

# Letters from Here and There

## **Lena Andree Commended**

Alaska Native Commission  
on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse  
Aug. 30, 1974

Ms. Lena Andree  
RurAL CAP  
Box 179  
Dillingham, Alaska 99576

Dear Lena:

At a meeting of the ANCADA Executive Committee on Aug. 20 and 21 you presented an outline of a drug program which you are in the process of formulating for the Dillingham area.

After discussion and consideration of your program goals and objectives the Executive Committee of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse are unanimous in their endorsement of the program as you have presented it.

The Native Commission, although heavily involved in alcohol programs has not as yet addressed the ever present drug problem. So it is heartening to see one of our own commission members taking the initiative by attempting to establish a drug program in their area.

The ANCADA board and staff will provide any assistance which we are capable of in insuring the funding and success of your program.

Sincerely,  
George Barril  
Executive Director  
ANCADA

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## **More on Lena Andree**

Sept. 24, 1974

Mrs. Helena M. Andree  
Coordinator and Counselor

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program  
Bristol Bay, Alaska

Dear Lena:

Congratulations on your new Drug Abuse Program in the Bristol Bay area. I'm sure your fine example will be followed throughout the other regions. You dear lady know better than anyone else that such a program is already late in starting. If only more of our people would look to the Native population in the lower forties, and use the experience these people have gained in 200 years of inter-cultural conflict. We are just starting to have the problems they have been coping with on a regular basis with for years.

I do sincerely hope our friend Howard Rock can help out with a series related to your new endeavor. It'll need all the help it can get just to meet the current demand for help that exists.

Your action can and will spare many Native families the hurt and dismay that too many now, already know. Let us not forget where this problem originated and help them also. I would be appalled to hear of them being denied the assistance that so many Natives were denied down here. To cure any problem it's best to go to the root of it and start there. I still honestly believe that more should be done in reference to prevention.

My thanks to Mr. George Barril, executive director of the Alaska Native Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse for supporting your program so strongly.

Sincerely, Your Ilug  
John L. Lombard  
P.O. Box B-48584  
Represa, Calif. 95671

## **Disgrace and Disruption**

Sept. 25, 1974

Dear Sir:

In the National Enquirer newspaper of Sept. 22, 1974 I read an expert says... Modern Living Changes Fun-Loving Eskimos Into Murderers and Suicides.

This is a disgrace to disrupt the Eskimo's way of life which he has liked.

What is happening to the caribou and their way of living? Evidently the Nelchina herd has the most trouble.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Laura Lutby  
518 12th Street  
Rawlins, Wyoming

## **Everyone Gossips At Slope Camp**

Old Man's Camp  
September 30, 1974

Dear Friend the Editor:

We have good weather up here at Old Man. First 8 days I've been here the wind was blowing, 2 days good weather. Then it started to rain heavy for 8 hours. Then it sprinkled for a week, then turned into snow. It snowed every night for 5 days, but disappears during the day.

So many people here no one hardly pay any attention to anyone. People mind their own business. Its not like in the villages. People gets up and go and stand on the Bank till some one comes and then the Gossip starts.

What happened last night and who went up to get, and going to get another Bottle of Whiskey, and on and on and on, all day long. Nobody is worrying about money or jobs or nothing, just same old thing, Gossip. Gossip and some more, and more. Thats the way the Villages are. Nobody worry about the money here in the Slope. Whats money good for. Nobody says I'm a good worker, all they call me is Money Hungry Stickman.

Well Howard, I don't know how long the work here will last. Its getting cold and nasty. Some are leaving and some coming. I guess. So I'll stop by to see you when I come in.

Fred Stickman, Sr.

## **Continuing Difficulties with North State**

KOTZEBUE AREA  
HEALTH CORPORATION  
P.O. Box 256  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
Phone (907) 442-3164  
Sept. 17, 1974

Commissioner Zerbitz  
Alaska Public Utilities Commission  
MacKay Building, Suite 1100  
338 Denali Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501

Dear Commissioner Zerbitz:

I write this letter in regards to the difficulties we are encountering with the North State Telephone Company, Inc. here in the City of Kotzebue.

I feel it is of utter importance

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# Letters

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and a part of my duty to write this letter as the Community Development Coordinator of the Kotzebue Area Health Corporation.

On Sunday, Sept. 8, 1974, the Kotzebue Public Health Service Hospital, the Alaska State Building, the United States Air Force Site and a number of private subscribers lost contact with local, statewide and "Lower 48" residents due to the malfunctioning of the telephone exchange.

It is my understanding that Mr. John Gilbert of the North State Telephone Co., Inc. was approached by Mr. Murlin Day, Acting Service Unit Director of the Kotzebue PHS Hospital in regards to the situation. Mr. Gilbert verbally agreed, on the telephone, with Mr. Day to travel to Kotzebue to correct this situation. This conversation took place ten (10) days ago, and to this date, Mr. Gilbert is nowhere to be seen.

There is no local repairman available in the city, as he has apparently resigned. To worsen matters, we have to call the Fairbanks Operator long distance, for assistance in obtaining a local number, as we do not have access to local information.

I am also aware that there is a misunderstanding between the local PHS Hospital and the North State Telephone Company, Inc. concerning a settlement over a line being cut a year and a half ago. If this is the case that is holding up repairs, this matter should be duly dealt with.

Due to the fact that the telephone service is not available to the local hospital, if an individual should lose his life because of this, who will foot the "cost" of that life? What happens if a resident needs an ambulance to get to the hospital? Too many lives are at stake.

Your assistance on this matter will greatly enhance the well-being of the people involved.

We will look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Luke D. Sampson

Community Development Coordinator

Kotzebue Area Health Corporation

cc: William A. Egan, Governor, State of Alaska

Roger Lang, President — AFN, Inc.

Gordon Jackson, AFN, Inc.

John Schaeffer, Executive Director, NANA

John F. Lee, M.D., Director AANHS

Murlin Day, Acting SUD — Kotzebue PHS Hospital

Jay E. Caldwell, M.D. — Kotzebue PHS Hospital

City of Kotzebue

Ted Stevens, Senator for Alaska

Mike Gravel, Senator for Alaska

Don Young, Representative for Alaska

William Hensley, Senator

Frank Ferguson, State Representative

Jay Hammond, Senator

Howard Rock, Editor — Tundra Times

James R. Hendershot, APUC

John Gilbert, North State Telephone Co., Inc.