

Hoonah Schools Newsletter

March 2015

Heentaanax Dís: The month when saltwater fish spawn.

Elizabeth Peratrovich Day Events in Hoonah

Every February 16th, the state holiday of Elizabeth Peratrovich Day is observed in connection to the February 16, 1945 signing of the Anti-Discrimination Act, which made it illegal to discriminate because of race. Around the state, communities recognize and celebrate the efforts of Elizabeth Peratrovich and other civil rights leaders.

This year the Presbyterian Church, Hoonah City Schools, The Esther Greenwald Public Library, ANS & ANB Camp 12, and the City of Hoonah partnered to honor this day. From 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. the Presbyterian Church was the host location for serving free sisterhood stew made by ANS to anyone who stopped by. Good food and great company were shared by all who took part. At 2:30, the middle and high school students met in the



Photo by Mary Beth Moss

Alumni Gym with community members for a short presentation on Elizabeth Peratrovich by ANS President



Mary Marks, Wanda Culp, and Cathy Bolton. After the program, all in attendance marched from the school to

City Hall with signs and a banner in celebration of Elizabeth Peratrovich Day. Once at City Hall, Mayor Skaflestad met the marchers and recognized Elizabeth Peratrovich, the participants of the march and the importance of the day. A big thank you to all who helped make this commemoration a meaningful experience, including our awesome students!

Thank you to Amelia Wilson for this article.

Coming Friday, April 17th

The 25th Annual Hoonah Schools Heritage Celebration Ku.éex'

Hosted this year by the Raven Students

Mark your calendars – everyone is invited! Call Carol Williams or Daphne Wright at the school (945-3611) if you want to help. See page 5 for a list of donations needed and other ways to help.

Superintendent's Message

Dear Elders, Family Members, and Hoonah Community Members,

I hope that you look forward to receiving this marvelous newsletter. I learned from our legislators that they read about Hoonah City Schools through our newsletter. This may be old school technology, however some folks still appreciate something to hold. Thank you Ms. Wright and staff for all the hard work.



time and ready to teach, we are showing our students that we respect their learning time. If we gossip or say things about another adult, and we think students don't hear or understand, we are wrong. Every action we have toward each other is observed and recorded by our students. Therefore, as educators we need to treat each other and our families with respect. I also expect that the community, when interacting with teachers and all school staff, do it with respect. Respect and kindness are the keystones to our academic teaching and learning.

My favorite quote is "KINDESS IS A LANGUAGE THE BLIND CAN SEE AND THE DEAF CAN HEAR".
PJ Ford Slack, Interim Superintendent

School Board News

Spring greetings from your Board President!

The school board has a dual role: To represent the concerns of the [community] to the school administrators, and to represent the needs of the students and the school district to the [community].

I recently ran across the above statement online at *oldbrideadmin.org*, and it helped me to understand the role of a school board better because it summarizes our role as go-betweens. I hope that it helps to clarify for others what they can expect of us.

Your Board held a retreat on Saturday, January 31st, during which we accomplished our annual self-evaluation and the board president's evaluation; set annual goals for ourselves; discussed the pros and cons of adopting a drug-testing policy; and decided to create a new strategic plan this coming fall.

By analyzing the results of our self-evaluation, we arrived at two goals to pursue during the next year. The first goal is to revisit our entire board policy manual in order to bring it up-to-date. We had originally planned to do this in a public workshop over a weekend in March or April. What with individuals' scheduling conflicts, however, we have had to postpone the workshop until this fall. After this wholesale revision, we will set up a schedule in which we will revisit one section of our policy manual each year, rotating through all the sections over a period of years.

Our second goal is to improve our community relations. We are looking forward to holding a public forum on this topic sometime before the end of the school year in order to brainstorm ways to accomplish this goal. (You'll notice that this goal is directly tied to both parts of our "dual role" as quoted above.)

Please feel free to call me at 945-3307 or email me at hutton99829@gmail.com if you are interested in helping your board to revise policy, improve community relations and/or create a new strategic plan.

As always, *any* member of the community is welcome to contact me at *any* time to discuss *any* concerns regarding the school. I'm here to listen, and I promise to address your concern promptly and according to board policy. *Bob Hutton, Board President*

Spring is in the air and I want to thank you all for the warm welcome I have received since arriving in Hoonah. I love the gentlemen who sit outside the L. Kane Store and wave to me when I go by. What a delightful group and example of the warmth of Hoonah.

I know I haven't met everyone so I shall take this moment to introduce myself. My name is Dr. PJ Ford Slack and I go by Dr. PJ to the students and PJ to everyone else. Ford is my mother's last name and Slack is my Dad's. When I was publishing I wanted to honor all my relatives, hence no hyphen in the last name.

Alaska has been our home for sixteen years. My husband, David Rupp, teaches in the Sitka School District. We have two sons and three grandchildren. However both of us grew up in large families.

Alaska has offered me many opportunities: State Special Education Director, Director of Teaching and Learning (EED), Principal positions in Barrow, North Pole, and Sitka and the Superintendent of Delta/Greely School District. My degrees are from the University of Sydney and the University of Oregon. I am not from an academic family so I understand what it is like to navigate college when your family has not chosen that path. Being a resource to students is very important to me.

Throughout my 41 years in education, starting in Australia and enriched by times in Papua, New Zealand, China, Leech Lake Reservation, and Oregon, I have been guided by the words of my great grandmothers. Sit, listen, and learn. Because I listened, I had the opportunity to learn a great deal more than any university class taught me about teaching. Number one is to respect each other. Number two is that all of my actions are part of what I am teaching. Number three; there are many paths to learning.

I often talk to school staff and communities about the "hidden curriculum". The Hidden Curriculum is made up of actions and behaviors between adults. Students watch everything we do. If as adults we treat each other badly, then our students see that as a way to act with their classmates. If we are on



A Message from the Principal

Dear Families,

It's almost state testing time and I have news to share with you about this year's tests. The Alaska Department of Education has prepared the following FAQs for Parents to get you up to speed about the changes that have been made since 2014.

FAQ's for Parents

1. Why is there a new state assessment? What happened to the

SBAs?

- A. There are new Alaska state standards that focus on preparing students for the workplace, technical schools, or college. The SBAs are not aligned with the new Alaska standards.
- B. Computer-based assessments allow for a more engaging and challenging testing experience.
- C. Computer-based assessments allow for more tools and accommodations for students.
- D. Computer skills are a part of English language arts, Math, and technology standards.

2. Who has to take the AMP assessment? What other tests are changing?

All students in grades 3-10 must take the AMP assessment. Students will no longer have to take the HSGQE or the Terra Nova.

3. What kind of items will be on the AMP assessment?

AMP items will require deeper thinking and fewer bubbles to fill in. The computerized AMP will use engaging features such as drop-and-drag, plotting points on a graph, or highlighting text.

4. How many items are on the AMP assessment?

There will be between 70-75 items for the English language arts and Math subtest.

5. How long does the AMP assessment take?

There is an estimated time of 2-3 hours for the math subtest and 2-3 hours for the English language arts subtest.

6. When will the AMP assessment take place?

The test window is between Monday, March 30th and Friday, May 1st.

7. How do I help my child prepare for taking a test on a computer?

Practice tests for students to learn how to use the computer's tools and technology-enhanced items are now available. Technology practice tests are being given at school and can also be taken at home.

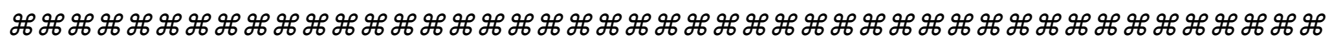
8. What kind of tools/accommodations will be available to students?

- 1. Universal tools are available to all students. They include highlighters, on screen sticky notes, and graph paper.
- 2. Accessibility tools are available to all students with a documented need, but must be activated by teachers prior to test administration. Examples include auditory calming, audio text, and headphones.
- 3. Accommodations are available to students with disabilities and English language learners. Examples include braille, scribe, and isolated location.

AMP TESTING SCHEDULE	Apr. 1-2	Apr. 3	Apr. 6	Apr. 7-8	Apr. 9-10	Apr. 15-16
	Eng/Math	Science	Science	Eng/Math	Eng/Math	Eng/Math
	Grade 3	Grade 8	Grade 4	Grade 9	Grade 7	Grade 5
	Grade 4	Grade 10		Grade 10	Grade 8	Grade 6

Thanks ahead of time for making sure your student is here during their testing days.

*Lorrie Scoles
K-12 Principal*



About this newsletter: This publication is a project of the Title VII Native Education Program at Hoonah City Schools. Its purpose is to inform families and the rest of the community about what is going on at school. Please contact Daphne Wright at the school (945-3611 x 102) with questions or suggestions regarding this project. She can also be reached by email: wrightd@hoonahschools.org. You can find the online version of this newsletter on the school website: www.hoonahschools.org.

The Esther Greenwald Public Library is Awesome

Don't just take our word for it. Here's what people in our community are saying about your library:



"I've been a patron of the Hoonah library for more years than I can recall. I've lost track of the number of books I've checked out there. I've used it as a resource for references for writing my books and when I worked there, I used the library computers to write my first book, Wilderness Blues. In recent years I've regularly checked out books from the "new release" shelf that McNaughton supplies. They have a rotating supply of books, so there is always something fresh to read. I've also taken advantage of the ILL (Interlibrary Loan) program when I've wanted books that weren't readily available at this library. It's always a pleasure to go up and see what's available. We've got a library that is second to none and I would encourage everyone to go check it out." --Tom Botts

"I use the library to download books and music on my kindle. I also use the public computers and wifi in addition to research and checking out books on building and electrical do-it-yourself guides." --Bob Hughes

"I go to the library to use the computer for email and online research. Also to participate in planning for community events such as the Elizabeth Peratrovich Day celebrations and cultural events." --Wanda Culp

"I go to the library to use wifi to update my tablet, order books, music and other things online and to use Facebook to keep in touch with family. I also check out books and DVDs." --William "Cookie" Cook



"I use the library computers for research and to type up and print ANS letters, agendas and flyers. I appreciate using the library's computers because the library staff is always very helpful with any formatting help I may need." --Mary Marks

"I come to the library to get online information and books on electrical, parts and boat repair. I'm also able to get help troubleshooting and updating my personal laptop. And I check out DVDs regularly." --Michael Rowse

"My co-workers and I have been going to the library on Mondays to meet for our distance-delivery Tlingit language class. We use the meeting room to call in and connect to the class online." --Alice Haldane

"I think the Esther Greenwald Public Library is one of the unsung heroes of life in Hoonah. My children Teresa and Dietrich can have a free snackbox, check out books and videos while downloading games and school work. A lot of adults can use the wifi to research or conduct business. Best of all these services are free and the staff is very friendly and helpful." --Travis Lewis



Xúx' Daakahídi

Esther Greenwald Public library

Monday - Saturday 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

More news from the Library . . .

Do you want to learn a new language? Check out this awesome interactive website free to use!

The Alaska State Library is happy to provide Mango Languages, online classes for over 60 foreign languages for employees and residents of Alaska.



It's easy to sign up for a FREE account:

1. Go to the Mango Languages start page <http://connect.mangolanguages.com/alaska/login?u=492624>
2. Click on the orange, "Sign Up Now" tab, and create a profile using your email address and a password that you choose.
3. Check your email for a confirmation email and follow the instructions there.
4. Then, return to the Mango Languages start page and log in using the email address and password you just created.

They also have Apps to learn a new language! Download the app, and study any Mango language classes directly from your iPhone, iPad, or Android device! Just sign up for your free account on a computer first. Then, from your mobile device, follow the link once you're logged in, or search at the App Store or Google Store.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM



A great way to keep our kids reading is to have them join the summer reading program. It is a fun way to include reading and activities this summer and it helps children maintain and improve reading skills. Studies have shown that children perform better in school when they read throughout the summer.

This summer program's focus is on HEROES. We will explore superheroes, cultural heroes, community heroes like our police and firefighters, and more. The summer reading program will be offered weekly and will include a story time and a fun craft or activity. Every child will earn a prize each week for reading (or being read to). Look for more information coming soon.

Native Education News

Our annual Heritage Celebration Ku.éex' is scheduled for Friday, April 17th. The year marks the 25th year that Hoonah Schools has held this event. Everyone is invited!

Raven students are this year's hosts. The students will be performing songs, dances and skits to entertain the audience. The students in 5th grade are getting their traditional introduction speeches ready, as are some 6th graders who weren't here for last year's ku.éex'.

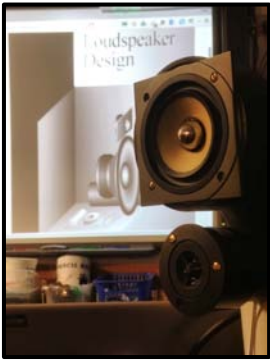
As usual, we are asking the community to help us with this event. We are asking for donations of food or cash to help us with the lunch that is served after the program. Food items that are requested are: salmon & halibut, fresh or frozen; berries, from the store or the forest (fresh, frozen or jarred); jarred or dried traditional foods such as smoked salmon, seaweed, jams and jellies (these are used as gifts for special guests.) We also have our own tradition of making trail mix

to give as gifts to the guests. Donations of trail mix fixings are very welcome: nuts, dried fruit, chocolate chips, etc.

Helpers would be most welcome also. We can use help on the day of the event, with preparing lunch, helping the students serve their guests, taking pictures or video-taping, cleaning up, etc. Please contact Carol Williams or Daphne Wright at the school if you have questions or would like to help this year.

Tlingit Study Group is nearing the end of our Winter Session, with two more meetings scheduled: March 25th and April 1st. In all, we will have met ten times this session, which is more than any other session in quite a few years. This time, we have focused on learning some of the verbs needed to talk about "going places." We will have an End-of-the-Year Get-together sometime in mid-May, where we'll enjoy some snacks, play some games, and talk about ways to study independently during the off-season. Gunalchéesh to Deiwjee (Genevieve Cook) for all of her help.

Engineering Comes Alive at Hoonah High!



What better way for learning to come alive than by applying your math and science to design and build something original?

In Physical Science class, students are designing and building their own 2-way powered speakers, an applied science of electromagnetism and sound. For example, they have had to calculate the volume of the boxes based on speaker driver resonance and wind their own inductor coils for the crossovers so that only the high notes go to the tweeter. Then once the speakers are completed, there are all the listening tests and adjustments of box stuffing, port length, crossovers and more to get the sound just right. A stretch goal is to provide the HHS Prom with a 12-speaker sound system! Thanks to Trevor Hill for a donation of the 8" pipe used in the speaker boxes and Mr. Mullet's math class for calculation support and building a miter box for precisely angled cuts.

In Multimedia class, we are learning the Python computer programming language as we build interactive stories from within Minecraft, the popular video game. We have already made complex and repetitive tasks automatic - like building huge streets of house and large structures. Soon we will make Minecraft objects behave in new ways and even invent new things the original creators of Minecraft never even thought of. All of this requires a lot of trial and error as we build and test new ideas – in other words, engineering! It certainly doesn't 'feel' like we are also learning one of the most popular programming languages in industry and on the internet!



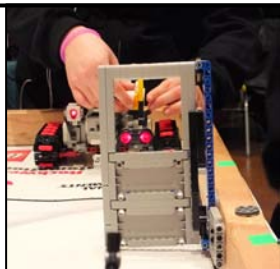
A LEGO maxi-fig smiles for our team shot!

This fall our Master Builders robotics team met after school to engineer robots out of LEGO and research solutions to compete in Lego League's World Class challenge held in Juneau at Centennial Hall, December 13, 2014. This year's competition was all about having our students teach the adults about the ways kids need and want to learn! They invented the game "Solar System Scramble" played on a basketball court and modeled a bit like Capture the Flag but with a twist where students learn the order, size, and other properties of all the planets in the solar system. Fun! Their

LEGO robot was designed and programmed to accomplish 15 different missions, each representing a different learning challenge or strategy.

We were a particularly young team, which means all but two members are eligible to compete next year – so we should do even better next season!

The most challenging aspect in all of these projects is being successful at the engineering design process, where almost nothing works the first time, everything needs to be tested and tweaked over and over again, and optimizing designs takes endless trial and error and even design restarts. Turning failure and frustration into stepping-stones for greater success is a true-to-life lesson we educators have a tendency to protect our students from (who wants to frustrate a child?).



Nina preps Hoonah's robot for the 'open door' mission

Hoonah Sophomore Attends Culinary Bootcamp



In December, when much of the Hoonah High School was participating in volleyball regional competition, sophomore Kelsey Thein was attending a ProStart Culinary Bootcamp. The program is put on by the organization that created the Culinary Arts curriculum that Hoonah City Schools purchased in 2012. ProStart also hosts a national competition for high school students that are curious about jobs in the food service industry. Kelsey Thein is decidedly interested in becoming a chef.

When asked what she would like to do after she finishes high school, Kelsey has a plan. She would “like to do a few years of culinary school, then work for some restaurants” and eventually come home to open her own restaurant. She isn’t a student to simply talk about what she wants to do; she is already taking steps to make it happen. She has contacted schools and already begun receiving brochures in the mail even though she is only a sophomore.

The Culinary Bootcamp in Anchorage gave Kelsey a taste of what it is like to be trained by professional chefs. “We learned to fabricate chicken and some of the ways you have to act in a kitchen, like having to say ‘sharp knife’ anytime we were carrying a knife.” Students also learned four of the basic knife cuts, the most difficult of which was the tournad. Although difficult, Kelsey held her own and even returned and showed her classmates how to perform the cut (it looks like a tiny football when done correctly).

Perhaps next year the event won’t land on the same weekend as the volleyball regional tournament and more students will be able to attend and who knows, maybe they will even compete in the cooking competition.

Honor Roll—2nd Quarter/1st Semester 2014/15 **“A” Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point** **Average of 3.33 – 4.00**

Middle School

Kaylahni Bidiman – Qt./Sem.
 Gabriella Comolli – Qt./Sem.
 Liyah Jewell – Qt.
 Zada Michel – Qt./Sem.
 Leticia Skaflestad – Qt./Sem.

High School

DongQiang Liu – Qt./Sem.
 Krissy Lockabey – Qt./Sem.
 Jordan McLuckie – Qt./Sem.
 Alaska Skaflestad – Qt./Sem.
 Morgan Stevenson – Qt./Sem.
 Kelsey Thein – Qt./Sem.

“B” Honor Roll for students with a Grade Point **Average of 3.00 – 3.32**

Halle Budke – Sem.
 Arianna Hinchman – Qt./Sem.
 Liyah Jewell – Sem.
 Dylan Johnson – Qt./Sem.
 Josh Wright – Qt./Sem.
 Aiyanna Williams Qt./Sem.

Johnny Hinchman – Qt./Sem.
 Hannah Jewell – Qt./Sem.
 Austin Martuscelli – Qt.
 Kobe Rutherford – Qt./Sem.
 Jerry White – Qt./Sem.



Art in Middle School Class

Artist-in-Residence Kathy Hocker invited Gordon Greenwald to speak to the 7-8 students about traditional carving tools used in Northwest Coast art. After he came and demonstrated how the different tools are used, their assignment was to draw illustrations of the various knives and adzes. Kathy put together a beautiful poster with some of the students’ drawings. A part of the poster is shown below. Gunalchéesh to Kathy and to Gordon for working with the students. And a big “Yak’ei!” (Good Job!) to the students.



Hello from the K-2 Class

We have been really busy here for the last couple of months. January went off with a bang. We began the month with an in-depth study on the penguins of the world. We found all penguins are in the Southern Hemisphere on 3 different continents. We studied penguins from each continent researching their appearance, predators and interesting facts. We even had a little fun comparing how tall we are to them. Did you know the Emperor penguin is 4 feet tall? Lastly, we had the chance to compare the penguins to the puffins we have in Alaska. Remarkably there are lots of similarities. Furthermore, in Mrs. Sharclane's class, students each selected an arctic animal to research and collect data on.

February is always short and super packed with things to do. To kick off the month, our 100th day of school was on February 6th. We had such a great time: we made a 100-marshmallow 3 dimensional design, made a bubble gum machine with 100 dots, made a 100th day t-shirt, made a 100th day hat, and became fit as a fiddle with exercising our muscles to 100. February 6th is also National Bubble Gum Day. Schools around the nation have students bring in a small donation to support their favorite charity. So, we all brought in \$1.00 in various ways, i.e. 100 pennies, 10 dimes, etc. Our class collected \$28 for the American Heart Association.



Then, of course, there was Valentine's Day, which is so much fun. Thanks to all the parents who donated. Our class had a great time writing and reading our "sweet notes" and eating some sweets, too! Additionally, we had our annual *Jump Rope for Heart*. We want to thank all of you who donated to this special event. Our elementary collected over \$2,100 for the American Heart Association. Gunalchéesh!

Lastly, the month of March has been loaded with fun, too! We began the month with our annual *Read Across America*, which is our way to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday on March



2nd. We kicked off the week of celebrating by having school wide activities. We began the morning by eating "Green Eggs and Ham"; thank you, Kathy Harris. The kids loved breakfast. Then we had a special visitor, Paul Magid from the New Old Time Chautauqua, start our activities with some juggling fun. He is coming back for another visit on the 5th of July with his entourage of entertainers. Afterwards, we went to our classroom activities: Seuss Jeopardy, making a new hat for the Cat, Seuss reading and photo shoot, having a butter battle and making a shaving cream colored bookmark. To end our day we had a "Fox in Socks Hop" an old-fashioned sock hop doing the limbo, the hand jive and just boogieing on down. Oh yeah, there was a visit from the Cat in the Hat, too! You should have seen how he could limbo!

Also in March, we started learning about balance and motion in our FOSS science kits. The students and adults have had so much fun practicing our balancing skills. We even have a balance beam in our classroom for added practice. Then Kathy Hocker, our artist in residence, showed the students how balance shows up in nature through the use of whale art. The students got to make their own balanced whale fluke and practice drawing different parts of the humpback whale. When Miss Hocker was finished with our art lessons, she read us her new book she wrote and illustrated called *When You See Flukes*. She even gave us an autographed copy. Thank you so much, Miss Hocker!

A note from Miss Higgins:
With the start of Spring Break my full time student teaching ends in Mrs. Fuller's class. I have been blessed to be a part of such a supportive environment from all involved. I really enjoyed my experience of full-time teaching, and look forward to working with the students for the last month of my internship before graduation in early May.
Sara Higgins



News From Third-Fourth Grade

The past few months have been full of hands-on learning. We had the opportunity to study different jawbones, skulls and teeth in Science as part of our study of the mouth, the first part of the digestive system. Mary Beth



Daniel & Alona studying animal jawbones on specimens brought in by Mary Beth Moss.

Moss put together nine stations of animal skull specimens for the students to study.

A few weeks later, Owen James brought in the digestive tract of a seal from the mouth down to the rectum. The students were in awe, especially when Owen showed us how to blow air through the trachea into the lungs. That was amazing! (See photo below.) We learned some very interesting facts about a seal's digestive system. Did you know that all seals have a forked tongue? Owen also shared that before cooking and eating the lungs, it's important to



blow air into them so that they aren't so leathery. Our class would like to give a huge thank you to Owen and Mary Beth for providing

such fabulous learning opportunities for us!

At the end of January, our class, along with students all across the state of Alaska from 3rd-10th grade, took part in an "AMP it up Day." This "AMP it up Day" gave students a chance to practice problems similar to those they will have on the statewide testing in April, and to get used to some of the computer tools they will use for this test. AMP stands for Alaska Measures of Progress and will be testing the students in the areas of English language arts and math. As this test gets closer, I will inform families of the exact dates. The Alaska Measures of Progress are more challenging and



Mary Beth Moss showed a diagram of an animal skull and brought many different animal skulls for the students to examine.

engaging than the old tests, and the students really seemed to enjoy that it was done on the computer.

March 2nd was Dr. Seuss' birthday, and this day seems to be a favorite of elementary students. The class was involved in many fun activities from Dr. Seuss Jeopardy, reading Dr. Seuss stories, making hats, and even having a Sock Hop dance!

This week marks the start of the Iditarod. Every student in our class chose a musher, and we kept track daily of our musher's progress by checking the race updates on the computer. When possible, we watched video clips of the mushers at different checkpoints caring for their dogs, and sharing their encounters on the trail. We will see who the winner in our class is when we come back from Spring Break!



Our friend Moto has come to visit for the last 8 years. He gave a very informative talk on the culture of Japan. He left a Japanese book up in the library for all the students to enjoy.

Finally, our class would like to thank all of the North Carolina college students who came and helped in our class. We loved having you here. We also want to thank our friend Moto for joining us again, and teaching us about Japan.

*Until next time,
Jen Bidiman*

Fifth—Sixth Grade News

The 5-6 and 7-8 graders started new exploratory classes second semester. They had the choice of four classes: Native Art, Strategy Games, Art, and Technology. In stories on this page, sixth graders Ethan and Esias tell about the classes they are taking, Art and Technology. Some of the other students are in Native Art, which includes beading with Carol Williams, NW coast design taught by Gordon Greenwald, and drum making with Darlene See. In Strategy Games, the students meet with Dianne Sullivan and play games involving strategies, including chess and checkers. The exploratory classes meet four days a week, from 2:30 to 3:30. The choices first semester were Drama, Art, Culinary Arts and Spanish.

Art Class by Ethan Ruerup

Art Class, led by Ms. Harold, is an amazing experience and brings something new and interesting to the table every period. Being in Art Class is hard work, and as you can probably assume, contains much trial and error. However, the endless amount of changing, erasing, and sometimes starting over, of your art is outweighed by the amount of fun we have in there.



Art, to me, didn't seem complicated before Art Class. I thought it was just a three-step program: get a pencil, get a paper, and draw. But now that I've attended class for a few weeks, boy do I realize how wrong I was!

Like anything, art comes with practice. And practice. And more practice. In art there are three words to remember: trial and error. And even after hours of work, your drawing sometimes won't be perfect.

But as a wise woman once said, "If you want a perfect representation of something, take a picture." —Stephanie Harold.

NC State Students Visit Hoonah

For the last nine years, North Carolina State University has sent a team of about fifteen students to Hoonah over their spring break with a focus on education. As many have seen, we arrived in Hoonah Saturday night, March 7th and will depart Saturday morning March 14th. As a group, we are so thankful for this opportunity the Hoonah community has given us from the welcome hugs Rory gave us to the chance to work in the schools and visit with the community elders.

We are spending the majority of our time helping in an array of classrooms in the Hoonah School. While our time in the school is short, we are loving every second of it. After the first day of meeting the students, we felt like we have known them for years. This experience has helped each one of us grow as individuals, and we hope we have touched the lives of the community as much as they have touched our hearts. Everyday has been an adventure, and we have learned so much about the Tlingit culture. It is a beautiful culture and we have enjoyed experiencing it.



Xaviery (Arctic tern)

In Art class with Kathy Hocker, the 5-6 students drew birds, using watercolor pencils, then brushed water over the whole drawing. The resulting colors are quite vivid.

Skyler (Peregrine falcon)

Isaac (Red-breasted sapsucker)

Technology by Esias Kohler

Technology isn't a class where we learn how to build a computer. It's a class where we learn about computer programs and Microsoft. So far we learned how to make a budget, and how to make plans for a trip. And we have been getting better at keyboarding skills. I say Technology should be an elective for at least one more year. I recommend that if you are house hunting or going to another place, I say use Microsoft Exile. It helps a lot. There have been a few troubles every now and then, but I'm not going to jinx myself, but things have been going smoothly; we have learned a lot! I say that Technology Class should stay.

Welcome to Ms. Aderman

When the 5-6 students return from Spring Break, they will be greeted by Ms. Candy Aderman, who will be their teacher for the rest of this year, while Ms. Michelle Amundson is on a leave of absence. Ms. Aderman taught the 7-8 class last year, and was one of the Summer School teachers before that, so she is familiar with our students and community. Welcome back to Hoonah, Ms. Aderman!



Photo courtesy of Stan North Martin

Finally, we would like to thank everyone of Hoonah for accepting us with open arms and making us feel extremely welcomed. This trip will be something we remember for the rest of our lives. Also, thank you for everything you all have done for us. It is a privilege and an honor, and we wish everyone the best of luck.

Written by Rob McCarthy

ASB Alaska Trip 2015

Varsity Basketball Season Wrap-up

By Morgan Stevenson

The Hoonah Braves girls and boys varsity basketball season has come to a close. Both teams have just returned from a weeklong trip to Sitka for Regionals, only one of two week long trips. Both teams played hard and with great sportsmanship. All-Conference awards were given to Torsten Skaflestead and Alaska Skaflestead. The Sportsmanship awards were given to Morgan Stevenson, Kobe Rutherford, Randy Roberts, and Alaska Skaflestead. *“The players had a great season, full of improvement, sportsmanship, and dedication to the sport.”* Coach Adam Gretsinger.

The Hoonah Braves are looking forward to next year’s basketball season, though we will definitely miss the two seniors, Torsten Skaflestead and Jacob Bean next season. The boys’ team was fairly large this year, having a total of sixteen boys; while the girls’ team was small and played with five to six girls each game. Both of the teams played hard this season, and we are sad to see it come to an end.



Girls Varsity Basketball Team: Back, Coach Adam Gretsinger, Krissy Lockaby, Mary Jack, Monique Glover. Front, Morgan Stevenson, Vanessa Contreras, Alaska Skaflestad. Missing: Ronie Roberts



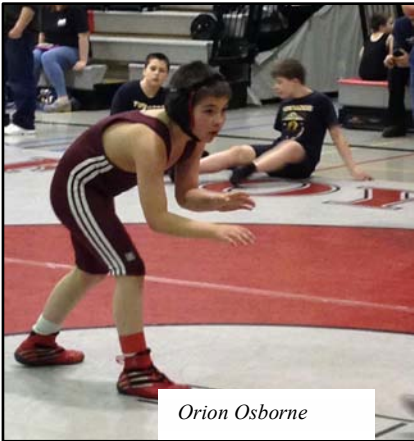
Boys Varsity Basketball Team, Back: Antonio Phillips, Jeff Devlin, Jacob Bean, Torsten Skaflestad, Kobe Rutherford, Jerry White III. Front: Manny Budke, Randy Roberts, Austin Martuscelli, Treston Lafferty, Raymond Osborne, Jamal Smith.



Thank you to the Stevenson family for the action photos. Left, Manny goes for the layup; above, Torsten gets the jump ball; and right, Ronie dribbles past two Skagway Panthers.



Jr. High Wrestling News



Orion Osborne

The team this year consisted of Josh Wright, Edward Williams, Kaylahni Bidiman, Orion Osborne, and Daniel Williams. The team was coached by Eric Williams along with many of the high school wrestlers who volunteered their time. Special recognition goes out to Zachary Williams who attended every practice and helped



L to R: Jen Bidiman (chaperone), Kaylahni, Orion, Josh, Coach Eric Williams, Edward, Daniel and Zachary

demonstrate technique.

The team was allowed to travel to Juneau to compete against Floyd Dryden and Dzantik'I Héeni for their first competitions. All the wrestlers won matches. Josh Wright had a great weekend finishing with a 7-0 record and defeating the best Juneau had to offer.



Josh Wright, on top

The following weekend the team traveled to Ketchikan to compete in the Southeast tournament. This team, although small, should be very proud. Everyone who participated for Hoonah won matches. Josh went 4-2 and placed 5th. Kaylahni finished 3rd in her weight class. Edward won his first match of his young career and every match was a barn burner. Fifth grader Orion Osborne won three matches and finished 5th.

Thank you to Jen Bidiman for traveling as a chaperone. I would also like to thank this group of kids for being so much fun to be around and coach. You will all be successful if you continue to be willing to do the work.

Thanks again, Coach Williams

Hoonah Fun & Fit Partnership News

Lack of the white stuff has made Fun & Fit's snowshoeing plans *melt away* this winter. Maybe next year?

Thirty participants tracked their steps all through February's Raven Eagle Walking Challenge. Total steps taken this year was 6,895,451. The **Ravens** were the leaders again this year with an average per Raven at 50,959 steps. The Eagles averaged 43,166 steps per walker.

The Walking Challenge Awards Luncheon was held on Sunday, March 8th at the William & Mary Johnson Youth Center. Award winners were announced while everyone enjoyed a delicious and nutritious lunch.

Awards were as follows:

Raven—Most Steps	Lori Darnell 828, 279
Eagle—Most Steps	Sally Dybdahl 379,241
Most Improved Over Last Year	was Raven Chauncey White (who more than doubled her steps.)
Youngest Walker	Raven Theodore Elliott
Raven--Most Bonus Steps	Darlene See
Eagle--Most Bonus Steps	Faith Grant

Thank you to Lisa Wray at SEARHC Injury Prevention for loaning us pedometers to get our walkers going on January 31st.



Photos, from left: Lori Darnell & Sally Dybdahl, Most Steps from each team; Theodore Elliott, Youngest Walker.

Thank you to The Hoonah Liquor Board for matching funds to finance our activities aimed at providing increased recreational opportunities and to fight obesity.

PRESCHOOL AND TOTS NEWS

In Preschool we did an exciting unit on Planes and Boats and talked about how supplies get to us in Hoonah. Children role played pilots in the pretend plane in our classroom flying around Alaska, to Seattle and even as far as Africa! We talked to the control tower, flight attendants served snacks, and mechanics fixed broken propellers.



We also studied beavers and, for a Bodies and Senses unit, had

our very own “Tots Clinic” in the classroom. Children took turns playing doctor and patient, learned body parts in Tlingit and especially liked when Mrs. Wright brought in a giant Mr. Potato Head to help us learn!



At our January family event, families made math games to take home to play. They also learned ways to incorporate beginning math

concepts everyday by counting and sorting objects, looking at numbers, noticing patterns, talking about shapes, using positional words, and cooking. In February, we loved getting creative and incorporating literacy skills while making sweet valentines!

We'll see you on Tuesdays at 10:45 for the Baby/Toddler Playgroup, Wednesdays at 11:15 for Story Time in the Library with Amelia and at 2:15 at the pool, and Fridays at 10:00 for the Birth-5 Playgroup. Work on a project every other Tuesday at 4:00 during Culture Time. Check our monthly calendars around town for more details or come by the PAT room 105.



NEW OLD TIME CHAUTAUQUA COMING TO HOONAH

This community of performers, friends, and families see *live performance* as a way to share laughter, friendship, and wonder AND they're coming to **Hoonah July 5 & 6!**

Summer, 1992 was their first visit to our town.

SEE:

A Vaudeville Variety Show

View or Join in a Parade with jugglers, unicycles, stilts, dancers, etc.

Eat together/share food at a Community Potluck

Attend workshops for all ages in magic, acrobatics, clowning, juggling, storytelling, song swap, etc.

Troupe of 50-60 people will serve Hoonah...clear trails, weed community garden, e.g.

Want more information? www.chautauqua.org

Want to help? Want to donate? Please contact Amelia Wilson, Esther Greenwald Library or (907)945-3611.

**HTC Seeking College Interns for 2015 Season:
Application Deadline April 3**

Huna Totem Corporation is now accepting applications for college interns. Applicants must have completed two years at an accredited University, in good standing, with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or greater, and be continuing their education in the fall. Interns will spend time in three locations, Juneau, Hoonah, and Glacier Bay. In Juneau the interns will spend time and learn from the management staff in the corporate office, Alaska Native Voices, Huna Heritage Foundation and our newest venture, Authentic Brand. In Hoonah, the interns will be able to see the operational side of our subsidiary, Icy Strait Point. Finally, in Glacier Bay, with Alaska Native Voices, the interns will be able to witness where the people of Hoonah originated and learn about interpretation from our Heritage Guides.

Interns will have opportunities to work with each level of management, including the President and CEO of Huna Totem Corporation. They will be able to take part in special projects, plan events, and meet interns from other Native Organizations. This position will be 10 weeks starting May 11, 2015. The wage will be \$15.00/hour. Per ANCSA, hiring preference for both interns will be given to qualified HTC shareholders and descendants. **The deadline for applying is April 3, 2015.** Late or incomplete applications may not be considered. Applications must include the following to be considered:

- Completed Huna Totem Corporation Intern Application
- Last Official Transcript
- Letter of Recommendation (Professor or Employer)
- Resume
- Cover Letter to include: Why you are applying for this program, what you hope to gain from this experience, your educational background and your goals. Intern Applications may be printed from the Huna Totem Corporation website: www.hunatotem.com. Applicants may reach Amber Henderson, Shareholder Relations Manager, with questions regarding the internship program.



**Alaska Business Week Scholarship Offered:
Application Deadline April 3**

Huna Totem Corporation is offering a high school student a scholarship to attend the 2015 Alaska Business Week. Alaska Business Week (ABW) is a one week summer program teaching the basic principles of private sector business to Alaskan high school students. Participants reside on the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus, where they grow as leaders, mentored by Alaska's business elite. Our 2012 High School Intern, Brittney Jack, attended as part of her internship

program. She had a wonderful experience and recommended we continue to support the program. Last year Hoonah Senior Delores Smith attended ABW with a HTC scholarship also. This is a great opportunity for a high school student to experience what college life is all about and what opportunities are available for them. **Applications for the scholarship are due April 3, 2015.** The scholarship will include tuition and airfare to attend the event! Applications and more details may be found online at www.hunatotem.com. Questions may be directed to Amber Henderson, Shareholder Relations Manager.

**SEARHC Traditional Foods Program Report
from Kathy McCrobie**

The Traditional Food Program goals are to strengthen our communities through knowledge of our local traditional foods, partner with cultural activities, and promote economic development. It has been just over a year since the program began. We have had some great events. All of these events are free. If you have any suggestions on topics or events please let me know.

We are off to a great start this year! We've just started a single needle beading class taught by CarlieAnne Brown. This class will go four weeks. Coming up will be a three-day paddle workshop. This will be towards the end of March or in April. If you would like to lead a class or event you can receive a stipend, if you choose, for your efforts.

I would like to thank all of you for stepping up to lead a class or event!

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS NEWS

At the January 8th City Council Meeting, newly-elected Mayor Kenny Karl Skaflestad echoed Governor Bill Walker and President Barack Obama in proclaiming January 2015 as Mentoring Month. Our mission is to help Hoonah's children reach their potential through professionally supported one-to-one mentoring relationships.



On January 25th, twenty-four attended our Fun Time group activity upstairs at the William & Mary Johnson Youth Center. Go Fish, Ping Pong, Bowling, Foosball, Ring Toss, Cornhole, puzzles, and cup stacking were choices. Snacks were served. Special thanks to Kali Harris for set-up assistance.

Generous cash donations came from Janet Taylor in honor of Victor Bean's birthday and anniversary of his marriage to Diane. We received a cash donation from Nadine Morrison as well. Seth Williams helped install an updated computer in the BBBS Office (which we rent from the City of Hoonah). There are so many ways to help our program!

Bright sunshine on a crisp Saturday was perfect for our Hike on February 28th. Fueled by fresh water and roasted marshmallows, twenty-eight hikers of all ages enjoyed the paths through primeval forest, picnic areas, tables, and fire pits in the restored Lion's Club site near the airport. Thanks to the Hoonah Indian Association crew for their work on this project. And thanks to Karen S. Mills for the donation of marshmallows.

We recently celebrated a new Community Match: Big Brother Trevor and Little Brother Orion. *Photo below*



Photos on this page: top, Atkaheen & Abby at the BBBS Fun Event in January; left, Trevor & Orion; other pictures, some of the hikers who joined in our Feb. 28th outing: Patrick, Johan, Tatiana, Xaviery, Owena and Leah.

Don't miss our biggest fundraiser of the year on Saturday March 28th: **Bowl for Kids' Sake #11!** VOLUNTEER JOBS AVAILABLE: equipment

transporter, bowling alley set-up and cleanup crew, pinsetters, trivia questioners, scorekeepers, accountants, greeters, etc. Call Sally @ (907)209-9326 if you want to help.



Let Sally know if you are forming a team, or need help finding a team to join. All team members who raise \$25 or more are eligible for the 1.5 hour bowling party, cold drinks & pizza, prizes, and fun! Three strikes in a row is a TURKEY. Make 'em, and you'll win a frozen turkey!

The Grizzly Girls Team raised \$2586.25 for BBBS of Hoonah last year. Grizzly Team member Judy Brown (who raised \$1750.00 in pledges) won a statewide prize of two Round Trip tickets to anywhere Alaska Airlines flies!



Recyclers Alert: our van is due back April 9th (thanks, AML!); our first open day might be April 11th! Watch for signs.

Boxholder

**Hoonah City Schools Newsletter
March 2015**

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Dates to Remember:

End of 3rd Qt. for 7-12	March 27
BBBS Bowl for Kids' Sake	March 28
Spring Band Concert	April 14
Southeast Music Festival in Juneau	April 16-18
Clan Workshop	April 11-14
Hoonah Schools Heritage Celebration <u>Ku.éex'</u>	April 17
In-service Days Grades K-6 (regular school days for 7-12)	April 27-28
End of Year Band Concert	May 20
High School Graduation	May 22
Memorial Day Holiday	May 25
Last Day of School	May 29
Chautauqua Visits Hoonah	July 5-6



Hoonah City Schools Board of Education, L to R: Sandy Howard, Sally Dybdahl, Kristy Hinchman, Bob Hutton and Trevor Hill



Left: some of the North Carolina State students with the K-2 class; Right: Wanda Culp spoke to HS/MS students and NC State visitors about local history & Tlingit place names. These photos courtesy of Stan North Martin.

