

Villagers 'not opposed' to offshore oil development, says Meidinger

Environmental groups often build upon the fears of Alaska villagers to generate opposition to offshore petroleum exploration, Judy Meidinger, Secretary-Treasurer of the Alaska Federation of Natives, told Alliance board members at a recent breakfast meeting.

Meidinger, who also is founder and president of Counselors, Inc., and chairs the board of Koniag, Inc., said villagers generally are not actively op-

posed to offshore oil development.

Hard-core opposition comes strictly from environmental groups—although villagers are concerned about the risk of pollution because they depend upon the environment for their living, she said.

"The environmental community exploits and plays upon the legitimate concerns of Natives," she said. "My personal opinion is, I know enough about offshore oil development not to worry about it."



MarkAir has named Lillian Hoffman, Passenger Service Manager for Bethel, the October Employee of the Month. Lillian's hard work and dedication have earned her the employee of the month status and a \$500.00 bonus from MarkAir.

Her extra effort in accommodating and helping to arrange travel for the recent AFN Convention helped her to gain the recognition as Employee of the Month.