



AFOGNAK  
PEOPLE'S  
NEWSLETTER

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

## CHAIR LETTER

Cama'i Fellow Tribal Members,

I hope you all had a nice summer! Here in Kodiak, I spent as much time as possible outside and tried to appreciate every bit of the incredibly nice weather we had.

On behalf of the council, I would like to say Quyanaa to all tribal members and guests who attended the annual meeting on September 28, 2019. We had a fantastic turnout and it was a great introduction for our new Tribal Administrator, JJ Orloff, as well as an opportunity to wish Melissa Borton, former Administrator, the best in her future endeavors. JJ and Melissa shared in lighting the oil lamp as a beautiful representation of passing the knowledge and traditions of our tribe from one to the other. The council also presented a gift to Melissa as an expression of gratitude for her 14+ years with the tribe and the many contributions she has made.

Congratulations are in order to Loren Anderson and Loretta Nelson who were re-elected as council members. I would also like to thank Rhea Mae Notestine for running, although she was not elected this time, I hope she will consider running again and will continue to be involved in our tribal matters. I encourage others to consider running for election to the tribal council too.

For those of you who don't know our new Tribal Administrator, JJ Orloff, I would like to introduce her. JJ Orloff is the daughter of base roll member, Joann Orloff of Afognak and her Father is George Orloff Sr. from Chignik. She has moved back to Kodiak after 6 years in Chignik, where she worked as the City Clerk. Her previous employers in Kodiak are: KANA, Afognak Native Corporation and Native Village of Afognak. She is a member of NVA as well as an Afognak Native Corporation and Koniag Shareholder. She has 3 boys in school, Kelsin is in High School, Brendan is in Middle School and Trevin is in elementary school. She also has a daughter, Carissa, who is working for Afognak Native Corporation in Anchorage; Carissa and Jeremy Schuler recently welcomed a baby girl, Harbor, to the world on September 15<sup>th</sup>, giving JJ the gift of being a grandmother! JJ is enjoying all of the new and wonderful changes in her life and we look forward to working with her and seeing what changes she will bring to the table.

Please feel free to call and welcome JJ as she would appreciate you reaching out to share your suggestions and comments, and to get reacquainted with all our tribal members.

Melissa Borton will continue to work with the tribe in a different capacity, she will be available to assist JJ for next few months and will assist with some fundraising and economic development projects.

Staff member Nina Gronn gave a great presentation about Dig Afognak Camp at the annual



Chairman, Meagan Christiansen



Former Tribal Administrator, Melissa Borton &  
Current Tribal Administrator, JJ Orloff

See **CHAIR**, Page 2



## CHAIR, Continued from Page 1

meeting that shared a glimpse of this past summer's camps as well as an overview of the program itself. I personally love camp and enjoyed a day trip this summer. It is always wonderful to see the campers interacting and learning about our culture, to see how staff enjoy their jobs and make it look easy, and to simply immerse myself in the feeling of this special place. Plans are already in the making for next summer's camps, and I look forward to seeing more members

attend and enjoy the cultural learning experience of at least one of the four camp sessions. I also encourage ANC shareholders who have not been to camp yet to attend the Afognak Shareholder Camp at least once in their lifetime as it is a great way to get back to your ancestral roots and enjoy cultural arts & crafts, take a banya, zipline, learn to speak some Alutiiq, walk the beach at the old Afognak village and enjoy the peace and quiet of the outdoors.

One of the biggest fundraisers for Dig Afognak Camp is the annual Fundraising Dinner & Live Auction which will take place March 7, 2020. We welcome donations of artwork and items to auction at the event, as all money raised goes directly to funding camp; we also welcome your attendance as it is always a fun gathering. Please contact the office at 907-486-6357 to provide a donation or purchase tickets.

In closing, I would like to formally thank my fellow council members and the NVA Staff, they are wonderful people who work well together and do a great job supporting our programs and activities such as the annual meeting, Dig Afognak Camp, fundraising events and tribal member relations.

We always appreciate hearing from tribal members so please feel free to reach out to council members or staff if you have any questions or thoughts to share.

Quyanaa-sinaq, Meagan



Melissa Borton with her gift from NVA Council

## QUYANAA

### Private Donations

April Laktonen Counciller  
Arlene Nelson  
Barb Bundy  
Carl & Lorraine Ellison  
Charlie Mahle  
Clara Baldwin  
Clifford Selig  
Danielle King  
Denise May

Donna Roduta  
Edna Matthew  
Evie Russell  
Gary Knagin  
Germaine Salmine  
Janissa Johnson  
Jim Dunham  
John Werning  
Juney Mullan

Karen Linnell  
Karen Weinberg  
Ken & Carol Henson  
Ken Nelson Jr.  
LaToya Hartley  
Lindy Wackler  
Loren Anderson  
Loretta Nelson  
Malia Villegas

Marius & Andrea Olsen  
Meagan Christiansen  
Melissa Borton  
Melvin John Kewan  
Mike Brady  
Nancy Nelson  
Pam Foreman  
Pasha Isadore  
Peggy Azuyak

Rick Borton  
Robert Sabochik  
Robin Tucker  
Sandy Wakefield  
Shauna Hegna  
Suzy Villegas  
Teri Schneider  
Tyan Hayes  
Wilma Nelson

### Organization Donation

Afognak Native Corporation  
Charlotte Martin Foundation  
KANA  
Kodiak Sno Bruins  
Koniag Inc.

Leisnoi Inc.  
Lu Young Childrens Fund  
Matson Inc.  
Native Village of Port Lions  
Rasmuson Foundation

A special thank you to the following individuals and organizations  
for your financial support of Dig Afognak!



## DIG AFOGNAK



One of our summer office interns, Skylar Gertz came out to Dig Afognak during set-up to paint this beautiful mural. Skylar spent 4 days creating this master piece in our mess hall.  
Quyanaa Skylar for sharing your amazing talent with everyone that comes to camp!



What a beautiful summer we had at Dig Afognak! First off not having to clean up fallen trees from winter storms made set-up go much quicker. We managed to get ahead and stay ahead of our much needed banya wood piles thanks to Seamus Hayden, Gage Sholl and camp staff for splitting wood. We would also like to thank Seamus for assisting our camp staff in getting us some fish too, we deeply appreciate all your help Seamus!

11 Dig Afognak staff members and 4 in town Staff, with 2 office interns served 172 wonderful youth and adults at our 4 weeks of camp. We also had a total of 30 visitors throughout camp; 18 of those individuals were from Koniag's lower 48 offices. We enjoyed sharing our rich culture with them, thank you Koniag Inc. for spending time with us. A special thank you to Dr. Alisha Drabek for being at camp to share some of our Alutiiq history and language revitalization work with our Koniag visitors.

The camp participants' days were filled with different activities each week. They had team building activities with KANA's Prevention team. Campers learned to sew water bottle holders, Eskimo yo-yos, and created their own dance rattles. For survival skills, they learned cold water safety techniques, how to build shelters and start fires by making different size wood shavings and using a flint, along with how to use a compass and find a cache. This was our second year to offer our tribal hunter safety certificate through gun safety classes. Campers had the opportunity to participate in traditional activities, native youth Olympics and practice using an atlalt throwing spear from one of our kayaks and their target was a foam seal. A few of our older campers were able to go on a deer hunt. Additional activities were beautiful painted pictures, kayaking, swimming, going on hikes to Hollywood beach and Catchers beach, beach games and going down the zip-line.

Thank you Jim Dillard for working with Natalia and Aidan and lending your supplies, so they were able to teach fire starting with flits, demonstrate cooking halibut with hot rocks in a wood box, and using the atlalt throwing spear.

All our summer interns were awesome. Thanks to the financial support of Kodiak Island Borough School District's Migratory Education Program, Koniag Inc. and Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak we were able to have four interns at camp! It will be time to transition to new interns this coming summer so we would like to thank our camp interns; Aidan Skonberg, Amber Borton, Jaime Wise and Natalia Schneider. We would also like to thank our office intern Skylar Gertz, these 5 young adults were past campers that aged out and came to work for us the past two years. Davina Kitiona was also a past camper, and she spent her first summer interning with us helping the staff in the office. Quyanna to all our interns! It is not an easy job and they all worked hard with beautiful smiles on their faces. It has been a pleasure working with you all and you will be missed. We hope you will come back to camp as adult volunteers in years to come. A special thanks to Kavik DeHart for volunteering as an intern in training during Shareholder Camp and also thank you to Wyatt Delgado for volunteering to stay to help us out with take down, we appreciate your help!

See **DIG**, Page 4



DIG, Continued from Page 3

We would like to send a special thank you to Office Coordinator, Kate Blondin who taught the gun safety at Harvesting/Survival Allringuq (1) camp; to Minh Starzewski and his company Homeland Security Solutions, Inc. for allowing him to come to teach the gun safety at Harvesting/Survival Mal'uk (2) camp; to Rick Borton and Loretta Nelson for lending their guns to camp for our gun safety course; to Bruce Broding for coming to help us out for the past several years, this year for teaching the compass class at Harvesting/Survival Mal'ul (2); to Elder Evie Russell who has been coming down the past few years and helping with the craft activities for the whole Dig Afognak season. Quyanaa to all our campers and parents, presenters, volunteers, donors and the community! In the near future will have our 2020 Dig Afognak camp dates posted on our website and Facebook pages. Camp registration will open April 1, 2020.

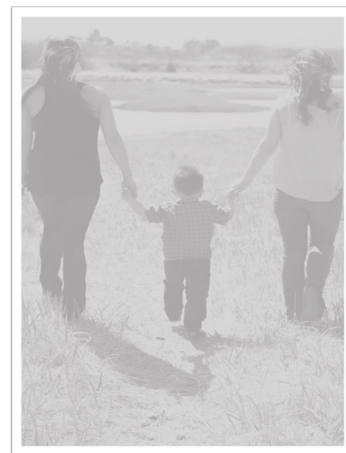
## FOSTER FAMILIES NEEDED

Alaskan children all over the state are placed in the temporary care of the Alaska Office of Children's Services (OCS), many times with non-family members and someone they don't know.

It can take up to a year for parents sometimes longer to complete the court-ordered services parents must complete in order to get their children back home. While most children who enter foster care are returned, sometimes it's a different story.

It's been difficult finding native families willing to take care of children who are not their own. The Native Village of Afognak Tribe, receives many cases where a child needs a happy, safe and sober home.

If you or you know of someone interested in becoming a foster family for native children and could be either short-term or long-term placements please give us a call at (907) 486-6357



## AG'WANERMIUT LIITUT HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP



Kadin Ward

2019 recipients are Kadin Ward and Noah Dunham, awarded \$1,000.00 each. Kadin will be attending Washington State University and Noah will be attending Pacific Lutheran University.

Are you an enrolled member of NVA attending post-secondary school? If so, you'll be happy to know that Koniag Education Foundation (KEF) and NVA have teamed up to make applying for your scholarships as easy as possible. Our goal is to streamline the application process to help students maximize their scholarship funding.

NVA scholarship applications should be from students currently in an accredited post-secondary program, either part-time or full-time. We will again be awarding two \$1,000 scholarship in 2020, and future awards will coincide with KEF's Scholarship application deadline is June 1, 2020. All applications can be submitted through KEF.



Noah Dunham

If you wish to go paperless and would like to start receiving a digital newsletter contact Nina at [nina@afognak.org](mailto:nina@afognak.org)

# 2019 DIG AFOGNAK PHOTOS



Dig Afognak staff would like to thank Loretta Nelson for donating staff sweaters for the 2019 season. Quyanaa!



## ALUTIIQ INSPIRED MERCHANDISE



The Native Village of Afognak is pleased to announce that we have expanded our Alutiiq inspired merchandise to include new items, as well as updated designs. Stop on down and visit us at 115 Mill Bay road or catch us at one of the upcoming Bazaars for your Holiday shopping needs.

The upcoming Bazaars we will be attending are:

Beta Sigma Phi, located at St. Mary's gym November 23rd 10:00AM – 3:00PM

The Alutiiq Museum Bazaar December 7th 11:00AM – 4:00PM

KANA's Last Chance Christmas Bazaar, located at Kodiak Harbor Convention Center December 20th 4:00PM - 7:00PM

NVA is offering a discounted rate on our Dig Afognak Fundraising Dinner & Live Auction tickets at the Bazaars and would like to extend the discounted rate to you!

Discounted Ticket Prices are \$40.00 for 1 ticket or \$60.00 for 2 tickets.

Ticket prices are normally \$40.00 for 1 ticket and \$70.00 for 2 tickets.

This sale will last until December 20, 2019.

## U.S. 2020 CENSUS

### Why They Conduct This Count

The census provides critical data that lawmakers, business owners, teachers, and many others use to provide daily services, products, and support for you and your community. Every year, billions of dollars in federal funding go to hospitals, fire departments, schools, roads, and other resources based on census data. The results of the census also determine the number of seats each state will have in the U.S. House of Representatives, and they are used to draw congressional and state legislative districts.

It's also in the Constitution: Article 1, Section 2, mandates that the country conduct a count of its population once every 10 years. The 2020 Census will mark the 24th time that the country has counted its population since 1790.

### Ways To Respond

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding: 1. Online. 2. By phone. 3. By mail. The 2020 Census marks the first time you'll have the option to respond online. You can even respond on your mobile device.

### Important Dates

- **January 2020:** The Census Bureau begins counting the population in remote Alaska.
- **April 1, 2020:** Census Day is observed nationwide. By this date, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. Once the invitation arrives, you should respond for your home in one of three ways: online, by phone, or by mail. When you respond to the census, you tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020.
- **April 2020:** Census takers begin visiting college students who live on campus, people living in senior centers, and others who live among large groups of people. Census takers also begin conducting quality check interviews to help ensure an accurate count.
- **May 2020:** The Census Bureau begins visiting homes that haven't responded to the 2020 Census to make sure everyone is counted.
- **December 2020:** The Census Bureau delivers apportionment counts to the President and Congress as required by law.
- **March 31, 2021:** By this date, the Census Bureau will send redistricting counts to states. This information is used to redraw legislative districts based on population changes.

<https://2020census.gov/en.html>

### Fundraising Dinner

### & Live Auction

Discount Price for Bazaars Only

\$40.00 for 1 Ticket  
\$60.00 for 2 Tickets



Save The Date  
March 7, 2020  
Doors open at 6:00 PM  
Dinner Served at 6:30 PM

Prime Rib & Sea Food Dinner  
Single door Prize Drawing

Where ???  
The Elks Lodge  
102 W Marine

Native Village of Afognak  
115 Mill Bay Road  
Kodiak, AK 99615

Get Your Tickets Before  
The Prices go up!

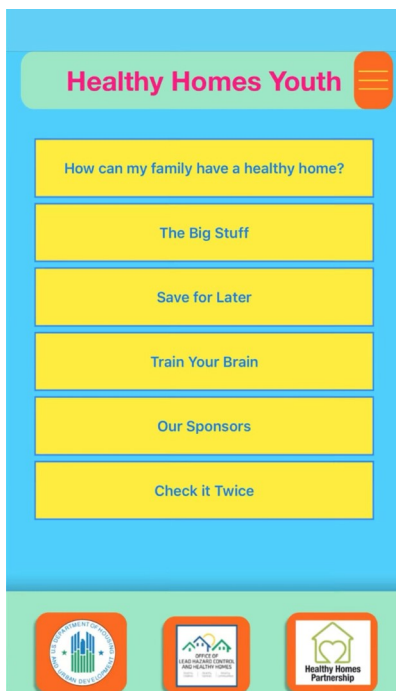
# Environmental



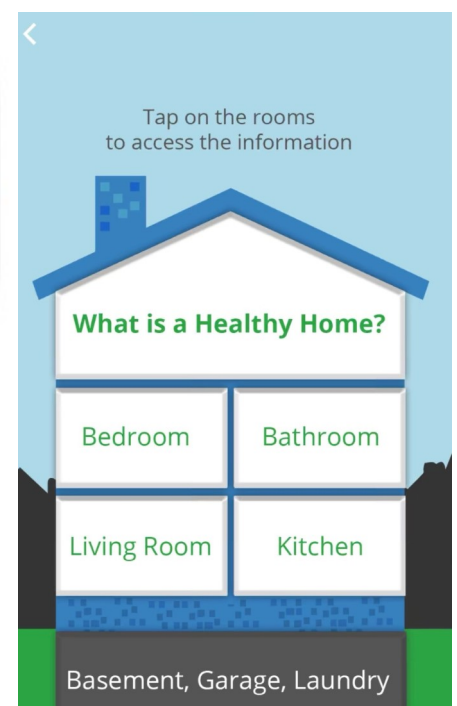
## U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control

### Announcing: HUD's New Healthy Homes Youth App

Downloadable from the App Store for customers with devices running iOS 11 or later, and macOS 10.13 or later.



The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture Healthy Homes Partnership have released a new app to help middle-schoolers learn about potential household contaminants. These range from lead and mold to radon and volatile organic compounds (VOCs, or pollutants in air at levels that threaten health). This App helps kids learn about their home's indoor environment, focusing on actions they can take to have a healthy home. Learn about common hazards and what to do. Content is in a fun and easy to understand format. Parents, caregivers and teachers can also benefit from this app. Content for this app was developed specifically for middle-schoolers and educates them on the principles of a healthy home in a preteen-friendly format. Navigation is simple and intuitive. Interactive features include Train the Brain and the ability to save a list of items found in the home.



The new app Healthy Homes Basics, from HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes offers practical how-to guidance on how to have a safe and healthy home, right at your fingertips. The app offers introductory information and guidance for consumers by teaching the "Principals of a Healthy Home". For those users more familiar with healthy homes concepts, the app features detailed information by topic.

Reference sites:

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USHUDHH/bulletins/218cfbd>

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/healthy-homes-basics/id1092367352>



## NVA Staff

Cama'i, my name is Nancy Nelson, the Daughter of the late Martha and Willis Nelson of Afognak and Port Lions. I have worked for the Tribe since 2010. I am a Program Administrator for the Tribe; I am Coordinator for the Indian Environmental Assistance Program and the Camp Manager for the Dig Afognak camp. I have a bachelors degree in Social Work with a minor in Human Services.

Before coming to work for the Tribe I served on the Native Village of Afognak Council, I presently serve on the Native Village of Port Lions Tribal Council as President and the Kodiak Island Housing Authority Board of Commissioners as Vice President.

I enjoy my work at NVA, especially Dig Afognak camps. It is a pleasure to serve our membership! My hope is to be able to retire in a couple years and move back to Port Lions.



Cama'i, my name is Lynda Saqalngatak Lorenson. My parents are Gene and Sharon Lorenson, and my paternal grandparents are Rudy and Betty Lorenson. My husband is Jason Charliaga, and we are a happy blended family with six kids and a baby on the way. I was born and raised right here in Kodiak, and this is where I've chosen to stay and raise my family.

I have been a part of the NVA family for a little over 5 years. I am currently a Program Administrator. In my position I manage all of NVA's active grants, I am the Tribal Transportation Grant Coordinator, act as the back up accounting manager, research and apply for new grants and provide direct support to the Tribal Administrator. I also help to coordinate and execute the many fundraising activities of NVA that all of our staff works together on to help continue the success of our Dig Afognak camp.

Camai Everyone! My name is Denise Malutin, I am the daughter of Roger and Susan Malutin of Kodiak. I was born and raised in Kodiak, along with my favorite brother, Neil Malutin.

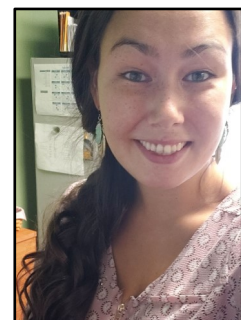
I have been working here at NVA since 2006, I am very blessed to be a part of a strong, hardworking passionate group of staff. I am the program manager for the Family Violence grant, the Indian Child Welfare Program (ICWA), and part of the staff for our Dig Afognak camps. I also serve as the election clerk, and participate in the fundraising activities the NVA staff operates. If you have any questions or concerns please let us know.



Hello! My name is Emily Jean Capjohn and I am the daughter of David Capjohn Sr. & Mary Jean Ashouwak. I am originally from Old Harbor. I moved to Kodiak in 2001 with my son Dylan David Capjohn and my significant other Alexis Kwachaka.

I am the Accounting Manager at Native Village of Afognak. I first came to work here in 2017 as the Expeditor and then in 2018 I was hired as the Accounting Manager. Alongside the NVA staff I help with fundraising activities to help with Dig Afognak camps.

Cama'i, my name is Nina Gronn and I am currently the Executive Assistant to our Tribal Administrator. I have been with NVA since 2011, starting out as the Office Assistant. I was promoted to my current position in 2016. As the Executive Assistant, I work directly with JJ in assisting with tribal governance for our Tribal Council. I also server as the Enrollment Clerk, processing new enrollment applications for the Tribe. In the summer months for the past 7 years, I have been a hand out at Dig Afognak camps. Along with my duties related to my position, as with everyone here we work hard to fundraise for Dig Afognak and everything else in between. Myself and all the staff are here to serve you, the tribal members of NVA.



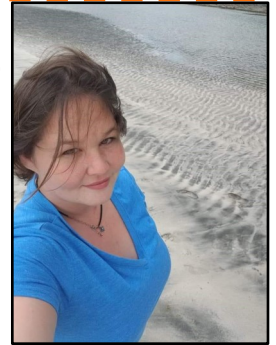
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Hello, my name is Kate Blondin. I am married to Jason Blondin, and we have three children. I came to work for Native Village of Afognak in 2016 as the Receptionist/Office Assistant. Since then, I have moved to the position of Office Coordinator. In my position, I provide direct support to all of the office staff. I am also responsible for coordinating the travel of not only the office staff, but the Council as well. I manage the photobooth, and oversee the tablecloth business. Working with the other NVA staff, I also help to coordinate and execute the many fundraising activities of NVA that help continue the success of our Dig Afognak camps. Most recently, I have taken on the assistant position as well for the Indian General Assistant Grant. I enjoy my work and NVA and look forward to serving our members in the coming years.

Cama'i, my name is Destiny Ritter. My significant other is Nick Charliaga, and together we are raising two sons, Jessie who is 9 and Liam who is 5. I grew up in Larsen Bay and moved to Kodiak in 2005 and have been here since.

I came to work at NVA in February of 2017 where I cooked for the Fundraiser dinner, then returned that summer to cook for a week at camp. The following spring, I came on as the part time Linen Attendant. I came to work for NVA full time in May of this year as the Office Assistant. I greet tribal members both on the phone and in person, and assist staff with office duties. I also maintain the store with NVA's merchandise. I look forward to getting to know more tribal members in the coming year.



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & ABUSE CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE

### Recognizing abuse is the first step to getting help

Domestic abuse often escalates from threats and verbal abuse to violence. And while physical injury may be the most obvious danger, the emotional and psychological consequences of domestic abuse are also severe. Emotionally abusive relationships can destroy your self-worth, lead to anxiety and depression, and make you feel helpless and alone. No one should have to endure this kind of pain—and your first step to breaking free is recognizing that your situation is abusive. Once you acknowledge the reality of the abusive situation, then you can get the help you need.

### Understanding domestic violence and abuse

Domestic violence and abuse does not discriminate. It occurs within all age ranges, ethnic backgrounds, and economic levels. And while women are more commonly victimized, men are also abused—especially verbally and emotionally, although sometimes even physically as well. The bottom line is that abusive behavior is never acceptable, whether it's coming from a man, a woman, a teenager, or an older adult.

### Signs of an abusive relationship

There are many signs of an abusive relationship. The most telling sign is fear of your partner. If you feel like you have to walk on eggshells around your partner—constantly watching what you say and do in order to avoid a blow-up—chances are your relationship is unhealthy and abusive. Other signs that you may be in an abusive relationship include a partner who belittles you or tries to control you, and feelings of self-loathing, helplessness, and desperation.

Domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone, yet the problem is often overlooked, excused, or denied. This is especially true when the abuse is psychological, rather than physical. Noticing and acknowledging the signs of an abusive relationship is the first step to ending it. No one should live in fear of the person they love.

### **For immediate response call 911**

Alaska's CARELINE -- 877-266-4357

National Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-7233 or 800-787-3224

National Sexual Assault Hotline

800-656-HOPE (4673) For a listing of all

local victim services 24/7 hotlines go to:

<https://dps.alaska.gov/CDVSA/Services/VictimServices>

*We deserve to feel valued, respected, and safe.*

*If you see something, say something.*

# *Native Village of Afognak*

115 MILL BAY ROAD, KODIAK, AK 99615

## **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

## **STAFF**

JJ Orloff, Tribal Administrator  
Nancy Nelson, Program Administrator  
Lynda Lorensen, Program Administrator  
Denise Malutin, Program Manager  
Emily Capjohn, Accounting Manager  
Nina Gronn, Executive Assistant  
Kate Blondin, Office Coordinator  
Destiny Ritter, Office Assistant

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

PHONE 907-486-6357

FAX 907-486-6529

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



Like Us On  
**facebook**

## *Announcements*



**5th Annual  
Dig Afognak  
Fundraising Dinner &  
Live Auction  
March 7, 2020**

*Native Village of Afognak  
will be closed the following dates:*

- Monday November 11, 2019 in observance of Veterans Day
- Thursday & Friday November 28 - 29, 2019 in observance of Thanksgiving
- Tuesday & Wednesday December 24 - 25, 2019 in observance of Christmas
- Wednesday January 1, 2020 in observance of New Year's Day