

Den Nena Henash - Our Land Speaks  
Ut Kah neek - Informing and Reporting  
Yupiiit Qanlautciat - The Way Eskimos Talk  
Unangan Tunukun - The Aleuts Speak  
Inupiat Paitot - People's Heritage

## *Shareholder objects to bigotry*

To the editor:

As an "at-large" shareholder of Chugach Alaska Corp. I want to thank you for your response to a "former back-country ranger." (*Tundra Times* editorial Nov. 27, 1989.)

To many of us, the *Tundra Times* is the only link we have to our homeland, and I urge other Alaska Native corporations to give their sup-

port to this fine paper.

Maybe the "back-country ranger" doesn't know "Archie Bunker" was cancelled and bigotry is no longer fashionable.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Lydia M. Boggan  
Mill City, Ore.

## *Hanley questions Cowper*

To Gov. Steve Cowper:

Your recent announcement indicating your interest in introducing a bill to recriminalize marijuana came as a surprise.

In 1986, during your campaign, you stated support for the recriminalization of marijuana. No bill was prefiled to accomplish that and no action was taken during the first legislative session in which you were governor.

In 1987, you were named by the National Governor's Association to the task force on alcohol and drug abuse prevention. This provided you with an excellent opportunity to take the lead in changing our marijuana law, but again no action was taken.

In 1988, you helped to celebrate the Just Say No campaign. An impressive ceremony occurred on the steps of the

capitol building. Another golden opportunity to transform words into action, but again no announcement was forthcoming.

In 1989, during the last session, the Senate Judiciary Committee held extensive hearings on yet another bill to recriminalize marijuana. Senate Bill 18 passed the Senate 17-2 and was transmitted to the House on March 23, 1989. There were six weeks remaining in the session, a marijuana bill could have been passed.

Gov. Cowper, if the effort to collect the necessary signatures had failed, would you still be considering the introduction of a marijuana bill?

Sincerely,  
Rep. Alyce A. Hanley  
Anchorage

## *Natives must be politically active*

To the editor:

Now that the Alaska Federation of Natives' annual conference is over, what is going to happen for the upcoming political year?

What will the political agenda be for our Alaska Native population for the coming political year? How will the

incumbents or potential legislative candidates know what issues that our Alaska Native population faces on a daily basis?

In the last election year did any of the political candidates visit your village or community? Or did the

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# • *Political action*

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political candidates only go where there were votes and not visit your village or community?

How many Alaska Native voters are in your village or community? What is the potential voter strength if more registered voters signed up to vote and turned out on election days? How many of you turned out to vote in the last election?

You more than any other person have a right to influence your elected officials. These elected officials are the most vulnerable during an election year. You can make them more vulnerable by signing up to vote and being a registered voter, and the more voters you have in your village or community, the more you will attract political candidates to your area.

In the last two years of the current elected officials, how did they do on our Alaska Native issues? Was there specific legislation to resolve our issues? Was there specific language in the state Legislature to resolve the issues confronting our people, our land, our existence and our problems?

This next election is important for those Alaska Natives involved with the land claims issues of 1991. Where will the elected officials stand on this major issue?

If there was no legislation to resolve or address our issues in the coming election we have real opportunities to seek out political candidates who could be our allies or foes on our issues. If we are dissatisfied with the current legislative candidate we have opportunity at the voting polls to express our dissatisfaction.

We have opportunity to seek out candidates who would help resolve our Alaska Native concerns and issues.

You have the power to bring about a responsive state government, and it lies within your hands to bring about change that would specifically address our concerns and our agenda.

Sign up to become a registered voter and begin to make a difference. See you at the voting polls!

Sincerely,  
Terrance Booth  
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