

Publisher's Notes

TUNDRA TIMES IS GOING TO THE KUSKOKWIM

The Tundra Times has had a dream for a long time of increasing our circulation in Southwestern Alaska. That dream will finally become a reality during the week of January 21. We will be distributing on a regular basis in Bethel and hopefully in all the villages of the Calista Region.

We would like to assure our many friends in Bethel and in the village surrounding it that we will do our very best to serve your needs whatever they may be in the publishing business. The Tundra Times is Alaska's oldest statewide newspaper, and we are indeed proud of our 23-year history of service to the rural areas of Alaska. Actually our paper reaches many people, not only in the Lower 48 States but in other countries as well. Our primary readership is, however, in the bush, and we reach more of the 203 villages statewide.

Those of us who work in the office consider it an honor to uphold the editorial policies set out by Howard Rock, the first editor, founder, and publisher of the Tundra Times. We believe that Howard's words, stated in the first editorial back in 1962 still hold true, and that is:

Natives of Alaska, the Tundra Times is your paper. It is here to express your ideas, thoughts, and opinions on issues that vitally affect you. With this humble beginning, we hope, not for any distinction but to serve with dedication the truthful presentation of Native problems, issues and interests.

The Tundra Times is not an ordinary paper, and we do not operate with the same set of principles that other media do strongly uphold. For instance, we do not publish police and court records, which some newspapers routinely include. If you are interested in such matters, you will have to look elsewhere because you will not find anything like that in the pages of the Tundra Times.

Not everyone will be pleased with what they read in our newspaper, however, and we don't expect them to be. There are many perspectives about issues that vitally affect us, and we try to cover as many of them as we can, as fairly, as honestly, and as thoroughly as we can. In striving for balanced coverage, we will sometimes touch a sensitive nerve and will be soundly criticized for it.

We want to hear from our readers whether they criticize us or not, and we are always willing to print your views, criticisms, and comments in our newspaper.

We are looking forward to a bright future as we expand in the Kuskokwim.

AN ALASKA LOTTERY, WHY NOT?

Some Alaskans are actually ordering through the mail lottery tickets from Canada and from the Lower 48 states. Chicago seems to be a bit popular with some. If we had a state owned and operated lottery game in Alaska, that money wouldn't be going to other places. With all the talk of oil revenues declining and suggestions of reinstituting the state income tax, why not look at the idea of a lottery here?