

***Alaska Center for Climate and Health - E-News***  
***Raising Awareness about Climate Change Impacts on Public Health***  
***No. 49, December 29, 2010***

**Happy Ending for CO Poisoned Family** – *Fairbanks Daily News Miner (December 25, 2010)* “I went to bed thinking, I have the flu, I’m going to lay down,” said Alyson Padilla “and woke up in the hospital Monday night.” A malfunctioning furnace filled her house with lethal levels of odorless carbon monoxide. By the time the family realized something was wrong, they were too impaired by the toxic gas to get out of the house. They remained there until 4 p.m. Monday without any memory of the day. [Read Story](#)

**Landmark Year for Natural Disasters** – *Associated Press (December 25, 2010)* Earthquakes, heat waves, floods, and other natural disasters killed at least a quarter million people in 2010. It was the deadliest year in more than a generation. Scientists say that climate change was a major contributor. In the summer one weather system caused oppressive heat in Russia, and flooding in Pakistan that inundated 62,000 square miles. Preliminary data show that 18 countries broke their records for the hottest day ever. [Read Story](#)

**Alaska Natives More Likely to be Hospitalized with Swine Flu** – *Clinical Infectious Diseases (January 2011)* A wave of pH1N1 disease swept through rural Alaska in 2009, earlier than in other regions. Alaska Natives and Asian/Pacific Islanders were 2-4 times more likely to be hospitalized than were whites. Alaska Native people and other minorities remain at high risk for early and substantial morbidity from pandemic influenza. These findings should be integrated into plans for distribution and use of vaccine and antiviral agents. [Read Article](#)

**Alaska Climate Events Map, Weekly Updates** – *ANTHC (December 29, 2010)* It was a week of extreme cold with resulting in a tragic exposure death, another related to a house fire, and a community wide electrical failure in Savoonga. [See our Google Map](#)

The Climate and Health E-News is received around the circumpolar north by people who are interested in climate change impacts on health. If you have an observation or an update you would like to include in our *Climate Events Map*, please send a message to [mbrubaker@anthc.org](mailto:mbrubaker@anthc.org). To join the E-News mailing list just reply to this message with your contact (e-mail/name/organization/location) information. Click [here](#) to find past issues of E-News archived at the University of Alaska Arctic Health website.

*Regards - Mike*

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