

# Wrangell St. Elias News

*"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"*

Volume Fifteen Issue Two

March & April 2006

Two Dollars

## Aviation Heritage Museum inducts "Mudhole" Smith

During a flying career that began in the 1930s and lasted more than four decades, Merle "Mudhole" Smith earned a reputation as a skilled pilot, local hero and all around colorful character for his ground-breaking flying in the rugged Alaska Bush.

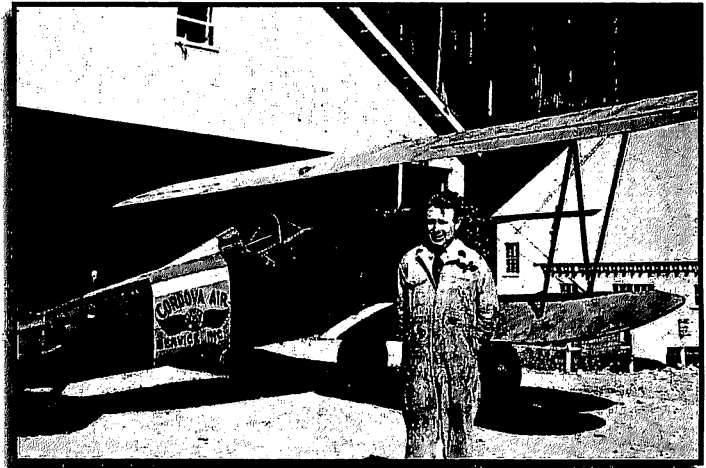
By the time he died in 1981, Smith had become a legend of Alaska aviation.

His place in aviation history was recognized Feb. 18 when he was inducted into the Alaska Aviation Pioneers' Hall of Fame during a banquet in Anchorage.

More than 200 people, including two dozen Alaska Airlines employees, attended the event, which was hosted by the Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum.

Smith, who taught himself to fly, began his aviation career as a Kansas barnstormer. Moving to Alaska in 1937, he joined and later purchased Cordova Airlines, which merged with Alaska Airlines in 1968. Following the merger, Smith served on the Alaska Airlines Board of Directors until 1973.

As a director, Smith cast the deciding vote in 1972 that transferred control of Alaska Airlines from then CEO Charlie Willis to a team



Merle "Mudhole" Smith with a Cordova Air Service aircraft in 1937. Smith joined the Alaska Airlines Board of Directors when his airline merged with Alaska Airlines in 1968.

led by retired CEOs Ron Cosgrave and Bruce Kennedy.

Among the many friends and business associates on hand for last week's induction ceremony was Ray Peterson, founder of Northern Consolidated Airlines and, at age 93, the only living member of the Alaska Aviation Pioneers' hall of fame.

He recalled that he and his friend Smith disliked being called bush pilots.

"The term was coined by pilots flying the Australian Outback," said Peterson.

(continued on page 6)

## *A note from the publisher*

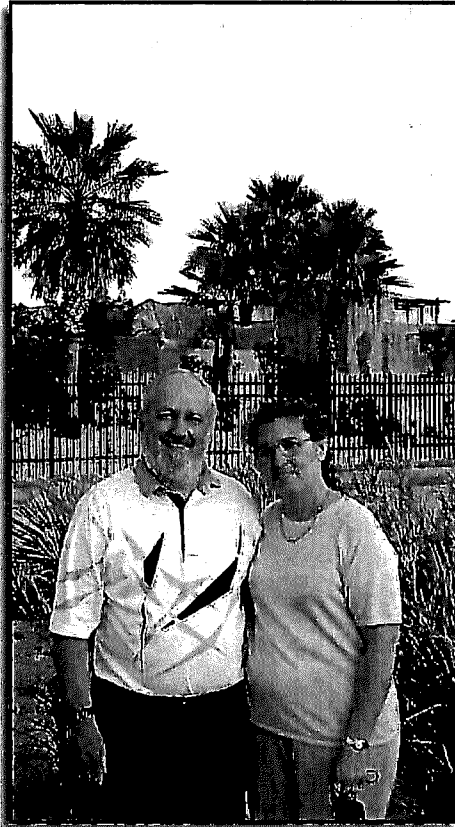
BY BONNIE KENYON

**I**t is the end of February. I wish I could report that spring has sprung in McCarthy, but we are just coming out of another cold snap. The low temperature yesterday morning was -26 and we still have 24 inches of snow on the ground. Oh, well, I know spring always arrives, and by the time the next issue is due, I expect to write of much warmer conditions. Hope is a wonderful gift!

Since my last "note," Rick and I spent 3 weeks in the sunny south —Florida and Georgia. Rick's dad, my mom and Rick Jr., wife Maria, and their 4 sons (our grandsons), my brother Ron and his wonderful family were the focus of our attention. It felt strange, but good, to plant petunias for Dad Kenyon while McCarthy was experiencing a major cold snap with temperatures dropping into the -40's.

One of the highlights for Rick and me was the day we spent with subscribers and friends Toby and Sara Miller of Ohio/Florida. We first met the Millers when they visited McCarthy last summer and worked in the area. Before Rick and I left home, the Millers called, letting us know they were wintering in Saraso-

ta. We decided to meet in Orlando at a Christian theme park called The Holy Land Experience. Sara and Toby had visited the park several



years ago, but had heard many changes had been made since their visit.

Rick, my mom (Neta Schafer) and I drove to Orlando and met the Millers. The five of us spent all day together visiting the many sights

that were constructed after the likeness of early Jerusalem and taking in the musical presentations. We had a wonderful time. Rick and I are determined to return and visit the places we missed the first time around. Thanks, Toby and Sara, for such a memorable occasion.

On December 28<sup>th</sup>, before leaving McCarthy, we mailed the January/February *WSEN*. After arriving in Daytona Beach, we soon learned that some of our southern subscribers and even our Alaska readers had not received their paper. I called our postmaster in Glennallen to see if there was a problem. Terry informed me that some of the sorting machines elsewhere were not accepting the address labels. To make a long story short, he was busy correcting the problem but many of you would not receive your *WSEN* on time. Rick and I are also making a change in the back cover to see that this problem will not happen again. We apologize for the inconvenience to our subscribers and to our most capable postmaster in Glennallen!

*WSEN* welcomes aboard the following subscribers: Stephanie Gould, WI; David and Corrina Klein, AK; Don Farris, AK; Butch and Marlene Kenyon, MI; Christopher Puin, MD; John Rueter, AZ.

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Contributors to this issue: Peggy Guntis, George Cebula, Don Welty and Ned Rozell.

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## Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

**Jim Kreblin:** Some folks might consider Jim, who lives 15 miles down the road (and across a lake), too distant to be described as a "neighbor," but not when it comes to McCarthyites. It is true we are—for the most part—scattered around the area.

Jim called the other day touching bases with us. He was under the impression Rick and I were getting ready to embark on our annual trip to visit family members in Florida and Georgia. Instead, we left the first week of January and he returned shortly thereafter. It certainly was time to catch up on our respective winter trips.

A favorite catalog for those of us in this area is Cabelas which is based in Sydney, Nebraska. Jim made their large retail store one of his "important places" to stop while on his travels in the lower 48. It didn't take him long to determine what his Christmas present to himself should be—an underwater camera. Naturally this brings much delight to our local fishermen who enjoy winter excursions to Long Lake in the hopes of bringing home some fresh fish. We look forward to future lake updates from Jim's point of view.

**Mark Vail and Cal Ward, Jr.:** I lumped these two neighbors together because they joined Jim at the lake recently for a fishing adventure. According to Cal, who stopped by our place the other day, the three fellows had a great time fishing, checking out Jim's new toy and pulling in enough Dolly Varden for a few good meals.

Jim said he didn't catch many even though he had a fancy rod. Cal and Mark, on the other hand, used simple poles and line and caught fish. But, then, says Jim, it could have been due to the faded-out lure

that Cal gave him while the two successful fishermen used shiny lures. I thanked Jim for this inside information. When the Long Lake fishing derby takes place, I'll be sure to bring my own shiny lures!

I visited with Mark briefly at mail. He has started gardening (indoor of course!) He's beginning with his perennial flowers, he said. That was a sure sign for me to get started on my annual planting, too. Thanks for the nudge in the right direction, Mark.

**Long Lake Derby:** Speaking about the annual "derby," Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> is the day and the invitation is open to all. Jim is collecting prizes and has come up with a new category this year: seeing the biggest fish and not getting it.

Jim reports there is at least 2 feet of ice on the lake.

**Dan Elofsen:** The subject of fishing jogged my memory that on a recent walk down the road, Rick and I met Dan who was on his way to visit our neighbor Howard Haley. We did a little catching up on Dan's latest adventure. He, too, went on a fishing expedition—to Nelson Lake (Mile 12 McCarthy Road). His profitable catch was rainbow trout. Congratulations, Dan!

**Howard and Chris Haley:** At the time Dan visited the Haley household, Howard was still "batching" it. Chris and neighbor Anna Wallin had traveled to Valdez the previous week and were still there—waiting for the road glaciers to get some attention by DOT. When I saw Howard at mail, he was thrilled to relay that a Chitina crew member was on the road leveling those infamous hazards. He said he expected his wife would return home that very day and was quick to point out how much he missed her. (Just thought you'd want to know, Chris!)

The next day I talked to Chris on the phone. She and Anna made it home safely. She said she "brought home trouble" from Valdez. I asked for clarification on that item of interest. Seems she rescued a 3-month old female husky mix puppy from the dog pound. Moxie gave the Haley's other dog Abbey quite a challenge at first. "Abbey was quite put out," says Chris, "but the two are now playing together and having fun." Naturally, Chris and Howard are relieved that they can turn their attention back to winter projects.

Howard is digging in for the winter and I mean literally! For the last month he has been working in the crawl space under their cabin, digging out buckets of gravel (his daily goal, says Chris, is 20 buckets a day) with the plan to enlarge their original 3 foot high crawl space to a stand-up bona fide root cellar. Chris reports the height is now around 6 foot which is tall enough for her. I think Howard has a bit larger goal in mind. He wants to build shelves with the idea of being able to view all of Chris's numerous canning wares. If you ever make it to a community dinner, you just might have the opportunity to sample her green bean dills. My advise is to get in the front of the line or you will miss out.

The Haleys are still making progress on their search for information, photos and stories on Howard's father, Herb Haley. Since the last issue of WSEN, Howard and Chris drove to Fairbanks and did some of their own research at the University of Fairbanks' historical archives. They also interviewed a few folks who knew Herb and are receiving new photos and other contacts. The project is still going forth. Once again, if you have any information that will help the Haley's fill in the blank spaces on Herb's life, you can contact Howard or Chris at 907

554-4496. They would love to hear from you!

**George Cebula:** Another traveling neighbor is George, who along with his favorite (and only) dog, Sophie, just recently returned home. Driving part way and making use of the ferry system, George had a successful trip, visiting his brother Ted and family in Milwaukee over Christmas, and brothers Tom and Ray in Ohio over the new year.

George says the ferry time took a week altogether, 4 days down from Haines to Bellingham, WA and 3 days return. The ferry stopped at Sitka which was George's first visit to this southeast island. George's Suburban experienced a good rest while on board, saved hundreds of driving miles and the driver and passenger had a nice rest as well.

One of George's regular stops was a visit with Ken and Carly Kritchen now living in Oregon. They are in the process of building a log home. Some of you will remember past "items" on the Kritchens. They used to call McCarthy home.

Another stop took George to Reno, NV to see a long-time friend and past weather service cohort.

The two travelers always include a visit with Sharon, David, Jacob and Maya Wunschel of Kennewick, WA. Sharon is George's niece. She has provided Uncle George with precious entertainment from 3-yr. old Jacob and 14-month old Maya. I'm sure Sophie reciprocates with plenty of her own style of amusement.

While George was in Ohio he received word that past May Creek resident, Fran Gagnon, was in the hospital in Phoenix. He set aside normally scheduled side trips so he could spend quality time with Fran and daughter Linda Warren and husband Art. It was time well spent, he says.

Welcome home, George and Sophie. Thanks for bringing us warmer temperatures!

**Tim Mischel:** It seems some neighbors bring us back some of those warmer temperatures, but, in Tim's case, I think he may have sneaked in a cold snap. Our temperature took a dive shortly after Tim arrived. It was -26 the other morning.

Tim managed to get a little help from a couple neighbors in getting a trail broke to his angle station property above Kennicott. I decided to check in with him and see how his upward trip went.

Making a snowmachine trail up a mountain always has its challenges, but Tim and company made it just fine—in fact, about 15 minutes before visitors arrived. Anchorage TV Channel 2 reporter, Jason Moore, his cameraman, Tom Anderson, and Kaleb Rowland (local guide for the crew) wanted to see what the world looks like from Tim's point of view for an upcoming documentary. I told Tim that didn't give him much time to clean house! He agreed.

Tim's trip "outside" went well. His travels took him to North Dakota to see his sister Sharon, Denver to see his other sister and family and to the state of Washington to meet up with friends.

He reports that he is now ready to receive visitors at his historical mountain retreat. I expect that means the trail is packed down and the coffee pot is on.

Welcome home, Tim!

**The Welty family:** NEWS FLASH! McCarthy may be somewhat remote and somewhat behind the times but news travels fast nonetheless. The "news" is that René passed her private pilot check ride after a 4-hour oral test and an exhaustive flight test! Our congratulations to René who has worked very hard to accomplish this feat. (We wonder if this gives her license to fly her dad's SuperCub now?)

Don filled in for our long-time mail pilot, Lynn Ellis, of Ellis Air Taxi in Gulkana for several weeks of mail delivery to/from McCarthy.

Lynn and a couple other pilots of the Copper River Basin decided to give Canada a hand at performing a much-needed aerial wolf survey. Thankfully, he left the local business in good hands! Our gratitude goes out to both Don and Lynn for seeing that the scheduled mail stayed on schedule.

Wife Lynn says she and Don worked extra hard on their annual wood detail—stocking up the wood shed for next winter. With the month of March just around the corner, and knowing what a beautiful time of year it brings, work should be carried out before that fun time in the snow arrives!

Daughter Sarah is spending this school semester back in Fairbanks at the university while she completes some needed subjects. We all were pleased to see her over the Christmas season.

**Jim and Audrey Edwards:** One of the most-asked questions I hear is: What do people do during the cold, dark winter months? I'll give you an example.

The other day I walked down to the Edwards's place and discovered what Audrey was doing. She said she was cleaning up her extra bedroom. Her sewing machine was obviously busy at work when I came calling as it was sitting on the kitchen table, threaded and creating doll clothes for Audrey's collection of "antique reproduction dolls." When I called her a little while ago for an update, she described the condition of her living room—doll parts, heads, arms, legs, eyes, wigs, all scattered (in order, of course) all over the couch and piano. She was actively putting together and finishing up a good portion of her collection, which, by the way, was leftover from her Anchorage days when she owned and operated her own shop. She not only sold these beautiful antique reproduction dolls but taught the art of creating them. Once finished she hopes to find good homes for her ladies.

Jim, according to Audrey, had just completed his most recent winter project (one of many in the making, I'm sure), that of revamping a newly-purchased drill press. The men folk of our community love tools but there is a price to pay for all that necessary power needed to make those tools work. The engine on the new drill press was too power hungry for Jim's taste so he did something about it. Don't ask me to explain the mechanical changes he was up against but solved. If you want to know those kind of details, you will need to give Jim a call.

**News on Fran:** Shortly before Rick and I left for Florida in early January, we received a letter from Fran Gagnon's daughter, Linda, with the news that Fran had been admitted to the hospital on December 27<sup>th</sup> with influenza which soon turned into double pneumonia. She also experienced a heart attack as a result of not being able to breathe.

Linda wrote another update to Fran's Fan Club dated February 3<sup>rd</sup>. "Thank you for the cards and good wishes. Mother appreciates all the concern and phone calls about her well being. The communications are all pinned up on a bulletin board on the wall at the end of her bed so she can see all the people that are wishing her a speedy recovery. She knows each and every one of you sends your love... Please stay in touch with her. Your cards and letters are a highlight in her day when I can take them to the hospital and read them to her. I think it gives her an extra incentive to get better when she hears all the kind words and good wishes from her friends. The best part is that they make her feel better. Thank you so much."

Fran has many friends in the McCarthy/Kennicott area who love her dearly and are praying for a quick recovery. You may send your cards and letters to her at: 24817 N. 49<sup>th</sup> Ave., Glendale, AZ 85310.

**Chitina's Historical District project:** Elizabeth Kelley of Chitina is looking for your help. She writes:

While it has taken a lot of time, we have identified approximately 40 buildings/objects of historical significance and decided on preliminary boundaries for our "Historical District" project.

The Chitina Chamber of Commerce has become involved and is hard at work researching properties. We are concentrating on the period from 1910-1955, although we are interested in more current information for another project we are working on for the Chitina Centennial (probably 2010).

The information we are looking for is owners (of buildings and/or objects), significance of residents in the community, use of buildings, date built, who built them and the type of construction and materials.

I look forward to hearing from you and getting any pertinent information you may have. I can be reached at (907) 823-2252 or P. O. Box 23, Chitina, AK. 99566. My email is: [fishwheel@aol.com](mailto:fishwheel@aol.com).

Thank you in advance for your help and interest in this project.

**The Keller family:** Allie answered the telephone this morning when I called for an item of interest. I was relieved to hear her voice. I had tried to reach the Kellers yesterday with no success. Allie said they were working on their battery system and had the phone turned off. After hearing Allie's excited voice describe several "items" of interest for Jeremy, son Bjorn and herself, I was glad I persisted in making contact.

The Kellers are "getting excited" about next year's Iditarod, because Jeremy and their dog team are planning to enter the race. According to Allie, McCarthy Lodge will help sponsor Jeremy in this life-long dream. To be sure, McCarthy area residents will be his cheer leaders! Congratulations, Jeremy, Allie and Bjorn!

Another item is the September visit of Jeremy's parents, Jack and Jan Keller, of Pullman, WA. Jeremy plans on building his folks their own

cabin on his property on the Nizina. The senior Kellers will be in our area for 2 weeks. Bjorn is eager to have his grandparents all to himself and Allie is looking forward to a babysitter so nearby.

Jeremy's brother, Jonathan, also of Pullman, plans on spending all summer with the younger Kellers.

No wonder Allie is bursting at the seams. Thanks for letting us in on all that good news!

**Meg Hunt and Ed LaChapelle** spent the Christmas holidays in Fairbanks, where their activities included hosting a Christmas eve potluck for McCarthyites in the area. They went south to spend first half of January in Olympia, WA, visiting friends and relatives in the Puget Sound country. Meg then returned to Fairbanks, where she is now teaching Modern Dance and Aesthetic Appreciation at UAF for the spring semester. Ed spent a month visiting friends and getting some good downhill skiing in Oregon, Nevada, California, Utah and Montana. He returned to McCarthy February 24<sup>th</sup> and awaits Meg's visit during spring break in March.

**McCarthy Area Council news:** Jeremy, president of MAC, is reminding us of the spring meeting of March 31. The time is "after mail" and the place is the Blackburn Center (Tony Zaks).

According to Jeremy, guest speakers, Joe Junker and Michael Coffey of DOT, will address the attendees and discuss the possibility of putting out for local hire the winter plowing of the McCarthy airstrip.

If you desire any further information on the upcoming meeting, please contact Jeremy Keller at 554-4407.

**THANK YOU, DOT!** McCarthy residents and visitors to our area say a big THANK YOU to DOT's Chitina maintenance station crew for all their work on the McCarthy Road and airstrip. You are greatly appreciated!

## Aviation Heritage Museum inducts "Mudhole" Smith

(Continued from cover)

"Sometime in the 1930s, the Civil Aeronautics Board began referring to us (Alaska aviators) as bush pilots. It made Smitty and I mad. We were aviators and proud of it."

Jim Johnson, retired senior vice president of public affairs, described Smith's marketing skills as owner of Cordova Airlines. "At one point he began serving hot inflight meals and free champagne, which made it difficult for us to compete with him," said Johnson, who was working for competitor Alaska Coastal Airlines at the time.

Others remembered Smith's compassion and community spirit. Once he loaded a group of underprivileged children from Cordova into a DC-3 and took them to the circus in Anchorage.

Whenever an aircraft was reported missing, Smith would heroically continue looking for the lost pilot until he or she was found or the search was called off.

As the newest member of the Alaska Aviation Pioneers Hall of Fame Smith joins previous inductees Noel Wien (2000), Ray Peterson (2001), Joe Crosson (2002), Carl Ben Eielson (2003), Bob Ellis (2004) and Robert Reeve (2005).

Smith's son Kenny said his father would be honored to be included in the Alaska Aviation Hall of Fame. "Despite his many accomplishments, dad always felt that he was a bit of an underachiever," said Kenny Smith. "He would have been thrilled by this recognition."

Bill MacKay, senior vice president for Alaska, served as master of ceremonies for last week's induction banquet, which featured a silent auction to benefit the Anchorage Aviation Heritage Museum. Highlighting the evening was a film on the life of Mudhole Smith produced by Brad Burger, manager of video communications, and Ken Boyer, video producer.

*WSEN is grateful to Alaska Airlines for permission to reprint this story. It first ran in their newsletter and on their website, <http://alaskasworld.com/>.*

*A related story about Merle can be found at <http://alaskasworld.com/NEWS/2006/02/27-mudhole-bio.asp>.*

## Local man survives grizzly attack, AGAIN!

BY DON (BEAR BAIT) WELTY

Some of you might remember a similar titled story about a year ago. You may be thinking that, it can't be, two times in two years. I have had similar thoughts jokingly saying, "Well, that (once in a lifetime) event is over; guess I don't need to carry a gun anymore!" If you didn't get to read Part 1, it can be found in the *WSEN*, November/December 2005 issue.

I've had a lot of ribbing from the first event, receiving nicknames like bear bait, and double-click Don, along with all kinds of advice on what I should have done differently. Although, obviously being delivered out of both situations by the loving

hand of God, he let me have a little more part in this second event!

One of the most enjoyable trips of the year is traveling to coastal Alaska on our annual hunt for Sitka blacktail deer. The moist fragrant salt air, lush coastal rainforest vegetation, and the chance to bring home some of the best table fare around, makes the trip a special occasion. Sitka blacktail deer thrive on the large islands of south coastal Alaska. The moderate winter temperatures and lush vegetation on these islands make ideal habitat for deer, bears, and varied bird life.

On this trip we had sunny, cold weather with a few inches of new snow. A perfect day in an area that is better known for torrential down-

pours and high winds. It was a mid-November day in the peak of the rut, a deer hunter's dream come true. We had spent the night on a friend's fishing boat and were up and heading for the beach as dawn was breaking. With high hopes, the four of us split into two groups with my wife, Lynn, and I heading around a high knob overlooking some open meadow areas. We began to see deer as soon as we broke out of the dense beach timber. Although either sex deer was legal, we decided to look for a buck. After glassing several does, we spotted a nice buck coming our direction. We headed on an intercept course and set up and waited for him to show. Several minutes later he broke out of the timber two hundred yards off but

facing directly at us, so we waited for a better shot. He must have sensed something was up; he quickly turned and vanished into the creek bottom. A great start to a great day.

As the sun rose higher the temperature rose and the frosty crystals coating the trees began to melt, and the deer started to head for the south-facing exposures to bed down. They will often find a small opening in the sun, surrounded by thick vegetation, making it easy to hear anything approaching through the thick huckleberry bushes. We also took a short siesta, eating a snack and taking in all the beauty around us.

I like to hike as much as hunt so we soon found ourselves far from the beach overlooking a bay on the other side of the island. As we made our way slowly through some potential bedding areas we saw several deer. Another nice buck that was pursuing a doe also escaped us, but finally late in the day we scored on a buck and a doe.

We discussed which way we would go back, considering having to drag the deer the two miles or so back to the beach, and headed back with an hour or so of daylight left. Things were perfect, being able to find a route that was open and relatively flat. I stopped and strapped my rifle onto my pack to free up my hands, making it easier to catch myself if I slipped on the frozen snow-covered meadows. Now, earlier in the year while in bear country, I would have carried the rifle, but this was beyond the time most bears would be out, and the country was so open that I felt confident. Besides, Lynn had her rifle on her back if we needed it.

We both had a deer attached to a harness that went around both shoulders and let you pull hands free. The system works great, except for one small detail. The harness was under my day pack, requiring the removal of the pack before being able to remove the harness.

As we neared our destination a few hundred yards from the beach, we had to pass through a small patch of timber where a small stream began to flow. As we headed through the small wooded area, the rifle that was strapped on my pack began to hang up on branches occasionally. We stopped for a rest as we broke out of the trees, and I removed my pack and unstrapped my rifle to avoid the same problem through the thick beach timber. Leaning my rifle on an alder branch, I put my backpack on and strapped the waist belt and sternum strap—a move I would soon regret.

With the pack secured on over the drag harness one cannot get free from this “anchor” in a hurry. We start to move away from the edge of the trees into the meadow ahead. Looking back into the trees, after hearing approaching footsteps, Lynn asked, “What’s that?” As I turned to look back at her, she said, “Bear,” and crossed by in front of me and off to one side. Being the last thing I expected to hear, it seemed as if I moved like molasses. Trying to back away from the trees to give myself some room was futile being attached still to the deer. Now I know how a dog feels being chained to a tree with a bear in the yard! I did manage a few steps back as I chambered a round, popped the scope covers and safety off, and said, “Get out of here!”

Knowing the bear now heard us, smelled us and probably saw Lynn move, I thought he would hold up in

the timber. I was wrong. As he got to the edge of the trees at about twenty yards, he looked at me and with no hesitation came straight for me. He had that same “locked-in look” and made the same growl as the last bear I had an unfavorable encounter with. I thought to myself, *here we go again*. I pulled the trigger at fifteen feet. Fortunately, I had turned the scope magnification down to the lowest setting earlier, but even at that, his head filled the whole scope and was too close to be in focus. This time, unlike the last, the gun went “bang;” Oh, how sweet the sound, instead of “click,” uhg-gg!

The whole event from Lynn’s warning, “bear,” to the shot was maybe three seconds. Why the bear, an eight-foot lone boar, didn’t hold up, but made such an aggressive move, remains unanswered. After a conformation he was dead, we headed down to the beach with the deer and met up with the rest of the party. Giving a short explanation, I was able to recruit a friend to help me go back and take care of the bear. After some “in the dark” pictures and two hours of skinning we loaded the pack and headed for the boat. Since everyone had to return that night to town, I never did get to go back in the daylight to see how long the bear had been trailing us. Bear season was still open and I had a tag, so I was able to keep the hide, unlike a normal “defense of life or property” bear.

I am so thankful to my favorite hunting buddy, my wife, for her warning and quick response to get out of the way. And I am most thankful to my Lord Jesus Christ for delivering me out of yet another predicament.

Maybe someone else can provide the entertainment next year!

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**“There are those who believe that a new modernity demands a new morality. What they fail to consider is the harsh reality that there is no such thing as a new morality. There is only one morality. All else is immorality.” —Theodore Roosevelt**

## 9th Circuit sides with NPS

BY RICK KENYON

A three-judge panel of the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals on February 9 rejected the Pilgrim (Hale) family's plea for reasonable access to their remote property in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve (WRST).

Russell Brooks, speaking for the Pacific Legal Foundation who brought the action on behalf of the Hale family, says they will ask for the entire court to hear the appeal rather than just the three-judge panel. "We are undeterred in our pursuit of a court decision recognizing the family's right to reasonable and feasible access," said Brooks.

Rangers from the National Park Service (NPS) created a furor among McCarthy area residents on April 8, 2003, when they posted a state right-of-way as being closed to vehicle traffic. The road, which had provided access from the town of McCarthy to the Mother Lode Mine for nearly a century, was also the only ground access to the cabin owned by the Hale family. The notice said that local residents could use the road to hunt or fish but that the Hale family could not use it to access their property.

Soon the national and even international media became involved, as did the American Lands Rights Association. Area residents formed the Residents of the Wrangells, an inholder group whose mission statement is "to collectively address the access issues and other problems we are encountering with the National Park Service."

At the heart of the 9th Circuit case is whether the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) actually guarantees access to inholdings, as a plain reading of it implies, or whether the landowner may be required to obtain permits which often cost thousands — sometimes hundreds of thousands of dollars — and many years of legal wrangling.

Environmentalists have opposed the access provisions of ANILCA since its implementation. "There's this interesting attitude among certain Alaskans that ANILCA allows access, period. It doesn't," said Jim Stratton, Alaska regional director for the National Parks Conservation Association.

The 9th Circuit ruled that access rights under ANILCA remain subject to reasonable regulation. But they failed to say what constitutes "reasonable." Critics have called

NPS attempts at regulating access "extreme and fanatical."

The NPS did eventually offer the Hales a permit to access their property by bulldozer, but only during the height of winter when conditions would have made the attempt extremely dangerous. The family declined.

Much of the conflict has been over whether the road is actually a state right-of-way or whether it has been "abandoned."

The court expressly declined to determine whether the road constituted an RS 2477 right-of-way.

Although the most visible member of the family, Robert Hale, has been indicted on multiple charges of rape, assault and incest, the question of legal access to the family's property remains. (His trial is scheduled for May 8.)

"We don't know what God's plans are for us at this time, but we would still like to be able to access our property with appropriate consideration given for all those involved with the situation," said Kurina Rose Hale, Hale's wife.

A history of the family's quest to have their access recognized can be found online at <http://www.landrights.org/ak/wrst/Pilgrims.permit-1110b.htm>.

## Selecting a Cellular Service Provider

ANCHORAGE - Cellular phones can be extremely useful, but to be cost-effective you must choose a service plan with the options that best suit your needs. Service plans make up the bulk of cellular costs, so it helps to know what to expect when your bill arrives rather than be blindsided by unexpected fees. Before committing yourself to a provider and its fees, determine how often and when

you plan to use your phone, as well as where you typically will be calling. No matter which plan you choose, it is important to read your contract carefully. Know your billing period, how much a carrier will charge you after the free minutes end, how much you will pay for roaming charges (making calls outside your designated area), any long distance and overtime charges, and which options are included in a rate

plan and which will cost extra. Many rate plans charge extra for voice-mail, web browsing, and conference calling. Once a contract is signed, a consumer is responsible for the agreed-upon terms, which necessitates careful review of all contracts.

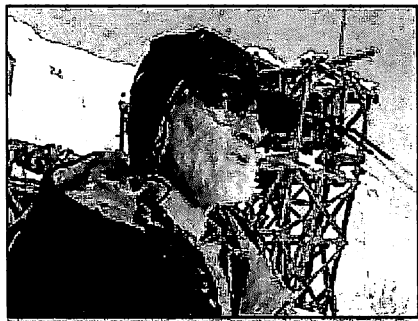
Check with the BBB at [www.thebbb.org](http://www.thebbb.org) or call 907-561-0704.



## McCarthy area gets prime time coverage

“McCarthy, Alaska — From boom to bust, mining to land disputes with the federal government, the tiny Wrangell mountain town of McCarthy has seen it and survived it all. This year, that tiny town in Alaska near Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve is turning 100.”

With these words KTUU's (Anchorage Channel 2 News) Jason Moore begins his series called *Tales from McCarthy*. Moore and photographer Tom Anderson made the trip to McCarthy the last week of February and spent three days interviewing residents and, from what we observed, falling in love with the area!



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

Tim Mischel—"Angle Station Tim"

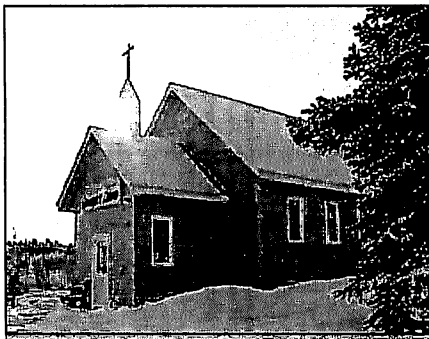
The first in the series of *Tales* is called *A home at the top of the world* and features "Angle Station Tim," AKA Tim Mischel, and aired on February 27.

"The view out of Mischel's front door shows miles and miles of rolling hills covered with snow," says Moore. "He lives in the Angle Station, where the tram carrying the ore from high on the ridge made a turn toward the mill site below. Tram cars still hang from the cables. Mischel's home sits at the 3,850-foot level."

Although pictures cannot fully capture the splendor of the view from the "bowl," where Tim lives, Anderson's video came close.

The second segment is titled *Finding a Church in the Wilderness*.

"The residents of McCarthy are as bizarre as the history of the area," says Moore. "Its preacher can slay grizzly bears, one parishioner dreamed about building his home in a fuel tank and a 51-year resident of the town is content with owning his own section of heaven. In short, they're living the Alaska dream."



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

The Church in the Wilderness

To hear the singing coming from the little church building, one would think the congregation might be numbered in the hundreds, until the camera moves inside. After hearing the singing and a line or two from the day's message, the camera again moves outside where



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

"Tanker Mike" Monroe

the preacher is queried about his title as the "grizzly-slaying preacher."

Then it's up to "Tanker Mike" Monroe's cabin above Kennecott.

"His tank once stored fuel for Kennecott mine's power plant," says Moore. And Mike still uses it for storage, but of a different sort. "You got a year's groceries and firewood,"



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

Jim Edwards

Tanker Mike said.

Down the hill and across the river to Jim Edwards' homestead.

"The trees and the nature, they're my church, and I live in it," Edwards said.

"Just about everything on Jim Edwards' property he built himself, including a couple of airplanes," says Jason. "He had to since he couldn't afford having others build it for him."

"But at age 75," Moore continues, "Edwards realizes that he's never felt poor in McCarthy."

"I could've chosen a lifestyle (where) I'd wind up rich. I knew that I could do it, but I didn't want to pay the cost," Edwards said.

*Family builds bridge to community*, segment three, aired March first. It deals with access issues and features the Rowland family, who literally did build a "bridge to the community."

"It used to be that half the town wanted a four-lane paved road to China through the park and the other half wanted to blow up the Kuskalana Bridge. And the point is that we really couldn't agree and no one wanted to give an inch," says an

obviously tongue-in-cheek Neil Darish, who runs the McCarthy Lodge.

Laurie Rowland narrowed the access issue to crossing the Kennicott River.



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

Laurie Rowland

"We had a dilemma. We had to figure out a way to build a bridge that people could drive across and get their supplies to where they're

going, get their groceries to where they're going, get themselves to where they're going etc. etc. but without what some people call opening the flood gates," said Rowland.

She goes on to explain the fee structure and how it accomplishes the dual goals of (eventually) paying for the bridge while at the same time providing access to those who need it and limiting access to the masses.

"If we don't have access, we're not here. And at the same time if we have access for everyone who doesn't understand it, we'll destroy what we have. So how do you balance it? I mean it's a continuous question and that bridge is a great example of a local doing the right thing for their own business and for the community," said Darish.



Tom Anderson/KTUU-TV

Neil Darish — McCarthy Lodge

As we go to press there are two more segments promised. One featuring Mark Vail and another with Jeremy and Allison Keller. Fortunately for us, KTUU has made the videos available online (for a limited time). Log onto their website at <http://ktuu.com>. Copies will also be available by calling (907)762-9595.

## McCarthy ladies celebrate the season

BY BONNIE KENYON

McCarthy:—If my mathematical calculations are correct, this year's Christmas cookie exchange was the 11<sup>th</sup> annual ladies's get-together. The tea and luncheon was originally scheduled for December 16, but on that Friday morning, we ladies were greeted with freezing rain and trails and roads glazed over with ice. It was wisely decided by Audrey Edwards, our hostess, that the festivity should be rescheduled. The new date was December 30. Two weeks made quite a difference in weather and travel conditions.

Eight area ladies ventured out to the Edwards's home on Swift Creek. Allie Keller (and son

Bjorn) came from Nizina way by snowmachine, truck and a short walk. Eleven month old Bjorn was the major attraction for the gathering —when we weren't eating Audrey's delicious luncheon fare, that is. Other ladies came by skis, 4 wheelers and by foot.

Hot spiced tea greeting the ladies and a grand display of fancy Hors D'oeuvres: assorted puff pastries filled with cheeses and vegetables, crab cakes, shrimp, deviled eggs, and desserts. Once again Audrey outdid herself!

After the luncheon dishes were cleared away, 10 bachelor plates were assembled and labeled. The remaining cookies were spread out on the kitchen table. Time for the great exchange! With only eight ladies this year, it didn't take long before all our containers were neatly stacked with goodies to take home and share with our families.

Thanks, Audrey, for another successful cookie exchange, for opening up your home once again and preparing such a grand feast for us! Oh, and thanks for not giving up on this year's celebration.



WSEN staff photo

Left-to-right: Sarah & Lynn Welty, Hannah Rowland, baby Bjorn & Allie Keller, Audrey Edwards, Laurie Rowland, Chris Haley. Bonnie is taking the picture.

# Geological Survey report on Chisana and Copper River

*Reprinted from The Chitina Leader, Tuesday, January 6, 1914*

“Mining in Alaska in 1913,” by Alfred H. Brooks, shows that the mineral output of the territory has decreased more than \$3,500,000 as compared with 1912. The decrease in the gold output is attributed to a general working out of the rich placer camps such as Fairbanks and Nome; the high cost of transportation preventing the low-grade gravels from being worked and the lode mining not yet having reached the stage where it will bring up the average. The copper output was also below that of 1913 which was due to the Kennecott-Bonanza mine being closed down for a time on account of accidents.

The report has the following to say concerning the mining districts tributary to Cordova:

## Chisana District

In May, 1913, William E. James and Peter Nelson found good placers on a small stream called by them Little Eldorado and which flows into Bonanza, tributary to Chatenda or Johnson Creek. Johnson Creek is an easterly fork of the Upper Chisana River, locally called the Shushanna. During the summer mining was done on the discovery and on some other claims in the neighborhood. The value of the total output from the district is variously estimated between \$40,000 and \$70,000. Gold has also been found on several tributaries of Chapolda or Wilson Creek, which lies across the divide north of Johnson Creek and flows westward into the Chisana.

The information at hand indicates that the discoveries thus far

made occur in an area about 5 to 8 miles square and that the prospected gravels are shallow. Some bench gravels have been found which are said to be auriferous. Most of the claims thus far opened up are above timber line, and a scarcity of water at these high altitudes reported. The deeper gravels at lower altitudes, while shown to be locally auriferous, have not been prospected. The shallow gravels thaw during summer, but the deep and bench gravels are said to be permanently frozen.

The bed rock of the district is shale and slate with some intrusives. It has long been known that this region was mineralized (see Bulletin U. S. Geological survey 417), and both copper and gold-bearing lodes have been more or less discovered in this general region. The shallow gravels are without doubt of post-glacial age, but some of the deeper and bench gravels may be older. It appears that the best hope for extensive gravel deposits lie in the finding of pre-glacial gravels. The northern limit of glaciation lies about 20 miles north of this district near where the Chisana emerges from the mountains.

The southern boundary of an area of schists and intrusive granite lies about 50 miles north of Johnson Creek. These rocks are known to be locally mineralized and are of the same types as those found in most of the Yukon camps. There has been but little prospecting in this region, largely because of its inaccessibility. It is certainly worthy of careful attention on the part of the prospector.

## Copper River Basin

There was no great activity in the Kotsina-Chitina copper belt during 1913. The Kennecott-Bonanza continues to be the only productive mine and its operation was much hampered by the destruction of the tramway and compressor plant by a snow slide and fire. Considerable work was also done on the nearby Jumbo claim, and a tramway is in course of erection on the Mother Lode property. A wagon road has been built from the lower end of this tram to the railroad. Some work was also done on the Dan Creek property, near the eastern end of the copper belt.

There was comparatively little mining at the western end of the field. Developments are reported on the Hubbard & Elliot property on Nugget Creek, and on the Berg claim, the latter located on the east side of the Kuskulina River. Some work was also done by Great Northern Development Co., which shipped some ore from its property during the winter of 1912-13.

A small vein of quartz and calcite carrying high gold values was found in the Kotsina region. As near as determined, this vein is located above timber line, some four miles north of Strelina Station and on the south slope of the ridge separating Elliott Creek from the Kotsina river. This discovery is not on Elliott Creek as has been reported.

Two hydraulic mines and several plants were operated in the Nizina district during 1913. The hydraulic plant on Dan Creek, destroyed by a freshet in 1912 was rebuilt.

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**“We do not need more intellectual power, we need more moral power. We do not need more knowledge, we need more character. We do not need more government, we need more culture. We do not need more law, we need more religion. We do not need more of the things that are seen, we need more of the things that are unseen. If the foundation be firm, the foundation will stand.” —Calvin Coolidge.**

# The world around us

BY DON WELTY

**B**eing a pilot and experiencing the fundamentals of flight first-hand has given me a great appreciation for the skills and equipment necessary for controlled, powered flight. The skill and equipment is manifest in so many of the creatures around us, that having to choose just one was difficult.

Alaska's state insect seemed appropriate, the "dragonfly." The highly-esteemed "mosquito hawk" is an exquisite example of awesome design.

Dragonflies belong to the order Odonata. Their life begins here in late summer as they hatch from eggs laid near one of our numerous clear-water systems. The first and longest stage, the aquatic nymph stage, lasts from one to several years. Breathing through gills, and feeding on other insect larvae and even small fish, they grow and mature. They travel and catch their prey by crawling, or jet propulsion from water pushed through the gills and out the abdomen. After molting several times, the nymph emerges, molting one last time and coming out as an adult with fully-functional wings in mid-summer. The adults feed aggressively on a variety of insects such as mosquitoes, black flies, gnats, deer flies, ants and even other dragonflies. Their prey is caught in flight or on the ground or vegetation with their legs and then passed on to their formidable jaws.

Near the end of this adult stage in late summer, males sometimes engage in aerial battles near breeding sites while in wait for receptive females. When a female is found, a complicated in-flight copulation lasts from a minute or so to several hours. The female then seeks out an area near a suitable water source to lay her eggs.

Due to the nymph's sensitivity to poor water quality, they are often used as "pollution indicators" in water systems nationwide. The most desirable attribute to humans, however, is their voracious appetite for biting, sucking and stinging insects.

It is the dragonflies's flight capabilities that I marvel at most. They put to shame my abilities and make the equipment man flies look like "tinker toys." Ned Rozell from the Alaska Science Foundation says, "Actually it is an insult to compare the flying ability of dragonflies with any man-made aircraft. Dragonflies can stop on a dime at thirty-five miles per hour, fly backwards, and cut turns that are too abrupt for any human pilot to stomach." <sup>(1)</sup>

One of the most interesting flight maneuvers involves what is called "motion camouflage." Akiko Mizutani of Australia's National University biorobotics lab reports that dragonflies shadow their enemies in complex maneuvers that fighter pilots can only dream of. They use a strategy known as active motion camouflage based on a visual illusion to conceal themselves. By adjusting their flight path they can appear stationary to their target while approaching or escaping. This makes them hard to spot and demands exquisite position sensing and flight control. <sup>(2)</sup>

Both U. S. and Australian defense agencies are supporting research into using active motion camouflage along with other insect-inspired technologies for use in aerial and ground-based defense vehicles. <sup>(3)</sup>

As I researched information on the dragonfly, I was astonished at the complexity and ingenuity of its flight system, one that I had previously taken for granted. Behind all the entertaining aerobatics performed by this supposed "three hundred million year old fossil" is a

harmonious union of intricate and advanced muscle, neurological, and structural systems.

Michael Dickinson, professor of biology at University of California Berkeley, says, "The first organisms to evolve flight, insects still represent the most sophisticated aerial machine on the planet...they can take off backwards, fly sideways, and land upside down!...from the mechanics of the muscle structure to the biomechanics of the skeleton, and the aerodynamics of the wing, all this is important for understanding what was once a neurobiological question." <sup>(4)</sup>

I read through pages and pages of descriptions of how the complex compound eye senses and sends data to the brain. This data is used to control complicated muscle structures that are connected to intricate rotational joints and hinges controlling the wing, allowing twisting and deforming of the wing in order to take advantage of vortices that are normally detrimental to aircraft, boosting flight efficiency. All this, in a self-replicating package, that spends most of its life as an aquatic nymph!

I challenge you to investigate on your own. Read about the eyes, wings, metamorphosis, molting, reproduction, navigation and capabilities. Also, read the evolutionary explanations of origins. You will find many quotes like the one from Professor Dickinson quoted earlier. How could "the first organism to evolve flight" be in the same breath with, "the most sophisticated flying machine on the planet?" Dragonflies appear in the fossil record fully developed supposedly "300 million" years ago and have not changed, except in size, to any degree to the present.

Insects fossilize very well due to their exo-skeletal structure, giving us intricate detail. Unlike vertebrate

fossils which leave most of their original detail to our imagination, many insect fossils especially in Baltic amber alone and just 2 sites in Colorado have produced over 100,000 at each site. In spite of the enormous record, the transitional forms are missing. And to make it worse, early fossils were basically the same then as now.

Dr. Bergman, writer and professor of biology and biochemistry at Northwest State University, summarizes my point.

“Over one million species of living insects have now been identified. If all 33 orders had evolved from a common non-insect ancestor, then a large number of transitional forms must have existed. Yet the abundant fossil record indicates a complete lack of such evidence for insect evolution. It now appears likely that the expected transitional forms have not been found because they never existed. Insect kinds all appear in the fossil record fully

formed, and all such examples either remain today or have become extinct. A summary of the fossils by one of the leading researchers concluded that:

‘Insects, which can be traced to the Devonian, have constantly remained numerous and varied. Like the Crustacea, some of their orders and superfamilies have indeed become extinct; however, their antiquity notwithstanding, they have always remained unchanged during the course of their history; they retain as many types as in the past.’

In particular, we lack credible evidence for the evolutionary origin of the many complex structures that are unique to insects, such as their compound eyes, flight structures, wings that fold, and the amazing metamorphosis system that causes development from a worm-like young into a totally different adult form.”<sup>(5)</sup>

I hope, as you explore and appreciate these often “taken-for-granted” creatures in the world around us, that you will grow in appreciation and awe, and give praise to our wonderful Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ!

(1) Rozell, Ned, Dragonfly wins state title, Alaska Science Foundation, article #1243, July 13, 1995.

(2) Duncan, Graham, Dragonfly trick makes missiles harder to dodge, *New Scientist*, 2003, 7 June.

(3) Beale, Bob, Putting the buzz in navigation, *The Scientist Magazine*, 2003, 17 (19): 28.

(4) Defrancesco, Laura, Learning how flies fly, *The Scientist Magazine*, 2002, 16 (2): 27.

(5) Bergman, Jerry, Insect evolution: a major problem for Darwinism, *TJ Technical Journal*, 18 (2) 2004.

## Why did the vole climb the tree?

BY NED ROZELL

At 40 below in Interior Alaska, ravens commute back and forth to communal roosts, talking along the way, and chickadees flit from tree to tree, singing their squeaky songs, but the woods are mostly silent during a cold spell.

That’s why a faint scratching noise surprised me on a recent walk. I looked to the source, a skinny spruce tree, and saw a red-backed vole looking me straight in the eye. It scrambled down the tree and into a hole in the snowpack, and left me with a question: what was that tiny, mouse-like creature doing out in that frigid air?

Ian van Tets has a few answers to that question. He is a biologist who studies voles and other northern animals at the University of

Alaska Anchorage. He and two graduate students, Kalb Stevenson and April Brennan, are monitoring voles in the Eagle River Valley north of Anchorage, and they don’t usually find them in trees or on the snow.

“Running around on top of the snow is a good way to become an ex-vole,” van Tets said. “They stand out on white background and the temperature up top is a lot colder than it is down under the snow.”

Small creatures use more energy to stay warm than large-bodied creatures. A moose, for example, retains heat easier than does a chickadee for much the same reason a hot tub stays unfrozen longer than a glass of water. Voles and lemmings spend most of their winter in the “subnivean” space between the snow and the ground, where the creatures have networks of tunnels warmed by the earth and insulated

by the snow, van Tets said. Temperatures in the subnivean world can be as warm as 32 degrees Fahrenheit no matter how cold the outside air, and tiny creatures have access to food there, such as small tree roots and fungi. This begs the question of what a vole might be doing in a spruce tree at 40 below zero.

Food is the most likely reason a vole would leave the subnivean world in extreme cold, van Tets said.

“They’re foraging constantly to pay the fuel bill,” van Tets said. “If a vole could pop out of the snow, find some seeds in a tree and then get back under the snow it might be worth it, especially if while in the tree it was relatively sheltered from wind chill and predators.”

Foxes, owls, wolverines, lynx, weasels, and even wolves eat so many voles their populations can

# THE CHITINA LEADER

March 1914 April

## PIONEER ALASKAN PASSES ON

Paul D'Heirry, United States commissioner at Chitina, and one of the best known pioneers of the north, died suddenly at Chitina at 2 o'clock this morning. The news of the death was conveyed to friends of deceased in messages sent by Deputy Marshal Woods, of Chitina. Deceased had been ill for some time but was believed to be improving and his sudden demise came as a surprise.

Paul D'Heirry's death closes an eventful life. Little is known in Alaska of his early life beyond the fact that he was born on the Pacific coast about 60 years ago and received a brilliant education. As a young man he was admitted to the bar and also engaged in newspaper work. During the Seattle boom in the 80's he amassed a considerable fortune and entered politics. His brilliant intellect soon brought him to the front and he was an acknowledged power in the affairs of the state of Washington until the panic of 1895-6 swept his fortune away. For a time he was assistant attorney-general of that state.

When the stampede took place to Nome, D'Heirry joined the argonauts and engaged in mining there but later accepted a position in the

United States marshal's office there. From Nome he went to Circle district where he spent a number of years developing ground which he believed would be a good dredging proposition. Disappointed but not discouraged he walked up the Yukon River to Eagle and crossed the great interior to the coast in the dead of winter. Arriving at Valdez he again engaged in newspaper work as editor of the Miner and later occupied the same position on the Daily Prospector. He was an exceptionally forceful writer and being of a genial nature made many firm friends.

Paul D'Heirry was appointed commissioner at Chitina about one year ago by Judge Overfield and has held the position with credit to himself and the department since his appointment. The news of his sudden death brought expressions of regret from his many friends. He leaves one married daughter and grandson, who are believed to be living in British Columbia.

The remains of Paul D'Heirry will be laid to rest in the local cemetery on Friday. Deceased was popular among Chitina citizens and the business houses will close during the funeral service.

March 3

## OF GENERAL INFORMATION

The Copper River & Northwestern Railway is having one of its 70-foot coaches renovated and especially fitted up as a diner, for use in connection with its trains running between Cordova and Chitina. The car at present used for that purpose is entirely too small to accommodate the growing patronage and the company is to be congratulated for its efforts to give the public the best possible service.

At one end of the diner there will be reserved a drawing room for the exclusive use of ladies, so that they may be provided with more comfortable quarters while traveling. The furnishings for the diner will be new, as well as the equipment for the kitchen and Caterer Baird will be able to handle a large number of people with meals and in a more satisfactory manner.

March 17

## A BIG MINING OPERATION

James J. Godfrey, president of the Mother Lode Copper Mines Company, accompanied by his wife, arrived yesterday on the Steamer Northwestern. When interviewed yesterday by a representative of the Daily Alaskan Mr. God-

frey made this interesting and important statement:

"We are installing an 80 h.p. gasoline engine to drive a compressor of the same capacity, which will furnish power to operate several Sullivan drills now on the property. We intend enlarging our mining operations by driving a cross-cut tunnel which will give us 350 feet of vertical depth below the level of our present Marvelous cross-cut tunnel. When we cut the vein with this cross-cut we shall then sink a winze 300 feet for the purpose of proving the integrity of the vein. When this work is completed, we shall come down the mountain and install a large power plant, preparatory to driving a 3,400 foot cross-cut tunnel, which will penetrate the Mother Lode vein at a vertical depth of 1,400 feet. This work will probably take us ten months to complete and will cost \$175,000. When this tunnel is completed this work will furnish to the mining world proof of the permanency of the copper deposits of the Chitina-Kotsina copper belt."

President Godfrey further stated that just as soon as weather conditions would permit, the Mother Lode Company would begin the construction of a wagon road from Shushanna Junction, the old McCarthy Station, to the

Mother Lode Mine, which, when completed at a cost of \$25,000, would be 13 miles long. When this wagon road is completed the company intends placing in operation two of the most powerful auto trucks made, of a capacity to haul 10 tons of ore per trip, and make two trips a day, thus insuring the transportation of 40 tons of ore daily from the Mother Lode, beginning July 15<sup>th</sup>.

In answer to an inquiry as to whether he believed the Mother Lode property could produce 40 tons of ore a day by July 15<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Godfrey stated that his company's property could produce much more than 40 tons per day, when transportation facilities were afforded. In that connection Mr. Godfrey was asked whether the Copper River & Northwestern officials were willing to build a spur to his property and he said that during the past winter in New York he had interviewed those high in authority and had been given positive assurances that a spur would be built to the Mother Lode not later than the summer of 1915.

Mr. Godfrey is accompanied by Mr. P. L. Burns, who goes to McCarthy on the next train as cashier and in charge of the company's office at the mines, and Mr. P. A. Manion, of Pittsburgh, Pa., who is to be the company's assayer on the property.

March 24

#### OF GENERAL INFORMATION

The freighter Cordova sailed north from Seattle

last week. In her care is considerable construction timber for the new tram to be put in at the Jumbo mine. This property adjoins the Bonanza mine and is owned by the Kennecott Mines Company. Considerable development work has been done and it is expected that by the time the tram is erected the Jumbo will be in readiness to ship 100 tons of copper ore per day, making the daily shipment from Kennecott about 300 tons. And it is all in the neighborhood of 60 per cent copper.

While we have advocated the placing of automobiles on the summer trail between Chitina and Fairbanks, for the carrying of passengers, mail and freight, it seems that an ambitious confident driver thinks that there is no reason why an auto should not also be run in the winter. Robert Sheldon, during the past few days very successfully demonstrated that his confidence in his ability to drive over the roads at present was not over estimated. On Sunday morning March 22, at 6 o'clock, he started with his auto and eight passengers from Chitina. He traveled 76 miles to Gulkana, reaching there that evening. He returned the following morning 37 miles to Willow Creek, where he picked up another lot of passengers and turning around proceeded 59 miles to Sourdough, reaching there that night. On Tuesday morning he left the Sourdough roadhouse at 5 o'clock and reached Chitina that after-

noon at 4 o'clock covering a distance of 98 miles. He stopped at Copper Center for gasoline and lunch and also lost some time in turning out for freight trains that he met on the road.

March 31

#### OF GENERAL INFORMATION

M. Tierney, who has been conducting a boarding house for the railroad workmen in a car at Mile 173, is in town and will return to the interior on Thursday's train. He is arranging to transfer his boarding house to tents for the summer. He says that a saw mill is about to be erected at Mile 173, to supply lumber for McCarthy and other points in the interior.

April 21

#### OF GENERAL INFORMATION

Cordova, April 25. The arrival last night of the last word in automobiles is an indication that as the town expands we are to have the most up to date methods of travel. Capt. Lathrop is now the proud possessor of a White Big Six touring car of maroon color, and it is said to be a beauty. It was the prize car at the recent Portland automobile show and cost in the neighborhood of \$5,500. It will be an attractive addition to the present service of the Alaska Transfer Company.

Cordova, April 27. Geo. Max Esterly, accompanied by his wife, took the train this morning for the interior. Mrs. Esterly will return on Friday and sail on the steamer Alameda

Saturday for Seattle. Mr. Esterly will go on to Chititu Creek, on the other side of the Nizina River, where he has large hydraulic holdings. He will employ 40 or 50 men this season and if there is plenty of water expects to make a clean-up of two or three hundred thousand dollars in placer gold.

Cordova, April 28. The steamer Latouche arrived in port last evening and discharged powder for S. Blum & Co. and considerable machinery for the Jumbo mine at Kennecott. It included several miles of wire rope for the new tram.

Among the arrivals at Cordova a couple of weeks ago were Mr. C. Lowell, wife and young daughter of 13 years. They were old time Alaskans on their way to the Shushanna country. They took the first train out after the recent blockade and made good progress. On Friday last they were crossing the Nizina glacier when Mrs. Lowell was attacked with a stroke of apoplexy. Within five minutes she had passed away. Her body was brought back to McCarthy by team and reached Cordova this afternoon by train. It was taken in charge by O. E. Lambert and prepared for shipment. Mr. Lowell and daughter also returned.

April 28

## **Voles in the trees** (continued from page 13)

crash when voles are scarce. Avoiding one of those hunters may have been a good reason to climb a tree:

"I am sure that voles are occasionally flushed out of the snow by predators and, having scattered, make do the best they can above ground until it is convenient and possible to go under again," van Tets said. "Hiding in a tree makes more sense than sitting out on top of the snow."

Voles might also get kicked out from their subnivean pads, van Tets said.

"Voles that are part of a nesting group sometimes aggressively exclude other voles from their area and might even kill a vole that did not make itself scarce. If making itself scarce means seeking temporary refuge above the snow in a tree then that, I suspect, is what the vole will do."

The more he studies voles, the more van Tets admires them. At a time when bears hibernate and most birds escape Alaska and head for warmer places, voles thrive in a dark

world beneath the snow, sometimes even breeding during the winter.

"Voles and lemmings are, in my completely unbiased opinion, the truly tough animals of northern ecosystems," he said. "They don't migrate, hibernate or even use torpor to save energy. They just gut out the winter as best they can."

*This column is provided as a public service by the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell is a science writer at the institute.*

## **Wrangell-St. Elias Student Scholarship Program Offers \$500 Scholarship**

**Who Can Apply:** Graduating high school seniors continuing their education in pursuit of a public service and resource-based career (preferable, but not required) related to resource stewardship. Ap-

plicants need not be related to National Park Service employees.

**How to Apply:** In person at Slana, Yakutat, or Park Headquarters in Copper Center, or mail to Wrangell-St. Elias Employee Association, P. O. Box 439, Copper Cen-

ter, AK 99573 (must be received by March 31). See your High School Guidance Counselor, call 822-5234 for an application, or check on the website at [www.nps.gov/wrst/scholarship.htm](http://www.nps.gov/wrst/scholarship.htm).

## **Avalanche Safety Brochure available online**

**S**nowmachiners take note! Before you head up the mountain, head to <http://www.dps.state.ak.us/pio/releases/resources/Brochures/Avalanche-Safety.pdf> and check out the informative brochure there.

The full-color brochure opens with these important tips:

"If you learn nothing else, remember that if you like to ride onto steep slopes, do so **ONE AT A TIME**,

with the rest of your group watching from a safe spot."

**"DO NOT PARK AT THE BOTTOM of a steep slope and DO NOT GO HELP SOMEONE WHO HAS THEIR SLED STUCK."**

"These travel procedures alone would cut the number of fatalities in half."

There are sections on High-marking, Cornice Safety, Rescue

Safety and a page called "Travel Smart."

If you do not have internet access, you can get the pamphlets from the Snowmobile Trail Grants Program, 907-269-8699 or by writing the Department of Natural Resources, 550 W. 7th Ave., Suite 1380, Anchorage Alaska 99501.

A limited number are available here at the WSEN office. Call us at 554-4454 if you are in the local area.

---

**"The world is moved not only by the mighty shoves of the heroes, but also by the aggregate of the tiny pushes of each honest worker." —Helen Keller**

## **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR (cont)**

I ended with the information, that he'd once flown me from McCarthy to Long Lake in a Super Cub and that I'd joined the family (minus Don) at a meal at Long Lake.

The group expressed appreciation and seemed to have a keen interest in the topic. There were several questions including, "What is life like?" "Do they have electricity and running water?" I could answer some of that based upon life

with the Collins during my brief times with them.

So, thanks for the interesting and informative topic. It was a hit!

Jane Digman



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## Entrepreneurial scholarship offered

**J**UNEAU, Alaska, Feb. 14, 2006 – Small business is the undisputed engine of the American economy, and to give an aspiring young entrepreneur his or her first gallon of gas toward achieving the goal of owning a business, the leadership council of the 2,000-member NFIB/Alaska, the state's largest small-business advocacy group, today announced it has set up an exclusive \$1,000 scholarship.

Right now the Young Entrepreneur Foundation of the National Federation of Independent Business is taking applications for its annual scholarship awards of \$1,000 to high school seniors who have demonstrated entrepreneurial initiative in a variety of ways, including test scores, membership in civic organi-

zations such as Junior Achievement or the 4-H, or having already begun a small enterprise of their own.

"Last year, we awarded an Alaska student a \$1,000 scholarship to attend a college of their choice anywhere in the country," said Thyges Shaub, NFIB/Alaska state director. "In an attempt to boost that number, the Leadership Council of NFIB/Alaska decided to finance one of their own."

Applicants for the new NFIB/Alaska Leadership Council Young Entrepreneur Foundation Scholarship can apply at the same online address as the national awards, [www.NFIB.com/YEF](http://www.NFIB.com/YEF). The deadline is March 15, 2006. Applicants must be nominated by an NFIB/Alaska small-business owner.

For a local NFIB member in your area, please call 1-800-NFIB-NOW.

The 62-year-old, 600,000-member NFIB inaugurated its young entrepreneur program in 2003 when it awarded a total of 110 scholarships nationwide. In 2004, the number of awardees more than doubled to 221. Last year the NFIB Young Entrepreneur Foundation awarded 381 scholarships, and it is expecting that to increase to 500 in 2006 thanks to additional financial support from numerous small-business leaders and corporate and foundation supporters. The major corporate sponsor is VISA USA, which donated \$100,000 to the national program, including four \$5,000 regional winners and one \$10,000 Youth Entrepreneur of the Year winner.

---

*"If there is one thing upon this earth that mankind love and admire better than another, it is a brave man,—it is the man who dares to look the devil in the face and tell him he is a devil." —*

*James Garfield*



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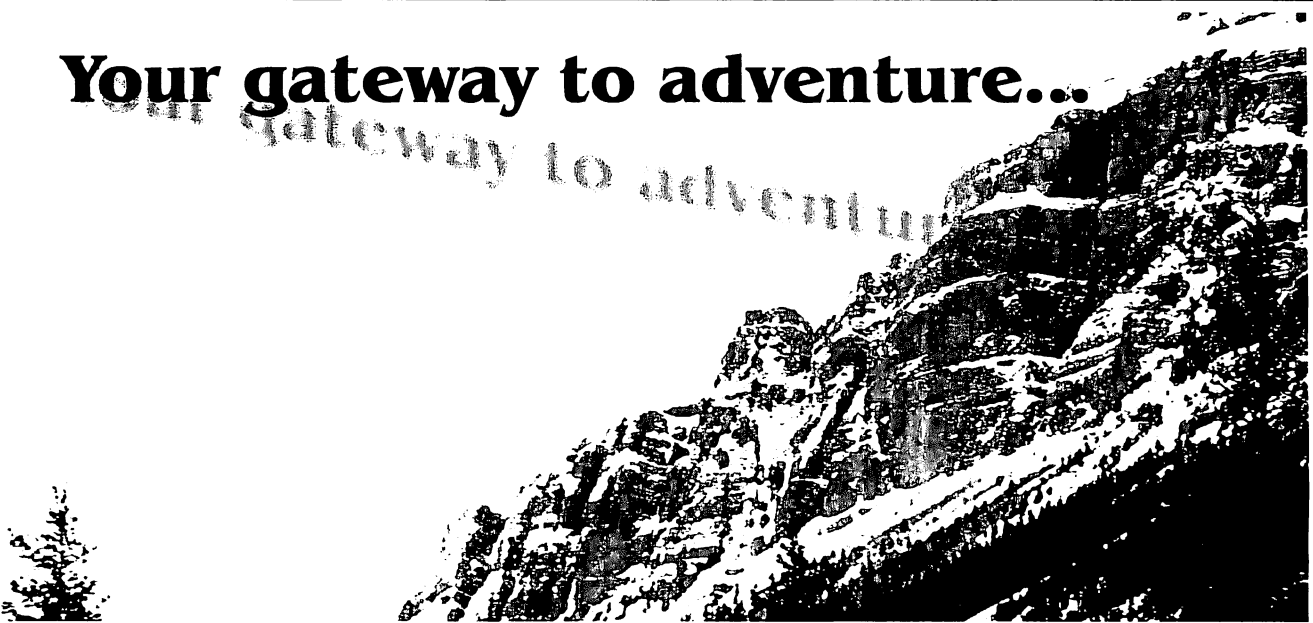
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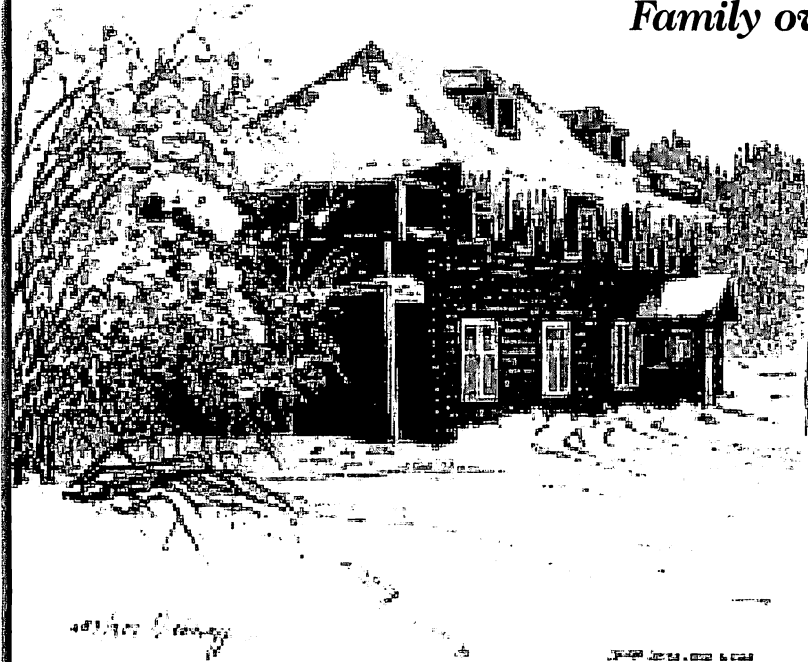
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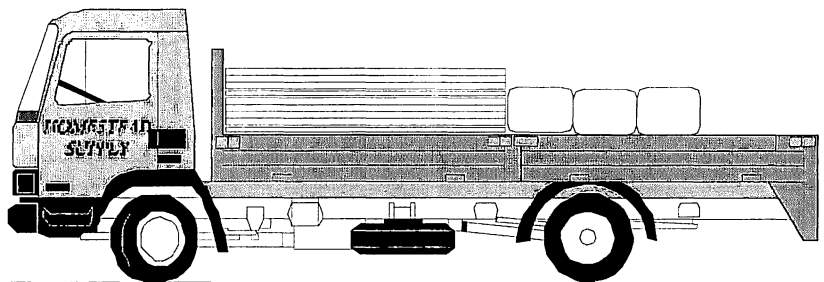
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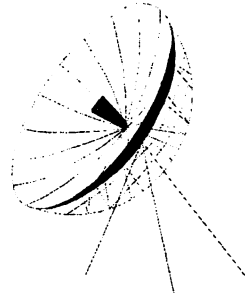
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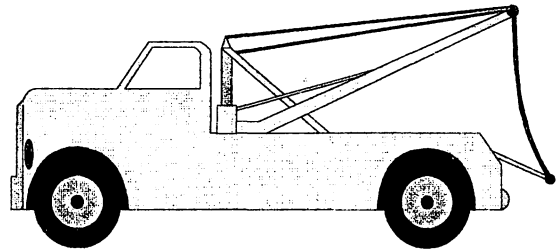
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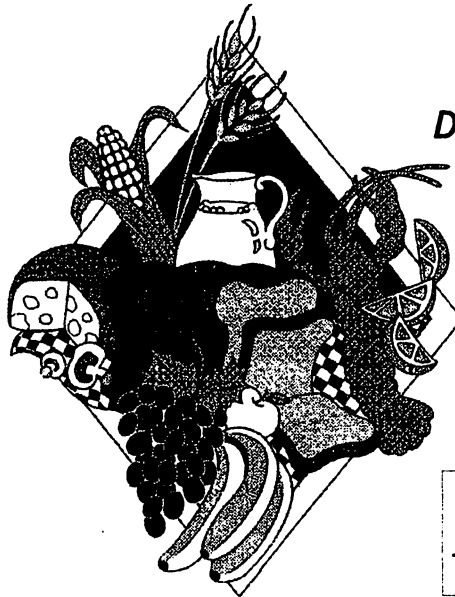
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# **Copper River Cash Store**

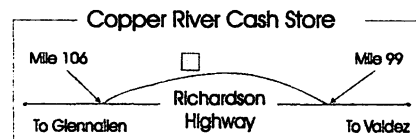
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# Cooking with Peggy

**H**i Cooking Fans, It's January 24 when I'm writing this and here in Arizona it's about 68 degrees. Have you ever noticed that when you go into a grocery store and head for the produce department, the temperature must be at least 20 degrees colder? The people who work there are all wearing winter jackets, and I've actually seen some wearing gloves.

What a job! I'd last about 2 days. I know you people out there in the -20 degrees are laughing at me but I've lived in upstate New York and was born in Pennsylvania and I loved those areas but like the weather here better!

*Let me tell you what I've just discovered at the ripe old age of 65 — SQUASH. We never ate it at home when I was growing up (yes, I remember) and I never tried it (actually avoided it except for zucchini) until lately. Now I discovered that I LOVE it so..... I decided to give you a few recipes that you might not have tried. I'd love to have any of yours to try. The first is for:*

## SCALLOPED SQUASH AND APPLES

- 2 lbs. Butternut squash, peeled, seeded and cut into 1" pieces
- 2 large apples, peeled and cut into 1" pieces
- 1/4 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- 2 tablespoons orange juice
- 1 tablespoon butter or stick margarine, melted
- 2 teaspoons grated orange peel
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Layer squash and apples in an 11" X 7" X 2" baking dish coated with nonstick cooking spray. In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients. Pour over squash and apples. Cover and bake at 350 degrees for 35-40 minutes or until tender. Yield: 6 servings.

This recipe is from the *Taste of Home Light & Tasty* and it has become one of my absolute favorites. The nutritional analysis according to them is one serving (3/4 cup) equals 161 calories, 2 g fat, 5 mg cholesterol, 228 mg sodium, 38 g carbs., 6 g fiber, and 1 g protein.

*Now, how about one for zucchini.*

## ZUCCHINI OVEN CHIPS

It's a great snack or replacement for fries with your hamburger. Just dip them in Ranch dressing if you like and enjoy!

- 2 1/2 cups zucchini, sliced 1/4 inch thick
- 1/4 cup dry Italian style bread-crumbs
- 1/4 cup fresh Parmesan cheese, grated
- 1/4 teaspoon seasoning salt
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/8 teaspoon fresh ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons whole milk

1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
2. Combine all ingredients except for zucchini in a medium bowl, stirring well with a whisk.
3. Place milk in a shallow bowl.
4. Dip zucchini slices in milk, and dredge in breadcrumb mixture.
5. Place coated slices on an oven proof wire rack coated with Pam cooking spray. Place rack on a cookie sheet.
6. Bake at 425 degrees for 25 to 30 minutes, or until browned and slightly crisp.

I'm making these tonight to eat with my quiche and salad and can hardly wait

*Now, how about using that acorn squash in a cake!*

## ACORN SQUASH CAKE WITH PECAN STREUSEL TOPPING

- 4 tablespoons or 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 3/4 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 tsp vanilla extract
- 1 cup fresh acorn squash puree (cooked and mashed)
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup chopped pecans

### TOPPING:

- 1/2 cup packed, light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 4 tablespoons butter, room temperature
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pecans

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly butter and flour a 9-inch square pan.

1. Beat butter and sugar at medium speed until light and fluffy. Add egg, beating well. Stir in squash and vanilla.

2. Combine flour and next 3 ingredients; gradually add to squash mixture, beating at low speed after each addition or fold it in with a spatula. Do not over mix. Stir in pecans.

3. Pour batter into your greased pan.

4. Mix the ingredients for the streusel topping and sprinkle it over the cake.

5. Bake for 40-45 min. or until edges begin to pull away from sides of pan and topping is brown. Cool completely before cutting.

It makes about 9 servings. Some say it is better if eaten the next day.

Now, just a hint or two:

For every teaspoon of oil you cut out, you save 45 calories — enough to shed 5 lbs. in a year.

Some tips for freezing:



- Pepper, cloves, garlic, green pepper, imitation vanilla and some herbs tend to get strong and bitter.
- Onion and paprika change flavor during freezing.
- Celery seasonings become stronger.
- Curry develops a musty off-flavor.
- Salt loses flavor and has the tendency to increase rancid-

ity of any item containing fat.

- When using seasonings and spices, season lightly before freezing, and add additional seasonings when reheating or serving.

That's all for this month. E-mail me at [jgelec@starband.net](mailto:jgelec@starband.net). I'd love to hear from you,

Peggy Guntis

P.S. I just read Debbie Macomber's book entitled *There's something About Christmas* in which

she talks about fruitcake. She mentions that people seem to either love it or hate it. I LOVE it. Ms. Macomber mentions that it is a part of Christmas for many people as it was a part of mine growing up. No one in my family now even likes it. Do any of you fruitcake lovers have a recipe that you might share with others. I'm going to try the one in her book that has chocolate as an ingredient since my husband loves chocolate. Maybe I can get a convert. I would love to have your input.

## A LOOK AT THE WEATHER

BY GEORGE CEBULA

A short November Summary. The average temperature for Nov '05 was 4.7 (16.9 in Nov. '04), the high was 41 on the 18 and 19 and the low was -42 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Total liquid precipitation was 4.71 inches (1.30 inches in Nov. '04) and snowfall was 50.1 inches (8.2 in Nov. '04). Snow depth was 3 inches on the 1<sup>st</sup>, increasing to 30 on the 25<sup>th</sup> and ending the month with 28 inches.

December 2005 had about average temperatures and average precipitation.

The average December temperature was 8.2 (7.4 in Dec. '04 and -6.5 in Dec. '03). The high was 41 on December 8<sup>th</sup> (41 on Dec. 23, '04 and 35 on Dec. 22, '03) and the low was -45 on December 2<sup>nd</sup> (-31 on Dec. 30, '04 and -37 on Dec. 28, '03). Thirteen days had low temperatures of zero or above and five days saw the low temperature dip below a minus twenty. Nine days had high temperatures of thirty or above and four days zero or below. *Silver Lake had an average temperature of 8.1 (6.7 in Dec. '04 and -1.4 in Dec. '03).*

*The high temperature was 45 on December 16<sup>th</sup> (41 on Dec. 2, '04 and 34 on Dec. 29, '03) and the low was -43 on December 3 (-28 on Dec. 31, '04 and -38 on Dec. 27, '03). Silver Lake had nine days with a high of thirty or above and five days with a low of minus twenty or colder.*

December precipitation was 2.43 inches of liquid precipitation (2.23 in Dec. '04 and 2.32 in Dec. '03). Total snowfall was 7.8 inches (21.4 in Dec. '04 and 27.5 in Dec. '03). The snow depth was 27 inches at the beginning of the month, decreased to 20 inches on December 17<sup>th</sup>, and ended the month at 20 inches. *By comparison Silver Lake had 0.89 inches of liquid precipitation (2.09 in Dec. '04 and 1.70 in Dec. '03). Total snowfall was 4.0 inches (16.7 in Dec. '04 and 18.0 in Dec. '03). The snow depth was 27 inches at the beginning of the month, decreasing to 2 inches at the end of the month.*

The January data is from Mike Monroe at Kennicott, as the observers were gone most of the month. Thanks Mike for sharing your data . The average January temperature at

Kennicott was 0.9. The high was 35 on January 22<sup>nd</sup> and the low temperature was -24 on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. *Silver Lake had an average temperature of -8.2 (-1.9 in Jan. '05 and -18.8 in Jan. '04). The high was 32 on January 22<sup>nd</sup> (42 on Jan. 4, '05 and 24 on Jan. 23, '04) and the low was -39 on January 27 (-39 on Jan. 13, '05 and -48 on Jan. 27, '04). Silver Lake had one day with a high of thirty or above and three days with a low of minus thirty or lower.*

January liquid precipitation at Kennicott was 0.20 inches. Snowfall was 4.4 inches. Snow cover at McCarthy was around 20 inches all of January. *Silver Lake had 0.24 inches of liquid (0.75 in Jan. '05 and 0.45 in Jan. '04) and 8.0 inches of snow (5.0 in Jan. '04 and 19.0 in Jan. '03). Silver Lake started 2006 with 2 inches of snow on the ground and ended the month with 4 inches.*

After eleven weeks on the road including two Alaska Ferry trips, Sophie (my dear dog) and I are back in McCarthy.

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# FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

## UAA Lecture Series Examines Alaska's National Parks

**F**our public lectures will be presented at the University of Alaska Anchorage this winter focusing on topics relevant to national parks and public lands. Part of the Polaris Lecture Series, and sponsored by the University of Alaska Anchorage's Democracy Forum and the National Park Service — Alaska Region, the lectures and media presentations are free to the public.

Each lecture and media presentation runs from 7:30 to 9 p.m. in the Social Sciences Building (SSB), Room 118, on the UAA campus.

The series opened on January 19 and was titled "Managed Wilderness — Not a Contradiction." Alaska's national park wilderness has different rules than parks in the Lower 48, particularly with regard to forms of access. Management of park wilderness involves integrating the Wilderness Act, specific park purposes and the other provisions of the Alaska Lands Act, resulting in sometimes complex decision making processes. Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve is the focus of these issues, as the park has dealt with subsistence and sport hunting, all-terrain vehicle access, high-end recreation users following in the footsteps of Bob Marshall, and local community interests.

Speakers are park Superintendent Dave Mills, and Judy Alderson, NPS-Alaska Wilderness Coordinator.

The series continued on February 9 with a program on "Subsistence History and Implementation." The majority of national park units in Alaska have a fundamental difference from units in the Lower 48: they remain open to hunting and trapping for local, rural residents. Title VIII of the 1980 Alaska Lands Act was part of the suite of compromises and agreements to use new philosophy and methods of land management for the Alaska parks. Lake Clark National Park and Preserve is the focus for this topic, and the speaker is park historian John Branson.

On March 2, "Predators and Prey" was the theme. The species most frequently identified with national parks in Alaska are bears, wolves and caribou. The dynamics of their relationship and research about them have been key topics for groups as diverse as researchers, animal rights activists, tourism groups, hunters and trappers, and park managers. Predator prey dynamics at Denali National Park will be the focus of this lecture. Superintendent Paul Anderson and biologist Tom Meier are the presenters

The series concludes April 6 with "Access to Parks," a look at Title 11 of the 1980 Alaska Lands Act which set out the process for access to national parks in Alaska, but left much to the discretion of land managers. Twenty-five years have brought significant change to the Alaska which surrounds parks. The population is much larger, snow machines and off-road vehicle are far more prevalent and reliable, allowing travel that was unimagined in the 1970s; state and Native land selections are being finalized; and a body of law is developing regarding Title 11 of the Alaska Lands Act and other access laws. The lecture will focus on access issues at Wrangell-St. Elias and how the NPS and users are working toward management solutions. Presenters are Jed Davis, park superintendent, and Danny Rosenkrantz, resource management specialist/geologist.

A one-credit course associated with the National Parks Polaris Lecture series is available for undergraduate or graduate credit. For information about the course, Studies in Politics: National Park Issues, contact instructor Ralph Tingey, at (907) 644-3507, or the UAA Department of Political Science, at (907) 786-4896.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi, Bonnie and Rick,

Thought you might like to know that the *WSEN* was the topic of my presentation at a local "literary" club. This group was organized in 1922 and is now composed of fifteen (15) women.

Although the topic of the presentation is usually a book, I talked with one member and decided that your news might make an interest-

ing presentation. First, I gave the reasons for my connections to McCarthy (resident of Cordova who flew into McCarthy with Phil Collins in 1965 and longtime friend of Cliff and Jewel Collins). Next, I located McCarthy on an AK map. Next, I located McCarthy and Long Lake on a Wrangell-St.Elias Park map. Then, I reviewed the layout of the paper. My collection of *WSEN* al-

lowed each person to have a copy as I describe it.

The front photo covers gave me several opportunities to describe the types of articles — from the Christmas cookie exchange and the bear in the yard and the moose in another yard to the history of the mines and area, the relationship with the NPS, as well as Don Welty's encounter with the bear. That story

(continued on page 16)

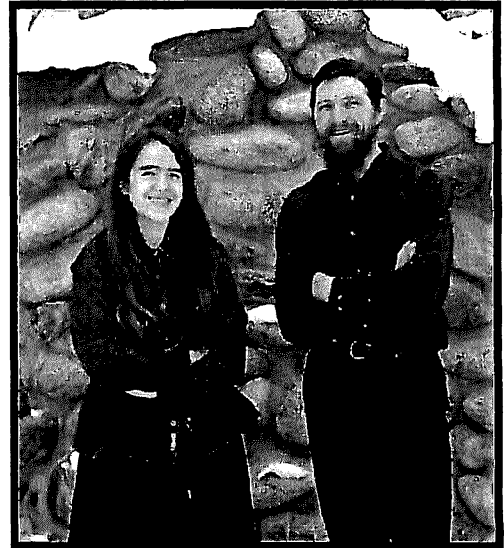
“And the Lord God said, *It is not good for a man to be alone; I will make him a help meet for him.*” Genesis 2:18

In His sovereign wisdom,  
before the foundation of the world,  
God chose to be joined as one in Him...

**Joshua Strength Hale**  
... and...  
**Tischaria Joy Buckingham**

*“...from the beginning of the creation God made them male and female. For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and cleave to his wife; and they twain shall be ONE flesh...”*

...What therefore God hath joined together, LET NOT man put asunder.” Mark 10:6-9



We would be privileged for you to bear witness with us of this union in Christ Jesus on  
March 11, 2006.

**Place:** The wedding will be here at our home. We will have the ceremony on the front lawn... rain, snow, or shine! Please come casually dressed with consideration of the weather... hats, coats, boots, rain gear, etc... During the ceremony our home will be open for the elderly or for mothers to bring their babies and small children in out of the weather if necessary. Children are very welcome!

**Time:** We will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 11, 2006. Please arrive by 12:45 p.m. so that you can easily find a place to park, and get seated before we begin. After the wedding, we will enjoy a good old-fashioned time of food and fellowship.

**RSVP:** If the Lord opens the way for you to join us, please call by March 4<sup>th</sup> so we can get an appropriate idea of how many people to prepare for. Car pooling when possible will also help our parking situation here at the Homestead. Please feel free to call if you have any questions about directions or otherwise... (907) 746-6557 or (907) 232-7780

**Directions:** Start at the intersection of the Glenn Hwy and East Arctic Avenue in Palmer. Please call 746-6557 if you get lost!

Proceed east along East Arctic across the Matanuska River.

After crossing the river continue east for 0.7 miles and turn left on Clark-Wolverine Road.

Go 0.7 miles up Clark-Wolverine to the "T" and turn left.

Go 0.8 miles west on Clarke-Wolverine road to the "T" and turn right .

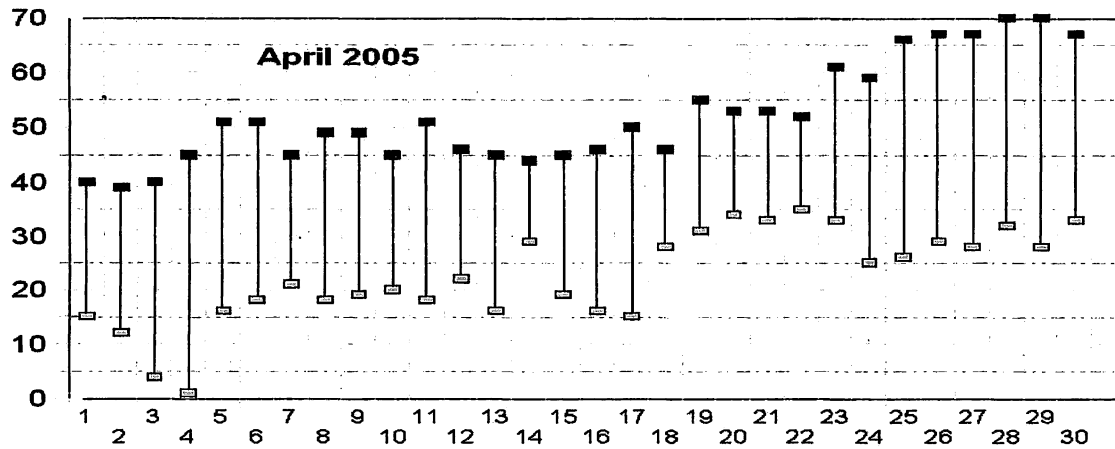
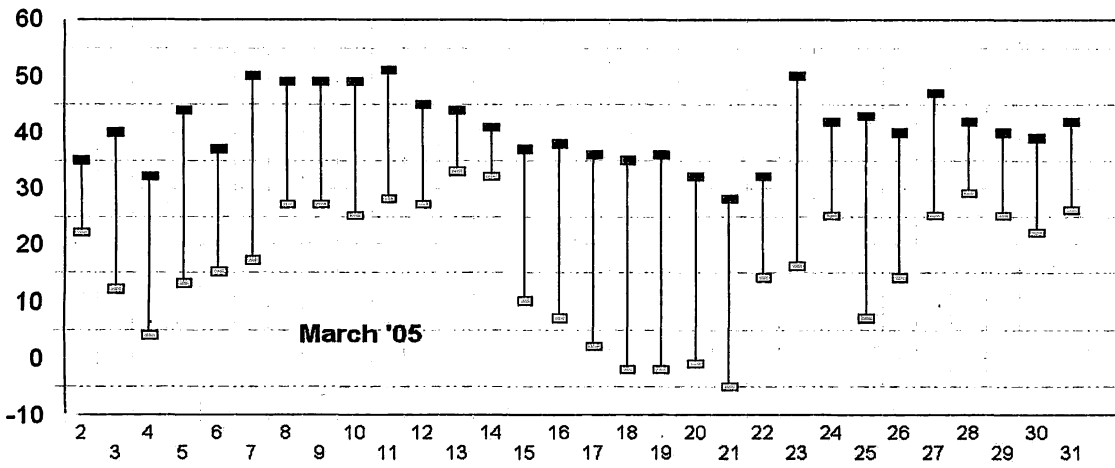
Go 1.3 miles north along Clark Wolverine and turn left onto Wolverine Road, Clark goes straight.

Go 0.5 miles north on Wolverine road and turn right at the green mailbox with "Buckingham" on it, onto Goa Way Road (no sign) just over the crest of the hill.

Go 0.3 miles up Goa Way Road and turn right into the 3<sup>rd</sup> driveway on the right at the "Heavenly Homestead" sign.

Heavenly Homestead, 16196 E. Goa Way Road, Palmer, Alaska 99645

“This is the Lord’s doings; it is marvelous in our eyes.” Psalms 118:23



Ray And Lee Ann Kreig/Gerhart  
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# Wrangell St. Elias News

# B & B



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