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March 25, 2008

Martha Demoski Named 2008 Educator of the Year



Martha "Maalhu" Demoski (center), is pictured with her sons, Howard Darling and Jesse Darling. Photo by Susan Paskvan.

Martha "Maalhu" Demoski was recently honored with Doyon Foundation's 2008 Educator of the Year award, which recognizes a Doyon shareholder who has proven their devotion to helping direct the future through education, by promoting Alaska Native education and supporting Alaska Native students. The award was presented at the Doyon, Limited annual meeting of shareholders on March 14 in Fairbanks.

"I learned at a very young age from my parents not to brag about myself or any of my family, but I am proud to receive the honor from such a fine organization, Doyon Foundation, which recognizes and promotes learning in two pathways - the Western and the Native," said Demoski, who was born and raised in Nulato, and is the daughter of the late Andrew K. and Mary Amelia Demoski, and the granddaughter of the late Martha (Maalhu) Brush and Tommy Agnes, and Leo Demoski Sr. and Julia Demoski.

Demoski has dedicated 28 years of her life to the field of education, including a 22-year career with the Yukon-Koyukuk School District, where she is currently an elementary teacher at Nulato's Andrew K. Demoski School, which is named for her father.

"I hope I've fulfilled at least a part of my father's expectations," she said. "As a child he would tell me, 'You will finish high school, go to college, and help your people.'"

Demoski did graduate from Copper Valley High School in Glennallen, then went on to earn a bachelor's of arts degree through the University of Alaska Fairbanks' XCED program, and obtained certificates in high school social studies and elementary education.

"I believe education is important because it is a vehicle to a lifestyle one chooses," Demoski said. "It disciplines and prepares students for a path that leads to better opportunities and upward development. It broadens students' global awareness, which develops a keen respect for one's own culture,

language, traditions, subsistence skills, values and extended family."

Demoski said her sons, Russ, Howard and Jesse, and her nephew, Kelly Sommer, have been inspirations to her throughout her education. She is also grateful for the professors, especially Cliff Mitchell, who believed in her potential.

Throughout her career, Demoski has continued to expand her own education. She said she especially loves learning memorial songs from the elders in her village. She has also dedicated herself to learning the Denaakk'e (Koyukon Athabascan) language, which she then passes on to her students by using simple commands in the classroom and teaching songs she has composed in Denaakk'e.

"Eliza Jones gave me a good start in studying the language, and the elders in my village are very wonderful mentors," she said.

In recent years, Demoski, with assistance from Susan Paskvan, has also coordinated a number of spring and fall camps, where junior high and high school students learned about survival skills, language, subsistence activities, storytelling, beading, mending nets, ice fishing and more.

Spending time outdoors - boating, fishing, berry picking, camping, hunting and snowmachining - is something Demoski personally enjoys.

"Nature has so much peace, quiet and beauty to offer. My favorite season is fall, when the leaves are colorful, the air is crisp and the mosquitoes are gone," she said.

Thank You to New Donors

Doyon Foundation extends our deep gratitude to our newest donors, including:

- Dennis and Jane Demmert, General Scholarship Fund donors
- Janine Fate-Avner, Nee Ts'e Neyh donor
- Norm and Nancy Phillips, Nee Ts'e Neyh donors

The Foundation's annual fundraising campaign is still underway. If you wish to make a donation, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com or contact Sharon McConnell Gillis, Doyon Foundation's executive director, at 907.459.2051 or gilliss@doyon.com.

Competitive Scholarship Applications Due April 15

The deadline to apply for 2008 - 2009 competitive scholarships is April 15, 2008. There are 64 awards totaling \$257,000 available during the 2008 - 2009 school year.

With recent upgrades to the Doyon Foundation Web site, students may now apply for scholarships online. All students are encouraged to create an online account and apply for scholarships at www.doyonfoundation.com/CreateAccount.aspx.

For details on the application and selection process, view the new competitive scholarship application process booklet, posted at www.doyonfoundation.com/static/files/CompAppProcessInfo.pdf. A full list of 2008 - 2009 competitive scholarships is also available at www.doyonfoundation.com/static/Scholarships/Scholarships_2008_2009.aspx. For more information, contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at 907.459.2050 or millerd@doyon.com.

Alumni Association Offers Assistance to Competitive Scholarship Applicants

Doyon Foundation Alumni Association members are offering to review competitive scholarship packets for the first 40 students requesting assistance. For more information about this opportunity, please contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at millerd@doyon.com or

1.866.478.4755 ext. 2050.

Competitive Scholarship Review Committee Candidates Sought

There are three open seats on the Doyon Foundation competitive scholarship review committee. Interested candidates should submit a resume and a letter of interest outlining why they'd like to serve by April 11, 2008. The Doyon Foundation board of directors will select the members at their April 26, 2008 meeting in Fairbanks.

For details on candidate qualifications and responsibilities, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com. For additional information, please contact Doris Miller, scholarship program manager, at 907.459.2050 or millerd@doyon.com.

Foundation Welcomes New Employee



Greg Bringhurst, son of Maxine Thibedeau and John Bringhurst of Fairbanks, and grandson of the late Richard "Shorty" Thibedeau of Fairbanks and the late Ruth (Mayo) Thibedeau of Rampart, recently joined Doyon Foundation as the Morris Thompson Memorial Golf Classic student coordinator.

As student coordinator, Bringhurst will be closely involved in organizing the eighth annual Morris Thompson Memorial Golf Classic, which is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, June 19 and 20, 2008 at Chena Bend Golf Course on Fort Wainwright in Fairbanks, Alaska.

Bringhurst is currently studying business administration at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), where he will graduate from in May with a degree in management and organization.

In addition to his studies, Bringhurst is involved in many university and community groups, including the UAF Native Alaskan Business Leaders, UAF School of Management Student Advisory Board, UAF Leadership Program, Model United Nations Alliance, and Interior Alaska Leadership Council.

To contact Bringhurst, call 907.459.2049 or e-mail bringhurstg@doyon.com.

Doyon, Limited Board Members Elected at Annual Shareholder Meeting

Doyon, Limited held its 2008 annual meeting of shareholders at the Friends Conference Center in Fairbanks on March 14.

At the meeting, Miranda Wright, former executive director of Doyon Foundation and a Doyon, Limited board member since 1995, was elected as the chairwoman of the Doyon, Limited board of directors.

Two new members, Orie Williams and Jerry Carroll, were also elected to the board. Williams previously served as president/CEO of Doyon, Limited, and also served on the Doyon, Limited board from 1978 to 1984. Carroll is currently mayor of the city of Fort Yukon and president of Gwitchyaa Zhee Corporation.

During the meeting, existing board members Georgianna Lincoln, Victor Nicholas and Andy Jimmie were re-elected to the board. Lincoln has been a Doyon, Limited board member since 1976, and most recently served as chairwoman. Nicholas has served on the board since 2002 and previously served from 1998 to 2001. He also serves on the Doyon Foundation board of directors. Jimmie has served on the Doyon, Limited board since 2005.

The board also elected officers, including Miranda Wright (chairwoman), Victor Nicholas (vice-chair), Florence Carroll (secretary), and Josephine Malemute (treasurer).

For more information on the meeting or the board, visit www.doyon.com.

Doyon, Limited Seeks CEO

Doyon, Limited is currently seeking applications from qualified individuals interested in serving as president/CEO. For more information on the position and application process, visit www.doyon.com or contact Doyon Human Resources at 907.334.0200 (within Anchorage) or 1.877.369.6647 (outside Anchorage). The job closing date is April 3, 2008 and the review process begins April 4, 2008.

Internships, Scholarships and Other Educational Opportunities

Looking for a summer job or internship? Need help paying for school? Here are just a few of the many opportunities currently available. Be sure to visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/employment.aspx for the full list!

- Doyon Emerald has an opening for a summer engineering intern at its headquarters in Anchorage, Alaska. Applicants should be enrolled in an engineering or technical-related college curriculum with at least two years of education in civil, mechanical, chemical or environmental engineering. Interested parties should e-mail their cover letter and resume to hr@emeraldalaska.com. For more information, call 907.258.8137 or visit www.emeraldalaska.com.
- National Park Service Alaska is seeking students to work as engineering technicians in Anchorage, Alaska. Successful applicants will be responsible for production of detailed drawings of historic architectural, engineering and industrial sites. Applicants should have trade/craft experience or have completed two years of study. For more information, contact Tonyua Abrom at 907.644.3348.
- The Alaska Native Heritage Center is looking for an education programs manager, which is a full-time, benefited position. For a full job description, qualifications or to apply, visit www.alaskanative.net.
- Applications are being accepted for the 2008 Indian Health Service (IHS) scholarships, which are for American Indians and Alaska Natives considering entry into (or continuation within) the health profession. For more information or to apply, visit www.scholarship.ihs.gov or contact Krista Hepworth at khepworth@anthc.org, 1.800.684.8361 or 907.729.1348. Applications due March 28, 2008 for continuing applicants, and April 28, 2008 for new applicants.
- The Wildflower Garden Club is offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating high school or current college student pursuing study in horticulture, floriculture, landscape design, forestry, botany, agronomy, plant pathology and/or allied subjects. For more information, contact kifarley@mtaonline.net. Applications due March 30, 2008.
- The University Women's Association is offering scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1,500 for the 2008 - 2009 academic year to female, undergraduate students. For more information, visit www.uaf.edu/uwa/scholarship.html. Applications due March 31, 2008.
- The Denali Commission's summer internship program offers four paid positions that are based in Anchorage and open to all undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in the areas of health, transportation and community planning. Preference is given to students from rural Alaska. For more information, visit www.denali.gov. Applications due March 31, 2008.
- The Central Alaska Retired Teachers Association is offering two \$2,500 scholarships to Anchorage or Mat-Su college students pursuing an education degree. For more information, visit www.akrea.org or contact 907.349.1714 or 907.278.4183. Applications due April 1,

2008.

- Doyon Utilities is seeking an environmental intern for summer 2008. Primary responsibilities include compiling and drafting environmental reports for projects located on Army posts in Fairbanks, Delta and Anchorage. The internship is 40 hours per week and is located in Fairbanks. Applicants should be starting their senior year in fall 2008 or entering a graduate program. For more information, contact 907.455.1500 or duinfo@doyonutilities.com. Applications will be accepted until April 2, 2008.

To view a full list of opportunities, please visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/employment.aspx.

Tips for Student Success

Planning on a summer job or internship? If so, you're most likely going to have an interview with your potential employer. Here are some interviewing tips that will help you land the job you want!

- Dress for success. Even if you're interviewing with a more casual company, be sure to dress professionally, and make sure your clothes are clean and unwrinkled.
- Do your research. Read up on the company before you go in for the interview.
- Bring a copy of your resume and work samples, if you have any.
- Ask questions. You'll be answering plenty of questions, but make sure to ask some, as well. Your potential employer wants to find out if you're right for the job, but you want to find out if the company is right for you, too!
- Practice makes perfect. There are lots of Web sites and books with lists of sample interview questions. Take the time to anticipate what questions might be asked, then practice your answers. This will make you much more confident in the interview.
- During the interview, highlight your skills and accomplishments - and back that up with real-life examples. If you're asked about your weaknesses, mention one or two and give examples of what you are doing to strengthen those areas.
- If you don't completely understand what the interviewer is asking, request clarification on the question. Also, when you're done answering a question, ask the interviewer if you answered completely or if they'd like additional information.
- Show thanks and interest. At the end of the interview, thank the interviewer for their time, express your interest in the job, and ask when you will hear from them. Within a few days after the interview, send a note or e-mail thanking the interviewer again and re-iterating your interest in the position.

For more student tips, visit www.doyonfoundation.com/static/studentTips.aspx.

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