

"I may not agree with a word you say but I will defend unto death your right to say it." — Voltaire

Tundra Times



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AAIA Commended for Land Claims Work

January 6, 1972

Dear Editor,

I'd like to utilize this paper to publicly acknowledge a debt of gratitude to the Association of American Indian Affairs. I know most Alaska Natives have never heard of this organization & so cannot realize all the effort expended by it's able director, William Byler in the resolution of the Land Claim issue. I know of no one person who put more of himself into this effort than Mr. Byler and I know of no organization who donated more money, time and talents toward this end.

Special appreciation to the memory of Mrs. LaVerne Madigan must also be realized. It was under her direction that the AAIA first became involved with assisting the Tanana Chiefs in the Land effort—and we have Mrs. Kay Hitchcock, of Anchorage, to thank for that introduction. Many of us were fortunate in meeting both beautiful women at the first Chiefs conference in Tanana in '62 and I'm sure many Eskimo people remember Mrs. Madigan's presence at the Inupiat Pitot meeting around that time.

To be remembered of course is Dr. and Mrs. Henry Forbes who financially backed the Tundra Times so the Alaska Native would have a "pen mightier than the sword."

So to all these people and many more associated with the AAIA I say with tears in my eyes 'cause I guess my heart is overflowing, thank you, thank you, thank you.

I feel without their prompt and unstinting assistance perhaps there never would have been a "Land Claim Movement" and I know their help made the battle a lot shorter, a lot easier, and a lot less casualties.

Most sincerely,
/s/ DeLois Ketzler



(EDITOR'S NOTE: DeLois Ketzler should be commended for her timely letter of appreciation on the great effort the Association on American Indian Affairs in helping to bring about the settlement of the Alaska Native land claims. The work was done under the untiring effort and leadership of William Byler, the executive director of the organization. AAIA is an organization dedicated to assist native Americans, Indians, Aleuts and Eskimos. AAIA has done a tremendous amount of assistance to all of America's Natives. DeLois Ketzler needs to be warmly commended for her timely acknowledgement of AAIA's unselfish and dedicated work on behalf of America's Natives. Well done, Bill Byler.)

Land Claims Money

The President's budget message Monday asked for \$95,718,951 in federal funds for Alaskan projects to be administered by the Department of Interior and the Army Corps of Engineers, according to Sen. Ted Stevens.

The Alaska Republican pointed out that this was in addition to \$50 million asked by the President for the 1972 payment authorized under the Alaska Native Claims act and the \$12.5 million supplemental appropriation.

Under the president's budget, the Bureau of Indian Affairs will receive \$45,204,400, an increase of approximately \$9 million

over fiscal 1972. The Bureau of Land Management will receive \$19.8 million, an increase of \$3.6 million.

The Army Corps of Engineers projects in Alaska total \$12,047,000, the largest being \$9,990,000 for the Snettisham power project.

Construction requests are: King Cove Harbor, \$400,000; Sergius and Whitestone Narrows, \$900,000; and Chena River Lakes, \$600,000.

Requests for advance engineering and design are for: Humbolt Harbor, \$80,000; Kake Harbor, \$50,000; Talkeetna, \$27,000.

Koyukon Dialect Being Taught

By FRANK MURPHY

A free course in the Koyukon dialect of Athabascan is now being given at the Fairbanks Native Community Center every Thursday from 7:30-9:00 p.m.

The course began on Jan. 13 and will continue until the middle of May. New students are welcome.

Instructor for the course is David Henry of Wycliffe Bible Translators.

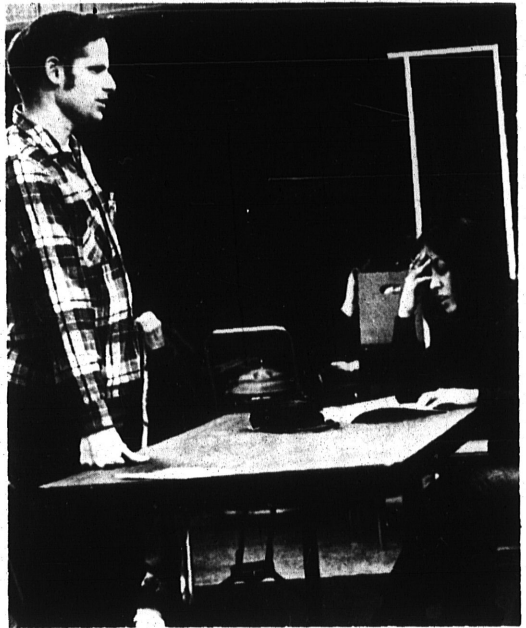
Henry and his wife Kay have spent the last 12 years learning Koyukon Athabascan and transcribing it into a written language.

At the present time Alaskans in the Koyukon region (it extends from Kaltag to Stevens Village) speak many varieties of the Koyukon dialect, according to the Henrys, who have lived at Kokrines, Koyukuk and Allakaket. The word for boy is "keela" in Allakaket, for example, and "cheela" in Stevens Village.

Henry believes that a written form will help to unify the dialect and preserve it. He says, "language and culture are practically inseparable."

He and his wife have compiled a 1,000 word dictionary, a reader (a collection of stories about everyday village life), and a booklet of excerpts from the Bible. These form the basis for the course. They are distributed by the instructor at each class and are available for purchase at the FNA giftshop for \$3.75.

Students in the class range from teenagers to grandparents. Henry says, "We have almost



TEACHER AND STUDENTS learn together—(left) David Henry, instructor at the Fairbanks Native Center, demonstrates the pronunciation of Koyukon Athabascan. (right) Poldine Carlo tells Mr. Henry how she would say it.

double the enrollment of a similar course that was offered privately two years ago."

He hopes this course will "lay the groundwork for an expanded program to be offered at Lathrop High School sometime in the future."

HORSEFEATHERS

Hard Times

BAKED GOODS: One Midwest student association asks how you would define an apple who finally saw the red light? "An apple turnover." What

would you call a sexy sellout? "A torrid tart."

Yip, the phrase "as American as apple pie" is in for some hard times ahead...

LETTERS FROM HERE AND THERE

Hughes, Alaska 99745
January 16, 1972

Tundra Times
Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

Dear Gentlemen:

The Hughes School has begun a new program which might be of interest to you. After meeting with villagers and discussing the newly passed Native Claims Settlement, it was found that a great deal of confusion and misunderstanding existed over this law. With the full support of the community council, a special Native Claims class was initiated.

Each day from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. adults and upper grade students hold intensive studies on provisions and implications of this new law. Section by section the bill is studied and discussed. We have made up charts, graphs, maps, and other displays to clarify the various sections. Students and adults work out problems concerning land allotments, distribution of cash settlements, dividends from regional and village corporations, etc. Skits are used to dramatize various parts of the settlement. We're now setting up make-believe corporations and investigating ways to profitably invest or use incomes.

Thus far both the students and adults have been very enthusiastic about the class, and we usually have a full house. People have seen the importance of

understanding and using this new law and can see exciting possibilities in the future. At the urging of the adults a special evening class is held for those who want to study particular segments of the law.

My wife and I have taught and lived in native villages for twelve years, and we are excited and happy that native people have gained control of their destiny. Our experience has instilled us with the faith that the native groups as a whole will use this and other sources to enrich their lives and provide a secure future for their children.

Sincerely,
/s/ G. Ray Bane

Fairbanks
January 25, 1972

Dear Mr. Rock:

You and your readers are cordially invited to attend and participate in an Air Pollution seminar at 8:00 p.m., February 2nd, 1972, in the Exhibit Hall of the Civic Center at Alaskaland. God, in His infinite wisdom, created every little thing for some purpose. Even the snowflake cleanses the atmosphere as it leisurely floats to earth. Let's do our part!

Sincerely,
/s/ Phil Nicpon

Workshop...

(Continued from page 1)

techniques presented apply to anyone interested in setting up and operating his own business.

Material developed for the workshop, she said, will be made into a publication on management techniques.

Coordinator for the project was John Pence, Distributive Education Coordinator for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District.

The agenda for the two-week program is as follows:

Jan. 17 and 18—Opening Plans, Sales and Merchandising;
Jan. 19—Stock Control (Inventory);

Jan. 20—Sales and Merchandise, presented by N. Roy Goodman, manager of Alyeska Investment Corporation;

Jan. 21—Marketing and Pricing, presented by Dr. Dean Olson of the department of business education of the University of Alaska in Anchorage; and Small Business Administration, presented by Maxim Dolchok, a community economic industrial planner for Minority Enterprises;

Jan. 24—Storage and Warehousing, presented by Randy Acord of Acord Enterprises;

Jan. 25—Displaying and Publicity, presented by Ted Lehne of KFRB radio and television;

Jan. 26 and Jan. 27—The Operation of a Native Store, presented by Gabriel Gely of Community Enterprise Development Corporation.

Jan. 28—a visit to the Eskimo Museum, and, finally, presentation of certificates to individuals completing the workshop.

The program was funded through the Division of Vocational Education of the Alaska Department of Education.

Groups providing assistance include the Small Business Administration, the Fairbanks North Star Borough Schools, the Community Enterprise Development Corporation (Shishmaref Cooperative), radio and television station KFRB, Acord Enterprises, the Eskimo Museum, and the Cooperative Extension Service and the Division of Statewide Services of the University of Alaska.