

Kawerak Newsletter

"Qaniqta" meaning "Let's Talk" in the Inupiaq dialect

KAWERAK, INC., UAF NORTHWEST CAMPUS, AND OTHERS WITH NEWS FROM THE BERING STRAIT REGION

WINTER 2016



Above: Katiluta Community Walk. Below left to right is **Helen Simon** of White Mountain; and sisters **Carolyn Angrabooguk** and **Rita Hukill** of Wales at Katiluta 2015.



Above: The late **Peggy Outwater** of Gambell and Nome and her husband, **Percy Outwater** of Nome Eskimo Community. Below dancers left to right: **Katherine Ahkinga** of Diomedé; **Leona Mayac** of King Island and **Edwina Krier** of Diomedé.



Katiluta 2015

By Lisa Ellanna, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director.

November is Native American and Alaska Native Heritage Month, and on the 21st, we celebrated with our annual Katiluta Celebration. Katiluta 2015 was attended by over 400 people! Events hosted at Katiluta included: a community walk; honoring of our Elders with gifts; NYO games, singing in Inupiaq by members of the community the United Methodist Church, a traditional foods potluck; traditional cultural performances by King Island, Diomedé, Nome Elementary 3rd Grade Class, Nome High School Dancers and the Nome St. Lawrence Island Dancers; and an exhibition of the video game Never Alone - a game that is based on an Inupiaq legend.

The celebration was hosted by Nome's Cultural Planners, a group of representatives from agencies that provide cultural programming to the community of Nome. There are many agencies, businesses and individuals that helped to make this year's Katiluta possible, and we would like to extend a hearty **Igamsiqan-aghalek!** (St. Lawrence Island Yup'ik) **Quyaanaqpak!** (Inupiaq) **Quyanna Cakneq!** (Central Yupik). **Thank You** for your donations of time, energy and funds.

(see the full list of contributors on page 16)



In front left to right : **Martin Kimoktoak** and **John Penatac, Sr.** of King Island. In back row: **Dora Ahkinga** of Diomedé.

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Kawerak Newsletter
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Kawerak Newsletter (formerly named Uqaqtuq News) is an informational newsletter produced by Kawerak with contributions from UAF Northwest Campus and other partner agencies. Articles and photos can be sent to planner2@kawerak.org or call (907)443-4345.

Ublaakun suli translated in the Inupiaq language means: Tomorrow again!
Quyanna! Visit our website at www.kawerak.org.

Kawerak, Inc.

Katirvik Cultural Center

By Lisa Ellanna, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director

Construction is on schedule, and we are excited to announce that the Katirvik Cultural Center team is poised to move into the new Richard Foster Building in the fall of 2016. We are currently in the exhibit fabrication phase, and will be working closely with our exhibit design team from Aldrich Pears and Associates over the next few months.

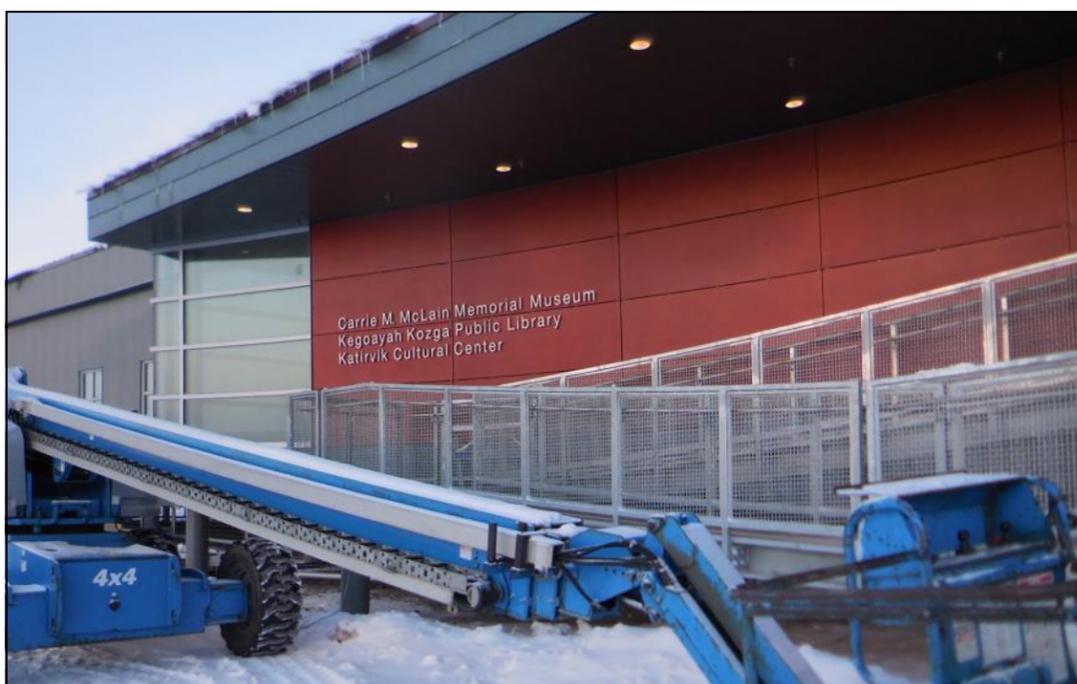
Kawerak would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the organizations and individuals that donated to the Katirvik Cultural Center. With gratitude, we would like to thank the donors (listed to the right) for their generous contributions.

(continued on page 3)

Kawerak acknowledges and thanks everyone who has contributed to Katirvik Cultural Center. A big thank you to you all!

Organizations: AT&T / Alaska Permanent Capital Management / Bering Straits Native Corporation / DOWL / First Alaskans Institute / GCI / Kawerak, Inc. Board of Directors / Koniag, Inc. / Northern Air Cargo / Norton Sound Health Corporation / Rasmuson Foundation / Shaktoolik Native Corporation / Sitnasuak Native Corporation and Wells Fargo.

Individuals: Stan Andersen / Melanie Bahnke / Dorothy Barr / Alice Bioff / Loretta Bullard / Jennifer Demir / Barret Eningowuk / Trevor Eningowuk / Jessica Graham / Lonnie Gooden / Donna James / Natalie Kaningok / Diane Kaplan / Nathan Komonaseak / Robert Michaud / Denise Michels / Pearl Mikulski / Odim Miller / Justin Nanouk Luanne Peligio on behalf of Lucille S. Gabriel Peligio / Elizabeth Perry / Nathaniel and Teresa Perry and Family / Panganaga Pungowiya / Donna Ray / Amy Russell-Jamgochian / Moriah Sallaffie / Jaclyn Sallee / Ed & Gail Schubert / Anahma Shannon / Megan Sharretts / S. Lane Tucker (of Anchorage) / Miles Reader / Tohcyadaymah Tahbone and Robert Tokienna.



Above left to right: **Marguerite La Riviere**, Library Director; **Amy Chan**, Museum Director; **Bryant Hammond**, City Clerk; **Tom Moran**, City Manager; **Dr. Igor Krupnik**, Curator of Smithsonian Center for Arctic and Northern Ethnology; **Lisa Ellanna**, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director and **Don Lofgren** Project Manager for ASKW.

New Katirvik Cultural Center Staff

By Lisa Ellanna, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director.

We will be posting a donor wall in our new space, and donors who wish to be recognized will be placed on the donor wall at the following levels:

- Bowhead Whale \$500,000***
- Beluga Whale \$400,000***
- Walrus \$300,000***
- Bearded Seal \$200,000***
- Halibut \$100,000***
- King Salmon \$75,000***
- Red Salmon \$50,000***
- Silver Salmon \$25,000***
- Chum Salmon \$15,000***
- Pink Salmon \$10,000***
- Trout \$5,000***
- Arctic Char \$1,000***
- Tom Cod \$500***

We are very grateful to announce that **Amy Russell-Jamgochian** is the new Katirvik Curator of Collections, Exhibits and Research. In April, Amy will continue preparing our exhibits for the grand opening in the fall of 2016. We would like to thank Amy for all her hard work bringing the Katirvik Cultural Center to fruition.

Lisa Ellanna has joined the Katirvik Cultural Center team as program director, and comes to us after recently working in the wellness field for Kawerak and Maniilaq, and she is excited to be back. During her work with Maniilaq Association Wellness Dept., Lisa co-managed four Wellness projects, serving 7,000 people, including: MSPI Suicide Prevention, DOJ Community Based Recovery Support, DOJ Tribal Youth Empowerment, SAMHSA Native Connections

Suicide Prevention Program, and provided general prevention education regionally.

Previous to her work with Maniilaq, she was part of the Kawerak Wellness team and assisted in facilitating the Nome Community Alcohol Safety Team Project (CAST) - Strategic Prevention Framework, State Incentive Grant, with a focus on strategies to minimize youth alcohol use and adult heavy and binge drinking.

Lisa feels strongly about understanding the historical context to our current social circumstances, and has helped to develop and implement age-appropriate educational presentations on Alaska Native History and Historic Trauma for local schools. Lisa shares that research has shown strengthening cultural identity as one of the strongest protective factors in community and personal wellness for Alaska Natives.

In her new role as Katirvik Cultural Center director, she is grateful to learn about, share, showcase and celebrate our Region's amazing cultures. Lisa shares - "We know our culture makes us stronger. We've just not had a place to reconnect and celebrate who we are. The beauty and benefit that we will enjoy with the Katirvik Cultural Center, is that the curation and sharing is originating from us - directly from the Indigenous Peoples of this region. We can tell our story. We can define how to share who we are with the world. I am very grateful for this opportunity, and I am so excited to be a part of the team."



Lisa Ellanna, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director

Kawerak, Inc.



Standing left to right: **Delia Iyapana**, SNC Executive Assistant; **Bobby Evans**, SNC Board Chair; **Louie Green, Jr.**; **Lisa Ellanna**; **Dr. Barb Amarok**; **Lilly Rose**; **Perry Mendenhall**; and **Michael Orr**, SNC President. Seated: **Vincent Pikonganna**, **Guy Martin** and **Andy Miller**. Attending via video-conference: **Helen Bell**, SNC Elders Advisory Committee Chair. - Photo credit: Chuck Fagerstrom.

Katirvik Cultural Center

(continued from page 2)

Kawerak, Inc. would like to express appreciation to **Sitnasuak Native Corporation** for their generous support. In December,

Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director, **Lisa Ellanna**, was presented a check of \$105,000 for the Katirvik Cultural Center by the **Sitnasuak Native Corporation Elders Advisory Committee**.

Kawerak would also like to thank **Wells Fargo** for their generous donation of \$15,000.

If you or your organization is interested in making a donation to the Katirvik Cultural Center you

can send a check or money order to Kawerak, Inc. at PO Box 948 Nome, AK 99762 or use PayPal at www.kawerak.org/katirvik.html. Kawerak is a 501(c)3 and your donation is tax deductible.

New 2015 G.E.D. Graduate

By Pamela Cushman, ABE/GED Program Coordinator.

Kawerak's Community Education Program (CEP) would like to congratulate **John Fahey** of Brevig Mission. Mr. Fahey earned his high school diploma through General Educational Development (G.E.D.) examination by participating in one of four opportunities this year, where qualified students attended 5 days of Intensive Study courses in Nome. The courses focused on the Reading Language Arts Exam with a brief review of primary educational math. During the courses, Mr. Fahey took the G.E.D. Ready Practice Exams online at <http://myged.com>. He then spent a few weeks studying on his own at home and returned to Nome in early December to take the Official G.E.D. tests at Northwest Campus's Pearson Vue Testing Center, passing all four subject areas.

We congratulate Mr. Fahey on earning his G.E.D. and for staying motivated to reach his

goal! Mr. Fahey is looking forward to attending a post secondary specialty school for small boat motor repairs. He sees this as a viable business in this region. In addition, Mr. Fahey is the first recipient of four \$500 Cash Incentives donated to CEP by the Bering Sea Lions Club! Thank you **Bering Sea Lions Club!** We still have 3 incentives awards left; so if you or someone you know is interested in earning their GED, please call the CEP staff at 1-800-478-7574.



Jake Slingsby and Kallie King from **Wells Fargo Nome Branch** presenting **Katirvik Cultural Center** donation to Kawerak. - Photo credit: Lisa Ellanna.



Ron Huffman, Kawerak Community Education Program Director, and **G.E.D. graduate, John Fahey**, of Brevig Mission. Photo credit: Pamela Cushman.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING THE 2015 AFN CONVENTION POSSIBLE!

Thank you to our sponsors and especially to all of the delegates and participants from the Kawerak Region! We look forward to seeing you for AFN's 50th Anniversary Convention in Fairbanks next year.

DENALI
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KAWERAK'S VISION: "Our people and tribes are thriving."

In keeping with this Vision Statement, Kawerak has increased our training and technical assistance services to tribes in the following communities:

**BREVIG MISSION
COUNCIL
DIOMEDE
ELIM
GAMBELL**

**GOLOVIN
KING ISLAND
KOYUK
MARY'S IGLOO
NOME**

**SAVOONGA
SHAKTOOLIK
SHISHMAREF
SOLOMON
STEBBINS**

**ST. MICHAEL
TELLER
UNALAKLEET
WALES
WHITE MOUNTAIN**

Kawerak, Inc.

New Children and Family Services Staff

By Ian Foster, Foster Care Recruiter.

I was raised in Washington in the Puget Sound area, the youngest of four children, the product of my parent's most experienced parentage. I've traveled all over the world, and earned a Bachelor's degree in Psychology with a minor in Business Management from Brigham Young University, and am near completing an

MBA. I came up to Nome in 2009 to mine for gold, but quickly realized I wanted to stay in Nome longer than just a summer. I was hired by the Office of Children's Services and worked there two years. After that I started my own mining business. When I left State employment, I knew that if I ever got involved in social work again it

would be providing direct services and working with Tribes. I'm now the new Foster Care Recruiter/Caseworker, and I'm in a position to help keep and return children back to our region. I've been a foster-parent myself in the past, and I know the sacrifices

we make to give children a local home away from home. I'm constantly inspired by the people I work with, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to be involved in this capacity.

ARCTIC ANIMALS

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Puzzle by Marjorie "Kunaq" Tahbone, EHP Cultural Materials Specialist.

Jim Dau, ADFG Caribou Biologist Retires

By Carmen Daggett, Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game, Arctic Regional Coordinator Boards Support.

Jim Dau, a widely known and respected caribou biologist in Northwest Alaska, has decided to retire after 28 years of service with the Kotzebue Fish & Game office. His initial involvement with Game Management Unit (GMU) 23 began in the late 1970's, working with the University of Alaska-Fairbanks Reindeer



Program, Larry Davis of Nome, and Bob Dieterich (then State veterinarian), and the reindeer and reindeer herders of the Seward Peninsula. He learned to ride a snow machine by accompanying Larry Davis as they tended to Larry's large reindeer herd. Jim also spent several summers herding Davis' reindeer on foot, with only a small transistor radio tuned to KNOM for company.

In 1988 Jim began work with

ADF&G in Kotzebue as the Assistant Area Biologist in GMU 23, and quickly became Acting Area Biologist. During this time, he learned how to fly and became one of the most respected pilot/ biologists in the state of Alaska. In 2007 he switched from Area Biologist to become the Lead Caribou Biologist for Region V, continuing his work with the Western Arctic Caribou Herd, Alaska's largest caribou herd. He has conducted research on caribou migration, calving, seasonal range use, and techniques for aging caribou through the use of caribou jaws. "His steadfast determination to acquire information about caribou has led to one of the most coveted datasets on caribou in existence", says previous Area Biologist, Charlotte Westing.

In addition to Jim's research efforts, he has provided information and education on wildlife diseases and parasites through creating a field pocket book that can be used by Alaska residents. He believes in engaging students

in the science that is done. He started bringing students to Onion Portage to collar caribou to get them involved in the science that we use to understand the herd. He has also coordinated efforts to conduct monitoring and management for moose, musk ox, Dall sheep, brown bear, wolf and caribou.

In Jim's nearly 40 years of service between work with ADF&G and with the University he has created lasting bonds between ADF&G and the local 40 communities that are nestled in extent of the Western Arctic Caribou Herd. Charlotte Westing, said, "Jim really values the input of the local people and sees the information they provide as being a valuable complement to the science he produces". Fish and Wildlife Service Outreach coordinator, Brittney Sweeny, says, "Jim got to know local people, listened to and learned from elders, and shared his knowledge through (probably thousands of)

meetings, radio announcements, and village visits."

Long-time colleague, Peter Bente, describes Jim as, "Extremely dependable and safe." Jim was awarded the Governor's Coworker Recognition Award in 2011. His kind and humble demeanor along with his extensive knowledge regarding wildlife have made him an invaluable asset to the people and the wildlife of the state. Congratulations Jim on your retirement; your contributions to and hard work for the people of the state and the wildlife will be long lasting and remembered fondly.

Article also printed in the Arctic Sounder





ALASKA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Your Northern Norton Sound
Advisory Committee Representatives

- Charlie Lean (Nome) –Chairman
- Paul Kosto (Nome)- Vice Chairman
- Kevin Knowlton (Nome)-Secretary
- Adem Boeckman (Nome)
- Nate Perkins (Nome)
- Daniel Stang (Nome)
- Tom Gray (Nome)
- Charlie Saccheus (Elim)
- Brandon Ahmasuk (At Large)
- Clifford Seetook (Wales)
- Jack Fagerstrom (Golovin)
- Peter Buck (White Mountain)
- Stanley Tocktoo (Shismaref)
- Sara Okbaok (Teller)
- William Kakoona (Brevig Mission)

Your Southern Norton Sound
Advisory Committee Representatives

- Wade Ryan (Unalakleet)-Chairman
- Jacob Ivanoff (Unalakleet)-Secretary
- Wes Jones (Unalakleet)
- Frank Katchatag (Unalakleet)
- Morris Nassuk (Koyuk)
- Matilda Hardy (Shaktoolik)
- Milton Cheemuk (St. Michael)
- Peter Martin Sr. (Stebbins)
- Allen Atchak (Stebbins)

Alaska Board of Fisheries set to discuss Arctic-Yukon-Kuskokwim Area Proposals January 12-17
On time public comment deadline is December 28th, 2015
Comments will be taken till the end of the meeting

Alaska Board of Game set to discuss Statewide Board of Game Proposals March 18-28
On time public comment deadline March 4th, 2016
Comments can be submitted at www.adfg.alaska.gov or via fax at 1-907-465-6094

Kawerak, Inc.

2016, New Beginning in White Mountain

By 1st Sergeant, Dan Harrelson, White Mountain VPSO.

The community of White Mountain wanted New Year's Eve to be a special day for the adults and children of White Mountain. The idea for this special day event was conceived by several members of the community as a day of remembrance for **Esther "Duca" Lincoln** who tragically lost her life last New Year's Day due to domestic violence. Duca was always one of the first people in our village who was willing to help with any and all children's activities. She was a loving mother who spent as much time as she could with family enjoying the outdoors, be it cutting fish, picking

berries, going to the hot springs or boating.

We chose to name the event, "A New Beginning." The children and adults sled raced down White Mountain Hill. The smiles and laughter were contagious, and a good time was had by all. We served hot dogs cooked over an open fire to help fuel the energy that was needed. Prizes were awarded to all. Afterward a reception was held at our Tribal building where community members jotted down short memories of Duca which were placed in a beautifully decorated box and given to the family of Esther Lincoln.

Refreshments and snacks were shared by all. The fun continued through the evening with a fireworks display at midnight to welcome in the New Year 2016.

Kudos to **Carol Smith**, ICWA worker; **Rita Buck**, with NSHC and **Lolene Buck** our VBC worker. A big thanks to the **City of White Mountain** for funding and our local tribal **ANICA Store** for donations of cash and



prizes. We look forward to more days we can dedicate to our community members and sharing time with each other. I am sure Duca was with us in spirit and enjoyed the day as much as the rest of us.

Caleb Lumen Pungowiyi Scholar Intern

By Julie Raymond-Yakoubian, Social Science Program Director and Denali Whiting, Social Science Intern.

The Social Science Program is pleased to have **Denali Whiting**, a recent Caleb Lumen Pungowiyi scholar, working as an intern! Denali is a multi-talented young woman from Kotzebue who is assisting with work related to Kawerak's *Knowledge, Experiences and Beliefs of the Supernatural Environment* project. She is currently working with archival material related to the northern Seward Peninsula/Bering Strait region. For more information about Social Science Program projects, please visit www.kawerak.org/socialsci.html, or contact us at: juliery@kawerak.org, 907-443-4273.

My name is Denali Whiting and I am Inupiaq from Qikiktagruk, Kotzebue, Alaska. I recently graduated from the University of Alaska Fairbanks with a bachelor's degree in Alaska Native Studies and a minor degree in American Sign Language. I was raised by my parents and extended family at our seasonal camps where we lived a subsistence lifestyle, which has helped to create a strong foundation of who I am as an Inupiaq living by the Inupiat Ilitqusiat, or Inupiaq Values. I am currently an intern working with Kawerak's Social Science Program on a research project about knowledge of the "supernatural environment" which includes stories about everything from mermaids and little people to strange lights and everything in between.

As a student in college, I really loved reading and learning about "distant-time" stories, which are a part of our history as Inupiat from a

time where people were able to shift shapes, transform into animals and back into people, and other such phenomena. To many others outside of our culture, these stories, along with our creation stories and other legends or myths might seem like stories that were made up. However, I believe these to be a part of our history, and have spent years learning about different stories throughout every region in Alaska. I have also heard a lot of these stories from my grandparents growing up. When I heard that this project was happening in the Bering Strait region, I wanted to learn more. A lot of the stories in this region correlate to stories that my grandparents have

told me and other stories I've read.

It has also been great to work with Kawerak and hear stories from the Bering Strait region because my grandfather's mother is said to be from the Nome area, so I am sure I have roots and relatives in the area and hearing these stories has been a great way to form a connection and learn more about the traditions and history of the region that I did not have before.

I am currently living in Anchorage, Alaska and have not decided what project or job I'd like to work on once my internship is completed. On my down time, I am working on a book about the Inupiat Ilitqusiat, the 15 values our

ancestors lived by which include things like Respect for Nature, Hunter Success, and Respect for Elders and so on. I am writing about how I learned each of these values through growing up at camp and sharing photos for each, in hopes of sharing information with others who may not be familiar with our culture. I am also working with ICC Alaska on the Food Security Project.



Child Advocacy Center Earns NCA Accreditation

By Traci McGarry, Child Advocacy Center & Children and Family Services Program Director.

Kawerak's Child Advocacy Center (CAC) and multidisciplinary team members have been working towards national accreditation by the National Children's Alliance (NCA). The NCA is an association and accrediting body for Child Advocacy Centers across the country. The Kawerak CAC was an associated member for the past five years and had been working to meet the standards during that time. Part of the letter sent to the CAC congratulating them on their accreditation states, "The establishment of a Children's Advocacy Center is an accomplishment of which your staff, multidisciplinary team (MDT) and community can be very proud." The Kawerak CAC is

now one of four child advocacy centers in the state that are accredited of a total of 14 centers in Alaska.

Being an accredited member of the National Children's Alliance confirms that the Kawerak CAC is meeting national standards and opens up opportunities for extensive training for both staff at the CAC and MDT members. The MDT is comprised of partner agencies that assist in the handling of cases as they come into the center and helps to make sure that clients are receiving the best and most inclusive care possible. Our partner agencies include: Alaska State Troopers, Nome Police Department, Norton Sound Health Corporation Sexual Assault Response

Team, Social Work and Behavioral Health Services, Office of Children's Services, Bering Sea Women's Group, the District Attorney's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice and the Attorney General's Office. Additionally, accreditation increases our opportunities to obtain additional funds which the center can use to provide more services to the community. If you have any questions regarding the CAC, contact Traci McGarry at 443-4376 or cfsdir@kawerak.org.



2015 NSEDC Small Business Initiative Awards

By, Laureli Ivanoff, NSEDC Communications Director



Left to right: David Olson, Merle Apassingok, Mark Vink, Freida Tocktoo with her children, Terrance Southall, Steve Smith, Matthew Medlin, Sandra Rowe, Ginny Emmon and her grandson, Donna James, Annabelle Cunningham, and Alice Bioff. Photo by: Laureli Ivanoff.

UNALAKLEET - The Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation's (NSEDC) Small Business Initiative (SBI) program awarded a total of \$127,628 to four regional entrepreneurs at a ceremony in Unalakleet in October. Following two days of presentations and interviews, grants went to a store in Brevig Mission, a pet care business in Nome, a Toyostove service and repair shop in Nome, and a barbershop in Nome. The recipients have two years to implement their business plans and utilize the available funding.

In its history, NSEDC has allocated a total of nearly \$900,000 to the SBI program, awarding 40 recipients throughout the Norton Sound region. In 2015, the NSEDC Board of Directors increased the overall funding amount from \$105,000 to \$150,000. In 2015, 23 proposals were received and an independent panel of judges

narrowed down the applicants to five finalists who gave live presentations during the final evaluation process. All five finalists received a new laptop with the software programs Quickbooks Pro and Microsoft Office.

"It's no easy task for residents to develop their business plans and pitch their ideas to a panel of five judges," Community Benefits Director Paul Ivanoff said. "This program is successful because of individuals like Freida Tocktoo and Terrence Southall of Brevig Mission that put a lot of time in establishing their business and hard work behind their idea."

The 2015 SBI judges included Merle Apassingok of Gambell, Mark Vink and Annabelle Cunningham of Unalakleet, and David Olson and Donna James of Nome. The independent panel of judges are responsible for narrowing down the field of applicants to the finalists, and then allocating

2015 Small Business Initiative Recipients	
Cool Cutz - Matthew Medlin	Mr. Medlin is opening a barbershop located in Nome, offering personal care services to the community and the region.
F&T Store - Freida Tocktoo & Terrence Southall	Freida Tocktoo and Terrence Southall will establish a general store in Brevig Mission, offering groceries and toiletries.
Nome Animal House - Sandra Rowe	The established pet care business located in Nome is expanding to include basic veterinary services, including emergency pet care, spaying, neutering, tumor removal, dental care, exams, vaccinations, euthanasia and health certificates.
Toyo Tech Center - Steve Smith	Steve Smith will establish a Toyo service and repair shop in Nome. Services will include Toyo laser heater, water heater and boiler heater maintenance and repair, and workshops and classroom instruction on Toyo products.

the available program funding among those chosen for grant awards.

NSEDC congratulates the 2015 Small Business Initiative recipients, and encourages those who did not receive funding to further develop their applications for the 2016 competition. NSEDC also recognizes Kawerak's Community

Planning and Development (CPD) staff who assist applicants with their business plans. "It's partnerships like this that help to ensure the success of individuals and our communities," Ivanoff said. "Applicants have a goal and a vision and with regional expertise from the CPD staff, our region is economically stronger."

Development Coordinator Trainings

By Community Services Staff.

Last November seven development coordinators (previously referred to as village grant writers) participated in Development Coordinator Training in Nome hosted by the Community Planning and Development Program (CPD). The reason behind the job title change is that grant writers need to be involved in project planning, not just writing proposals. Over the last several years regional grant writers have been successful in applying for grants to implement the top priorities identified in Local Economic Development Plans (LEDPs). This annual training provided them with some of the basic tools for project planning and successful grant writing. They also learned how funders score applications and ways to strengthen each portion of an

application to maximize overall scores. Other skills learned include: research and developing boiler plate files for all grants, proofreading skills, getting letters of support, and recovering administrative costs in the budget. They learned how to navigate grants.gov and other search engines to learn about funding opportunities faster, and took a brief look at foundation grants and corporate giving opportunities.

Although the development coordinators work on a wide range of proposal types, the training provided opportunities to share information and discuss strategies. Obie Simonis is the new CPD Program Director, and Lisa Haugen is the new Community Development Specialist, and she serves as technical support staff to the development coordinators. CPD plans to

hold a larger training again next fall. Sara Seetot (Brevig Mission), Gordon Takak (Elim), Dora Davis (Golovin), Renee Kuzuguk (Shishmaref), Elizabeth Johnson (Solomon), Shanelle Bergamaschi (White Mountain), and Pauline Hunt (St. Michael), heard presentations from: Shannon Knowles (UAF Northwest Campus), Nadia Sethi (The CIRI Foundation), William Kost and Brenna Ahmasuk (Bering Strait Regional Housing Authority), Denice Gilroy (Arctic Access, Inc.), and Kawerak employees: Lisa Haugen, Simon Strickling, Alice Bioff, Trisha Walters, Pearl Mikulski, Tony Weyiouanna, Arlene Charles, Joleen Oleson, and Carol Piscoya. Each presenter shared grant writing resources and explained the types of technical assistance that they are able to provide to the develop-

ment coordinators as they develop their proposals. The participants understood that grant writing is always a learning process, because each project is different, and the guidelines for each grant opportunity is different.

Afterward, six development coordinators had the opportunity to go to Anchorage for The Grantsmanship Center Institute (TGCI) Training: Gordon Takak (Elim), Dora Davis (Golovin), Sara Seetot (Brevig Mission), Pauline Hunt (St. Michael), Tim Stettinger (Solomon), and Renee Kuzuguk (Shishmaref) received hands-on training from TGCI consultant, Linda Boedeker. This is very intense, almost like a grant writing "boot camp", but the participants found the training to be fun, interesting and helpful, and they appreciated the opportunity to participate.

They learned solid grant writing

(Continued on page 7)

Food for the Soul - Bering Strait Non-Salmon Fish Preparation and Recipes

Trail Mix, By Gladys Pete, Stebbins.

½ strip of dry salmon, any kind
 6 dried herring (peel off the skin and remove bones) cut up
 2 cups diced, cooked beluga muktuk
 1 cup uncooked, diced beluga muktuk
 If you have black mungtuk, add 4 cups chopped
 Bunches of sea lovenge chopped and sprinkled on top
 Mix all together and serve
 Beluga has its own oil, so don't need to add any
 1 cup chopped carrots
 ½ of an onion, chopped
 Great for birthdays, special occasions, or camping.

From: *Kawerak Social Science Program (2013)*
Food for the Soul: Bering Strait Non-Salmon Fish Preparation and Recipes
 Compiled by Meghan Topkok & Julie Raymond-Yakoubian. Kawerak, Inc.
 Find the whole recipe book at www.kawerak.org/socialsci.html.



Gladys Pete and her daughter dancing, Stebbins.

In Loving Memory, By Lisa Ellanna, Katirvik Cultural Center Program Director.

The Katirvik Cultural Center team recently lost an important ally. **Teresa Perry**, of the Native Village of Shaktoolik, was one of the most active advocates for the creation of the Kawerak Katirvik Cultural Center. She was very actively involved in her community and region, both as a leader on the Kawerak Full Board, Shaktoolik IRA council, Bering Strait School District Board, Advisory Educa-

tion Committee, Shaktoolik Native Corporation, Bering Straits Native Corporation Board, founding Board Member of the Bering Sea Women's Group, and in her work as a social worker and Village Based Counselor for Norton Sound Health Corporation. She will be sorely missed. Teresa was a strong woman. She was a beloved wife and mother, and the proudest grandmother. She was proud of the work she

did, and valued those she worked with. Her loss is felt by many. We will miss you Teresa, thank you for the good work you did on behalf of the people of our region.

*In Loving Memory of
 Teresa Betty Qinugan
 Sockpealuk Perry
 of Shaktoolik, Alaska.*



Honoring Our Elders

By Katie Bourdon, Workforce Development Director.

Kawerak's Native Employment Work Services (KNEWS) partners with the Division of Public Assistance (DPA) to assist clients in our Bering Strait villages to meet participation hours to earn their DPA benefit for their families. One of our work activities is Elder Care. Angela Hukill, Job Development Specialist, has helped to make Elder Care a substantial work activity to count towards clients' participation hours. Angela meets with the tribal office to identify local elders who are in need of assistance. A list of elders is created based on need, so that KNEWS clients can volunteer to provide the needed assistance as a work activity. This a fantastic opportunity to serve your community as a volunteer and honor your

Elders in your community while earning public assistance for your family.

If your family receives public assistance and you are in need of meeting your participation hours, please contact your Case Manager and request to be referred to KNEWS. We can assist with creating a Community Work Experience Placement, so you can begin volunteering at a work activity to meet your public assistance participation hours. Thank you to all of the work sites in our communities who have renewed their Site Agreements with KNEWS. We look forward to working together for the benefit of all our community members!

For more information on KNEWS call staff at 1-855-443-4275 or 1-907-

(Cont. from page 6) Development Coordinators Training

tools, in an atmosphere that was interactive and dynamic. TGCI is the training of choice for non-profit, academic and government agencies. The course taught them to be grant thinkers, the most critical part of the entire grant proposal writing process. But the sessions were not boring or dull, participants learned hands on to connect the learning with what they care about most - forming projects that will benefit their communities.

The participants worked together in a supportive and energetic way, and experienced how good planning leads to good proposal writing. Each class covered TGCI's in-depth curriculum and also customized it to fit

the group's needs. There were no cookie-cutter templates provided. Ms. Boedeker used her vast experience to help participants understand that their tribes do important work that deserves grant funding. She taught them TGCI's eight point Logic Model that has become the industry standard.

The development coordinators left equipped with real experience and copies of a team proposal that they all created together and reviewed in class. They expanded their skills with grant proposal thinking and grant proposal writing, and this will lead each of them to grant success! CPD commends the development coordinators for their eagerness to participate in these intense trainings. Great Job!

Inupiaq Values

- Knowledge of Language
- Knowledge of Family Tree
- Sharing
- Humility
- Respect for Elders
- Love for Children
- Cooperation
- Hard Work
- Respect for Others
- Respect for Nature
- Avoid Conflict
- Family Roles
- Humor
- Spirituality
- Domestic Skills
- Hunter Success



Sikuliaq launches Arctic research effort

By Gay Sheffield, Bering Strait Agent
UAF Alaska Sea Grant Program

Owned by the National Science Foundation and operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Research Vessel *Sikuliaq* began its first Arctic operations this summer from Bering Strait into the Beaufort Sea.

Nome got its first glimpse of the 261-foot blue ship when it docked at the west causeway last July. R/V *Sikuliaq* extended its gangway on July 21, 2015, for an open house co-hosted by UAF Northwest Campus and UAF Alaska Sea Grant Program. Over 200 Nomeites came aboard to meet the crew and tour the ship.

One of the most advanced oceanographic research vessels ever built, *Sikuliaq* is considered a national research asset that can deploy many types of scientific equipment, and

boasts more than 2,250 square feet of laboratory space for 26 scientists who cycle onboard for research projects during each cruise. As its Inupiaq name suggests (*sikuliaq* = first-year ice), *Sikuliaq* can break first-year sea ice up to 2.5 feet thick at a constant speed of two knots.

Unlike any other research vessel in the Arctic, *Sikuliaq* carries Alaska Native ice testing sticks as standard

Track *Sikuliaq*'s real-time location!
<https://www.Sikuliaq.alaska.edu/track/>

safety equipment for researchers to use as they gather data on the sea ice.

UAF added this valuable tool after learning it was considered essential safety gear by subsistence hunters in coastal communities in western and



Nome residents were welcomed aboard the R/V *Sikuliaq* last July.

northern Alaska. Among its many features, the ice testing stick will prevent the user from accidentally falling through patches of weak ice. The sticks that *Sikuliaq* carries were made on Saint Lawrence Island.

Sikuliaq initiated three research cruises from Nome last summer:

- **July 2015 cruise mission:** To better understand how and what changes are occurring with Arctic sea ice. Researchers used acoustic methods to measure ocean temperatures, gather information to enhance navigation and communication systems, and monitor marine mammal underwater calls.

- **August 2015 cruise mission:** To better understand how wind-

driven turbulence in the Arctic Ocean is stirring up heat from the depths. Read about it online: <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-34324439>

- **September 2015 cruise mission:** To better understand how expanding areas of open water in the fall and the larger waves generated by windy conditions affect northern waters.

Sikuliaq is expected to return north with new research missions this summer. For more information on *Sikuliaq* and its 2016 schedule, contact *Sikuliaq* project manager Capt. Murray Stein at the Seward Marine Center: (907) 224-4305 or mstein10@alaska.edu.

Sikuliaq stops at Diomedes, Teller

During August, R/V *Sikuliaq* visited Little Diomedes Island. The captain and several scientists met with the tribal council members and school staff to share information about the ship's research mission. The ship's crew worked with Diomedes's environmental coordinator to carry away over 1500 pounds of recyclable solid waste that had been awaiting removal. Several residents came aboard to tour the ship, check out its equipment, and ask questions to the scientists.

Crew members also visited Teller. Due to rough weather in Nome during August, *Sikuliaq* needed to transfer crew in the safety of Port Clarence's harbor. Teller residents helped the ship's crew during their small boat operations under windy conditions. Thank you, Teller!

NWC bids farewell to Mason, welcomes Knowles

Long-time professor **Joe Mason** retired at the end of December after over 22 years of teaching for UAF Northwest Campus.



Mason joined NWC in August 1993 after three years at the UAF campus in Dillingham.

"I had been to Nome several times since I moved to the state in 1975, so I was familiar with the town," Mason said. "When the developmental studies position came open, I applied."

Mason at first taught courses in grammar, college reading, business writing, technical writing, English composition, and world literature.

But starting with a spring 1994 workshop called Introduction to the Internet, Mason began teaching Internet and technology courses as well. As part of a 1995 course, Mason developed a NWC website as a demo. It later evolved into the first UAF rural campus website. Mason

was tenured in 2000 as an associate professor of computer applications.

Mason said he stayed at Northwest Campus so long because the environment suited him: his job was challenging and allowed him to develop new skills.

He also appreciated the work atmosphere at campus. "The staff are all highly competent, and everyone works as a team to make NWC what it is," he said.

"Of course, the students are the main reason I stayed," he added.

Students joined his distance courses from around the Bering Strait region and the state. Taking distance classes from a village with sometimes irregular phone and Internet service can be frustrating.

"They face many challenges, and they have to be dedicated to do well in their coursework," Mason said of his students. "They have inspired me through the years."

Mason plans to continue living in Nome and looks forward to working on his yard next summer, visiting family more often, and traveling.

Shannon Knowles joined Northwest Campus in August as full-time assistant professor of applied business.



Originally from Kansas, Knowles comes to Nome from Phoenix, Ariz., where she was working as an advisor

and instructor for the University of Phoenix. She has two master's degrees: in management and in adult education.

Since joining NWC, Knowles has met with partner organizations to learn about training needs. Last fall she co-taught a QuickBooks course for city employees from around the region and taught a job readiness course for NSHC employees. She also began offering a free monthly hour-long workshop via teleconference, in conjunction with Kawerak, called Introduction to Starting a Business.

This semester, Knowles is teach-

ing a dual-credit course at Nome-Beltz High School (Computer Skills for College and Careers) as well as two evening distance courses: Human Relations and Fundamentals of Supervision. She will teach Excel in Shishmaref and take on other projects.

"I'd always wanted to live in Alaska, so when I had a chance to come interview, I jumped at it," Knowles said. She says she immediately liked Nome because it "still has the 1930s feel and I love history. This town and the surrounding area have so much history."

She enjoys teaching students from Nome, the Bering Strait region, and Alaska.

"I love my coworkers—and I really enjoy my students; they're inquisitive," Knowles said. "It seems like everyone I've met has been very positive, including the students."

On top of teaching, Knowles continues her other careers as a fiction writer and a mom of two daughters. She has published six books and is completing a seventh.

NWC student can't stop taking courses!

Charles Marble of Nome loves being a Northwest Campus student.

"I just love this place more and more," said Marble. "I'm having a blast!"

Marble first came to Northwest Campus in fall 2010 when he realized his elementary school daughters were bringing home math problems he couldn't solve. He took a placement test and enrolled in a developmental math course at NWC to keep ahead of them.

When the semester ended, he registered for the next math course. Then, the next one. Then he started taking English and writing courses.

Now he regularly takes two courses each semester. He's two courses away from completing an associate degree and has taken several courses toward a bachelor's degree in justice.

"I'm going to just keep taking classes," he said.

Marble credits NWC advisor Kacey Miller with assessing transcripts from his year of junior college in the early 1990s, guiding him toward classes that fit his needs, and giving him confidence that he can be a successful student.

"Without her I would not be in these classes right now," Marble said. "She has been the motivation

behind keeping me going, along with the kids and my wife, Pauline."

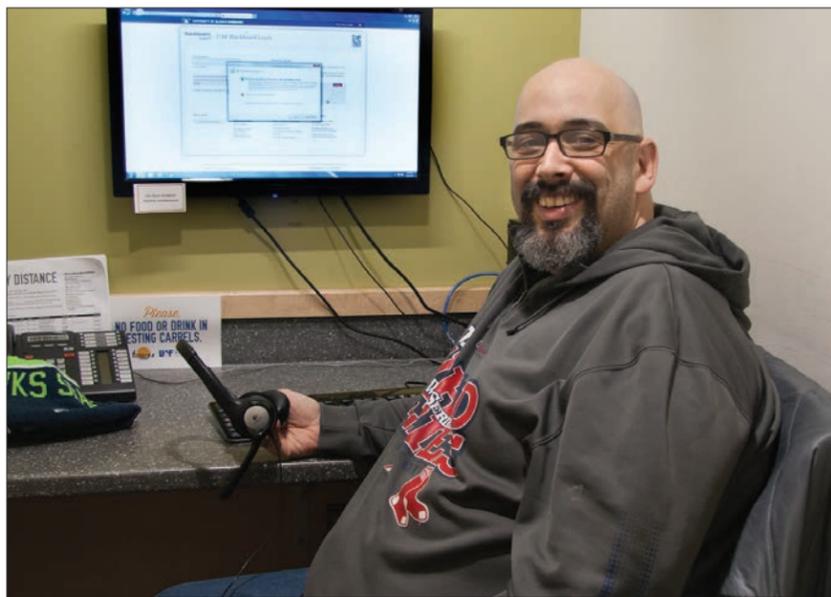
Marble's first few courses had set class times, with the instructor and fellow students meeting online or by phone two nights a week. He likes that format because it's easy to ask questions and communicate with the instructor.

Once in the rhythm of being a student, however, he enrolled in online courses he takes on his own schedule. He interacts with instructor and classmates through online chat rooms and email. He likes this format because he can take the classes during his late-night shift at the Nome Youth Facility.

Marble has worked that shift since 2005. With support and encouragement from his supervisors, he began using those long graveyard hours to complete his schoolwork.

He has found that being a student makes him a better employee, giving him more confidence at work and in interactions with people in all kinds of situations. He has learned productive ways to approach problems at work and "build relationships instead of burning bridges."

"Just going through these classes definitely does help to open your mind to the views of different sides of what's going on," Marble said. "I feel



Charles Marble in his study spot in the Emily Ivanoff Brown Student Resource Center.

I'm a more well-rounded person."

Marble can't say enough about the support he gets as an NWC student.

He continues to get guidance and encouragement from advisor Kacey Miller. He was offered the loan of a campus laptop. When he learned he could do classwork in a quiet little room with a computer in the Emily Ivanoff Brown Student Resource Center on campus, he requested that a program required for his classes be installed on the computer—and it was quickly done. He's grateful that campus staff respond swiftly every time he has questions or needs.

"That's just awesome," he said. "I'm not used to stuff like that."

Marble's daughters, now 14 and 10, have taken a keen interest in his classes.

"They watch these classes that I take and the stuff I get to do, and they want to get into this," he said. "The whole thing that I'm really looking forward to and seeing right now is the motivation for those kids."

Marble encourages his college nieces to take advantage of Northwest Campus and easy-to-apply-for scholarships available in this region from organizations like Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation.

"Get in there and take some classes," he tells them. "Even if you only take one or two, it helps. You might get motivated and take more later. Every class helps."

It's advice he would have liked.

"I wish I had been doing this a lot longer."

Village courses tailored to community needs

UAF Northwest Campus offers face-to-face courses in area villages by working with city and tribal councils to identify local training and education needs, then hiring locals to become adjunct instructors or sending instructors out to the community to teach courses.



Patti Lillie, NWC village outreach coordinator

to identify local training and education needs, then hiring locals to become adjunct instructors or sending instructors out to the community to teach courses.

Village-based courses range from six-hour workshops to six-week courses that meet once or twice a week, depending on the subject and skills being taught. Thanks to partners like Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation, Kawerak, and Norton Sound Health Corporation, as well as NWC and UAF grant funds, these courses are usually very low cost or free to students.

Last summer, Northwest Campus offered two sewing courses in Gambell with adjunct instructor Shem Rose Koonooka.

After teaching a course on sewing women's style qiipaghaq (kuspuk), Koonooka responded to student requests and taught a course on sewing men's style qiipaghaq.

Both courses offered activities for Gambell adults during chilly weather that made it hard to pick



Elmer Cheemuk (left) and Timothy Snowball were among nine St. Michael residents who participated in a nine-day facility maintenance training with NWC instructor Ryan Ford last May. Norton Sound Health Corporation funded the training to prepare residents for NSHC construction projects there. Students learned skills while constructing a building for the community morgue.

greens or get fish in preparation for winter. If there's enough demand and interest, Koonooka will teach at least one of these courses in Savoonga this spring.

One short workshop and five courses were taught in area villages during fall 2015.

Jackie Hrabok-Leppäjärvi, NWC professor of high latitude range management and applied arts, taught loom beading in Savoonga. Students made bracelets and headbands and learned ways to use reindeer leather in craft projects.

In Brevig Mission, Rita Olanna

taught students how to sew Inupiaq-style beaded slippers, using leather as a substitute for seal skin.

Also in Brevig, Pauline Olanna and Alberta Westdahl co-taught a women's style ugałqaa (kuspuk) sewing course.

Shem Rose Koonooka, Rita Olanna, Pauline Olanna, and Alberta Westdahl are now part of the NWC adjunct instructor pool, which also includes Alec Akeya and Ben Pungowiyi of Savoonga; Warren Kakoona of Brevig Mission; Ruby Jones of Shishmaref; and many other area residents. These

instructors are available to teach for NWC upon request from their own community or others in the region.

Facility maintenance courses offered by NWC in fall 2015 were taught by visiting instructors.

An appliance repair course was taught in Savoonga by NWC faculty member Ryan Ford, from Anchorage. In this two-credit, 27-hour course, students learned to repair washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, microwaves, and Toyo stoves.

Courses in boiler troubleshooting and residential heating controls were offered in White Mountain. Students earned four credits in six 9am-to-8pm days. Instructor Chris Paul from Fairbanks and his students practiced in class and even went into the field to troubleshoot and tune the boiler system at the tribal hall and work on the heater at the city office.

Facilities maintenance courses have a practical focus. Students learn through hands-on practice, demonstrations, discussions, and lectures. They often put in more than the required number of class hours because they are eager to practice the skills and knowledge they work so hard to acquire.

If you would like to see NWC courses in your community or want to teach a course, please contact Patti Lillie, NWC village outreach coordinator, at 800-478-2202, ext. 8406, or polillie@alaska.edu.

Congratulations!

to the following board members or employees who were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the mission of Kawerak and the region. Please join us in recognizing their performance for 2015!



Right: **Chase Gray**, Kawerak Board Member for the Native Village of Council. Photo credit: Esther Pederson Photography.

Board Member of the Year 2015

Each year, the Kawerak Board selects the Board Member of the Year. Frank Katchatag, Kawerak Board Chair, is pleased to announce that the Kawerak Board selected **Chase Gray** of the Native Village of Council as Board Member of the Year for 2015 by secret ballot. Chase received a Kawerak jacket, a plaque and two round trip tickets on Alaska Airlines. Congratulations Chase on this recognition! Quyanna!

Matthew Iya Award

Hattie Keller was selected for the Matthew Iya Award for 2015. This award is given to an employee who helps make Kawerak a great place to work, who has a fun, positive attitude, a great work ethic and is supportive and appreciative of other employees. This employee recognition is in memory of Matthew Iya who was our Eskimo Walrus Commission Director at the time he passed away in 1992. Congratulations Hattie!



Other nominees included:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Steve Ivanoff | John Bioff | Rose Atuk-Fosdick |
| Deborah Trowbridge | Carol Piscoya | Joleen Oleson |
| Katya Wassillie | Cheri McConnell | Anahma Shannon |

Employee of the Year

Joleen Oleson was voted as 2015 Employee of the Year by Kawerak employees. Congratulations Joleen!



Other eligible nominees included:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Colleen Deighton | Deborah Apatiki |
| Louise Simon | Olga Downey |
| Sarah Kristiansen | Ron Huffman |
| RahShaunDa Farrell | Melissa Buchanan |

VPSO Promotion

Kawerak would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to VPSO **Barret Eningowuk** for achieving the rank of Village Public Safety Officer Sergeant!

In order to be promoted to Sergeant, a VPSO must meet a number of criteria, including length of employment, performance standards, and training

requirements.

Captain Andrew Merrill, Commander / VPSO Program Manager of the Alaska State Troopers stated, " Please accept my congratulations for your hard work and dedication with regard to this achievement, as it soundly demonstrates the professionalism you have acquired and exhibit on a regular basis. This reflects

highly upon you as an individual. You are a tremendous asset to the Community of Shishmaref, as well as Kawerak, Inc. and the VPSO Program."

Well done! Thank you Sergeant Eningowuk, and to all our VPSO's, for all that you do for the life and safety of the people in the region.



Employees of the Month



July - Ron Huffman,
Community Education
Program Director.



October - Joleen Olson,
Tribal Affairs Accounting
Specialist.

**September - RahShaunDa
Farrel, Child Care
Administrative Assistant.**



**November - Melissa
Buchanan, Tribal Welfare
Assistance Coordinator.**



Educational Accomplishments 2015

I was born and raised in Nome, Alaska. My parents are Frank (who passed away in 2014) and LaVonne Okleasik. I am very proud to have completed my Master's of Arts Degree in Teaching specializing in Early Childhood Education. My parents were a huge support to me in the decision to go back to school. My husband, Wilson, and older children were extremely supportive during my two-year program and helped me persevere through difficulties.

It is a big commitment to work and take classes, and I encourage anyone who is thinking about taking classes to make the decision to do so. When we are open and willing to see situations in a new light,

we learn. This learning can open one up to new ways of thinking and doing things, and foster creative changes that benefit us and others.

I am fortunate to have traditional values and ways of living that ground me and provide a springboard to continue to learn from others with an open heart. Thank you to Kawerak, Inc. for working with me during my program, to my Cooperating Teachers Sandi Keller and Pearl Theoness who are both Alaskan Native, to my University Supervisor Elise Davis, and to the financial support from scholarships from my tribe Nome Eskimo Community, Bering Straits Foundation, Sitnasuak Foundation, and

Norton Sound Economic Development. Completing this Master's Degree has been a group effort that not only benefits me, but my community. Thank you!



Katie Bourdon, our Workforce Development Director, earned her Master of Arts in Teaching in Early Childhood Education.
Photo by Kayla Bourdon.

Kawerak also congratulates **Denise Michels, Transportation Program Director,** for earning an Associates Degree in Applied Business.

RurAL Cap Outstanding Service Award

By Panganga Pungowiyi, Wellness Director

Kawerak, Inc. received an award from Rural Cap for our successful partnership with the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant. This funding was acquired to address the effects of heavy binge drinking in adults as well as



Lisa Ellanna, Bobby Evans and Panganga Pungowiyi with the award presented by Rural CAP- All three served as project directors for the SPFSIG program

underage drinking, using a community guided data driven process. At the beginning of the project, Kawerak Wellness partnered with three of our Region's communities as part of the planning process. We would like to thank Savoonga, Shishmaref and Teller for their participation in this successful project. Community members put valuable time and effort into guiding the process. Our community members are the reason for the success of this project. More information about this project and the impact of community guided efforts can be viewed in video format at <https://vimeo.com/131223691>



**RurAL CAP
Healthy People,
Sustainable Communities,
Vibrant Cultures**

*In December, Kawerak board member **Kirsten Timbers** and President **Melanie Bahnke** accepted the Rural Alaska Community Action Program (RurAL CAP) award on behalf of the Kawerak Wellness Program for outstanding service to Alaska. Pictured left to right: **David Hardenbergh** (Executive Director), **Kirsten Timbers**, **Melanie Bahnke**, and **Jacqueline Dailey** (RurAL Cap Board President). Photo by: Angela Gonzalez.*

Kawerak, Inc.

Kawerak Full Board of Director's Meeting held Sep. 22-23, 2015 in Nome, Alaska. *On this and the following pages are the Village Reports from each representative.*

Native Village of Brevig Mission- During the first week of August, BSRHA started the construction of 5 new homes to be built, and the project will continue through the fall until the homes are completed. 5 new homes will be built, with 2 other homes that will be renovated, with 7 new homes to be moved in before the end of the year. BSSD was also busy this summer, with a duplex apartment being built by SKW. School started on August 19th, and the Head Start program started a week later. Tومت came the last week of August to do dust control, excavating the roads, and improvements made as needed. The tribe also hired a new development coordinator in September.

The waste heat project from the AVEC power plant was cancelled this year, but will start next summer. The city has requested assistance from ANTHC to provide waste heat from AVEC power plant to the washerteria building and the old City Office building.

Youth were busy this summer working at the fish processing plants in Unalakleet and Nome. NSEDC provided airfare and lodging for any youth that wanted to work at the fish plants in Nome and Unalakleet. About 10 youth participated in the fish processing plant work, some returned home, but 5 are still working at the plant.

The IGAP Department was busy this summer doing work in cleaning up the dumpsite and collecting scrap metal that was shipped out at the end of 2015. Two other employees were hired to collect and transport the scrap metal at the barge landing moor area. We thank the IGAP department for all their hard work in recycling and collection of the scrap metal this summer.

Subsistence update: Salmon-berries along with blue and black-berries were abundant this summer, more time was needed due to rain during half the month of August. Also, red salmon rebounded this summer with more reds being caught this year along with king salmon. White fish and herring are due to arrive and hopefully they will be abundant too.

Native Village of Council-New employees-NVC hired Alex Gray, Kathy Holly & Elijah Johnson as seasonal summer workers to assist with the Environmental program before they left back to college.

They did a recycling program for the NVC Members that reside in Nome, collected water samples throughout the summer in and around Council and did a backhaul project. We hired a contractor to haul old trucks, refrigerators, wood stoves, scrap wood, etc. out of the dump in Council. This in itself was a HUGE project, the dump looks great thanks to their team work. NVC also hired David Holly, William Olanna, Frank Anderson & James West III to brush cut on trails in and around Council for approximately four weeks. It was a success and we look forward to doing this again in the future with our Transportation Program.

NVC will be hosting our Annual Membership Gathering in Anchorage in November. This event seems to be very successful for us in getting members outside of Nome to meet the Tribal Council members, have lunch, give them a report of all the highlights of the year for NVC. We also enrolled new members and made Tribal ID cards. NVC has welcomed 3 new members since April. NVC's Annual meeting is scheduled to be in Nome on January 30.

Native Village of Diomedede-The annual Community Meeting was held on April 18. 23 residents attended; that is about half of the adult population. There were four seats open during the elections. Tribal President, Robert F. Soolook, Jr., was out of town returning from ANICA. Andrea Okpealuk called the community meeting to order. Andrea Okpealuk was re-elected to serve another three years. The three other seats were write-ins with a tied tally votes. The Tribe verified the elections, counting the questioned ballots to break ties to see who won the write-in seats. The new Tribal council members are: Andrew Milligrock, President; Cassandra Ahkvaluk, Vice President; Andrea Okpealuk, Secretary; Samantha Ozenna, Treasurer; Ronald Ozenna, Sr., Parliamentarian; Robert F. Soolook, Jr., Sgt. at Arms; and Ahna Ozenna, Member.

We are expecting changes with the newly elected council in hopes we can finally move forward with the prolonged ongoing projects including the New Clinic, Small Boat Harbor, weatherizing homes, and Water Storage Facility Upgrade with ANTHC. These

needs are so very important to us. Having big projects happening are not as often as our community would like to see. The annual meeting agenda included village reports by Tribal Representatives, Andrea Okpealuk with Kawerak, and Cassandra Ahkvaluk with NSHC. Cassandra Ahkvaluk did an introduction with her terms and standing on the NSHC Board. She hardly made it to any of the NSHC Board meetings due to transportation services. We feel she is a good NSHC Representative because she keeps confidentiality and she sees concerns that Diomedede should address.

Transportation was the highlight at the annual meeting. Thanks to Kawerak staff, their hard work and keeping the tribe up to date was amazing. Although, we are awaiting to hear from the FAA to see if Diomedede qualifies to be put into permanent status for the Essential Air for medical or business. This year the early request for EAS helped avoid waiting for passenger services for the months of July and August.

The tribe hired John Jacob Mogg as Development Coordinator, and he already resubmitted a proposal with NSEDC. Mogg is completing unfinished details from previous grants written by past Grant Writer, Mike Sookiayak. The goal is to secure matching funds from funding agencies to meet the threshold of \$2.3 million. The projection is to build a new clinic next summer. The tribe worked with Bettisworth North to complete the plan and design. The Tribe would like to see him receive grant writing training and workshops. He is working hard to focus on getting this prolonged project happen. We are pleased that he was able to submit a grant request with NSEDC Large Infrastructure for 2015. The Native Village of Diomedede received a mini grant, written by Opik Ahkinga, from ANTHC for the Inalik Hazardous Waste Management Program. The project began in late June and closed in September. The overall objective was to increase local knowledge on harmful hazardous waste and chemical exposure incidents, including oil spill response tactics. Opik was able to host children activities on Hazardous Waste and making eco-friendly household products like laundry soap, house cleaning solutions,

and simple food product recipes. The Environmental Coordinator partners with NSEDC with our beach clean-up and barge out large scale debris which can be hazardous materials that lay on the Diomedede beach way. The Environmental Coordinator collaborates with the City, the school, and all other entities with community education, outreach activities, and conducts assessments to identify sources of pollution problems. We need to reduce solid and hazardous waste generation.

Kawerak provides information that makes it possible for us to continue improved transportation services in the future. Due to government funding we receive, the Tribe has approved to put a stop to the Visitor Permit. This allows visitors to come and go as they please. We do have visitors still requesting to visit, and we screen them carefully because in the past we have dealt with a number of people trying to flee over to Russia, without proper clearance. We are a very small community where exposure to any outside epidemic is a health concern with wide spread flu like Ebola that scares our village. Plus, we do not have the proper health-care needed if this occurs. There needs to be changes made on this health issue and service to our people.

Another focus our Tribe foresees is to have our local stores order processed meat year-around. We have to work closely with funding sources and the community of Wales to stage large freezers and refrigerators in a connex to maintain them properly. This year is our second cycle of funding from the National Park Service to reunify our long lost relatives in Chukota communities. This interaction is very important to us. This funding bridges the gap to improve communication for years to come.

This year's Spring hunt and climate conditions allowed for an early start. Regular migratory seabirds arrived earlier this year. But, sea ice conditions were rigid and rafting, which made for a bad hunting season. The meat racks were empty and families were unable to store their usual cache of meat for the season ahead. The Tribe wrote to the State a local Economic Declaration. The hardships with transportation and low

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numbers in subsistence intake affected the entire community with food storage for the winter. Fortunately, SeaShare provided families with halibut for all homes. Many locals are learning to be prepared and to expect the worse because that tends to happen for Diomedede. We need at least 15-20 walrus and 30 plus oogruks to make a good hunt. Studies show a decline of intake for the past four years, and the numbers keep going down. During this time our hunters are carefully looking at the health of the mammals and sea birds. We have noticed more sickness, and we do send samples in for testing. Do you ever wonder why Diomedede does not make any more walrus skin boats? It is not that we do not have the knowledge; it is because we have to decide to eat or use it and most likely we are going to eat it. But, if this keeps up, we are going to lose our traditional knowledge of how to make and maintain a skin boat. We feel spring is our busiest time to work together. I can't imagine how it will be when we lose our beautiful traditions.

Andrea Okpealuk was the Tribal representative during the June 1st-4th Annual Provider's Conference in Nome and the community voted Vera Ozenna to be our Elder Representative. We are excited to see what the conference outcome is for our region. We feel so much closer as a community and we also have a good advantage for our community members to find a way to participate. Although, the date was during the time we put our food away and the start of the prime of gathering. We thank Kawerak and RurAL Cap for putting this together.

Our school was over last May 15th. Graduation May 8th and High School Prom May 9th. We had two high school graduates Felicia Ahkvaluk and Maryanne Ozenna.

It has been an interesting school year. New staff and our Principal Pam Potter kept us updated with weekly Friday Focus notices and encouraged us to participate or drop by the school anytime. All the staff will be returning next year and we hope they continue to progress. The months of March and April were busy for the health-care needs. The Dental and Eye Care programs came to Diomedede. We expected other health care providers from NSHC. We still have only Itinerate Health Aide coverage since the beginning of last year. At our annual community

meeting our Tribe encouraged residents to apply for the two Health Aide positions. Thank you NSHC for sending Itinerate Health Aides.

Our community has jobs available. Notices are posted. It has been hard to keep long term employees for all entities here and this affects our businesses. Also, council members are needed for all entities. We are learning to support each other in order to make things happen. Lemonade Day was June 13th and was the first time for Diomedede to participate. Due to weather we used the Rec. Hall. The children enjoyed every bit, including the backpack activities. Our Tribe made a cloth banner that can be posted early next year in hope to encourage more participants.

July, August, and September were subsistence gathering for Diomedede. We collect eggs! Green of all sorts! Potatoes! Seaweed! And Salmonberries! This is what we do if we need to make up for poor spring hunt, and we anticipate a good fall hunt for walrus, cormorant, and seals. Our Tribe and city formed a Wellness Committee in hopes that we get members to sign up to work towards a better place to live. It provides a way for connecting in ways to improve a healthier community - especially for our future. Our expectations are focusing on improving economic structure by providing programs, projects, and willing staff to see it through.

Native Village of Elim-This has been a busy and quickly fleeting summer. Fishing has been good on almost all species for commercial and subsistence. Timing on the return of the salmon seems a bit erratic. Berry picking has been poor except for blueberries. We have moved the After-School Activities Program from the City basement to the Boys and Girls building. We will need to make improvements on that building over this winter. Prior to ASA being housed in the City basement, it was held at the high school and worked with the school system. Principal turnover, different leadership has lead to changes. Our last AEC meeting was well attended, a couple of teacher aide positions went to spouses of teachers as opposed to locals. We are disappointed that BSSD is not trying to raise up more of our tribal members in these positions.

The City of Elim dug trenches to install water and sewer to the two

new school duplexes. Being close to bedrock, this was a tough and long job and hard on equipment. The IRA requested funding from NSEDC to reopen a slough that runs between our two main rivers. A percentage of two or three species of salmon runs through that slough to get to the other river. That Slough has been choked off by sand during medium high and low tide, possibly impacting returns. The Slough is also an alternative route for boaters during rough seas. NSEDC said it will reopen the Slough themselves which they did, it is not usable between medium and high tide. Climate change issue, the numerous high water events (storms) in the last 15 years have created this change.

We have used some of our BIA Road Maintenance money to build a berm along the Moses Pt road to protect the road, as most people park their boats inside Moses Pt River (Kwiniuk River) and NSEDC buys the fish just inside the mouth. The berm is not complete. We had started a smaller berm in 2013 but the November 2013 high water event wiped out about 2/3s of what we built. We started rebuilding the berm in 2014 twice as high. We have received two climate change grants from BIA and are applying for a third. We have re-applied for EPA IGAP but have not heard if we are awarded. We continue to gather water flow data on the Tubuktoolik River. This is funded by BIA and NSEDC. We are hoping for a snowy winter but Alaska will be under the influence of the second largest El Nino on record.

Native Village of Gambell-We had a low harvest of walrus once again this spring due to poor ice conditions and unfavorable weather. We were fortunate to land one bowhead whale. Everyone was happy for the fresh mangtak. Low spring harvests cause many families and households to struggle. There was definitely less food on the meat racks and in the freezers this spring. We were thankful to receive a shipment of halibut this July that was distributed throughout the community. Each household got a share, often with larger or needier homes receiving more. We would like to thank Kawerak, SeaShare and all others involved in making this contribution to Gambell possible. A new Health Clinic is in the works. The foundation was put in this summer with plans to continue construction next summer. Funding is being

pursued by Gambell and NSHC to move forward with the Clinic project. Thanks to NSHC for all their effort on the Gambell Clinic. NSHC also held a health forum on August 25-26, where they had health screening and presentations at the School. In July our community streets were treated with a dust control palliative, recycled vegetable oil. The Native Village of Gambell was recently awarded a grant from NALEMP for \$159,000 to be used over the next two years for military debris cleanup.

Chinik Eskimo Community (Golovin)-The Summer Lunch is over and the After School Meals program started that the Principal organized at the school. The school planned a great Halloween party. Thank you to Traci McGarry at Kawerak for funding to help strengthen our families to interact with children. Strengthening Families started back up, every Saturday from 1-4 pm. Many thanks to Kirstie Lone, Tribal Family Coordinator, for successfully getting our Golovin children a new playground, funded by NSEDC and Rasmuson. Our Development Coordinator is Dora Davis. The Martin L. Olson School had a welcome back potluck for the returning teachers and the new teacher we gained. Welcome Jerry Cage Katchatag, born on July 7, congratulations to Jerry and Donna Katchatag and their girls: Autumn, Nicole and Lily. The new Water Storage and Treatment Plant up hill is completed and the crew has been laying pipe in the upper part of town to be connected. Head Start welcomed two new children Mary Davis and Jase Sampson. We are thankful for more berries this year, was good year for fish too. Some moose were caught and beluga hunting started.

King Island Native Community-King Island Native Community IRA in cooperation with King Island Native Corporation has been actively working on our cultural property rights application. This summer Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority staff sent out homeowner applications to all adult homeowners to apply for one new house unit. Out Transportation Program reports that Q trucking will be finishing up the 2015 fall season of road maintenance. Tribal members have been busy this subsistence season with subsistence gathering for greens, fish, salmonberries, blueberries

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and blackberries. King Island Native Community has not been successful recruiting for a development coordinator.

Native Village of Koyuk-The Native Village of Koyuk Watershed Committee which runs under the EPA/IGAP program held an Environmental Luncheon and Spring Clean-up prize drawing in June. Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped make this event successful! Also to all the sponsors who gave donations to make this possible for the IGAP department to continue to make efforts to keep our community clean. The IGAP department makes continued efforts to recycle and back haul hazardous waste throughout the community.

All 3 organizations held the Tri-Council Meeting August 31 to discuss local issues. The IRA Council requested suggestions on how to use the money that was awarded from Norton Sound Health Corporation and Tumet. Our Development Coordinator presented a proposal to submit to NSEDC requesting a letter of support from the Tri-Council to complete our facility for the Head Start program. Kawerak Transportation Program came to Koyuk this summer to grade and oil the streets. Rainy season started soon after the project was completed and washed away the oil that was used for the roads, so the roads are starting to get dusty again.

The Community of Koyuk residents had a busy summer season filled with many blessings. Commercial fishermen are wrapping up the season, as the season continues to change everyone's gears towards winter. The Koyuk Covenant Church is still in need of volunteers to continue the renovation of the church building. The church continues to meet at the Koyuk IRA building.

Native Village of Mary's Igloo-Mary's Igloo Traditional Council has continued to support the community of Teller and all our members. We purchased 3 new electric oil pumps for community members to use this winter since there will no longer be a fuel delivery service. MITC held their 7th Annual Culture Camp in June for a week at Cobblestone. The weather was great and the kids had a lot of fun. School is back in session and we are looking forward to the new school year. All but one teacher has returned, and we are lucky we don't have a high turnover in our teachers. The 11th Annual Teller

Cultural Festival was September 25-26. Festival coordinators, Cora Ablowaluk & Charlene Isabell, worked hard to prepare for this event. All were welcome to come and enjoy the festival. Friday evening performances started at 7 pm in the school gym. Saturday there were various workshops throughout the school from 1-4 pm. There was a potluck in the gym at 5 pm where people brought dishes to share, and evening performances followed.

Native Village of Saint Michael-The village of St. Michael had a good season for subsistence with birds, beluga's, fish, herrings, herring eggs, also greens and berries being very plentiful for another good harvest year. The St. Michael EPA/IGAP submitted a grant application to NSEDC Outside-Entity in 2014 to help with the recycling program. The funding was received and the program is using the vehicle with the cart to pick up recycle items from the homes, thank you to NSEDC Board of Director's and the local EPA/IGAP staff.

The St. Michael IRA Village Council program the NALEMP/DoD received funding from the Army Corp of Engineers for October 2015 to September 30, 2016 grant period.

The last quarter was a very busy month for the Village of St. Michael. The St. Michael IRA Village Council held their first Healthy Activity Basketball tournament. There were very positive comments both from the village of Stebbins and St. Michael residents about the Healthy Activity Basketball tournament. Thank you to NSHC and the St. Michael IRA Village Council for the donation for the event to happen in the village. Also the City of St. Michael held the 4th annual valentines basketball tournament on February 11 to 14, and the 14th Annual Steve Otten Memorial Basketball Tournament in April.

The St. Michael Community road was resurfaced in early August by Tumet. Tumet will return to resurface the community road next year. Thank you Kawerak Transportation for your help.

The 2015 NSSP/NSEDC fishermen's meeting was held in St. Michael on April 21, at the St. Michael IRA building. NSEDC also had a clean waters program where they hired interested local crew to clean marine debris in St. Michael. Southcentral Foundation, Beauty for Ashes came to St. Michael and

held FWWI training on June 10, at the St. Michael IRA building.

The Native Village of St. Michael, IRA Village Council housing improvement program (HIP) received additional funding to complete the needy family home and is near completion. The NSHC multi-housing is under construction located next to the BSSD school playground. The first day of school was on August 19, with seven new teachers teaching in St. Michael. Martin Olson came to work with a village local on seals to put the satellite tracking in our area.

Native Village of Shaktoolik-The Native Village of Shaktoolik IRA held their Annual Elder & Youth Summer Camp the last week of July. Seventeen kids ages 8-12 attended the first half and ten kids ages 13-18 attended the second half. The kids seined, cut and half dried the fish then gave it to an elder. The camp ended 1 day early due to bears in the vicinity and a funeral. The sponsors were BSRHA Crime Prevention and Drug Elimination Youth Activity Program and NSHC Health and Wellness.

Shaktoolik IRA ordered four (4) 10X12 and one (1) 12X14 wall tents for the subsistence camps with some of the funding from NSHC Health and Wellness. We also had a subsistence fall camp for five days around Labor Day. The Shaktoolik Planning Committee for the Strategic Management Plan has had several meetings and are in the process of assessing the current situation with fall storms, erosion and flooding and also what can be done in the long run; their next meeting is scheduled either during AFN or BIA. School started with two new teachers on August 19th. Commercial fishing and subsistence activities are winding down. Our former President passed away on July 26th. She was a very active community leader and will be missed.

Native Village of Shishmaref - The Native Village of Shishmaref hired a new Tribal Coordinator in July. The Kawerak Summer Youth Program had 3 youth employed; 1 youth worked here at the IRA office, 1 youth worked at the Shishmaref Environmental Program, and 1 youth at the Shishmaref washeteria. This Program gives our youth the opportunity to gain work experience; We hope next year more youth will be able to work.

Shishmaref held their 7th Annual Wellness Picnic on July 18, and our community enjoyed the Eskimo food and games. The Shishmaref

Tannery has been open since August 27, and successfully working on skins; tanning skins, making slippers and mittens. The Tannery is also getting a Wind Turbine that will be installed soon. Shishmaref Environmental Program had Summer Youth Litter Patrol and Annual Spring clean up. We would like to thank NSEDC for donating to the Annual Spring clean up this year. Shishmaref Environmental Coordinators are still sending out backhaul to Kawerak and sending our aluminum cans to ALPAR.

We had Stan Meiberg, Deputy Administrator from Washington DC, Dennis McLerran, Regional Administrator from Seattle, WA, Michelle Pirzadeh, Deputy Regional Administrator from Seattle, WA, Dianne Soderlund, Alaska Operations Office Deputy Director from Anchorage, Tami Fordham, Alaska Operations Office Deputy Director from Anchorage, and Dennis Wagner, Water Infrastructure Program Manager from Anchorage with EPA came on August 18, and held a Public Meeting. Our President and the Shishmaref Environmental Program employees picked them up from the airport and brought them straight to the Shishmaref dump and showed them where the erosion is happening. The Public Meeting was successful. We had about 50 of our community members who attended.

We received a youth grant from BSRHA and will be taking out youth to seal hunt and caribou hunting. We also have our Kawerak After-School Activity grant, our children are very happy to have our Friendship Center open.

Village of Solomon-The Council named the new shelter cabin "Okitkon Shelter" in honor and memory of Garfield Okitkon who had dedicated decades of his life to providing emergency communication with his CB radio in Solomon. The shelter cabin is located at Mile 31 of the Nome Council highway. The Council also approved the use of our "Okitkon Shelter" cabin by our tribal membership for subsistence and recreational activities during the summer season. Tribal members can call the office to check out the key to the cabin which is locked during the summer months.

The Tribe hosted its annual youth and elder's camp in August with a tribal gathering at the end of the camp with lunch for those that attended. This year the NSEDC

biologist, Kevin Keith, led the group along the bank of the Solomon River to find dead fish to dissect in order to determine the age of the fish. The Village of Solomon held its annual elections and reorganized as follows: Kirsten Timbers, President; Cameron Piscoya, Vice President; Annette Piscoya, Treasurer; Elizabeth Johnson, Secretary; Brian James, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; and Katie Stettinger, Elder Representative. The annual meeting was September 25th at the XYZ Senior Center. Kawerak's Social Science Program and NSHC's President/CEO attended as the main speakers.

The Environmental Program hired two water samplers in early May to attend a 3 phase Water Quality Monitoring course at the Northwest Campus. The first phase was held in May, the second phase was held late August and the third phase will be held next April. The samplers had begun sampling at six site locations in the Solomon watershed twice a month. We are in our last year of our four year IGAP grant and will be reapplying for another four year grant cycle with EPA. The Environmental Program hosted two educational get together for our tribal membership, one in April and the other took place September 3rd. Topics included IGAP updates/accomplishments and creative educational material on Reducing, Reusing and Recycling. The water samplers provided a PowerPoint presentation on their work and education through the UAF NW Campus courses. A Jeopardy game was played at the September gathering which focused on IGAP, the Village of Solomon and the 3R's. Grizzly Building Supply donated a prize for the winner of Jeopardy. Mug Shot week also took place late June which Bering Air donated a RT ticket to the winner and GCI donated TV time for 3 of the Mug shot winners drawn out of a hat to be an advocate for reducing and reusing in the Bering Strait Region. The IGAP department under VOS will be hosting a 'Swap Drive' which will take place at the Old St. Joe Park on September 13th. The idea is to encourage the community of Nome to reduce and reuse by swapping allowable items during the drive in an effort to keep unnecessary items out of the landfill.

The Solomon Bed & Breakfast was open all summer for business and closed September 15. It is

planned to open for 10 days during the Iditarod. The Council will be sending its elder and youth representatives to the FAI elders and youth conference this year. At the same time, the tribe will be hosting an Anchorage based tribal membership meeting as a way of keeping in touch with our membership living afar. It was with great sadness that Solomon received news that we lost a tribal member in late May. The family of Scott McPeck was very appreciative for the support received from both Kawerak and the NSEDC burial/funeral assistance programs.

Teller Traditional Council - Summer Fishing was very good for our community residents. We had a good red salmon run. Traditional Council hosted a youth camp August 3-7; we used NSHC's Camp Nuuk. We took a total of 19 youth ages 11-17, five chaperones, our Village Based Counselor, and two Tribal Council Members. Camp was enjoyed by all who attended. The Teller Traditional IGAP continues to work with Mary's Igloo IGAP on recycling and educating community and youth. Our IGAP Coordinator along with Nome Eskimo Coordinators did a workshop with our youth that attended the youth camp. This summer IGAP practiced baseline water quality testing and water temperature logging. Staff attended 2 Conferences: Water Quality Training August 24-27 and Solid Waste Management August 28. Teller Traditional Council did donations for the Community July 4th Activities, and the Annual Village Clean Up. Teller school started August 19th. The 11th Annual Teller Cultural Festival was September 25-26.

Native Village of Unalakleet - The Native Village of Unalakleet (NVU) Administrative staff is staying the same except Bookkeeper Janine Iknokinok is leaving NVU this month. Thankfully, General Manager/Elder Services Director Tracy Cooper and the Tribal Council, hired former BSSD Maintenance Director, Robert "Bob" Dickens as the Elders Assisted Living Facility (EALF) Project Manager, and things are coming along as planned and news about this long awaited project will be updated periodically. Tracy and the committee have put in many hours towards planning and now the logistics will be worked on in this new phase. Again, this remains an extremely high priority for NVU and the sub region, espe-

cially with QCC's long waiting list and so many elders with unmet needs. This project also speaks to the great need of a properly educated, well-trained work force and all these projects can help focus the education of our youth should they be interested in this field. Thanks to those who served on the planning committee so it can become a reality.

Elder Care Coordinator Linda Towarak continues her work helping Elders with applications of all sorts and facilitated the process for completing wills for some elders. If you would like to work on a will, she has information on how to get started and/or what needs to get done or could just help you contact Alaska Legal Services or complete their application process for free legal aid.

Housing Director/Consultant Myrna Johnston (ANC) Housing Associate/Assistant Patti Huhta are still working with the NVU Housing Program, which has seen its share of struggles and is a point of concern for many in the village, with some suggesting going back to BSRHA. The IHP was accepted and approved by HUD/ONAP with the ten (10) Title VI homes still remaining the focus. With the summer construction season ending soon, they are still looking to sub/contract out the work to licensed and bonded carpenters, plumbers, and electricians, and currently has two Title VI home renovations scheduled for this upcoming year, with a third vacant home being subleased. Providing safe, decent, and affordable housing to low to moderate income Tribal Members is still one of the main goals for the tribe and we are so grateful to Housing Staff's hard work getting Housing in compliance as well as maintaining the forward movement of the NVU Housing Department.

NVU hired Elders Nutrition Program (ENP) Head Cook Gertrude Cloud and Assistant Elizabeth Pleasant who provided hot lunches all summer thanks to the NSEDC OEF grant. The Elders elected Reuben Mixsooke, Harris Ivanoff Sr., Luci Ivanoff, and Charles Lockwood to serve on the NVU Elders advisory committee. Please bring your support and appreciation, or concerns and suggestions, to this new committee.

NVU Environment-The feasibility study/remediation of the Old 400,000 Above-Ground Storage Tank site is still planned for the future. Some tribal members or

their spouses were employed for clean-up short project and a short FAA site clean-up is taking/took place so the land can be conveyed to UNC. IGAP Coordinator John Henry received new recycling collection bins as the community has embraced recycling and kept thousands of pounds of garbage out of the landfill. NVU is also working on increasing its own energy efficiency.

Tribal Family Coordinator-the TFC deals mainly with ICWA cases, but is also focusing attention on strengthening family ties by providing opportunity for positive family-oriented activities throughout the year and had another successful Humpy Derby which provided fun for all ages and dried humpies to elders who cannot go out and get some of their own.

Around the village and under different entities, the Water Transmission Line from Powers Creek is currently located in the flood/erosion zone and funding for a new water source and/or transmission line will remain an extremely high priority to all of Unalakleet, also the site for the public safety building has been prepared for construction. Providing affordable infrastructure to the new hillside subdivision has been a challenge and Unalakleet is in favor of re-establishing the Denali Commission. NSHC has started "Make A Patient Smile", a program completely funded by donations. A childhood leukemia patient was its first recipient and donations may be made out to NSHC. Qu yana to the companies employing the Region's Tribal Members!

Native Village of Wales-Native Village of Wales has been busy with subsistence gathering of our native greens and now we are picking blackberries. Some akpiks were picked. In March-Wales Native Corporation sent shareholders and descendants to Hazmat Training. June 30-July 2 -Our Kingikmiut Dance group was invited and accepted to go Kotzebue to celebrate their Qanut Trade Fair. Our Elder Pete Sereadlook along with 17 attended this event. July 8,- Representatives from US Air Force, Navy and Corps of Engineers visited the sites where the old Naval Station was. A joint meeting with our local entities: Native Village of Wales, City of Wales and Wales Native Corporation, to voice our concerns of debris being exposed from our winds. Improper clean-up was done back in the early 80's. We are

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Dan Karmun,
of Deering and Nome.



Lena Sereadlook
of Wales.



*Katiluta participants, around the table left to right: **Becky Scott** of King Island, **Josslyn Olin** of Nome Eskimo Community, **Quinton Bahnke**, **Caroline Brown**, **Anita Scadden**, **Teresa Muktoyuk**, & **Mathew Tiulana**, all of King Island and **Helen Iyapana** of Diomedede.*



Marie Tozier and Barb Amarok -
Katiluta Planning Committee members.

*On the Right
(left to right):
**Vincent
Pikonganna &
John Penatac**
both of King
Island, and
Jack Brown of
White
Mountain.*



Thank you to the following businesses and agencies that contributed to the success Katiluta 2015!

Bering Sea Lions Club / City of Nome / Kawerak, Inc. / Norton Sound Health Corporation / Bering Straits Native Corporation / Sitnasuak Native Corporation / Bering Straits Regional Housing Authority / Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation / King Island Native Corporation / Steve Longley of EZ Cab - Free Rides To Elders / Nome Eskimo Community / UAF Northwest Campus / Norton Sound Seafood Products / Nome Youth Facility / Nome Native Youth Leadership Organization / Bering Sea Women's Group / Bering Straits Foundation / Caleb Weaver for his donation of caribou / O-Trucking /and RAVN Air.

Village Reports cont. from page 15

waiting for the report of said visit. Wales Native Corporation hosted the 4th of July events with foot races for all ages, rifle match for men and women and the "long run". The 4th of July ended with a village cookout! Native Village of Wales/IGAP held a village clean-up and a cook out. Halibut was sent and distributed to the village of Wales, through the Prohibited Species Donation Program, a Disaster Resolution was applied, Quyanna to Carol Piscoya of Kawerak and many, many volunteers who made this possible and to our dedicated Native Village of Wales Council, our Tribal Coordinator and Office Assistant who also volunteered their time to ensure the delivery to all households. Quyanna also to SeaShare and all who helped get the halibut it to Wales! The National Park Service employed 4 of our locals to

clean our beach from the cove to 1st inlet! Job well done! Kingikmiut School-construction in progress for new school vocational/tech Ed shop is on!
Our 16th Annual Kingikmiut Dance Festival was celebrated Sept. 4 through the early mornings of the 7th. The Grand Finale was the next Monday morning. We were honored to have dance groups from: Anchorage Kingikmiut, Point Hope, King Island, Kotzebue and Savoonga. Anchorage Kingikmiut, Point Hope and King Island have been with us throughout our 16 years of our great event! As for Savoonga, we have been alternating between Gambell for the past five years. Kotzebue has graced us for the 2nd time! This great event, which is an alcohol and drug free event, has been funded by NSEDC Outside-Entity Fund throughout these years of celebration! We, the community have been quite busy this year in which we are truly

grateful for employment opportunities for our people.
Native Village of White Mountain -We welcome David Fair our new WMO School Principal and Head Start Teacher Nikki Hodges. For the first time we have 15 Head Start students and two on the waiting list. School is back in session on August 19th. We had a summer lunch program from Food Bank of Alaska for our children this summer. The kids enjoyed the program. The Native Village of White Mountain was awarded a Bering Strait Housing Authority Youth Crime Prevention grant. With this grant the tribe hired a Youth Activity Coordinator for four weeks. Children and youth six on up played basketball, kick ball, and other outdoor activities, swimming, art, tie dye and board games. We also hired a cook for a week to let 11 on up learn to make homemade pizza, spaghetti, fried bread, fish chowder. We also hiked

to Putu which is about two miles. There were about 26 Individuals and five boats. Putu is located about 25 miles up the Fish River. The IGAP program had an afternoon presentation on their program which includes water quality monitoring in six different sites, recycling pop cans, soda bottles, e-waste last month. The Native Village of White Mountain's Environmental Program continues to get data from Ichupak so that the Tribe can obtain their water rights from the State of Alaska. We have 3 1/2 years of data now, and we need five years of data. The Chinook Enhancement Program was not funded by the State of Alaska this fiscal year due to budget cuts but the Tribe has some funds from NSEDC to continue the program. The City and NSEDC gave the Tribe funds for cultural activities. Summer seemed short this year but we had a good dry fishing season.