

THE VOICE OF INTERIOR ALASKA

Inside Today W. Valley opens Railbelt Conference softball tourney with win over Lathrop. » B1

Institute breathes life into Native languages

By Erin Granger EGRANGER @NEWSMINER.COM

Language groups participating in the Alaska Native Language Revitalization Institute gave their final presentations Thursday afternoon, outlining plans to keep momentum going toward restoring languages across Alaska.

Sally Samson, a Yup'ik woman from Bethel, attended the event at the University of Alaska Fairbanks as a facilitator for the Yup'ik language group.

"I'm here to hopefully bring ideas of how we can

bring up our languages in derful experience," Samson the villages," she said.

Samson learned Yup'ik as her first language and spoke it to her two children as she raised them.

When the first one went to school, they demanded that we start speaking English to him. But I tried to keep the language alive at home," she said.

Samson said the institute is only the start to work that she believes must continue to resurrect Native languages that have been in decline over past decades.

"It's very overwhelming, listening to our different languages. It's a very won-

said. "I feel like we're just starting on the works so there's much more to be done."

The institute studied 10 of the state's 20 Alaska Native languages, with groups practicing Tlingit, Haida, Gwich'in, Dena'ina, Ahtna, Sugpiaq/Alutiiq, Denaakke', Deg Xinag, Yup'ik and Iñupiaq throughout the week.

Benjamin 'K'uyáang' Young, a Haida man originally from Hydaberg but who now lives in Ketchikan, heard about the institute

INSTITUTE » A5



During the final day of the institute, language learners and speakers placed pins (inset) in a map of Alaska to show where they came from to participate in the conference. ERIN GRANGER/NEWS-MINER PHOTOS



Lava erupts Wednesday in the Leilani Estates area near Pahoa, Hawaii. George f. Lee/Honolulu star-advertiser via ap

Lava from Big Island enters ocean from 3 flows

By Jennifer Sinco Kelleher ASSOCIATED PRESS

HONOLULU — Lava entered the ocean from a third flow Thursday, marking the third week of a Hawaii volcano eruption that has opened up nearly two dozen vents in rural communities, destroyed dozens of buildings and shot miles-high plumes of ash into the sky.

Low lava fountains were erupting from a nearly continuous 2-mile-long portion of the series of fissures that have opened up in the ground, scientists said Thursday. The fountains were feeding channelized lava flows down to the

coast. The eastern-most chan-

nel split, creating three ocean

entries. Since the eruption began May 3, Hawaii County has ordered about 2,000 people to evacuate from Leilani Estates and surrounding neighborhoods.

GOOD MORNING



Sunrise: 3:54 a.m. Sunset: 11:52 p.m.

The weather.

Intervals of clouds and sunshine today. Rain is not expected. Skies will remain cloudy tonight.

High today.....63

Low tonight 41

WEATHER » A7



SOURDOUGH JACK:

"I'd like to learn another language, but I should figure out how English works, first."

Trump awards Medal of Honor to Navy SEAL in Afghan assault



President Donald Trump awards the Medal of Honor to Master Chief Special Warfare Operator Britt K. Slabinski during a ceremony Thursday in the White House. Slabinski oversaw a 2002 rescue mission in Afghanistan and carried a "seriously wounded teammate down a sheer cliff face." AP PHOTO/ANDREW HARNIK

By Darlene **Superville** ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON -President Donald Trump has awarded the Medal of Honor to a Navy SEAL who oversaw a daring assault and rescue mission on a snowy Afghanistan moun-

Trump presented the nation's most prestigious honor for battlefield bravery to Master Chief Special Warfare Operator

taintop in 2002.

MEDAL » A3

Trump cancels **NKorea** summit

Kim says he still wants talks

By Catherine Lucey, Zeke Miller and Matthew Lee ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump on Thursday abruptly canceled his summit with North Korea's Kim Jong Un, blaming

> "tremendous anger and open hostility" by Pyongyang a decision

> North Korea



called "regret-table" while still holding out hope for "peace and stability."

In a letter to Kim about his decision to back away from the June 12 summit, Trump pointed to America's vast military might and warned the rising nuclear power against any "foolish or reckless acts."

KOREA » A5



North Korean leader Kim Jong Un made good on his promise to demolish his country's nuclear test site, which was formally closed, in a series of huge explosions Thursday. KOREA POOL/YONHAP VIA AP



INSIDE

Classified » B5-8

Comics » A8 | Dear Abby » B4 | Faith » A7 | Markets » A7 | Outdoors » A6 |

KNOWLEDGEABLE FRIENDLY STAFF TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS MUST BE 21+ TO ENTER WITH VALID ID

Marijuana has intoxicating effects and may be habit forming and addictive. Marijuana impairs concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under its influence There are health risks associated with consumption of marijuana For use only by adults twenty-one and older. Keep out of the reach of children. Marijuana should not be used by women who are pregnant or breastfeeding.

FARM FAMILY + SECRET ORDER THE FINEST ALASKAN CANNABIS EXPERIENCE 511 30th Ave Fairbanks AK 99701 (907)374-GROW(4769)



ON THE STREET Compiled by Robin Wood

'What was the best thing you ever learned from Terrence Cole?'



"Humor and perseverance. Grace under pressure."

Robert Hannon and Julie Rafferty Fairbanks, UAF employees Friends and former students of Cole's.



"The community you create in the classroom should be pure joy. It shouldn't be a burden."

Katie Ringsmuth Anchorage, teacher Former student of Cole's.



"I only had him for History 101. Sorry to say I don't remember much of the class, but I remember him as a professor."

Chris Plutt Fairbanks, engineer Former student of Cole's.



"How it's important to be gracious and helpful to people who are interested in learning."

John David Ragan Fairbanks, Laborers Local 942 Cole helped Ragan edit a book.

INSTITUTE

Continued from A1

when he was presenting his Haida language-based STEM field studies to a Native language conference in Juneau earlier this

"We absolutely have to get the ball rolling. The hardest thing after you learn the language is to get started on something," he said. "We're going to have to start small — small, but very enthusiastic in our efforts."

Young grew up learning small amounts of Haida in

"Up until about fourth or fifth grade we learned full sentences, simple words," Young said. "It was never an immersion environment, but it was enough to capture my interest. It really left me

hungrier for the language." Young didn't return to the language until his later high school and early college years.

"I learned the bulk of what I know as an adult," he said.

Young has two young children and speaks Haida to both of them. He, like many at the presenters Thursday, said he believes language revitalization must begin in the home and in the community.

"We can't expect all of the changes we want to see to be done overnight. So we're going to have to start in our home," Young said. "That means putting aside shame. That means putting aside the feeling of indifference when we need to speak and learn our language."

Young's group had a diverse assemblage of language learners from Washington, D.C.; Seattle; Vancouver; Hydaburg; and Masset, on the Haida Gwaii Archipelago in British Columbia.

"It was neat to be able to put our minds together to figure out what we really want to get out of this that really matters to us," he said.

Many participants came from communities across Alaska and Canada, but the institute drew the attention of area residents, as well.

Sam Alexander is a teacher at UAF in the Homeland Security and **Emergency Management** program. Alexander has taken two

siders himself a proficient speaker. "But I am a learner. I would say that I've got a lot to learn," he said. "The

years of Gwich'in and con-

more that I learn, the more I realize I don't know, but I'm comfortable trying to speak the language.

Alexander said the institute was a way to network with other language speakers.

"It's been amazing. You get to connect with people that are working in the language," he said. "You get to connect with inspiring people. You hear their stories of the language work they've done and it makes you want to work harder."

The institute was organized, in part, by Evon Peter, vice chancellor for rural, community and Native education at UAF. Peter is a Neetsaii Gwich'in and Koyukon from Arctic Village, where he served three years as tribal chief.

Peter said language revitalization is extremely important.

"I really believe there is a close connection between this work to revitalize our languages and better outcomes for our people across the board - whether it's academic achievement, whether it's the post-secondary going rate and just the health and well-being of our people overall," he said.

 $Contact\ staff\ writer\ Erin$ Granger at 459-7544. Follow her on Twitter: @FDNMPolitics.

KOREA

Continued from A1

The letter kicked off a day of mixed messages by the president, who declared hours later, "I really believe Kim Jong Un wants to do what's right." After that, a senior White House official said the North lacked judgment and had reneged on its promises ahead of the summit. Trump said from the White House that a "maximum pressure campaign" of economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation would continue against North Korea — with which the

U.S. is technically still at war — but he added that it was possible the summit could still take place at some point.

North Korea issued a statement early today saying it is still "willing to give the U.S. time and opportunities" to reconsider talks "at any time, at any format."

Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan called Trump's decision "unexpected" and "very regrettable," and said the cancellation of the talks shows "how grave the status of historically deep-rooted hostile North Korea-U.S. relations is and how urgently

a summit should be realized to improve ties."

Kim insisted North Korea's "objective and resolve to do our best for the sake of peace and stability of the Korean Peninsula and all humankind remain unchanged."

Trump's surprise exit capped weeks of highstakes brinkmanship between the two unpredictable leaders over nuclear negotiating terms for their unprecedented sit-down. The U.S. announcement came not long after Kim appeared to make good on his promise to demolish his country's nuclear test site.

► UNIVERSITY AVENUE REHABILITATION <</p>

The Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) would like to remind drivers to use posted detour routes around the construction at University/Geist/and Johansen.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ROADS SOUTH OF GEIST ROAD DO NOT INTERSECT WITH UNIVERSITY AVENUE.

THERE IS NO ACCESS TO UNIVERSITY AVENUE THROUGH NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS ABOUT CONSTRUCTION

- · Geist Road and the Johansen Expressway is closed at the intersection with University Avenue
- One lane of traffic in each direction
- will be open on University Avenue · The intersection will open again
- before school starts in August
- · Pedestrian and bicycle traffic will be maintained throughout the closure following detour signs
- · Business access will be maintained throughout the closure



Today's Lucky Number



Play to Win!!

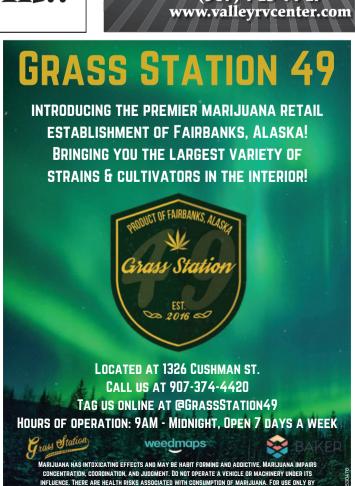






- Montana Arctic Fox
- Wolf Creek
- Hideout
- Nash
- Raptor • Stealth
- High Country

7061 E. Blue Lupine Palmer, Alaska 99645 (907) 745-7747





SALE PRICES GOOD 5/21 THRU 6/3

DECK WOOD

Cedar Toned, Treated 2x4s...... 95/¢foot 2x6s.....\$1¹³/foot PRIMEGUARD **PLUS DECK SCREWS**

2 1/2" & 3" \$482/lb

CUT 3' & 4' PICKETS

Cedar Toned, Treated 2x2 12s.....\$7.35

CALL THE LUMBER NUMBER

452-4000

4000 S. Cushman Monday thru Saturday 8 a.m. to 6 p.m www.northlandwood.com