

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

SUMMER 2016

2016 Higher Education Graduates, By Education, Employment & Training Staff.

Vernae Angnaboogok graduated in May from UAF with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Rural Development.

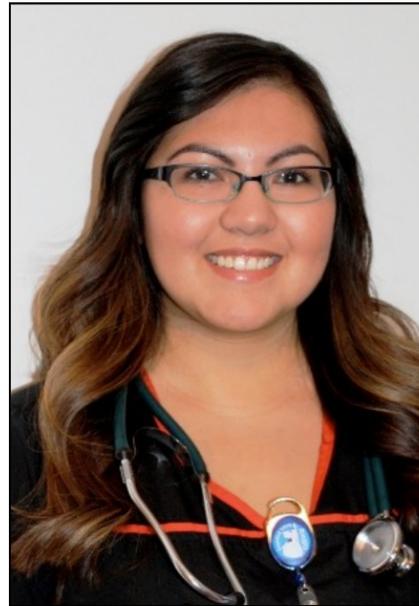


Vernae Angnaboogok,
from Wales.

Vernae received the recognition of Outstanding Student of the Year. Vernae said, "I appreciate Kawerak's generosity in all the years you funded me and helped make my graduation possible. Because of your scholarship and support, I was able to lighten my financial burden and focus on the most important aspect of school, learning. I hope to one day be able to help students reach their goals just as you have helped me."

Theresa Olanna graduated in May from UAA with a Bachelor Degree in Nursing with a Minor in Psychology and Alaska Native Studies. Theresa says, "My family are the Olanna's and Sockpick's. I have a 9-year old son, Rylee. I have been working as an registered nurse at NSHC since January 2015." Theresa

received NSHC's 2015 Compassion Award.



Theresa Olanna,
from Shishmaref.

Gilbert Snell received a Certification in Construction Trades Technology - Carpentry Level 1 at



Gilbert Snell, from Shishmaref.

the Alaska Technical Center in Kotzebue. Gilbert said, "My instructors noticed that I was a great student, who took the initiative, was reliable, and a hard worker. Because I was a hard working student I received the Student of the Year Award."

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Kawerak Newsletter
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Kawerak Newsletter 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.

2016 Vocational Training Graduates:



- Cecelia Nassuk**, from Koyuk, graduated from Amundsen Education Center in Soldotna in May with a Diploma in Professional Medical Coding.
- Axel Katchatag**, from Unalakleet, graduated from Amundsen Education Center in Soldotna in May with a Diploma in Advanced Residential Construction.
- Dan Ivanoff**, from Unalakleet, graduated from the Universal

Technical Institute in Phoenix, AZ in July with a Diploma in Diesel Technology II.

- Charlie Brown**, from Golovin, graduated from Alaska's Institute of Technology (AVTEC) in Seward in May with a Certificate in Construction Technology.
- Jolene Kuzuguk**, from Shishmaref, graduated from AVTEC in Seward in May with a Certificate in Construction Technology.

Congratulations to the 2016 G.E.D. Graduates:



Bethany Johnson,
Nome Eskimo Community



Renee Ellanna,
King Island Community
And: **Brad Appasingok,**
Native Village of Gambell



Lisa Larsen,
Nome Eskimo Community

Call Kawerak Community Education Program at 1-800-478-7574 or 443-4470 or 4467 to enroll in the program and earn your G.E.D.!

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Left to right: **Raina Thiele** (moderator) **Harry Brower Jr.** (North Slope Borough), **Raychelle Daniel** (Pew Charitable Trusts), **Vera Metcalf** (Eskimo Walrus Commission), **Austin Ahmasuk** (Kawerak Marine Program) on a panel titled "Local Voices and Traditional Knowledge for a Sustainable Arctic Economy" in Washington, D.C. June 2016. ~ Photo by Marilyn Heiman.

Capital Hill Ocean Week, *By Kawerak Natural Resources Staff.*

The National Marine Sanctuary Foundation sponsors an annual event, Capitol Hill Ocean Week. The foundation described the event with these words "...as the marine environment opens to economic and security opportunities, more changes are on the horizon with expected

increases in international maritime commerce and trade, energy development, and mining and mineral extraction. Arctic residents must live with the consequences of policy and management decisions and balance environmental protections and sustainable economic development. CHOW 2016 brings

forward indigenous leaders to discuss how local voices and traditional knowledge can contribute to planning for a sustainable Arctic economy and a better future for Alaskan communities." For the audience it was a rare opportunity to hear people from the Arctic and Sub-arctic speak on

traditional knowledge of our people on what we experience. We want to be involved in important decisions, seek help as needed to address impacts, plan for change and benefit in opportunities.

Lemonade Day 2016, *By Alice Bioff, Business Planning Specialist.*



Raymond Hogendorn in Nome.



Above: **Ashley and Jason Olanna** in Brevig Mission.

Below: **Sophia and Makayla Marble** in Nome



Lemonade Day!
Alaska
Creating new entrepreneurs for Alaska...one stand at a time.

Thank You

Thank you for joining and supporting us during the 2016 Lemonade Day Event! The success of Lemonade Day relies on all members of the community coming together for a common purpose - *to train the next generation of entrepreneurs!* The success in our region is an incredible example and inspiration for our children to learn, first-hand, the skills of citizenship, philanthropy, and entrepreneurial action.

Special thanks to all the local organizations region-wide that provided financial and other support to bring Lemonade Day to the Bering Strait Region!

Local Lemonade Day Coordinators who brought Lemonade Day to their communities:

- | | | |
|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| ● Elsie Olanna | ● Joe Murray | ● Angeline Davison |
| ● Kirstie Ione | ● Beda Prentice | ● Frances Ozenna |
| ● Cerene Seppilu | ● Gail Evan | ● Annie Weyiouamma |
| ● Jolene Soolook | ● Dolly Kuzruk | ● Kathy Commack |
| ● Joanne Keyes | ● Carol Smith | ● Tami Slwooko |
| ● Carleen Jack | ● Lisa Haugen | ● Alice Bioff |

Lemonade Day is a National program brought to Alaska by:
UAA College of Business & Public Policy, UAA Center for Economic Development, Wells Fargo, and Kawerak, Inc.



Above left to right: **Cash and Sara Arrington** in Nome.



Above left to right: **Karalee and Danielle Wellert's** lemonade stand in Brevig Mission.



Taanin and Nunaluq's Lemonade Stand Shaktoolik, AK—Gail Evan Coordinator

See more pictures on page 7.

Kawerak, Inc.

G.E.D. Instructor's Journey

By MaryJane Litchard.

Working for Kawerak has its rewards. I began working for Kawerak on January 21, 2003 in the Community Education Program. Since I began working, this program has graduated 380 GED Bering Strait citizens. Before I was hired, 78 GED students had graduated with the new test that started in 2000. Starting in 2014, a student can only take the Official GED Tests via computer at an approved Pearson Vue testing center. In our region, that center is located within Northwest Campus.

Before coming to Kawerak, I was working part-time as a GED Instructor for Nine Star Enterprises at Anchorage when I found out Nome had an instructor's opening. Before that, I worked at Ilisagvik College in Barrow and also for the Makah Tribal Council in Neah Bay, Washington.

How did I start working in the GED program? Let me tell you my journey of how I got involved with GED. As a kid, I had a lisp and could not pronounce my "S's". While growing up in Lost River, Teller, Anchorage, Fairbanks then Barrow, I don't recall any books or magazines at our home. I refused

to speak in classes because of all the teasing. Speech Therapy was available at Wrangell Institute which helped me to learn to pronounce my words correctly. That school also entered me in a reading program called Science Research Associates (SRA) when I was a 9th grader. My speech impediment improved and I discovered it was fun to read.

I graduated in 1969 from Bureau of Indian Affairs School at Mount Edgecumbe. As a young mother, I still had the fear of speaking out while reading. A visitor told me to read one sentence per day to my kids and to myself, then when I got used to it, read one paragraph then later a full page. I felt safe reading to my kids when they were toddlers and told them stories to help them fall asleep. This technique safely boosted my confidence in reading out loud.

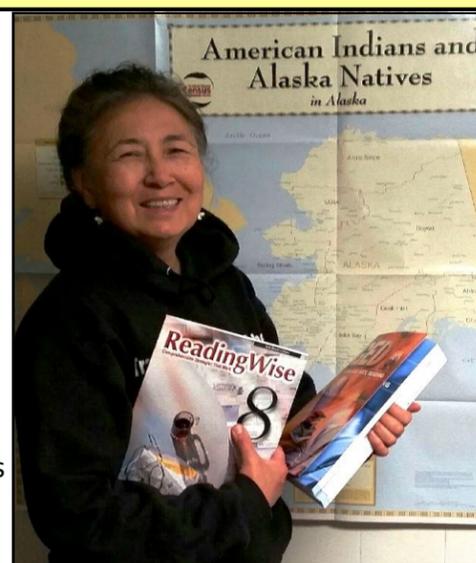
Even though I was a high school graduate, I did not qualify as a freshman college student when I registered. I had to redo my high school math plus I signed up for Speech 101. I overheard college students say they preferred to take Speech 101 at their senior year, but, I decided it would be best to

tackle it first so I can practice to speak clearly in front of my colleagues. I learned tips, not to say "uh", or "um" after every sentence and to speak clearly to the opposite wall.

I signed up for a Reservation Program to continue my education while living in Neah Bay, Washington. Three times a week, my colleagues and I met with two instructors who drove many hours to get to Neah Bay from Olympia's Evergreen Long House Education & Cultural Center that had recently opened while I was there in 1995.

I graduated from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington in 1996. Right after I graduated with a BA, I received a call from the Makah Tribe, saying they need someone with a BA Education degree to do the EvenStart Program in Neah Bay that helps parents work towards their GED plus helps them in the habit of reading bedtime stories to their kids. Ever since I was a little kid, I loved pretending to be a teacher and had all my younger sibling be my students. Once in a while I'd pretend that I was a pastor, and they would be my congregation. So I was excited to start my new career!

I have been involved in educational institutions since 1973. My



BA degrees are in Education and Ethnic Arts and Culture. I really wanted to be a Native Art Instructor to teach many of the dying arts that I know, but the Spirit World had other plans. I got my foot into the door of GED in September 1996. Wow! This September will be my 20th year working for various GED programs.

The Kawerak Community Education Program has over 300 students still needing their GED. Would you like to be our next graduate? If you are interested in starting or continuing working toward obtaining your GED, please call our toll free number of 1-800-478-7574 and our two instructors will be happy to assist you. Nome residents can call 443-4467 for Pam or 443-4470 for Mary Jane.

Camp Igaliq

By Wellness Staff.

Looking back at our past, and what we have learned is important. Also seeing our opportunities and becoming stronger for our future is vital.

Pictured to the left (left to right) are: Jaysen Haugen, Burnell Pete, Ben Pungowiyi, Travis Savetilik, Anikan Paniptchuk, Kelly Eningowuk, Nellie Eningowuk, Amber Otten, Samuel Johns, Mojo Fast, Marjorie Tahbone, Lucinda Toolie, Eleanor Lockwood, Sara Toolie, and Philomena Kobuk.



We would like to thank all who helped and presented at Camp Igaliq! We would also like to thank the following camp sponsors: Alaska Missions for your campsite, NACTEC for use of your van, Methodist Church for use of your fellowship hall, and NSHC Camp Department for your donations.

On the left: Kawerak 2016 Women's Iditarod Basketball Team. Pictured left to right: Mariah Morgan, Melinda Gray, Eva Dickson, Megan Rock, Hattie Keller, Shelly Kuzuguk holding her daughter Alyssa Rode, and Jessica Kuzuguk.

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

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

**BREVIK 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.



Community-Based Certification Training

By Trisha Walters.

Six artists and two business coaches from the Bering Strait Region attended a Community-Based Certification Training in Nome on January 14 - 15. The training was sponsored by the **First Peoples Fund** and **Kawerak's Community Planning and Development (CPD)** program. The First Peoples Fund is an organization based out of Rapid City, South Dakota that is dedicated to the preservation,

advancement, and well-being of American Indian, Native Hawaiian, and Alaska Native arts and culture.

The training was co-facilitated by **Gerald Cournoyer** and **Ben Sherman** both of the Oglala Lakota tribe. Participating artists included: **Randall Jones** of Brevig Mission, **Marjorie Tahbone** and **Melinda Erickson** of Nome, and **Jason Iya**, **Ben Pungowiyi**, & **Edwin Noongwook** all of Savoonga. **Trisha Walters** and

Left to right: **Randall Jones, Trisha Walters, Gerald Cournoyer, Melinda Erickson, Ben Sherman, Alice Bioff, Jason Iya, Ben Pungowiyi, Edwin Noongwook, and Marjorie Tahbone.** ~ Photo by Brandon Ahmasuk

Alice Bioff, who both work for Kawerak's CPD program, participated as business coaches.

The Community-Based Certification Training prepares non-profit professionals and local established artists to work directly with emerging artist who wish to start or grow a business. Participants learned instruction and facilitation techniques as well as artisan business development from a Native perspective. After the training, several newly certified trainers were able to facilitate Native Artist

Professional Development (NAPD) Trainings in this region. The NAPD Training is based on Native values and aims to equip artists with knowledge, tools, and confidence to succeed as business people and contributing members of their communities.

For additional information on NAPD curriculum & to earn more about available small business resources, contact Alice Bioff, Business Planning Specialist or Brian James, Business Development Specialist at 1-800-219-2599 or 443-4246.

KNEWS Client Spotlight

By Katie Bourdon, Workforce Development Director.



clients may not have taken before and allows a chance to see if these volunteer work activities could be a future career to consider pursuing. Kimberly shared that she "was having trouble in the past looking for

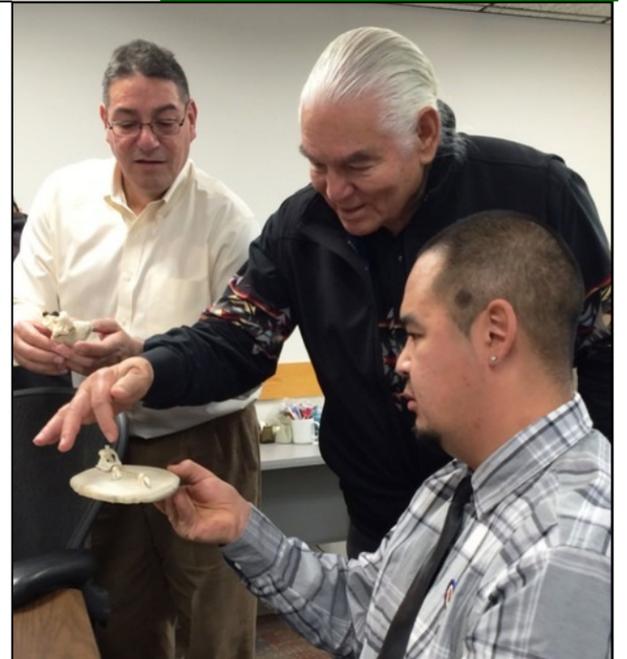
Kimberly Aluska has embraced volunteering in her community to enhance her skills and serve her community. She began her involvement with KNEWS providing Elder Care for an Elder and volunteering with after school youth activities for her local church. She completed those placements successfully and began volunteering at the school where Kimberly began to find her niche. "These days we have so much trouble with children. We need to act with love and kindness. One day, during the lunch time, I approached this child who had his feelings hurt. By acting in kindness and gentleness, it uplifted him." Kimberly enjoys the environment at the school and all the teachers and aides. She feels valued at the school and appreciated. Volunteering can open doors to opportunities

places [to work] until KNEWS stepped in to make phone calls to organizations to see if they had any available volunteer work. We are only volunteers, but they really appreciate the help." Kimberly is a great example of using KNEWS to benefit her family and her community! Thank you to Kimberly for her positive attitude and contributions to Stebbins! She recently was hired as a permanent paraprofessional with the Bering Strait School District. Congratulations Kim!

All of KNEWS (Kawerak Native Employment Work Services) clients are referred from the Division of Public Assistance. Not all clients on TANF (Temporary

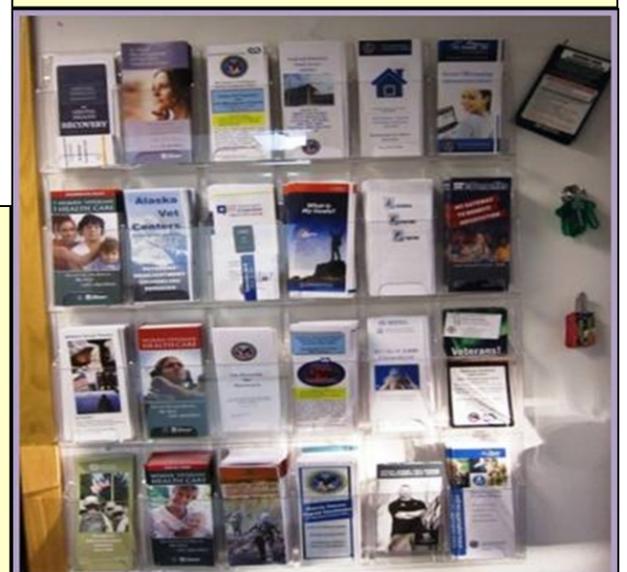
Assistance to Needy Families) are referred to KNEWS. Currently, we have clients in Elim, Gambell, Savoonga, and Stebbins. Clients' skills and interests are assessed to determine a positive volunteer work activity placement for them. During the summer months, clients are heavily involved in subsistence activities, but continue to volunteer time to earn their assistance benefit. If your village organization does not have a current Site Agreement with KNEWS, please contact us for more information at 1-855-443-4275 or check us out at www.kawerak.org under Education, Employment and Training. The Site Agreement allows for TANF clients to volunteer at your organization to learn valuable work habits and skills, and earn their assistance benefit.

The Kawerak Vocational Rehabilitation Program has a new informational display that includes resources available to you through the Veterans Administration. Please stop by to take a look and a few brochures while you are here. If you live in one of our villages please feel free to call 1-877-759-4362 or direct at (907) 443-4349 to have information mailed to you.



Gerald Cournoyer & Ben Sherman examining Randall Jones's carvings. ~ Photo by Trisha Walters

Attention Veterans!



Kawerak, Inc.



Above, Iditarod Basketball 2016—Kawerak Men’s Team—Wearing red, left to right: **Josh Gologergen, Jeff Lyon, Jeremy Iyapana, Washington Takak, and Keven Rodgers**. Also on team were **Edwin Tucker, Dave Blanning, Austin Ahmasuk, Dennis Pullock, and Kohren Green**.



Grand Opening of the NSHC Triplex in St. Michael

Photo on the left, left: left to right: **Emily and Florence Lockwood and Harold Kobuk** at the Grand Opening dinner. ~ Photo by Carleen Jack.

Photo on the right: **Kawerak and NSHC staff and NSHC Board Members** at the Ribbon cutting Ceremony on May 19.



8th Annual Walk for Life, By Panganga Pungowiya, Wellness Director.



Golovin Walk for Life



White Mountain Walk for Life

The 8th Annual Walk for Life was held on June 10. This event commemorates the strength of our communities by celebrating

our own healing & showing support for those in need. In Nome, **Andrea Irrigoo** emceed the event. It began with an opening

from Saint Lawrence Island Dance Group. We were also graced with **Carol Seppilu’s** meaningful words to help us reflect on the importance of supporting one another. Nome participants met at Old St. Joe’s Church. Seaside residents and Boys & Girls Club youth made flowers. Residents carried banners, signs, and showed support by walking together, along with other communities across our region and throughout the State.

youth, **NSHC CAMP** Sumercise interns, **Seaside, AC Value Center** for their contribution of serving gloves, the **Tahbone family** for their use of the generator, the **Nome Police Department** for escorting the event, and all of those community members who were able to participate. We are happy some of our outlying communities were able to host their own events. **White Mountain** had 106 show up for their Walk for Life and **Golovin** had 50 participants. If any other communities in the region are interested, Wellness can still support your event. Please contact Kawerak Wellness for more information at 1-800-478-5153 or in Nome at 443-4393, or email wellness.dir@kawerak.org.



Nome Walk for Life

Teller Scrap Metal Cleanup Project, By IGAP Staff.

Official papers were signed by **Luann Bloggett** allowing the two local Environmental Protection Agency Indian General Assistance Grant

Programs (EPA IGAPs) of both Teller Traditional Council and Mary’s Igloo Traditional Council to clean the debris at the Bloggett site which burned several years ago.

Work will begin this summer. Once the project is complete, it will improve public safety and make the community more beautiful.



Congratulations!



to the following employees who were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the mission of Kawerak. And the region Please join us in recognizing their performance for 2016!



January - Dorothy Barr
White Mountain Tribal Coordinator



February - Anthony Shield
Information Technology Technician



March - Marjorie Tahbone
Cultural Materials Development Specialist

SAVE THE DATE Oct. 12-14, 2016 Bering Strait Voices' Vision for Action Summit

OCTOBER 2016 SUMMIT MISSION:

"The tribes in the Bering Strait region will be informed so tribal members can be proactive in protecting our marine resources. Participants will be furnished with information needed to advocate for communities. Participants will develop a shared long-term vision for the region."



WHERE:
Nome Covenant Church
Nome, AK

WHO TO CONTACT:

Austin Ahmasuk, Marine Advocate
marine.advocate@kawerak.org
(907) 443-4368

Sponsored by the Kawerak Marine Program and the Pew Charitable Trusts' U.S. Arctic Program

Natural Resources Summer Internship

By Julie Raymond-Yakoubian and Vera Metcalf

Kawerak's Social Science Program and Eskimo Walrus Commission were fortunate to share an intern for two months. **Brandon Bachman**, Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) student at UAA, spent the months of May and June in Nome working on a variety of projects. This internship was funded by ANSEP (through a grant from the Oak Foundation) and will also support one or two additional ANSEP student interns at Kawerak during the summer of 2017. The National Park Service in Nome partnered with Kawerak on the internship program by providing low-cost housing for the intern. Thanks also to Cindy Wieler, Katya Wassillie, and Roy Ashenfelter for their assistance

during the internship! Our next newsletter will feature an article written by Brandon about his experiences while serving his internship at Kawerak.



Brandon Bachman grew up in Haines and is Yup'ik with family from Kwigillingok. He says, "My internship with Kawerak gave me experiences that I will never forget."

Kawerak, Inc.



Above: Thanks to funding from Norton Sound Economic Development Corp. & the Rasmuson Foundation a new playground was constructed in Golovin and opened in August. -Photo by Sonja Herrmann

On left: Ryan Outwater in Nome.



Delila & Leandra Cheemuk and Westly & Leo Kobuk in Nome.

EMPEROR GOOSE hunting remains **CLOSED** through **2016**
>>> STATEWIDE <<<

The Alaska Migratory Bird Co-Mgt Council is working to open a limited harvest in the future.

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

Grilled Flounder, *By Joe Garnie, Teller.*

- Place starry flounder on grill over fire
- Flip over after about a minute
- Peel off skin
- Season to taste (salt, etc.)
- Flip over again and peel off skin on other side
- Season to taste

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.

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 & Responsibility to Tribe.



Juvenile flounder, Stebbins.



Participants from the St. Michael Local Economic Development Plan workshop in May. Standing: Milton Cheemuk, Alvin Washington, James Nicksick Sr., Thomas Cheemuk, Helen Law, Shirley Matrin, Gwendolyn Myomick, Bobbi A. Andrews, Paula Myomick, Bill Hawkins, and facilitator Pearl Mikulski. Seated: Bernadette Joe, Elizabeth Aketachunak, Emily Lockwood and Andrew Lockwood, Sr. – Photo taken by Carleen Jack.



Above: NACTEC King Island kayaq.



Above: Exhibit planning in the Kawerak board room.

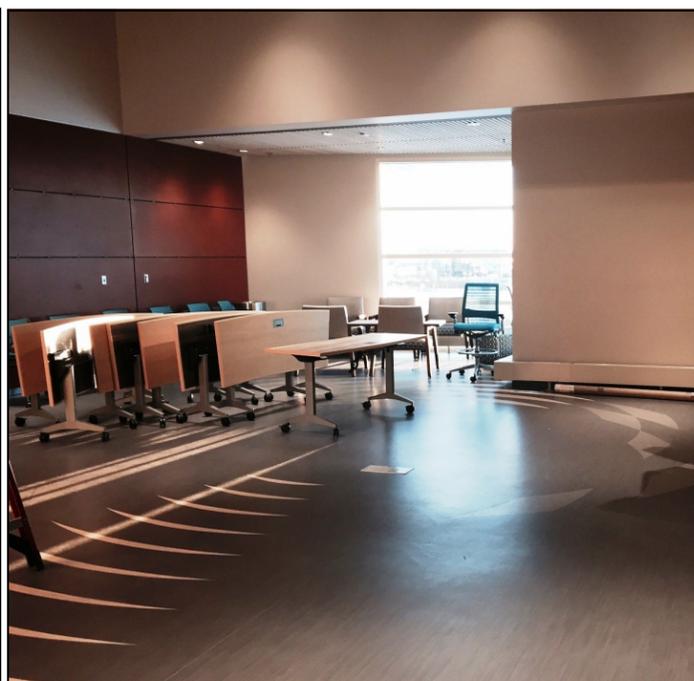


Above: King Island old and new kayaks.

Grand Opening Katirvik Cultural Center-October 29

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**
- Herring \$100**



To the left is the exhibit gallery and above is the gathering room of the new Katirvik Cultural Center.

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.

Kawerak acknowledges and thanks everyone who has contributed to Katirvik Cultural Center.

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.