

What others say...

New tax proposed

To the editor:

If the statewide candidates really want to enforce local hire, then let them propose to the Legislature when it convenes in January a 50 percent tax on all wages earned within the state and deposit the withholdings into the Permanent Fund. Then in October those Alaska residents eligible for Permanent fund dividends will get back the 50 percent of their paychecks withheld plus their constitutionally mandated dividend.

Since the dividend itself goes only to year-round residents, those who

maintain Alaska residency get their tax refunded while those who live elsewhere get no dividend plus no refund. Thus the Permanent Fund will grow more quickly in an age of declining oil revenues through investments augmented by this tax, and as the Fund grows so will the annual dividend paid to Alaska residents.

The effect on the workforce will be Alaska Hire or non-refundable taxes on wages paid Outsiders who otherwise get free ride at State and local taxpayer expense.

Donald S. Mulder
Chugiak

Long-range for subsistence

To the editor:

I am concerned about the tone and tenor being taken by some subsistence rights and local control advocates who, though well-intentioned, ultimately may be doing us more harm than good.

We could easily find ourselves using fiery rhetoric and a hard line because these are such important and emotional issues to our people. However, such an approach polarizes urban and rural groups so that no meaningful exchanges take place, and neither side ends up understanding the true motivations of the other.

Let's face it, Alaska Natives are becoming a smaller and smaller minority as urban centers grow. Sure, we may have succeeded in pushing through subsistence legislation in the last session which excluded use of income in determining subsistence rights, but what happens when our legislative champions are not there in any given year?

In my 15 years of working with people on behalf of the Pribilofs, I have found there are reasonable people of goodwill everywhere and in all walks

of life, people who can be reached, informed and educated if the approach is not one of "we" against "them." In the end, Alaska Natives could lose all just causes by our sheer lack of members and by lack of communication bridging cultural barriers.

I am not naive about this process, and no doubt it will take years of effort with some failures, but ultimately it is the only logical course to take if we are going to survive as minority cultures intact.

All advocates of subsistence rights and local control must target the long-run success instead of the short-term gains. We must begin now to focus on two-way communication through creation of speakers bureaus, cultural events, films, literature and the like. With a qualitative, long-term program, I am confident that the majority of the good people in urban Alaska will become allies and partners instead of some boogeyman to fear when political redistricting takes place every decade.

Sincerely,
Larry Mercurieff
St. Paul Island

Strive to achieve

To the editor:

How will we be first, first to achieve? Each person to achieve that must believe he positively can do something which is human. If your mind can conceive it and your heart believe it, then you can achieve it. Historically, anybody can conceive an idea. All you need is the experience that you observe something. Something that you can possibly achieve, because you know *that* something happens.

How shall I achieve such a thing? Because I must study that objective measure that I apply in my mind to make it happen. Life is what you make it, strive to be your best *and* you will be. Always remember the worth and dignity of an individual and learn from people that you will make it.

After you have learned with each step you take, stand *tall* and be good.

Good that your measure will be worth something. Something worth doing, because life is being around. Say to yourself, "I am my all, all my, I will do!" I will remain good, for you and for others. Thence, you will find your gain.

Find all your good and strive to achieve. Achieve things that are good for you and others. Going to where you want to go in your life. Thence, all your knowledge you bring with you. To your people and peoples, all around you. Living your love, for others. Learning words, so that you will achieve. Know the meaning of each word when you speak. Learn your voice, (your tones), so your speech will be good. And know, I CAN DO!

Danny Gordon Matumeak
Barrow

(Continued on Page Three)

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What others say...

(Continued from Page Two)

Warning to readers

To the editor:

I would like to warn your readers throughout Alaska that a continuation of the disastrous Sheffield administration's policies will occur if Arliss Sturgulewski becomes the next governor of Alaska. With the departure of Bill Sheffield from the mansion in Juneau one would expect that irresponsible management of the state's resources would end. The "Kingpin" in Sheffield's resource management problems has been his commissioner of the Department of Natural Resources, Esther Wunnicke and her "henchpersons." Collectively they have stifled economic development of our natural resources, particularly minerals, petroleum, coal and timber.

Candidate Sturgulewski, who won the Republican nomination by default, recently stated that she has not promised any appointed offices to anyone. **THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH!** It is known in private circles that she is pleased with Esther's "work" and that

is what scares me. We should press candidate Sturgulewski to publicly state that she will replace all of the top positions at DNR.

Right now I'm afraid I can't accept her as a change for the better and so I will be voting for Steve Cowper.

Sincerely
Freddie Sanchetto
Fairbanks

Court domination

To the editor:

Don't get me wrong, I dig attorneys, or "Officers of the Court" as they are called in legal circles. And, as much as I loved my mother, I am glad I was able to outgrow her domination, but only to find that I was in social order open to total domination by Officers of the Court.

Our judicial branch of government is dominated by Officers of the Court. Our legislative branch is dominated by, or open to domination by, Officers of the Court, through judicial committees. Our executive branch is always partially dominated by an Officer of the Court as Attorneys General.

Now, if we vote in as our executive branch leaders, *Officers of the Court*

Cowper and McAlpine, then Officers of the Court would or could have control of all three branches of government. The three separate branches of government would then be changed to the point of negating the constitutionally intended check and balance — that of each checking the other two branches.

Sturgulewski can place her conflicts of interest in blind trusts or sell them and abstain from decisions in other situations of conflict.

To avoid conflict of interest an Officer of the Court, as governor, would have to abstain from acting on almost everything. Failure of an attorney governor to abstain from action in order to avoid conflict or the appearance of conflict could promote a flood of lawsuits, giving that attorney governor's fellow Officers of the Court an opportunity for considerable legal work at state expense.

Leonard E. Moffitt
Palmer

Veterans fast

To the editor:

A copy of the following letter was sent to Senators Stevens and Mur-

kwoski and Representative Young:

"We are writing to call your attention to the 'Veterans Fast For Life' currently taking place in Washington, D.C. Charles Liteky, the Congressional Medal of Honor winner who returned this award to protest U.S. aid to the Contras, and three other veterans, Brian Willson, Duncan Murphy, and George Mizo are now in the 29th day of their water-only fast to draw attention to the effects of U.S. policy in Central America. Every day of their fast, they are on the Capitol steps from 4 to 7 p.m. to meet with the public, the press and members of Congress.

"As your constituents, we ask you to talk to these men, who are so convinced that the U.S. proxy war against Nicaragua is morally wrong that they are willing to give their lives, and to reconsider your support of the Reagan Administration's Central American policy. We await your public response before election day to the veterans' request to end U.S. support of the contras."

Sincerely,
Carol Anderson
Douglas