

**SUN' AQ
TRIBE
OF
KODIAK**

Sun' aq Tribe of Kodiak

312 West Marine Way, Kodiak, Alaska 99615
Phone: (907) 486-4449 or Fax: (907) 486-3361
E-Mail: stktribe@alaska.com

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Sun' aq Tribal Council

- Heather Parker, Chair
- John Reft, Vice-Chair
- Olga M. Malutin, Secretary/Treasurer
- Gary Watson, Member
- Iver Malutin, Member
- Thomas Johnson, Jr., Member
- Brenda Schwantes-Brown, Member

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Administrator's Message

We were all saddened recently when Heather Parker resigned from the Tribal Council and as Chairwoman. Heather had served as Council women since 2001. Unfortunately, with a recent promotion and the subsequent increase in job responsibilities while at the same time raising a family with two young children, Heather felt she could no longer devote the time necessary to fully embrace the responsibilities of serving on the Tribal Council.

I've been fortunate to work under Heather's leadership the past several years and deeply appreciate her contributions to the membership. She was here through thick and thin and took her responsibilities on the Council very seriously. I know in her new position with KANA she will continue to make positive contributions to the Native community and I know she will continue to be involved with the tribe as a tribal member. Thank you Heather for your many years of devoted service.

In other news, we are

pleased with the completion of the majority of renovations to your tribal center. We appreciate the many kind comments by tribal members and members of the Kodiak community. We do have a few other additions to the building in the coming year or so. First, we will be re-flooring the downstairs tribal hall the later part of May. Later we will be installing an office partitioning system upstairs. If you haven't seen the inside of the building yet, please stop by and say hello. We'd be happy to show you around.

I'm sure many of you are hearing about the possibility of the 'Exxon Settlement' coming to a close as early as this fall or sometime next year. Many tribal members are claimants. We recently invited tribal members to hear from an attorney representing tribal claims to hear the latest developments. In the coming months we will be offering more informational services, including issues addressing taxes and investment opportunities. In addition, Sun' aq Tribe is also a claimant

along with other tribal governments on Kodiak Island. We are in the early phases of discussions on what opportunities this could provide the Tribal Government. Many ideas have been brought forward including such possibilities as establishing an endowment that would benefit tribal members for generations to come. We will be inviting you to attend and actively participate in meetings for further discussions.

Sun' aq Tribe of Kodiak has come a long way in the past several years because of strong leadership provided by the Tribal Council you've elected and by membership participation at meetings, tribal events and activities. We are focusing on increasing tribal member participation in the future. I've been working with or for tribal governments for some twenty five years now and I've learned that when tribal members take active 'ownership' of their government good things happen.

Bob Polasky

New Building—New Entrance—New Hours

With the building renovations come changes. The tribal offices upstairs now have a separate entrance. Members of the Tribe and the public now have to use the new entrance to reach the tribal offices. The new door is closer to the corner of the mall, near to Cellular One. We no longer have to go through the bingo hall entrance and those doors will

remain locked unless there is bingo in session or another event happening in the hall. The office hours have also changed. The office is open for business from 8:00a.m. to noon, closed for lunch from 12:00 to 1:00p.m. and open again from 1:00p.m. to 4:30p.m. The office now also has more phone lines so that communications is better. With the renovations came

some changes that we feel are better for our membership. The office now has a large conference room which can be used for Tribal Council meetings, training sessions and classes. We also have a small conference room, which has privacy for confidential meetings as well as telephone and internet access.



Working in the plastic

Attention: All Parents of School Age Children

The Johnson O'Malley Native Education Committee is actively seeking committee members. The JOM committee meets quarterly at the Tribal

center to decide and define the assistance the Tribe will provide to our tribal youth. It is great for our tribal community to have an impact on the future of our youth's

education. If you are interested in serving on the committee please call Kippy at 486-4449 or stop by the office for further information.

“No amount of study or learning will make a man a leader unless he has the natural qualities of one.”
-Archibald Wavell

Employment and Training Program

One of the tribe's goals is to improve job skills or education to eligible participant in order to obtain suitable employment. If you are under-employed, meaning your don't make a

livable wage, or unemployed and are interested in attaining skills that can lead to gainful employment please come by the office or call and make an appointment. There

are many opportunities to receive training in a field you are interested in. Please come in the office and enquire if you are interested.

Kippy Robbins

Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak's Higher Education

Higher Education Grants –

The Tribe has Higher Education Grants available for eligible tribal members. Following is information on eligibility and general procedures.

- Eligibility
1. Student must be an enrolled member of the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak
 2. Be able to establish financial need.
 3. Be enrolled in a two or four year academic degree program at an accredited institution.

Note: Student are required to provide documentation to verify eligibility

General Procedures:

- I. Contact accredited institutions of your choice and request::
 - a. School catalog and application for admission;
 - b. Information on financial aid (School Scholarships)
 - c. Information on areas of interest (majors and minors)
 - d. Housing information
2. Apply for admission to college and establish financial need through Financial Aid Office by completing and submitting an Application for Federal

Financial Aid. The earlier this is done the better chance of financial aid. You can apply for financial aid on line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. It is important for you to make sure that your Financial Aid Officer signs off on you financial need sheet and mail or fax it to the Sun'aq Tribe. Although you may not be eligible for Pell grants, you must establish financial need before you receive a BIA Grant.

3. Apply to other sources of funding (i.e. Alaska Student Loan, Native Corporation scholarship, etc.).
4. Submit the documentation listed on the Higher Education Checklist



Our new office
Nice and bright

Healthy Families Initiative

We have revised our objective work plan for Sun'aq Tribe's Healthy Families Initiative. Our plan is to bring our project home to our newly renovated Tribal offices and offer a family communication and relationship skills curriculum directly to our clients in-house, rather than outsource for services through another provider. We are planning to train 4 of our staff and certify them to deliver this curriculum during in-house training sessions.

Our staff is looking forward to the opportunity of providing a valuable service to our community. During the

sessions, meals will be offered to our participants. We feel that offering meals to our clients will keep them more engaged in the curriculum and allow us to become more personable one on one, thus engaging on a deeper level.

When our staff is prepared to offer this service to the community we will advertise available classes. We will also be drawing in participants from our other program services and by referral from KANA, Kodiak Island Borough School District, Kodiak Island Housing Authority and personal

referrals.

We will adapt the class curriculum to engage teens and future plans are to engage Native Youth. We are going to be flexible with our class scheduling to allow the maximum number of clients to participate. This may mean an evening version of the class that will take more than two evenings to complete. During the school year we may hold two Saturday classes rather than during school hours.

Chris Polasky



“The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer someone else up.”

-Mark Twain

Native Youth Services

Together As One (the Native Youth Group) meets every Thursday during the lunch period in the Careers room at the High School. The group discusses different plans and items that are on our agenda for the future.

Right now the group is putting together a radio talk show on KMXT for the next two months that will be discussing the 2nd Annual Salmon Run/Walk, and the Awakening Bear Gathering. This takes a lot of time to prepare for

and during this time KMXT will teach the basic skills of running the board, production, recording the voices and editing to produce the final product. If you know of any youth that would like to be a part of this great learning experience, please contact Teresa Stutes at the Sun'aq Tribe.

Together As One will also be involved in the Salmon Run/Walk and is looking for more teens that would like to join.

The students featured in the picture

taken at KMXT are Nina Krumrey, Tiffany Panamarioff and Raeann Christofferson.

The High School did hire an IEA (Indian Education Act) Aide and she (Heather Lewis) does come to the Together As One meetings when she can attend and this works out well. She and Teresa are able to keep in touch this way to stay on top of the students and their academic progress. Heather is doing a great job and is a great asset to the High School.

By Teresa Stutes



Youth at KMXT





Aksana Mather
Women's Advocate

**STOP
Violence
Against
Native
Women
Project**



Working in the cold
Under the plastic

Recognizing Abuse: Know The Signs

It may not be easy to identify abuse. An abusive relationship can start subtly. The abuser may criticize your appearance or may be unreasonably jealous. Gradually, the abuse becomes more frequent, severe and potentially life threatening.

It's important to know that these relationships don't happen overnight. It's a gradual process—a slow disintegration of a person's sense of self.

However, many characteristics signify an abusive relationship. For example, you may be abused if you:

- Have every been hit, kicked, shoved or

threatened with violence

- Feel that you have no choice about how you spend your time, where you go or what you wear
- Have ever been accused by your partner of things you've never done
- Must ask your partner for permission to make everyday decisions
- Feel bad about yourself because your partner calls you names, insults you or puts you down
- Limit time with your family and friends because of your partner's demands
- Submit to sexual

intercourse or engage in sexual acts against your will

- Accept your partner's decisions because you're afraid of ensuing anger
- Are accused of being unfaithful
- Change your behavior in an effort to not anger your partner

Pregnancy is a particularly perilous time for an abused woman. Not only is your health at risk, but also the health of your unborn child. Abuse can begin or may increase during pregnancy.

Call the Women's Advocate at 486-4449 for more information.

Breaking the cycle: Difficult, but doable with help

Domestic violence is part of a continuing cycle that is difficult to break. If you are in an abusive situation, you may recognize this pattern:

- Your abuser strikes using words or actions
- Your abuser may beg for forgiveness, offer gifts or promise to change
- Your abuser becomes tense, angry or depressed
- Your abuser promises to stop but repeats the

abusive behavior.

Typically each time the abuse occurs, it worsens, and the cycle shortens. Breaking this pattern of violence alone and without help is difficult.

When you live in an environment of chaos, stress and fear, you start doubting yourself and your ability to take care of yourself. It can really unravel your sense of reality and self-esteem.

So, it is important to recognize that you may

not be in a position to resolve the situation on your own. You may need outside help, and that's OK. Without help, the abuse will likely continue. Leaving the abusive relationship may be the only way to break the cycle.

Call Women's Advocate @ 486-4449 for more information or help.

A New Route For This Year's Crab Festival Parade

The weather may still be a bit chilly but plans are heating up for the 2007 Kodiak Crab Festival! The Grand Parade is always a highlight of the annual 5-day community event, and this year it will follow a new route. That's because in April the State of Alaska and the City of Kodiak plans to begin an extensive, summer long road construction project surrounding the "Y" intersection in downtown Kodiak, an area the parade usually passes through. Faced with canceling the parade or changing the route, the Crab

Festival Committee, City of Kodiak, Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and Kodiak Police Department chose a new route. The 2007 Kodiak Crab Festival Grand Parade will avoid the downtown area **completely**. Instead it will proceed along Mill Bay Road starting at the intersection of Powell Ave. and Mill Bay, the corner with Coon Field on one side and Main Elementary on the other. The parade will finish at Bartel Avenue and Mill Bay, the corner where Warner Tire is

located. The Grand Stand where local dignitaries can view the parade will be located near the start of the parade route, in front of radio station KVOK. And youngsters taking part in the Shrimp Parade can join in from the retail parking area a short ways down from the Grand Stand.

Although this year's parade may take some new twists and turns it still promises to be another lively, entertaining event in keeping with the 2007 Crab Festival theme – IT'S JUST FUN!





Robin at work
Tribal Bingo office

A new philosophy, a new way of life, is not given for nothing. It has to be paid for dearly for and only acquired with much patience and great effort.



Daisy at work
Same location that Robin was at earlier

Can There Be A Continuing Legacy From Exxon Valdez?

As early as the end of April, depending on the court's decision, it may be known whether some 17 years of waiting will result in a settlement in the order of \$4.75 billion. Of this amount a court mandated 22.4% will be recovered by attorneys. Such fees are not tax deductions for class action claimants.

There is currently a potential for \$4.75 billion in settlement dollars. Kodiak claimants fall into 10 fisheries license categories plus a subsistence category for an area total of 20.1% of a final settlement.

The tax liabilities for claimants and their estates will be considerable. Also, eligibility for Section 8 Subsidized Housing and Energy Assistance; Community Service Block Grant and General Assistance will be directly affected resulting in hardship for elders and other low income claimants.

Those Sun'aq members and their estates who have additional classes of settlements beyond the subsistence category will be

subject to considerable tax liabilities which will require tax planning advice in the interests of themselves and their families.

Sun'aq members are requested to lend their support to proposed legislation S.552, the "Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Tax Treatment Act", which is designed to alleviate some of the more difficult tax consequences for claimants. The bill will:

- Allow for settlement funds to be subject to income averaging retroactive to 1994.
 - Provide for a pre-tax direct contribution to a traditional IRA.
 - Allow settlement funds to be exempt from self-employment tax.
 - Allow tax measures for claimants also to be extended to beneficiaries of estates eg: widows.
 - Allow post trial interest (almost half the total) to be included in tax considerations.
- Please contact your congressional delegation for

advice on how best to lend your support. Faxed POM's (public opinion messages) can be sent to Senator Ted Stevens: 202-224-2354, to Senator Lisa Murkowski at 20-224-5301, or to Representative Don Young at 202-225-0425

Charitable giving will be an important tax planning strategy for claimants. Churches, local libraries, museums and community non-profits could benefit in a manner that could leave a lasting legacy of community improvements. Another option for consideration could be the creation of a Sun'aq Trust fund which could be invested and prudently managed into the future to assist members with scholarships, conservations efforts, a fisherman's loan fund, wild salmon direct marketing, and so on.

Sun'aq Economic Development and Planning will continue to follow Exxon Valdez settlement developments, provide timely public information and arrange for tax planning advice.

The Earned Income Tax Credit—Can It Help You

Every year in Native communities, millions of Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) dollars go unclaimed or get reduced by unnecessary fees. Families may qualify for refunds from up to \$412 with no qualifying children to up to \$4,536 with two or more qualifying children in the 2006 tax year, depending on their amount of earned income.

The EITC can make a real difference in the lives

of eligible tribal members and it also infuses capital into local economies. The EITC is a refundable tax credit for low-to-moderate-income working families (married or single), meaning that after federal tax obligations are met, or even if no taxes are owed, eligible filers get the benefit back as a tax refund. The average refund is about \$2100. Eligible people who did not claim the credit may go back three years to claim missed

credits.

At \$39 billion, the EITC is the largest Federal antipoverty program in the nation, about the same amount as Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) and Food Stamps combined. Despite the EITC program's success, the IRS estimates that about 25 percent of eligible people don't claim the Earned Income Tax Credit. Last year, over \$7.6 billion went unclaimed.

Newest Elected Tribal Council Member—Brenda Schwantes-Brown

The Sun'aq Tribal Elections was held on December 1, 2006. Two seats were up for election. Thomas Johnson, Jr. retained his seat and Brenda Schwantes-Brown filled the seat vacated by outgoing member Chris Helms.

Brenda was raised in Kodiak until the age of 6 when her family relocated to California for a brief period of time. After returning to Kodiak at age 7, she lived in Anchorage, Naknek, Wrangell, Ketchikan and returned to attend her last two years of high school in Kodiak.

Brenda attended Brigham Young University and graduated with a B.S. degree in Family Sciences, then obtained

a teaching certificate. From 1991-1993, she attended UAA in Anchorage and obtained a Special Education teaching credential and returned to Kodiak.

Brenda began a lengthy career at KANA after being hired to work as a Health Educator after the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. After administering various BIA and EPA IGAP grant programs, she was appointed by the Secretary of Interior to serve on the Public Advisory Group for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council where she served approximately four years. In 2003, Brenda was hired by the State of Alaska Dept. of Labor and Workforce Development to work under the Trade Adjustment Act to specifically identify

training options for dislocated fishermen or other individuals who had suffered economic shifts in the local labor market.

Brenda was born to Lila Schwantes (Olsen), the daughter of Laura Olsen (Larsen), the daughter of Anton Larsen and Olga Larsen (Naumoff). Olga was the daughter of Evdokiia Nekrasoff, daughter of Tatiana Petrovna. Brenda is married to Franke Brown who has been in the Kodiak fishing industry for twenty years. She has two boys, Eric 17 and Wesley 6. She is currently a homemaker and a self-employed esthetician. She is excited to be serving as a Sun'aq Tribal Council representative and working on behalf of its members.



Virginia at work,
Even with the dust and
noise

**“Now written
law has ever
been more
binding than
unwritten
custom
supported by
popular
opinion.”**

- Carrie Chapman Catt

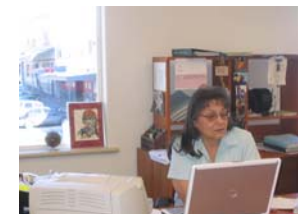
On Wednesday, March 21, 2007, the Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers had their first Parent Advisory meeting under the organization of the Kodiak Tribal Council, Inc. The Kodiak Tribal Council officially took responsibility for the Dancers on March 1, 2007. Michelle Holmes and Nancy Antonson were present and gave some input in the meeting.

The first item for discussion was the Dancer Policy and Procedures which needs to be updated to reflect the ownership from Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak to Kodiak Tribal Council, Inc (KTC). It was decided that a funding request for 6 new regalia would be presented for approval to the KTC Board of Directors. The funding request was granted in the KTC's regular meeting on the 22nd of March. The making and selling of Arts and Crafts was also discussed. Daisy and Carolyn have started making miniature masks to sell. So far we've had sales in both the office of Sun'aq Tribe and at the Next Page. We also discussed the

The Kodiak Alutiiq Dancers

making of little dancer drums, dolls, jewelry, and Nancy said she would like to learn how to make beaded headdresses to help our dance group make money. With approval from the Tribe and between the Elder's and the tribe's activities, it was decided that the dancers could use the downstairs during the summer on Sundays from 1 to 5p.m to make and sell Arts and Crafts. This may be a time when other local artists can come and sell their arts and crafts as well with a small percentage of sales to be donated to the Dancers. We also have a little room in the showcase upstairs in the Sun'aq offices if anyone wanted to show and sell their Arts and Crafts here also for a small percentage of sales to be donated to the dancers. We also talked about what we can do during the Crab Festival. Daisy suggested a cash- only raffle using the KTC's raffle permit and so we'll be working on that. We also talked about getting a booth to sell items and involvement in the Parade.

The summer cruise ship schedule has been set already and unfortunately, only one ship is set to view the Dancers at the auditorium in September. So we talked about setting an afternoon schedule so we can hopefully attract some tourists during their free time in the afternoons. Carolyn will be talking more with the Visitor's Bureau to get a better time estimate when the walkabouts will most likely happen. We are also starting an Adult Dance group so if anyone is interested in joining either the children's or the adult dance group, and the Arts and Crafts activities, please contact Carolyn or Daisy at 486-6740. Also, please call us for the next meeting time if you would like to attend. The new phone number for KTC and the Dancers is 907-486-6740; email for the Dancers: kodiak-dancers@gci.net or Daisy directly at daisy@alaska.com for anything pertaining to the organization to pass it on to the KTC Board of Directors at their monthly meetings.



Virginia is more comfortable in her new office space now

**SUN' AQ TRIBE
OF
KODIAK**

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Kodiak, Alaska 99615

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Email: stktribe@alaska.com

**We're on the Web
www.sunaq.org**

Proudly representing the members of the Sun'aq Tribe of Kodiak

Shoonaq' Tribal Bingo

Regular Weekly Schedule as follows:

Tuesday through Thursday & Saturday:

Doors Open for Pull Tabs and Bingo Sales at 6:00p.m. Bingo session starts at 7:30p.m.

Friday:

Doors Open at 6:00p.m. First session starts at 7:00p.m., second session starts at 10p.m.

Special Sessions are held from time to time and are posted in the local newspaper.