

Alutiiq elder passes at age of 69

Ephraim Agnot Sr., a lifelong resident of Akhiok and one of the last fluent speakers of the Alutiiq language, died recently at the age of 69. Agnot was born in Akhoik on March 1, 1926, he was a leader in the Russian Orthodox Church for more than 40 years. Agnot was a commercial fisherman, a

veteran of the Army, and one of the original members of Akhiok's village response team. He also helped teach the Alutiik language and cultural in the Akhiok school system. "It's a real loss because he was considered to be a very, very fluent speaker," anthropologist Philomena Knecht told the Asso-

ciated Press. Agnot is survived by daughter Barbara Boskofsky of Akhiok; son Ronnie Agnot of Old Harbor; son Dan Yakanak of Akhiok; son Ephraim Agnot Jr. of Akhiok; sister Martha Rozell of Anchorage; brother Bill Agnot of Akiok; eight grandchildren, and 16 great grandchildren.