

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks

Ut Kah neek - Informing and Reporting

Yupiit Kanjautciat - The Way Eskimos Talk

Unangan Tunukun - The Aleuts Speak

Inupiat Paitot - People's Heritage

Adams calls for grand jury

To Grace Schaible:

This letter is to request the call of a special grand jury to investigate whether Thomas Gittins should be prosecuted for perjury under Alaska Statutes 11.56.230.

Testifying with the federal grant of immunity from charges other than perjury at the North Slope Borough corruption trial, Gittins has contradicted several earlier statements delivered under oath to the grand jury.

I am confident there is more than

sufficient evidence to warrant state action against this criminal behavior.

These inconsistencies have resulted in the potential for great harm to my reputation. Furthermore, false statements given under oath severely undermine our judicial system to the detriment of all Alaskans.

Your willingness to comply with this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Sen. Al Adams
Kotzebue

Writer seeks information on Kent

To the editor:

In 1935, American writer, painter and graphic artist Rockwell Kent was selected by the U.S. Treasury Department to paint a mural for the Washington, D.C., post office. As part of his research, Kent returned to Alaska.

He had spent several months on Fox Island in Resurrection Bay during 1918-19, a visit upon which he based his first book, *Wilderness: A Journal of Quiet Adventure in Alaska* (1920).

For an article on Kent's 1935 trip to Alaska, I would appreciate hearing from anyone who knew him or who

may have met him when he visited the state. He arrived in Juneau on the steamer *Yukon* on Sept. 24, 1935. He spent a few days in Juneau, then went on to Fairbanks, Nome and Point Barrow. He returned to Juneau and sailed south on Oct. 9, 1935.

I would appreciate hearing from anyone with reminiscences, letters or photographs of that trip. Please write to Doug Capra, P.O. Box 1574, Seward 99664.

Sincerely,
Douglas R. Capra
Seward

Food irradiation is dangerous

To the editor:

The University of Alaska Fairbanks and Gov. Steve Cowper's administration have displayed a lack of scientific objectivity on food irradiation.

Alaska's Department of Health and Social Services has issued a position paper which blindly ignores important bodies of scientific evidence showing that food irradiation poses a severe

threat to public health.

Over 40 scientific studies have found that exposure to irradiated foods can cause carcinogenicity, mutagenicity and cytotoxicity.

UAF recommended building a food irradiator in a report that ignored most of this scientific evidence. Sleight of hand arguments brushed the rest aside.

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• *Food irradiation*

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As an example, the UAF report acknowledged a study by the National Institute of Nutrition in India which fed irradiated wheat to malnourished children.

This study found that a chromosomal blood abnormality known as polyploidy increases when malnourished children are fed irradiated wheat. The level of polyploidy returned to normal after irradiated wheat was withdrawn from the diet.

The control group which ate non-irradiated wheat did not suffer increased levels of polyploidy. These results have not been refuted in peer reviewed scientific literature. Polyploidy can exist in malnourished children, but significant increases in polyploidy were observed in rats, mice, monkeys and malnourished children fed irradiated wheat.

The UAF report brushed this study aside by citing evidence that adults eating irradiated foods don't develop polyploidy. This method of selectively dismissing important research is unprofessional. Any short term study that finds mutagenic effects has monumental public health implications for a technology that will add known carcinogens to foods eaten over a lifetime.

Sincerely,
Jeanie Williamson
Fairbanks