

# Readers write on ...

## Kipnuk on bilingual

Kipnuk, AK 99614  
March 23, 1977

Tundra Times  
Editor

Dear Sir:

In response to the editorial of Mr. Fred Bigjim as of the Tundra Times March 9 issue, we Bilingual Teachers and Teacher Aides would like to agree on some of the facts he stated.

Since we are in the process of finishing our first two years of college and getting to a point where we will soon be entering the upper division courses we feel that there is an urgent need for instructors to come and offer these courses to us here in the villages, because of our inability to leave the village to take full time classes. The reason why we can't leave home is because of the confinement to our families.

It is also true of what he said about the lower '48 teachers who come up here to teach a classroom not having any idea of what their classes will be like. And having no experience with kids such as these Native students. That's why we feel an important need for offering upper division courses to us here in our villages. Through attaining the degree we need to teach, we could better meet the needs of the students then the other teachers.

After all, why is the University of Alaska called the U of A if it's not going to meet the needs of all Alaskans through one way or another.

Sincerely, We the undersigned.  
Eileen Anaver, Elsie Carl, Alice Martin, Nicholas Paul, Mary Jane Mann, Paul J. Paul

cc: Senator George Hohman  
Rep. Nels Anderson  
Charles Ferguson  
Pat O'Rourke  
Carl Jack  
Peter Three Stars

## Nunapitchuk on biligual

Nunapitchuk, Alaska  
March 30, 1977

Dear Editor:

There are three Bilingual teachers in our village. We have been involved in college courses work delivered by Kuskokwim Community College for the past three semesters, and are concerned about college courses which are upper division teacher certification required.

Mr. Fred Bigjims Editorial regarding Native teacher certification points out some of our concerns. The University of Alaska should be thinking about delivering the education courses we will need to qualify us as certified teachers.

We commend the editorial and the issues it raised.

Sincerely,  
Jacob Tobeluk, James Berlin,  
George J. Andrew Sr., Ina Berlin

## and Kasigluk too ...

Kasigluk, Alaska  
March 30, 1977

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the editorial by Fred Bigjim about the Native Teachers on the March 9th issue

of the Tundra Times, we are in full support of his article.

As he stated that the Bilingual Teachers are completing their first two years of college and are ready to move into their Teacher Certification courses, that the University of Alaska should provide field services to the villages of the Yukon Kuskokwim area. In which they would obtain fundings from the different agencies that funded KCC to provide field courses to the villages of the Yukon Kuskokwim area.

We strongly feel that the University of Alaska, school of education should recognize our educational needs in regards to our Teacher Certification requirements and deliver upper division courses to us.

Quyana,  
Levi Hoover, Zacharias Brink Sr.  
Sophie Keene, Stella J. Brink,  
Marie Hoover, Moses White.

## Support alcohol bills

Mauneluk Association  
P.O. Box 256  
Kotzebue, Alaska 99752  
March 23, 1977

Governor Jay Hammond  
State of Alaska  
Pouch "A"  
Juneau, Alaska 99811

Dear Governor Jay Hammond:

Some people have proposed that your Alcohol Package is a program that resembles the unsuccessful prohibition era in the United States during the early 1900's.

However, the lack of any other initiatives to improve the conditions brought about by alcohol consumption in Alaska causes our organization to lend support in favor of your alcohol package.

We strongly favor compensation for dry communities because of conditions in the villages, and the lack of other resources. The consequences of other conditions in a dry community is fine IF THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STRENGTHENING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES.

The other AND/OR condition I see necessary is the alternatives provided to maintain a dry community. Very few people seem to realize that in the absence of drinking, there are no means to be entertained. Why not recognize an initiative to establish recreation-related activities? To parallel this alcohol package?

We are requesting that these services can be provided and subsidized, and not construed to be profit oriented. Some people will also state it should be self-sustaining, but consider this option only after a period request that it be a function of the STATE OF ALASKA.

Any federal, state, or local government is established to provide needed services. Sometimes the governors (all elected officials) construe this to mean operating our governmental system as a profit corporation. We hear it in a phrase "pay as you go." That statement is misleading when the State of Alaska is initially investing into a program, for legislation for Alaska citizens.

We support your alcohol package, and yet we have also considered the related exceptions. We take issue with the ADVERTISING BAN. It should be stricken from any proposed legislation

It is our sincere hope that our elected legislators throughout the State of Alaska will look at

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## from 'tundra Boy'

friday, the thirst of april

Thomas Richards, Jr.  
Tundra Times  
Fairbanks

dear editor,

it was a pleasure to see you recently so i thought i'd drop a note. as a journalist you are aware of the fact that there are several sides to most things, with this in mind i would like to ramble on for a minute & share some thoughts which are from a side which is apparently being disregarded, at least in a few ways. i make these remarks humbly, spinning myth & fancy which doesn't necessarily apply to anything.

the pot-bellied double-knit natives  
clink their drinks & smile while wise words flow like oil,  
"cultural preservation is our primary concern..."  
lost & wandered seed of hunters  
their fading eyes are framed  
in metal with the hint of skyscrapers & bridges  
a glint beneath the style-cut hair  
their useless limbs are draped  
like a corpse in fashion's whimsy  
the old men never dressed like that till they went in the grave.  
their family lodges are aluminum  
the wisdom given to their sons  
projected in color from a 19 inch screen  
they talk about subsistence  
over meals from cans & chemicals  
their lies will turn to concrete  
which will cover o'er the tundra  
foundations for monuments  
to the passing of the northern man.

i would like to make it easy for those who choose to disregard my simple words by admitting i don't have any college degrees or money. i have only the love of family & friends & some delicious smoked salmon. so, wishing you a happy day, i am,

yours with no capitals,  
tundra boy

& remember:

the wolverine hunts even as he grieves  
his shadow falls on fallen leaves  
his shadow falls

# Readers write on ...

(Continued from Page 2)

the complete package, and act for all of Alaska in support of your efforts.

The constituency and their elected officials should not interpret your efforts in such a narrow frame of reference to defeat something for which there have been no alternatives proposed, but perhaps only in reaction to what was submitted by you.

Sincerely,  
Mauneluk Association  
Dennis J. Tiepelman,  
President

cc: Tundra Times

## About Barrow problems

March 15, 1977

Sirs:

Please put this on your newspaper. Where kids can read so they won't get themselves into trouble.

I read an article in your newspaper about Barrow having problems, send to me by Linda Crestman, and I agree 100% on what she expressed in the editorial.

I remember when Barrow was just a quiet little village; people caring for people, nice conversations starting, nice greeting, good conversation starting, a little teasing, and most of all good people.

People didn't have to lock doors. Now they have to lock them, because our own people are robbing, killing, stabbing and raping our own people! We don't need that. We want good people so they can be trustful and honest.

If they want that, they can vote again to close down the liquor store and vote to open new recreation halls, movie theaters, pool halls.

A liquor store is a bad influence on our growing kids. I remember when I was little girl there was movie theater, and my big sister used to take me to movies. And there was no liquor store. We use to go to

church, and go play with our friends, and there was a couple of meetings where we use to go to like Presbyterian and Westminster meetings, and have activities. Now we can't do that because kid's my age are going to parties, and trying to show people that they can drink and handle the liquor, but really they can't. They just get into trouble and fights, and lose friends and respect from people.

I know alcohol can get ourselves into trouble because I've gotten myself into trouble by drinking. Teen's my age that are drinking are breaking the law. And that mean's trouble with the law.

I'm here now in Colorado cause I drank, and I'm learning to do better things than drinking.

I'm saying there is somethings better to open, instead of a liquor store. We can open new things that kid's really want. Like a recreation center, pool halls, cafes, movie theaters. And have a strong community instead of drowning yourself's with dangerous liquor that can kill our people. Savagtaa ulagata iniuch iqayuqlugl iqayuqa yuqtuat.

Utquiaquiq miu yaaq  
~ Bernice "Attuiuq" Taalak

## Thanks for soup labels

April 1, 1977

Tundra Times Times  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Sir:

I would like to thank you and all of your fine readers for helping us to save soup lavel's. We did not get enough labels to get the movie projector we needed, but did have enough to get two film strip projectors. These we needed also. We are going to try again next year so anyone who still has labels we will be glad to have them for next year.

We were impressed with how far your newspaper reaches. We received labels from people all across the United States indicating that they had read about our need for labels in your newspaper.

Thanks again for printing our letter and for helping us out.

Sincerely,  
Dolly Hedderman  
Wainwright School  
Box 10  
Wainwright, Alaska 99782