Fish Words/Phrases

Łuk'ae Salmon
Łuk'ae ce'e King Salmon
Łuk'ae tse' Salmon Head
Ciisi Dip Net
Tiz'aani Fish Trap
Tehbił Fish Net
Daxi Fish Rack
Ba' xael Dry Fish Bale
Tsax Fish Poles for Baling Fish
Bá' Dry Salmon

 Łuk'ae ba' i'tlae'i One-day Half Dry Salmon
'lt'sighe Salmon Head Grease
Nelk'oli Fermented Fish Heads "stink head"
Tsigigaay Roasted Whole Fish
K'uun' Dzaex Dried Fish Eggs
Tsabaey Ba' Dry Whitefish
K'es Fish stick for spreading a part.

Łuk'ae Anatomy
Elder Spotlight—Don Shaginoff
Excerpts from transcribed dialogue of Don Shaginoff by Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart 11/26/19

Things I’ve done and places I’ve been in the last 60 years.

There was a cabin where the dump was, that’s where I was born. Everyone dumped their garbage in the Matanuska River. Palmer had the same type of dump until Alaska became a state, then things changed. I graduated from Palmer High School in 1960. I went to Haskell Indian School in Laurence, Kansas for about 2 ½ years. My mom had T.B. was in Seward Sanitarium for over 10 years. Me and my brothers went to Lazy Mountain Children’s Home in Palmer.

I worked part-time as a fire fighter in the summer for the BLM. I went to San Francisco and stayed with my brother Paul. He was in a wheelchair for over 50 years, he caught Polio when he was young. I pushed Paul all over San Francisco. We crossed the Golden Gate Bridge which was about 6 miles across. Paul had hand controls in his car. He drove me all over California and to Reno, Nevada couple times. Paul and his friend drove to Alaska. We installed hand controls in my car. He drove me all over Alaska. My mom came down from Alaska to visit. So, Paul drove us to Reno and Virginia City. She didn’t like big airports. She hung on to my shirt tail while going through Seattle Airport. I told her I needed to use the restroom. She didn’t hear me and followed me in every one of the restrooms. She got mad at first, then laughed about it later.

My dad came down for a visit, he wanted to go to Chinatown. So, Paul drove us to Chinatown. My dad got lost in Chinatown almost all day but found his way back to the car.

I had a dog named River. I took her for a walk almost every day down the old railroad tracks, which is about 3 mines. I took her fishing at Eska Creek and Coyote Lake. One time we went to Coyote Lake in a little boat with a 6 Horsepower engine. I forgot the oars on shore. The engine quit in the middle of the lake. I called to my dog River to come out. She came out I grabbed her collar and she pulled us back to shore. My dog was part collie and part husky. She knew how to sing when I played the harmonica. Maybe it just hurt her ears when I played the harmonica.

One time my neighbor wanted to go on a 100-mile walk. We went and got a map from BLM of the Chickaloon Boulder Creek Area. We packed the dogs with food to last 10 days. We figured if we walked 10 miles a day, we could walk 100 miles in 10 days. After 2 days we got thirsty, while unpacking the dogs pack one of the dogs bumped the pack and the jug went rolling down the mountain about 1000 feet. We looked for the pack with field glasses for about a half hour. It didn’t break so I walked down and recovered the jug. We took our time drinking it.

While working for B.P., I took flying lessons and I got my pilot’s license. I had 3 airplanes; 2 Cessna 150 and a 1947 model Stenson. It had a big engine, 400 HP, it also had a constant speed prop for short field take offs. I had a few close calls with my airplane. One time in the Kenai area I got stuck on the beach mud. I bent the prop. I happen to know the people who worked on the shore with Marathon Oil. They had a D-8 Cat and pulled me out of the mud. I sawed the ties off and filed it. The engine ran alright. They loaned me a file and hack saw. The ties of the prop got bent the engine vibrated a little when I flew over 300 ft., but I made it back to Palmer. I had a hard time finding a prop for my old Stenson, but I found one in Portland, Oregon. I called Alaska Airlines and they hauled it up from Portland and I had an aircraft mechanic install the prop and it ran fine.

I got a good job with Chickaloon Village as a driver taking people to doctor’s appointment in the Valley and sometimes to Anchorage. I drove for Chickaloon about 6 years until I got diabetes and I can’t even drive my own car.

Staff Member Spotlight

Selena Ortega-Chiolero
CVTC Museum Specialist

Where was she born: Selena was born at Tripler Army Medical Center (the only pink hospital in the United States) in Honolulu, Hawaii

Immediate Family: Selena considers herself fortunate to have her mother, Alma Solano Ortega, and husband, Richard Chiolero (the CVTC Tribal Response Program Coordinator) living with her here in Alaska while her older sister, Yvette Ortega-Garrison, resides in the Washington DC area with her husband and two daughters. Her father, Armando Vasquez Ortega, passed away in 2015.

Fun Fact: She is a frequent traveler. Selena spent her childhood stateside, in Hawaii, California, Colorado and Texas, and overseas, in Greece and Spain (thanks to her father being in the Air Force).

Her Life Goal: Selena wishes to honor her grandparents’ sacrifices and struggles by living her best life. For her, this means using her education, experience and skills in museum studies to help communities promote, preserve and connect with their histories and cultures so that they may thrive.

A bucket list item: To visit her grandmother’s Tarahumara traditional homeland in Barrancas del Cobre (Copper Canyon) in Chihuahua, Mexico, with her mother.

Who are her heroes: Her parents.
Administration & Accounting Department

All CVTC offices remain closed to the public until further notice due to COVID-19. Staff are working both onsite and remotely to maintain services and programs. The Accounting/Administration Department may be reached by phone at 907-745-0749 or email cvadmin@chickaloon-nsn.gov.

NOTICE:
We are still accepting COVID Relief applications from Tribal Citizens who did not apply by the June 30th deadline. Relief payments are not guaranteed to late applicants but will be considered if funding is available. Forms for the Tribal Citizen COVID Relief Funds can be found on our website at www.chickaloon-nsn.gov or you can call or email the Accounting/Administration office and an application can be sent to you.

Education Department

On Wednesday, July 9th, we lost our beloved Elder Jeanie Maxim due to heart complications. Our hearts go out to all of her family and friends that will share in the loss of Jeanie. It is hard to express this loss because Jeanie contributed so much to the revitalization of our Ahtna language and culture. She was one of only 5 first Ahtna language speakers left on our planet. She was also one of the most important Elder Language Teachers because of her knowledge in teaching and her lifelong historical and cultural knowledge.

Since 2005, Jeanie worked at Ya Ne Dah Ah School (YNDA) teaching the Ahtna Dene Language to Ya Ne Dah Ah Students and Teachers. She was a fluent speaker and writer of the Ahtna Dene language and taught younger second language speakers the Ahtna language with patience and wisdom. Jeanie was the last language Teacher, who learned Ahtna from birth, to teach at YNDA. She worked closely with Katherine Wade and Markle Pete until their passing. Jeanie became the only fluent Ahtna speaker that worked with the school staff to develop the 300-page Traditional Physical Response curriculum utilized at YNDA. It will continue to be used for many years to come.

Jeanie contributed to the creation of many hours of Ahtna language recordings that have been archived at Chickaloon. Jeanie was passionate about teaching the language and culture to the younger generations, and she can be heard on the Ahtna Ahtna Youtube Channel and Ya Ne Dah Ah School Soundcloud social media outlets. Jeanie also contributed to Yenida’a Tah, Ts’utsaede, K’adiide (Mythical Times, Ancient Times, Recent Times) An Anthology of Ahtna Narratives and Stories published by UAF/Alaska Native Language Center.

In January 2015, Jeanie became an Adjunct Professor for the UAA/Kenai Peninsula College (KPC) teaching Elementary Ahtna language I and II courses focusing on adult learners. She was scheduled to teach once again for the 2020-2021 fall and spring semesters. She was also actively involved in the Dene Language Conference at KPC and she was involved in numerous Dene and Alaska Native Language conferences throughout the state, lower forty-eight, and in Canada. Jeanie was also involved in teaching Moose hide Tanning with the Anchorage Museum, and has featured videos on the Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center website. Jeanie was a part of the Ahtna Heritage Foundation curriculum project that created Ahtna language curriculum for young children.

Insight into why she provided such wonderful language instruction....

"I am glad to help with the school and enjoy teaching the language because it helps me remember things again. I really enjoy working with the people and the children at Ya Ne Dah Ah School". Jeanie Maxim

Professor Sondra Shaginoff-Stuart would like to encourage Tribal citizens to take this beginning language class and think about continuing the class for next semester, as it will build on what was learned from the previous class.

For those of you who have taken the class, every class is a bit different, so I encourage you to take it again.

I believe we can take back our language but we have to be the ones to seize the opportunity.

Also, there may be funding assistance available for Tribal Citizens to attend through the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council Education Department, 477 Program. Please contact Leah Walker about availability at lswalker@chickaloon-nsn.gov or you can call her at 907-795-6623.
Demba — The Two Checker Players

Once upon a time, two families lived in a village. They were next door neighbors and they each had their own slaves. They had a very good year. Each family had fish, meat, spruce hens, ground squirrels, and berries of all kinds.

One day, around mid-winter, one of the families invited his neighbor over for dinner. They had a good time eating. After dinner, the man who did the inviting said to his guest, “Would you like to play checkers?” The guest said, “Yes, I’ll play with you.” The checker board was brought out and they began playing. The two men were putting their property up for bets. It was not very long before the invited guest began losing. Soon he lost all of his personal belongings. He also lost his slaves, his children, and his wife. The only thing he had left was an empty house.

The neighbor that had invited him, told his slaves to go to the empty house and put out the fire and throw out everything that my help him to survive. There was one slave that liked his former master. When the other slaves began putting out the fire, this slave quickly took some of the hot charcoals and put them underneath a birch bark basket. When the slave was passing by his former master, he whispered, “I put some charcoals under the birch bark basket for you.” The man went back to his empty house. He found the charcoals and started a fire. Soon it was warm. He found old pieces of fur and he sewed them together for clothing. Then he went out to set snares to catch some rabbits. He was successful. He at least had rabbits to eat, and he survived through the winter.

Spring came and he prepared for fishing. He caught salmon and dried them until he felt he had enough. So around the month of August, he went up the mountain and set traps to catch some squirrels and whistlers. Whistlers are animals that live and look very similar to the ground squirrels, but are much larger than the squirrels.

The man went back to check his traps the next day. Every one of his traps was empty. He did not catch anything. He felt so bad. He remembered all of the bad luck that he had. He thought of the game of checkers and how he lost everything. So he sat down and began to cry. Suddenly, he heard something behind him. He turned around and saw a very handsome stranger standing there with a cane in his hand. The man asked, “Why are you crying?” So he told the stranger all about the terrible things that had happened to him. How he lost everything playing checkers with his neighbor, how the neighbor took over his family and everything he owned, and how he set traps to catch some whistlers but was unsuccessful. He did not catch anything.

The stranger touched him between the shoulder blades with his cane and caused him to vomit. The stranger said, “All of this is the cause of your bad luck in trapping. Go and check your traps tomorrow, there will be a whistler in every trap. Pick up all of the whistlers but the one in the last trap. Do not touch it. Just leave it in the trap. Do not take it.”

It happened as the stranger said. All of the traps had a whistler in it, and the last trap had the prettiest one of all. But he did not touch it. So he picked up the ones in all of the other traps but did not touch the one in the last trap. Three days later, after picking up all of the whistlers in the other traps, he came to the last trap and decided to take that whistler. This one had such a beautiful fur. He took it out of the trap and put it into his pack and started home. When he was almost home, the whistler jumped out of the pack and ran away. He ran after it right into its den. The den closed up behind him. In the den was the man who told him not to take the whistler that was in the very last trap.

The man said to him, “I told you not to take the one in the last trap.” The man reached for a checker board. It was the fanciest checker board he had ever seen. The man invited him to play checkers so they played and played until he learned to play checkers very well. Then the man said to him, “Take this checker board back home and invite the man who won everything from you to come and play with you. Do to him as he did to you last year.” So he thanked him and began his journey home. He had lots of food and everything.

One evening, he prepared a dinner and invited his neighbor over. The neighbor came. After dinner, he brought out the fancy checker board and they began playing. The neighbor thought he would win again as he did last year. But the other man who lost all of his property in the checker game before, won every game until he won everything back of his and everything his neighbor owned. He ordered his slaves to put out the fire. The slaves did not leave any hot charcoals for this man, like they had for the original master, because he was unkind to them. The neighbor went home to his empty house, and he did not survive. He froze to death.

Atna’ Yanida’a (Ahtna Stories), 1979, (Pages 37-45), Written in Ahtna by Molly Billum, Translated by Millie Buck, Director Bilingual Education Program for the Copper River Native Association
This Spring, Environmental Stewardship Department staff members conducted archaeological field surveys near Moose Creek with contract archaeologists. This is research in advance of a highway re-alignment project, currently scheduled to begin in 2023. Our team found about 75 locations which we want to study further! If you are interested in joining the field investigations, please contact Jessica Winnestaffer at jwinnestaffer@chickaloon-nsn.gov or 907.745.0737.

Environmental Stewardship Department

Look for Ltsoghi

It’s Summer, it’s warmer, and the earth around us has come back to life! Tsin’aen Nek’eltaen! Almost everywhere I look I see unetnigi (blooming flowers): roses, bluebells, and of course dandelions. There are some places, though, that I’m not seeing much of anything, and it’s those Ltsoghi (brown), dead places I’d like you to notice, too.

Plants are very sensitive to the soil they grow in. Do you have an outdoor shed where you keep your car or garden chemicals (like engine oil or bug killer)? Do you have a heating oil tank on your house? Look around the building to see if there’s burned grass or brown, dead places: a sign that something might be leaking. Patterns can tell us a lot, too. For example, perfect circles aren’t found in nature very often. If you see perfect circles of burned grass it might mean that chemical drums are buried there and need to be removed.

If you are putting gas or oil in your lawn mower, try to do it on a solid surface like concrete so that if you spill you can quickly clean it up and keep it from getting into the ground. Heating fuel tanks should have a concrete pad underneath them to catch any overfill or drips. Check where you park your car and see if there are dead plants on either side of the driveway.

It has been raining a lot lately. Rain helps leaked chemicals spread into the surrounding area: a slow oil leak from an engine can easily move with the water and get into the soil. If you want to plant a garden, but you are short on space and have to plant near a driveway or road, it would be best to build a raised, lined planter box to keep oil and other chemicals out.

Oil sabiile’ (rainbows) are beautiful, but they can cause skin problems or worse, and oil residue can end up all around your house. Plus it spreads into streams and rivers and poisons fish and plants.

So, this summer, I encourage you take a little nature walk around your place. Look at the plants: admire the flowers and butterflies, but pay attention to any brown spots you might find. Birds and fish have just as much a right to clean water as people. Keeping our green spaces from becoming brownfields is a great way to help our citizens thrive! Richard Chiolero, Contaminated Sites Manager

Thank you to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for a Tribal Resiliency grant award to develop a Tribal Climate Adaptation Scoping Report over the next year! With this project the Environmental Stewardship Department will perform a literature review of relevant climate assessments and have at least three community meetings to gather comments by Chickaloon Tribal citizens and community members. An initial report will be developed that captures the changing environment as documented by community members, forecasts and predications of future environmental changes from research, and community concerns. This will form the basis of future discussions to develop and prioritize solutions including a future Adaptation Plan.

Thank you to the Institute for Museums and Library Services (IMLS) for a grant award for a digital archive project of the Tribal Cultural Program of the Environmental Stewardship Department! Starting in July 2020, Selena Ortega-Chiolero will be collecting information about Chickaloon Village Tribal Citizens who have served in the military for a project called Nay’dini’aa Na’ Kayax Nahwgholnicde (Chickaloon Native Village Military Stories Revealed). Please contact Selena at seortegachiolero@chickaloon-nsn.gov if you have served in the military! See Page 9!

Selena at the Alaska State Fairgrounds Chickaloon Annual Gathering, 2019
Affordable housing is available to qualified applicants. We currently have 1 bedroom, 2 bedroom, and 3 bedroom units available. Applications are available at the Administration and Housing Offices located at 9255 N Glenn Highway, in Palmer, AK or on the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council website, www.chickaloon-nsn.gov; click on the downloads tab and scroll down to the Facilities and Housing Department.

Applications can be dropped off at 9255 N Glenn Highway or can be mailed to PO Box 1105, Chickaloon, AK 99674 or faxed to (907) 745-0709.

Call Samantha Ange at 907-745-0749 for more information.
Transport Schedule

**UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**Transports are limited to medical/emergent needs ONLY**

**Monday:** LifeHouse Clinic/Valley Native Primary Care Center/ and Transportation also provided for Elder’s needing assistance with shopping, local resource access.

**Tuesday:** LifeHouse Clinic/Valley Native Primary Care Center/Alaska Native Medical Center/Southcentral Foundation (Anchorage)/ and Valley Native Primary Care Elder Wellness

**Wednesday:** LifeHouse Clinic/Valley Native Primary Care Center/Alaska Native Medical Center/ and Southcentral Foundation (Anchorage)

**Thursday:** LifeHouse Clinic and Elder’s Lunch Home Deliveries

**Friday:** LifeHouse Clinic and Elder Activities (please contact HSS Department for a list of upcoming activities)

Please contact 907-745-0704 to schedule a ride.

Please provide a 48-hour notice when requesting a ride.

We do our best to take every transport request; however, Anchorage transports are based upon driver availability.

Our service area includes the communities of Glacier View, Chickaloon, Sutton, as far as Palmer to Seward Meridian and the Butte.

The C’eyiits’ Hwnax Life House Community Health Center is open to the public for primary care needs. They offer free COVID-19 Testing.

For more information contact them at (907) 631-7665. View upcoming dates of services available on their website www.lifehouseclinic.com or follow them on Facebook C’eyiits’ Hwnax Life House Community Health Center.
Protect with Courage ~ Serve with Compassion

Our Peace Officer and Tribal Court are here to meet the needs of the community and Tribal Citizens. During COVID-19, we know things are stressful and in turn, stress can lead to depression, anxiety, increased anger, and unfortunately abuse. Please stay safe and also keep your family safe. Reach out to the Justice Department staff or the Health and Social Services Department staff for support.

A resource of information of various types of abuse can be found at https://www.strongheartshelpline.org/5-types-domestic-violence-overlooked/

If the stress becomes too much to handle any time day or night, you can contact the National Suicide Hotline 24/7 for free https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/

If have an immediate emergency, please seek help and dial 911.

Transportation Department

Chickaloon Area Transit System (CATs) is pleased to continue to provide rides for our community. Our drivers are keeping our vehicles clean and wiped down with disinfectant to provide a safe environment for riders and staff members.

To schedule a ride, please call 745-CATs or 745-2287. You may need to leave a voice mail message with your name, call back number, dates and time of travel, and specific location you will be traveling to and from.

In order to continue to provide services, CATs limits ride for one person at a time or two if from the same household. Passengers are asked to: 1. Let CATs know if you have symptoms of COVID19 at the time they schedule a ride and when they are picked up. 2. Asked to wear a clean and well-fitting mask during each of their transports.

We have masks available, please let the drivers know you need one.
Grandma Van Wey's Drop Cookies—submitted by Reta Hubbard

Blend together
2 cups brown sugar  2 eggs  1 cup Crisco
1 tsp vanilla

Stir in
1 cup cold coffee  1/4 cup water

Sift together then stir in
4 cups flour  1 tsp baking powder
1/2 tsp salt  1 tsp baking soda

Add
1 1/2 cup raisins or nuts or both

Bake at 375 degrees on a greased cookie sheet for 8-9 minutes
Makes 5 dozen

Dijon dressing – submitted by Marie Francis

2 tbsp olive oil
2 tsp balsamic vinegar
1 tsp of Worcestershire sauce
1 tbsp mayo
1 tsp of Dijon mustard
Herb mix
Garlic powder
Salt and pepper
Optional: toasted seeds, like sesame, flax, or sunflower

Pour olive oil, balsamic vinegar, and Worcestershire sauce into a small dish. Put mayo, mustard, herbs, garlic, salt, pepper, and seeds in the dish. Whip together.

I prefer to use Italian seasoning or herbes de Provence for the herb mix. I encourage you to use the herbs you like.

You can use this dressing on any salad, but my go-to salad is made with mixed greens, julienned carrots, thinly-sliced cucumbers, and halved cherry tomatoes. Garden-fresh, Alaska-grown vegetables are preferable if they are available.

Nay’dini’aa Na’ Kayax Nahwgholnicde (Chickaloon Native Village Military Stories Revealed)

Indigenous military narratives have been, and still are, often left out of stories that describe the American military experience. In 2019, the Wade family kindly donated a large collection of cultural and historical items to the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council (CVTC) Permanent Collections. Among them, were a wide assemblage of military paraphernalia that once belonged to William D. Wickersham (who was Annie and Jess Wickersham’s son and Katie (Wickersham) Wade’s brother.

The Wickersham materials consist of: 15 ethnographic objects, 21 correspondence documents, 318 photographs (depicting basic training, military training exercises, inspections, and American military battles in Rome Arno, Southern France, Ardennes, Rhineland and Central Europe), 108 postcards, 30 newspaper articles from various American newspapers (1946-1948), and 99 editions of various military newspapers (1946-1949). The materials provide a deeper look into William’s World War II military experience abroad and on the Homefront as a brother, soldier and Tribal citizen.

In an effort to share William’s story and to address the need of diversifying the American military historical narrative, the CVTC Cultural Resources Program developed the Nay’dini’aa Na’ Kayax Nahwgholnicde (Chickaloon Native Village (CNV) Military Stories Revealed) Project which is generously funded through an Institute of Museum and Library Services Native American/ Native Hawaiian Museum Services award.

The project, which will run from July 2020 through June 2021, aims to create a unified record of the multigenerational military service of Nay’dini’aa Na’ Kayax (CNV) Tribal citizens, in the form of oral histories and related materials, which will be disseminated through the Tribe’s digital archival platform, Ugheldze Le Cilaes (Information We Share), which is currently in development. The oral histories will also be made available through the Library of Congress’ Veterans History Project.

Serena Ortega-Chiolero, Museum Specialist
AHTNA VALUES

Ba c’ehwdetniis
Naeldaan’
Snakaey’ gha t’ine’esen
Kayax
Dlo’ dadedlii
Ugheli ilaen
Ugheldze’hwle’cilaes
Udiia ludakudo’ohnii
Ku’iyaan
Koht’aen ke’dozolts’ii
Ts’utsaetne
Łudołnił
Ts’ilghan kedo’tae
Nek’eltaeni ngha hwniy’delnen

Hard work
Family relations (one who raised us)
Love for children
Village
Sense of humor
Honesty and fairness (you are good, honest)
Sharing and caring (give them gifts, nicely, generously)
Respect for Elders and others (you can advise them all the time)
Be wise
Living Native Traditions (Be still, people or person)
Honoring Ancestors
Self-sufficiency
Unity (turn into one)
You are blessed by creator