Alaska Interstate Construction LLC (AIC) is in Kotzebue completing shoreline stabilization and updates to Front Street with sidewalks, pavement and parking. AIC won the approximately $34 million contract from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities.

When completed, the project will prevent shoreline erosion, complement a new hotel being built on Front Street and make the area more appealing to visitors. AIC is working with the Native Village of Kotzebue, the Alaska Department of Labor and other local organizations to identify local candidates for hire.

Shoreline stabilization efforts began last summer with the installation of sheet pile, a continuous steel retaining wall, along the shore. This summer AIC will complete the pile cap, a layer of thick concrete that will stabilize the shoreline, and an approximately 3,000-foot-long handrail along the length of the wall. Other work will include concrete sidewalks, grading one mile of paved road, curb and gutter and 46,000 square feet of concrete stone pavers.

Peak recognized for clean-up operations
Hard-to-reach North Slope oil field sites restored

Peak Oilfield Service Co. was recently recognized by ConocoPhillips Alaska Inc. for outstanding safety performance and environmental responsibility while completing the remediation of the Nora Federal 1 and Susie Unit 1 locations on Alaska’s North Slope. Despite the remote location of the projects, 50 miles south of Deadhorse and 8 miles west of the Dalton Highway, the work was completed on schedule and under budget.

The work scope included constructing ice roads and pads, dewatering reserve pits, constructing reserve pit caps and providing a remote camp. The projects involved 12 miles of ice roads and 9 acres of constructed ice pads.

The professionalism and excellence demonstrated from early planning through the execution has been remarkable,” said ConocoPhillips’ Sarah M. Kenshalo, remediation program environmental coordinator, after her final inspection of the Susie Unit 1 location.

CIRI supports responsible environmental projects including remediation through clean technology. Peak is one of Alaska’s leading oilfield services and general contracting companies. It has offices statewide, including Anchorage, the North Slope, Valdez and on the Kenai Peninsula. To learn more about Peak, visit www.peakalaska.com.

North Wind awarded contract from DOE Office of River Protection

The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of River Protection (ORP) awarded North Wind Services LLC a contract for engineering, environmental and related technical, management and administrative support services. The contract term is two years with an option for at least one more, and the base contract value is $12 million.

The work scope includes environmental and regulatory support, safety and quality oversight, construction inspection, engineering, project controls, strategic planning and consulting services to support ORP mission objectives at the Hanford Site, a decommissioned nuclear production complex on the Columbia River in Washington state. North Wind is a wholly owned CIRI subsidiary and a certified Minority Business Enterprise.

Learn more about North Wind at www.northwind-inc.com.
Alaskans need private energy investments, not state energy subsidies

By: Margie Brown, CIRI president and CEO

There can be no real debate about the importance of energy development in Alaska. We have tourism, fishing, logging, mining and other industries, but Alaska's economy is built on and supported by private energy development.

The energy sector plays a central role in any modern economy. But it is especially important in Alaska because energy, particularly oil production, pays for 85 percent of our state's government. It also provides many of Alaska's best paying jobs. And low population density, cold climate and large geographic size cause Alaskans to use more energy per capita than residents of any other state.

Unfortunately, Alaska is quickly running out of developed energy resources. Our known oil and gas reserves and production are in steep decline. Alaska oil exports, for example, are down 70 percent from their peak in 1988, and new Alaska energy exploration and development is not keeping pace with the decline.

So far the majority of Alaskans have escaped the most serious consequences of our energy sector decline because high world oil prices have increased the state's revenue per barrel of oil produced. But the state treasury will eventually feel the pinch as oil production continues to fall or if volatile energy prices suddenly swing down. And many parts of Alaska are already suffering from the energy crisis.

Alaska fuel prices are trending back up to 2008 levels and making it economically impossible for many rural Alaskans to live off of the road system. Urban Alaska gasoline prices routinely rank among the most expensive in the nation. And even Southcentral Alaska's traditionally cheap natural gas prices are above the national average and climbing, while most Lower 48 natural gas prices are stable or decreasing.

Economists predict that world energy prices will become increasingly volatile during the next decade while trending higher. This forecast is driven by a combination of factors that include political instability in oil producing regions, increasing world energy demand – especially in emerging markets – and declining world oil reserves and production.

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The challenge for Alaska's political leaders is to formulate and pursue energy policies that encourage and enable a broad spectrum of responsible energy development instead of a few mega projects that create the illusion of inexpensive energy by shifting costs from energy consumers to state coffers.

Alaska's political leaders need to pursue energy policies that encourage and enable a broad spectrum of responsible energy development instead of a few mega projects that create the illusion of inexpensive energy by shifting costs from energy consumers to state coffers.

So what is keeping these energy resources from being responsibly developed? Unrealistic expectations and policies that favor public funding over private investment.

Alaska's political leaders need to pursue energy policies that encourage and enable a broad spectrum of responsible energy development instead of a few mega projects that create the illusion of inexpensive energy by shifting costs from energy consumers to state coffers.

Diversification improves energy security and reliability by increasing the number of energy suppliers and the sources of energy. It improves price stability by fostering competition between suppliers and reducing overdependence on the failure of a single resource or technology. Competition also encourages innovations by rewarding project developers and operators for developing and implementing ideas that improve efficiency.

The state should support new and responsible Alaska energy development. But that doesn't mean throwing billions of dollars of public money at projects that make little economic sense. Instead it means enacting market-driven policies and regulatory structures that support private investment to develop successful Alaska energy projects in a timely fashion.

Our Business

NordAq applying for permits

NordAq Energy Inc. will apply for a right of way permit to construct a road, pipeline, drilling pad and production pad above subsurface estate owned by CIRI in the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge. NordAq drilled an exploratory natural gas well during the winter and accessed it on an ice road constructed by Peak Oilfield Service Co., a 50 percent-owned CIRI company. CIRI owns the subsurface estate in this area as part of the Cook Inlet Land Exchange and will receive royalties if gas is produced.

Margie Brown to co-chair Alaska Forward

CIRI president and CEO Margie Brown was appointed council co-chair of Alaska Forward, an initiative of the Alaska Partnership for Economic Development to engage Alaska’s private sector with Alaska’s policy and decision makers. Learn more about Alaska Forward at www.alaskapartnership.net/alaska-forward/.

CIRI Board of Directors

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Contact: 800-742-7493, ext. 102
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In December, CIRI shareholder Denise Morris became president and CEO of First Alaskans Institute. She left the Alaska Native Justice Center, where she served as president and CEO since 1999. First Alaskans Institute is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance Alaska Native peoples and communities through community engagement, information and research, collaboration and leadership development. Morris is a tribal member of the Aleut Community of Saint Paul Village.

Where are you from and who is your family?

I grew up in Anchorage – I lived in Mt. View and attended Mt. View Elementary, Clark Junior High, East High School, Lathrop in Fairbanks during the construction of the pipeline and graduated from Chugiak High School.

My father, Leroy Boies, lives in Waaula – he is a very special person; very proud and supportive of his family. My mother, Virginia Kochergin O’Donnell, was born and raised on St. Paul Island. My mother was a strong, independent woman. I believe I inherited inner strength and determination from her.

I am married to William Morris, have two wonderful daughters, and three granddaughters.

How did you get to where you are in your career?

With the support of my family and other individuals and mentors who encouraged me to pursue my educational goals. I worked full time and attended the University of Alaska Anchorage – graduating with a bachelor’s degree in justice and a minor in history.

What motivates you?

A challenge, positive change, making a difference in the lives of others, connecting people and ideas.

How was your transition from the Alaska Native Justice Center to First Alaskans Institute?

The transition has been exciting! Since coming on board, our 2011 Public Policy Fellowships completed their service in legislators’ offices; our Summer Internship program is in full swing; our Alaska Native Policy Center has been active in the legislative redistricting process; we are continuing to use and refine our indigenous dialogue models for hosting meaningful and sometimes difficult conversations; and we are busy planning for the 2011 Elders & Youth Conference.

The Board of Trustees and staff have been welcoming and I truly value the opportunity to be involved in and influence the education, economic and social issues that impact our future as indigenous peoples at the policy level. I am also excited to continue supporting and mentoring young Native leaders through the Native Emerging Leaders Forum, our Leadership Development program, which has over 200 alums and is almost an ‘academy’ at this point, and the future generations of Alaska Native leaders by continuing to host the annual statewide Elders & Youth Conference.

What is your vision for First Alaskans Institute and what are your plans to implement it?

At First Alaskans Institute we look to our past and present as the springboard for our future. Our Board has defined a clear vision for our work “Progress for the next ten thousand years.” It is a large task, but one I am excited to be a part of. We must remember our peoples have been here for thousands of years and have left us a great blueprint, ‘best practices’ if you will, by which to move forward. For First Alaskans Institute this concept emphasizes that our foundations have been built and it is our role to strengthen our future.

CIRI’s Greg Razo joins committee to recruit young Alaska Native attorneys to judgeships

Greg Razo, CIRI shareholder and vice president of government contracting, was appointed by Superior Court Judge Joel Bolger and Alaska Supreme Court Justice Dana Fabe to the Alaska Supreme Court’s Fairness Diversity and Equality Committee, a committee to promote diversity on the judicial bench. The committee was formed to help young Alaska Native attorneys gain trial experience and ultimately apply for judgeships.

The committee will promote a trial academy that will encourage young Alaska Native attorneys to do pro bono work or voluntary professional work with public legal agencies such as the Office of Public Advocacy to gain trial and other relevant legal experience. Razo was chosen for his trial court experience and leadership in the Alaska Native community.

CITC’s Gloria O’Neill awarded UAA’s Alumni Humanitarian Award

UAA graduate recognized for contributions to community

Cook Inlet Tribal Council (CITC) President and CEO Gloria O’Neill was awarded the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) Alumni Humanitarian Award for her contributions to the community. O’Neill graduated from UAA in 1996 with a bachelor’s degree in sociology and a minor in business administration.

“I am deeply honored to receive the Alumni Humanitarian Award. As an alumnus, it remains critically important for me to stay connected to my UAA family. The university is a focal point for our community and for our state; a place where our thoughts leaders come together with vibrant new ideas and develop solutions to advance our state. I am committed to ensuring a strong, vital UAA system that nurtures today’s youth and cultivates tomorrow’s leaders,” said O’Neill.

Since O’Neill took the helm of CITC in 1998, CITC’s budget has grown from $8 million to $46 million. CITC provides social, educational and employment services to more than 12,000 Alaska Native and Native Americans each year.

O’Neill is currently a board member for the Anchorage Museum, Cook Inlet Housing Authority, Chanluy, Inc., the Alaska Federation of Natives, the National CASA Association, the National Tribal/Interior Budget Council of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, a member of the Race and Ethnicity Advisory Committee of the U.S. Census Bureau, a fellow of the Annie E. Casey Foundation Children and Family Fellowship Program and a member of the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee. Learn more about CITC at www.citci.org.
Joy Harjo is KNBA’s May artist-in-residence

Renowned musician, playwright and poet to collaborate on radio projects

Joy Harjo is KNBA 90.3 FM’s (KNBA) artist-in-residence for the month of May, where she is collaborating with station staff on radio projects. Harjo is nationally renowned and has published seven books of poetry and released four award-winning albums of original music.

For her poetry, she won the New Mexico Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts, the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Native Writers’ Circle of the Americas and the William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America. In 2009, she won the Native American Music Award for best female artist. Harjo is a founding board member of the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation.

Harjo is active on the Alaska culture and arts scene. Harjo was a teaching artist for the Alaska Native Heritage Center’s 2010 Alaska Native Playwright’s Project. She has been a featured guest on KNBA’s “Native America Calling” and “Earthsongs” radio series. Her residency was made possible by the Rasmuson Foundation’s artist-in-residence program. Harjo was born in Tulsa, Okla., and is a member of the Muscogee Nation.

KNBA recently raised $93,000 during its spring membership drive, surpassing its goal of $92,500. To support KNBA, or become a member, visit www.knba.org.

SCF breaks ground on Valley Native Primary Care Center

New care center will expand health services for growing population

Southcentral Foundation (SCF) broke ground for its future Valley Native Primary Care Center in Wasilla on April 19. The new care center will be located at the corner lot of Knik-Goose Bay Road and the Palmer-Wasilla Highway.

"The plans for the new primary care center were conceptualized in collaboration with the Chickaloon Village Traditional Council and the Knik Tribal Council after a careful review of the data and listening sessions with our customers from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough," said Charles Clement, SCF vice president of operations and chief operating officer.

Members of the Valley Native Primary Care Center Joint Operating Board, SCF President and CEO Katherine Gottlieb, Traditional Chief of Chickaloon Village Traditional Village Council Gary Harrison and Knik Tribal Council President Debra Call participated in the ceremonial scoop of dirt.

The Alaska Native and American Indian population in the Mat-Su borough is expected to nearly double during the next decade. The new 93,652 square foot Valley Native Primary Care Center will expand primary care, behavioral health, dietary, radiology, dental, pharmacy and optometry services to meet the existing and projected health care needs of Alaska Native and Native American residents living in the borough. Learn more about SCF at www.southcentralfoundation.org

AKFAAST taking applications

SCF-sponsored camp for teens promotes first responder career opportunities

The Alaska First Aid and Safety Team (AK FAAST) Camp is accepting applications for the 2011 summer camp. The camp, which aims at encouraging teens to consider careers as first responders, will be held in Anchorage in mid-July and will include activities with the Alaska State Troopers, Anchorage Fire Department, Learn-to-Return and Southcentral Foundation (SCF).

CIRI shareholder Tammy Ashley is actively involved in the co-organization of the camp. Ashley, 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.” SCF is a camp sponsor.

In 2010, six of the thirteen youth participants were CIRI shareholders or descendants. To learn more about AK FAAST call Tammy Ashley at (907) 729-4945.
CIRI needs your help locating shareholder addresses

The following CIRI shareholders do not have a current mailing address on record and should fill out the change of address form at CIRI’s offices, or download it at www.ciri.com/content/shareholders/change. 

Baby Jessa
CIRI shareholder Myrtilda Morgan and Grandpa Bob of Minnesota proudly announce the birth of their granddaughter, Jessa Mae Staab, born Sept. 28, 2010 to Robby and Sarah Staab. Baby Jessa is the great-niece of Mae and Barry Silook and the great-granddaughter of Monte and Lorraine Dodd.

Tamara Lee Childs
CIRI shareholder Tamara Lee Childs was promoted to director of the Anchorage Community Recreational Center. She thanks her husband Jay, her family and The CIRI Foundation for their support while she earned her associates, bachelor’s and master’s degrees. "Giving back to the community is more rewarding than words can describe," said Childs.

Baby Mary
CIRI shareholders Patrick and Julie DeCamp proudly announce the birth of their daughter Mary Angela Daisy Mae DeCamp. Baby Mary was born Jan 28, 2011 at the Alaska Native Medical Center.

Elizabeth Helen Dolchok wins May stock will prize

The winner for the May stock will participation prize is Elizabeth Helen Dolchok. To be eligible for the monthly $200 prize drawing, shareholders must have a will disposing of their CIRI shares on file in CIRI’s Shareholder Relations Department. The CIRI stock will form is located on the CIRI website at www.ciri.com. To determine whether you have a stock will on file, call CIRI’s probate staff at (907) 263-5191 or toll-free at (800) 764-2474.

CIRI dividend news

CIRI will mail or directly deposit its second quarter 2011 dividend of $8.42 per share on June 30. Shareholders who own 100 shares of stock will receive $842.00.

The deadline for shareholder address changes for the second quarter dividend is 3 p.m., Wednesday, June 22. Address change forms can be downloaded from CIRI’s website and mailed to P.O. Box 93330, Anchorage, Alaska 99509-3330, or faxed to (907) 263-5186. Please call the Shareholder Relations Department at (907) 263-5191 or toll-free at (800) 764-2474 to confirm receipt of the fax.

For information on dividend amounts, address changes, direct deposit or lost and missing dividends, visit www.ciri.com. Shareholders can also call CIRI’s dividend hotline at (907) 263-5100 or toll-free at (800) 764-2435.

New restaurants coming to Tikahtnu Commons

Firetap Alehouse Restaurant and Qdoba Mexican Grill will build new restaurants at Tikahtnu Commons. The dining establishments will join Fruitland Fresh, International House of Pancakes, Marble Slab Ice Cream, Pho Saigon, Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Subway at Tikahtnu Commons.

Tikahtnu Commons’ anchor stores include Best Buy, Kohl’s, Lowe’s, PetSmart, Sports Authority, Target and Regal Tikahtnu Stadium 16 IMAX & RPX, Alaska’s first IMAX theatre.

Tikahtnu Commons is Alaska’s largest shopping and entertainment center and is a one-stop shopping and dining destination for the whole family. CIRI Land Development Co. teamed with retail developer Browman Development Co. to develop Tikahtnu Commons on 95 acres of CIRI land in northeast Anchorage. For Tikahtnu Commons leasing inquiries, contact Jim Stephens with Browman Development Co. at (925) 588-2224.

Bike to work day

CIRI employees participated in the Municipality of Anchorage’s Bike to Work Day Event on Friday, May 20. From left are Kyle Tucker, Jenny Arnold, Carmen Cowan and Judy Novelli.

Elizabeth Helen Dolchok Co. to develop Tikahtnu Commons on 95 acres of CIRI land in northeast Anchorage. For Tikahtnu Commons leasing inquiries, contact Jim Stephens with Browman Development Co. at (925) 588-2224.
Doris Collins, 81
Doris Collins died March 26 at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Ms. Collins was born Aug. 28, 1929. She is survived by her sisters, Irene Chilligan and Laura J. Chilligan; brother, Norman Chilligan; stepmother, Pauline Chilligan; nieces, Shirley Craig, Rachel, Beverly, Rose and Deanna Chilligan, Breanna Stephan, Jennieva Phillips, Kayla Chilligan, Kaitlynn Munson, Tashena Craig, Cheyenne Chilligan, Irene Phillips, Ashonna Phillips, Brittany Chilligan and Atalia Phillips; and nephews, Ralph Phillips, Robert, Herman, Smitty, and Jason Chilligan Jr., Joshua Goodlataw, Dustin Saam, Jacob Phillips, Justin Dough, Brandon Chilligan, Duane Craig and Jason Chilligan Jr.

Ronald Martin Cooper II, 44
Ronald Martin Cooper II died Mar. 24 at home in Butte, Mont. Mr. Cooper was born July 13, 1966, in Kodiak, Alaska to Ronald Martin Cooper and Charlotte Cooper. Mr. Cooper graduated from high school in Anaconda, Mont., and attended the University of Montana, Missoula. Mr. Cooper was a drill technician on the North Slope and at the Nevada Test Site. He is survived by his mother, Charlotte Cooper; brother, Cory Cooper; and niece, Correnna Cooper.

Letha Helen Hazel, 57
Letha Helen Hazel died April 4 in Yuma, Ariz. Ms. Hazel was born May 20, 1953. She is survived by her brother, Joseph Kozloff Jr.

David Alexander Komakhuk, 19
David Alexander Komakhuk died Nov. 8, 2010, in Anchorage. Mr. Komakhuk was born Sept. 3, 1991, in Soldotna, Alaska. He is survived by his parents, Roy and Trudi Komakhuk; sisters, Kristel and Tanya Komakhuk; and nephew, Alexander Stiles.

William (Bill) H. Yost, 75
William (Bill) H. Yost died March 13 in Asheville, N.C. Mr. Yost was born December 6, 1935, in Los Angeles, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Brun L. Yost; daughter, Michele Yost; and sons and daughter-in-law; Mike and Antonette Yost and Scott Yost.

Condolences
Maniel Chickalusion, 59
Sandra Ann Fuentes, 47
Glenn R. Stepanoff, 71