

Gana-A'Yoo, Limited

# VOTE NO STANDFOR ON 1

# STAND for Alaska

The Gana-A'Yoo Board of Directors voted last November to Stand for Alaska, as opposed to Stand for Salmon, on this election season's ballot measure. Although the board does support salmon and subsistence resources, they believe our resources are already protected under current state law. The board favors responsible development. Board members who voted in favor of Standing for Alaska believe that the permitting process would be too restrictive and detrimental to village infrastructure and unfavorable to our own Gana-A'Yoo development if the ballot measure passes. The 2018 general election will be held on Tuesday, November 6.

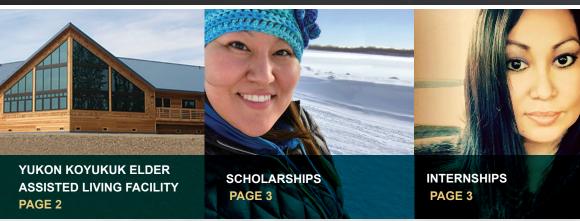
# VILLAGE TRIBES DONATIONS

Gana-A'Yoo, Limited is proud to announce that a donation of \$1,000 has been made to each of our village tribal organizations. That donation was made to the Kaltag, Nulato, Koyukuk and Louden (Galena) tribes to use at their discretion.

# **Thoughts**ON OPENING ENROLLMENT?

Gana-A'Yoo would like to hear from our shareholders about opening enrollment to descendants. Please contact us at 907.569.9599 or at newsletter@ganaayoo.com with your comments, opinions and/or questions. Please watch for a survey regarding this important topic this fall.





# PRESIDENT'S Message

Dear Shareholders:

I hope that you all had a great summer and were able to gather the bounties that the summer season so generously provides. By now, many of you are preparing for fall hunting and I hope you are all blessed and are able to get what you need for your families.



In July 2018, some of the management team attended the Yukon Koyukuk Elder Assisted Living Facility celebration in Galena. The celebration marked the successful completion of the New Markets Tax Credit seven-year compliance period and transaction. Read more about this milestone on page 2. Gana-A'Yoo was truly blessed to be a supporter of the Elder Assisted Living Facility in Galena. The Elder Assisted Living Facility gives the opportunity for our Elders to remain in our communities surrounded by family, friends and culture; in addition, the facility provides shareholder employment opportunities. The facility is a great reminder of what working together can do for our communities.

In August 2018, the Board of Directors and management team gathered for our annual strategic planning. Gana-A'Yoo meets annually for a couple of days to focus exclusively on strategic planning for the next five years. Our focus for this planning session was to further develop our plans for continued growth.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in Gana-A'Yoo. May you all stay safe and blessed!

Sincerely, Melissa McGinty, President



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# Yukon Koyukuk Elder ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY

The Yukon Koyukuk Elder Assisted Living Facility (YKEALF) and its owners (Ruby, Louden, Koyukuk, Nulato and Kaltag Tribes) are proud to announce the successful completion of the New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) seven-year compliance period and transaction. Administrator, Agnes Sweetsir, submitted the following:

After construction of the facility was completed, thanks to the generosity of IRHA, in July 2009 the Consortium did not have any resources to pay a \$285,000 construction debt or any resources to open for business. Thanks to friends, Joe Kashevarof and Jason Evans, we were put in contact with a consulting firm (Travois) where we learned about and began the process of becoming a New Market Tax Credit Project. Simply put, it was a very large loan that would be forgiven if we remained in compliance with the program. The Consortium is indebted to Gana-A'Yoo for providing the initial guarantee to allow YKEALF to close the transaction before July 2011 qualifying period and to allow the five Tribes the time needed to get Sovereign Immunity to be able to take over the guarantee. It was a major risk but other than taking out a bank loan (if that was even possible) there were no other options. We had to be in business within two years of the completion of construction and stay in business for seven years. following all the rules. Thanks to excellent, committed and hardworking staff, we did it! The end of the compliance period was July 26, 2018. All the parties finalized the paperwork and we exited August 31, 2018.

We maintain a full house with seven Elders on our wait list. We currently employ 17 of our own tribal members who provide excellent, culturally sensitive care to our Elders. We are stable with cash in the bank. We are certified by the State and Medicaid to be able to bill them. We are featured in the Medicare website, CMS.gov, as one of the programs demonstrating best practices and cultural relevance. YKEALF is truly a demonstration of what we can accomplish when we work hard, work together and network with others. It is a demonstration that we are qualified and capable of taking care of our own.

The NMTC subsidy provided the Consortium the ability to increase energy efficiency in the facility and provided money for initial training and operational needs. It made the dream of providing a home for our Elders close to home instead of moving away from their families and communities to Fairbanks or Anchorage a reality. It also provides valuable jobs and a place where the generations re-connect and stay connected.

# 2018 SCHOLARSHIP ESSAY Spotlight

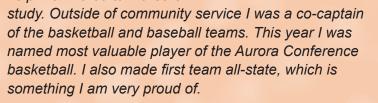
Each year the Gana-A'Yoo Foundation scholarship committee selects a student essay to publish. This year's essay was submitted by Gavin Jackson as part of his 2018 scholarship application. Jackson is the son of Glen Jackson, and Angela and Josh Rutman.

To the Gana-A'Yoo Foundation Scholarship Committee; please accept this essay and my application for the competitive Gana-A'Yoo Scholarship for the academic year of 2018/2019. I have been accepted into the Mt. Hood Community College in Gresham, Oregon. The degree program I will be pursuing is business with a focus in entrepreneurship. Outside of my degree I will also obtain my cosmetology license. While Mt. Hood is only a two-year college it will give me a jump into a four-year college where I will continue with my bachelor's degree.

My professional goals are very great goals and great ideas, but some people might think I'm crazy. My main goal is to be retired from a successful business at a young age. People usually laugh when I tell them that, but I tend to feed off that negative energy which pushes me harder to be successful. Becoming an entrepreneur will allow my creative abilities to flourish within my own successful business. Being my own boss will allow me to do this. I believe that if you are passionate about something it then becomes a career and not just a "job." Running my own barbershops with different themes and environments is something I have dreamed about since picking up the skill of cutting hair. One thing that I will be proud of one day is running a Native-owned barbershop here in Fairbanks, Alaska.

One of the requirements of attending Monroe Catholic High School was doing a certain amount of community hours each semester. Monroe represents the community of Fairbanks where we are always giving back. Every year we have a day called "Rams Day" where we go out into the community places like the homeless shelter and

Denali Center to help those in need. Throughout my high school years, I have committed over 100 hours of my time into the community. One of my service duties was to tutor and mentor my younger peers who needed help within a certain area of



I believe that a cultural awareness group should be a high priority for us all. Besides our Native Corporations I do not feel as if we are all fighting in the same direction as a group. We have some major issues that we face every day, I believe if we work together we can make that change. We need to make it known that us as a Native community have been treated poorly, and by us coming together we can make a change. So many people in our Native culture are so talented, but some don't get the chance to show what we can do because of our race. Some people might look at us as a burden, and by taking us in it will cause trouble. By building our own empire and voicing our thoughts we can show others what we can do and how much better we can make the community by showing what we can bring to the table. I want to see my people and my culture flourish and by doing this I believe we can reach the level of acknowledgement we deserve. Through this we are practicing our indigenous rights, where eventually we will have an even healthier Native community.

My education and professional goals are a source of motivation for me to be successful. Because of my motivation and my past academic history, I believe I am a worthy candidate for your competitive scholarship funding. I appreciate the consideration.

# GANA-A'YOO Foundation News

# **Calena Annual FUNDRAISER WALK**

Thank you to Joyce Huntington for organizing the Gana-A'Yoo Foundation charity walk held in Galena in June. It was a fun and successful event that took place at New Site. Thank you to all who participated in the walk for your generous contributions to the Foundation: Nicole Gregory, Joyce Huntington, Albertha Sommer, Janelle Burgett, Ashley Burgett, Leann Sommer, Christine Twitchell, Larissa Sommer, Cathy Evans, Keilah Havener, Shirley Havener, Chris Sommer, Mariah Pitka-Jenkins, Alice Jung and Eileen Pitka.

It is not too late to support the Foundation! If you are interested in investing in the future of Gana-A'Yoo shareholders and their descendants' educational endeavors, we accept donations throughout the year. Visit the website, call 907.569.9599 or email csommer@ganaayoo.com to find out how today!



# SCHOLARSHIPS Awarded

The Gana-A'Yoo Foundation's goal is to financially support all eligible students who wish to seek higher education. This year's scholarship committee was comprised of Ann Esmailka (Kaltag), Janelle Huntington (Koyukuk), Sharity Sommer (Galena) and Michael Stickman (Nulato). The committee met in July 2018 and awarded scholarships to the following students:

#### **General scholarships:**

**Brooke Baker** Samantha Blake Tirzah Bryant Sydney Carlo **Howard Darling** Ashton Ekada Steevie Erickson Charlotte Flynn Alecia Hewett Savannah Ivanoff Gavin Jackson Taylor Kauffman Patricia Kriska Lisa Krol Marvin Mountain Darlene Olin-Martin Erin Patsy Jocelyn Patsy Maria Pelkola Sierra Powers Skyla Powers Alexandria Proksch Shirley Sam **Shyanne Saunders** Leona Semaken Shandara Swatling Kelsey Sweetsir Rachel Thurmond Veta Van Hatten Victoria Yaska

"Helping others and providing quality care to patients is something I have grown to be passionate about within my community. Cultivating a career out of this passion is something I am working toward every day," said Sydney Carlo, who is spending a semester in Valencia, Spain, through the University of Alaska Fairbanks Study Away program while working toward her nursing degree. Carlo is the daughter of April Thurmond and Doug Carlo.

#### Short-term scholarships:

Tatiana Evans-Beals Felicia Kayotuk Austyn Pedebone Celina Powers Donald Proksch Amanda Roberts Angela Rutman John Scott Tanner

**Vocational scholarship:** Megan Patsy

Competitive scholarships: Madison Attla, \$1,000. Attla is in her sophomore year at the University of Alaska Anchorage working toward a bachelor's degree in economics. Attla is the daughter of Ginger Attla.

Rachel Evans, \$1,500.

Evans is in her junior
year at the University
of Alaska Anchorage
working toward her
bachelor's degree in
nursing. She is the
daughter of Sharlot
Warner and the late

Kenneth Evans Sr. "I have worked very hard to live a healthy and happy life so far, but I always want to contribute more to others. Giving the people I take care of at ANMC the opportunity to live better lives inspires me to continue focusing on my nursing career and working my hardest every day to achieve the best in life for myself, my family and my community," she wrote.

Shawna Hildebrand, \$2,000. Hildebrand is in her second year of the public administration master's program at the University of

Alaska Southeast.
She is the daughter of Darrell and Edith Hildebrand.

# Internships

Kyana Madros is the granddaughter of Dale and Barbara Arkell and the late Kenneth and Joanna Madros. Madros interned for six weeks in June and July through the Gana-A'Yoo summer intern program in Kaltag. She helped plan educational

if they need to." activities and events and contributed to the daily activities of the Tanana Chiefs Conference System of Care Project. Madros assisted with engaging youth for peer group activities, mentoring leadership and support; and advocated for youth and youth voice regarding their mental health, wellness and well-being. Madros explained, "I received a lot of knowledge and experience through this internship and it helped me establish my educational goals." Madros will go on to college and will continue to build a life for herself.

June Griffin is the daughter of Edward and Philomena Sommer of Galena. She served as the Gana-A'Yoo intern in the Anchorage corporate office over the summer; her focus was mainly on the administrative and shareholder records department, although she also contributed to various other departments in the office. She said she enjoyed learning a little bit about each department from the employees who served as great teachers; she also appreciated the overall atmosphere of the company. The experience Griffin attained while at Gana-A'Yoo has allowed her to gain new skills needed for the next steps of her career goals. Congratulations to Griffin who accepted a position as the administrative assistant for Gana-A'Yoo, Limited following the completion of her internship!



they can come to me

# EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

#### **ANTARCTICA**

Gana-A'Yoo shareholder and shareholder descendants are encouraged to apply for positions on the continent of Antarctica through Gana-A'Yoo Services Corporation. You can develop your skills and resume while exploring the Southern hemisphere of the world. Start your discovery and search jobs online at https://gscantarctic.workbrightats.com/jobs/. Once you apply for a position through the website, please call Crystal at the Gana-A'Yoo corporate office at 907.771.6570 or toll-free at 1.888.656.1606 or you can email her at records@ganaayoo.com. Best of luck on an adventure of a lifetime.

#### **UNITED STATES**

Gana-A'Yoo currently has several positions open in Alaska and in the lower 48. Visit https://ganaayoo.workbrightats.com/jobs/ for the job listings and job summaries. If you have any questions about positions within the United States, please contact our human resources department at hr@ganaayoo.com.

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

SEPT 30 Spring Semester General Scholarship Postmark Deadline

OCT 1 The Gana-A'Yoo, Limited Corporate
Offices Move Anchorage Location
The new address is:
1001 E Benson Blvd., Suite 201
Anchorage, AK 99508

16 Shareholder
Informational Meeting
Dimond Center Hotel
Anchorage, AK
5 - 7 p.m.
All shareholders and descendants
are invited and encouraged to attend.

PRSRT STD

US Postage PAID Anchorage, AK Permit #537

NOV 30 Gana-A'Yoo, Limited Board of Directors Meeting Anchorage, AK 8:30 a.m.



1001 E Benson Blvd., Suite 201 Anchorage, Alaska 99508



#### **CONTACT US**

Toll-Free | 1.888.656.1606 Anchorage | 907.569.9599 Galena | 907.656.1606 web | ganaayoo.com

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#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Kimberly Bower | Chair
Melissa McGinty | President
Betty Griffin | Vice-President
Michael Stickman | Secretary
Shay Huntington
McEwen | Treasurer
William Dayton | Director
Ida Hildebrand | Director
Sharon Hildebrand | Director
Ragine Pilot | Director

#### **EDITOR**

Larissa Sommer newsletter@ganaayoo.com

## WHERE ARE YOU?

Current information for the following shareholders is requested. Please contact the corporate office if you have any information on their whereabouts:

Adam Goodwin

Sheila Cheverie
Janet Cline
Leanne Francis
Dapcevich
Leonard Dayton
Thomas T. Debo
Mellissa Diaz
Dewayne Drake II
Norman Drake
Tyler Drake
Glen Stewart Duncan
Ryan Edwin
Carra Geary

Brandi Gorsche
Lance Richard Gurtler
Billi Jo Jones
Matthew Keech
Daniel Kennedy
Rose Kennedy
Jason Lauesen
Jeremiah Lauesen
Timothy McArdle Jr.
Timothy McArdle Sr.
Luann McCauly

Kirk Nickoli
Paul Nickoli
Jason Nollner
Sally Agnes Semaken
Darren James Silas
Rachel Leann Silas
Lillian A. Smith
Donald AJ Stickman
Robert Dennis Towne
William James Walsh
Esther N. Warner
Mikayla Rose
Martha Winklemann

### **CONDOLENCES**

Our condolences to the family and friends of:

Lawrence J. Saunders Sr., 81 Nulato Olga C. Solomon, 88 *Kaltag* 

**Leonard J. Nickoli,** 50 *Kaltag*