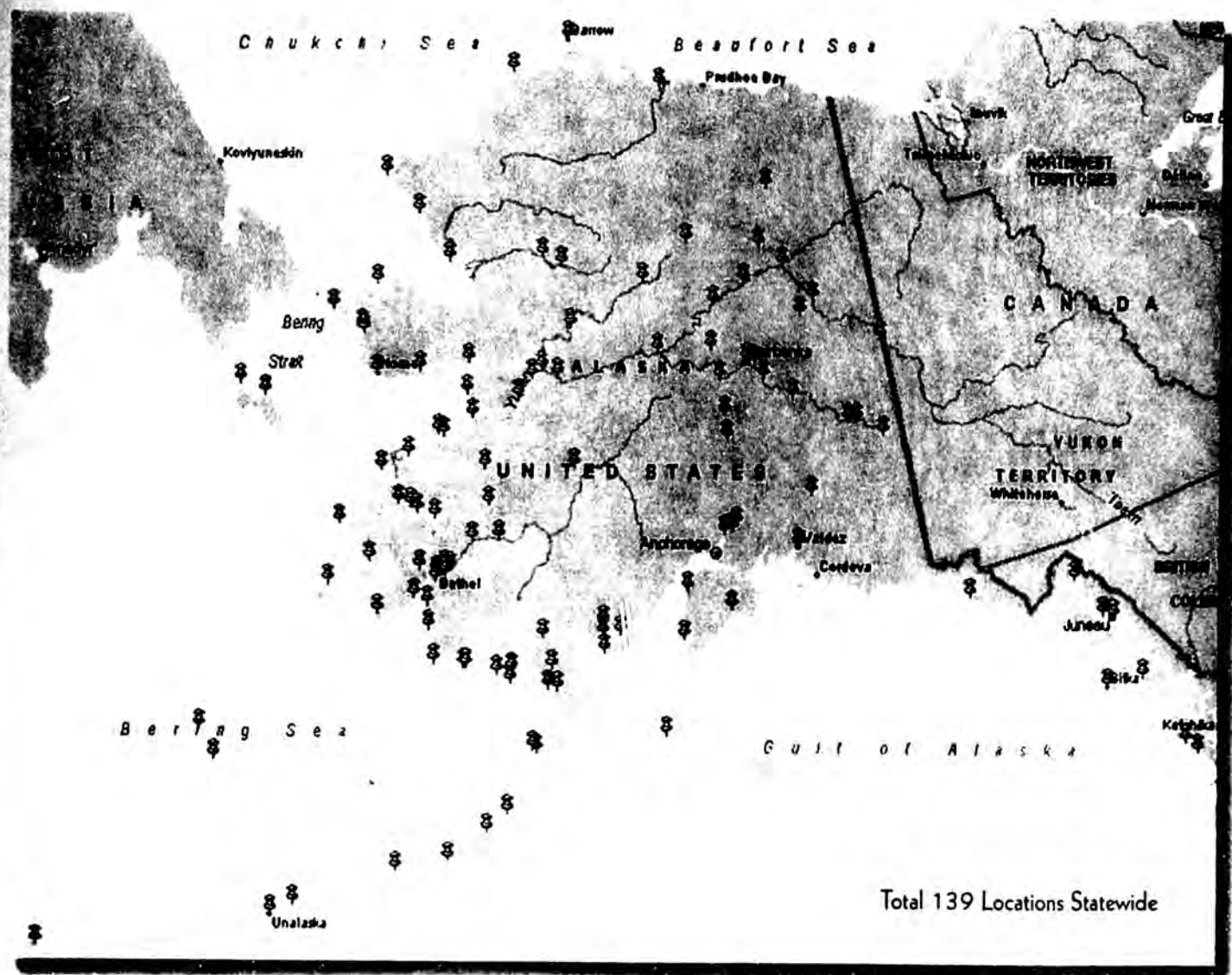


SCOMM

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Cities and Villages for AWP Recruitment and Training

Aliachak	Chuathbaluk	Healy	Kongiganak	New Stuyakok	Saint Mary's	Tok
Aliak	Circle	Holy Cross	Kotlik	Newtok	Salcha	Tuntutuliak
Alutan	Clarks Point	Homer	Kotzebue	Nightmute	Sand Point	Tununak
Alakanuk	Coldfoot	Hooper Bay	Koyuk	Nome	Savoonga	Twin Hills
Alatna	Craig	Huslia	Koyukuk	Nondalton	Scammon Bay	Two Rivers
Allakaket	Crooked Creek	Hydaburg	Kwethluk	North Pole	Seward	Ugashik
Ambler	Delta Junction	Iliamna	kwigillingok	Northway	Shaktolik	Unalakleet
Anchorage	Dillingham	Juneau	Levelock	Nuiqsut	Shishmaref	Unalaska
Arctic Village	Douglas	Kake	Lower Kalskag	Nulato	Sitka	Valdez
Atka	Eagle	Kaltag	Manokotak	Nunam Iqua	Slana	Venetie
Auke Bay	Eek	Kasigluk	Marshall	Nunapitchuk	St. George Island	Wainwright
Barrow	Emmonak	Kenai	Mekoryuk	Palmet	St. Michaels	Wales
Beaver	Fairbanks	Ketchikan	Minto	Pedro Bay	St. Paul Island	Ward Cove
Bethel	Fort Yukon	King Cove	Mountain Village	Perryville	Stebbins	Wasilla
Brevig Mission	Galena	King Salmon	Naknek	Pilot Point	Sutton	White Mountain
Cantwell	Gambell	Kipnuk	Nanwalek	Pilot Station	Takotna	Wrangell
Central	Glenallen	Kivalina	Napakiaik	Pitkas Point	Tanacross	Yakutat
Cheformak	Goodnews Bay	Kobuk	Nelson Lagoon	Platinum	Tanana	
Chignik	Grayling	Kodiak	Nenana	Point Hope	Teller	
Chignik Lake	Haines	Kokhanok Koliganek	New Halen	Quinhagak	Togiak	

★ Working Together for Jobs

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

Building Alaska One Community at a Time

Partners Bring Jobs and Homes to Rural Alaska

(Aniak, AK) Salvatore Conrad said it was April Fools Day in 1992 when he and his wife, Carrie, moved with their two children into Carrie's father's house in Aniak, Alaska. Their living conditions, however, were no joke. The arrival of the Conrads pushed the number of family members residing in a one-bedroom home to eleven. The building was originally a 12' x 16' shed used by the Department of Transportation. It had no shower and only a small pump to draw water. A tiny trailer was attached to the structure bringing the total living space to roughly 600 square feet.

The following year Conrad converted his father-in-law's nearby garage-size building into more private quarters for his family. "It had been one of the first homes ever built in Aniak in the 1950s with sawdust and shavings for insulation." Winter temperatures in Aniak often dip well below zero.

The Conrad's plight is common for countless Alaskans who find themselves at the mercy of a critical housing shortage in rural Alaska. According to the Association of Village Council Presidents (AVCP) Regional Housing Authority, the cost for a new home in rural Alaska is around \$300,000. However, annual income for the average household in the region is less than \$30,000. Because of the shortage and expense of available housing, several generations of a family are often forced to live under one small roof.

Today, thanks to a partnership with Alaska Works Partnership, the AVCP Regional Housing Authority recently marked the completion of its 250th house using local workers trained by Alaska Works Partnership. The partnership resulted in an innovative training program that allows rural residents to train and work close to home – and the Conrad family now lives in a three bedroom

house with modern plumbing and heating, a full kitchen and a living room.

AVCP's CEO Ron Hoffman says that before teaming with Alaska Works Partnership, there simply were no vocational opportunities in the villages. "This program wouldn't be successful without our partnerships," Hoffman said. "It's the only way we can address the needs of our region."



Daniel Lupie and his family lived in this 480 square foot space without running water (above) before moving into their new AVCP home in Bethel (left).



(Continued on page 2)

Mike Andrews, Director of AWP agreed. "We're happy to help AVCP and other builders of affordable housing. Alaska needs the housing and the jobs. It's simply the right thing to do."

Partnership Success

The AVCP region in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta is an area the size of Oregon encompassing 56 native villages. It is also one of Alaska's most economically depressed areas.

Ten years ago, rural housing was contracted to builders in Washington who constructed homes, disassembled them, and then shipped them to Alaska. Workers from the Lower 48 were sent to Alaska to reassemble the homes in the villages. The tremendous cost in labor and materials was nothing compared to the lost employment opportunities for the residents of rural Alaska. Unemployment in villages was rampant in large part because rural Alaskans had no way to gain training, job skills, or experience.

AVCP's Ron Hoffmann knew there had to be a better way. In 2001, he approached Mike Andrews, Director of Alaska Works Partnership about the possibility of training village residents to build and maintain their own homes and communities.

"Ron Hoffman wanted the best construction training for his workers. He knew our training is done by union apprenticeship instructors," said Andrews. "The unions created Alaska Works to train rural Alaskans."

AWP's union instructors are highly skilled, experienced journeymen from around the state. "We bring our training and knowledge with us to the villages," said Mike Tucker, a carpentry instructor from the Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training center in Anchorage. "The partnership was a good fit. AVCP had a big need to raise the skill level of their workers and they've been going gangbusters ever since the program started."

Not only are homes being built, but families are being lifted out of poverty. A recent study cited that 85 percent of AWP participants entered the training program as low income workers, with more than half earning a living at or below the poverty level. AWP's training has provided these workers entry into high paying construction jobs. To date, AWP-trained apprentices in the AVCP region have received over 86,546 hours of paid on-the-job training. With benefits, apprentices earn between \$15-20 an hour. This translates not only into hundreds of newly built and remodeled homes in the region – but an influx of \$1.6 million in wages into the local economy.

Reaching High

Not only are families like the Conrads from Aniak living in safe comfortable housing. AWP's construction training has helped change the lives of many others in the region. Jeff Evon, now a third year apprentice, said he spent a lot of time during high school getting into trouble and eventually he dropped out.

The birth of his son snapped his life into focus and AWP's construction training program helped him turn his life around. "It gave me another chance to make something out of my life," he said.

Evon now has 3,000 hours of paid on-the-job training. He recently helped wire three new homes in the village of Mekoryuk. "It's an awesome feeling to

"We are encouraged by the ongoing success of training rural residents. Alaska Works apprenticeship training program provides a whole new model for training to develop a long-term career."

— Krag Johnsen,
Chief Operating
Officer Denali
Commission

Jeff Evon



point out something you've built, something you can be proud of." He likes the travel that his job entails as he connects with other rural Alaskans in their villages. And he especially enjoys the respect he receives from his family and peers.

"One advantage of this program is that you learn to do things correctly," he said. He appreciates the trade union instructors for their depth of knowledge. "Knowing how to do things right earns the respect of the superintendents."

He says he wants to continue living in rural Alaska – city life in Anchorage doesn't hold much appeal. "I want to raise my kids out here around a subsistence lifestyle," Evon said. Someday he'd like to own his own business. Meanwhile he's getting certified in as many skills as he can. "There's good money in the trades, and already I feel like my own boss."

In some cases, job training is not only an individual endeavor, but a family affair. One graduate of the program, Stanley Berlin, has already become a Project Supervisor for the AVCP Regional Housing Authority. He works alongside his son Michael Berlin and his brother Wilson Berlin. All three Berlins have received construction training through programs provided by Alaska Works Partnership. Last year they helped build seven new homes in Kasigluk.

"We're building a neighborhood," Stanley said. "My son is working right alongside me."

Evon, the Berlin family, and others like them are the reason that the Denali Commission continues to support job training in rural Alaska. The Denali Commission provides grants and other economic development services to rural Alaska, especially economically distressed communities with high rates of unemployment.

"We are encouraged by the ongoing success of training rural residents," said Krag Johnsen, Chief Operating Officer of the Denali Commission. "[Alaska Works] apprenticeship training program provides a whole new model for training to develop a long-term career. Local residents are working on public works projects and housing not just for a season or two, but for skills and experience that will last a career."

A New Training Center

The need for trained workers in the region is acute not only in the construction trades, but in health care and education. Professional health care workers and teachers often do not stay in the region because of the lack of adequate housing.

Community leaders, including Hoffman, acknowledge the need for additional local vocational training. The vision for Yuut Elitnaurviat—The People's Learning Center – is to provide both secondary and post-secondary career learning under one roof so that the region can continue to train local workers for local jobs.

Yuut Elitnaurviat's Executive Director, LaMont Albertson said, "We want this to be the training institute for western Alaska so we can become a net exporter of workers rather than a net importer."

Yuut Elitnaurviat is a work-in-progress. Alaska Works Partnership conducts



Stanley Berlin

"We want this to be the training institute for western Alaska so we can become a net exporter of workers rather than a net importer."

**--LaMont Albertson,
Executive Director
Yuut Elitnaurviat**

(Continued on page 4)



son Berlin

it classroom instruction and hands-on construction training at the newly constructed vocational education building. Currently under construction are dormitories for 80 resident students and a day care center that will provide Early Childhood Education courses while providing childcare for the community. Once completed, the 10-acre campus will be a place for local agencies to pool their educational programs and resources. Students will then have the opportunity to receive industry-specific training without ever leaving the Yukon-Kuskokwim region.

"YUUT came about because of the need for a trained work force. From the school side it was a way to engage students to where they could see an immediate connection between learning and the job side," said Janelle Vanasse, Yuut Elitnaurviat's first Executive

Director and current principal of Bethel High School. "Alaska Works was integral in setting the vision of what organizations and agencies could do if they combined their resources. It's been six years now since we envisioned a campus, but we couldn't afford to wait for the brick and mortar. Programs and training began long before the buildings were in place."

The Vision Continues

Although some progress has been made to resolve the rural housing shortage and provide training and jobs for local residents, a recent study cited that the AVCP region still needs an estimated 3500 new homes due to poor living conditions and overcrowding. According to AVCP, the size of the average home in the region is 1,048 square feet and houses five residents. That's twice as many residents, living in half the size home, as the average American household. Many existing homes have inadequate heating and plumbing systems. Mold and mildew problems plague more than half of these homes.

Along with providing affordable housing to meet the growing demand, Hoffman also has a vision for a time when the region's skilled workers will not only build and maintain their own communities, but will also be sought after to work on Alaska's gas pipeline project and other ventures.

"There's major development going on throughout Alaska," Hoffman said. "We need to accommodate employers with a good workforce and provide rural Alaskans with an opportunity to feed their families."

Studies Cited:

FOF Communications, September 2005 "Evaluation of Construction Job Training and Placement in Alaska"

Information Insights 2005 AVCP Regional Housing Authority



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ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

Building Alaska One Community at a Time

Home Run for Building Careers

Little Leaguers and other ball players have new dug-outs at the Harmon Baseball fields thanks to some all-star students of a construction academy that took place in Anchorage this summer.

Fourteen Anchorage high school graduates attended Alaska Works Partnership's Youth Construction Academy to train for an industry that is clamoring for skilled workers. The Anchorage School District provided the King Career Center as a training facility and the Anchorage Home Builders Association had contractors lined up to hire the academy's graduates.



Alaska Works Partnership pioneered Youth Construction Academies to help meet the rising shortage of construction workers across the state.

"I'm just thrilled we've finally put this partnership together," said Carol Comeau, Anchorage School District Superintendent. "We need to show students and families that these are wonderful jobs to build Alaska. These are lifetime careers."

Industry experts around Alaska agree this kind of training is long overdue.

"Our construction workforce issues are huge. The average age of our carpenters is 52. We need to train the next generation," says Vicki Portwood, Executive Officer for the Anchorage Home Builders Association and the Alaska State Home Building Association. The association identified 90 positions in Anchorage alone that could not be filled during the summer construction season due to the lack of trained workers. "The construction academy will help get us started in bridging the gap."

Ed Pico, one of the academy's 14 graduates, said that

the instruction and certifications he received will help him build a future. "A job and a career are two different things," Pico said. "This helped us look at carpentry as a serious career."

Pico said that one of the highlights of the course was the opportunity to talk to journeymen. "They brought in some awesome journeymen. We're the next generation coming up and they were willing to make our lives easier by showing us what to do."

Alaska needs an estimated

(Continued on page 2)



Lee Grohs, graduate of Chugiak High School, measures before installing trim on the baseball dugout he helped to build.



Graduates of the Anchorage academy and their instructors. L to R, (standing on roof) Sean McGinnis, Lee Grohs, Justin Green, (sitting on roof) Santino Lazzarotto, Kyle Huntsman, Kevin Ambro, Harry Wilde, Blake Hoerdelmai, Javaghn Moore, Tim Rodamaker, Edward Pico, (in windows) Chas Shelley and John Tyler. (standing) Instructors Bruce Muse and Mike Tucker. (Not pictured — Dean Musliu)

Beyond the Academy: Success Story



"For people thinking about going to the Academy, I'd tell them you're doing the right thing. It opened a career field for me for the rest of my life."

—Simeon Williams,
Hooper Bay

Simeon Williams of Hooper Bay is building a school for his young son. By the time seven-month-old Nathan enters kindergarten, Williams will also have built a career for himself as a journey carpenter. A 2005 graduate of Alaska Works Partnership's Youth Construction Academy, Williams currently works as an apprentice on all phases of the Hooper Bay K-12 School.

Williams is an example of how a AWP's Youth Construction Academies help youth people decide on and train for lifelong careers.

"I didn't think about going into construction work but I wanted a job in the village," Williams said. So last summer he attended AWP's Youth Construction Academy in Bethel where he learned skills he could put to work in his own community.

His proficiency and can-do attitude landed him a job with Neeser Construction to help build the Hooper Bay school.

Superintendent Chuck Holbrook recommended Williams for a carpentry apprenticeship where Williams could refine his skills through classroom instruction and on-the-job training.

"He's done really well," says Holbrook said. "I've worked with him in every phase of the job."

Williams says the hours are long but the pay is good and the benefits of becoming a journeyworker will provide a good living for his family. Although Williams at first thought he wanted to stay in Hooper Bay, he now says he's willing to go where ever there is work. That's good news for his current boss. Already, Williams is considered a "Neeser Hand."

Along with the training at the Youth Construction Academy at Bethel, Alaska Works Partnership helped Williams with travel expenses to attend additional training in Anchorage. AWP also provided books for classroom instruction and carpentry tools for his apprenticeship.

AWP's Youth Construction Academy Comes to Anchorage

(Continued from page 1)

1,000 new construction workers a year for the next several years and 6,000 new workers to keep pace with job growth and worker retirement through 2012.

Alaska Works Partnership pioneered youth construction academies to meet

Summer Youth Construction Academies also took place at St. Mary's, King Salmon, Klawock, Ninilchik, and Delta Junction.

the rising shortage of construction workers across the state. The academies are the result of partnerships with industry, labor, community leaders, and education to train workers from Ambler to Anchorage. Training is provided by Union apprenticeship programs that have long provided the industry standard for quality, hands-on instruction. Carpenter training for many of the Academies including Anchorage was provided by the Southern Alaska Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Program.

The construction academy concept may have been new to Anchorage this summer,

but AWP's training has been an ongoing enterprise in rural Alaska for several years. By bringing construction training to villages across the state, rural residents have been able to train and work in their own communities. This summer's youth construction academies took place at St. Mary's, King Salmon, Klawock, Ninilchik, and Delta Junction.

Alaska State Home Building Association's Vicki Portwood couldn't be happier with the collaborative efforts that are underway. "Alaska Works Partnership already had the training programs up and running. They helped us to understand the essential day-to-day mechanics of what it takes to train the worker," she says. "We just know that we need the workers."



Justin Green and Santino Lazzarotto



Mike Andrews, Director
Alaska Works Partnership

SHOPTALK

Construction Academy training is helping young Alaskans get construction jobs.

Our first Construction Academy was held in June, 2004, at St. Mary's. Students were recruited from Lower Yukon School District high schools. The Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association provided major funding.

Regional employers attended training to encourage youth. This summer we completed our third Yukon Delta Academy. This partnership is stronger than ever.

In 2005 we transported the model to Bethel with the regional partners of Yuut Elitnaurviat - The People's Learning Center. In 2006 we added academies in King Salmon, Klawock, Delta and Anchorage. Academies are designed locally by a committee involving school district administrators, teachers, employers, and regional organizations. Trade training is based on the regional outlook for construction jobs in those trades.

For example, in Bristol Bay local organizers chose

construction truck driver training to attract graduates to road, airport, mining and other civil construction projects. In Delta they chose heavy equipment training for similar jobs. In Prince of Wales they chose carpentry to help local contractors build homes and community buildings. In Anchorage students received forklift training and carpentry to assist area homebuilders and building supply companies.

Major funding for 2006 academies was provided through grants from the Denali Commission Training Fund and Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development - USDOL High Growth Jobs Initiative, along with regional organization contributions.

Our Academies are good examples of how government, educators, elected officials, regional leadership, employers and trade unions can work together to move our high school graduates into good jobs and careers in Alaska's construction industry. On behalf of all of those involved in our Academies, we welcome our graduates into the construction workforce and a future building Alaska.

EMPLOYER PROFILE: ALASKA DECKS & MORE

In 2001 Levi and Nathan Smith established Alaska Decks & More and in just five years their business has become Alaska's largest custom deck building enterprise. Quality construction for the 100 decks they build per season requires trained, quality workers. So after Levi Smith let two of his workers go this summer, he needed some good crewmembers to take their place. Smith decided to interview two of the Anchorage construction academy graduates and in the end, he hired Harry Wilde and Edward Pico. Later, he hired Santino Lazzarotto and Blake Hoerdemai.

"They interviewed professionally, had resumes and good attitudes," Smith said. "They were well trained for what we needed."

Wilde, Pico and 14 other AWP Youth Construction Academy graduates learned basic carpentry skills and received certification to operate a forklift. Their coursework also included OSHA 10, and HILTI certifications.

"They had good head knowledge which is a good first step - all they need now is some experience," said Smith.

Alaska Decks & More are providing the important on-

the-job training that academy graduates will need for successful careers in the construction industry. Following the deck-building season, the company spends the winter months remodeling homes. Their slogan is "You dream it, we build it."

For more information about Alaska Decks & More, visit their website at www.akdecks.com or call 748-5938.



Construction Academy graduate, Ed Pico and co-founder of Alaska Decks & More, Levi Smith.

Employers Rally to Hire Graduates

Anchorage contractors and building suppliers found what they were looking for in their new hires from Anchorage Youth Construction Academy. Graduates had the skills, work ethic, and certifications needed to become valuable members of the following employers construction teams and staff.

Davis Construction
Nugget Construction
Spenard Builders Supply
Alaska Decks & More
Pepco Cedar Homes



Mike Andrews, Alaska Works Partnership

100 Percent Success

All 14 graduates of Anchorage's first Youth Construction Academy who wanted jobs in construction after their academy training went to work.

Eleven went to work on construction jobs in the Anchorage area. One graduate entered the National Guard shortly after the academy, but plans to return from Basic Training and continue his construction career. One graduate left for college, and another went to work at the family business.

Congratulations Graduates!



Blaine Hoerdelmal and Santino Lazzarotto work together to build a baseball dugout.

AWP PROGRAMS

- ◆ APPRENTICESHIP OUTREACH
- ◆ BMR APPRENTICESHIP
- ◆ WOMEN IN THE TRADES
- ◆ HELMETS TO HARDHATS
- ◆ SUMMER CONSTRUCTION ACADEMIES



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ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

Building Alaska One Community at a Time

Kotzebue Training Leads to Pipeline Jobs

When Oliver Reed returned from the war in Iraq to his Native village of Kiana, he knew he wanted to settle down. He wanted to gain skills and go to work at a job with good pay and benefits. Yet training and jobs are hard to come by in the NANA region, a 38,000 square mile area north of the Arctic Circle. So when Reed learned about Alaska Works Partnership's welder helper training taking place in Kotzebue in September, he applied.

Anthony Tickett of Ambler also applied with hopes of someday entering a trade apprenticeship. The welder helper training provided instruction and hands-on experience in rigging, soldering, cutting and other welding skills.

Alaska Works Partnership partnered with the NANA Regional Corporation, Alaska Technical Center, and Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 375 to provide the training and introduce students to this career field in the trades.

"This training was directly related to pipeline work," said John Plutt instructor from the Fairbanks



Emil Henry, Jr. practices end-prepping a pipe.

The welder helper training held in Kotzebue in September is one of the ways that Alaska Works Partnership is helping to meet the state's growing workforce needs.

Plumbers and Pipefitters JATC apprenticeship program. "All the students were very enthusiastic; it was a great class with great participation."

Cheryl Edenshaw, Director of the Alaska Technical center in Kotzebue said that AWP's welder helper training is what people of rural communities have been asking for. She added that it was a great fit with training already offered by the Center.

Kristin Patrick, Shareholder Development Manager for NANA said, "We love to be able to offer training opportunities to our shareholders. Our region has a need for job skills in the villages. It's so valuable to be able to earn an income in places where gasoline is as high as eight dollars a gallon."

After being accepted and attending the training in



Plumbers and Pipefitters and ATC Welders Helpers Training Class
Back Row: Vincent Thomas, Buckland, Oliver Reed, Kiana, Fred Davis Selawik, Mark Cruthers, Kotzebue. Second Row: Tony Tickett, Shungnak, Gerald Griest, Kotzebue, Nora Hadley, Buckland, Tommy Ballot, Buckland, John Plutt, Instructor. Kneeling: Emil Henry, Jr., Kiana, Jackson Harvey, Kobuk

(Continued on page 2)

Success Story: Shane Wright



Before Shane Wright attended pipeline training in Fairbanks last year, he had no experience with pipefitting work. He earned about \$6,000 a year working in his village of Rampart.

After attending last year's pipeline training, Wright was offered a job as a pipe welders helper with Flowline Alaska. Wright's wages and benefits now equal \$25.00 an hour; with overtime he has already earned over \$42,000 in 2006.

He is gaining experience on a variety of phases of Flowline Alaska's production. The company provides insulation,

fabrication and coating for industrial pipelines at work in Alaska's oilfields.

"He's been doing about everything here," said Wright's foreman, Jim Gower. "He's surely a capable helper."

Now that Wright has some experience and training, he has decided to apply to the pipefitters apprenticeship program.

"Alaska Works has helped me out a lot," Wright said. "Nelle (AWP's Apprenticeship Outreach Coordinator) helped me get my diploma and driver's license so I could qualify for an apprenticeship."

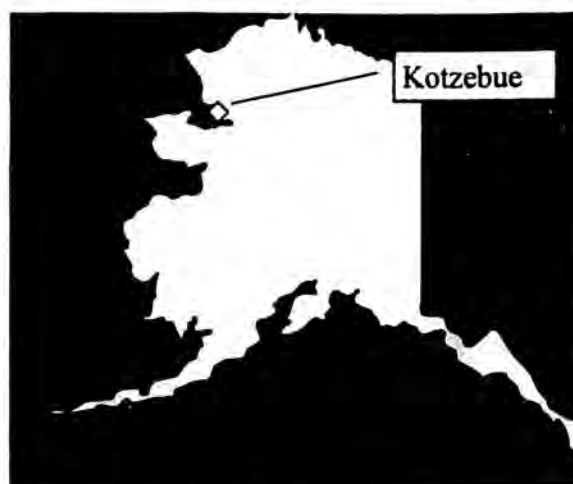
Kotzebue Training Leads to Pipeline Jobs (continued from page 1)

Kotzebue, Reed and Tickett, were selected from ten graduates to participate in the annual pipeline training event in Fairbanks in October. From there they hope not only to build their own careers, but to help build Alaska.

Reed said he looks forward to going to work. "I know someone who finished an apprenticeship a couple of years ago and he's making a good living," he said.

Likewise, Tickett hopes to learn the skills that will earn him a job at Prudhoe Bay. "What I liked most about the welder helper class was the opportunity to go to work afterward," he said.

Last year Alaska's Legislature approved several hundred million dollars for schools, roads and other infrastructure projects. Private sector construction is growing and federal investment in rural and military construction remains steady. Meanwhile North Slope oil producers are investing hundreds of millions in pipeline and oilfield service projects.



Randy Cheap, Field Representative for Alaska Works Partnership said, "This training represents AWP's primary mission to link people in rural Alaska to opportunities in the construction trades. We prepare people for work in their communities and throughout Alaska"



Mike Andrews, Director
Alaska Works Partnership

The number of construction and pipeline trade jobs in Alaska's oil patch grows every year. The price of oil, new development and oil pipeline repairs are the main reasons for job growth. Most of the workers are employed by oilfield service contractors. Oilfield service contractors hire heavy equipment operators, truck drivers, pipe fitters, welders and electricians, for example. But who gets hired?

The most recent *nonresident* hire report issued in September from the Alaska Department of Labor shows that in 2004 there were 11,293 oilfield service workers employed in Alaska. Thirty percent of those oilfield service workers were nonresidents earning \$226 million in wages. Of the 323 new oil field service jobs, 253 were filled by nonresidents – with only 70 going to Alaskans.

In contrast, Alaska's construction industry has turned a corner on resident hire. In 2003, after years of increasing nonresident hire in construction trades work, resident hire stood at 80%. In 2004 resident hire gained 1%. A one percent gain represents about 300 jobs and about \$70

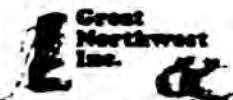
million more in payroll for Alaskan construction workers.

ADOL attributes part of the progress in construction local hire to "new training and apprenticeship programs and an effective campaign to acquaint Alaska's youth with opportunities in the construction industry."

AWP is paying attention. Like construction, the oilfield service sector needs Alaskans who are trained and prepared to go to work in the industry. In October we trained 100 apprentices and entry-level workers in Fairbanks to prepare them for building a new oil pipeline for Pioneer Natural Resources on the North Slope and for repairing the Trans-Alaska oil pipeline. In the past three years 270 residents have taken this training.

The annual pipeline training event in Fairbanks is a start, but it's going to take a lot of training and a significant change in the hiring practices of oilfield service contractors if Alaskans are going to get the jobs. Reading 2004 nonresident hire data is informative but it's like looking in a rearview mirror. Alaska Works is helping navigate the road ahead by training Alaskans for the jobs of the future.

SHOPTALK



EMPLOYER PROFILE: GREAT NORTHWEST INC.

October's annual pipeline training reflects the commitment of employers and unions to put Alaskans to work in Alaskan jobs. For the past three years Great Northwest Inc. has donated 20 acres of its Fairbanks yard and needed equipment for the statewide training event.

"In our business we have a lot of expensive equipment and we want trained, qualified people to operate that equipment," said company Vice President Tony Johansen.

Great Northwest's contribution to the pipeline training event has been worthwhile not just for the company but for the workers and employers statewide. "We're big supporters not only of this training but we strongly believe in the value that apprenticeship programs bring to the industry."

Great Northwest Inc. was established in 1975 as a

small residential landscaping contractor. Over the years the company has evolved into a major general construction company specializing in road/airport construction, ice road and oil field support, site development, site reclamation, and underground utilities.

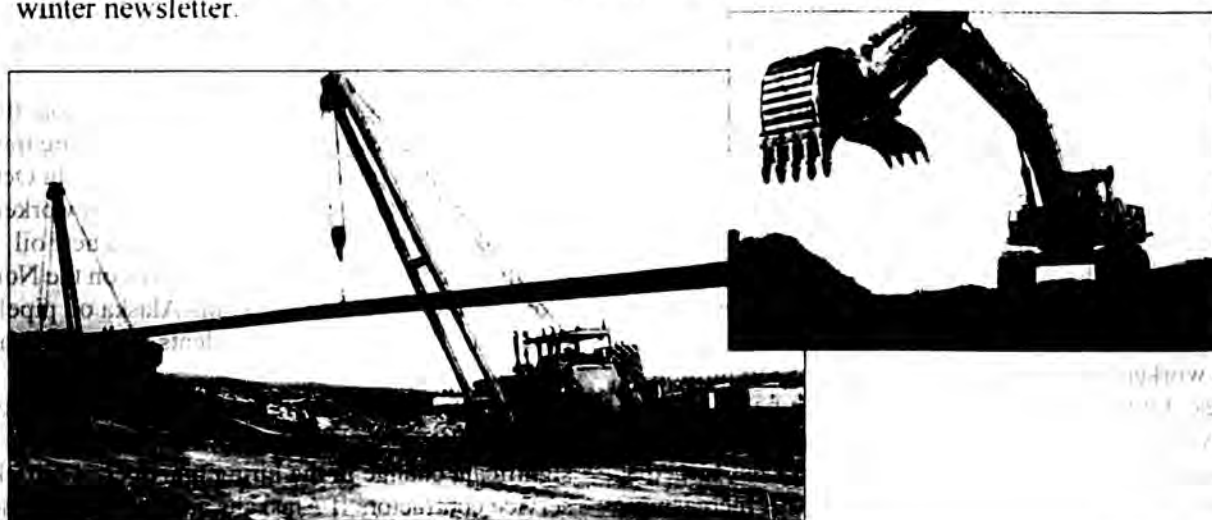
The firm employs between 50 and 250 employees depending on workload with most work performed under union labor agreements. Specialty subcontractors are added for items requiring welded steel piping, mechanical construction, electrical construction, concrete construction, vertical construction and other specialties.

For more information about Great Northwest Inc., visit their website at:

<http://grtnw.com/>

Preparing for Pipeline Work

The annual Pipeline Construction Skills training program is being held in Fairbanks October 23 through November 3, 2006. One hundred apprentices and beginning pipeline workers will be trained to prepare them to go to work this winter on Alaska's North Slope. Two major projects are building a new pipeline for Pioneer Natural Resource's Oooguruk Project and replacing seventeen miles of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline. Watch for details in AWP's upcoming winter newsletter.



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Helmets to Hardhats
Phone 1-907-790-8883
1-866-993-8181 (toll free)

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*Funded in part by a grant awarded under the president's
High Growth Job Training Initiative as implemented by
the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training
Administration*

Alaska Job Center Network
JOHN AND ALASKA'S FUTURE



Newsletter written & produced by K. Johnson Writing, Research, & Graphics
Logo/masthead by FOF

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

Building Alaska One Community at a Time

PIPELINE PROJECT: BUILDING ALASKA'S FUTURE

The stories are all true.

How average daily temperatures of minus 45 degrees can steal your breath away. How you can't see your hand in front of your face when howling winds whip snow off the ground. How quickly a person can freeze to death.

The stories are all true, and that's why there's no room for mistakes, says Isaac Jackson, journeyman for Laborers Local 942. He was one of 97 trainees who recently participated in realistic hands-on training on how to build a pipeline in arctic conditions. Safety in such a harsh environment is paramount. And so is teamwork.

In October, Alaska Works Partnership, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Alaska's four pipeline unions – Operating Engineers Local 302, Laborers Local 942 and 341, Plumbers

and Pipefitters Local 375, and Teamsters Local 959 – along with Alaska contractors hosted the fourth annual Alaska Joint Pipeline training event in Fairbanks.

"The only way we could build a pipeline is through this kind of training," says Danny Rurup, apprentice for Laborers Local 942. "We had nineteen instructors and so much experience at our disposal. We pumped these guys with so many questions."

"That was the whole idea," said Mike Andrews, Director of Alaska Works Partnership; to give trainees an opportunity not only to hone skills in their particular craft, but to coordinate their efforts with other workers on the pipeline. According to Click Bishop, Operating Engineers Apprentice Training Administrator and Pipeline Training Coordinator, trainees practiced all phases of pipeline construction as a combined workforce.

Dave Matthews of H.C. Price and President of the North Slope Contractors Association said, "The pipeline is a highly orchestrated, highly skilled construction project requiring specialized equipment, specialized skills and teamwork. The joint pipeline training event was important both practically and symbolically," as a way of training Alaskan workers for Alaskan jobs.

Industry experts estimate that

"We are going to build a gas pipeline and these young people are going to build it,"
— Labor Commissioner
Greg O'Clary.



Jason Hockin and Daniel Larranaga from Operators Local 302

(Continued on page 2)

PIPELINE PROJECT

BUILDING ALASKA'S FUTURE



Crystal Ewan, Laborers Local 942

(Continued from page 1)

Alaska will need 1,000 new construction workers each year to fill new jobs and those left by an aging workforce – that's *before* the demands of building a natural gas pipeline or the possible development of ANWR.

While the pipeline training helps assure a workforce for Alaska's future, participants in this year's program will be able to go to work almost immediately building 60 miles of cross-country pipeline for ConocoPhillips in the Alpine field on the North Slope.

In 2005 the Alaska Legislature provided a grant to purchase pipeline training equipment.

"The success of the program will build on itself. This training will prepare us for the future," said State Sen. Gen Therriault, R-North Pole at October's graduation ceremony.

Alaska Works Partnership was instrumental in making this year's pipeline training event the most diverse it has been to date. Over 35 percent of this year's participants were from rural Alaska. Over 13 percent of the class was made up of women.

Crystal Ewan, an up and coming apprentice, worked on water and sewer projects in her home village of Mentasta before coming to Fairbanks for a taste of pipeline construction on the North Slope. She has a son to support and looks forward to the possibility of earning a good income. Besides, she says she's having fun.

"I'd never touched a drill before and once I started they couldn't take it away from me," she laughs. "I went and found a Craftsman on sale for myself at Sears."

The enthusiasm among workers in the training program was infectious. Even with below-zero wind-chill, instructors and trainees worked with zeal and good humor. Amidst the roar of equipment and the crackle of welding torches, workers were not just building a pipeline. They were building a path to successful careers and Alaska's future.

Training Highlights

35% of the 2005 class were from rural Alaska.

13% of the 2005 class were women.

Training included 97 trainees and 19 instructors from four trade unions.

Most trainees will go to work immediately on a pipeline project.

"I couldn't have been here and done this without Alaska Works. We sure appreciate what they've done for us."

—Timothy Koerber, Apprentice, Teamsters Local 939.





Mike Andrews, Director
Alaska Works Partnership

2006 is shaping up to be an extremely busy year for construction. Last year the

Alaska Legislature approved a budget of several hundred million for construction projects that includes schools, roads and other infrastructure. Federal investment in rural and military construction projects will continue at a steady pace. Private businesses and homebuilders will continue to hire more construction workers. North Slope oil producers are investing hundreds of millions in pipeline and oilfield service projects.

The recent pipeline training held in Fairbanks, where 97 apprentices

completed orientation and hands-on exercises to construct pipelines, is a sign of the times. Each person who completed training is expected to go to work on the North Slope or along the Alyeska Pipeline very soon. Many are already dispatched. AWP, the pipeline unions and apprenticeship programs and the Alaska Department of Labor have already begun planning the next pipeline training event.

The construction industry, oil and gas industry, unions, apprenticeship programs and the government are working together to make sure Alaska residents get these good paying jobs building Alaska. We are pleased to be part of it. We wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous new year.

EMPLOYER PROFILE: H.C. PRICE COMPANY

Editor's Note: In each issue, Alaska Works Partnership features an employer whose partnership with labor, industry and Alaska Works reflects innovative ways Alaskan jobs are created for Alaskan workers.

H.C. Price has been a leading participant in some of Alaska's largest construction projects, receiving high acclaims for its construction of pipelines, process facilities, power plants, utilities, design and engineering. A top contractor in the state, the Alaska division of H.C. Price has at times had more than 1500 workers on its payroll. The company taps local union halls for its project labor force.

"A lot of pipeline companies have come and gone, but we've remained," said Dave Mathews, H.C. Price vice

president and Alaska general manager. "Our core business is pipeline construction but in Alaska, we've branched into heavy industrial building and trades construction."

The company first established an Alaska division in 1975 to complete construction of a 144-mile section of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline stretching from the Yukon River to Fairbanks. Throughout its nearly three decades in Alaska, H.C. Price has diversified to become a major constructor of infrastructure projects and electrical generating utilities. H.C. Price is proud to promote its diverse abilities and looks forward to continuing to provide its clients with a reliable source for its contracting needs.

AWP PROGRAMS

- ◆ APPRENTICESHIP OUTREACH
- ◆ BMR APPRENTICESHIP
- ◆ WOMEN IN THE TRADES
- ◆ HELMETS TO HARDHATS
- ◆ SUMMER CONSTRUCTION ACADEMIES



Dave Mathews

H.C. Price Co.
301 W. Northern Lights
Blvd. #300 Anchorage,
AK 99503
907-278-4400

Help Wanted

Alaska needs at least 1,000 new construction workers each year to fill new jobs and those left by an aging workforce. Registered apprenticeships offer training and work experience in the building and construction trades – career paths that offer a great future with wages and benefits that are the best in the industry.

Alaska Apprenticeship Programs Currently Taking Applications

Asbestos Workers - Heat & Frost Insulators
Boilermakers
Carpenters (Anchorage)
Electrical Lineman, Wireman, Telephone
Iron Workers
Laborers
Piledrivers & Commercial Divers
Plumbers and Pipe Fitters (Anchorage)
Roofers/Water Proofers
Sheet Metal Workers (Fairbanks)
Teamster Construction Driver

Coming Soon...

Painter/ Glazier/ Floor Coverers (Anchorage)
Bricklayers
Cement Mason/ Plasterer
Painter/ Glazier/ Floor Coverers (Fairbanks)
Plumbers and Pipe Fitters (Juneau)
Sheet Metal Workers (Anchorage)

For more information call
Alaska Works Partnership

Apprentice Outreach

1-866-457-2597



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Funded in part by AK-DOL-WD Grant US-DOL High
Growth Job Initiative

Alaska Job Center Network

Jobs are Alaska's Future



Newsletter written & produced by K. Johnson Writing, Research, & Graphics
Logo designed by FOF



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A JOB, OR A CAREER?

If you are looking for a career, you are in the right place. Helmets to Hardhats helps to place quality men and women from the Armed Forces into promising building and construction careers.

Acceptance into the building and construction trades is your first step to a great future. Careers in these trades enable you to earn while you learn and get rewarded for hard work. Membership in the building and construction trades entitles you to competitive salaries with consistent raises, pension plans, excellent medical benefits and flexibility.

HELMETS TO HARDHATS

Toll free: (866) 741-6210
www.helmetstohardhats.org

These Helmets to Hardhats partners are ready to serve you:

International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and
Asbestos Workers
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders,
Blacksmiths, Fitters and Helpers
International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
International Union of Elevator Constructors
International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and
Reinforcing Iron Workers
Laborers' International Union of North America
International Union of Operating Engineers
Operative Plasterers and Cement Masons International
Association of the United States and Canada
International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers
Sheet Metal Workers International Association
International Brotherhood of Teamsters
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the
Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and
Canada

Finishing Contractors Association
International Council of Employers of Bricklayers
Mechanical Contractors Association of America
National Association of Construction Boilermakers Employers
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Erectors Association
North American Contractors Association
Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National
Association
Tennessee Valley Authority
Walt Disney World Company



Building and Construction
Trades Department, AFL-CIO

HELMETS TO HARDHATS

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THE BEST JOBS IN CONSTRUCTION



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BUILD YOUR FUTURE

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YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP

The Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment, which administers Helmets to Hardhats, is your free one-stop shop for the best construction industry jobs nationwide. America's best employers and trade organizations come to the Center looking for America's best workers.

The Center accepts active military, those in the National Guard and Reserves and veterans who have a sincere desire to join the building and construction trades. Helmets to Hardhats provides you with a personalized and logical way to access the best that America's building and construction industries have to offer.

GETTING STARTED

The first step in finding a great career in building and construction is to register with us for free at www.helmetstohardhats.org. Once you have done that, complete your profile and learn about the different trades and what it means to be a part of them. When you find a trade that interests you, begin your search for opportunities online.

"When I was looking for a job, I signed up at many jobsites. Most of them just used my email address as a way to send spam or sell me something. If it weren't for the diligent efforts of Helmets to Hardhats, I probably would have forgotten about the entire thing. I credit Helmets to Hardhats for helping me find a good career with a future!"

—Bryan Smith,
Candidate placed in the California UA (Pipe Fitters)

"What cannot be measured is the camaraderie and the friendships of the people fighting for a common cause: the building of America's future. That's what military life is all about, and it's the reason these jobs feel just like coming home."

—Major General Matthew P. Caulfield,
USMC (Ret.)
Helmets to Hardhats Executive Director

SMOOTH TRANSITION

If your military skills make you an expert in a construction trade, you can enter the industry at a high level, with full credit for your experience. If you need to learn a building or construction trade, you can be trained at no cost, earn a good wage and benefits while you're learning and you may be eligible for GI Bill funds that will boost your training income above the average wage for that field. If you can pass the classes and do a good job on the work site, you are on your way to a promising future.

YOUR COMMITMENT

The Helmets to Hardhats program is unique in the fact that we have special relationships with hiring managers in building and construction trades. These hiring managers know that we will provide them with a consistent source of disciplined, serious and hard workers from the military who are looking for careers, not just jobs. Each trade invests a lot of time, money and energy into each apprentice — so they want to make sure you are serious.

EDUCATIONAL FUNDING

The apprenticeship programs we recommend to candidates are high quality, well-resourced training centers and projects. With many apprenticeship programs, you can utilize the Montgomery G.I. Bill or various state, National Guard or Reserve educational funding. Rates will vary depending on type of service, trade program and length of training. For more information visit <http://www.gibill.va.gov>.

APPRENTICESHIP

Most candidates will enter an apprenticeship program that lasts around four years. During that time, you will be paid to become an expert in your trade, taking classes and going to work at job sites. You will also receive a great benefits plan. While working, your average wage will be around half of a journeyman's wage, with regular increases.



BEST BENEFITS

Helmets to Hardhats works only with trade organizations and industry contractors who provide the best benefits in the marketplace. If you stick with it, you will be entitled to a future with high pay, great medical insurance and rewarding pension plans.

HELMETS TO HARDHATS





Finishing Contractors Association
International Council of Employers of Bricklayers
Mechanica Contractors Association of America
National Association of Construction Boilermakers Employers
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Erectors Association
North American Contractors Association
Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National
Association
Tennessee Valley Authority
Walt Disney World Company



THE BEST JOBS IN CONSTRUCTION



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If your military skills make you an expert in a construction trade, you can enter the industry at a high level, with full credit for your experience. If you need to learn a building or construction trade, you can be trained at no cost, earn a good wage and benefits while you're learning and you may be eligible for GI Bill funds that will boost your training income above the average wage for that field. If you can pass the classes and do a good job on the work site, you are off your way to a promising future.

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Methods: In the 1980s, the *Journal of Interpersonal Violence* published studies that had been submitted to the journal for publication in the 1970s. The journal was then the only journal in the field of interpersonal violence with a peer review process.

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Apprenticeship Outreach



Alaska Works can assist you in applying for and gaining entry to Alaska's construction trade apprenticeships through our Apprenticeship Outreach program.

Apprenticeship Outreach can provide you with:

- Information on construction trades
- Referral to apprenticeship
- Assistance gathering documents
- Interview skills
- Travel reimbursement for interview and application
- Referral to community resource agencies

To qualify for Alaska Works services, you must be able to make a commitment, work as part of a team, be drug free, and—most important—have a good attitude and a serious desire to start a construction career.

Contact Us. The next step is to contact Alaska Works. You may qualify for Apprenticeship Outreach services or for services through one of our other special focus programs.

1-866-457-2597

**"Working Together
for Jobs"**



MORE SERVICES FROM ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP

Apprenticeship Preparation You may be eligible for these services to prepare you for application to apprenticeship or employment:



- Career counseling
- Training and education
- Interview skills
- Completing application
- Other assistance

Women in the Trades If you are interested in construction, Alaska Works may be able to help you prepare and connect with high paying construction careers through union apprenticeship.



Jobs That Pay
**Women in the
Trades**



Helmets to Hardhats If you are interested in construction and you are a veteran or are transitioning from the military or the Guard/Reserve, we can help you start a construction career.

Toll Free 1-866-993-8181

Call Toll Free to learn more:

**Northern & Interior
1-866-457-2597**

**Southeast
1-866-993-8181**

**SouthCentral & Western
1-866-297-9566**

Support Services If you are accepted into a Construction Trades Apprenticeship program with one of our 20 Building Trades union partners, Alaska Works may be able to provide financial support while you complete your first year classes and on-the-job training.



You may qualify for assistance with:

- Lodging
- Per diem
- Ground transportation
- Child care
- Airfare from rural areas
- Book and class fees
- Necessary work clothing
- Necessary tools of the trade



Alaska Works Partnership can work for you.



What Is Alaska Works Partnership?

Alaska Works is your gateway to careers in construction. As a statewide non-profit corporation, Alaska Works can assist you with connections to education, training, apprenticeship, and careers in Alaska's construction industry.

We deliver services in partnership with Alaska's Building Trades unions, the Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Denali Training Fund.

Our Building Trades partners provide registered apprenticeships and pathways to the best jobs in Alaska's construction trades:

- Boilermaker
- Bricklayer
- Carpenter
- Cement Mason
- Electrician
- Insulation Worker
- Ironworker
- Laborer
- Operating Engineer
- Painter/Floorcoverer
- Piledriver
- Plumber/Pipefitter
- Roofer
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Surveyor
- Teamster Driver

What Is Apprenticeship?

Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training with formal classroom and hands-on instruction. You earn while you learn.

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Programs funded through
U.S. Department of Labor
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**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

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Alaska Works Partnership, Inc. is a 501(c) non profit with a mission to increase local hire and to provide Alaska residents with jobs and career opportunities in construction. [00]

Interested in Construction?



If you like ...

- Working outdoors
- Teamwork
- Learning new skills
- Physical work
- High wages
- Excellent benefits



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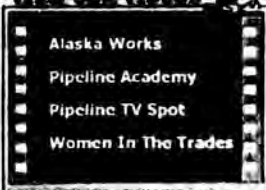
Helmets to Hardhats

Pipeline Training

Women in the Trades

View Our Newsletter

VIEW OUR VIDEOS



Working Together for Jobs



Photo courtesy of Local 375 JATC

Alaska Works Partnership is the gateway to successful careers in construction. AWP's construction training and placement system reaches across Alaska and is open to everyone.

AWP delivers services in partnership with Alaska's Building Trades unions, the Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development, the U.S. Department of Labor, and the Denali Training Fund.

We also team with employers, communities, and regional organizations on targeted projects. We find motivated applicants, provide the best training, and match qualified individuals with specific job opportunities.

Are you interested in construction?

- Are you a man or woman who would like great wages and benefits?
- Would you like to learn a career and be paid on the job while training?
- Are you a Veteran or serving in the National Guard and Reserves and want an exciting second career?
- Are you a student or young Alaskan who wants to get a construction job and explore the many good careers construction has to offer?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then AWP can help you connect to training, education, apprenticeship, and careers in Alaska's construction industry.

Through AWP you gain access to 22 construction trade training and placement partners. Through our partners, you can train in specialized skills for all types of construction from houses, to hospitals, to pipelines and everything in-between.



Alaska Job Center Network
Jobs are Alaska's Future



Alaska Works Partnerships puts Alaskans in Alaska jobs first.

About our Partners

AWP was formed by Alaska's construction trade unions to build an Alaska construction workforce. Our jointly administered trade apprenticeship program partners represent the largest private sector training enterprise in Alaska. They own and operate 15 trade schools with millions of dollars in training equipment and provide qualified instructors to train our recruits.

Together we're building Alaska one community at a time.



Read how we do it here.

About Us | Contact Us | © 2003 Alaska Works Partnership, Inc.



★ Working Together for Jobs

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

Apprenticeship Outreach**Home****Apprenticeship Outreach****Apprenticeship Trades****Current Openings****Success Stories****Support Services****Contact Us****How to Apply****BMR Training****Construction Academies****Helmets to Hardhats****Pipeline Training****Women in the Trades****Watch Our Video**

The best way to learn a construction trade is through apprenticeship. Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training with formal classroom and hands on instruction. Apprentices earn while they learn.

Alaska Works can help applicants gain entry into Alaska's construction trade apprenticeships through our Apprenticeship Outreach program.

**Apprenticeship Outreach can provide:**

- Information on construction trades
- Referral to apprenticeship
- Assistance gathering documents
- Interview skills
- Travel reimbursement for interview and application
- Referral to community resource agencies

Alaska Job Center Network
Jobs are Alaska's Future

**Apprenticeship Preparation**

Applicants may be eligible for these services to help prepare them for apprenticeship or employment:

- Career Counseling
- Training and education
- Interview skills
- Completing application
- Other assistance

[Click here to view and print our booklet "Guide to Successful Apprenticeship".](#)

[Click here for a flyer about Apprenticeship Outreach services.](#)

Alaska Works helps women prepare and connect with high paying construction careers through apprenticeship.

**Jobs That Pay
Women in the
Trades**

Women are the answer!

There has been no time like the present for women to pursue careers in construction. There is a need for 1,000 new construction related workers in Alaska every year to keep up with project workloads and a retiring work force. With a Gas pipeline looming, the demand will only increase. The role of women is critical as the construction industry expands to meet the projects for now and the future.

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TOP

Talented people are needed for these high wage careers. With the advent of technology in construction, construction careers are more accessible to women than ever before. Alaska Works Partnership – Women in the Trades can serve as a vital link for women looking for non traditional careers.

Women in the Trades program supports women – even those with little or no experience – by offering Construction Apprenticeship Preparation, Basic Trade Skills, Apprenticeship Outreach and Support Services.

[Click here for more information on: Women in the Trades.](#)

Helmets to Hardhats

We can help Veterans or military members transitioning to civilian life start a construction career. Toll Free 1-866-993-8181

[Click here for more information about Helmets to Hardhats.](#)

For more information contact:

Apprenticeship Outreach
Alaska Works Partnership
P.O. Box 74313
Fairbanks, AK 99707
Attention: Nelle Andrews

(907) 457-2597
(866) 457-2597



★ Working Together for Jobs

ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

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Jobs are Alaska's Future



Building Maintenance and Repair

Alaska Works Partnership can help Housing Authorities and other community builders who want to hire a local workforce to build, maintain, repair, and renovate housing and public buildings in rural Alaska.

The Building Maintenance Repairer (BMR) Apprenticeship was developed by Alaska Works to train apprentices in a wide range of construction tasks such as carpentry, painting, plumbing, and electrical.



BMRs may also be trained in other areas such as welding, sheet metal work, roofing, masonry, and the use of heavy equipment. A BMR apprenticeship can lead to a lifetime career with employment by regional housing authorities, village councils, local governments, school districts, and private sector employers.

STEP-UP

BMR apprentices have a unique opportunity to explore a number of different construction trades. If, during the first 2000 hours of work, a BMR apprentice decides to specialize in a specific Union-sponsored trade, STEP-UP allows BMR apprentices to apply for and directly enter an apprenticeship in another trade. [Learn More]

View Success Stories

LATEST NEWS: 4/02/07 Partners Bring Jobs and Homes to Rural Alaska

If you are an employer interested in partnering with Alaska Works to hire BMR apprentices please call: Tom Hooks BMR Apprenticeship Toll Free 1-866-296-9566

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ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

Alaska's Construction Unions & Jointly Administered Apprenticeship Programs

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Construction Academies

Construction Academies offer hands-on training and classroom instruction preparing high school age youth for entry level jobs in the construction industry and to help them be more successful when applying for a trade apprenticeship positions. Academies start with local school districts, vocational educators and local employers committed to forming a path for young Alaskans from school to work in construction. They serve in-school and out of school youth, ranging from 17 to 24 years old.

Our Academies offer students and young Alaskans a pathway and opportunity to see if they really want to pursue a career in construction. Students attend a two-three week intensive training session that increase basic academic skills in math and technical reading, and basic work skills for entry level jobs as carpenters, truck drivers or heavy equipment operators, for example.

Alaska Works started offering Construction Academies in 2004 at St. Mary's in partnership with the Lower Yukon School District, Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Authority, regional construction employers and the Denali commission. Today AWP works with ten school districts to offer academies. To learn more about Construction Academies read our booklet.

Click to view >



Anchorage Construction Academy Construction & Trades Workshops

If you are 18 years of age or older, don't miss this great learning opportunity

Workshops will be held from January to May
Anchorage Construction Academy (ACA)
 King Career Center
 2650 East Northern Lights Blvd.
 Anchorage, AK

Workshops will provide information about construction trades and apprenticeship opportunities. Learn how the Anchorage Construction Academy courses may help you get a great paying job in Construction.

[Click here to view our flyer.](#)

ACA Partners:

Anchorage School District
Alaska Works Partnership, Inc.
Cook Inlet Tribal Council
Associated General Contractors, Inc.
AnchorageHome Builders Association
Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development
Alaska Apprenticeship and Training Coordinators Association

For more information, please call 907.569.4729, or [click to view our full class schedule.](#)

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ALASKA WORKS PARTNERSHIP, Inc.

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HELMETS TO HARDHATS

THE BEST JOBS IN CONSTRUCTION

Alaska Works Partnership's Helmets to Hardhats program offers veterans and active duty personnel thinking about leaving the military the opportunity to use their hard-earned military experience to transition into a career in the building trades. By streamlining the application process and helping applicants who need training become registered apprentices in a construction trade, Helmets to Hardhats gives veterans the opportunity for life-long competitive wages, outstanding benefits, and a rewarding career.

Alaska's Helmets to Hardhats prospects have the added advantage of access to the many other services that Alaska Works Partnerships offers including financial aid for travel costs to training events, interview skills classes, OSHA training, First Aid certification, and other job support services.

For more information about Helmets to Hardhats, contact Ed Flanagan 907-790-8883 or toll free 1-866-993-8181.



Alaska Job Center Network

Jobs are Alaska's Future



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Jobs are Alaska's Future



Pipeline Training

Work in Alaska's oil patch is increasing as companies invest in bringing more oil to market. New projects are providing hundreds of new construction and oil field support jobs and the industry needs workers trained to fill those positions. Each year Alaska Works Partnership and Alaska's four pipeline unions—



Operating Engineers Local 302, Laborers Local 942 and 341, Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 375, and Teamsters Local 959 – along with the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development and Alaska contractors host a Joint Pipeline Training event in Fairbanks.

The event gives trainees an opportunity to hone specific skills and coordinate efforts with other workers on the pipeline.

By training apprentices, unions are preparing a new generation of pipeline workers. The Alaska Gas Pipeline project alone will need 7,000 skilled pipeline trade workers during an estimated three-year construction period.

To learn more about the 2006 pipeline training click [here](#).

2005 Training Highlights

35% of participants were from rural Alaska

13 % of participants were women

Training included 97 trainees and 19 instructors from four trade unions.

Most trainees went to work immediately following their pipeline training.

Participants from 29 Alaska Communities

Anchorage	Eagle River	Kotzebue	Nulato	St. Michael
Anderson	Fort Yukon	Mentasta	Rampart	Tanacross
Big Lake	Girdwood	Nenana	Ruby	Thorne Bay
Chalkyitsik	Glennallen	Nome	Selawik	Wasilla
Copper Center	Juneau	North Pole	Sitka	Willow
Delta Junction	Katag	Northway	St. Mary	

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[Click here to read more about 2005 Pipeline Training](#)

Jobs That Pay
Women
In the
Trades



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Women are the answer!

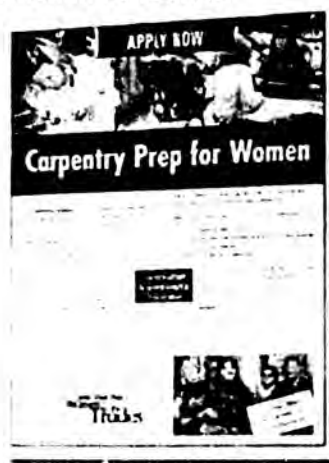
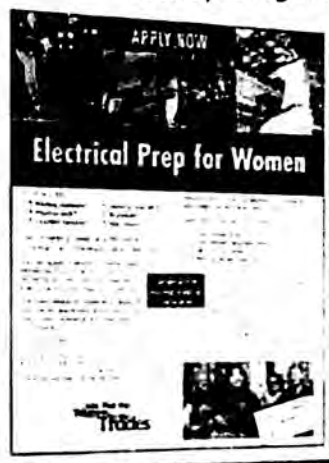
There has been no time like the present for women to pursue careers in construction. There is a need for 1,000 new construction related workers in Alaska every year to keep up with project workloads and a retiring work force. With a Gas pipeline looming, the demand will only increase. The role of women is critical as the construction industry expands to meet the projects for now and the future.



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New Openings for Women in Fairbanks!



Click a flyer to learn more.

Apply Now

Application Deadline is March 19 at 5:00 pm

Construction Apprenticeship Preparation

These courses offer women an opportunity to explore different construction trades such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing, sheet metal, pile driving and ironwork. During the course, women prepare to apply



**2006 ASK A
WORKING
WOMAN
SURVEY** **GO**



for apprenticeship through construction math, job readiness, certificates in first aid/CPR and occupational safety (OSHA 10) and physical conditioning.

Alaska Works Apprenticeship Outreach can provide women:

- Information on construction trades
- Referral to apprenticeship
- Assistance gathering documents
- Interview skills
- Travel reimbursement for interview and application
- Referral to community resource agencies

Support Services

Once an applicant is accepted into a Construction Trades Apprenticeship program, Alaska Works may be able to provide financial support during the first year of classes and on-the-job training. Applicants may qualify for assistance with

- Lodging
- Per diem
- Ground transportation
- Child care
- Airfare from rural areas
- Book and class fees
- Necessary work clothing
- Necessary tools of the trade

We would like to thank the Chicago Women in the Trades, Oregon Women in the Trades and Washington Women in the Trades for their support in helping us to establish this program.

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Working Together For Jobs – Alaska's Construction Industry



Alaska House of Representatives
Special Committee on Economic
Development, Trade and Tourism
April 10, 2007

Rural Apprenticeship Outreach

- Began mid 2000 - six + years of progress major funding by the Denali Commission
- 50-60 accepted each year, >350 to date
- Million's paid to apprentices in on-the-job training wages
- Technical trade courses are paid for by private sector



Building Maintenance & Repair Apprenticeship

- 6 years of active effort in Western Alaska – over 350 homes built in remote communities
- Apprentices also work on schools, clinics, roads, village safe water projects
- 9 major employers – AVCP, Bristol Bay, Cook Inlet, North Pacific Rim, Interior Regional, Tlingit-Haida, Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corp, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, North Slope Public Works Department
- Millions in on-the-job training wages paid to rural Alaskans

Women in the Trades

- Purpose is to increase the % of Women working in construction
- Program created in 2003
- Construction Apprenticeship Preparation Courses; Fairbanks, Anchorage, statewide recruitment
- 40 accepted into apprenticeship so far



Helmets to Hardhats

- Began in 2004
- Over 100 H2H assisted vets in JATCs
- 37 H2H apprentices in 2006
- MOU with State to provide H2H apprentices support while in training
- Contract with National Building Trades and National H2H



Pipeline Training



■ 297 apprentices and rural workers trained by pipeline trades in Fairbanks in 3 annual courses

2004-2006

- 95% employed on North Slope as result of training
- Legislature provided \$1.5M for pipeline training equipment & \$3 M for construction of training facility in Fairbanks

Pipeline Training

- Pre-pipeline training offered at rural regional training centers (Kotzebue, Bethel, Delta, King Salmon)
- Fairbanks North Star Borough is working closely with AWP to site the facility – design & engineering firm negotiations underway
- Need estimated \$3 M to complete facility

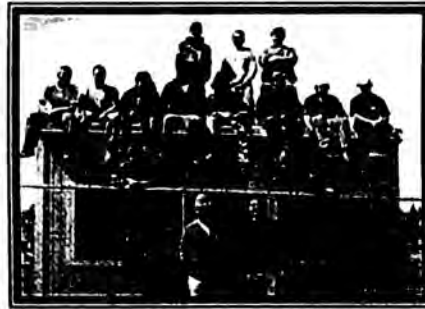
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- AWP pioneered mobile Construction Academies for young Alaskans 2-3 weeks intensive training (academy)
- St. Mary's, Bethel, King Salmon, Klawock, Anchorage, Delta, Nome, Ninilchik, Prince of Wales, Anchorage
- >150 Youth age 17 to 24 served



Anchorage Construction Academy

- Pilot funded with \$1M grant from Legislature in 2006
- Started October 2006 by Associated General Contractors, Anchorage Home Builders, Anchorage School District, AWP and JATCs
- Afternoon courses for high school students at King Career Center, Adult courses through AWP



Anchorage Construction Academy

- >700 students take voc-ed courses as electives
- >150 adults get basic skills training for entry jobs
and/or career training through apprenticeship
- Model to Fairbanks in fall 2007, may expand to
Mat-Su & Kenai as well, depending upon funding

Overall

- Industry, labor unions and education partnerships are closing the construction skills gap preparing a new generation of Alaska workers to build the gas pipeline
- AWP has the support of industry associations, hundreds of employers and a proven track record
- AWP has created a cost-effective and non-duplicated training system that reaches across the state

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

"An Act relating to required onboard disclosures and displays about tours, flightseeing operations, other shoreside activities, and visitors bureaus; and providing for an effective date."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

Section 1. AS 45.50.474(b) is amended to read:

(b) A person or other entity aboard a cruise ship conducting or making **or attempting to make** a sale of tours, flightseeing operations, or other shoreside activities to be delivered by a vendor or other entity at a future port of call shall **make the following disclosures** [DISCLOSE], both orally and in writing: **that the onboard sale is a paid promotion by a shoreside vendor; that other alternatives may be available for a lower price at a port of call; the address, Internet website address, and telephone number of any existing visitors bureaus at all future ports of call and a list of tours, flightseeing operations, or other shoreside activities listed with those visitors bureaus; and, if the amount of commission or percentage of the total sale retained or returned to the person making the sale exceeds 25% of the total cost of the services or goods provided by a shoreside vendor, that more than 25% of the total sale price is being retained as a commission by the person or entity making the sale** [THE AMOUNT OF COMMISSION OR PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL SALE RETAINED OR RETURNED TO THE PERSON MAKING THE SALE. THE PERSON OR ENTITY ABOARD A CRUISE SHIP MAKING OR ATTEMPTING TO MAKE A SALE OF SERVICES OR GOODS PROVIDED BY A SHORESIDE VENDOR SHALL DISCLOSE THE ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF THE SHORESIDE VENDOR IF ASKED BY A CONSUMER. ALL SUCH WRITTEN NOTICE OF DISCLOSURE SHALL BE IN A TYPE NOT LESS THAN 14-POINT TYPEFACE AND IN A CONTRASTING COLOR CALCULATED TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE DISCLOSURE].

Sec. 2. Delete AS 45.50.474(c)

[(C) EACH VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION CONSTITUTES AN UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICE UNDER AS 45.50.471, AND SHALL RESULT IN A PENALTY OF NOT MORE THAN \$100 FOR EACH VIOLATION.]

Sec. 3. AS 45.50.474 is amended by adding a new subsection to read: (e) A written notice of disclosure under (b)(1) or (2) of this section or a written display under (b)(2) of this section must be in a type that is not less than 14-point typeface and in a contrasting color calculated to draw attention to the disclosure.

Sec. 4. This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).

1 ☐ **Working Together For Jobs – Alaska's Construction Industry**

Alaska House of Representatives
Special Committee on Economic Development, Trade and Tourism
April 10, 2007

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4 ☐ **Women in the Trades**

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- Program created in 2003
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- 40 accepted into apprenticeship so far

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- Began in 2004
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8005 Schoon Street * Anchorage, AK 99518 * (907) 561-5354

**ACA Advisory Board
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Alaska Works Partnership

Kathleen Castle
Anchorage Construction
Academy

Dick Cattnach
Associated General
Contractors of Alaska

Carol Comeau
Anchorage School District

Esther Cox
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Academy

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Margie Germain-Antrim
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Development

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Alaska State Home
Building Association
Anchorage Home Builders
Association

Rick Rios
Anchorage School District

Vicki Schneibel
Associated General
Contractors of Alaska

February 2007

It has been five months since the Anchorage Construction Academy (ACA) began recruiting and training youth and adults for entry-level jobs in the Alaska construction industry. ACA highlights include:

The Adult Program

- ☐ 75 adults completed the first four ACA classes: Carpentry, Plumbing, Electrical, and Welding Basic Training
- ☐ 16% average increase in math scores for adults completing basic courses
- ☐ 55% average increase in math test scores after Math Refresher class
- ☐ 94% of employers surveyed are interested in hiring ACA class completers (and indicated that more than 300 jobs are available for graduates.)
- ☐ Began formation of Fairbanks Construction Academy Partnership

The High School Program

- ☐ 34 construction-related classes offered to 1476 students in 8 comprehensive high schools and the King Career Center (includes duplication of students)
- ☐ Offered after school construction classes in 8 comprehensive high schools and the King Career Center
- ☐ 202 students completed National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) construction modules
- ☐ King Career Center began using the WorkKeys program in classes (an occupational and math assessment and enhancement program promoted by DEED)
- ☐ 72 seniors completed prerequisite coursework for Summer Construction Institute

If you have any questions regarding the ACA please contact one of our Advisory Board members or call Dick Cattnach, Executive Director, Associated General Contractors of Alaska (907) 561-5354.

Building Alaska



Alaska Works Partnership

2006

Innovative training
for Alaskan youth

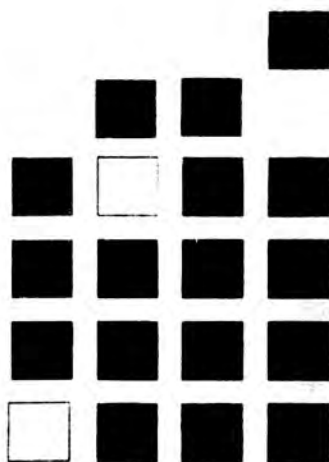
Construction
Academy

ALASKA
Works

Partnership, Inc.



Construction Academies





Building Alaska

What does an 18-year-old Anchorage high school graduate with no building experience have in common with a young Kokhanok woman who never learned to drive a car? Both young people attended innovative Alaska Works Partnership Youth Construction Academies this past year as they explored career options in the construction trades.

Seventy students, ages 16-24, from dozens of communities around the state attended AWP's pioneering Youth Construction Academies in 2006. What they learned ranged from construction driving to carpentry to operating heavy equipment. What they shared was an opportunity to gain skills for construction jobs in an industry that is clamoring for trained workers.

The Youth Construction Academies targeted 11th and 12th graders as well as recent high school graduates and those that had left school. Studies have shown that vocational education increases student retention and decreases high school dropout rate. After AWP's Youth Construction Academies, junior and senior participants returned to school with a renewed sense of purpose; many had plans for careers in construction. Academy graduates who had already graduated or left school had the opportunity to continue training in a building trade or be hired for capital construction projects in their own communities.

AWP's Youth Construction Academies are tailored to meet student needs. For example, in rural villages where there are no roads, local



youth often do not have a driver's license. Alaska Works Partnership addressed this barrier to employment by developing a driver education component to allow students to earn a driver's license as part of their training.



Youth Construction Academies are also customized to meet the workforce needs of local communities. In St. Mary's and Klawock, for example, academies emphasized basic carpentry skills for regional housing projects. In King Salmon, workers were needed for road construction, so training emphasized construction driving. The Academy in Delta offered training in civil construction where students had an opportunity to operate heavy equipment for local building projects.

Construction Academies are held at regional training centers. This year's Youth Construction Academies took place in Bethel at the Yuut Elitnaurviat People's Learning Center; in St. Mary's at the St. Mary's Area Regional Training Center; in Ninilchik at the Cook Inlet Tribal Council Leadership Camp; in Klawock at the Klawock



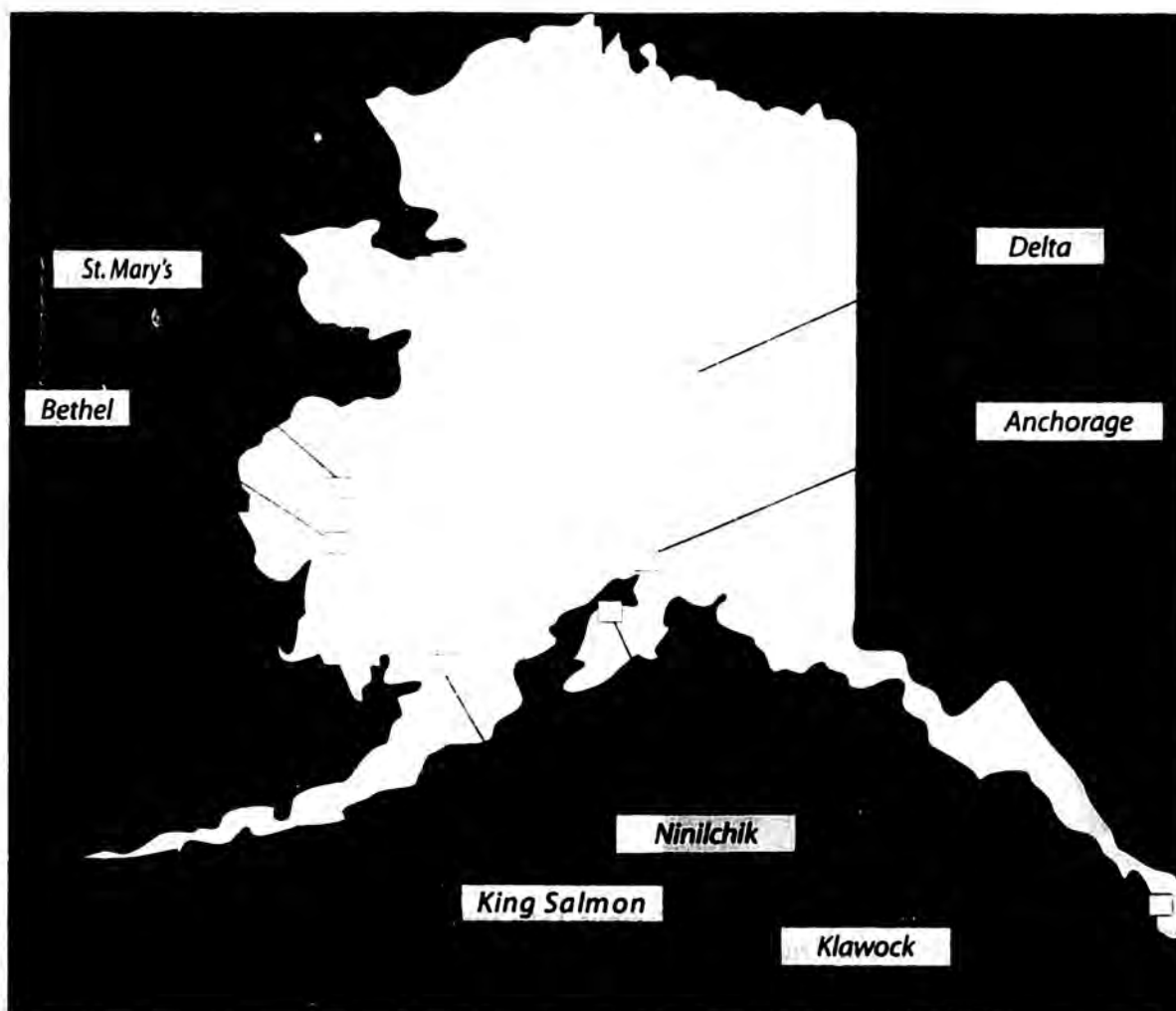
School; in King Salmon at the Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center (SAVEC); in Delta at the Delta Career Advancement Center; and in Anchorage at the King Career Center.

Teamwork is the foundation for the success of AWP's Youth Construction Academies. Partnerships with educators, labor, and industry help place graduates into jobs and prepare them for trade apprenticeships. School districts, Native corporations, regional training centers, local branches of the University of Alaska, Joint Apprenticeship Training Committees (JATCs) and others have partnered with AWP to train Alaskan youth for Alaska jobs.

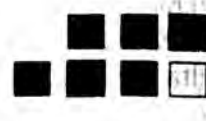
Major funding for the Academies was provided by the Denali Commission through the Youth Initiative and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development High Growth Job Training Initiative. In each region, partners contributed resources to support the Academies.



Building Alaska requires a trained workforce. Our future success depends on how well our youth are prepared to fill tomorrow's jobs. Through Youth Construction Academies, Alaska Works Partnership and its partners are working to bring vital construction training and exciting job opportunities to young people across the state.



King Salmon



Laura Wassillie, of Kokhanok, had never driven a car before. But by the second week of training, Wassillie – who had earned her driver's license just a few days earlier – was backing a 17,000-pound KW tractor trailer with amazing precision. Wassillie was one of seven students who tried their hands at construction driving at King Salmon Youth Construction Academy June 5-16.

"That was so scary!" she said as she climbed out of the cab, smiling ear-to-ear. She reflected the sentiments of all students after their first drives – yet without exception, they were all eager to get back behind the wheel.

The two week introductory course took place at the Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center (SAVEC) and included flagging certification, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10 certification and job readiness skills. The Alaska Teamsters-Employers Service Training Trust provided instruction for the Academy. During the first week of training, students earned a driver's license – only one student had a license before the class began.

"The best kept secret is that vocational technical skills can offer careers with great wages," said Eldon Davidson, Executive Director for SAVEC. "Individuals with a CDL [commercial driver's license] can make starting wages of \$35,000 to \$40,000.



The best kept secret is that vocational technical skills can offer careers with great wages.

After a few years experience drivers can earn up to \$75,000."

Cathy Reamy, Bristol Bay Native Association's Employment and Training Program manager agreed. "I want [young people] to know that you can work construction for a season, go back to the village and live comfortably on that income for the rest of the year," she said.



Students attending were from the Bristol Bay villages of:

- Aleknagik
- Nondalton
- Dillingham
- Chignik Lake
- Clarks Point
- Kokhanok
- New Stuyahok



AWP Partners: UAF Bristol Bay Campus, Lake and Penn School District, Bristol Bay School District, Bristol Bay Native Association, Northern Dynasty, Southwest Alaska Vocational & Education Center (SAVEC), Alaska Teamsters-Employer Service Training Trust.

Delta



The only heavy equipment Olga Kulinich had ever operated was a one-time gig running a farm combine for a friend. But when she saw a flyer posted at the Delta grocery store announcing the Delta Youth Civil Construction Academy, she thought it might be fun. It would certainly be a departure from her job working at a bank. Only two years out of high school and looking for new direction, Kulinich decided to give it a try.

Kulinich was one of ten youth, ages 17-24, who participated in the Delta Youth Civil Construction Academy June 5-23. By the end of three weeks, she and other students were operating backhoes, dozers, excavators, graders, loaders, rollers, and a truck. Delta students also received forklift safety certification.

In the end, Kulinich graduated at the top of her class and was one of two students who were accepted into apprenticeships with Operating Engineers Local 302.

Gary Hall, coordinator of the Delta Career Advancement Center where the training took place, explained that hundreds of applicants vie for these apprenticeships and usually less than a dozen are admitted into each class. He added that the Delta Youth Construction Academy offered



The Delta Youth Construction Academy offered vocational exploration and hands-on training that set many students on a new career path.

vocational exploration and hands-on training that set many students on a new career path.

"We had an excellent site, a real-world location to set up real job site scenarios," Hall said.

As part of their training, Delta students received CPR/First Aid, OSHA 10, mine safety and forklift safety certifications.

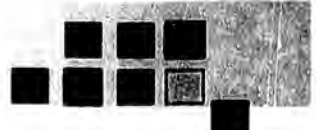
Delta Industrial Services supported the Academy by renting the machinery and providing a gravel pit in which students could operate the equipment. Operating Engineers/Employers Training Trust provided instructors and helped develop the curriculum. As part of learning to operate heavy equipment, students put their new skills to work to help grade the parking lot at the new Delta Career Advancement Center.

Following her training at the Delta Youth Civil Construction Academy and acceptance into the apprenticeship, Kulinich went to work for two months on the Dalton Highway. She took a gamble when she left her banking job to attend the Academy. "At first I had to ask myself, 'What am I doing?'" she said. "It looks like I made the right decision."



AWP Partners: Partners for Progress, a consortium comprised of Alaska Works Partnership, Delta Greely School District, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Alaska Tanana Valley Campus, and Delta Mining Training Center; Alaska Operating Engineers/Employers Training Trust.

St. Mary's



St. Mary's Youth Construction Academy students – like participants in other academies – first learned fractions in class. Then they went to work using their tape measures to figure out how much lumber they needed to build a sawhorse. All that work with fractions suddenly made a lot of sense. It's known as relevance – a catalyst for engaging students in their learning.

"One thing I really like about the Youth Construction Academies is the application of mathematics," said Debra Vo, Rural Development Specialist for the Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association (YDFDA). "Math had always been a struggle for kids in rural areas. The question is always 'When am I going to ever use this?' The academies show a connection between math and a career track."

Vo said that the academy training also helps boost math scores which is crucial in meeting No Child Left Behind requirements for rural schools. Not only are high school students learning math, they are exploring a career field that offers lifelong opportunities for employment. Vo said that when YDFDA, the Lower Yukon School District, and community leaders came together, they looked at the amount of money that came into the area for capital projects and noticed that most of the workers were being imported.

"There are opportunities in our region and we want to grow-our-own, so to speak," Vo said. "We



knew that not all kids graduating from high school are going to college. Some like to work with their hands and be outside. So exploring construction career paths was a good opportunity."

The academies have been so successful that St. Mary's is planning its fifth Youth Construction Academy for 2007.

Ten students from the Lower Yukon Delta region were introduced to carpentry during the May 15-26, 2006 academy. Along with learning basic carpentry and tool safety, the students, ages 17-20, received math enrichment, career exploration and OSHA 10 and HILTI certification.

Training was held at St. Mary's Area Regional Training Center and instruction provided by the Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.



Students were from the villages of:

- Marshall
- Pilot Station
- Mountain Village
- Emmonak,
- Russian Mission
- St. Mary's



AWP Partners: Lower Yukon School District, Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association, Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

Bethel



Simeon Williams, 23, of Hooper Bay is building a school for his young son. By the time his seven-month-old enters kindergarten, Williams will also have built a career for himself as a journey carpenter. A graduate of AWP's Bethel Youth Construction Academy, Williams currently works as an apprentice helping to build the Hooper Bay K-12 School.

Williams is an example of how a AWP's Youth Construction Academy helps youth people decide on and train for lifelong careers.

"I didn't think about going into construction work but I wanted a job in the village," Williams said. So he attended Alaska Works Partnership's Youth Construction Academy in Bethel where he learned skills he could put to work in his own community.

His proficiency and can-do attitude landed him a job with Neeser Construction to help build the Hooper Bay school. Superintendent Chuck Holbrook recommended Williams for a carpentry apprenticeship where Williams could refine

Williams currently works as an apprentice helping to build the Hooper Bay K-12 School.



his skills through classroom instruction and on-the-job training.

The Bethel Youth Construction Academy was held at the Yuut Elitnaurviat People's Learning Center. Twelve students from the Bethel area participated. Students also received daily math instruction, OSHA 10 and HILTI certification. Training was provided by the Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

Williams says the hours in construction work are long but the pay is good and the benefits of becoming a journeyworker will provide a good living for his family. Although Williams at first thought he wanted to stay in Hooper Bay, he now says he's willing to go where ever there is work.

"Eventually you work yourself out of a job in the village and you have to find another school or fire department to build," he said. "It doesn't really matter where I go as long as I have a job."

That's good news for his current boss. Already, Williams is considered a "Neeser Hand."



Students who attended were from the villages of:

- Bethel
- Kipnuk
- Hooper Bay
- Kwethluk
- Kasigluk



AWP Partners: Lower Kuskowwim School District, YUUT Elitnaurviat, Inc., Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

Klawock



Josiah Huestis is a go-getter. He is purchasing property on Prince of Wales Island and in the coming year plans to build his own house doing most of the work himself. After that he figures he'll "get serious" about a possible career in construction. Huestis is 17 years old.

Huestis was one of 14 participants, who took part in the Klawock/Prince of Wales Youth Construction Academy held June 5-16. He heard about the academy from the PACE Statewide Correspondence School where he graduated in 2006. The Academy offered students, ages 16-24, career exploration, classroom instruction, and hands-on training in carpentry.

Although Huestis is no stranger to construction – his father is a contractor – he had never received any formal training. The Academy helped him start thinking and planning on his own which boosted his confidence and sharpened his skills.

Rich Carlson, Superintendent of the Klawock City School District, said that the academy was enormously successful on many levels.

"It was a very demanding course," he said. In addition to instruction in basic carpentry, students received math enrichment, earned First Aid/CPR certification and OSHA and HILTI training and certification. "One hundred percent of the students graduated and we had a 99.3 percent attendance rate."

According to pre and post Academy test scores, Academy participants jumped ahead three months to a full year in their math skills, Carlson said. "They went immediately from the classroom to the construction site and were able to apply it right away."

As with all of the Youth Construction Academies, classroom instruction was followed

Youth Academy participants jumped ahead three months to a full year in their math scores.

Students were from the communities of:

- Klawock
- Craig
- Thorne Bay
- Hydaburg
- Whale Pass



by hands-on training. Many Academies feature a community service project to hone their new skills. Klawock/Prince of Wales Youth Construction Academy students built three school bus shelters as their final training assignment.

"The academy is an example of action-oriented education that is purposeful. What surprised me, to be honest, was how engaged [students] were. They were very excited about their learning and about applying it to an outcome," Carlson said. "These are all educational premises, but to see it unfold in an eleven day period was phenomenal."

With Alaska Works Partnership and the Prince of Wales Vocational Education Consortium, Carlson is already planning another Youth Construction Academy for 2007. Meanwhile, graduate Josiah Huestis is putting his new knowledge and confidence to work. He is helping his father build a lodge in Whale Pass. And when the snow finally melts, he looks forward to breaking ground on a place of his own.



AWP Partners: The Prince of Wales Vocational Education Consortium is comprised of Alaska Works Partnership, Klawock City School District, Southeast Island School District, Craig City School District, Alaska Department of Education, University of Alaska Southeast Tech Prep program, Prince of Wales Chamber of Commerce, 3-B Construction, Cleary Computer Services, Klawock Bay Inn, Klawock IRA Council, Communities Organized for Healthy Options (COHO), and PACE Statewide Correspondence School. Training was provided by Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

Ninilchik



Deep in the heart of the Kenai Peninsula, amongst moose and mosquitoes, hammers pounded and saws zipped to the background murmur of men at work. The 19-23 year old Native youth were building a log cabin at the Cook Inlet Tribal Council Leadership Camp in Ninilchik as part of their final project at their Youth Construction Academy.

Two of the nine participants were brothers Les and Edward Kayoukluk, who are originally from Unalakleet but now live in Anchorage.

"I got a tremendous amount of knowledge from the academy," said Les. "It was a good opportunity to make a career of construction work." Not long after attending the academy, Les went to work for Cook Inlet Housing Authority to help remodel senior housing in Anchorage.

His brother, Ed, agreed that the academy was a great way to learn about a career path in construction. "I started working in medical administration but didn't like sitting behind a desk."

The Ninilchik Youth Construction Academy evolved when the Cook Inlet Tribal Council Inc. (CITCI) contacted Alaska Works Partnership to provide a youth construction academy with an emphasis on carpentry. The academy took place May 8-27 and like other construction academies included basic carpentry, health and safety, math enrichment, leadership training and career exploration. Classroom instruction was conducted in Anchorage followed by hands-on training at the CITC Leadership Camp in Ninilchik.

Nine students completed the 2006 program. This was AWP's second Youth Construction Academy in Ninilchik. In 2005, participants built a bathhouse as their final project.

The academies provide a positive situation for industry, students, and their villages said Randy Alvarez, journeyman carpenter and instructor for Southern Alaska Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Program. He explained that building contrac-



tors often come to villages but cannot find local residents who have the construction skills or qualifications they need to be hired. Although they might like to teach the building trades to young Natives, contractors rarely have the time.

"This program puts some of their own people to work in the villages," Alvarez said. The cabin that Les and Ed Kayoukluk helped to build will likely serve generations of Native youth as a place to learn about their cultural heritage. And the construction skills these brothers learned at the Ninilchik Youth Construction Academy will likely serve them both well into their futures.

Students attending were from the communities of:

- Palmer
- Anchorage
- Wasilla
- Galena
- Kotlik



AWP Partners: Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Southern Alaska Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Program.

Anchorage

Little Leaguers and other ball players have new dugouts at the Harmon Baseball fields thanks to some all-star students of a construction academy that took place in Anchorage this summer.

One of those students was Kevin Ambro. Before the Anchorage Youth Construction Academy, his construction experience consisted of helping his dad build a shed. Today he has over 1,000 hours of construction experience and is working with journeymen to help build a \$66 million dollar, 50,000-square-foot cancer treatment center at Providence Hospital.

Ambro was one of 14 students who attended the Anchorage Youth Construction Academy held June 5-23. Students received safety training and certification, tool safety instruction, forklift certification, and carpentry instruction. The final project for Anchorage students was the construction of baseball dugouts. Ambro says the Academy's classroom instruction and hands on training helped pave his way for a carpentry apprenticeship and a subsequent job with Davis Constructors.



"I learned a lot at the Academy," Ambro said. "Things like basic layout for building construction. The construction math was especially helpful."

The Anchorage School District provided the King Career Center as the training facility for

the Academy and the Anchorage Home Builders Association had contractors lined up to hire the Academy's graduates. Carpentry training was provided by the Southern Alaska Carpenters Apprenticeship Training Program.

"I'm just thrilled we've finally put this partnership together," said Carol Comeau, Anchorage School District Superintendent. "We need to show students and families that these are wonderful jobs to build Alaska. These are lifetime careers."

Industry experts around Alaska agree that this kind of training is long overdue. Vicki Portwood, Executive Officer for the Anchorage Home Builders Association and the Alaska State Home Building Association said, "Our construction workforce issues are huge. The average age of our carpenters is 52. We need to train the next generation. The construction academy will help get us started in bridging the gap."

All 14 graduates of the Anchorage Youth Construction Academy who wanted jobs in construction after their training went to work. Eleven went to work on construction jobs in the Anchorage area. One graduate entered the National Guard but plans to return from Basic Training and continue his construction career. One graduate left for college and another went to work at a family business.



AWP Partners: Anchorage School District, Anchorage Home Builders Association, Alaska State Home Building Association, U.S. Department of Labor, Associated General Contractors of Alaska, Southern Alaska Carpenter Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee, Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

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