CIRI Alaska Tourism Corp. (CATC) completed its renovation of the Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge located on Fox Island in Resurrection Bay within Kenai Fjords National Park in advance of the 2010 summer season. Situated 12 nautical miles from Seward, Alaska, the day lodge hosts visitors throughout the summer traveling on the Kenai Fjords Tours day cruises. The popular lodge is often a trip highlight for visitors who come to enjoy the remote lodge’s spectacular views, wildlife, and all-you-can-eat grilled Alaska salmon, king crab and prime rib buffet.

“We actually completed our part of the project on Nov. 26,” said Curt Scoggin, AIC project manager. “We were even able to complete extra work they had given us and still finish early.”

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. connects Elmore Road and Boniface Parkway and runs along the northern edge of Fair North Bicentennial Park. AIC won the contract with a competitive bid and is the primary contractor on the project.

Scoggin attributes the successful early project completion to several factors, chief of which is AIC’s expertise in a variety of fields.

“We do our own paving and have our own paving equipment and asphalt plant at the Eklutna gravel pit,” said Scoggin. “We were able to pave on our schedule, not someone else’s. We also constructed our own 96-foot bridge. It makes a big difference to have control over something like that.”

The bridge, which includes four traffic lanes and a pedestrian lane, is a distinctive feature of this project. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave’s location next to the recreational park shaped its development. The bridge crosses over the Tour of Anchorage trail and a wildlife crossing. It features decorative fencing and extensive landscaping.

AIC also had two other projects it was working on for the Municipality of Anchorage at the same time as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave.

“We wanted to keep the same crew rotating between different projects,” said Scoggin. “We didn’t have to stop and regroup – we were able to keep the momentum going.”

A notable feature of Alaska Interstate Construction LLC’s (AIC) $24 million project to construct a new road in Anchorage was the steady excavation and construction that occurred throughout the winter. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. opened to traffic Aug. 4.

Alaska Interstate Construction LLC (AIC) completed its $24 million contract with the Municipality of Anchorage to construct a new Anchorage road, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., ahead of schedule. The new road opened Wednesday, Aug. 4, and is expected to carry 20,000 vehicles each day.

“Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. expected to ease Tudor Road congestion”

Learn more about Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge at www.kenaifjordslodge.com
CIRI and its employees have a well-deserved reputation for supporting a wide variety of nonprofit and social service organizations that improve the quality of life for Alaska Natives and other community members. Toward this end, one of my jobs and privileges as CIRI’s president and chief executive officer is to represent the company and its shareholders at events that support and celebrate community service organizations and projects. During the first week of August alone I spoke on behalf of CIRI at the grand opening of Cook Inlet Housing Authority’s Eklutna Estates senior housing project, co-hosted a fundraiser for the Alaska Native Heritage Center and hosted CIRI’s annual golf tournament that raised money for the United Way of Anchorage education programs, Anchorage Schools Foundation and the Alaska Center for the Environment’s Trailside Discovery Camp.

At these events and elsewhere I often hear community leaders and others compliment CIRI as an outstanding corporate citizen because of its charitable activities and the volunteerism of CIRI staff. This praise for CIRI, of course, fills me with pride for our company. However, it is based on a very narrow view of citizenship.

Charity and volunteerism are part of being a good corporate citizen, but many other factors including profitability, business ethics and fair trade practices, corporate governance, efforts to protect the environment and political factors should be included in the calculation that rates the quality of corporate citizenship.

Good business practices and profitability are keys to sustaining corporate citizenship because no company can contribute to its local economy through wages, dividends, taxes and other spending (including charitable donations) if it is insolvent. It concerns me that capitalism and the profit motive have fallen out of favor in the American dialog and are increasingly viewed with suspicion. I think it serves the public’s best motive have fallen out of favor in the American dialog and are strongly supported by those that benefit Alaska Native and other community needs.

After considering all of these factors, I remain proud of CIRI because it rates high on the corporate citizenship scale. CIRI’s business practices aim to benefit its shareholders and the rest of the community for generations to come. It develops profitable projects such as Tikaitnu Commons in east Anchorage that is benefiting the entire region by creating new shopping, entertainment and business opportunities, jobs, tax revenues, etc. CIRI works hard to treat its employees, business partners, customers and others fairly and respectfully to maintain and grow its business relationships into the future. CIRI is developing responsible projects, from a green office building at its 11000 C Street project in south Anchorage to an environmentally responsible underground coal gasification development that will include carbon management on the west side of Cook Inlet and a renewable wind energy development on Fire Island, near Anchorage. And, of course, CIRI strongly supports a wide range of nonprofit organizations and projects that benefit Alaska Native and other community needs.

In Memoriam

On behalf of CIRI’s Board of Directors and staff, I express my deepest sympathies to the families of former Sen. Ted Stevens, Bill Phillips, Terry Smith and Dana and Corey Tindall for their losses in the recent airplane crash near Dillingham. I also extend my ardent wish for the full and rapid recovery of the crash survivors, Willy Phillips, Sean and Kevin O’Keefe and Jim Morhard.

As an Alaskan I am well aware that air travel in our state entails both benefit and risk. I understand that accidents occur, but that does not reduce my sorrow when tragedy strikes.

After this accident I particularly mourn the loss of William (Bill) D. Phillips. He was a good friend and an integral member of our company’s federal legislative team since he left his position as Sen. Stevens’ chief of staff in the mid-1980s to work as a Washington, D.C. lobbyist. CIRI was among Bill’s first clients and through the years he worked with various CIRI teams to plan and execute our company’s legislative strategy, including the initiatives that enabled CIRI’s extremely successful VoiceStream telecom investments. Bill’s friendship and keen mind for business and political strategy will be missed.

Sen. Stevens left an indelible mark on our nation, our state and the lives of Alaska Native people. It will take far more time and space than I have here to pay appropriate tribute to his accomplishments and service. He played a crucial role in crafting and enacting the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act that mandated the creation of CIRI and other Alaska Native corporations. He revolutionized the structure for delivering healthcare services to Alaska Natives. CIRI’s 39-year history is intertwined with Sen. Stevens’ 40-year Senate tenure in ways that provided great benefit to our company and its shareholders. For all of his hard work, I am grateful and honor Sen. Stevens’ memory.
CIRI Shareholder News

CIRI seeks awards nominations

CIRI seeks nominations from its shareholders and descendants for its 2010 Shareholder of the Year Award and recommendations for CIRI’s nominations to the Alaska Federation of Natives President’s Awards. CIRI’s Shareholder of the Year Award recognizes shareholders who have made significant contributions in promoting, honoring and advancing Alaska Native culture, values and communities.

The award will be presented at a CIRI Friendship Potlatch this fall. Last year’s award recipient was Bob Juliusen, a senior construction manager at Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA). Juliusen’s home designs have helped CIHA collect numerous awards for the high-quality craftsmanship of its homes, including renovations to its remote rental properties in Ninilchik, Seldovia and Kenai and the new homes built for its Mountain View Revitalization project.

The nominations for the AFN President’s Awards should spotlight Alaska Natives who have excelled in one of the following 11 categories of achievement: Culture Bearer, Della Keats “Healing Hands,” Elder of the Year, Native culture, values and communities.

Year, Public Service, Roger Lang Youth Leadership, Public Service and Small Business. The awards will be presented at the 2010 AFN Convention in Fairbanks. Nominations for both awards must be submitted to CIRI by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 15. Find more information online at www.ciri.com/content/shareholders/awards.aspx.

Please submit applications for both awards by mail, e-mail or fax to:

2010 Awards Nominations
CIRI Corporate Communications
P.O. Box 99330
Anchorage, AK 99509-3330
Fax: (907) 263-5183
E-mail: info@ciri.com

Gloria O’Neill to give keynote address at AFN

Gloria O’Neill, a CIRI shareholder and president and chief executive officer of CIRI-affiliated nonprofit Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC), will deliver this year’s keynote address at the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) Annual Convention.

This year’s AFN Convention will be held in Fairbanks, Alaska, on Oct. 21-23, 2010. Under O’Neill’s leadership, CITC grew its annual budget from $8.8 million to nearly $40 million and expanded its services to meet the social, educational and employment service needs of Alaska Natives and Native Americans living in the Cook Inlet region.

O’Neill currently serves as a board member for the Anchorage Museum, Anchorage Community Land Trust, Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Chanalut Inc., Alaska Federation of Natives, and the National CASA Association. At the national level, O’Neill serves on the National Tribal Budget Advisory Council of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the American Indian, Alaska Native on Race and Ethnicity Advisory Committee of the U.S. Census Bureau.

Layland wins August Stock Will prize

Tasha Alexis Layland won the August 2010 Stock Will participation prize. To be eligible for the monthly $200 prize drawings, shareholders must have a will disposing of their CIRI shares on file in CIRI Shareholder Relations. The CIRI Stock Will form and instructions are located on the CIRI website at www.ciri.com. To verify whether you have a will on file, contact CIRI’s probate staff at (907) 263-5191 or toll-free at (800) 764-2474.

Gloria O’Neill

CIRI Spotlight: Tammy Ashley

CIRI shareholder works to inspire youth to fulfill their potential

Helping young people fulfill their potential is a top priority for CIRI shareholder Tammy Ashley. When she is not busy working full-time as a public relations specialist at Southcentral Foundation, Tammy’s work with young people ranges from mentoring preteen and teenage girls through her involvement with the Girl Scouts to co-organizing Alaska First Aid And Safety Training (AK FAAST), a program aimed at encouraging teens to consider careers as first responders.

Born and raised in Anchorage, Tammy has lived in the same Sand Lake neighborhood her entire life. Tammy’s mother, Delores (Ashenfelter) Tuttle, is from White Mountain and Unga Island in the Shumigan Islands on Alaska’s Aleutian Chain, and her father Terry Tuttle, is an American Indian from Yakima, Wash.

In addition to her career at SCF and her volunteer interests, Tammy is working toward a bachelor’s degree in human services from Alaska Pacific University. Tammy’s ultimate career goal is to increase her involvement in working with youth.

“I want to make sure that every kid has opportunities to achieve success and knows that someone is there for them and has confidence in them,” said Tammy. Meanwhile, she keeps her schedule jam-packed by juggling her responsibilities as an Alaska Native Professional Association board member, college student, full-time public relations employee, Girl Scout leader, AK FAAST co-organizer and CIRI Shareholder Participation Committee Member. Each year, Tammy donates fish she caught to feed shareholders at CIRI potlatches.

Tammy recently traveled to New York City to accept a coveted Silver Anvil award from the Public Relations Society of America. Tammy’s co-workers call her a “tolerant mentor.” As one of her job responsibilities in the public relations department at SCF, Tammy is heavily involved in the RAIZE program, which provides opportunities for Alaska Native and Native American youth to receive on-the-job training in a professional environment that respects and honors Alaska Native cultural values. She is also involved in the SCF EMT Program, which delivers services that enhance the quality of life for Alaska Native elders living in the Anchorage area.

“I like taking care of both the elders and the youth, the youth are going to be taking care of us when we are elders,” said Tammy. For the past 14 years, Tammy has volunteered as a Girl Scout leader. She is currently a co-leader of a group of third and fourth graders, and a leader of seventh and eighth graders. In 1996, Tammy’s daughter Tiare came home from kindergarten one day and announced that she wanted to join the Girl Scouts. To support her daughter’s interest, Tammy remembers thinking that “if she was going to be in Girl Scouts, I would do it with her.”

Tammy, who keeps her emergency trauma technician certification current, says that her involvement with AK FAAST “is rooted in my interest in giving youth an opportunity to look at career options in healthcare, survival and safety” through an interactive camp held each summer in mid-July. Of the twelve participants in this year’s camp, seven happened to be Alaska Native, and five were CIRI descendants. AK FAAST partners with the Alaska State Troopers, Anchorage Fire Department, SCF and the Kenaitze Indian Tribe. Outside of work, Tammy enjoys spending time with her family, genealogy, reading, and camping with her Girl Scouts troops.

Find more Stock Will information online at www.ciri.com/content/shareholders/estate.aspx.
Robert McNaughton, Dick Stallone, Jean Craciun and Paul Ficca wait to see the results of Stallone’s putt at the 2010 CIRI Golf Classic at Moose Run Golf Course on Aug. 6.

26th annual tournament supports Alaska education, youth

More than 180 players came out on a rainy day to have fun competing in CIRI’s 26th annual Golf Classic while showing their support for the United Way of Anchorage’s Education Agencies fund, the Alaska Center for the Environment’s Trailside Discovery Camp and the Anchorage Schools Foundation. The tournament began at 7 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 6 at the Moose Run Golf Course on the Fort Richardson Army base.

The United Way of Anchorage is a leader in mobilizing the resources of diverse groups to achieve positive and lasting change in the lives of the people in our community. The Alaska Center for the Environment’s Trailside Discovery Camp emphasizes an appreciation for natural sciences and natural history, and focuses on developing outdoor skills and leadership training. The camp offers in-school outreach programs designed to assist youth in developing healthy outdoor recreation skills while creating life-long connections with Alaska’s environment. The Anchorage Schools Foundation projects with small grants to provide classroom supplies, recreational equipment, books, technology, after-school program funding, field trips, art supplies or other needs that are not supported by Anchorage School District funds.

The CIRI Golf Classic is an annual charitable event which originated in 1983 by Peak Oilfield Service Co. colleagues. For the first 18 years of the tournament, the money raised supported The CIRI Foundation, which awards scholarships and grants to CIRI shareholders and their lineal descendants and supports other cultural endeavors. When the Foundation reached its endowment goal, the focus of the tournament expanded to benefit other worthy programs focusing on youth and education.

CIRI would like to thank all of the sponsors and volunteers who helped make the CIRI Golf Classic and Calcutta fundraiser a great success.

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Learn more about the CIRI Golf Classic at www.cirigolf.com.
Previously unseen Alaska Native artifacts displayed at Anchorage Museum

Alaska Natives help Arctic Studies Center select, interpret Smithsonian pieces

The recently completed $106-million expansion of the Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center features, among other exhibits, an intriguing combination of Alaska Native artifacts and cutting-edge technology.

The new Smithsonian Arctic Studies Center houses more than 600 Alaska Native artifacts on loan from National Museum of the American Indian and the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History. The center displays the artifacts alongside large iPod-like touch screens that allow visitors to zoom in on artifact photos or view them in 3-D or access more detailed information, such as oral histories.

The 10,000-square-foot Arctic Studies Center’s main exhibition, “Living Our Cultures, Sharing Our Heritage: The First Peoples of Alaska,” demonstrates how each Alaska Native culture is unique but connected to the others.

The center’s exhibition represents Tlingit, Haida, Tsimshian, Athabaskan, Eyak, Unangan, Sugpiat, Yupik, St. Lawrence Island Yupik and Inupiaq cultures. The exhibits explore three universal themes: Living from the Sea, Land and Rivers; Ceremony and Celebration; and Community and Family.

Examples of the artifacts displayed at the Arctic Studies Center include an Inupiaq caribou skin parka from the 1880s and a Tlingit crest hat made of woven spruce root and mounted with a raven carving.

The center’s west wall is a 3-D sound art installation that provides an auditory Arctic experience through recordings of Alaska Native storytellers and sounds from the Arctic environment. The center also includes a video installation about Alaska Native life on seven large screens.

Starting in 2001, more than 40 Alaska Native elders, scholars and artists helped select the artifacts for display and interpret them. Most of these objects have never been displayed before or seen by contemporary Alaska Native people.

Cook Inlet Housing Authority celebrates opening of the Eklutna Estates

Nonprofit’s Centennial Village grows to meet the housing needs of Alaskan seniors

Cook Inlet Housing Authority (CIHA), a CIRI-affiliated nonprofit, has opened Eklutna Estates, a 59-unit facility dedicated to providing senior housing to Alaskans. On Tuesday, Aug. 3, community leaders gathered at CIHA’s existing senior community, Centennial Village, where the new homes are located to celebrate the grand opening of this unique residential property.

Speakers included Margie Brown, president and chief executive officer of CIRI; Carol Gore, president and chief executive officer of CIHA; Sandra Henriquez, assistant secretary for the Office of Public and Indian Housing, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development; Susanne Fleek, state director, Office of the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Public and Indian Housing, U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development; Susanne Fleek, state director, Office of Federal Housing Commissioner; Kevin Gardiner, vice president Investment Manager Wells Fargo Community Lending and Investment; and Pita Benz, senior vice president Wells Fargo Commercial Real Estate Group.

Self-guided tours of the property immediately followed the speaking program and ribbon-cutting celebration. Eklutna Estates consists of 46 one-bedroom/one-bath units and 13 two-bedroom/two-bath units. Eklutna Estates is a mixed-income property and is open to Alaskans ages 55 and older. Most rental units are available based on income eligibility guidelines, and a limited number of units are available at market rates without income restrictions.

This is CIHA’s first smoke-free development and was designed using green sustainable building practices. The property exceeds the State of Alaska’s BEES (building energy efficiency standards) with a 5-Star energy rating. Eklutna Estates features Energy Star-certified appliances, in-floor radiant heat and exterior glazing and insulated windows, which allow for minimal heat loss during the winter while allowing maximum advantage of daylight.

CIHA has been providing senior housing to Alaskans since 1983, with five dedicated properties in Anchorage, Kenai, Seldovia and Ninilchik. With the addition of Eklutna Estates to Centennial Village, CIHA’s total affordable senior housing portfolio will grow to 419 housing units. As of opening day, CIHA had 153 applicants for the 59 new apartments, and had approved 33 residents, of which 16 have already moved in to their units.

Shareholders interested in housing assistance can contact CIHA at (907) 793-3000, toll-free at 1-888-667-2442 or email at info@cookinlethousing.org.

Learn more about Eklutna Estates at www.cookinlethousing.org.
Condolences

Ann Breazeale (aka Anna May Breazeale), 67
Ann Breazeale died June 16 at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Ms. Breazeale was born Oct. 2, 1942, in Sitka, Alaska. She is survived by her son, Eric Jones, his wife, Jennifer, and their sons, Kevin and Aaron; stepson, Jim Breazeale; grandson, Daniel Jones, his wife, Ashley and son, Blake; granddaughter, Tara Jones, and her son, Xander; sisters, Patricia Tonzack and her husband, Tom; brothers, John Littlefield and wife Roby, Terry Littlefield and Dana Littlefield; and former husband, Buck Jones.

Betsy Chuitt, 39
Betsy Chuitt died June 23 in Anchorage. Ms. Chuitt was born Feb. 1, 1971, in Anchorage. She is survived by her daughter, Stacy Chuitt; mother, Clara Chuitt; sisters, Victoria and Donna Bartels; brother, Allen Chuitt; grandson, Mychal Chuitt; granddaughter, Kaliyah Alton; nieces, Raychel Chuitt and Hannah Bartels; great-nieces, Nicole and Jordan Standifer; great-nephews, Joseph Standifer II and Solo Kaloa; uncle, Lawrence Chuitt; and godmother, Sophia Chuitt.

Robert Scott Davis, 35
Robert Scott Davis died Dec. 19, 2009, in Summerville, S.C. Mr. Davis was born Aug. 2, 1974, in Greenwood, S.C. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth Davis; sons, Ian Gadd and Zackary Davis; daughters, Kayla and Alyssa Gadd; mother, Mary Jane MacInnes; father, David Davis; brother, Parker Davis; grandmothers, Louise Robertson and Mary Davis; and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Jane Guzialek, 66
Jane Guzialek died June 4 in Anchorage. Ms. Guzialek was born in Anchorage. She is survived by her daughters, Paula Smith and Carol Seibert.

Rickey Lee John, 48
Rickey Lee John died Jan. 24 at Heritage Medical Center in Tenn. Mr. John is survived by his wife, Charlotte “Charlie” John; daughters, Ann John, Brandy John, Frances Davis and Nikki John; sons, Michael, Danny, Ricky Jr., Allen Lawson and Cody John; mother, Barbara Lynn Uselton; sister, Lisa John Hillis; brother, David Behannon; and 15 grandchildren.

Lloyd Halton Tom, 70
Lloyd Halton Tom died July 4 in Anchorage. Mr. Tom was born March 5, 1940, in Unalakleet, Alaska. He is survived by his sister-in-law, Alora A. Sampson; niece, Effie K. Sampson; and nephews, Darren R. Sampson, Robert P. Sampson and Nicholas Hank III.

Condolences

Charles O. Kallman, 53

AIC broke ground on the project in November 2008. Because of the unique conditions of the project, AIC had to start construction in the winter. “The first winter we were able to work the entire winter excavating the peat bogs in the area, hauling the peat back to the Eklutna gravel pit and using it for reclamation at the pit. Then we hauled gravel back from the pit,” said Scoggin. “It made a huge difference time-wise to work through the winter.”

Scoggin also attributed the early and successful project completion to the subcontractors AIC used on the project. “Finishing Edge Concrete did their work on time and laid a lot of curb when we needed it,” said Scoggin. “AAA Fence did a great job. Sunrise/Sunset Landscaping really went the extra mile with the landscaping near the end, in the rain. They really stepped up to the plate.”

Lodge Renovations

“Completing a renovation project on a remote island is quite the feat,” said Dan McDonald, director of marine operations for Kenai Fjords Tours. “The equipment and supplies for the renovation were transported by boat and the project was interrupted by a typical large snowfall in the spring. We are pleased with the results and the positive reviews from our customers, who enjoy the open atmosphere and convenient traffic flow of the new lodge. The demand for private events on Fox Island is growing, and several corporations have held private company events at the island this season.”

Kenai Fjords Tours has operated tours since 1974 and is a CATC subsidiary. Alaska Native-owned and -operated, CATC is the umbrella company for Alaska Heritage Tours, Kenai Fjords Tours, Kenai Fjords Wilderness Lodge, Mariah Tours, Prince William Sound Glacier Cruises, Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge and Seward Windsong Lodge.