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## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER



**Calvin Schaeffer**  
KIC Board Chairman

Aariigaa Taikuu - Hello, fellow shareholders,

Winter is finally setting in here at Kotzebue. I hope everyone has had a successful berry-picking, hunting and fishing season. Watching the water freeze from Front Street and seeing the beautiful sunsets reflecting off the ice reminds me of the wonderful place Kotzebue is. We are certainly blessed by the land we live in.

KIC has had a very busy and challenging year. I recently participated in a senior-management workshop as part of KIC's strategic planning and budget process for next year. The management team is working very carefully and diligently to evaluate financial projections for the current year and is focused on making changes necessary to improve performance over the coming months and into next year. Unfortunately, due to government contracting delays and the competitive nature of acquiring new contracts, we are not seeing the level of growth in revenues that management had projected.

As a means of adapting to challenging financial times, several cost-saving adjustments have been made throughout the operation in order to improve financial performance and future projections, including a number of eliminated staff positions. Most notably, KIC's former chief operating officer, Jeff Hicks, has left KIC. We

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## KIC GETS A NEW LOOK

A logo is much more than an attractive design or a catchy illustration; it is an important part of how a company visually distinguishes itself in the eyes of the public and effectively expresses its unique identity. So when KIC embarked on an initiative to refresh the KIC logo, the Board sought a design that would highlight what is important to the Kotzebue community, represent KIC shareholder lifestyle and identity and clearly differentiate KIC from its competitors.



After a process that included lots of ideas, months of consideration, and easily more than a hundred different design variations, in July 2016 KIC introduced its new logo. With art created by Holly Nordlum of Naniq Design, the logo was inspired by an incredible day in November of 2015 when a large herd of caribou migrated across the ice directly in front of the village of Kotzebue

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## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER cont. from cover

are sorry to see his departure and wish him the very best, but ultimately the KIC board of directors and staff share the same goal, which is to make KIC successful so our shareholders can reap the rewards.

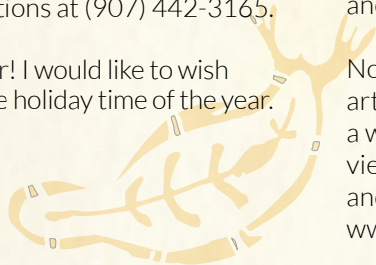
Recently, the Arctic Greens hydroponic operation made national news in the Chicago Tribune and other newspapers. It is very exciting to know that this program is growing in popularity. But even more satisfying is knowing we can provide fresh produce year-round to our shareholders, which contributes to healthier lifestyles.

As freeze-up sets in, those of you traveling by snow machine please remember to be safe: know the ice and weather conditions and make a trip plan so loved ones are aware of your travel routes. Also, please know the Northwest Arctic Borough office has GPS Spot Trackers that can be checked out at no charge. This is a very useful tool for both the traveler(s), as well as the searchers of those who may end up stranded in the country. And for those who live outside the region along the road system, please use caution while driving winter's icy roads.

In closing, I would like to remind you that KIC does have a Facebook page to keep you up to date on KIC activities ([www.facebook.com/kikiktagruk](http://www.facebook.com/kikiktagruk)). You may also contact the Kotzebue office if you have any questions at (907) 442-3165.

Merry Christmas and happy New Year! I would like to wish everyone a joyful, prosperous and safe holiday time of the year.

Calvin Schaeffer,  
KIC Board Chairman



## NEW EMPLOYEE PROFILE – BOARD SECRETARY AND NETWORK SPECIALIST



### Emma Snyder

This summer, Emma Snyder joined KIC as Board secretary/HR assistant. In her new role, Emma provides assistance and support to the KIC Board and various committees, and serves as the primary point of contact for KIC's Human Resources office in Kotzebue. Originally from Noatak, Emma moved to Kotzebue with her family as a young girl and has enjoyed living here ever since. She and Jackson, her husband of 33 years, have five children and three grandchildren.

"I'm thankful for this opportunity to work for the KIC Board of Directors again," said Emma recently. "Taikuu."

## EXPLORING OUR HISTORY

In 2013, a large collection of artifacts was discovered on KIC land during GCI's cable installation. Based on analysis and C14 dating, archaeologists have determined that these historic materials are associated with the Thule culture, ancestors to present-day Inupiat people.

Now, GCI is paying for the long-term curation of the artifacts at the UAF Museum of the North, and has launched a website where many of these beautiful artifacts can be viewed online. To learn more about this exciting discovery and view many of these fascinating pieces, you can visit [www.kotzebueartifacts.info](http://www.kotzebueartifacts.info).

The colors used in the new KIC logo reflect the glorious hues found in the Arctic region during fall berry-picking season.

"The colors were just perfect," says Kathleen Sherman.

## KIC GETS A NEW LOOK cont. from cover

while a large group of seals enjoyed the open water just off Shore Avenue.

"It was a subsistence blessing that doesn't happen all the time," says KIC Board member Kathleen Sherman.

While the Board had been looking through different

designs and leaning towards incorporating an image of a raven, as had been used in the previous KIC logo, Sherman explains how the remarkable event, captured in a photo taken by KIC CEO Will Anderson, really prompted a change of direction.

"The new logo tells a story. It's more of who we are."







*"He will always be recognized as one of our key, early leaders."*

– Alaska Lt. Governor Byron Mallott

## TRIBUTE TO LIFELONG KOTZEBUE RESIDENT MAJOR GENERAL JOHN W. SCHAEFFER JR.

### A Lifetime of Service

John Qipqiña Will Schaeffer Jr. passed away this past August at the age of 77.

He was born in Kotzebue, on March 30, 1939, and raised by John and Annie Schaeffer in Kotzebue.

His adventurous spirit led him to enlist in the Alaska Army National Guard in 1957 as an Eskimo Scout. He rose through the ranks and, by 1986, had become the first Alaska Native Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard.

*"All Alaskans should be concerned about who controls their destiny, who makes things happen in Alaska."*

– John Qipqiña Will Schaeffer

In that position, he was a key leader in Alaska's response to the Exxon Valdez oil spill, helped collaborate with the Russian military to locate and rescue a group of Alaska walrus hunters stranded on the sea ice, and was instrumental in freeing gray whales trapped in the ice, an event that attracted worldwide attention. John served in the Guard for 34 years before retiring from military service in 1991. In August 2016, the Alaska Army National Guard Aviation Operations Facility in Kotzebue was dedicated in his name.

John possessed a strong will and voraciousness to ensure his survival and the survival of the Inupiat people. He was born in a time when Alaska Natives had little to no voice in state or federal government. Throughout his career, his

vision, passion and love for his people drove him to ensure that the Inupiat and other Alaska Native people had a seat and voice at the table.

The Northwest Alaska Native Association was established in 1966 in the Schaeffer home; it would become the predecessor to both NANA Regional Corporation and Maniilaq Association. As president of the Association, John worked with local and statewide Alaska Native leaders to settle land claims. After the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 passed, he became the first president and CEO of NANA Regional Corporation, a post he held for 14 years. He was elected as mayor of the Northwest Arctic Borough in 1986 and served briefly before being appointed by Governor Steve Cowper as Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs and Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. An active volunteer dedicated to preserving and fostering Inupiaq culture and language, he served on the first Alaska Natives Commission and was a long-time member of Northwest Alaska's Regional Elders Council.

Growing up in a big family, he loved the closeness, laughter and community that it created. He carried this forward to his own family, generating much laughter and including everyone in subsistence activities. He shared his athleticism with his kids and grandkids by staying active and taking them on hikes up Indian Mountain behind Ivik.

John also had a strong connection to other indigenous cultures. He and Mary opened their home to their Hawaiian and Maori families. John always invited people to come to Ivik, and never met a person who was not a friend.

John, in many ways, served as a link. A link between his siblings, the Inupiat, other indigenous cultures and non-indigenous cultures. He was the link between the strength and history of the Inupiat people to the future of our communities.

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# WE GET THE DIRT ON HOW THINGS ARE GOING AT KIC'S INNOVATIVE ATTEMPT TO GROW PLANTS IN THE ARCTIC



Arctic Greens produce on display at the AC Store



Arctic Greens employee Joe Carr stands in front of the Arctic Greens container.



**Walking from the snow-bound streets of Kotzebue into the Arctic Greens container is like being suddenly transported to the Amazon jungle.**

Even when it's pitch black and below zero, the "sun" still rises, thanks to rows of high-tech LED lights. Heaters keep temperatures a balmy 65-80 °F, and rows of big, green plants line shelves the length of the container, leaves crowding the narrow walkway down the center.

This is where Joe Carr, the only professional farmer north of the Arctic Circle, comes to work.

The first thing he does, after removing his jacket, is check the computers that were programmed by Vertical Harvest, the company that designed the containerized farm, to control every aspect of this miniature ecosystem and keep it optimized for edible-plant growth.

The Arctic Greens farm in Kotzebue is KIC's first step in an ambitious plan to provide locally grown produce to AC Stores throughout the Arctic. For now, the farm's produce is sold exclusively in the Kotzebue AC Store. But if it works, more containerized farms will follow.

"The project has been extremely successful," Joe tells us. "We harvest 450 plants every week, and they've been very popular in town. Before Arctic Greens, fresh vegetables and herbs were not good quality, because they have to be shipped in or they're expensive or both."

Joe is an unlikely person to possess the job title "Arctic farmer." He's from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where he'd been working as a mechanic when he struck up a friendship with our own Dood Lincoln over the internet. Dood's work took her to Philly several times, which allowed the couple to meet – and fall in love.

Marriage and a move to Kotzebue followed.

After a lot of training from Vertical Harvest and KIC, Joe is now a hydroponic-farming expert, tending to the plants from seed to fully matured and ready-to-eat plants. He's also the company's delivery guy, cutting and bundling the plants, then driving them to the AC Store.

"KIC is working on getting a delivery van," Joe says with a laugh. "Especially with winter coming, we need something that will ensure the plants stay warm. But it's only about a block from the container to the AC Store, so I get it there in just a couple minutes."

After five months in operation, the farm is successfully producing a wide variety of herbs and vegetables, including butter-leaf lettuce, romaine, red-leaf lettuce, red and green mustard, basil, cilantro, chives, parsley and mint. The most popular item is green-leaf lettuce.

In addition, Arctic Greens is attempting to grow other produce, such as kale, but has not yet arrived at the best balance to grow it in regular quantities.



KIC President and CEO Will Anderson inside the Arctic Greens container.



The response in Kotzebue to having fresh produce on a regular basis has been overwhelmingly positive.

"My wife, the first time she purchased some at the AC Store," Joe says, "she'd never gotten fresh greens before – and Arctic Greens crops are grown right here in Kotzebue, which has never happened before. It was kind of a milestone for her. Everything's good about it."

The biggest challenge is power. The hydroponic system, with its artificial lighting eight hours every day and round-the-clock heating, devours a lot of electricity, which is expensive in Kotzebue, as it is in any rural Alaska community. This affects the price of the end product on store shelves, so KIC is investigating the potential for solar or another alternative energy source, which will, hopefully, lower prices for customers.

The two main reasons KIC started Arctic Greens were to provide fresh, healthy produce to rural communities and provide produce at affordable prices. The company has clearly succeeded in its first goal of reliably growing delicious vegetables in the community, which means Kotzebue residents are regularly provided with high-quality produce. Even people who live in America's biggest cities don't get produce that was harvested from the farm a few minutes earlier.

As to the second goal, KIC is working hard to find solutions, like alternative energy, that are just as innovative as the original concept.

"If you told me when I was living in Philadelphia that a small community way up in the Arctic would be able to regularly provide its people with fresh vegetables and herbs grown

right there, I never would have believed it," Joe says with a distinct note of pride in his voice. "KIC is really doing a great thing for local people with Arctic Greens."

Arctic Greens hopes to double down on its benefits to shareholders by expanding to other communities and increasing revenues.

If Arctic Greens continues its success, KIC will be able to open more containerized farms. Then again, that would mean Joe Carr loses his title as the only professional Arctic farmer. Joe doesn't mind. He hopes KIC has dozens of Arctic farmers some day.

### Colorful greens! COLORING CONTEST

Congratulations  
to winners Kaleah Myers,  
age 4 (left) and Svea  
Williamson, age 5.



When we introduced Arctic Greens to Kotzebue last summer, we held a coloring contest for the kids to help get them excited about fresh, healthy produce.

### Spice it up with Arctic Greens Basil!

Check out this easy recipe for homemade pizza with fresh basil from the only commercial farm north of the Arctic Circle, available at your Kotzebue AC Store.

#### Ingredients:

- 1 pound refrigerated pizza dough
- 1 jar pizza sauce
- 1 (8 ounce) package shredded mozzarella cheese, divided in half
- 3 cups cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 cup loosely packed fresh Arctic Greens basil leaves, torn
- Pepperoni or cooked sausage, if desired
- Freshly ground black pepper

#### Directions:

Pre-heat oven to 500 °F. Spray or wipe a baking sheet with cooking oil. Pat and stretch dough to 14x6-inch rectangle or circle on baking sheet. Brush top of dough with sauce. Evenly spread half of the shredded mozzarella on top of dough. Evenly sprinkle diced tomatoes, basil and pepper. Add pepperoni or cooked sausage or any other meat, if desired. Top vegetables and meats with remaining cheese. Bake 12 – 15 min. or until crust is golden brown. Be careful not to overcook or if unsure, carefully lift up one edge and check bottom.



## AUS FINISHES THE YEAR STRONG

As 2016 comes to a close, KIC subsidiary Alaska Universal Services LLC (AUS) will continue to be busy, with a total of \$15 million in newly awarded contracts to finish out the year. About \$10 million in new work stems from contracts with U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which will include mechanical services on the Robert Weaver Building in Washington, D.C.

AUS General Manager Eleanor Davis says the HUD projects are expected to be completed by September 2017.

The remaining \$5 million in new contracts were awarded through the National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Additionally, AUS was awarded another \$2.4 million subcontract with AMP in Massachusetts to install photovoltaics and inverters.

With offices on both sides of the United States, these aren't the only projects in the works for AUS. Other active projects include:

- Roofing contracts for the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland
- Roofing contract for Wheeler Air Force Base in Hawaii
- NIH remediation/emergency contract
- NIH grease traps
- Langley Air Force Base grease traps
- NCI general construction contract
- NIH painting contract
- Preventative maintenance services at KTA stores in Hawaii
- NIST roll-up doors
- NCI operation and management contract

Davis says AUS is growing while maintaining a consistent level of work, with other good prospects on the horizon. "AUS is looking at more photovoltaic and inverters projects for 2017," explains Davis.

Currently, AUS has offices in Alaska (Anchorage and Kotzebue), Virginia and Hawaii, and employs 35 people. You can learn more about AUS on the KIC website at <http://kikiktagruk.com/alaska-universal-services/>



## TRIBUTE TO GENERAL SCHAEFFER

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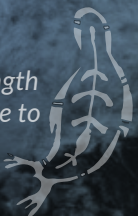
John is survived by Mary, his wife of 56 years; his children John Wayne (Lura), Susan, Jackie, Calvin (Sonja), Cole (Rachel), Diane, Mary, Jacqueline, Gerty (Kenny), and Bonnie; and his siblings Mike (Josphine), Pete (Polly), Ross (Millie), Bobby, Lucy, Lois, Henry (Janet), and Chuck (Tracey). He is survived by 53 grandchildren, 100 great-grandchildren, and six great-great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Annie; brothers Ross, Wayne and Gilbert, and son August.

Story content and photos courtesy of NANA Regional Corporation



He was the link between the strength and history of the Inupiat people to the future of our communities.





## KIC COMMUNITY

KIC held its Annual Meeting of Shareholders on August 15, 2016, at Kotzebue Middle High School. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by KIC Board of Directors Chairman Calvin Schaeffer, followed by an invocation and introduction of current Board members and KIC staff.



*Left, front to back: Mamie Jones, Esther Tiepelman and Thomas Jones. Right, front to back: Gladys Richards-Nelson and August Nelson Sr.*

Several door prizes were awarded throughout the evening. Mary Lou Medina and May Douglas each won the \$1,500 Early Bird proxy, while Larry Kennedy won the \$250 Early Bird prize. Ten \$50 prizes were awarded to descendants, with another 10 shareholders taking home \$100 each. Other door prizes included a drum of gas (Daisy Lambert) and a drum of stove oil (Alice Moto). Congratulations to all the lucky winners!

### Descendants \$50/each

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Aria Wilson       | 6. Winifred Stalker  |
| 2. Tina Conwell      | 7. Collin Snyder     |
| 3. Kaakianaq Hensley | 8. Whittier Kubalack |
| 4. Savannah Wilson   | 9. Brandi Williams   |
| 5. Victoria Onalik   | 10. Lucy Shroyer     |

### Shareholders \$100/each

- |                        |                           |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Theresa Foster      | 6. Viola Wright           |
| 2. Jennifer Ipalook    | 7. Gladys Richards-Nelson |
| 3. Alice Sheldon       | 8. Martin Woods           |
| 4. Ross Schaeffer, Jr. | 9. Helen Harris           |
| 5. Thomas Jones        | 10. Alice Moto            |

An election was held for two open Board positions. Nominees for the positions included Harold Lambert, Kathleen Sherman, Grant Hildreth, Joyce L. Phagan and Silvano "Pooky" Viveiros, and election polls were opened following a confirmation of quorum by the election judge. Near the conclusion of the meeting, the polls were closed and the election judge announced the winners as selected by KIC shareholders: Harold Lambert and Kathleen Sherman.



*Theresa Foster receiving her door prize*



*Board Secretary Kathleen Sherman talking with shareholder Judith Stein*



## AFN GATHERING

KIC Board of Directors, President and CEO Will Anderson, Board Secretary Emma Snyder and Shareholder Relations Manager Paula Octuck coordinated the annual shareholder gathering on October 19, 2016 at the Fairbanks Westmark. We had a total of 32 shareholders in attendance, along with their families and guests. After a nice dinner, questions and comments were welcomed, followed by door prizes and social gathering. It was a large success to have the shareholders gather and catch up in the great city of Fairbanks.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

The spring 2017 scholarship deadline is quickly approaching! Scholarship applications must be submitted by January 10, 2017, at 5:00 p.m.

Both KIC shareholders and descendants are eligible for educational assistance through the KIC Scholarship Foundation. For more information and applications, visit the KIC website at [www.kikiktagruk.com](http://www.kikiktagruk.com). Scholarship applications may be submitted by email to [info@kikiktagruk.com](mailto:info@kikiktagruk.com) or via fax at 907-442-2165

Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation (KIC)

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Kotzebue, Alaska 99752

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**kikiktagruk.com**

## IN SEARCH OF MISSING SHAREHOLDERS

Please help us locate our missing shareholders! If you know the whereabouts of anyone on this list, please contact Shareholder Manager Paula Octuck at 907-442-6110 or via email at [poctuck@kikiktagruk.com](mailto:poctuck@kikiktagruk.com).

Adams, Donna  
Adams, James Isaac  
Alldridge, Iva I.  
Ancell, Alina  
Arnold, Hild M.  
Arnold, Jerry  
Arnold, Romey T.  
Arnold, William D.  
Ashby, Alice  
Beaver, Patrick  
Benson, Louann E.  
Bolin, Robert Conrad  
Borland, Karmin S.  
Bryan, Barbara Lee  
Cross, John  
Curtis, Patrick A.  
Dahl, Gustav S.  
Dispennette, Emma C.  
Downey, Josephine  
Durham, Adam Eric  
Durham, Eve Marie  
Eakan, Maynard  
Fadden, Atlantis T.  
Ferguson, Charlene T.  
Ferguson, Ira Lee  
Gimarelli, Gus G.

Haines, Mary Ann  
Hall, Bleu Harrison  
Hall, Twila Lee  
Harris, Tina M.  
Hayes, Amelia Hannah  
Henry, Amy W.  
Henry, Charlie, Jr.  
Henry, Paul D.  
Henry, Richard James  
Hildreth, Dean Bruce  
Hoepfner, Sonja Marie  
Hope, Andy P., IV  
Howarth, Gary Roy  
Howarth, William, Jr.  
Hughes, Cynthia Ann  
Hust, Anastasia A.  
Ipalook, Calen J.  
Iyapana, William  
Jessup, Ida Shirley  
Johnson, Pamela Gayle  
Jones, Johnny Timothy  
Jones, Kenny Lowell  
Jones, Lilly  
Jorgensen, Trygve Thomas  
Kagoona, Marvin George  
Kanayurak, Olive

Kelsey, Ollie G., II  
Kenworthy, Stanley  
King, Irene  
Lee, Alanna J.  
Lee, Julia Lucy  
Lee, Robert S.  
Lincoln, Anthony  
Maxwell, Gretchen E.  
Mcconnell, John Kelly  
Mendenhall, Michael  
Miller, Lena Christine  
Mills, Clyde  
Monroe, Calvina Hannah  
Monroe, David Howard  
Moore, Violet Goldie  
Moses, Lenora Mae  
Moto, Beulah Crystal Ann  
Myas, Diane D. M.  
Nelson, Effie Lucy  
Norton, Lila  
Oktollik, Carl P.  
Outwater, Jeffrey B., Jr.  
Pacheco, Allison M.  
Porter, Mary Jane  
Reuben, Lillian K.  
Sage, Daniel O.

Scott, Lena  
Sheldon, Jessica Lee  
Sheldon, John Punnak  
Sheldon, Raven Donald, III  
Simmonds, Ronald, Jr.  
Simpson, Esther  
Sours, Thomas Brian, Jr.  
Spencer, James, III  
Spencer, Victor  
St Amant, Matilda  
Stalker, Victor C.  
Stein, John, Jr.  
Towksjhea, Kenneth, Jr.  
Trujillo, Raymond  
Wallington, Kenneth Dale  
Walton, Jonah Kiknuk, Sr.  
Williams, Edna Vivian  
Williams, Lorraine Marie  
Willock, Clifford M.  
Wood, Laurie  
Yorty, Grace Nigroon  
Zagars, Anthony Steven  
Zemen, Rochelle Marie

## UPDATE YOUR RECORDS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN

KIC is working to update and maintain records of shareholder documentation such as Stock Wills and copies of IDs. As a fun way to help encourage participation, we are conducting a monthly drawing of \$100 for all shareholders who have submitted any of the following:

- Completed Stock Will
- Copy of identification
- Copy of birth certificate
- Copy of tribal verification
- Completed W-9

Please contact the Kotzebue office  
with any questions through email at  
[info@kikiktagruk.com](mailto:info@kikiktagruk.com) or by phone at  
442-3165