



JUNE 2011

THE

NEWSLETTER

Fairbanks Native Association

### Board welcomes Frank and Roehl

At the annual meeting earlier this year, two new board members were elected by the membership. Roxanne Frank and Roy Roehl, Sr. join the nine-person panel that sets policies and goals for the organization.

Roxanne Frank brings to the board a lifetime of skills and experience. Raised in Minto in the Richard and Anna Frank family, Roxanne has a rich history in Athabascan culture. Recalling those days and her family, "They were my mentors," she says. After high school, she joined Tanana Chiefs in 1981 as a realty probate clerk and worked her way up to positions



Roxanne Frank

of greater responsibility.

Wanting to do more, she went back to school in 1990 to get additional skills and cre-

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### Miss FNA Kayli Hildebrand: a shining example

*Kayli Hildebrand is Miss FNA. Soon to be 20 years old, the soft-spoken young woman is balancing the duties of promoting the Fairbanks Native Association while pursuing a college education and a job at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Kayli wrote the following essay which appeared in the Gana-A'Yoo, Limited newsletter. It has been edited for space.*

I was born in Fairbanks to Bernard and Emma Hildebrand. I was raised in Northway, a small village of less than 300 people, where I lived until I graduated from high school. My dad is from Nulato and my mother's relatives are from McGrath and Anchorage. I enjoyed learning about our Athabascan culture in Northway by attending potlatches and watching Native singing and dancing. I took a Native language class and enjoyed being around elders and adults who spoke it.

Northway will always be my home. But I decided early on that I was not going to stay in the village; I wanted to make a difference in life and to show my parents that I can do great things and succeed. I thought about moving my senior year, but in order to receive the scholar award I had to finish school in Northway. I received a full scholarship for being at the top of my class and I now attend the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

My first day of college was very scary. I didn't know anyone at all, but as days and weeks went by, I saw people I knew and I also met new friends. I'm studying mechanical engineering. Why? Because my dad works for Alyeska Pipeline and I see that he makes a good living and I too want to be successful. I also would like to have a great job that will allow me to care for my family when I am older, just as my dad did. I am not be the best at math or En-



*Dressed in traditional regalia, Kayli Hildebrand poses with her cousin Aralin.*

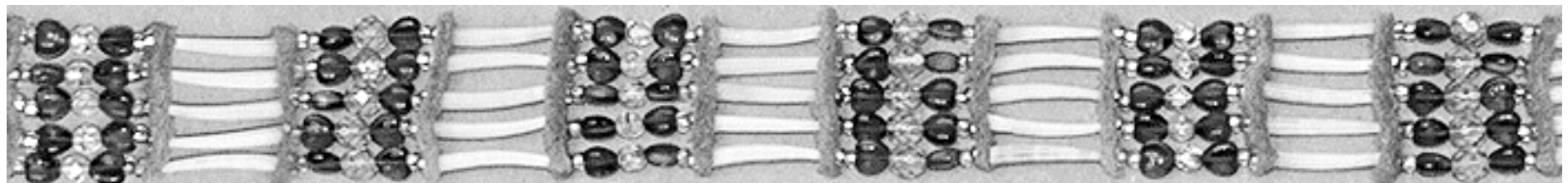
glish, but I know I will do my best in college to show my parents I can succeed in life.

In my years of growing up, I've done many extracurricular activities including basketball, where we made it to state twice and I was also a volunteer as a Big Sister. I have held many jobs including a grocery store clerk, babysitting and working at Fast Eddy's in Tok.

I now work at the Interior- Aleutians Campus as a facilitator. This allows me to work regularly with college students. It is a great working experience. When I complete college, I plan to succeed far in life. I know that UAF is the perfect place for me because it is close to my family and friends.

The Native dress I am wearing in the photo

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dentials. TCC put her to work again developing self-governance and capacity building programs in the villages. She was always traveling.

Along the way, Roxanne became a single mom with three kids while also carrying the secret burden of childhood sexual abuse. In healing herself, she's become an advocate for speaking openly as one measure to promote recovery. She refuses to allow the past to dictate her future. Since 2008, she's been co-facilitating talking sessions aimed at giving people the knowledge and power to move on with their lives.

"We need to tell these stories. In sharing them we free ourselves of shame that comes with the trauma. Both men and women have been affected; as we understand this we see that drugs and alcohol are often symptoms, not the real cause of our pain."

Warm and friendly, Roxanne speaks with precision and clarity about the discoveries she's made. She says she'd like to promote an extended dialogue about healing childhood sexual abuse at FNA. Working with others who share a similar interest, she's eager to bring the issue to the board.

Today, Roxanne directs the Bertha Moses Patient Hostel, near the Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. A TCC program, it's basically a hotel for villagers who have medical appointments or ongoing therapy at the hospital. With no travel schedule, she's time to devote to local projects. Running for and winning a FNA board seat was the first step.

Roy Roehl, Sr. was born in Kanakanak, not far from Dillingham. The oldest of nine, Roy says the anthropologists call him an Eskimo. His mother says he's an Aleut. He calls himself a half-breed and notes his father was a German.

Roy's life took him to the Eastern Oregon State College in La Grande, where he obtained a teaching certificate. For nearly 15 years, Roy taught 4-6th grade at Dilkon, Arizona. Roy is a whole language specialist, a discipline that crosses math, reading and the language arts.

A Navaho Nation village, Dilkon is 100 miles east of Flagstaff. Its school has 500 students in a community of 1200.

A jovial man, laughter comes easily to Roy, although one suspects his former students have experienced a stern demeanor as well. As he talks of his teaching career, he

delights in the details of his successful students' achievements.

Roy says he was among the original incorporators of Chugach Alaska Corporation. Between 1977 to 1982, he and Sam Demientieff were co-chairs of AFN's resolution committee. Roy says he's eager to use his political experience to the benefit of FNA.

"Education is my passion," says Roy.



Roy Roehl, Sr.

But he's frustrated with inefficient delivery and under utilized facilities. "We should work more closely with the school district. Let's raise the percentage of Natives who are teachers and staff."

As a board member, he plans to highlight the need to better promote FNA services. He says too many villagers are coming to Fairbanks and not taking full advantage of what's available.

Roy also wants to take a lead in increasing the level of burial services available to FNA members.

Roy and his wife, Nancy, who works as a tutor, moved to Fairbanks in 2001. They raised six children, all now in productive careers. A firm believer in the power of words, Roy is convinced words provide people with the keys to success. He says, "I always tell my students that a thesaurus is a best friend for life."

## Fairbanks Native Association

605 Hughes Ave.  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
Ph: 907-452-1648. Fax: 456-4148  
info@fairbanksnative.org

### FNA's Mission

We provide our membership and the greater Fairbanks community quality services in a professional manner. These services are provided through special and innovative programs, which preserve the membership's unique lifestyle and culture, while improving the quality of life for the community.

Steve Ginnis, Executive Director  
Doreen Deaton, Deputy Director  
Duane Hoskins, Director of Finance  
Rhonda Howard, Director of Human Resources  
Perry Ahsogeak, BHS Director  
Suzanne Price, WCCIH Program Director  
Perry Ahsogeak, Acting Graf Program Dir.  
Mary Willey, Head Start Program Director  
Angela Foster-Snow, Early Head Start Program Dir.  
Shirley Williams, PAT Program Director  
Freda Williams, Community Services Program Dir.  
Louise Glynn, FASAP Program Director  
Linda Woods, Johnson O'Malley Program Director

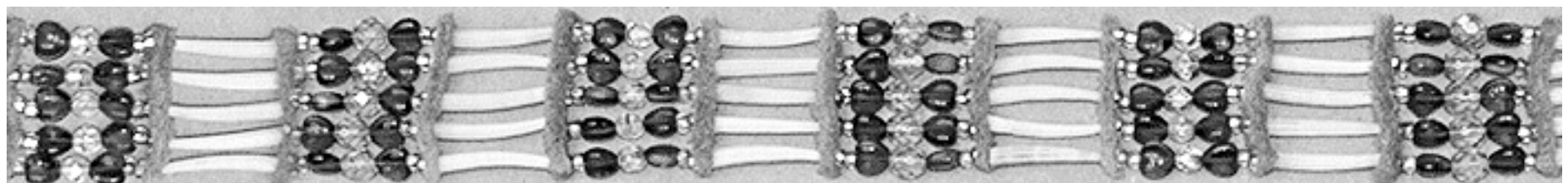


**weio**  
World Eskimo-Indian Olympics

50th Anniversary Event  
July 20-23, Carlson Center  
Info: 452-6646

## Miss FNA Continued From Page 1

was made by my mother. She is an exquisite artist and every piece of bead work that she does is beautiful. I showed her the way I wanted the dress and then she made the finishing changes on the design. It is moose skin and has porcupine quills, beads and caribou tufted flowers sewn on it for the designs. I originally wore the dress to my high school graduation, but now I will be using it for the Miss FNA competition. Wherever you go in life take some chances and get out of your comfort zone and challenge yourself. Good Luck.



# Head Start Wraps Up A Successful Year

From September to June, Head Start offers social competence training, mental stimulation and self-control guidance

AM 1



AM 2



PM 1



PM 2



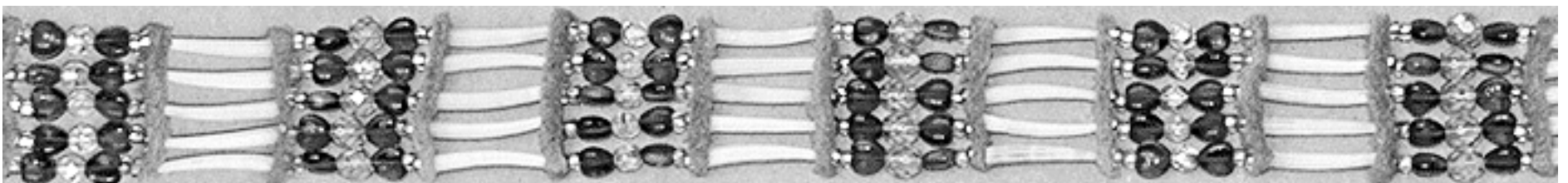
FDB



FDC



PHOTO KEY: Head Start Part-Day classes (AM 1, AM 2, PM 1 , PM 2) are housed in the Poldine Carlo Building at 320 Second Ave. The Full Day Barnette Class (FDB) is located at 1024 Barnette Ave. The Full Day Cushman Class (FDC) is located at 909 Cushman St.



# Distinguished Staff 2010

## Join us in acknowledging the Employees of the Month

We value the contributions and accomplishments of each of our employees.

*January*



**Crislene French**  
Early Head Start, Prog. Asst.

*February*



**Julianna Shankle**  
Admin/Accts Payable Coord.

*March*



**Elizabeth Bridges**  
Ralph Perdue Center  
Internal Prog. Evaluator

*April*



**Kathy Pike**  
Head Start  
Health & Safety Specialist

*May*



**Alice Murphy**  
Admin/Accounting  
Controller

*June*



**Minda Mull**  
Ralph Perdue Center  
Counselor I

*July*



**Gary Brent**  
Early Head Start, Cook II

*August*



**Esther Frykman**  
Community Services, Driver

*September*



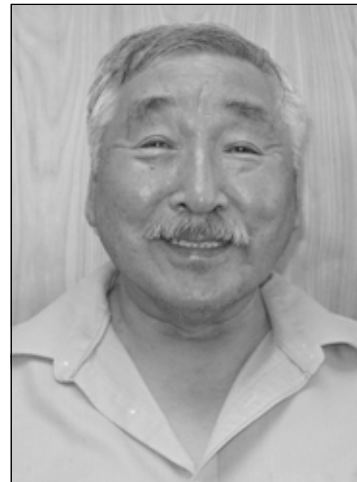
**Gwen Mitchell-Scott**  
Ralph Perdue Center  
Data Technician

*October*



**Sarah Newton**  
Head Start  
Education/Disabilities Coor.

*November*



**Regi Soolook**  
Accounting  
Staff Accountant

*December*



**Mary Flora**  
Gateway to Recovery  
Detox Nurse

