



NPRHA NEWS

MAY — JUNE, 2011

Board of Commissioners:

Patrick Norman, Chairman,
Port Graham Village

John Boone, Vice-Chair,
Valdez Native Tribe

David Totemoff,
Tatitlek IRA

Jerry Demas,
Nanwalek IRA

Larry Evanoff,
Chenega IRA

Melody Wallace,
Qutekcaq Native Tribe

Robert Henrichs,
Native Village of Eyak

News from the Director



The Federal government has finally come to an agreement on funding for programs through the remainder of the fiscal year. Almost all federal programs were cut to some extent, including housing and community facilities programs that our communities rely on. The funding cuts, however, were not as severe as originally proposed, and our core housing programs wound up being funded about 9% lower than last year. Due to the cuts, NPRHA is in the process of evaluating our FY2011 funding needs, but at this time we do not anticipate any significant impacts on the programs and projects that we currently are developing.

I was disappointed to learn that we did not successfully secure funding in the last round to complete the Nanwalek Youth Activity Center or the Chenega Community Center upgrades. These projects are still going to be completed, but it looks like the earliest we will be able to

start construction on them will be the summer of 2012. The new funding round was just announced and we will be submitting applications for these two projects, as well as for funding the Kelly House in Tatitlek. I feel we have a very good chance to get all of them funded in the coming year.

The largest new construction project that NPRHA is working on this summer is the Port Graham Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. This will be a new 1,500 square foot office and meeting facility that will provide space for important community programs like the Llangarwik residential family treatment program. This project will start back up as soon as weather allows. We are utilizing an almost all local crew and have now developed our capacity to complete any of our residential and light commercial projects with a combination of local staff and crews from communities around the Region. This has already provided

significant benefits in the region and will continue to expand as more and more of our local community members gain the skills needed to not just work on our projects, but to actually run the projects.

I look forward to seeing everyone as I travel around the Region this summer. We are planning to hold meetings in each of the communities this year, as always, to get input on things that we can do to make our programs work as effectively as possible and to provide the most benefit for the region. NPRHA wants to work with each of the Tribes to complete our long term planning process and I should be in each community several times over the coming months.

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Housing Management News

TENANT SELECTION AND APPLICATION PROCESS

I have been asked many times how tenants are selected for our Affordable Rental and Mutual Help programs. Priority points are given to applicants based on many different factors. Tribes in the region can also add additional factors for selections in their communities based on their Local Selection Preference Policies. Points are given to families who are living in substandard conditions, Involuntarily displaced (homeless), disabled, elders, families with children, etc. The applicant's points are totaled and the one with the highest number of points is awarded the unit. The Selection Rating system ensures that families with the highest need receive assistance first. NPRHA follows the Selection Rating very strictly. If there are families with the same score, NPRHA uses the date the application was received. In unusual situations where we cannot determine the selection based strictly on points, NPRHA works with the local Tribal Council to finalize the selection.

NPRHA encourages all interested families to submit their application and to keep their application current by contacting NPRHA every six (6) months. Also, if there is a change in income or family size, you should contact NPRHA, as these changes can impact which programs you are eligible for and what size unit you qualify for. We will remove all applicants from the wait list after six (6) months if we have not had contact with you during that time. In order to again be placed on the wait list, you will have to resubmit and application and begin the process all over again. Applications are available at all regional offices and on our website, www.nprha.com.

DELINQUENCIES

Staying current with your payments is one of the basic responsibilities of participants in all of our programs and NPRHA has been working to reduce the high delinquencies that have accrued

over the past few years. Being delinquent means you are not in compliance with either your Mutual Help and Occupancy Agreement (MHOA) or your Affordable Rental Lease. This is a very serious issue and can lead to eviction or termination from the program, especially if you are not working with us to bring your account current.

Everyone that is delinquent will be placed on a payback agreement, if not already on one, if they cannot bring their account current within 30 days. Once you are on a payback agreement, you must make your regular monthly payment, **plus** the extra amount you agreed to pay back, every month or you will again become delinquent and risk eviction or ejection. If you become delinquent again while under the payback agreement, you will have to pay at least 25% of the past due balance and start a new payback agreement.

If you are a tenant in the NPRHA Affordable Rental Program, you will only receive one delinquency notice. You will have seven (7) days to cure the breach by 1) being placed on a payback agreement; 2) assigning your PFD to NPRHA **and** making monthly payments; or 3) paying off the delinquent amount in full. If you do not cure the breach within those seven days, NPRHA will file an ejection with the court on the eighth day to have you removed from the premises.

If you are delinquent, you need to call the office to work out a payment plan. We are here to help you, but you need to take responsibility with helping yourself, too.

On a brighter note, spring is here, the snow is melting, and the days are longer. Now is the time for everyone to start cleaning up the trash and debris that piled up and blew into your yards. Everyone takes pride in clean yards and roads!

SAFETY FIRST

SAFE BICYCLING

Bicycling is a popular way to get around, whether for recreation, sport or transportation. Here are some tips for safe and enjoyable cycling.

- ◆ Obey traffic rules. Get acquainted with ordinances. Cyclists must follow the same rules as motorists.
- ◆ Know your bike's capabilities. Remember that bicycles differ from motor vehicles; they're smaller and can't move



- as fast.
- ◆ Ride in single file **with** traffic, not against it. Stay as far right on the pavement as possible and keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead of you.
- ◆ Make safe turns and cross intersections with care. Signal turns half a block before the intersection, using the correct hand signals (left arm straight out for left turn; forearm up for right turn).
- ◆ Before riding into traffic: stop, look left, right, left

again, and over your shoulder.

- ◆ Always be seen. During the day, cyclists should wear bright clothing. Nighttime cycling is not advised, but if riding at night is necessary, retro-reflective clothing, designed to bounce back motorist's headlight beams, will make cyclists more visible.
- ◆ Wear a helmet. Head injuries cause about 85% of all bicycling fatalities.



www.amerindrisk.org

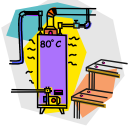
Did You Know?

- On May 8, 1942, the song "White Christmas" was registered by Irving Berlin. This song is said to be the most valuable music copyright in the world!
- May 22, 1906, Orville and Wilbur Wright received a patent for a "Flying Machine" with a motor.
- Charles Lindbergh flew the first solo, Trans Atlantic flight in May of 1927 and Amelia Earhart was the first woman to fly a plane solo and nonstop across the Atlantic on May 21, 1932.
- On May 10, 1872, the first woman was nominated for President of the US even though women could not vote. Her name was Virginia Woodhull.
- The first recorded earthquake in US history occurred on June 1, 1638 in Plymouth Plantation, Massachusetts.
- The estimated number of stay-at-home dads in 2009 was 158,000, caring for 290,000 children under the age of 15.
- The first Hard Rock Café opened in London on June 14, 1971. Now, there are Hard Rock Cafes worldwide.
- In June, 1992, the US Postal Service allowed voters to select the artwork for the Elvis stamp, preferring the young Elvis over the older, Las Vegas Elvis.





Maintenance Department News



COMMUNITY CLEAN UP DAYS

CHENEGA	MAY 2
CORDOVA	APRIL 30 (?)
NANWALEK	HELD IN APRIL
PORT GRAHAM	MAY 20
SEWARD	APRIL 30 (Community)
	MAY 21 (at Bear Mtn.)
TATITLEK	MAY 6
VALDEZ	MAY 21

Spring is here, and inspection time is just around the corner. Now is a good time to do a little PreInspection Prep of your home. Staff will conduct annual home inspections during May and June.

- Check to see if your door sweep needs replacing or just a little cleaning.
- Are there any cracks or breaks in the weather strip at your doors and windows? If so, replace it now to help keep the inside of your home cool when the sun is shining all day and long into the night.
- Make sure all window screens are available and in good shape for summer. If screens have holes, you will want to replace them.
- Check for leaking pipes and fittings under the sinks, behind the toilet, and in the crawl-space. Check the gas and diesel lines as well.
- If you have taken down any smoke alarms, be sure they are ALL up and operating. Remember, a smoke alarm can only warn you of fire danger if it is installed and has good batteries.
- Another device to check is your fire extinguisher. Be sure it is full, the pointer showing in the green space, and installed on the wall for easy access.



Make a list of items that need repairing or replacing. This will make the annual inspections go smoothly and you will be ready for summer activities without any worries.

MORE SPRING CLEANING

Now that the snow and ice are gone, cut back all the shrub and branches from the house, stairway, and fuel tank. Besides creating defensible space, it will help protect your home from bugs and penetrating moisture.

Spring thaw makes us aware of all the plastics, Styrofoam and other debris that drifted through during the winter months. Most communities sponsor clean up days during May. Cleaning up around your house and the roadway will make your community a nicer place to live.

Moss growth is a problem in some of our communities. Clean off the siding of your home and, if needed, your village maintenance department has a pressure washer that you can use. Your siding can be painted, too, if you would like to do that.

Stair rails take a beating in the winter weather. Roughness and splinters are no fun, in little hands and big. Sand down the stair rails and put on a fresh coat of paint or wood sealer.

Call the maintenance department in Anchorage if you need help.

Let's start this summer off with a nice looking, clean community.

RIDDLES OF THE SEASON

1. When do monkeys fall from the sky?



2. What animal don't the other animals trust?

3. Mary's mother has four children. Their names are Summer, Fall, Winter, and ?



All NPRHA offices will be closed:

May 30 Memorial Day

Remember!
The deadline to submit your AMERIND Safety Contest posters is May 15th

WEATHERIZATION

All homebuyers, homeowners and renters in **Tatitlek**, and NPRHA homebuyers and homeowners in **Cordova** and **Valdez**, can now apply for Weatherization upgrades through the Lyman Weatherization Program. This program is funded by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and administered by North Pacific Rim Housing Authority.

You can get an application at the NPRHA Low Rent office in each community, or by calling Brenda in Anchorage at 1.888.274.1444.

Non-NPRHA homeowners and renters in Cordova and Valdez need to contact Alaska Community Development Corporation for weatherization services.

north pacific rim housing authority

AHFC Lyman Weatherization Program
 through North Pacific Rim Housing Authority

Weatherization services, such as *insulation, skirting, vapor retarders, windows, doors, heating system repair or replacement*, will make your home safer, healthier, more comfortable and affordable, and increases your home's energy efficiency.

Priority will be given to:

- elders
- the disabled
- lowest income families
- families with children under 6 years of age
- emergencies

Does your house need weatherization? Do you qualify? For answers to these and other questions, or to get an application, call Brenda at the Anchorage NPRHA office at 1.888.274.1444 or contact the NPRHA office in your community

ALL homeowners and renters in Tatitlek, and **NPRHA** homeowners and renters in Cordova and Valdez can apply through NPRHA for weatherization at this time!

Weatherization funds are provided by the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)



Modernization Department

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Excess materials on site in Port Graham will be sold at cost. Contact Jeff for more information.
- ◆ Jobs are available. Please fill out the two page application found at your local NPRHA office.

MAKING DEVELOPMENT WORK FOR THE REGION

With spring comes construction season and employment opportunities. The Modernization Department utilizes local hire resources within the

region to reinvest in our communities. If you are interested in helping to develop your community, please contact your local NPRHA representative and let us know.

UPCOMING SPRING PROJECTS

- ◆ Behavioral Health and Wellness Center in Port Graham
- ◆ Shingle roofing in Cordova
- ◆ Boiler Relocation in Chenega
- ◆ Weatherization in Cordova and Tatitlek.



Two foot high kick — athletes must jump using two feet, touch the target with both feet and land on both feet while maintaining balance



With the help of several sponsors, including NPRHA, Outekcak Native Tribe was the proud host of their 1st Annual NYO Invitational in Seward. The three-day event included traditional games such as kneel hop, scissor broad jump, two foot high kick, Eskimo/Indian stick pull, one foot high kick, wrist carry, one hand reach and Alaskan high kick. Youth from the region were invited to compete and test their strength, endurance, and agility, and the balance of mind and body.

Answers to Riddles

1. Ape-ril
2. The Cheet-ah
3. Mary, of course!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 8 Mother's Day
 May 16-20 Nanwalek Sea Week
 May 26 Nanwalek Headstart
 & High School Graduation
 May 30 Memorial Day
 June 14 Flag Day
 June 19 Father's Day
 June 21 Summer Begins

SPRING FEVER!

Four high school boys with spring fever decided to skip morning classes. When they arrived in the afternoon, they told their teacher that they had a flat tire. The teacher smiled and said, "Well, you missed a test today, so take seats apart from each other and take out a sheet of paper." Still smiling, she waited for them to sit down, then said, "First question, which tire was flat?"

Daisy Blatchford



We sadly say "Chenhdi tr'al iy" (a Gwichin good-bye) to Daisy Blatchford, long time Commissioner from Seward and Secretary/Treasurer of the Board. We want to express our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Daisy for her dedication and ser-

vice as a Commissioner for the past 10 years. As a member of NPRHA's seven member Board, Daisy participated in making housing decisions of planning, policy, and providing direction to the housing authority. Her devotion to serving the people of the Chugach Region never faltered, even when decisions were challenging or difficult. As a Commissioner, Daisy wanted to ensure that the Chugach people were being provided the best support and services possible.

Daisy was a familiar face at work sites. She would regularly stop by the job-site to see how the work was coming along, or just to chat. All of the staff enjoyed a visit or phone call from Daisy, and we look forward to many more chats with her in the future.

Daisy has been married to Percy, who she met while traveling on the boat between Mount Edgecumbe High School and the town of Sitka, for 60 years. She retired after 30 years as a nurse, working in Sitka, Anchorage, and Seward. Daisy loves fishing and smoking fish, berry picking and making jam, and generally living a subsistence lifestyle. Watch for Daisy with a rod and reel in hand when the kings start running!

During the time Daisy was a member of NPRHA's Board, she was also a Board member for Qutekcak Native Tribe. She was involved in the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), and when the Tribe was formalized in 1972, it was known as the Mount Marathon Native Association. Daisy Blatchford was a founding member of that seven member Council. In 1993, the Association's name was changed to Qutekcak Native Tribe and Daisy has remained a Board member of the Qutekcak Tribe for 39 years! It is this wealth of knowledge, information, and expertise that Daisy brought with her to NPRHA. The people of the Chugach Region have been fortunate to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable member of the Board of Commissioners for the North Pacific Rim Housing Authority.

Thank you, Daisy. Quyanakcak.



north pacific rim housing authority

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mission Statement

It is our mission to provide safe, sanitary and affordable housing for tribal members and members of the Native community, to promote responsible home ownership, rental units, transient housing, Elder housing and other special needs housing and community programs; to develop and manage housing based upon the needs of our local communities.

NPRHA Staff

Executive Department:

Olen Harris—Executive Director

Administrative Services Department:

Barry Moring—Chief Financial Officer
Amanda Trangmoe—Controller
Crystal Barr—Administrative Assistant/Payroll
Maria Geiger—Administrative Assistant/AP
Mercedes Yanez—Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Krenzela—Accounting Services Consultant

Housing Services Department:

Brenda Christoffersen—Housing Manager
Cheryl Andrew—Housing Services Specialist
Danielle Deer—Seward Regional Housing Manager
Emilie Swenning—Low Rent Village Manager (NWK)
Lennette Ronnegard—Low Rent Village Manager (CDV)
Melinda Smith—Low Rent Village Manager (VDZ)

Building Services Department:

Jon Austermuhl—Building Services Manager
Herman Geffe, Jr.—LR Maint./Village Coordinator (TAT)
James Angaiak—LR Maint./Village Coordinator (CB)
John Boone—Valdez Rental Maintenance
Karl Thiele—LR Maintenance/Village Coordinator (PG)
Vacant—Seward Rental Maintenance
Mike Conway—LR/MH Maintenance Foreman
Ralph Bullis—Cordova Rental Maintenance
Sebastian Demas—Nanwalek Rental Maintenance
Walter Wilson—LR/MH Maintenance Foreman

Modernization Department:

Randy Norman—Modernization Manager
Ernie Berestoff—Expeditor/Weatherization
Justin Malchoff—Expeditor
Tia Wakolee—Procurement Clerk