

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks
Ut Kah neek - Informing and Reporting
Yupit Qanlautciat - The Way Eskimos Talk
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Women needed to work at shelter

To the editor:

We watch the hallways and reading room fill up with more people than we've ever seen and we worry about the cold winter months ahead.

We want to sleep 40-50 homeless women at Bean's during December, January and February to free up more space for homeless men at Brother Francis.

We need your help to make this effort work. We want to hire four unemployed women to monitor a safe

and warm shelter space for 40-50 women guests.

Sleeping on a mat on a concrete floor is hardly a perfect solution, but it is hard to think of not doing it when the need is so great.

Please help us meet this urgent need. Thank you.

Bob Eaton, Director
Brother Francis Shelter
Maggie Carey, Director
Bean's Cafe
Anchorage

Jolene John, wins Miss WEIO-NCAI

To the editor:

Last summer I had the opportunity to meet six young Alaska Native women who gathered in Fairbanks to participate in the Miss World Eskimo-Indian Olympics queen pageant.

During the week we were together, I was inspired and awed at the group's cohesion, unity, spirit and drive.

By the end of the week, I had seen and felt a presence, pride and power among each of the contestants.

The young lady chosen to represent the group of young women and the entire spirit of the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics was Jolene John, of Toksook Bay.

John is a remarkable young lady who possesses all of the qualities mentioned above with a peaceful balance within herself.

These qualities shined as she went on to capture the Miss National Congress of American Indians title.

John has taken on a tremendous responsibility of representing herself, family, village, region, WEIO and American Indians.

Please join me in congratulating and honoring John and her parents, Paul and Martina John.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sharon B. Atila
Fairbanks

F&W management is very important

To Gov. Walter Hickel:

This is to apprise you of several reasons I didn't vote for you. I am a commercial fisherman. I have been since I was 10 years old.

To vote for a man that is going to give more voice to the sportsmen and more votes on the Board of Fish to the sportsfishing interests went against my grain.

The Board of Fish has for many years worked with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for conservative management of the fisheries.

Balancing out every aspect of management has been important, so all would have a chance to utilize the fish and game resources. Multiple use has been good.

New year brings questions about globe, nation, state

To the editor:

It's a new year coming, physically, politically and mentally, in that order. Are we in the "bush" ambivalent about this next coming year? Take a look at what is affecting many of us before 1991 starts.

First on the global stage, we have Saddam Hussein, (misspelling intentional) threatening us with war. How is he going to affect my family and friends who are in the service?

On the other hand, how is he going to affect the State's coffers? This guy is affecting our own back yard and it could all happen in 1991 both for the good and the bad.

At the national level, we have President Bush shaking hands on the one hand with our neighbor across the Bering Sea and the doors of Siberia opening up. It's exciting to see how peace with Russia is finally going to look.

On the other hand, there is also talk of a recession coming in 1991. How

is that going to affect my cost of living, or the costs I will have for my first daughter going to college, or better yet, the fishing season?

At the Statewide level, we have a new administration coming in not on the laurels of the Democrats or the Republicans, but as an Independent. What does that mean for all of us, especially in the bush where we didn't give them more than fifteen percent of our vote.

One of their clear mandates, though, seems to be economical development; and with times changing as they are out here, we know we can use some of that in 1991.

At the local level, we finally have reached 1991, 20 years after the biggest question mark ever put on Alaskan Natives, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. It's a new age.

Another gnawing question for 1991 is subsistence. Are we or aren't we? Can I or can't I? How is Juneau go-

ing to treat us this year on that issue?

I suppose if we looked at historical data, there have been other years where bigger questions were floating around before we started another year.

What can we do? Grit our teeth on Dec. 31, 1990 at 11:59 and relax 61 seconds later. Symbolically we can't do much more, but the exercise would be fun.

On the other hand, we can reach out and offer our willingness to help some of those changes take place, just as we have helped our neighbors and they in

turn helped us survive everything else "fatal" in reaching 1991.

We can continue to teach our children, just as our parents have brought us this far, to survive intact.

We ourselves make promises to better ourselves individually and internally. Yeah, life looks bleak at times, but life goes on, new years come and go, and the summer time always comes on time.

Does 1991 scare me? No.

Tim Towarak
Unalakleet

• Don't scrap commercial fish fleet

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I myself have partaken in an enhancement program for coho and king salmon. Increased yields are enjoyed by all, not just commercial fishermen.

The sports take of king salmon and cohos around Ketchikan, Sitka, Juneau, Petersburg and Wrangell has increased dramatically since our non-profit hatcheries went into production. Charter boat operators have also benefitted from these very same fish.

I and many of my friends have discussed the implications of recreational use of these fish for private, not-for-profit purposes, and feel that this

is an equitable price to pay for good will in our communities.

I hope it isn't your intent to scrap the commercial fish fleet. At the least, it is a concerned and responsible bunch of small businesses.

At the most, lumped together, we are a big business employing cold storages, transportation companies, and provide a good community economic and tax base for the State.

When you start appointing people to manage and direct the fisheries, keep this in mind.

Sincerely,
Ralph Guthrie
Sitka

