A glass panel is lifted into place on the Fireweed Business Center. Photo by Joel Irwin.

If you’ve driven down the Seward Highway in midtown Anchorage recently, you have noticed an exciting development taking place at CIRI’s Fireweed Business Center. With the installation of its windows over the past few weeks, the true look of the ending aesthetic is taking form.

From ground level, the windows might look like the simple panes of glass you’d see on any Alaskan building. But the windows of the Fireweed Business Center actually represent unique, cutting-edge technology that will save energy, enhance the comfort of building occupants and fulfill the vision CIRI shareholders and descendants had for this new, iconic building.

“Primarily, we were focusing on occupant comfort and productivity,” says Chad Nugent, CIRI Real Estate project management director. To reduce glare on computer screens, manage heat gain and loss, control sunlight and provide unobstructed views of Cook Inlet and six mountain ranges, CIRI chose a three-part curtain wall glass system composed of three relatively new materials.

Along the top 18 inches of the walls, workers are installing a “daylighting” system from Solera, the manufacturer of the daylight panels. These highly insulated, light-diffusing panels evenly distribute light from outside and cast it deep into the building. “This provides increased natural light, which forms a no-cost alternative to electric lights when daylight is present,” explains RIM Architects’ James Dougherty, principal in charge of the architecture of the Fireweed Business Center project.

To complement the daylighting panels and save energy, sensors will detect light from outside and automatically dim the indoor electric lighting.

Early in the planning of the building, CIRI conducted a glass system analysis to ensure the optimal use of natural light.

Imagine working outside in Fairbanks, Alaska, in the winter. It’s not uncommon for the thermostat to linger at 20 below while ice fog encases everything in a seasonal tomb of frost. That very prospect awaits the workers at Silver Mountain Construction’s project at Fort Wainwright Army base. And that’s one of the reasons they’re motivated to be safe and efficient.

The CIRI subsidiary is building the base’s new battalion headquarters on the sprawling Army post just east of Fairbanks. Construction on the two-story, 16,000-square-foot building began in July. Already the steel beams are in place and sparks are flying as welders and metalworkers fuse, cut and grind away on the skeletal structure.

“If it’s not unusual for us to be working in places like Fairbanks. We’re prepared for the cold. It’s just another challenge we have to overcome,” said David Sallee, superintendent for the Silver Mountain project. “Our experience in Alaska has given us the capability to work just about anywhere and continually deliver an excellent product safely.”

Sparks fly as the finishing welds are completed on the structural supports. Photo by Jason Moore.

CIRI COMPANY SETS STEEL IN FAIRBANKS

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CIRI COMPANY SETS STEEL IN FAIRBANKS
"To promote the economic and social well-being and Alaska Native heritage of our shareholders, now and into the future, through prudent stewardship of the company’s resources..."

That is the mission of CIRI. It’s a two-sided equation. On one side, we invest in and grow business interests to generate revenue and strengthen CIRI’s financial stability. On the other side, our shareholders reap the benefits of CIRI’s financial success through the dividends they receive and the services offered by CIRI and its affiliated nonprofits. Business and shareholder benefits; we grow one to support the other.

This past year exemplified CIRI’s commitment to both sides of that equation. 2014 has seen exciting new business opportunities, including the construction of the Fireweed Business Center — which not only provides a new home for CIRI corporate headquarters, but expands CIRI’s real estate portfolio, with five of the building’s eight floors available for lease. Innovative technologies (some of which you can read about in this issue’s lead story) and generous tenant amenities make this one of Anchorage’s most unique and forward-thinking buildings – and one that will generate income for generations of shareholders.

As you read in last month’s newsletter, CIRI recently sold its interest in the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa near Austin, Texas. This venture is emblematic of our investment philosophy: CIRI identifies an opportunity, invests and grows it into a sustaining business, then harvests the value that we helped create. CIRI looks forward to redeploying the proceeds from this excellent investment in new forward-thinking buildings – and one that will generate income for generations of shareholders.

Closer to home, CIRI’s premier retail and entertainment center, Tikahtnu Commons, has reached almost 100 percent build-out. The shopping center is a model of the company’s resources..."

That’s what our investments are all about: our shareholders. But CIRI’s interest in its shareholders doesn’t stop at dividends and job creation. At the start of 2014, one of the goals I set for the CIRI team was to continue to deepen shareholder and descendant engagement. Our second annual CIRI Job and Resource Fair kicked off a year-long series of efforts to create shareholder and descendant opportunities. The second job fair attracted 50 percent more CIRI shareholders and descendants than the first, prompting us to plan a third job fair in January 2015.

Meanwhile, we were also inspired to launch CIRI’s first-ever Take the Next Generation to Work Day, which will take place next month. Young CIRI shareholders and descendants will have the opportunity to explore potential career paths while also learning more about our company.

CIRI’s Shareholder Relations department revamped CIRI’s descendant registry and now distributes identification cards to confirmed descendants. The new process will make it easier to apply for The CIRI Foundation scholarships and grants and check in at CIRI events and may assist in proving eligibility for services from various agencies and organizations. The cards may also be presented to vendors and shareholder- and descendant-owned businesses that provide discounts. It’s one more way we’re hoping to encourage descendant involvement in a company for which they’ll eventually be the stewards.

On the technology front, CIRI’s Facebook page has reached 2,050 likes, while our Twitter following has increased 900 percent since this June. This year, we also redesigned our company website to improve its look and functionality and to better highlight shareholder services and descendant programs. Our goal is to employ every tool available to better serve our shareholders and descendants.

We’ve accomplished a lot in one year, and I’m grateful to CIRI’s fantastic team of employees for their work in helping CIRI continue its strong performance. As we look forward to 2015, I know we’ll continue to work hard and seek out even more opportunities to grow our business and connect with shareholders and descendants.

To each and every one of you, best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday! 🎄

**HIGHLIGHTS PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

• CIRI’s mission emphasizes developing business interests for the benefit of CIRI shareholders.

• In 2014, CIRI grew its Tikahtnu Commons and Fireweed Business Center projects, while selling its interest in the Hyatt Regency Lost Pines Resort and Spa.

• This year CIRI also sought new ways to engage shareholders and descendants, including planning the third annual Job Fair and the first-ever Take the Next Generation to Work Day, both coming in 2015.

Reminder to Apply

**TAKE THE NEXT GENERATION TO WORK DAY**

January 19, 2015

Hey, kids! Don’t forget to apply! CIRI is hosting its first Take the Next Generation to Work Day, a new program dedicated to helping young CIRI shareholders and descendants explore future career opportunities by inviting them to spend a day at CIRI on Monday, Jan. 19, 2015. This date coincides with Martin Luther King Jr. Day and is an Anchorage School District holiday.

Applicants must have parent or legal guardian permission, be between 10 years old through high school age and be a CIRI shareholder or descendant. The parent or guardian must arrange for the minor’s transportation to CIRI’s corporate office in Anchorage.

Interested young people must complete an application, and winners will be selected in a random drawing. Applications are available on the CIRI website and from CIRI’s Shareholder Relations department. Completed forms must be received by Human Resources no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, 2015.

We are excited to offer this new opportunity for young people to learn about CIRI and explore potential career paths. Please encourage the young people in your life to apply! 😊

**Photo courtesy of Southcentral Foundation.**
When CIRI employee Rhonda Oliver volunteered for a November afternoon spent helping students at Muldoon Elementary with their homework, she was taken aback by a third-grader’s response when she offered to quiz him on spelling words.

“He said to me, ‘No, I want to read while I’m here because I don’t have books at home,’” Oliver recalls.

“That moment and that comment took my breath away.”

“Volunteering to cut vegetables or read to kids is an easy way to help, and you feel like you’ve truly made an impact.”

- RACHEL BATRES

It also inspired her to solicit donations of children’s books from her coworkers. From Nov. 5 through Nov. 18, CIRI collected picture books and chapter books, as well as monetary donations, for Muldoon Elementary School, where CIRI employees have been volunteering for more than ten years. CIRI employees also participate in The Children’s Lunchbox, a program that supplies healthy snacks for kids who wouldn’t otherwise have food available after school or on the weekends.

“Volunteering to cut vegetables or read to kids is an easy way to help, and you feel like you’ve truly made an impact,” says Rachel Batres, manager of CIRI Community Relations. “As a corporation, CIRI has a strong commitment to the community. By encouraging employees to volunteer and supporting fundraising events, we’re helping to build a stronger community.”

Though CIRI emphasizes giving year-round, the holidays provide a special opportunity to make an impact on the community. Each year, CIRI organizes a United Way Campaign to raise funds to support the organization’s programs. Employees are able to arrange payroll-deducted contributions to United Way, with the company matching 50 percent of each contribution.

Batres cooked up a football theme for this year’s campaign, and employees paid small fees to wear jeans and football jerseys to work, guess the number of football candies in a jar or dine at a chili cook-off “tailgater” party.

Two- and five-dollar donations quickly added up: Combined with payroll donations and the corporate match program, CIRI expects this year’s campaign to contribute approximately $100,000 to United Way.

You don’t have to be a big corporation to make a difference in the lives of others this holiday season – as exemplified by CIRI’s own President and CEO Sophie Minich. On Thursday, Nov. 20, Minich spent a night outside at Anchorage’s Covenant House facilities. The Executive Sleep Out event raises money and awareness to combat the problem of homeless teens in Anchorage. 

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ALASKA NATIVE AND AMERICAN INDIAN AFFORDABLE CARE ACT EXEMPTION

New Recommendation from the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium

Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), every American must have health care coverage, but there are special exemptions that exist for Alaska Native and American Indian people. Those who wish to avail themselves of the Alaska Native and American Indian Exemption must show evidence of one of the following:

• Enrollment in a federally recognized Tribe;
• Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) shareholder status (village or regional); or
• Eligibility to receive services from a Tribal health clinic or IHS Facility.

Previously, only members of federally recognized Tribes and shareholders of ANCSA corporations had the option to apply for the Exemption when filing their taxes.

But the federal government recently announced that descendants, people with a Certificate Degree of Indian Blood (CDIB) and/or those eligible to receive services through a Tribal health care provider may now claim the Exemption when filing their taxes.

The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium’s (ANTHC) Health Reform team has been assisting people with the Exemption application. Due to ongoing issues with the paper application process, for those who still need to apply for the exemption to avoid the tax penalty for not having health coverage, the ANTHC Health Reform Team now recommends claiming the Exemption when you file your taxes.

When finalized, IRS Tax Form 8965, titled “Health Coverage Exemptions,” will be used to claim the Alaska Native and American Indian Exemption. E-mail the ANTHC Health Reform Team (healthreform@anthc.org) to get on the email distribution list to receive the IRS Tax Form 8965 when it is published by the IRS.

If you are eligible for the Exemption but have health insurance coverage, you are still encouraged to apply. That way, you will be covered in the event your insurance situation changes.

For more information on the Affordable Care Act and Alaska Native and American Indian people, and on the Exemption, visit anthctoday.org/aca or call (907) 729-7777.

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**SHAREHOLDER-OWNED BUSINESSES**

Red Dragon Martial Arts Academy
www.reddragongym.com
907-272-5425
Tim Gjertson, Owner

Arctic Sun Concrete Cutting
articsun@alaska.com
907-277-2888
Tim Gjertson, Owner

Being a small business owner has not only enabled CIRI shareholder Tim Gjertson to work independently, it has also allowed him to share his passion with others by founding the Red Dragon Martial Arts Academy. Tim, better known to his students as Shidoshi TJ, has been practicing martial arts for more than four decades. His South Anchorage training facility is unlike any other in Anchorage, with multiple climbing apparatuses, a zip line and numerous striking pads.

"From the beginning of my training, I have always believed that Martial Arts is a way of life, not only to be practiced a few days a week, but a code to live by," explains Tim. With year-round training offered Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, Tim has created both indoor and outdoor spaces to train, so weather is never an issue. The Red Dragon Martial Arts Academy is a non-profit organization and is run exclusively from donations. Tim also owns and operates Arctic Sun Concrete Cutting, Alaska's premier, full service concrete removal service. Although Arctic Sun Concrete Cutting specializes in the professional removal of concrete, they also offer many other services. The company is capable of handling jobs of any size. Whether you are a homeowner who is renovating your house or a contractor in need of significant concrete removal, Arctic Sun can accommodate your needs. Formed in 2000, Arctic Sun is a proud member of the Small Business Administration's 8(a) program.

To list your shareholder, or descendant-owned business on CIRI’s website, submit an online Shareholder-Descendant Business Registration form via the CIRI website.

Disclaimer: CIRI provides links to shareholder and descendant-owned businesses as a service to CIRI shareholders and their families and for informational purposes only. CIRI does not endorse and takes no responsibility for any of the products or services these businesses offer, or the ways in which they offer them. CIRI does not manage or evaluate the listed businesses in any way, and makes no warranty, express or implied, about the suitability of any statement or listed business. CIRI reserves complete discretion in deciding whether to list any business, to maintain any listing and to update any listing or link.

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**STOCKINFO**

**Stock Will Prize Winner**

The winner of the November 2014 $200 Stock Will Participation Prize is Wendy Anna Ling. Shareholders will have one more opportunity to win an Apple iPad Mini in 2014, with a drawing conducted for the quarter ending Dec. 31.

To be eligible for the $200 monthly prize drawings and the final 2014 drawing for an iPad Mini with Retina display, you must have a valid will on file in CIRI’s Shareholder Relations Department and your will must comply with CIRI’s fractional share policy. The CIRI Stock Will form, instructions and information on the fractional share policy may be found on the CIRI website.

**DO YOU HAVE A VALID STOCK WILL ON FILE?**

There are 2,484 CIRI shareholders as of November 19, who do not have stock wills on file at CIRI. There are a study, "Published in the Fireweed property this helped planners decide how to position the building and where to install the Solera and Vew window systems. “The dynamic glass and Solera daylighting panels are only on the south, east and west sides because the direct sunlight doesn’t interact enough with the north to pay back the increased cost of the specialized glass or provide significant value,” Nugent explains.

Finally, the third part of the window system is the vacuum insulated panel (VIP), which fills the space between floors. “The VIPs employ thermal insulation that provides approximately three times the insulation value of a typical house wall, but in a substantially more compact package,” says Dougherty.

“To achieve a smaller energy footprint, all three systems really needed to work together," Nugent says.

Early in the planning of the Fireweed Business Center, CIRI held “visioning” sessions with shareholders and descendants who identified four critical success factors they felt the new building must reflect.

“Land, diversity, sustainability and CIRI culture were all important to the shareholders and descendants who were interviewed,” according to Nugent. “The windows contribute to our smaller energy footprint on the land and help with sustainability. Meanwhile the technology in the windows lets occupants interact with the outside and see nature, the views, the mountains.

“As for unique and iconic, “ Nugent continues, referring to two of the four factors the CIRI executive team directed (in addition to “tall” and “good investment”), “there’s no other dynamic glass in Alaska.”

With construction on schedule to allow for an early 2015 occupancy, the installation of windows brings the Fireweed Business Center one step closer to becoming Alaska’s most unique office building—a structure CIRI shareholders can be proud to call their own.

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**CIRI EMPLOYMENT AND THE MARIJUANA INITIATIVE**

In the recent election held Nov. 4, Alaska voters passed a ballot measure that will legalize the recreational use of marijuana in Alaska. CIRI wants applicants of any job with CIRI or its subsidiary companies to be aware of the following:

• The marijuana initiative will not become law until 90 days after the results are certified. The initiative is expected to become law in late February 2015.

• Marijuana use remains illegal in Alaska under federal law. The new law, when passed, will not change federal law.

• The new law, when passed, will not change CIRI’s current drug- and alcohol-free workplace policy, which prohibits the use of marijuana “while on Company premises, engaged in Company business, or operating Company equipment.”

• The new law will explicitly allow employers to prohibit drug use and to test employees for marijuana use.

• If employees choose to use marijuana outside the workplace, they can still be tested at work. Employees who exceed drug testing levels will be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

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**HIGHLIGHTS “GLASS” ACT**

• The new Fireweed Business Center employs a technologically advanced three-part window system to save energy and enhance daylight.

• CIRI conducted a study of how the sun moves around the Fireweed property to help planners decide how to position the building.

• The Fireweed Business Center’s windows help fulfill shareholders’ and descendants’ vision of the building, reflecting values like sustainability and a commitment to the land.

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**Looking out the Dynamic Glass panels by Vew. Photo by Jason Moore.**
The following CIRI shareholders do not have a current mailing address on record. When CIRI mail is returned as undeliverable, the CIRI records are placed on hold and any distributions are held pending receipt of a corrected mailing address. Shareholders can fill out the change of address form at www.ciri.org, download it from the CIRI website or send a signed and dated letter that includes the new address, telephone number, birth date and the last four digits of their social security number.

(As of 12/0/14)

Byrn Keith Abelit
Jodie Ann Alger
Laura Alimi
June Angile
Carla M. Ashton
Kimberly Ann Asher
Berinoulette Limas Atchinson
Tammy Anne Bean
Timothy Vern Bell
Donna Irene Betta
Kenneth Lawrence Briel
Akin Natalie Brandon
James Patrick Brown
Daisy Max Clark
Lance A. Cates
Tracey Lee Chambers
George Russell Chapman III
Oliver Wendell Chapman
Allan D. Chase Jr.
Darlene Elen Cheemuk
Gordon Walter Wesley
Chesemuk
Leiloni Davis-Sandoval
Jarell D-Marico Eastman
Mabel Virginia Deshong
Neil Christopher Rodriguez
Lorinda Kay Richards
Angela Lynn Reid
Tracy Ann Reedy
Rachel May Phelps
David A. Peterson Jr.
Rachael May Phelps
Rodger Ted Pitts
Tracy Ann Reidy
Angela Lynn Reid
Lorinda Kay Richards
Josephie Michael Richards
Neil Christopher Rodriguez
Joseph Ralph Rudolph
Deanna Mary Virginia-Sue
Saccom
Xavier Emmanuell Santana
Curis My Andrews Serfier
Michael James Schatz
Theodore Russell Scrape
Lloyd Daig Shaginoff
Andrew Paul Shaw
San Jane Shepard
Jasumieque Suni Shink
Judith Leaball Snow Rossander
Benjamin Samuel Snyder
Hopeful Lucy Standlee
Gilbert Willie Thomas
Martin Sean Tucker
Justine Elizabeth Valdez
Charlene Marie Vargas
Vivian Marie Watts
Adrianna Kristian Williams
Joseph Garrett Williams
Lorraine Rosanne Williams

John Earl Joyner, 41
John Earl Joyner passed away Oct. 1 in Huntington, Tenn. Mr. Joyner was born July 27, 1973, in Anchorage. He is survived by his father, John S. Joyner, and sister, Debbie E. Brewer.

Cody Julian Mack Jr., 43
Cody Julian Mack Jr. passed away Oct. 23 in Billing, Mont. Mr. Mack is survived by his children, Cassidy, Andrew and Avery Mack; mother, Violet Mack; and brothers, Larry, Rodd and Alfred Jones.

LOOKING FOR A JOB?
Third annual job and resource fair coming in January

Mark your calendars: the third annual CIRI Shareholder Job and Resource Fair will be held Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the First Floor Conference Room and Atrium at the CIRI building, at 2925 C Street, in Anchorage.

The job fair will focus on employment opportunities with CIRI, its subsidiaries and affiliated nonprofits, along with fellow Alaska Native corporations and private employers in the Cook Inlet region.

CIRI Alaska Tourism Corporation launched its hiring for the 2015 season in October and will attend the Job Fair seeking shareholders and descendants interested in seasonal employment. Other participating employers and resources include: Atina Inc., Alaska Job Corps., Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, AWTEC, Bristol Bay Native Corporation, Calista Corporation, Chuigak Alaska Corporation, The CIRI Foundation, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Crowley Marine Services, Davis Constructors and Engineers Inc., First National Bank, Hope Community Resources, Kenaite Indian Tribe, NANA Development Corporation, NANA Management Services, North Wind Group, Southcentral Foundation and Wells Fargo.

CIRI's third annual Job Fair will take place Thursday, Jan. 29, 2015, and will include a selection of interview-appropriate clothing and accessories for shareholder and descendant use. Photo by Jamie Braybury.

Dividend Payments
CIRI's dividend policy states that the total CIRI dividend payment to shareholders in any given year is equal to 3.5 percent of total shareholders' equity, calculated as of Dec. 31 of the prior year. The CIRI Board has approved the following payment dates for 2015: March 31, April 2, June 30, September 30 and December 9.

Dividend payments will be calculated shortly before the date of record for the 2015 first quarter dividend distribution, which generally falls within the last two weeks of March. As the first step in the process, the company’s 2014 accounting books must be “closed” (i.e., all 2014 expenses and income must be received and either paid or properly accounted for).

Next, the Finance and Accounting Department prepares CIRI’s 2014 financial statements, after which an independent accounting firm retained by CIRI reviews its financial statements and confirms their accuracy. This process will determine CIRI's total shareholders' equity upon which the 2015 dividends will be based.

When the Board declares a dividend, shareholders are notified via the newsletter, CIRI’s website and the dividend hotline, which can be accessed by dialing (907) 263-5100 in Anchorage or toll-free from outside of Alaska: 1-866-CIRI-1000 (1-866-247-4100) and 1-866-CHEK (1-866-243-5010). The dividends are paid in late June, late August, late November and December.

CIRI ALASKA TOURISM HIRING FOR 2015 SEASON
CIRI Alaska Tourism (CATC) is accepting applications for the 2015 tourism season to fill a variety of positions at its lodge and restaurant operations in Talkeetna, Seaport on Fox Island, as well as at the Anchorage office and aboard Kenai Fords Tours sightseeing vessels. CIRI shareholders are strongly encouraged to apply.
BAZAR SHOWCASES SHAREHOLDER ARTS AND CRAFTS
CIRI employee’s inspiration results in first annual Holiday Craft Bazaar

This December, 37 CIRI shareholder and descendant artists showcased their handmade Alaska Native arts and crafts at the first annual CIRI Holiday Craft Bazaar. The event came from an idea inspired by the strategic areas of focus CIRI set for 2013 – 2015.

“One of our focus areas was promoting and engaging CIRI shareholders and descendants,” recalled CIRI shareholder and employee Carolyn Bickley. So she decided to do her part by making it her goal to give shareholders and descendants an opportunity to showcase and sell their handmade creations.

“I really saw the craft bazaar as an opportunity for shareholders and descendants to meet each other, display their art and hopefully earn an additional income,” Bickley explains.

She figured getting 30 participants—15 artists for each day of the event—would be a challenging goal. So she was pleasantly surprised when more than 50 artists expressed an interest. “We had a lot of people interested in participating. Thirty-seven vendors were featured, and I had another 20 artists on a waitlist.”

The bazaar, which was open to the public, provided a platform for participants to sell hand-woven baskets, kuspuks, acrylic paintings, ornaments, carvings and more just in time for the holiday season.

“It seemed like a neat opportunity,” said CIRI shareholder Jaclyn Sallee, who shared a table with her friend Cindy Hector. Hector sold crocheted hats, while Sallee displayed moccasins made by her mother, CIRI shareholder Mary Sallee, who works from a pattern developed by her own mother in the 1920s.

Bickley also organized a silent auction and bake sale as part of the event, with 100 percent of the $1875 in proceeds benefitting Cook Inlet Tribal Council’s Christmas Basket program, which provides gift cards and a holiday celebration for low-income children and their families.

The popularity of this year’s event has already had a ripple effect. “There were a couple of people who called and wanted their Alaska Native corporations to do something similar,” says Bickley. “So hopefully the Craft Bazaar idea will take off. I definitely hope the success we saw this year means we can host the event again next year.”

The first annual CIRI Arts and Crafts Bazaar featured handmade jewelry, ivory carvings and apparel crafted by CIRI shareholders and descendants. Photos by Joel Iwen.

WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION
Thank you to the following donors and volunteers for your support:

Rachel Baltes
Carolyn Bickley
Dennis Bickley
Tammy Billhardt
Shavonne Burdette
Charlie Pardue
Charlie Paul
Bonnie Rude
Karen Woodcock
Barbara Donatelli
Shavonne Gaffney
Brianna Cannon
Brianna Canot
Tammie Schukit
Karen Woodcock
Shavonne Gaffney
Maliaq Kairaiuak
Karen Woodcock
Charlie Pardue
Bonnie Rude
Karen Woodcock
Alaska Native Heritage Center
CIRI Alaska Tourism
Conoco Phillips

The first annual CIRI Arts and Crafts Bazaar featured handmade jewelry, ivory carvings and apparel crafted by CIRI shareholders and descendants. Photos by Joel Iwen.
as an intern with Kiewit Infrastructure West and BP Alaska. At Kiewit, in 2012, he gained an overview of the work that takes place on a construction site by working on Alaska’s longest bridge, a 3,300-foot bridge spanning the Tanana River. The following summer, he got an owner’s perspective of construction work while undertaking a single project at BP, researching the factors behind Alaska’s comparatively high cost of construction work.

His experience provided a basis for his current position as a contract administrator for CIRI subsidiary CIRI Services Corporation (CSC), a job he found by chance.

“Every now and then I’d check the CIRI website to see what kind of work is posted,” Fisk explains. “I was mostly looking for my brother, to see if they had any kind of plumbing positions with the subsidiaries.”

Instead, he found himself a job. Today, Fisk takes care of the paperwork for many of CSC’s projects. “I’m specifically a contract manager for Silver Mountain Construction, so I handle all of the contracts that come in and out of Silver Mountain under CSC.”

A year into his job, Fisk is proud to work for a CIRI subsidiary and expects to stay in the construction field for as long as new buildings and structures keep going up. “I like to see a project from start to finish,” he says. “It’s very involved work, and very rewarding.”

HIGHLIGHTS: ARLEN FISK

- CIRI shareholder Arlen Fisk works as a contract administrator for CIRI subsidiary CIRI Services Corporation.
- After a snow machine accident in 2008 that left him paralyzed, Fisk decided to go back to school for a degree in construction management.
- Two internships – with BP Alaska and Kiewit Infrastructure West – helped prepare Fisk for a successful career.