

# THE AGLUKTUK

Autumn 2013

## BSNC BOARD DECLARES \$3 PER SHARE DIVIDEND

#### Record distribution to be issued in December

At its August meeting, the Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC) Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$3.00 per share to be issued in December. The average BSNC shareholder who owns 100 shares of stock will receive \$300.

"This is a record high dividend and a 20 percent increase from BSNC's 2012 distribution," said BSNC Board Chairman Henry Ivanoff. "This distribution will bring the total dollar amount of dividends distributed in 2013 to \$1,899,900 and is a reflection of BSNC's commitment to providing meaningful benefits to its shareholders."

As an ANCSA corporation, BSNC believes that being a successful and sustainable Alaska Native Corporation requires more than financial results. The Company works to improve the quality of life of its share-

### BSNC BOARD SELECTS LEE RYAN TO FILL VACANT SEAT

Ryan to serve two-year term



Lee Ryan

At a special meeting held on July 23, 2013, the BSNC Board of Directors selected Lee Michael Ryan, Vice President of Ryan Air, Inc., to fill the Board seat previously held by the late Martha Anagick Aarons, who passed away in June (please see tribute on page six). Mr. Ryan will serve a two-year term on the Board.

Mr. Ryan is the Chief Pilot for Ryan Air, where he has been employed since 1994. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and also attended Northern Arizona University.

He was born and raised in Unalakleet, and is the son of BSNC shareholder Wilfred "Boyuck" Ryan and his wife Victoria. In 2009, Mr. Ryan was recognized by the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce and the Alaska Journal of Commerce as a "Top 40 Under 40" professional. He currently serves as chairman of the State of Alaska Aviation Advisory Board.

"We are pleased to welcome one of our shareholder descendants to the BSNC Board of Directors," stated Henry Ivanoff, Chairman of the BSNC Board of Directors. "Lee embodies the next generation of shareholders who will one day lead BSNC's future growth and holders through economic development in the region, and invests in tomorrow's leaders and the communities in which we live and work by supporting programs and organizations that make a difference in the lives of Alaska Native people.

BSNC provides substantial annual support to the Bering Straits Foundation (BSF). BSF helps BSNC shareholders and their direct lineal descendants attain their educational and vocational goals by offering scholarship and mentorship opportunities. In 2012, BSF provided more than \$238,000 in educational funding to BSNC shareholders and their descendants. Since its inception in 1994, BSF has provided more than \$1.8 million to the Alaska Native shareholder beneficiaries of BSNC for post-secondary education.

### BSNC AND THE LAND

Part 1: ANCSA and the Bering Strait Region installment By BSNC Vice President Resources and External Affairs Matt Ganley

**INTRODUCTION:** The following article is the first installment of a four-part series that will discuss the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), BSNC's land base and how the corporation is managing this important asset. This first part outlines ANCSA and delves into the history of BSNC's land selections (1968-1977). The second installment reviews BSNC's early years and the difficulties faced by the corporation (1977-1995). The third will outline BSNC's recent history (1995-2013), as land conveyances were finalized and the corporation diversified its business ventures. The fourth and final installment will discuss BSNC's land holdings, the history of exploration and development on its lands, and the plans for future land management and economic development.

#### THE BERING STRAITS REGION PRE-ANCSA

By 1968, the year after the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) held its first meeting, the state was blanketed by a patchwork of villages and communities organized as Native Villages under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1937 (IRA), regional non-profit organizations, a few Native reserves (with lands set aside for reservations), and one reservation. Merging these varied forms of government and authority for the purposes of a statewide solution to indigenous claims would

development. He was selected from a pool of 16 applicants, the highest number ever to apply to serve on the BSNC Board, all of whom were highly qualified."



not prove easy.

Alaska Native groups throughout the state were organizing to press for a land claims settlement. For the Bering Strait area, three land reserves had been previously created under the IRA: Wales in 1943 with 21,000 acres, Diomede in 1946 with 3,000 acres, and Unalakleet

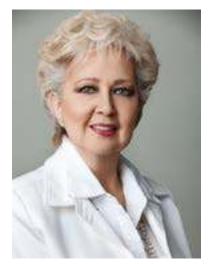
**BSNC AND THE LAND** - Continued on Page 5

### BSNC IS ON FACEBOOK! F STAY UP-TO-DATE AT FACEBOOK.COM/GOBSNC

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#### BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION

### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT By Gail R. Schubert, BSNC President and CEO



AFN time is always a special time of year in Alaska. It is an event that I have always looked forward to and enjoyed. From catching up with old friends to the incredible Native art from across our diverse state... AFN is a rewarding experience. But AFN is business too, and every year when the Convention is finished, I am reminded of the strength that Alaska Native people share in numbers, and know that we have come a long way from where we were prior to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). We are on the right track.

Prior to the passage of ANCSA nearly 42 years ago, Alaska Native leaders were galvanized by statehood, and realized that Alaska Native people needed to unite politically if we were to have a voice in the resolution of indigenous land claims. The answer to this need was a statewide Native organization that disregarded cultural and regional differences. This led to the creation of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) in 1966, the first statewide Alaska Native institution. It served as the catalyst in negotiating the provisions and the structure of ANCSA.

Fast forward to today, and we have come so far. Since the passage of ANCSA, Alaska Native corporations have grown into Alaska's economic powerhouses. BSNC recently ranked number 17 on Alaska Business Monthly's top-revenueproducing Alaska-based companies. Alaska Native corporations have helped to enhance Alaska Native people's quality

of life by delivering benefits such as employment, revenues, and resource development to remote parts of our state.

BSNC's own direct benefits to shareholders include dividends, an employment preference for shareholders, descendants and shareholder spouses, and providing funds to the Bering Straits Foundation (BSF), which helps BSNC shareholders and their direct lineal descendants attain their educational and vocational goals by offering scholarship opportunities.

Under the leadership and support of BSNC's Board of Directors and through the hard work of our management and staff, the Company is continuing to seek sources of capital for resource development that will contribute to self-sustaining economic prosperity in our region. Future generations of BSNC shareholders should be able to live healthy and prosperous lives without ever leaving home. I envision BSNC shareholders and descendants continuing our traditional and subsistence-based ways of life, in concert with management and development of our natural resources, which will create sustainable economic development and build stronger, healthier communities.

With this vision in mind, BSNC continues to implement strategic and financial changes designed to improve and strengthen our path to long-term economic sustainability by diversifying revenue sources, working to foster cooperation among local and regional entities, and by seizing upon new opportunities with a special focus on our region.

As reported in 2010, BSNC partnered with Kawerak, Inc., Norton Sound Economic Development Corp., and the village corporations of Sitnasuak, Mary's Igloo, White Mountain and Teller to form Unaatuq, LLC, to purchase Pilgrim Hot Springs. The Alaska Center for Energy and Power, in coordination with Unaatuq and Potelco, is currently drilling what may become a production well for geothermal-produced electricity, a renewable resource which could eventually serve as an on-site power plant with a transmission line to Nome.

The growing potential of the Arctic is a high priority for BSNC. Management continues to pursue title to Port Clarence, also known as Point Spencer, under ANCSA. Port Clarence is opportunely located to support marine vessel traffic between the Arctic Ocean and the Bering Sea as it increases due to expanding ice-free northern water routes.

BSNC is working toward a bright future. Quyanna for your continued support and involvement.



Henry Ivanoff, Chairman Eugene Asicksik, Vice Chairman Gail R. Schubert, President & CEO Roy Ashenfelter, *Secretary* Fred Sagoonick, Assistant Secretary Clara Langton, Treasurer Percy Nayokpuk, Assistant Treasurer Jason Evans, Director

Robert (Bobby) Evans, Director Neal W. Foster, *Director* Louie Green, Jr., Director Homer E. Hoogendorn, Director Steve Ivanoff, *Director* Lee Ryan, *Director* Tim Towarak, *Director* 

#### **HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: EMILY "TICASUK" IVANOFF**



Emily "Ticasuk" Ivanoff

on May 9, 1982.

Educator Emily "Ticasuk" Ivanoff Brown was dedicated to perpetuating Alaska Native languages and recording and passing on traditional Inupiag oral history and knowledge. She was born in Unalakleet in 1904 to Amelia (Malguay) and Stephan Ivanoff. Her Inupiag name, Ticasuk, means "a hollow place in the ground where the four winds store the treasure they gather from all parts of the world." She taught as a grade school teacher for 30 years at schools in Kotzebue, Unalakleet, Shaktoolik and Meade River, advocating for bilingual education and developing a curriculum for the instruction of Inupiaq in elementary schools. She also helped produce a dictionary for her own Malimiut dialect and organized the Alaska Heritage Writer's Association.

Emily was a life-long learner: During her lifetime she earned two bachelor's degrees and a master's degree. Her master's thesis was published into a book, "Grandfather of Unalakleet," which was later reprinted as "The Roots of Ticasuk: an Eskimo Woman's Family Story." She received many awards throughout her lifetime, including a presidential citation from Richard Nixon for her "exceptional service to others, in the finest American tradition." She was working toward earning a doctoral degree when she passed on at the age of 78 on May 3, 1982. The University of Alaska awarded her an honorary doctor of humanities degree

Information courtesy of the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and Southcentral Foundation

Beginning Jan. 1, 2014, every American must demonstrate health care coverage under the Affordable Care Act. This means if you do not already have coverage you will be required to purchase health insurance or face a penalty when filing your taxes. The tax penalty varies in amount, depending on the year. For 2014, the penalties are \$95.00 per adult and \$47.50 per child and up to \$285.00 maximum per family. The fees increase to \$695 per adult and \$347.50 per child for 2016.

Alaska Native and American Indian people are exempt from the requirement to purchase insurance if they can show evidence of:

To qualify for this exemption, Alaska Native and American Indian people will have to apply for the exemption at www.healthcare.gov or you can claim these exemptions when you file your 2014 federal tax return, which is due in April 2015.

Even with this exemption, Alaska Native and American Indian people may choose to purchase insurance. Alaskans will have a new option of purchasing health insurance through the federal marketplace as early as October 2013 for plan coverage effective Jan. 1, 2014. Some Alaskans will qualify for premium subsidies based on income. For instance, an individual earning up to \$57,400 or a family of four earning up to \$117,760 may receive financial

May 2013 June 2013 July 2013

### ALASKA FEDERATION OF NATIVES CONVENTION RECAP BSNC nominee is Denali Award winner

## SHAREHOLDER NEWS

#### HOW WILL THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT AFFECT YOU? The Act will require that every U.S. citizen, including children, show proof of coverage

- Enrollment in a federally recognized tribe
- Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) shareholder status • Eligible to receive services from an Indian Health Service (IHS) facility/Tribal health care provider.

Spouses and dependents of Alaska Native people or American Indian people who are members of a federally recognized tribe or eligible for services through an Indian Health Services provider also qualify for an exemption. There may be a requirement to send a copy of your tribal enrollment card or other supporting documents. Please do not send the original as it will not be returned to you.

assistance when purchasing insurance.

For more information on the Affordable Care Act, please visit www.healthcare.gov or email: healthreform@anthc.org,

#### WHAT IF I ALREADY HAVE HEALTH CARE COVERAGE?

If you have health care coverage through Medicaid, Medicare, Denali KidCare, Veteran's Benefits or your employer provides health insurance, you have met the requirements of the Individual Mandate and do not need to purchase additional health care coverage.

#### WILL I STILL BE ABLE TO GET HEALTH CARE SERVICES AT MY IHS/ **TRIBAL HEALTH FACILITY?**

Yes, you will still be able to get care at your IHS/Tribal health facility. The health care services provide at IHS/Tribal health facilities are not changing.

#### **HOW DO I ENROLL IN A TRIBE?**

Tribal enrollment rules are different for every Tribe. You are most likely to qualify for Tribal enrollment in the village where your family comes from. Contact your family's Tribe(s) to learn about what is required for enrollment. Tribal addresses can be found at www.ncai.org/tribaldirectory. You can also contact the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Alaska Regional Office, at (800) 645-8465, option 1.

#### DOES MY CERTIFICATE OF INDIAN BLOOD (CIB), ISSUED BY THE **BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS (BIA), COUNT?**

While the CIB is an important document, you will still need to show proof of Tribal enrollment to qualify for the exemption from the tax penalty.

#### DOES IT HAVE TO BE A CARD OR CAN IT BE A LETTER?

The tribe may choose to issue an enrollment card or provide a letter that verifies tribal status.

#### DO I HAVE TO ESTABLISH BLOOD QUANTUM?

Some Tribes may require a minimum blood quantum, so it is important to contact the Tribe.

### MONTHLY STOCK WILL DRAWING WINNERS

Alfred Ningeulook, Shishmaref

Clarence Traeger, Anchorage

Katie Ellanna, Nome

August 2013 September 2013 MAIL IN YOUR UPDATED STOCK WILL TODAY AND **BE ENTERED INTO A DRAWING TO WIN \$200!** 

Tracy Ahnangnatoguk, Brevig Mission Dean Kuzuguk, Shishmaref

BSNC President and CEO Gail Schubert attended the Alaska Federation of Natives conference in Fairbanks where she helped honor Denali Award winner Dr. Lawrence D. Kaplan, whom BSNC nominated. Dr. Kaplan began his teaching career in Linguistics at UAF's Alaska Native Language Center (ANLC) in 1974. After receiving his Ph.D. (1979) for his thesis "Phonological Issues in North Alaskan Inupiaq," he served as ANLC's Acting Assistant Professor of Inupiaq (1983), Associated Professor of Linguistics (1984), and Professor of Linguistics (2001).

From 2000 to 2013 he has served as ANLC Director.

His publications document, protect and promote Alaska Native languages and include "Wales Inupiaq Sea Ice Dictionary," "Comparative Eskimo Dictionary (with Aleut Cognates)," "Iñupiag Phrases and Conversations" and "Ugiuvangmiut Quliapyuit/King Island Tales" (with Frank and Ursula Elanna). He is currently working on the "Qawiaraq Inupiaq Dictionary," "King Island Inupiaq Dictionary" and "Qayaq."



James Kari, Walkie Charles, BSNC President & CEO Gail Schubert, BSNC Director Clara Langton, BSNC Vice President of Resources and External Affairs Matt Ganley flank Dr. Lawrence Kaplan (center).

### MISSING SHAREHOLDERS ADDRESSES

angford Edward Adams Steven Gilbert Agibinik Harold Dean Ahwinona Sara Amaktoolik Wercilen Amarok Wercilen Amarok Walter Analoak William Peter Analoak Jscar J Anasogak John Floyd Anderson Percy Bert Angnabooguk Deborah Y Aningayou Susan T Aningayou Susan T Aningayou Susan T Aningayou Lena Mae Anungazuk Horbert Oliver Anungazuk William Donald Arca Trista Lynn Arnold Theodore Oscar Atchak Jadys Baldwin Ubert Barron	Emily Tooshuk Brooks Roy Edward Ben Brown Lamoyne Irene Brown Mary Buck Eugene David Burke Beverly Ann Burkhalter Kristine Carlisle Donna Marie Carlisle Wanda Jacqueline Carlson Kristie Emma Caroon James E Caroon Tiffany Catt Allison Elapuk Childers Gordon Coffee Patrick C Coffey Robert Norman Cole Bobby Collins Etchine J Coutee Agnes Darlene Crawford Elizabeth M. Daillak Nathan F. Deeson Judy Ann Dennis Frank E Dennis Darlee A Dobeon	George Evane Finley Nellie K Forbes Willie Foster Lewis G. Frank Lilly May Friemering Anthony Lane Fry Samuel Goldsberry Myles Gonangnan Jeffery Eugene Grant Brandon Green Leslie Kit Greene Julie Gregory Chena J Hall Reeve T Hall Christina Marie Hansell Christopher Leon Hansell Christopher Leon Hansell Virginia Hansen Steven Lee Hansen Therese Mary Harrild Sherri Laverne Harris Darlene Ruth Hawk Betsy Rose Haworth Lucy Henry	Chelsey Ann Jack Bartholomew Jack Hazel Nancy Jack John E Jackson Timothy David James Shirley Esther James Scottina Johnson Leandra Johnson Viola Vera Joseph Peggy Lee Kane Eddie T Karmun Helen D Karmun Romald K Katexac Milton Kavairlook Adeline Ellen Kayoukluk Sara Michelle Joy Keech Christina C Kempton Francis Kirk Alice Kokochuruk Robert Bellarmine Kokuluk Kenneth Martin Koozaata Stephanie Irene Kushnick Adam Larsen	Adrienne Deanna Lockwood Daria May Longley Karen Lopez Paul Vincent Lucier Melissa Lucio Henry Wayne Luke Lorraine Lupson Karen Jean Macdonald Kimberly Kay Madara Chauncey Malewotkuk Dannita Hilda Malewotkuk Pamela J Mandan Annelle V Martin Michael Patrick May Nellie L Mayer Michele Leigh Mayo-Kok Robert Weokona Mayokok Frieda Mcalear Rodger Lee Mcfarling Justin James Mckinney Rachel Mary Mike	Kenneth Lee Mount David Murphy Florence Nellie Nakak Teresa Denise Nakarak Clarence Nance Deslin Wade Napayonak Frances Nashoanak John Baptist Nashoanak Gerald Harry Nelson Kyle Nephew Victoria Lynn Nicklin Joseph Norbert Donna M Norbert Margaret Hilda Nussbaum John Obrien Charles Howard Odle Simon Okpealuk Wilson Fred Okpowruk David Paul Oksoktaruk Archie Olanna Shirley Ollom Jennifer Olson	Jeremiah Pete Anita Petzino Julia May Pickus Rapheal Pikonganna Stella Polaretzke Kenneth Leo Powell Rebecca Jean Pushruk Robert Earl Reynolds Lena June Rivera Makenzie Anne Roberts Julie E Rogers Yvonne Frances Rose Julia Danielle Ryan Evelyn Mae Rynearson Jan Arvo Saario Gary D Sambo Annokazooka Lazyna Sanchez Shamus Patrick Sandefur Keimone Sarren Archie Seelkoke Ellen Setters Dena Marie Smith Crostal Lee Smith	Martin T. Steve Jamie Massak Stevens Emily Selma Sutton Kenneth David Swanson Stewart Tocktoo Stacey D M Tokeinna Robert Hoyd Trigg Gladys Kate Valdez Carolyn Valdez Eric Christian Veltrano Paul Raymer Walker Margaret Wallace William Lee Walluk James Melvin Walser Frank T Walunga Joy Helen Wansor Martha Marie Washington Angeline Wassilie Harry Markum Watson Leesa Joan Watson William David Wells Barbara I. Weylouanna Georgette Marie Whitis La She'awa Williams	
Anungazuk	Etchine J Coutee	Virginia Hansen	Francis Kirk	Michele Leigh Mayo-Kok	Wilson Fred Okpowruk	Annokazooka Lazyna Sanchez	Angeline Wassilie	
Villiam Donald Arca	Agnes Darlene Crawford	Steven Lee Hansen	Alice Kokochuruk	Robert Weokona Mayokok	David Paul Oksoktaruk	Shamus Patrick Sandefur	Harry Markum Watson	
Theodore Oscar Atchak	Nathan F. Deeson	Sherri Laverne Harris	Kenneth Martin Koozaata	Rodger Lee Mcfarling	Shirley Ollom	Archie Seelkoke	William David Wells	
Gladys Baldwin	Judy Ann Dennis	Darlene Ruth Hawk	Stephanie Irene Kushnick	Justin James Mckinney	Jennifer Olson	Ellen Setters	Barbara I. Weyiouanna	
Lisa Bassett	Degee A Dobson	Lucy Henry	Frances Ann Lawrence	Nita Ann Marie Mike	Richard Raymond Omelak	Crystal Lee Smith	La She'aya Williams	
Tiffany M Becker	John David Eagle	Einar Henry	Shannon M Leal	Lucy Jean Mogg	Paralee Ruth Oquillock	William Laurence Smith	Steffannita Marie Willoya	
Katherine Beeman	Gordon David Eakon	Shasta Mae Henry	John David Leblanc	Gerald D Mogg	David Oquilluk	Benedict A Snowball	Lola Wilson	
Dorothy Bell Anthony M. Black Patricia Sue Blatchford	Donald George Eakon Freida Arleen Eide Carol Ann Epperley	Esther N Herman Steven A Hicks Thomas Lee Huffman	Gail Lewis Mathilda Lick Kathleen Marie Lindsey	Billie Wain Moore James F Morgan Virgil H Morgan	Donald M Otton Blayne Arthur Outwater Sheena Cory Ozenna	Elazareth H Solski Myles Allen Soosuk Jolene Marie Spiller	Mary Jill Young Patricia Sue Zimmerman	
Evelyn Rachel Bonnar Patricia Bordenelli	Frederick Earl Ernak Stephanie Hazel Evans	Jesse A Hurst Gordon Stephan Iya	Henry Lockwood Floyd B Lockwood	Marvin L Morgan Henry A Morgan	lda Gail Paniptchuk Amy Ella Paniptchuk	Victoria Steve Jeanne Marie Steve		

up-to-date. Visit http://beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/address\_name\_change.pdf or call (907) 443-5252 to update your address.

#### SHAREHOLDER NAME AND ADDRESS CHANGE FORM

BSNC shareholders should update the Shareholder Records Department directly in writing anytime their mailing address or name changes. Address changes for shareholders under the age of 18 must be signed by the minor's custodian. Mail in this form or send a signed letter with your social security number, date of birth and new address to: MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O. Box 1008 Nome, Alaska 99762

legal document with your new name, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage	
certificate or divorce decree.	
New name:	
Former name:	
Social security number:	
Date of birth:	
Signature:	
Date:	

#### **BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION** ALASKA STATUTE 13.16.705(b) WILL **ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1971**

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O. Box 1008 Nome, Alaska 99762

, having attained the age of eighteen (18) years and being of sound mind, and solely for the purposes of AS 13.16.705(b) and ANCSA of 1971, Sec. 7(h)(2), freely and voluntarily execute this will and hereby devise and bequeath my shares of stock in Bering Straits Native Corporation and \_village corporation to: Name of village

Name	Current Address	% of Shares

This will revokes any bequest of the stock, described above, in any previously existing will or codicil. If I now own more shares than I have bequeathed above, I direct that the remaining shares shall be split pro rata among the persons named above. BSNC recommends that all existing fractional shares of stock be given to one person, and that existing whole shares be given as whole shares and not split into fractional shares.

This instrument shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Alaska.

I, being first sworn, declare that the testator signs and executes this instrument as

his/her last will and that he/she signs it willingly, and I sign this will as witness of

the testator's signing, and that to the best of my knowledge the testator is 18 years

or older, of sound mind, and under no constraint or undue influence.

Dated at
----------

City this \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Testator

State of:

State

County of: \_\_\_\_\_\_(or \_\_\_\_Judicial District)

Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before me by

the testator, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_



old.

commence.

Notary Public or Postmaster \_\_\_\_\_ In and for the State of \_\_\_\_

THE AGLUKTUK

## **BSNC REGION NEWS**

### YOUNG PROVIDERS AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

#### *Recognition for young people who provide*

In appreciation for their dedication in caring for their Elders and community, providing subsistence foods, active involvement in activities that benefit their community, and serving as role-models in maintaining our traditional activities and values, Thomas B. Pootoogoouk of Shishmaref and Jalen R. Katchatag of Unalakleet were each honored with BSNC's first annual Young Providers Award. Also nominated were Daphne Weyiouanna of Shishmaref and Woodrow Kitchen of Wales.

Mr. Pootoogoouk was nominated by Shishmaref Native Corporation for his commitment in caring for his dad Harvey who is 85 years old. He provides traditional subsistence foods for his dad year-round. He is also an active volunteer in community events such as holiday activities, the Spring Carnival and the Wellness Picnic.

Mr. Katchatag was nominated by his mother Jolene Nanouk for his sharing of traditional foods. Jalen enjoys the outdoors and subsistence activities. He shares his first catch of everything with village Elders. This past spring, he took it upon himself to speak with the Elders to know what birds they were craving, and then hunted their favorites for each. He also provided traditional foods to the Unalakleet schools to be used for cooking classes. He takes and mentors others while hunting caribou, ugruk, seals and other traditional foods. He is active with the Search and Rescue Team, enjoys working on snow machines and has been commercial fishing since he was 12 years

#### PILGRIM HOT SPRINGS UPDATE Testing for geothermal prospects underway



A drilling crew works to determine the geothermal potential at Pilgrim Hot Springs, located north of Nome.

There is some exciting activity happening at Pilgrim Hot Springs this fall! The Alaska Center for Energy and Power, in coordination with Unaatuq, LLC, and Potelco, is drilling what may become a production well for geothermal-produced electricity. If, after extensive testing, it is determined there is enough hot water at the wellhead, planning and design for an on-site power plant and transmission line to Nome will

The hot springs, located north of Nome, are owned by Unaatuq, LLC. Sustainable economic development in the BSNC region is important to the Company, which is one reason why BSNC partnered with Kawerak, Inc., NSEDC and the village corporations of Sitnasuak, Mary's Igloo, White Mountain and Teller, and NSEDC to form Unaatuq, which purchased Pilgrim Hot Springs in 2010.

### **ALASKA CONSERVATION** FOUNDATION OFFERS GRANTS

Funding to support Native organizations that address emerging environmental issuest

The Alaska Conservation Foundation's Alaska Native Fund Steering Committee awards funds for Alaska Native organizations and individuals working to address emerging environmental issues that impact Alaska Native ways of life. The Fund supports Alaska Native people and organizations combating issues surrounding:

- Climate change
- Food security
- Energy
- Holistic wellness

Learn more by visiting http://alaskaconservation.org/grantopportunities/alaska-native-fund/ or www.facebook.com/ AKNativeFund.AKNativeFund.

#### **BSNC AND THE LAND** Continued from Page 1

in 1941 with 870 acres. White Mountain and Shishmaref had proposed reserves but these were voted down by the residents. There were two other reserves within the region which had been established by Executive Order of the U.S. President: White Mountain in 1925 for 1,200 acres and Elim in 1925 for 316,000 acres. Approximately half of the region's villages petitioned for reserves in 1950 but no further action was taken to consider the filings.

As a result of the formation of AFN and the pressing issue of land claims settlement, protest filings were submitted by regional groups in 1968. These claims, combined with the pre-existing reserves and IRA petitions for reserves, set the stage for what would eventually become ANCSA. The Seward Peninsula Native Association and the Arctic Native Brotherhood jointly filed protest F-166, which claimed lands beginning at Shishmaref and extending through the Seward Peninsula to the east bank of the Koyuk River.

The lead up to a final land settlement took three years of Congressional Committee and Sub-Committee hearings and numerous field hearings to gather opinions and expertise in the issues surrounding the Act. In the end, ANCSA was passed on Dec. 18, 1971. Through Public Land Orders and ANCSA, the U.S. Secretary of the Interior withdrew vast tracts of land from any form of appropriation in anticipation of selection by the regional and village corporations. Additionally, lands were set aside under Section 17(d) for inclusion within, or creation of, new Federal Land Management Units. These latter lands would become the basis for the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980 (ANILCA).

#### LAND SELECTIONS

The eventual passage of ANILCA established new federal management units and established a rural preference for hunting and fishing on federal lands through Title VIII. For the BSNC region, the primary lands that were not eligible were the (now) Bering Land Bridge National Park, and lands along the Unalakleet River that were selected for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, a designation for certain protected wild areas. Some land south and west of St. Michael would become a portion of the Yukon

**BSNC AND THE LAND** - Continued on Page 8

## **BSNC NEWS**

### 2013 ANNUAL MEETING RESULTS

The 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders was held Oct. 5 in Nome, Alaska. More 3,400 shareholders voted by proxy and more than 170 shareholders are estimated to have attended the meeting. No binding or advisory resolutions passed. Shareholders voted on the election of five board directors. All incumbents retained their seats on the board.

#### **ELECTION RESULTS:**

Timothy Towarak received 14.9 percent of the votes (251,597,2826) Gail Anagick Schubert received 14.4 percent of the votes (243, 260.4431)

Louis Green, Jr. received 13.8 percent of the votes (233,610.213) Clara Langton received 12.9 percent of the votes (218,315.7659) Eugene Asicksik received 12.1 percent of the votes (205,324.712) The Board of Directors honored the late Martha Anagick Aarons, a Board member who served until her passing in June, with plaques to her family recognizing her service to the Board and BSNC's shareholders. BSNC recognized the winners of its first annual Young Providers Award Jalen Katchatag of Unalakleet and Thomas Pootoogooluk of Shishmaref, and its Elders of the Year Award winners:

Council Native Corporation Shishmaref Native Corporation Sitnasuak Native Corporation Unalakleet Native Corporation Unalakleet Native Corporation Wales Native Corporation White Mountain Native Corporation

Catherine Dickson Harvey Pootoogooluk Arthur "Guy" Martin Frances Charles Daniel Soxie Raymond Seetook Sr Rose Kowchee

BSNC's Board of Directors and

in Nome on Oct. 5. A slide

presentation about her life and

in recognition of her service to

BSNC and its shareholders

staff paid tribute to the late Board

Director Martha Anagick Aarons at

the Annual Meeting of Shareholders

volunteer work was shown, and her

family was presented with a plaque

Martha was first elected to BSNC's Board of Directors in 2009 and

reelected in 2012. Because she

was passionate about the outdoors



Amber Ryan and her partner Ulysses Hall.

complete a degree program," said Ms. Ryan. She applied for and was accepted to the University of Alaska Fairbanks-Northwest Campus twoyear nursing program in Nome. "It was perfect because that meant that I didn't have to move away from my family to earn my degree."

"I would like to encourage all those who have the motivation to further their education to do so," said Ms. Ryan. "Set goals, apply for a program, and know that once you begin a program, there is a finish line at the end of it: A finish line of success and a door that opens your life to many opportunities to follow with furthering your education."

BSNC congratulates Amber on her accomplishments and thanks her for helping to meet the health care needs of the people of the Bering Strait region.

### **BSNC SHAREHOLDER 40 UNDER 40 AWARDEE** National award honors young leaders



Dr. Christina Darby

Dr. Darby is a board-certified Neurologist and Sleep Medicine physician at the Virginia Mason Medical Center in Seattle, Wash. She is the daughter of BSNC shareholder Ella Anagick and granddaughter of BSNC shareholder Betty Anagick. The 2013 Native American 40 Under 40 Awards were presented at NCAIED's 38th Annual Indian Progress In Business Awards Gala on Oct. 24 in Arizona. Dr. Darby and her husband Anthony are expecting their first child in November.



Want to help students from the Bering Straits region succeed AND get great art, just in time for the holidays? Attend BSF's 11th Annual Art Auction on Saturday, Dec. 14 at the Nome Mini-Convention Center from 3 - 7 p.m.

Want to donate an art auction item? Call (907) 443-4305 or email msallaffie@beringstraits.com to make a taxdeductible donation.

Are you receiving important mailings from BSNC, including dividends? It is important that shareholders keep their mailing address up-to-date. Visit http://beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/address\_name\_change.pdf or call (907) 443-5252 to update your address





BSNC President and CEO Gail R. Schubert accepts an award plaque from Alaska Business Monthly's Charles Bell at their annual awards luncheon honoring Alaska's 49 top-revenue-producing companies. BSNC ranked number 17 on Alaska Business Monthly's 2013 list of the top 49 revenue-producing Alaska-owned and-operated companies, having posted \$213 million in revenue in 2013. Alaska Business Monthly selects the Top 49ers by surveying Alaska companies that are at least 51 percent Alaskan-owned and headquartered in Alaska.

### **BSNC IS HIRING!**

**Opportunities for shareholders** exist across the country!



BSNC, its subsidiaries, affiliates and joint ventures want to hire gualified shareholders, descendants, and shareholder spouses, along with promoting qualified inhouse staff to meet newly created or vacated positions. Please check out open positions and share this link with your family and friends:

WWW.BERINGSTRAITS.COM/CAREERS



#### **BSNC PAYS TRIBUTE TO MARTHA AARONS AT ANNUAL MEETING** Remembered for grace, compassion, positive presence



Martha Aarons

and had a life-long love of subsistence activities, including berry-picking, egg-hunting and fishing, she asked to serve on the Land and Resources Committee. She often advocated for responsible natural resource development and employment opportunities for shareholders. She served on the 8(a) committee as well, as government contracting comprises a substantial portion of BSNC's work.

Martha was born in Unalakleet and was the eighth of eleven children born to Betty and the late Lowell Anagick. She graduated from Stanford University in 1976 with a bachelor's degree in economics. She was proud of her decades-long work as a commercial fisherwoman, both in Bristol Bay and Unalakleet. She was an Alaska Native corporation leader, homemaker, volunteer and proud grandmother. In addition to her BSNC Board service, she served on the Unalakleet Native Corporation Board for 27 years (six as President and 12 as Vice President), and was a Court Appointed Special Advocate for abused and neglected children until her illness forced her to stop. Martha was also selected as the Miss World Eskimo Indian Olympics queen in 1973.

Martha was a motivated athlete, and exercised daily despite her illness up until a week prior to her passing. She passed away peacefully in her sleep at her home in Anchorage after a more than two-year battle with Lou Gehrig's disease. She was known to be a kind, loving, compassionate person dedicated to serving others, especially those who were less fortunate. She continued to be generous with her time and resources up until the very end. Martha is survived by her husband of more than thirty years, Dr. Charles Aarons; her daughters, Miriam (Joe Hegedus), Elizabeth, and Sarah Aarons (Chris Ash); her mother, Betty Anagick; her grandsons, Charles, Daniel and Jacob Hegedus; her sisters Rose, Dorothy, Ella and Gwen Anagick, Joan Johnson (Harry Jr.), Gail Schubert (Edward), and her brother, Edgar Anagick and many extended relatives and a large network of friends.

## **BERING STRAITS FOUNDATION NEWS**

### **RECIPIENT SUCCESS STORY: AMBER RYAN**

With BSF support, a new nurse starts her career in her hometown, Nome

> Education has always been an important part of Amber Ryan's life. After working as a CNA at Ouvanna Care Center the summer of 2009, she was inspired to further her education by working toward a degree in nursing. She completed her nursing program in December of 2012 and became a registered nurse in May of 2013. Her first day of work was on Memorial Day at the new Norton Sound Regional Hospital in Nome.

"After giving birth to my son, Phoenix, I decided it was time for me to apply for and



BSNC shareholder and BSF scholarship recipient Dr. Christina Darby was selected by the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED) as a Native American 40 Under 40 award recipient. This prestigious award recognizes 40 emerging Native leaders from across Indian Country who have demonstrated leadership, initiative, and dedication and made significant contributions in business and/or in their community.

## BSF TO HOLD 11TH ANNUAL



### **BSF RECEIVES USDA-BUSINESS ENERGY GRANT**

BSF received a \$200,000 USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant to provide commercial energy audits to 44 small businesses. The audits will help businesses in the communities

of the Bering Strait region improve their energy efficiency and lower their energy costs by providing energy audits, energy efficiency recommendations and assistance in applying for grants to help pay for the audit-recommended improvements.

BSF will work with Bering Straits Development Corp. (BSDC) to perform the audits. BSF and BSDC will be working in conjunction with a Homerbased group made up of representatives from Homer Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Advocates and Wisdom and Associates. Audits will begin in spring 2014. Learn more by contacting Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Advocates Grant Manager Taz Tally at (907) 435-7906 or by email at taztally@me.com.

### **BSNC DESCENDANT TO FILM** FOOD DOCUMENTARY To be made in partnership with National Geographic, Fulbright Foundation

A simple conversation between friends that BSNC descendant and scholarship recipient Jenny Miller met while completing an academic fellowship at Western University in Ontario, Canada, has turned into a collaborative documentary project about indigenous food sovereignty. The documentary will be filmed by Ms. Miller and two friends with the support of National Geographic, The Fulbright Foundation and the University of Washington.

During the Killam Fellowship's Fall Orientation in Ottawa, Ms. Miller met biology student, Charu Jaiswal from York University, and film and media student Sarah Robert from Queen's University. The idea for the film started as a conversation between Mr. Jaiswal and Ms. Miller about the challenges of getting healthy and affordable food in rural Alaska. The film explores the trend of Alaska Native young people, in an attempt to improve their food security, returning to hunting and gathering practices.

Ms. Miller is the daughter of BSNC shareholder Charlotte Miller. She is seeking a double degree in Photomedia and American Indian Studies at the University of Washington.

#### **ALYESKA AWARDS BSF** FUNDING SUPPORT Matching scholarship fund supports students working toward careers in oil industry

The Alyeska Alaska Native Scholarship Program generously awarded BSF funding support in the amount of \$16,000 for fall 2013 and spring 2014. The awarded funds are intended to support eligible BSF applicants who are pursuing education, training and development leading toward careers on the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System. Scholarships from this fund will be matched by BSF.

BSF applied for funding for BSNC shareholders and descendants studying business administration, business accounting, information technology, civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, process technology, diesel and heavy equipment technology, construction and welding. BSF eligible applicants were notified via mail if they were possible candidates for this scholarship.

### **BSNC AND THE LAND**

Continued from Page 5

Delta National Wildlife Refuge. Along with these exclusions, the Alaska Native Allotment Act of 1906 was slated to be closed upon the passage of ANCSA; however, any applications pending at the time of its passage would be eligible for settlement.

Each village corporation could select lands within "core townships" and the regional corporation would be conveyed the subsurface estate underlying the village's surface estate. As stipulated in ANCSA, the regional corporation would receive the subsurface estate to the lands selected and conveyed to the village corporations and would also be given an opportunity to select surface and subsurface estate within or adjacent to the village corporation's areas for conveyance through Section 14(h) of the Act.

Formed in 1972, BSNC and the region's villages would have only until 1977 to file all land selections available through ANCSA. The first BSNC Board of Directors was faced with the task of identifying lands that could then – or might someday – provide positive future economic benefits or sustain traditional livelihoods for the Company's 6,300 enrolled shareholders. Areas chosen were Salmon Lake, Glacial Lake, the area along the Kougarok road to the Pilgrim River, and the north and south shores of Imuruk Basin (Agiapuk River delta and Windy Cove). While other regions in the state have timber or oil reserves, the Bering Strait region has minerals. For BSNC, this meant selecting areas with tin and gold potential (Cassiterite Peak, Mount Distin, the Kougarok area, and Christmas Mountain), possible oil and gas (Reindeer Cove), geothermal reserves (Lava Creek), and uranium and rare earth deposits (Mount Arathlatulik).

The 17 village corporations within the region would receive approximately 2 million acres of surface estate. Some village corporations chose whole watersheds to protect their subsistence/tradition areas (Mary's Igloo, Koyuk, and others), some selected the shoreline for the sealing camps and access to ocean they depended upon (Shaktoolik, Golovin, St.

Michael), and others combined their traditional land needs with lands that might have future potential for other uses (Sitnasuak, Council, Inalik).

#### **UNDERSTANDING SPLIT ESTATE AND 7(i)**

Land that is divided and shared between an ownership of the surface estate and one of the subsurface ownership estate is what is known as a "split estate." As applied under ANCSA, the subsurface estate is comprised of a set, or bundle, of rights that allow the owner the right to access, develop and benefit from the minerals, oil and gas, and geothermal resources located within the lands. Invariably, this sharing or splitting of the lands causes tension between the surface and subsurface owner.

In anticipation of the tension "split estate" would cause, the framers of ANCSA created a specific section that requires a major portion of all proceeds from subsurface resource development to be redistributed to all regional and village corporations. This is a means of insuring that the benefits from development accrue not only to the subsurface owner (regional corporations) but also to the surface owner (village corporations). Section 7(i) of ANCSA also applies to timber resources and requires that 70 percent of all profit from resource development be distributed to all other regional corporations on a per capita basis. Each regional corporation, in turn, must distribute 50 percent of the 7(i) receivables to their respective village corporations. These annual, semi-annual, or quarterly payments to the village corporations are called 7(j) payments.

In effect, village corporations (surface estate owners) receive 35 percent of all profit generated from any mining, oil, or timber development on ANCSA lands. If a shareholder of the regional corporation is not a member of a village corporation (an "at-large" shareholder) that person receives a portion of the 7(j) funds based on the per capital formula. It is important to remember where this source of money comes from and that Section 7(i) was an equitable distribution derived from the irregular pattern of resource wealth in the state.

Next: BSNC's early years



BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION



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## THE AGLUKTUK

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