

No alternative in times of shortage

To the Editor:

As a 38-year non-Native resident of Alaska I would like to personally urge every registered voter to vote "AGAINST" Ballot Measure No.7 entitled "Personal Consumption of Fish and Game" in the Alaska General Election to be held Tuesday, Nov. 2, 1982.

In the urban areas of Alaska living can be hard, but for those Alaskans both Native and non-Native who live in the outlying areas it can be much worse. In times of resource shortages they have no alternative source of food except welfare. These individuals should have the right to a sub-

sistence style of life if they so desire.

As a student of history I know that Native Americans have practiced a subsistence style of living since time immemorial. International law evolving in the middle ages came to recognize that practice as a right. U.S. Federal law recognizes this practice and custom today.

To an extent people living in rural Alaska have needs that are different from the needs of residents in the Lower 48. The State of Alaska allows not only the Alaska Natives but non-Natives to live a subsistence style of life.

There is no discrimination as to who may practice subsistence in rural Alaska. The Alaska Department of Fish and Game is far more capable of administering this law than the federal government.

Let's keep it that way and vote "AGAINST" Ballot Measure No.7. By voting against this measure each of us can have our own individual say in keeping Alaska unique and in its own way truly the "Last Frontier."

Sincerely,
Connie S. Anderson
Box 4-1971
Anchorage, Alaska

No jobs to replace fish & game

Dear Native Alaskans,

This letter is to urge you to vote against the subsistence repeal initiative.

We as Alaskan Natives have for time unknown used the subsistence resources as a means of survival and should have the right to receive this right for our future generations.

I see a trend occurring that makes this issue more and more important. As you all know, the current national administration is drastically cutting up all the social programs and with the cutbacks in these programs I see a trend

towards more and more usage of our subsistence resources.

We do not have the jobs in rural Alaska to replace the food on the table that would have otherwise come through some sort of social program, but we do have the subsistence resources that can help replace some of losses caused by the elimination of some of the social programs.

So I urge you to get out and vote NO on the subsistence repeal initiative. We have to reserve this resource for the hard times to come.

I just wondered if you noticed. It seems that since

we put an actor in for the office of President, he has been producing all kinds of actors within the government. We now have acting superintendents, acting realty officers, acting contract specialists, and so forth. I guess you can say, "almost every other month or so 'A Star Is Born.'"

In closing, I would like to appeal to you to get out and vote. Our subsistence resources should be ours and your vote counts, so join the rest of us and vote NO.

Sincerely,
Eddie Frank

School programs answer student needs

To the Editor:

I read with interest your article in the June 30 issue of the Tundra Times regarding the work session the Anchorage Board of Education had with the Native Community on Native student needs.

I'd like to provide you with some information on the issues raised in your article, particularly in light of the many innovative and creative programs we have implemented within our school system.

We feel it is very important

for our staff to be aware of the cultural identity of all students. Educational research tells us that building upon what the student already knows is an important method for teaching new concepts and

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Programs answer needs

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skills.

Additionally, utilizing teaching methods which complement student learning styles enhances classroom interaction and learning. Last year we planned and developed a three-credit, graduate level class for teachers and administrators, Utilizing Native Cultural Information to Improve Teaching Techniques, which spoke to these issues as they relate to Native students.

Some 200 staff people successfully completed the classes. We received very positive comments from the participants, not only in terms of the information gained in the class, but also how it could be translated into better communication and interaction with students. As a result, we plan to again offer the classes this year.

Knowledge of the contributions of Alaska Native people to the history and develop-

ment of the state is becoming a regular part of our curriculum for all students.

For example, within our adopted social studies curriculum all Anchorage School District fourth grade students are learning about Athabascans and Tlingits, six graders are learning about Aleuts and we are currently testing a third grade unit on Eskimos.

At the secondary level, we plan to have in place by second semester of this school year units on the Land Claims in both U.S. History and U.S. Government classes, both required for graduation. Currently in the planning stages is a unit or series of units

for 7th grade Alaska History. The intent is to have each of these units build upon one another utilizing the concepts taught at each of the grade levels.

Other classes or activities which relate specifically to Native cultures include an elective P.E. class at the secondary level for Native games.

Your recent special issue on the Eskimo Indian Olympics highlighted a number of our current students and recent graduates who have taken that particular class.

Additionally, last spring our elementary P.E. teachers were inserviced on these games and school staff are currently work-

ing to include the games in our elementary P.E. curriculum.

There are many other activities which we have developed and implemented which speak to the unique needs of Native students.

The ongoing dialogue which we now enjoy with the Native community will help us to even better meet the needs of these students. We trust that your paper will continue to report our endeavors.

In conclusion, thank you for taking an interest in our program.

Sincerely,
E.E. (Gene) Davis, Ed.D.
Superintendent