

## THE AGLUKTUK

Winter 2021

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## AIH PURCHASES VACANT WAREHOUSE FOR RETAIL STOREFRONT

Alaska Industrial Hardware (AIH) has purchased the vacant warehouse building – formerly Sam's Club – located on Dimond Blvd. In addition to an expanded retail storefront opening spring 2021, this space will also serve as Alaska's largest hardware and safety order fulfillment/replenishment center, capable of supplying high-quality equipment, tools, industrial materials, maintenance supplies and safety products to individual Alaskans, the construction industry, government and commercial customers.

AIH is a wholly owned subsidiary of Bering Straits Native Corporation (BSNC). BSNC acquired the Alaska-grown company in August of 2015, and the purchase of a larger warehouse supports future expansion as AIH continues to evolve and grow.

"BSNC and AIH share a vision to grow solutions, products and services for construction and hardware customers," said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. "AIH has grown its solid reputation by providing quality customer service and competitive prices. AIH's commitment to BSNC's mission, as well as its operational revenue, helps provide increased shareholder opportunities and benefits."

## BST RECEIVES \$150,000 DONATION FROM THE THOMAS AND CINDY MASSIE FOUNDATION

The Thomas and Cindy Massie Foundation generously donated \$150,000 to the Beringia Settlement Trust (BST) Scholarship Program. The BST Scholarship Program received an overwhelming number of qualified applicants for the next scholarship period and this donation will aid BST in providing scholarship support to students.

"Cindy and Tom have demonstrated exceptional devotion to the advancement of BSNC's shareholders and descendants through their foundation's philanthropic efforts," said BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert. "Their support is tremendously appreciated."

"The Massie Foundation has provided invaluable support for the shareholders and descendants of the Corporation, for which we are

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## BSNC ANNOUNCES BOARD OFFICERS

During BSNC's Board of Directors meeting in December, the Directors voted for the officers for the upcoming year. BSNC is pleased to announce the results of its 2020 Election of Board Officers as follows:

CHAIRMAN: HENRY IVANOFF SR.
VICE CHAIRMAN: LEE M. RYAN

PRESIDENT: GAIL (ANAGICK) SCHUBERT SECRETARY: CINDY (TOWARAK) MASSIE TREASURER: DEBORAH "DEBBIE" J. ATUK

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: EUGENE F. ASICKSIK
ASSISTANT TREASURER: ROY C. ASHENFELTER

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### A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO



Dear Shareholders,

Longer periods of daylight have thankfully returned to the Arctic and soon Spring will be upon us. As our people have done each Spring for hundreds of years, many will venture out to replenish food supplies with harvests of migratory birds, caribou, reindeer and sea mammals.

Subsistence defines a major part of who we are as Arctic peoples, and I am proud to see photos submitted in BSNC's Annual Photo Contest of the younger generation continuing our traditional

ways of life. We are always happy to include photos that repeat the cycles of our lives as Arctic subsistence-based people. Please be sure to send your photos in to media@beringstraits.com by April 30 to qualify for prizes and awards. BSNC uses shareholder-submitted photos in our newsletters, proposals, website and presentations.

The year 2020 was very challenging for many, but I am optimistic about our path ahead in 2021, particularly as the COVID-19 vaccines become widely available in Alaska. I want to share my own reasons why I received the COVID-19 vaccine. Of all the decisions I made this year, it was the easiest one: I decided to get vaccinated for my health and the health of my family and community. I understand that some people may be apprehensive about getting vaccinated. I know that the thought of these COVID vaccines for some is scary. I chose to get vaccinated because scientific research shows that the vaccines are safe and will serve to protect me and those around me. I encourage you to get the COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available to you.

COVID-19 vaccination is a necessary step toward ending the pandemic. The health and safety of BSNC employees, shareholders and the communities in which we work and live remains BSNC's top priority. Therefore, the BSNC Board of Directors took the strong step of mandating that all employees be vaccinated against COVID-19 once the vaccine is available. I applaud the BSNC Board of Directors for making this ground-breaking decision. Many other Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs) are considering this mandate.

I have become concerned about the future of Alaska Native Corporation Settlement Act (ANCSA) section 7(i) and 7(j) resource development revenuesharing payments, and the dependence of some village corporations on the receipt of 7(j) payments to operate their village corporations. Congress mandated in section 7(i) of ANCSA that regional corporations that own natural resources, such as oil and gas, zinc, and timber, share 70% of the net revenues from developing those resources with the other regional corporations. Revenue distributions to each regional corporation is based on a formula that relies on the number of original enrollees of each receiving regional corporation.

ANCSA also mandated that the regional corporations distribute 50% of the 7(i) payments they receive to their respective village corporations, also based on the number of original village corporation enrollees. Both NANA and ASRC have indicated that 7(i) revenue-sharing payments to the regional corporations will significantly decrease or stop in the next several years because the natural resources subject to ANCSA's revenue sharing requirements are close to being exhausted.

In addition, Sealaska is no longer harvesting and selling timber that was subject to the ANCSA 7(i) revenue sharing requirements. Instead, Sealaska elected to trade the right to harvest and sell its timber resources for carbon credits issued

by the State of California, which Sealaska could then sell to industries that engage in operations that emit carbon into the atmosphere. BSNC and other regional corporations are currently challenging Sealaska's position that the carbon credits it received from the sale of its timber harvesting rights are not subject to ANCSA 7(i) revenue sharing.

Many of you know that the CARES Act which Congress passed last year contained a provision which allocated \$8 billion to Indian Tribes. We believe the definition of Indian Tribes was clearly intended to include ANCs. Distribution of those funds is based not on the number of original enrollees in each ANCSA corporation, but on a formula that uses NAHASDA-eligible Natives currently living in each of the regional corporation areas. A lawsuit was filed by several tribes asserting that ANCSA corporations are not eligible to share in the receipt of the CARES Act funds. I note that, under the formula used, BSNC is scheduled to receive the minimum distribution under the law if we are successful in our efforts defending the right for ANCs to receive the distribution. More importantly, the definition used for the CARES Act fund allocation is the same definition we use to qualify for numerous other federal programs and to engage in government contract work. Therefore, we have considerable stake in the outcome of the lawsuit.

The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear the ANCSA Regional Association and Alaska Native Village Corporation Association case on the litigation related to CARES Act funds for ANCs and their respective shareholders and descendants. Alaska Native people and Alaska Native communities continue to suffer disproportionately from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. As ANCSA intended, ANCs support our Alaska Native shareholders economically, culturally and socially. ANCs accordingly perform a wide range of functions that would ordinarily be performed by tribal governments.

ANCs have spent considerable funds from their own operations to assist with the COVID-19 response. BSNC deployed \$2.1 million in direct financial assistance to its shareholders by declaring special dividends in March to shareholders for COVID-19 relief, including a special emergency dividend distribution of \$3.00 per share, and a special emergency Elder dividend distribution of \$250. If ANCs are left out of the CARES Act Tribal Relief Funding, Alaska Native people will be underrepresented in terms of financial aid intended to protect Alaska's rural communities from COVID-19, and to help repair our economies. We look forward to a resolution on this matter and will update BSNC shareholders once a ruling is announced.

As a precautionary measure in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, BSNC's Nome and Anchorage offices continue to remain closed to visitors until further notice. Shareholders may contact BSNC's Shareholder Department via phone, email and MyBSNC. The Shareholder Department can be reached toll-free at 1-800-478-5079 or by email at shareholders@beringstraits.com.

Finally, I am deeply saddened to share that my longtime friend and former BSNC Board Member Louise L. Avessuk (Keller) Bauman passed away in February. Louise was proud to have served on BSNC's Board of Directors for 15 years. She was a friend, mentor and inspiration to many. I will forever remember Louise for her strong values, kindness, determination and incredible work ethic. On behalf of BSNC's Board of Directors, I express our sincere condolences to Louise's loved ones.

In closing, we remain steadfast in our mission to improve the quality of life of Our People through economic development while protecting our land and preserving our culture and heritage. Quyanna for your continued support and involvement in your Corporation.

Gail R. Schubert **BSNC President & CEO** 

### BSNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Henry Ivanoff Sr. Chairman

Deborah Atuk **Treasurer** 

Becka Baker Director

Louie Green Jr. Director

Lee Ryan Vice Chairman

Eugene Asicksik Assistant Secretary

Jason Evans Director Steve Ivanoff

Director

Gail R. Schubert President & CEO

Roy Ashenfelter Assistant Treasurer

Robert (Bobby) Evans Director

Fred Sagoonick Director

Cindy Towarak Massie Secretary

Ella Anagick Director

Charles W. Fagerstrom Director

### 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 to BSNC 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

You may also call our Nome or Anchorage

offices at (907) 443-5252 or (907) 563-3788 or Print name: email us at shareholders@beringstraits.com. New mailing address: For name changes, BSNC requires that you attach a \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ legal document with your new name, such as a copy of a court record, valid government ID, marriage \_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_ Social security number: \_\_\_\_\_ certificate or divorce decree. Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_ New name: Former name:\_\_ Email address: \_ Social security number:\_\_\_\_ (If applicable) Date of birth: I am also a custodian for: \_\_\_\_ Signature:\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_ Date:\_ BERING STRAITS NATIVE CORPORATION MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO: ALASKA STATUTE 13.16.705(b) STOCK WILL Bering Straits Native Corporation P.O. Box 1008 **ALASKA NATIVE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT ACT OF 1971** 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 \_\_\_\_village corporation to: Bering Straits Native Corporation and \_\_\_\_\_ Name of village 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. this \_\_\_\_\_day of \_\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_. Subscribed, sworn to and acknowledged before me by City State Signature of Testator\_\_\_\_ the testator, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_ I, being first sworn, declare that the testator signs and executes this instrument as

Are you receiving important mailings from BSNC, including newsletters and dividends? It is important that shareholders keep their mailing address up-to-date. Visit http://beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/address\_name\_change.pdf to update your address today or use the form above.

### **MISSING SHAREHOLDERS**

State of:

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.

BSNC continues to search for shareholders who may have funds on hold and identify the next of kin of deceased shareholders. Currently, a large amount of dividends are being held for BSNC shareholders because of outdated contact information. BSNC seeks to locate these shareholders to ensure they, or their descendants, receive their dividend distributions. If you know the whereabouts of someone listed, please contact BSNC's Shareholder Department at shareholders@beringstraits.com or call (907) 443-4303 or (907) 443-8110. If you have been contacted by the Shareholder Department, please respond to their requests because you may be entitled to a dividend distribution. Help BSNC ensure that all shareholders receive their dividends. Quyaana!

#### SHAREHOLDER ADDRESSES NEEDED

DORIS ADAMS STEVEN GILBERT AGIBINIK WILSA MATTIE AHGUPUK ISAAC AHKVALUK DARREN B. ALEXANDER-HICKS MARY ANN ALURAC BENJAMIN AMAROK LAWRENCE DONALD AMAROK JR. BENJAMIN B. ANARUK LYNN MARIE ANASOGAK STEPHANIE ANASOGAK JOHN FLOYD ANDERSON JONI ANDERSON THERESA KAY ANDERSON RALPH ONGELUNGANNA ANUNGAZUK CRISTA LYNN ARNOLD AUDREY BAILEY IOHN DANIEL IAMES BAILEY DEBRA BASHAM SHARON YVETTE BENNETT ENGENIA TERESA BENTLEY BRENDA L. BOUDREAU PAULA M. BOURDON ROBERT BRISTOW DARRELL G. BROWN MABEL BROWN MARCELLE T. BROWN VERN A. CABBELI STEFANEY CAMPBELL KRISTIE EMMA CAROON SHERRILL JEANNE CARR KATIF CLARK ROBERT NORMAN COLE RYAN COOPER ELIZABETH LEONA CURRIER JADE A.R. DANIELS LAURA DAVID RANDALL EUGENE DAVID ALAN T. DAVIS MICHAEL E. DAVIS MARGO ANN DE LA ROSA ANTONIA MARIE DENMARK TONY JOHN DESARRO CARL JAMES DEXTER HAYLEY SUMMER DICKSON SCOTT DIXON DEGEE A DOBSON ANASTASIA MARIE DUNN NANCY EDWARDS

MARTHA IRENE ELLINGTON FREDERICK EARL ERNAK II CARLA JUNE EVANS JASON K. FELDER FRIC KAI ANI FINI FY CLIFFORD CHARLES FITKA ROBERT GEORGE FOSTER SOLOMON ABRAHAM FOWLER ANTHONY LANE FRY **BRIAN MATTHEW GALLAGHER** JUAN GALLEGOS ANTHONY R. GANDIA JASMIN GEORGE LOIS A. GOLD MYLES GONANGNAN II DAVONTE GONANGNAN-MELGREEN JAKOB W. GONANGNAN-MELGREEN DAVID M. GRAHAM JEFFERY EUGENE GRANT JOHN GREEN KHAILA GREEN MELONY L. GREEN MONA AGNES GREEN TERRELL GREEN EARL D. GREIST KIMBERI EY I OLUSE HADI EY-IONES LYDIA ANN HANCOCK STEVEN LEE HANSEN MARIE ESTHER HELTON SETH ANTHONY HELTON KIMBERLY DAWN HENRY PATRICK UNUKEN HENRY ELIZABETH HICKOK TANYA HICKS VINCE HIRATSUKA MAXINE O. HOFFMAN VANESSA HOLDER-GUTIERREZ THOMAS LEE HUFFMAN JR. PAULINE S. IMMINGAN KEVIN RANDELL IONE CHARLEEN LEE IVANOFF CODY ALLEN IVANOFF LAURA LEE IVANOEE BERNADETTE ROSE IYAHUK WILLIAM OMYRUK IYAPANA, HAZEL NANCY JACK JOHN W. JACKSON III THOMAS B. JAMES TIMOTHY DAVID JAMES

VIOLA VERA JOSEPH ROBERT PETER KAKARUK ROMALD K. KATEXAC JACK SPOTTED CROW KEECH KEVIN ANDREW KEECH SALLY MABEL TEAYOUMEAK KILLGORE WESLEY KIMOKTOAK JENNIFER KINNEY CRAIG KISSELL DOLLY KIYUTELLUK KAY GENEVIEVE KLOSS JOSEPH ALLOCKEOK KOMOK JR. RONALD P. KOMOK JR. NATHAN K KOMONASEAK BRIAN KOTONGAN BYRON KANE KOTONGAN VERNA FAYE KOUTCHAK CLARK KOWCHEE
JEDIDIAH D. T. KOWCHEE WILFRED J. KOZEVNIKOFF WIGGINS LAMPE JR. JIMMY AARON LAMPLEY DARRELL MICHAEL LARSEN ELIZABETH JANE LARSEN MIKE LEE III HERMAN LESTENKOF JR. GAIL LEWIS MATHILDA LICK SCOTT LITTLEFIELD CRYSTAL ALISON LOCKWOOD LYNNETTE LOPEZ LORRAINE LUPSON LORRI LUPSON MARRIE LUPSON RONNIE H. KEITH LUPSON KIMBERLY MAGESTRO JADEN SAMUEL MALDONADO LYNN THEA MANOKIN CHERYL MAE MARROW SHAWN CHRISTOPHER MARTINEZ ANTHONY PITOOKNUK MAZONNA ROBERT LEIGH MCMAHAN GARY R. MERRILL RACHEL MARY MIKE AMBERLY MILLER

MARIE ANN MILLER

SHERRY MILLIGROCK

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

BRENDA E. JOHNSON

LUCY JEAN MOGG SCOUT ADAM MONEGAN LYNNEA C. MOON JAMES F. MORGAN JR. LOWELL H. MORGAN
JONATHAN SHADOE MUNN LOUCILLE CATHERINE MURPHY MCBRIDE ANTHONEY J MURPHY DAVID MURPHY VANESSA MURPHY PETER NAKARAK DATRICIA NEI SON MOINTLIREE JOSEPH NORBERT IR MARISSA M NUNOORUK DOUGLAS DUANE OCTUCK PEGGY ODLE SIMON OKPEALUK THERESA M. OKPEALUK WILSON FRED OKPOWRUK JR. ELEANOR EVE OLANNA MARY ANN OLANNA WARREN ROY OLANNA VICKI MARLENE OLIVER SHIRLEY OLLOM RICHARD RAYMOND OMELAK PATRICK A. OMIAK JR VIRGII ONFAI MARION M. ORTIZ MATTHEW ERICK OST JEREMIAH R. OUTWATER
JAHOMITT PARKER JOSEPH PENATAC CHRISTOPHER PENETAC NANCY P PEREZ ALEXIS PHILLIPS JULIA MAY PICKUS KIMBERLY PORCH GLORIA PUSHRUK MEGAN PUSHRUK MELISSA RAYMOND MARTHA ARLENE RICHARDS RICHARD STEVEN RIDER-GRAY **ERIC MARTIN RINGSTAD** LUZ MAE RIVERA KELLY DAWN ROBERTS NICOLE JEAN ROBINSON REUBEN SAVOOK ROCK ROBERT CHRISTOPHER SACCHEUS

BUFORD M. SALLAFFIE NATANE SAMBO-FREEMAN CHARLENE M. SANDOVAL CAROLYN SARREN
PEGGY LEE SCHELB BRENNA A. SCHOLTEN DANIEL SCHOLTEN VIOLA SEETOMONA DOUG SETTERS RICHARD SETTERS KENDALYN SHOOGUKWRUK LILIYAN SHOOGUKWRUK LEVI ALFRED SILAS WILLIAM LAURENCE SMITH STEVEN SOLLICH BETHANY FAITH SOOLOOK RANDALL JOSEPH SPENCER JENNIE RUTH SPIVEY CYNTHIA JEANNE SPREER DENISE CHERYL STARR JAMIE MASSAK STEVENS FRANCES MARTHA STEVENSON VALERIE TAKAK WAYNE TOBUK JR CHARLES VANN ROBERT W. VANN ERIC CHRISTIAN VELTRANO GARY RUSSELL WALLACE MARGARET WALLACE MARTHA MARIE WASHINGTON PRESTON WASHINGTON MILLER Z. WESTON MIKE WHEELER ALBERT K. WHITE KENDRA A S V WHITE PERCY M. WHITE WILLIAM G WHITE JR. <mark>GLEN</mark> D. W<mark>HITTA</mark>KER GEORGE H. WIDEMAN WILLIAM WILLOYA ANNIE RITA WILSON WAYNE WILSON RAY CURTIS YAZZIE MARY JILL YOUNG

## BSNC REGION NEWS



BSNC is pleased to announce its ninth annual photo contest for BSNC shareholders, descendants and family members of shareholders. This year, BSNC has added "Resilience" as a category in the contest. Through your photography share how you, your family or your community has remained resilient during the COVID-19 pandemic. Each category will have three awards, and an overall grand prize will be awarded. Check out the great awards and be sure to share this with your family and friends! Please submit photos to: media@beringstraits.com.

### PRIZES:

**Grand Prize:** 50,000 Alaska Airlines Miles

**1st Place:** Apple Watch Series 6 **2nd Place:** Nintendo Switch **3rd Place:** \$250 Costco Gift Card



#### **CATEGORIES:**

- RESILIENCE
- VILLAGE LIFE
- SCENERY AND LANDSCAPE
- · HISTORICAL
- SUBSISTENCE/CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

#### **RULES**

Photos should be taken of the BSNC region, or be about residents, history and culture of the region. Contestants must be shareholders or descendants/family members of shareholders. All photos submitted for this contest may be used in BSNC newsletters, annual reports, other printed material, web page or Facebook postings. **The deadline is Friday, April 30**. The winners will be announced on BSNC's Facebook and Instagram page on Tuesday, May 4, 2021.

#### **SPECIFICATIONS**

Only digital images will be accepted, and they must be no smaller than 750k (.75 meg) or larger than 8MB. Photos must be accompanied by the photographer's name and address, location where the photo was taken and should state which category the photo is being entered. Submission of entries will serve as acknowledgement and acceptance of all contest rules.

## BSNC HOSTS WELLNESS DISCUSSION WITH NICK HANSON

BSNC hosted two, live online events about the importance of mental health and self-care with NBC's "American Ninja Warrior" competitor Nick Hanson, also known as the Eskimo Ninja. Hanson, a BSNC descendant from Unalakleet, made a name for himself as the first Inuit to compete on the American Ninja Warrior (ANW).

Rural Alaska is associated with a devastating statistic - the highest suicide rate per capita in the U.S. Suicide comes no stranger to Hanson. After losing 11 of his high school basketball



Nick Hanson

teammates/classmates to alcohol related suicides - Hanson was pushed to the edge, literally, nearly ending his own life in 2014. But an 8th grader changed his heart when he suggested that Hanson use his athletic ability to tryout for American Ninja Warrior.

Using the platform ANW has provided, Hanson travels the country to share his story of overcoming adversity and loss. As a coach and mentor, Nick strives to be a positive role model for the youth of rural Alaska and beyond. He chose at a young age to never consume alcohol, smoke, or do drugs after witnessing the devastation it caused in his and his peers' families. Today he is inspiring people, young and old, to overcome the obstacles in their own lives. You can learn more about Hanson and his motivational speaking at: theeskimoninja.com.

## BSNC DESCENDANT REGISTRY

The BSNC descendant registry is for a lineal descendant or adoptee of a BSNC shareholder. Lineal descendants (e.g., child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.) and adoptees of shareholders need to register. Descendants who are already BSNC shareholders do not need to register.

#### **How to Register**

To register, descendants must submit a completed registration form and a copy of the state-issued birth certificate or adoption decree establishing the relationship to a BSNC shareholder. If the descendant's name differs from the name on the birth certificate, or if the shareholder's name on the descendant's birth certificate is different from the name BSNC has on file, copies of the legal document(s) substantiating the name change are also required (e.g., a marriage certificate, divorce decree, adoption decree or other legal document). In some cases, it may be necessary to provide additional documents to demonstrate lineal descent. For more information and the descendant form, go to www.beringstraits.com/descendants.



## SHAREHOLDER NEWS

### CAREER PATHWAYS SERIES - JOURNALISM: LAURELI IVANOFF

BSNC is publishing a career pathways series to help showcase jobs held by successful shareholders and descendants. This series aims to raise awareness of these career options and the essential skills needed to succeed in these positions.

BSNC shareholder Laureli Ivanoff is a renowned, award-winning writer currently working and living full time in Unalakleet, Alaska, where she grew up.

She currently serves as Communications Director for

Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation. She is also a freelance writer, most recently writing and producing a radio program called Sikullautaq for Norton Sound Health Corporation which covered important topics regarding COVID-19. Previously, Ivanoff served as News Director for KNOM Radio Station.

Ivanoff earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Ivanoff's work has been featured in many publications, including the New York Times. Ivanoff is an awardee of the Alaska Governor's Arts & Humanities Award, Alaska Press Club Award in the Best Column category and many more honors in radio broadcasting.

"Journalism takes you places. Working as a reporter is exhilarating while also providing important services to the public."



Laureli Ivanoff

## What kinds of skills or traits are key for success in journalism?

**Laureli Ivanoff:** "Dedication to your audience and listeners. I know my listeners deserve truth and I work hard every day to bring it to them. Tenacity. People will tell you no, but again, your listeners deserve the truth, so you work hard to get it. You must learn how to be pushy with some people, but for someone who was raised to always be polite, that part was really kind of fun. Curiosity. A bulk of your job is asking questions and compiling information. Never stop being curious. And finally, know you have the right to be in that space."

#### What resources did you utilize to earn your degree?

**Laureli Ivanoff:** "I utilized all regional scholarships and the Anchorage Daily News scholarship. My family, including my children Joe and Sidney, were also a big resource/support as they relocated to Fairbanks with me for a year so I could take journalism classes. They had to listen to me take classes via audioconference while they did their homework after school."

## What were some of your largest barriers or challenges in your career?

**Laureli Ivanoff:** "Growing up, I didn't know any Alaska Native journalists or writers. I often dealt with the "imposter syndrome" many Indigenous people experience. Even when I was working with the editor from The New York Times, I felt like a fraud. But no. I belong here. I am a writer. Take up that space. Use your voice. The world needs it."

## What advice would you give to young Alaska Native people interested in pursuing a career in journalism?

**Laureli Ivanoff:** "Locate the instructors in your department who are experienced and invested in your growth and learn all you can from them. Once you have completed school, find a station or newsroom that is doing important work that is respected and do the work. Every day. It is how you get better. Journalism takes you places. Working as a reporter is exhilarating while also providing important services to the public. If you are curious, become a reporter. If you are a truth seeker, become a reporter. If you want to travel and understand the workings of the world, become a reporter. We need you in newsrooms throughout Alaska badly to include your indigenous lens."

## ALL IT TAKES IS ONE SHARE TO BECOME A SHAREHOLDER!

Under the 1991 Amendments to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et. seq.), shareholders may give stock to a person who is their child, grandchild, greatgrandchild, niece, nephew, brother or sister and who also is a Native or descendent of a Native. H.R. 3157 "The Alaska Land Status Technical Corrections Act of 1992," allows for gift of stock to siblings. The law defines a Native as a person who is at least one-fourth degree Alaska Indian, Eskimo, Aleut blood, or any combination; a descendant of a Native is a lineal descendant (child, grandchild, great-grandchild, etc.) of a Native or an adoptee of a Native or descendant of a Native who is adopted before the age of 18.

Once your gift is completed on the corporate books, the recipient of your shares will own and have all the stock rights for those shares, including the right to vote the shares at the shareholder meetings, to receive dividends and distributions on the shares, to bequeath the shares upon death, or to give the shares to a relative. Once gifting is completed, you will have no rights with respect to the shares you gave away.

If you are interested in the gifting process, please contact:

BSNC Shareholder Department PO. Box 1008 Nome, AK 99762 (907) 443-5252

Toll Free: 1 (800) 478-5079

### AIH PURCHASES VACANT WAREHOUSE

Continued from Cover

"We are pleased to establish our new headquarters in this busy and high-traffic major retail district in south Anchorage," said AIH President & CEO Terry Shurtleff. "Our business has demonstrated resilience through the current recession and now the global pandemic with the support of our loyal customers. We are excited to continue to serve our community with high-quality service and support. AIH is an Alaskan company, employing Alaskans, with all profits staying in Alaska."

The new retail storefront, order fulfillment and replenishment center is a positive

Terry Shurtleff, AIH
President & CEO

investment in the Anchorage economy. AlH currently employs approximately 180 Alaskans and upon completion of the new location, will seek to expand its team by hiring an additional 20 to 25 people. AlH continues to invest in Alaska by maintaining \$20 million dollars' worth of on-hand inventory, strategically located throughout Alaska's communities to support its customers.

## SHAREHOLDER NEWS



BSNC is helping prepare tomorrow's leaders for the workforce by providing paid internships and professional development training each summer to qualified shareholder or descendant students enrolled in college or technical school. Shareholders and descendants can gain valuable work experience and skills by working with staff in their professional area of interest, in Nome and Anchorage.

BSNC will hire 6-9 interns for its 2021 Summer Internship Program. Internship positions are full-time (40 hours per week) and the internship period is from May 17 to Aug. 6. Applicants must be a shareholder or shareholder descendant enrolled full-time in college or technical school and plan to attend in the fall, or recent college graduates. The minimum GPA requirement is 2.5.

### SHAREHOLDER BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: RURAL FAMILY EXPEDITING SERVICES

Acquiring supplies and groceries in rural Alaska has always been challenging and with COVID-19 travel restrictions, shopping has become even more difficult. BSNC shareholder Gertie Zitzelberger stepped up to the challenge of helping rural Alaskans meet their shopping needs by creating Rural Family Expediting Services.

Born in Nome, raised in Unalakleet and currently living in the Mat-Su Valley, Gertie enjoys helping people in rural Alaska get the goods they



Gertie Zitzelberger

need. Because the cost of living in rural Alaska is significantly more than urban areas, Rural Family Expediting Services fills an important role.

A longtime family friend, Don Stiles, suggested this business and was one of her first clients. Her brother, Chad Johnson, assisted with the business at the start as well. With support from friends and family, Gertie was able to develop a successful business model which she operates while raising her son and pursuing a Business Administration degree at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

Gertie finds Rural Family Expediting Services full of fun challenges. She buys bulk items and even shops for gifts, and it is not just groceries and goods that she can have delivered. Once she was able to satisfy a Dillingham resident's craving for sushi by delivering her client's order via Alaska Airlines' Goldstreak. Putting a smile on someone's face puts a smile on Gertie's face. She says that growing up in a village, she learned the value of helping others.

Reach Rural Family Expediting Services by calling (907) 625-1538 or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ruralfamilyexpeditingservices/.

## BSNC RECRUITING FOR 2021 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

### **INTERNSHIP TIMELINE:**

- Recruitment period: Jan. 1 March 26, 2021
- Application deadline: March 26, 2021
- Interviews: April 5 April 9, 2021
- Notification to candidates: April 19, 2021
- Orientation: May 17, 2021
- Internship period: May 17 Aug. 6, 2021
- Exit Interviews: Aug. 2 Aug. 6, 2021

#### TRAINING AND WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

- Leadership skills
- Public speaking
- The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
- Policy issues that impact Alaska Native people
- Cultural awareness
- Speed mentoring
- Business structure
- Arctic matters
- Career guidance and advice

Attendance at the trainings and workshops is mandatory. Interns are expected to secure their own housing. The deadline for applications is March 26, 2021.

For more information: Shareholder Development Department 907-563-3788 shdevelopment@bsnc.net

## HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: SHAKTOOLIK ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

The Shaktoolik Archaeology Project is an ongoing multiyear investigation of the archaeological record near the Native Village of Shaktoolik, undertaken by personnel and students of the University of California, Davis (UC Davis), in coordination with Shaktoolik Native Corporation. One study revealed that the inhabitants of this area developed sophisticated maritime practices as early as 500 BC and lived in the area year-round utilizing intricate netting for their subsistence practices.

There are many archaeological sites of significance around Shaktoolik. The Shaktoolik Archaeology Project has studied several of them and found artifacts including tools, decorative pieces, trade beads and various other items made from wood, bone, ivory and stone.

Difchahak (or Tivcaraq) is one of the largest historical coastal village sites ever recorded, with well more than 170 house depressions. The square-shaped semi-subterranean houses were large, with some being more than 30 feet long. Remnants of some house depressions can even be seen from the air. Historical residents of Difchahak subsisted on seasonally available species, including salmon, mussels, saffron cod, ptarmigan, ducks, geese and seal.

The Shaktoolik Archaeology Project hired local interns, including Chantelle Nakarak, Sheri Nakarak, Desiree Rock, Levi Sagoonick,

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Intern Ashley Sookiayak and researcher Kelly Eldridge

## SHAREHOLDER NEWS

## THE THOMAS AND CINDY MASSIE FOUNDATION

Continued from Cover



Tom and Cindy Massie present BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert with a \$150,000 donation to the BST Scholarship Program.

extremely grateful," said Shareholder Development Director Lucille Sands. "This funding translates directly into the development of future professionals, including teachers, doctors, lawyers, pilots, nurses and corporate leaders, among many other valuable professions and trades. This donation supports our efforts to improve the quality of life of our people by empowering them with valuable tools to strengthen and enhance their future opportunities. Many thanks are extended to the Massie Foundation."

Cindy and Tom created The Thomas and Cindy Massie Foundation in 2004. Over the years, the Massies have generously supported the Bering Straits Foundation and many Alaska nonprofits and organizations, including the Covenant Youth of Alaska, the UAA Music program, the Nome Fine Arts Club and the Unalakleet Elders Assisted Living Facility. In 2018, Massie and her husband Tom were awarded the Alaska Federation of Natives Small Business Award for their generous philanthropic efforts advancing causes in Alaska. Cindy Massie, of Unalakleet, is the daughter of the late Clarence and Guerie Towarak.

## MONTHLY STOCK WILL DRAWING WINNERS

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

November: John Fern

December: Jerome Tiulana

January: Roderick Tungwenuk

February: Lawrence Ryan

Mail in your updated stock will today and be entered into a drawing to win \$200. Having a stock will on file with BSNC lets you decide who will inherit your stock after your death. If you pass away without a stock will, your stock will be distributed according to state law, and may be distributed to individuals you do not intend to benefit.

Please visit beringstraits.com/shareholders/forms/ or call (907) 443-5252 to update your stock will today.

# TRIBUTE TO FORMER BOARD DIRECTOR LOUISE BAUMAN



Louise Bauman

BSNC mourns the passing of shareholder Louise L. Avessuk (Keller) Bauman of Nome, Alaska. Louise was proud to have served on BSNC's Board of Directors for 15 years, actively involved from 1994 to 2009. She also served several years on the Board of Directors for Sitnasuak Native Corporation. She loved our land and enjoyed spending time at her camp in Nuuk.

Louise was born on Oct. 4, 1956 to Martha and Lester Keller, Sr., the fourth of six children. Louise was a lifelong learner and always paid attention to socio-economic matters. As a single mother to Eda, in the 1980s Louise proved her strong will, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Physical Education from the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). She worked very hard to earn her education and she was amazingly capable with her intelligent and strong-willed spirit.

Louise was truly a go-getter, an improviser and had an entrepreneurial spirit. Later in life, she made the Honor Roll and earned more degrees through UAF, including an Associate Degree in Applied Business Finance as well as taking CNA classes. At the graduation ceremony in 2017, Louise gave encouraging advice to her children: "If you are capable, then that is what I expect from you." She stayed active in civic engagement and was never afraid to speak her mind.

In addition to spending time at camp, Louise loved to keep herself busy with sewing, baking and crafting. She was a choir member at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. She was a wonderful Ahkie to her grandsons. Most of all, Louise loved and was very proud of her four children, always speaking highly of their abilities and accomplishments.

Louise is preceded in death by her parents Martha and Lester Keller, her sister Mary Miller and her brother Larry Keller. She is survived by her children Eda (Frank), Seraphin, Lucas, Rachael (Perry) and grandsons Michael, Daniel and Remington. She is also survived by her siblings Lester "Bossick" Keller, Jr., William "Boyboy" Keller, and Wanda "Asta" (Tom) Keller and Grace Minix.

The BSNC Board of Directors, management and family of companies express sincere condolences to Louise's loved ones.

#### WWW.BERINGSTRAITS.COM

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## THE AGLUKTUK

Winter 2021

### **BSNC JOINS CONQUER COVID COALITION**

BSNC President & CEO Gail R. Schubert co-chairs the Conquer COVID Coalition, an Alaskan effort comprised of businesses, health care organizations, Alaska Native organizations, community leaders and everyday people working side-by-side to defeat the pandemic.

The sooner we come together and achieve this goal, the sooner we can fully open our economies, our schools and our way of life. For the latest news and information about COVID-19 in Alaska, visit conquercovidak.com.

We encourage you to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's VaccineFinder website (https://vaccinefinder.org/) helps the public search for provider locations offering vaccination near them. Simply choose your state/territory from the drop-down menu on the right-hand side of the page.





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#### HISTORICAL SPOTLIGHT: SHAKTOOLIK ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

Ashley Sookiayak and Allyson Takak. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UC Davis group was unable to return to Shaktoolik in 2020 but looks forward to continuing the project once travel can be safely resumed.

"Jason I. Miszaniec, John Darwent & Christyann M. Darwent (2019): Small game, estuaries, and nets: New perspectives on Norton culture coastal adaptations from a shell midden in Norton Sound, Alaska, The Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology." Read more at: https://doi.org/10.1080/15564894.2019.1701148.

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