

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks
Ut Kah neek - Informing and Reporting
Yupit Qanlautciat - The Way Eskimos Talk
Unangan Tunukun - The Aleuts Speak
Inupiat Paitot - People's Heritage

Closed access fisheries are unfair

To the editor:

Lately when I open my mail from the North Pacific Fishery Management Council it's with panic, trepidation and pure frustration.

Each new circular has yards of words, developed at great expense, about Individual Fishing Quotas for blackcod and halibut.

This means has been selected to stop the growth of the Alaska long-line fleet for halibut and blackcod. It also proposes allowing the sale or lease of the supposed quota accumulated from past participation by said fishermen.

Over the years I have had the opportunity to watch the limited entry law of Alaska and its social displacement.

It doesn't take a very large microscope to see the financial base in communities such as Hoonah, Kake, Angoon and Hydaburg start to slip when limited entry permit holders sold their permits out of town and out of state. Fortunately a temporary fix in the form of Native timber helped their economies.

Each coastal community is dependent on the fisheries resources brought in for processing. Crew jobs, processing jobs and shipping jobs all depend on how a resource is managed. This management is the social and commercial lifeblood of Alaska coastal communities.

Transferable Fishing Quotas will again affect our fishing communities adversely as these quotas migrate to where the big bucks are.

Individual Fishing Quotas aren't proposed for the corporate factory trawler because that isn't the American way: "Lawyers and federal guarantees also seem to help."

As for me, I am not interested in this type of re-allocation proposal because of the way it addresses me and because of the long-term implications. We already have experienced the Alaska limited entry law.

Opportunity is never equal in a closed access fishery!

Ralph Guthrie
Petersburg

Bilingual teachers deserve more

To the editor:

I am writing about bilingual instructors who have taught for a long time. What is being done about their retirement benefits?

It doesn't matter what school or what district they teach in. It doesn't matter what kind of language is being taught, Indian or Eskimo or whatever.

I feel you Board of Directors get money for Alaska languages. What do they do with it? That's my question.

It's so sad to hear bilingual instruc-

tors are not receiving retirement benefits. It's culture, Native culture, Native languages.

Why do people try to put limitations on Native languages?

My point is I'll take my hat off to any Native instructor and tell them thanks for keeping the culture and pride and history. They should put more money for Native instructors.

I believe each district should voice their concerns. It's important for each community and schools to support

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Rec centers could benefit all shareholders

To all Native corporations:

Basketball is a great sport, and we do not lack for supporters and fans. However, it is limited.

With the tragic impact of alcohol, drug abuse and other destructive forces of society, it is well to launch a project creating an adequate recreation place for the welfare of our Native people.

Patients get treated, come home, get bored and start all over and return for more treatment. Unfortunately, we fail

to have support programs at home.

A recreation center will help. The fun place could include a light lunch counter, billiard tables, ping pong, other gaming items, TV video room, bowling alleys, reading room, beauty parlor, barber shop, committee meeting rooms, office space, others.

This would be a place for all ages to share fellowship, rest and play in a wholesome atmosphere.

This could be the start of future bowling tournaments. We have the

land, resources, workers, talent and our greatest resource — people.

The size, design and expansion can be a matter for each group to determine, including manner of funding.

Of course, success must rely on: funding, need, goodwill, planning, vision for our people's welfare, management/cooperation.

We could have various bowling companies, architects and suppliers bid on a large project such as this will be. Each area would have its own

planning committee with a good network of communication for cost effectiveness.

This is not to be a giveaway program, as fair charges would be set, necessary details carefully worked over for funding, management and other areas.

Where possible and when planned well this project will benefit shareholders and corporation alike.

Walter A. Soboleff
Tenakee Springs

Why must people qualify for subsistence hunting, fishing?

To the editor:

Why do people have to qualify for subsistence? That is my question. The federal government doesn't own all of the animals that live here in Alaska.

Does this new law affect the farmers of Alaska who take the milk from cows and eggs from chickens?

It is somewhat the people's fault that this new law will be in effect July 1. We, the people of Alaska, probably could have stopped this law from happening if we all called our legislators and representatives. We could have pushed them further and got them to stand up for this issue even stronger. Then we wouldn't be having all of these problems.

The problems will start out slowly, and the people will think nothing of it. But when all sorts of people start rolling into all of the smaller villages,

they will be very sorry they didn't act sooner.

The thing we Natives must start doing now is to learn where the boundaries are for all of our Native land, so we can hunt on it and not be affected by this new law.

But if one does hunt on the federally owned land, one must follow the new set of rules. That is for federally owned land only.

But if one hunts on Native-owned land, the only thing a hunter must do is get the owner's permission.

In conclusion, if people wanted the new law not to be in effect, they should have taken the responsibility of acting sooner. That is all I have to say for now.

Sincerely,
Keith A. Pearson
Aniak



• Bilingual teacher benefits

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Alaska Native languages.

I see an advertisement to Alaska legislators that all Western Alaska school boards say let the voters decide.

Not one time have I heard there is a day set aside just for Native instructors in all schools. The Board of

Directors should put a day for them because they do a lot of work. That's my view on Native instructors. Our representatives and senators should set aside a day for all Native instructors no matter what district you come from.

Mike Peters
Holy Cross

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