



# Ahtna Employee Newsletter

## February 2016

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Dear fellow employees,

We are excited to announce that we recently closed on the acquisition of AAA Valley Gravel, LLC, a sand and gravel mining, trucking, and asphalt operation strategically located to support transportation projects in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. Ahtna performs an extensive due diligence process when pursuing any new business venture and focuses on opportunities

that provide multiple benefits to our company and shareholder-owners. Federal highway monies are scheduled to increase in Alaska every year for the next five years and the Mat-Su Valley is a prime area for increased highway spending due to its rapid growth.



Bill Fuger and Terry Sudut with AC&PPC President, David O'Donnell (middle) after finalizing the acquisition of AAA Valley Gravel, LLC.

The Alaska LNG Project would be the single largest infrastructure investment in Alaska's history and is important to Ahtna on multiple fronts. Ahtna would be the largest private landowner for the pipeline route, with thirty three miles of the proposed pipeline crossing Ahtna land, and we continue to meet with key project stakeholders to put Ahtna in a favorable position to take advantage of contracting opportunities. Ahtna is supporting the project's geotechnical and geophysical work this winter and we expect to work with two other major contractors on cultural awareness and environmental related items. Staff from Ahtna Engineering Services recently completed an Ice Safety and Rescue certification training program as most of the work to be performed will be over bodies of water that are currently frozen. The majority of work completed this year will take place around the Susitna river drainage system.

We are all very proud that two of Ahtna's shareholder-owners were recently named to Alaska's Top Forty Under 40 class of 2016. Jason Hart, Ahtna, Inc. Board Treasurer and Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Executive Business Associate and Samuel Johns, Forget Me Not Founder, are recognized for their commitment to professional excellence and dedication to their community. The Top Forty Under 40 recipients will be honored during an awards reception on April 8 at Anchorage's Hotel Captain Cook. Congratulations Samuel and Jason and thank you for setting a positive example for the next generation of leaders!



Michelle Anderson with Samuel Johns, Forget Me Not Founder and Top Forty Under 40 honoree.

Tsin'aen (*thank you*) for all you do,  
Michelle Anderson, *President (AI)*



Getting certified in Ice Safety & Rescue, the A-Team - Alan Christman, Ray Craig, Dylan Finnigan, Oleg Katsuba, and Craig Nelson, right before the plunge.

## AES mentor/protégé with PBDC

AES project staff and AI Board of Directors visited Milwaukee, WI on Wednesday, Nov. 11 to meet with Potawatomi Business Development Corporation (PBDC) leadership and Board of Directors and to become more familiar with the tribe and its many investments in Milwaukee.

Ahtna is involved with many facets of government contracting, especially within the Small Business Administration 8(a) Business Development Program. However, many of Ahtna's companies have successfully graduated out of the program and are seeking partnership opportunities to continue to secure contracts. This is where PBDC comes in.

PBDC and its newly certified 8(a) Program participating companies are attractive partners to the Ahtna family of companies. Together we have the ability to engage in a Mentor/Protégé relationship that allows Ahtna to continue securing federal procurements, while at the same time allowing PBDC to leverage Ahtna's past performance and business development resources in a way that strategically positions our companies for a bright future.

The financial and organizational strength of PBDC and its subsidiary companies make them an ideal protégé partner for Ahtna. Additionally, PBDC will generate wealth and improve the quality of life for the Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) Community, help diversify the tribal economy that supports FCP's tribal government and help improve the lives of FCP tribal members.

While in Milwaukee, the group learned about the many assets the tribe has developed in the Milwaukee area, becoming more familiar with the tribe, its leaders, and the many investments that serve as the foundation for supporting the FCP community. Additionally, Native leaders from both sides came together in the enduring and unique tradition within Indian Country to take the time to develop a lasting relationship built upon admiration and respect, sharing culture and gifts with one another.



From left to right - Nicholas Jackson - AI Board Chair, Jason Hart - AI Board Treasurer, Linda Tyone - AI Board Secretary, Roy S. Ewan - AI Board Director, Angela Vermillion - AI Board Director, Phil Shopodock - PBDC Board Director, Michelle Marshall - Project Manager at Ahtna Engineering, Manny Johnson - PBDC Board Director, Karen Linnell - AI Board Director, Kevin Allis - PBDC Board Chair

## Ahtna Headquarters Recycles

Thanks to Ahtna, Inc.'s Diane Jordan, the Ahtna headquarters office in Glennallen is participating in the local Tazlina Village's initiative to recycle plastic water bottles.

Other staff have joined the cause and together the Glennallen office were able to collect over 66 gallons of plastic bottles.

This recycling effort goes beyond gathering plastics that come through the office, but also encourages staff to collect at home and bring in on collection days.



Diane Jordan, AI Receptionist is leading in the recycling efforts



## Culture Moment

Like many native languages, Ahtna has less than 100 fluent speakers. Ahtna was originally only a spoken language until the 1970's when an alphabet was created to help preserve the language. Below are the Ahtna names of the 8 federally recognized Ahtna villages.

<u>English pronunciation</u>	<u>ahtna spelling</u>	
Mentasta	mendaesde	men-das-da
Chistochina	tsiist'ledze' na"	chist-eh-jan-na
Gakona	ggax kuna'	gok-koh-na
Gulkana	c'ulc'e na'	kul-ken-na
Cantwell	yidateni na'	yee-dat-en-ee-na
Tazlina	tezdlen na'	tez-dlen-na
Copper Center	ti'aticse'e	klaw-tee-kaw
Chitina	tsedi na'	ched-ee-na



## Ahtna Word of the Month

Term: name  
Ahtna spelling: c'e'uze'  
Pronunciation: kek-ooz-eh



## Safety Moment

### Earthquake Readiness - Prepare Now

A 7.1-magnitude earthquake recently struck Alaska early Sunday morning January 24, according to the U.S. Geological Survey

The earthquake's epicenter hit near Cook Inlet, 162 miles southwest of Anchorage. It was about 50 miles deep.

Earthquakes are sudden rolling or shaking events caused by movement under the earth's surface. Earthquakes happen along cracks in the earth's surface, called fault lines, and can be felt over large areas, although they usually last less than one minute. Earthquakes cannot be predicted — although scientists are working on it!

All 50 states and 5 U.S. territories are at some risk for earthquakes.



Unlike hurricanes and some other natural hazards, earthquakes strike suddenly and without warning. There are several actions that can be done to reduce the chances of injury, property damage and/or disruption of day to day activities at home and at the workplace. These activities fall under the concept of preparedness, because to be effective, they must be done before earthquakes occur.

Preparing for earthquakes involves:

- (1) Learning what you should do before, during, and after earthquakes; and
- (2) Doing or preparing to do those things now, before the next quake.

One helpful resource for all of us can be found at [www.ready.gov/earthquakes](http://www.ready.gov/earthquakes). This website will help all of us focus on what we can do:

- Before The Next Earthquake
- During The Next Earthquake
- After The Next Earthquake



## Travel Tip

### Boarding Passes

Shred your flight boarding passes after you land: Your boarding pass has your name, your travel plans, and a barcode that free websites can decipher. This barcode often reveals your frequent-flyer number, which crooks can use to log into airline accounts to view upcoming travels plans, check in for flights, and even cancel trips.

There is information online about what's in a boarding pass and how it concerns your privacy. <http://fusion.net/story/214993/boarding-pass-barcode-privacy-scare/>

## ATSI Annual Partnering Meeting

On January 21, ATSI President Sue Taylor attended the ATSI/Beaufort Marine Corp Air Station annual Partnering Meeting. Hosted by ATSI Project Manager Kevin Corcoran, ATSI meets annually with the Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort Public Works and NAVFAC representatives to discuss ATSI's accomplishments in meeting MCAS Mission Objectives, Communication, Safety Performance, Quality Control of Work, and Preventive Maintenance. Jason Hart, Ahtna Board Treasurer, represented our Board of Directors at the site visit and was able to witness first-hand our outstanding performance.

While attending the meeting, Sue was privileged to learn ATSI is performing well at Beaufort with comments such as, "I believe there is a high customer satisfaction level from ATSI's performance. ATSI has become virtually a "household" name to MCAS tenants, and customer complaints are scarce. ATSI is effectively meeting contract requirements and readily assumes increased workloads due to station renovations, etc. (via modifications)."



ATSI President, Sue Taylor (middle back row) with Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort Public Works and NAVFAC partnering representatives.

## AEI helps increase fish production

AEI's Pacific Northwest team has been busy planting trees and plants for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) at the Burley Creek Fish Hatchery in Washington state as part of the compensatory wetland enhancement required when we built their earthen drainage channel in 2014. Burley Creek Hatchery, a hatchery that's mainly dedicated to restoring Redfish Lake sockeye salmon, has shifted away from gene banking to stock rebuilding, causing an increase in fish production. This increase in fish production required a shallow earthen channel to accommodate an increase in the capacity of the existing effluent removal system. To compensate environmentally for the disturbed wetlands during construction, NOAA was required to plant native trees and plants in two wetland areas around the channel. This landscaping completes the work associated with the construction of the earthen drainage channel.



# Congratulations

## Anniversaries

Congratulations to the following employees who are celebrating 5 or more consecutive years with the company this month! Their great work makes a difference to our company, our culture and our shareholder-owners and customers.

**15 Years**  
**Vaughn Reitan** (AC&PPC)

**12 Years**  
**Marilyn Joe** (AI)

**10 Years**  
**Peter Rice** (AI)  
**Joshua Bogdansk** (AC&PPC)

**8 Years**  
**Tina Chapman** (AI)

**7 Years**  
**Edward Tisdell** (AI)  
**Yodene John** (AI)  
**Andrew Postishek** (AC&PPC)

**5 Years**  
**Carol Brennan** (AI)  
**Brianne Island** (AI)  
**Crystal Ewan** (AN)  
**Adam Bartkoski** (AGSC)

## AI Board of Directors



## AI & AN Senior Management



## Ahtna Subsidiary Presidents



**New Ahtna Job Openings** (as of 2/19/2016)  
Visit [www.ahtna-inc.com/employment](http://www.ahtna-inc.com/employment) to apply.

**Ahtna, Inc.**

- Benefits & Compensation Analyst - Anchorage, AK
- HR Business Partner - Anchorage, AK
- Organizational Development Coordinator - Anchorage, AK

**Ahtna Environmental, Inc.**

- Senior Project Engineer - Oregon
- System Administrator - Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), AK

**Ahtna Technologies, Inc.**

- IT Technician II - Anchorage, AK

**Ahtna Engineering Services, LLC**

- Environmental Engineer II - Alaska

**Ahtna Facility Services, Inc.**

- Protective Security Officer - Minnesota



The Ahtna Employee Newsletter is a production of the Ahtna, Inc. Corporate Communications Dept., with the help of many fellow employees. For more info or if you'd like to get your "news" into the next issue, please contact Shannon Blue, Corporate Communications Director [sblue@ahntna.net](mailto:sblue@ahntna.net)