

Issues need further attention

Three concerns are raised in the *Tundra Times* this week that we hope will get further attention as soon as possible.

One involves the very necessary use of all-terrain vehicles by villagers from Anaktuvuk Pass, another concerns a cemetery in Chignik Lagoon and a third involves the use of a restroom in an Air Force facility at Kaktovik.

Bill Hess reports on Anaktuvuk Pass and Kaktovik on Page One in this issue, and we are pleased to be able to offer his material from the North Slope Borough. Because of our financial situation, we are not able to make long-distance telephone calls or travel beyond Anchorage, so we really appreciate receiving material from people throughout the state.

We are discussing the Anaktuvuk Pass situation with the National Park Service, and we hope to be able to offer you more information soon. An agreement is being hammered out that the Park Service says should solve many of the problems. We hope this occurs.

Bill explains quite clearly just exactly why it is so important for the villagers to be able to use their vehicles for subsistence activities.

As for the restroom in Kaktovik, we must say that although at first glance it sounds like a small problem, it really must be a serious issue to the villagers. It doesn't take much imagination to figure out what the weather is like in this Beaufort Sea village in the winter, and not being able to use the only restroom within several miles could be a major inconvenience.

We spent several days last week trying to find out from Air Force officials why this policy is in place. So far, we have not been able to get any answers. We hope to offer more information on this subject soon. It's possible that the Air Force can offer another side to the story. Unfortunately, without this information, we can only say it sounds as if the military is not being a very good neighbor.

We also urge you to read the letter on Page Three this week from the villagers of Chignik Lagoon. Again, we don't yet have all the information, and we hope people will send us more letters and articles on this problem.

But we must point out that this situation sounds very serious and needs immediate attention. Destroying a cemetery cannot be taken lightly.