

KICY Call Letter

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Toll- Free: 1-800-478-5429 e-mail: office@kicy.org web page: www.kicy.org June, 2012

Manager's Mic

Ah, spring. After the longest, coldest winter on record, everyone has been anticipating the warming temperatures and lengthening days. Okay, the days are already getting shorter but with nearly 22 hours of daylight, it's hard to notice. By the time this is published, one

work team will have already been to Nome for two weeks.

May was a wonderful, restful time allowing each



Dennis Weidler

of us to enjoy a little breathing room before the action picked back up again for the summer months. I think the staff thought I was kidding when I suggested we move all the rocks which had collected around the buildings, back to the beach. But, I knew the rocks would be in the way of the team as they repaired the Yellow House plumbing.

We have already done alot of cleaning up around the buildings during Nome's U-Call, We Haul program. It's a one week period when they will haul away anything you don't want at no cost. They even remove vehicles and there are a few of those sitting around town.

We had a few days spent cleaning up around the transmitter site and, after sorting through some items, made additional room in the studio generator building. It feels really good to clean out and recycle. ■



Stephen, Lon and Ian removing rocks from around the studio site.

The Summer's Major Project Is The Yellow House.

This past winter was very hard on a lot of buildings around Nome. One was our own Yellow House where Ian Coglan and Stephen Palmatier are bunked. There was a stretch of several weeks when they had no running water. Not because the water supply lines had frozen, but the drain line was frozen. No drain...no shower. No drain...no flush toilet. (Yet they both want to stay another year).

Our one and only work team this summer is tasked with tackling the Yellow House and all of its needs. The first step will be to level and perhaps raise the structure six inches to a foot...just so they can get under it to do the work.

That completed, we'll do an assessment to see if it is feasible to create a new, larger bathroom to replace the very small bedroom in the rear. The

current bathroom is so small you have to step outside just to change your mind. The door can't open all the way because there's a sink there. Our thought was to create a larger, more up-to-date and replumbed bathroom and turn the current one into a storage pantry with shelves and a chest freezer. It would be a much better use of space. And, there are already four bedrooms in a house where we normally use just two.

The Phasor Building at the transmitter site suffered roof damage during the fall storm, so a group will also be tasked with that project, as well.

There is always much to do and a very short window to get it done! Thanks to all who volunteer their time and talents. ■

New Satellite Based Internet System Installed.

We have few choices in western Alaska when it comes to internet service providers. Basically, it ranges from slow to really slow. Expensive to really expensive. And, we use all of them. In addition to the new

HughesNet service, we also have a cable modem from one supplier and DSL from the local phone company. Why three services? Our monthly cable modem fees jumped from \$200 a month

for the past several years to \$1,400 a month literally overnight and with no warning. That was simply unsustainable. We started unplugging everything, doing daily data usage tests, restricting any video streaming and generally slashing any and all internet use except what we considered absolutely essential for our broadcast content. We removed the two audio streams from the cable modem and placed them on a separate DSL service. Now this was only \$89 a month with no data cap but it also turned out to be really slow so we had to keep the cable modem service for our regular internet use. We were starting to see some savings, but not

enough.

Our only other choice was direct satellite service through HughesNet and we found a local installer. The dish was mounted on the FM tower in front of the building and in a few hours, we were enjoying direct

satellite internet service. As a test, I pulled the plug on the cable modem, added one of the audio streams to the satellite service and waited to see if we could get through the weekend. We did.

We are still monitoring our daily data usage but the satellite service, like the DSL, does *not* have a



Kenny Hughes installs the new dish.

monthly data cap. And, our daily usage is only about 10% of the maximum we are allowed. It appears we may have found a much more economical solution to our internet needs.

In bush Alaska, we pray for wisdom to make the right decisions. Pray this will be the answer. ■

Prayer Request

We work hard to keep our operating costs, such as internet use, as low as possible. Some items, like electricity for our transmitter site, continue to expand regardless of our efforts. Please pray we can find more ways to bring these costs under control.

A Prayer Request.

For each of our staff members.

George Bard

Ian Coglan

Luda Kinok

Stephen Palmatier

Lon Swanson

Rolland Trowbridge

Candace Weidler

Dennis Weidler

Frances Whitmore

It is with great joy that KICY announces the return of the two newest volunteers for a second year of service.

At our first meeting in Chicago over 15 months ago, I indicated that the entire first year would be spent in training. It would be during the second year that they could use all of their new tools to allow them to enjoy their work even more.

Turned out that was true. Both are looking forward to their second year in volunteer service at KICY.

Please pray for continued funding for Ian, Stephen and Lon. All three need to generate their own support. ■

New Hospital Nears Completion.

The building projects seem never to end in Nome. In the past few years, we've seen the addition of a new Public Safety Building, a harbor expansion, an airport runway improvement, a windfarm, even a gold mine.

Also on the drawing board for Nome are a new State Building, a new Snake River Bridge and the new Richard Foster Museum.

There is even a plan to re-route the Snake River to extend the airport runway.

By December of this year, the new Norton Sound Health Corporation hospital should be ready for occupancy.

Of course with a new, larger building, comes the need for over

125 additional staff members. Nome has always had a housing shortage and this summer promises to elevate that problem to new heights.

The City is also bracing for an onslaught of gold miners. It seems the interest in gold dredging, encouraged by some of the recent cable television programs, promises to bring hundreds of 'recreational' newcomers to our

fair city. Fears are that this may be as challenging to our current infrastructure as the stampeders arriving on the golden sands in 1901.

Only time will tell if all the meetings, planning and regulations will sufficiently meet the needs of our tiny community. We want to be welcoming and inviting, while not overtaxing our support systems. ■

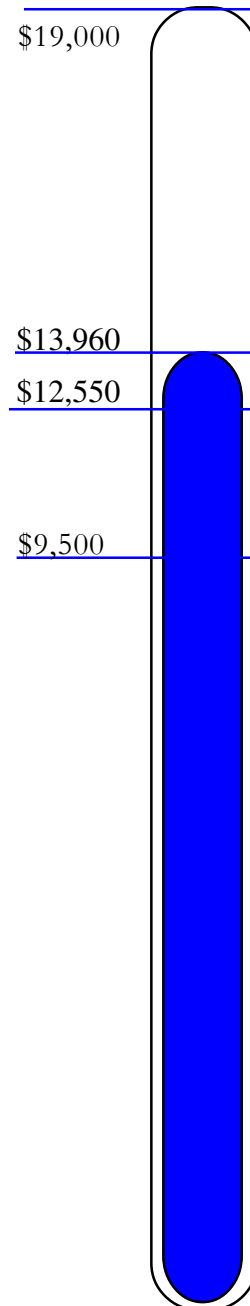


The new hospital complex due for completion this fall.

Can You Help?

This summer, we need the financial resources to repair the storm damaged roof of the phasor building. We also need to re-roof the studio building and repair the plumbing connections to the Yellow House.

If you are able to assist financially, mark Capital Campaign on your check. And God bless you for keeping KICY's needs in your prayers.



Memorials

In April and May, we received memorials in the name of:

Tom & Annie Dotomain
 Edward Lattimore, Jr.
 R. Christenson
 Everett J. Nelson
 Walter & Viola Carlson
 B. Wendroth
 Janine Schlarb
 Emily Summer
 Martha Keller
 Don Barker

Thank you for remembering a loved one with your gift.

PLEASE NOTE!

-May Income-

\$31,192.54

-May Budget-

\$33,635.00

-May Expenses-

\$32,118.21

Includes Sales & Programs but not designated funds.



Arctic Broadcasting Association is an affiliated corporation of the Evangelical Covenant Church.

KICY

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Pennsylvania Pastor Chooses Bush Alaska For Sabbatical.

After a few years of discussion, over a few ham loaf dinners, the pastor of the Willow Street United Church of Christ decided he wanted to spend his upcoming sabbatical serving in villages of bush Alaska.

Pastor Ron Bohannon worked through James Barefoot at Merge Ministries at the ECCAK office in Eagle River. James was able to begin Ron's service in western Alaska to coincide with the ECCAK Annual Spring Conference in Unalakleet.

When Ron caught up with

me the first day, he handed over two, frozen ham loaves prepared by my cousin, Kay, who attends

his church. Ah, so there is the ham loaf connection. It turns out that my cousin always has a family get-together when I return home each fall. Ham loaf is the featured entree.

Ron's church also reciprocated by hosting a KICY Salmon Fundraising Dinner last October.

Ron was able to travel to Scammon Bay, Hooper Bay, Marshall and on to Nome where he wrapped up his all-too-brief time in western Alaska.

Thanks for making our home your 'dream sabbatical'!



Pastor Ron Bohannon spent some time in the KICY studios.