Greetings fellow residents of the North Slope Borough.
I am pleased to give you a few highlights of the Borough’s activities coming into this New Year.
Covid-19 infection is still a threat; however, vaccinations have been given to our healthcare workers and first responders and are available to elders. We are waiting for a supply of vaccines that can be made available to the public.
This year began on a positive note with the swearing-in of House District 40 Representative Josiah Patkotak!

CONGRATULATION JOSIAH, IT IS COMFORTING TO HAVE OUR REGION SO WELL REPRESENTED IN JUNEAU AGAIN. WE HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CORPS) FOR THE DESIGN PHASE OF UTQIAGVIK’S COASTAL EROSION MITIGATION PROJECT.

(Continue on page 2)
(Continued from page 1)

It is exciting to have this project out of the feasibility phase and into the design. The first round of public meetings has already occurred, and we are glad that the Corps is engaging our stakeholders on this extremely important project. We strive to succeed in our other coastal communities.

Our Operating Budget for the next fiscal year is being developed and will be presented to the Assembly for consideration in late March. In early April, the Project Review Committee will recommend Capital Projects for consideration by the Planning Commission and Assembly for funding through a Bond Sale later this year.

We are expecting a decline in available revenue for operations for the next fiscal year due to Covid-19’s impacts on our population in development areas; however, we will likely consider a larger bond sale and devote a larger share of revenue to upgrading our infrastructure.

May God continue to bless us all!
Mayor Harry
NSB PHN Vaccinations

North Slope Borough PHN is vaccinating individuals by phases, and tiers within each phases, as per State of Alaska and CDC guidelines. The State of Alaska authorized the opening of Phase 1b vaccinations beginning on January 11, 2021. Eligible individuals under Phase 1b are as follows:

- Persons aged 65 years of age or older
- Workers who in a health care setting who meet the following criteria:
  - Have direct human patient contact, or have direct contact with infectious materials from patient, and
  - Provide essential services in a hospital, clinic, home, or community-based setting that cannot be offered remotely or performed via telework; and
  - Provide essential health care service in a health care setting that cannot be postponed without serious negative impact to the patient's health

To view more information on Covid-19 vaccine Phases from state Alaska, please visit: [http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epif/Phases/COVID-19/VaccineAvailability.aspx#1a3](http://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/Epif/Phases/COVID-19/VaccineAvailability.aspx#1a3)

NSB PHN also maintains a list of individuals who are interested in being vaccinated and are willing to be called on short notice (within 30 minutes) should there be additional dose of the Covid-19 vaccine available on a given day.

To schedule an appointment for Phase 1b vaccinations, or to be added to the waiting list for short notice vaccination, please call NSB PHN at 852-0270.
Protect the ones you love by protecting yourself!

North Slope Borough Mayor Harry K. Brower Jr. and wife Flora Brower are doing their part in keeping our communities healthy and safe by following the recommended guidelines of the Public Health Nurses and State of Alaska Guidelines of getting the Covid-19 Vaccine. It's not often we have time to focus on ourselves and take positive steps that put our needs first.

As we work to keep our communities safe and healthy this winter, take time to do things for you. It might be learning a new hobby at home or passing on traditional knowledge and activities to your children. While it may be a different world than we're used to, we can make the most of it. Keep your circle small this winter to help keep our communities safe. Follow the Center of Disease and Control, State of Alaska, and North Slope Borough guidelines. Ways you can help have your elders and those that need it most vaccinated! Protect the ones you love by protecting yourself!
Jacob Masterson received an iPad for his participation and obtained the most incentive points for MYAC projects, including attending bi-weekly MYAC meetings, creating an online virtual door decorating contest, and a book report after reading the book “Taking Control: The North Slope Borough, the Story of Self-determination in the Arctic”.

Mayors Youth Advisory Council Contest winner: Jacob Masterson

MYAC Staff Contact Info

- MYAC@north-slope.org
- Qinungan Roddy: qinungan.roddy@north-slope.org
- Jocelyn Lampe: jocelyn.lampe@north-slope.org
- Daniel Thomas: daniel.thomas@north-slope.org
- Your local NSB Liaison’s Office
- Office Phone: 907-852-0200
- On our Facebook Group: North Slope Borough Healthy Communities

CARIBOU SOUP

Caribou meat with bones
kosher salt and black pepper
onion
herbs and spices: bay leaf, thyme, basil, celery salt,
oregano, basil
diced tomatoes, carrots and celery
white rice and pasta

Fill a stock pot full of water and caribou meat with bones. Simmer on low for two hours with salt, pepper, onion, herbs and spices. Then add a can of diced tomatoes, carrots and celery and simmer for another hour uncovered. Then add white rice and pasta in the last hour to cook thoroughly. Once completed, allow soup to sit and cool down for 20-30 minutes before serving soup. Sit and enjoy!

Natasha Itta
The North Slope Borough experienced the first positive case of an individual in May 2020. Cases remained very low across the region throughout the summer and picked up towards the end of August 2020. The positive cases began to show spikes through the fall and winter (a graph with the trends is published every week on the main NSB website) and have recently begun to show a decreasing trend for the region.

North Slope Borough Housing Department

Our Home Loan Program’s goal is to increase the number of livable owner-occupied homes. These zero-interest loans are available to build new homes or renovate old homes to make or keep them livable. Owner occupancy and a reliable income are required for approval. Approved loans will be disbursed to contractors hired by the homeowner based on invoices, or disbursed to homeowners doing the work themselves based on estimates and receipts.

Increasing the availability of safe and affordable housing options to all North Slope Borough residents

**Rental & Purchase**
The Housing Department has a limited number of homes available for rental and purchase. Homes may be purchased conventionally or through a rent-to-own process. To learn more, call our office and ask to speak with Property Management.

Approved loans will be disbursed to contractors hired by the homeowner based on invoices, or disbursed to homeowners doing the work themselves based on estimates and receipts.

**New Construction**
Housing is constructing multi-plex housing in Anaktuvuk Pass, Atqasuk, Nuiqsut, Point Hope, and Point Lay. These units are suitable for small families and will become available this winter. If you’d like to submit an application, please give us a call.

**Homeless Assistance**
If you are a North Slope resident in a homeless situation, the Housing Department has resources to provide temporary lodging assistance. Please give us a call and we may be able to help.

Approved loans will be disbursed to contractors hired by the homeowner based on invoices, or disbursed to homeowners doing the work themselves based on estimates and receipts.

**No-Interest Home loans**
Our Home Loan Program’s goal is to increase the number of livable owner-occupied homes. These zero-interest loans are available to build new homes or renovate old homes to make or keep them livable. Owner occupancy and a reliable income are required for approval.

Approved loans will be disbursed to contractors hired by the homeowner based on invoices, or disbursed to homeowners doing the work themselves based on estimates and receipts.

If you want to restore mold-damaged walls and floors, rebuild after a fire, build a new home, replace your failed sewage tank, level your home, and more, this loan program may be able to help. You can get an application by stopping by your local NSB Liaison’s Office and or emailing us at: HousingLoan@north-slope.org

**Housing Repairs**
The goal of our repairs program is to repair life and safety issues in homes with vulnerable residents.

**Vulnerable residents include:**
- Elders (over 60 years)
- Small Children (under 6 years)
- Handicapped
- No household income

**Life and safety issues typically include:**
- Heating failures
- Loss of water service due to an internal plumbing issue
- Electrical hazards

Only owner-occupied homes are eligible for these repairs. If your home needs repairs to address life and safety issues and you don’t have the resources to do the work or contract it out, please send us a request. You can get a request by downloading it from the Borough Housing website, stopping by your local NSB Liaison’s Office and requesting a General Housing Request form or email us: HousingUpgrades@north-slope.org
Utqiagvik Resident Josiah Patkotak sworn in to House District 40

House District 40 is over 150,000 square miles in size and represents 22 communities. It also contains North America’s largest oil fields and The Red Dog Mine, the world's largest zinc producer and has the world's largest zinc reserves. Alaska's Economic breadbasket is also one of the most culturally diverse populations and is home to millions of animal species with no vote. Director of Government Affairs, David Fauske, “We only get one State Representative. Allow me to congratulate and say how proud I am of Josiah Aullaqsruaq Patkotak to step up and be our 1 of 40. God bless you, young man, and thank you.

What is your vision for this new position?
“My goal for Representing House District 40 in the State Legislature is to continually provide insight to other legislators, both in the House and Senate, and also the Governor’s office, to the realities of daily life in Rural Alaska and Arctic Alaska. I prioritize that perspective at the level of state policy to strike a balance between our cultural and traditional lifestyle and our economic engines within our communities. Consequently, that day-to-day perspective plays into my long-term vision to create an attractive environment so we can continue to pursue economic opportunities across the district, which will grow our tax bases locally and state-wide. In turn, that will improve our ability to provide services for our respective residents.”

What message do you have for the youth?
I want the people of the District 40 to see me as a resource and I encourage them to reach out so that I know how important decisions relating to resource development, the environment, subsistence use, the budget, and the PFD affect the North Slope communities. As for our youth, I want them to understand that they should not let anyone other than themselves define success. If our elders – who pushed for a fair settlement of our ancestral land claims, established the village and regional corporations and led them to succeed, and who incorporated the North Slope Borough and the communities of the North Slope – had let others determine what success looks like, we would not have many of the blessings and opportunities that we enjoy today. Our youth should also understand that we are living in changing times and with those changes comes opportunities and challenges. I want our youth to realize their role and their value in seizing those opportunities and facing those challenges head-on.
Employee of the Month:  

December 2020 Annamae Leavitt

Annamae Leavitt performs her job, she demonstrates an extraordinary commitment to the Search & Rescue Department and the general public. She quickly discerns their individual needs and moves efficiently to provide essential information, recommendations, or direction. Annamae epitomizes servant leadership and inspires others to give back and pay it forward. Her loyalty to the SAR Department has endeared her to her coworkers. She is a true champion for SAR’s mission with a tireless commitment to serving our staff and the community. Annamae takes it upon herself to provide exceptional support and service to the community and the team. Quyanaqpak Annamae!

In recognition of Fredrika Leavitt for her outstanding service to the Inupiat History Language & Culture, for going above and beyond as a Museum Education Coordinator. You continue to pass on the traditional knowledge without hesitation for your community. Your outstanding leadership and dedication to the community have not gone unnoticed. Our residents of the North Slope region, thank you for your commitment, Quyanaqpak!

January 2021 Fredrika “Rika” Leavitt

February 2021 Angie De Guzman

Angie has worked for the NSB for over 17 years, from Counseling Technician to her current position as Controller/Acting Deputy Director for the Department of Admin & Finance. She has supplied essential support to the Admin & Finance Department. Time and again, she has stepped into roles and responsibilities that may have seemed overwhelming but were quickly tamed through her consistent display of fortitude, intelligence, and grace.

Angie has been instrumental in developing, coordinating, and complying with the extensive requirements needed to successfully manage and complete the annual NSB audit cycle and the responsibilities as Acting Deputy Director of Finance. She has remained a model employee through numerous challenges while enriching those around her with her generous support and unwavering diligence. Thank you, Angie, for all of your hard work.