

## OUTLOOK ON LIFE: STAYING HOPEFUL AND POSITIVE

. . . I have one child at home. And I remember thinking, you know my life is going to go on and I'm not willing to stop anything that I am doing. I don't have a whole lot of time to waste, I mean I'm not going to sit around and cry, I'm not going to sit around and spin my wheels.



**Carolyn Shubert**  
[Eskimo]



**Norma Staples**  
[Mandan]

I appreciate [life], my family more, my friends, and I didn't take things for granted anymore . . . [now] I enjoy [work] . . . when I thought I was going to die [and] . . . when I didn't . . . when, you . . . say "cancer," you naturally think your gonna [die], that's it, but now they have radiation and everything you

I even got my driver's license (laughter), which I was scared half to death to ever drive and since I had survived this operation I decided well, if I can survive that . . . the driver's test is nothing (laughter) and so I got my driver's license and so more or less since then it just seems that things are going up-hill. But it does, it is hard and it does take a lot out of you but if you have an understanding family and friends, that are willing to help you and to stand by you, hey, you can accomplish anything.



**Esther Venes**  
[Inupiaq/Yupik]