

Inupiat Pitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Fairbanks, Alaska

Tanana Chiefs Conference to Contract with ADFG

By DONN LISTON
Alaska Native Foundation
FAIRBANKS — The Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) has been awarded \$55,674 in state discretionary pipeline impact funds to be used for protecting fish and wildlife

resources in the unorganized borough from annihilation by newcomer sportsmen.

The Tanana Chiefs Conference, non-profit arm of Doyon, Ltd. regional corporation, will contract from ADFG for the establishment of an advisory

counsel to provide input into the ADFG board, representing Native subsistence perspective. Announcement of the contract award was made during the Tanana Chiefs annual meeting held in Fairbanks March 18, 19 and 20.

The proposal submitted is expressly directed at helping in the Native transition from "a subsistence lifestyle to benevolent landowner".
"In light of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, the Native peoples represented by the

Tanana Chiefs Conference, Inc. will eventually attain land ownership rights to much of this region's land," the proposal explains.

"Because of the potential for developing cash incomes (from
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MUSK OX CONTROVERSY ERUPTS

Proposal of Russian Acquisition of Nunivak Musk Ox Roils People

By LAEL MORGAN
Alaska Magazine

Suit has been filed against the federal government to prevent the shipment of 40 Alaskan musk ox to Russia. The animals are due to be shipped to Siberia and Wrangle Island, USSR., next week following a roundup on Nunivak Island by the U.S. Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The suit was filed yesterday in the Superior Court in Fairbanks before Judge James Blair. He signed a temporary restraining order which orders the state officials to cease assisting in the transplant operation. The order also orders federal employees who have been working in the transplant operation to take no further action.

Judge Blair set a hearing date on a motion for a preliminary injunction on this Friday at 9:15 a.m.

There are eight plaintiffs; Interior Wildlife Association and seven others.

The shipment was to be made as part of a trade agreement Richard Nixon made with the Russians in 1972, according to Jerry Hout, a manager of the Nunivak Wildlife refuge for the federal government.

"We were to trade-off scientists to study reindeer, seals and polar bear. That's already happened," he explained. "But the Russians were given two extensions on the musk ox transplant. We weren't notified until the 14th."

The sore point, however, is that the governor's office and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game weren't officially notified until preparation for the roundup had been made. Rae Baxter, Alaska's Fish and Game man in Bethel, maintained an official and tactful "no comment" on the matter but his wife expressed the general feeling of that area.

"They must think we're still a territory," she said.

Everyone is vague about the control the state maintains over the Nunivak herd. The musk ox are federally owned on a federal reserve, but the State Department of Fish and Game controls hunting laws and the Governor of Alaska has enough power to veto a federally planned hunt.

"We just drew up a new joint management agreement on musk
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MORRIS THOMPSON, Commissioner of Indian Affairs spoke before the Anchorage Republicans at the Royal Inn March 26. He told the group the Land Claims Act is one of the best tools for proper development in the State of Alaska. He said the Republican Party can be "very proud" of recent accomplishments in Indian Affairs.

— Photo by ARLINE MOSES

Festival of Native Arts

By JEFF RICHARDSON

This writer will mince no words to satisfy journalistic style: The Second Annual Festival of Alaska Native Arts was an almost unqualified success. The festival, staged during the first five nights of April, brought dancers, singers and craftsmen from all over Alaska to perform at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Although photographers and video tape crews were sometimes overly obtrusive in their attempts to catch the best moments for posterity, and in spite of occasional delays in getting the show on the road, all problems were over-shadowed by the enthusiasm of the performers and the audience.

Athabaskan Night led off the festival, emceed by Claude Dementieff. In addition to storytelling and beadwork, the Athabaskan dancers were complemented by Navajo dancers.

Howard Rock, editor of the Tundra Times, hosted Inupiat Night. Students from the Nome-Beltz Regional High School and a troupe from Point Hope were the featured dancers. Some
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STEPHANIE RYAN

Nome Housing Pleases BIA Head

By JEFF RICHARDSON

Thirty new housing units in Nome are of "excellent quality" and well constructed, according to Morris Thompson, commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Thompson inspected several of the homes, which were built to replace houses destroyed during the severe storm that hit the Seward Peninsula last fall.

The commissioner, on a

week-long swing through Alaska, gave his evaluation of the homes at a press conference in Fairbanks April 2. His response comes after recent allegations by local contractors that the houses were inferior. The contractors questioned the BIA's handling of the housing situation and complained they were ignored when the contract was awarded to an Oregon firm.

Thompson said the new houses were very adaptable to the income and lifestyle of the residents. He added the houses were well insulated and that in some cases, fuel consumption had been cut from six to two barrels per month.

When asked if the appointment of a new Interior secretary would affect his position as commissioner of the BIA, Thompson replied, "I don't believe it will." He lauded out-going Secretary Morton's concern for Alaska affairs.

Thompson said whenever his tenure in Washington is finished, he will return to Alaska, but added he had no idea what he would do. He denied he was
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Stephanie to Be In Anchorage For Spelling Bee

Seventh grader, Stephanie Ryan of Unalakleet Bureau of Indian Affairs Junior High School, will be representing her village at the statewide Spelling Bee Contest in Anchorage on May 1 and 2.

Stephanie won the schoolwide spelling bee contest in Unalakleet on March 18.

The young lady is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Ryan, Sr.
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Statewide Conference on Transportation

By JEFF RICHARDSON

FAIRBANKS — "The needs of each part of Alaska in transportation are very different, but there is one overriding similarity. Everyone desires reliable frequent, safe and inexpensive passenger service and cargo carriage."

These were the opening words of Walter B. Parker, commissioner of highways speaking before a statewide conference on transportation and land use in bush Alaska April 3-4 at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

According to Eric Treisman, coordinator for the conference, one of the purposes served by the conference was to gather people from the bush, and various decision-makers and government representatives to discuss transportation problems and likely solutions. He characterized the meeting as a "brainstorming session".

More than 30 people took part in the meeting, including representatives from the Department of Public Works,
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Apparent Tragedy At Barrow

By GUY OKAKOK
Barrow Correspondent

Two young men went out sealing, and a young man by the name of Stephan A. Itta, son of Mr. and Mrs. Miles E. Itta, got in the little dingy, and somehow the dingy must have hole or broken. The current that day was strong too, which usually does.

This young man is an excellent swimmer. Somehow, something happens on him while he was in water. The other young man who watch him didn't have no extra dingy, instead he went up to the village to report whats going on out there.

The men went out in a hurry with a canoe, when they reach the lead they looked for him, but couldn't find the body.

And the helicopter from air are searching the body. Stephan A. Itta is 24 years of age. We are with the parents.
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