

Native Village of Afognak
115 MILL BAY ROAD, KODIAK, AK 99615

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Afognak
People's
Newsletter

December 2022

AG'WANERMIUT KASITAQ

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

Jonana (JJ) Orloff, Tribal Administrator

Denise Malutin, Program Manager/Camp Manager

Taletha Gertz, IGAP Coordinator

Sierra Mullan, Program Support

Yvonne Mullan, Grants/Program Manager

Sarah Miles, Program Support

Ralph Christiansen, Facilities Maintenance/Hydroponics Lead

Sharon Wolkoff, Receptionist

Shannon Kitka, Finance Assistant

Becky Pavloff, Hydroponics Intern/Custodian



CHAIR LETTER

Camai...Hello,

It is time for another newsletter from the Native Village of Afognak (NVA)! I write this with the hope that the updates and information shared here are meaningful to you, the tribal members.

This past October, I was able to attend the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention in person after a couple of years off due to COVID-19. I truly enjoyed watching people greet each other with big smiles, and hugs. The happiness and joy of reconnecting was very evident. The theme of this year's AFN convention was Celebrating Our Unity. I feel fortunate to realize that I take the concept of unity among the Kodiak Native people for granted. I believe I can safely say that the Native Village of Afognak Council and Staff are proud and appreciative to work cooperatively with our Alaska Native village corporation, the Afognak Native Corporation; our Alaska Native regional corporation, Koniag, Incorporated; our Alaska Native regional nonprofit corporation, Kodiak Area Native Association (KANA); and various other Alaska Native organizations of Kodiak Island for the betterment of the Alaska Native people originating from and/or living in the Kodiak area. Leaders from each of these organizations meet regularly to share successes and challenges, and to plan for working together to achieve advocacy on behalf of our people. I appreciate the collaboration and support shared among these Native organizations. Throughout the year, the NVA Council has been meeting regularly with full agendas and good discussions pertaining to the ongoing business of the tribe. In the past few months, Council and staff have been reviewing governance and internal policies with the goal of better serving our tribal members and their families. The Council also continues to work on tribal member assistance programs and other decisions regarding the one-time benefit of receiving funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). We want to spend these funds in a way that is responsible and meaningful for the present and future of our tribal organization and its members. In the office, Staff have been working diligently to ensure that all financial transactions are in order and properly accounted for while working with partners to accomplish the annual financial audit. Staff are also busy planning the annual Dig Afognak fundraising dinner and auction, and the 2023 Dig Afognak camp schedule. The boutique of Alutiiq Merchandise is being updated with new designs and inventory; and the hydroponic farming operations, Mal'uk Farms, is regularly providing fresh greens to local elders as well as being expanded with new equipment and growing space. It is our hope that Mal'uk farms will continue to grow and provide local food security and revenue for the tribe. In closing, I hope that your holidays were exactly as you wished, whether merry and festive or calm and peaceful. I also wish you all the best in the new year!

Tribal Council Chairman,
Meagan Christiansen

HYDROPONICS UPDATE!

MAL'UK FARMS

Mal'uk Farms is a collaboration between Native Village of Afognak (NVA) and Tangirnaq Native Village (TNV) formerly known as Woody Island Tribal, to provide fresh produce to our Elders and will be offering produce to all Tribal members soon!

NVA & TNV obtained two sunny pro-hydroponic cabinets through an Administration for Native American's grant administered by the Kodiak Archipelago Leadership Institute (KALI) two years ago. Each cabinet can grow up to 115 heads of lettuce every 45-55 days! This past summer we received our containerized growing unit. This container has been such a benefit for us as its growing capacity is up to 1800 heads of lettuce! We are currently working on getting our Food Hub up and running so Tribal members can see what's available online, purchase, and pick-up. If any members are interested in sampling our fresh greens, please feel free to stop by the office. Currently, we are delivering to our local Elders on a weekly and bi-weekly basis. If we happen to miss you, please feel free to stop by our office to pick-up your fresh greens. If you're unable to stop in, give us a call so we can set up a day and time to get your produce to you. To better serve you, we need all Tribal members updated contact information and the best way to contact you whether it be call, text, or e-mail. You can update your information by calling the office during regular business hours.

Additionally, we are waiting for the arrival of our packing unit. This unit will support a more efficient process of harvesting and delivering the produce. Currently, our main obstacle is storage capacity, and we are looking into procuring a 6x6x8 outdoor walk-in cooler to store the fresh produce. This week, we harvested over 300 heads of lettuce in our containerized growing system and 300 additional heads are on track to be harvested in two weeks.

We would love to hear your feedback on our product and how we can better serve you in the future.

Quyanaa,
Ralph Christiansen, Hydroponics Lead
Becky Pavloff, Hydroponics Intern



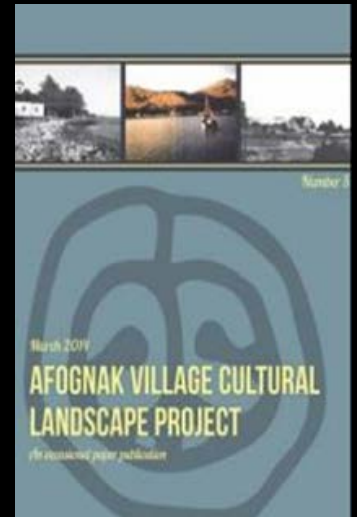
GET THIS BOOK FOR FREE!

(one per household)

The 165 page book, documents Afognak Village's amazing history from pre-Russian contact to the village and the homes and structures as it was in 2014. This book is also a great source of family history and shows the strength and resiliency of the people that lived there. It is full of great old and new pictures, quotes from tribal members, and maps.

Contact Taletha at:

(907) 486-6357 or email tribe@afognak.org to order one free copy of this book per household!



GREAT WAYS TO REUSE

YOUR

Christmas tree



Holidays are over, time to take down the tree—here are some great ways to reuse your tree:

- *Mulch—the branches and needles provide moisture and insulation during the Winter months*
- *Compost—the branches make a great base (cut in to smaller pieces) but remove the needles, they can slow down the disintegration process*
- *Crafts—the trunk can be cut in to thin slices and used as rustic coasters, the needles can be simmered as potpourri*
- *Also, did you know—Pine needles are a great source of Vitamins A and C*





ENVIRONMENTAL

Environmental Word Search

Name _____

S	Y	N	E	L	A	R	E	E	N	E	P	R	A
R	A	C	U	S	U	L	T	E	A	U	E	P	E
F	P	S	A	R	C	B	E	R	E	R	E	E	E
E	A	S	N	Y	L	E	P	E	Y	E	T	W	U
U	P	N	C	T	R	N	T	E	P	E	T	H	A
S	E	E	R	A	C	R	A	E	T	B	E	P	P
R	R	A	S	U	S	T	A	I	N	A	B	L	E
R	E	P	S	U	C	A	I	E	E	R	R	E	S
E	U	E	W	D	E	C	E	E	E	E	T	A	
D	S	A	S	E	C	R	L	P	R	L	T	E	F
U	E	F	I	T	G	B	U	E	R	R	A	U	E
C	E	C	E	C	R	E	A	S	A	N	W	L	E
E	T	N	A	L	P	E	A	R	E	N	E	E	E
S	A	C	P	C	A	R	E	H	N	I	U	A	A

- Earth
- Reduce
- Sustainable
- Plant
- Water
- Green
- Recycle
- Care
- Reuse
- Paper
- Clean
- Safe



Check out the newly installed Purple Air Quality Monitor. If you go to: <https://map.purpleair.com/1/b/MAQI/a10/p604800/cC5#10.37/57.7767/-152.3194> you can click the “spoke” icon in the upper left hand corner to the drop down menu and look at all the information it collects such as humidity, current temperature in Kodiak at the Tribes office, dew point, sea level pressure, altitude, and other really interesting information. So, for those of you that have health issues such as asthma or allergies; if you depend on the weather for work; or if you just like nerdy information like this (like I do) this app should be added to your daily scrolling favorites. 😊

This meets NVA’s ends policies by supporting a healthy mind, body, and spirit while protecting our resources. If you would like more information or if you have questions, please contact me at taletha@afognak.org

**BRING US YOUR
HOUSEHOLD BATTERIES
AND WE WILL PROPERLY
DISPOSE OF THEM FOR
YOU!**



NEW ITEMS BELOW!

ALUTIIQ BOUTIQUE

115 MILLBAY RD. 9AM-5PM

#SHOPLOCAL



SHOP IN STORE TO SEE ON SALE ITEMS!

Wild SALE

UP TO 50% OFF!



GRANTS & PROGRAM MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Denali Commission Program Grant was applied for in the amount of \$117,122.00. NVA was awarded \$50,000 to support the hiring of a consultant to conduct a feasibility study, financial assessment, and development of a solid business plan for Mal'uk Farms.

Capital Projects Fund was applied for in the amount of \$167,500. If awarded, funds will be used to make necessary upgrades to our current technology and facility improvements to support education, employment, health, and wellness.

Alaska Children's Trust Tier I NVA was awarded \$10,000 to provide a variety of family activities that promote healthy social and emotional development and social connections throughout our community. We aim to participate or host a planned family activity bi-monthly. NVA participated in the Downtown Trick or Treat event in October and will be hosting a variety of other fun and exciting activities over the next few months. Check our Facebook page for more details!

Family Violence Grant each year, NVA applies for and receives funding from the Administration for Children and Families/Family and Youth Services Bureau for Family Violence Prevention programs, activities, and services. These funds support a portion of activities at Dig Afognak, temporary shelter for tribal member victims, emergency baby supplies, and staff training. If you or someone you know is a victim of family/domestic violence, please reach out to Denise Malutin or Sierra Mullan for assistance.

Rental & Mortgage Assistance Program NVA has assisted 65 Tribal members in the Rental/Mortgage Assistance Program totaling \$39,000. This is a one-time assistance program designed for enrolled Tribal members 18 and older to receive up to \$500 to be used toward rent or mortgage payments. If you have already applied for the Round 2 assistance, you are not eligible to re-apply at this time. Applications will be accepted until funds are expended. If you have not already applied, misplaced your Round 2 application, or did not receive one, please contact me at manager@afognak.org or call the office during regular business hours to request an application.

Quyanaa,
Yvonne Mullan
Grants & Program Manager

ALASKA NATIVE FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED

How you can help:

- 1) Volunteer or donate gifts to foster children and families during this holiday season.
- 2) Support an existing foster family by providing a meal or offering a helping hand to the family.
- 3) Spread the word to Tribal Members about this vital need.
- 4) Become a foster parent yourself!

Restore trust & hope in Native children!

Contact Denise Malutin at denise@afognak.org or call 486-6357 to learn more about how you can help or become a foster parent or visit the State of Alaska website: <https://dfcs.alaska.gov/ocs/Pages/fostercare/default.aspx>

Quyanaa!



ANNOUNCEMENTS!

IF YOU ARE AN ARTIST AND ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR ITEMS DISPLAYED AND SOLD AT THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF AFOGNAK ALUTIIQ BOUTIQUE PLEASE CONTACT SIERRA AT SIERRA@AFOGNAK.ORG OR 907-486-6357

ANNUAL DIG AFOGNAK AUCTION & DINNER FUNRAISER WILL BE HELD MARCH 24TH, 2023

THE NATIVE VILLAGE OF AFOGNAK OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED THE FOLLOWING DATES:

DEC 23RD & 26TH - CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY

JAN 2ND - NEW YEAR'S DAY

JAN 16TH - MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY

FEB 20TH - PRESIDENT'S DAY

DIG AFOGNAK 2023 DATES TO BE DETERMINED!

THE AG'WANERMIUT LIITUT AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 2022....

MITCHELL DEAMES & DONALD LAWHEAD

ATAGUA!!



IN LOVING MEMORY...



ROGER MALUTIN

1940-2022

**Quyanaa Roger for your
dedication to Dig Afognak
and for sharing your
wisdom and leadership in
the Alutiq community.**

Memory Eternal

DIG AFOGNAK THROWBACKS

