



## Native Village of Afognak

To embrace, protect, develop, and enhance Alutiiq culture, protect our traditional use areas and encourage unity among the Alutiiq of the Kodiak Archipelago

### Staff

**Candace Branson** - Tribal Administrator

**Yvonne Mullan** - Grants Manager

**Denise Malutin** - Program Manager

**Shannon Kitka** - Finance Manager

**Anthony Hoedel-Lukin** - Accounting & Environmental Program Assistant

**Nina Gronn** - Farm & Facilities Manager

**Becky Gomez** - Hydroponics Technician

**Tara Olson** - Office Coordinator

**Natalia Schneider** - Prevention Coordinator

**Open Positions**  
Executive Assistant  
Environmental Program Manager

**Applications and job descriptions available on our website**

### Tribal Council

**Meagan Christiansen** - Chairman

**Loretta Nelson** - Vice Chairman

**Natasha Hayden** - Secretary

**Loren Anderson** - Member

**Jim Dunham** - Member

**Ken Nelson Jr.** - Member

**Malia Villegas** - Member

### Contact Us

Native Village of Afognak

115 Mill Bay Road

Kodiak, AK 99615

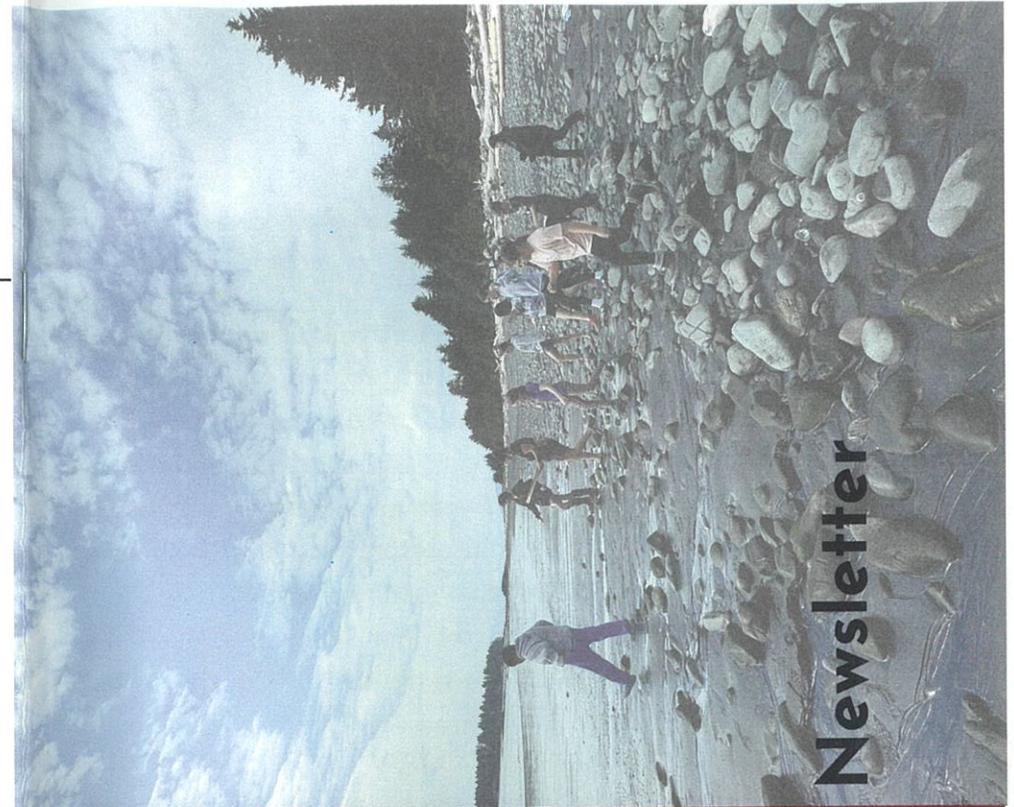
[www.afognak.org](http://www.afognak.org)

Phone: 907-486-6357

Email: [tribe@afognak.org](mailto:tribe@afognak.org)

Monday-Friday 9am- 5pm

FOLLOW US ON  
FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM



Winter 2024 Newsletter

Native Village of Afognak

115 Mill Bay Rd

Kodiak, AK 99615



# KASITARPET



# OUR NEWSLETTER

## CHAIR LETTER



Cama'i, I would like to thank all who attended the meeting in September! We were happy to have a few of you zoom in to participate along with us in the room. We hope you and others will join us next year on September 20, 2025, either online or in person to connect with each other and receive updates about our tribe. Congratulations to Jim Dunham and Malia Villegas, who were re-elected to the Tribal Council to serve three-year terms.

This newsletter contains program updates on Dig Afognak, Mal'uk Farms, and a call for tribal members to get involved in our operations through service on the Enrollment and Election Committees in the coming year. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about tribal operations and get to know our tribal members. Please contact staff if you are interested in either of these committees.

Our prevention program is gearing up to offer cultural activities and classes in Kodiak and online to reach tribal members near and far. This program has short-term grant funding and we hope you all have an opportunity to participate in a workshop and connect with others in our community.

Please feel free to reach out to Council Members or staff if you have any questions or concerns about our Tribe.

*Quyanaa,  
Meagan Christiansen, Chairman*

## COMMITTEE MEMBER VOLUNTEER CALL

**Looking for volunteer opportunities within your tribe? We need you!** NVA is looking for volunteer members to participate in the enrollment and election committees.

**What does the enrollment committee do?**  
The enrollment committee works with the enrollment clerk to verify applications for tribal enrollment and assist in researching family ties to Afognak. The committee is consulted via email or hosted in a meeting six times a year, as needed to recommend tribal enrollment to the Tribal Council.

**What does the election committee do?**  
The election committee requires at least three meetings between August and NVA's Annual Meeting in September to certify the Declaration of Candidacy forms, certify the list of qualified voters, count ballots, and announce election results.

**If you are interested, please call the tribe or email [tribe@afognak.org](mailto:tribe@afognak.org).**



## MAL'UK FARMS

Holiday season is upon us! Mal'uk Farms is preparing seasonal produce for all your special meals. We will be offering romaine lettuce, loose-leaf lettuce mixes and herbs which include collards, kale, thyme, rosemary, and parsley.



On a weekly basis you can place orders through the Foodhub to purchase fresh, healthy, locally grown produce. Tribal Member households have access to a grant through the foodhub to receive greens for free until the end of the grant (9/30/2025).



### **WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?**

Visit our Product List page to see what is available! We're growing, and so is our product list. Check the website weekly for new items.



3 If you need assistance creating an account, or if you want to sign up for weekly produce, contact Mal'uk Farms staff at 907-486-6357

## QIK'RTAQ FOODHUB

**QIK'RTAQ FOODHUB** | *suupet neregkwarluki*  
*we are feeding our people*

Visit KALI's online marketplace for locally grown food from Alutiiq Grown farmers and producers from around the Kodiak Archipelago! Alutiiq Grown and the Qik'rtaq Foodhub work together to meet the growing demand for local, sustainable food in our community on Kodiak.

***The Qik'rtaq Foodhub opens Fridays at 10am and closes on Mondays at midnight.***

### HOW TO GET STARTED?

SIGN UP

1. Click "Sign Up"
2. Create an account
3. Already have an account?

Click Sign In & Shop!

**Pick-up:**  
**Wednesday**  
**4pm- 6pm**  
**Cost Savers**  
**(parking lot to the left.)**

**Deliveries to Elders are**  
**on Thursdays!**



## KASITARPET

RECYCLE USED BATTERIES

Native Village of Afognak encourages all tribal and community members to recycle as much as possible. Batteries are one of the trickier items to recycle since there are many different types. NVA's Environmental Department created battery recycle buckets available at NVA's office for Tribal Members to drop off used batteries.



*We are also happy to collect and recycle your batteries. Please contact our office!*

## OUR NEWSLETTER

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

NVA's Environmental Program is monitoring air quality in Tribal Member homes and providing education on air the importance of clean air in our homes.

***Did you know a common air pollutant in homes is mold?*** Mold can lead to allergic reactions, asthma and other respiratory ailments. Mold can grow anywhere there is moisture in a house.

Key steps to take action against mold:

- Try to control moisture as best you can especially in bathrooms, laundry rooms, and cold damp places
- If you find mold in your home, clean up the mold promptly! Not sure how? Contact the tribe. We can help.
- Prevention is key! If you see water or moisture present - clean it up as fast as possible!

# OUR NEWSLETTER

# KASITARPET



## PREVENTION

### **Recognizing Signs of Abuse and Neglect**

It is important to recognize high-risk situations and the signs and symptoms of maltreatment and when to report it.

If you suspect a child is being harmed, reporting your suspicions may protect him or her and help the family receive assistance. Any person concerned can report suspicions of child abuse or neglect.

Reporting your concerns is not making an accusation: rather, it is a request for an investigation and assessment to determine if help is needed.

we all have a role to play in standing up for the youth in our communities.

**Trust your instincts,**  
**Suspected abuse is enough**  
**of a reason to speak up.**

Call: 1-800-478-4444  
ReportChildAbuse@alaska.gov  
or Fax: 907-269-3939

## PREVENTION PROGRAM EVENTS

# Upcoming Events



JANUARY

### **NACAQ WORKSHOP**

**TBD**

Keep your eye out for more information on an upcoming nacaq (headdress) making workshop in January. The in-person class will be taught by Kayla McDermott, with Tribal Member Priority for registration. Registration details will be shared on our Facebook Page.

FEBRUARY

### **NANIQ WORKSHOP**

**TBD**

Keep your eye out for more information on an upcoming naniq (oil lamp) making workshop in February. We plan to offer in person and virtual classes for participants to carve their own traditional oil lamps.

And more to come. We are planning more in-person and virtual events to increase connection to our culture and build community. We hope you will join us.

**WATCH FOR POSTS ON FACEBOOK AND FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT QANGYUK@AFOGNAK.ORG**

**Our short term Family Violence Prevention Grant will be hosting workshops in Kodiak and virtual this year. Watch for events on our Facebook page.**

# KASITARPET



# OUR NEWSLETTER

## ALUTIIQ HOLIDAY GREETINGS

*Season's greetings*

**Piamci Amlesqat Uksut** - *Season's Greetings*  
(many years, to all of you)

**ARausistuak'gcikina** - *Have a good Christmas*

**Umyaakamken ARausistuami** - *I am thinking of you on Christmas.*

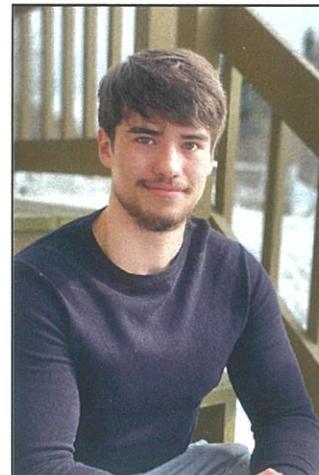
**Agayunek'gcikina** - *Have a wonderful holiday*

**Amlertut Kiaget!** - *Many years (to you)!*

## AG'WANERMIUT LIITUT SCHOLARSHIP

NVA offers two \$1,500 Scholarships to students through Koniag Education Foundation. Next year's scholarship application will open on March 1st and close on June 1st. Please contact KEF with any questions, or check out their website at [Koniageducation.org/find-scholarships](http://Koniageducation.org/find-scholarships).

NVA's 2024 Ag'wanermiut Liitut (The People of Afognak are learning) Scholarship winners are **Isabell Ellison & Ethan Anderson!** Congratulations to this years scholarship recipients. Quyanaa to all who applied!



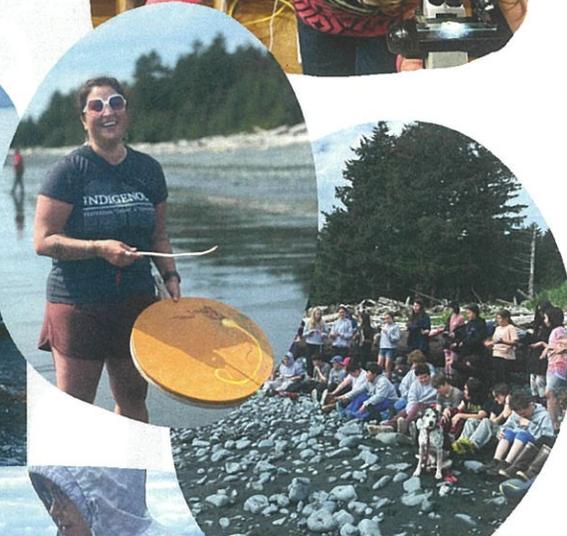
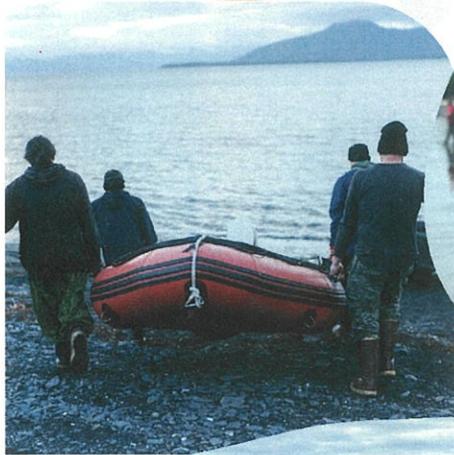
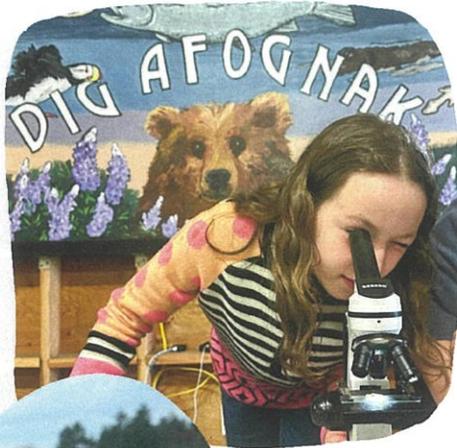
Ethan Anderson



Isabell Ellison

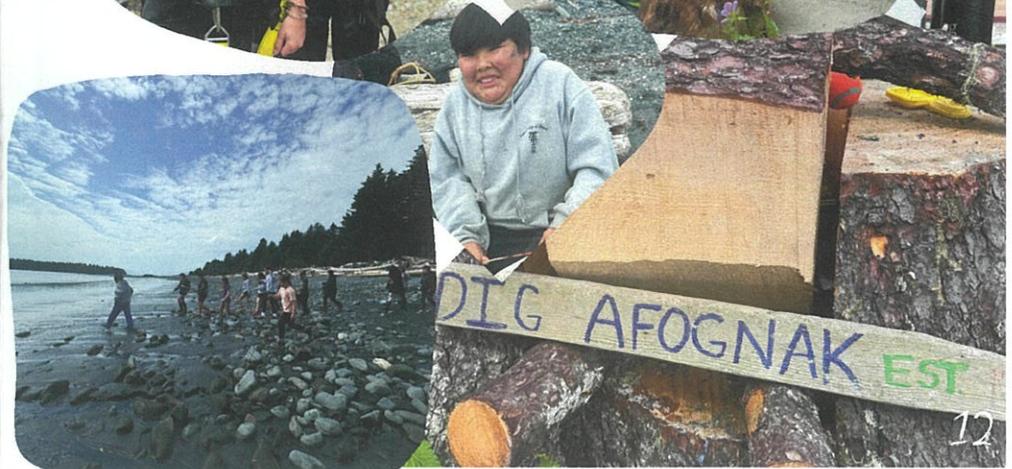


## DIG AFOGNAK CAMP



## DIG AFOGNAK CAMP

**What a success!** NVA hosted five camps in 2024, including three youth camps and two family camps. Participants developed community and gained valuable cultural experiences. Youth and Elders Lydia Olsen and Evie Russell participated in activities with presenters and staff including hunting and fishing, Alutiiq dance and language, sewing and art.





KONIAG SERVICE PROJECT



The Koniag Service Project was hosted at Dig Afognak with 70 people coming to camp to help with various projects including painting buildings, hauling debris, trail maintenance, and building picnic tables. The team accomplished more than NVA staff anticipated in this one-day event.

**Quyanaasinaq to Koniag staff and board for helping us accomplish our goals!**



KIHA PARTNERSHIP

The Kodiak Island Housing Authority sent a crew of four staff to Dig Afognak with building materials and contracted an additional carpenter to replace porches, fuel tank stands, and nuus’hniiks. The team replaced four nuus’hniiks, worn fuel tank stands, and added porches to cabins, the yurt, and the dorms. NVA and KIHA are planning the next steps of camp renovation. Some of our top priorities at camp include building two new cabins and replacing a banya!

**Quyanaa Kodiak Island Housing Authority!**





DIG AFOGNAK CAMP

*Quyanaa!*

KODIAK ISLAND HOUSING AUTHORITY  
AFOGNAK NATIVE CORPORATION  
KONIAG INC.  
NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY  
FOUNDATION  
KODIAK AREA NATIVE ASSOCIATION  
THE CIRI FOUNDATION  
FIRST ALASKANS INSTITUTE  
OCEAN CONSERVANCY  
ALUTIIQ MUSEUM  
SUN'AQ TRIBE



DIG AFOGNAK CAMP

**Quyanaa to our 2024 Dig Afognak supporters who make camp possible!**

***Staff***

Denise Malutin	Stevi Frets
Susan Malutin	Mariah Stapleton
Alesha Fish	Brandi Thomas
Eli Kniazowski	Natalia Schneider
David Knight	Max Pyles
JoAnn Knight	Melissa Marton
Sarah Christiansen	Speridon Simeonoff
Phyllis Clough	Brian Fell
Skylar Gertz	Barbara Blake
Mo Spooner	Nathan Blake
Dylan Spethman	Brian Kewan
Speridon Simeonoff III	Dean Wilson
Stormy Hayden	Brandon Bartelson
Ezra Sholl	Mike Olsen

***Volunteers & Instructors***

Natasha Hayden	Ronna Myles-Era
Seamus Hayden	Chyian Heine
Jack Schactler	Teri Schneider
Mavis Pruitt	Kaydee Hughes
Rick Borton	Janelle Barton
Marissa Vinberg	Nikki Corbett
Elizeanna Antonson	Fr. Innocent
	Dehrich Chya



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
November 28th-29th	Thanksgiving	Office Closed
December 24th-25th	Christmas Eve & Christmas Day	Office Closed
Wednesday, January 1, 2025	New Years Day	Office Closed
Tuesday, January 21, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Saturday, February 1, 2025	Dig Afognak Dates will be announced	NVA Website
Tuesday, February 18, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, March 18, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, April 1, 2025	Dig Afognak Application will be on our website	NVA Website
Tuesday, April 15, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, May 20, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
June through August	Dig Afognak Camps	Dig Afognak
Tuesday, June 17, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, July 15, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, August 19, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Tuesday, September 16, 2025	Tribal Council Meeting	NVA Office
Saturday, September 20, 2025	2025 Annual Meeting	Afognak Center, Kodiak

ANNUAL MEETING



**2025 Annual meeting**

**Date: September 20, 2025**

**Where: Afognak Center**

**Details: Please join us for food, program updates & 2025 tribal council elections.**

**An online option will be provided for tribal members residing outside of the Kodiak area.**

*Chantelle Bartleson and sons light the lamp together at the 2024 Annual Meeting*

