cheesecake Egg Rolls continued from page 7

aside.

In a large bowl, combine cream cheese with sugar, sour cream, vanilla, and kosher salt. Using a hand mixer, beat ingredients until fully combined.

Place an egg roll wrapper on a clean surface in a diamond shape and spoon approximately 3 tablespoons cream cheese mixture into a line in the center. Fold up bottom half and tightly fold in sides. Gently roll, then seal fold with a couple drops of water.

In a large skillet over medium heat, heat oil (it should reach 1" up the side of pan) until it starts to bubble. Add egg rolls and fry until golden, 1 minute per side. Transfer to a paper towel-lined plate to cool slightly.

Dust with powdered sugar and serve with strawberry sauce.

Delish.com

Dear Tribal Member continued from page 1

Not all videos or photos appearing online are based on facts therefore we encourage our tribal members to be judicious. Please remember that regularly staying informed with the latest COVID-19 news can cause fear, stress, and anxiety. Support is available through the National Disaster Distress Helpline at (800) 985-5990.

You can visit the CDC site to learn more about COVID-19 at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) has excellent resources at <https://anthc.org/news/resources-coronavirus/>

The State of Alaska Dept. of Health & Social Services has very good resources as well at <http://www.dhss.alaska.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

If you or a family member has flu-like symptoms (fever, cough or shortness of breath), or believe you may have been exposed to coronavirus, you should:

- Remain home and call your primary care provider. Calling ahead helps to determine the most appropriate care.
- If you have traveled outside of the YK Delta region in the last two weeks and you have the above symptoms, call ahead before seeking care. In villages, call your village clinic or the YKHC representative. In Bethel, call 543-6949.
- Refrain from visiting hospital emergency departments, urgent care or outpatient clinics to avoid spreading the virus. If you're in Anchorage and need to visit the ANMC Emergency Department with symptoms, call ahead for procedures to limit exposure to others at (907) 729-1729.
- If you need immediate medical care, call 911 or your local emergency responders.

We encourage you to stay safe in your homes and continue observing the CDC, ANTHC and State of Alaska guidelines to protect yourself and loved ones. Please know that the Native Village of Georgetown Council Members care about your wellness and safety during this difficult time.

What's Cooking?

Cheesecake Egg Rolls

INGREDIENTS

FOR THE SAUCE

2 c. chopped strawberries
2 tbsp. water
2 tbsp. granulated sugar

FOR THE EGG ROLLS

2 (8-oz.) blocks cream cheese, softened
1/2 c. granulated sugar
1/2 c. sour cream
1 tsp. pure vanilla extract
Pinch kosher salt
12 eggroll wrappers
Vegetable oil, for frying
Powdered sugar, for garnish

In a small sauce pan over medium heat, combine strawberries, water, and sugar. Stir to combine and bring to a simmer. Stirring frequently, cook until thick and jammy, 3 to 4 minutes. Transfer to a medium bowl and set

Cheesecake Egg Rolls continued on page 5

Birthday Wishes to...

April

Jamie Evans
Bryan Goodwin
Rachele Notti
Donna Vanderpool
Ronnie Vanderpool
Jeffery Venes
Rebecca Wilmarth
Linda Evans
Helen Vanderpool
Ty Dudley
James Wilmarth
Morgen Evans
Johnaven Notti

May

Todd Fredericks
George Fredericks
Dina Notti
Kristopher Vanderpool
Michael Binnig

June

Chris Fredericks
Zachary Fredericks
Will Hartman
Kaelen Rosander
Betty Vanderpool
Dino Notti
Mary Binnig
Connor Dudley
Kattie Wilmarth
Austin Wilmarth
Jaylynda Notti
Brooklyn Green



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Upcoming Events



Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/Georgetowntribalcouncil

April

8-10 Alaska Tribal Administrator Association
Symposium

12 Easter

15 Tax Day

May

7 & 8 Calista Regional Summit

10 Mother's Day

25 Memorial Day

June

21 Father's Day

July

4 Independence Day