

*"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 Comment—

### A Great Banquet

The most recent Tundra Times annual banquet, we feel, and so did many other people, that it was probably the best one the newspaper ever put on. From the human side of it, it was easily the best. Everyone relaxed, chortled, guffawed and ate heartily. The fare of the evening, the broiled salmon, was tasty and appropriate. Tasty Native morsels enhanced the entree. "Someone gave me a lot of thin-sliced muktuk and I ate a lot of it," Fred Stickman, the famous letter-writer revealed.

The tasty fare seemed to have elevated the sense of friendship among the 1,000 plus banquet audience. One of the reasons, some said, was that the Natives were given the chance to say a few words more than in the past. The Native leaders who had this chance were more than equal to the occasion and their remarks were witty as well as appropriate. It was the most satisfying occasion and a great many people, non-Native and Native, concurred.

The way the annual dinner was staged, it was more thoroughly planned, thanks to the Tundra Times board members and the banquet committee. It went largely without a hitch. The seating was beautifully planned. This is never an easy work because protocol is always a knotty affair at such gatherings and this is in spite of the largest head table Tundra Times ever had in its series of banquets. Along with many subtables to accommodate the Native leadership, the occasion was a friendly affair.

It was the day for the Native leaders. It was their night of honor. It was a deserved tribute long overdue for without them the past and present effort for the betterment of their people throughout the wide-ranging land would not have been possible. They have been doing a great service in spite of the complex duties they have met and are meeting today. All of us are humbly grateful for this.

On top of all that, a combo of three Lower Kuskokwim Natives put out a very creditable music for the after-banquet dance—the first one Tundra Times ever staged. The women had an ample chance to show off their new dresses.

Another milestone has been set by the newspaper's annual dinner. We the staff members, the board of directors and the banquet committee, and many people who volunteered to help, are very grateful to serve the most deserving people we chose to honor. Such events have cohesive influences and the annual dinner did just that.

— HR

## Minimum Wage Effective Jan. 1

Effective Jan. 1, 1976, minimum wage will go from \$2.60 to \$2.80 per hour for those employed within the State of Alaska.

Federal minimum wage will rise to \$2.30, effective the same date, in compliance with the U.S. Fair Labor Standards Act.

Alaskan rates are 50 cents higher than those established by the federal government, in accordance with an amendment to the Alaska Wage and Hour Act, which took effect May 1, 1974 when minimum wage was established at \$2.60.

## LEARN NOT TO BURN

Know what to do in case your clothing catches fire. You may only need to know once in a lifetime—but it could save your life.

If you should catch fire, quickly drop to the floor or ground and roll, roll, roll until you smother the flames.

This will keep flames and fumes from rising to your face. Learn not to burn!

## Rural Impact Information Article Lauded

Fairbanks Town and Village Association for Development, Inc.

510 Second Ave.  
P.O. Box 1267  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707  
907/452-4761, Ext. 37,  
or 456-4285  
Nov. 6, 1975

Mr. Howard Rock, Editor  
Tundra Times  
510 Second Ave.  
Chena Bldg. Room 220  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Howard:

Speaking for the Fairbanks Town and Village Association, I want to express my appreciation to you and Sue Gamache for the excellent Oct. 22 article on the Rural Impact Information Program that we operate with the borough's Impact Information Center and the Tanana Chiefs Conference.

We believe this program begins to work best when people in the many rural communities read and hear about the effects of pipeline

construction on neighboring communities. Articles like Sue's are immensely valuable in this regard. If people in the rural communities want to receive copies of the program's regular reports, or if they want to talk about an impact problem in their community, they should call or write Judy Vick, project coordinator, at our office in Fairbanks.

I also thought the summary of the TCC convention was very good, and also very helpful.

I would like to clarify one thing in Sue's reports of my comments to the convention. The Fairbanks Town and Village Association does have a Transportation Development Program, and our efforts to help get local service roads built is part of it. However, the Local Service Roads Program itself is operated by the Interior District of the Alaska Department of Highways in Fairbanks with money approved via a statewide bond issue in 1974. The program has been going on since 1971.

This year FTVAD was able to secure \$354,000 from the Federal Economic Development Administration under Title X of the Public Works and Economic Development Act in order to enable the Highway Department to hire more local people to work on local service roads in Tok, Arctic Village, Eagle, Allakaket and Hughes.

People interested in the Local Service Roads Program should contact Bob Thomas, Interior District Planning Engineer, Alaska Department of Highways, 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, or FTVAD Community Projects Officer, Janice Farrell, at our Fairbanks office.

Thank you again, Howard. Keep up the good work and congratulations on another successful Tundra Times banquet this year.

Sincerely,  
Jerry Smetzer  
Executive Director

## Athabaskan Model Needed For Photos

Nov. 5, 1975

Howard Rock, Editor  
Tundra Times  
Box 1287  
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Howard:

I have a rather unusual request—we need someone to model an Athabaskan man's dress for photographs.

Here is the situation: Around Dec. 3-5th a professional photographer will be at the State Museum in Juneau to take pictures of some of the finer things on display for later use in a catalog.

The State Museum has a beautiful set of Athabaskan clothing and we need some Athabaskan man to put it on for an hour or so until we get the pictures. The catch is, we have to find a man to fit the clothing and one who will be in Juneau at that time.

The suit will fit a man about 5-foot 8-inches tall, slightly built (about 130 pounds).

If any of your Athabaskan readers plan to be in our capital city at that time and might be willing to pose for an hour or so, please have them contact me at

Box 961 Auke Bay, Alaska 99821, or Bettie Hulberg, the curator of collections at the Alaska State Museum, Pouch FM, Juneau, Alaska.

We can't offer any money for the modeling but fame and fortune might follow if some movie scout sees the picture! Seriously, we would like someone to help us out and would certainly appreciate it.

Sincerely,  
Wally Olson

## Admiralty Island Dispute Pounded Out

Kootznouwo, Inc.

P.O. Box 116  
Angoon, Alaska 99820  
Phone: 907-788-3571  
Oct. 31, 1975

Dear Editor:

In response to the widespread press coverage of the resolution passed by the delegates to AFN Convention in Anchorage concerning the role of the State of Alaska in our Admiralty Island dispute with the Urban Corporations of Juneau and Sitka, we ask that you print the following letter:

An open letter to AFN Delegates:

During the AFN Convention a resolution was passed to ask the state administration to stay out of the Admiralty Island dispute in Southeast Alaska.

While the resolution does not mention our corporation or the people of Angoon, it does have a bearing on the disposition of the lands surrounding Angoon.

On June 25, 1975 our corporation asked Governor Hammond to assist Kootznouwo in our efforts to preserve this part of our traditional life in its natural state since we are very dependent on the land for our food and our way of life.

On May 10, 1975, 106 people from our village sent a petition to the Secretary of Interior asking the Interior Department to help protect our subsistence way of life by rejecting outside clear cut timber interests working through Juneau and Sitka's nominations in our traditional hunting and fishing areas. These 106 people constitute most of the adult population on Admiralty Island which is 98% Native.

On July 15, 1975, the City of Angoon asked the State of Alaska to select some of the land around the community for community expansion and recreation under Section 6 of the Statehood Act. These lands are in the disputed area.

In regard to the position taken by the state, the Anchorage Daily Times reported on Oct. 8, 1975 that, "In effect, the objections put the state on the side of the only village on the island, Angoon, whose corporation leaders have raised protests to the withdrawals..."

This dispute is not between the State of Alaska and "The Natives" as suggested by the resolution; it is between the people of Angoon and the Urban Corporations of Juneau and Sitka.

We are glad to have the state on our side just as we suppose that the Urban Corporations are glad to have the support of the City of Juneau and the Juneau Chamber

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