Achievements

Alaska rifle alumna Jamie (Beyerle) Gray broke two Olympic records en route to a gold medal in women's 50-meter three-position rifle. Gray shot for the Nanooks from 2002 – 2006, and was a part of three of Alaska's NCAA Championship teams. Matt Emmons earned a bronze medal for his performance in men's three-position rifle. Emmons won an Olympic gold medal in 2004 and a silver in 2008, both in men's 50-meter prone. While at UAF, Emmons won four NCAA individual titles and helped the Nanooks win four straight NCAA championships.

A new installation in the UA Museum of the North, “Changing Alaska,” emphasizes the importance of museum collections and research to the understanding of change on vastly different scales, from seasonal cycles to those that occur over eons. Support for the exhibit was provided by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

The Elmer E. Rasmuson Library hosted a celebration of the second annual Ted Stevens Day in July. The exhibit opening and presentation, “Pipeline Politics & People: Reflecting on 35 Years of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System,” featured items related to the pipeline's development. The Ted Stevens Papers Project, housed at the library, is supported by BP Exploration (Alaska) Inc. and the Ted Stevens Foundation.

Nine local artists unveiled works inspired by fire, fire management and fire science in the opening of “In a Time of Change: The Art of Fire” at the Museum of the North. The exhibit is part of a larger collaborative effort led by UAF's Bonanza Creek Long Term Ecological Research Site to engage the arts, sciences and humanities in exchanges regarding environmental issues, particularly climate change.

The offices of Student Services and Advancement have merged, creating University and Student Advancement, a new unit that encompasses recruitment and marketing, student life and records, alumni, athletics, KUAC, fundraising and public relations.

The Alaska Satellite Facility broke ground to install a new antenna dish on UAF's West Ridge. The project, when complete, will also result in improvements to the nearby cross country ski facilities. The total project cost will be $6 million to $7 million and is funded by NASA.

In Progress

UAF purchased a hangar at the Fairbanks International Airport for use by the Community and Technical College aviation maintenance program. The new facility is bigger and will allow students to work on a larger variety of aircraft.

A $20 million National Science Foundation grant will support interdisciplinary research throughout Alaska. The award to the Alaska Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, which is housed at UAF, will support a five-year research project, Alaska Adapting to Changing Environments, or Alaska ACE.

The Cooperative Extension Service is collaborating with the Alaska Farm to School program, farmers and the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District to increase the use of locally grown products in the district's breakfast and lunch program. Starting this fall, the district will serve locally grown cabbage and a roll/hamburger bun that uses barley flour milled in Delta. Extension developed the barley recipe in its test kitchen and trained school district staff on how to prepare it.

The Center for Alaska Native Health Research and the Fairbanks Native Association have formed a support group called Hopeful Connections for Alaska Native cancer survivors and their families.

What's Next

UAF has contracted with a private company to develop new dining and residence hall facilities adjacent to Wood Center. Construction on the dining facility, which will replace the aging Lola Tilly Commons, is slated to begin in March 2013. If approved by the Board of Regents, the new facility will open in August 2014. The projects are a new model of capital construction for UAF: a public-private partnership. UAF has contracted the majority of the capital process to private firms. Once they are complete, UAF will lease-to-own the buildings.
Alexander Bergman attaches hardware to a solar panel being installed near the Cold Climate Housing Research Center as part of a class in solar photovoltaic design offered through the CTC. This fall, 16 students will incorporate sustainability research into their everyday lives when they move into UAF's Sustainable Village, opening next to CCHRC. In addition to serving as a home for the students, the four-bedroom units are a test bed for sustainable building and energy research.

Armando Arauz culls flowers from a bed during his morning duties with the Facilities Services summer grounds crew.

Brianna Gilmore from Fairbanks participated in the six-week Rural Alaska Honors Institute Research summer residence program.

Sharon Burke, assistant secretary of defense for operational energy plans and programs, third from left, speaks during a hearing with Sen. Mark Begich, second from left, in the Alaska Center for Energy and Power's Technology Facility Aug. 6. UAF photo by Eric Haberin.

Members of the Nanook ski team were among more than 100 UAF students, staff and faculty who participated in the 2012 Golden Days Parade.