Throughout 2015, this newsletter will continue to profile the seven ANCSA-certified villages in the Cook Inlet region. The series takes a look at what life is like in each village: the attractions, the opportunities, the challenges. We’re also expanding the CIRI website with profiles, human interest stories and interviews that will recount each visit.

Go to ciri.com for more information.
A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT
Sophie Minich, CIRI president and chief executive officer

What a wonderful summer it is in Alaska. Whether you live here in the state or outside, I hope you’ve been able to enjoy spending time with family and friends and experiencing the outdoors.

The downside of our warm weather in Alaska is the heightened fire danger. Of the hundreds of wildfires statewide, several have impacted portions of CIRI land. It’s a good reminder to all of us to be fire-wise as we enjoy our outdoor recreation.

The past month has been an exciting and frenzied time at CIRI as we moved our headquarters from the CIRI Building at 2525 C Street, where we have been located for close to 40 years, to our new home at the Fireweed Business Center. We are all moved in now, and this building is truly an investment in which we can all take great pride. I invite all of you to stop in for a visit when you are in Anchorage. Our Shareholder Relations department is on the top floor, which I am confident you will find demonstrates the respect and commitment this company has for you, our shareholders.

As you may know, CIRI occupies roughly 40 percent of the Fireweed Business Center. The challenge before us now is to lease the remaining 60 percent because this building is, first and foremost, an investment aimed at delivering greater returns to shareholders.

When the CIRI Board of Directors approved the project’s development, they recognized that it would take time to lease the space to quality tenants. These are big decisions for companies, and we are already working with commercial real estate brokers to facilitate those discussions.

“Despite the existing challenges, I remain confident the Fireweed Business Center is well positioned to attract long-term tenants, and here’s why: There is nothing in the Anchorage market that can compare to the quality, energy efficiency and spatial comfort that the Fireweed Business Center offers.”

– SOPHIE MINICH

It is fortunate that we have such a quality product to offer because Alaska’s economy faces a degree of uncertainty brought by low oil prices. In fiscal year 2014, oil and gas revenues represented 88 percent of Alaska’s unrestricted general fund and are projected to provide for 83 percent of general funds through 2024. As a result of the lower prices, the Alaska Legislature is grappling with a sizable fiscal deficit and the prospect that oil prices may not rebound for the next few years. Potentially large cutbacks in state spending are being discussed, as are the tax incentives and credits that are offered to both large and small companies exploring for new oil.

In addition, the large oil companies active in Alaska are implementing measures to control costs, which impacts many of the support companies that serve the oil industry. While there have already been isolated layoffs at some of these companies, many in the industry are expecting large-scale economic impacts related to the oil price decline.

These are the challenges we are facing at a time when CIRI is trying to lease 65,000 square-feet of office space. When your Board approved the investment, oil prices were close to $100/barrel. Today, the price is closer to $55/barrel. So, it is fair to say, we face some headwinds that were unforeseen at the time the project was approved.

Nevertheless, we are already seeing strong interest from potential tenants, particularly those in the medical field—a fast-growing industry not impacted by oil prices. Our real estate team is hosting frequent tours of the building and helping to answer all the questions that come with the decision to locate a business in a new space.

Despite the existing challenges, I remain confident the Fireweed Business Center is well positioned to attract long-term tenants, and here’s why: There is nothing in the Anchorage market that can compare to the quality, energy efficiency and spatial comfort that the Fireweed Business Center offers. The views are spectacular, the location is excellent and the amenities are superior.

I look forward to the day we can announce that new tenants have made the decision to make the Fireweed Business Center their new home. Until then, I invite you to come by soon and see it for yourself.

Sophie Minich

SHAREHOLDER PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE UPDATE

CIRI welcomes the following new Shareholder Participation Committee (SPC) members:

Alaska SPC Committee  Nancy Yeaton, Nanwalek, AK  Christopher Ondola, Tuntutulik, AK  Tina Tucker, Selib DIV
Anchorage SPC Committee  Kathleen Graves  Sharon Padilla  Gretchen Sagan
Lower 48 and Hawaii SPC Committee  Marcella Herren, Washington, UT  Ryan Tesdal, Corvallis, OR  Angela Averett, Odenville, AL

Each year, SPC members are chosen through a random drawing from the names of voting shareholders who are at least 18 years of age, have indicated an interest in participating on a committee and have correctly answered a questionnaire about CIRI that is mailed to all voting shareholders prior to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The correct answers for the 2015 questionnaire are shown here:

Which of the following statements are true? (Check all that apply)

- Descendants who are already CIRI shareholders do not need to register as CIRI descendants.
- CIRI regularly communicates with descendants so it is important for contact information to be kept up-to-date.
- Descendant information may be updated online, using a form available on CIRI’s website, or an email with the full name, changed information and a working telephone number may be sent to shareholderrecords@ciri.com.
- Quarterly prize drawings are conducted from the names of all confirmed descendants, with an email sent to the winner at the email address specified for receipt of CIRI eNewsletters. If the email address is not valid, another winner is selected.
CIRI SERVICES CORPORATION NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

The Board of Directors for CIRI’s wholly-owned design/build construction subsidiary, CIRI Services Corporation (CSC), is pleased to announce the selection of Jared Edgar as the company’s new president, effective June 17. Over the past year, Edgar, who previously served as CSC’s vice president, worked closely with outgoing President Richard “Dick” Weldin. Edgar has been instrumental in improving organizational processes, procedures and business development at CSC and its subsidiary companies.

Weldin, a CIRI shareholder, notified the CSC Board earlier this year of his intention to transition to an inactive role in an effort to devote more time and energy to personal interests. “I know that the CSC Board of Directors and the entire CIRI family join me in wishing Dick Weldin the very best in his new pursuits,” said CIRI President and CEO Sophie Minich. “Dick’s leadership helped successfully establish CIRI’s presence as a dominant construction company in the federal government contracting arena in the Alaska market.” Weldin will continue in an advisory capacity to assist in a smooth leadership transition.

In addition to his time with CSC, Edgar brings more than ten years of U.S. Department of Defense experience advising and administering programs throughout the United States and internationally. He holds a juris doctorate from Willamette University and a master’s degree in management from the University of Maryland. Edgar was raised in Wasilla, Alaska, and earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

“I know that the CSC Board of Directors and the entire CIRI family join me in wishing Dick Weldin the very best in his new pursuits. Dick’s leadership helped successfully establish CIRI’s presence as a dominant player in the Alaska federal government contracting arena:”

– SOPHIE MINICH

CSC and its subsidiaries (Weldin Construction, Silver Mountain Construction and ANC Research and Development) provide design/build construction, project management, self-performed electrical, mechanical, HVAC and heavy civil concrete services, as well as specialization in military and civilian fuel systems in Alaska and the Pacific region.

Evelyn Haddoon, 79

Evelyn Haddoon passed away June 4, at home in Anchorage. Ms. Haddoon was born Nov. 25, 1935, in Kodiak, Alaska. She is survived by her brothers, Michael and Paul Svensen; former husband, Milton R. Price II; children, Milton, Michael and Marie Price; grandchildren, Raymond Pluger (and his wife, Paula Lopez) and Justin Price; great-grandchildren, Alvin, Dylan and Kayla Skwipworth, former daughter-in-law, Alison; former son-in-law, John Pluger; sisters-in-law, Zeta Haddoon and her family, Joyce Price and her family, Phyllis Svensen and Lasa; nieces, Angela Svensen, Bobbette Sorensen and Beverly Whitney Smith, nephews, Michael, Timothy, Kurt, Eric and Jason Svensen and David, Larry and Robert Reddick; and cousins, Robert and Mike Ingia and their families.

Julian Wayne Morrison, 79

Julian Wayne Morrison passed away April 28, at Meadow Park Hospice in St. Helens, Ore. Mr. Morrison was born Feb. 8, 1936, in Kodiak, Alaska. As a U.S. Marine, Mr. Morrison was given a military burial at the Tahoma National Cemetery in Washington state. He had a long, prestigious career with the Federal Aviation Administration, serving throughout Alaska before retiring in 1998. He is survived by his children, K. Colleen Grogan, Dale W. Morrison, John A. Morrison, Douglas D. Morrison and Arthur L. Morrison; grandchildren, John and Christopher Grogan, Lindsay Grogan Luttrel, Alex, Casey, Daniel, Dana and James Morrison and Janilee Morrison McCleod; great-grandchildren, Dante, Karen, Lilianne and Julian S. Grogan, Bret and Jake Luttrel, Hunter and Lily Morrison and Dara Loder; sisters, Rissabel Baldwin, Susie Makuit, Toni Maupin and Maxine Bunch; and brother, Bobby Morrison.

Frederick Archie Nielsen, 81

Frederick Archie Nielsen passed away June 12, at home in Anchorage. Mr. Nielsen was born August 14, 1933, in Sitka, Alaska. He is survived by Eilene Weathers, Donna Lightle and Rose Allen.

Carolyn Victoria Paige-Debler, 58

Carolyn Victoria Paige-Debler passed away May 3, in Fairbanks, Alaska. Ms. Paige-Debler was born April 9, 1957 in Nenana, Alaska. She is survived by her daughter, Angela Marie Duncan; son, Richard Kenneth Martin III; and grandchildren, Evan James Duncan, Andrew Scott Bush and Dominic Allen Martin.

Eric Emil Schepp, 44

Eric Emil Schepp passed away June 7, at home in Seattle, Wash. Mr. Schepp was born January 22, 1971, in Anchorage. He is survived by his father, Jerry Schepp; mother, Karen Schepp; and sister, Sara Schepp.

Carol Jean Schinagli, 62

Carol Jean Schinagli passed away March 28, at home in Harrison, Ark. Ms. Schinagli was born August 28, 1952, in Pleasanton, Calif. She is survived by her sons, Will Schinagli and Shaven Stathas; daughters, Krista Hall and Carly Besse; daughter-in-law, Christine; sons-in-law, Kevin Hale and Michael Besse; sisters, Mary Gacek and Linda Cramony; brothers, Steven, David, Leo and Fredrick.

IN MEMORY, CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

IN MEMORY

Julian Wayne Morrison. Courtesy of Colleen Grogan
shareholder Trinket Gallien calls “the playground outside our back door” that keeps people living in or coming back to such a tucked-away place.

Located on the south shore of Kachemak Bay and home to about 370 people, Seldovia is accessible only by a 15-minute flight or a 45-minute ferry ride from Homer. Inaccessibility has fostered economic opportunity: In 2009, SVT built the Kachemak Voyager, a ferry that runs twice a day specifically to allow locals to get out of town and bring back groceries in a cost-effective manner.

“It’s expensive to live here,” says CIRI shareholder Crystal Collier, president and CEO of SVT, the area’s largest job provider, with about 80 employees. “Gas is high, food is high. Everybody knows you go to Costco to stock up.”

Limited resources and opportunities mean that Seldovia usually sees its young people leave for college and work. But a surprising number of them return home after a few years. “It seems like there are people in their late 20s or early 30s who are having kids and deciding to come back because they recognize the value of what a wonderful place this is to grow up,” Collier says.

People have long recognized the benefits of living in Seldovia. In the early- through mid-1900s, the city’s economy thrived, with mining, logging and particularly fishing providing jobs for many Seldovians. Canneries, especially, fueled a significant economic boom for the city.

“When I was growing up, most all of us worked in the cannery at one time or another,” recalls Gallien. “It was the largest employer at the time besides the school, and it was a great.
experience because you needed to learn that you don’t want to be on the slime line for the rest of your life; you need to go out, become educated and get a job.”

The 1964 Good Friday earthquake put an end to Seldovia’s cannery industry and led to the eventual destruction of the town’s once-popular boardwalk, which made it possible to walk from one end of Seldovia to the other no matter where the tide was at.

Tourism ebbs and flows, and the school population is smaller than it used to be. Winter can be challenging in such an isolated place. But the people of Seldovia are engaged and active. “Our elders are well taken care of,” says Collier. There are senior meals and “Healthy Chatter” classes, and just this year Hills headed up a walking challenge that had locals from age 12 to 83 participating. SVT emphasizes health above most things, with programs and services focused on whole body wellness, housing, drug and alcohol prevention and environmental stewardship. With a jurisdictional area that encompasses Anchor Point and Homer, SVT actively reaches out to other communities and people with cultural classes, events and health services. And everyone — Alaska Native people, non-tribal members, Japanese and Norwegian people — is welcome to participate.

“That’s just who Seldovia is. It’s always embraced lots of different cultures,” says Collier.

Hilts chauffeurs her visitors “out the road,” as locals say, away from Seldovia the town to Seldovia village, where most people live. She wants to show off the community garden, another SVT effort. Her passengers put on their seatbelts, and Hills grins as she rolls through town at barely 25 miles per hour.

“That’s the other way you spot a visitor,” she says. “Locals never buckle up.”

“…most all of us worked in the cannery at one time or another. It was a great experience because you needed to learn that you don’t want to be on the slime line for the rest of your life.”

– TRINKET GALLIEN

Ceremonies are occasionally held at the local Russian Orthodox church (above), when a priest is available to come across the water from Kenai. Seaside houses (below) rest on raised platforms to avoid the tide. Photos by Brianna Cannon.
Youth Representative Applications

Teens aged 13 to 17 have an opportunity to apply to be youth representatives on the Shareholder Participation Committee (SPC). To be eligible to serve, interested youth must be a CIRI shareholder or a confirmed, registered CIRI descendant and must submit (a) an application, (b) a letter of introduction, (c) a reference letter and (d) a short essay explaining why he or she wants to serve as a youth representative and what he or she knows about his or her Alaska Native heritage and about CIRI.

Youth representative applications must be received by Shareholder Relations by 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Aug. 13 to be considered. The application can be downloaded and printed at www.ciri.com or is available in the Shareholder Relations Department.

Youth Art Contest Submissions

Interested CIRI shareholders or descendants aged 5 to 12 may submit original artwork interpreting the theme “AlamAKNative” and a completed entry form to CIRI to be entered in the 2015 Youth Art Contest. Winning entries will be displayed at the CIRI and The CIRI Foundation Friendship Potlatches this fall.

Youth Art Contest entry forms can be downloaded and printed at www.ciri.com and are also available in the Shareholder Relations Department. Completed art contest entry forms and submissions must be received by Shareholder Relations on or before 5 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Aug. 13, 2015.

REMINDER: YOUTH DEADLINES APPROACHING

Youth Representative Applications

Youth Art Contest Submissions
You won’t find a Qwik Lube on Fire Island. When you need an oil change at CIRI’s wind energy project just off the coast of Anchorage, you have to call a pro and charter a plane. Then you need a climbing harness. And a winch system to lift the oil 262 feet off the ground. Get the picture? It’s not easy changing the oil in wind turbines.

“Anything that requires getting supplies to the island takes time, and you have to think it through,” said Suzanne Gibson, senior director of Energy Development at CIRI. “We have to get the oil over to the island and then get the drums loaded on a truck and dropped off at each turbine so when the contractor arrives on the island they’re ready to go, because time is money.”

CIRI contracted with workers from Techeol to accomplish the vital task of changing the gear oil in all 11 wind turbines at Fire Island in mid-June. Each turbine holds 90 gallons of oil. First, a detergent is run a hose from the top of the turbine down to the front, and Energy Project Technician Peter Odren said. “In the Lower 48, they would have a pump and a winch system to lift the oil 262 feet off the ground and feed it all through there. But at Fire Island we can’t do that so we have to raise these buckets over and over again both to get the oil up and to get the oil down. And then we have to transport [used oil] back to Anchorage to properly dispose of it.”

The undertaking is logistically challenging and costly. But it needs to be done. The cost of the oil change process is miniscule when compared to the cost of replacing a broken gear box if the oil failed to do its job.

“We call it the bucket brigade methodology,” Gibson said. “In the Lower 48, they would have a pump and a hose from the top of the turbine down to the ground and feed it all through there. But at Fire Island we can’t do that so we have to raise these buckets over and over again both to get the oil up and to get the oil down. And then we have to transport [used oil] back to Anchorage to properly dispose of it.”

The process is crucial. Each step of the process is crucial.

The first two conversations in the Curated Conversations series dealt with issues of cultural commodification, boundaries and sovereignty, creative advances in the resurgence of indigenous languages and the core question of cultural commodification, boundaries and sovereignty, creative advances in the resurgence of indigenous languages and the core question of what it means to be a Northerner.

The first two conversations in the Curated Conversations series dealt with issues of cultural commodification, boundaries and sovereignty, creative advances in the resurgence of indigenous languages and the core question of what it means to be a Northerner.

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 have been selected as winners for the most recent CIRI drawings.

STOCK WILL PARTICIPATION PRIZES
$200 Monthly Stock Will Prize: 
April – Janet Ann Harris 
May – John Anthony Clare 
June – Karen Ann Otton

Second quarter drawing for Apple iPad:
Jack Krasnikoff Jr. 
Must have a valid will on file that complies with CIRI’s fractional share policy.

DIRECT DEPOSIT DRAWING
Second quarter $500 random drawing: 
Maxine Harper Richart

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

eNEWSLETTER DRAWING
Second quarter drawing for Kindle Fire HD: 
Mark James Berestoff

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

CONFIRMED DESCENDANT DRAWING
Second quarter drawing for a Fitbit: 
Mandy Joy Guerri

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.

TCF SPONSORS ANCHORAGE MUSEUM CONVERSATIONS
Over the next two years, the Anchorage Museum will host conversations on issues important to the contemporary and future Circumpolar North as part of the Think Up Here series. Sponsored in part by a grant from The CIRI Foundation, the Curated Conversations program will host and document a number of discussions relevant to northern people and places. These cross-disciplinary conversations will include artists, civic leaders and scientists to address common misperceptions in and outside the North and foster critical commentary about these issues.

The first two conversations in the Curated Conversations series dealt with issues of representation and food security. The second conversation focused on the significance of locally-sourced and traditional foods for strengthening wellness and identity. Upcoming conversations will address issues such as cultural commodification, boundaries and sovereignty, creative advances in the resurgence of indigenous languages and the core question of what it means to be a Northerner.

SAVE THE DATES:
Aug. 28, 2015, 5:30-7:30 pm: Culture of Commodity; Commodity of Culture. 
Sept. 4, 2015, 5:00-7:00 pm: Edges

Visit www.anchoragemuseum.org for more information.

WINNER’S CIRCLE

Workers tackle the complicated task of changing the oil in the 11 turbines at Fire Island Wind. Above, Suzanne Gibson consults with Project Director Pete Stewart, front, and Energy Project Technician Peter Odren. Photos by Jason Moore.
will prepare us one day to—gasp—to get a real job and telling you about the cool stuff we’re learning that program, introducing you to the other interns and through the Raven’s Circle about the internship. As the summer progresses, I’ll be sending updates a general scholarship from The CIRI Foundation that the intern gig I landed is in the CIRI Corporate degree is in marketing and business administration, and the intern gig I landed is in the CIRI Corporate...