

What others say

Alcohol is not relief from pain

To the editor:

Many of us do not mourn the loss of loved ones properly. Too many of us seek the quick and easy way through the use and abuse of alcohol. We want the immediate relief from our suffering, pain and emptiness. And, true to its purpose as a depressant, alcohol deadens our grieving process in an unnatural way.

To grieve the loss of loved ones is a natural healing process. It is a time to readjust our lives to continue on with our daily living. There are many, many ways in which to express your grief. It can even be expressed in thank-you cards to certain individuals that were with you in your time of bereavement. Or, most importantly at the funeral potlatch, or it could be at the memorial potlatch.

But, to grieve too long is not good either, for the spirit or to ourselves. And to use alcohol in this grieving process is destructive!

Those who have left this world and are on the Great Journey to the Spirit World and our Creator would not want us to do this. It hinders their spirit. Native people know this, and that's why we have potlatches and ceremonies.

One such ceremony is *Feed the Spirit*. On Aug. 4, we had such a ceremony here at the Fairbanks Cor-



rectional Center, thanks to a very understanding superintendent, Gail Franks, and to Mr. Carlos Zanazzo, who took us outside to perform this ceremony.

We build a fire, and through the process of burning, we release to the spirit favorite foods and tobacco or snuff. As we're burning these we call out their names and tell others around us about that person: something we know about that person, something we remembered about them. Sometimes

we might remember something that was funny and have a good laugh about it, but we always talk about the good, 'cause we, just as much as they, wish goodwill.

We offer prayers for them for a good journey. In this way do we sever our ties with our loved ones, until our time comes for us to make that Great Journey.

In spirit,
Walter Tommy
Fairbanks

ADF&G officers aid hunters, tourists

To the editor:

I know one thing for sure, attorney Wayne Ross can grind his teeth toward the Alaska Department of Fish & Game. Myself, I've applied for the caribou and moose hunts year after year, only to receive one permit.

I'd pawn personal items to just submit the \$5 fee to be given the chance to hunt the magnificent migratory critter.

Many have in past lived tough and lean times and still do. I don't have a lodge or belong to any professional organizations.

In our vast wilderness, heard are the sounds of moose and clatter of hoofs from migratory caribou, echoing the coming of seven months of Arctic freeze.

Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of rifle-toting inexperienced sportsmen in the communities will beat a path, like game trails, for the local outfitter, be tuning their autos for travel, visiting libraries to map hunting units or read the regulations; pumping dollars back into the economy, as well as many of the overpriced lodges in the Bush, accessible by airplane.

Experienced hunters and food gatherers, too, will stand in line at the many overpriced retail outlets, gearing up to be part of the beauty and mystery of autumn. This is just one of the many reasons to swap old stories, eat cold beans and drink too-strong coffee, besides toting the \$960 gun or the watch for wolves or bear.

During this time, the ADF&G will be visible in the wild of the taiga lands. Like St. Preston of the Yukon, officers of the law will come to the aid of many hunters or the visible camera-carrying tourists.

Slowly, over the years, deep inside somewhere, I've grown some respect for the brown-clad Sgt. Prestons. Through those years I've managed to display respect for them, too. I guess it's because of the many road-kill or poached game distributed to the needy left behind by the rich and greedy.

Yes! I, too, can almost hear the laughter described by Mr. Ross' opinion from the Aug. 2 edition of the *Anchorage Times*. As the ADF&G reschedule their vacations, give and take conflicting work shifts, planning to watch for the abuse of the land.

Sometimes I wonder, however, if it is just the wind of Big Govt. blowing a speck of dust into the eye of the ADF&G and not be laughter at all.

However it may be, I'm not convinced Mr. Ross knows what the situation may be. The \$5 generated is surely put to good use. Myself, I'll continue, and just maybe I'll get lucky and be drawn for the permit hunt. I look forward to that day. At the same time, to Sgt. Preston who always gets his man, I'll give him the tipoff of those from Florida, so my \$5 will be put to good use and not laughed about.

As for those of you who were lucky enough to have a name engraved on the permit, you're the envy of the campfire discussion over the cold beans, too-strong coffee in this great land.

And as for the bison, it is their vision to which the stray buffalo must answer, too, in its court of the herd rule.

Sincerely,
Steve Kakaruk
Anchorage

Opening shot in 'lock-up' campaign

To the editor:

Whenever a group of trolls are discussing the scarcity of cohos in Outside waters, someone will laugh in a cynical manner and say, "How can the cohos show up here when they are already caught in the foreign drift gillnets?"

Our only hope to stop them was the Greenpeace people, who turned chicken at the last minute after making threats to make war on the foreign driftnets.

The Alaska Department of

Fish & Game has announced that the trolling for cohos will be stopped at any time it is determined that the run is not strong enough to allow for adequate escapement.

A few years back there was a trolling closure about Sept. 1. A lot of cohos passed through Icy Strait on the way to the spawning grounds.

The trolling season was not reopened, but the gillnetters and seiners made a killing for the remainder of the season. This bad discriminatory decision by the ADF&G cost Bill Egan the

upcoming election.

This decision to issue a permit to special interests, allowing them to lock up the only safe harbor in the Kelp Bay Area is construed by the boating public to be the opening shot in a campaign to lock up all our bays and inlets by permitting salmon farming in the State of Alaska.

Me and 40,000 other voters cry in anger, "Over our dead bodies!"

Sincerely,
Al Brookman Sr.
Sitka

Zharoff opposes vessel reflagging

To Congressman Don Young:

Thank you for your letter of July 9 in which you explained the current status of the commercial fishing vessel reflagging issue. I understand the potential amendments you described in your letter — a requirement for U.S. citizen ownership of commercial fishing vessels, a requirement that conversion of U.S. vessels take place in U.S. shipyards and an effective date — were all adopted on July 28 by the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries.

I fully support these amendments. The ownership amendment will help bring our 200-mile limit fisheries under true U.S. control and the conversion amendment — by eliminating an unfair cost advantage — will place all the companies competing for the resource on equal footing.

The adoption of the July 28, 1987, effective date also was particularly important, as without it a sizeable window was left open for reflagging to occur. I am disappointed, however, that the July 28 date still may provide a loophole for foreign processing vessels to be redocumented as U.S. vessels.

As you know, applications were filed on the afternoon of July 27 at the 13th Coast Guard District offices in Seattle by the Sea-Ace Corp. for the redocumentation of the 239-foot *Dae Jin No. 21*, the 319-foot *Dae Jin No. 52* and the 266-foot *Perla*.

Many other redocumentation applications for foreign processing vessels to work in Alaska waters may have been filed before the deadline at any of the other Coast Guard district offices in the United States. I have heard reports to this effect. However, we do not know for sure and, if the July 28 effective date stands, it may be almost impossible to find out until these foreign vessels show up off the coast of Alaska to start processing bottomfish.

After many difficult years, the bottomfish industry in Alaska has finally arrived. Processors are making major investments, with more being planned, in new shore-based processing plants and equipment. These shore-based processing operations will not be economically viable if they must compete with reflagged foreign processing vessels.

Shore-based processing plants will allow Alaska to obtain the most benefit from the development of the bottomfish resource. These plants build up the local tax base, contribute to the local economy, employ Alaskans, and pay state fish taxes. The members of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference have, in numerous discussions at their meetings, concluded that the economic health and stability of their communities is best served by the development of shore-based processing plants and a total ban on reflagging.

I strongly support any effort on your part or by other members of Congress to modify the effective date to prevent the reflagging of the three Korean vessels and any other foreign vessels we do not know about. I only regret this could not be accomplished at the July 28 mark-up session. The ideal situation would be the adoption of the retroactive Jan. 1, 1987, cutoff date.

In conclusion, let me thank you for all your hard work on this issue to date. Your continued positive efforts to shut the door on all reflagging would be greatly appreciated by the communities of Southwest Alaska.

Sincerely,
Sen. Fred F. Zharoff
Kodiak