

# UNANGAN TIDE

Spring Issue 2017

## Special points of interest:

- APJA hires Cheyanne Shaishnikoff for ICWA position! Congrats Cheyanne!
- Survey Drawing Winners:  
**\$50 Prizes:** Peter Galaktionoff, Jana Lekanoff, AJ Bereskin  
**\$25 Prizes:** Cyri Thompson, Laresa Syverson, Adam Shapnikoff Sr., Bill Shaishnikoff, Charlene Shaishnikoff.

⇒ (Refer to the [Short Announcements](#) on pg. 2 for more info on the drawing)

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## Alaska Department of Environment and Conservation



Last November the Qawalangin Tribe met with representatives from ADEC and EPA in Anchorage to discuss water quality issues here in Unalaska Bay. During the meeting the Qawalangin Tribe urged the EPA and ADEC to take responsibility for protecting water quality and public health in Unalaska. They indicated that a public meeting in the community

would help alleviate some of the burden placed on the tribe to address water quality and related food security and public health issues. The best time to visit the community was during the A season in January/February. Therefore, on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>, Michelle Hale and Clynda Case of ADEC travelled to Unalaska to meet with the

community and tribal members. Topics that were discussed were the Onshore Seafood Processing General Permit and tribal concerns about seafood processing waste in Unalaska Bay. During their time in Unalaska the ADEC reps were impressed by the public's concerns and knowledge of the issues. The tribe is preparing comments for the upcoming comment period later this summer. If you have questions or concerns about seafood processing waste and how it may impact our bay, call us at the tribe and we can make sure all comments and concerns are addressed.

## SHARC Cards Survey

By Leticia Pureza  
*Environmental Coordinator*

Jones Bronwyn from the department of Fish and Game will be in town April 7<sup>th</sup> – April 12<sup>th</sup> doing SHARC card follow up surveys. Those who have not returned their SHARC

2016 permits will be contacted to fill out the survey. For this survey, she will need assistance from one or two locals who are familiar with the community. Training will be provided on April 7<sup>th</sup> and the pay is \$100 for the training plus \$15 per survey completed. The

goal is to train local people, have them accompany her while doing surveys and then leave them in charge of finishing up the survey efforts. If you are interested in helping, contact the tribe at (907) 581-2920.



## Tom Robinson, President of the Qawalangin Tribe



By Chris Price  
*Environmental Director*

Get to know your President! Thomas Robinson is the elected President of the Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska. He was recently elected to the National Tribal Operations Committee (NTOC) for EPA's Alaska Seat. As the NTOC representative, Tom seeks to address environmental capacity

building, conservation goals, and fisheries resource protection for all Alaskan tribes. Tom will be giving a presentation at the Tribal Leaders Summit in Port Gamble on March 30th, hosted by the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe addressing a national audience. He will be discussing the long-term health of Unalaska Bay and the work being done by the tribe to address environmental concerns. He is also the Aleutian Regional Representative for the Alaska Tribal Budget Advisory Committee, addressing statewide unmet needs assessments with the BIA and the Department of Interior. He is the Qawalangin Tribe

representative tasked with addressing current "Land into Trust" issues. He serves on the Unalaska Native Fisherman's Association and is on the Board of Directors of the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association. Tom also serves on the Aleutian Islands Risk Assessment Committee. Tom has over 30 years of commercial fishing experience and is a small business owner. Tom encourages tribal member input at all levels.

For more information call 907-581-2920, or email

[unalaskatribepres@gmail.com](mailto:unalaskatribepres@gmail.com)



*"Camp  
Qungaayux is  
happening again  
and this year we  
are celebrating  
our 20th  
anniversary!"*



## Short Announcements

By Robin Waldron  
and Leticia Pureza

### Free Tax Preparation

The Tribe worked with other sponsors to bring the Alaska Business Development Center Volunteer Tax and Loan Program to Unalaska. They were in town March 24-26. We hope you had a chance to enjoy this free service.

### Survey Drawing Winners

At the 2016 Qawalangin Tribe's Annual meeting, a survey was available to the Tribal Membership and was our first stage to developing a Tribal Strategic Plan that identifies long and short term vision and achieving goals. Those who completed the survey had their names automatically entered into our Drawing. Congratulations to the winners!

### New ICWA hire n Unalaska

In early March of 2017, APIA hired Cheyanne Shaishnikoff to work for ICWA in the Unalaska field office and she is currently receiving training in Anchorage. Cheyanne was raised in Unalaska, and we believe she will be great for this position as she has already begun pursuing her Bachelors in Social Work at UAA, and this is the field she feels passionate about.

## Camp Qungaayux Raffle

By Leticia Pureza  
*Environmental Coordinator*

Camp Qungaayux is happening again and this year we are celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary! The dates for camp are July 30– August 5 and registration has already opened. The Tribal Council and Tribal staff are now selling raffle tickets to raise money for

Camp. The drawings will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> during the O.C banquet and you do NOT need to be present to win! The 6 batches of prizes are as follows: **Batch 1:** Necklace, Sweatshirt, Book, and 15 lbs of Cod; **Batch 2:** Jacket, Brunch for 2, Annual Pass Family Permit, and Basket of Jams; **Batch 3:** 15 lbs of Cod, Kuspuk, Tea pot, and Shadow Box; **Batch 4:** Print, Book,

Blueberry Pie, and Unangan Doll; **Batch 5:** Gravel, Afagan, VHF, and 15 lbs of Cod; **Batch 6:** Oils and Soaps, Book, Unangan Headdresses, and Print. Tickets are \$20 each and they are available at the tribal office, or with the Tribal Council and staff. They will also be available on April 1<sup>th</sup> at Safe-way during the youth bake sale.

**JOIN US IN UNALASKA**  
- June 2-4, 2017 -

As we commemorate the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Dutch Harbor on June 3 & 4, 1942 and the evacuation and relocation of the Aleut residents of the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands to Southeast Alaska.

- EVENTS INCLUDE -  
MEMORIAL CEREMONY Honoring and Acknowledging Veterans & Aleut Evacuees  
- HISTORICAL PRESENTATIONS - TRADITIONAL ALEUT FOODS LUNCHEON  
- PERSONAL STORIES - MESS HALL MEAL - TOURS OF WWII FORTS & BUNKERS  
- FLYOVERS BY HISTORIC AIRCRAFT

For more information, contact Lydia Gordon, Unalaska Corporation, at (907) 581-1276, or Rachel Mason, National Park Service, at (907) 644-3472.

In collaboration with the National Park Service, the Unalaska Corporation, along with the City of Unalaska, Museum of the Aleutians, Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, the Alaska Veterans Museum, the Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association, the Qawalangin Tribe, and The Aleut Corporation.

*Ad courtesy of the Unalaska/Port of Dutch Harbor Convention & Visitors Bureau, artwork by Sabrina Wilt.*

## Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Bombing of Dutch Harbor and Aleut Evacuation

By Shayla Shaishnikoff

*Newsletter Editor*

Many members of the community have grown up listening to solemn tales of the Aleut evacuation and internment, and some of our community members have lived through it. This year marks the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the Unangaġ people have experienced war on home soil, and this is the year we celebrate our strength.

In the year of 1942, 881 people from nine Aleutian villages were evacuated from their homes and transported to Southeast Alaska by the United States military. Despite these tragic events and losses of loved ones, the Unangaġ survivors have proven their might by continuing to pass down our culture and way of life. The wisdom of our elders is invaluable, and this commemoration is a way for all of us to honor them and their stories.

As we prepare for the Commemoration, we will be interviewing and writing articles on Unangaġ survivors of the WWII internment. We understand this can be a difficult topic for many to talk about, but this crucial and important piece of our history deserves to be acknowledged. If you are, or know of, an Elder who might be interested in sharing their story, please contact me, Shayla Shaishnikoff, at the Anchorage APICDA office: 907.929.5273. Qaġaasakung!

The Commemoration of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bombing of Dutch Harbor will be held from Friday, June 2 through Sunday, June 4 and all are encouraged to attend.

## Meet our Youth Group



By Leticia Pureza  
*Environmental Coordinator*

The Alaska Youth for Environmental Action (AYEA) is a State-Wide youth organization [1]. UCSD has an Unalaska chapter advised by Mr. Holloway. The Qawalangin Tribe Youth Environmental Leadership Council

(QT-YELC) joined the AYE group and Leticia Pureza plays the role of QT-YELC advisor.

This year, the group is focusing on the Save Our Salmon (S.O.S) campaign as a statewide effort, and promoting a cleaner Unalaska as a local effort. Through the S.O.S campaign, the youth are collecting signatures for petitions to stop the Chuitna Coal Mine. If approved, this project would set a dangerous precedent for salmon streams and rivers in Alaska [1].

The group has already organized a beach clean-up in December of 2016 (see picture). They also

plan to participate on the Annual Community clean-up in May and, possibly, organize an additional clean-up. The group will also have a **bake sale at Safeway on April 1**. All funds will be returned to the community as a group environmental activity.

High-Schoolers: this is a great way to log in your community volunteer hours if you need them! The group meets twice a month on Mondays during lunch break (12:25 pm – 12: 55pm) in Mr. Holloway’s classroom. Pizza is provided for lunch. All youth are welcome to participate.

Source: [1] <http://akcenter.org/ayea>



## APICDA 2017 Summer Internship at the Tribe

By Leticia Pureza  
*Environmental Coordinator*

The Tribe is excited to inform that APICDA is helping us fund 2 intern positions for the Summer of 2017: A Summer Environmental Intern and a Summer Office Assistant Intern. The pay rate will be \$18/hour and \$16/hour, respectively. These positions will

start on May 22<sup>nd</sup> and end on August 11<sup>th</sup> of 2017 and they are open to any Unalaska Resident.

Are you an Unalaska Resident coming home from college for the summer of 2017? Check out this amazing opportunity:

For job applicants who are also recipients of the Emil Berikoff Sr. Memorial Scholarship, they

will be eligible for the \$2,000 APICDA Work Invest Now Scholarship (WINS). Such applicants must be in good standing with their scholarship and complete the internship in good standing in order to qualify.

For more information on these job opportunities and to download a job application, go to our website— [qawalangintribe.com](http://qawalangintribe.com)

“APICDA is helping us fund 2 intern positions for the summer of 2017!”

## WAISC in Unalaska



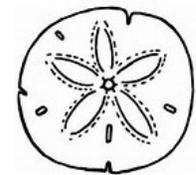
By Leticia Pureza  
*Environmental Coordinator*

The annual Western Alaska Interdisciplinary Science Conference and Forum (WAISC) will be held in Unalaska this year. It will be on April 26-29 at the Grand Aleutian. Please see the short overview by Melissa Good, from

the Alaska Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program: “Western Alaska is experiencing a period of rapid change. Temperatures are warming, the ocean is becoming more acidic, and species are shifting in time and space. Environmental and economic fluctuations caused by a changing environment lead to risks, threats, and impacts, but change can also bring opportunities and new developments/transformations. WAISC seeks to bring scientists, resource manag-

ers, industry experts, fishery business enthusiasts, seafood product development/safety specialists and resource users together to share the state-of-the-science, the latest innovations in technology, and local observations, and to discuss the needs and concerns of each stakeholder group.”

Tribal staff will be in attendance and members are welcome to participate. For more information: <https://seagrant.uaf.edu/events/waisc/2017/>





The Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska, a federally recognized sovereign nation of the United States since 1989, vows to exercise its powers to further the economic and social well-being of all its members, and in doing so, will safeguard and support the Unangan language, culture, customs and traditions for those generations to come.

[Find us on the web!](http://www.qawalangintribe.com)  
[www.qawalangintribe.com](http://www.qawalangintribe.com)  
[Like us on Facebook!](#)  
 Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska



Hours of Operation:

Mon-Fri: 9-5pm  
 (closed 12-1 for lunch)  
 Sun & Sat: Closed

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 Dutch Harbor, Alaska 99692

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## Announcements

- April 1<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Youth Group bake sale at Safeway. Camp Q. Raffle Tickets will be available for purchase as well.
- April 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Tribal Council and Administrative staff out of the Island for Self-Governance Workshop. Office service might be limited.
- April 20<sup>th</sup>, May 25<sup>th</sup>, June 29<sup>th</sup> – Regular Council Monthly Meeting. Tribal members are welcome to attend. Dates are subject to change.
- April 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> of 2017 - 10<sup>th</sup> WAISC in Unalaska. Environmental staff hours at the Tribe might be limited.
- May 1<sup>st</sup> – Application for GCI \$1,000 Scholarship for Graduating Seniors Due. For more information contact local GCI store.
- June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> of 2017 - Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of the Bombing of Dutch Harbor and Aleut Evacuation.
- Environmental Assistant Part Time Job available to start now.
- 2 summer jobs available through the Tribe.
- Tribal Council and the Tribal staff are selling Camp Q. Raffle tickets. You can also purchase them at the Tribal office.

## Closing

Thank you everyone for reading our Spring Issue of the Unangan Tide! We hope this newsletter will serve as an efficient way of keeping our community and tribal members up to speed on our most recent efforts. Keep your eye out for our Summer Issue, coming out in July of 2017!

**Qaḡaasakung!**

