

KICY Call Letter

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Toll-Free: 1-800-478-5429 email: office@kicy.org website: www.kicy.org April, 2026

Manager's Mic



March Madness, Alaska Style! This is the time of year when our staff works



Patty Burchell

extra hard, round the clock to be sure our region is kept up to date not only on high school basketball but also the Iditarod.

Many of our staff host friends, family, or mushers during Iditarod Week which is always fun, but adds to the craziness. This year Cody and Joy again planned to host a musher and his dog lot helper. Shortly before another musher, one who they had hosted in the past, was to arrive in Nome, they found out his housing arrangements had fallen through. They gladly stepped in to host him as well, hastily reorganizing the Yellow House spaces to accommodate two more people.

An extra hand this time of year is always welcome and we were blessed that Tom King returned this year to help with basketball coverage during Iditarod Week - yes, they overlap!

We praise God for His provision - always!

Run Dogs, Run!



Mushers on the sea ice on their way to Nome

~photo by Aaron Brown

KICY has been part of the Iditarod since the first race was run in 1973. The main focus, of course, is our race coverage, which begins when the race starts. We report the progress of teams making their way through the state several times each day on both our AM and FM stations. Then, beginning about an hour before the first place finisher arrives in Nome we have spotters out on the trail reporting back to our listeners. And our coverage does not end after the first musher crosses under the Burled Arch. Each and every musher that makes it to Nome has accomplished something incredible. For a little perspective, there have been over 7,200 people who have summited Mt. Everest, but only about 850 have completed the Iditarod. We were able to broadcast the finish of all 29 finishing teams this year, with fabulous live coverage day and night from our scaffold on Front Street by Aaron Brown and Aaron Cooper. Due to temperatures of more than -20°F and windchills of almost -60°F the final teams waited over 30 hours in White Mountain until conditions were less life threatening before traveling the final 77 miles to Nome. As a result, the race ended in a Prime Time flurry of activity as all nine teams arrived between 7:00 and 9:30 p.m. under clear skies. Watching teams come in one right after the other was a wonderful way to spend a Friday evening, and a fabulous conclusion to the race.

It's a Wrap!



Shaktoolik Wolverines at the 1A State Tournament

Photo by Curtis Ivanoff

The 2026 Basketball Season in Western Alaska wrapped up in March with the Regional and State Tournaments. Unalakleet hosted the small schools Bering Sea Conference tournament this year and our broadcasts saw the return of Tony Haugen providing play-by-play announcing. Tony knows the players, the game, and adds his own color to the broadcast. As was the case last year, the Shishmareff and Shaktoolik boys and girls came out on top and punched their ticket to the State 1A Tournament. Curtis Ivanoff, Jessica Ivanoff, and Matt Knight provided play-by-play for the state tournament in Anchorage. When it was all said and done, the Shaktoolik boys had won their second straight 1A Championship.

The Western Region Conference Tournament which includes Nome was played in Kotzebue the week between the 1A regionals and state. The Nome-Beltz boys took first place at regionals, returning to the state tournament to defend their 2025 state championship and perhaps make it a three-peat. Unfortunately, the Lady Nanooks came up just short, placing third in a division where the top two teams get to go to state. In a battle of Western Region powerhouses Nome and Barrow, Barrow won the semi-final of the State 3A Tournament to move on to the final against Mt. Edgecumbe. Mt. Edgecumbe is a boarding high school that many of our regional students attend. It provides a larger school experience for those from our villages who desire that. The team made history, earning their first state championship in the school's 77 year history by one point in triple overtime. Nome finished the state tournament in a very respectable third place.

A Prayer Request

For each of our staff members

George Bard

Patty Burchell

Jonathan Dentler

Cody & Joy Foret

Pierce & Shaina Goslin

Nate & Carlee Hobbs

Bertha Koweluk

Lena Mathlaw

David Sobie

Praise God...

...for those who are willing to volunteer their time to work on the New Blue House.

...for the energy and good health needed to not just survive, but thrive these busy couple months.

Pray...

...for the Revitalization Project needs, both financial and material.

...for ongoing staff needs - financial support, physical health, spiritual refreshment and strength

Blue House Update



By the time you receive this newsletter, the final plumbing and heating should be complete, leaving just a few final touches before requesting occupancy. Work slowed the past couple months due to harsh weather and radio duties taking more time. Even so, the flooring, countertops, and bathroom fixtures were installed, and more cabinets built. Slowly but surely, the project progresses. Thank you for your continued prayers as we complete this first phase of our Revitalization Project.

Staff Housing & Studio Revitalization

Fundraising continues for this project. Would you consider giving an extra gift in any amount to support this effort? Send a check to KICY with a note stating Building Fund, or give securely through our website, kicy.org, using the Big Blue Donate Now button. When you give on line, select Capital Campaign. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

\$1,200,000

Phase 2
Goal
\$800,000

Phase 1
Goal
\$400,000

\$200,000

Memorials

In February and March, we received memorials in the name of:

Lola Engwall
Edward Lattimore, Jr.
Carol C. Nelson
JoAnne Smit

Thank you for remembering a loved one with your gift.

PLEASE NOTE!

-March Income-

\$31,213.85

-March Budget-

\$49,221.80

-March Expenses-

\$47,246.42

Includes Sales & Programs but not designated funds



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

KICY

AM-850 & ICY 100.3 FM

P.O. Box 820

Nome, Alaska 99762

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Virtual Mailbag

Thanks for the evening music mix on the FM station tonight. I was out walking in the bright moonlight in the cold. The song selections were a perfect mix of Christmas songs and upbeat ones about God's never ending mercy and love. Really uplifted my spirits and helped me praise our amazing God!

~a listener in Nome

I am grateful to have found you and to be able to tune in from my country, Peru, specifically from the town of Cajamarca.

I am so thankful for prayer in the morning. It gives me encouragement from the scriptures and from the pastors.

~a listener in Nome



Thank you, KICY, for serving Western Alaska with all the singing, all the news, all the stuff we hear on your radio station. Thank you for everything. It's a blessing to wake up in the morning to hear everyone on the air.

~a listener in Shaktoolik