

# 2013 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Putting education to work in your life and community

## Read more about these stories at www.uaf.edu/ces/highlights.



## **Attending Chicken University**

Alaskans are flocking to learn more about chickens. Classes about raising chickens for their eggs or meat have been popular around the state.



## Getting social with food preservation work

Classes that teach food preservation remain a staple of Extension work. We're also reaching out in new and different ways to help our clients preserve their harvest.



## Rhodiola rosea: a new Alaska crop

Extension has been working with a *Rhodiola rosea* growers' cooperative to develop a new high-value specialty crop. The medicinal plant is native to Siberia and grows well in cold regions.



## Speaking out for suicide prevention

A group of seven 4-H'ers from Tanana showed courage by speaking in personal terms about suicide, substance abuse and domestic violence.

See the video on this presentation, *Tanana 4-H: Breaking the Silence*.



### Grass-roots exercise

Members of the Central Peninsula Change Club work to increase exercise opportunities in their communities — and to build an environment to support this. Successes include bicycle icons painted on the roadway, senior exercise classes and free monthly swims.

# Providing informal education with a purpose

- The mentoring program that supports 4-H in Tanana relies on finding volunteers who bring 4-H to youth in rural communities. One-fifth of 4-H participants live in remote, rural Alaska.
- During 2013, agents offered food preservation classes to 951 Alaskans in 24 communities across the state. They tested 679 pressure canner gauges, demonstrating how to make adjustments or recommending replacement.
- Fairbanks agent Mara
   Bacsujlaky, who raises chickens,
   has started a blog called Alaska
   Backyard Chickens (akchickens.
   org) aimed at individuals with
   small backyard flocks. She posts
   resources and anecdotes about
   her experiences.
- StrongWomen classes provide strength and balance training to middle-aged and older adults. Since 2005, Kenai Peninsula District agent Linda Tannehill has trained more than 250 StrongWomen leaders, who teach at more than 20 community sites.
- More than 1,300 volunteers offer activities for nearly 15,000 Alaska youth in 4-H camps, clubs and other special events.

## Extending knowledge, changing lives



### **Volunteers extend Extension work**

More than 2,000 volunteers further Extension's work in Alaska every year. They teach gardeners, work with 4-H youth, serve on advisory councils, pull invasive weeds, test pressure canner gauges and more.



## Taste testing tubers

Anchorage Extension hosted a taste-testing event, a Potato Lovers Bash, to introduce consumers to 30 varieties of specialty potatoes and to provide researchers and growers information.



## Spotlight on Extension's energy specialist

Energy specialist Art Nash explores creative options for energy needs. His other work concerns radon awareness, solar energy and home adaptations for living independently.









#### **Cooperative Extension Service Offices**

Anchorage District 907-786-6300

Bethel (Yukon-Kuskokwim

District) 907-543-4564

Bethel 4-H Youth Center

907-543-7711

Delta Junction District

907-895-4215

Eielson Air Force Base (4-H only)

907-377-4130

Fairbanks (Tanana District)

907-474-1530

Juneau District 907-796-6221

Kodiak (4-H only) 907-486-0441

Nome (Northwest District)

907-443-2320

Palmer (Mat-Su/ Copper River District)

907-745-3360 Sittle District

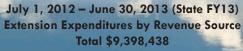
Sitka District **907-747-9440** 

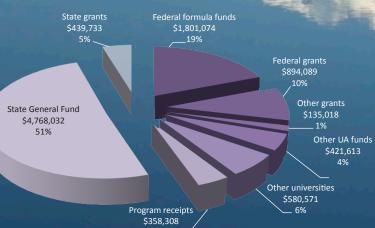
Soldotna (Kenai Peninsula District) **907-262-5824** 

Tanana Chiefs Conference 907-452-8251, ext. 3477 or 800-478-6822, ext. 3477

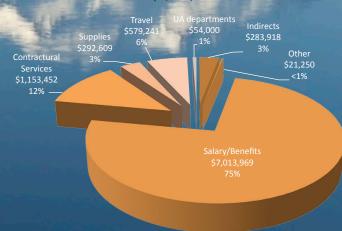


Publications and Information
1-877-520-5211 • www.uaf.edu/ces





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