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

Vernae Angnaboogok 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 of Arts Degree in Rural Development. Theresa says, “My family are the Olanna’s and Sockpick’s. I have a 9-year old son, Rylee. I have been working as a registered nurse at NSHC since January 2015.” Theresa received NSHC’s 2015 Compassion Award.

Vernae Angnaboogok, from Wales.

Gilbert Snell, from Shishmaref.

Gualooyarnavatun translated in the Inupiaq language means: Tomorrow again!

Quyanna! Visit our website at www.kawerak.org.

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 to enroll in the program and earn your G.E.D.
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.

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:
- Elisa Olanna
- Kirstie Jones
- Cassie Suppula
- Jolene Soolook
- Joanne Lee
- Christina Jack
- Lisa Hanger
- 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.

Below: More photos on page 7.
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 opportunities and becoming stronger for our future is vital.

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

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: Jayson Haugen, Burnell Pete, Ben Pungowiyi, Travis Savetilik, Anikan Panipthuk, Kelly Eningowuk, Nellie Eningowuk, Amber Otten, Samuel Johns, Mojo Fast, Marjorie Tahbone, Lucinda Toolie, Eleanor Lockwood, Sara Toolie, and Philomena Kobuk.

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:

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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 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 1-800-253-2599 or 443-44275 or check us out at www.kawerak.org under Education, Employment and Training. The Site Agreement allows for TANF clients to be referred to KNEWS to volunteer at your organization to learn valuable work habits and skills, and earn their assistance benefit.

KNEWS Client Spotlight

By Katie Bourdon, Workforce Development Director.

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 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 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 1-855-443-44275 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.

Attention Veterans!

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) 443-4429 to have information mailed to you.
8th Annual Walk for Life, By Panganga Pungowiyi, Wellness Director.

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. Suicide, addiction, violence, and sexual abuse affects everyone. Whether it’s our life or someone else’s, we all can make a difference. Special thanks to all that contributed: Kawerak, Boys & Girls Club, Nome Eskimo Community for bringing their 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.

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

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.”

Natural Resources Summer Internship

By Julie Raymond-Yakoubian and Vera Metcalf

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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.”
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

Find the whole recipe book at www.kawerak.org/socialsci.html.

INUPIAQ VALUES:

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.

Juvenile flounder, Stebbins.

Above: NACTEC King Island kayak.

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 $150,000
- King Salmon $75,000
- Red Salmon $50,000
- Silver Salmon $25,000
- Chum Salmon $25,000
- Pink Salmon $10,000
- Trout $5,000
- Arctic Char $1,000
- Trout $1,000
- Herring $100

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.
