



A G'WA N E R M I U T K A S I T A Q

AFOGNAK
PEOPLE'S
NEWSLETTER

Julie and Dennis Knagin Mess Hall



During Shareholder Camp we had a lovely dedication of our new mess hall to Julie and Dennis Knagin. With over 80 people in attendance we had a heartfelt tribute to what Julie and Dennis meant to our camp. The following is the dedication written from them.

Julie and Dennis were valued, loved and honored elder participants at Dig Afognak. Since its existence, both Julie and Dennis were instrumental in creating an atmosphere where we can nurture

and cultivate our Alutiiq language and culture in our youth.

We honor Julie's belief that we cannot ever give up on a child because of their actions, we just need to work hard to find the happiness within each child and bring it out of them. We honor Dennis's strong need to preserve our language and culture by remembering and honoring our history as Alutiiq people. Their gift of knowledge, their patience, and their friendly, silly and loving approach has touched

countless lives. Their legacy lives on in each one of these memories and every time we practice these lessons at Dig Afognak today.

Julie and Dennis believed that we needed to know where we came from and honor the values that our ancestors created for us. It is through these values that we will become who we are suppose to be. Let us all honor Dennis and Julie by living those values of respect, sharing, culture and most of all love. Memory Eternal Julie and Dennis.



Dig Afognak Update

The 2015 Dig camp season went great. We had a total of 177 campers along with several day visitors, 6 youth interns over the course of the summer and 9 adults that worked at camp. The new mess hall is a much needed blessing to camp, it is dry, warm and we at last get to eat our meals together as one big family; it also serves as a nice activity center when needed. Thank all of you for your generous donations, not only for the Mess Hall but for the camp program itself, it would not be possible without your help. A special thanks also to those that volunteered their time as presenters and those that volunteered their time helping to complete the Mess Hall.



Our season started with Traditional Harvesting and Earth camp. The participants learned to set the gillnet, observe how to clean a deer and a sea otter and practiced archery. Along with gathering edible plants around camp the youth made an art project using recyclables. Campers also learned the importance of keeping our land and sea clean, that was followed up with having cleaned 2 beaches collecting 340 pounds of marine debris, consisting primarily of plastics, foam, and rope. Unfortunately due to weather we were unable to make it to the fish weir this year.



Survivor camp is always one of our most popular camps. The youth learn skills that apply to living in our environment; should they be out boating or hunting and get stranded or hurt. The kids would be able to use what they learned at camp to survive the harsh climate of our Island. Campers built shelters, learned emergency first aide, practiced getting into survival suits, learned kayak safety, used compasses and gps's and picked plants that were edible to eat off the land. They wrapped up all their learning and practicing with sewing survival kits.



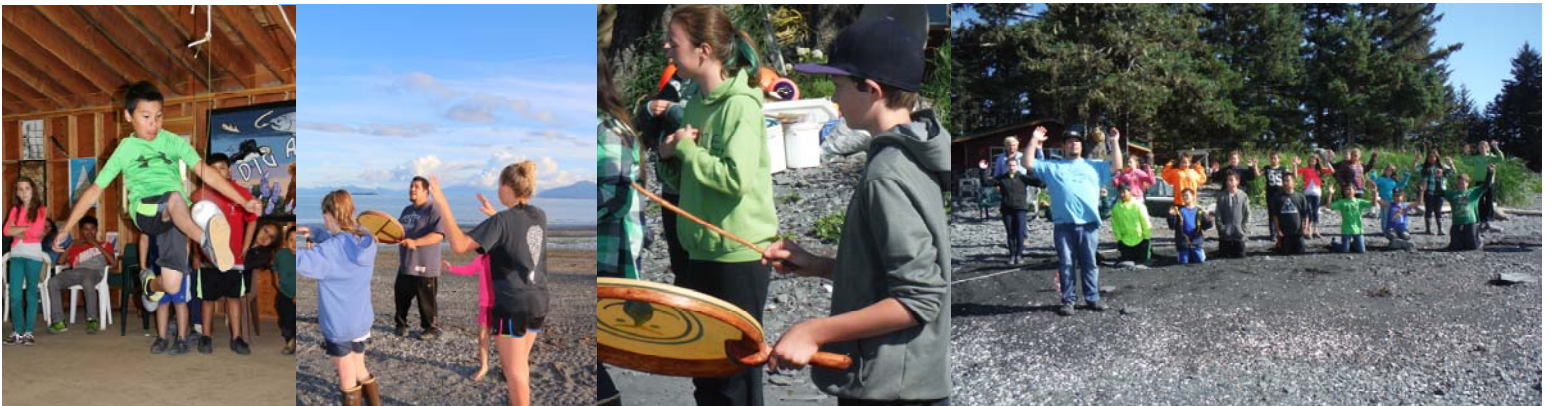
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Shareholder camp is partially sponsored by Afognak Native Corporation for ANC Shareholders. This camp was one of our largest shareholder family camps yet. It is a time for the people of Afognak to reconnect and share their memories of life in Afognak. The campers made fur slippers, beach glass jewelry and painted art and copper pictures. Staff was able to take them to visit the old village for one afternoon. They enjoyed kayaking, swimming, sea otter hunting, and hiking beaches around camp. We also held the Afognak People's picnic at camp this year to dedicate our Mess Hall to the late Julie and Dennis Knagin.



Language and Music camp was our last camp for the season of 2015 which was partially funded with Native Village of Port Lions Language funds. Peter Squartsoff, Mason Mullan and Logan Eggers taught the campers the Port Lions Alutiiq dances. Our NVA Language staff taught the Alutiiq language and a walking stick art project. With all the marine debris washing ashore, the campers once again cleaned one of the same beaches as they did during the first camp and collected approximately 200 more pounds of plastics and rope. They received 30 visitors 24 of them from a cultural exchange with Nenana Native Council, the group spent the day at camp teaching NYO games and exchanging dances; everyone enjoyed the exchange and look forward to more. We also had a group of 6 from the National Endowment for the Humanities and Alaska Humanities Forum attend, one spent a few nights out at camp and the rest of the group spent one night. They thoroughly enjoyed learning about our culture and seeing the beauty of Afognak Island.





Chair Letter

Cama'i Tribal Members:



On behalf of the staff and Council we would like to say quyanaasinaq to all who helped support the construction of the mess hall at Dig Afognak. Phase I of the building is complete and it turned out beautifully. A small, dedicated group of men worked tirelessly to complete phase I and ensure the building was useable by the first day of camp and they accomplished their goal. We are thankful to have seen this dream come to life and enjoyed how much the new building helped camp be a success this year.

While we are pleased with our successful camp season, it is with great regret that we say goodbye to NVA's three language program staff Kari Sherod, Lynda Lorensen and Sean Hales. Unfortunately, small non-profits frequently have to say goodbye to quality staff when positions are grant/contract funded, this was the case here as well. While our staff completed nine federal grant proposals this year, we have yet to hear if any have been funded and without that commitment, we simply cannot afford to keep our current level of staff. We hope that by the time the next newsletter comes out we will hear some good news and be able to report positive change in our programming for the coming year. Kari, Lynda and Sean, we bid you a quyanaasinaq for all of your efforts in revitalizing the Alutiiq language and specifically your efforts toward the Northern style of the language.

Without your dedication, we would not have accomplished so many amazing milestones in our program. We hope you continue to work towards your own Alutiiq fluency and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

In a short while, NVA will be hosting our annual meeting and election, scheduled on Saturday September 26th at the Afognak Native Corporation's shareholder space. This year we have two seats up for election, with Jim Dunham and Malia Villegas both re-running for their seats along with two additional people, Roberta Blondin and Raymond May. We are excited to see new interest in our tribal council and wish all candidates luck as they start their campaigns. We hope to see many people attend the meeting again and encourage new membership in running for the Council or getting involved through committees. Please don't hesitate to call our offices if you would like more information.



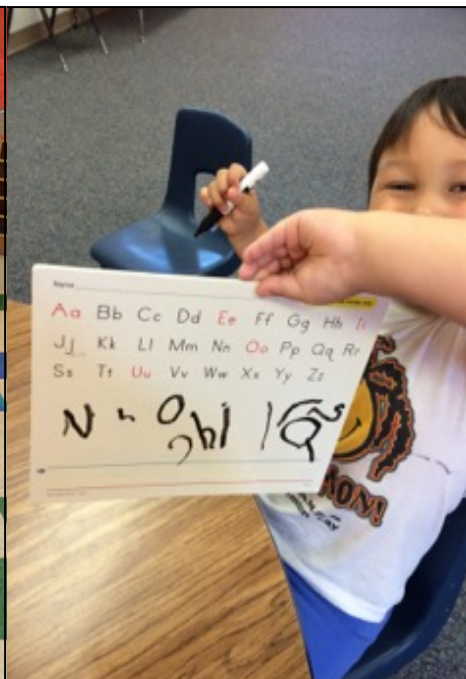
Kindergarten Prep



During the months of June and July, Native Village of Afognak offered the kindergarten prep program to our tribal members and community preschool aged children. There were a total of 10 enrolled students, 4 of which were tribal members.

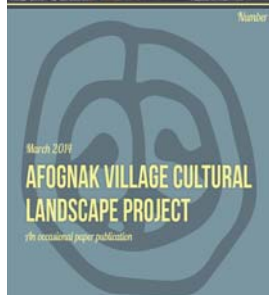
During the four-week session, kinder prep was held Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Main Elementary. They were also able to participate in the free lunch program that runs during the summer, so the children had a true feel for the structure of kindergarten being in one of the local schools and lunchroom setting.

The curriculum taught included letter names and sounds, numbers, rhymes, matching and opposites. By the end of the session, most children were able to recognize and write their first names. There were sensory activities with shaving cream and play dough the children made themselves, and also lessons in the Alutiiq language. The children had the opportunity to play on the playground and in the school gym. At the end of the program, several parents and the students gave positive feedback on the experience and both children and parents were looking forward to moving on to kindergarten.

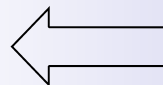




The answers to the last newsletter's old Afognak photo is L to R Edwin Nelson and Sonny Chichenoff



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

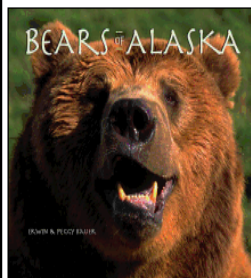


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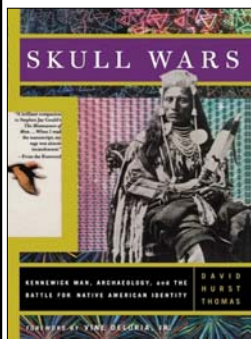
The BIA, in collaboration with the Native Village of Afognak and SWCA Environmental Consultants, published a book about the Village of Afognak. This publication is part of their "Occasional Papers" Series. Much of the information that is contained in this book is also being used by NVA in our pursuit to have the old village of Afognak placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

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

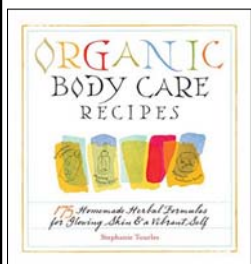
Nadia Mullan Alutiig Heritage Library Features



Bears of Alaska is a memorable portrait of an icon of the Last Frontier: Alaska's bears. Ranging across the state, these bears are powerful, handsome, ferocious, curious, hungry, protective, alert, endearing and unquestionably wild. From the remote beauty of a polar bear crossing arctic ice to the comical antics of a grizzly trying to scratch, Erwin and Peggy Bauer present the best of nearly thirty years of photographing Alaska's wild bruins. An accompanying essay describes the natural history of each species, as well as details on such popular bear-viewing sites as the McNeil River Sanctuary.



In *Skull Wars*, renowned archaeologist David Hurst Thomas traces the five hundred year roots of the Kennewick Man controversy. From Thomas Jefferson's invention of scientific archaeology to the brutal massacres in which skulls of Indian warriors were sent east to build museum collections; from the strange fates of Ishi and Qisuk to the astonishing power of oral tradition in preserving centuries old memories, this book tells what really went on between archaeologists and Indians and shows how the two groups can work together in the future.



Organic Body Care Recipes will help you discover the joy and fun of crafting your own personalized body care products using herbs and other natural ingredients that nourish, pamper, cleanse, and protect the skin without using irritating or harmful chemicals. In just minutes, you can whip up dozens of organic treatments that will make your face radiant, your skin glow, your hair shine, and your hands and nails beautiful. From head to toe, you'll find the perfect treatment for every part of your body, whether you're looking for a relaxing bath blend, a stimulation facial mask, a natural bug repellent, a refreshing mouthwash, or a sensual body cream.



Particulate Matter and Your Health

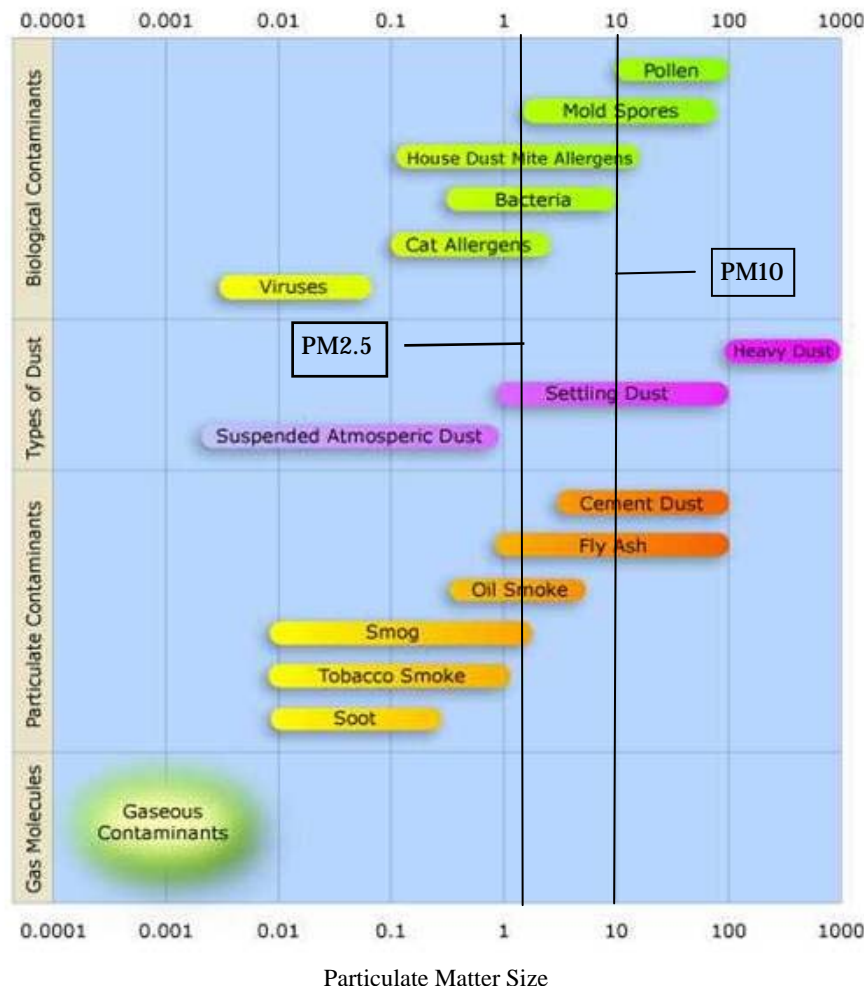
What Is particulate matter? Particulate matter is small solid particles and/or liquid droplets. The numbers 2.5 and 10 refer to diameter size in microns. PM 2.5 refers to inhalable coarse particles 2.5 microns or smaller which comes from combustion.

PM10 refers to matter 10 micrometers or smaller which comes from road dust, eroded river beds, un-vegetated lots and construction sites.

Health affects of exposure to particulate matter, specifically PM 2.5 and PM10 can include:

- Premature death in people with heart or lung disease,
 - Nonfatal heart attacks,
 - Irregular heartbeat,
 - Aggravated asthma,
 - Decreased lung function and
- Increased respiratory symptoms, such as irritation of the airways, coughing or difficulty breathing.

The table below shows comparison in size and type of potential ambient and indoor air pollutants.



Be air wise, limit your exposure to particulate matter!



Staff Spotlight: Jordan Hayden



Native Village of Afognak was fortunate enough to have a wonderful summer intern here in our office. Jordan Hayden is the daughter of Natasha and Seamus Hayden and Granddaughter of William and Tempe Berestoff. Jordan is a 15-year-old student who loves to swim and to be able to connect with her Alutiiq culture and people. During Jordan's time at our office she manned our front desk and took over many administrative assistant duties. Jordan said that the highlight of her internship was making the tiles for the Mess Hall Campaign. She worked diligently on making each one perfect and was able to see the amount of support Native Village of Afognak gets for Dig Afognak.

We are so thankful to have such a sweet and hardworking intern for the summer. Quyanaa Jordan we will miss you!

Attention:

We are looking for current mailing addresses for the following tribal members please contact Denise Malutin or Taletha Gertz by phone at (907) 486-6357 or by email at denise@afognak.org or Taletha@afognak.org

Alexandra Leslie

Susan Mathis

Althea Halmsteiner

Debra Mullan

Frederick Chouinard

Gilbert Mathis

Gordan McCormick

Izair Chute

Jo Ann Palmer

Jodi McDonald

Lucille Dulin

Martin Palmer

Mary Blankenship

Michelle Novotny

Myrtle Kelley



Nicole Charters

Robert Halmsteiner

Roy Skinner

Viola Skinner

Garret Schmidt

Thomas Mathis

Valerie Benson

Robert Chouinard

Richard Frost

Lisa Rhodes

Theresa Etheridge

David Schott

Kristjan Olsen

Marlene Keely

Afognak Old Photo

Can you identify this person featured in the photo below?

Email your answer to taletha@afognak.org.

If you are the first to answer correctly, you will receive a prize.



Quyanaa!



We would like to thank the following for their donations for the Dig Afognak Camp Program and Mess Hall Campaign:

Loretta Nelson
Jim Dunham
Meagan Christiansen
Loren Anderson
Natasha and Seamus Hayden
Malia Villegas
Ken Nelson Jr.
Nancy Nelson
Ginger Ward
Darrell and Joanna Brewer
Olga Rowland
Ray and Jessica May
Richard and Melissa Borton
Bob and Denise May
Janice and Marlyn Stiller
Brian and Dawn Kewan
Lukin -White Family
Perry Eaton
Ron Unger and Family
Mitch and Sasha Keplinger
Ali Sorenson
James Skonberg
Betty and Jerry Bongen
Wayne and Patricia Kozak
Michael Mullan
Tom Panamaroff and Asta Keller
Dan and Barb Behm
Dusty Kaser
Jeff Abate
Donna Roduta
Marci Orth
Suzy Villegas
Diane Cooper

Carol Ashlock
Misha Mullan
Marius and Andi Olsen
Thorvold & Constance L. Olsen
Leland and Cheryl Olsen
Hans Olsen Jr.
Arthur and Carol Olsen
Rodney & Nancy Olsen
James and Gladys Allen
Arnold and Judy Olsen
Denise Burger
Bill and Tasha Zang
Victoria Stuart
Theresa Byrd
Charlie Mahle
Carol and Ken Hanson
April Laktonen-Counciller
John Abell
Robbie Townsend Vennel
Brennan Cain
Marit Carlson VanDort
Clifford L. Selig
Matthew W. Daggett
Amy Shimek
Ruth Dawson
Marty and Andrea Shuravloff
Mary Fearn
Robert Sabochick
Patricia Branson
Glen and Thayo Brandal
Chris Abell
Melvin Kewan
Louis Rocheleau

Charlie Jerling and Dee Hughes
Guy and Bobbi Bartleson
Afognak Native Corporation
Koniag Incorporated
Native Village of Port Lions
Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
Ouzinkie Native Corporation
Kodiak Area Native Association
Alutiiq Museum
Kodiak Island Borough
Kodiak Island Housing Authority
Rasmuson Foundation
Kodiak Community College UAA
Big Ray's
Shelikof Lodge
BDO USA LLC
Dimond Center LLC Holdings
Miller Construction Equipment
Lu Young Foundation
Whale Pass Lodge
Nickle Dime Inc. DBA Cost Savers
American Seafood
R.C. Enterprises Inc.
Sno-Bruins
F/V Clyde
F/V Sitkinak
Scott's Heating
Roger Malutin
Bobby and Galena Nelson
Neal Skonberg Sr.
Bobby Morrison and Ella Moonin
AT&T

Rural Alaska Community Action Program
ANTHC
Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance
Tikigaq Corporation
Alaska Native Heritage Foundation
Providence Healthy Tomorrows
Alvin Edenshaw "Dooner"
Mary Beth Loewen
Dale and Mindy Pruitt





Native Village of Afognak

Annual Meeting & Tribal Election

September 26, 2015

Location: Afognak Native Corporation

300 Alimaq Drive

Potluck Lunch at 12:00pm

Call to Order at 12:30pm

Come learn about the projects NVA is
involved with.

Hope to see you all there!

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact us
at (907) 486-6357 or tribe@afognak.org



Special Announcements



Port Lions 3rd - 5th graders sent NVA a thank you letter with a photo after they used our van for their annual swim trip into town. For the past couple of years, the young students send a letter of request to use the van while in town for a 3-4 day swim trip. Once the van is returned and the students are back home, We always receive a nice thank you. Quyanaa Port Lions 3rd—5th graders for being so respectful!

If you have a special announcements that you would like to share in our newsletter

please email

Nina at nina@afognak.org.



We Will Be Closed

Monday, October 19, 2015 for Alaska Day

Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27, 2015 for Thanksgiving day

Thursday & Friday December 24 & 25, 2015 for
Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Native Vote

Native Village of Afognak promotes everyone to get out and vote at their local, state and federal elections.

Elections are coming up fast....Are you registered to vote?

Visit the State of Alaska website to keep up with all election information

<http://www.elections.alaska.gov/>

Native Village of Afognak

323 CAROLYN STREET, KODIAK, AK 99615

Place
Stamp
Here

TRIBAL COUNCIL

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

STAFF

Melissa Borton, Tribal Administrator
Nancy Nelson, Program Administrator
Shurina Skonberg, Accounting Manager
Denise Malutin, Cultural Programs Coordinator
Taletha Gertz, Program Manager
Nina Gronn, Office Coordinator
Bessie Lea Weston, Environmental Program Assistant

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



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Announcements

Sun'aq Tribal Bingo



Open Tuesday-Saturday

Doors open @ 6:00pm
Bingo starts @ 7:30pm



FRIDAY doors open @ 6:00pm

1st Session starts @ 7:00pm

2nd Session starts @ 10:00pm

Monthly Specials, Ticket Drawings

We have Pull Tabs too

Questions or Comments Contact
Manager: Doreen Anderson
907-486-6759 or 907-486-6735