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MAY/JUNE 2023 • CALISTA CORPORATION NEWSLETTER



Tiana Unat'aq Lupie, Calista Scholarship Recipient from Tuntutuliak seeking her Master's in Social Work

EDUCATION NO MATTER THE CHALLENGE

TIANA UNAT'AQ LUPIE, CALISTA SHAREHOLDER AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Tiana Unat'aq Lupie, a Calista Shareholder from Tuntutuliak, is studying to become an interpreter while overcoming some major hurdles. She has graduated with an Associate of Arts degree and a Bachelor of Arts in Social Work from the UAF Kuskokwim Campus. She speaks both Yup'ik and English, but she learns differently out of necessity.

"I was not born blind, but became blind when I was young," Lupie says. "I would like to earn my bachelor's in Yup'ik along with a master's in social work. I want to help my people navigate the Western system without someone taking advantage of them."

Being blind is not an excuse—or a barrier—for Lupie to continue her education.

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SHAREHOLDERS DISPLAY RESILIENCE THROUGH CULTURE

2023 CALISTA SHAREHOLDER AWARDS

Calista would like to honor the 2023 Shareholder Award recipients. Drawn from nominations submitted by fellow Shareholders, these awards recognize exceptional efforts by Shareholders and Descendants to uphold the cultural values of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region and its communities.

"Our ancestors had to be resilient in all aspects of life. They taught us how to be independent and take care of our own," says Willie Kasayulie, Calista Board Chair. "Our Award recipients exemplify the resilience we display as people from the Y-K Region."

"OUR ANCESTORS HAD TO BE RESILIENT IN ALL ASPECTS OF LIFE. THEY TAUGHT US HOW TO BE INDEPENDENT AND TAKE CARE OF OUR OWN."

- Willie Kasayulie,
Calista Board Chair

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BOARD MESSAGE: IMPORTANCE OF VOTING

Willie Kasayullie, Board Chair

Our **Annual Meeting of Shareholders is coming up on June 2** in the community of Platinum. The deadline for voting is May 30 and the results will be shared after the Annual Meeting. Quyana to everyone who made their voice heard by voting.

Proxy voting began on April 28. For the meeting to be valid, Shareholders must cast enough votes to reach quorum—represented as 50 percent plus one shares voted.

The value of voting in the Annual Meeting is shown by electing board members who are dedicated. This reflects the Calista Core Value of DEDICATION and loyalty to Calista vision/mission, people, and customers. The Calista Board is dedicated to our Shareholders priorities through our Mission: **Increase Shareholder benefits and economic opportunities through innovation, growth, leadership, partnership, execution and financial discipline.**

Based on the amount of voting in early May, we're looking for another year of strong participation in the Annual Meeting by Shareholders, including our

Elders. We heard Shareholders in Y-K communities were surprised by how easy and fast it is to vote online.

Thank you to the community of Platinum for hosting the Annual Meeting this year. A key goal for the Board of Directors is to hold Calista's Annual Meeting in each village. Travel is expensive and we wish to meet Shareholders where they live. A total of 34 communities have hosted an Annual Meeting, out of more than 40 permanent communities in our Region.

Your vote counts. **Only Shareholder votes elect Directors.** The Directors you elect set goals for the corporation, and management works to enact those goals.

Willie Kasayullie, Board Chair

"YOUR VOTE COUNTS. ONLY SHAREHOLDER VOTES ELECT DIRECTORS."

Willie Kasayullie



Andrew Guy, President and CEO

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: ENGAGING OUR YOUTH

Andrew Guy, President and CEO

Earlier this year, our company leadership acted on a Board directive to engage our young Shareholders and Descendants through an annual youth summit focused on the **Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA)** and the importance of **Yuuyaraq**.

We launched this effort with a gathering on March 29 in Bethel at the **Yup'ik Piciyaraik Cultural Center**.

Our objective for the summit was for experienced company leaders, including Board members, to pass down their knowledge to high school-aged students, so that one day, when they take over from us, they don't need to relearn everything.

Bad weather prevented dozens of students from participating in this one-day event. Thankfully, students from **Napaskiak, Aniak, and Bethel** were able to safely attend.

Despite a very small group of students, and limited time, we were impressed by the strong interest and good questions the students posed to Calista representatives.

This was not focused on Calista. We discussed our region's traditional laws and customs, **Yuuyaraq** cultural values, and the history of land claims and tribal rights. We talked about **self-determination** and the desire to provide for our own versus depend on outside government.

"OUR OBJECTIVE FOR THE SUMMIT WAS FOR EXPERIENCED COMPANY LEADERS TO PASS DOWN THEIR KNOWLEDGE TO HIGH SCHOOL-AGED STUDENTS, SO THAT ONE DAY, WHEN THEY TAKE OVER FROM US, THEY DON'T NEED TO RELEARN EVERYTHING."

Andrew Guy

We also shared our views on the imperfections of the **Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act**. We explained that no law is permanent, and someday these students may have a role in fixing some of ANCSA's flaws, especially the unjust extinguishment of our hunting and fishing rights.

As a former intern, I also encouraged these students to intern with Calista and consider employment with our company after finishing college or trade school.

At the end of the day, when we asked them for feedback, the students told us they were interested in learning more about ANCSA, what it means to be a Shareholder, and the different roles of the various organizations in our Region.

Learning more about these topics will help our Region and our young people succeed. We also look forward to applying what we learned by conducting this year's summit to next year and beyond.

Quyana cakneq to all of the school principals and parents who authorized student participation, and to Calista staff members who put many hours into planning our first youth summit. We look forward to a larger youth gathering next year.

CALISTA EDUCATION & CULTURE, INC. PRESENTS YUP'IK TEACHING MOMENT IQALLUARPAK [EE-KAW-LHUA-GH-BUCK] IS YUP'IK FOR "HERRING"

Calista Education & Culture, Inc. (CECI) presents the **Yup'ik Teaching Moment** in our **Storyknife** newsletter. CECI highlights **Yuuyaraq**, the traditional/cultural way of being in our Region. This **Yup'ik Teaching Moment** is provided by **Mark John, CECI Cultural Advisor of Nightmute and Toksook Bay**.

Starting in April and on through June, **herring** hit the southwest and west coast of Alaska in massive numbers.

IQALLUARPAK [EE-KAW-LHUA-GH-BUCK] IS YUP'IK MEANING "HERRING."

Herring brings with them seals, whales and birds that feed on them, providing an opportunity for some to hunt those animals. More so, herring is fished as a food source for many villages in western Alaska. This is especially true for the **Qaluyaat (Nelson Island)** area since herring is one of the main dried food sources.

Herring spawn on kelp. Herring and its roe are harvested every spring. Herring eggs on kelp is called **Elquaq** in Yup'ik, and it is a delicacy eaten raw or cooked. When freezers were not available, roe on kelp was dried for winter use.

Herring is dried whole or split in half. It is braided and hung. Most herring are eaten just dried, but some is also smoked. Dried herring can also be stored in seal oil. Herring is also taken half dried and boiled. Boiled, half-dried herring is called **Egamaarrluk**. Herring that is too fat and does not dry, is partially dried and is called **Nin'amayuk**. It is stored in seal oil before eaten. When eaten on very cold days, it keeps people warm. It has a very strong flavor and is considered a delicacy.

Herring roe, when taken from the belly, is spread on logs or plywood to dry and soaked and eaten in the winter. Dried herring roe is called **Imlaucuaq**.

Arrival of herring is always an exciting time for everyone.



Four young women in Toksook Bay cutting and preparing herring to be braided and hung.



Calista VP of Corporate Affairs Thom Leonard, President/CEO Andrew Guy, and Board member Ron Hoffman with Chair Willie Kasayullie meet with high school students from Bethel, Aniak and Napaskiak.

ALASKA FIBEROPTIC PROJECT

DIGITAL EQUITY IN THE Y-K REGION

If you live in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Region, it's a given that you've struggled on a daily basis due to unreliable, slow Internet.

The **Alaska FiberOptic Project** is one of several exciting projects underway to bring reliable, high-speed fiber-optic Internet to Y-K communities. This project will serve up to 20 communities in the Calista and Doyon regions. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) funded the project to include seven Y-K communities: **Upper and Lower Kalskag, Tuluksak, Akiak, Akiachak, Kwethluk and Napakiak.**

Bringing high-speed Internet to our region is critical to improve quality of life, education, healthcare and economic opportunities for our Shareholders. That is why we partnered with Alaska Communications and worked hard to secure Tribal resolutions of support and federal funding for the Alaska FiberOptic Project.

The project is now in the permitting phase. It will provide funding for fiber-optic funding to be installed to each home in the community, in addition to schools, clinics, tribal and village corporation offices, stores, and businesses.

It's important to note that internet service rates will be comparable to urban rates, and discounts will be available to qualifying households through the federal government's Affordable Connectivity Program.

The Alaska FiberOptic Project now has a website: www.akfiberproject.com. Shareholders can go to this site for a detailed overview of the project, maps, the project timeline, official announcements, and information related to internet service rates.

Up to 20 communities along the Yukon and Kuskokwim Rivers will receive high-speed internet for the first time.

Learn more: www.akfiberproject.com



ALASKA FIBEROPTIC PROJECT

FULLY FUNDED

UNFUNDED (APPLICATION SUBMITTED)



SEARCHING FOR MISSING PERSONS WITH D.O.G.



Jim Pete with Bethel Search and Rescue dog named D.O.G. Photo courtesy Greg Lincoln/The Delta Discovery.

Sled dogs aren't the only canine champs in the Y-K Region.

D.O.G., a nine-year-old St. Bernard-Labrador mix has been joining search and rescue missions all over western Alaska for the past six years.

D.O.G. even has a young nephew named Kenai who is in training as well.

It's very unusual for a single search dog and its handler to work far away from a larger team of search dogs and handlers.

But **Jim Pete**, a 22-year veteran of **Bethel Search and Rescue**, was determined to train D.O.G. to assist western Alaska searches after talking to Wasilla dog team trainers who came to Shageluk to assist a search for a missing child.

"Dogs depend on scent. The quicker we can get to a scene is better than waiting too long," Pete says.

"I got to talk [to the trainers] about D.O.G. and how to get properly trained. They took us on. They sent me a booklet, and eventually we were going to Wasilla for testing on tracking and trailing."

Over the past six years, Pete and D.O.G. have assisted search and rescues in villages beyond the Bethel area, including Alakanuk, Emmonak, Chevak, Napaskiak, Akiachuk, Tununak, Kotzebue and Clark's Point.

Pete says he is the one learning the most, since tracking comes naturally to D.O.G. "Our first year of training, I had trouble trusting him because I can't smell the trail."

Pete learned to do that after D.O.G. pulled him toward an area where Pete didn't expect to find a victim. "Since then, I always trust him where he takes me."

Though travel wasn't possible during the pandemic, Calista has supported travel and training expenses for Pete and D.O.G. to attend dog search and rescue clinics offered through **MAT+SAR Search & Rescue** for several years.

"I want people in the Calista Region to know that we have a search dog out here. A lot of times, it's a good thing to have. Down the road, I'd like to see more people interested and committed in helping with search dogs, and training their own," Pete says.

DEVELOPMENT THAT PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT

AKIAK MUSER MIKE WILLIAMS, JR.



I'm a musher in rural Alaska and I spend a lot of time in the wilderness. I'm not opposed to economic development that protects the environment.

The way I see it, the Donlin Gold project can provide some important benefits to Calista Corporation shareholders. Hundreds of well-paying jobs can allow us to better afford subsistence supplies and equipment.

"I'M NOT OPPOSED TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT."

- Mike Williams, Jr. of Akiak

Living a subsistence lifestyle is part of who we are, but in today's world it is also very expensive. The costs for gas, boats, gear, engine repairs and more quickly add up.

In addition, Y-K villages have some of the highest energy costs in the nation. The Donlin Gold project also creates an opportunity to explore options for cleaner, more affordable energy.

A DAUGHTER OF THE MIDDLE KUSKOKWIM

REBECCA WILMARTH OF DONLIN GOLD FIGHTS FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

For Rebecca Wilmarth, the subsistence way of life and mining are comingled in her blood.

Born to an Athabascan-Yup'ik mother and a placer miner who raised their children along the middle Kuskokwim, Wilmarth wants to see that kind of lifestyle revitalized.



Rebecca Wilmarth (bottom right) with her sister and parents in Red Devil

"Looking back now, I realize I grew up in the best of both worlds. If our region had more opportunities, our people wouldn't have to sacrifice their homes or lifestyle on the river," says Wilmarth, a Calista Corp. Shareholder, tribal member, wife and mother of two.

Continuing the way of life practiced by many generations of Shareholders is a big part of why Wilmarth supports the Donlin Gold Project, as she explained in this interview for our annual report.



4 year old Wilmarth at Chicken Creek

WHAT WAS IT LIKE GROWING UP PLACER MINING AND LIVING IN MIDDLE KUSKOKWIM VILLAGES?

I was born and raised in Red Devil, one of the smallest villages on the Kuskokwim River. I went to grade school in Red Devil and spent most of my childhood summers at the family mining camp near Flat. I also spent a lot of time in Georgetown with my grandparents, who were avid gardeners.

My mom's side is from the Georgetown, Red Devil and Sleetmute area, and I feel grounded there, at home with my people. My dad exemplified the importance of hard work; his words ingrained in my mind—that a wishbone isn't as likely to get you someplace as a backbone. Some of my earliest memories are of watching my dad operate his dragline and helping my mom sell candy bars in their store. Working hard every day seemed fun to my parents, so naturally, that's how I feel about it today. I'm lucky to have grown up the way I did.

WHAT IS YOUR EXPERIENCE OF OUTMIGRATION?

I've primarily lived my whole life in Red Devil, and the population there started to dwindle quite rapidly in the late 1990s and early 2000s. The school was always on the verge of closing, and my parents decided to relocate to Palmer, where my siblings finished school. I went to school in Aniak for three years but decided to return to my family and received my diploma via home school.

When I started working for Donlin, it meant job security, something that isn't common in our village. But with our kids, the educational thing became more of a priority for us, so we live in Palmer during the winter. It's been positive for us—for school and sports—but I'm also feeling the disconnect.

WHAT OTHER CHANGES ARE YOU SEEING ON THE RIVER?

I remember lots of travelers on the middle river when I was growing up. People were out and about, visiting, hunting, attending community events.

There is a lot less of that now. I think fewer households are able to do subsistence activities. It's a combination of fuel costs and the impact of fishing shortages and regulations related to conservation efforts. A lot of people don't have the means to go out and do what they used to do.

For Red Devil, it was a domino effect after the school closed in 2009. I just heard last week the Stony River school is closing, and



Moose hunting on Holitna River in 2021

I feel for them. I wish I could reverse it. What we hear sometimes is that Donlin will ruin the subsistence way of life. Well, it's happening already, and it's not related to Donlin.

HOW DID YOU END UP WORKING FOR DONLIN AND WHAT DO YOU DO?



Wilmarth and her husband Cory Nicolai

I went to work for my tribe, Georgetown, right after high school, and from 2006 to 2010, I was the tribal liaison out of the Anchorage office, working as a link between the office and tribal members.

I realized I needed to do more to solve some of our issues. I moved back to Red Devil and began taking classes in rural development through the University of Alaska Fairbanks. My husband Cory and I lived in Red Devil and did whatever jobs we could to stay there. He worked at the runway, I worked at the post office, and we ran a fuel business.

"IF I HAD TO CHOOSE BETWEEN DONLIN AND BEING ABLE TO FISH OR HUNT OR OTHERWISE SUBSIST, THEN I WOULDN'T BE HERE. WE CAN HAVE BOTH."

- Rebecca Wilmarth

I always envisioned Donlin as my ultimate career. I knew that if meaningful employment was available in Red Devil, I could provide for my family and not have to leave home. In 2019, after I graduated with my degree in rural development, Donlin asked about my interest in working for the company. I was completely floored and said yes, definitely.

This will be my fourth year at Donlin, and I'm now the Community Relations supervisor. I appreciate the vision they've had for me

as I continue to grow in my role with the company. The most rewarding aspect of the job is talking to people in the region and connecting them with good information about the project.

DONLIN IS CONTROVERSIAL. WHAT DO YOU WANT SHAREHOLDERS TO KNOW?

I try to break down the notion that Donlin is some big corporate glob. A lot of us in Community Relations are from the region and we are stakeholders, too. We have the same concerns.

There are real concerns and fear out there. I try to share my life experience and perspective, and let people know their questions or concerns can be heard and valued, and we're not a Canadian company driven by money.

Our villages have a long road ahead in terms of capacity-building and sustainability. I like to think of Donlin as being a good neighbor who can help get them there. You can call and talk to any one of us, and you'll always get our full attention and care. The vision I have for our people and villages is that they are prospering economically, socially, and culturally.

HOW HAS WORKING FOR DONLIN INFLUENCED YOUR LIFE ON THE RIVER?

Meaningful income complements a traditional lifestyle rather than detracts from it. In the summer, we are out in the boat as soon as the ice goes out—early to mid-May—fishing for sheefish and logging. When it's time to put up fish for winter, my family comes out from Palmer. All of the kids are part of the process from start to finish. In the fall, my husband and I love to hunt, and we hunt for other people who aren't able to get out and hunt themselves. In the winter we're out ice fishing and hauling wood—not this year, unfortunately. I don't take any of it for granted.

Me, personally, if I had to choose between Donlin and being able to fish or hunt or otherwise subsist, then I wouldn't be here. We can have both.



Wilmarth berry picking in the hills behind Red Devil

WEATHERING THE STORM

EMMONAK OVERCOMES HURDLES TO BUILD NEW PORT

As Typhoon Merbok swept up the Bering Sea coast, residents of Emmonak pulled their boats from the water and braced for more land to erode into the Yukon River.

When the storm ended, they were amazed. It turns out Emmonak's new dock—a major infrastructure project for the Lower Yukon region—is a “helluva breakwater,” says **City Manager David Roland**. He estimates the dock saved 1,800 feet of land from washing away in the Sept. 2022 storm.

Like other big projects in Alaska, each step to develop the regional port in Emmonak was like weathering a storm.

The project team, including community leaders, faced the daunting task of obtaining permits, designing, and securing more than \$35 million to build the first dock of its kind on the U.S. portion of the Yukon River.

“The Kuskokwim has had this kind of infrastructure in Bethel forever. Until now, the Yukon hasn't had it,” Roland says.

A SERIES OF BLOWS

At times, it would have been easy for the port's strongest advocates to lose faith. The COVID-19 pandemic erupted six weeks after the project started, creating supply chain, regulatory and workforce disruptions throughout that first year.

“THE KUSKOKWIM HAS HAD THIS KIND OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN BETHEL FOREVER. UNTIL NOW, THE YUKON HASN'T HAD IT.”

— David Roland, Emmonak City manager

In the second year of the pandemic, the project team lost their beloved champion—the late **Martin B. Moore, Sr.**—who served as Emmonak's city manager for decades. When they needed to secure more funding or negotiate over design decisions, team members needed to step into Moore's big shoes to keep the project on track.

It took a lot of time and grant writing to find funding for the port's final phase. Project proponents including **Rep. Neal Foster** and **Sen. Donny Olson**, along with Calista executives, successfully made their case to the State of Alaska to fund the port to completion, a major breakthrough, says **Project Administrator Joan Herrmann**.

The project team weathered each of these challenges, and the team members hope the port—already bringing ocean-going vessels to Emmonak—increases the resilience of Emmonak and other Lower Yukon communities.

This is sorely needed. **Emmonak Mayor Wilbur Hootch** says the port project came together around the same time the glue of

the Lower Yukon economy and subsistence way of life—salmon fishing—began to come apart.

With the dock now open for business, Hootch hopes to see ocean freight delivered directly to the Lower Yukon without the added cost of handling in other locations. This has the potential to lower the costs of goods—building supplies, equipment, even food—for the entire region. That was Martin Moore Sr.'s vision, Hootch says.

HARD WORK PAYS OFF

The full economic benefits of the new port may not be seen for a few years, says Roland. For now, he's happy to see vessel operators no longer wallowing through the mud to tie up barges and offload freight in Emmonak.

This year's efforts will complete the port's boat ramp, which will be accessible to everyone in the village 24/7, and establish new fencing around the dock to secure offloaded freight.

“It's way easier these days with all the potential roadblocks, to not do something, than to do something. This project has been a great success, led by the community itself,” says **Brice Inc. Construction Manager Marcus Trivette**.

Brice Inc. worked with fellow Calista subsidiaries **Brice Marine** and **STG Incorporated**, as well as other contractors, to build the dock.

“The biggest positive outcome was the advocacy, as well as the hard work to make sure that the port works for all the different kinds of vessels,” Trivette says.

The City of Emmonak hopes to have a grand opening and dedication for the new regional port at the end of summer 2023. Fundraising is also underway to build a terminal to support port operations and purchase equipment.

Hootch and Roland emphasize that the port is one of several community improvements projects championed by Moore and completed in the past couple years, including a new washeteria and hotel.

“I only wish Martin was here to see how it all worked out,” Roland says.

QUYANA FOR SUPPORTING THE EMMONAK PORT:

City of Emmonak; Emmonak Tribal Council; Alaska Project Solutions, Inc.; Chuloonawick Native Village; Association of Village Council Presidents; Kwik'Pak Fisheries; Alaska Village Electric Cooperative; Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation; Yukon Delta Fisheries Development Association; the late Congressman Don Young; U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan; U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski; U.S. Maritime Administration; Alaska Governor's Office; Alaska Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development; Alaska Department of Transportation; State Rep. Neal Foster; and State Sen. Donny Olson.



The Emmonak port project includes a dock to receive ocean and river barges and a ramp that will be available to the community 24/7 as a boat launch. The project will be completed in 2023.

EDUCATION NO MATTER THE CHALLENGE

TIANA UNAT'AQ LUPIE, CALISTA SHAREHOLDER AND SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

“I want to help both the younger and older generations connect with the Western world, and make sure they understand what they are responding to in both English and Yugtun, or vice versa,” Lupie says.

She has interpreted for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Orutsarmiut Native Council (ONC) in Bethel, but decided to volunteer at the Bethel 4-H Youth Center as a VISTA after struggling to find work.

“MY EXPERIENCE IN LIFE MAKES ME WANT TO HELP PEOPLE WHO FEEL THEY MAY NOT HAVE THEIR OWN VOICE OR WHO FEEL VULNERABLE. THEY CAN APPROACH SITUATIONS IN A DIFFERENT WAY TO FIND THEIR CONFIDENCE AND STRENGTH.”

— Tiana Unat'aq Lupie

Lupie says she is grateful for her brother and the teachers she had in Tuntutuliak who motivated her to pursue her degree right out of high school. Her early aspiration was to become a teacher, but after experiencing discrimination in middle school, her passion became social work and interpreting.

“You can accomplish your goals if you put in the will to strive for a better life,” Lupie says. “You have to realize what your goals are and what you want to improve. Follow that and then give back to the community.”

Lupie lives in Bethel with her mother, and they take care of each other. Her mom helps her get around town. Still, she has not forgotten her roots from the village.

“We depend on a subsistence lifestyle,” Lupie says. “We gather what we need, but we do not over take. That's what my grandparents and parents would always say.”

Her family would follow the seasons and pick berries and subsistence fish. She enjoyed fish camp the most because it would prompt people to make time to be together and connect. Lupie says the strength from her family and past experiences motivates her to move toward her future.

“I am blind, and I experienced situations growing up. Vulnerability is scary,” Lupie says. “My experience in life makes me want to help people who feel they may not have their own voice, or who feel vulnerable. They can approach situations in a different way to find their confidence and strength.”

SHAREHOLDERS DISPLAY RESILIENCE THROUGH CULTURE

2023 CALISTA SHAREHOLDER AWARDS

Award recipients receive an award plaque and financial reward. Recipients will also be honored on June 2 at the 49th Annual Meeting of Shareholders for their contributions in upholding our cultural values.



**Calista Culture Bearer:
Nita Yurliq Rearden (Kotlik)**

"We learn from our Elders, we learn from our mistakes. We learn from our stories, we learn from education," says Nita Yurliq Rearden. She is currently working with educators to develop cultural lessons for the Lower Yukon School District. Nita is helping them to revitalize the Yup'ik language and cultural values. Her first education began at home, where her grandparents and parents spoke to her all in Yup'ik, teaching her how to live by traditional Yup'ik values. She brings her cultural knowledge with her in everyday activities.

**Calista Elder of the Year:
Mary Fitka (Marshall)**

Mary Fitka of Marshall is an Elder nearing the 100-year milestone. She has always lived a subsistence lifestyle and still tries in her 90s. She is strong-willed through her traditional education and tells her family: "Keep your mind and body strong to keep moving forward. Always forgive people even if they mistreat you."



**Axel C. Johnson Distinguished Shareholder:
Michelle Macuar Sparck (Chevak)**

Michelle Macuar Sparck is the CITC Director of Strategic Initiatives for Get Out the Native Vote. She uses her decades of political experience and Tribal relations to educate the public about redistricting, the new election system and the importance of voting. She works with Alaska Native organizations, Tribal leaders, and influencers to increase awareness and more successful plans to vote. Turnout increased in each election, and less mistakes were made in completing ballots.



**Calista Youth/Educator of the Year:
Sheila Phillip (Kongiganak)**

Sheila Phillip is one of two named Calista's Educator of the Year. She has been teaching for over 20 years. She currently teaches Yuuyaraq classes at Ayagina'ar Elitnaurvik, and often holds feasts for the community at her house in Kongiganak. She continues traditional activities of sewing, sharing, cutting and smoking fish, and speaking the Yup'ik language. "She cares so much and it shows. Since she was a young adult, I have seen her do everything for her kids [students]," says Ruth Kowalczewski of Kongiganak.

**Calista Youth/Educator of the Year:
Sally Samson (Nunapitchuk)**

Sally Samson is one of two named Calista's Educator of the Year. Sally taught at Ayaprun Elitnaurvik for over 10 years and is currently an Assistant Professor for UAF at the Kuskokwim Campus in Bethel. Sally's son was not able to go to Sunday school in Bethel because there was no high school-level teacher at the church—she volunteered so her son was able to attend. Sally has also volunteered at Ayaprun Elitnaurvik and currently tutors others who are seeking a bachelor's or master's degree.



**Raymond C. Christiansen Business of the Year:
Theresa Mike (Kotlik)**

Theresa Mike of Kotlik is one of two recognized for Business of the Year. She creates, sells and educates customers and those interested in learning about her Native art and jewelry at events like AFN, Elders and Youth Conference and the Midtown Craft Show. She was a first-time vendor at the Santa Fe Indian Market in 2022. "All is not possible without her faith, drive, commitment, and dedication as a strong self-starter," says Jenay Mike, Theresa's daughter. "She is looked up by many of her friends, other artists, and church community."

**Raymond C. Christiansen Business of the Year:
Harrilyn Smith (Mekoryuk)**

Harrilyn Smith is one of two recognized for Business of the Year. Harrilyn is CEO/Owner of AMB General Contractor LLC, based in Lacey, WA. She is originally from Mekoryuk and began her lifelong journey into carpentry through vocational school. She interned with one of Calista's subsidiaries and has worked on building homes and businesses in Alaska and Oregon. While developing her small business, she won an innovation grant from her local county and secured small business counseling and training. "If you look for it, it's there," she says.



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Contact Shareholder Services at shareholder@calistacorp.com
or 907-275-2801 for any issues logging into MyCalista.com

PERSONAL DATA FORM - MAY/JUNE 2023

Shareholder Name _____

New Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Last 4 SSN _____

Birth Year _____

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 internally and in accordance with law.

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

Date _____

Signature of Witness 1 _____

Signature of Witness 2 _____

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