

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire



Owned, controlled and edited by Eskimo, Indian, Aleut Publishing Company, a corporation of Alaska natives. Published at Fairbanks, Alaska, weekly, on Wednesdays.

Address all mail to Box 1287, Fairbanks, Alaska, 99707. Telephone 452-2244.

Second class postage paid at Fairbanks, Alaska 99701.

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Regular Mail (Including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$10.00	6 Months \$ 5.50
Air Mail (Including Alaska, Canada and other states)	1 Year \$21.00	6 Months \$12.00

Member of the American Indian Press Association

Other Voices— Housing Hustle Hassle

Alaska Natives are in dire need of adequate housing and leaders representing them should be careful future options aren't reduced by turning up noses to the recently proposed plan for rural housing in 18 communities. But that doesn't mean going hat-in-hand for a handout from the federal government.

It seems inconceivable that the housing design is so locked in that it can't be changed or even redesigned and built locally. And it is totally unfair for the three cooperating federal agencies to expect local Native housing authority commissioners to accept housing designed by someone else when they might be held liable for it.

The State of Alaska should have long ago assumed some responsibility for housing requirements and methods by which federal housing efforts are conducted in Alaska. State housing codes must be established and federal agencies should have to work with the state and persons who will be living in the houses before building begins.

In the meantime, Alaskans due to receive the 500 houses should consider alternative uses for them if the structures are determined to be inadequate for family use in the Arctic. But refusal of the houses may mean waiting quite a while before anything more substantial is available. On the other hand, by accepting and using the houses for temporary assistance, Native housing authorities will gain some experience and time necessary to begin the process which will assure they don't get locked into somebody else's houses again.

The present housing proposal appears to contradict the concept of Indian self-determination espoused by the federal government. The problem is further compounded in Alaska because of the distance from, and stepchild relationship to, the rest of the country. These facts are ugly realities but Alaska Natives may still feel some comfort as they progress toward controlling their own housing authorities. Once these authorities are established and busy building real homes for rural people, they can use past structures for dog kennels if they wish.

— D. L.

Atty. Gen. Warns— Telex Solicitations

Atty. Gen. Avrum M. Gross has again issued a warning concerning the Telex solicitations which are in the guise of billing statements.

Gross said that in the past few months the office has received copies of bills which total approximately \$25,000 in false billings.

These billings seem to indicate that various business establishments have ordered listings in Telex directory guides.

Most of the times the billing is stated in positive terms so that it looks as if the company actually ordered inclusion in the directory when this is not the case, Gross said.

Gross said that the Consumer

Protection Service of the attorney general's office is now assisting the United States Postal Service by securing statements from various companies that have been so solicited.

Gross stated that these will be turned over to the United States Postal Service for proper action and that this will be the first time in Alaska that there has been a concerted effort to try and stop this wrongful type of solicitation.

Gross said that if all businesses respond to the letters which will be going out from the attorney general's office to come in and sign affidavits about the wrongful solicitation for the directory

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Letters from Here and There

NANA Stockholder Expresses Thanks

Oct. 10, 1974

Fellow-Natives of Alaska:

I have always wanted to express my gratitude to you for playing an important role in making the Land Claims Act a reality, one which the Natives of Alaska have fought to accomplish for many years. As a result, we can see firm and positive grounds of achievements from that long struggle with Congress and the Interior Department, amidst their constant policy positions and indifferent attitude to the voices of the Alaska Natives. My grateful appreciation to all of you who participated in making our life-long dream come true. As a Nana shareholder I would like to share my views with you concerning our aboriginal rights to the Native lands in the beautiful state of Alaska, the last frontier.

Since the Indian Claims Commission Act of 1946, set up by an executive order, to provide a Claims Commission to which the Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians would submit their claims against the government on past broken treaty promises, the Interior Department has no doubt violated the provisions provided by the federal agencies for 25 years. The Interior officials maintain that they didn't know what the Natives wanted. Bluntly speaking, during those bleak years of misrepresentation by the department, the density of their constant non-committal and policy positions so totally against our rights to Native lands taken since the purchase of Alaska from Russia has been a major fault of theirs for delaying our claims and the economic and social growth of our state.

For too many years now the U.S. Government (who by invoking the doctrine of implied powers) has acquired land and its use by trickery and illegal maneuvers without substantial benefits to the Natives of Alaska. Consequently, the lower 48 and foreign countries have benefited economically without restrictions from the Interior Department and the government, through the rise of so-called companies that have robbed our precious land of its mineral resources, timber, fish and many other valuable products that rightfully belong to the state and its people. In reality, these so-called companies that now exist in our state and the lower 48, are subsidiaries of the billion-dollar corporations with foreign backing, that worked their way into our present system of government and are directly responsible for our floundering governments budget-cutting and tight money policies administered by our former presidents' economic advisors. In order for our federal government to balance their budget, the agencies are borrowing from Peter to pay Paul.

Due to the economic shortages in the U.S. and abroad, as publicized by the federal agencies and the large industrial corporations, we must constantly be aware of their illegal activities on land and commodity speculations. Reason why our sister states are short in certain resources, the land was misused and its products wasted, or exported to foreign countries to

keep up our diplomatic relationship. It appears now that our government and foreign-controlled corporations are working harder than ever to illegally rob us of our land through the disguise of unnecessary delays and policy positions.

We have finally entered a new era of industrial changes—our future development depends universally to the maximum input of Natives to fight, protect and preserve our rights to the Native lands (as assured by Congress) which for years has been a blanket toss between the Interior Department and Congress, with the Native right in the center being tossed around from one policy to another.

Our ancestors have lived off the land dating back to approximately 30,000 years, but you would not see any evidence of misuse or abuse on our part to the land today. Their supreme knowledge of protecting the balance of nature has preserved the land, its resources and most important our aboriginal rights. The Native way of thinking in terms of preservation of the land is unlike the English feudal system that originated the Constitution of the United States, but that the land is an integral part of nature that sustains those who live on it. My fellow Natives, I have fought many a verbal battle, perhaps you have too, especially with the minority and ethnic groups in the lower 48.

I have always felt that we had all the rights to be classed as a unique group of people—who has the greatest advantage of all. We still own our land. Being a minority race, as indicated by the governmental forces, we will continue to be subjected to all the wrongs and handicaps in the process of achieving our rights.

But that doesn't necessarily mean that we will continue to have the government present us with further unfamiliar policies or illegal obstacles, but that every Native will raise their voices and be heard. We have gone right along with their wishes in the past, but the overwhelming evidence of foot-dragging and look-into promises have slowed down our economic development, while the rest of the nation flourished. Our potential growth is vast—so long as we continue to hold firm to our land.

Thanks for sharing my views. I wish each and every one of you good luck, good health and may we prosper together in liberty, peace and justice. Koo-yana.

Sincere regards,
Evelyn Stoney Hollingsworth
NANA shareholder

Archeologists Looking for Native Help

To: Howard Rock
Editor: Tundra Times
News from Prospect Camp and Hank Anderson, Camp Counselor.

This letter is to inform the Tundra Times readers of an opportunity to help uncover their ancestry.

The Alyeska archeologists are charged with the responsibility of searching out possible camp sites of the prehistoric nomads that inhabited the area that is now going to be transversed by the pipeline.

The archeologists would like to hire a number of Alaska Natives

to help in this undertaking. The archeological diggings will begin about June and continue through the summer until fall freeze-up.

The pay is \$1100. per month plus board and room.

For further information and confirmation write to:

Mike Yarbrough
Alyeska Archeologist
Prospect Camp
Ft. Wainwright
Fairbanks, Alaska 99716

P.S. The men and women in camp look forward to receiving the Tundra Times.

Thank you,
Henry E. Anderson

People of Bristol Bay Don't Want Roads

Bureau of Land Management
555 Cordova St.
Anchorage, Alaska

Dear Sirs:

THE PEOPLE OF
BRISTOL BAY
DO NOT WANT ROADS!

Or as you have so conveniently called them "utility corridors." The people of this area do not want a giant scar gouged across the face of their land by unthinking, unfeeling, construction engineers and companies. The only fruit that such an endeavor would produce would be another of those bastard, deformed children whose wretched stinking bodies and entrails lay scattered across what we so blindly and proudly call, "Modern Industrialized America." Do not scar the delicate ecological balance of the fragile but beautiful tundra for the purpose of raping the earth. (So that some slovenly Californian can drive his car from his house 300 feet to the grocery store.) Most of the people in Bristol Bay are Native Eskimo, Indian and Aleut. Their innocent subsistence existence, living off the land, would also be shattered by any quick, easy means of plundering the womb of the earth for the oil that mainland Americans think they need so badly. Let the mainland Americans change their lifestyles—instead destroying the lifestyle of the people who have lived here for thousands of years! Enclosed are the words of an Aboriginal American. Please read them. It is time that modern Americans stop holding environmental fairs; such as, the Spokane Expo 74, mourning the death of the earth while engineers, oil companies and developers keep stabbing even though she is still breathing, barely. In short, modern America need not mouth the words and cries of the environmentalists while they keep stabbing our mother earth in order to force it to yield to their prurient desires.

There are other alternatives that allow people to live in harmony with the earth and the Tundra of Bristol Bay and still harvest all it provides. The earth will give its resources and warmth if you slowly coax it from her with love and patience.

I think you will find any attempts by the Secretary of Interior to claim this land for such a rape and pillage will be met with loud and persistent outcries from the people of this land. Where does the Secretary of Interior think he has the right to take land for what he calls, "public interests?" We are the

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