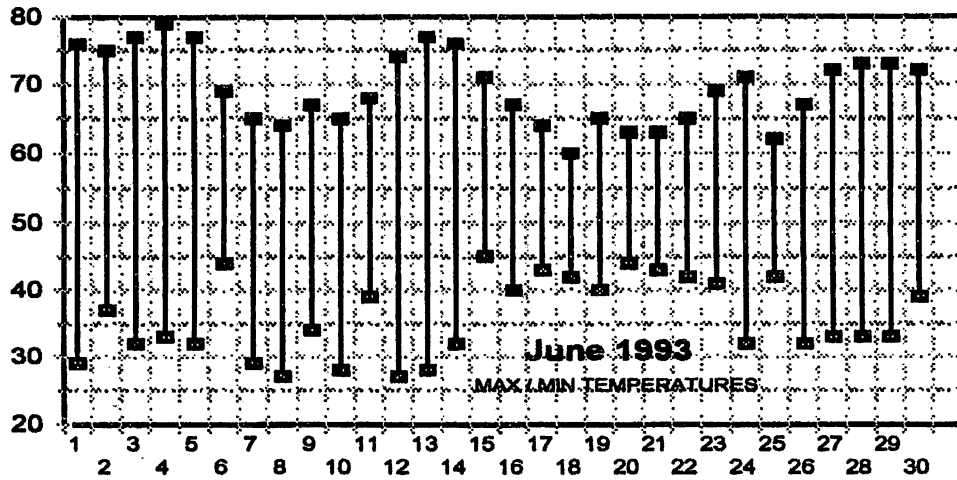
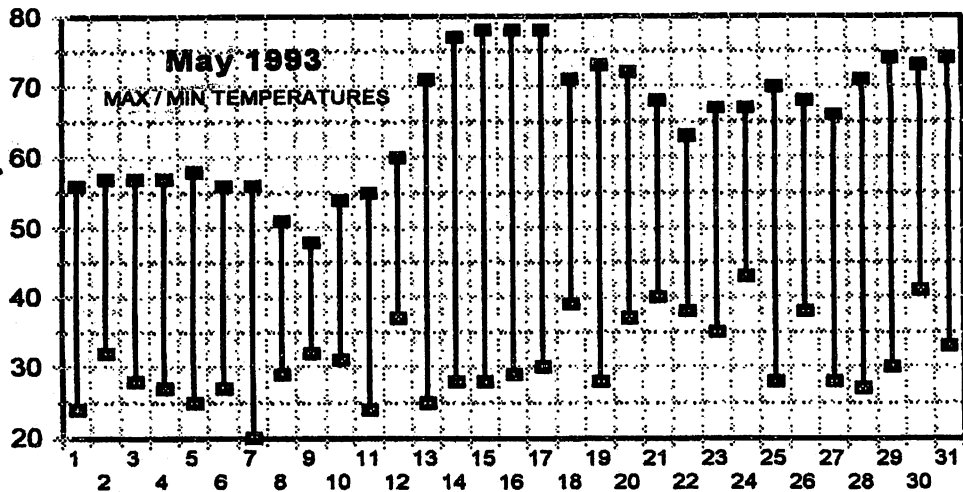


Weather - What can we expect?



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Phoenix, Arizona
March 10, 1994

Dear Rick and Bonnie,
NICE THINGS SHOULD NOT
GO UNSAID!

You kids are doing a terrific job! Bill and I totally enjoy reading the Wrangell St. Elias News. Not only is it interesting; it is educational and keeps us "in step" with all the personal news about people out there in the Wrangells! Keep up the great work!

Again... GOOD JOB!
Bill and Lil Kirkwood

February 22, 1994

Dear Rick Kenyon:

I believe that I speak for my brother-in-law, Andy Linton, when I say that we thoroughly enjoyed meeting with you and some of the others last mail day, February 18. This was our first winter trip, and we quickly discovered how much easier it is to get to know one another when not surrounded by hundreds of other visitors.

At your request, I am writing to share some of the details of our visit. Let me preface this by telling you that we had already tried twice in recent weeks to make it there. Our latest attempt took us as far as the Chitina airfield, where darkness and subsequent maintenance problems forced us and our families (four kids aged 11 months to four years) to stay the night. All of this added to our determination to get to McCarthy this time.

We elected to leave our families home this time (their choice, actually) but brought instead Andy's brother, Steve Linton, visiting from New York City. After leaving Andy's plane in Gulkana, we all flew together in mine, landing at McCarthy in time to get the tent set up before dark. We grabbed our snowshoes and headed to our

property on the island west of town. Our plan was just to look around and show the place to Steve. The clear sky and nearly full moon provided plenty of light, but also made for cold conditions.

On the way back we walked through town and noticed a handful of people visiting at the McCarthy Lodge. We didn't want to be intrusive, but also didn't want to pass up the opportunity to introduce ourselves (read "get warm"). We were greeted at the door by Randy Elliott and Gary and Betty Hickling. I assumed that Betty was inquiring about our ability to handle the cold when she asked how long we'd lived in Alaska. Instead, when I replied "nearly all my life," she said that by now I should be smart enough to know when to come in from the cold.

We were treated to a first-class dinner together with a visiting German film crew which was in town producing a travel documentary. After numerous generous offers to allow us to stay punctuated with threatening stories about frostbite and hypothermia, we chose for the sake of our egos to return to our tent at the airfield.

The first real sign of trouble was when Andy attempted to unroll his foam sleeping pad and it shattered into pieces. Thankfully, we had extras. Nevertheless, judging from each other's comments about one another's snoring, I'd say we slept reasonably comfortably. We awoke at daylight to find hoarfrost all around our faces and in the tent. The temperature on my thermometer read -41 degrees; the official temperature I'm told was -37 degrees. I set about melting snow and boiling water for coffee.

The two hours it took to preheat my engine coincided nicely with the arrival of Lynn Ellis and the

mail, so we got to meet many of the local residents there. Several people helped me loosen the skis and push the plane back for warm-up.

Nearly overloaded and underpowered, we got the plane stuck in the deep snow a couple of times before finally getting airborne.

We're hoping to make it back again in March and stay a little longer. In the meantime, let me say thanks for the hospitality and warmth extended to us by everyone.

Sincerely,
Doug Schrage

April 25th, 1994

McCarthy, AK

Dear Rick and Bonnie,

Regarding your "Telephone update" in the last issue, I don't believe it is clear that there are numerous reasons for considering installation of the equipment on the west side of the Kennicott Rivers, none of which have any thing to do with discouraging development in McCarthy.

In brief the advantages hoped for included (1) road access for cost saving and convenience both during construction and for the life of the system. (2) better location for covering the stated service area. (3) avoiding known right-of-way and title problems.

These are our own views, which we hoped would speed up installation and make the service efficient and available for as many subscribers as was feasible.

Believe me, I know how hard it is to cover as many issues as you do with all the many "sides to the story," and I appreciate your efforts to remain objective and your willingness to give space to all correspondents who get their copy in on time!

Sincerely,
Natalie Bay

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

GUEST EDITORIAL BY RANDY ELLIOTT

Time for another park update. After the latest emission from the UFO (Unrequested Federal Oppression) central in Washington, where it was learned we in the bush suffer from a malady known as "Frontier mentality," the local office felt it prudent to send a temporary duty superintendent to calm the natives who had indeed grown restless.

The most unnerving thing about the newest addition to our park, Superintendent Cordell Roy, is that he seems to agree with Karen Wade in her attitude towards inholders and other undesirable forms of life. This is apparent in two ways.

One rule of damage control is — never admit guilt, and the NPS hasn't expressed any remorse over the implied slurs on our community, merely in how those opinions were stated. Their lukewarm efforts to apologize don't explain why they feel our lives and lifestyles are so substandard that park personnel shouldn't be expected to live that way. Nor why these incredibly dedicated rangers need special help to cope.

What about all those incredibly dedicated people making their living in the bush. For those of us trying to live out here, the NPS regulatory system has become one of the worst obstacles to life itself. Who is giving us any help?

Instead, we are being asked to share our lives and property with increasing numbers of ecotourists who pay a few bucks for the privilege and leave us their garbage and sewage. The park also has regulations about that. The latest version prohibits us from opening

landfills or hauling fuels, even on our own property. Of course the NPS, being a federal agency, is not subject to these rules, because the garbage and sewage from their operations is sacred and appropriate, and their fuel spills don't hurt because they are official business. Yet Karen Wade says it is we who don't respect regulations.

Secondly, Cordell has hinted that overzealous enforcement is a problem — but not one that needs rectification. Well, I for one am tired of the double standard. If the NPS can show me how the current interpretation of regulations will improve the national park I will respect them. So far they haven't been able to do that.

It seems as though we live in the third world and this agency is dedicated to keeping it that way, ostensibly to protect "PARK VALUES."

Meanwhile, they complain about how rough the conditions are and beg for more money from guess who? Right. You and I.

From now on we will have to question every definition they use. We will have to question every law and each interpretative regulation they promulgate, because Karen Wade did not say anything the NPS doesn't support. She just forgot that some of us might know how to read.

FOR EXAMPLE: We are not inholders at all. We are "surroundees" — an island culture who have to defend our most basic constitutional rights against this selfish federal monster. I am speaking from experience. Being a miner in this national park has been hell for ten years. Now the rest of you know how the NPS

really feels about you and your freedom to live as you choose. According to NPS you have no rights except those granted to you by this bureaucracy.

How far are they prepared to go to achieve this hypocritical agenda? They will ignore the first, second, and fifth amendments of our constitution. They are prepared to ignore their founding charter of 1916. They will overlook conflicting legislation and invent new categories of citizens to justify the oppression. They have written regulations which exceed the legislative intent of Congress. They have distorted the truth in testimony to Congress in order to influence the writing and passage of legislation. They are willing to spy on you.

Maybe the NPS should leave Alaska. If they feel the "frontier" mentality is wrong in a state whose license plate motto is "the last frontier," then they are inappropriate for the job. If they feel life is too tough in a park dedicated to wilderness values maybe they should work somewhere else.


If they feel human life is incompatible with those values maybe they should read the founding paragraphs of ANILCA, which recognize the contributions of humans to the overall balance in the park and further guarantee those human values be preserved as a valid and necessary part of the whole.

ANILCA is truly noble legislation in the hands of a grossly ignorant, grotesquely misinformed bureaucracy bent on playing god with our lives and property. We have a duty to oppose bad government and this qualifies.

The golden computer

It is only fitting that the McCarthy area is turning to computers more and more. After all, this area at one time boasted the richest copper mine in U.S. history, and anyone who has peeked into a computer's "in-nards" knows there is a lot of copper in there.

What is less well known is that the Kennecott mine also produced gold—so much, in fact, that it is said the railroad to Cordova was paid for with just the gold from the mines. Likewise, not many people realize that computers typically contain more of the precious metal per ounce than most gold ores!

Japanese scientists think this gold can be recovered. The method, devised by the Tokoku National Industrial Research Institute in Sendai, is simple. First, immerse such components as integrated circuits and gold-plated connectors in an acid. Then, run the acid solution over polymer beads impregnated with a special reagent that grabs onto gold ions, ignoring other materials. Finally, dissolve the plastic in an organic solvent, and the gold can be siphoned off. 

McCarthy Trail Rides Bed and Breakfast

While visiting the park you are invited to stay at our home style bed & breakfast. We'll tell you some of the history of this ghost town and show you some points of interest.

We will accommodate you in our home, or you can choose the seclusion of one of our guest cabins. In the morning, you can help yourself at the breakfast bar.

If you want to see a glacier up close, and even walk on it, we will take you up to the Root Glacier. On the way, we will tour

the historic ghost town of Kennicott, then we proceed on to the ice where you'll learn to use crampons and see a river of ice up close.



If you're not into walking on ice, we can take you up to Kennicott (where the

CR & NW railway terminated) for a tour, then on up the Bonanza Ridge to where the copper was discovered that led to the building of the towns of Kennicott and McCarthy.

We can arrange for other activities such as River Rafting, Flightseeing or camping.

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Copper Valley Telephone update

BY BONNIE KENYON

McCarthy - Kennicott area residents could be using the latest in cellular phone technology by September, if all goes as planned. Scott Smith, General Manager, says Copper Valley Telephone Cooperative (CVTC) has negotiated for the rights to the cellular frequencies in their service areas. According to a letter from Scott to WSEN dated April 15, CVTC is awaiting Federal Communications Commission and Alaska Public Utilities Commission approvals for a license to use the new frequencies required by the wireless equipment.

Due to the cost of the equipment involved, CVTC had planned on only some introductory offerings in the Glennallen area. However, after attending a wireless conference, they learned of a new cellular equipment manufacturer who designs equipment which serves both mobile and fixed locations without

having to install and interface additional telephone equipment. This makes the system appear to be a very cost effective application, says Scott. The above manufacture's bid was the lowest of five others received by CVTC.

"Jim Gifford and I are scheduled to meet with those people next week to determine their ability to meet our technical specifications. We have retained an engineering firm with expertise in cellular to assist us with our discussions. If everything goes well, we are optimistic that our plan to provide service to McCarthy will not include any initial cabling, thus removing many potential future costs of installation and right-of-way," writes Scott.

CVTC would install small boxes and antennas on all those locations who can "see" the tower. This would include all of the locations they had previously planned to hardwire plus those slated for radio

links. CVTC would not be limited to a specific number of channels, and the mobile option would allow users in areas not reachable by the signal to only get on top of the nearest hill to access the system.

Scott does add this word of caution: "While we think this is the best of all possible worlds, I want to caution you that we have not ascertained their (manufacturer's) ability to meet all of our conditions, and provide backup service for the equipment once we do install it." If CVTC decides to proceed with this particular system, they are required by their license to have the system operating by September of '94.

"We are in the middle of a very dynamic process in terms of communications technology, and are excited about what we believe will be a good answer to almost all of the concerns from that area," says Scott.

Long time resident **Chris Richards** invites you to join him in

Historic Tours, Glacier & Nature Hikes.

Kennicott - McCarthy Wilderness Guides



Historic Tour- 1½ to 2 hrs. \$12.50 each person*- 2 person min. Group rates available. Experience the world's largest "Ghost Town" through my 14 years as a resident. Extremely easy walk.

Flower - Historic Walk - 2 to 2½ hrs. - \$22 each person* - 2 person min. Group rates available. Includes "Historic Tour" above and will identify local flowers, shrubs, trees and animal sign.

Glacier Hikes - 4 hours ± \$45 each person. Bring a sack lunch, good hiking boots, and your camera, and explore the Root Glacier with us.

Other Hikes and Tours offered on request basis. I will alter tours to fit your desires or physical fitness. Fully insured. Commercially licensed with NPS.

*Kids: ages 3 to 12 are ½ price.

Chris Richards Box #1 Kennicott, AK 99588

picture was of a group of Kennecott kids on the Blackburn school-house steps. The date of the photo is thought to be the spring of 1937. Jeanne M. Elliott had sent it to WSEN with hopes of discovering who the "kids" were.

Both Jean and Jim wrote the "News" and shared the following information: The photo was taken by the late Wes Bloom, a Kennecott electrician and a special friend of Jims. They had reestablished their friendship in a lively

correspondence in 1990 up until the time of Wes's death last year. Jean had written to Wes to tell him how wonderful she thought it was to revive all those old memories, and he reciprocated by sending her a few photos he had taken with Jean in them. According to Jean, Wes had labeled this photo as "A Picture Taken on Lyle's Birthday." Jean now hopes that Lyle or Frank Morris can testify as to the date of Lyle's birthday.

Top row: Jimmy McGavock, Bruce Morris, Esther Ohman (teacher)

4th row: Katherine Howard, Lyle Morris

3rd row: Billie Humphries (at rail), Jean McGavock

2nd row: Mary Jean Moore, Ronald Brososky

1st row: Nan Moore, Gene Toohey, Pat Hooks, and a Brososky girl.

How the Swiss see us

BY ED LACHAPELLE

The following is a translation I did of an article that appeared February 17, 1994, in the Winterthur newspaper *Der Landbote*.

The road but not the fun stops at the raging river

Secret places have the unpleasant habit of soon becoming nonexistent. One in Alaska is McCarthy-Kennicott, in the giant Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

Perhaps the area one day will be as much visited as the Denali National Park. The woman who runs the souvenir shop lamented that the state plans to upgrade the access road in the coming years. The business interests should favor this, for more people would come, but to her and to the rest of some 25 residents around McCarthy, the town with perhaps a dozen wooden houses, the idyllic life is more important. In the last analysis, they had come here into the wilderness to be by themselves.

For the present, few tourists still attempt the trip, above all on account of the road. In summary it is long, narrow, unpaved and an unaccustomed challenge after

every rainstorm. Until 1988 the trip was considered daring because the 90-meter high, narrow bridge over the Kuskalana River was aging and without railings. Because the road follows an earlier railroad line, spikes occasionally puncture auto tires. We were spared that, but not the hours of a shaking car. Even so, it is a very rewarding trip. What we saw meant for us, more than in other places, the so-called "real Alaska:" remote, wild, in an overwhelming landscape, with relics from pioneer days.

The road ends at the Kennicott River and there still is no bridge to McCarthy. One can cross the raging river only in a two-seat tram pulled by hand, which also serves to deliver supplies. A couple of cars on the other side were brought across when the river was frozen.

Much is offered to the uncomplicated visitor. A glacier is only a short walk away, extended walking or bike tours are impressive. Rafting is recently available and can last from a two-hour sample tour to a ten-day trip to Valdez on the coast. A special attraction, five miles north of McCarthy, is Kennicott, a giant copper mine abandoned 55 years ago and now

consisting of many red, half-to completely-collapsed buildings and mine works.

Because it lies in the middle of the scenery, the gravel airstrip at McCarthy is the most ideal starting place in Alaska for sight-seeing flights. We flew with McCarthy Air, whose chief had come here twenty years ago as a gold prospector. For \$60 per person and hour, we crossed in just a few minutes some fantastic glaciers, including the 2000-meter high Staircase Icefall, banked around the nearby four and five thousands (4000 and 5000 meter peaks) and saw in the distance Mt. Logan, the highest peak in Canada.

Tourists can expect a sympathetic though improvised infrastructure. Camping is available at the road end, in the forest or along the river. Except for two vault toilets, there are no facilities. There are two nice hotels, one in McCarthy, the other and large one in Kennicott. Last year's concern was the sensation of a new restaurant that even offered pizzas.....

Kennecott Kids — still making history

BY BONNIE KENYON

Just who are the "Kennecott Kids" anyway? Most of our WSEN readers are aware of the rich history of Kennicott, Alaska, and the mining company-- Kennecott Copper Corporation-- which got its start operating the richest deposits of copper ore ever found.

The town of Kennicott began to grow quickly until there were 300 people in the mill camp with 200-300 miners up in the mines. A highly-respected hospital was built along with a store, grade school, dental office, dairy, bunk-houses and other buildings pertaining to the mine operations. A recreation hall was provided which served the residents with a variety of entertainment. There were town dances, Christmas festivities, winter basketball games, picture shows, an ice-skating rink, ball field, and a tennis court to name a few.

Although the mines were officially closed down in 1938 and the miners and their families moved on, many of the kids who spent part of their childhood in this bustling company town stay in touch and still consider Kennicott a very special part of their roots. What follows is a bit of history as a few of the "kids" reminisce and an example of just how they keep history alive.

Kennecott Kids Reunion

by Inger Jensen Ricci

One of the most exciting happenings this summer is the second "Kennecott Kids" reunion! The dates are June 10, 11 and 12, and it's happening at the Kennicott Glacier Lodge. Free transportation will be provided from Anchorage

on Friday morning and return to Anchorage June 12.

For those who hadn't realized that there was a first reunion in June of 1990, let me tell you a little about it. There were actually about 18 who had either been born, lived or went to school in the area, but with their spouses, etc. there were 35 present. There was an orientation breakfast at 7:45 a.m. on Friday, the 15th at Elmer's Pancake House in Anchorage. Vans were provided to transport all to Kennicott. However, some drove in on their own and some flew in.

Many of these people had not seen each other since the mine closed in 1938! There were many activities going on. The most popular was the Glacier Walk, which was a new experience for many and their safety was carefully monitored by experienced guides. Many had brought photo albums and mementos. The hospitality both at the Kennicott Glacier Lodge and at McCarthy was wonderful. The media was present in numbers doing interviews and taking pictures. The reunion was a huge success and Rich and Jody Kirkwood did a tremendous job!

Excitement is running high again this year, with letters and phone calls between old friends. Many have been contacted whose whereabouts were unknown previously. Further details will be forthcoming.

Inger was born in Kennicott in 1918 and lived there until 1932. After attending high school in Seattle, she returned to Kennicott for a year in 1936. She and her husband, Charlie, now make their home in Anchorage.

March 18, 1994

"...my mother, Lucile Konnerup, went down to the little house at the edge of the ball field to help Jeanne's (Moore Elliott) mother learn English. I was always along to 'mind the baby' while they worked on English. Jeanne may be interested to know that I was probably her first baby-sitter!

Being so young - we left in '31 when I was just 12 years old - I didn't get to do much babysitting. But I do remember pushing baby sleds up and down the tracks for mothers that wanted their young-uns to get as much sun as possible thro the winter months." Yvonne (Konnerup) Lahti

April 8, 1994

"...when we were there (Kennicott) we had steam heat, hot water, electricity, lots of kids to play with, lots of friends to visit, a wonderful 'Company Store,' a big train to ride. We even had Santa Claus at Christmas. My mother and dad used to go dancing all the time, and they had a community garden, and they used to play tennis--but now I guess that those times are all gone forever in Kennicott--but I'll bet if you listen real hard you can still hear the whispers of the kids playing, the miners talking, the folks having fun at the recreation hall dancing, the nurses at the hospital taking care of someone sick--the folks in the store ordering their supplies..." Jeanne Moore Elliott

1937 photo identified

A very special thanks to Jean M. Lamb and her brother, Jim McGavock, (both Kennecott Kids) for identifying the kids in the photograph that was on the cover of our March/April 1994 issue. The

Research

Kurt Jenkins, NPS Wildlife Biologist, is continuing the *Mentasta herd caribou study*. According to NPS personnel, full curl rams are diminishing. The 3-yr. sheep surveys will, hopefully, determine why.

Patty Happy of WRST is doing an ATV study called "*Assessment and Mitigation on ATV Impact*." This is a park wide study. The Nabesna area is getting the greatest ATV use, says NPS.

Maintenance projects

In order to meet D.E.C. approval, the *May Creek headquarters* will receive upgrades in its water, sewer, well, septic tank, and leach field systems during this summer season. Most of the work will be done by local hire from the Copper River Basin.

Park wide removal of *hazardous barrels* by helicopter will continue this summer.

May Creek, Chisana and several other remote *bush airstrips* are in store for "8 weeks of routine maintenance," says District Ranger Jim Hummel. The maintenance is done by hand.

The *Nugget Creek public use cabin* will receive a new roof.

Construction of a new NPS *office building at Copper Center* is in process. The building will contain 5 new offices.

Routine repair on *Yakutat government housing* is expected.

Publications

A self-guiding *trail booklet* to the Kennicott Glacier is being written by the Wrangell Mountain Center of McCarthy. The Park Service is covering printing expenses. It is due to come out summer of '94.

The second volume of *K'ELTA'ENI* — an NPS newspaper — is scheduled to be published next winter (1994-1995), according to Margie Steigerwald. "I hope it will be 8 pages so I can fit more information in. I was really strapped for space and had to make a lot of editorial choices."

Level upgrades

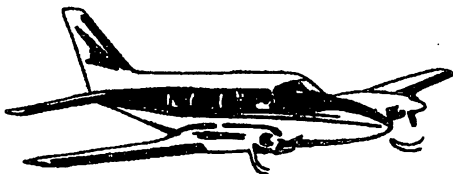
NPS job grade levels are in the processing of being upgraded and will be implemented by July 1994. For example: Rangers used to start their positions at a GS level of 3-5. Once the upgrade is in place, a ranger position will start at a GS 9.

Thanks to Chitina District Ranger Jim Hummel for the majority of the above information.

For additional information on any of the above issues, you may contact NPS at: WRST, PO Box 29, Glennallen, AK 99588.

Scheduled Air Service from Anchorage to McCarthy with stopover in Gulkana!

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NPS news

Resident Zone Boundary proposal

The Subsistence Resource Commission (SRC) resident zone boundary proposal is expected to meet with the NPS Regional Director sometime in May, says ranger Jim Hummel. At the time Jim visited us in April, he said that although he was not sure what the exact proposal would be, he felt it would be a combination of Alternate A and B.

"The SRC proposal can be implemented by the Regional Director if he supports it," wrote Jim in a recent letter. "The proposal does not have to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior. If the Regional Director does not support the proposal, the SRC can then choose to submit it directly to the Secretary of the Interior for his review. If the Secretary of the Interior approves the proposal then the Park will implement it."

Subsistence Resource Commission meets

The "News" has written Chairman Roy Ewan requesting information on the SRC meeting held on April 6th, but, as of press time, we have not received an answer. However, the following information was passed on to us by Jim Hummel.

The commission decided to send the following letters:

1. Letter to each of the three Federal Regional Councils suggesting that they had mutual interests and encouraging "a mutually beneficial exchange of information and expertise."

2. Letter to the Secretary of Interior requesting "NPS participate in" an access study, with "staff time or funding." Purpose of the study is to determine routes that were historically used for access to

subsistence resources. The state and the commission feel it is important to identify these routes. Primary issue here is aircraft access. The commission and state hope to demonstrate historical use of aircraft and get restriction removed. NPS would not support. Would probably require an act of Congress to change.

3. Letter to Secretary requesting that regulations be adopted that provide for the subsistence hunting of water fowl in the park.

Mike McCann's permit denied

Mike McCann, known by many local residents as a trapper and regular subsistence user within the park, has been denied a permit to continue his subsistence activities. According to Jim Hummel, Mike failed to show that his primary residence is within a resident zone community. NPS says the cabin cannot be used as a primary residence. The permit is called a Subsistence Cabin Permit which enables the permittee exclusive use of a "public use cabin" within the park. It must be renewed every 5 years. Mike's permit came up for review this winter while he was at the Chitina River cabin.

In a letter dated April 13th, Jim Hummel writes: "In regards to Mike McCann's permit, Mr. McCann discussed the permit renewal denial with Jay Wells by telephone but he did not make plans to meet with park staff. If Mr. McCann claims to qualify for subsistence activities within the park area, he will have to show that his primary permanent residence is within a resident zone community or qualify for a 13.44 subsistence eligibility permit."

As of press time, the "News" has not been able to reach Mike for comment.

Air traffic over parks

A recent Federal Register publication calls for inquiries about concerns over commercial air traffic over national park units system-wide. It is new enough that the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park staff have not had the opportunity to comment on it yet. According to Jim, the staff will be commenting, however, after reading the proposed rules.

National Park Service cutbacks

Regional and Washington management is looking at cutting back 1325 positions within a 3 year period. "It's the first I have ever seen in my career—an effort made to reduce the number of people in the federal government and in the Park Service when it wasn't an election year... I see it as a real serious attempt and I actually think it's going to happen. Personally, I think it's very healthy," comments Jim.

NPS outreach programs

In an effort to reach out to schools, several WRST staff are making themselves available for in-class programs such as: Population Biology of the Mentasta Caribou Herd, Lynx/Hare Cycle, Wolverine study slide show, Aircraft Survival, History of Chitina, Hug-a-Tree slide presentation and an Alaska Wildlife Puppet program.

Open houses

Ranger stations in Slana and Yakutat are opening their doors to their communities on May 23. Local rangers and visiting WRST staff members will be on hand. Coffee and donuts will be served.

Rhubarb Muffins

This recipe is from the old "Out Of Alaska's Kitchens" cookbook. It was first printed in 1961, and has some great recipes for people living in the bush. It's one of my most used cookbooks.

- 1 egg, well beaten
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 1/2 cups flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 cup rhubarb - cut very fine
- 3 tsp. shortening

Bake about 25 minutes in a 400 degree oven.

Gingery Rhubarb Sauce

This is really good on the muffins above, or on cake or ice cream.

- 1/2 cup coarsely slivered almonds
- 4 cups chopped rhubarb
- 10 Tbsp. sugar
- 3/4 tsp. ground ginger

- 1 Tbsp. lemon juice
- 4 Tbsp. orange juice
- 2 Tbsp. grated orange rind

Toast almonds on a cookie sheet in a 350 degree oven for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally to make sure they brown evenly. Set aside.

Combine all the remaining ingredients in a sauce pan. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer for a few minutes, until the rhubarb has softened and mixture becomes sauce-like. Stir. When almonds are cool, add then to rhubarb mixture. Cool before serving.

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	Chitina -----	8:30 a.m.
Arrive	McCarthy -----	11:30 a.m.

McCARTHY to GLENNALLEN (Monday through Saturday)

Depart	McCarthy -----	4:30 p.m.
	Chitina -----	7:30 p.m.
Arrive	Glennallen -----	8:45 p.m.

1994 RATES

Glennallen to:	
Chitina -----	\$14
Strelna/Kotsina -----	\$23
McCarthy -----	\$49/\$88 RT
McCarthy to:	
Chitina -----	\$35/\$60 RT
Strelna/Kotsina -----	\$26
Glennallen -----	\$49

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Rhubarb

BY CARLY KRITCHEN

Today I finally got out in the yard to pick up all the stuff that we lost during the winter that's now showing up as the snow melts. I found a sauce pan that must have blown off the deck, a doggy toy (Hoser's favorite!), and part of a bird feeder that was knocked down by a bear last fall. As I worked my way over by the garden, I noticed that little red rhubarb nubbins were already poking their way up. It really must be spring!

I have two kinds of rhubarb planted in my garden. One is a very large pink variety that we found growing by a creek near an original homestead close by our cabin. The second kind, a smaller dark red variety that's really pretty in pies, I got from Lisa Gordon. I try to can part of it to use during the winter, but I obviously have lots to use fresh during almost all the summer.

With this much rhubarb around I'm always looking for good recipes and have collected quite a lot of them. Here are a few of my favorites.

Rhubarb Cheesecake Pie

If you like cheesecake (and who doesn't!) you'll like this recipe.

- 1 cup plus 3 Tbsp. sugar
- 3 Tbsp. cornstarch
- 4 cups 1/2 inch rhubarb pieces
- 2 - 3 oz. pkgs. cream cheese
- 2 large eggs
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup sour cream
- Graham cracker crust (recipe follows, or use a purchased one).

Graham Crust

Smash about 18 graham crackers with a rolling pin to make fine crumbs (you will need about 1 cup). Pour crumbs into a 9-inch pie pan and add 3 Tbsp. melted butter. Mix thoroughly, then press mixture firmly over bottom and up the sides of the pie pan. Bake at 350 degrees until lightly browned at rim, about 10 minutes.

Filling

In a large saucepan, mix 3/4 cup sugar and the cornstarch. Add rhubarb and 1 Tbsp. water. Stir over medium heat until mixture comes to a full boil. Pour mixture into crust. Blend cream cheese, eggs, vanilla, and 6 Tbsp. sugar until smooth; pour over rhubarb mixture.

Bake in 350 degree oven until filling appears set in center when pan is gently shaken, about 20 minutes. Mix sour cream with remaining 1 Tbsp. sugar; spread evenly over filling. Bake until topping is set when shaken, about 5 minutes. Let cool, then cover and chill at least 2 hours.

Rhubarb Crumb Cake

This is good with sugar sprinkled on top or whipped cream.

- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup shortening
- 1 1/2 cups packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 cup sour cream
- 2 cups sifted flour
- 2 tsp. cinnamon

- 1 1/2 cups rhubarb, sliced fine
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Mix sugar, butter, and flour until crumbly. Set aside. Cream shortening, brown sugar, and egg. Mix baking soda and sour cream, and add alternately with the flour and cinnamon to egg mixture. Stir in rhubarb, vanilla, and walnuts. Pour into a greased, floured 9x13 in. pan and sprinkle with first mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for about 35 or 40 minutes.

Rhubarb Bread

This makes an interesting sweet bread. I don't wait for my milk to get sour to make this; I just add a little vinegar to the milk and it sours within a few minutes

- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup salad oil
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp. baking soda
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup sour milk
- 1 1/4 cups flour
- 1 cup rhubarb, sliced very thin
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 3/4 Tbsp. butter

Beat together brown sugar, oil, and egg. Mix soda, salt, vanilla, and sour milk; add to first mixture. Stir in flour and rhubarb. Pour batter into greased and floured loaf pan. Sprinkle top with mixture of sugar and butter. Bake in 350 degree oven for 1 hour. Let stand about 10 minutes before removing from pan.

Service, and an application at an overseas consulate. Jacobs says the likelihood that this effort would be successful is small.

In response to inquiries from Senator Stevens concerning the selection of AAI, NPS Regional Director John Morehead advised Senator Stevens that "the rating criteria used in the selection process contained weighting elements that had the effect of favoring Alaskan Businesses." In fact, the rating criteria utilized by NPS had exactly the opposite effect.

One of Jacob's complaints regarding the selection process was that NPS relied on information submitted by AAI which NPS had not requested in the prospectus. Specifically, Jacobs believed that AAI had submitted a proposed Mt. McKinley "Standard Operating Procedure" (SOP) along with its application and that NPS reviewed and relied on that SOP in evaluating AAI's application.

Jacobs raised this issue in a letter to Senator Ted Stevens, who conveyed this concern by separate letter to NPS. Regional Director Morehead responded to the Senator, stating: "Standard operating procedures sent in addition to the required information were not read or weighted because they were not required."

Jacobs subsequently served a Freedom of Information Request on NPS for the evaluation records. This request was denied. Jacobs then filed an appeal of this determination, and eventually sued NPS in federal court for failure to respond properly to his request. NPS finally produced the evaluation records. These records prove that Mr. Morehead's statements to Senator Stevens were false. In his evaluation of AAI's application, panelist J.D. Swed wrote: "Policy statement backed up by SOPs on environment ... Safety is strongly incorporated in SOPs." The

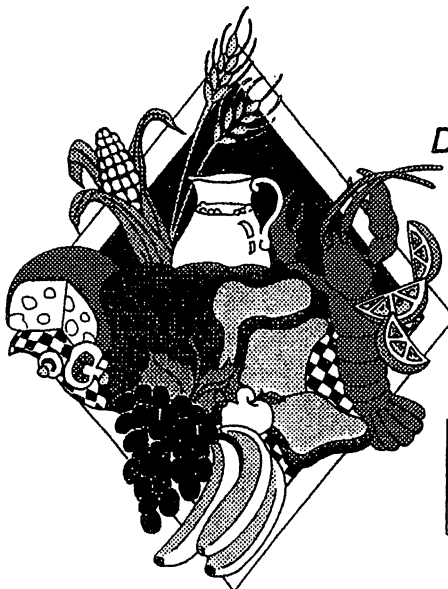
evaluators obviously read AAI's SOP and relied on that document in evaluating AAI's application. NPS then denied it had done so in explaining its conduct to Senator Stevens.

Jacobs says what is particularly perplexing is NPS's continued acceptance of AAI's misrepresentations. He says he can understand how NPS came to mistakenly select AAI, since AAI made spectacular claims and the evaluators knew little or nothing about mountaineering. "What is not clear," says Jacobs, "is why NPS has persisted in its initial selection after AAI's misrepresentations were brought to NPS's attention by the AMGA and others. He says he feels that the park service is willing to accept "misleading information" on AAI's application "because the alternative requires NPS to admit it made a mistake."

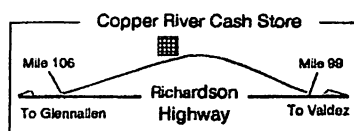
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claims that NPS ignored (or lost) correspondence which constituted actual evidence of unsafe AAI practices; refused to investigate detailed, corroborated complaints from AAI's clients; and failed to investigate discrepancies in AAI's submittals to NPS.

Jacobs says that his company, St. Elias Alpine Guides (SEAG), has guided 1,493 clients over the past 14 years without injury to client or guide. He also says that NPS evaluator Pat Quinn deducted 10 points from SEAG's safety score during the evaluation process because of "no documentation." This, notwithstanding his supporting letter from Jay Wells, Chief Ranger for Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, stating, "Despite the inherent risk involved in many of these activities, their safety record has been exemplary. I am not aware of any accidents or incidents involving St. Elias Alpine Guides."

Another area that Jacobs says was unfair was the selection criteria utilized by NPS. Although not disclosed in the prospectus, an applicant was required to regularly guide clients at altitudes above 20,000 feet in order to score highly in categories concerning the company's knowledge, skill, and experience. Jacobs says this requirement was irrational because it gave no consideration to the heavily glaciated, arctic conditions prevailing on northerly mountains and thus had the perverse effect of precluding guiding companies actually operating in conditions similar to Mt. McKinley from obtaining the concession.

Companies operating on northerly, heavily glaciated, arctic mountains could not meet the 20,000 foot requirement because Mt. McKinley, at 20,320 feet, is the only peak in North America above 20,000 feet. It is illegal for a company to guide on Mt.

McKinley without a NPS concession permit, so companies operating in Alaska or North America and applying for the concession were in effect deemed unqualified due to this requirement. Jacobs says the selection process was purposefully (and secretly) structured to favor companies which conducted most of their operations in the Himalayas.

Another area not disclosed in the prospectus was the extra points that evaluators awarded to companies that expressed an intent to employ foreign guides on Mt. McKinley. A foreign citizen cannot legally work in the United States without an appropriate visa or other employment authorization. Obtaining appropriate authorization requires an extensive process of advertising, obtaining a Department of Labor certification that there are no qualified U.S. Workers, a petition to the Immigration and Naturalization

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Local guide sues National Park Service

BY RICK KENYON

Bob Jacobs, owner of St. Elias Alpine Guides (whose principle place of business is McCarthy), is challenging the National Park Service's award of a Mt. McKinley guiding concession to Alpine Ascents International, Inc. Jacobs said that he filed his lawsuit "because NPS employees who made this selection had little or no mountaineering experience, because NPS utilized secret selection criteria which irrationally prevented any guiding company operating in Alaska from winning this concession, and because AAI made numerous material misrepresentations in its application and had a history of illegal guiding."

Bob Jacobs has been a professional mountain guide in Alaska since 1978. He guided professionally on Mt. McKinley in 1977 and 1978. However, in 1980 the National Park Service (NPS) issued concession permits to seven guiding companies and prohibited all other guiding companies from operating on Mt. McKinley.

In 1992, NPS notified one of the concessionaires, Genet Expeditions, that its concession permit was being revoked "based on a continued pattern of unsafe practices observed and documented since 1988." Genet Expeditions was founded by Ray Genet in 1968, making it the oldest guide service on the mountain. NPS published a prospectus and solicited applications from mountain guiding companies to fill the spot.

On March 3, 1993, NPS announced that it had selected Alpine Ascents International, Inc. (AAI) as the successful applicant for the former Genet Expeditions' permit. AAI is owned by Todd

Burleson and operates out of Woodinville, Washington. The selection of AAI provoked strong objections from some in the climbing community. Nick Yardley, the president of the International Mountain Climbing School in New Hampshire, wrote Denali National Park Superintendent Russell Berry and said, "This decision stands to act as a grave mark against the Denali NPS. The public has a right to expect the best possible service, based on the stiff competition for this concession. By allowing an inexperienced service with a short checkered past to operate in place of AMGA accredited services with long safe records is poor judgment, that can only hurt both the NPS and the guiding community in the long run."

As a result of this and other similar objections, NPS suspended its award of the concession to AAI in order to conduct an administrative review of AAI's application. In addition, NPS accepted an offer by the American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) to conduct an independent review of AAI's application. The AMGA report, dated April 27, 1993, concluded that "there appears to be substantial material misrepresentation of the Applicant [AAI] to the extent that their application may not serve well as a basis for the award of a concession."

On August 13, 1993, in spite of the complaints and the AMGA review, NPS concluded its administrative review, reaffirmed its prior selection of AAI, and forwarded the concession permit to AAI. About a month later NPS issued a press release disclosing that it had awarded the concession to AAI. They did not notify

directly any of the other applicants of this final decision.

While Bob Jacobs says that he feels his company, St. Elias Alpine Guides, the most qualified applicant for this concession, he is not asking the court to award the concession to his company. What he is asking is that the court declare the award of the concession to AAI unlawful and remand the matter to allow NPS to conduct a new solicitation consistent with the terms of the court's decision.

One of the things Jacobs charges is that the Park Service violated federal law by awarding the concession without congressional review. Congressman Young wrote the Director of the National Park Service, Roger Kennedy, stating: "I understand that the National Park Service is currently in the selection process for a climbing concessionaire for Mount McKinley in my home state of Alaska. Since this contract is very important in my state, I would appreciate receiving a separate copy of the congressional notice as provided in 16 U.S.C. § 1a-7(c) and referred to in 36 C.F.R. § 51.4(d). In the event this contract has already been submitted for congressional review, please send me a copy of your transmittal letter." NPS, however, never submitted this concession for congressional review.

Jacobs says NPS did not inquire of AAI regarding its safety record. He says that although AAI claimed to have an "unparalleled" history of safe guiding, and a "perfect safety record," that he is aware of at least one member of an AAI expedition in 1992 that suffered a broken leg when he was hit by a rock dislodged by another member of the expedition. He

A look at the weather

BY GEORGE CEBULA

February saw the return of cold temperatures after a rather mild December and January. Even with the increasing sunlight, the lowest temperature at McCarthy in February was -41 on the 24th, 25th and 26th (-47 on Feb. 3, 93). The minimum temperature was below zero on 20 days. The high temperature for the month was 32 on the 2nd (47 on Feb. 26, 93). The average temperature for February was -3.9, well below the 10.6 in 93 and 4.9 in 92. *Silver Lake had a high of 41 on the 2nd, a low of -39 on the 27th and an average temperature of -2.9.* The area's coldest February temperature was -44 at KCAM on Feb. 26.

The precipitation during February was light with only 0.49 inches of liquid (0.99 in Feb. 93) and 5.2 inches of snow (7.4 in Feb. 93).

Silver Lake had even less with only 0.29 liquid and 5.0 inches of snow. There was 21 inches of snow on the ground on the 1st and 23 on the 28th. The greatest depth was 24 inches on the 12th and 13th. This was about average depth for the past three Februaries with 21 as the low and 27 as the high. *Silver Lake started with 22 inches on the 1st and ended with a high of 27 inches on the 28th.*

March brought an end to the cold temperatures and a long awaited end to winter. The state had the road plowed to the river by the 15th and the temperature climbed to a high of 56 on the 29th (52 on Mar 31, 93). The low temperature for March was -15 on the 22th (-19 on Mar 16, 93). The average March temperature was 23.6 compared to 20.1 in Mar 93 and 22.1 in Mar 92. *Silver Lake had a*



high of 54 on the 30th, a low of -34 on the 1st and March average of 20.2.

March precipitation was about average with 0.69 inches of liquid and 3.8 inches of snow (trace in Mar 93). Most of the precipitation fell as rain on the 26th with 0.47 inches recorded.

Silver Lake recorded 0.37 inches of liquid and 2.0 inches of snow. The snow depth was reduced to 17 inches by the end of March.

May should see a rapid increase in temperatures with highs in the 60s by mid month. Precipitation is usually on the light side with an average amount of less than an inch. Summer arrives in June and this should be the warmest month at McCarthy with an average temperature in the mid 50s and about 2 inches of rain.

DOWNTOWN SODA

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"We have what you need"

were going to eat the evidence before I could get it done."

"Imagine that," Floyd said, unable to believe his ears. "How big a fence is it going to take to preserve this salmon?"

"The fencing is all the same — one land, one law, one fence."

"And what is that one law?"

"Pursuant to Fedgov regulation 23.79 section 24 under 'suitable for framing'... Using galvanized mesh fabric of not less than 24 gauge with a weave of not less than 2 inches on poles of not less than five feet not including concertina wire supports. The poles shall be set in a suitable concrete mixture using approved water after first obtaining a Fedgov water compatibility permit and an environmental impact statement showing no conceivable or inconceivable aquatic damage could result from that use. Gravel or suitable conglomerate materials shall be excavated from Fedgov permitted installations after obtaining an environmental impact statement showing no conceivable connection to the environment exists between the materials and the site. Depending on subject matter, poles may be set as needed but no more than eighteen inches apart. Concertina wire and appropriate connections for electrification will be included in the design. Deviations are not permitted without a Fedgov

deviation permit issued through the office of deviates in Mooringtown."

"Deviations?" Floyd asked.

"Yes, those are not allowed. There are some derivations but those wouldn't apply here."

"Derivations?" Floyd queried.

"Yes, the fence may have other forms if it is underwater or in the caldera of an active volcano." The coverall gave Floyd a weak smile and stood to continue his work. The other man was already digging holes for the poles and concrete.

"Have you got your permits for water and gravel?" Floyd asked imperiously.

"We don't need them."

"What?"

"All Fedgov programs are exempt from the regulations unless specifically noted otherwise, which they aren't."

"Who are the regulations for then?" Floyd was truly perplexed.

"Private contractors, Statgov contractors, foreign contractors, squatters, and the general public, of course."

"Well, you forgot to apply for a trespass permit from the Queen," Floyd said testily.

"I didn't know we had to have one."

"Yup. Any Fedgov employee or program must be permitted in the

Kingdom and protectorate according to section 1.1 of the first page of the royal record book."

"Uh, well, we can't just go back without doing anything. The Baron will have us shoveling out the Fedgov offices again if we screw up," the man said plaintively.

"Sorry boys. One law, one land."

After analytically accepting attributable actions as an anagram about actual accomplishments and assessing apparently autonomous antagonistic animal attack abilities, he shrugged his shoulders at the other man who began heaving the rolls of wire and sacks of cement back into the helicopter. In no time they were loaded up and they flew off leaving the bemused king and his vassal looking at a dead salmon in the center of a ring of six postholes.

"Gosh, that was exciting," Nigel bubbled over as the whupping craft disappeared. "You must have worked on a spin writing committee."

"A which?"

"You know, those blokes that interpret the news to help their cause."

"No, I'm just a trapper, Nigel, just a trapper," the King said as he made his way back to the palace and afternoon tea.

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King Floyd

THE TALE OF A SMALL TIME DICTATOR

Part eight — The king meets the enemy at last

BY RANDY ELLIOTT

Lunch was finished. Floyd and Nigel were sitting on the small porch fronting the palace. Royal dogs were snuffling and digging around their individual holes, and Floyd was contemplating the trees. Life was good indeed!

"What made you form your own country anyway?" Nigel asked at last. Floyd jumped a bit. He wasn't yet used to the extra man being around all the time, especially when he was contemplating.

"Well, I hadn't really thought of doing it until the Baron decided to make me illegal."

"How could he make you illegal?"

"Good question. I'll try and make it simple, but it's a knot I can't quite untie yet," Floyd answered slowly. Nigel waited patiently. "Well, let see, I guess in the beginning..." but before Floyd could continue they heard a whupping noise out on the river followed by screeching eagles. Both men ran to the river outlook to see what was going on.

Near the water's edge a man in white coveralls was warding off the attack of two eagles. A helicopter stood nearby with the rotor slowly winding down. Another man in coveralls was unloading galvanized fencing material and bags of something from the motionless machine.

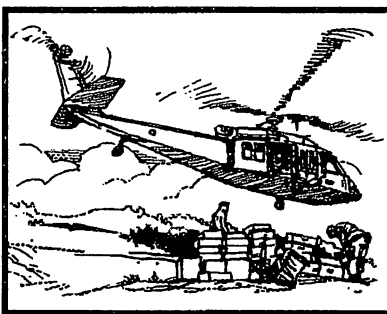
"What are they doing?" Nigel asked in surprise.

"I'm sure I don't know, which means it's probably Fedgov," the king muttered.

"Shall I get the royal blunderbuss?" Nigel muttered matching his leader's tone and style.

"We aren't going to kill and eat them!" Floyd said shocked.

"No, I meant, in case they try anything, you could enforce the royal will a bit easier."



"Let's try talking first and scaring last," Floyd said, jumping to his feet and approaching the odd scene. "What are you doing?" Floyd yelled. The two men jumped at the voice—one falling into the river in surprise. The king and his minion spent the next five minutes fishing him out by which time the eagles had left the crazed yelling men for better climes.

"Are you crazy?" asked the wet white coverall when he was safe onshore again. "You're interfering with Fedgov business, which is punishable by fine or dismemberment whichever is worse."

"Right," said Floyd, and giving Nigel a level look continued, "let's throw him back in and let him drown."

"Wait! Just who do you think you are anyway?" the coverall asked, shocked at this lack of respect for the Baron of Distraction and Nocturnal Affairs.

"He's King Floyd, mate," Nigel said proudly.

"Awwwww, so you're the mighty king. Well, buzz off, bucko, before we have to get the law. We have important business here and the Baron won't want it delayed."

"You are in MY kingdom, bucko, and the royal hounds haven't eaten yet today so you better explain yourself quick," Floyd said with just the right trace of menace in his voice. At the mention of their names the hounds let out bloodcurdling yells.

"Easy now, King," the man stammered above the baying dogs. "We only have to erect a little fence here and then we'll be away laughing."

"What fence?"

"Well, pursuant to the Artful Noetic Imposition of Land Classification Act Section 49.32 paragraph B under living proof of habitat, we are instructed to find and preserve signs of the creatures on the endangered, or not as common as they used to be, list. Those eagles had killed a salmon and that is incontrovertible proof of their existence under guideline 16.1a of the Fedgov Definitions Manual. We are finding and preserving evidence like this all over the essential land so that visitors can appreciate all that their tax money is saving."

"You are going to build a fence around a dead salmon?" the king asked incredulously.

"Right! And we'll put up a sign stating the subject being viewed and a small viewing platform to keep the tourists feet from harming the soil. But those pesky eagles

ACCIDENT

A fatal accident occurred at Kennecott on Thursday afternoon when Rudolph Schwamle who was employed in the leech plant, was engulfed in the vat of copper tailings and was suffocated.

The deceased had been a resident of this section for many years and had been employed at the placer camps several summers where he had made many friends. He was about forty years of age and a Swiss by birth.

The funeral took place last evening.

(May 31)

PETITION

Realizing that the continued unsavory cases which occur in McCarthy are seriously affecting its reputation and business, some of the businessmen met at Mr. Brehmer's rooms this afternoon.

As a result of this meeting a petition is to be presented to the U.S. Commissioner, asking that greater endeavors be made to enforce the Bone Dry Law, and recommending that the restricted district be re-established.

(June 7)

NEWS ITEMS

Mike Knowles arrived in McCarthy this week, he is one of the prospectors on Notch Creek, where the big pay was reported. Mr. Knowles says they were well satisfied with their work, finding splendid prospect at a depth of 90 feet, as for any report that 9 feet of pay was found, he absolutely denies it. They will continue their work next winter with the aid of a drill and feel confident from the results

already obtained that pay will be struck on bedrock.

A special train arrived on Thursday from Cordova bringing 50 men for Kennecott mines, passengers and mail.

W.A. Woodin returned from his trip to Nova Scotia after an absence of four months. His two little nieces, Jean and Margaret, who are eleven years of age, arrived with him from Nova Scotia, and will make their home with their aunt and uncle in McCarthy for the future. Billy had a splendid trip, but is glad to return.

Last week a party of volunteer workers spent several hours at the Cemetery, clearing and putting plots in order, so that the place is looking more of a credit to the community.

The volunteers were Mrs. Woodin, Mrs. Norman Erickson, W. Graham, John W. Nickell, & H.H. Mitchell. Al Doze, who has kindly offered the use of his team to do the grading, will be at liberty to do his share very soon, and more volunteers are needed to help him.

(June 14)

NEWS ITEMS

Andy Taylor and Jas Brown left Friday for Chisana with a full cargo of provisions from the McCarthy Mercantile Co.

Laurie Bros. have greatly improved their store by adding a 6 x 12 skylight. Dick Woodman was the contractor.

A "Still" with all appurtenances for making liquor was found in the Pounder cabin & was promptly confiscated by the Federal Authorities.

A BRIGHTER OUTLOOK

Notwithstanding the inclement weather, McCarthy has presented a very lively appearance during the past week, an unusual number of visitors from Chitina, Strelina, and Kennecott having paid the town a visit, business conditions have picked up and altogether a decided improvement is noticeable. This is due in part perhaps, to the recent petition presented to the authorities to enforce the Bone Dry Law, and which has since met with far greater success than was anticipated.

(June 24)

APPROPRIATION ALASKA ROADS TO BE \$300,000

WASHINGTON, June 24 (by Associated Press). - The senate is accepting an amendment appropriating \$300,000 instead of the house provision of \$100,000 for the use of the Alaska Road Commission for building roads and trails in that territory.

DADDY TO HAVE LEGAL HOLIDAY OF HIS OWN

WASHINGTON, June 25 (by Associated Press). Representative Snell, a Republican from New York, has introduced a bill in Congress making the third Sunday in June Father's Day.

BEARS GET THE BENEFIT OF LUXURIES

Bears broke into the cache left by the Muncasters on Dan Creek and devoured a great portion of the outfit. The luxuries were a total loss.

PURELY LOCAL GOSSIP ABOUT YOUR FRIENDS

Ranchers are very busy people these days. On the Lubbe ranch 13 acres are in seed. Micky Gallagher reports 14 acres in seed on his ranch at the Lackinaw.

Sixty horses are now on the trail, and more horses are coming from the States to fill in for the many hunting parties which will arrive here this summer.

William Longley had been appointed administrator in the estate of Olive Walters, deceased, known in McCarthy under the name of Molly Parks.

(June 28)

An Automobile ride is a pleasant diversion these summer afternoons and evenings.

Cars in readiness any hour day or night

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McCARTHY GARAGE

George Anderson, Proprietor.

MCCARTHY - THE BUCKLE OF THE COPPER BELT

OUR TOWN

May



1919



June

NO TRAINS

Owing to the rails being up on the Chitina bridge, and the ice still running, no regular passenger trains have arrived this week, but one is expected on Tuesday next. Meantime a regular mail service has been given by the speeders.

QUARANTINE

On account of the fact that there are cases of influenza and smallpox in Cordova, Kennecott has established a detention camp which will be continued till the danger is over.

DOVER PLANT

The closing of the Dover Plant for an indefinite period leaves the town in a precarious condition as regards to fire protection. This is a matter which should be looked into without delay. It might mean the safety of McCarthy.

(May 3)

HELP THE SMALL TOWN

If your ambitions are bigger than your own store and embrace your town, then there is hope for you. If you believe in good will as a commercial asset and seek it by giving of your

enthusiasm to your town affairs, you will find it. It is narrowness which cripples a small town and hurts it more than anything else. With a community spirit & a broader viewpoint, the small town is the hope of the nation.

(May 10)

MR. BARRETT RETURNED

John E. Barrett returned to McCarthy this week after several months in the States. During his visit he did considerable publicity work for McCarthy and surrounding country.

A BIG BEAR SECURED

Returning from a hunting trip to the Nikolai, Bill Godfrey secured a very handsome specimen of black bear, one of the largest yet killed in that region.

NAVIGATION OPENS ON NIZINA RIVER

Two Poling boats were launched this week on the river by Bill Lang in readiness for summer passengers. A camp is established on the bank not

far above Gwinns and trips will be made as required at all hours.

Lee Yancy is assisting Lang at the Ferry.

(May 17)

BASEBALL

The Baseball boys had their first practice last Sunday. Most of the team turned out, but we must have all if we expect to make a good team.

The grounds are fine now and the weather, just right for the game.

Be there 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. If you don't play, come and help boost the game. Get the fresh air.

McCarthy boasts of one thing few large cities can, that is a lady pitcher. She can show most of the boys points about the game.

WE NEED PROSPECTORS

Where are the ol-time Prospectors?

This question is very frequently asked and easily answered. There are none. The original men who prospected this country from the head of Lake Lebarge and down the Yukon, in later years coming to this section, have all left Alaska with a good stake, some owning city real estate, manufac-

tories and ranches on the big Outside.

Some were unwise, and invested with the same blind faith which made them good prospectors, to have their fortunes gently taken from them by land sharks, and soon had to prospect for a job.

The same chances are here today, and there is unlimited capital to be invested when approached with genuine propositions.

We need the old time spirit which inspired the pioneers who were never discouraged, tho often living on starvation rations & camping under spruce trees in rain and storm. Always seeing the pot of gold at the foot of the rainbow and their sufferings were as nothing.

With the cost of living so big and transportation higher it takes a long time working for wages to make a good grubstake. If our enterprising legislators could see their way clear to pass a bill giving an appropriation for bona fide prospectors to be grubstaked, then the old order of things might return.

(May 24)

DON'T RISK YOUR LIFE

Take Bill Lang's Ferry across
THE NIZINA RIVER

If you want, you can put perches on your bird house. The birds like this. Drill holes and insert a small stick or dowel. Glue in place. Or you can put in a couple of large nails in front of each door.

Ideas for mounting your Bird House

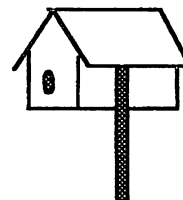
A bird house of this kind should be mounted on a pipe or rooftop. You can also put it in a tree but it is hard to get a clear flyway in both directions. Swallows like a clear path for their take-offs and landings. A pipe has advantages over trees, wooden posts and some roofs because cats, squirrels and other animals which might hurt the birds can't climb a pipe.

Here are some materials you might need for mounting on a pipe or pole:

9 or 10 feet of pipe or pole (min.)
1 foot of 1" by 2" board
5 feet of nylon cord or rope
shovel or post hole digger
four 2" screws

Cut your piece of 1 by 2 in half. Screw onto the bird house at partition, leaving just enough space between them at the middle so your pole or post fits snugly. Put the pole or post into it. Tie the rope or nylon cord around the 1 by 2 and into the pole or post about 2 feet deep, stomping the earth down well.

Watch your bird house every day to see if you get any nesters!



"He who flies into a rage always makes a bad landing."
from the NPUC Gleaner

"Use things to love people — Never use people because of the love of things."
— Ben Kinchlow

Sightings

March and April did more than bring in spring to those of us in the McCarthy-Kennicott area. Besides feeding our usual winter birds (pine grosbeaks, red polls, downy & hairy woodpeckers, boreal & black-capped chickadees & gray jays), most of us had the privilege to entertain the new season's visitors. Snow buntings arrived in flocks March 20 and stayed about a week feeding on sunflower seeds and other bird seed. Mid April brought in a flock of juncos. By the third week of April local residents started reporting the arrival of our robins and a few white-crown sparrows. Catie Bursch reports seeing Bohemian waxwings and a varied thrush at her

Fireweed Mountain home and, while she and her family were driving the McCarthy Road, they spotted several townsend's solitaires.

It is reported a Kennicott resident sighted his first swallows of the year on April 25. Some residents on the west side of the Kennicott River saw their first swallows on the 28th. Although these few "scouts" were here only shortly, residents are eagerly awaiting the full-blown arrival of the entire flocks. Hope everyone has their swallow houses ready for occupancy! (Carly Kritchen announces she is ahead of the birds this year).

Dee Frady reports seeing a lynx near their cabin on numerous

occasions. There seems to be an abundance of lynx sightings this year. Coyotes are being seen on a regular basis, too. Mike and Ruth MacDonald enjoyed an evening concert on March 8th. While house-sitting for Rick and Bonnie, they awoke to two coyotes in the yard -- yipping up quite a song.

A great horned owl even joined in, reports Mike.

Well, it's the time of year when the bears wake up. A few local residents are reporting black bear sightings already and, it sounds like Mark Vail of Fireweed subdivision might have another grizzly bear story in the "making."

Wilderness rafting in the
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park

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Outdoors in the Wrangells

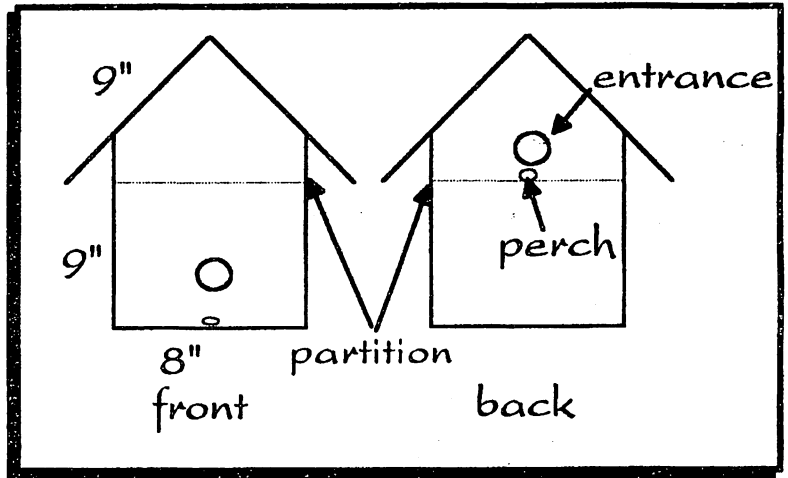
We got this material last spring, too late to publish by swallow nesting season so we told Gaia we would publish it this year.

Bonnie & Rick,

This is a project I did on our computer. Matt Miller designed and built the birdhouse for my birthday. We (my mom and I) figured out how to mount it. I thought you might like to put it in the Wrangell St. Elias News.

From,

Gaia



Double size bird house design

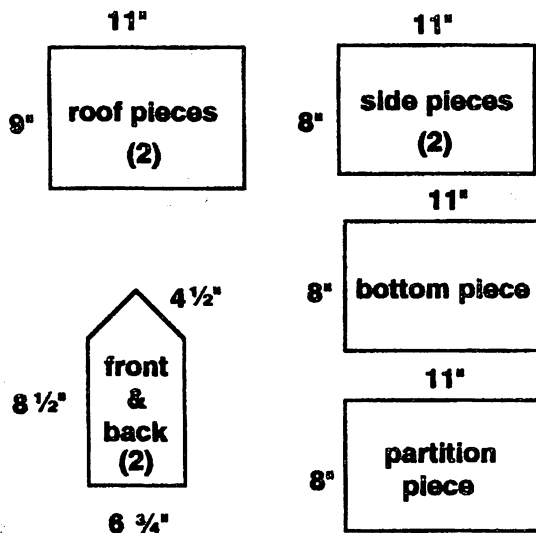
BY GAIA THURSTON-SHAINE

Instructions

The first thing to do whenever you are building something is to gather your materials. For this project you will need:

1. wood — plywood or 12" shelving boards
2. 1½" to 2" screws*
3. saw
4. measuring tape
5. electric drill with screwdriver bit, or a screwdriver
6. drill with 1¼" bit
7. a piece of shingle or metal flashing

*If there are no screws around you can use 1½" nails. These tend to split the wood if you are not careful.



Now that you have all your materials ready you can begin. First you need to cut all the pieces to size. Above are the diagrams of all the pieces.

Get a pencil and your measuring tape and measure the pieces, drawing lines where you are going to cut. Saw on your lines.

Take the piece that is going to be the front and with your 1¼" drill bit, drill a hole about 2" above the bottom. Do the same with the back, but make the hole about 7" above the bottom.

The first pieces you will want to fit together are the two side pieces and the bottom. Stand the two side pieces up facing each other about 8" apart and lay the bottom piece on them. Carefully put in two or three

screws on each edge, screwing through the bottom to the side pieces.

Then slide the back and front into place between the sides and screw on through the sides and bottom.

Next take the partition piece and slide in until it is half-way down. Screw in through front, back and sides.

Now you only have the roof pieces to go. Put them on and screw through them into the front, back and sides.

You can stick your shingle or flashing over the roof to make it water-proof. If you are using flashing, first drill holes in it, then screw on through roof to back, front and sides.

1918 - The four story bunk house and the mess house at Bonanza Mine are destroyed by fire.

1918 - Flu epidemic in coast towns -- all mail coming into McCarthy fumigated.

1918 - Copper River Bridge collapses, sending Engine No. 74 and two flat cars into the river.

1918 - Free survey of homesteads in Alaska is authorized.

1918 - The ladies of McCarthy & Kennicott knit 70 pairs of socks for American soldiers in France.

Read all about it -- in Highlights from the McCarthy Weekly News

Highlights from

The McCarthy Weekly News



That's the way it was in

1918

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1918!

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Among the group was Cordell Roy and Jim Hummel of the National Park Service. Questions were asked and answered by Roy as well. He stated the Regional office in Anchorage supports the study even though previous funding for the special resource study has not been considered a priority project by the NPS's Washington office.

While some members shared feelings of support, others revealed their misgivings towards Shaine's proposed study of NPS

acquisition of Kennicott. After much discussion, M.A.L.A. decided to remain neutral on the issue and not show their support or disapproval.

Before the group dispersed, Randy Elliott of Dan Creek announced his upcoming project to revamp the two parking lots near the tram area at the McCarthy roadhead. Although this land is privately-owned by Steve Syren of Anchorage, visitors to the area and locals as well have freely used it for parking and camping.

Elliott informed local residents to expect changes this summer. Although parking area will be provided as well as some camping spots, people will now be expected to pay for the use of the property.

In an agreement with the owner, Elliott will be overseeing the project and doing the heavy equipment work himself.

The date for the next M.A.L.A. meeting has not yet been set.

Kennicott - McCarthy Chamber of Commerce comes to order

BY BONNIE KENYON

The second meeting of the Kennicott - McCarthy Chamber of Commerce was called to order by Rich Kirkwood on March 18th at the McCarthy Lodge in "downtown" McCarthy.

Six of the seven board members were in attendance as well as 13 others--made up of business owners and residents alike. One such business and its owners, Roland and Joy Hammack of Hammack's Guide Service, had to snowmachine 33 miles to join in on the groundwork for the newly-organized chamber.

Kirkwood reported to the group that as of Feb. 14th all the paperwork was properly filed, and the Chamber was now approved as a nonprofit corporation. Copies of the by-laws were available to all in attendance.

It was decided that all annual meetings be held in the McCarthy-Kennicott valley and within 5 miles of either town. According to the by-laws, the annual meeting will be held sometime during the third week of September.

Next on the agenda was the election of officers. After nominations and written ballots were tabulated, the following results were announced. President, Rich Kirkwood; Vice-President, Gary Green; Treasurer, Betty Hickling; Secretary, Bonnie Kenyon. The above officers will serve until the annual meeting when new elections will be held.

Rich then opened the floor for an exchange of ideas on what the Chamber can do to improve the area, the visitor's experience, and local businesses. A variety of projects were discussed such as: A general cleanup at the tram area, new and improved signage, trash, water, facilities, opportunities for joint-marketing, fund raising, air traffic patterns and, last but not least, ethics. Committees were drawn and people volunteered their time and services.

Any business that operates within the boundary of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve is welcome to join the Kennicott - McCarthy Chamber of Commerce. Your ideas and support are welcome! For information on

membership dues or anything else relating to the Chamber, please write to the following address: Kennicott - McCarthy Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box MXV
Glennallen, AK 99588

The next Chamber meeting is scheduled for Friday, April 29th, 11:30 a.m. at the McCarthy Lodge in "downtown" McCarthy.

Far better it is to dare
mighty things, to win
glorious triumphs, even
though checkered by failure,
than to take rank with
those poor spirits who
neither enjoy much nor
suffer much, because they
live in the grey twilight that
knows not victory nor
defeat.

— Theodore Roosevelt

Francisco becoming Alaska's regional office.

Addressing the recent outcry to Ms. Wade's controversial speech before Congress on March 6, Roy said, "It was an unfortunate choice of words." Admitting to the benefit of Wade's "zeal" in which she delivered her plea for more funds, Roy said Wade, as well as himself, wishes "she had used less inflammatory words."

When questioned about his position on the National Park Service acquiring Kennicott, Roy said the Region has recommended acquisition. One local resident suggested, "Leave the place alone. Just let it evolve." Another brought out that if the NPS cannot even get the funding to study the acquisition and management of the 3,000 acres and buildings, how do they think they can take care of it if they should acquire it?

Individual residents spoke their misgivings of NPS policies. A local business owner stated: NPS is an obstacle. They draw feelings of insecurity--businesswise and personal. Because funds are so tight, why doesn't NPS simply withdraw their lands from this area?

A longtime resident who has lived in the McCarthy area since the '50's added: "There is a feeling of control. Little by little, till we are choked." Roy responded that he would like to see that control turned into co-operation.

Various suggestions came forth such as: Cut brush and make trails so people can go into the park and enjoy it. Present access to the park is too hard for visitors. Many people do not even make it into the park and are not even aware what is private and park land. Roy replied that the NPS

brochures of McCarthy are being reprinted and will show the private land.

Before the meeting adjourned, Ben Shaine of Kennicott, addressed the group concerning his proposal to have the Wrangell Mountain Center in McCarthy and himself conduct a Special Resource Study for Kennicott. His \$95,000 grant application is presently being considered by the National Park Foundation, Washington, D.C.

April 8, 1994

Another mail day and another M.A.L.A. meeting for local residents and visitors. The main topic of discussion was Ben Shaine's proposed Kennicott study. Ben was given the opportunity to address the group, answer questions and seek the approval of M.A.L.A. Nearly 30 people attended.



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McCarthy Area Landowners Association meet again — and again

March 16, 1994

Issues such as the Mental Health Lands transfer and the future sale or leasing of nearby land owned by the University of Alaska greeted the 19 McCarthy residents who attended this particular M.A.L.A. meeting.

Mari Montgomery, Senior Property Manager for the University, Jim Frechione, Natural Resource Manager for the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and Martin Maricle, Area Forester for the Copper River area all flew in especially to address M.A.L.A.

Frechione addressed the Mental Health Land issue. He began by giving a brief background of the 1956 Mental Health Enabling Act and DNR's latest proposal to transfer approximately 16,686 acres of state land located in and around the McCarthy area into the Mental Health Lands Trust. Maps of the lands in question were displayed for review by the local residents.

A consensus of the M.A.L.A. members revealed a strong objection to the transfer of state multiple-use land to a single-use status. Residents made known to Frechione their concerns on how this proposal could greatly impact their subsistence use of the land—such as, hunting, trapping and the gathering of firewood. The Anchorage-based DNR manager agreed to take the communities' comments back with him and submit the information to the Mental Health Project Manager "for incorporation into the decision process."

M.A.L.A. said they did not feel that the community was given

adequate notice of the proposed action and that the DNR was not allowing them adequate time to comment. In the past the DNR had worked with the residents in developing a land use plan for the area and now DNR is proposing to transfer the lands to an unknown group that will most likely have a single purpose management, that of generating revenue.

The following motion was prepared and signed by 19 M.A.L.A. members and given to Frechione to include with the local input:

"M.A.L.A. strongly opposes transfer of any DNR lands to the Mental Health Trust and requests that the DNR representatives at the public meeting in McCarthy on March 16, 1994, convey this resolution to the Commissioner, along with the reasons for this position presented by the community at the meeting. Further, we request that the McCarthy community be provided with legal counsel, at state expense (similar to that provided by the state to the Mental Health plaintiffs) prior to any decision to transfer McCarthy area DNR lands to the Trust, and in time for our effective participation in that decision. In addition, M.A.L.A. supports passage by the legislature of a cash settlement to meet the needs of the Mental Health Trust in lieu of land transfers."

Mari Montgomery addressed the group next. She explained that the purpose of University land is to generate revenue and is considered by them as privately-owned land to be sold or leased to the highest bidder. According to Ms. Montgomery, the University

wishes to act on some of their McCarthy area land this summer.

Much concern was raised by the McCarthy residents as to the impact this would have on the community. Montgomery answered various questions and agreed to respond to suggestions as to possible future use of University lands in the area.

Mark Vail, Chairman, brought the March meeting to a close after announcing that Cordell Roy, Acting Superintendent of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, would be addressing the community at the next M.A.L.A. meeting on March 23.

March 23, 1994

Cordell Roy, Acting Superintendent of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park/Preserve, and Jim Hummel, Chitina District Ranger, addressed M.A.L.A. and area residents after mail. The meeting was held on the McCarthy airstrip with about 29 in attendance.

After giving a brief background of his 8 years in Alaska, Roy described his position as "acting" superintendent. "Karen (Wade) is scheduled to come back," said Roy. He maintains he is only "temporary" to the Glennallen office.

According to Roy, Superintendent Wade's four-month duties as Acting Deputy Regional Director for the Mid-Atlantic Regional Office in Philadelphia, is in a region that may be deleted. He pointed out that there will be a 25% cut in positions from the Washington, D.C. and regional offices. The Alaska office could be downsized 50% with San

Easter Sunrise Service

BY BONNIE KENYON

Swift Creek - On April 3, at 7:00 a.m. 14 area residents gathered to share their faith during this special time of the year. Much planning preceded the Sunday morning service. A printed program which contained the order of the service as well as the words to the hymns that were sung, was given to each one in attendance.

The program began with an instrumental duet by Ruth MacDonald on the flute and Patrick Sperry on the guitar. The rest of the group joined in by singing along. *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* was a favorite of Ruths and one that a few of us had the joy of learning.

Jim Edwards welcomed everyone and introduced each number on the program. Phyllis Sperry gave the opening prayer and read John 20:1-31 which reminded us all of the real reason

for Easter--the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rebekah and Sarah Sperry did a wonderful job singing *Christ Arose*--a perfect song for the day.

The group sang such hymns as *The Old Rugged Cross*, *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* and *He Lives*. Patrick Sperry accompanied them on the guitar.

Patrick shared a few words after quoting the first line of one of the above hymns. It went like this: I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today; I know that He is living, whatever men may say; I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him He's always near. He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today! He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way. He lives, He lives, salvation to impart! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

Carly Kritchen and I shared a song we had learned just for the occasion. It was the first time we had sung together, but I don't think it will be the last.

Pat Edwards surprised her son, Patrick, by reading a poem he had written nearly 13 years ago. The theme that ran throughout the reading was being fruitful where you are planted. As we sang our last hymn, the sun made it's grand appearance over the mountain top.

Rick Kenyon closed the service with a prayer

of thanksgiving for the day and its meaning.

The group moved down the hill to Jim and Pat's house where a delicious breakfast was served. The Sperry girls and Frances Bursch received baskets with plenty of goodies to fill them.

It was a beautiful day in more ways than one. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pat Edwards who not only suggested the sunrise service this year but gave so much to make the day truly a celebration!

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School News

BY KRISTEN JANSSEN

Spring has found the Miller School busy and blooming! Our most exciting news this month has been the appearance of guest lecturers and artisans in our classroom.

Ed LaChapelle of McCarthy began this month's activities by explaining fundamental dynamics of snow and ice to the Miller School, Jeannie Miller, Gaia, Ardea and Marci Thurston-Shaine and to Michael P. and McKenzie McCarthy. We enjoyed a day of measuring snow weight, depth and temperatures with Ed's field equipment. Digging snow pits and caves was a highlight, too. Our snow session was filled with calculations, questions and new concepts.

The following week, Michael P., of Kennicott, and friend, Al Rule of Cordova, became a teaching team on the subject of

fishing in Alaska. Michael and Al spoke about the differences between the policies and practices of set net and drift net fishing, about Alaskan marine biology and their respective fishing lifestyles. We reviewed fishing line types, marine maps, summer camp photographs and talked fish all morning. Again, the Thurston-Shaines and McKenzie joined us.

Most recently, Mark Vail of Fireweed, demonstrated willow basket making to the Miller School, Meg Hunt, Diane and Orion Malik, Leah Lipinski and Gaia and Ardea Thurston-Shaine joined in the festivities. Within a morning's session, everyone had made his or her unique living basket and our weaving techniques had grown stronger.

Each seminar was innovative, educational and lots of fun. Thank you to each local expert who contributed!

Our other piece of new news is the development of a Miller School pen pal correspondence with two fifth graders in Mundein, Ill. The fifth graders were part of a school simulation project in which they were asked to pick a town and imagine what it was like there. The two students chose McCarthy. They wrote to us regarding their exercise with a letter full of questions in order to better fill in their imagined view of our winter lifestyle. We've enjoyed rounding out their picture and have gotten many kicks from their great questions.

Stacie, Matthew and Aaron Miller continue to perform excellently and receive top marks. We move into the final six weeks of school with a full schedule of coursework and high standards ahead of us.

Happy Birthday Grandma

Happy birthday to Grandma
Today is your special day.
When we think about you,
We have so much to say.

Living oh so near to you,
This is our greatest joy.
We love to come visit you.
You are better than a toy!

We're glad we get to see you
Almost each and every day.
Why, we even race and push
Each other all along the way!

Your home is filled with laughter,
Cookies, hot chocolate in a mug.
To your arms we love to run
For your smile, kiss and hug.

You know very many things.
Our Grandma, you are so smart.
We wonder at your wisdom,
And all the love in your heart.

We love when you read to us
And sit with you in your chair.
Travelling to many places
Though we never leave from there!

Arts, crafts, dolls, sewing, baking,
Grandma, you give us your all!
Forget about the jello,
We don't want to have you fall!

Thank you for music lessons.
Though we haven't quite got there yet.
When we're famous musicians
We'll buy Grandpa a new jet.

We hope we don't weary you,
If we often fuss and spat.
When we leave a mess to clean
Or when we chase kitty cat.

Grandma, please forgive us
We forgot to close the door.
There is a melting puddle
Of our snow upon your floor!

We've come to hand deliver
This card for your special day.
The cupcake did not make it
For we ate it on the way!

We love you,
Sarah and Rebekah

(This poem was written by Sarah and Rebekah's mother, Phyllis, and given to Pat Edwards on her recent birthday.)

Congress. This is absolutely unjust! How can we fight this?

Isn't this sadly typical of the injustices done to honest Alaskans throughout the territory's and state's history?

My biggest fear is federal condemnation of my home. Ms. Wade and the multitude of preservationist associates are happy to portray rural residents as having "frontier mentalities who scoff at rules and regulations." They are happy to soften Congress' hearts and ask for more money. After Karen Wade's testimony how much would it take to convince Congress that the Wrangell-St. Elias NP needs a mere million dollars

to help protect themselves and the valuable resources. From there, it is only a matter of sending letters of proposed acquisition a fee simple check. We would have an option—federal condemnation! How close am I to this tragic reality!

I do not trust smiling park rangers who laughingly assure us of no buyout threat. I am watching them create senseless layers of "rules and regulations," strangling inholders. Perhaps hoping we will give up and "donate" our inholdings for the "good of the people." Then they either burn our homes down or turn them into ranger stations. This is not limited to Alas-

ka. Many rural U.S. residents share the same fears.

Please convince your fellow Congressmen that the NPS does not need any more money!

Cut their budgets, check their selfish interests. Do not allow the Wilderness Society et al. to have the upper hand in Alaska!!! I will continue to fight for my rights; upon which our country was founded, and will appreciate your help. Please respond. Can you give us any reassuring information?

Sincerely,
(signed by 23 Chitina/Strelina area residents)

Anchorage Daily News Monday,
April 11, 1994

Voice of the Times

Wrangell postscript

"Unfortunately much has been made of some poorly chosen words I used in testimony before a Congressional Committee about the need for staffing national parks. I did not intend in any way for those words to reflect badly on my neighbors — the vast majority of whom are law-abiding. To those I offended, I offer my sincere apologies and regrets."

Karen Wade

Superintendent

Wrangell-St. Elias National
Park

The above letter to the editor, published recently in the Copper River Country Journal, was in response to a column printed in The Voice of The Times that quoted a portion of Superintendent Wade's testimony before a congressional committee.

Enough has been said to date about her testimony to put it to rest now, and Ms. Wade's

message to her neighbors is the appropriate way to do that.

But the issue of National Park Service policy toward people who own or have lawful rights to property within park boundaries -- they're called inholders -- is far from resolved.

Miners, hunting guides, people living a subsistence lifestyle in remote areas homesteaded years ago, and Native corporations are among a multitude of Alaskans who have grave concern about what they see as an attempt to evict them. From being denied access across park land to enduring various forms of harassment, residents have numerous complaints.

For the Native corporations, which were granted millions of acres in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act just 25 years ago, Park Service policy appears to be especially insensitive. In a recent letter to the regional director of the National Park Service, the president of Ahtna Inc., Roy Ewan, explained his people's predicament.

The Glennallen-based Native corporation has some 600,000

acres of land within the Wrangell-St. Elias park. It hopes to mine and harvest timber on those lands and earn an income for its shareholders, but the Park Service is blocking the plan.

"The proposed activities we hope to carry out on our lands in the future are what we feel Congress envisioned by forming regional corporations," Mr. Ewan said. "Ahtna does not feel Congress intended that any corporation should do less development of their lands because they are near or within the boundaries of parks or preserves."

Mr. Ewan suggests the Park Service work closely with inholders to understand how they intend to develop or otherwise use their land, then together design park policies and regulations to accommodate both the inholder's needs and the Park Service's obligations.

If the federal park landlord, local residents and Native corporations learn to respect one another as good neighbors, as Mr. Ewan suggests, all will benefit.

Frontier folk respond

March 14, 1994

To the Editor:

The mines are shut down, inholders are dying off, and Joe Vogler has disappeared. It's been a good year for the Park Service. You'd think they could give us a little break, but instead they keep denying a widow in Slana access to her inholding, they keep trying to build their multi-million dollar visitor center, they keep managing wildlife to get the last sheep in the belly of a wolf, and now they've even gone so far as to start telling the truth, or at least the truth about how the Park Service sees and treats Alaskans.

It's true there aren't too many copies of Amy Vanderbilt's Etiquette up here, but I also know of no park ranger who has ever been shot. I do however know of scores of Alaskans whose businesses have been ruined, and whose rightful land, property, and access has been regulated out of their hands by Karen and her predecessors. I know of frustrated parents who are unable to perpetuate their sustained-usage of Alaska's resources with their children. I know of countless park visitors who are made to feel as welcome as spotted owls at a logger's convention.

My most recent brush with Karen & Company has been over their surprise plan to redefine who can hunt around the park based on whether or not you live in arbitrary circles the Parkies draw on a map. And why not, it's been a great tactic for them in the past, pitting the long-term resident against the newcomer, the white-boy against the Native, and lately, neighbor against neighbor. Is it even possible to "scoff" at such arcane rules and regulations that are constantly changing, subject to the

subterranean interpretations of Karen and her minions.

Is there any way short of defecting to Iraq that we can stop having to help pay the salaries of these people? People who come from thousands of miles away, tell us what our values should be, complicate our making an honest living, tear apart our communities, and then have the temerity to whine that we don't pay them enough. Don't just read this letter and smile, write to somebody; your congressmen, newspapers, the president, your hairdresser, anybody! Just don't let these people get more money, airplanes, fancy maps, and attorneys.

Finally, Karen, thanks for your honesty, but I think you'd better just stay down south. With people like you around the rangers really would need armed escorts. I believe I have the privilege to live in the most beautiful part of the greatest state in the world. You're better suited to managing Hillary's swampland on the Whitewater River.

Will Sherman
Gakona, AK

(Note: we shortened Will's letter due to space restraints.)

March 11, 1994

Dear WSEN:

A typical cover-up: (per Anchorage Daily News, Voice of the Times 3-9-94) Jim Hummel failed to report details pertinent to Karen Wade's transfer to Philadelphia. Dennis Fradley was keen to report some details which your subscribers may appreciate concerning Karen Wade's cries to Congress for more funding for park operations. "In order to protect Park resources (these) rangers need trained back-ups to ride shotgun while they patrol for poachers and

contact locals with frontier mentalities who scoff at rules and regulations..." I am particularly offended by Wade's reference to local residents. What does Wade really mean by "frontier mentality?" As inholders, my wife and I are concerned about the NPS' portrayal of inholders. Supposedly there is nothing to worry about as far as buy-outs or condemnations, per NPS. Yes, a frontier attitude lives in most all of our hearts or we would not be living the lifestyle we do. Mentality? If we are smart we should question Jim Hummel's reporting and stay fine tuned to the facts concerning all inholders. Thanks WSEN for your efforts. The government should serve and not dominate. Let us not be complacent.

Sincerely,
Todd and Sandy Kasteler
Strela Creek

March 31, 1994

Honorable Don Young,

By now you have certainly heard NPS ranger Karen Wade's testimony before the House subcommittee on parks, forests and public lands oversight hearing, on March 1, 1994.

By now you have probably received letters and calls from Alaskans expressing their concern over Wade's allegations.

I am a legal inholder within the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve and I wish to express my concern.

I take issue with Wade's remarks. A blanket "lawless" description has been thrown over park inholders. She does not know me, I have never been contacted or ever received any ticket. I am a law abiding rural Alaskan being misportrayed by the NPS before

As Wade noted in her testimony, by far the majority of non-federal lands surrounded by park belong to Alaska Native corporations. Roy Ewan, president of Ahtna Inc., has felt the pressure of trying to responsibly manage the corporations 600,000 acres of land in the WRST area. Plans to harvest timber and mine minerals from corporation land have been opposed by NPS. In a recent letter to the regional director of NPS, Mr. Ewan said, "Ahtna does not feel Congress intended that any corporation should do less development of their lands because they are near or within the boundaries of parks or preserves."

The State of Alaska is the second largest owner of lands that are surrounded by national park. Much of this land is slated for possible transfer to the Mental Health Trust, which will likely either subdivide it for resale or look for other commercial use that will generate revenue for the trust. The University of Alaska is another large landowner and has stated their intention of subdividing large parcels for resale, possibly this summer. The General Management Plan for

Wrangell-St. Elias states: "While improved private residences are explicitly protected from immediate unjustified condemnation, the intent of section 1302 is that the

Secretary takes those steps necessary to prevent substantial population increases within conservation system units and to prevent land speculation and subdivision with-

in these areas. He is to take an assertive position in buying currently undeveloped land, giving priority in such places as McCarthy where undeveloped subdivided parcels now on the market gravely threaten achievement of the purposes for which the park and preserve are established."

The Park Service has already declared their desire to acquire the 3,000 acres at Kennicott, thus preventing further land sales to individuals. Given the present economic situation and recent budget cuts in NPS spending it seems unlikely that Congress will give approval, but the acquisition is being encouraged by some local business and environmental groups.

The fifth amendment of the U.S. Constitution says that private property shall not be taken for public use, without just compensation. Just what constitutes a "taking" has been the subject of several recent court cases involving loss of management rights for private landowners. Whether the government can manage private land without paying for the privilege is the question many are asking.

Voice of the Times, cont.

In fishing camps along rivers, like the Copper and Chitina, in mining camps near the copper mineral deposits at Kennicott, in hunting lodges, and in cabins on homesteaded lands, these inholders lived in the Wrangell-St. Elias area long before Ranger Wade began her federal missionary post. They acquired their property legally -- through the Native Claims Settlement Act, the Homestead Act, the Mining Law or some other lawful means.

Apparently the park superintendent is especially disturbed that these inholders might want to exercise their constitutional rights to have access to their property, whether it's under an RS 2477 rights of way or by other legal means. The nightmares must keep her awake at night.

Now she and her fellow rangers say they need more money from the federal treasury to do their job -- so they can travel 200 miles to buy groceries. Poor babies.

Over the last four years, the operations budget for the Wrangell-St. Elias park increased 100 percent, from \$982,300 to \$1,954,000. It may be the nation's largest park, but it also has among the least visitors -- some 32,000 a year. According to my calculator, that's a federal subsidy of more than \$60 per park visitor. Compare that to a park like Yosemite, with a \$15.4 million operating budget and some 3.6 million visitors. That comes out to about \$4.25 per visitor.

Like the typical federal bureaucrat, Ranger Wade wants to build her fiefdom. She says she and her fellow park rangers need increased pay, better benefits, new housing...the list is long. It must be tough taming the savages.

I suspect, however, the rangers are not going to get all the money they want.

Considering how the Park Service routinely treats the public as an unwelcome guest -- like savages who don't belong on Park Service property, I doubt voters will want more money spent on Karen Wade and her fellow rangers.

Remember what happened to General Custer.

would eventually either force them out through condemnation, or make life so difficult through excessive regulation that they would have to leave.

Wade's testimony before Congress was preceeded last summer by an appeal by the National

Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA) for park funding. *National Parks in Crisis - A Summer 1993 Update on Threats Endangering America's National Parks* included WRST among 14 parks supposedly in peril of destruction. "As visitation skyrockets, Superintendent Karen Wade's tiny staff of seven full-time and five seasonal rangers is struggling to establish and implement protection measures before the park's resources are irretrievably degraded," the report stated. It continued, "The park's small staff cannot keep up with increasing threats and management problems related to visitors, concession and special-use permit holders, inholders, and the State of Alaska."

But, to some landowners, one of the most disturbing paragraphs in the NPCA reports was this:

"Additional park staff is needed to manage the 1 million acres within Wrangell-St. Elias that are privately held. Two Native American corporations own 700,000 acres in the park; the remaining privately held acreage is owned by about 500 private landowners and mining claimholders. To protect park resources, a land-use specialist and

a legal expert are desperately needed to manage inholdings and acquire them when appropriate."

Since the NPCA said the information in the report came from telephone interviews with the park superintendents, we asked Karen Wade if she had been quoted ac-

curately. Her reply: "Although I had some input through a brief telephone conversation, I was not directly quoted. The reports they

produce in this category are a result of conversations with several people and represent the opinions of NPCA. The language contained in the report and the picture that it paints with respect to references about managing private lands within park boundaries is not

mine. While we may have an interest in activities on these lands that may impact park resources, we do not "manage" or wish to manage these lands."

Although the enabling legislation for WRST, the *Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act*, is very clear that privately held lands (even if they are within the boundaries of the park) are not part of the park, NPCA is not the only organization to promote "inholding management" by NPS. Students who have taken the Alaska Wildlands Study Program in McCarthy were asked this question on their final exams: "Imagine that you are special assistant to the Director of the NPS. Your boss has sent you from Washington D.C. to the Wrangell Mountains with the assignment to tell him ways the McCarthy/Kennicott "keyhole" area (i.e. the McCarthy road and McCarthy/Kennicott area) in the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park is unusual or important as a part of the national park system; ...make recommendations for how

the site should be managed in order to preserve this significance and convey it to park visitors."

Voice of the Times, cont.

"In order to protect park resources, these rangers need trained backups to ride shotgun while they patrol for poachers and contact locals with frontier mentalities who scoff at rules and regulations; they need other rangers who'll take their places when they need weekends off to buy groceries 200 miles away in Anchorage or take vacations; they need seasonal rangers to help them attend to many other duties that go begging for lack of sufficient hands; they need modern equipment and resources to help them do their work; they need quality housing and pay and benefits commensurate with their skills, training and incredible dedication. We must have a budget that will permit us to do all these things."

Honest to goodness, this is verbatim. Ranger Wade sees Alaskans, apparently, as dangerous, "frontier mentality" assassins, requiring rangers to have "trained backups to ride shotgun" while they are on patrol.

I don't know how other Alaskans view that assertion, but I see it as somewhat arrogant and totally outrageous. It's the kind of message that General Custer might have sent back to Washington when he, too, was sent out West to conquer Indians. Or perhaps the kind of dispatch London may have received from a British lord expanding His Majesty's Empire through India and Southeast Asia back whenever.

If you're like me and mistakenly thought that kind of elitist, "conquer-the-savages" attitude had become a thing of the past -- Ranger Wade proves the mentality is still very much alive for the National Park Service in Alaska.

The "savages" in her case are the resident "inholders" -- folks she must see as backward Neanderthals, but the rest of us know as miners, loggers, Natives, trappers, and so forth.

They're the people who resided in the region long before Congress in 1980 created the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park.

curately. Her reply: "Although I had some input through a brief telephone conversation, I was not directly quoted. The reports they

NPS superintendent says inholdings threaten park resources

BY RICK KENYON

On March 1, 1994, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park Superintendent Karen Wade testified before the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forest and Public Lands. In the course of her speech she told Congress that the threats to resource values in Wrangell-St. Elias (WRST) were generated by "one million acres of dispersed inholdings upon which timbering, hunting, mining and commercial activities of all kinds take place." She said that her park rangers need "trained backups to ride shotgun while they patrol for poachers and contact locals with frontier mentalities who scoff at rules and regulations..."

A little over a week later, on March 9, Dennis Fradley wrote an editorial in the Voice of the Times and quoted extensively from Wade's testimony. Many people in the Copper River Valley took offense. A flurry of letters, phone calls and fax's resulted — not only to Karen Wade but also to her bosses - NPS Director Roger Kennedy and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt. Some even wrote President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore.

Bonnie and I happened to be in Anchorage at the time. I called the NPS Alaska headquarters to ask for their comments. Alaska

Regional Director John Morehead was out of town and could not be reached, and David Ames, who is an Associate Regional Director, was the highest ranking official available. Ames told me yes, he had read the article and yes, he had been to the Wrangells. He

barely readable. He told me I could come to his office and see it.

I phoned Dennis Fradley. "Dave Ames just told me that you took Karen's comments out of context."

"Well," he replied, "I printed nearly her entire statement concerning Wrangell-St. Elias. Nothing was out of context at all. I have the entire speech here. If you would like I will fax it to you now." He did, and he was right. Although the speech was 6 pages long, Dennis had used almost the entire portion that related to WRST.

On our way back to McCarthy, we heard comments from residents of Glennallen, Copper Center and surrounding communities. People seemed to be hurt that they had been portrayed as lawless, and concerned about Wade's statement about inholdings being threatening to park resources. Back in McCarthy, we learned that District Ranger Jim Hummel had flown out on mail day and read an apology that Wade had written to the Copper River Journal. McCarthy

area residents tended to be less offended, some actually proud of having a "lawless" reputation. At the next McCarthy Area Landowners Association meeting, however, at least some people voiced concern that the park service

Anchorage Daily News Wednesday, March 9, 1994
Voice of the Times
Park Service rangers: Living among savages
BY DENNIS FRADLEY

If you think your job is tough, you ought to hear what National Park Service rangers must endure in Alaska. It's a story that will raise goose bumps, so prepare yourself.

The teller of the tale is Ranger Karen Wade, superintendent of the 13 million-acre Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve. Last week, she appeared before Congress to testify at a budget oversight hearing for national parks, forests and public lands. As an official of the Association of National Park Rangers, Ms. Wade argued for increased federal spending for park operations.

Here's what she said rangers face in Alaska:

"In this great northern kingdom, our ranger work force of seven deals with threats to park resource values generated by one million acres of dispersed inholdings upon which timbering, hunting, mining and commercial activities of all kinds take place.

"The nation's largest wilderness is also riddled with potential RS-2477 rights-of-way claims. That means that -- in addition to a gun, a fixed-wing pilot's license and a smile -- each of our rangers carries with him a huge roll of land status maps, a copy of ANILCA, and several sections of the Code of Federal Regulations....

told me, "Everything she (Karen Wade) said is factual... Fradley took her statements out of context." I asked for a copy of the testimony in full, but Mr. Ames told me he only had a "sixth or seventh generation fax," and that it was

Land's End, but is eagerly looking forward to her summer in McCarthy. Welcome "home," Kim!

Mike and Ruth MacDonald: While some folks are coming, Mike and Ruth are going, but not far. Swift Creek's loss but Kennicott's gain. The MacDonalds are now summer employees of Kennicott Glacier Lodge, and as of April 26 have moved "up the hill." Hopefully, on their days off they'll return to visit their Swift Creek friends.

Chris Richards: You might notice a new advertisement in this issue of WSEN--*Downtown Soda*. Besides owning and operating Kennicott-McCarthy Wilderness Guides, Chris is starting another business this summer. Those cold drinks will be a welcome sight to the numerous visitors to Kennicott. Hopefully, he won't have to use any of his newly-acquired skills from the winter E.T.T. class he attended, but, if he should, his mom can rest assured Chris will do well. After all, he passed both exams and proudly announces he got 94% on each test.

Bonnie Morris: Bonnie writes that she is nearing finals now and doing a lot of studying. Although McCarthy is "home" to Bonnie, she is presently attending the University of Wyoming. Instead of taking her summer break in McCarthy, she is going to summer school and studying Civil Engineering. Bonnie says, "This will be my first summer in 19 that I have not been in Alaska, and first year in 16 that I have not mended nets for the Salmon Commercial Fishery on the Copper River Flats." Just where Bonnie finds any spare time in between school and her part-time job with the State of Wyoming D.O.T. is a mystery to me. She manages to take in a garage sale now and again, give her racing bike a good workout, take in a concert and go swimming at the pool. Though she is homesick for the north, Bonnie

seems to have found a pleasant home away from home. "I'm enjoying being in a nice little university town. Not much crime at all, real clean air, about 27,000 people. Quiet, pretty, excellent school. The country is so open and the skies are so blue down here," comments Bonnie. Thanks for staying in touch with home base, Bonnie. We are proud of you!

Lilly Goodman: Welcome back to McCarthy, Lilly! We are looking forward to hearing of your winter excursions while in Montana, but we'll let you have some quiet, relaxing time before we barge in with our questions.

Liz Maloney: Liz (Catie Bursch's sister) and a friend just arrived after driving up the Alcan Highway. I expect we'll see Liz busy at work again this summer at Copper Oar. In the meantime, she is keeping her nieces, Maggie and Frances, entertained while Catie and Thom do spring chores and get ready for another summer at fish camp. Welcome to another familiar face!

Patrick, Phyllis, Rebekah and Sarah Sperry: The Sperrys are more than busy these days. Besides planning their cabin addition, they are giving Rick and Bonnie Kenyon a hand with the 1994 Visitors Guides to Kennicott & McCarthy. Rebekah and Sarah aren't wasting any time either. They make sure their backpacks are full of their favorite videos when they head up to the Kenyons. The Sperrys are making plans to visit brother Joel in Fairbanks. The girls are going to be looking for the "perfect" block. One that has a Pizza Hut on one corner and a Burger King on the other!

Walter and Ursel Mueller: McCarthy area residents are looking forward to a visit from Walter and Ursel who spent a year here on Jim and Pat Edwards' property. They returned to their home in

Switzerland, but we have missed them a lot. They should be arriving in Alaska May 29 and staying till end of September. Even though we are not sure of the exact date they will be here, we are eagerly awaiting their arrival.

Thank you!

The new McCarthy mail shack is taking shape thanks to local volunteers. To all who have participated in this project, you are appreciated!

The walls are up, windows are in, the roof is on and the dry wall is in place. A few more supplies are needed before we paint and install the new bins, but it won't be long now.

A special thanks goes to Mike MacDonald who has spearheaded the project and given so unselfishly of his time.

McCarthy Road Public Scoping Meetings - Open House Schedule

McCarthy, Alaska
May 24, 1994
4:00-6:00 p.m.

McCarthy Lodge
Chitina, Alaska
May 25, 1994
4:00-6:00 p.m.
Chitina Community Center

HELP!

Rans & Chris Kennicott just recently purchased 12 Silk Stocking Row in Kennicott. Can anyone give them information as to who the tenants have been over the years? If you can help Rans or Chris, please write them at:

Rans & Chris Kennicott
927 Lunahelu St.
Kailua, HI 96734

Thanks!

Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

John Adams: While some McCarthy residents rough it during spring breakup, John decided to take a "break" and head to warmer and dryer conditions. How about a couple of weeks in Hawaii? He stayed with Gary Hickling's sister and family (anyone remember Livingston?) and says he really enjoyed his vacation. John's quite a horseman so he did some riding. Even tried out something new--parasailing!

Kirk, Lisa, Svea and Kira Gordon/Olsen: John isn't the only one who did some time in Hawaii this winter. Kirk, Lisa and girls attended a family reunion there with Kirk's family. The 10 day vacation was a "nice break" in spite of some rain. According to Lisa, they had a wonderful time relaxing in their "lush, green" surroundings. Then, during Easter they traveled back east to see Lisa's parents.

Jurgen Ogrodnik: Jurgen is back from Homer. His trip was a success and he didn't return empty handed. The live classical guitar concert he gave while in Germany is now on cassette tape. It's called *Jurgen Ogrodnik Klassisches Gitarrenkonzert 1994*. Congratulations, Jurgen, you did a great job and thanks for saving us a copy.

Matt Hambrick: In last issue, Matt was in Kennicott helping Richard Villa on a remodeling project. This issue he can be found assisting Terry and Dee Frady in building a log guest cabin. Matt has gotten a good reputation for being a hard worker and a wonderful neighbor. As of press time, they just finished the 8th round of logs. They hope to be done with the log work by May 1st. With Matt's help,

the Frady's should have the cabin ready to rent this summer.

Terry and Dee Frady: Speaking of the Fradys...building log cabins isn't the only thing they do well. Their local gift shop--Willow Herb Mountain Depot--is now set up to do T-shirts. According to Dee, they have already completed shirts for our local Pizza Parlor and working on a batch for Chris Richards' Kennicott-McCarthy Wilderness Guides. Also, sign making is in the "makin'" for Terry. Be on the lookout for McCarthy Air's new, big sign. You can be sure it will be an attractive addition to the beautiful log office in downtown McCarthy!

Thom, Catie, Frances and Maggie Bursch: The Bursch family of Fireweed Subdivision are back home after spending the winter in Costa Rica. Boating, fishing, hot temperatures and LOTS of Spanish were in store for them all. Frances had plenty of playmates, says Catie, and she was quick to pick up the language even though she's only 2 1/2 years old. While there they were pleasantly surprised to receive a visit from Dan Creek resident, Randy Elliott, who showed up at just the right time. Come to find out Randy and the Bursches had booked the same flight back to Alaska. Thom and Catie were thankful for all the assistance Randy gave them with the girls, luggage and customs! Since returning home, Catie reports that Maggie who is 8 months old now has come to a tremendous milestone--that of sleeping through the entire night! Catie is forever spoiled now. "Experiencing 8 hours of sleep at night now is wonderful," says Catie.

Randy Elliott: Randy is back in the freighting business these days and he's sporting a new piece of equipment--a loader. Wish I could give you more details on it--suffice it to say, it is HUGE! But, that doesn't seem to intimidate Randy. How he finds the time to tickle the keys of his laptop computer is beyond me, but he finds the time to crank out "King Floyd" episodes for the "News." Now we hear there is a book in the making, too!

Kelly, Natalie and Tessa Bay: Life in the Bay household is certainly not dull! Natalie is trying to get some needed computer work done before Wrangell Mountain Air gets in full swing for the summer. However, Tessa sometimes makes computer work quite a challenge for her mom. The other day while Natalie was kneading bread in the kitchen, things got unusually quiet around the corner. Sure enough, Tessa was knee-deep in the Bays' computer equipment. She had climbed up onto the top of the desk and had printer in one hand and computer in the other! Now Tessa's latest trick is opening jars. "Yesterday it was flour; today it's barley," exclaims Natalie. Where is Kelly in all this excitement? He's busy adding an addition to their McCarthy office--a sound proof (hopefully) room for Tessa!

Kim Northrup: Kim surprised the Kenyons with an unexpected visit on April 17. She has begun her summer work with the McCarthy Lodge and made a quick trip to McCarthy with Gary and Betty Hickling. With the busy summer season just around the corner, Kim is stationed in Wasilla answering the many inquiries for lodge accommodations. She said she enjoyed her winter job in Homer at

A note from the publisher

BY BONNIE KENYON

The snow is gone and spring is here in McCarthy. Our cabin seems to get smaller this time of year as Rick and I try to make room for seedlings and stacks of visitor's guides that we publish during the latter part of April. This is the third year in a row that we have put together a guide to the Kennicott-McCarthy area. Even though things are going much smoother with the new CopyPrinter, we still are a few days late in getting the "News" mailed out to you. If you are considering a trip out this way, you will want to pick up a copy of "A Visitor's Guide to Kennicott-McCarthy 1994" at either the Visitor's Center in Glennallen or the National Park Service headquarters in Copper Center. Various local businesses in and around the Glennallen and Valdez area also carry the free guide.

Rick and I took a week off in March, spending the time in Glennallen and Anchorage. Although it was a business trip, we had a wonderful time seeing old friends and talking with a few of our subscribers. We had hoped to call or see more of you but time just didn't permit. John and Susan Bury and Bud and Marge Seltenreich are some of the "few" we did have the privilege to visit.

The Burys were instrumental in Rick and I getting our ham radio licenses. What a difference that has made, too, since we do not have telephone service here yet. John and Susan invited us for dinner at their newly-built home in Anchorage. We had years of catching up to do and plan on

taking up where we left off when they come to McCarthy for a visit this summer. A highlight of our trip was attending a Sunday morning service where John is an interim pastor.

Another special moment for Rick and I was a long overdue visit with Bud and Marge. Bud was born in McCarthy in 1915 and has a wonderful memory of those early days. He and Marge now live in Anchorage. Rick and I never get tired of hearing Bud share his adventures with us. In fact, we plan on doing a story on him in an upcoming issue. For a "frontier" boy with a "frontier mentality," Bud has done all-right!

We are using a slightly different page layout starting this issue, one that is better suited to the new

printing equipment. This is also our largest issue so far, with 36 pages. Thanks to Catie Bursch for the drawing of Kennicott on the front cover, and to Barbara Hartt for the poem.

Our subscriber list keeps growing. As we go to press there are 278 of you on our mailing list. Wrangell St. Elias News welcomes the following new subscribers: Daniel Talcott, Wash.; Alaska Bible College Library, Alaska; Donn Kenyon, Mich.; T. Zelst, Ill.; Heather Marks, Calif.; Roy Becker, Alaska; Chitina Native Corp., Alaska; John McDermott, Conn.; Harry Billum, Alaska; Kevin McCarthy, Alaska; Frank Northrup, Az.; Gail Maricle, Alaska; Alaska DOT&PF, Alaska; Nancy Ferrell, Alaska; Helen Seltenreich, Wash.

Wrangell St. Elias News

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Publishers and Editors: Rick & Bonnie Kenyon. Contributors to this issue: Randy Elliott, George Cebula, Kristen Janssen, Dennis Fradley, Carly Kritchen, Phyllis Sperry, Inger Ricci, Catie Bursch, Barbara Hartt and Ed LaChapelle.

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Wrangell St. Elias News

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty" -- Thomas Jefferson

VOL. THREE ISSUE THREE

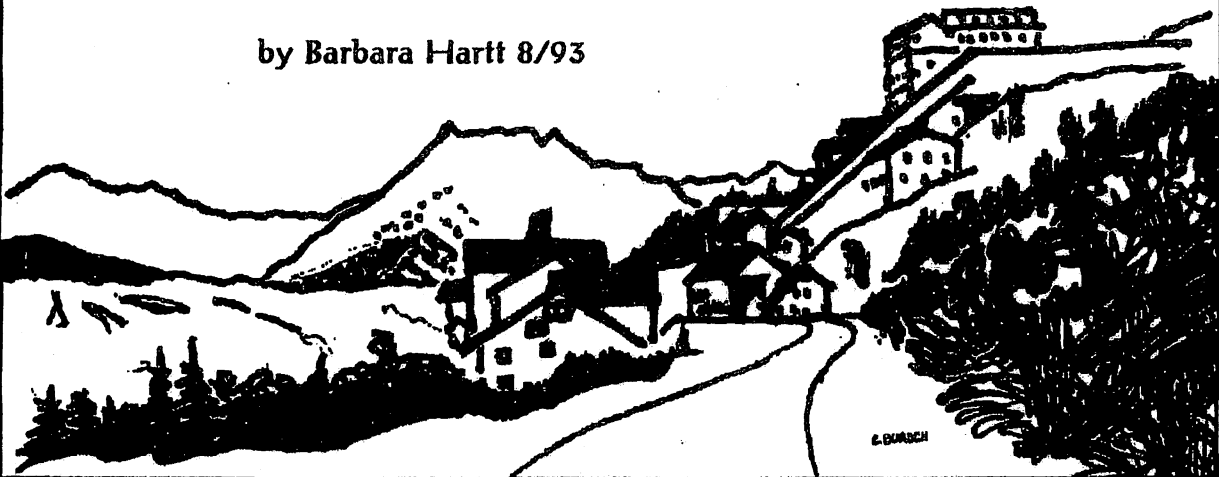
MAY & JUNE 1994

ONE DOLLAR

Kennecott

The last train's leaving was the call
That echoed through the mines.
Shovels fell, men deserted,
Buildings froze in time.
A town that was — was no more,
The copper mill fell still,
The engine sighed and left behind
The red upon the hill.
No time to pack nor say goodbye,
There didn't seem a need,
Gone for now, but they'd return —
Unlocked doors held the keys.
Hidden treasures of the earth,
Wealth that men do quest,
Lie silent in the walls
Beneath the mountain crests.
While icy glaciers stand their guard,
Jagged peaks, a fortress forms,
And ghosts of miners still
Cry out amidst the winter storms.

by Barbara Hartt 8/93



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**NPS says
inholdings
threaten park
resources**

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part eight
The king meets the
enemy at last

OUR TOWN
March & April
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