

Happy Spring! I hope this newsletter finds you well. Since purchasing the local Cost Savers grocery store last fall, we have been diligently trying to maintain a quality business in the Kodiak community and are excited to announce that we have hired John Masterson as the General Manager! John comes to us with many years of experience in management and grocery store operations and we look forward to working with him.

March marked the first year of maximum production for Mal'uk Farms and our ability to share our fresh, Kodiak grown produce. We are proud to have been able to offer produce to our Tribal Members and Elders over this last year. If you haven't signed up for the food hub, there is a video with instructions on page 11. Lettuce and herbs are harvested weekly.

Make sure you don't miss out on Dig Afognak camps or the Afognak People's Picnic! Staff are planning camp activities and are excited about the strong presenters and focus on the intergenerational transmission of our ancestral knowledge this summer. This summer there will be three youth camps and two family camps. There is more information about these camps on page 10. One of the strengths of Dig Afognak is providing youth access to role models and an opportunity to build community. Please consider attending as a chaperone, Elder or cultural presenter. Camp is an incredible experience and I encourage anyone who is interested to attend.

For the first time since 2019, the Afognak People's Picnic will be held at the Afognak Village on August 3rd. Registration will be available online or you can call the office at (907) 486-6357 to have it mailed to you. It is always wonderful to visit the home of our ancestral roots! After years of not visiting the village, this year we will do a beach cleanup and have the Alutiiq Museum check on our ancestral sites.

As always, please feel free to reach out to Council members or staff if you have any questions or concerns about your tribe.

Meagan Christiansen, Tribal Council Chairperson

Contact Us

115 MILL BAY RD.
KODIAK, AK 99615

Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

Phone: 907-486-6357

Fax: 907-486-6529

Email: tribe@afognak.org



Office Closures

May 27th, 2024

Memorial Day
Office Closed

July 4th, 2024

Independence Day
Office Closed

August 12th, 2024

NVA Constitution Day
Office Closed

September 2nd, 2024

Labor Day
Office Closed



QUYANAA!

Quyanaa to the following for your donations to the library!

- David Reddick
- Natalia and Teri Schneider
- John and Sherra Peterson
- Mary Fearn
- Ruth and Hobart Dawson and family
- Hanna Sholl

NVA Ag'wanermiut Liitut Scholarship The People of Afognak are Learning

Award: \$1,500.00 | Timeline: Opens March 1/ Closes June 1
Two recipients per year

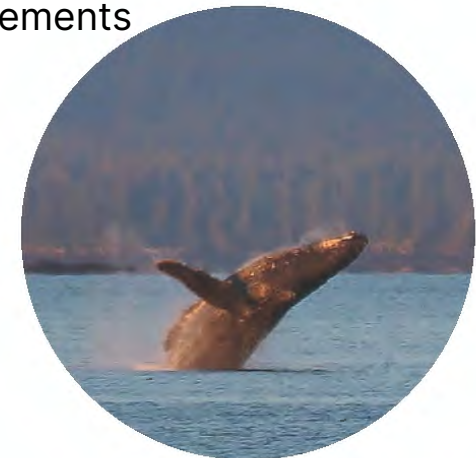
Apply at koniageducation.org

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be an enrolled member of the Native Village of Afognak
- Must be a high school graduate or GED equivalent by June 30 of application year.
- Be accepted to or attending an accredited vocational or college program.
- Must have and maintain a minimum of a 2.5 GPA or equivalent and make satisfactory academic progress as defined by the institution.
- Preference given to first-time degree-seeking and vocational students.
- Must meet all other KEF eligibility requirements

Application Requirements:

- Provide proof of enrollment
- One letter of recommendation
- Most recent transcripts
- Recent resume
- Recent headshot
- Essay



Save The Date

**Native Village of Afognak
Annual Meeting**

Date: September 21st, 2024

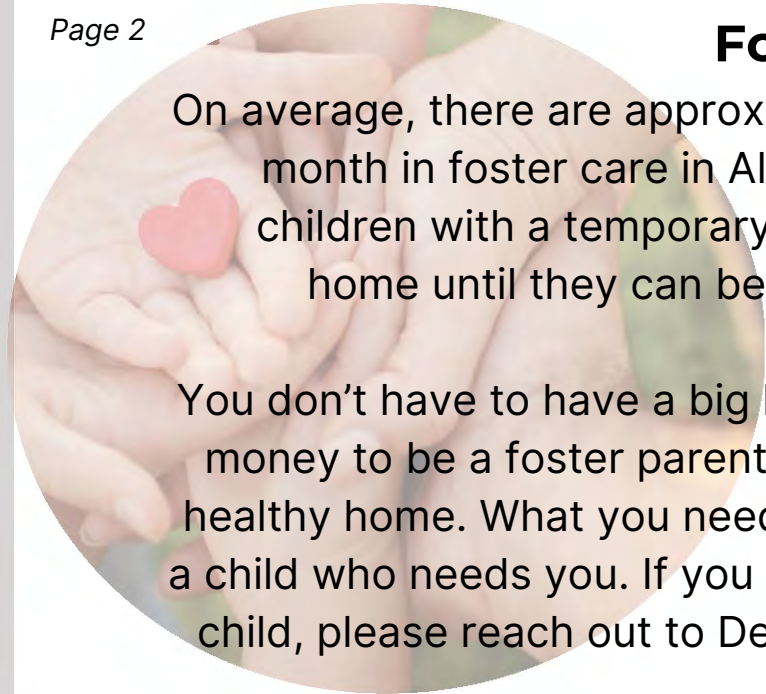
Location: To be announced



Foster Families Needed

On average, there are approximately 3,000 children each month in foster care in Alaska. Foster homes provide children with a temporary, safe, stable, and nurturing home until they can be reunited with their families.

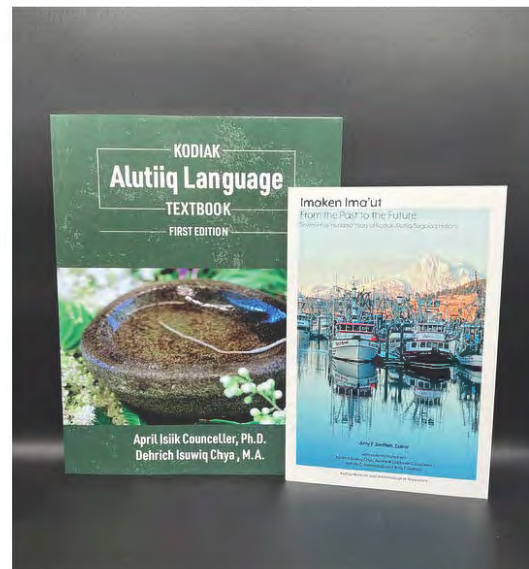
You don't have to have a big house, a fancy car or lots of money to be a foster parent. What you need is a happy, healthy home. What you need is a heart that can open to a child who needs you. If you are interested in fostering a child, please reach out to Denise at the Native Village of Afognak.



Nadia Mullan Alutiiq Heritage Library

The "Alutiiq Language Textbook" is designed for high school and college students. It reviews the unique sounds, grammar and vocabulary of Alutiiq language, with engaging lessons, numerous examples, and worksheets to aid with comprehension and understanding.

"Imaken Ima'ut - From the Past to the Future" is a five-chapter book that describes topics related to Kodiak Alutiiq History. Learn about the roots of Alutiiq culture, the forces that shaped Kodiak's communities and how an Alutiiq way of life continues.



WE ARE HIRING

Looking For:

✓ Facilities Coordinator

✓ Facilities Assistant

✓ Expeditor

✓ Interns

Visit www.afognak.org or the NVA office at 115 Mill Bay Rd. Kodiak, AK 99615 for more information about Dig Afognak and open positions!

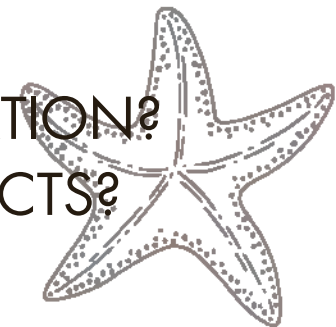
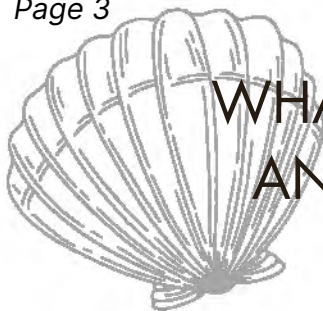


APPLY NOW!

We are also recruiting volunteers, Elders, and teachers of hunting and fishing skills.

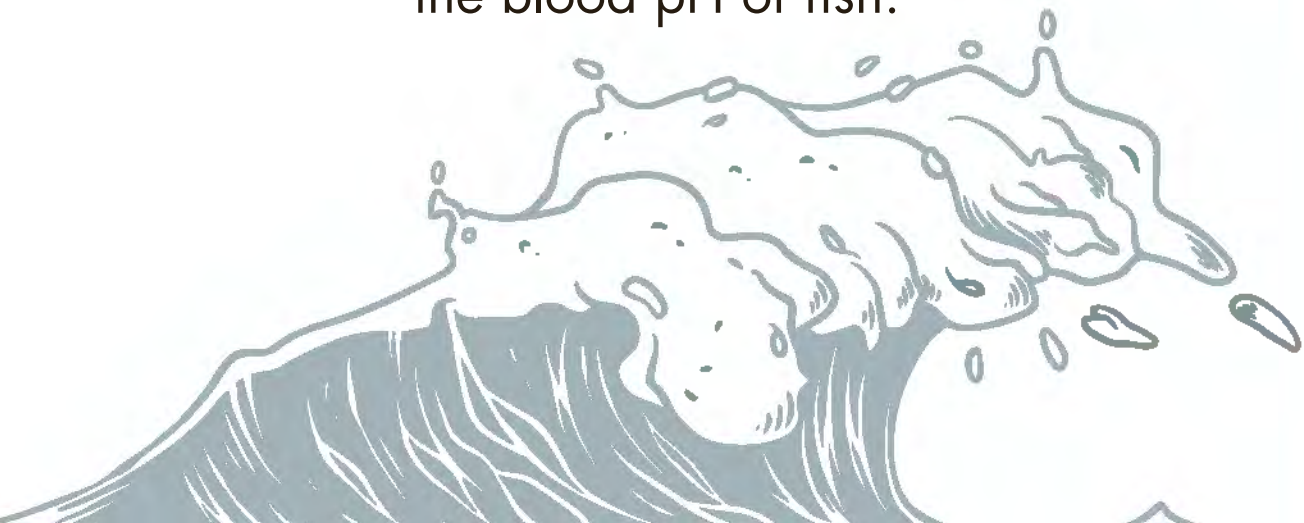


Native Village of Afognak



WHAT IS OCEAN ACIDIFICATION? AND WHAT ARE THE IMPACTS?

Oceans are a carbon sink, which means they absorb carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. It reacts with the seawater, creating carbonic acid and lowers the pH of the ocean AKA ocean acidification. Research is still being done, but what we do know is that there are organisms that rely on carbonate to build their shells, including urchins, clams, starfish, coral, etc. These animals are more vulnerable and easier to be eaten by predators; which causes a reaction up the food chain. Possible other impacts could be lowering the blood pH of fish.



CONSIDER THESE TIPS TO IMPROVE INDOOR AIR QUALITY FOR A HEALTHIER HOME





Mal'uk Farms



Scan to Learn How To Sign Up for the Qik'rtaq Foodhub

In November 2023, The Alutiiq Grown team attended the Alaska Food Policy Council Conference. Alutiiq Grown and KALI were one of three groups who won an award for 2023 Alaska Food Hero of the year. During our recent KALI forum a week ago Mal'uk Farms received an Alaska Food hero plaque. Alutiiq Grown was recognized for demonstrating a substantial impact on Alaska's food system, transform an aspect of our community's food system, and making a difference for Alaska's prosperity, health and self-reliance.

The Alutiiq Grown team is a collective of tribal and community farms in the Kodiak Archipelago in Larsen Bay, Akhiok, Old Harbor, Ouzinke, Port Lions and the City of Kodiak. Suupet Neregkwarluki – we are feeding our people.



AT HOME OCEAN ACIDIFICATION EXPERIMENT

To show the impacts of ocean acidification, soak shells in water with different levels of PH:

- 1 cup with just water
 - 1 cup with water and 3 tsps. salt
 - 1 cup equal parts water and vinegar.
- Soak a couple shells in each cup for about 3 days and see how the shells change in mass, strength, and appearance.



After being soaked in vinegar, for 72 hours the shells on the far right are easily broken just by handling, definite change in mass and strength-very fragile!

What are little things students, families, or kids can do to help slow down the acidification of our oceans? This can be done by reforestation, revegetation, and agricultural practices-plant a garden-these are all small things that individuals can do, every little bit helps!

Dig Afognak 2024



Dig Afognak is a cultural immersion experience curated for participants to connect to the land, the Alutiiq Culture, teach the Afognak people's history, and cultural values. Participants engage in cultural activities including Alutiiq language, dance, harvesting, sewing, nature walks, and learning from Elders while creating healthy friendships.

Dig Afognak would benefit from Tribal Members and other Native men & women attending camp as role models, teachers, or Elders. We are recruiting for Elders, chaperones, hunters, & fishermen. We are aware that camp has physical challenges that make it inaccessible for some Elders, and are expanding the invitation the next generation of Elders, reaching below the 65-year-old threshold. This next generation possesses experience and traditional knowledge to share with youth. Please contact us at the office or via email tribe@afognak.org to express interest. We offer Elder honorariums and stipends for presenters. We are also recruiting volunteers to stay in the dorms and chaperone youth during activities.

Survival Skills Camp June 19th – June 24th
Registration deadline June 7th



Harvest Camp June 27th – July 2nd
Registration deadline June 14th



Koniag Camp July 11th – July 16th
Registration deadline June 28th

Dance & Games Camp July 18th – July 23rd
Registration deadline July 8th



ANC Shareholder Camp July 31st – August 5th
Registration deadline July 19th

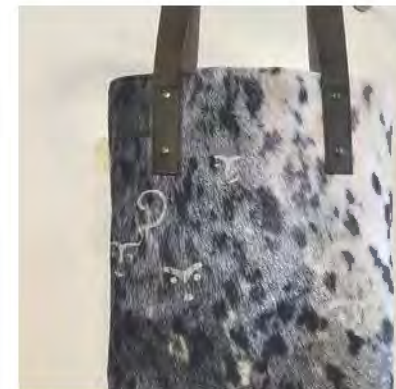


ALUTIIQ BOUTIQUE



**REPRESENT
YOURSELF
EVERYWHERE.**

Visit 115 Mill Bay Rd. Kodiak, AK, www.afognak.org,
or call 907-486-6357 to purchase



Afognak Peoples' PICNIC



**Please note location of the event is at the Old Village.*

The Afognak Peoples' Picnic - potluck lunch, will be held Saturday, August 3rd at 12:30 PM at the Old Village or camp (weather permitting). Native Village of Afognak (NVA) can assist with transportation to the Old Afognak Village. The boat charter fee to reserve your space is \$50. All picnic attendees must RSVP with NVA by Tuesday, July 30th.

Please contact NVA at 907-486-6357 to sign up for a potluck dish, RSVP, or make your boat reservation. ***Remember to call NVA on the day of for a recording about changes due to weather. You can also check the NVA Facebook page for updates.***

We hope to see you there!

