When it comes to wind energy, it seems reasonable to assume that the windiest months produce the most energy. Not so, says Chris Jimenez, operations manager for the Fire Island Wind Project.

“The optimal range is 10 to 13 meters per second, so not overly windy,” he said. In January, wind conditions that hit right in the “sweet spot,” as Jimenez calls it, helped Fire Island Wind achieve record production: 7,260 megawatt hours of clean, sustainable wind energy delivered to Anchorage homes.

But wind conditions weren’t the only reason the project performed so well. Maintenance activities generally fall under one of two categories: preventive (maintenance designed to retain the healthy condition of equipment and prevent failure) or corrective (tasks performed to resolve equipment failure). According to Jimenez, a comprehensive protocol of preventive maintenance had already helped Fire Island Wind achieve consistently high availability.

For example, during an aerial survey of the turbine blades in spring 2017, the team realized that wind had eroded some of the blade tips. Jimenez orchestrated transporting contractors to the island to carry out the repairs. Crews began by climbing 260 feet to the nacelle — the housing at the center of the blades — then rappelling 130 feet down on ropes to the blade tips. There, they chipped away the damage and applied new epoxy material to preserve the integrity of the blades.

“It’s a preventative measure to stop the damage from getting any worse, and it’s done in a way that minimizes the amount of downtime for the operation,” Jimenez said.

Fire Island Wind began operations in the fall of 2012. Last year, General Electric Company (GE) took over as the operations and maintenance (O&M) provider. Since that time, Jimenez said he and the O&M team have focused not only on routine maintenance, but...
A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT
Sophie Minich, CIRI President and Chief Executive Officer

We made it through another winter, and spring is just around the corner! Here at CIRI, that means we start gearing up for the annual series of shareholder Information Meetings, to be held April 21 in Kenai, Alaska; April 28 in Anchorage, Alaska; and May 12 in Puyallup, Wash. (This year’s Annual Meeting will be held June 2 in Soldotna, Alaska. More information will be made available as the date draws closer.)

Information Meetings give us the opportunity to review and reflect on the previous year’s financial performance. In 2017, thanks to a combination of new investments and our existing business portfolio, we achieved $1 billion in gross assets and grew shareholders’ equity. These results will be presented in more detail at the Information Meetings and in the 2017 CIRI Annual Report that will be mailed to shareholders next month.

One of my favorite aspects of the Information Meetings is the sense of community that occurs when shareholders gather together – not only to learn more about CIRI’s business operations, but to reminisce with old friends, become acquainted with new ones, and share food and stories.

This sense of community extends to finding ways to give back, not only to our shareholders, descendants and their families, but to the broader Alaska Native community and society at large. To this end, CIRI is proud to support programs and events like the annual CIRI Job and Resource Fair, Summer Internship Program and Alaska Native artist opportunities, and we are equally proud of our close affiliation with our family of nonprofit organizations.

Additionally, CIRI is committed to supporting organizations that fight hunger, poverty and homelessness, and support education. The company recently aided the fundraising efforts of the Alaska SeaLife Center, American Heart Association, Bean’s Café/The Children’s Lunchbox, Covenant House and Muldoon Elementary School. Since it began in 1983, the CIRI Golf Classic has raised more than $1.9 million for local nonprofit organizations. And over the years, CIRI and its employees have invested nearly $2 million in the Southcentral Alaska community through ongoing support to United Way of Anchorage.

It’s important to remember that community service begins with each and every one of us. CIRI gives its employees two hours of paid time off per month to volunteer at the nonprofit of their choice. Additionally, employees from CIRI volunteer one morning per month at The Children’s Lunchbox, which provides free meals for students in seven Anchorage Title 1 elementary schools and sends those students home with a bag of food items to get them through each weekend.

As we enter the season of park and trail clean-ups, charity walks and golf tournaments, if you’re not already doing so, I invite you to find a way to give back to your community. It can be as simple as taking your vehicle through a car-wash fundraiser, giving blood or taking clothes you no longer need to Goodwill. Longer-term commitments include mentoring youth, becoming an adult literacy volunteer or serving as a senior companion.

If you’re looking for a volunteer opportunity and aren’t sure where to start, check with local charities or your local United Way organization. Those who live in Anchorage can find information on a variety of volunteer opportunities at www.liveunitedanc.org.

Find an opportunity that aligns with your passions, and then get out there and give back!

Warm regards,

Sophie Minich

CIRI in the COMMUNITY

Alaska SeaLife Center Marine Gala

When Hollywood actor Jack Black donated $10,000 of his own money to the Alaska SeaLife Center (ASLC) on the night of its annual Marine Gala, the room erupted into cheers. The gesture also inspired a frenzy of giving, with Black visiting the tables of many of the donors, including CIRI’s.

The only facility in Alaska that combines a public aquarium with marine research, education and wildlife response, for 20 years the ASLC has worked to promote understanding and stewardship of Alaska’s marine ecosystem. Located in Seward on the shores of Resurrection Bay, the ASLC public aquarium houses birds, fish, invertebrates (octopus, jellyfish) and marine mammals; boasts a world-class science and research program; and, through its education programs, develops methods for integrating marine science understanding with the goal of increasing civic engagement around issues affecting our shared marine resources.

Deemed an evening of “food, fun and fundraising,” the annual Marine Gala raises funds to help support ASLC’s efforts around animal care and health, marine science research, education and learning, and wildlife response. Nearly 900 individuals turned out for the black-tie event, held Feb. 3 at the Dena’ina Center in Anchorage.

CIRI is proud to be a long-time supporter of the ASLC. In addition to sponsoring the Marine Gala, the company supports the organization’s education efforts, which include bringing every fifth-grader in Anchorage School District Title 1 schools to the ASLC for a day of exploration, observation and hands-on learning, and reaching tens of thousands of students worldwide through tele-education programs. Jason Brune, senior director, CIRI Land and Resources, has long served on the ASLC board of directors.

In addition to inspiring a record-setting amount of donations, Black served as the evening’s emcee and entertainment. The ASLC is an organization close to his heart as his sister, Margaret Black, is employed there as a mammologist.

“The Alaska SeaLife Center connects people of all ages to Alaska’s marine ecosystems in meaningful ways,” said Rachel Batres, CIRI’s community relations manager. “We are proud to support such an organization, and having Jack Black there was the icing on the cake!”

CIRI was pleased to help sponsor the Alaska SeaLife Center’s ninth annual Marine Gala. L to R: Thom Holder, vice president, Business Development and Operations; Suzanne Settle, senior director, Energy Development; actor Jack Black; Jason Brune, senior director, Land and Resources; and Community Relations Manager Rachel Batres.
Brian Dyson.

1996 commencement address by Coca-Cola CEO

Sophie spoke to the group about the importance of work/life balance coming from the top ranks of leadership. Dyson said, “I also noted that CIRI was the only Alaska Native regional corporation that participated in the luncheon series. The company’s participation shows not only Sophie’s willingness to invest in the younger generation, but CIRI’s reputation as a leader in the Anchorage business community.”

For more information on the Young Professionals Group, visit anchoragechamber.org/young-professionals-group.
SAFE TO SLEEP

Initiative Seeks to Educate, Reduce Infant Deaths

By CIRI descendant Kristin Helvey, Healthy Native Babies Project area consultant

A version of this article first appeared in the Winter 2017-2018 issue of First Alaskans magazine.

For the past year, I have had the privilege to participate in an initiative called the Healthy Infant Deaths Program, developed by CIRI descendant Kristin Helvey. This program is a home mortgage product specifically designed for Alaska Native and American Indian families, and Alaska villages, tribes and tribally designated housing entities. Congress established the program in 1992 to facilitate homeownership and increase access to capital in Native American communities.

Section 184 financing offers advantages over traditional loans, including lower down payments, no monthly mortgage insurance and flexible credit requirements. While limited to single-family homes of one to four units, Section 184 loans can be used for new construction, rehabilitation, purchase of an existing home or refinancing.

SHAREHOLDER DISTRIBUTIONS

First Quarter Dividend

CIRI will mail or directly deposit its first quarter 2018 dividend of $8.87 per share (or $887 per 100 shares) by 6 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Friday, March 30 to all shareholders with a valid mailing address on file with CIRI as of 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 21.

Resource Revenue Distribution

For shareholders who own at least 100 shares and have a valid mailing address on file as of 3 p.m. Wednesday, March 21, a resource revenue payment in the amount of $16.3928 per at-large share (or $1,639.08 per 100 shares) will be mailed or directly deposited by 6 p.m. Alaska Daylight Time on Monday, April 2.

Resource revenue payments for shareholders who own village-class shares are mailed directly to their village corporations, as required by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA). If you have a Qenek portal account, you may access information on the type of stock owned via the portal. Resource revenue payments are made in accordance with Section 7(i) of ANCSA, which directs the sharing of resource revenues among the 12 regional corporations within the state of Alaska.

Other 2018 Distributions

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. For 2018, the amounts of the first through third quarter dividends were previously calculated and will be $8.87 per share (or $887 per 100 shares). We are pleased to announce that CIRI’s prior-year financial statements have been reviewed, and confirmed, and the amount of the fourth quarter dividend has been calculated at $10.67 per share (or $1,067 per 100 shares).

Direct Deposit/Remote Deposit

Shareholders who participate in direct deposit and have a current CIRI mailing address are eligible to participate in quarterly prize drawings. Although the deadline for signing up for direct deposit or changing existing direct deposit information for these distributions has passed, CIRI urges shareholders who receive their dividends in check form to consider either implementing direct deposit or taking advantage of remote deposit. Both options are fast, easy and eliminate the need to drive to the bank and stand in line. Direct deposit forms are available from Shareholder Relations and at ciri.com. (Note: When remotely depositing a check, it’s a good idea to make a note on the check so you don’t attempt to cash it again. If a check is cashed twice, you are legally liable to repay the amount of the overpayment.)

Address Changes

Checks and vouchers are mailed to the address CIRI has on record as of the specified deadline. If your address has changed, be sure to update your address with both CIRI and the U.S. Postal Service. These addresses must match or your CIRI mail may not reach you. When CIRI mail is undeliverable, distributions are held and the shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the address is updated. This is true even if a shareholder has his or her dividends electronically deposited.

If you have a Qenek portal account, you can submit an address change update online via the portal. Alternatively, CIRI address change forms can be downloaded and printed at ciri.com, or you may send a signed, written request that includes a current telephone number. Address change forms and requests can be scanned and emailed to shareholderrecords@ciri.com, mailed to CIRI at PO Box 93330, Anchorage, AK 99509, or faxed to (907) 263-5186. If faxed, please call Shareholder Relations as soon as possible to confirm receipt. Forms and information on changing your address or submitting a mail-forwarding request with the U.S. Postal Service are available at www.usps.com or your local post office.

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

Tax Reminder

CIRI does not withhold taxes from distributions; however, shareholders who anticipate owing tax on their distributions have the option of making quarterly estimated tax payments directly to the IRS themselves. To find out more about applicable federal and state tax requirements or making quarterly estimated tax payments, please consult a tax advisor or contact the IRS directly.
**SAVE THE DATE: 2018 INFORMATION MEETINGS, ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

Meeting attendance is limited to CIRI shareholders and their immediate family members (i.e., spouse, children) and/or stock custodians. Shareholders must check in with their guest(s) and present identification. RSVPs will be provided.

**INFORMATION MEETINGS**
- **Saturday, April 21** | Kenai, Alaska  
  CIRI Kenai Middle School  
  201 North Tinker Lane, Kenai, Alaska  
  Registration opens at 10:30 a.m.  
  Please RSVP by noon on Thursday, April 12  
  Child care available upon advance request.

- **Saturday, April 28** | Anchorage, Alaska  
  CIRI Fireweed Business Center  
  725 East Fireweed Lane, Anchorage, Alaska  
  Registration opens at 11 a.m.  
  Event concludes at 2 p.m.  
  Please RSVP by noon on Thursday, April 19  
  Due to space limitations, child care services will not be available.

- **Saturday, May 12** | Puyallup, Wash.  
  Chief Leschi School  
  5625 52nd Street East, Puyallup, Wash.  
  Registration opens at 10:30 a.m.  
  Please RSVP by noon on Thursday, May 3  
  Child care available upon advance request.

**ANNUAL MEETING**
- **Saturday, June 21** | Soldotna, Alaska  
  Soldotna Regional Sports Complex  
  538 Arena Avenue, Soldotna, Alaska  
  Registration: 8-11 a.m.  
  While it is not required to RSVP for the Annual Meeting, it helps us ensure the proper amount of food if you do. Child care available upon advance request.

**THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO RSVP:**
- 1. Via the shareholder portal at https://Qenek.ciri.com  
  2. Online at www.ciri.com/RSVP  
  3. By phone at (907) 263-5191 or (800) 764-2474  
  (select option 5)

**SHARE YOUR ROOM, NOT YOUR BED:**
- Put baby to sleep in his/her own sleep area in the same room as parents/caregiver.
- Ensure baby always has a sober caregiver.
- Ensure a firm sleep surface. Avoid putting baby to sleep, or falling asleep with baby, on couches, chairs, mattress toppers and/or waterbeds.
- Keep sleep area free of objects. Avoid blankets, crib bumpers, toys or other items in baby’s sleep space.
- Reduce/eliminate baby’s exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Avoid overheating. Dress baby in a maximum of one layer more than what adults are comfortable wearing.

**PRactice supervising “tummy time” when baby is awake. Placing baby on tummy to “play” strengthens head and neck muscles.**

**Safe Sleep Best Practices**
- Back is best! Place baby on back for all sleep times. (If your baby has rolled from her/his back to the side or stomach on his own, she can be left in that position if she is already able to roll from tummy to back and back to tummy.)
- Share your room, not your bed. Put baby to sleep in his/her own sleep area in the same room as parents/caregiver.
- Ensure baby always has a sober caregiver.
- Ensure a firm sleep surface. Avoid putting baby to sleep, or falling asleep with baby, on couches, chairs, mattress toppers and/or waterbeds.
- Keep sleep area free of objects. Avoid blankets, crib bumpers, toys or other items in baby’s sleep space.
- Reduce/eliminate baby’s exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Avoid overheating. Dress baby in a maximum of one layer more than what adults are comfortable wearing.

**Practice supervising “tummy time” when baby is awake. Placing baby on tummy to “play” strengthens head and neck muscles.**

**RASPBERRY SORBET**
Submitted by Raven's Circle reader Nate Teague.

As the author wrote about this recipe, “A delicious, refreshing sorbet full of yummy raspberries. Serve on its own or topped with fresh fruit.”

**START TO FINISH:** 6 hours (includes freezing time; 15 minutes active)

**SERVINGS:** 8

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 pound raspberries
- 1 cup water
- 1 cup sugar
- Juice of 1 small lemon

**DIRECTIONS:**
1. Combine the water and sugar in a medium saucepan and stir on low heat until dissolved. Continue cooking for a little longer (around 60 seconds).
2. Pour the sugar syrup into a large bowl and add the lemon juice.
3. Blend the raspberries in a food processor and then pass through a fine mesh strainer.
4. Combine the strained raspberries and sugar syrup. Cool in refrigerator for at least 3 hours.
5. Add cooled mixture to ice cream machine and churn as per manufacturer’s instructions.
6. Scoop into an air tight container and freeze until hardened (2 to 3 hours).

The Raven’s Circle would like to feature our readers’ favorite recipes! To submit visit www.ciri.com/recipe.
CIRI is accepting nominations for the 2018 awards to be presented at the CIRI and The CIRI Foundation Friendship Potlatches this fall.

- Since 1989, CIRI has annually bestowed the Shareholder of the Year Award on a shareholder who has demonstrated exemplary dedication to Alaska Native culture, heritage and communities.
- CIRI introduced the Elder Shareholder of the Year Award in 2011 to recognize Elder shareholders who have demonstrated exemplary dedication to these same areas through a lifetime of contributions that have benefited Native peoples.
- A third category of recognition is for CIRI youth who are already making strides toward becoming tomorrow's Alaska Native leaders. Introduced in 2013, the Youth Recognition Award recognizes CIRI shareholders and descendants who are 12 to 17 years of age for superior academic achievement, demonstrated leadership qualities, dedication to Alaska Native culture and heritage, outstanding contributions to community and family, and exceptional determination and stamina in overcoming significant life challenges.

Help us celebrate individuals for any or all three award categories by visiting www.ciri.com and submitting an online nomination form by 6 p.m. on Monday, June 4, 2018.

**SHAREHOLDER-OWNED BUSINESSES**

**Alaska’s Best Payroll Solution Inc.**
information@alaskasbestpayroll.com
(907) 345-7402
12350 Industry Way, Suite 216
Anchorage, Alaska 99515
Yvonne L. Bogart, owner

Alaska’s Best Payroll Solution is owned by CIRI shareholder Yvonne Bogart. The business offers the following services: Affordable Care Act tracking and reporting, background checks, bookkeeping and accounting, certified payroll processing, IRS 1099 Form preparation, pay-as-you-go workers compensation plans (offered through trusted partners), personal and business tax preparation, and timekeeping and employee scheduling.

**Layerfied Designs, LLC**
layerfied@gmail.com
13601 W. McMillan Road, Ste. 102 PMB 124
Boise, Idaho 83713
Greta Reid, owner

Specializing in digitally designed jewelry modeled specifically for 3D printing. Offers CIRI shareholder, descendant and employee 15% off all products listed at the Layerfied workshop on Etsy. Please message through Etsy Conversations (the “Contact” link under shop or thumbnail) for CIRI-affiliated coupon code (required).

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

CIRI is now accepting applications for its 2018 Summer Internship program. Whenever possible, students’ interests are aligned with positions we have available within the company and through partnerships in the community, which could include accounting and finance, communications, construction management, environmental sciences and engineering, human resources, IT, land and resources, project management, real estate and shareholder programs.

Students may apply online before the May 11, 2018, deadline by visiting the careers page on the CIRI website.

To be eligible for consideration, students must:
- Be a CIRI shareholder or registered, confirmed descendant,
- Have a 2.0 GPA or higher, and
- Be in junior or senior standing and enrolled in a four-year degree program, or graduated from a four-year program within the past year; or enrolled in or recently graduated from a relevant vocational program.

For more information, visit www.ciri.com/ internship. For any questions regarding the program or application process, contact CIRI Talent Management Manager Darla Graham, dgraham@ciri.com. For information on other employment opportunities, visit AlaskaNativeHire.com.
CIRI/WEIDNER PARTNERSHIP CAPITALIZES ON MARKET AND SELLS ARIZONA PROPERTY

In the early 2000s, Phoenix, Ariz., was one of the fastest-growing metropolitan areas in the U.S. But in 2008, in the midst of the Great Recession, Phoenix housing prices declined quickly. Numerous Alaskans flocked to the area to purchase second homes or investment properties at bargain rates.

With a desire to diversify its real estate portfolio and take advantage of the low prices, CIRI Land Development Company (CLDC) made the strategic decision to make the most of the “buyer’s market” that occurred in the multifamily segment, ultimately investing in seven Class A and A+ Arizona properties, the majority of which were purchased in late 2010 and into 2011.

CIRI acknowledged the need for a strong, expert partner to help identify properties with growth potential. Owing to its reputation and success in the industry, CIRI partnered with Weidner Apartment Homes, a real estate investment, development and management company with strong ties to Alaska that specializes in multifamily rental housing. Weidner quickly made the Arizona properties successful and decreased vacancies while cutting operating costs as the industry recovered from the recession.

“Multifamily apartments continue to be a prudent investment. Nationwide, apartment vacancy remained tight in 2017, at just over 7 percent—a 20-year low,” said Chad Nugent, vice president, CIRI Real Estate. “These low vacancy rates, coupled with historic-low interest rates, have fueled the strong value appreciation in our Arizona portfolio and allowed us to harvest some of that growth in the properties that have reached stabilization.”

One of the properties in which the CLDC/Weidner team invested was Red Mountain Villas, a 768-unit apartment community that offers outstanding access to many of Phoenix’s employment corridors as well as shopping, dining and recreational opportunities. In addition to its prime location, Red Mountain Villas boasts swimming pools, spas, a fitness center, and sand volleyball and racquetball courts.

To compete with newer developments in the area, the facility required significant finish upgrades. As such, it was marketed as a value-add investment, meaning the improvements would increase its level of return once completed. Marketing efforts elicited strong interest, and the property was recently sold to an investor at a healthy return.

“Real estate in Phoenix has rebounded and been great for several years—it’s now one of the top growth areas in the nation,” Nugent said. “The strength of the multifamily apartment homes market segment positions us well for growth in our remaining properties. It’s great to see the multifamily investment strategy in Arizona go as planned, and be able to harvest some of the growth so it can be redeployed in other investments and keep CIRI diversified as we work to grow shareholder dividends.”

ANCHORAGE VOTE BY MAIL
APRIL 3, 2018

In 2015, the Anchorage Assembly approved a resolution directing the Municipal Clerk’s Office to explore implementing a Vote by Mail election process beginning in 2018. The 2018 Regular Municipal Election will be the first to implement a Vote by Mail election system, the goal of which is to increase voter turnout, maximize voter protection and safeguard community resources.

The Anchorage Municipal Election will be held Tuesday, April 3, 2018. Traditional polling locations are no longer an option for voting on Election Day. Instead, registered voters will be mailed a ballot package about three weeks before Election Day. Within that time period, voters will have the opportunity to vote at a time and place convenient for them.

There are three ways to return a ballot:

- U.S. Postal Service: Mail your ballot return envelope using first-class postage.
- Secure Ballot Drop Box: Place your ballot return envelope in a Secure Ballot Drop Box.
- Accessible Vote Center: Take your ballot return envelope to an Accessible Vote Center.

All ballot envelopes must be postmarked or returned to a Secure Drop Box or Accessible Vote Center by 8 p.m. on or before April 3, 2018. For more information, including a Secure Ballot Drop Box and Accessible Vote Center locations map, visit www.muni.org.
CIRI is seeking photos from shareholders and descendants for its program, introducing you to the other interns and employees for use in the 2017 CIRI calendar. The winning photo will be displayed in the Fireweed Business Center and other projects, and the shareholder does not qualify to participate in any prize drawings until the stock estate is often a difficult task and may delay settlement. CIRI is looking to contact the individuals listed below in connection with the following estates:

- Estate of Leonard Turgeon – Ashley Moore
- Estate of Richard Lloyd Sargent (aka Lloyd Richard Sargent) –
- Estate of Richard Lloyd Sargent (aka Lloyd Richard Sargent) –

If your name appears above or you know the whereabouts of any of the individuals listed above, please contact CIRI Probate at (907) 263-5191 or toll free at 1-800-764-2474, and select option 4.

**SHAREHOLDER ESTATES**

When CIRI shareholders pass away, gathering the information necessary to settle the stock estate is often a difficult task and may delay settlement. CIRI is looking to contact the individuals listed below in connection with the following estates:

- Estate of Thomas William Highsmith – Tonya Lorraine Highsmith
- Estate of Richard Lloyd Sargent (aka Lloyd Richard Sargent) – Derek Bernard Sargent and John Michael Sargent Clark
- Estate of Leonard Turgeon – Ashley Moore

If your name appears above or you know the whereabouts of any of the individuals listed above, please contact CIRI Probate at (907) 263-5191 or toll free at 1-800-764-2474, and select option 4.