

WHERE'S A COP WHEN YOU NEED ONE? Elise Patkotak, Director of North Slope Borough Health & Human Services, tells of an unlikely chain of events in Barrow recently. It seems there is a certain house in Barrow that has been getting hit from all sides by wandering vehicles. The most recent episode happened when a privately owned vehicle smashed into an NSB vehicle which hit a state-owned vehicle which hit another NSB vehicle which plowed, not too gently, into the side of this house.

It looks to us like the Borough is going to sue the state is going to sue the Borough is going to sue the owner of the privately owned vehicle, or maybe everyone will just band together and sue the federal government. Litigation could drag on for years, but that isn't the full story.

Who lives in the house that has had these misfortunes? A Village Public Safety Officer, that's who. Names withheld to protect...

IT PAYS TO FIDDLE AROUND. The Institute of Alaska Native Arts in Fairbanks recently won a contract with the State Council on the Arts to hold a two-day old-time Athabascan Fiddlers Festival some time late this year, probably in late October or early November.

They are going to be searching and researching all Athabascan fiddlers to attend this Native Arts Festival, so all you fiddlers in the Interior should rosin the bow and let IANA know who you are and when you'll be available. Their address is P.O. Box 80583, Fairbanks, 99708 and their phone number is 479-8473.

From all reports, it's going to be one fine festival and everyone who is either into Native Arts or just great fiddling music should plan to be in Fairbanks. Look for more info in later issues of this, your favorite newspaper.

By the way, did you know that there are four (count 'em, four) correct ways to spell Athabascan? They are 1.) Athabascan, 2.) Athabaskan, 3.) Athapascan and 4.) Athapaskan.

The Tattler has learned that William "Spud" Williams, president of the Tanana Chiefs Conference, prefers Athabascan because anthropologists and the like prefer spelling it with a "k." Sounds like a good enough reason to us!

A STAR IS BORN, PART I. Before we've had a chance to see it, the Tattler has found out that Reggie Joule, WEIO athlete and superstar, has made another appearance on the Tonight show (He-e-e-r-e's Johnny!),

showing to Johnny Carson and the world some of the events making up the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics. Reggie, another proud NANA shareholder, will be giving interviews and signing autographs upon his return.

Seriously, we can't think of a more fitting person than Reggie to show people our Olympic games. Reggie, you make us proud!

WHEE, THE PEOPLE, PART TWO. Tundra Raspberry of the week goes to the House for voting itself a hefty, hefty payraise while holding their purses close to the vest in a 5 percent payraise asked by the state employees. To our mind, the Legislature hasn't shown that it is worth the salary and fringe benefits they are currently getting, much less an over 100 percent payraise for themselves.

Earlier, a legislator reportedly said he expects the public to respond negatively to it, but asked "Could any of the public come down here and pay what we have to pay?" The Tattler could respond, "We've found people for over 25 years ready willing and able to pay what you have to pay," but that is probably a facetious reply, so we won't.

Our question, to any legislator willing to answer, is: "Is this JUSTICE?"

Or is this JUST US?"

GOING, GOING, GONE. The auction for all the office equipment and furniture used by the Alaska Native Foundation was extremely well attended last Sunday. Many people were there to get some good deals on some good equipment, but this doesn't diminish the sadness at seeing the demise of a fine and valuable organization into a skeleton of what it once was. Let us hope, like the Phoenix arising from the ashes, ANF will once again some day soon be the force for good it always has been in the past.

ANNUAL MIGRATION, REVISITED. The Tattler notes that "Big Time" journalists from such prestigious publications as the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times, U.S. News and World Reports and other national media are once again around and about Alaska, searching for either 1.) the exclusive story of the real Alaska, or 2.) the elusive "King" of the real Alaska. Why is it we never see these fine folk in the dead of winter? I guess not much happens in Alaska when temperatures go below zero, does it? There's no news like a winter's snooze.