

# STORYKNIFE

THE VOICE OF THE REGION

*Yaarnin*



Calista projects span the state.  
(Story on pages 4 and 5)

## ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD ADOPTS NEW PLAN PROPOSED BY CALISTA

Under the Alaska Constitution, new legislative boundaries are required every decade in order to accommodate the shifting populations. Legislative districts are meant to ensure representation is fair and the interests of populations are being served. With hundreds of miles separating villages, different cultural groups and environments, it can be tough to make boundaries that work for everyone.

Calista Corporation was heavily involved in the latest redistricting efforts. We talked with regional corporations to gather input and advice, and then testified before the redistricting board on behalf of our Shareholders. We worked hard on a plan that would provide adequate representation for our members and for all residents of Alaska.

(Continued on page 3)



Calista helps sponsor Alaska Native museum exhibit.  
Image credit: Chris Arend/Anchorage Museum



CALISTA CORPORATION  
[www.calistacorp.com](http://www.calistacorp.com)

SEPTEMBER 2013



Board Message



Employee Feature:  
Marvin Kernak



New Book,  
New Look



Village Profile:  
Bethel



Voting  
Reminder

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## BOARD MESSAGE

**Willie Kasayulie, Chairman of the Board**

As we look ahead toward our Annual Meeting, a time where we gather to vote on important issues, we remember there are also outside agencies making decisions that impact the lives of people in our Region. Calista Corporation is always monitoring changing laws and regulations that have the potential to affect your life. We gather information and distribute it in a way that is easily understood by everyone.

One of these issues is the Affordable Care Act (ACA), the federal government's overhaul of the country's health care system. A number of our employees have been working hard to keep up-to-date on the latest information and how this will affect our Shareholders and Descendants. We understand health care coverage and access to medical services are important issues, which is why Calista has dedicated numerous resources to making sure we know how this new regulation will impact you and your families. As the new information becomes available we will let you know through our newsletter, social media channels and website.

The following is the latest information from our staff working on this issue:

Under the Act, individuals are required to have health insurance or pay a tax penalty. For the year 2014, the tax penalty will be the higher amount of \$285 or one percent of your taxable income for a family of

three or more. In the year 2015, the tax penalty will be the higher amount of \$975 or two percent of your taxable income for a family of three or more. And in 2016, the tax for a family of three or more will be the higher amount of \$2,085 or 2.5 percent of your taxable income. These amounts will increase after 2016 based on inflation.

Under the Act, there is an Alaska Native/American Indian Exemption. In order to be eligible for this exemption you or your family members need to meet one of the following criteria:

- Be a Regional Corporation (e.g., Calista) Shareholder; or
- Be a member of a Village Corporation; or
- Be enrolled into a tribal organization recognized by ANCSA; or
- Be able to demonstrate that you or your family member is eligible for services through Indian Health Services (like Alaska Native Medical Center.)

If you or family members do not meet the above criteria, it is recommended that you or your family member enroll into your tribe or take the necessary steps to obtain your BIA card before January 1, 2014. By doing so, you can avoid the tax penalty.

**For further information on this important topic visit**

[www.healthcare.gov/if-im-an-american-indian-or-alaska-native-what-do-i-need-to-know-about-the-marketplace](http://www.healthcare.gov/if-im-an-american-indian-or-alaska-native-what-do-i-need-to-know-about-the-marketplace)



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Andrew Guy, President & CEO**

Just as we keep important cultural traditions alive, the Annual Meeting is a tradition we look forward to and continue every year. It is an opportunity for Calista leadership to gather with our Shareholders and have an open dialogue about the company. In addition, each year Calista produces its Annual Report, and mails it to each Shareholder.

The Annual Report allows us to share openly with our Shareholders the direction, challenges, and successes of their company and subsidiaries. The Annual Report and Proxy Materials include information about revenues, profits, and compensation.

Information about ANCSA 7(i) funds from other regional corporations are also listed. Calista distributes 50 percent of these funds to all of the village corporations in our Region, who in turn use the money for the benefit of their Shareholders. To ensure these benefits flow to village corporation Shareholders, we require village corporations to be in compliance with the legal requirements for

corporate filings with the state. Calista's oversight ends there and it becomes the responsibility of the village corporations to manage those funds and keep their individual Shareholders informed.

As you review the Annual Report, remember that it is your right to ask questions and seek answers if you do not understand something. In order to better help our Yup'ik speaking Shareholders, this year, we mailed Shareholders a Yup'ik guide on how to read the Annual Report. Additionally, the proxy instructions and proxy statement were also translated into Yup'ik.

**We encourage you to review the financial information you have received and ask questions if you do not understand something. You have these same rights at the village level as a village corporation Shareholder.**

# ALASKA REDISTRICTING BOARD ADOPTS NEW PLAN PROPOSED BY CALISTA

(Continued from page 1)

With the new plan, which still requires court approval, YK Delta residents will have two senate seats, S and T; and three representative seats 37, 38 and 39 in the Alaska Legislature. Statewide we believe this creates a stronger adherence to cultural boundaries. The new boundaries allow most of the Kuskokwim communities to be in a single district, as well as having a single district for most of the Yukon communities.

**With sequestration and budget constraints, securing any level of funding for projects is becoming increasingly difficult. To ensure that we have a voice in our future all Alaska Native people need to register to vote and they need to vote in local, state and national elections when the time comes. It is very important that we exercise our civic duties and vote in order to be heard.**



## Employee Feature MARVIN KERNAK

Marvin Kernak doesn't feel fulfilled unless he's serving others. For 24 years, he served his country and state as a sergeant in the Alaska Army National Guard. Originally from Napakiak and Anchorage, the guard took him to places he never dreamed he would visit.

"The guard afforded me a lot of traveling around the world. I've been to Japan and Germany twice for training and spent 11 months overseas during a deployment in 2006 and 2007," said Marvin.

Marvin spent eight years as a noncommissioned officer, working as a supply sergeant in the 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry Regiment in Bethel. He says serving in the guard gave him leadership skills and taught him to be selfless. When he retired on April 30, 2013 Marvin knew he wanted his second career to reflect the lessons he had learned in his first.

"I like to think that I traded one uniform in for another," Marvin said.

Marvin's new career brought him to Calista, where he is now serving as the assistant manager in the Shareholder Records Department. Growing up in a village, Marvin wanted the opportunity to help his community. His primary job is to keep Shareholders' information up-to-date.

"People should take ownership in their corporation and be an active part of it," Marvin said. "People should put an emphasis on updating their wills because it will help determine where the share will be given, otherwise we will have to abide by Alaska's statutes and inheritance laws. It is very important, especially for Elders."

Marvin says he's excited to work for a company that has a heart for its people and does so much for its Shareholders.



Marvin is a proud Alaska Army National Guard Veteran.

*"It's great being part of a department that is geared toward serving Shareholders and interacting with Shareholders."*

# CALISTA:

## BUILDING ALASKA'S ECONOMY

A number of Calista's subsidiaries partner on project work throughout Alaska, including many in the Calista Region. A vast majority of these projects are managed by other organizations, who determine which companies they will hire or subcontract to perform the work.



**COMPANY:** Brice Incorporated, and Brice Marine  
**LOCATION:** Kotzebue  
**PROJECT:** Runway Construction

Working with the Department of Transportation, Brice Incorporated and Brice Marine assisted in the construction of an airport runway.

**COMPANY:** E3 Environmental  
**LOCATION:** Saint Mary's  
**PROJECT:** Saint Mary's Native Corporation Strategic Planning and Financial Management

E3 is working with Saint Mary's Native Corporation to develop a strategic plan. The planning process includes a review of historic information, assessment of Board Member and corporation qualities, and discussions on opportunities for growth.



**COMPANY:** Yukon Equipment  
**LOCATION:** Newtok  
**PROJECT:** Newtok Relocation Project

Project managers are using heavy machinery from Yukon Equipment to help the village of Newtok move to a new location, Mertarvik. The village is battling erosion that threatens to dump the village into the Ninglick River. The new location will keep residents safe.

**COMPANY:** Solstice Advertising  
**LOCATION:** Donlin Creek  
**PROJECT:** Donlin Gold

Solstice Advertising is the agency of record for Donlin Gold. Solstice provides numerous public relations and advertising services for the company, including Web, advertisement placement, a monthly newsletter, and the yearly calendar.

**COMPANY:** E3 Environmental and Solstice Advertising  
**LOCATION:** Calista Region  
**PROJECT:** Yukon to Kuskokwim Freight and Energy Corridor Plan

E3 Environmental and Solstice Advertising are working with the Association of Village Council Presidents on a potential road corridor between the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers. The subsidiaries are providing branding, stakeholder engagement services, cultural resources and land management support on the project.

**COMPANY:** Brice Incorporated, Brice Marine and Yukon Equipment

**LOCATION:** Wainwright

**PROJECT:** North Slope Borough Seawall

Our team of Yukon Equipment, Brice Incorporated and Brice Marine are building a seawall for the North Slope Borough.

**COMPANY:** Solstice Advertising

**LOCATION:** Fairbanks

**PROJECT:** Interior Energy Project

Solstice Advertising is working with the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority to provide external communications support for a potential project aimed at bringing natural gas from the North Slope to the Alaska Interior and Fairbanks.

**COMPANY:** Brice Incorporated

**LOCATION:** Galena

**PROJECT:** Galena Roads Project

Brice Incorporated is working on a roads and pad project in the community of Galena.

**COMPANY:** Yukon Equipment

**LOCATION:** Port MacKenzie

**PROJECT:** Port MacKenzie Railroad Extension

Machinery from Yukon Equipment is being used by the Bristol Alliance of Companies to construct a new rail line connecting Port MacKenzie to the Alaska Railroad Corporation rail system. The new section will improve transportation between the Port and Interior Alaska.

**COMPANY:** Yukon Equipment

**LOCATION:** Anchorage

**PROJECT:** Road Improvement

Under a three-year lease, the Municipality of Anchorage is using Yukon Equipment's machinery to work on road improvement projects within the municipality.

**COMPANY:** Tunista Construction

**LOCATION:** Juneau

**PROJECT:** Pedestrian Bridge Replacement, Juneau Federal Building

Tunista Construction is removing and replacing a pedestrian bridge at the Juneau Federal Building. The company will provide all labor, equipment and materials required to provide architectural, engineering, construction, and other related services necessary to design and construction.

**COMPANY:** Tunista Construction

**LOCATION:** Kodiak

**PROJECT:** Kodiak Multi-level Housing

Tunista Construction is in the early stages of planning to begin a contract awarded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The company will design and build employee housing in Kodiak. The work involves remote construction logistics, structural demolition, environmental remediation, site work, underground, new construction, structural, electrical, and mechanical work.



# DENA'INAQ' HUCH'ULYESHI: THE DENA'INA WAY OF LIVING

ON VIEW SEPT. 15 THROUGH JAN. 12, 2014  
AT THE ANCHORAGE MUSEUM

About half of Alaska's residents live in traditional Dena'ina territory but may have little general knowledge about the indigenous people who have called Southcentral Alaska home for more than 1,000 years.

The Anchorage Museum, with sponsorships from a number of organizations including Calista Corporation, has set out to change that. Dena'inaq' Huch'ulyeshi: The Dena'ina Way of Living, which opens Sept. 15, will be the first major exhibition ever presented about the Dena'ina Athabascan people.

"We are still here," said Aaron Leggett, Anchorage Museum special exhibits curator. "This is how we live. This is what we value."



Bear gut raincoat made by Helen Dick of Lime Village. Dick made this parka in 2009 from the intestines of four different bears. The darker strips of intestine are from bears taken during berry season. Image credit: Chris Arend/Anchorage Museum

Dena'ina territory reaches from the Kuskokwim River to Lake Clark and stretches across the Alaska Range to encompass the Kenai Peninsula, Susitna Valley and Cook Inlet. Visitors will meet the Dena'ina through film, life-size re-creations, archival images and more than 160 artifacts on loan from

museums across Europe and North America. Rare objects include a caribou antler war club, waterproof bear gut parka, and dall sheep horn bowl collected by Captain Cook's 1778 expedition.

Since the late 19th century, the Dena'ina homeland has been subject to the greatest settlement, urbanization and population growth of any Alaska region. Early government policies forced Alaska Native children to attend English-speaking boarding schools, and since that time, Dena'ina have become largely invisible as a people and a culture, their history unknown.

"No one was allowed to speak the language — the Dena'ina language," said Dena'ina Elder Clare Swan. "So, we became invisible in the community. Invisible to each other. And then, because we couldn't speak the language — what happens when



War club, Kenai, Alaska, 1853, caribou antler and hide, stone, National Museum of Denmark. Dena'ina war parties were led by skillful, powerful warriors who wielded clubs of caribou antler. Image credit: Arnold Mikkelsen/National Museum of Denmark



Chief Nikaly and his family, Knik, Alaska, 1918. Image credit: H. G. Kaiser, University of Alaska Fairbanks Archives

you can't speak your own language is you have to think with someone else's words, and that's a dreadful kind of isolation."

The Anchorage Museum worked with Swan and other Dena'ina advisors for seven years to develop Dena'inaq' Huch'ulyeshi. In it, visitors gain an understanding of Dena'ina culture and history and learn what it means to be Dena'ina in the 21st century. The exhibition explains how Dena'ina were affected by the spread of foreign diseases, the founding of Anchorage, the introduction of hunting and fishing regulations, and more. Visitors also learn why Alaska Native corporations exist and about current efforts to protect subsistence hunting and fishing rights.

**At its core, this exhibition demonstrates that although Dena'ina have experienced life-altering changes during the past 200 years, many core values and traditions survive.**

## SUBSIDIARY PARTNERS WITH AFN

The Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) is Alaska's largest statewide Native organization and a powerful voice for Native advocacy. Its convention every October is an opportunity for Alaska Natives to get together and discuss important issues facing the Native population. This year, AFN is working with a Calista subsidiary to strengthen and modernize its image.

Solstice Advertising is designing the convention book and other materials for the 2013 meeting. An experienced team at Solstice created the book's theme based on AFN's current logo. The cover uses imagery from around Alaska, including pictures from the Calista Region.

For the last several years, AFN has worked with an advertising agency in California; partnering with Solstice marks the first time AFN has worked with an Alaska-based agency.

"It's been exciting for Solstice to work with an organization that is important to our own Shareholders and the broader Native community. We are happy to be able to provide them with a more professional and contemporary image," said Client Insights Ian Laing with Solstice Advertising.



**Solstice is the only Native Alaska Regional Corporation-owned advertising agency in Alaska and arguably has the most experience working with Alaska Native issues.**



# VILLAGE PROFILE: BETHEL

**MAMTERILLEQ MEANING "SMOKEHOUSE PEOPLE"**

Bethel represents a blending of new and traditional, as it serves as the main Regional hub for the people in Western Alaska. This community of around 6,000 people is the ninth largest in Alaska. Fifty-six surrounding villages rely on Bethel as a primary transportation center for both residents and cargo.

The busy Bethel Airport is the second busiest in the state for cargo volume, supports multiple airline carriers and sees thousands of visitors yearly. In 2010, more than 144,000 people flew through the Bethel Airport, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. The medium sized Port of Bethel services barges providing fuel and goods to communities along the Kuskokwim River.

The Kuskokwim River has long been an important resource for the city. In the late 1800's, missionaries moved the city from its original spot, to its current location on the west bank of the Kuskokwim River, about 400 air miles west of Anchorage. Its original Yup'ik inhabitants called the village *Mamteriilleq*, meaning Smokehouse People, after nearby smokehouses that housed salmon caught from local streams and rivers.

The city's location makes it a perfect hub and its landscape also benefits both residents and visitors. It's surrounded by the 20-million acre Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge, the second largest wildlife refuge in the country. Every spring, two million waterfowl descend on the tundra and marshes, creating a birders paradise.

Bethel is home to the only detention center in Southwest Alaska, the Association of Village Council Presidents, AVCP Regional Housing Authority and the largest health care organization. The Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation serves the entire Calista Region and includes community clinics, dental services and behavioral health services.

**On September 28, Bethel will host the Calista Corporation Annual Meeting of Shareholders at the Ayaprun Elitnaurvik gym.**

## LEADERS FROM THE REGION

### JOEL NEIMEYER

Representing a state as large and diverse as Alaska can be an intimidating task, but for Calista Shareholder Joel Neimeyer, he feels honored to be given the opportunity to tell Alaska's story and help Alaska Native peoples. This year, Joel, the federal co-chair of the Denali Commission, was selected to be a part of the White House Council on Native American Affairs; he is the only member from Alaska.



"In the kickoff meeting I knew this was a big deal," said Joel. "It's humbling that the White House very much wants the Denali Commission to be a part of the administration's outreach to Tribes and Tribal members."

The Denali Commission is an independent federal agency promoting infrastructure, utilities and economic development across Alaska. Joel represents the Denali Commission and Alaska Natives as a member of the White House Rural Council and his new position on the White House Council on Native American Affairs. He says his passion for rural Alaska comes from his family history and work experience.

Joel's mother was born and raised in Akiak but moved away when she married Joel's father, who served in the military. Joel and his five siblings were raised all over the country, finally settling in Texas when his father retired. Joel spent some summers working in Alaska which made him realize that is where he wanted to end up. He switched his degree at the University of Texas at Austin from chemical engineering to civil engineering, in order to work toward a career path that was useful in Alaska.

"I changed that major and I don't have any regrets," said Joel. "There are lots of infrastructure projects all over the Region and Alaska I have been able to work on as a civil engineer, opportunities that I would not have had as a chemical engineer."

*"Figure out where you want to go, get a certification or degree. Put your nose to the grindstone and be a good member, contribute in other ways through volunteering and leadership."*

Joel has worked in more than 100 communities across the state. While his job kept him busy, he made time to give back. Joel has served as a board member for United Way of Anchorage, the Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center and the Municipality of Anchorage On-Site Wastewater Systems Technical Review Board. It was through his volunteer activities that he met then Mayor Mark Begich who later as a U.S. Senator put Joel's name forward to become the federal co-chair of the Denali Commission.

**Through his experience, Joel has this advice for Shareholders and Descendants, "Show up on time, do good work, be a good member of the community and one day you may be given leadership opportunities that you maybe don't go out and look for, but they find you."**

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Yaarnin



## SHAREHOLDER RECORDS

*Be Sure to Cast Your Vote*

As a Shareholder of Calista Corporation you have a voice in the corporation's future and direction if you vote. Every year new applicants run for the Board of Directors, people who serve the corporation and the interests' of Shareholders and Descendants of their Region. There are also resolutions up for vote; these important resolutions can often shape the direction of the corporation and how it serves its members.

If you chose not to vote you are doing yourself and the corporation a disservice by electing not to be a part of this important process. If you cannot attend the Annual Meeting you are able to vote by proxy. This is a way to ensure that every Shareholder that wants to participate in this process gets the opportunity.

**If you submit your proxy vote you are also eligible for cash prizes. Please don't forget to sign and date your proxy.**

Properly completed proxy votes must be received at the Office of the Inspector of Elections, Sramek-Hightower, CPAs, P.O. Box 240569, (2525 C Street, Suite 100) Anchorage, Alaska 99524-9968 by 5 p.m., Wednesday, September 25, 2013.

The early bird deadline is 5 p.m, Wednesday, September 11, 2013.



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### PERSONAL DATA FORM - SEPTEMBER 2013

Shareholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

New Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ SSN \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Would you like Calista to send you new Will forms?  Yes  No

Calista Shares \_\_\_\_\_

Village Corporation Shares \_\_\_\_\_

Please change my address as I have indicated above. I understand that you cannot make address changes without my permission and signature, which I hereby give of my own free will and without constraint. I further authorize Calista and its subsidiaries to share this information.

Shareholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Witness 2 \_\_\_\_\_

(Two witnesses are required if Shareholder signs with an "X.")



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