

Vocational panel presents annual leadership awards

The Alaska State Vocational Association presented annual awards during a conference in Anchorage recently. Awards presented included included:

- **Vocational Leadership** — Petersburg Vocational Advisory Committee. Representing a community of 3,252 residents, the committee has provided monetary incentives for students in the program, helped with the delivery of a local career, conducted a local needs assessment and supported community linkages through high quality vocational programs.

- **Vocational Education Leadership** — Mike Metty, president Tanana Valley Community College. During Metty's tenure, TVCC has increased enrollment each year, while decreasing the budget.

- **Vocational Education Leadership** — Arnie Handschke, assistant director, Kotzebue Technical Center. Handschke has been instrumental in the growth and development of the Kotzebue center. This has been accomplished through staff recruitment, curriculum development, student promotion and industry involvement.

- **Vocational Education Teacher of the Year** — David Vial, industrial mechanics instructor, Kotzebue Technical Center. Vial is completing his third year as an industrial mechanics instructor for the center. Vial and his students were instrumental in recovering a disabled D-7G Caterpillar from the ice of the Seward Peninsula and after rebuilding it, returning it to the City of Buckland.