



2018 ANNUAL NEWS

St. Paul Island Report | SPECIAL ANNUAL EDITION

MISSION

Ataqan Akun. To ensure the optimal quality of life for all Tribal members and never forget where we have come from.

VISION

Empowered, healthy families contributing to a thriving culture and sustainable community.

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Report.....	2
Executive Director's Report.....	3
Human Resources	5
Ecosystem Conservation Office.....	6
Youth, Education and Training.....	10
Office of Justice & Governance Administration	13
Housing, Maintenance & Construction	14
Tanaġ-Unaaġim Maqaġsingin (T-UM).....	15
Enterprise Section	17
Departments of Health and Personal Wellness and Community Safety and Peace	18

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



Aang aang! Another fiscal year comes to a close at our Tribe. The past fiscal year presented as in other years many new and exciting programs as well as business opportunities.

The pooling of various departments' education and training dollars has brought some really interesting classes to the Island. I just visited the Ivory Carving Class held down at the Community Advocacy Center across from the Store. It was awesome to see the creations made by the students! I would have never guessed that most students were carving for their very first time, their work was amazing and done at a mastery level I would never have thought possible!

The Aleut Community Store has performed well in its first year of operation under the Tribal umbrella. The management and staff have done a wonderful job in bringing new product lines in. With the help of the HMC crew the store hasn't looked as good as it does in years! We continue to modernize and create energy efficiencies to bring the operational costs down. As we continue down the path to energy efficiencies we look forward to stabilizing prices of goods sold. Another strategic reason for taking the store back was to pay our store staff an honest living wage for an honest day's work. To do these good things we must remain competitive and profitable to continue the store enterprise or we would have to bring another operator in here like AC. We all know the model of AC, the prices would be much higher with a true for profit company. The store now belongs to each and every one of us, and I am very proud of that!

We continue to work with our community partners to carry out all aspects of our CEDS (community economic development strategy) to raise the quality of life for all who



The pooling of various departments education and training dollars has brought some really interesting classes to the Island.

I visited the Ivory Carving Class held down at the Community Advocacy Center across from the Store. It was awesome to see the creations made by the students!

live in our community. It is a pleasure to work with CBSFA, City, PSD, and TDX to carry out our mission of creating a sustainable economy and healthy residents for St. Paul. I look forward to seeing you all at our Annual Meeting & Elections, so you can get a good report on all the wonderful things we have accomplished for you over the past year! Please come on out and participate and be a voice in your Tribal Government. Thank you all for the support over the last year and I look forward to another year of meaningful accomplishments on your behalf.

Qaġalakux!

Amos Philemonoff
President

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT



Aang. Merry Christmas. We entered FY18 with a community-wide strategic plan that serves as our guide for our economic mission to increase dollars coming in to St. Paul's economy for business, infrastructure, and education.

This past year we did exactly that bringing in over \$10 million in revenue and another \$13 million for education, health, and infrastructure going into FY19. We are diligently focused on the strategies put forth in your community plan and have been very successful in making progress in all areas. A summary of these are below.

Strategy A: Complete the Vessel Repair and Ship Supply
Awards: \$2.5M for Phase II Completion of Vessel Repair

Strategy I: Achieve educational excellence at Pribilof Island Schools and early childhood development.
Awards: \$800K for Aleut Language Immersion Program \$2.1M for Implementing Cultural and Place-based Curriculum including Science Technology Engineering Arts and Math (STEAM Programs)

Strategy J: Develop and maintain a highly skilled, employment-ready workforce that supports and enhances the economic health of St. Paul Island.
Awards: \$800K for STEAM Courses including Math, Coding and AV Production

Strategy C,D,E: Develop Salmon Hatchery, Crab Hatchery, Reindeer Resources and Vessel Repair funds
Awards: \$165K for Reindeer and Salmon Resource Development

Strategy G & H: Grow Visitation and Tourism on St. Paul Island
Awards: \$50K for Tourism Marketing and New Hotel Feasibility Study

Strategy L: Secure Infrastructure Projects that Support Economic Development
Awards: \$500k for Energy

Upgrades including new Refrigeration at the Store \$1.2M for Energy Upgrades and New Siding at the Clinic \$200K for Construction of Polovina Road Extension

Strategy M: Secure Funding for Wholistic Wellness, Family Resilience, and Suicide Prevention
Awards: \$3.0M for Child Protection \$1.9M for Suicide Prevention

The year was also marked by the successful transition of the store under the Tribe's 1st year of management. We added key staff and resources to support our expansion including a CFO and new accounting system. We ended the year strong, finishing with a 50/50 mixture between grants and business activity which has been a long-standing goal of the Council.

Continues on page 4



This year we brought to St. Paul over \$10 million in revenue including \$13 million for education, health and infrastructure going into this coming new year.

3 STEPS FOR BUILDING A **POWERFUL** LOCAL ECONOMY

1 INCREASE DOLLARS **IN**

Private

- Fishing
- Tourism
- Foundation Support

Public

- State and federal contracts & grants
- Research

2 CIRCULATE DOLLARS **AROUND**

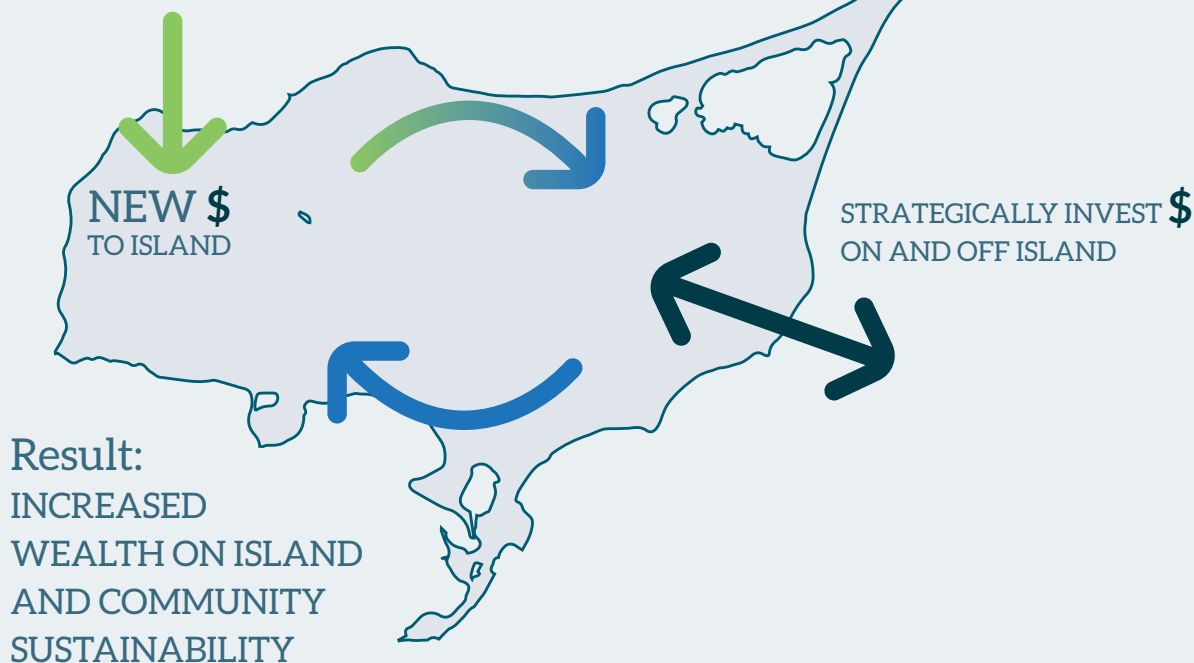
On Island

- Infrastructure
- AC store
- Expanded & new businesses
- New jobs

3 STRATEGICALLY KEEP DOLLARS **HERE**

Off Island

- Investments that build local capacity to produce goods and services on Island (quarry, greenhouse)



Over the coming year we will continue to expand business opportunities, focus on improving internal management and communication, and will evaluate programs to improve the services we deliver. Things you can look forward to in 2019 are **1)** the exciting developments in downtown St. Paul Island surrounding the ballfield; **2)** a big expansion of tribal programs in education, cultural, and arts; and **3)** more drone/uav opportunities.

I want to end this year by sharing with everyone that we appreciate your support including our great partners like CBSFA, City, PSD, SCF and TDX. It's a pleasure to work

with these organizations and together we are working hard to make St. Paul better. Thank you, tribal citizens, for your inspiration and vision. We are blessed with great leadership from the President and Council and I can't say enough about the Staff who are truly amazing. We are a team that pulls together, and I look forward to working with everyone in the coming year.

Patrick Baker,
Executive Director

HUMAN RESOURCES

Rene' Warner, HR Manager



During FY18' and continuing into FY19' the Human Resource Department in consultation with our legal review team has focused on updating the Tribal Government of St. Paul Island Policies and Procedures Manual. Policies and procedures are important documents that continually change over time. While specific parts of a policy may stay the same, details can and do change, especially with the constant updating of laws and regulations.

Regularly reviewing our policies and procedures makes certain that responsibilities are clearly defined and ensures that our policies remain effective. When policies

and procedures are clearly defined, employees' time and resources can be used more efficiently, making it easier for the Tribal Government of St. Paul to establish our primary mission "to promote our general welfare, political integrity and tribal economic security".

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to TGSPi policies and procedures please feel free to stop by the office during normal business hours Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm, give me a call at 907-546-3225 or reach me via email at rawarner@aleut.com.

Thank you,
Rene A. Warner, HR Manager

HOLIDAY REMINDERS

The Tribal Government of St. Paul Island will be closed on the following days:

Tuesday December 25th, 2018 for Christmas
Tuesday January 1st, 2019 for New Year
Monday January 7th, 2019 for Orthodox Christmas
Monday January 14th, 2019 for Orthodox New Year
Monday April 29th, 2019 for Easter
Monday May 27th, 2019 for Memorial Day

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Department of Health and Personal Wellness and the Department of Community Safety and Peace have job openings, please contact us for details and more information.

Applicants can apply at the Tribal Government of St. Paul during normal business hours by completing an Application for Employment. Applicants with incomplete applications will not be considered for the position. For an application for Employment, Position Description or more information please contact Rene Warner, HR Manager at rawarner@aleut.com or by phone at 907-546-3200.



ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION OFFICE

Pamela Lestenkof and Lauren Divine, Co-Directors



2018 WAS ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR EDUCATION AND OUTREACH!

The 2018 ECO Summer Science Camp was dedicated to the memory of Dr. Michelle Ridgway, who passed earlier this year. Michelle was a marine scientist that spent many years working with the youth of the Pribilof Islands. Her science camps were fun, informative, and shaped a generation of Pribilof Islands youth, fostering a sense of environmental stewardship and scientific curiosity.

The organizers of the 2018 ECO Science Camp, Lauren Divine and Veronica Padula of the Ecosystem Conservation Office, Melissa Good of Alaska Sea Grant, and Jared Weems and Jenny Renee of University of Alaska Fairbanks, honored her memory by recreating lessons Michelle shared with students in the past, updating data collection and scientific methods that she taught students, and sharing her work through various films. With funding support from the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island's Department of Health and Human Services, organizers were able to execute a fun-filled week with numerous activities that not only kept youth engaged, but also imparted valuable marine science knowledge specific to St. Paul Island. With further funding support from the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA), students from St. George Island were able to travel to St. Paul for the week to participate in these activities and spend time with family and friends as well.

Overall, the 2018 ECO Science Camp was a success, with 32 students in attendance over the course of the week. The organizers enjoy sharing their love and knowledge of the ocean with the students, as Michelle Ridgway did in the past, and hope that there is a continued passing on of that passion for many years to come. For more about camp, Melissa reported on the fun events this summer for Alaska

Sea Grant at <https://alaskaseagrant.org/2018/08/05/science-camp-in-pribilofs-honors-michelle-ridgway/>


2018 was one of the largest events in Bering Sea Days history. We had 24 presenters join us for the last week of September. The weather was beautiful throughout the week, allowing for many outdoor activities, including field trips, hikes and bird watching. Presenters were greeted with amazing posters designed by the middle school students, depicting each presenter's specialty and passion. This was an especially welcome way to start the week! We would not be able to support 24 presenters throughout Bering Sea Days without the generosity of Trident, who provided housing, meals and transportation for everyone throughout the week. The week of Bering Sea Days was exciting and busy! We served the entire student population at the St. Paul Island School, and we also welcomed three students from St. George Island (plus one more St. George Island student that is at the St. Paul Island high school for the entire fall semester).

The students engaged in many topics, including archaeology, forensic science, oceanography, seabirds, fur seal, small mammal ecology, journalism and art. Dr. Lauren Divine,



The 2018 ECO Science Camp was a success, with 32 individual students in attendance.

Dr. Franz Mueter and Michael LeVine teamed up to prepare middle and high school students to run a mock North Pacific Fisheries Management Council (NPFMC) meeting to discuss fisheries issues relevant to the Pribilof Islands ecosystems. Students met with these presenters each day of the week and then held a meeting on Friday in front of "council members" to argue their ideas about whether or not pollock quotas should be increased, decreased, or remain the same. It was an excellent opportunity for students to

learn about the current issues impacting the pollock fishery and the surrounding ecosystem, the financial impacts of altering fishing quotas and the process through which people develop and argue important points that support their views of a topic. Special thanks to Bill Briggs and Jacob Merculief for participating on the panel that listened to student arguments. 



RAT CONTINUES TO EVADE ERADICATION IN ST. PAUL FISH PROCESSING FACILITY

Since the rat prevention program began here on St. Paul Island in 1995, only nine Norway rats have been found, ALL DEAD! These rats were found between December 1995 through December 1996. Of those nine rats found, four were found in snap traps, one was poisoned, one drowned in the harbor, two were taken by fox, and one was found dead on a boat.


Today, the ECO maintains the Rat Prevention program. We maintain bio-security rodent trap stations at points of entry to St. Paul Island. We have stations set around the Trident facility, boat yard, City and TDX docks and floating docks. Other sites include the airport, POSS camp, the AC Store and the Post Office, where stations are checked and rebated monthly. Data that is collected are entered into our rat prevention database.

In August 2018 rat was detected at the Trident facility and immediately reported to the ECO. The ECO coordinated with Trident and the City to respond. A heavier trapping effort within the vicinity was initiated immediately; ECO captured evidence that the rat was still in the vicinity of the first sighting with a wildlife camera that is triggered to take a picture when it detects motion.

ECO did not trap a rat, and a 'strike team' of rat eradication experts joined the effort in September.

Although these efforts were a GREAT first response, ECO did not trap a rat, and a 'strike team' of rat eradication experts joined the effort in September. Representatives from the USFWS, USDA Wildlife Services, and Island Conservation comprised an expert strike team that helped sweep the site, added new trapping stations, and trained ECO team members in best practices for rat eradication. Unfortunately, the strike team did not trap the rat. Trident

Continues on page 8


reported another sighting of the rat at the facility on 21 October 2018. ECO continues to work to track and capture the rat. However, please keep an eye out for signs of rodents in other buildings. Please do not touch or vandalize our rat stations, traps or cameras. They are indicated with yellow stickers. If you see anything that looks like a rat, please contact ECO immediately! We need everyone keeping an eye out, as we do not want rats to invade our island! 



(LEFT) AMNWR Manager Steve Delehanty helps ECO check rat stations in September.
(RIGHT) Vincent helps spread the word to keep the Pribilofs rat free!

PAUL MELOVIDOV REACHES 10 YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT WITH ECO!



The ECO staff would like to extend their gratitude to Lead Sentinel Paul Melovidov for his continued service and teamwork in ECO for the last decade. Paul is a critical member of our team and brings a high level of experience, traditional and western knowledge and wit to our team. 

PILOTING SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS FOR HARBOR SEAL MONITORING IN THE PRIBILOF ISLANDS

In January 2018, ECO began a collaboration with NOAA Alaska Fisheries Science Center (AFSC) and Duke Marine Robotics and Remote Sensing (MARRS) Laboratory to investigate implementing sUAS surveys for the historically under-studied Pribilofs Stock of isugîn or harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*). The Pribilof Stock includes all isugîn occurring on the five islands that comprise the Pribilof Islands archipelago. Surveys have been sparse over time, with surveys occurring in the 1970s and mid 2000s only. In an effort to explore monitoring methods that could increase

the consistency and frequency of Pribilof Islands surveys, the NOAA AFSC Polar Ecosystems Program reached out to the ECO to inquire about a potential collaboration.

Fortuitously, the ACSPI recently invested in small unmanned aircraft systems (sUAS) training and technology for tribal members and employees to promote science and management activities in the Pribilofs. Dr. Lauren Divine, Mr. Aaron Lestenkof and Ms. Veronica Padula of the ACSPI Ecosystem Conservation Office (ECO) received their FAA

sUAS Remote Pilot Certificates in September 2017. ECO has completed several research projects with northern fur seals and reindeer using drones, and continues to seek opportunities to expand research and management applications for sUAS locally. The inquiry from NOAA AFSC was timely as it provided ECO an unprecedented opportunity to lead a collaboration with agency on developing and field testing scientifically rigorous field survey protocols for marine mammals that have been historically ignored.



(LEFT) Aaron Lestenkof (ECO), Alex Seymour (MARRS Lab), Josh London (NOAA AFSC), Erin Richmond (NOAA AFSC), Rhett Newton (MARRS Lab), and Erin Moreland (NOAA AFSC) hold up two senseFly eBee+ fixed wing aircraft that provided thermal imagery of fur seals, sea lions and harbor seals on Otter Island in August 2018. (RIGHT) Lauren Divine (ECO) and Rhett Newton (MARRS Lab) practice boat launch and recovery with the Phantom 4.

The collaboration also included Mr. Everette Newton and Dr. Alex Seymour, from the Duke MARRS Laboratory, experts in fixed wing and copter UAS operations. During August-September 2018, the team traveled to St. Paul Island, refined flight planning and field protocols of both land- and boat-based sUAS operations, and conducted repeated harbor seal surveys at St. Paul and Otter Islands. During this time, ECO pilots received incredibly valuable education and training from both NOAA AFSC Areas of interest on these islands were chosen based on historical way-points and traditional knowledge from hunters and residents of St. Paul and St. George. Once protocols were refined, Dr. Divine and Ms. Padula traveled to St. George to field test the new protocols without the full team at several potential haul-out locations on the island.

The team experimented with advanced flight planning software enabled customized transect capabilities and experimenting with photographic settings to maximize data quality and output. We combined local and traditional knowledge with advanced technologies to inform and develop monitoring protocols that resulted in high quality, reproducible products and a standardized but responsive program. This project provides a solid foundation for implementation of a long-term, community-led monitoring effort that can serve as a model for the use of sUAS platforms and collaborations between local constituents and management agencies. ■



(LEFT) The Phantom 4 after lift-off on St. George, ready to conduct surveys of harbor seals. (RIGHT) Aerial imagery of harbor seals taken from the same flight at Garden Cove, St. George, Alaska taken September 9th, 2018.

YOUTH, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

THE STEAM TEAM LANDS \$3.6M TO HELP ST. PAUL DEVELOP A HIGHLY SKILLED, EMPLOYMENT-READY, WORKFORCE.

The STEAM Team

In late 2017, the Tribal Government established the STEAM Team to advance community skill sets in the areas of Science, Technology, Education, Arts and Math; all of which were identified by the Community as critical and necessary to secure new opportunities and maintain economic health of St. Paul Island. This directive was stated in the Community Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Strategies F, I and J they are listed below.

CEDS Strategy F Expand existing research and monitoring capabilities on St. Paul Island.

CEDS Strategy I Achieve educational excellence at Pribilof Island Schools and related early childhood development opportunities.

CEDS Strategy J Develop and maintain a highly skilled, employment-ready workforce that supports and enhances the economic health of St. Paul Island.



The STEAM team is a special task force made of up individuals and resources from three departments including John Melovidov (DBED), Dylan Conduzzi (HHS), and Veronica Padula (ECO).

Math, Coding & Web Applications Design

In 2018, the STEAM Team established the Math and Coding Program, funded by a Department of Labor grant. Middle and high school students learned coding fundamentals while simultaneously improving their math skills during the school day, while adults learned these skills during evening classes at the Community Advocacy Center. Learning coding languages opens doors to countless opportunities: website design, video game design, robotics, phone apps, medical coding, and so much more. At the end of the spring semester, students constructed and programmed robotic cars. We are excited to see what students create in the fall semester.

STEAM was established to advance community skill sets. These skills are critical to secure new opportunities and maintain economic health in the island of St. Paul.

Our next step is to accredit the Math and Coding Program as a college level course through the University of Alaska Fairbanks Bristol Bay Campus, so that students can earn dual credits. Another exciting part of this program was an Audio/Visual Intensive offered to students during the summer months. Students learned the elements of photography, filming and storytelling. They are extremely talented and took beautiful photos! They also filmed interviews with Elders, learning about what it was like to be a teen living on St. Paul Island many years ago. It was an amazing opportunity for youth to connect with Elders, and they have conducted many interviews since the first Audio/Visual intensive, including with visiting scientists, musicians and the recent comedy group that performed on island. Stay tuned to the tribal meeting for a viewing of the students' Kids Don't Float commercial! ■

All of this groundwork for the development of the education program through the pursuit of grants was made possible with generous funding from CBSFA.



Math & Coding classes where middle and high school students learned coding fundamentals, while adults learned these skills during evening classes at the Community Advocacy Center

Bristol Bay Campus

We are also very proud of our partnership with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Bristol Bay Campus. In the past year we have coordinated to bring 11 college-level courses to St. Paul Island. These courses included: Berries of Alaska, Home Energy Basics, Circumpolar Archaeology (twice!), Ivory Carving (twice!), Introduction to Geology, Computer Business Applications, Village-based Leadership, Entrepreneurship and Introduction to 3D Printing. High school students have been able to earn dual credits, helping them to work toward their graduation and be ready for college one day in the future. Other adults in the community have been participating in these courses, and we hope for continued participation and work towards more and expanded educational opportunities. In 2019,

Bristol Bay Campus will be opening a Learning Center on St. Paul Island, housed at the St. Paul School, as an extension of the Bristol Bay Campus.

They will be hiring a Learning Center Coordinator, with the role of assisting students in exploring educational opportunities and options, registering for classes, developing workforce ready skills and putting them on a path toward success. As we progress in the development of the Learning Center, we hope for continued community input to determine which subjects to offer. For example, we hope to bring a Carpentry Occupational Endorsement course to island in spring 2019, but we would like to hear from everyone about their interests and goals. ▀





ADVANCING CULTURALLY RELEVANT PLACE-BASED CURRICULUM

In addition to these ongoing activities, the STEAM team was also awarded a Department of Education grant. This grant will allow us to develop curriculum specifically geared towards preparing younger students for success in high school, and older students for future success either in college, trade school or in the workforce. We will provide support through the Learning Center to develop a community, culturally appropriate, space that provides for social and academic behavioral growth, provides for family and community support and assists in a successful transition to and completion of post-secondary learning opportunities.

This, in addition to our partnership with BBC, provides the foundation upon which the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island hopes to establish the Bering Sea Campus (working name).

The campus will provide diverse educational opportunities to community members wishing to earn post-secondary degrees, expand their knowledge as non-degree seeking students, bring students from other locations to St. Paul Island to participate in field courses, train community members to perform technical work for data collection and to attract various researchers to St. Paul Island to conduct work that involved trained community members in the research process. The Bering Sea Campus will be a site in which students learn through cultural ways of knowing and western ways of knowing. It will also be a site in which the various ways of knowing can be blended to create a more holistic breadth of knowledge accessible to students, preparing them to be the innovators and problem-solvers of the future. ▀

OFFICE OF JUSTICE AND GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATION

Marissa Merculieff, Director



The most exciting news for the Office of Justice and Governance Administration (OJGA) in 2018 was the graduation of Andronik Hanson from the Txin Kanguux Court Program (TK program). Andronik, being our second graduate, completed the 18-month healing-to-wellness sobriety

program flawlessly, meeting all his goals not only in living a sober life, but also with regard to his overall path. Andronik maintained his sobriety, gained employment, worked on his education credits, and is on the wait-list for his own residence at the 10-Plex. The TK Program is pleased to now include Doug Modig, a traditional Native healer and sobriety advocate who recently joined the Department of Health and Human Services. The TK Program is coordinating with DHHS on new renovations to the program, and is looking forward to accepting new participants in 2019.

After overcoming a perfect storm of Bering Sea logistics, OJGA was finally able to hold a region-wide training on the Native amendments to the Violence Against Women Act, funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Tribal Justice Support. Tribal leaders from around the region and other parts of the Alaska attended the 3-day training on St. Paul Island. The innovative village-based curriculum addressed historical trauma and the intersection of tribal and state justice for tribal citizens seeking non-violent, safe relationships - taking into account the realities of smaller village life. Chief Lamblez of Public Safety, City Manager Phil Zavadil, and retired Alaska State Court Judge Eric Smith presented on cooperation strategies between tribal court and the state justice system. Because of the experience and expertise of the OJA team, the BIA is hoping to utilize the Tribe as a mentor tribe and trainer for additional tribal justice trainings in the future.

To this end, in June of this year, Judge Voluck, Director Merculieff, and President Philemonoff were invited to

The American Indian Development Associates organized a training in Anchorage with participants from 13 other tribes and tribal organizations. The training focused on assisting tribes with developing their tribal court system and written tribal laws.

serve as faculty for the Alaska Tribal Code Development project. The training was organized by the American Indian Development Associates and held in Anchorage with participants from 13 other tribes and tribal organizations. The training focused on assisting tribes with developing their tribal court system and written tribal laws. President Philemonoff's presentation on the history of building St. Paul's tribal government was the highlight of the training, and many other tribal governments requested information and assistance from ACSPI as a mentor tribe.

This past October Director Merculieff was appointed to the North Pacific Fisheries Management Council's Community Engagement Committee (CEC). The CEC will assist the Council in further developing successful engagement and outreach tools to facilitate improved communication and understanding between rural communities, tribal governments and the Council. Director Merculieff will serve with six other committee members from various Native and non-Native organizations.

Finally, the overall OJGA stats for 2018 are 37 new tribal members and 14 new Tribal Court cases. Anyone interested in enrollment or have questions about Tribal Court can contact Sadie Melovidov during normal business hours at 907-546-3200.

OJGA is looking forward to another productive year in the furtherance of self-governance, tribal court development, and technical assistance training for other tribes. ■

HOUSING, MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

Danielle Kozloff, DBED Manager



Property Beautification Contest

The Property Beautification Competition was established to promote goodwill and reward exemplary property maintenance in our community. The purpose of this program is to recognize and support St. Paul residents who demonstrate exceptional efforts to maintain and improve their property, thereby contributing to the overall appearance of the community at large. In turn, as the overall appearance of our community is improved, it ultimately benefits each property owner in St. Paul.

This year's competition was open to the first 20 participants that signed up. With a generous monetary contribution from CBSFA we were also able to hire locals to paint 12 elder homes who would not have been able to participate otherwise. Each participant who signed up for the competition received a free paint package to paint his or her home. The paint package included paint of colors of their own choosing, rollers, brushes, trays, and access to weed whackers and pressure washers.

The competition had four main categories with one winner each: best landscaping, best paint job, most improved, and best property overall. The winner of each category will receive a \$1,000.00 gift certificate to Home Depot/Lowes. The participant's properties were judged by a committee of local residents and criteria was based solely on the exterior appearance of their property from their front yard as viewed from the street. Last year's winners were Greg Fratis Sr. for best property overall, Peter and Stacy Bourdukofsky for best landscaping, Neon and Esther Krukoff for best paint job, and Alicia Kushin-Wagner for most improved property. This year's winners will be announced at our Annual Membership Meeting on December 15th.

We had such a great turn out this year with 20 homeowners participating! It's wonderful to see so many brightly colored houses adding character to our community. If you are interested in participating in next year's property beautification contest or receiving a paint package for your own property, please stop by the Tribal Office to fill out an application and get your name put down for next year's competition, as participation is on a first come-first serve basis. ■



Drone photo taken by Aaron Lestenkof showing some of the participant's new paint.

Tana̋-Unaa̋im Maqa̋singin (T-UM)

Aquilina Lestenkof, Director



(TUM) represents the ethnic interests of Aleut Community of St. Paul Island (ACSPI) members and functions as a department in the Tribal Government (TGSPi). TUM began with Resolution 2008-24 approved by the PIACSPI Council in June 2008. In February 2009 the TUM mission, goals and objectives were approved via Resolution 2009-21.

The TUM's Mission is to encourage the ACSPI members exercising and upholding the traditional values, beliefs, language, rituals, art, technology, dress, food gathering and preparing, spirituality, as well the diplomatic systems of the past, present and future of the ACSPI. Further, the TUM is to encourage quality and productive engagement amongst the citizens of Tanax Amix through traditional or modern means; be it through the arts, educational, technological or other sustaining means.

Unangam Tunuu (UT) Revitalization

was identified as a 'high priority' task in 2013. Five years later it is strategically being kept alive! We are not letting our guard down. Effort thus far is made up of four years in St. Paul Island School, four 12-week St. Paul Island Summer Language Intensives and three 10-day Unangam Tunuu Download Camps.

St. Paul Island School

UT in St. Paul Island School is alive and well and is woven together as intricately as an Aleut basket! **Anna Porath is the lead UT achigasnika̋ for elementary school.** Aquilina Lestenkof will join Anna in the 4th & 5th grade UT class. Anna has had awesome magician's assistants help her in the UT classroom! In turn, Anna, an exemplary member of the community, gets to angel adolescent community members providing opportunity for them to model UT speaking! What is a magician's assistant? It is a role that



Continues on page 16



OBJECTIVES

Supporting the TUM mission:

1. Inform the community regarding matters of cultural relevance.
2. Develop and implement curriculum utilizing the Unangax world-view and values.
3. Establish a local archive.
4. Ensure the history is conveyed.
5. Promote the practice of citizenship and productivity as a means of effective citizenship.
6. Pursue relevant means to keep Unangam Tunuu alive.
7. Pursue relevant means to keep Unangam arts alive.
8. Teach immediate survival skills based in the time-honorable Unangax culture. Develop and utilize modern means to advance and enhance knowledge of survival as Unangan.
9. Promote academic prosperity as a tool in advancing the Unangax culture.
10. Balance indigenous intuition, knowledge and wisdom with western science to guide human activities with the Island/ Sea ecology that nurtured Unangan and ways of life for thousands of years.
11. Seek and secure funds, grants, contracts to support programs and projects that fulfill TUM mission and objectives.
12. Communicate and work with local individuals working on relevant cultural projects.
13. Collaboratively communicate and work with Bering Sea Communities and associated cultural organizations on relevant issues and solutions that fulfill the PIACSPI TUM's mission and objectives.

The TUM is not always fully engaged in all of the stated objectives. The director is to stand aware of the mission, goals and objectives and guide the work of the TUM. An objective may take precedence over other objectives such as is happening with language revitalization.

a student in the Jr. High/High School Speaking Learning Teaching (HS SLT) class takes on when assisting. The HS SLT learns the WAYK ("Where Are Your Keys?") teaching techniques while learning and speaking UT. The goal is to build teachers. The HS SLT will implement two 5-minute immersion circles a week with preschoolers. The time will gradually increase within the present school year. **Linnae Kozloff and Teresa Baker are the HS SLT achigasnikax.** Linnae, another exemplary community member, leads the course, and meets with Anna to bridge activities between grades. **Teresa is taking the lead in planning UT immersion activities for infant-toddler (ages 0-3) and preschool (ages 3-5).** Teresa leads Unangam Tunuu Afterschool (UTA) in the school on Mondays and at the Community Advocacy Center on Wednesdays. In a new project (see the next page), Aquilina Lestenkof assists Teresa in the research and planning arena. Teresa, yet another exemplary community member is trailblazing a new path for St. Paul Island's youngest community members. It's a good thing she has her son Khovakuchaadaax to guide her. Children speaking UT in the community-priceless! **Kudos to the UT Weavers!**


The other strongholds of UT revitalization effort, the Summer Language Intensives (SLI) and Unangam Tunuu Download Camps (UTDC), advance the UT fluency momentum. Both allow for focused production and distribution of lessons, teaching and fluency by local citizens as well as those of sister Unanga communities.

Early Childhood UT Immersion Program

A three-year project titled Early Childhood UT Immersion Program (ECUTIP) funded by the Department of Education, Alaska Native Education Program commenced on September 17, 2018. It ends on 16 September 2021. The main project goal is to develop and implement plans, methods, strategies and activities to improve education outcomes of Alaska Natives of St. Paul Island. The second goal is to collect data to evaluate the teaching abilities and the UT fluency and comprehension of project participants. The third goal is to increase readiness for post secondary education/training through the use of Unangam Tunuu and culturally based interactions between the generation sectors of the community.

Year-by-year project tasks are as follows:

YEAR 1 (17 September 2018 to 16 September 2019)	YEAR 2 (17 September 2018 to 16 September 2019)	YEAR 3 (17 September 2020 to 16 September 2021)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop curricula and project component timelines• Visit 'successful' immersion programs sites• Continue fluency-building activities• Perform short immersion lessons for preschool-age children• Build teaching abilities of the HS-SLT and UTFB Teams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams HS-SLT and UTFB to perform gradual-paced implementation of immersion activities (1-2 hours) for preschool, 3 to 5 year old children• Build the collection of props needed to stimulate pretend play• Host UT acquisition and immersion theory activities for preschool teachers, infant-toddler (ages 0-3 years) caregivers and parents• Recruit and prepare elder fluent speakers for the intergenerational activities• Perform periodic assessments of school readiness• Informally evaluate the teaching skills of HS-SLT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The HS-SLT and UTFB teams are to implement half-day immersion activities for preschool-aged children• Implement Infant-Toddler (I-T) immersion in "English-free" pretend play periods along with and including interaction with the UTFB Team and Elder Fluent Speakers• Continue performing the assessments as done in Year 2

For the project objectives please contact Aquilina Lestenkof for the details: adlestenkof@aleut.com. You are most welcome to stop by the civic center and inquire into the UT revitalization mechanisms. Phone number: **907-546-2546**. Check out the UT-related photographs herein. 

ENTERPRISE SECTION

Larry Nutter, Store Manager

Aleut Community Store

This has been a year of transition with the purchase of our store. I am very proud of the team we have assembled to this point and now have in place a grocery manager Ben Bourdukofsky and a front end/ GM manager in Karen Chapman. Not only these two we have excellent associates who go above and beyond.

I can honestly say this is the best team I have ever worked with. I am proud of what they have become and the pride they have in our store. Going forward we will be transforming our store to the St. Paul people's history and culture.

Continues on page 18

2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

1. Vendors for GM and grocery.
2. Bringing in healthy choices section and will expand if this does well.
3. Bringing in over 500 new items and continuing to do so.
4. We have donated to causes such as bikes to the head start children. Easter egg hunt and much more.
5. Pay a fair wage to employees.
6. Give back to the community.
7. Keep the prices as low as possible which we have done.
8. Keep the profits here on the island for the people instead of sending to Canada.


Continued from page 17

This coming year is going to be exciting as many upgrades will be implemented in our store. New refrigeration and much more.

I want to thank the Tribe for all the support in making our store what it is today and what it will become in the Future. Very exciting time lay ahead for our store.

Bob Young is scheduled to arrive back in St. Paul December 6th. Bob helped me a lot when I first came here He will be here about 10 days to help with resets and new item research. Like a diabetic section to compliment our healthy food section.

Let's all welcome Bob back. Don't hesitate to say hello to Bob when he's here. Six years ago I remember Amos and Patrick had a dream and a burning desire to make the store here the Aleut people's store.

I am very proud of all that have contributed to our success this first year. 



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND PERSONAL WELLNESS & THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND PEACE

Charlene Naulty, Director



It has been a very productive year here at the Tribal Department of Health and Personal Wellness. We have held activities from Art as Therapy, Evacuation Day, Music Therapy for Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Sexual Assault Survivors, Traditional Healing Medicinal Plant Use, Traditional and Modern Art (Mural), Sobriety, Strengthening Advocacy Response to Victims of Violence, annual Color Run and Red Ribbon week to quarterly health fairs. We have been listening to the needs of the people we serve and are in the process of doing a Community Needs Assessment to address which services people have actively used and are phasing out the services people do not use to best use our funding and limited staff.

We are in the process of revamping our Substance Use Program by ensuring staff are trained in evidenced based trauma informed practices and ensuring that we have the processes and protocols in writing for seamless service.

Light of St. Paul Prayer

Bless the good efforts in St Paul on behalf of the children who feel hope that there can be peace between the adults and safety for them.

On behalf of those who are being hurt and abused that they find peace and healing.

On behalf of the long-suffering alcoholic and addict that they let their addiction fall away so they can walk free. On behalf of those who lived so deep in despair and depression no light could reach them.

Like a lone candle on a long and dark beach let the Light of St Paul reach out to the other candles, some long hidden, some lost, so, as we gather all those who share concerns and hope, we can light and re-light each other's. This September we will light all the candles on this island and there will be such radiance that we will be a beacon across the Bering Seas. And we will protect the light wherever we find it, throughout the longer nights of the coming winter.

Let this be our prayer.



Child Abuse Prevention Carnival

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. We hosted an annual **Light of St. Paul** event that consisted of a daytime carnival where community members got to play games that taught about different prevention methods, earn door prizes and eat lots of carnival foods; a dinner for parents where we recognized community members nominated as the "Lights", and a get together for the youth to give the parents a small break. We had a really good turn out and plan to continue this event into the foreseeable future.

What is the Light of St. Paul? For many of us there are many answers. For youth the light can be the person who sees them through the darkness and tough days, the person who never gives up hope and continues to motivate them when they have lost motivation themselves, it can be a career, vocational training, or job that is the beacon of hope that gets them through to the next stages in life. For those in recovery it can be the light at the end of the tunnel, the sobriety program, the AA meetings, the sober sponsor, the parent, sibling or other loved one that stayed when no ones else did. For elderly it can be the son, daughter, grandchild, or another that helps them through the aging process, the one who comes over and helps clean the house, does the grocery shopping, helps with medications and other responsibilities no longer remembered. Bottom line is we are all the Light in one way or another. Lets all shine bright so that we can guide the way for those who need a little extra help getting to their destination. Young, elderly, or just those needing a little extra love. ■

FOOD BANK

The food bank here in Saint Paul Island, Alaska is dedicated to eliminating hunger by providing services to those in need. Our role is to work with entities, such as the store and Trident, to salvage foods that would otherwise go to waste. We also collect food donated by community members, or any entity here on island. When community members, and entities in town help donate money, food, or time you are helping those who need it, such as families, children, and seniors. Our food bank runs Monday through Friday from 8-5, but we request calls in before noon. We deliver to elders and disabled, but for those who are able to pick the box themselves need to do so. We are doing our best to meet the demands of our community members, and we hope to improve in the future.



Continues on page 20

Sobriety and Wellness Celebration

Doug Modig

The Tribal Department of Personal Wellness hosted a Sobriety and Wellness Celebration on September 21, 2018 as part of honoring National Recovery Month. People in recovery spoke of their struggles and accomplishments in finding sobriety. Besides having about 6 speakers, there were a total of 87 at the community dinner. There were young people involved which brought hope to the Elders and other adult community members. One positive outcome has been a regularly attended AA recovery meeting (taking place every night Doug is in St. Paul from 7:30-8:30). The Light of Saint Paul Gathering taking place earlier this year has inspired people to step forward to share their positive actions to help others. It has attracted people to become involved, some who have never been part of community life. Throughout the winter, the program hopes to expand on this symbol to give hope and meaning to the young people.

The holidays can create a special kind of stress because many mistakenly believe that the holidays should be joyous and always happy. Providers know that many strive to do more than is realistic and deal with guilt and worry when those goals are not met. People want to get as many gifts as they feel they should but cannot afford everything. Even the feast of Thanksgiving can be challenging when one person cannot share with every relative or miss people who are unavailable through incarceration, medical or recently deceased. ■

Family Services Program Outreach

Linda Ayagarak-Daney

On October 5, 2018 St. Paul sponsored ICWA Potluck for the tribal partners located in Anchorage. The invited guests were Valerie Davidson, and Toni Mallott. The history behind this potluck is when I worked for AVCP as the ICWA Advocate, my office was in the Anchorage OCS office. I saw a need to bring Alaska Native and American Indian workers together

to support each other. Our first potluck was impromptu with just 5 of us on the floor of my office – Native Style Potluck. We each brought Native food, because that is what we do – soul food. That was the beginning of Native Potlucks monthly in the Anchorage OCS office that spilled over to invite minorities working there.



When I left my position, they continued the potlucks, but soon lagged. When I returned to the Child Protection field in my current capacity, we restarted the potlucks but named it ICWA Potlucks.

In September I attended the Trauma Informed Care Conference in Anchorage and met up with Valerie Davidson and Toni Mallott. It was then we mentioned that we were planning an ICWA Potluck, and they were both very interested. So, we invited them – my partners were Sheila Randazzo from Kawarek, and Eva Kapotak from BBNA.

During the week of the potluck, Valerie contacted me and said she was unable to come to the potluck after all because the governor needed her to travel with him. Toni Mallot had scheduled to attend the Clan Potlatch in southeast Alaska.

Our ICWA Potluck was well attended with the local tribal partners, and the statewide ICWA Coordinator Casey Groat, and Amos Philemonoff who happened to be in Anchorage. We will continue our potlucks rotating the location every time. This is an excellent way to support our fellow child protection workers who are Natives in this field. ■

Behavioral Health Aide

Serafima Merculieff

I work as a Behavioral Health Aide (BHA) Trainee in the Personal Wellness Division. Since entering my position, I have been provided the opportunity to continue my education by taking online college courses through Ilisagvik College. Ilisagvik College is located in Barrow Alaska. Together the Ilisagvik College and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium (ANTHC) sponsored their first group of eight BHA trainees and I am a part of that group. This is exciting as they had a new cohort of trainees start the program this past August in communities throughout Alaska.

My main focus has been on the youth in our community. Recent activities have been to assist with Red Ribbon Week activities at the school and I have also scheduled activities at the Community Advocacy Center starting in September. I have offered youth to make friendship bracelets, macramé a small bag, paint and decorate cans for pencils, pens, markers, hi-liters, etc., and crochet a small basket for trinkets or small object. My upcoming arts and crafts at the Community Advocacy Center are: Beauty and the Beast rose, Tree of Life project where they will draw a tree and decorate by gluing buttons on as ornaments for older youth; Tree of Life where they will cut out a tree and temporarily tape onto a paper and thumb paint around the outline of the tree for younger youth. Later in December I will have the youth make party favors with toilet paper rolls decorated with Christmas gift wrap and fill with candy.

I have been preparing a cooking manual for approval to begin life skills classes surrounding cooking. This will be done with older youth (13 – 25) to go over in detail how to prepare for cooking and using the proper utensil's, pots and pans, basic instructions on how to set a table. How to prepare for meal time and dinner etiquette. The youth who participate will receive a certificate at the end of the 6-8 weeks life skills cooking classes. I will be requesting parents of participating youth volunteer to assist me with the cooking classes. For more information on the classes themselves or to volunteer, or to donate food for please call me at 907-546-8306. ■

Youth Tribal Council

The Youth Tribal Council (YTC) has been steadily working towards opening a coffee shop on the island. Aubrey started working with the Council in the beginning of the year to write a business plan for APICDA's Aleutian Marketplace Business Plan Contest. The YTC was chosen as one of three finalists to present their plan. Katrina kindly traveled out and was awarded 3rd place, giving the Council a nice start towards achieving their long-held dream of operating a coffee shop.

The shop, Kufinika, is in the works and will be partnered with Kaladi Brothers Coffee! A goal the council has for Kufinika is that it will not only provide a welcoming fun environment for community to connect with great coffee and smoothies, it is hoped that it will provide employment opportunities for their peers and community; be it through trying their hand at being a barista or partnering to sell baked goods.

Sometime soon there will be a logo contest held for the coffee shop, keep a lookout for the flier!

The council is always welcoming members, if you are 25 and younger and interested in getting involved with the Youth Tribal Council to be active and a voice for your peers, please call 546-8303 or stop by the clinic and talk to Aubrey. ■

Traditional Healer Haa Jooni

Some of you might know we had the pleasure of bringing a Traditional Healer (Haa Jooni) Meda DeWitt out for the last few days of Bering Sea Days. While here Meda was able to teach classes on Traditional Healing practices such as: Community Plant Identification/Traditional and Modern Uses, Light Body Touch, Teaching Circles, and Energy work not only to the public but also to the Tribal clinic staff. Meda DeWitt is from Wasilla and has been doing medicinal plant work for a handful of years. Before she made it to St. Paul, Meda put together an event for berry picking in the Anchorage/Wasilla area. Not knowing why, the berries haven't grown so much this year, or even at all. Luckily, she

Continues on page 22



Traditional Healer, Meda DeWitt, taught classes on community plant identification / traditional and modern uses, light body touch, teaching circles and energy work.

was able to get a total of 7-gallon sized zip lock bags! 4 of which was used during Bering Sea Days to make jelly and pies with the kids. The last 3 were used for those who came to the salve making class and the rest to the elder food program.

The first class she taught was energy work and light body touch with the staff. The energy work was about getting the energy within your body back into alignment. The light body touch was for when your muscle is giving off too much energy and releasing it from that area. The salve part of her contract included using some local plants and making plant-based rub to help with body aches and so much more. Those who went to the class were able to get 2 jars for themselves and a bag of berries that Meda had brought back. The rest of the jars she had made will be given out to elders and those who show up for the mini-health fair that'll be held by the Victim Services Program. ■

Aleut Journey

Samantha Zacharof

In July of 2018 I had the honor of being one of 4 people sent to the state of Washington to partner with the Suquamish Indian Tribe as they participated in the Power Paddle to Puyallup. We met up with the Suquamish Paddlers at Birch Bay State Park. On this day, there was a gathering but most of the ground crew was set up on the Lummi Reservation. The people from St. Paul were lucky enough to have a fellow Unangan living in the area and were graciously accepted into the home of Becky Bendixen. The next day the Canoes from Suquamish paddled from Birch Bay to Lummi. When the canoes are arriving on the beaches of these Reservations it gives you a warm feeling in your body. There is singing and people asking for permission to come ashore in their native language, the canoes are welcomed to come on shore to have something to eat and join in on dancing for the night.

Depending on the tides the next day, both for the reservation they are leaving and the one that they are going to, the captains decide when the best time to take off from the shores in a captains meeting that is set for every night before travel. After every day of paddle there is protocol, this is where the tribes get together and celebrate by song and dance. Along the way there more canoes joining the group that are traveling. This year Suquamish had a new support barge named the Challacum, this was the biggest support vessel on the Journey. During protocol at Lummi, the skipper of the support barge, and my uncle, Chuck Wagner was honored by a tribe that almost lost their canoe when the tides came in, Chuck and his crew recovered the canoe and returned it to shore. During this trip we made 9 landings, all the landings

Continues on page 23

CHILD CARE UPDATE

Jalean Mallett



The Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) is a federal and state partnership program authorized under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) and administered by states, territories, and tribes with funding and support from the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Child Care. States use CCDF to provide financial assistance to low-income families to access child care, so they can work or attend a job training or educational program. The CCDF program helps fund child care assistance for 1.4 million children, under age 13, each month. In addition, states use the CCDF to invest in quality to benefit millions more children by building the skills and qualifications of the teacher workforce, supporting child care programs to achieve higher standards, and providing consumer education to help parents select child care that meets their families' needs. Currently St. Paul Tribal Government is using our CCDF funds for the after-school program.

Continued from page 22



were good, but I have to say my favorite is always going to be in Suquamish. The people of the Suquamish Indian Tribe have always treated me like family, and they did so with my fellow travelers; Jacob Merculief, Johnney Fratis, and Teresa Baker. While in Suquamish, Chuck Wagner offered Jacob, Johnney and Teresa a place to stay at the Veteran's House, of course I stayed with family while I was there. After Suquamish, there was two soft landings before landing at Puyallup. There was over a hundred canoes that landed in Puyallup, and there was over 8 days of Protocol. Some days of Protocol lasted well into the night. Puyallup was a gracious host with a lot of good food, a safe place to camp, and a lot of song and dance. The last Canoe Journey I went on was in 2006, but on this Journey, I was able to experience more of what it has to offer. This was an experience I will not forget easily, and I am happy I had to the opportunity to participate. ■

SAFESTAR

Chelsea Lekanof



Hello all, I went on a trip to Tucson, Arizona for Advanced SAFESTAR training in September 2018. While I was there, I was also presented with my SAFESTAR certificate from 2017. It was a very nice ceremony and felt good to be recognized as one of only a few trained SAFESTAR Advocates in the State of Alaska with the others being from here, St. Paul Island. Many of you likely don't know that St. Paul is currently the only operating SAFESTAR location here in the State of Alaska SAFESTAR is a unique model of care that draws upon the strength and resilience of Indigenous women to put an end to sexual violence, while also providing compassionate and holistic care for women and teen victims. Specially selected and qualified Native women learn the skills necessary to: Deliver emergency first aid

Continues on page 24

to sexual assault survivors; Provide referrals for follow-up care (medical or other); Educate communities on the harm caused by sexual violence, as well as leading the way to healthy and respectful ways of living; Collect sexual assault forensic evidence ("rape kits") to promote accountability for the perpetrators.

What is a SAFESTAR? A SAFESTAR is a specially selected woman (or selected man) who has successfully completed the intensive 40-hour SAFESTAR training course. She is trained and qualified to provide emergency first aid, health care referrals, ongoing support, and forensic examinations to sexual assault victims. SAFESTARs also take a stand against sexual violence in their communities and support all victims of sexual violence.

There are many other benefits to having SAFESTARs that are on island, that include not needing to go to Anchorage for evidence collection and initial interviews. The SAFESTARs will be a part of the Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) made up of



a team of experts to lead the victim and the case through the system. We currently have five SAFESTAR advocates with St. Paul Island being the first ever site to have a male SAFESTAR. If you or someone you know is a victim of sexual assault, please consider reaching out to an advocate by calling the crisis line at 907-546-4189. 