We are excited to announce that we are wrapping up the Qaqamiigux film series! This series explored how to harvest and prepare traditional foods from the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands and used footage obtained from several culture camps in the region. We are currently developing short guides that will accompany each film and highlight some of the content included in the film.

The films in this series include:
- Seine Fishing at Camp Qunagayux
- Ahgaš / Saranaš (The Chocolate Lily): How to Harvest, Prepare, & Preserve
- How to Butcher Iتخ (Reindeer)
- How to Prepare Boiled Fish Heads
- How to Cook Octopus
- How to Butcher Kasamix (Common Eider Duck)
- How to Make Salve from Traditional Unangaš Plants
- Hunting Qawat (Sea Lion) in Unalaska & Atka
- How to Harvest Slukam Saamlangin (Seagull Eggs) in Akutan
- Harvesting Bidarki in Atka and Sand Point

Our final film will be a video short explaining how important the sea lion is in Unangaš culture and it will also provide an outline of how the sea lion is traditionally butchered in the region. It has been an honor to produce these videos alongside our cultural mentors, Sally Swetzof and Moses Dirks, as well as others. We are pleased that these videos are available to watch on many social media platforms as well as on our website: https://www.apiai.org/community-services/traditional-foods-program/videos/
Our Spring Board meeting is scheduled for April 11 – 14, 2022. I wanted to share some highlights from my report to the Board.

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate & COVID-19 Case Update Currently 87% of our Anchorage and 84% of our field staff are fully vaccinated. We have approved 13 medical and religious exemptions. Since the December meeting, we have had seven positive COVID cases and 11 close contacts; all have completed their isolation and returned to work. As a result of our COVID protocols, all positive cases came from outside the office and did not spread to other employees.

Self-Governance – ARPA & CARES Funds If your tribe needs assistance with planning to spend their American Rescue Plan (ARPA) funds, please reach out to Margaret Galovin, Self-Governance Coordinator, for assistance. The funds tribes received directly from the Treasury have a sunset date. Like the CARES funds, if they are not spent on time, you will have to return them. The compacting tribes also have BIA ARPA funds still on the books here at APIA. These do not have the spending deadline as the ones from Treasury, however, when Congress sees we have funds left unspent, it diminishes the impact of our requests for additional funding. We realize Tribes are very busy with all the COVID related funding needing to be spent down, so we just want you to know Margaret is here to help.

ICWA/Family Programs New Case Management System Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of our ICWA and Family Programs, we were not able to report much detail of the work they do. Last year, we started using a new case management system and are already seeing the benefits. On a Supervisory level, the coordinator can now see the number of intakes, cases, children, and families at a glance, which allows for more accurate reporting on State and Federal Grants. This system will help not only in reporting efforts but also to monitor the cases on behalf of our families.

VPSO Program Update – Army Skill Bridge Program Our VPSO Coordinator, Michael Nemeth, has been working with the Army Skill Bridge Program for the last six months. This internship program allows soldiers within the 6-month window of being honorably discharged the ability to intern in a job they would like to work in once out of the Army. In addition, this program is cost-free to the organization receiving the intern. We will be having the first Army intern in the region this May, in False Pass. He will be the first in the statewide VPSO Program. We are excited about giving Army veterans an opportunity to work as a VPSO in our region.

Healthy Relationship Team (HeaRT) Program The Healthy Relationship Team is a relatively new program within the Health Department, Community Health Services. Services focus on domestic violence prevention, direct care for victims of violent crime and a special focus on services for women who have been victimized. HeaRT meets biweekly with the Cultural Heritage Department to strengthen our joint efforts to assist victims of crime. Our two Advocates are available to assist individuals living in St.
George, Atka, Nikolski, Unalaska, King Cove, and individuals who have relocated to Anchorage from the region. Between all of the programs that APIA has for victims of crime, services can be available throughout the region.

Unalaska Head Start Facility Update
All interior perimeter walls have been prepared for painting; finishing Carpentry to begin after walls are painted; plumbing of mechanical system installed; and installation of movable interior walls is scheduled for mid-March. Weather delays and cancellations of flights have hampered the timing of construction schedule. The updated completion date is April 5th. We continue to appreciate the fine work of our Architectural firm of LCG Lantech and Construction Contractor and crew of Wolverine Supply, Inc. We also continue to appreciate the working relationship with the Qawalangin Tribe; Chris Salts, CEO of the Ounalashka Corporation; and team; and Vince Tutiakoff, Mayor of the City, and their staff. We very much appreciate Ken Selby, as our lead consultant overseeing this project since Paula resigned. He has done well. We also thank Mark and Bonnie for their work on this project.

Urban UnangaCulture Camp
By June, we are hopeful to be able to open things up from the COVID protocols and we are moving forward with planning for the 2022 Urban UnangaCulture Camp scheduled for June 19-24. Applications will be available in April on our website!

Tribal Culture Camp Donations With our Bingo funds increasing back to pre-COVID levels, in December, the Unangax Heritage Association (UHA) Board approved a Cultural Donation to be sent to all 13 tribes in the amount of $10,000. We plan to send these checks out by the end of April. These funds may be used for a local Culture Camp or any other Cultural or Elder Activity. If you don’t mind sharing some pictures with us, we would love to see them to put on our Facebook page or you can email them to me at dimitrip@apiai.org or send them to our office as well.

Department of Justice – Cultural Program
This program allows us, through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), to provide Tribes with $10,000 annually (2021–2025) to support cultural gatherings for victims of crime. The following have signed the MOU and we were able to send their checks out in January: King Cove, Akutan, Atka, Belkofski, Qagan Tayagungin, Qawalangin and Unga Tribes. If you haven’t received your funds yet or if you have any questions, please contact Millie Jackson, CHD Director.

Max Lestenkof Passing – Memory Eternal
Our dear Max Lestenkof passed away December 15th and his funeral service was held December 20th at the St. Innocent Russian Orthodox Cathedral. Max was hired in 1999 and worked in many roles throughout his time with us. Max provided advocacy, transportation services, alcohol and substance abuse counseling and countless words of support, guidance and prayers to many over his 23 years of service to the region. He was devoted to his faith, family and music, which he so generously shared with others. He is greatly missed by us all. Our prayers are with his wife, Zoya, and loved ones. Memory Eternal.
FOOD SECURITY & CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION SYMPOSIUM

The Wellness & Environmental Health Services programs will be co-hosting a Food Security and Climate Change Adaptation Symposium scheduled for three full days on April 12-14, 2022 with options for both in-person and virtual attendance.

We will share information to enhance regional food system partnerships, address food security concerns, and introduce tools for community climate adaptation planning with a focus on regional fisheries models. We have invited staff from all of our Aleut tribes, especially their environmental departments, as well as regional community and tribal members, public employees, and select agency representatives.

If you are interested in attending in person or virtually, please contact Karen Pletnikoff (karenp@apiai.org, 1-800-478-2742, ext. 286) or Suanne Unger (sueu@apiai.org, 1-800-478-2742, ext. 215) for registration forms or for any additional questions.

We are hopeful that public and organizational COVID19 protocols will continue to allow for in-person participation, but are making backup plans for a fully virtual symposium as well!

Qa’gaasakung!
APIA Signs Letter of Support for Creation of Food Security Task Force  Eating a healthy diet is directly connected to our overall well-being, especially later in life. Unfortunately, many community members in our region face unique challenges to maintaining access to nutritious, affordable foods due to our geographic isolation. With this in mind, APIA recently signed a letter in support of HB 298, a bill promoting the creation of a Food Security Task Force in Alaska. The main goal of this multidisciplinary task force is to “improve food security for the long-term benefit of Alaska’s communities, economy, and environment”.

The Alaska Food Security Task Force seeks to take advantage of Alaska’s strengths and provide sound, data driven policy recommendations to grow our food system. It will do so by providing policy, legislation, and implementation strategy recommendations for strengthening Alaska’s food systems in six integrated focus areas:
1) Sustainably growing the agriculture industry;
2) Sustainably growing markets for locally grown, locally harvested, and locally processed foods;
3) Enhancing the climate for food and beverage businesses;
4) Minimizing food waste and diverting it from the waste stream;
5) Improving connectivity, efficiencies, and outcomes in state-run programs affecting food availability and access; and
6) Ensuring food security in rural and urban communities

The task force created by HB 298 will allow for broad representation among stakeholders of the Alaska food system while also giving communities throughout our region a voice at the table. The formation of a robust food security task force stands to greatly enhance Alaska’s food system, thereby enhancing the Aleutian Pribilof Island Region’s food system. We are enthusiastic about the research and projects that HB 298 will provide for us.

Elder Health Aides to Take on Case Management for Elders As the APIA Elder Health Aide team grows, case management services for Elders will now be available through the Elder Health Aides. Elder Health Aides are training to be able to take on case management services for Elders, their families and their caregivers. While the focus of the Elder Health Aide positions remains on caregiver support, it has become growingly evident that there is a high demand and need for case management support for Elders as well. Case management services can take on a different form depending on need, but typically look like service application support, obtaining durable medical equipment, and supporting families through a transition of care (i.e. home to facility), among others. The APIA Elder Care Services Team is happy to add this service as an additional support in keeping our Elders safe, healthy and happy within the communities of their choice.

Fall Prevention Items for Elders Arrived at Clinics The Elder fall prevention items have all arrived at each community clinic throughout the region. These items were unfortunately caught in the shipping delay challenges felt throughout the pandemic. Items such as all-terrain walkers, grab bars, ice cleats, non-slip shower mats, shower chairs, motion sensor lights and other items were sent out. All the items have been received by each clinic and boxes came directly from the supply vendors contracted by Indian Health Services. Please reach out to your community clinic if you are in need of any fall prevention items for an Elder.
APIA received a grant through the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums (ATALM) American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Native Institutions. This grant opportunity is intended to help Native Cultural Institutions to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and provide humanities programming to communities. Funds were provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as part of the American Rescue Plan Act.

Funds support the Unangax Basketry Project: Preserving Aleut Culture through Exhibition, Programming, and Object Documentation. APIA will contract cultural knowledge experts and a local conservator to develop a virtual exhibition featuring 32 baskets from our collection. Images of the baskets and interpretive information collected will support an online exhibit. Public programming will include virtual workshops for tribal community members interested in sharing ways to care for Unangax cultural objects.

“COVID-19 hit Tribal communities particularly hard. The pandemic is not only responsible for the loss of culture keepers, Native language speakers, elders, and government leaders, but also the closure of cultural institutions, furloughed staff, and reduced programming,” said ATALM President Susan Feller. “This opportunity will provide much-needed financial support and create humanities-based programs that bring cultural practitioners and the public together in a dialogue that embraces the civic and cultural life of Native communities.”

Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association, Inc. was selected by an independent Peer Review Committee and is one out of 84 awardees to receive funding. Other awardees representing 25 states include Tribal governments and Native nonprofit organizations, as well as higher education institutions and non-native nonprofit organizations working in partnership with state or federally recognized tribal entities. A total of $3.26 million was granted. A list of grantees is available at www.atalm.org

“The National Endowment for the Humanities is grateful to the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums for the association’s important work in administering American Rescue Plan funding to help Native American cultural institutions recover from the pandemic,” said NEH Chair Shelly C. Lowe (Navajo). “These grants provide valuable humanities resources to tribal communities and represent a lifeline to the many Native heritage sites and cultural centers that are helping preserve and educate about Indigenous history, traditions, and languages.”

If you would like to register for one of our virtual workshops, please email Darian LaTocha, Library Service Coordinator, at darianl@apiai.org or 907-276-2700.

Currently there are 2,984 children in foster care across Alaska, and 1,985 of those children are Alaska Native Children. That is a 67% disproportionality rate. These are alarming numbers, and often, these children are placed in “out-of-preference” placements. This means non-relative, non-native placements. Foster homes are desperately needed to support these children in maintaining connections to culture. Contact Amanda McAdoo for more information.
Elder Program

Elder Congregate Meal Sites Prevail through Pandemic Challenges and Welcome New VISTA Member

The Elder congregate meal sites have been faced with ongoing challenges throughout the pandemic to include, shipping delays for food, local mandates and quarantine requirements to keep community members safe, transitioning from in-person to delivery and facility maintenance challenges. We are so proud to announce that through all the challenges, the Elder congregate meal sites will remain in operation and continue to serve our Elders lunch. In addition, the Elder Care Services team is eager to welcome our newest member of the team, Jamaan Parker, as the Elder Meal Service Developer VISTA. Jamaan will be supporting further growth of the Elder congregate meal program to ensure more communities are converted from the food box program to a sit-down congregate meal program. This will include coordinating and identifying a meal site, hiring a cook, and ensuring proper health, safety and sanitation guidelines are followed for serving meals. Jamaan will also work closely with Meals on Wheels to ensure there is proper funding for the growth of congregate meal sites.

Caregiver Support Groups Begin with the Elder Care Services Team

The APIA Elder Care Services Team will now be hosting caregiver support groups virtually on every other Monday and Wednesday. The APIA Elder Health Aides (EHA) will facilitate each support group to ensure caregivers of Elders and individuals with memory challenges have a safe space to share amongst other caregivers. The EHAs will ensure participants are connected to resources and have the opportunity to work through challenges and find solutions to common challenges caregivers face.

If you or someone you know may be interested in participating in the caregiver support groups please email Amanda Thomas at Amandat@apiai.org or Lorraine Thomas at Lorrainet@apiai.org.

We are very excited to report that our mobile clinic is complete and will be shipped to Unalaska this spring! The Mobile Clinic will be used for future vaccine and testing events, homebound patients, health fairs, and any other health related event.

Our ETR Team has worked hard to secure funding to enable us to provide access to appointments, job interviews, and other transportation needs for eligible participants of our 477 and Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation Programs!
APIA’s Wellness Program has been fortunate to receive cancer prevention funds from ANTHC, and this has provided a great opportunity to increase cancer prevention programming in the region. One of the areas the Wellness Program chose to focus on was highlighting the importance of routine screenings for cancer prevention.

To increase awareness on routine screenings, the Wellness Program and Primary Care Services collaborated to create regionally and culturally relevant brochures and posters for APIA clinics and to develop a challenge around getting screened. Routine screenings can prevent and/or detect cancer and chronic diseases. The brochures and posters not only share information on routine screenings but also provide information on when patients should be seen and how to interpret results on select screenings. We also collaborated on an actionable cancer prevention initiative that addresses catching up on screenings that may have been missed during the covid-19 pandemic. The ‘Get Screened Challenge’ (February 1st to March 31st) is designed to encourage individuals to reach out to their providers and get updated on needed health screenings. Participants are entered into a community drawing for a $100 Amazon gift card when they book an appointment with their provider as well as each time, they complete a screening. The challenge has encouraged community members in St. George, Atka, Nikolski and Unalaska to schedule appointments and connect with their provider about what screenings they need. Some community members have scheduled colorectal cancer screenings appointments in Anchorage!

Keeping up with screenings is one of the most impactful ways to prevent cancer in our communities. The Wellness Program looks forward to continuing to collaborate with Primary Care Services on similar cancer prevention initiatives in the future.
In collaboration with “Where Are Your Keys” consultants, Evan Gardner and Susanna Ciotti, APIA will be hosting the first ever Virtual Unangam Tunuu Download Camp (VUTDC). The language camp will take place over Zoom May 31—June 3, 2022.

While attending this camp, you will be taken through lessons in Unangam tunuu in the dialect of your choice (Atka or Eastern dialect). Our WAYK language consultants and Unangam Tunuu Interns will help to get participants through the early lessons on the “Fluency Freeway” curriculum at an accelerated pace.

Space will be limited. Applications will available May 2 and will be posted on our website. If you have any questions about the camp please contact Darling Anderson, Cultural Heritage Coordinator, at unangamtunuu@apiai.org or (907) 276-2700.

**Healthy Relationships Team (HeaRT)**

The Healthy Relationships Team (HeaRT) is housed within the Health Department, Community Health Services. HeaRT is pleased to introduce Dr. Michael iqyax Livingston as Healthy Relationships Lead II, Reign Galovin as Lead I, Jessie Rice as Healthy Relationships Coordinator /Advocate II, Rosemary Savage-Cook Advocate I, and Higina Rabanal Domestic Violence Outreach Specialist.

HeaRT services focus on domestic violence prevention, direct care for victims of violent crime, and a special focus on services for women who have been victimized.

If you or someone you know is experiencing domestic violence, and you want to talk here are two phone numbers:

- National Teen Dating Abuse Hotline 1-866-331-9474
- APIA Healthy Relationships Advocates 1-844-375-2742

If you are interested in mailed resources, please contact HRA@apiai.org.

**Virtual Unangam Tunuu Download Camp**

False Pass VPSO Sgt. Christopher Stewart assists in repairing the community greenhouse. The greenhouse was erected in 2018 but has suffered severe wind damage from several windstorms over the years. Chris has been working with the Tribe to restore the missing panels and hopefully get the garden boxes built this summer.

Chris stated, “That it’s tedious, work that is dependent on the weather in this phase of repairs”. Which is taping all the panel seams with some weather tape.

The playground was also installed this year on a grant from the tribe as well. Chris helped to dig all the holes for the equipment installation, assembled the equipment, poured the concrete and spread some gravel so far.

Thank you Chris for being a model officer and community member!
Remote, Isolated, and Quarantined: A targeted snapshot on how services are meeting the needs related to opioid use during COVID 19 within small Aleutian Pribilof Island communities

Our Post-Doctoral Clinical Psychology Fellow, Dr. Abegail Millard, completed her program evaluation through the winter of 2021-2022. Little is known about industry perspectives and service needs related to opioid misuse in the Aleutian Pribilof Islands Region. The purpose of this evaluation was to better understand the unique impact of opioid misuse within individuals, industry, and community-wide effects specifically during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In order to address this topic, Dr. Abegail Millard interviewed over the telephone and collected survey data from those living and working in the region. We wanted to learn from healthcare, public safety, and fisheries through an anonymous, and semi-structured interview about what they have seen over the past two years in regards to opioid misuse. Dr. Millard compiled the responses and looked for common patterns that addressed the evaluation questions. These patterns we identify as themes, are compiled to bring back to the community.

The first theme was the significant disparity between responders. Out of the 12 total interviews, 50% described impacts from opioid misuse as, “Not to my knowledge,” and “I am not aware of what the community is doing.” However, the other six responders were on the opposite end of the spectrum noting, “It takes a toll on everyone and the impact is significant and lasting.”

The second overarching theme described by respondents was workplace changes regarding opioid-related cases during COVID. One respondent addressed the impact, “I have increased the frequency I visit the region.” One respondent detailed, “it seems that more long-term opioid users are interested in treatment.” A respondent explained, “I hear of increased cases and also increase in the need for Narcan use and overdoses.” Another respondent discussed the “increase in emergency room cases,” and one respondent endorsed, “Overdoses seem to have increased, and the medical staff seem busier.” In regard to noticing additional changes in their workplace, four respondents simply answered “no.”

The final theme that emerged from the assessment was that industry stakeholders have good ideas for healthier communities. They offered helpful community takeaways and suggestions. Within this overarching theme, four sub-themes were of note. They included harm reduction, Narcan use, trauma-informed care, and community outreach.

To summarize the findings one person stated:

“No part of the community is beyond the reach of addiction of opioids—it can affect every portion within a community.”

From the rich collection of information, provided by dedicated community members, our perspective of remote communities and how they have been impacted by opioid use has been strengthened, specifically during the time of the COVID 19 pandemic. The feedback around how to support a healthier community will help APIA shape future programming and services. One person stated, “We are more open, I do feel the stigma is decreasing, and providers from every avenue are prioritizing this issue.” Communities seem well-poised to pick-up the work that started during the previous Opioid and Substance Misuse Summits.

This study would not have been possible if not for the partnership with key community members that offered their valuable time and insight in completing the survey or the 60-minute conversation. Thank you for your part in fostering a healthy region.
**Family Programs**

The ETR Child Care Program is growing! Since hiring full-time Child Care Specialist Kristi Duff in November, APIA has approved one family to receive child care assistance and another person was approved to be a child care provider!

We are continuing community outreach while we incorporate feedback into our foundational program materials. APIA’s ETR team coordinated child care provider trainings, purchased health and safety supplies, and provided cultural learning materials for children to read at daycare as part of the program’s development. If you know someone who wants to become an in-home child care provider or someone needing child care assistance, please tell them to contact the ETR program and start the intake process.

**Tribal Child Support Program (TCSP)**

We can now offer Prevention Services to individuals and communities through one-on-one services or educational presentations to a community. We plan to reach as many communities as possible this summer to provide more information on these programs. If you are interested in learning more, please get in touch with Amanda McAdoo, Family Programs Coordinator.

Welcome Pa’e Scanlan to the team!
She is our new Family First Prevention Specialist

Family Programs is pleased to announce that our efforts with the State of Alaska, Office of Children’s Service to implement multiple Prevention Programs have been successful.

**Child Care Program**

We understand that making the decision to apply for child support can often be challenging, especially when there is fear or worry about how the other parent will react. When most people hear the words “domestic violence” they think of physical abuse—however there are some abusers that never physically attack their victims—instead they use threats, shame, insults, or isolation.

Victims sometimes are unable to access their money, vehicle, telephone, or legal documents—making it very hard to leave. Abusers can also use threats about kids, custody, or child support as a way to maintain control.

Lots of parents want or need child support but worry about getting child support safely. APIA’s TCSP application asks about domestic violence and if there are any current or past domestic violence protective orders. When safety is a concern, our staff will keep information such as addresses, workplaces, & phone numbers confidential from the other parent. If you have questions or still aren’t sure if our program is right for you, please contact the Tribal Child Support staff at 1-800-478-2742.

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The introductions. They are very interested in learning more about healthcare in the region.

The Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership also reached out to us to plan a site visit to Unalaska. Every year they travel from Anchorage and this year they would like to come to Unalaska. We are targeting June 1st, the day after the George Fox Memorial Event in Unalaska. For more information please reach out to Jessica Mata Rukovishnikoff, APIA Primary Care Director at 907-222-4265.

SAVE THE DATE! STATE AND FEDERAL HEALTH CARE VISIT TO UNALASKA

State and Alaska Federal Health Care Partnership visit to Unalaska June 1st, 2022. The State of Alaska reached out to APIA via Alaska Native Health Board (ANHB) to talk about our health care delivery and discuss the possibility of scheduling a Community Health Care Listening Session in Unalaska on June 1st or 2nd. On March 3, APIA met with the ANHB President, Alberta Unok, Chief Medical Officer for the State of Alaska Dr. Zink, and Heide Hedberg to make

the introductions. They are very interested in learning more about healthcare in the region.

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UNANGAM TUNUU ACHIIGASALIX—TEACHING THE ALEUT LANGUAGE

The Unangam Tunuu Achiigasalix teacher cohort current has 23 members. This project, that focuses on creating Unangam tunuu speakers and teachers, is funded through an Administration of Native Americans Language Preservation and Maintenance grant. APIA is currently in the third year of this grant and plans to extend into a fourth year.

Like many projects, the pandemic took a toll on expected outcomes. Many in-person language events were either postponed or moved to a virtual platform. While this has changed the way language learning and teaching has been done in the past, our team has been successful in continuing to learn and teach virtually.

This summer, the cohort plans to lead a Virtual Unangam Tunuu Download Camp, interns will teach language at the Urban Unangax Culture Camp, and hold an in-person mini Summer Language Intensive in Anchorage.

If you are interested in learning Unangam tunuu we welcome you to join one of our virtual classes. For more information on how to sign-up, please contact Darling Anderson, Cultural Heritage Coordinator, at unangamtunuu@apiai.org.

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Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association
Press Release
Benny Benson’s Birth Certificate Corrected

This week the State of Alaska’s Health Analytics and Vital Records Section corrected the birth date and mother’s maiden name of Benny Benson following a court order from an Alaska Superior Court Judge. Benny is the 7th grader who won the Alaska flag contest in 1927. Benny was not born October 12, 1913. He was born September 12, 1912 - over 13 months earlier. His mother’s maiden name was also corrected. These corrections follow years of family tree research by Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association staff with help from others. These corrections are significant on several fronts including spotlighting the 100-year anniversary of Benny’s flag raising coming up on July 9, 2027 and the need to critically examine Alaska history. For a media packet or for interviews, contact Dr. Michael Livingston at mikel@apiai.org or 907-222-4224. See the link below for a new paper about Benny. http://hdl.handle.net/11122/12729

Detail photograph of Benny Benson Alaska State Archives American Legion Collection Designs by School Children for Alaska’s Flag, 1927 ASE MS14-1-1-01

CONGRATULATIONS ALEX GRIESBAUM

Our Youth Transitions Coordinator, Jami Swazer, is pleased to announce that Alex Griesbaum, recently graduated from the University of Portland with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

“I came back to Alaska to serve my community as a nurse at the Alaska Native Medical Center in the COVID-19 Testing Site, and will eventually work on 5 West once I receive my RN license.

If you’re thinking about a career in nursing, I highly encourage you to pursue it. Interacting with customer-owners and helping them during the healing process is extremely rewarding work, and a fantastic way to serve your community. It also provides you the opportunity to travel and work in a wide variety of settings and environments if you’d like. I’d highly encourage you to apply for the Indian Health Service’s Health Professions Scholarship, which will offer you a stipend and pay for tuition and other costs while you pursue a BSN. TAF and APIA also offer excellent scholarship programs that I’d encourage you to apply for as well.”

Congratulations Alex!
2022 Urban Unangax Culture Camp—Save the Dates!

Mark Your Calendars!
2022 Urban Unangax Culture Camp

Times and Dates:
Children (10 and under): June 20-24 from 9am-12pm
Youth (11-18): June 19-24 from 1pm-5pm
Adults (18+): June 20-24 from 6pm-8pm

Applications coming soon! If you would like any additional information please contact Darling Anderson at darlinga@apiai.org or at (907)-276-2700
Order Online!  Visit our website at http://www.apiai.org to order these publications (and more!) online! From APIA’s homepage, select “Store” from the menu on top, then select a publication and proceed. If you would like to order by phone, please contact us at (907) 276-2700.

*Prices do not include shipping & handling*
OUR MISSION

♦ To promote self-sufficiency and independence of the Unangan/Unanagas\(^1\) by advocacy, training, technical assistance, and economic enhancement;

♦ To assist in meeting health, safety, and well-being of each Unangax\(^2\) community;

♦ To promote, strengthen, and ensure the unity of the Unangan/Unangas; and

♦ To strengthen and preserve the Unangax cultural heritage.

\(^1\)Unangan [Eastern dialect], Unangas [Atka Dialect] - Aleuts, plural form; \(^2\)Unangax - Aleut, singular form

ALEUTIAN PRIBOLOF ISLANDS ASSOCIATION’S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Snigaroff, Chair—Atka IRA Council

David Osterback, Vice Chair—Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point

Amos Philemonoff, Sgt. At Arms—Tribal Government of St. Paul Island

Zenia Borenin, Secretary/Treasurer—Akutan Tribal Council

Etta Kuzakin, Director—Agdaagux Tribe of King Cove

Delores Kochuten, Director—Belkofski Village Council

William Shellikoff, Jr., Director—False Pass Tribal Council

Leona Nelson, Director—Nelson Lagoon Tribal Council

Arnold Dushkin, Director—Nikolski IRA Council

Hillary Smith, Director—Pauloff Harbor Tribe

Harriet Berikoff, Director—Qawalangin Tribe of Unalaska

Mark Merculief, Jr., Director—St. George Traditional Council

Amy Foster, Director—Unga Tribal Council