

Ancient Little Village of Telida May Finally Get Its School

One of the oldest inhabited villages in the Interior of Alaska may finally get its own school, thanks to a letter written by James Huntington, Regional Director of the Koyukon Development Corporation, and sent to the Tundra Times, the government and several other places.

The village, Telida, is about 80 air miles from McGrath and

has a population of 15, including three preschool children. Children old enough for school have to go to Nikolai, a neighboring village, for classes.

Attending grades one through six in Nikolai are 10 children from four families. The families had moved from Telida, but said they would move back if a school were built, since it is

their home.

Transportation into Telida includes small planes and riverboats. Because the river is too shallow and narrow, small barges for supplies are not really practical.

If Telida gets its school — and this is subject to sufficient appropriations from the State Legislature — it would have an

enrollment of 10 for the 1973-74 school year. The breakdown of classes would be two students in grade two, one each in grades three and six and three each in grades four and seven.

Telida Village Chief Nick Nikolai would like to see village men used to cut logs for the school, the teacher's house and a powerhouse. Presently, the

village has no electric power source and no wells.

Before the school could be built, well water and electricity would have to be furnished. Such needs would have to be state-supplied. And with winter already here, the problem is even more urgent.

Telida wants a school. It also would like a store, post office and better communications with the rest of Alaska. For now, it looks as if the people may get at least part of their goals realized.

Criticizes Environmental Policy Act

KETCHIKAN Attorney General John E. Havelock recently criticized the judicial process as a tool for enforcing the National Environmental Policy Act and called for congressional action to strengthen the federal Environmental Protection Agency instead.

"The judicial process is too slow, lacks central direction and results in unequal and unfair application, as Alaskans know only too well," Havelock said in an address to the Ketchikan Rotary Club.

He said the practical enforcement of environmental standards "calls for expert evaluation and swift action on a broad executive-administrative basis."

Strengthening the existing federal enforcement agency "will limit the current haphazard and private enforcement actions attempted by special interest groups through the courts," Havelock said.

The Attorney General praised the principle of comprehensive cost-benefit analysis which "is the core of environmental law," but said that without Congressional action "the good intentions behind the law will drown in a sea of bureaucratic paperwork and litigation."

Havelock coupled his analysis with an expression of concern over "the nation's increasing dependence on foreign materials and energy resources."

He said that "increased imports of middle eastern oil, for example, as a substitute for the development of Alaskan resources, would be bound to weaken American strength in foreign affairs."

"Yet this dependence grows," the Attorney General continued, "while American and Alaskan resource development stumble over contradictory or inadequate federal resource and environmental policy."

The granting of "proper staff and authority to the appropriate federal agencies can help to reverse this trend," Havelock said.

Dolores Stalder Of Nondalton Receives Grant

Dolores G. Stalder of Nondalton has received a grant for \$1,000 for a project entitled, "Stimulating Oral Language Development."

Ms. Stalder teaches at the Alaska State-Operated School on Lake Iliamna. She intends to make available over 300 books for grade levels one through eight.

The program is designed for the English speaking and/or bilingual child and also will feature utilization of such multi-media materials as story records, film loops, and listening centers.

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