

March/April 2010

# TAKOTNA

It is with great pleasure that we bring to you another issue!!



## EASTER BY ROBERT

The day which Easter is observed falls on the first Sunday following the full moon that occurs on or after the vernal equinox. Some people celebrate the Easter holiday with the Easter Bunny who delivers colored eggs.

In Takotna we do the same. Near afternoon we all go down to the Community building and have an Easter egg hunt and search for hidden eggs. There is a very special egg too, the "marble egg," or 50 dollar egg. That's what it was this year. Kaden Mwarey found it! CONGRATULATIONS!

Inside the Community Building, we count all the eggs we find and add up the money inside the plastic eggs. Then we all go home and eat boiled eggs and candy.



# Students of the Month

**Arrow Meglitsch**

**Age: 5**

**Grade: Preschool**

**In school Arrow learns his colors, numbers, and shapes, and also how to use the mouse on the computer. He comes to school for two hours a day and works with our elementary teacher, Mrs. Flynn. Arrow enjoys playing with the high school students and eating popcorn.**



**Robert Perkins**

**Age: 18**

**Grade: Senior**



**Robert's favorite subject in school is Science, and he says he thinks of himself as a leader. His goals in life are to have a lot of money and someday have a wife and children. He loves to be goofy and make others laugh, being creative with his work, and making things more interesting in school.**

**By: *Abbi Flynn***

**Make the most of yourself, for that is all there is of you.**

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## David Miller

David Miller has lived in Takotna since he was thirteen. That was 68 years ago! He was born in Crooked Creek, Alaska in 1929. He dropped out of school when he was in the eighth grade. "They suspended me! Because I slapped the teacher. Well, she was pulling me up to my feet by the small hairs on the back of my head. She sent me to the principal's office... I went. He said, "David, what happened?" Well, I told him what she did, and I slapped her for it, and they suspended me. For three days! I told Dad that I was not going back to that school house and I didn't."

"My dad got me a job on the steam boat. I was only 16, but he lied about my age for it. In those days, if you can do the job, you got the job." The population here used to be around 300. That was because of the jobs in the mines; there were a lot of people moving around in those days.

David was village chief for twenty years. He was also around when Takotna had the charter school. He didn't think of it as a charter school, but our school. Most of the jobs in the village were working in the mines. The transportation back then was trucks and walking, until the snow machines came out. David said 1937 was his first time seeing a pick up. Before that, there were a lot of dog sleds.

What I think is interesting is that he knew my grandma from when she first moved here. He told me that my Uncle Johnny was just a kid!

His wise advice to young people of today is to learn education and the ways of our lives right now (like economy and village procedures).

*Laura*

## Predictions for the Takotna River Break Up

*Tyler- April 31st  
Ryan- May 1st  
Misty- May 2nd  
Kaden- May 2nd  
Thomas- May 4th  
Austin- May 7th  
Jake- May 7th  
Jolene- May 9th  
Laura- May 10th  
Robert- May 11th  
Victor- May 11th  
Abbi- May 12th  
Teresa f- May 14th  
Cassie- May 18th  
Larry- May 20th  
Rosalie- May 20th*

*By: Abbi*

# Takotna Checkpoint 2010

I had been looking forward to the Iditarod since I found out that we were moving to Takotna. I'd heard that it was experienced much more differently in Takotna than in the village I was in last year. I found that out to be so true!

Before the mushers started coming through, Takotna was hopping with activity. I think it is so cool that people volunteered to chop so much wood for the mushers. That took a lot of time and work. I enjoyed working the night shift, especially the first night. Were we ever busy! It was pretty cold that night - lots of hand warmers were used. I was really impressed with how hard Jessie and Robert worked that frozen night. They had to haul hay, musher's bags, water (their gloves must have frozen solid several times that night), and keep the water hot by feeding the fires. With an average of three mushers an hour coming in, that was a lot of work! I don't think they sat down much.

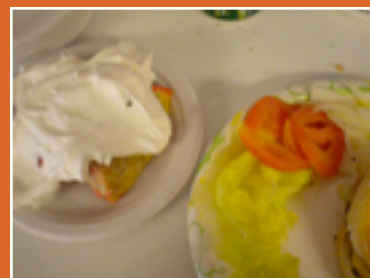
In Anvik last year, only about four mushers took their eight hour layover, the rest just checked in and moved on as fast as was possible. It was so exciting to be able to see and talk to so many mushers this year, people I'd heard about and read about for so many years - Lance Mackey, Dee Dee Jonrowe, Jeff King, and oh, yeah, Rick Swenson.

The food that we ate during the Iditarod was excellent! I think I would volunteer anytime just because of the food. The cooks were tireless, always happy to feed the mushers and volunteers; that, I truly appreciated.

Experiencing the Iditarod at the Takotna checkpoint was all I had heard of and more. I'm ready for next year!

Jolene Kinsland

## WORK & FUN!!



## Chili Supper!

**That's right a chili supper! Where at? The Community Building, here in Takotna. When? Some time in May. We, the students of Takotna, will be serving chili to you... That's not all, we will also be having a talent show for your**

**enjoyment while you enjoy your chili! This chili supper will be a fundraiser for our school. So please come and help us out while enjoying yourself. We promise you will not regret it.**

