



KUSILVAK NEWS

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VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT MAE ALEXIE



“I would try to teach my great-great grandkids good things, teach them how we were raised.”

Mae Alexie

By Andrei Jacobs
Interim Manager

When Mae Alexie’s father taught her to chop wood in the 1940s, it had a profound impact on Mae’s life. Now at 85-years old, she recalls her father’s discipline as a crucial factor that resulted in her work ethic and

contributing to her community as a Health Aide for Mountain Village for over forty years. Mae was born in Scammon Bay but has lived in Mountain Village since the 1930s.

Friends and family can find Mae enjoying her retirement at home or practicing traditional ways of life. For anyone that hasn’t had the opportunity to know Mae, she is soft-spoken, strong willed and humorous. She is probably best known for her decades of service in healthcare, first working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and then Alaska Village Council Presidents and Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation.

Mae worked both as a Midwife and a Community Health Aide. “We had BIA school. And I went to only fifth grade. And I became a Health Aide, and I don’t know how,” she says humbly.

She recalls delivering five or six infants and has played a key role in saving the life of a victim of a gunshot wound.

“That’s the only person I have a bad case with. But he lived, so it was good,” says Mae and further states her community service work was very rewarding, regardless of the type of incidents.

Mae is grateful for her lifetime of experiences in Mountain Village, and to her parents, Joe and Minnie Agwiak. She shared that when growing up, she had to take on many roles like chopping wood and skin sewing or translating Yup’ik for BIA nurses and doctors.

Mae married Matthew Alexie and together they raised nine boys and two girls. “Maybe more than 26 great grandkids!” she chuckles thinking about her grandchildren. Mae’s advice to future generations for a healthy and happy life: “Don’t be mischief!” she says half-jokingly in a way that is understanding mistakes are part of life and to learn from them.

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

LOREN PETERSON



“...I am optimistic that we will emerge even stronger.”

It is with great pleasure the Board of Directors (BOD) introduces Azachorok Incorporated's Kusilvak News, to keep you informed of the corporation's progress.

Kusilvak refers to the mountain range from which our ancestors have used as a landmark. We honor the 2,241 foot peak to embrace our heritage, as we share quarterly updates.

One of the first orders of business this summer was the establishment of a Transition committee. This committee's responsibility was to evaluate the performance of our consultants and submit recommendations to the board. As a result, we've hired a new interim legal firm and replaced our general consultant.

Earlier in February, Azachorok Inc. purchased Accurate Machine Companies Defense Technologies (AMCDT), a California-based naval products and services company.

Today, we are conducting a post-purchase audit of AMCDT to determine if the company is as profitable as financial statements indicate.

AMCDT has successful past performance in government contracts and if ACS LLC and AMCDT were to merge, it could result in millions of dollars in revenue.

Unfortunately, we learned that there was some oversight in the acquisition of AMCDT. The Small Business Administration (SBA) has to approve the merger before AMCDT can pursue lucrative government contracts. The approval process can take up to eighteen months.

Meanwhile we must pay down a \$1.8 million loan for the purchase of AMCDT. Although this is a financial burden on the corporation, I am optimistic that we will emerge even stronger.

On behalf of the full board, I'd like to say that we will continue to make decisions with the best interests of our shareholders in mind.

Sincerely,

Loren Peterson
Chairman

VICE CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

JOYCE BROWN



I am pleased to be part of the first Azachorok Incorporated newsletter.

We have many accomplishments this quarter under new leadership including: 1) adopting a code of ethics; 2) remaining in good standing with the Small Business Administration (SBA), and; 3) hiring an interim general manager.

First, the updated code of ethics entrusts the board of expectations of all directors. The new code may be used to apply disciplinary actions for any infractions for directors.

Next, all incoming directors replacing outgoing directors have been approved for good character by the SBA, allowing us to remain in good standing with our 8(a) certificate. This gives us a priority in bidding on government contracts.

We have a new Interim Manager working from our Anchorage office. Andrei Jacobs, from Bethel has been a great help to the staff. We are in the process of filling the President/CEO position, soon.

This quarter, directors will also complete board training to increase our capacity and effectiveness as members. We will also revisit our strategic plan, discuss our vision, goal and objectives for coming years.

This fall, I hope our communities were able to enjoy the gas and heating fuel sales. ACS LLC, formally Azachorok Fuel, remains grateful to our customers for support.

With Respect,

Joyce Brown
Vice Chairman

SECRETARY/TREASURER UPDATE

JOHN AGWIAK



With the addition of newly elected directors including Howard Peterson and myself, Azachorok Incorporated has a new set of elected officers. We are now in a position to take the corporation in a somewhat different direction.

The new majority is making a concerted effort to be more fiscally responsible at managing funds with our operating budget. We've continued teleconferenced meetings and are traveling less.

In the first quarter, we've worked to assess all corporate accounts, reduce expenses and prioritize our investments.

Many know that a shareholder permanent fund has been created by former directors. Over the years, the amount has grown with allocations from Calista Corporation revenue sharing known as 717j funding. As of September 30, 2015, Azachorok's combined investments for the permanent fund is approximately \$695,000. The goal is begin shareholder dividends once we reach \$2 million.

To safeguard all accounts, we have updated our bank signatories limiting access to accounts to the entrusted elected officials and permanent office managers. We are also having a compliance audit conducted of all Azachorok entities to reduce liability of the new leadership. This audit also alleviates costs for the year-end audit. We will provide an updated report in our next newsletter.

Take care,

John Agwiak
Secretary/Treasurer



TOP A large bull moose wades through a pond, ©2015 Ken Baehr.

BOTTOM Tundra lowbush blueberries in fall time, ©2015 Scott Dickerson.

All photos from AlaskaStock.com

FUN FACTS ABOUT SUBSISTENCE

- Subsistence foods make major contributions to what Alaska Natives eat.
- Subsistence foods are nutritious.
- Subsistence foods are associated with good health.
- Subsistence foods provide more than nutrients.

SOURCE: Alaska Native Science Commission, "Nutritional Benefits of Subsistence Foods," <http://www.nativeknowledge.org/db/files/aboutnt2.htm>, accessed on 10/6/2015.



Azachorok, Inc.
P.O. Box 32213
Mountain Village, AK 99632
www.azachorok.com

Presorted Standard
US Postage Paid
Anchorage, AK
Permit No. 69

PHONE

907.591.2527

FAX

907.591.2517

EMAIL

info@azachorok.com

MISSION STATEMENT

Azachorok Incorporated is a for-profit ANCSA Village corporation that invests in sustainable business opportunities for the mutual benefit of shareholders while preserving traditional subsistence culture and values.

FEATURED PHOTOS

TO BE FEATURED, SEND PHOTOS TO INFO@AZACHOROK.COM



Red salmon strips hang in a smoker, ©2015 Scott Dickerson. All photos from AlaskaStock.com