

Letters

Rep. Binkley agrees with Elders Conference

Al Grant, Coordinator
Denakkanaaga, Inc.
201 First Avenue
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Al:

I have had your letter to the editor of *Tundra Times*, as reprinted in RurAL CAP's "Good Vibrations" newsletter, on my mind for some time. I wanted to write and tell you how much I appreciated you sharing the elders' insights into the problems alcohol abuse has created in Alaska.

I agree with the Elders Conference Resolution on (Alcohol) Drug Abuse calling for prevention and education. The Joint House and Senate Subcommittee on Local Option Laws, which held hearings in 18 villages across the state this past year, is also concerned and alarmed at the problems — the real tragedies — alcohol has caused.

Legislation is presently being drafted which would expand the local option laws to allow those villages who so choose to have more control in banning alcohol in their community.

This legislation, however, addresses only one aspect of the tremendous health and safety problems. I know our work will continue — both in statewide efforts and in the villages, among village leaders and villagers themselves. We need to hear from our elders, to work together for answers.

I was glad to have had the opportunity to speak before the elders Conference last May. Qujana — thank you very much for inviting me.

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

Johne Binkley

Representative

Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta

Education needed for self-government

To the editor:

To help incite mutiny in South Africa with the resulting loss of lives, destruction of economy and reduced chance for democratic government to gain a few emotional votes here at home is not morally acceptable.

Teach the South Africans how to fly before they force the pilot and crew to parachute, as it seems, has been done in other African countries.

Morally, we must build not destroy. We should consider appropriating money for teachers and books to help Africans learn how to govern themselves without continual internal strife and loss of lives.

A transition period to full elections,

much as is being used for selection of Alaskan judicial officers, possibly should be used in Africa.

Alaskans have demonstrated that they are sufficiently educated in self government to be ready for full elections to include the judicial branch as there has been only one incidence of violence and that was destruction of power supply on election day.

Will South Africa beat us to the punch and freeze our assets over there until we have full election here?

Sincerely,

Leonard Moffitt

Box 748

Palmer, Alaska 99645

AIDS virus is nobody's 'fault'

To the editor:

In responding to Mr. Tigner's article in "Letters" on Jan 27, 1986, it is my opinion that he and others totally blame the gay population with the Aids Syndrome.

This is not totally true and it's the close minded actions of these type of people that is limiting the research that is needed to stop this wide spread sexually and blood transmitted epidemic.

Hetrosexuals, Bisexuals and some Asexuals are all subject to the virus.

Stop trying to blame one segment of the population and look further in Medical research.

Also think of this; maybe there is a cure for AIDS along with 11 types of cancer but the medical world can not

afford to let it out! Many will lose jobs and go out of business if the cure is not known.

Teach prevention but don't discriminate on a person's lifestyle doing so. It's just as much fault on Hetrosexuals as Homosexuals that these epidemics are transmitted.

Money must be spent to inform the public of the "dangers of life" to protect our own lives and preserve our children's future.

What is money when it comes to a healthy long life.

Thank you.

Jack Leck II

U.S. Penitentiary

P.O. Box 33

Terre Haute, Indiana, 47808

Reader requests Pen-Pals

To the editor:

My name is Michael Mallery, I'm Irish, 28 years old, and I am incarcerated at the Idaho State Correctional Institution. I am serving a five year sentence for receiving some stolen property. I should be released

within two years, or maybe sooner.

I have no family or friends to write to or correspond with, and I would very much like to write and correspond with people and to have some pen-pals. It would really help a lot to

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ease the loneliness and sadness that a person gets to feeling when he or she is locked away from the rest of the world. Since this is the first time of ever being in an environment like this, it is really hard on me, I am trying to adjust to it, and it would help very much if I had someone to write and correspond with.

Therefore, I am writing to you in hopes that you may find the space and time to run a small ad in your newspaper for me?

I would very much appreciate it if you could do this for me. Your concern and time in this matter is also very much appreciated.

Thank you very much,

Respectfully,

Michael Mallery

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