





# AG'WANERMUT

AFOGNAK  
PEOPLE'S  
NEWSLETTER

# KASITAQ

## Chair Letter

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Cama'i Tribal Members: I'd like to start off by thanking everyone who attended and participated in our annual meeting and election on September 24th. I would also like to thank Brea Dawson for putting her name in to run for our Council. It's refreshing to see one of our young people who have been participating in our programs for years and now wanting to step into a leadership role; we hope she continues to stay involved. Congratulations to my colleague, Loren Anderson for being re-elected and quyanaa to everyone for re-electing me and to my colleagues for re-appointing me as chair.

As we enter this holiday season, I find myself being appreciative for all that we are blessed with. NVA is closing one of our most successful years, while it wasn't our largest in grant revenue; it was our most successful in fundraising. Our success and support largely comes from our wonderful tribal members. It is such a blessing to be a part of this amazing Afognak family.

Often times I get asked, what does our Tribe actually do for its members? I believe there are many benefits that NVA provides its members, both directly and indirectly. NVA provides various programs that tribal members can participate in, such as; Dig Afognak, the after school program, tutoring, the Alutiiq dancers and youth internships. We also provide supportive services through the Indian Child Welfare and domestic violence programs. One of our newest benefits is the higher education scholarship offered through Koniag Education Foundation, which we are thrilled to finally have in place.

In addition to the programs and benefits that members can access our Council and staff also provide an array of advocacy that has a greater impact for our tribal members and our community. NVA advocates on many issues that face our people, from fisheries to economic development to health and wellness. Our environmental program actively participates in events, meetings and consultations regarding the many environmental hazards facing our people; recently this includes the Navy Gulf of Alaska Northern Edge Training. Our Council regularly advocates on issues such as education, transportation, economic development, increasing funding for services and Indian child welfare laws. Lastly, Council and NVA Administration have also been advocating on issues such as subsistence access and rights, marine mammal harvesting regulations and access to fisheries for our young people.

If you are interested in learning more about what your Tribe does and participates in please call our office or one of your Council members. Quyanaa and happy holidays.





# Dig Afognak



Native Village of Afognak would like to thank the following individuals for donating to support the 2016 Dig Afognak Camp Program. Without your generous donations, passing on and sharing our cultural traditions and teachings would not be possible!

Marius and Andi Olsen  
Cheryl Sutter  
Robert Thorpe  
Matthew Neagley  
Hans Olsen Jr.  
Gloria Bishop  
Wayne and Patricia Kozak  
Donna Roduta  
Clifford Selig  
Ruth Dawson  
Darrell and Joanna Brewer  
Rick Borton  
Brock Simmons  
Susie Malutin  
James Rains III

James Bautista  
Loretta Nelson  
Charlie Jerling  
Ray and Jessica May  
Virginia Ward  
AFC  
United Way of Anchorage  
Sno-Bruins  
ICE Services Inc  
Alaska Energy Services  
Delta Leasing LLC  
RNV LLC  
Alaska Executive Search Inc.  
Old Harbor Native Corporation  
Price Gregory Int'l Inc.

Native Village of Port Lions  
Kodiak Area Native Association  
The Lynden Family of Companies  
Natives of Kodiak  
American Seafoods Company LLC  
Matson Foundation  
The CIRI Foundation  
Sun'aq Tribal Bingo  
Afognak Native Corporation  
Ouzinkie Native Corporation  
Koniag, Inc.  
Kodiak Island Housing  
Alaska Humanities Forum  
Rasmuson Foundation

We had our second year of the haunted house, it not only brings us some financial income for camp, but it is a fun event for the Kodiak Community, primarily our youth! A special thank you to our interns, Kristopher Hill-McLaughlin, Anthony Lukin, Skylar Gertz and staff Kate Blondin, Denise Malutin, and Nina Gronn for going the extra mile to turn our office into a haunted house, your efforts are deeply appreciated. We would also like to thank the following volunteers for working at the haunted house.

Brea Dawson  
Stevi Sison



Sadie Coyle  
Elizabeth Borton  
Alyssa Madrid  
Jordan Hayden  
Aiyana Gertz  
Amber Borton  
O'Raun Anderson  
Joseph McFarlin  
Leslie Spear

Lacey Nugent  
Aiden Skonberg  
Malakai Olson  
Ashton Gunderson  
Anthony Saragon  
Sean Hales  
Alyssa Brenteson  
Meagan Christiansen  
Loretta Nelson  
Natasha Hayden  
Neal Skonberg Sr.  
Chad Pruitt  
Cheryl Nugent  
Jay Eberle  
Sno-Bruins  
Local Electric

You all did a fantastic job.

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I am the eldest of three younger siblings Gavin Gundersen, Bella Hoedel, and Landen Armand. My father's parents are Candace Nelson and Robert Hoedel. My mother's parents are Wayne Lukin and Nelda Caldwell.

I am one of the High School Interns at the lovely Native Village of Afognak, I began in October of this year and am really enjoying it! I am a senior at Kodiak High school, I am planning on attending Kodiak Community College for at least two years after I graduate in May of 2017. In my free time, I enjoy hiking, spending time with my close family members and friends, taking photos, and playing video games.

I have become enlightened about the history of Afognak and their complex ways of living and realizing how fortunate I am to be living in a generation such as this with numerous modern conveniences... blessings like this internship for instance, to teach us young people how to be more efficient adults. I am truly grateful to be working here at NVA with caring & respectful people, & learning more about my own heritage!



## People of Afognak Photo



Can you identify the people featured in this photo? If you can, email your answer to [taletha@afognak.org](mailto:taletha@afognak.org).  
If you are the first to answer correctly, you will receive a prize.





## New Interns



**Cama'i,** My name is Kristopher Hill-McLaughlin. I was born and raised in Kodiak, Alaska. My father is Karl McLaughlin and my mother is Tricia Krug. I am the middle child of 4, my sister Madison, half-brothers Jackson Krug and Kalson McLaughlin, and half-sister Aniston Krug. Jack Hill and Patty Hill are my mother's parents. My father's mother is Gloria Bishop, whose parents were Julie and Dennis Knagin. I am one of the high school interns for Native Village of Afognak (NVA). I started in October of 2016 and am enjoying this opportunity NVA has provided. I am a senior at Kodiak High School, after Graduating I plan on going to University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) to study Mechanical Engineering. I enjoy mentally stimulating tasks like putting together a computer from scratch, biking across town to the store, puzzles, and games. My father recommended that I should apply to NVA. He knew I was looking for a job, and it would benefit my future. Having a job that allows for hours after school makes working for NVA very nice, and my bosses are great. Quyanaa.

**Cama'i** gui Skylar Gertz, my great grandmother is Nadia Mullan and my great grandfather is Patrick Mullan. My mother is Taletha (Fearn) Gertz and my father is Alan Gertz. My mother's parents are Mary and Bill Fearn and my father's parents are Anne and Gary Gertz. I am the oldest child out of three siblings, Aiyana my younger sister, and Cayleb is the youngest. I was born in Bellingham Washington, and stayed in that area for a few years. After moving from place to place in Washington, we finally moved to Kodiak when I was six years old.



I am a freshman at Kodiak High School and one of the Interns at Native Village of Afognak (NVA), I began working here in October, and am delighted to be here. Some activities I enjoy include exploring places and spending time with friends, learning with my youth group, and art. I like to get outside whenever possible, and every week I go to a youth group at Kodiak Assembly of God that is very close to my heart. Art is a wide variety for me; I enjoy sketching, painting, messing with values, but overall I have a better interest in digital illustrations.

At the time, I was looking for a job that would be a good learning experience, and would work with my busy schedule. Being a high school student, it was somewhat difficult finding one, but then this opportunity came up and I immediately applied for it. I am absolutely thrilled to be a part of this wonderful family here at NVA. I am beyond words grateful to be working here. Not only do I get to learn and gain experience for future jobs, but I get to be around a caring and kind group of people along with learning more about my culture. Quyanaa!

**Cama'i** gui Anthony Hoedel-Lukin, my family roots are from Afognak Island, my great grandmother is Helen Nelson who is the widow of my great grandfather Johnny Nelson. My father is Robby John Hoedel and my mother is Christina Lukin-Armand.

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In February we held a Fundraising Dinner and Live Auction. We would like to thank all of you who came out to support us and those that helped with decorating, setting up, and cleaning. Several Youth volunteered and did a wonderful job! A big thank you to the following who donated items for the Auction:

Koniag, Inc.  
 Alutiiq Museum  
 Afognak Native Corporation  
 KANA  
 Nancy Nelson  
 Lydia Weston  
 Sure Thing Cleaning  
 Kodiak Athletic Club  
 RC Enterprises  
 Natasha Hayden  
 Melissa Borton  
 Nina Gronn  
 Island Air Service  
 Northern Exposure Gallery  
 Mill Bay Auto  
 Vizhunz Salon  
 Susie Malutin  
 Charles Bloomfield  
 Whale Pass Lodge

Liz Pennington  
 Julie Kaiser  
 Marty & Marion Owen  
 Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak  
 Cassie Rowland  
 Gary Knagin  
 Kodiak Frame Shop  
 Lydia Olsen  
 Loretta Nelson  
 Loren Anderson  
 Jacqueline Madsen  
 Jessica May  
 Jordan Hayden  
 O'Raun Anderson  
 Ali Borton  
 Ardingers Fine Furniture  
 Bloom Salon  
 Brooke Anderson  
 Candance Branson  
 Emerson Boatworks

Gayla Pedersen  
 Gerry Knagin  
 JJ Marsh  
 Kodiak Athletic Club  
 Norman's Fine Gifts  
 Old Harbor Native Corporation  
 Patrick Lind  
 Shurina Skonberg  
 Stacey Simmons  
 Teresa Smith  
 Monk's Rock  
 Tasseled Rags  
 Dee Hughes  
 MaryAnn Holmes  
 Simply Awesome Bakery  
 Kathie Druckrey  
 Bear Becker

We would also like to thank Matt Thorpe with Alutiiq LLC in lieu of an auction item Mr. Thorpe donated cash and solicited cash donations from different businesses in Anchorage to support us. We will be holding another fundraiser dinner February 25, 2017, if anyone would like to donate auction items or volunteer to help, please contact us.



During Crab Festival we had a booth where we did face painting, glitter tattoos and partnered with Sun'aq Tribal Bingo Staff for a raffle which was also very successful, thank you to everyone who sold and bought tickets.

As you can see from all the names, we have a lot of support for the Dig Afognak Youth Camp Program and are truly grateful to all of you. For next summer we expect some extra fun for the youth with a newly installed zip line across the lake, other team building rope courses we were able to purchase through a DOJ grant, and thank you to Rasmuson Foundation we will try out an Eloo outhouse and a roll out dock for loading and unloading as well as for the lake.





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We are looking at the following dates for 2017 camps so mark your calendars and put in your leave from work requests as we plan to have the camps earlier than before!

**Harvest/Earth – June 14-19**

**Survivor - June 23-28**

**Shareholder-July 7-11**

**Language/Music - July 15-20**

**Alumni-July 21-23**

If anyone is interested in volunteering to be a chaperone, elder/elder in training, or teach the youth an art project please contact the office. We are also looking to hire another facilities/boat/maintenance person if you are interested please call.

## Department of Justice-Indian Alcohol Substance Abuse Prevention



This Fall we were able to put up the zip line as well as low ropes courses at Dig Afognak. There are a few things that will need to be finished up in the Spring. Staff as well as a few key adults will also need to be trained on how to use the course and equipment as well as the program training. The ropes course functions as an outdoor learning classroom, where youth will learn by reframing challenges into opportunities. By using a natural environment, a “jungle gym” in the trees it creates a great classroom to learn flexibility, adaptability, and growth. Some of the outcomes that we hope to achieve are to build and strengthen trust, explore risk taking, practice coaching, goal setting, decision making skills, and growing team building skills.

## Staff Spot Light



Cama'i

I'm Nina Gronn, the youngest daughter to Burt Gronn and the late Beverly Patterson-Vodnik, my grandparents are Carl Gronn Sr. and the late Nina Gronn. I graduated from Kodiak High School in 2010 and attended the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. After a year of college, I moved back to Kodiak where I continued to take some college course and started working at Native Village of Afognak. I was the office assistant for my first four years, now I am an executive assistant for the tribal administrator.

I have gained so much knowledge working at NVA, from basic office skills, governances and learning how to write small foundation grants. I have the pleasure of working out at Dig Afognak in the summer with Nancy Nelson, Denise Malutin and all our great camp staff. My future goals are to purchase a house and continue my path here at NVA. Quyanaa!

# ENVIRONMENTAL



## Bottle Cap Snowmen



### Supplies

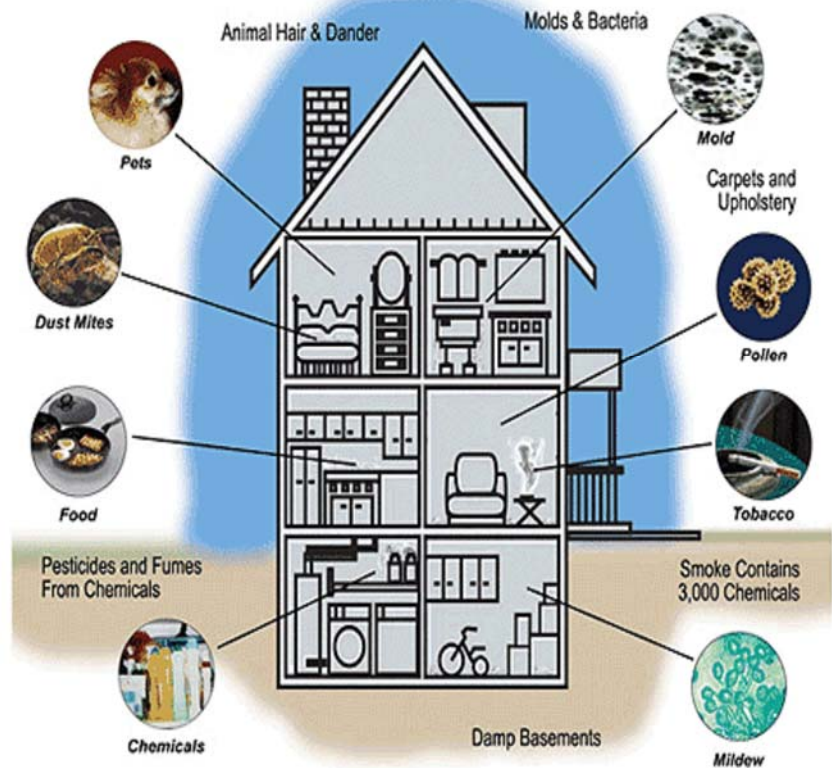
- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Bottle Caps         | Thin Black Ribbon      |
| White Acrylic Paint | Glitter                |
| Yarn Scraps         | Hot Glue or Super Glue |
| Small Buttons       | Rubbing Alcohol        |
| Thin Orange Marker  |                        |
| Thin Black Marker   |                        |

1. Wipe all caps down with rubbing alcohol to remove oils, beer, pop, etc.
2. Paint caps, inside and out, with white acrylic paint. It should take about 2-3 coats. Don't forget the sides!
3. Once they are completely painted and dried, draw on a small orange triangle for the nose and the coal face and buttons.
4. Now flip the little guys over and start putting them together. Cut a piece of ribbon to the length you need to attach each bottle cap plus enough for a hanger.
5. Now to dress him/her. Pick yarn that you like and a matching tiny button. Tie the yarn once loosely around the "neck" and then glue the button at the knot.
6. Tada!! Now your snowman is ready to be hung.

## Indoor Air Quality

Indoor air quality (IAQ) is a term which refers to the air quality within and around buildings and structures, especially as it relates to the health and comfort of building occupants.

### Common Pollution Sources:



**Do you have your sources under control?**

Photo Source: <http://nepacomfort.yolasite.com/resources/IndoorAirQuality.gif>

If you have a special announcements that you would like to share in our newsletter please email Nina at [nina@afognak.org](mailto:nina@afognak.org).

