



#### APPLY NOW FOR CIRI'S DIRECT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

CIRI shareholders and descendants age 18+ who have experienced negative financial impacts because of COVID-19 may apply for cash assistance.

The Direct Assistance Program (DAP) is a CIRI program funded through the company's allocation of Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act funding. It is administered by Cook Inlet Tribal Council.

#### **Eligibility Requirements**

The DAP is open to individuals who meet the following criteria:

- CIRI shareholders and descendants 18+ years of age
- Must be a U.S. citizen
- Have experienced negative financial impacts from COVID-19

To be eligible, applicants do not need to live in the Cook Inlet region or the state of Alaska; DAP funds are available to ALL shareholders and descendants who meet certain criteria, regardless of where they live.

#### **Cash Assistance**

The program provides eligible shareholders and descendants up to \$1,500 for themselves and up to \$500 for each eligible dependent under the age of 18.

#### **Descendant Registration**

If you are a descendant who has not yet registered with CIRI, you can still qualify for the

DAP by filling out the one-page Descendant Registration Form (available at ciri.com/ CARES) and submitting it along with your completed DAP application. If available, the legal documents to support descendancy should be submitted with the application, unless they are unavailable at this time.

#### To Apply

The application window opened Sept. 1. There are limited funds available for the DAP; eligible shareholders and descendants may apply through the Oct. 15, 2021, deadline or until funds are expended, whichever occurs first.

# For information and to apply, visit ciri.com/CARES

#### Questions?

- Information, including a list of frequently asked questions, is available at ciri.com/ CARES.
- For questions about descendant registration, email CIRI Shareholder Relations at ShareholderRecords@ciri. com or call (907) 263-5191 / (800) 764-2474 during regular business hours.
- If you require a paper DAP application, contact Cook Inlet Tribal Council at (907) 891-7222.

# Intern-AL AFFAIRS

Hello! My name is Savanah Encelewski, and I am so grateful for the opportunity to intern in CIRI's accounting department this summer!



I am currently completing my general education requirements at Folsom Lake College

in Folsom, Calif., and I will transfer to Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego next fall to earn my bachelor's degree in finance. I will then work toward my master's degree at the University of California San Diego.

I was born in Anchorage and moved at a very young age to California. Despite being so far away from the beautiful state of Alaska, I have stayed connected to my Alaska Native roots through CIRI and its family of nonprofit organizations.

My grandfather, Richard "Greg" Encelewski, has served as president and chair of Ninilchik Natives Association since 1973. My uncle, Ivan Encelewski, has followed in his father's footsteps as executive director of the Ninilchik Traditional Council. Many other family members also work for Native-serving organizations, including my father who is currently senior director of finance for Southcentral Foundation.

Over the years, I have looked to the members of my family for inspiration and encouragement. Our Alaska Native ancestors passed down their wisdom and knowledge to help us navigate our individual paths, teaching us what it means to live life with excellence, honor, respect, and unity, and how to stay driven despite any setbacks that may occur. They have instilled in me the belief that I am here for a reason greater than myself and that I am destined to do wonderful things!

Throughout my educational, professional and personal journey, I will appreciate the values my ancestors have passed down to me and carry gratitude for the Alaska Native community that will continue to be celebrated for many generations to come.

Until next time, Savanah

#### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sophie Minich, CIRI President and Chief Executive Officer

As the leaves start to change here in the Cook Inlet region, it's hard to believe our brief and glorious summer is coming to a close.

No matter the season, I am grateful for the bounty of our region and the ability to get outside. In fact, research has shown that exposure to natural environments is associated with mental health benefits, including lower levels of stress and reduced symptoms of depression and anxiety.

Spending time outdoors might even help buffer the effects of loneliness or social isolation. While social isolation is typically associated with decreased subjected well-being, researchers have found that when people with low social connectedness spend more time in nature, they report high levels of well-being.

As September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, there is renewed focus on our mental health. In August 2020, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released the results of a nationwide survey conducted during the last week of June 2020. More than 40% of respondents reported symptoms of anxiety, depression or increased substance use, in addition to other struggles. And more than 10% said that they had seriously considered suicide in the past 30 days, compared with just over 4% who said the same thing in 2018.

While it is too soon to know whether the COVID-19 pandemic will result in more suicides as it can take a year or two for the CDC to collect and analyze national mortality data, its effects

can exacerbate multiple factors—economic stress, social isolation, the death of loved ones, loss of community—that may increase suicides.

The pandemic has generated anxiety and stress for many, making it imperative to remain vigilant to prevent mental-health crises. Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- If you or someone you know is in an emergency, it is important to call **911** immediately.
- If you are in crisis or are experiencing difficult or suicidal thoughts, it is important for you to call the National Suicide Hotline at **(800) 273-TALK (8255)**.
- If you're uncomfortable talking on the phone, you can text the National Alliance on Mental Illness at **741-741** to be connected to a free, trained crisis counselor on the Crisis Text Line.
- Southcentral Foundation's Denaa Yeets' program provides services to Alaska Native/ American Indian (AN/AI) adults at risk for suicide or who have experienced the death of a loved one from suicide. The program is staffed with behavioral health case managers who connect customer-owners to different services, including medication management, therapy, financial aid, housing and jobsearch assistance. For information, call (907) 729-5260 / (800) 478-3343.

Suicide is a complex issue that requires a multipronged approach to address effectively. Alaska has the second-highest suicide rate in the nation



per capita and AN/AI people have the highest rates of suicide of any racial/ethnic group in the U.S. Marginalization, stigma, discriminatory public policies and racial trauma are a few of the factors greatly affecting health outcomes in AN/AI people.

#BeThe1To is the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's message for National Suicide Prevention Month and beyond, which helps spread the word about actions we can all take to prevent suicide. The Lifeline network and its partners are working to change the conversation from suicide, to suicide prevention, with actions that can promote healing, help and give hope. We all have a role to play in suicide prevention. To learn more, visit suicidepreventionlifeline.org.

Warm regards,

# Jophie Minich

### **BOARD CORNER**

A Message from CIRI Board Director Hallie Bissett

My name is Hallie Bissett. I am Dena'ina Athabascan and was gifted CIRI shares from my mother, original enrollee Debra Bissett. I am the granddaughter of original CIRI enrollee Virginia Nicoli Cullers and the great-granddaughter of Talkeetna Nicoli, the last traditional chief of Talkeetna, Alaska. It has been my honor to serve on the CIRI Board of Directors since 2010.

I grew up with CIRI and with a close connection to my Alaska Native heritage—my grandmother was full-blooded Dena'ina Athabascan and I stayed in close contact with her and my other Alaska Native relatives.

I began working as a groundskeeper for CIRI at the age of 14. Over the next seven years I worked in a variety of roles at CIRI, including historical research and cultural tourism positions. One of the highlights of my time at CIRI was working with historian A.J. McClanahan on her book "A Reference in Time," a day-by-day record of Alaska Native history.

When I worked in cultural tourism, I spent a lot of time with the Elders in Chickaloon and Montana Creek, where my family was from, and even my own family, talking about traditional lifestyles—the regalia they wore, the songs they sang. I still remember the first time I heard an Athabascan song and the beat of a Native drum, just knowing I was connected to something bigger.

Today, I serve as executive director for the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association



where I help develop small village corporations into sustainable ongoing concerns.

Around the time I graduated high school, my mother gifted CIRI shares to each of her three children because she wanted us to be involved in our corporation. I believe parents gifting shares to the next generation and encouraging them to participate in the corporation makes us stronger. Beyond gifting shares, CIRI makes numerous opportunities—including youth opportunities—available to CIRI descendants, regardless of shareholder status. It is up to each of us to encourage this kind of involvement in CIRI.

As its only millennial member, I bring a unique perspective to the CIRI Board. By involving CIRI youth in our corporation, we work to build the next generation of leaders who will carry CIRI forward.

#### 



December 13-15, 2021
In person in Anchorage with live TV, radio and webstream coverage

"ANCSA at 50: Empowering Our Future"

The 2021 Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Convention will be held Monday, Dec. 13 through Wednesday, Dec. 15 in Anchorage. The event is tentatively planned to be held in person, with live radio, television and webstream coverage. The AFN board will make a final decision on whether to hold an in-person event in mid-October. For more information and updates visit nativefederation.org/convention.

## WINNERS' CIRCLE -

To increase participation in certain programs, CIRI holds periodic prize drawings from the names of those enrolled who meet certain criteria and have a current mailing address with CIRI. If CIRI has returned mail, a different winner will be selected. Visit the CIRI website or call (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 to learn more. The following shareholders and descendants have been selected as winners for the most recent CIRI drawings:

#### **STOCK WILL PARTICIPATION PRIZES**

\$200 Monthly Stock Will Prize:

- April Individual has asked to remain anonymous
- May Billy Okpik Sr.
- June Edwin Piotrowski

Second quarter drawing for Apple iPad Air:

• LaNora Clyde

Must have a valid will on file that complies with CIRI's fractional share policy.

#### **DIRECT DEPOSIT DRAWING**

Second quarter drawing for \$500:

Robert Gentry

The direct deposit instruction must be current with CIRI to win.

#### **eNEWSLETTER DRAWING**

Second quarter drawing for an iPad or \$400 cash:

• Leann Welker

Shareholders enrolled in the eNewsletter program with a valid email address on file.

#### **CONFIRMED, REGISTERED DESCENDANT DRAWING**

Second quarter drawing for a Kindle Fire HD or Amazon gift card:

• Samantha Matteucci

Direct lineal descendants of CIRI shareholders who are not themselves shareholders, who have submitted legal documents substantiating descent and who have a valid email address on file.

#### **QENEK ACCOUNT DRAWING**

Second quarter drawing for a YETI cooler:

• Ruth Elgin

created a Qenek account or accessed an existing account during the preceding quarter.

#### **GREENLINK DRAWING**

Second quarter drawing \$500:

Jay Jennings

Shareholders who have a valid direct deposit instruction and email address on file and who have opted into electronic delivery of certain materials. ≒

### NORTH WIND EMPLOYEE PLACES THIRD IN AIR FORCE 'INNOVATION RODEO' »

The Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC) is one of six centers aligned under Air Force Materiel Command for the U.S. Air Force. AFIMSC serves as the single intermediatelevel headquarters responsible for providing installation and mission support capabilities to 77 Air Force installations, nine major commands and two direct reporting units.

Each year, AFIMSC Ventures, the center's innovation office, holds an "Innovation Rodeo" to help Airmen and civilian members of missionsupport groups around the world pitch ideas, partner with innovation experts and secure funding for their respective projects. Finalists compete for a share of \$1 million in award money and additional resources to pursue their ideas.

In 2021, out of 370 submissions, eight finalists were chosen. One finalist was Scott McClure, an electrical engineer with North Wind Site Services (NWSS) who is stationed at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) in Anchorage. McClure teamed with Capt. Nathanael Kohl and Master Sgt. Luke Rogan on a multi-phase strategic plan for modeling Air Force facilities in 3D. The project ultimately earned the team third place.

#### A Modern Solution to an Age-Old Problem

The bulk of Air Force civil engineer projects currently depend on AutoCAD data, photos and drawings that are often incomplete, outdated or inaccurate. McClure and his team's proposed 3D interior scanner project would incorporate high-resolution, 360-degree cameras and 3D scanners to catalog the projects—technologies that may be used to establish an accurate library of 3D real-property files at a fraction of the time and cost. The new technology would also integrate seamlessly with cloud-based solutions. As part of the Innovation Rodeo, the team spent a week learning from leading innovators before successfully pitching their idea to a board of senior AFIMSC support leaders. In addition to start-up funding, AFIMSC Ventures offered to assist the third-place-winning team in the development, funding and implementation of the project.

"North Wind is proud of Scott McClure's success and impressive finish in the Air Force-wide Innovation Rodeo," said Craig Waller, NWSS's 611th Civil Engineer Squadron project manager.



"His 3D structural scanning concept not only placed third but captured a full \$450,000 of the prize money—the single largest monetary award in the entire competition.

"Three-dimensional digitalization of facilities could ultimately result in substantial efficiencies and maintenance savings for more than 55,000 Air Force facilities worldwide," Waller continued. "Scott has taken his concept from inception to solicitation and is currently evaluating 19 industry proposals. This represents an exceptionally competitive pool and an impressive early success."

#### **About North Wind Group**

Founded in 1997, North Wind Group (NWG) has grown to a group of companies that employ more than 1,750 scientific, engineering, management and professional personnel. Headquartered in Idaho Falls, Idaho, NWG has been a wholly owned subsidiary of CIRI since 2010. North Wind Site Services, one of 15 NWG companies, provides engineering, program management and environmental-remediation services. Learn more at northwindgrp.com.

## »»RECIPE»



## **MOOSE BURGERS**

Adapted from the recipe by Markus Mueller, earthfoodandfire.com.

As the author wrote about this recipe, "If you can't find moose meat or don't have any local hunters you can approach, you can always use a different type of game meat or simply use beef."

START TO FINISH: 45 minutes (30 minutes prep time. 15 minutes cook time)

**SERVINGS:** 10 burgers

#### **INGREDIENTS:**

- 2 pounds ground moose/game meat or extra-lean ground beef
- 1/4 pound smoked bacon, diced and partially cooked
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 whole onions, caramelized
- 1 egg yolk
- Salt and pepper, to taste

#### **OPTIONAL BURGER TOPPINGS:**

Lettuce Sliced tomato BBQ sauce Smoked cheddar

Crispy fried onions, such as French's

#### **DIRECTIONS:**

- 1. Peel and slice the onion. Caramelize sliced onions in a pan with a little oil until dark golden brown. Once dark golden brown, remove from heat and set aside.
- **2.** As the onions caramelize, dice the smoked bacon and cook in a second pan. The bacon should be cooked but not crispy. Once cooked, set aside along with the bacon fat.
- 3. Mix the ground moose meat or beef with the caramelized onion, bacon, egg yolk, garlic, alt and pepper. Form the meat mixture into 10 burger patties by forming balls and then flattening them.
- 4. Cook the moose meat burger patties on a BBQ grill or pan fry them on the stove. Cook on each side for about 5 minutes or until they reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees.
- **5.** Assemble the burgers with the toppings of your choice and serve immediately.

The Raven's Circle would like to feature our readers' favorite recipes! To submit, visit ciri.com/recipe.

## INMEMORY »

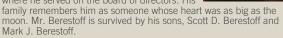
## Wesley Bumsy Anaruk Jr. (aka Wesley Gilbert Anaruk Jr.), 51

Wesley Bumsy Anaruk Jr. passed away April 18 at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Anaruk was born Aug. 24, 1969, in Anchorage. He is survived by his mother, Mary Anaruk-Thomas; pops, Denny Thomas; siblings, Sabrina Tocktoo, Sammy and Christina Anaruk, Benny and Madie Anaruk, Amanda Anaruk and Alexis Anaruk;
nieces and nephews, Jacqulyn, Paul, Evon,
Sara, Thor, Travis and Rikki Tocktoo, MaryLou
and Tarini Tosi, Samantha, Kristopher, Winter
and James Anaruk, Yvonne Egoak, Romeo Egoak Blake, Tobi

Anaruk, David Fetters Jr., Josiah Anaruk, Landon Locke and Addisyn Keck; and great-nieces and -nephews, Jaylen Tocktoo, Tariq Eluska, Urijah Eluska, Austin Amaktoolik, Alyssa Tocktoo, Jordan Tocktoo, Janelle Tocktoo and Cassius Tosi.

Ernest James Berestoff, 89

Ernest James Berestoff passed away July 1 at home in Spokane, Wash. Mr. Berestoff was born Dec. 21, 1931, in Seward, Alaska. A celebrated athlete, Berestoff, who was born hard of hearing, was inducted into the Washington School for the Deaf Alumni Association Hall of Fame for his athletic accomplishments in 2011. He enjoyed a career as a linotype operator and helped establish the Hearing Loss Center in Spokane, where he served on the board of directors. His family remembers him as someone whose heart was as big as the



Patricia A. Carroll, 79
Patricia A. Carroll passed away May 5 at the Fairbanks Pioneer Home in Fairbanks, Alaska. Ms. Carroll was born Aug. 12, 1941, in Fort Yukon, Alaska. She is survived by her children, Richard VanHatten, Bob and Michally KanHatten, and Christing and Walter. ner children, Kichard vanHatten, Bob and Michelle VanHatten, and Christina and Walter Williamson; grandchildren, Sarah Cox, Sam VanHatten, Nathan Peter, Daniel VanHatten, Brandon VanHatten, Kyle VanHatten and Kasandra Slatten; great-grandchildren, Zoe Wagner and Kaitlynn Cox; siblings, Marvin Carroll, Florence Carroll, Alice Burk, Dorothy Clark (Gary), Donald Carroll, Paper Carroll, and many penhager.



Carroll, Donna Carroll and Jerry Carroll; and many nephews nieces and cousins

Anthony Wayne Cavalli, 50
Anthony Wayne Cavalli passed away
June 28 in Black Diamond, Wash. Mr. Cavalli
was born Jan 10, 1971, in San Jose, Calif. He is survived by his daughters, Brittney and Faith Cavalli; grandsons, Caden Moniz, and Joseph and Jaxson Cavalli-Johnson; and sister, Onika Tiedeman.



Bernard Alva DeAsis, 83 -

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Bernard Alva DeAsis passed away Jan. 27 at Honor Health Deer Valley Medical Center in Glendale, Ariz. Mr. DeAsis was born Sept. 22, 1937, in Angoon, Alaska. He is survived by his wife, Patricia Ann Downing DeAsis; brothers, Milton, Royal and Timothy DeAsis; sisters, Verna Johnson and Alberta DeAsis Deased Bears of Devider DeAsis D Everson; children, Bernard, Bernadine, David, Patrick, Brian and Alan DeAsis, Teresa Farris Johnson and Timothy Farris; 16 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; one great-greatgrandchild; and many more family members.

Gary Arnold Engelstad, 69
Gary Arnold Engelstad passed away April 19
at home in Kenai, Alaska. Mr. Engelstad was
born Oct. 28, 1951. He is survived by his sister, Roberta Engelstad Mueller Koppenberg; brothers, David Engelstad and Eddie Engelstad Jr.; nieces, Leah Shields and Nadia Rasberry; and nephews, Richard Mueller and Walter Burt



John Bernard Johnson, 63

John Bernard Johnson, 93
John Bernard Johnson passed away March 11 at Providence
Alaska Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Johnson was born
Nov. 24, 1957, in Anchorage. He is survived by his wife, Edna
Johnson; daughters, Michele Hunter and Deanna Cleveland;
and grandchildren, Hope and Cole Cleveland, and Kira and Aria

Carrie Karels, 88
Carrie Karels passed away April 3 in Casa Grande, Ariz.
Ms. Karels was born Aug. 8, 1932, in Eek, Alaska. She is survived by her children, Gloria Henderson, and John, Donald and Glenda Karels; sister, Edith Beebe; and many grandchildren.

William "Bill" Kiernan, 65

William "Bill" Kiernan passed away April 8 in Wasilla, Alaska. Mr. Kiernan was born June 4, 1955, in Camden, N.Y. He owned his own business, American Towing Service, which started with one truck and eventually grew into him as a man who wore his heart on his sleeve and would help anyone in need. He is survived by his daughters, Angela Kiernan and Christine (Jake) Pfeiffer; stepdaughter, Sabrina Tomlinson; brothers, Ray Kiernan and Timothy Tomlinson; grandchildren, Dustin Kiernan, Katelin Shawback



Nathan Drury, Selana Quin, and Cory and Riley Pfeiffer; and many great-grandchildren.

Carol Ann Longrie, 69 -

Carol Ann Longrie, 69
Carol Ann Longrie passed away May 14 in Rockledge, Fla.
Ms. Longrie was born March 31, 1952, in Seldovia, Alaska. She is survived by her husband, Ronald Longrie; children, Kaia Lee Matheny and Nathan James Wilcox; brother, Thomas C. Nelsen; and grandchildren, Elijah Douglas Smith, Pricilla Elaine Matheny and McKayla Grace Johnston.

JoAnne Lynn Mignano, 60
JoAnne Lynn Mignano passed away May 17
at Alaska Regional Hospital in Anchorage.
Ms. Mignano was born Feb. 23, 1961, in
Anchorage. She is survived by her daughters,
Maria (Dean) Crouch and Christie (Zack)
Brumbaugh; grandson, Bodhi; sisters, Gloria
(Gene) Sheehan and Carol Ritter; uncle, Robert
(Virginia) Rude; and many nieces, nephews,
cousins and dear lifelong friends.



IN MEMORY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 05

## 2020-2021 YOUTH EDUCATIONAL INCENTIVE **PRIZE WINNERS**

To encourage youth to attend and excel at school, CIRI conducts twice-yearly prize drawings for students in grades 7-12 who maintain a GPA of 3.5 or above and/ or students who miss no more than four classes in the reporting period. Each winner receives a \$100 gift card. Please join us in congratulating the following CIRI shareholders and confirmed descendants who qualified for the drawing based on their 2020-2021 academic year (first and/or second semester) GPA, attendance record or both:

#### **ANCHORAGE**

#### **James Anaruk**

Yup'ik and Filipino Child of Samuel Anaruk Anchorage, Alaska

#### Kristopher Anaruk

Yup'ik and Filipino Child of Samuel Anaruk Anchorage, Alaska

#### Winter Anaruk

Yup'ik and Filipino Child of Samuel Anaruk Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Grace Asselin**

Dena'ina Athabascan Child of Gerard Asselin Anchorage, Alaska

#### Joseph Butzke

Inupiag Child of Jonathan Butzke Anchorage, Alaska

#### Aniya Gonzalez-Padilla

Athabascan Child of Sharon Padilla Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Makaylen King**

Aleut Child of Wayne King Anchorage, Alaska

#### Sorjen Paul

Aleut Child of Laura Paul Anchorage, Alaska

#### **Terry Tuttle**

Aleut and Athabascan Child of Troy Tuttle Anchorage, Alaska

#### **ALASKA**

#### **Elizabeth Chuitt**

Athabascan and Inupiaq Child of Dorcas Chuitt Wainwright, Alaska

#### Sara James

Inupiag Child of Donna James Nome, Alaska

**Aaliyah Tiedeman** Aleut and Inupiag Child of Nicholaus Tiedeman

#### **LOWER 48 AND HAWAII**

#### **Brenna Brown**

Cordova, Alaska

Athabascan Child of Catherine Brown San Antonio, Texas

#### **Grace Carlson**

Athabascan, Aleut and Yup'ik Child of Teresa Carlson Las Vegas, Nev.

#### **Maxamillion Carlson-Minks**

Athabascan, Aleut and Yup'ik Child of Teresa Carlson Las Vegas, Nev.

#### **Allison Colburn**

Aleut Child of Leslie Colburn Casper, Wyo.

#### Cameron Jay Demoski

Athabascan Child of Edward Demoski Maple Valley, Wash.

#### **Caroline Forde**

Aleut Child of Elizabeth Forde Livermore, Calif.

#### **Conor Forde**

Aleut Child of Elizabeth Forde Livermore, Calif.

#### **Gavin Lee Gutierrez**

Aleut Child of Tina Gutierrez Glendora, Calif.

#### Laria Kraft

Aleut Child of Don Kraft Tequesta, Fla.

#### Simone Louie

Aleut Child of Rebecca Louie Cardiff, Calif.

#### Ryan Mulcahey

Inuit Child of Cheryl Mulcahey Collegeville, Pa.

#### Aleshanee Nikita Athabascan

Child of Deborah Nikita Santa Fe, N.M.

#### Julian Perez

Inuit Child of Gerald Perez Fl Dorado Kan

#### **Morgan Purdy**

Athabascan Child of Meggan Purdy Greenwood, Ind.

#### Grace Vu

Aleut Child of Vicki Vu Olympia, Wash.

#### College Graduation

CIRI shareholder John Luke Kakaruk and Kyan Olanna are pleased to announce the graduation of their daughter, Breanna, from Oregon State Breanna graduated in June with a degree in management and plans to intern in Portland, Ore. She worked all four years



of college, most recently as a student success peer facilitator. Brenna is the granddaughter of Margaret Kakaruk and the great-granddaughter of the late Elsie Kakaruk, both original CIRI enrollees. Congratulations, Breanna!

#### College Graduation

CIRI descendant Christopher Quinn is pleased to announce the graduation of his son, Garrison, from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, Calif. Garrison graduated in June with a degree in agricultural systems management. Garrison's mother is original CIRI enrollee



Dawn Preskar (Holt). Congratulations, Garrison!

#### **High-School Graduation**

CIRI shareholder Jeffrey Hurlburt is pleased to announce the graduation of his daughter, Olivia, from Middletown High School in Middletown, Conn. Oliva graduated in June and plans to study actuarial science at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Olivia's mother is



Taneone Hurlburt; grandmother is the late Julie (Bert) Johnnie of Anchorage, an original CIRI enrollee; and grandfather is Jeff Hurlburt Sr. of Tampa, Fla. Congratulations, Olivia!

#### **High-School Graduation**

CIRI shareholder Katrina Leiva graduation of her daughter, Lili, from Huntington Beach High School Academy for the Performing Arts in Huntington Beach, Calif. Lili was awarded top female vocalist of the year in 2021 and plans to study communications at Orange



Coast College in Costa Mesa, Calif. Lili is the granddaughter the late Brenda Gregoire of Homer, Alaska, an original CIRI enrollee; and the great-granddaughter of the late Violet Blatchford of Kenai, Alaska. Congratulations, Lili!

#### **High-School Graduation**

Original CIRI enrollee Virginia Rowley is pleased to announce the graduation of her grandson, Seth Gillen (Inupiat and Tlingit), from Wasilla High School in Wasilla, Alaska. Seth's father is Michael Gillen. Congratulations, Seth!



High-School Graduation — Original CIRI enrollee Donna Bartels is pleased to announce the graduation of her grandson, Joseph Standifer II, from the Alaska Military Youth Academy Alaska Military Youth Academy, a residential school based on the traditional military training model located in Anchorage. Joseph is the great-grandson of original CIRI enrollee Clara Chuitt. Congratulations, Joseph! ≒





#### IMPORTANT DATES ..... SEPT. 30, 2021 Deadline for Quarterly Participation Prize Drawings OCT. 11, 2021 Indigenous Peoples' Day OCT. 18, 2021 Alaska Day NOV. 7, 2021 Daylight Saving Time ends NOV. 11, 2021 Veterans Day NOV. 15, 2021 Fourth quarter direct deposit deadline NOV. 25, 2021 Thanksgiving: CIRI closed NOV. 26, 2021 Native American Heritage Day: CIRI closed NOV. 30, 2021 Fourth quarter address change deadline

## **BARBARA DONATELLI RETIRES AFTER 41** YEARS WITH CIRI

CIRI shareholder Barbara Donatelli (Yup'ik) joined CIRI in 1980 and has been a vice president of the company since 1987. In her most recent position as senior vice president, she served as CIRI's chief administrative officer overseeing the company's shareholder relations, government relations, corporate affairs and information technology departments.

In addition to her business acumen, Donatelli is dedicated to helping preserve and perpetuate Alaska Native culture and heritage, active in her community, and known for her kind heart and generosity. She directed CIRI's corporate giving program for many years and is well known for her dedication to CIRI's family of socially driven enterprises, including her current service on the board of commissioners of Cook

Inlet Housing Authority. Over the years she has also been active in several other Alaska nonprofit, charitable and civic interests, such as serving on the boards of directors of the Alaska Children's Trust, Alaska Community Foundation, Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center, Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, Anchorage Museum Association, Food Bank of Alaska, Get Out the Native Vote, United Way of Anchorage and many other organizations. She is a 1998 YWCA Women of Achievement award recipient, a member of the Anchorage ATHENA Society



and was selected as one of the Alaska Journal of Commerce's Top 25 Most Powerful Alaskans in 1999.

"Over her 40-plus years, Barbara has positively impacted many peopleour shareholders and their families, CIRI staff, the broader Alaska Native community and the community at large," said CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich. "As a valued member of our executive

team, she oversaw many changes and exciting developments, including a number of strategic investments and programs that will benefit shareholders and descendants for years to come. Her leadership and counsel have helped guide CIRI's success and we are grateful for her many years of dedicated service."

Donatelli's retirement plans include spending time with her family and tending to her peony farm in Alaska's Matanuska-Susitna Valley. CIRI wishes her well in all her future endeavors!

IN MEMORY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 04

Lori Lynn Pushruk, 33

Lori Lynn Pushruk, 33

Lori Lynn Pushruk passed away May 6 in
Anchorage. Ms. Pushruk was born Sept.
27, 1987, in Alaska. She is survived by her
grandmother, Aleta Pushruk; mother, Deanna
Pushruk; siblings, Curtis, Jodie and Preston
Lundy; niece, Izabella Pushruk; and many
aunts, uncles and coursins.



Frank Standifer III, 66
Frank Standifer III passed away Feb. 6 at the Alaska Native
Medical Center in Anchorage. Mr. Standifer was born Feb. 23, 1954, in Old Tyonek, Alaska. He is survived his wife, Susan Standifer; children, Frank Standifer IV, Randy Standifer Sr., and Les Leon and Brandy Christine Standifer;  $11\ \mathrm{grandchildren};$  and three great-grandchildren.

#### Condolences -

Marie Ann Akers, 65 Arnold Willard Anderson, 74 James Clinton Baker, 73 Izair Ronald Chute, 75 Alex Coffee, 69 Carolyn Marie Cook, 71 Kenneth Earl Dieringer, 46 Ruth Lorraine Edelman, 84 Lois Kathleen Ernst, 83 Evelyn Frances Friemering, 64 Mary Ellen Gibson, 73 Michael Gene Johnson, 61 William J. Kochutin, 75 Roger Lee Lampley Jr., 52 Elekonida Lestenkof, 68 Glen Howard Lowney, 67 Gail K. Manley, 69

Hazel Harriet Nyberg, 67 Raymond Jackson Ozenna, 71 Irene Mary Padgett, 67 Rita A. Paul, 70 Lloyd Pedro, 55 Roberta E. Rutter, 79 Laura BV Stephens, 90 Douglas William Stroble, 25 Marlene Wycoff Swain, 71 Jason Thibodeau, 49 Sharon Ann Vernikos, 78 Ronald Stanley Vidal, 69 Glen Vincent Vreeland, 57 Raymond Leo Waterbury, 75 Jimmy Donald Waters Jr., 59 Mary Ellen Wright, 71 Bill Mirl Yates, 66

#### **2021** CIRI C3 EXPERIENCE **GOES VIRTUAL**



#### By CIRI summer intern Luke Layman

Returning from a year of absence due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the CIRI C3 Experience went virtual for the first time this year. For three days in August, CIRI hosted virtual sessions with topics that ranged from Alaska Native history, stories and traditions to college preparation and career development. Participants of all ages created a personalized experience based on their areas of interest. Sessions included:

- Career Planning and Mapping/Resume Workshop
- · CIRI and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act
- College Application Tips and UAA Native Student Services Overview
- Cultural Awareness Workshop
- Educational Funding Opportunities with The CIRI Foundation
- · Indigenous Place Names Project and Dena'ina History
- Job Search and Interview Tips
- · Traditional Healing and Holistic Wellbeing
- Transition to College

Recordings of all sessions can be accessed online at ciri.com/c3. Shareholders, descendants and members of the general public are invited to watch, listen and learn at their convenience!

Since its inaugural year in 2018, the purpose of the CIRI C3 Experience is for young CIRI shareholders and descendants to immerse themselves in Alaska Native culture, gain leadership skills, and prepare for college and their careers. The program also fosters partnership with the CIRI family of nonprofits, including the Alaska Native Heritage Center, Cook Inlet Tribal Counci and The CIRI Foundation, all of which contribute to sessions that help youth prepare for life after high school.

We would like to thank our guest presenters and all those who participated in the 2021 Virtual C3 Experience!



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#### **KC (CHICKALUSION) ELVIS**

When other kids were reading the comics section of their local newspaper. KC (Chickalusion) Elvis was reading the business section. Growing up in Tyonek, Alaska—a village of 175 residents located 40 air miles from Anchorage-KC knew his options were limited. "There were very



few jobs in Tyonek," KC recalled. "There was a lot of substance abuse, a lot of depression. I thought as a kid, if I can build a business and a company, maybe I can help strengthen the economy and provide a better quality of life for myself and other Native people.'

KC is connected to CIRI through his mother, original enrollee Katherine Chickalusion. His great-greatuncle was Chief Simeon Chickalusion who, in 1934, rescued the remaining inhabitants of Susitna Station, a Dena'ina Athabascan village in Alaska's Matanuska-Susitna Valley after the village was decimated by diseases brought by non-Native settlers. Among those rescued was KC's maternal grandmother.

Despite its small size and relative isolation, KC said he was exposed to many other cultures growing up in Tyonek. To help heal intergenerational trauma and instill pride in Alaska Native heritage, the village focused on revival of its traditional practices, including music and dance. And there was a concerted effort made to expose young people to cultures outside their own. "Through the Boys and Girls Club, other kids were flown to Tyonek to attend our culture camps," KC said. "They were from all over; I remember talking to a girl who grew up in a Nigerian home. If you take the time and learn from someone else, you're going to find more commonalities than differences. It created curiosity at a young age."

KC left Tyonek in high school to attend boarding schools in Salem, Oregon, and Nenana, Alaska. He enlisted in the Army after graduation and subsequently enrolled in the University of Houston, majoring in entrepreneurship and finance and minoring in accounting.

The University of Houston's Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship is ranked No. 1 in the U.S. by The Princeton Review and KC said its reputation is richly deserved. "It was an amazing experience," he enthused. "The projects and the things you go through, you can't plan or schedule a day. At a moment's notice, you can be meeting with the CEO of a Fortune 500 company. In addition to a rigorous academic schedule, you're networking, pitching ideas, trying to attract mentors. It's a crazy-intense combination of academics and real-life experience."

After college, KC's business and marketing skills were further honed when he participated in CIRI's 2017 summer internship program. Still, it was at the University of Houston that KC first dreamed up the idea for Feather Bear Forever, a Native American kids' clothing line that aims to inspire open minds through cultural education.

In 2016, the Dakota Access Pipeline protests began, with environmentalists and many members of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and surrounding communities opposed to construction of an oil pipeline because of the potential threat to the region's water. The campaign to stop the



pipeline was organized by Standing Rock youth who dubbed their campaign, "ReZpect Our Water."

"What I saw happening (in the media) was Native people saying, 'You don't understand us, you don't get us,'" KC recalled. "I thought, you know, Indigenous people have to do the work and explain

SHAREHOLDER SPOTLIGHT, CONTINUED ON PAGE 07

## THE IMPORTANCE OF VACCINATION

You Have the Power to Protect Against Vaccine-Preventable Diseases, Including COVID-19

Vaccines are safe and effective at preventing serious diseases. They work with your body's natural defenses to help safely develop protection from diseases, are tested to ensure they are safe and effective, and monitored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) after they are in use.

Vaccines are considered by physicians and scientists to be one of the greatest medical breakthroughs of the last 180 years. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, vaccines have prevented 332 million illnesses—more than the current population of the entire U.S.—and saved an estimated 732,000

#### **COVID-19** vaccine

Aside from being safe and highly effective, COVID-19 vaccines are widely accessible in the U.S. and available to everyone at no cost.

The vaccines were developed using science that has been around for decades and went through all the required stages of clinical trials. They can prevent you from contracting and spreading the virus that causes COVID-19 and will also help keep you from getting seriously ill even if you do contract COVID-19. Getting vaccinated may also protect those around you.

The mRNA technology employed by the COVID-19 vaccine teaches our cells to make a protein or part of a protein that then triggers an immune response, which produces antibodies and protects us from viral infection. That genetic material is discarded once our immune system has been activated; it does not replicate or reproduce and is quickly degraded by the body. Importantly—and contrary to misinformation that has made some fearful of getting vaccinated—it does not enter the special place in our cells where our DNA resides.

Misinformation about the COVID-19 vaccine has also made some women fearful the shots could affect their fertility. There's no link between the vaccines and infertility, and the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists both recommend that women who are pregnant, planning to become pregnant or breastfeeding receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Data shows that COVID-19 has disproportionately affected Alaska Native and American Indian (AN/ Al) populations, with higher rates of infection, hospitalization and mortality. This makes it especially important for AN/AI people to get vaccinated.

#### Flu vaccine

The CDC recommends that everyone 6 months of age and older get a flu vaccine every season, with rare exceptions. For the upcoming influenza season, typically October through April, the influenza vaccination will be essential in reducing respiratory illnesses and resulting burdens on the healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic.



It can take up to four weeks to have full immunity from the flu shot. Once you get the shot, you will be protected for about six months. According to the CDC, September and October are good times to get a flu shot. However, as long as flu viruses are circulating, vaccination should continue into January and even later.

#### **Routine vaccinations**

On-time vaccination throughout childhood is essential because it helps provide immunity before children are exposed to potentially life-threatening diseases. In recent years, measles outbreaks have occurred in California, Minnesota, New York, Oregon and Washington State. Measles can be serious and even fatal for small children. The majority of people infected were not vaccinated.

Many Americans have delayed or stopped receiving routine and preventive care during the COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately, this has meant significant drops in critical childhood vaccination rates—a development that could affect community protections against serious diseases. To prevent further risk to children and communities, it is vital that children receive recommended vaccinations on time and catch up on any vaccinations missed as a result of the pandemic as soon as possible. For age-specific routine vaccine information from birth through 18 years, visit cdc.gov/vaccines/parents/by-age.

Adults 19 years of age and older also need to keep their vaccinations up to date because immunity from childhood vaccines can wear off over time. To see which vaccines might be recommended for adults, visit www2.cdc.gov/nip/AdultImmSched.

#### Where can I go to get immunized?

For people in the U.S. ages 12 and up, COVID-19 vaccines are free and available to anyone who wants one. To find a COVID-19 vaccination site near you, visit vaccines.go or call (800) 232-0233.

With most insurances, the flu vaccine is offered free of charge. Flu shots are generally available at your doctor's office and at some pharmacies. Many places also offer drive-through flu shots, including community clinics, major hospital networks and even grocery chains.

Southcentral Foundation offers a broad range of health and wellness services, including vaccines throughout all stages of life, for AN/AI people living in the Cook Inlet region of Alaska. For information or to schedule an appointment, visit southcentralfoundation.com or call (907) 729-4955 / (800) 478-3343.

### ANJC LEVERAGES DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The COVID-19 pandemic forced most Alaskans to rethink how they work, go to school and access services. While many Alaskans have long struggled to overcome barriers to accessing the justice system, the pandemic has thrown this issue into stark relief.

The Alaska Native Justice Center (ANJC) serves as a bridge between Alaska Native people and the justice system, advocating for justice and working in partnership with community and statewide agencies. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to innovative technologies, ANJC has worked expand the availability of its culturally based advocacy, intervention and prevention services, kept existing programs up and running, and even started new ones.

#### **ANJC Unveils New Website**

On May 5, ANJC celebrated its 28th year of providing services for Alaska Native people and others. The organization marked a second milestone that same week, launching a completely redesigned website aimed at making its programs and services more accessible to Alaskans with justice-related needs.

Funded through a community grant from the Rasmuson Foundation, the new website emphasizes confidentiality and easy connection to ANJC services. There is a "quick exit" button on every page of the website that allows visitors to quickly navigate away from anjc.org to maintain their safety and privacy. The website also features

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## THIRD QUARTER DISTRIBUTIONS

Direct deposit sign-

up deadline: 3 p.m.

Third quarter CST Elders	MONDAY, AUG. 30	THURSDAY, SEPT. 2	FRIDAY, SEPT. 10
Third quarter CST distribution	THURSDAY, SEPT. 9	WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22	THURSDAY, SEPT. 30

#### **CST Elders Distribution**

Payment type

Third quarter payments from the CIRI Settlement Trust (CST) Elders Distribution Fund were mailed or directly deposited by 6 p.m. Alaska time on Friday, Sept. 10 to eligible Elders with a valid mailing address on file as of 3 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 2. CST beneficiaries who are original CIRI shareholders and are 65 years of age or older on the record date of Sept. 9 are eligible to receive the \$450 payment, providing they either own at least one share of CIRI stock or gifted all their CIRI stock to family members prior to July 31, 2003. The remaining 2021 CST Elders Distribution Fund payment is scheduled for Dec. 10.

#### **CST Distribution Fund**

Third quarter payments from the CST Distribution Fund, in the amount of \$9.67 per share (or \$967 per 100 shares), will be mailed or directly deposited by 6 p.m. Alaska time on Thursday, Sept. 30 to all CST beneficiaries who own CIRI stock and have a valid mailing address on file with CIRI as of 3 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The remaining 2021 CST Distribution Fund payment is scheduled for Dec. 9.

#### **Annual Check Distribution**

CIRI's Annual Check Program was implemented to address problems associated with owners of fractional or small amounts of CIRI stock not cashing their checks. Under the program, distributions for shareholders owning five or fewer shares of stock who do not sign up for direct deposit or "opt out" of the program are cumulated and paid out annually, with no interest paid. This year, annual checks will mail on Tuesday, Sept. 21, and will include held liabilities associated with the 2020 third and fourth quarter and 2021 first and second quarter CST distributions. If applicable, a second check will include held liabilities associated with the 2021 resource revenue distribution. Resource revenue payments are distributed by CIRI, not the CST, and must be paid separately as they issue from different bank accounts.

#### **Direct/Remote Deposit**

CIRI urges shareholders who receive their distributions in check form to consider signing up for direct deposit or taking advantage of remote deposit. Both options are fast, easy and environmentally friendly. (Note: When remotely depositing a check, it's a good idea to make a note on the check so you don't attempt to cash it again. If a check is cashed twice, you are legally liable to repay the amount of the overpayment.)

Shareholders who participate in direct deposit and have a current CIRI mailing address are also eligible to participate in quarterly prize drawings.

Direct deposit forms are available from Shareholder Relations and at ciri.com. To cancel direct deposit, please submit a signed, written request prior to 3 p.m. on the specified deadline. If you have a Qenek account, you can cancel your existing direct deposit instruction online via the portal.

#### **Address Changes**

Address change and

cancel direct deposit

deadline: 3 p.m.

Checks are mailed to the address CIRI has on record as of the specified deadline. If your address has changed, be sure to update it with both CIRI and the U.S. Postal Service. The addresses must match or your CIRI mail may not reach you. When CIRI mail is undeliverable, distributions are held, with no interest paid, and the shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the address is updated. This is true even if a shareholder is signed up for direct deposit.

**Distribution date** 

CIRI address changes may be submitted online via the Qenek portal. Alternatively, you may submit a completed CIRI address change form—available at ciri.com—or a signed request that includes a current telephone number. You may scan or take a photo of your completed form or request and email it to shareholderrecords@ciri.com, mail it to CIRI at PO Box 93330, Anchorage, AK 99509, or fax it to (907) 263-5186. If faxed, please call Shareholder Relations as soon as possible to confirm receipt. Forms and information on changing your address or submitting a mailforwarding request with the U.S. Postal Service are available at usps.com or your local post office.

Please be aware that if you fail to notify CIRI of a new address before a specified deadline and your check is sent to your old address, CIRI cannot reissue that check to you unless it is either returned to us, or a minimum of 90 days has elapsed. A list of shareholders who do not have a current mailing address on record is continually updated and may be found on the CIRI website.

#### **Tax Reminder**

Neither CIRI nor the CST withhold taxes from distributions; however, shareholders or beneficiaries who anticipate owing tax on their distributions have the option of making quarterly estimated tax payments directly to the IRS. To find out more about applicable federal and state tax requirements or making quarterly estimated tax payments, please consult with a tax advisor or contact the IRS directly. As a reminder, distributions made by the CST are expected to be tax-free to beneficiaries in most cases.

#### **Contacting Us**

While the Fireweed Business Center remains closed to shareholders and visitors due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Shareholder Relations department can nonetheless be reached by phone at (907) 263-5191 / (800) 764-2474 and via email at shareholderrecords@ciri.com during normal business hours. Additionally, the Qenek portal provides access to a wealth of news and information and allows many tasks and record changes to be completed online, including generating payment confirmations and reprinting tax forms.

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why this issue matters to us. I thought that if I took Feather Bear and geared it to teaching and educating people, maybe the next generation will understand why we care about the animals, the land, the water—why it matters to us more than anyone else."

Feather Bear launched in November 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. KC took advantage of online and social-media marketing to promote the brand, and it worked—the brand has been highlighted by Yahoo Finance, Authority Magazine and local media outlets.

KC recently relocated to Las Vegas from Oklahoma and was elected to serve on the board of directors for Tyonek Native Corp. As for the future of Feather Bear, "it's an opportunity to do the work to try and educate people about Native culture," he said. "The company is still young, but its mission is strong. I'm going to keep moving forward with it because I think it's necessary."

For information and to shop, visit featherbearforever.com.

a calendar of ANJC events, social-media feeds, social-justice updates and a web-based application for services.

Now, individuals seeking justice service can go to anjc.org to easily access an array of justice-related programs, from advocacy for victims of domestic violence, to services for Elders and youth, to representation for Tribes involved in Indian Child Welfare Act cases. ANJC also offers adult and youth reentry services, as well as youth-development programming.

"In the first weeks after our soft launch, we immediately started receiving new web-based applications from people seeking services from our advocacy programs—all of it organic," said ANJC Senior Director of Operations Tammy Ashley. "The amount of traffic we've already seen is mind-blowing. It tells us that there are many people looking for justice support."

For more information or to submit an online application for services, visit anic.org.

#### Court Kiosk Provides Virtual Access to Justice System

While COVID-19 has brought about many disruptive changes to how people operate in the world, improved access to the court system has been one of the bright sides. Exhibit 1: ANJC's court kiosk—a private space that facilitates virtual court appearances, electronic filing and more—is part of a greater effort to make it easier for everyone to interact with the courts.

Located inside the Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) Nat'uh Service Center, the court kiosk is unique resource for anyone who needs to appear in court virtually, work on legal documents or electronically file with the State of Alaska Court System. The kiosk is also available for CITC and ANJC staff who must testify in court.

The room is outfitted with a telephone, Bluetooth technology, a printer/scanner, and a Mondo pad with camera, keyboard and mouse. Staff are available for some technological assistance, while CITC/ANJC staff working with specific participants will be responsible for helping those individuals with questions about their case or court needs.

"Throughout COVID, it's been clear that people are not able to go to the courthouse to file things," said ANJC Policy and Legal Director Alex Cleghorn. "Many more pleadings are filed electronically now; people, especially rural Alaskans, are appearing in court by phone more often."

The Court Kiosk is open during regular business hours by appointment and on a first-come, first-served basis. To schedule time in the room, call (907) 793-3467.

Thank you to CITC's Jamey Bradbury for contributing to this article.

## MISSING SHAREHOLDERS

The following CIRI shareholders do not have a current mailing address on record. When CIRI mail is returned as undeliverable, the distributions are held and the shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the address is updated. Shareholders with Qenek portal accounts may update their addresses online. Alternatively, shareholders may visit CIRI's website or call Shareholder Relations at (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474 for address change forms and information.

#### (As of 09/14/2021)

Vera Ellen Abalama Edgar Ailak

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\* Denotes a member of the Board of Trustees of the CIRI Settlement Trust



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**Shareholder Participation Committees** www.ciri.com/spc

Submit ideas, stories & recipes to info@ciri.com

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The CIRI Holiday Craft Bazaar will be held Monday, Nov. 22 through Friday, Nov. 26. Information, including how to register as a vendor, will be made available in early fall.



