## December 2023 • Unalaska, AK



#### Community Spotlight | **P3**

Unalaska local, Jazzmyne Shapsnikoff (Unangan) opens Dutch Grind, a coffee stand off of Airport Beach Road.







# Message from the Chairman

Aang Aang! Ounalashka Shareholders and descendants,

I hope this letter finds you in good spirits and health as we welcome the winter holidays. As the chilly winds usher in a new year, it is my privilege to provide you an overview of OC's last quarter.

As a significant landowner, OC is dedicated to fostering responsible land use that benefits both Shareholders and the community at large. We are actively developing a comprehensive land use plan and look forward to presenting this plan to our Shareholders through an upcoming land use questionnaire.

Over the past quarter we have been working diligently towards our goal of providing green, affordable, and sustainable energy to our community via the geothermal project. This project is integral to OC's mission of supporting our Shareholders and community. While we have encountered challenges with various federal and state entities, we remain committed to our pursuit and working closely with the Tribe and City.

The Board has spent the last year growing our OC Shareholder Mentor Program. We have approved the development of a comprehensive plan for the program, which is expected to be completed in early March 2024. It will play a pivotal role in the development of key positions within OC.

Looking ahead, the Board of Directors will continue to oversee the operations of the corporation, ensuring that OC remains a cornerstone of support for our community. We understand the importance of our culture, language, and livelihoods as Unangan people, and we are dedicated to supporting initiatives that safeguard these elements of our identity.

I extend my gratitude to each and every one of you for your continued support, commitment, and engagement. As we look forward to the new year, please know that our dedication to sustainable growth, responsible management, and community engagement will remain at the forefront of our actions.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to wish you Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!

Viacent M. Fatioklags

Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr. CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

## UNANGAM TUNUU



Chiîtaî Malgakuî "It is raining." Ounalashka Corporation Mission Statement

To continue as a prosperous corporation through excellence in management and business development, to benefit Shareholders, thereby, strengthening Unangan culture, education and to be a premier corporation.

Witter 2023

## Unsettled Estates

Attention, Ounalashka Corporation Shareholders & Descendants: Ounalashka Corporation has over \$90,000 in unclaimed estates (deceased Shareholders) and uncashed dividends.

Under Alaska probate laws, OC is required to turn over these unsettled estates to the State of Alaska if we are unable to locate beneficiaries and settle them.

ARIELLE A AUBURN ALAN ALEXEI BLAND LOUISE AMY BRADLEY DEANNA LYNN COLBERT **JALUA ANN EDISON DEBRA ANN FINE-MOORE** MICHAEL P FOX **JOHN GALAKTIONOFF** DAWN HUTCHINSON JOANNE JEPPESEN JOHANNA JOSEPH **IIMMIE DOUGLAS** MCCONNELL AUDRA PAULINE MELLO CHRISTOPHER I MELOVIDOV FRED W MULKEIT CHARLES ALFRED NUNN SR RITA PFRF7 VASSA ALEXIS ROBERTSON **ERNEST WILLIAM SHAISHNIKOFF** ALEX SIFSOF ARNOLD SIFSOF LAWRENCE D SIFSOF BERT JAMES STUTSMAN JR MARIE LOUISE TICKETT MURIFI IFANNETTE TUMBLOO

If you believe you are an heir/beneficiary or know an individual who is, please contact the Shareholder Affairs Department immediately. Email shareholderinfo@ ounalashka.com or call (907) 581-1276.

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Aang! Aang OC Shareholders!

For this letter I looked back through my monthly reports to the Board of Directors for the past year. I thought it would be nice to give a recap of all the great work your OC Team has done.

2023 came in like a lion with a large rainstorm! It rained buckets in Unalaska for just about a week straight. It caused flooding and road closures in several places around the community.

Just like that January rainstorm, 2023 brought a whirlwind of activity to OC. But just like our Unangax people, OC is resilient, and not afraid of a storm or hard work.

A lot of OC's revenue comes from its leasing income in Unalaska. OC has over 200 tenants, ranging from month-to-month tenants to long-term (5+ years). We have all types of leases from mini-storage units, apartment and residential leases, ground leases for fishing boat gear, warehouse storage, docks, and tidelands leases. Keeping OC's leases and infrastructure in sound condition requires a dedicated Team, which we have. The Leasing Department drafts new lease agreements and extensions. They make sure payments are made on time, insurance coverage is up to date, and provide tenants with help throughout the year. The

# Message from the President

Lands Department helps the Leasing Team by making sure tenants are staying within their leased boundaries and are only using the premises for what is allowed per the lease. The Maintenance Department takes care of all maintenance issues on our buildings and is on call to take care of any boiler or plumbing issues.

This year, the OC Team also completed several Capital Improvement Projects in Unalaska. In honor of OC's 50th anniversary, we painted the Unalaska Headquarters office. It has been several years, and this little "facelift" was a much-needed improvement. The Team also completed several siding and roofing projects on some of OC's buildings. Staying proactive in our maintenance efforts is a way to keep our assets in good shape and keep future expenses down.

One of the projects the OC Team is extremely excited about is the award of \$1 million to cleanup PCBs near warehouse Building 551, a WWII era warehouse. OC was one of the first grant recipients to receive **EPA ANCSA Contaminated** Lands Grant funds. In July, OC posted a Request for Qualifications for a qualified environmental professional contractor to provide assistance to OC. In September, OC awarded the contract to Montrose Environmental, who will work with OC Environmental Services, LLC to conduct the assessment and cleanup of

the PCB contamination. This work is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2024. Finally, after an 81 year long wait, another WWII contaminated property will be cleaned up.

Another positive milestone for OC in 2023 was negotiating a ten (10) year extension of the Ugadaga **Quarry Management** Agreement with The Aleut Corporation (TAC). OC has had a successful partnership since 2000 to manage the guarry resources for TAC. We look forward to many more years of working with TAC to benefit not only OC, but TAC Shareholders. Management also posted an RFP in July seeking a company to conduct mining operations in the Ugadaga Quarry. We are in negotiations now with an operator to take over the mining operations. There is a shareholder hire requirement so be on the lookout for job postings!

We are proud to say that Unalaska has become a popular destination in the summer. OC participated in several meetings with visitors from the Alaska Energy Authority, Department of Energy, The Aleut Corporation, Arctic Youth Workshop, EPA, Japanese Navy, and an Unalaska Legislative Fly-In, just to name a few. Unalaska also had over 13 cruise ships visit our port this summer with over 6,000 passengers. Many of these passengers visited our Aleutian WWII National Historic Area Visitor Center.

continued on pg. 4



## Shareholder Spotlight: Jazzmyne Shapsnikoff of Dutch Grind

What started as a dream, thanks to her love of coffee. became reality in 2021. That's when OC Shareholder Jazzmyne Shapsnikoff opened Dutch Grind Coffee Co., LLC, or as us locals lovingly call it, Dutch Grind.

Jazzmyne's sister, Marina Shapsnikoff shared the following information about her sister:

*My sister bought the coffee* stand and instantly got to work. She worked hard day and night to redesign, remodel and rebrand. She hasn't stopped improving it since.

She sells hot/iced coffees, Red Bull smoothies, Italian sodas, lotus energy drinks, soft served ice cream cones and bowls, espresso milk shakes, flavored milkshakes, teas, chais, and an assortment of foods. She sells special sweaters, shirts and hats that are designed by an artist in Wasilla, Alaska. A new design comes out every year.

Another annual event she hosts is graduation night for the kids graduating. She opens especially for them and makes all the graduates drinks and ice cream. She has worked

hard to be able to grant scholarships with money from Dutch Grind.

She got into this wanting to serve the community and own her own business. She's smart. determined, and creative. The future possibilities for this establishment are endless. Dutch Grind

is the only "Keep your head up, drive-thru in Unalaska/ Dutch Harbor. Jazzmyne and her girls

## keep your heart in the right place and be ready to work your tailfeathers off."

work hard to stay open 7 days a week including holidays. She flies girls in and out, hires locals, a lot of which this being their first job, she gives them experience and education in the work force to move on to their next chapters in life with confidence and some jingle in their pockets.

Dutch Grind's owner, Jazzmyne Shapsnikoff is an Unalaska local and a native woman of the Unangan people. Her advice to anyone starting any kind of business, whether it be like hers or not, is to keep your head up, your heart in the right

place and be ready to work your tailfeathers off. Move forward with confidence and always do the right thing, it always comes back to you in the end.

She hopes Dutch Grind is a place people choose to go Christmas morning before

presents or on Saturday nights after dinner for a treat with the kids. Every dog that comes through the stand gets a

treat and every person gets a smile. Dutch Grind is a new staple in the community that hopes to be a part of family traditions for years to come.

If you want to enjoy a wonderful cup of coffee with heartfelt customer service, please swing by the Dutch Grind. They are located at 2141 Airport Beach Road (between the Delta Western Gas Station and Amelia's Restaurant). For more information, please check out Dutch Grind's Facebook and Instagram (@dutchgrind).

## Sharefiolder **Features**

## Missing Shareholder Information

**The following Shareholders** have mail returned to the **OC office:** 

MICHAEL EDWARD SWFT70F **KEVIN M NUNN** AMA7IAH MICHFAI YATCHMENOFE DARRYL DUANE ALLEMAN PADRIC ALLEN DALEY JORDON JOSEPH KAHIKINA

If you see a relative or friend on this list, please have them contact us at shareholderinfo@ounalashka. com or (907) 581-1276 Qaĝaasakung!



### 'Message from the President' continued from pg. 2

These visitors to the community are great networking opportunities. They give us an opportunity to showcase all that OC has to offer to help the Unalaska community grow and strengthen its resolve to be the Heart of the Aleutians.

The OC Team is also looking towards the future. OC Management joined the OC Board of Directors at their fall strategic planning session in October. It had a bit of a rocky beginning because of cancelled flights caused by bad weather. However, after a week of positive discussions and planning, we came away with clear direction from the Board regarding our goals. The focus for the Leasing and Lands team will be to work with R&M Consultants, Inc. to develop and implement a living Land Plan that will help define the uses of all OC lands, whether commercial. residential, or traditional. We hope to have this completed before the next fall planning session.

The Team is also busy finalizing a Capital Improvement Budget for the 2024 projects. The Board met in November to discuss these projects. Once the green light is given, we will be busy ordering supplies and setting up for another busy season. Thank goodness our Team likes to stay busy.

And finally, please remember to keep your shareholder information up to date. You can sign into your MyOC portal at Ounalashka.com to update your documents.

Thank you, and have a safe and happy holiday season,

Denia M. Rak.

Denise M. Rankin PRESIDENT



## **Bridging the Future: Meet the Students Making a Difference**

## **BY ANASTASIA "SASHA" RANKIN**

This August, I had the opportunity to travel to Bogoslof volcano thanks to the invitation of

the Qawalangin Tribe and the Tiĝlax̂ crew, where I had the pleasure of meeting thousands of hyperactive fur seals. The

volcano's newly changed face from the 2016-17 eruption was a sight to behold amongst the delicate diversity of nesting wildlife. The week preceding the trip I had the pleasure of sitting in on presentations with the Arctic Youth Ambassadors during the Community-Based **Environmental Monitoring** in the Arctic workshop. The workshop gave insight on exciting ongoing programs in Unalaska such as the Tribe's recycling program and the newly launched Local **Environmental Observer** Network (LEO). The week was well spent empowering youth involvement and

our concerns for the environment and our homes. It demonstrated to

> me how our communities are coming together to tackle common issues.

From Unalaska l traveled to

Sisimiut and Nuuk Greenland through the Arctic Resilient **Communities Youth** Fellowship (ARCYF) where I attended many workshops addressing Greenland's resource development, governance, and education. During our trip in Sisimiut, ARCYF was hosted by the Greenlandic School of Minerals and Petroleum who opened discussions on the relationship between responsible resource development and Arctic communities. Our trip concluded in Nuuk where the group was introduced to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the U.S. Consulate, the

Greenland Environmental Advisor, and Greenland community leaders. The entirety of the trip followed themes of the power of indigenous knowledge and the importance of youth involvement, our concerns, and most importantly, our connectivity. Arctic communities face many similar challenges but are kindred in our perseverance; and in attending these meetings it is easy to see a brighter future together.

As an OC Shareholder and employee, I would like to thank the OC Board and Management for allowing me to participate in these wonderful programs. The experience and knowledge that are gained from this participation will help in my continued growth as an Unangax. l encourage other young Shareholders or descendants to take advantage of opportunities such as this so that we may continue to be a strong nation.

## "The experience and knowledge that are gained from this participation will help in my continued growth as an Unangax."

## AFN Conference 2023 by shelby shaishnikoff

This year I had the opportunity to attend the Alaska Federation of Natives conference in Anchorage. Our Way of Life was the main theme of the three-day conference. The meeting upheld our traditional values that have sustained us for thousands of years. Each morning, they opened with dancers from around Alaska. Each region gathered into separate rooms to discuss and revise the 2023 Resolutions. Unanimously across the regions the concern I saw the most was on subsistence. Our way of life are these practices we follow throughout the seasons.

Being surrounded by so many people who attended to create

a change and having a voice in that change was incredible. Our Senator, Lisa Murkowski brought to light how our sense of community is our greatest strength. It was amazing to see the different regions work together as one community to create change. I am grateful for the opportunity to have attended this conference. and I would like to thank the Ounalashka Corporation and the Qawalangin Tribe for presenting this opportunity to me as well as other youth in the community. I hope that more of our youth take the chance to learn more about our Unangax ways of life through these gatherings.



# **Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation**

The Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation was established by Ounalashka Corporation and provides funding for tuition, books, housing, and other expenses to Shareholders and registered descendants. These generous scholarships are available to both full-time and part-time students in college, training, technical schools, and career development. The amount awarded for college students is based on GPA and funds available each year. Scholarships up to \$500 per year are awarded for career development.

### TO QUALIFY, YOU MUST BE ENROLLED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

- College full-time (12+ credits)
- College part-time (6+ credits)
- Graduate or doctorate program (9+ credits or full-time as defined by the institution)

- Vocational one- and two-year programs
- Career development or short-term training

#### IMPORTANT DATES: College or University

- Fall application deadline July 31
- Winter/Spring application deadline November 30
- Summer application
- deadinie April

### Trade School

• Deadline – 60 days prior to class start date

#### Career Development

• Deadline – 15 days prior to class start date

## **Contact Information**

shareholderinfo@ounalashka.com 907-581-1276





## NOW HIRING:

Are you interested in a career or internship with OC or one of our companies? Our businesses offer opportunities for Shareholders and descendants to build their skills, gain realworld experience, and be a part of the OC community. Scan this QR code to see the latest job openings and apply!



**SCAN TO APPLY** 

# Welcome to OC's new Employees

Josie Padget, Leasing and Lands Security

Kimberley Johnson, Human Resources Manager Kitty Greene, Controller

Thomas Wray, Operations Manager

Jason Westenskow, OCE Project Manager Summer Smith, Receptionist Duane Johnson, Maintenance Tech I Kristine Balbarino, Residential Property & Leasing Coordinator

Log In Today

**Connect to MyOC Shareholder Portal** 

MyOC portal is easy, convenient and secure! Once you have logged in, you can check your information and more.



**Step 1** Go to the Ounalashka Corporation website: **ounalashka.com** 



Step 2 Click on the green "My OC Shareholder Portal" button.

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Step 3 If new to MyOC, click on the word "here."

**Step 4** Follow the instructions on the site.

# Tea With Elders

## Tea, snacks, and gathering once again.

The Unalaska Senior Center Elder Tea program has been on hold for almost five years. The COVID pandemic and other hardships made for a long break from the monthly events where Elders gather for tea and conversation. A recent donation from the Qawalangin Tribe has made it possible to get started again.

Please consider this your invite to join the Elders of your community for light snacks and conversation. You may hear some good stories, have some good laughs, or if you are lucky, receive some wisdom and advice. Elder Tea is once a month at the Father Ishmael Senior Center. Please contact Shirl Treiber Lekanoff for more info.

# Need to talk?

988 connects you to Careline, Alaska's suicide and crisis lifeline. If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat <u>988Lifeline.org</u>. When you call 988, you will be connected with a trained Alaska Careline crisis counselor who can help.

Learn more about Careline at <u>carelinealaska.com</u> or about 988 in Alaska at <u>988.alaska.gov.</u>



# Condolences

OC would like to extend our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of the following Shareholders that we lost in 2023:

BERT JAMES STUTSMAN JR DEBRA ANN FINE-MOORE GEORGE LEE KRUKOFF JALUA ANN EDISON JOHN LESLIE GALAKTIANOFF MATTHEW RODNEY BARRON WILFRED HAROLD BERESKIN



Dear Shareholders,

It is difficult to believe that 2024 is just around the corner. This past year has been incredibly busy for OC. OCE and OCCP and I do not expect much to slow down next year. We continue to grow our staff, currently employing 24 fulltime employees between the Unalaska and Anchorage offices. In mid-October, the full Board of Directors met in Anchorage to participate in a week-long planning session. Although the days got long, it was an extremely productive week.

One topic the Board discussed was OC's Federal priorities list. For the third straight year, the Trilateral will be traveling to Washington D.C. in December to meet with the Delegation and various Federal agencies. A proposed list of topics include: 2025 Appropriations requests from the entire Alaska Delegation, military basing and/or an enhanced military presence in Unalaska, salmon bycatch issues and fisheries disaster relief, ANCSA contaminated lands clean-up, Environmental Justice, Tribal Energy Loan Program/Makushin Geothermal Project, NAGPRA/Repatriation, and improvements to Captain's Bay Road.

Additionally, OCCP received some exciting news on October 25, 2023, when it received approval for an AEA loan in the amount of \$4.9M.

# Message from the CEO

OCCP is also continuing to work with AIDEA for its \$25M investment in the Makushin Geothermal Project and expects the matter to be taken up in early 2024. Concurrently, we are in the due diligence phase of the loan process with the Department of Energy for the remainder of construction financing and for the longterm financing. The DOE loan is targeted to be funded in late 2024. The progression of capital stack funding is (has been) OCCP money first, then AEA, AIDEA, then DOE to provide for work continuity/ completion.

Although the Project is not completely funded yet, we are closer than ever and on a path that leads us there by late 2024. It remains our plan to complete the project and become operational by the end of the year 2027.

OC was already awarded the \$1 Million ANCSA Contaminated Land Cleanup Grant and a \$2 Million Brownfields Assessment Grant. OC is also pursuing an EPA Brownfields Clean up Grant targeting the Strawberry Hill Landfill. A community meeting was held on November 6, 2023, to entertain comments from the public.

Finally, as has already been announced, the OC Board of Directors appointed me as the new Chief Executive Officer. I have represented OC since 2001 and am honored and humbled by this decision. I am also incredibly excited to spearhead the Mentorship Program, which is specifically designed to offer guidance and development opportunities for qualified OC Shareholders, with the ultimate goal of cultivating and advancing individuals into high-level leadership positions such as CEO and/or other managerial roles.

The Program aims to provide tailored guidance, and opportunities for professional development, empowering Shareholders to grow and take on critical postions, aligning with OC's mission and vision. The Program also represents a strategic investment in the professional development and advancement of Shareholders, ensuring that the leadership pipeline remains strong, and aligns with OC's commitment to fostering talent from within the Corporation.

Under the Program, three qualified applicants will be selected to rotate between the Unalaska and Anchorage offices working with management in each Department, including OCE and OCCP. I strongly encourage all qualified applicants to apply.

I hope everyone enjoys the Holiday season and as always, I thank you for the continued support of not only me, but also the entire OC Staff.

Matalie a. Cale

Natalie A. Cale CEO/COO/GENERAL COUNSEL

## ounalashka Board & Staff

#### BOARD

Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr. Chairman Brian D. Rankin Vice-Chair Margaret A. Lekanoff Secretary & Treasurer Janice L. Krukoff Nicholai E. Lekanoff Dennis M. Robinson Shayla R. Shaishnikoff Wendy A. Svarny-Hawthorne Michael R. Tutiakoff

#### **STAFF**

Natalie A. Cale CEO/COO/General Counsel Denise M. Rankin President Laresa Syverson Technical Lands Manager Donna Van Flein Corporate Affairs Coordinator Kimberley Johnson Human Resources Manager

Eren Fernandez Senior Accountant Kitty Greene

Controller Levi Vernon

Senior Accountant Trainee Aqualina "Aqua" Bereskin Accounting Assistant

Maricel Tungul Leasing Manager

**Anastasia "Sasha" Rankin** Lands Assistant

**Emil Berikoff, Jr.** Maintenance Tech II/Supervisor

**John Jason Bereskin** Maintenance Technician

Duane Johnson Maintenance Technician

Eliseo "Bong" Orteza Maintenance Technician Luke Shaishnikoff

Maintenance Technician Veronika Kadoun

Security Officer
Shelby Shaishnikoff

Leasing Assistant Summer Smith Receptionist

Josie Padget Security Officer

Kristine Balbarino Residential Property & Leasing Coordinator

Thomas Wray Operations Manager



P.O. Box 149 Unalaska, Alaska 99685-0149

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Shareholder Relations

(907) 581-1276 shareholderinfo@ounalashka.com

## Submit ideas, stories & recipes to shareholderinfo@ounalashka.com

# **Shareholder Announcements**

#### **DIRECT DEPOSIT**

OC Shareholders, ensure you receive your dividends as quickly as possible! Please read the direct deposit form carefully, and you must attach a copy of a voided check. If one is not attached, your form will not be accepted.

#### **STOCK WILL & ESTATE**

Do you have an OC Stock Will on file? Having a Stock Will on file with OC lets you determine who will inherit your stock after your passing. If you pass away without a Stock Will, your stock will be distributed according to Alaska State Law and may be distributed to individuals you do not intend.

Most importantly, not having a Stock Will on file slows down the stock inheritance process for your heirs and descendants.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE!**

Ounalashka Settlement Trust (OST) units are distributed pursuant to the transfer of OC stock, provided, however, only if the OC stock is inherited by an Alaska Native or descendant of an Alaska Native. Effective since June 3, 2017, non-Natives cannot inherit trust units in the OST. If any Shareholders will their shares in OC to a non-Native, the intended recipient WILL NOT have any right to vote and WILL NOT receive any distributions (dividends). Essentially, you are giving them nothing.

#### **DESCENDANTS**

With each successive generation, it is becoming

more challenging to document a descendant's relationship to an original shareholder. Collecting the information now makes the application process easier for both current and future generations.

The information submitted through the registration process is being collected to:

- Improve communications with descendants who may become OC Shareholders in the future through gifting or inheritance.
- Provide information on potential opportunities and activities.
- Aid the Edna P. McCurdy Scholarship Foundation in establishing proof of eligibility for scholarships.
- Help support and promote artists and entrepreneurs.

## We want to hear from you!

OC wants to continue to promote and recognize our Shareholders and descendants. We have many Shareholders who have a variety of talents and expertise. Email us at shareholderinfo@ ounalashka.com to be featured online and/or in the Eider Pointer. Ounalashka Corporation reserves the right to alter or edit any submissions prior to publication.

