

## What others say...

### *St. Marys alumni meeting*

To the editor:

We are going to have our first meeting on Aug. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Anchorage. Definite location to be determined.

The purpose of our meeting is to organize ourselves as a recognized Anchorage Chapter of the St. Marys Alumni.

Secondly, to assist in the planning

of the reunion which is set for Oct. 23, to be held in Anchorage. We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Please call Joe Beans at 279-4061 or myself at 258-1871/279-5516 for more information and/or questions.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Alstrom Napoleon  
Anchorage

### *Check out those candidates*

To the editor:

I am a shareholder of an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act corporation. Each year I receive bundles of information from people who announce their candidacy for positions on ANCSA corporations' Boards of Directors.

They ask for my proxy votes. I am not familiar with many of these people. So, I inquire from friends and relatives just who these people are. I have found that some of the candidates have less than an honorable background.

I know that many of these candidates campaign through the villages in Alaska and in Seattle. They make bigger-than-life promises, and they pressure the people to sign over their proxy votes.

I realize that not all the candidates conduct themselves in this manner, however, many of them do. Now if I sign my proxy votes to any candidate I ask questions:

•What will they do different from the present directors?

•How do they propose to achieve

this difference?

•In the event of not being elected who will the votes go to?

•Is the candidate affiliated with any group or slate?

•Has the candidate made any agreements with regard to proxy votes obtained?

•What is the agreement?

•Who are the people involved?

All I want to say is that when people approach you for support, be skeptical. The candidate's goodwill must be clear to the shareholder. If you don't know, ask people who may know of the candidate's background.

Now is a time when the Alaskan Natives need solid established leadership. Leadership that has the ability and record of overcoming major obstacles. The shareholders have the responsibility of knowing who they are voting for. We expect much from the corporations. So we must elect effective and strong leadership, if the corporations are to thrive.

With regards,  
Del Ordonia  
Seattle

### *Old Harbor explains ANWR stand*

To Congressman George Miller:

I am the president of the Old Harbor Native Corp., an Alaska Native village corporation chartered pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971. Our village corporation has its headquarters at Old Harbor on the Southeast side of Kodiak Island.

Our corporation has been negotiating with the Department of the Interior a land exchange whereby the government would acquire prime national wildlife refuge inholdings owned by our corporation in exchange for limited rights to land of equal value in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. We want to comment on your July 21 subcommittee statement regarding these exchange negotiations.

We support your proposal to introduce legislation that will ensure that no exchanges take place without congressional approval. We would like the opportunity to testify in favor of the legislation if you hold hearings.

We have always assumed that these

exchanges would be examined closely and ratified by the United States Congress. Any measure that gives you greater comfort that the final decision is in your hands is a measure we favor.

We also support your proposal for a General Accounting Office study of all of the various ANWR exchanges. We want Congress and the American people to have a clear understanding of facts and an objective record as to values, so that good public policy-making can take place. We will cooperate with any reasonable request made to us by the GAO. We only request that the study be conducted with dispatch.

We agree with you that the public should be involved in helping Congress decide whether these land exchanges are in the national interest. Long ago, we insisted that once a draft exchange agreement and environmental stipulations were agreed to in principle, the department should prepare a Draft and Final Legislative En-

(Continued on Page Three)