Southcentral loses elders

We join the families of Bill Shem Pete and Walter Meganack Sr., and the communities who looked up to them, in mourning their loss.

Pete, 75, was a retired commercial fisherman, carpenter and trapper. He overcame many obstacles to educate himself and was active in cultural preservation. He died at his home in Tyonek, where he was a member of the Native dance and song group.

Meganack, 80, was a leader in the Chugach region for many years, working for land claims settlement, subsistence protection and cultural preservation. He died at his home in Port Graham, where he had been chief for 29 years.