

Letters to the Editor

Thank you for educational presentations

Mayor George Ahmaogak
North Slope Borough
Box 69
Barrow, Alaska 99723

Mayor Ahmaogak:

Our eight grade students have been studying careers relating to the math and science professions. To help them understand the many different types of careers available to them in Barrow we asked several Barrow residents to come in and talk to our students about their jobs, their education, and why they had chosen their particular field.

We had a tremendous response

from the people that we contacted. Everyone was willing and eager to come in and talk with these young people. They demonstrated their enthusiasm and professionalism about their careers and transferred their excitement to many of our students.

The following North Slope employees participated in our science career week:

Joe Dingman - Emergency Medical Technician; Richard Glenn, Director, Department of Energy Management; Hugh Patkotak, Pilot and Charles Stalker, Pilot Apprentice, from

Search and Rescue; Mary Price, Outpatient Manager, PHS; Dave Baumgartner, NSB Fire Chief; and Corporal Frank Bozanich from the Department of Public Safety. In addition to these people we were also able to have Dr. Dave Norton from Ilisagvik, Dan Enders from NOAA, Chuck Evans from the National Weather Service, and Jim Cross from BUECI.

Thank you for encouraging the residents of the North Slope to work with our students and for supporting the exemplification of science in our community.

Sincerely,

Irene Murphy, Assu Casarotti,
and Jessica Colver
Barrow, AK

Disappointed over ADN article

Mr. Howard Weaver, Editor
Anchorage Daily News

Dear Mr. Weaver:

I was very disappointed with Mr. Steve Rhinehart's story on the ongoing dispute over Native selections on the Westside of Cook Inlet ("Native Group lays claim to Lake Clark coastline", *Anchorage Daily News* 4/22/95).

The article did not do justice to the legitimacy of the village claims to the land dispute. Only the end of the article did he mention the claims as being village claims, and then,

essentially dismissed them as "complex legal arguments".

Granted, land disputes are often complex and I can personally attest this one is no exception. But just because an issue is complex does not mean it lacks merit. Alaska Native corporations have 25 years of experience with implementing ANCSA, which is replete with complex rules, regulations and agreements. Further, Alaska Native corporations often have undertaken difficult implementation tasks, while controlling damage cause by biased

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or misleading information that has been disseminated during the process.

The *Anchorage Daily News* story on the Lake Clark issue is a prime example. The story paints this as a new land grab by CIRI. Even the map used in the story is labeled as "new land selection by CIRI". This totally mischaracterizes the issue and demonstrates either inadequate fact finding or a purposful editorial

slant by Mr. Rhinehart. The selections are not CIRI's, nor are they new. While you may get newspaper mileage out of pitching this as a battle between CIRI and the National Park Service, simply said, these are village corporation selections destined to be Village corporation lands. One need only do a thorough reading of the legislation developed to resolve this issue to see this is the case.

As the chairperson of the Cook

Inlet United Deficiency Land Management Association, I have been asked to respond to the article on behalf of all villages involved. I respectfully request that you print the Compass piece I have prepared so the other side of the story can be told.

Sincerely,
TYONEK NATIVE
CORPORATION
B. Agnes Brown
Chairman