

Editorial



Innovative ideas needed

We'd like to issue a challenge to business leaders across Alaska to take a look at innovative ways they could undertake to begin aggressively fighting alcohol and drug problems throughout Alaska.

They could take their cue from Ryan Air Service, which just announced a company reward program to help curb the illegal shipment and use of alcohol and drugs in Western Alaska.

Ryan is starting with small, practical ways the company can use right now, not waiting until a large sum is available. The current program is a \$100 reward to employees and village agents who provide important information to authorities regarding illegal shipment of liquor or drugs.

In a similar effort last month, Ryan offered reduced fares to Alaska Federation of Natives delegates traveling from dry villages to the AFN Convention in Anchorage.

Although it would be great to have large sums of money to spend on such efforts, it's not necessary. Ryan is showing that even small efforts can make a strong statement.

The *Tundra Times*, for another example, refuses all advertisements for alcoholic products, as well as for outlets that retail alcohol. We are able to do this because of advertising campaigns sponsored by other companies. The point is that even though we are a small company, struggling to survive, we can make a difference.

We encourage any businesses who take steps in this fight to contact us so that we can publicize the effort.

Thanksgiving dinner for the homeless

The Brother Francis Shelter and Bean's Cafe in Anchorage will join together to host a Thanksgiving dinner Thursday at 1 p.m. Anyone who can contribute prepared food — sliced turkey, dressing, trimmings, desserts and juices — is encouraged to do so.

Food contributions can be taken to Bean's Cafe (1101 East Third Ave.) or the Brother Francis Shelter (1021 East Third Ave.) on the day before or to Bean's at 11 a.m. Thanksgiving Day. Those who want to contribute food are asked to contact Mo Locher at 272-8646.

