

What others say...

Alaska Man? "Spare me," says reader

To the editor:

Just when we thought it was safe to go back to the voting booth... Alaska's answer to Jaws is back to terrorize the political waters. Wally Hickel for Governor? Please, give us a break.

This man would like us to believe he'll be the savior of the state... that he'll put two jobs in every pot if we put him in Juneau. He's squeezing the idea of a gas pipeline for everything it's worth. He'd like us to buy into the notion that this pipeline will be our jackpot... our future... and put jobs on our doorsteps tomorrow. Or maybe the next day.

Come on... Alaskans are brighter than that. We know it's going to be *ten years* before we see work for the general population spring from the gas pipeline. Meanwhile... what about right now? It's this month we're having trouble paying our mortgages. It's this month we're struggling at the grocery store. It's right now we need help. Sure, planning is great, but getting elected on the basis of jobs that are at best ten years down the road is

ridiculous.

This man is what I call a sprinter. He jumps into the race at the last minute... expecting to dash away with the Republican nomination. Yet he jumped *out* of the Governor's office in the sixties when a better offer came along. I'm sorry, but that just won't do.

Alaska needs a marathoner. Someone who's trained for years and years to go the long distances. We're simply not in the position right now to settle for a bunch of empty promises of riches and wealth. It could spell real disaster for the state. We need someone who can do more than write jingles. Alaska's Man? Spare me. I think it takes more than a little jingle and a big ego to lead Alaska.

Who am I voting for? Someone I trust won't bail out when the going gets tough. That's right... I'm behind Arliss Sturgulewski.

Sincerely,
Dora A. Hamilton
Anchorage

News From Gambell

To the editor:

There are more and more modern things we are doing in our place Gambell now, *Sivuqaq* in our language. *Sivuqaq* also is the name of the whole island, St. Lawrence Island

There are many Native names all over the island; when I try to write them in alphabetical order, it goes like this: *Aghtuggha*, *Aghqitaghanga*, *Akulkek*, *Alnighyak* and so forth. There are 137 I wrote; I'm sure there are more.

But since we are in modern times now, there are housing areas, schools farther apart, so hondas are in use to go about. People speed along with hondas all over.

Some people are putting new covering on their walrus-hide boats like always. We still use those walrus-hide hunting boats our men make. Women do the sewing on covering of these driftwood framed boats for hunting in icy ocean. As there are no trees on the island we collect wood that drift in at

the shore. Even there are no trees on this island, we live on, we have wood, they drift in! There are some places at the shore all around the island where wood drift in, in piles, close to a mile lengths. Some people even build houses of drift wood at their camps. And our ancestors' houses were made of drift wood with walrus-hide tops.

I was born in one like this back in 1921. We don't have those now any more, lots of us living in housing.

Many of us also have jobs with pay checks! I'm working at the store, cleaning around 1-7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There also is another nice big store in town, Esther and Gerard Koonooka has a good store.

We still talk Eskimo among ourselves also using English a lot.

Grace Slwooko

My Eskimo name is *Akulmii*; many people call me *Aku*.

Folk arts calendar submissions sought

To the editor:

In an effort to present more information to the public on Alaskan folk and traditional events, the Alaskan Folk and Traditional Arts Association (AFTAA) is compiling a 1987 calendar of activities. Events will be considered for inclusion in the calendar according to the following criteria: events must occur in Alaska or should pertain to Alaska and the event must involve music, dance drama, visual arts or folk traditions.

The AFTAA hopes that publication of the calendar of events will encourage more people to participate in them and will encourage organizers to plan activities in advance. The 1987

calendar will be distributed to all AFTAA members and to other groups like the Alaska Visitors Association and the American Folklife Center.

Organizations interested in submitting information for the calendar should provide a brief description of the event including date, time, location and sponsor. Questions about the project and information about programs should be directed to the Alaskan Folk and Traditional Arts Association/1987 Calendar, PO Box 80065, College, Alaska 99708-0065. The telephone number is 452-8251 x 306.

Tony Scott Pearce
Director, AFTAA