



AG'WANERMUT

AFOGNAK
PEOPLE'S
NEWSLETTER

KASITAQ

Staff Spotlight

Hello Tribal Members! My name is Taletha Gertz. I am married to Alan Gertz who works in the Lands Department at Afognak Native Corporation. We have 3 children Skylar (11), Aiyana (10), and Cayleb (4) and my parents are Bill and Mary Fearn and my grandparents, the late Patrick and Nadia Mullan.

I was born and raised in Kodiak and graduated from KHS. Since leaving Kodiak in 1993 I have lived in 29 Palms California, Clarkston Washington, and Bellingham Washington where my two oldest children were born. During those years I went to school, worked many different jobs ranging from Janitorial to Reception to Office Manager at an auto body shop and experienced many different people, places, and things; all which have helped mold me in to the person I am today.

My children are all tribal members of NVA and have all been participants in the many different and wonderful programs offered to them as tribal members. My daughters have been going to the afterschool program since they were 8, participated in Dig



Afognak for the last 3 summers, and received tutoring assistance. My youngest, Cayleb has been to Dig Afognak for Shareholders camp and also participated in the KinderPrep program this past summer. Cayleb has struggled with his speech and it really warmed my heart when I asked him one day what Miss Lynda taught him at KinderPrep and he responded, "Cama'i Enerpak". I see real value, especially on a personal level, in all the programs offered to our tribal

members.

In my short time at NVA I have held a couple of different titles, most recently being Office Manager. The favorite part of my position is the contact I have with the tribal members. I truly love talking with people who are enrolled or who are researching their family trees and need help to make their connection to the Village of Afognak. I also assisted in the forming of the tutoring program through our Department of Justice Tribal Youth Program grant, this program holds a special place in my heart because I feel that it helps children/youth take pride and ownership in their education, which leads to greater success throughout their lives. I also manage the Nadia Mullan Alutiiq Heritage Library, and work with the BIA and SWCA on the Afognak Village as a Historic Cultural Landscape nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

I thank you, the tribal members for the opportunity to work for you and look forward to my future at Native Village of Afognak.



Department of Justice Tribal Youth Program

This summer the grant through the Department of Justice Tribal Youth Program focused on education and the intern program. During the summer we continued our tutoring program, surprisingly, the tutoring program had more participants on a consistent basis this summer than during the school year. Not only is tutoring during the summer a way to help prevent the “summer slide” that always occurs with students, but it is also a good, safe activity for them to be involved in. In a study by John Hopkins University it showed that children score lower on standardized tests at the end of the summer than they did on the same exact tests taken at the beginning of summer vacation, and that on average **students lose 2.6 months of grade-level equivalency in mathematical computation skills before going back to school in the Fall.**



NVA also held a Kinderprep program for 5 weeks prior to school starting. This program was very well received, but because of limited space wasn't able to accommodate everyone who wanted to be a part of it. My hope is with good planning and partnerships we can expand the program next summer. The Kinderprep program is for 4-5 year olds entering school to help them receive the knowledge they need to have confidence in themselves and also provide them with a good foundation to start their school career. Kindergarten in past years were half days, had naptime, arts and crafts, and sang songs. Today with the standards changing many of our children are considered behind if they don't know the alphabet, how to write their name or count to 20. I feel that this program gives them the confidence and a better understanding of what is expected of them when they walk in to their Kindergarten classrooms.



This grant also funds our intern program, with the goal of youth gaining work and life skills as well as forming a relationship with the Tribe. This year we have hired and trained 8 interns and we feel for the most part they have learned the basic, but essential procedures of the workplace such as discussing conflicts with supervisors, punctuality, and safe work place practices. A big QUYANAA to all our hardworking interns, we truly appreciate each and every one of you.



This Fall and Winter look for other planned activities such as community drug forums, NVA sponsored speakers at the Middle and High School assemblies and after school programs for middle school. Tutoring is available all year, call Taletha at 486-6357 with questions or pick up a Parent/Student Application at our office.

Afognak Old Photo



Can you identify the people featured in this photo?
If you can, email your answer to taletha@afognak.org.
If you are the first to answer correctly, you will receive a prize.

We are proud to announce that Keep Talking, Keep Talking the documentary about the Alutiiq Language movement has now released a short film teaser. You can watch this video at <http://vimeo.com/75732715>



Does your child need help with schoolwork?

Native Village of Afognak has a **tutoring program** for children/youth who need the **extra** help with homework/schoolwork. Students receive **one-on-one** assistance from a **skilled** tutor, scheduled at a time and place that works **around** family's busy **schedules**.

For more information or to pick up a *parent/student* application:

Native Village of Afognak

323 Carolyn Street

Kodiak, AK 99615.

Phone: 907-486-6357

Fax: 907-486-6529

E-mail: taletha@afognak.org

Native Village of Afognak is a native tribal organization but registration is open to all native youth. Preference is offered to tribal membership and descendants.

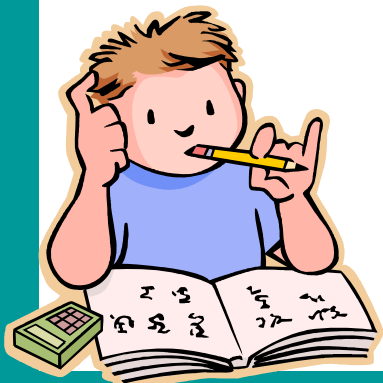
HELP WANTED: TUTORS

We are always needing tutors to help us meet the needs of the various students. Please encourage qualified individuals to inquire/apply. Being a tutor offers a flexible schedule, ability to earn extra income, and the knowledge that you are assisting a child in taking pride in their schoolwork and education. For questions or an application please call 486-6357 or email Taletha@afognak.org.

NVA is an equal opportunity employer.

Preference is given to qualified

Alaska Native/American Indian Individuals.



This would not be possible without Federal Grant Funding
from the Department of Justice 2012-TY-FX-0010





Dig Afognak

Quyanaa to all who donated money, time and supplies for Dig Afognak. Through individual donations, not including businesses we collected over \$8,500 for our million pennies drive! Passing on our cultural way of life to our future generation would not be possible without the generosity of these people. What a beautiful warm summer for camp! In just the 4 weeks we had 230 campers, visitors, staff, and presenters.

June 26-July 2, the first camp of the season, was kicked off with Cauyaq "Music"/Language Immersion. We had several language learners and presenters doing different language activities, Alutiiq dance and drumming, carving and storytelling. Language visitors from Oklahoma instilled the importance of speaking our language, leaving the youth proudly using our language throughout the rest of the season.



July 9-15 was EARTH/Harvest Camp. The participants collected approximately 400 pounds of marine debris from our beaches by camp and the old village where we held our picnic. Most of the debris was plastic, styrofoam, and rope. Thank you to ANC 's Andy Christofferson and Alan Gertz for taking a few of the boys hunting, we got 3 deer for camp. The participants also set the gillnet and halibut skate this week, smoked and canned kippered salmon, learned about plants, made teas and salves, tide pool, what is edible, and visited the Litnik Weir to learn about the salmon cycle. The art activity was mosaic salmon.



Shareholder Camp was held July 18-22 with the Afognak Peoples picnic being Saturday the 20th. The picnic day started out being a bit windy in Kodiak but turned out to be a gorgeous sunny picnic day. During the week's camp the shareholders spent time visiting, hiking and sewing slippers. Katrina Nelson gave a presentation on Afognak Native Corporation and spoke about the programs they offer.



Continued to page 5



Our last camp of the season was Survivor Camp which was held July 25 – 30. The youth had the opportunity to learn and improve their skills with survival suits, kayaking, edible plants, knot tying, wilderness first aide, fire and shelters, sewed emergency pouches and experienced preparing and eating MRE's. A special thank you to Jud Brentenson for his assistance.



During Survivor Camp week we had individuals visit from the First Peoples Nation to present Susie Malutin with the Community Spirit Award in which our Tribe submitted her name as a nominee. Congratulations Susie, you most definitely deserve it for all you have done for our people and the entire Kodiak Archipelago.



Through our Tribal Youth Program we were able to hire five interns to work at Dig

Afognak and the one in the office. They helped out in the kitchen, with facilities and activities, basically did whatever we asked of them. They all worked hard and did a fantastic job so a huge quyanaasinaq to Renae Kewan, Anastasia Skonberg, Elizabeth Borton, Nadia Nelson, Wade Bartleson and Mavis Pruitt!



Language Update

During the summer months, we had the opportunity to host two interns from Stanford University, Julia Fine and Will Monroe. They worked exclusively in the language program. They contributed in several invaluable ways to the program, ranging from creation of lesson plans, working on the “perfect path” which is a tool we will utilize to guide language learners through the process of learning the Alutiiq language. They also spent many hours learning from our Elders, learning the language and becoming very proficient in their knowledge and speaking. They participated in the Language Camp at Dig Afognak, and helped mentor the campers in the creation of songs, and learning language for basic tasks out at camp. We would like to say quyanaa to Julia and Will for all they have done for Kodiak’s Alutiiq Language program.

Weekly Alutiiq Language Activities and Opportunities

- 1.) Monday: Elders and Learners Gathering sponsored by Native Village of Afognak from 1-3 located at the KANA conference room
- 2.) Tuesday: Immersion Lunch from 12-1pm at Native Village of Afognak
- 3.) Tuesday: 6:30-8:30pm, Community language night using the ‘Where Are Your Keys’ method sponsored by Native Village of Afognak, at the Alutiiq Museum.
- 4.) Wednesday: Language Club from 12-1pm at Sun’aq Tribe; contact April Counciller (Alutiiq Museum)
- 5.) Teacher Mentorship model: One on one time spent with Elders and learners to work in an immersion environment several times a week. Contact Kari Sherod at kari@afognak.org to learn more about this program.



Common Greeting Phrases

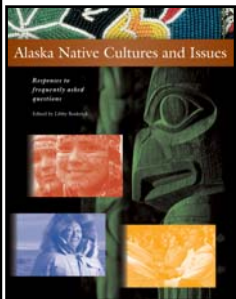
B A A A X L B B L H A H L N A I Q S
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- CAMAI (Hello)
 - CESTUN-ATREN (What is your name)
 - ATQA (My name is)
 - APRTAARATNGA (They always call me/nickname)
 - ASIRTUTEN-QAA (Are you good)
 - ASIRTUA (I'm good)
 - SILUGTUTEN-QAA (Are you happy)
 - SILUGTUA (I am happy)
 - ATGURTUTEN-QAA (Are you excited)
 - ATGURTUQ (I'm excited)
 - IMASUUGTUTEN-QAA (Are you sad)
 - IMASUUGTUA (I'm sad)
 - ASIITUTEN-QAA (Are you bad)
 - ASIITUA (I'm bad)
 - QUYANAA (Thank you)
 - QUYANAITUQ (You're welcome)
 - TANGRCIQAMKEN (I'll see you again/goodbye)
- To hear these words and many others, visit alutiqlanguage.org

Nadia Mullan Alutiig Heritage Library Features



Cool Green Stuff As fun to look at as it is to use, Cool Green Stuff features a gallery of environmentally friendly fashions, jewelry, bags, gadgets, home décor and other one-of-a-kind products that were designed and produced to make the world a cooler and greener place. Inspired by the latest reports of “cool hunters”- a new breed of trend watchers who travel the physical and virtual world in search of cutting-edge design- these products will amaze and tempt you. From a wine-bottle hanging lamp to floral bracelets made of vintage fabric, this collection showcases the imagination and innovation of leading designers at work around the world today.



Alaska Native Cultures and Issues This Book addresses some of the questions Alaska Native people are most frequently asked about their histories, their cultures, and the most important issues that affect their lives today. The question – and the answers – may surprise you. The responses and recommended readings were compiled by a group of Alaska based individuals and scholars, including members of the Alaska Native community and professors from University of Alaska Anchorage and Anchorage Pacific University. These resource provide a brief introduction to some complex and highly charged issues in Alaska today.

ENVIRONMENTAL



New Recycling Process in Kodiak!



Recently Threshold Services, Inc., Kodiaks recycling center, made a change to its recycling process. The recycling sheds previously staged and used in the front of the Threshold building were replaced with a Recycling tent at the rear of Threshold. The tent houses numerous bins to hold corrugated cardboard, mixed paper, plastic bags, # 1 plastic bottles with necks, # 2 plastic bottles with necks and non-recyclables. The tent is capable of housing 3 vehicles at a time. The new process is to drive into the tent, separate and place the recyclables into the proper bin, and any non-recyclables left go in a separate bin to be properly disposed of. Any questions about what is recyclable can be answered by an attendant who is present during all business hours in the tent. Threshold business hours are: Tuesday through Saturday, 11 A.M. to 6:30 P.M.



NVA PRACTICING ENERGY EFFICIENCY: Proudly by Example!

NVA had an Energy Audit conducted on its tribal office building in November of 2011. Having learned from the audit, NVA made a few changes, such as:



- Replacing old light fixtures with LED light fixtures;
- Replacing old thermostats with programmable thermostats, and;
- Replacing old appliances with energy efficient appliances.

NVA also had an Energy Audit conducted at Dig Afognak Camp in June of 2012. Changes that were made included:

- Cabins were insulated;
- A “test” solar panel was installed, and;
- Newer kitchen appliances were transported to camp to replace older types





Events

Left: Chairman, Loretta Nelson and NVA Staff Member, Nina Gronn after NCAI's annual walk for Health in Tulsa, OK.



Below: Council members attending the AFN Annual Convention in Fairbanks, AK. Pictured from left to right: Loren Anderson, James Dunham, Julie Knagin and Loretta Nelson.



Below: Tribal member, Elizabeth Borton at the Annual AFN Banquet with Senator Mark Begich.



Below: Port Lions youth attending the Annual Youth and Elders Conference in Fairbanks Alaska. Pictured from left to right: Emma Nelson, Korena Nelson, Nancy Nelson (Native Village of Port Lions), Ginger Ward (Afognak Native Corporation), Wade Bartleson, Loretta Nelson (Native Village of Afognak & Afognak Native Corporation) and Gunnar Nelson.



Left: Afognak and the Koniag region is proud to see three of our nominees win AFN President's awards this year. Pictured from left to right: Glenn Godfrey, Jr, winner of the Glenn Godfrey Law Enforcement award; Raissa Boskofsky, winner of the Lu Young Leadership award; and Melvin Kewan, winner of the Small Business award.





Chair Letter

On behalf of NVA we apologize for the lateness of this most recent newsletter. It's been a busy couple of months with the annual meeting and traveling on behalf of the Tribe and we wanted to make sure all important news was included in the newsletter.

On September 21st, NVA held its annual meeting and election, quyanaasinaq to everyone who attended and voted. I and Loren Anderson were up for election this year and were both reelected. We look forward to serving the membership in our roles as Council members. Immediately following the meeting, the Council got together to appoint officers. I am humbled that my colleagues asked me to lead the Council again this year as chairman. I'm also excited to announce that Meagan Christiansen was appointed as Vice-chair and Julie Knagin as secretary.

Several of your Council members along with a few staff members have recently returned from two very important events, the annual National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) convention and the annual Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) conference. NVA Council and some staff attend these events annually in order to continue to stay on top of issues pertinent to our tribe, tribal members and all Alaska Natives. Both events give up to date information on Native American/Alaska Native issues and allow us to network with other Tribes across the country.

In addition to Council, NVA helped to sponsor five youth to the annual youth and Elders Conference, the first half of the AFN convention. We believe that youth attending AFN, gives them an opportunity to work collaboratively on issues facing Alaska Native youth across the State and puts them in important leadership roles.

If you are interested in knowing



more about the convention or learning more about our Council, please don't hesitate to contact any one of the Council members or our Tribal Administrator, Melissa Borton. Also, don't forget to "Like" NVA's facebook page, we often announce various events in Kodiak but also post pictures throughout our attendance at these events. Quyanaasinaq.

NVA New Staff



Sean Hales is NVA's Alutiiq Language Program Assistant. He was born in Kodiak and graduated from Kodiak High School in 2012. He is currently taking classes toward his associate's degree at Kodiak College. His parents are Deborah Brown (Kodiak) and Brandon Hales (Salt Lake City) and his grandparents are Madelyn (Reft) Brown and Edward Brown. Sean is excited to work as the Alutiiq language program assistant at Native Village of Afognak and looks forward to collaborating with the elders and learners in the language program.

Sydney Magnuson is the new fall office intern at NVA. She was born and raised in Kodiak, and is a senior in High School. Her parents are Derrick and Melissa Magnuson. Her relations are to the Andersons and the Helms from Chignik, as well as Skonberg and Carlson also from Chignik. Sydney participates in the Kodiak High School Dance team, the concert and pep bands, as well as participates as a youth leader for her community such as "Gulf of Alaska Suicide Prevention Coalition". She also created a charity called "Pennies for Charity" in which she donated just under \$100.00 to community businesses that help people in the community in 2012. She hopes to gain professional work experience for future jobs. Sydney's aspires to become an Occupational Therapist, (OT) inspired by her brothers OT, Amy Stohl.





Old Afognak Story

An excerpt from “Elwani” dated 1976, written by Mike Wilson and Gene LeDoux
An interview with Nina Olson-“Growing up in Afognak”

I was raised in Afognak, Alaska and born there in January of 1924. At that time of course they had no doctors. Mothers had help through midwives, and they had no hospitals or doctors to go to. They had their children in the homes. For me, when I was born my parents didn't realize that I was born with a defect. Only when I started walking they finally realized that I was limping and when I was taken to a doctor they found out that I had dislocated hips, and the reason was when babies are born with a doctor, they check the hips out and if the hips aren't in place at the time, then the nurse or doctor can take care of that right at the time...when I was about 10 years old my leg started bothering me, and my mother saw to it that I got to a doctor. She had me sent to this orthopedic hospital in Seattle where I went through

surgery...I was in the hospital for 11 months.

...as I look back now I really enjoyed living in this way. In fact as I get older I think of these times and I wish I could just live back there again, where you carry your water, which we had to carry from the creek to the house. We had a drinking barrel which we used for drinking and for cooking, and of course other containers which we had for washing dishes and such. For our bathing of course everybody had a banya, which is a steam bath and we had those quite often and so that took care of our bathing needs in that way.

...I learned how to cook and bake on a wood stove and as I remember back it really didn't seem to be a problem of learning how to cook and bake on a woodstove. I remember my mother telling me a certain type of wood that burns good

and made a real hot oven...if you wanted a slower oven...we were able to more or less judge our oven by the use of different types of wood.

...You could go to work in the cannery when you were sixteen at that time. I left my village and went to another area around the island. Port Williams was the cannery that I went to work for...that's where I met my husband...years later we were married. Then he was called into the army and I continued living in the village while he was in the army. But when he came back then we decided that we had better move from the village, because there was no work and my husband felt that he had to be doing some work, both summer and winter, so we moved to Kodiak...as I get older I think of these times and I wish I could just live back there again.

Native Vote

NCAI has been protecting the right to vote for Native Americans since the day the organization was founded in 1944. Some of the first resolutions ever passed by NCAI supported voting rights for American Indians in New Mexico and Arizona. Now, NCAI's national nonpartisan initiative - Native Vote - encourages American Indians and Alaska Natives to exercise their right to vote and works to protect voting rights across the country. At NativeVote.org you can join the national campaign and get involved in the effort in your community. Due to historically **low** voter participation and severe infractions committed against Native voters, tribal leaders created an initiative that would increase voter participation and protect voters in Indian Country. Since then, Indian Country has become a powerful voting block and encourages candidates to recognize the needs of their American Indian and Alaska Native constituents.

For the 2013 election Cycle the Native Vote campaign is focused on the following four areas:

- Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) and registration efforts,
- Election and voter protection awareness and advocacy
 - Voter and candidate education
 - Tribal access to data

Visit NativeVote.org for more information, resources, frequent updates, and news!



Dig Afognak Donations



\$20,000 AND OVER

AFOGNAK NATIVE CORPORATION (SHAREHOLDER CAMP)

\$5,000 AND OVER

OUZINKIE NATIVE CORPORATION

\$1,000 AND OVER

MARIUS AND ANDI OLSEN, KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION, NATIVE VILLAGE OF PORT LIONS

\$500 AND OVER

N. MICHELLE MULLAN (MISHA), HARVEY MEIR, NANCY NELSON, BOBBY NELSON, DONNA A. RODUTA

\$200 AND OVER

LOREN ANDERSON, MEAGAN CHRISTIANSEN, MARY FEARN, KEN NELSON JR., LORETTA NELSON

BETTY LUKIN, JEFFERY ABATE, PAT AND WAYNE KOZAK, VIRGINIA (GINGER) WARD

\$100 AND OVER

MARGARET (COOKIE) NELSON, AMANDA NELSON, CRAIG DEHART, SHAUNA HEGNA, AFOGNAK NATIVE CORPORATION STAFF, NADIA NELSON

\$50 AND OVER

JUNEY MULLAN, KEN AND CAROL HENSON, IVER MALUTIN

Of the above donations \$850 of it was donated in honor of the late Paddy and Nadia Mullan. \$321.75 loose coins were collected from our Penny Drive Jar (unknowns), \$217.50 from Split the Pot. In addition to the financial contributions a big quyanaasinaaq to Lydia Olsen for the 2 drums, Carl Sr. and Burt Gronn and Rick Rowland for hauling freight to Dig, Lou Schneider for his donation of construction supplies, Sven Haakanson Jr., Jud Brentenson, Teri Schneider, Micheal Bach, Natura Richardson, ANC, Andy Christoffersen, Alan Gertz, and Tanya Lee for their help at camp as presenters and donated time, all of your contributions are very much appreciated! Thank you to Bobby Morrison and Ella Moonin for being our camp watchmen and for all the extra work you did. We would also like to extend our thanks to the following for working at the Sno Bruins booth for the Crab Festival and in the making of the burgers so we could earn money to support Dig Afognak: Melissa, Rick and Amber Borton, Taletha Gertz, Sherra Fearn, Lynda Lorenson, Nina Gronn, Shurina Skonberg, Jeremy Kewan, Denise Malutin, Bessie Weston, Nancy Nelson, Loretta Nelson and Kathie Nelson. We also owe a huge Thank You to Nadia Nelson, she emptied her piggy bank bought candy to get donations for our Penny Drive as well as had a dunking booth at the Alutiiq Employee picnic to help raise money, great job Nadia and your efforts are deeply appreciated!



Native Village of Afognak

323 CAROLYN STREET, KODIAK, AK 99615

Place
Stamp
Here

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Loretta Nelson, Chairman
Meagan Christiansen, Vice Chairman
Julie Knagin, Secretary
Loren Anderson, Member
Jim Dunham, Member
Mary Fearn, Member
Kenny Nelson Jr., Member

STAFF

Melissa Borton, Tribal Administrator
Nancy Nelson, Program Administrator
Maggie Rocheleau, Finance Manager
Denise Malutin, Cultural Programs Coordinator
Kari Sherod, Language Program Manager
Taletha Gertz, Program Manager
Shurina Skonberg, Accounting Clerk
Nina Gronn, Office Coordinator
Lynda Lorensen, Alutiiq Language Education Coordinator
Bessie Lea Weston, Environmental Program Assistant
Sean Hales, Alutiiq Language Program Assistant
Sydney Magnuson, Office Intern

907-486-6357
907-486-6529 FAX
WWW.AFOGNAK.ORG

*Stay connected with us by liking our
Facebook page "Native Village of
Afognak" and keep up to date with events
and Dig Afognak Camp!*



Special Announcements

Last Newsletter Old Afognak Photo



The winner of the
last newsletters old
photo was
Rose Kreger
with the answer of:
Ginger Ward and
Wilma Nelson

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
NVA Will be closed
November 28th and 29th
for Thanksgiving Holiday
and
December 24th and 25th
for Christmas Holiday

*If you have any announcements regarding a tribal member,
please email your stories to Nina at nina@afognak.org