

## *CHRISTMAS IN JULY: LAND CONVEYANCES RECEIVED!*

On July 18, Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC), the State of Alaska and the Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management signed an agreement that will resolve competing claims made by the State and BSNC under the Statehood Act and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The agreement, which is the result of four years of discussions and negotiations, will facilitate the transfer of land to both parties and will resolve outstanding issues in competing claims for specific tracts. Also on this date, BSNC received title to other tracts of very important ANCSA lands, including Christmas Mountain, Reindeer Cove, Glacial Lake, and land in the Kougarok area.

The Salmon Lake Area Land Ownership and Consolidation Agreement will allow the Bureau of Land Management to convey the eastern portion of Salmon Lake to BSNC and the western portion to the State. The

*~continued on page 4*



Left to right: President Tim Towarak and Thomas Lonnie, BLM State Director, sign the patents for portions of Kougarok Road, Christmas Mountain, Reindeer Cove, Glacial Lake and Lava Creek. Standing behind them are Ramona Chinn, Deputy State Director, Roy Ashenfelter, Chair of BSNC Land & Resource Committee.

## ***Come and Join Us!***

### **The Bering Straits Native Corporation Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

**has been rescheduled to  
November 10, 2007  
beginning at 10:00 AM  
at the Mini Convention Center  
in Nome, Alaska**

**due to delays in finalizing  
the Annual Report**

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## BSNC Greetings

Tim Towarak,  
BSNC President/CEO

### From the President's Desk

As the architect of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971, along with numerous other laws that benefited both rural and urban Alaska, such as the creation of the Denali Commission, the NOL tax law and amendments to the SBA 8(a) program for ANCSA corporations, and much, much, more, Senator Stevens has been a strong supporter of rural Alaska, and Alaska Native Corporations. Representative Don Young has been an equally strong advocate for Alaska on the House of Representatives side of Congress. We, at the leadership of BSNC, are grateful for the many years of dedicated service these two have provided. We are optimistic that they will continue to represent Alaska as long as they are willing to serve, and that is our hope as we look forward to BSNC's future.

We are proud to report that BSNC has worked itself out of its financial "straits" it found itself in over the last 9 years. Next year will be our 19<sup>th</sup> anniversary since coming out of bankruptcy. Next year we should regain every penny that was lost in pre-bankruptcy years. This will be a year of celebration for our shareholders.

As a memento of appreciation, the BSNC board, at its August 3<sup>rd</sup> quarterly meeting in Unalakleet, presented Henry Ivanoff Sr. with a plaque of appreciation for his 30 years of service on the BSNC Board. Henry is the only person who serves board before, during and after bankruptcy. He witnessed and was part of the phenomenon in paying off our "debts." BSNC is celebrating several successive years of positive net income, together with our Chair, having set a record for service. As your President, I hope each shareholder joins me in appreciating the service of those who have helped us reach this point, while they are at their peak. Qu-yah-nak-puk!!!!



### *In Honor Of: Henry Ivanoff*

*In recognition of your  
30 Years of Dedicated  
Service and Leadership to  
Bering Straits Native Corporation  
and its Shareholders,  
and for being the longest serving  
member of the Board of Directors.*



The award presented to Henry is pictured above with the text on the award to the left.

Chair Henry Ivanoff thanked everyone for the service award he received at the reception in his honor at a BSNC quarterly meeting in Unalakleet.

## ***HENRY IVANOFF SR: 30 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH BSNC & STILL COUNTING***

Henry Ivanoff has served on the Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) Board of Directors since 1978, making him the longest serving board member in BSNC's history.

Henry currently serves as BSNC's Chairman of the Board, a position that he has occupied since 1989. Prior to 1989, Henry was President for four years. Henry currently serves as a member of Eagle Electric, LLC, Eagle Eye Electric, LLC and Inuit Services, Inc., which are all subsidiary companies of BSNC. Also, he is a member of the 8(a), Benefits, Executive & Personnel and Portfolio Committees.

Henry Ivanoff was born in Nome, Alaska to Ralph and Laura Ivanoff. He is the oldest child and has twelve siblings. He attended Covenant High School in Unalakleet and graduated in 1963. He attended the Radio Broadcast School in Tacoma, Washington and obtained his First Class Radio License in 1965. Henry has worked in the broadcasting business for 40 years, presently as the General Manager/Chief Engineer for the radio station KNSA – AM in Unalakleet. Henry has been with KNSA since 1982 and has volunteered many hours broadcasting high school and adult sporting events in the Bering Straits Region. Henry commercial fished for herring and salmon in the 1980's.

Henry's civic service is endless as he has served for several other organizations. He has served on the Alaska Federation of Natives, Community Enterprise Development Corporation, Bering Sea Fisherman Association, Unalakleet Native Corporation, Rural Alaska Television Network and is the longest serving Mayor of Unalakleet, serving from 1994 – 2006. Presently, he is serving on Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation as an at-large member.

Henry's family includes his wife Yvonne, children Henry Jr, Lori, Alex, Ryan, Sonia and Renae.



**Chairman Henry Ivanoff sits with his wife Yvonne, proudly displaying his 30 years of service award from BSNC.**



In the May 2007 issue of the Agluktuk the photo of Franklin's brother was inadvertently used. Here's the article on Franklin as Solomon Native Corporation's Elder of the Year with the correct photo of Franklin.

### ***Franklin Okitkon Solomon Native Corporation***

The Solomon Native Corporation selected Franklin Okitkon as Elder of the Year, who was born June 26, 1928 in Ungalik. His parents were Martin and Esther Okitkon. His parents were reindeer herders in the White Mountain, Koyuk and Ungalik area. They raised Franklin along with six other siblings, all of whom have passed on. Franklin was raised speaking Inupiaq. Franklin retired from construction and was until last winter living in Solomon. After his brother Garfield passed on he moved to Nome for the winter months. Franklin served in the Alaska Territorial Guard and upon statehood he joined the US Army and was an Inupiaq interpreter. He was honorably discharged. Franklin subsists as much as he can, is a regular at XYZ Senior Center, and enjoys driving his 4-wheeler around town to say hello to everyone. He spends his summers at Solomon enjoying the country and fishing.





## Christmas in July

*~continued from page 1*

Act also allows conveyance of the Imuruk Basin Lands to BSNC. All of the lands included in the agreement are valuable to the people of the region for subsistence and recreational activities and provide critical habitat for various species of salmon, moose, caribou and other game resources.

The long process of land selection, adjudication, and conveyance initiated with the passage of ANCSA over 35 years ago is nearly complete for our region and member villages.

Over the past three decades, BSNC has had to refine and prioritize the lands which we felt, as a Regional Corporation, were of the greatest value to our shareholders. The term “value” is a very complex word when used in discussions of ANCSA land. BSNC’s Board of Directors and Land Department staff has faced the difficult task of balancing the “value” of land as an asset for its development potential, whether for minerals, tourism, or recreation, with the other “values” the shareholders, as a people, place on lands that provide our sustenance and cultural foundation.

The lands BSNC received title to this year are valuable in all of these ways. For example, Christmas Mountain may have future mineral potential, while Glacial Lake contains critical habitat and is a spawning area for a significant red salmon population. Both tracts of land have been used for generations: Christmas Mountain was a lookout point and an important landmark in navigation, while Glacial Lake was used for caribou hunting and contains evidence of 4000 years of human use.

Likewise, those lands that BSNC hopes to obtain through the Salmon Lake agreement have been used for generations, and are some of the most pristine habitats for bird nesting, salmon runs and moose and caribou browse. And while the process of securing these lands has been difficult at times, the future of BSNC and our shareholders is enhanced and enriched by the receipt of the lands at Salmon Lake and on Imuruk Basin. BSNC is looking ahead to finalize all of the ANCSA regional and village land entitlements by 2009!



Left to right: Irene Anderson, Land Manager; President Tim Towarak; and Joe Perkins, Attorney. Joe Perkins was instrumental in negotiating the Salmon Lake land settlement for Bering Straits Native Corporation.

## LAND OWNERSHIP & CONSOLIDATION AGREEMENT: SALMON LAKE AREA

The Salmon Lake Area Land Ownership and Consolidation Agreement developed as a result of the desire for Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) to acquire lands surrounding Salmon Lake through selections made pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). BSNC selected lands in this area through Section 14(h)(8) of ANCSA as case file number F-33819. The State of Alaska also selected lands in this area (F-44393).

Due to regulatory restrictions, BSNC’s original application for the lands was rejected. The rejection was based on the decision that this selection did not meet the criteria set forth in Sections 11 and 16 of ANCSA. BSNC appealed the decision, and the IBLA remanded the case back to BLM. On April 27, 2004 BSNC received a notice that a decision was pending with BLM which would once again deny BSNC’s application.

In addition to the lands at Salmon Lake, BSNC also had two tracts that would likely be adjudicated in a similar manner: Windy Cove (F-33833) and Imuruk Basin/Agiapuk River (F-33834). All three areas were selected by BSNC due to the values they possess for recreational and subsistence purposes. Had all three of these applications been rejected it’s unlikely that BSNC would have received full entitlement under Section 14(h)(8) of ANCSA.

With the passage of The Alaska Land Transfer Acceleration Act (P.L. 108-452) in 2004, the mechanisms for negotiating land selection conflicts were streamlined. The Act also provided the opportunity for Native corporations to negotiate directly with the BLM for final settlement. As a result of the pending decision of April 2004, noted above, BSNC requested that BLM withhold the final decision for F-33819 until such time as BSNC could meet with BLM and the State to discuss the possibility of resolving the conflict.

In 2004, representatives from BSNC, BLM, and the State met to discuss the possibility of resolving the issues through a negotiated settlement. Over the course of the next three years the parties met on an annual or semi-annual basis and were eventually able to reach an agreement that served all of their interests. Through the Agreement, the State and BSNC each receive a portion of Salmon Lake. The lands BSNC will receive are contiguous with and adjacent to lands previously conveyed to the Native Corporation. Likewise, the lands the State will receive are immediately adjacent to other State-selected lands. Access to State waters and other public lands has been assured through the reservation of public easements over the lands to be conveyed. All lands granted to the parties through the Agreement will be counted against their remaining entitlements. In the case of the lands BSNC will receive, the total acreage subsumed under the Agreement will be subtracted from BSNC’s remaining ANCSA 14(h)(8) entitlement. For the State of Alaska the lands will be counted against the State’s entitlement under 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act.

The Agreement represents the best possibility for a fair and timely settlement of these specific land claims.

## GOVERNOR PALIN VISITS TROOPS IN KUWAIT

On July 24, 2007 Governor Sarah Palin visited Kuwait to meet with Alaska soldiers of the 3rd Battalion 297th Infantry to learn about their mission in Kuwait.

Sgt. Sean Penetac and 1st Sgt. Stacey Green are both members of the 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry, Alaska Army National Guard. The 3rd Battalion was mobilized in early July 2006 and sent to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for three months of training and in mid-October 2006 the battalion deployed to Kuwait. Currently Green and Penetac are stationed in Camp Buehring, Kuwait. They both, including the battalion, are expected to return home in October 2007.



1st. Sgt. Green is first sergeant of Headquarters Company (HHC) meaning that he is the top enlisted soldier in the company and is responsible for about 120 soldiers. HHC supports other companies in the battalion through administration and logistics.



Sgt. Penetac is a team leader for Alpha Company and in charge of three or four infantry soldiers who often conduct patrols in Humvees and provide security for U.S. and coalition forces in Northern Kuwait.



Richard Miller with his wife Angela, is one of four Vietnam Vets, presented with Native Allotments in the Bering Straits Region. BLM presented allotments to Richard Foster, 80.00 acres; Richard Atuk, 160.00 acres; Russell Tocktoo, 79.98 acres and Richard Miller, 80.00 acres. These four Vietnam Vets were the first to receive Native Allotments in the Bering Straits Region through the Vietnam Veteran Act.



### BLUEBERRY CHEESECAKE BARS

#### Layer 1

1 cup flour  
1 stick margarine  
½ cup chopped nuts

#### Layer 3

3 cups blueberries  
½ cup sugar  
½ cup water  
¼ cup cornstarch

#### Layer 2

1 package prepared Dream Whip  
1 cup powder sugar  
1 8 ounce package cream cheese,  
room temperature

#### Layer 4

1 package prepared Dream Whip

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine ingredients for layer 1 and spread into 9x13 inch pan. Bake until crust is light brown. Prepare 1 package of Dream Whip and combine with powdered sugar and cream cheese, until smooth. Pour into crust and chill. Boil blueberries, sugar, water and cornstarch on low heat until thick. Pour over layer 2 and chill. Prepare last package of Dream Whip and pour over layer 3 and chill for at least 1 hour.

You may substitute Cool Whip for the Dream Whip and a box cheesecake for layer 2.



## ***BSNC & KAWERAK JOIN FORCES TO COMPLETE PROJECTS IN THE BERING STRAITS REGION***

Eagle Electric, LLC, a subsidiary of BSNC, and Kawerak's new for-profit entity Tumet Industries, LLC, recently formed a joint venture called Arrigah JV to seek sole source work under the SBA 8(a) program targeting Corps of Engineers (COE) projects in the Bering Straits Region. The Arrigah JV was recently awarded a sole source contract valued at more than \$6 million from the COE to perform seawall construction and repairs in Shishmaref. The joint venture's main subcontractor on the project is Bering Pacific. During August, BSNC's Executive Vice President, Gail Schubert, accompanied a group of visiting dignitaries from the US Army Civil Works Division, the Corps of Engineers, Senator Stevens' office, and Senator Murkowski's office on a tour of Shishmaref and the seawall project. The group was on a fact-finding mission concerning erosion problems faced by Shishmaref and other coastal communities.

Stampede Venture's new trucking operation played a big part in the Shishmaref seawall project by hauling rock ranging from 200 to 2000 pounds each from BSNC's rock quarry to the Nome dock, where it was barged to Shishmaref. Several BSNC shareholders and shareholder descendants are employed with the trucking operation. The trucking operation is also engaged in hauling dirt for Alaska Gold at the Rock Creek Mine.



Driver Joseph Johnson keeps an eye on the trailer as rock is loaded at Cape Nome. Johnson hauled the rock to the Nome Port and where it was loaded on a barge headed to Shishmaref for the seawall project.

## ***ALASKA SENIOR BENEFITS PROGRAM***

On July 28, Gov. Sara Palin signed Senate Bill 4 to continue the Senior Benefits Program.

"This Program continues important assistance to Alaska seniors," Gov. Palin said.

The program began August 1, 2007, with payments ranging from \$125 - \$250 a month, depending on income.

Seniors may apply by calling the Senior Benefits Office at 1-888-352-4150 or find the application online at [www.seniorbenefits.alaska.gov](http://www.seniorbenefits.alaska.gov).

## ***HUD LOAN PROGRAM FOR ALASKA NATIVES***

The HUD Office of Native American Programs has a loan program specifically designed to meet the housing needs of Alaska Natives called the Section 184 program. It's available only to Alaska Natives or American Indians. The program is not only for individual home loans as it also includes provisions for loans to federally recognized tribes, Indian housing authorities, village corporations and regional corporations.

Contact your financial institution to learn more about qualifying for this program or to go [www.hud.gov](http://www.hud.gov) for more information.



US Army Corps of Engineers and Gail Schubert of BSNC meet with Shishmaref residents regarding the severe erosion issues its faced with and the progress of the seawall Arrigah JV is constructing.

### **Do you have news to share?**

The Bering Straits Native Corporation publishes the Agluktuk for its shareholders. Whenever possible, we would like to include articles on our shareholders and Village Corporations. If you have information you would like to share, please e-mail [kimberly@beringstraits.com](mailto:kimberly@beringstraits.com). Please include your name and telephone number in order for us to verify the information and/or to contact you for clarification.

# TRUCKING WITH STAMPEDE VENTURES, INC.

Joseph Johnson, son of Wally and Melanie Johnson, is a truck driver with Stampede Ventures, Incorporated (SVI). Joseph is a descendant of his father Wally, who has shares in BSNC and Sitnasuak Native Corporation. He was home schooled by his parents and graduated from the Oregon Institute of Science & Medicine in 2006. Joseph attended the Center for Employment and Education (CEE) in Palmer this past summer to obtain his Commercial Driver License (CDL).

Johnson first became interested in truck driving when Alaska Gold Company announced that it was going to start the Rock Creek Mine, outside of Nome. He then did some research to find out where he could get training and obtain his CDL. Johnson decided to attend CEE and paid \$4,668, plus living expenses, for his training.

"It's worth it and it will pay for itself really quick," Johnson said of the investment he made for the training he received.

At CEE, Johnson completed the Fast Track program, which is a three-week, accelerated tractor-trailer driving course with 40 hours of classroom training and 50 hours behind-the-wheel training. Safe driving practices, preventive maintenance and servicing, speed and space management, night operation and logbooks were also part of the training he received. CEE provided the written test and the vehicle for taking the road test, which took about 40 minutes to complete. Johnson said that applicants need to have a physical, drug screening test, provide a copy of your driving record and have a class D Alaska Driver License in order to apply for the training.

Johnson's first trucking job is with SVI and said, "my experience with SVI has been great!" He enjoys the diversity of the different jobs SVI has done so far versus driving the same route each day. In his spare time, Johnson enjoys hunting, fishing, 4 wheeling and being with family and friends.

If you'd like to obtain your CDL you may contact CEE at 800-478-4233. If you need financial assistance, please contact Kirsten at the Bering Straits Foundation at 800-478-5079, 907-443-4316 or [ktimbers@beringstraits.com](mailto:ktimbers@beringstraits.com).



Joseph Johnson is a truck driver for Stampede Ventures, Inc.

## I HAVE NOT RECEIVED MY CHECK

To ensure that you receive any distributions issued from BSNC in a timely manner you must maintain a current address with us. We can update your address only upon receipt of a letter of address change from you. In the event BSNC is holding a check for you, please allow at least six weeks for the check to be mailed to you.

Do you need to update your shareholder information? If so, please complete the form below and mail to BSNC, Shareholder Department, Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762. If you know of a deceased BSNC shareholder, please advise our office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ New Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security #: \_\_\_\_\_

Custodian for BSNC Shareholder: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\* For a name change, you must include the legal document for record.

# Village Corporation News

## ST. MICHAEL NATIVE CORPORATION

Based in: St. Michael

Shareholders: 273

Businesses It Operates:  
Gravel sales & Heavy Equipment Rental

Date of Next Annual Meeting: To be determined

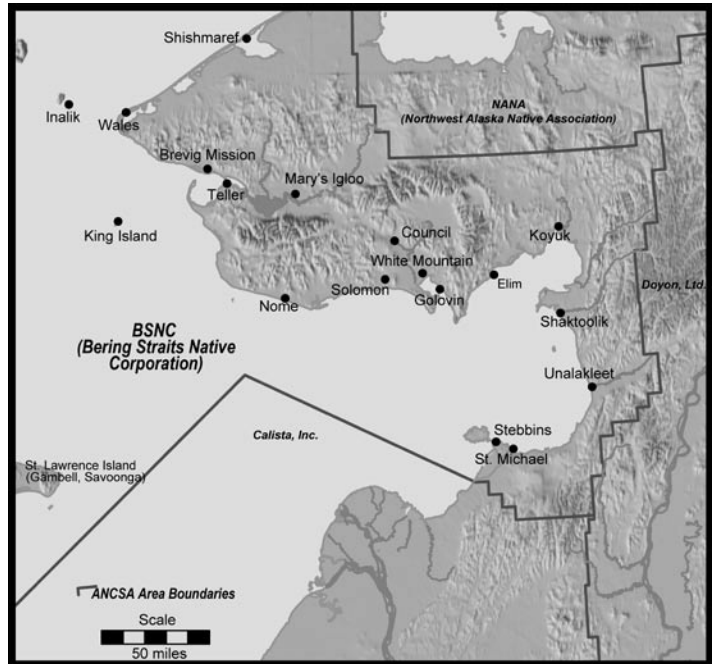
Board of Directors:  
Alberta Steve, President; Andrew Lockwood Sr., Vice-President; Vera Niksik, Treasure; Elmer Cheemuk, Secretary; Leonard Kobuk, Member; and Two vacant seats.

### What's going on:

Since 2002 the St. Michael Native Corporation (SMNC) has experienced hardship. SMNC Board of Directors and Staff hung on through the good times and bad times and are still working to get SMNC on its feet again. "They have done a GOOD JOB even it meant no money at times," said President Alberta Steve of the staff and board of directors. "Special thanks to the SMNC Board of Directors, Staff and Pauline S. Otten-Hunt," praised President Steve.

SMNC entered into a contract of agreement with Quality Asphalt Pavement (QAP) on June 6, 2007 for gravel sales. President Steve reported that "Since the start of the project we have seen improvements to our roads from the gravel pit, through our community of St. Michael, to the tank farm." QAP hired local people from St. Michael and Stebbins as truck drivers and flaggers. One of the main concerns SMNC got from a priority list survey is dust control and QAP has been courteous to provide a water truck to water the roads in order to limit the dust. Another concern identified in the survey is contaminated water sources. QAP has taken the necessary precautions to ensure that no contaminants will enter into the water source.

Information provided by St. Michael Native Corporation



Gravel produced at the gravel pit in St. Michael. The gravel was used at the Unalakleet Airport Project.



Workers are loading gravel on the barge for the Unalakleet airport project.



# ***FUTURE LEADERS: STUDENTS FORM THE BERING STRAITS REGION PARTICIPATE IN FIRST ALASKANS INSTITUTE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM***

The FirstAlaskans Institute provides an internship program for Alaska Native graduate and undergraduate students. The program is 10 weeks during the summer and they partner with various organizations to provide the work experience.

This summer four students from the Bering Straits Region participated in the program to gain valuable on-the-job training and work sessions that focused on career skills, resume writing, financial management, an understanding of Alaska history, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and public speaking & debate.

## **Dora Hughes**

Dora Hughes, from Teller, completed her internship at Bering Straits Native Corporation. The most interesting thing Dora worked on was indexing the minutes from the very beginning when Bering Straits Native Association transformed into Bering Straits Native Corporation. She helped out in the Finance, Administration, Shareholder Department, Land and Resource and with the Bering Straits Foundation. Dora helped with shareholder record maintenance, learned new information about land and resources, updated the shareholder campsite program and assisted with the fall scholarship application process. She also had the opportunity to attend a field trip with the Land and Resource Committee and she enjoyed the interaction at the Board level.

Dora is the daughter of Ken and Emily Hughes. She will obtain her Bachelors degree in Business with minors in Communications and Alaska Native Studies in 2010.

## **Miriam Aarons**

Miriam Aarons, from Anchorage, interned at the Municipality of Anchorage in the Mayor's Office. Miriam's primary project this summer was to organize a grassroots campaign to support the Fire Island Wind Turbine Project. She learned organizational skills and made a lot of great connections and friends. Miriam plans on working in New York City for a while then come back to work in Alaska for a Native Corporation.

Miriam is the daughter of Martha Anagick Aarons and Charles Aarons, M.D. She will obtain her Bachelors degree in Political Science with a concentration in International



**Dora Hughes, Miriam Aarons, Gussie Ivanoff and Dean Towarak participated in the First Alaskans Institute 2007 Summer Inter Program. The Program focuses on the development of Native leadership for Alaska Native graduate and undergraduate students.**

Affairs in January 2008.

## **Gussie Ivanoff**

Gussie Ivanoff, from Unalakleet, interned at Providence Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy in Anchorage. Gussie gained valuable experience by observing a variety of cases in both occupational and physical therapy settings, which has exposed her to a better understanding of the evaluations, progression of treatment and discharges. She also gained a deeper understanding of the modalities and techniques used for strengthening, increasing ROM (range of motion) and stabilization.

Gussie is the daughter of Weaver and Luci Ivanoff. Gussie received a Bachelors degree in Biological Sciences in 2004 and will attend a Physical Therapy school in 2008.

## **Dean Towarak**

Dean Towarak of Unalakleet interned at Unalakleet Valley Electric Cooperative with the intention to obtain a stronger understanding of accounting and gain more experience. Dean has completed work in Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Payroll, Financial Reporting, Utility Billing, and Quarterly Payroll Reports.

Dean is the son of Clarence and Linda Towarak. He will graduate in 2009 with a degree in Accounting.

Would you like to apply for an internship next summer? If so, go to [www.firstalaskans.org](http://www.firstalaskans.org) in February 2008 for an application. Or you can contact them at:

First Alaskans Institute  
606 E Street, Suite 200  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Phone: (907)677-1712 Fax: (907)677-1780



# Bering Straits Foundation

P.O. Box 1008, Nome, AK 99762 • 110 Front Street, Suite 202 • (907) 443-4316

*"The purpose of the Bering Straits Foundation is to provide opportunities for our Bering Straits shareholders to build strong and stable Native communities by investing in their educational/vocational future while grounding them in the Native cultural values and traditions of our people.*

*The goal of the Foundation is to provide education and training opportunities for every shareholder who knocks on our door, making this happen through partnerships with like-minded entities."*

## THE THOMAS & CINDY MASSIE FOUNDATION CONTRIBUTE TO BSF

Bering Straits Foundation was the fortunate recipient of a gracious donation by the Thomas and Cindy Massie Foundation. The Thomas and Cindy Massie Foundation is a grant making organization that was founded in 2003. They kindly donated \$15,000.00 to the Bering Straits Foundation to utilize for scholarships. Scholarships are granted to Bering Straits Native Corporation shareholders and descendants who meet eligibility requirements and are enrolled in an accredited college or vocational institution.

Cindy Massie is an original Bering Straits Native Corporation shareholder. Cindy's father is the late Clarence Towarak of Unalakleet and her mother is Guerie Towarak also of Unalakleet.

Thomas and Cindy are the owners and operators of the Cripple River Camp located on the beach west of Nome. They operate the camp for six weeks during the summer months. The camp is a bustling mining town that often boasts hundreds of gold struck miners from all over the nation. Every Friday night, while the camp is operating, they host a spaghetti feed for the public with entertainment such as karaoke or open mic nights.

Cindy stated that the reason she chose to make the donation to the Bering Straits Foundation was because, "Being from the Bering Strait Region I know firsthand how difficult it is to earn money for an education, especially for someone living in the villages. The Thomas and Cindy Massie Foundation is very happy to be able to help individuals from the region in furthering their education. We would like to encourage other organizations and individuals to consider making contributions to charitable organizations like the Bering Straits Foundation."



**Tom and Cindy (Towarak) Massie have graciously donated \$15,000 to the Bering Straits Foundation.**

## BSF OFFERS MORE PROGRAMS

The Bering Straits Foundation has made a couple of exciting new changes to the scholarship program including an increase in funding for recipients, no deadline for the vocational education scholarship and a new Fellowship program.

Bering Straits Foundation has increased the scholarship amounts to students attending accredited vocational education programs and colleges. Previously, students received \$250 for vocational education programs and college students whose GPA was 2.5-2.9, \$500 was awarded to students attending college with a GPA of 3.0-4.0. The scholarships now are \$500 for vocational education programs, \$400 for college students with a GPA of 2.5-2.9 and \$1,000 for college students with a GPA of 3.0-4.0. This increase in funding was made possible by a boost in donations from various organizations, see page 11.

Another exciting new change for the Foundation is that there is no longer a deadline for Vocational Education scholarship applications. There used to be a deadline of June 30 for fall and December 30 for spring. Some vocational education programs however have enrollment before or after that deadline and students in those particular programs were unable to receive funding. The Foundation hopes that this will further assist students to receive scholarships. The deadlines for college scholarships will remain the same.

Bering Straits Foundation is also implementing a new Fellowship Program that provides funding to students who plan to attend non-credit workshops, intended to broaden understanding and appreciation of Native education, culture and society. Fellowships awards may be up to \$500 per calendar year and are based on availability of funding. Fellowship recipients should be prepared to share their cultural experiences with members of the Bering Straits Foundation.

"The Bering Straits Foundation is very excited to be able to expand these programs," said BSF Executive Vice President Kirsten Timbers.

# BERING STRAITS FOUNDATION HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

The Board of the Bering Straits Foundation, founded in 1991, recently hired Ms. Kirsten Timbers to serve as Executive Vice President. Ms. Timbers is a long-term Nome resident and shareholder of the Solomon Native Corporation and Bering Straits Native Corporation. Kirsten holds a degree in Sociology and Human Services from Fort Lewis College and her work experience includes educational, cultural, and community-based responsibilities for Kawerak, Solomon Traditional Council and Los Compañeros in Durango, CO.

Carolyn Crowder, President of the Foundation, provided the following statement on behalf of the Board of Directors: "The BSF Board is very excited to have Kirsten heading our efforts in the region to meet our organization's mission and goals adopted by our Board as follows: *'The purpose of the Bering Straits Foundation is to provide opportunities for our Bering Straits shareholders to build strong and stable Native communities by investing in their educational/vocational future while grounding them in the Native cultural values and traditions of our people. The goal of the Foundation is to provide education and training opportunities for every shareholder who knocks on our door, making this happen through partnerships with like-minded entities.'* Kirsten brings a well-rounded breadth of experience to the Foundation in education, community involvement, action planning & implementation. She has excellent public relations skills, and the program will benefit from

her lifelong experiences living within the region and her awareness of our cultural subtleties. Kirsten also brings with her a strong drive to energize the Foundation's efforts to improve our scholarship program, our cultural enrichment program, our fund-raising efforts and our partnerships with other organizations working to improve our communities within the region."

Crowder added "The Bering Straits Native Corporation has for years generously supported the Foundations efforts by providing donated monetary and staff resources. The board thanks Matt Ganley, Kimberly Gooden and Rose Koezuna-Clark who all were on assignment from BSNC on a part-time, donated basis to staff the foundation office. We see the hiring of a full time EVP as the next logical step to further our ability to expand the Foundation's services and fund-raising efforts made on behalf of our benefactors."

BSNC continues to offer administrative support and more recently made office space available on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in suite 202 of the BSNC Building for the new EVP. An open house is scheduled for September 27, 2007.

As the new EVP, Kirsten will be responsible for spearheading the Foundation's community auctions as part of its fund-raising strategic plan. The next auction is scheduled for November 9, 2007, in Nome. Regional artists, merchants and individuals have generously donated in the past to this uniquely Alaskan art event. Funds raised in FY 2005 topped over \$10,000.00. All monies go directly to



Carolyn Crowder, President of the Bering Straits Foundation, Kirsten Timbers, newly hired Executive Vice President of Bering Straits Foundation

support the scholarship and cultural programs managed by BSF. Letters went out inviting donations from within the region. Crowder commented: "The Bering Straits Foundation Board is extremely grateful for the continued outpouring of support from our Native art community and local businesses for these worthy programs."

Anyone desiring further information about the BSF, the community auction and/or volunteer opportunities, may contact Kirsten Timbers, Executive Vice-President at (907)443-4316, email address [ktimbers@beringstraits.com](mailto:ktimbers@beringstraits.com), or by writing to her at Bering Straits Foundation, P. O. Box 1008, Nome, Alaska 99762.

## THANKS FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE BERING STRAITS FOUNDATION!

On behalf of the Bering Straits Foundation Board of Directors, staff and the students we would like to extend our gratitude for the generous contributions received in 2006 and 2007 from the following organizations.

**Shooting Star, \$10,000 and greater**

Bering Straits Native Corporation  
The Thomas & Cindy Massie Foundation

**Midnight Sun, \$2,500-\$4,999**

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation  
Triex Minerals

**Aurora Borealis, \$5,000-\$9,999**

Alaska Gold Company

**Moon Light, \$100-\$2,499**

Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium  
Yellowknife Construction  
Badgley Phelps & Bell, Inc.

If your organization is interested in making a donation, the Bering Straits Foundation is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization and all donations are tax deductible. For more information please contact Kirsten at 907-443-4316 or email [ktimbers@beringstraits.com](mailto:ktimbers@beringstraits.com).



**Bering Straits  
Native Corporation**

P.O. Box 1008  
110 Front St., Suite 300  
Nome, AK 99762  
(907) 443-5252  
Toll-free 1-800-478-5079  
Fax (907) 443-2985  
[www.beringstraits.com](http://www.beringstraits.com)

**BSNC Anchorage Office**

4720 Business Park Blvd., Suite G 40  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 563-3788  
Fax (907) 563-2742

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*BSNC Mission Statement*

*To improve the quality of life of our  
people through economic development  
while protecting our land, and  
preserving our cultural heritage.*

**A Chance to Win**  
at the  
**Annual Meeting of Shareholders**

**EARLY BIRD PRIZES**

Proxies received by 5:00 PM on October 17, 2007, will be entered to WIN 1 of 20 Early Bird Prizes of \$500 each.

**GRAND PRIZE & MORE**

Proxies received by Wednesday, November 7, 2007, by 5:00 PM will be entered to win one of the following prizes:

\$5,000 Grand Prize  
\$2,500 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize  
\$1,000 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Prizes  
\$500 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Prizes

**COME ONE, COME ALL!**

**BSF Annual Auction**  
**Friday, November 9th**  
**at the Nome Mini Convention**  
**Center**

**Doors open at 5:00 PM**  
**Auction starts at 6:00 PM**

Volunteers are needed to cook stew, bake desserts, set up & clean up, and to help out during the auction.

Donations are still being accepted. If you would like to donate artwork or other items to be auctioned or used as door-prizes, please contact Kirsten.

You can contact Kirsten at 443-4316 or email [ktimbers@beringstraits.com](mailto:ktimbers@beringstraits.com) to sign up.