

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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Editorial—

Tundra Times Stands Ready to Serve

It is going to be very imperative to give the native people of Alaska the most pertinent information on the native land claims within the immediate future and for the next two or more years as Congress tackles the problem. Knowledge of what is to take place will be needed to be known by our people. They must have this information, not only to keep on top of the matter but to absorb the ways of the proceedings so they may become handy references in the future in the event the land matter is settled. Good knowledge of what will be taking place on land deliberations can serve as a strong base for implementing the administration of the congressional legislative results.

Tundra Times will, of course, try its best to be of service but being shorthanded, it will need help in dispensing the information. Since this newspaper is operating on a modest budget, it cannot afford to hire on-the-spot correspondents. It will have to draw its materials from the best sources it can get under the circumstances.

One of the most important sources of information will be the Alaska Federation of Natives. That statewide organization will, of course, be striving to be on top of the land claims proceedings. What its leaders do and think about the important land matters as it courses through Congress will be pertinent to the native people. We think the dispensing of this should be done through the pages of Tundra Times. Letters to villages, although important, will not do the full job in our estimation. We are a public media and we have a proven wide readership in villages and towns throughout the state. This the native leaders should keep in mind. We are most available for their use and needs for spreading the word.

We, of course, will be relying on the utterances and releases of the Alaska congressional delegation in Wash-who are, and will be, directly involved in legislative processes. Their communications will be greatly appreciated as usual by ourselves in the Tundra Times and our readers.

The land legislation in Congress besides the native people will involve everyone in the State of Alaska. Its outcome, in whatever form it emerges, will influence every Alaskan. It will also have some overtones of influence in the rest of the country.

The legislation will be no light matter. It may manifest sensitiveness. It may even manifest dramatic overtones. In whatever manner it courses through Congress, it will bear watching and what will be seen needs to be transmitted to the native people of Alaska as well as other people elsewhere. It should be the foremost duty of the AFN officers, other native leaders, the congressional delegation, and other people who may be involved to feed the information to us and to other news media. We all need to know what will happen during the upcoming Alaska native land claims legislation in Congress.

LETTERS to EDITOR

Bethel Prematernal Home
Bethel, Alaska 99559
January 31, 1969

Letter to the Editor:

The Bethel Prematernal Home would like to thank you for printing our story and picture of the Home and its funding problem.

Many people in this area have recognized the plight and taken action.

The Village Councils Presidents Native Association had a group meeting in Bethel the week of January 14. During this time they discussed the Home and its role in the Kuskokwim area. It was the popular feeling to help support the home in its present need and the V.C.P.N.A. gave \$600.00 to the Home to be used as needed.

The city has in the past been paying all the utilities except water. Because of the lack of funding by RurALCAP, which handled water, the city has absorbed it along with other utilities.

Another fact which is sometimes overlooked is the women themselves donate a sum towards their stay here. This figure shows that their is a real feeling of responsibility to the Home regardless of the lack of money in the area. During the year of 1968 the average contribution was \$104.00 with the highest being \$278.00 in August. This year has started out with a contribution of \$109.00 for the month of January compared to \$00.00 in January of 1968. These contributions consist of \$5.00 here and \$20.00 there depending on the financial status of the family at the present time.

All of these incidences indicate a real interest and need for the home. Getting information to the public is a real important way in having the Home recognized for this need.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Jeanne Toomer RN
Director

Women in the Home:

Mollie Hendrickson, Theresa Gump, Annie Cleveland, Susie Alexie, Mary George, Jane Wiseman, Agnes Boliver, Anna M. Sipary, Nellie Joshua, Olga Edwards.

THE DRUM
Box 1069
Inuvik, N.W.T.

Dear Howard:

I was surprised to read your editorial in the Tundra Times issue of January 10—"Paper Does Belong in the Scheme of Things."

Who would knock the Tundra Times? Your paper is a model of objectivity, realism and well balanced reporting rivaled by few and equaled by none.

The strength of America is the strength of many little people like yourself. We Canadians may walk a different trail but we can still admire the qualities that make America strong.

May the 'Tundra Times' continue to grow in influence and stature.

Yours truly,
Tom Butters
Editor

302 Storry Ave.
Monona, Wisconsin

Dear Sirs:

I would like a pen-pal. Would you please put it in your paper. I am a ten year old girl. I have brown hair and brown eyes. I like outdoor sports. All my friends have pen-pals and I'd like one too. I'd most like someone younger than 13. Anyone would do.

Yours Sincerely,
Penny Crapp

Kotzebue City Police Commissioner Says

January 30, 1969

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor
Tundra Times
Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Mr. Rock:

In regards to the January 17, 1969 paper heading "Liquor Bootlegging Alarms Kotzebue Folks," I do not know whoever wrote the column got his story. (1) The first council meeting of the year 1969 new officers were sworn in; and, complaints were made about two coffee shops being open after 1:00 a.m. followed by lengthy discussion. The State trooper explained that people would have to file a complaint before him or the City Police then they could take action on personal complaints, and the council agreed to take action. (2) One woman said she told the police last summer; she didn't say she was after the police. (3) I did not hear other towns people say they also attempted to make complaints before without success. Being a Police Commissioner, I think, we have two hard working men naming Trooper Bob Boatright and City Police Bill Stevens. They have been doing their best with the conditions we have such as roads and so forth. I don't think they are lacking enforcement. (4) As for one man who tried to make a complaint during the meeting, the Council heard his complaint. He asked if he could make a complaint now. Then the Mayor said he could. So I stopped the mayor from taking statement. I said "I will not have a statement made during this meeting." Then the question came from one woman why I wouldn't allow a statement made during this meeting. So I explained that anyone wishing to make a complaint would have to make a statement to the City Police or the State Trooper. I also stated I would not have the City Police serve a hearsay statement and present to court. So the man did make a complaint to the City Police the very next day and the complaint was served.

I would like to say a few things about people writing about Kotzebue and putting it on paper. I think we just have too many do gooders here in Kotzebue who never stayed here long enough to find out about anything. They put church people together and talk

(Continued on page 6)

State Health, Welfare Poses Position Paper On Marijuana Use

(First of Three Parts)

THE STATEMENT OF THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE ON A PUBLIC HAZARD

Preamble

One preventive role of the Department of Health and Welfare is to inform citizens in advance about dangers to their physical health, mental health and general welfare. This includes, but is not limited to, such problems as epidemics, frostbite, fire prevention, earache, hunger, fever, poisoning, water pollution, ice safety, venereal disease, misuse of alcohol, use of tobacco and drugs and a host of other real and potential health problems.

An increase in misuse of the drug marijuana by young Alaskans necessitates the following Position Statement which is based on a convincing body of scientific reports as well as empirical knowledge of well informed experts in this field:

POSITION STATEMENT

There are conflicting reports about marijuana, but research of late indicates that marijuana is deceptively dangerous.

The Alaska Department of Health and Welfare is unequivocally against the human intake of the unstable drug cannabis sativa, cannabis-indica, cannabis americana, marijuana, marihuana, pot, hemp, Indian hemp, rope, Mary Jane, weed, grass, Texas tea, muggers, jive, reffers, dagga, boo, loco weed, kif, bhang, ganja, ma-jen, charas, Mary Warner, diamba, maconha, sticks, joints, hay, hashish, cannibidol, tetrahydro-cannabinol or any derivatives thereof.

The Department of Health and Welfare is an agency of an orderly public created by the will of the citizens of the Great State of Alaska. The Departmental mission is to contribute to the health and welfare of a wholesome society, and it cannot condone, encourage or abet any form of health hazard, disorder, questionable influence or risk which accompanies common marijuana usage.

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Dept. of Fish & Game
Div. of Commercial Fisheries
January 29, 1969

refers to opposition of the
"Department of Fish and Game"
(Continued on page 6)

Mr. Frank Bavilla, Sr.
President
The Village Council
Goodnews Bay, Alaska 99589

Dear Mr. Bavilla:

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on your letter published in the Jan. 17 issue of the Tundra Times. The last paragraph of your letter

WANTED: Chilkat Blankets; totem poles; ivory pipes and carvings; argillite carvings; pot-latch bowls; fish hooks; spoons and all N.W. items 50 years of age or older. Send photo or sketch and prices to: Albert T. Miller, 2235 West Live Oak Drive, Los Angeles, California 90028.