

Kivalliq News Nunavut News North

New detachment in January

Kimmirut's RCMP are expected to move into their new detachment in January 2008, after working in a single room portable office for the past year. The detachment building was condemned due to a sewage leak in December 2006. Officers moved into temporary space with no jail cells in January 2007.

In March, officers were provided with a single emergency restraint chair to contain prisoners. The new building will include two cells and an office, as well as a short-term residential space, according to Chris Konski, a regional communications officer for Public Works and Government Services Canada.

Building supplies arrived by sealift earlier this summer. It is under construction on existing RCMP property in Kimmirut.

- Karen Mackenzie

More Inuit occupy government posts

Eight of 11 deputy ministers are now Inuit with the appointments made by Premier Paul Okalik on Aug. 31.

David Omilgoitok will be the new deputy minister of Executive and Secretary to Cabinet. He has more than 20 years experience with the GN, GNWT, and federal government.

Victor Tootoo will be the new deputy minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, while Aluki Rojas will serve as deputy minister of Human Resources.

John Walsh, deputy minister of Executive and Secretary to Cabinet has handed in his resignation after two terms with the GN.

All appointments take effect Sept. 24.

- Stephanie McDonald

Ceremony to remember the C.D. Howe days

The Inuit Health Survey - "Qanuippitali?" - will host a public commemorative ceremony in Apex on Sept. 11 for Inuit who died away from home during the days of the C.D. Howe. The C.D. Howe was an Arctic patrol ship that ferried Inuit infected with tuberculosis south in the 1950s.

"As the Inuit health survey is taking place on a ship, it has brought a lot of comparisons to the C.D. Howe. But while the C.D. Howe has a lot of terrible memories because it brought a lot of hurt and death, the survey is bringing health to the communities," said organizer Laakkuluk Williamson. The ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. at the Old Nurses' Residence (House 3102). It will be followed by a reception at Abe Okpik Hall.

- Karen Mackenzie

Twenty-four cans of Klik

Hundreds of Kimmirungmiut turned out for a community breakfast at Qaqqalik school in Kimmirut last week.

Teachers served up pancakes, syrup and fried Klik with tea and coffee for the meet-and-greet on Sept. 24.

"It went great, by the end we ran out of everything," said vice-principal Ed Flynn with a laugh. "We went through 24 cans of Klik and 20 boxes of pancake mix."

The event is a perfect opportunity for parents and teachers to chat at the start of the school year, according to Flynn.

"After a long weekend, it gets everybody together for the first time in the fall," he said.

- Karen Mackenzie

Char, caribou and the barge

Uqsuqtuuq/Gjoa Haven - Harvesting of char and caribou continue close to the community.

"The Arctic char is going back up the stream," said resident Eruk Pauloosie.

Some hunters have also been crossing over to the mainland to hunt caribou.

"On the mainland we don't catch too much during the summer. Maybe they're just hard to see and maybe they get further," he said. "When it's close to cull time, people are catching more caribou."

As well, the barge should've arrived with the town's annual resupply by now. Community members were predicting that it would come in on Sept. 8, Pauloosie said last Tuesday. Private companies, contractors, the Co-op and Northern stores, and residents were all anxiously awaiting the barge.

- Stephanie McDonald

Camp cook program

The Community Learning Centre in Clyde River will offer a camp cook program for one semester this fall.

"We're pretty excited. There's a lot of activity coming this way," said adult educator Philomena McGill.

The full-time Arctic College program will prepare its students for work as a cook in mining camps or restaurants, and will likely incorporate some country food, she said.

The centre has already begun receiving applications for the 10 spaces available in the program.

"We're encouraging people to apply soon, and to really stress in their letter if they have any previous experience," she said.

- Karen Mackenzie

Teens boogie weekly

Taloyoak/Spence Bay - The community hall is the hot spot on a Friday night in town - at least if you are a teenager. Every Friday night there is a teen dance between 7 p.m. and midnight.

One hundred to 250 youth attend each weekend, recreation director Joseph Quqqiaq said.

"If we're lucky, someone might bring their own laptop with a whole bunch of music in it," he said. Other nights the youth bring their own CDs and help to choose the music.

"It's pretty popular. They look forward to it," Quqqiaq said.

- Stephanie McDonald

Rising to the occasion

Bad weather could not keep the Hamlet of Coral Harbour from hosting its annual Youth Celebration Camp and Suicide Prevention Walk this past month.

The top team during the three-day youth camp was comprised of Deanna Ell, Erin Pameolik, Samson Gibbons, Norman Jr. Nakoolak, Micah Aulajut

and Kaylie Kaludjak, who earned the title of Youth Celebration Camp Champions of the World for 2007.

- Darrell Greer

Playgrounds for Pang

Panniqtuuq/Pangnirtung - A specialized contractor installed three sets of new playground equipment in Pangnirtung last week, according to hamlet senior administrative officer Ron Mongeau.

"The kids were down watching the progress. They're up to speed on this and couldn't wait for us to get on with it," he said.

One playground was installed at each school, while another was put into place in the lower end of town near the RCMP compound. The project was a joint effort between the Government of Nunavut - which provided the equipment - and the hamlet, which prepared pads and provided tools to the Alberta-based contractor.

- Karen Mackenzie

Full schedule for Embrace Life Day

Ikaluktutiak/Cambridge Bay - The community was to hold an Embrace Life Day on Sept. 7, ahead of World Wide Suicide Prevention Day on Sept. 10. School children will hear guest speakers talk about their experiences and success stories before a community walk in the afternoon.

The whole community has been invited to attend the walk that will start at Kullik Ilihakvik school and will move onto stations around town.

In the evening there will be a barbecue, games, a youth dance, as well as throat singing and drum dancing lessons.

"The community has gathered together quite enthusiastically," said Embrace Life Committee volunteer Diane Chenier. "It's an awareness that life is to be celebrated and to be valued."

- Stephanie McDonald

A hand up

Students at Tusarvik school in Repulse Bay are having an easier time putting words on paper thanks to the Handwriting Without Tears program.

The program helps make handwriting legible using multisensory techniques and consistent habits for letter formation to teach handwriting to students in pre-Kindergarten all the way to Grade 6.

The program also helps improve selfconfidence, pencil grip, body awareness and posture.

"The program kit comes with all the materials you need, and Kivalliq School Operations purchased the kits for every Kindergarten to Grade 6 school in the region," said teacher Jennifer Perry.

The wooden pieces come as a little line, big line, little curve and big curve, which students can use to make every capital letter.

"The kids enjoy being on the floor with the wooden pieces and the music that goes with the lesson plan," Perry said. "They really do have a lot of fun while they learn using this program."

- Darrell Greer

Hamlet of Arviat turns 30

The community of Arviat was all set to celebrate its 30th anniversary as a hamlet last week. The festivities were scheduled to get underway on Sept. 4 with a parade, drum dancing, traditional singing and the cutting of the anniversary cake by local dignitaries.

The event was to continue until Sept. 8, with games for all ages, a Miss Hamlet competition, square dance, co-ed volleyball tournament, talent show, community bonfire and other numerous activities. The Arviat 30th anniversary bash's grand finale will feature a community feast at 6 p.m. on Sept. 8.

The feast will be followed by a dance at 9 p.m. featuring the live musical talents of international recording artists J.C. Campbell and Tracy Bone.

- Darrell Greer

Billboard unveiled

The long-awaited billboard honouring international recording star and the Kivalliq's own Susan Aglukark was finally unveiled in the Hamlet of Arviat this past month.

Aglukark was present for the unveiling.

The hamlet has yet to decide on an exact location for the large billboard of Arviat's hometown hero, but speculation is that it will be located near the airport to welcome visitors to the community.

Modern dance

The world of hip hop got up close and personal with youth in Rankin Inlet last week.

Blue Print for Life consultant Stephen Leafloor delivered the program in Rankin, giving local youth an accurate look at the history of the style and its origins in the world of music, as well as developing their own hip hop talents.

Each participating youth was to be given a free T-shirt and bandanna.

The students were also planning to paint a large eight- by five-foot wall mural that will remain at Maani Ulujuk high school after the program has been completed.

The community was invited to attend a dance held on Sept. 8 to give local youth the chance to showcase their new talent to their parents, teachers and friends.

The Blue Print for Life program is based on youth social work, with anti-drugs, anti-drinking and suicide prevention among the topics discussed during its workshop.

Coral fashion statement

During Coral Harbour's 35th anniversary celebrations, people took part in a different sort of fashion contest. Residents designed clothing out of tape, newspapers and garbage bags.

Clara Ell won the contest with a parka and wind pants made out of garbage bags.

Lizzie Angootealuk decided she'd design an evening dress and accessories and a parka using copies of Kivalliq News and Nunavut News/North, and the parka won her fourth place.

About the Author

From nnsi.com:

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Amaranth Whole Foods Market, Calgary, Canada is a leader in the health foods industry, offering high quality organic and natural. With the acquisition, Whole Foods now operates as Whole Foods Markets, Wild Oats. Will Paradise, president of Whole Foods Market Rocky Mountain.

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