

What others say...

Chignik Lagoon villagers fear for cemetery

(Continued from Page Two)

To the editor:

This is a letter regarding a problem that has come up in the village of Chignik Lagoon. We have a large cemetery here that dates back as far as 1889 and possibly farther.

This cemetery is still in use today. That is where the problem has arisen. Several years ago a local cannery divided the land that they owned into

lots and sold them. Unfortunately one of the parcels of land that was sold apparently encroaches on cemetery property.

The village was not aware of this fact until a house was being built on it. One grave in particular is located partially under the front porch of this house, with more in the surrounding area.

Several residents walked up to the cemetery earlier in the summer to pay their respects, only to find the property

closed off by ropes. One of these ropes in particular was offensive as it was attached to a headstone.

In addition to this two of the residents have received letters requesting the removal of their recently deceased relatives. This is simply not acceptable. These people were buried next to their family as requested. It does not seem their last wishes should be ignored, especially considering the fact that this is a established cemetery.

Since we seem to be having a pro-

blem getting this resolved locally, we feel that it should be brought to the public's attention. That is why several copies of this letter are being sent to newspapers throughout the state of Alaska.

We have also notified a representative of the Russian Orthodox Church to see if they can assist us in this matter.

The people of Chignik Lagoon
Chignik