

What others say...

Still time to register for SJHS reunion

To the editor:

A proclamation was issued by the City of Sitka's mayor, Dan Keck. This proclamation coincides with the 50-year reunion of former students and staff of Sheldon Jackson High School, which opened in 1917 and closed in 1967.

There is still time to register (\$20), and there are still rooms available on campus (\$30 a day for room and board). If you attended SJHS any time between 1917 and 1967, please consider attending.

Some of the events scheduled are:

picnic, bus tour, basketball games — between SJ Warriors alumni, Mount Edgecumbe High School Braves alumni, Sitka High Wolves alumni and women's games, banquet, dance and an alumni association meeting. There will also be a Hall of Fame.

More than 200 have registered so far from all across the country, and particularly from Alaska (Sand Point, Barrow, Metlakatla, Fairbanks, Bethel, Northway and others).

See you May 21, 22, 23, 1987!

Laurie Cropley Hill
Sitka

Recommendations for 1991

To the editor:

We are entering our own Catch-22. On the one hand, the tribal council can be our own worst enemy, but if we don't protect ourselves, the government will do it for us.

Under ANCSA amendments, essentially we are locking our stock certificates to restriction and Q.T.E to other federally recognized Indian agency, i.e., the IRA., if a Native corporation goes bankrupt.

My point is these amendments were created by the hierarchy of AFN and presented to Congress. And before the amendments started, our own Alaska Congressional Delegation stated Alaska Natives can do what they want as long as it does not include any more money or land.

What is said here is the United States treasury will not give Alaska any more money. We are on our own, and you are granted a fair settlement!

The bill does not affect government powers. It does not grant new lands or funds, and it does not have a significant fiscal impact on the federal government. Congressman Young

says.

On the other hand, the eight resolution amendments of AFN really don't give the shareholder any more power or financial security. Therefore, I recommend the following:

- ANCSA corporations and shareholders must learn the stock market, bonds, commodities, options, tax shelters, financial planning, money markets, IRAs and Keoghs.

- We should think of a sophisticated financial investment plan, such as an IRA or NOL mechanism nationwide, utilizing our ANCSA status, because one of our amendments is to be exempt from Security and Exchange Commission laws!

Alaska Natives must delete "sovereignty" from our vocabulary and instead insert, "Native justification." "Native justification" is our new terminology.

"Tribalism" must also be deleted. It is significant to "African tribalism."

With regards
Arce V. Credo Jr.
Juneau

Essential nutritional needs

To the editor:

If there is a general trend among the various conservation treaties related to Alaska Native subsistence use by all participants it is that of essential nutritional and other essential needs.

This is a fair conclusion to a vast

amount of Native rights. Let the Natives decide for themselves — as long as the sun will shine.

Sincerely,
Victor Haldane
Hydaburg

'Outrageous lack of justice'

To the editor:

I agree there is an outrageous lack of justice in our courtrooms concerning offenses against children, but it is being done to those accused of abusing children.

An accused is told he has no constitutional rights, although the right to counsel and the right against self-incrimination are both rights specifically guaranteed by the Alaska

and United States Constitutions.

The court will go so far as to say the accused does not deserve due process of law since he was not under arrest, yet will offer no verification of this. The court condones law enforcement officials engaging in bad faith efforts to circumvent the recording requirement set forth in Stephan vs. Alaska.

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What others say...

• *'Accused remain innocent until they are proven guilty'*

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What concerned citizens fail to realize is our laws have been changed so Alaska has one of the most severe punishments for child abusers in the country. An accused is exactly that, "only accused."

Our laws are written to protect the innocent, and that is exactly what an accused is until he is forced to plead to a "lesser" offense of only eight years in a state "resort." Even with "good time," this can hardly be termed a "slap on the hand."

The injustice is even more glaring when an accused is required to both indict and convict himself because of an illegally obtained confession being

allowed as evidence, though clearly unconstitutional.

The State of Alaska will have no right to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of the Ratification of the U.S. Constitution if it so flagrantly documents a violation of its own Constitution.

Ruling a citizen has no rights unless under arrest makes anyone not in custody a second-class citizen.

Rights would then be limited, and a limited right is not a right at all. Or, as Thomas Jefferson wrote to James Madison in 1787: "...a bill of rights is what the people are entitled to against every government on earth, general or particular, and what no just government should refuse or rest on inference."

Patrick J. Paul Sr.
Sitka