



A G 'W A N E R M I U T

AFOGNAK
PEOPLE'S
NEWSLETTER

KASITAQ

Chair Letter

Cama'i fellow tribal members:

On September 22nd, NVA held its most recent annual meeting and election. Quyanaasinaq to all tribal members who attended the meeting and voted. I'd also like to say quyanaa to Kari Sherod for putting her name in for the election; I hope you continue trying as it was a close race this year. Congratulations to my fellow Council members, Jim Dunham and Malia Villegas for getting re-elected and quyanaa to my fellow Council members for electing me as your new chairman, I look forward to the opportunity to serve you this year.

I'd like to say a special quyanaa to Loretta Nelson for serving as NVA's chairman for the past seven years and I look forward to working with her as vice-chair this next year. I appreciate her mentorship and will strive to do as good a job as she has done in the chair position.

For those of you who may not know me, I am the daughter of Arthur Olsen, granddaughter of Hans and Gladys (Gregorioff) Olsen. I grew up in Seattle, WA, but Kodiak has been my home for the last 24 years. I am married to Ken Christiansen, a commercial fisherman from the village of Old Harbor, and have two children, Cole and Mekenna, who have grown up in Kodiak. I work in local government for the Kodiak Island Borough at the Borough Manager's office as Grant Writer/Special Projects Support.



Chairman, Meagan Christiansen

See **CHAIR**, Page 2

People of Afognak 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.





I am in my third term as an NVA council member and have been the vice-chair since fall of 2013. I have learned a lot about tribal government and native concerns. I have especially enjoyed getting to know more of you, the tribal members, your families and your stories. Meeting you has given me the opportunity to make new friends, learn more about my own family and culture and has helped to give me perspective when working with the council to make decisions and advocate on behalf of our tribal members.

A few of my goals as chair this next year are to provide strong support to the Council, our Tribal Administrator and staff; to be more directly involved in networking with other tribes and native organizations; and to build more relationships with tribal members.

Please feel free to contact me at meagan@afognak.org or 907-539-4323 to share any concerns, questions, or ideas you may have about our Tribe. And if you see me in person, please feel free to stop me and say hello.

Ag'wanermiut Liitut High Education Scholarship



Teri Schneider

2017 marked NVA's first ever Ag'wanermiut Liitut higher education scholarships; to date we have given out three scholarships. 2018 Fall Semester Recipient was Teri Schneider, awarded \$1,000.

Are you an enrolled member of NVA attending post-secondary school? If so, you'll be happy to know that Koniag Education Foundation (KEF) and NVA have teamed up to make applying for your scholarships as easy as possible. Our goal is to streamline the application process to help students maximize their scholarship funding.

NVA scholarship applications should be from students currently in an accredited post-secondary program, either part- or full-time. We will be awarding a special \$1,000 scholarship and future awards will coincide with KEF's Special Scholarship application open March 2, 2019 and the deadline is June 1, 2019. All applications can be submitted through KEF.

ALUTIIQ CHRISTMAS FAMILY TREE ART PROJECT

Instructions:

1. cut tree branches (shown in figure 1)
2. cut 7–10 long strips, different length to form your tree. (shown in figure 2)
3. cut out a star for the top of your tree
4. cut out rectangles for 2 sets of place names (shown in figure 3)
5. use key to label your place names
6. add your family's name's (shown in figure 4)

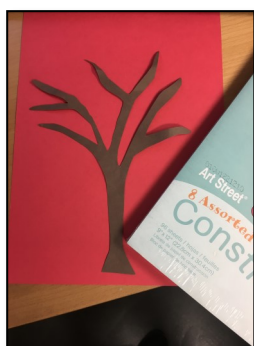


Figure 1

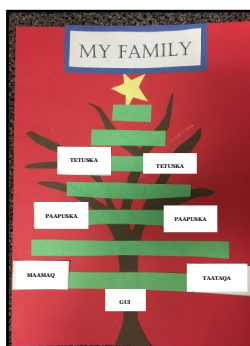


Figure 3



Figure 2

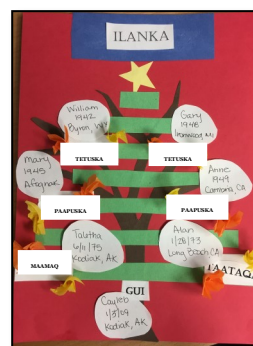


Figure 4

Key

I : Gui
Mom : Maamaq
Dad : Taataqa
Sister : Alqaq
Brother : Aningaaq
Grandmother : Paapuska
Grandfather : Tetuska

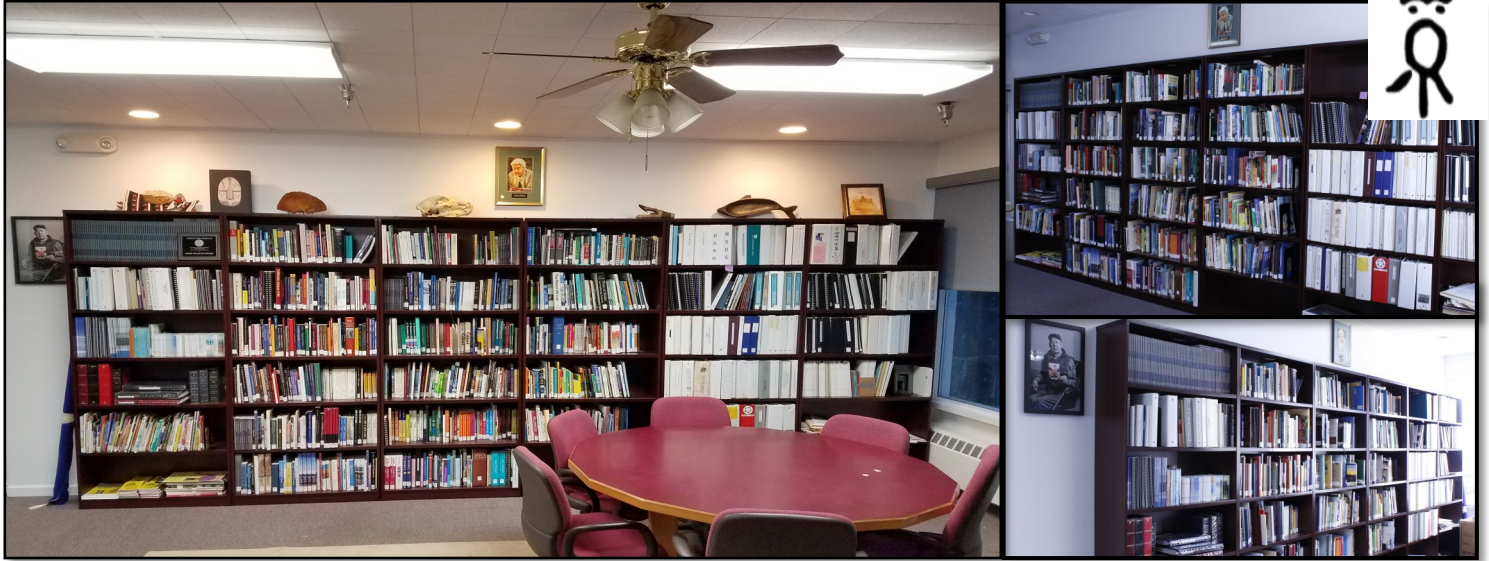
Supplies:

Multi colored construction paper
White Paper
Scissors
Glue
Markers

Using Northern Dialect

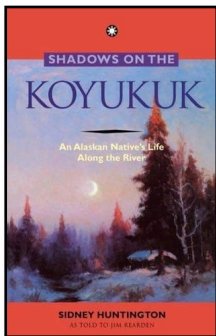


Nadia Mullan Alutiig Heritage Library



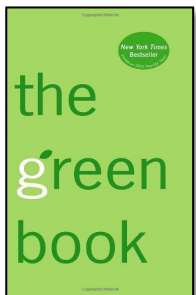
Here are a few books featured in our library. Visit our website at www.afognak.org to find more books!

Shadows on The Koyukuk by Sidney Huntington as told to Jim Rearden



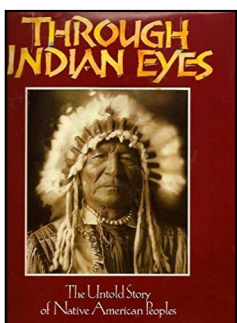
"I owe Alaska. It gave me everything I have." says Sidney Huntington, son of an Athapaskan mother and a white trader/trapper father. Growing up on the Koyukuk River in Alaska's harsh Interior, that "everything" spans 78 years of tragedies and adventures. When his mother died suddenly, 5-year-old Huntington protected and cared for his younger brother and sister during two weeks of isolation. Late, as a teenage, he plied the wilderness traplines with his father, nearly freezing to death several times. One spring, he watched an ice-filled breakup flood sweep his family's cabin and belongings away. These and many other episodes are the compelling background for the story of a man who learned the lessons of a land and a culture, lessons that enabled him to prosper as trapper, boat builders, and fisherman.

Shadows on the Koyukuk is more than one man's incredible tale of hardship and success in Alaska. It is also a tribute to the Athapaskan traditions and spiritual beliefs that enabled him and his ancestors to survive. His story, simply told, is a testament to the durability of Alaska's wildland and to the strength of the people who inhabit them.



The Green Book By: Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen

While *The Green Book* is a starting point for anyone who wants to become more environmentally friendly, there are some basic terms and terminology that may need to be explained. We broke down the book's solutions to explain how waste, water, energy, and time can be saved. These are the big areas we focused on because they involve so many issues. And saving each has a measurable positive impact on our planet.



Through Indian Eyes By: The Reader's Digest Association, Inc.

"Through Indian Eyes offers a new and fascinating look at our common history as the first Americans experiences it – "facing east," as one native writer put it. The book is lavishly illustrated, with hundreds of photographs, paintings, drawings, maps, original illustrations, rare archival images – and an abundance of work by native artists that reveals how they saw themselves and their world. The story is amplified by memorable quotations from native people, past and present – individual voices with distinct personalities, connecting the sweep of great events to the flesh-and-blood human beings who lived them. Their voices testify to the diversity of their beliefs, to the depth of their attachment to the land, and to the passion with which they resisted its conquest by European invaders."



Dig Afognak

Our staff made another trip out to camp in September for a final shutdown and to take care of some trees that could potentially fall on the mess hall this winter. A special thank you to Rick Borton for volunteering his time to fall the trees and clean up the brush.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our friendly Dig Afognak neighbor, Bob May. It is through Bob's connections that we were able to have Minh's Starzewski with Homeland Security Solutions, Inc. come to teach the two weeks of gun safety for our youth. Bob provided the guns and target units for the camps. Quyanna Bob, our Dig Afognak program is truly grateful for your generosity! It was very exciting to see pictures of two of the youth that participated in the gun safety program each get an Elk!

DIG AFOGNAK 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 16	17	18	19 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1	20 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1	21 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1	22 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1
23 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1	24 Harvesting/ Survival Allringuq 1	25	26	27 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2	28 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2	29 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2
30 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2	July 1 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2	2 Harvesting/ Survival Mal'uk 2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11 Afognak Shareholder Camp	12 Afognak Shareholder Camp	13 Afognak Shareholder Camp
14 Afognak Shareholder Camp	15 Afognak Shareholder Camp	16	17	18	19 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language	20 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language
21 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language	22 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language	23 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language	24 Cauyaq "Music"/ Language	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The dates for next year's camps are set and applications will be on line the first week of April 2019.

We are always in need of male chaperones and presenters, if you are willing to volunteer your time for any of the weeks please call our office at (907) 486-6357 and ask for Nancy or Nina.

We would also like to thank Afognak Native Corporation, KANA, and Koniag Inc., for allowing us to do Split the Pot at your meetings. Every dollar makes a difference in the success of camp, and we deeply appreciate and thank you to all who donate. Thank you to the Council of NVA for seeing the value camp has on our youth and your willingness to support it. Quyanasinaq!



Environmental



Did you know...October 1, 2006 saw the start of the Native Village of Afognak's environmental department, with the award of the Environmental Protection Agency Indian General Assistance Program grant.

This grant was made possible in 1992, when Congress passed the Indian Environmental General Assistance Program Act. This act authorized EPA to provide General Assistance Program (GAP) grants to federally recognized tribes and tribal consortia for planning, developing and establishing environmental protection programs in Indian country, and for developing and implementing solid and hazardous waste programs on tribal lands.

The goal of GAP (CFDA 66.926) is to assist tribes and intertribal consortia in developing the capacity to manage their own environmental protection programs, and to develop and implement solid and hazardous waste programs in accordance with individual tribal needs and applicable federal laws and regulations.

Over the years, this is what we have focused on:

- Building tribal administrative infrastructure
- Increase understanding of current issues
- Education and outreach
- Recycling
- Tribal Capacity
- Building environmental education and solid waste reduction capacity
- Building technical capacity- air
- Building technical capacity- water

Looking forward, we will be focusing on:

- Building technical capacity- air quality testing and water quality testing



Environmental Books Purchased through the IGAP Program



Past IGAP Coordinator with students while doing a classroom visit

Christmas Eve Creamy Crockpot Hot Chocolate

- * 1.5 cups heavy cream,
- * 1 can of sweetened condensed milk (14oz),
- * 2 cups milk chocolate chips, 6 cups of milk,
- * 1 tsp vanilla extract.



Photo & Answer to August 2018

People of Afognak Photo

L to R; Alexandra Knagin Simeonoff Spracher, Edward James Spracher & Archie Nelson

~Maggie Napoleon was the first to call in & answer correctly ~



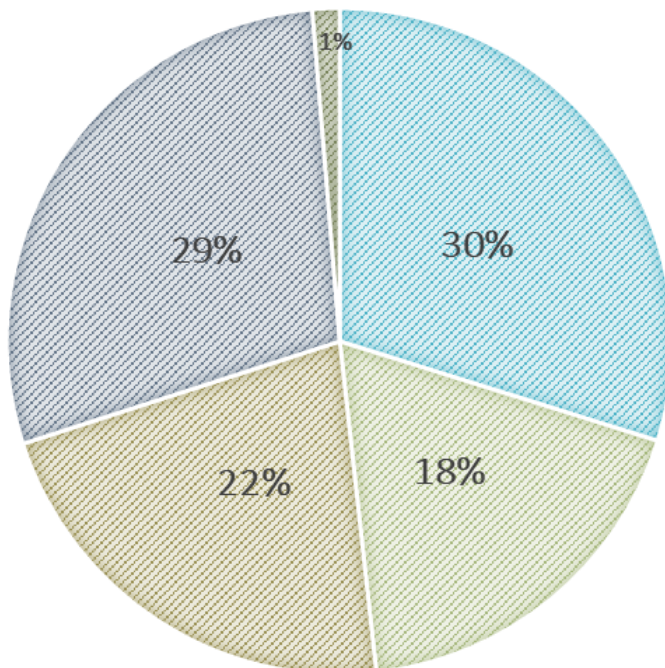


NVA Tribal Enrollment

NVA has 684 Living Tribal Members

Current demographics:

- 29% living on Kodiak Island
- 22% living throughout the remainder of Alaska
- 30% in the remainder of the US
- 18% in Washington State
- 1% living abroad.



- Praznyk, Russian New Year's Ball Sponsored by KANA/Koniag January 13, 2019 at Afognak Native Corp. 300 Alimaq Dr. Kodiak, AK
- 4th Annual Dig Afognak Fundraising Dinner and Live Auction February 23, 2019 at Kodiak Elks Lodge 102 W Marine Way, Kodiak, AK

NVA's After School Program

The After School program teaches youth ages 7-9 our Alutiiq Language and games, taught by Lynda Lorenson and Denise Malutin. Kids really enjoy making holiday arts and crafts they can take home. Also, we are planning on field trips like the Wildlife Refuge and the Alutiiq Museum. We are happy to be providing activities for our Kodiak youth through this great program and we are happy to be involved in our community.



Students created Turkeys for what they are thankful for



Students from the After School Program



Old Afognak Story



The Von Scheele Sisters: Memories of Russian Town

“...The story of the Von Scheele family is part of the story of Old Afognak village. Eunice, now a widow living in Kodiak, is a well-known figure, a basket weaver known throughout the State. Her sister, Enola, Eunice’s elder by several years, is an equally gifted artist, but her creations from shells and natural objects are rarely seen outside her small home in a sequestered cove near Whale Pass. The compound of reddish wooden structures, including a banya and a cabin for hunters, is situated on Afognak near the site of the old village. Though both were educated outside the state and became teachers, they have sought divergent life paths as adults. Their memories

differ and intertwine with those of their twelve sisters and brothers, and with other villagers in the process of creating a meaningful past. “These things are from my memory,” Eunice recounted to me in her Kodiak home overlooking the crowded boat harbor.

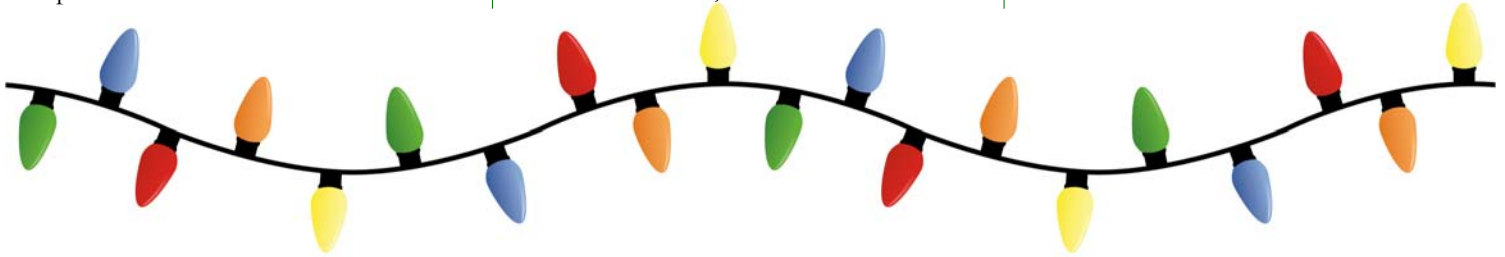
Eunice has often described the night of her birth in the complex cultural world of Afognak village. It was a cold Russian Christmas in 1907 and the thick Spruce forests blanketing Afognak Island were covered with snow. She didn’t expect that the baby would come, but it seemed a nice time to spend quietly with her husband, Herman. Perhaps remembering his early Christmas celebrations, he settled in with a Swedish book for the evening. Eulavia’s mother, Periscovia

Gregorioff, known to all as “Babushka”, the village mid-wife, left with the children, enjoying their wonder at the mystery and drama of the Christmas liturgy....After the mass, they filtered past the stern icons, now draped with flowers, out into the still night. As they approached the house with eager steps, the sounds of a child’s cry filled the air. In Babushka’s absence, Herman Von Scheele had helped bring his daughter into the world. He chose the name, one he recalled from his early life in Sweden. She was to be called Eunice.

Excerpt from:

Knowing Women: Narratives of Healing and Traditional Life Kodiak Island, Alaska

By: Joanne Burke Mulcahy



During this holiday season, make sure to come to our office and check out our items for sale.
If you do not live in Kodiak, or do not have access to our office, you can order from our website
<http://artofwhere.com/artists/native-village-of-afognak>

Long Scarves	Tank/Crop Tops	Journals
Neoprene Tote Bags	Kimonos	Towels
Unlined Tote Bags	Makeup Bags	Wrap Skirts
Lined Tote Bags	Pillowcases	Flare Skirts
Crab Hoodies	Headbands	iPhone cases
Leggings	Thermal Tumblers	Samsung phone cases



Native Village of Afognak

115 MILL BAY ROAD, KODIAK, AK 99615

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Meagan Christiansen, Chairman
Loretta Nelson, Vice-Chairman
Natasha Hayden, Secretary
Loren Anderson, Member
Jim Dunham, Member
Ken Nelson Jr., Member
Malia Villegas, Member

STAFF

Melissa Borton, Tribal Administrator
Nancy Nelson, Program Administrator
Taletha Gertz, Program Administrator
Denise Malutin, Program Manager
Lynda Lorensen, Grants Manager
Emily Capjohn, Accounting Manager
Nina Gronn, Executive Assistant
Kate Blondin, Office Coordinator
Anthony Hoedel-Lukin, Office Assistant

PHONE 907-486-6357

FAX 907-486-6529

www.afognak.org

Place
Stamp
Here

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



Announcements



Native
Village
of Afognak



**Native Village of Port Lions is in
search of your used
Egg Cartons!**

**Drop off location:
Native Village of Afognak
115 Mill Bay Road
or
Call (907) 486-6357
with any questions**



NATIVE VILLAGE OF
Port Lions



*Native Village of Afognak will be closed the
following dates:*

- Monday & Tuesday December 24-25, 2018
in observance of the Christmas Holiday
- Tuesday January 1, 2019
in observance of New Year's Day
- Monday January 14, 2019
in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Monday February 18, 2019
in observance of Presidents' Day



CAMP DONATION

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt No _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Title (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr. etc.) _____ Home Telephone opt. (_____) _____

Fax (opt.) (_____) _____ Work Telephone (opt.) (_____) _____

Email (opt.) _____

MY GIFT INFORMATION

I would like to make a gift of:

[A tax receipt will be issued for gifts of \\$10.00 or more](#)

☐ \$20 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ I prefer to give \$ _____

Please make check or money order payable to: **Native Village of Afognak/Dig Afognak Camp**

To show our appreciation we feature a list of those that contribute to our youth Dig Afognak Camp Program in AG'WANERMIUT KASITAQ (Afognak People's Newsletter). If you would not like us to use your name and list the donation as anonymous please check this box ☐

Please send your donation to:

**Native Village of Afognak/Dig Afognak Program
115 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615**

Thank you so much for your support!