

# Wrangell St. Elias News

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

VOL. TWO ISSUE SIX

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 1993

ONE DOLLAR

## Kennicott Stabilization



WSEN staff photo

Kennicott Stabilization Project worker carries a sheet of plywood on the National Creek Bunkhouse roof. After an early 10" snowfall melted, mild weather allowed the work to continue into late October.

In This Issue

Asbestos in Kennicott



King Floyd

part five

The power of the printed word

OUR TOWN

November &  
December

1918



## *A note from the publisher*

BY BONNIE KENYON

Since Rick so generously displayed my picture on the last issue of the "News," and gave me the honorary title of publisher, I thought I would take the opportunity to write our readers a personal note.

As you know the first issue of Wrangell St. Elias News came out in July 1992. Our subscription list has grown to 218. We now print and distribute 350 to 500 copies per issue—all done from our 18'X30' log cabin near McCarthy. Our community does not have electricity except for what we make ourselves. Rick and I use a generator that we run several hours a day. We also have a battery bank and an inverter so we have access to a certain amount of power whenever we desire or need it. Our equipment consists of 3 computers, 2 printers, and a Toshiba copier. (What wonderful inventions!)

Now that our first year has passed, and subscriptions are coming up for renewal, I want to thank those of you who have responded so quickly to our invitation to stay on board. Rick and I appreciate the encouragement and kind words that many of you have written us.

Some of you have even stopped by and visited! For instance, just recently subscriber Cheryl Moody from Wasilla and her neighbor Jill Rebillard and their two daughters stopped by to meet us. They had been out in the area earlier this summer and liked it so well they decided to drive out again. What a nice surprise to be presented with a beautiful pumpkin that Cheryl grew and delicious dilled green beans from Jill's garden. I don't think the pineapple and kiwi fruit were Alaskan grown,

but what a treat none-the-less! Many thanks, ladies!

Doayne and Kay Houghton from Valdez also dropped in. They own a place in McCarthy but wanted us to know they might be purchasing property on our side of the river—making us nearby neighbors! They hope to move out here someday. The Houghtons brought along their 5 (or was it 6) daughters and Kay's father. We had a wonderful time visiting with the Houghton family and consider it an honor they would include us in their busy schedule.

In a recent letter from Inger (Jensen) Ricci (a Kennecott Kid), she shared her adventures at the Alaska Yukon Pioneers Convention in Skagway first week of September. She was thrilled to meet another "Kennecott Kid"—Cliff Marwood. According to Inger, Cliff was born in Kennecott approximately 1920. Although he has very few memories of the area (he was 1 1/2 yrs. old when his family left), he visited Kennecott recently and enjoyed seeing his birthplace. Thanks, Inger, for another piece of Kennecott history!

Even though Rick and I had already met subscribers Eric and Patty Yould of Eagle River, we enjoyed having them stop by for one of those "real" visits over a cup of tea. The Youlds have property on the Nizina River and were accompanying a load of lumber in from Sapa Farms. Crossing the Kennecott River proved to be a challenge but, with the help of Randy Elliott, they got their materials safely to the other side.

In the July/August 1993 issue Rick asked for your thoughts on the "News" being monthly instead of bi-monthly. We have received comments from

those who desire more up-to-date information; others are concerned we might get "burned out." So, at the present time, we will wait for the telephone service to reach us before going monthly or more often. Also, we are working on obtaining a more reasonable mailing rate than the first class we are using now. Thank you for your comments and ideas. They are always welcome and needed.

I want to thank those who have contributed to Wrangell St. Elias News. To those of you who have written articles for us, to those of you who write regularly—we appreciate you. And a big thank you to our McCarthy neighbors who have patiently allowed Rick and I to interview them and ply them with questions! And, last but not least, thank you, readers, for trusting us with your subscription.

Since the publication of our September/October issue, the following people have come "on board" Wrangell St. Elias News.

Cheryl Moody, Alaska; Greg McCarthy, Alaska; James Moore, Georgia; Jeanne Moore Elliott, Tennessee; Neil Bennett, Washington; Sam Hambrick, Virginia; Scott Bailey, Alaska; Bruce Haldeman, Alaska; Fred Williams, Alaska; Freddy Miller, Alaska; Jack Pasture, California; K.J. Mushovic, Alaska; Martin & Mollie Flack, Alaska; Neil O'Donnell, Alaska; Walter & Daniela Vivian, Alaska; M. Leahy, Alaska; Peggy Kirkwood, California; Bill Kirkwood, Arizona; Betty Hickling, Alaska; Bill Seltenreich, Alaska; Frank Adams, Alaska; Louise Ashley, Alaska; Dick & Bonnette Cooper, Alaska; Laura Rotegard, New York; Jim Busey, Colorado; University of Alaska, Alaska.

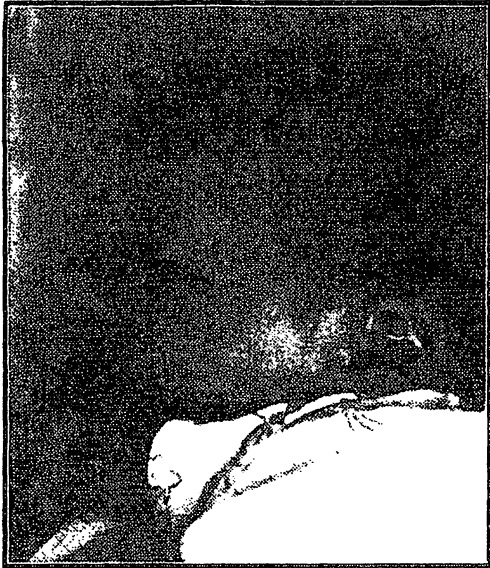
Never Explain--your Friends do not need it and your Enemies will not believe you anyway.

--Elbert Hubbard

# Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

**Thom, Catie and Frances Bursch:** NEWS FLASH. The Bursch family has grown by another member. No, not another dog or pet ducks for Frances but a baby sister!



**Margaret Maloney Bursch** was born September 1 at 4:41 p.m. in Anchorage and weighed 9 lbs. In a letter dated September 10th Catie had this to say: "Maggie is a delight. She's got 'growth' as her priority right now. Eating and sleeping. She gained a whole pound just in the first week so she's a 10 lb'er already. Hardly looks like a newborn!"

**Kristen Janssan:** A new face for the area is Kristen who comes to us from Northern California. She says she is thrilled with the prospect of spending the winter in our community. Kristen is already a busy young lady. She is boarding with the Miller family in Kennicott and tutoring Aaron, Matt, and Stacie Miller. Tyler Green, son of Gary and Nancy Green, is also attending "class."

Kristen says the guest cabin where she is staying also serves as the schoolroom. Each student has their own desk and shelf for books. We are looking forward to regular updates on various field trips and projects.

**Mike and Ruth MacDonald:** Our local kids are not the only ones studying and taking tests these days. Mike studied and passed a test certifying him as a weather observer for NOAA. Mike will be filling in for Rick and Bonnie Kenyon during the month of November while they are on vacation in Florida and Georgia. **George Cebula** administered the written exam while visiting the area in early September. Congratulations to Mike and a big WELCOME HOME to Ruth who has been in northern Minnesota visiting her mother!

**Patrick, Phyllis, Rebecca and Sarah Sperry:** The community is sporting lots of new faces these days.



Patrick, his wife Phyllis and their two daughters, Rebecca, 6, and Sarah, 8, left Florida on September 3 and arrived at Swift Creek Friday, October 1. Patrick is Pat Edwards' son; that is,

one of them! The Sperrys sold their home in Bradenton, and their new "home" for the winter is the caretaker's cabin on the Edwards' property. They plan to continue homeschooling their girls. According to Phyllis, the curriculum she has been using since the girls started school offers 13 subjects. She and Patrick share the teaching responsibilities. They spend 5 hours a day, Phyllis estimates, and considers the time well spent. Rebecca is finishing 1st grade and Sarah second. Hopefully, the Sperry family will like the area so much, they will consider McCarthy their permanent home. We extend a warm welcome to our new neighbors!

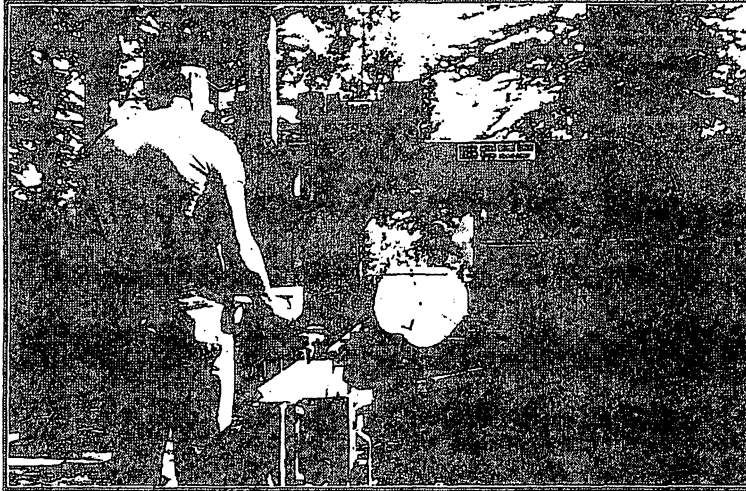
**Jim and Pat Edwards:** Jim and Pat could hardly wait till the Sperry family arrived. Pat has been knitting mittens for Rebecca and Sarah and Jim escorted the Sperrys on their first "mail day" hike to McCarthy. Pat was planning on going, too, but a couple days after the kids arrived, she slipped and fell. The Edwards are presently in Anchorage where Pat is recuperating from a broken ankle. We pray she has a speedy recovery! Jim is going to need her valuable assistance as he begins his winter project—a newly arrived homebuilt airplane kit is awaiting his attention!

**Rich Kirkwood and family:** Kennicott was the scene of more than its usual yearly Labor Day festivities this September. Rich, part owner of the Kennicott Glacier Lodge, must have had to reserve several rooms under his own name this year! Besides his wife, Jody, and their two daughters, Christina and Lindsey, he was pleased to have his parents, Bill and Lil Kirkwood of Phoenix, AZ, and his two sisters, Peggy and Pat join him in the holiday celebrations. Sounds like Bill and Lil rolled up their sleeves and dug right into life at KGL.

If Bill wasn't keeping an eye on the water system, he and Lil could be seen driving the KGL vans--picking up and depositing guests at their proper destinations.

**Cal and Pat Ward:** The Wards are off again! This time they are taking a 3 1/2 week trip to visit Pat's relatives in Canada. They closed up the cabin at Fireweed Mountain on

knowledge of the area. This was not true of the other 2 groups who had ventured out on their own. Lilly was able to guide them safely off the glacier, she said. Congratulations, Lilly, and we'll look forward to seeing you in March!



**Ken and Donna Smith:** This summer Ken found time to set up his own portable sawmill on his property at Swift Creek. He was scheduled to attend "Sawmill School" in Wood Village, Oregon, on September 17 and 18. We hope he picked up some good pointers to bring back with him next summer. Although he and Donna live in Anchorage, they seem to find time to make the long drive out to their cabin near McCarthy. Now we know where to go when we're short a 2'X4'!

September 12, but not before Pat harvested her garden. Cal reports they had an excellent growing season with no frost this year. We look forward to seeing them back in the area sometime around the 3rd of November.

**Lilly Goodman:** Saying "good-bye" is not fun! Lilly has been in our town for about a year. She plans on leaving Alaska October 21 but hopes to return to McCarthy for another visit in March. This summer Lilly worked as a guide for St. Elias

Alpine Guides. She was kept quite busy guiding visitors on glacier trips. While out on one particular hike, Lilly and her two guests met 2 other groups on the glacier. Due to an unpredictable snowfall, conditions on the ice were tricky. As usual, however, she was prepared with crampons, other equipment and a working

**Gary and Betty Hickling:** The busy summer season is slowing down for McCarthy Lodge owners, Betty and Gary. At least for Betty! She left for Europe on October 13 and will return November 6. Although business was slow in the beginning of the season, Gary reports there was a steady stream of visitors the rest of the summer. We trust Betty will enjoy her vacation. As for Gary, he says he has quite a list of things to do while she is gone. I hope all his time is not taken up cooking for himself. If any neighbors happen to see him looking hungry and a bit lonely, please have compassion and invite him in for a good home-cooked meal!

**Randy Elliott:** The "crew" at Dan Creek do more than mine for gold. Sometimes, a bit of socializing occurs. Like, for instance, the evening Randy invited **Fred and Irene Denner/Koivu** of Dan Creek and **Rick and Bonnie Kenyon** of McCarthy for dinner. The Kenyons flew over for the occasion and report an excellent meal followed. We're not sure how much can be contributed to Randy's cooking expertise, however. He has a new cook at the camp--**Majda Taher**. She did a superb job. The apple pie was a real hit, too. Even Randy's complaint that "you're eating all my baked goods" didn't curtail the appetites of those present!

**Ken and Carly Kritchen:** I hope the Kritchens don't take offense, but the word "appetite" made me think of Ken! Please don't get the wrong idea, readers; Carly can do more than cook up a good meal and Ken certainly can do more than eat it. In fact, Rick and I paid a visit to the Kritchen homestead a few days ago and our neighbors were busy at work on their new

### *Wrangell St. Elias News*

VOL. Two, Issue Six, November & December 1993.

Published every two months at McCarthy, Alaska. WSEN - McCarthy, PO Box MXY, Glennallen, AK 99588-8998.

"Copyright © 1993 by Wrangell St. Elias News. No part of this publication may be reproduced by any means without the express permission of the publishers." Publishers and Editors: Rick & Bonnie Kenyon. Contributors to this issue: Randy Elliott, Ed LaChapelle, George Cebula, and Carly Kritchen. Subscription price is \$8.50 for 6 issues in the USA. Canada and Mexico \$10.00. Other countries \$22.50. Back issues \$2.50 each, postpaid. Advertising rates upon request. Deadline for publication in next issue is December 22.



**26'X12' log addition.** What a great job they are doing! The walls are up, roof is on and most of the windows are in place, too. As I write this "item" Carly is staining the wood floor and Ken is varnishing the ceiling and inside walls. They only have a couple more days before they head out on their vacation. A tentative stop in their travels is a visit with Bonnie Morris in Laramie, Wyoming. They'll return to Cordova for Thanksgiving and McCarthy in January or February. I'm wondering where M.L, Oscar (cats), Hoser, Ewe dog, Kip (dogs) and their three Rhode Island Red chickens fit into all this. (In the back of my mind, it seems Carly said something about "the fish," too!) Most likely the Kritchens have their eyes open for a "critter sitter."

**Bonnie Morris:** For those of you who like to keep up with Bonnie's whereabouts, she is back in school but, this time, in Laramie, Wyoming. In a recent letter to Carly, Bonnie says "she is real happy with the move and school is going good." Dynamics, Calculus and Physics are a big challenge for her

this year but a class in World Music is helping to take the edge off the heavier subjects. She already has a part-time job drawing highway cross sections for the Wyoming Department of Transportation. She's even getting lots of computer experience. We all wish Bonnie a successful and fulfilling year!

**Andy Shidner & Matt Hambrick:** Speaking of

success and fulfillment... Andy and Matt are experiencing a taste of both these days. They each have cabins under construction. Because winter is right around the corner, the guys decided to work together. Andy's cabin is made out of 3 sided logs. Both men pitched in and by October 14, the



16'X24' cabin was ready for a housewarming pot-luck. They have now turned their attention to Matt's cabin. It will be frame construction so it should take shape quickly. We wish them many warm nights this winter!

**Terry and Dee Frady:** The Fradys have been enjoying the "much" warmer temperatures of North Carolina for the last 3-4 weeks. We expect to hear they are back at their cabin in the McCarthy area any day now. Terry and Dee closed the door of their local gift shop shortly after Labor Day and soon left to catch their Anchorage flight. **Glenn and Willy May Frady,** Terry's folks, live in Canton and were on the top of the list for a visit. We look forward to a travel update when they return.

**Ed LaChapelle:** Another local escapes to warmer and (we hope) drier country. Ed is off on his winter excursions. He is expected to leave McCarthy on Wednesday, October 20, and return sometime in January. Our loss, Meg's gain! Besides catching up with Meg in Olympia, Wa., Ed tells us he will be visiting his son, David, in Juneau, too.

**Kim Northrup:** And last, but certainly not least, is Kim. She has left us for Homer, but somehow we feel she will return. I'm sure we here at WSEN are not the only ones who miss her. Gary and Betty Hickling also lament her departure. They report Kim did an excellent job managing the McCarthy Lodge this summer. Hopefully, we'll see her smiling face back here next summer. I wonder how many local businesses she could manage at one time???? We love you, Kim!

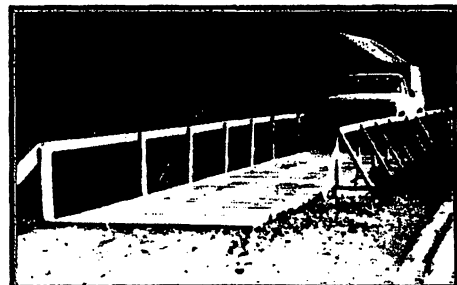
**Thank You!**

The time is right for a pat on the back for the following local residents: John Adams, Matt Hambrick, Jim Miller and Chris Richards.

For those who have been intimidated while crossing the National Creek bridge in Kennicott, you might want to take another look! The bridge has definitely received a new facelift.

The bridge has been redecked and is even sporting side rails! It is 8' wide and, according to Jim Miller, can handle a maximum load of 2 tons.

Our special thanks to John, Matt, Jim and Chris!

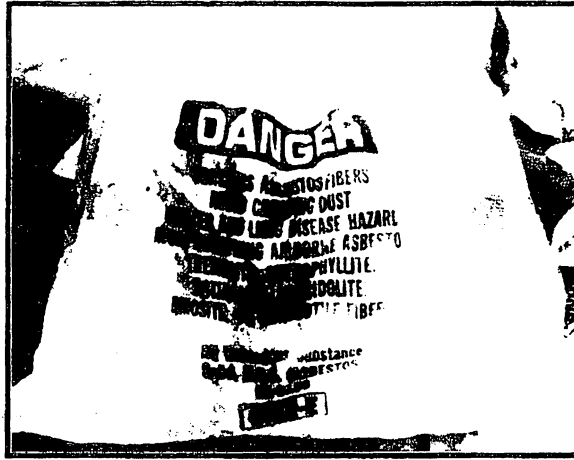


# It's in the bag(s)

Workers from Technic Services Inc. of Anchorage were in Kennicott during much of September and the first three days of October removing asbestos from the old buildings. At least some of the asbestos was apparently removed from the old pipes and fittings, placed in plastic bags and left to sit along the streets of Kennicott.

Preston S. Chiaro, Vice President Environmental Affairs for the Kennecott Corporation gave some background information on the cleanup in a recent letter:

"When the Corporation sold the site in the late



WSEN staff photo 10/13/93

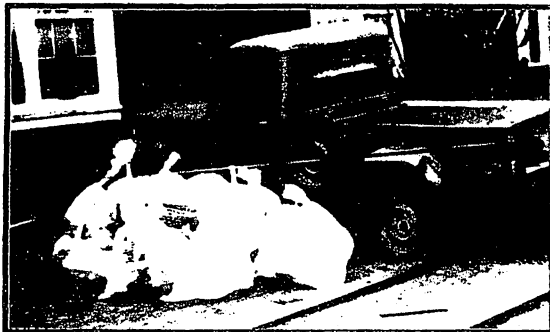
order to enhance the potential for sale and preservation of the historic mill site. As documented by

building demolition, renovation or removal takes place, current specific and very detailed federal environmental laws and regulations pertaining to asbestos in the buildings become applicable. The collapse of an existing building due to its age and other factors would trigger compliance with the asbestos rules by the owner and clean-up contractor."

According to Gerald Schurtz, the Director of Regulatory Affairs for Kennecott Corporation, the decision was made to dispose of the asbestos in the

Highland landfill in Anchorage. In a letter to the McCarthy Area Landowners Association (MALA) dated September 3, 1993, Shurtz said that "the existing 'reefer' building will be upgraded and made secure for the safe storage of the asbestos prior to shipping to Anchorage."

The "reefer" building does indeed appear to have bags of asbestos stored in it. However, a 10" snowfall the night of October 3 prompted a rapid exodus by the Technic workers. They crossed the Kennicott River with a truck van and loaded it with 4-wheelers and other equipment. In their haste to get back across the river they burned out the clutch on the truck and had to have it towed out by a local contractor. About a dozen plastic bags full of a white substance and labeled "DANGER - CONTAINS ASBESTOS FIBERS" were left outside the machine shop, and another pile of bags outside the leaching plant.



WSEN staff photo 10/13/93

1950's to private owners that were predecessors to Great Kennicott Land Co., the conditions of the sale included demolition and removal of all buildings at the site. These conditions were obviously not met."

"In 1990, Kennecott Corporation willingly joined with the current major landowner, the Great Kennicott Land Co., to determine the presence and need for removal of any hazardous substances in

the Company's surveys and subsequent reports, the only substance of concern that is present at the site is the residual asbestos within the buildings and utilidors. As indicated at the June McCarthy Landowners meeting, we agree with you that no public health hazard exists so long as the materials are left undisturbed. However, if any



WSEN staff photo 10/13/93

For more background information, see *Kennicott - pristine, or Superfund site?* in the July & August issue of WSEN

## To the rescue...

BY BONNIE KENYON

The fire hazard for the McCarthy area was high this summer, so when the rain finally let loose on Sunday, August 29, local residents saw it as a welcome sight. By Monday afternoon, however, some folks in the small community were becoming concerned with the rising water level of McCarthy Creek.

A crowd gathered and watched as the high water slammed against the makeshift footbridge. Logs and debris dislodged by the swollen river were also assaulting it. "We were waiting for the big log to come take the bridge out," recalls 34 year old Howard Mozen. They didn't have long to wait. It came and the bridge went! For the rest of the summer access to the cabins on the other side of the creek would be by air.

Howard recalls hearing another resident comment, "I wonder when we'll see Loy's plane come down the river." A couple of weeks earlier, Loy Green had flown his small, two-seater homebuilt to a spot up McCarthy Creek and landed on a river bar. While there he dinged the plane up slightly and hiked out to get the necessary part. He hadn't gotten back to fix the plane.

Howard, concerned about Loy's situation, went in search for him. He found him eating dinner in his nearby cabin, seemingly resigned to the fate of his plane--whatever that would be. Shortly before Howard had found him, Loy had flown over the threatened aircraft with local pilot Gary Green. They could see the water was already

up to the axles of Loy's Avid Flyer. Gary was unable to land next to Loy's plane so they had returned to McCarthy.

"I offered Loy my help," said Howard. "I said I'd see if I could go up there." Fortunately, Howard's friend, Sven Sarfert, 24, a med student from Germany was visiting him. Howard describes Sven as a "giant and an excellent mechanic." "I saw this would be a mission for Sven and Howard. We work pretty well together. I wouldn't go do anything in the river without somebody there with a rope to help me out."

Rivers do not intimidate Howard. He has been running raft trips to Cordova since 1988. This year he got serious, however, and started a local rafting business. His river experience certainly paid off--for him and Loy!

Sensing the urgency of the moment, Gary agreed to land the two men as near Loy's plane as he could. It still meant hiking a mile through the brush and crossing the river. With nightfall approaching, the men moved quickly. While Howard organized gear (ropes, pulleys etc.) Loy explained to Sven how to undo a cotter pin and fold the wings back.

By about 8:00 p.m., equipped with wet suits and plenty of river gear, Sven and Howard were ready to cross. In spite of the "tricky crossing" and getting pretty wet, the fellows managed to get themselves and their gear to the other side. "Sven was out there in the last bit of light folding back the wings. I was organizing gear...making sure of our lights and warm clothing. We

were pretty cold being in the river. By the time I got to the plane, Sven had the wings folded back," recalls Howard.

The stranded aircraft was facing downstream. The logs Loy had tied the plane to were now floating in front of it. By this time the men were working in water that was about shin deep.

They towed the 475 lb. plane down the river to a nearby cutbank that rose 6 ft. out of the river bar. Devising a log ramp, and attaching pulleys to a tree, Howard and Sven pulled the plane to safety. Before hiking back to McCarthy the next morning, they hauled it to a spot that they hoped would be a good place for Loy to work on it later. By then the river was flowing over the river bar strip where the plane had originally been.

Loy was informed of the success of the rescue by another local pilot, Roger Elconin. Roger took to the air early that Tuesday morning to check on the previous night's results. He could see that the plane had been moved to high ground. Roger then reported his findings to Loy.

Hiking out and up over National Creek, Howard and Sven reached McCarthy in 3 hours. A job well done and certainly enough adventure for one night!

*rd*

"We are called the nation of inventors. And we are. We could still claim that title and wear its loftiest honors if we had stopped with the first thing we ever invented, which was human liberty.

-- Mark Twain





# Wrangell Mountain Air

McCarthy, Alaska

*In the heart of the Wrangell-St. Elias*



## AIR CHARTER SERVICE

---

- > Expedition & Logistical Support
- > Service from Chitina, Glennallen
- > Wheel ski equipped aircraft

**907-345-1160**

Fully insured / FAA certified  
OAS approved  
*Kelly & Natalie Bay*  
P.O. Box MXY, McCarthy, AK 99588

218 other projects listed in the highway section. Individuals, groups and organizations are asked to submit comments to: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Northern Region Planning, 2301 Peger Road, Fairbanks, AK 99709-5316 or call 451-2380. Comments should reach them by November 5, 1993.

### Phone Update

September has come and gone; October is nearly over and still no phones in McCarthy, Kennicott and the surrounding areas. Delays and then more delays seem to plague the project. Copper Valley Telephone is presently negotiating with a couple McCarthy area land-owners. It now appears phone service is again

delayed--this time, until spring.

### Roofing Tack Mishap

Gary and Betty Hickling of McCarthy Lodge report tire damage to their pickup truck by numerous roofing tacks. The incident took place on September 10 while driving across the National Creek bridge in Kennicott. Betty, who was driving the vehicle, was on her way back down the mountain after dropping off two of her customers up near the Bonanza Mine. According to Betty, when she crossed the bridge on her way up, there were no tacks seen on the bridge. However, approximately 40 minutes later, she says there was a row of tacks about every 6 ft. Even though she

removed the tacks lying on the bridge, one tire was found to have 6 tacks and another tire had 2. Gary says last year alone he must have picked up nearly 100 tacks in his tires. The roofing tacks create slow leaks and in time ruin the tires.

### Local Van Vandalized

On Sunday night September 12 a dark blue 1979 van owned by Kennicott Glacier Lodge was stolen and vandalized. It apparently was taken on a joy ride by a drunken summer employee of a local business. Rich Kirkwood says it was not an employee of the lodge. He declined to give the name of the individual but he did say the State Troopers had been notified.

### Kennicott Cemetery

In early October Kristen Janssen and the Miller kids--Stacie, Matt and Aaron--took it upon themselves to brush out the Kennicott Cemetery. It had gotten very overgrown in the past 9 years since its last maintenance job. With a little help from Jim Miller's chain saw, the place now has a few more years to be a historical point of interest. Many thanks to them!

*He who rebukes a man will in the end gain more favor than he who has a flattering tongue.*  
-- Prov 28:23

# McCarthy Trail Rides and Bed & Breakfast



Horse Rides available  
Day trips or pack-in trips  
Bed & Breakfast  
Private cabins by the night or the week.

**For reservations, write to:**  
**John Adams**  
McCarthy Trail Rides  
PO Box MXY, Glennallen AK 99588



## Holidays Remembered



In the November/December 1992 issue, we highlighted the Thanksgiving holiday with a brief history called The First New England Thanksgiving. This year we choose to give special honor to the Christmas holiday.

### December 25 - Christmas

Christmas is recognized and celebrated as the birthday of Jesus Christ. The name Christmas means Christ's Mass. In most of Europe, the day is known as "Christ's Birthday." It is marked by religious services, by the exchange of gifts and much celebration. To a Christian the real story of Christmas is the story of Jesus—God's precious gift.

The legend of Santa Claus is often connected with Saint Nicholas who was an actual person. He was born about A.D. 280 and lived in Turkey.

Stories of his life are the real background for today's Santa Claus.

Nicholas' parents were Christians. They had prayed and asked God for a child. To them, Nicholas, whose name means "victorious" or "hero of the people," was a gift from God. They taught their son devotion to God and generosity to the poor. Nicholas entered the priesthood at 19. In time, he became the bishop of a small, coastal village, and his influence spread into many nations.


He was known for helping the poor. Many miracles were brought about through his prayers. It is said he worked wonders in converting unbelievers to Christianity, and for a time he was kept in prison because of his steadfast faith.

One particular story about St. Nicholas, tells how he rescued three girls from a hopeless future. Their

father was so poor and desperate that he planned on selling them. The young ladies had no dowries and, therefore, could not marry. Nicholas tossed a bag of gold pieces through the man's window during the night so no one would know who had done it. The oldest daughter could then be married.

The story goes on that Nicholas did the same thing for the other two daughters. When he did it for the third daughter, the father caught him. He made the father swear on an oath that he would never reveal who was responsible for the gifts as long as Nicholas was alive. This story may have started the custom of giving gifts at Christmas.

When St. Nicholas died on December 6, A.D. 343, he is said to have quoted Psalm 11 with his last breath: "In the Lord I put my trust."




**BON VOYAGE TRAVEL**  
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF THE  
GREATER COPPER RIVER BASIN SINCE  
1987 WITH ALL THEIR TRAVEL NEEDS!!!

**CALL 822-3427**

P.S. OUR OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED  
FROM NOV. 15, 1993 - JAN. 7, 1994.  
DURING THIS PERIOD, PLEASE CONTACT  
CROSSROADS TRAVEL FOR ALL  
YOUR TRAVEL NEEDS.  
CALL 563-7533 COLLECT

**Bon Voyage Travel**  
**822-3427**  
S.R. BOX 470, GAKONA AK 99586


**ST. ELIAS ALPINE GUIDES**



Full range of guided trips available  
Phone (907) 277-6867

*Bob Jacobs, Owner, Certified Alpine Guide*

Wilderness rafting in the  
Wrangell-St. Elias National Park



**Copper Oar**

PO Box MXY McCarthy  
Glennallen, AK 99588  
1-800-478-5292 or (907)822-5292

## School news

BY KRISTEN JANSSEN

As autumn slides into winter, the Calvert Distance Education School has once again begun at the Miller's guest cabin! Stacie Miller, Matt Miller, Aaron Miller and Tyler Green comprise the dynamic and dedicated class of 1993/1994. Working Monday through Friday (9 - 2:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 12:30 - 5 on Wednesdays) these students follow a rigorous curriculum of reading, writing, arithmetic, science, spelling, grammar, geography and art.


A field trip to the Hardware Store offered the school a lesson in botany led by Jenny Carroll and experience with pottery care of Paul Dungan.

Roger Elconin will be our next featured speaker uncovering mysteries of geology. Michael P. McCarthy will

follow with a discussion of salmon fishing and Alaskan marine life.

After school activities are in full swing as well. Mondays feature tee-ball practice, Wednesday is football practice and Friday's extra curricular activity is track (weather permitting). Howard Mozen is the school football coach with Jeannie Miller acting as both referee and assistant coach.

With acres of Wrangell wilderness at their feet and untamed imaginations in their minds, the students of the Miller Schoolhouse are off and running into a school year full of discoveries.

Anyone with ideas or materials for, or interested in speaking to the school, please let Kristen know. An Open House is being planned; look at the mail shack for the date. 

### The Glacier

It looks like big  
flakes of coconut,  
or the ice cream called  
Cookies and Cream.  
To some it looks like a long  
Rocky Road bar.  
When it breaks it  
sounds like dynamite!  
And you look like a  
shrimp next to a whale.

-- by Matthew Miller

## KCHU translator project on schedule

BY ED LACHAPPELLE

Another burst of activity at Juergen Ogradnik's cabin on the weekend of October 9-10 advanced the KCHU translator much closer to completion. James Winchester, KCHU general manager from Valdez, and Lee Santoro, electronics engineer from Fairbanks, were on hand for a weekend of hard work. A number of local people joined in the effort, including Ogradnik, Mark Vail and Ed LaChapelle.

The solar power system was completed and the transmitter electronics and antennas installed. Wiring and lights were installed in Ogradnik's cabin to give him access to surplus solar system power, part of the deal worked out to place the translator in his home. A final trip by Santoro in November is scheduled to install the AM receiver to feed the translator and hook up a thermoelectric generator as a winter back-up for the solar system.

Final approval from the Federal Communications Commission is required before the station can actually

go on the air. This is expected to take at least another two months or more.

Owing to the proximity of the site to the Canadian border, an extra layer of international red tape has to be dealt with before transmission can begin.

Unlike the other KCHU translators, the McCarthy unit is a Class A radio station. This means that in addition to acting as a translator, it can also serve as a community radio station for broadcasting local programming. While the official call sign has not yet been assigned, this facility already is being referred to locally as "KMXV."

## State to abandon MXY number one airstrip

BY RANDY ELLIOTT

On Tuesday, October 5, the state held a public meeting to discuss abandonment of the old McCarthy airstrip on the bluff overlooking town. George Herman from the Tazlina station was assisted by Rosemarie Ann Martell-Greenblatt (Right of Way Agent, Northern Region) in presenting the state plan.

Local attendance was a bit sparse, consisting of Gary Hickling who graciously provided the venue, a cameo

appearance by Gary Green, and your reporter. After coffee was served, two letters from local residents concerned over the possible abandonment were discussed, and the state plan was presented and approved by the attendees.

The state plan essentially involves reclassifying the land surrounding the runway releasing the owners from FAA restrictions concerning building in the approaches etc. Said land is a portion of the Doze estate currently being administered by Paul Barrett. The state

would still retain ownership of one lot which does not quite encompass the current clearing being used by local pilots. The state would have to re-survey to include the east end of the strip and that was considered too costly given the light traffic involved.

Unless Mr. Barrett chose to kick, the result of this change is no change, except the state would have no liability in the future for the use or maintenance of the lot in question. The lot is currently being brushed by the users and not by the state.

## Kennicott--a bit more stable

BY BONNIE KENYON

Kennicott, Alaska, is still very much alive and well. Nearly 100 years ago one of the richest deposits of copper ore was discovered here. Today copper is no longer harvested at Kennicott, but the majority of the

identified as priorities #1 and #10 by the Friends of Kennicott.

According to a recent update printed by Friends, the Powerhouse (priority 3) was completed. Other buildings such as the hospital, the National Creek front bunk house and the assay office received new roofing

What's next for the historic buildings of Kennicott and for the Friends of Kennicott? Most of the on-site materials will be used up by the end of the season. Approximately \$24,000 remains of the funds dedicated to the project, and it is not enough to start another season. The construction crew is attempting to get as much done this year as possible. From the minutes of their September 28 meeting: "Friends has accomplished nearly all of its identified and reasonably attainable goals associated with 'emergency stabilization'."

Several options were discussed at the September meeting. The consensus of the meeting participants was that it was not worth the effort to seek additional funds but the remaining funds could be used as a match in the Challenge Cost Share program. According to the meeting's minutes, this is a federal 50% matching program with \$3 million available nationwide this year. This program works with non-profit organizations and other qualified groups to fund projects which benefit national parks.

This issue will be the primary topic at the next Friends of Kennicott Board of Directors meeting. The meeting is scheduled for December 7, 5:30 p.m. at the Chugach Alaska Building, 3000 A Street, Suite 400 in Anchorage.



original buildings that were built during the early 1900's still stand. A sure reminder of its rich history.

For some people the stabilization of Kennicott is a mission. The stated purpose of Friends of Kennicott, for instance, is "getting emergency stabilization work at Kennicott done." This historic preservation group acquired state and federal funding for the project. Among those helping part-time or full-time this summer were: John Adams, Roger Elconin, Andy Shidner, Matt Hambrick, Tim Mishel, Tom Finkle, Chris Richards and Jim Miller.

New roofs and foundation work were this season's priorities. The Mill building has received much attention. The framework and roof covering the ore bins in front and the back portion covering the tram platforms are complete. These projects were

materials where needed. What used to be the general store now has the rear portion enclosed. The Depot received foundation work. The side curtain wall of the Mill building that had been damaged by sliding rock was repaired as well. Jim Miller, foreman of the emergency stabilization, says all work has been done to match existing work of 1938.

"If I were to read, much less answer, all the attacks made on me, this shop might as well be closed for any other business. I do the very best I know -- the very best I can; and I mean to keep doing so until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me won't amount to anything. If the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."

-- Abraham Lincoln



## "Gem of a Park"

Wrangell St. Elias National Park is getting more and more public notice each year. This summer McCarthy played host to George and Marilyn Mobley. George is a world-renowned photographer for National Geographic Magazine. The Mobleys spent the entire summer in McCarthy, George shooting photos for an upcoming article in the Geographic, Marilyn flitting around on her "4-wheeler" and filling in for various business owners in McCarthy.

Bill Sherwonit was another visitor to the area this summer. Bill is a freelance writer from Anchorage. He was doing a story on McCarthy that he said will be published in Alaska magazine this fall. He also did a story for the Anchorage Daily News (September 5, 1993) called *Gem of a Park*.

In *Gem of a Park*, Sherwonit tells of his trip to the Skolai

Creek-Chitistone River area.

"Cascading down the mountain's sides, the clouds are somehow pushed back up and billow over its summit like waves of cotton. The spectacle lasts five, maybe 10 minutes, then ends as suddenly as it began. All week it goes like this. Always changing, always magical," he writes.

After an introduction that will surely whet the appetites of many to visit the Wrangells, Sherwonit laments its "discovery." He quotes Kit Mullen, a former environmental specialist at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park: "We used to wonder when people were going to 'discover' the Wrangells. Well, it's happened," says Mullen. "My guess is that Wrangell-St. Elias will become the next Denali, in terms of visitor use." Sherwonit tells of seeing 13 other hikers during his Skolai Valley outing. "Thirteen like-minded souls is hardly a crowd in this big country. But does their presence detract from my wilderness

experience? Yes, to some degree. I'd have preferred to not see anyone." Being fair-minded, he adds -- "But then we too have likely impinged on someone else's seclusion."

We all enjoyed having the Mobleys as neighbors this summer. They fit easily into the McCarthy lifestyle, and they seemed to enjoy their summer with us. When the Geographic story is published next spring, and 11 million people see George's beautiful pictures and read about this area we call home, no doubt a percentage of them will visit the Wrangells in the near future. A percentage of those who visit will decide to make the McCarthy area their new home. Perhaps the Mobleys will join Bill Sherwonit in lamenting the "discovery of Wrangell-St. Elias." But perhaps the rejoicing of the people who discover our beautiful area, through Bill's writing and George's photography, will be just compensation.

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

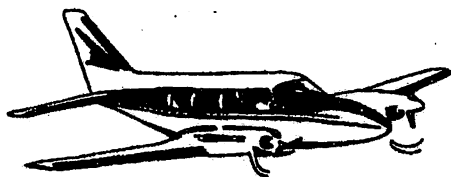
Now you can leave Anchorage at 8:30 on Wednesday or Friday morning and arrive in Gulkana at 9:45, McCarthy at 11:00. Or, you can leave McCarthy at 11:15 and be back in Anchorage by 2:00pm the same day! (Leaves Gulkana at 12:45)

This service is year around.

#### Rates:

Gulkana/McCarthy	\$56*
McCarthy/Gulkana	\$56*
Gulkana/MayCreek	\$60
May Creek/Gulkana	\$60
Anchorage/Gulkana	\$105*
Gulkana/Anchorage	\$105*

\* Ask about special round-trip rates  
Baggage allowance 40 lbs.  
(charge for excess baggage)  
rates do not include tax





## *Ellis Air Taxi, Inc.*

Gulkana Airfield Box 106, Glennallen, AK 99588

Phone 822-3368

800-478-3368

# OUR TOWN

November  1918  December

## PLACER GOLD AGAIN FOUND NEAR CHISANA

Jack O'Hara arrived from Chisana Thursday evening and reports a new strike in the Nabesna country. Chisana John an Indian, returned from a trip to Cooper Creek with coarse gold, one piece weighing 40 cents.

Several prominent Chisana people have gone to investigate the digging, and will report later.

(Nov. 2)

## DEATH OF TOM FINNESAND

Kennecott and McCarthy & all parts of the Copper River Valley were saddened by the death of Tom Finnesand, who succumbed under an operation for goitre at Kennecott Hospital on Tuesday last.

For many years a resident of this part of Alaska, and prospector all over this country, the deceased leaves behind him a host of personal friends, who deeply sympathize with his brother in Kennecott and his parents in Norway, while mourning their loss.

Funeral services were conducted by J.H. Murray, and attended by a large number of McCarthy and Kennecott people, including the entire force from the machine shop, which was closed for the time being by the master mechanic, Mr. McGavich, as a mark of respect to the deceased.

(Nov. 9)

## WAR IS OVER!

From Washington on November 11th came the glad news that the world war was ended.

The armistice terms as dictated by the Allies, were signed by the German representatives on the morning of that day.

Great rejoicing prevailed over the world when the news was announced, and many states proclaimed a legal holiday.

Dorothy Lubbe, Mary MacDonnell, Laurence Barrett, Victor Marshall, Eudora MacDonnell, Elizabeth Murie.

## THANKSGIVING DAY

A general holiday will be observed on Thursday next Thanksgiving Day.

The day will be given over to family celebrations, but in the evening a community gathering will be held to celebrate peace. The entire population is invited to attend, and our friends from Mother Lode and Kennecott are specially welcome.

The A.B. Hall will be thrown open for the occasion and dancing and other forms of amusement will be indulged in.

A committee of ladies will serve lunch.

Do not fail to be in on this get-together. We do not have enough of them in our town.

(Nov. 23)

## MEETINGS

A meeting of the Commercial Club was held last Saturday evening.

Considerable business was transacted.

It was decided to communicate with the

Territorial Road Commission endeavoring to secure \$5,000 to be used as a trail to Chisana. Also that application be made to secure \$50,000 from the Territorial Road Fund and \$50,000 from the Alaska General Fund to be used for the reconstruction of the Nizina Bridge and the building of the road thereto.

Warren Nelson was appointed a committee of one to notify all dog team drivers where to hitch their teams. The Faddis lot now owned by Gus Anderson, was selected as place. This action was taken as a safeguard for pedestrians, especially children.

## LOOK WHAT'S COMING!

Turkeys & all the Delicacies of the Season



THE MCCARTHY MEAT & GROCERY CO.

## SCHOOL NEWS

Names of honor pupils for the month ending Nov. 22nd are: Laura May Fry, Laurence Barrett and Walter MacDonnell.

The pupils are attempting to master the Palmer Method of Penmanship. Those who are doing commendable work and have several drills ready are:

## FATAL CATASTROPHE

Engine Submerged in Copper River

Fireman W. Herold Killed

Early yesterday morning a serious accident occurred on the Copper River Bridge when the North End Local was making its first trip across. Absolutely without warning, the bridge collapsed beneath it and

engine & two flat cars were hurled into the river.

The fireman, W. Herold, was killed instantly, and the other members of the train crew had a miraculous escape.

W. Hines, engineer, Joe Brown and Tim Eckstrom, brakemen, and Hoffman, trackwalker, were all badly bruised and shaken, suffering terribly from exposure and effects of the plunge into the raging icy water.

With the exception of Joe Brown who remained at home in Chitina, they were sent immediately to Cordova hospital.

The wrecker crew and equipment hastened to the scene from Cordova and today the body of W. Herold was recovered.

The cause of the accident is not yet known.

Traffic is temporarily suspended but will be resumed as soon as possible. The dinky engine from McCarthy was fitted up for the emergency and dispatched to the bridge today with Harry Dean at the throttle and Bill Baxter as fireman.

The submerged engine is No. 74, one of the new locomotives imported two years ago to cope with the increasing copper tonnage.

(Nov. 30)

## NEWS ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. John Underwood left on yesterday's train for the States where they will spend several months vacation, and in all probability will proceed as far as Illinois.

Several complimentary social affairs were given during the week honoring Mrs. Underwood.

Tim Eckstrom returned home yesterday after having a few days rest in Cordova hospital following his hairbreadth escape in the accident on the Copper River Bridge last week. He is considerably bruised and walks

with a limp, but is mighty glad to have so little to complain of.

Gus Johnson, of the Road Commission has arrived in McCarthy and will proceed to supervise the construction of the bridge over McCarthy Creek.

Bids are now called for the hauling of 250 logs for the bridge.

Specifications can be seen at the Post Office. Bids will close Dec. 12.

The depot was the scene of a mishap yesterday, when one of the cars refused to answer the brakes, and crashed into the oil cars, causing the loss of many gallons of oil and the newly arrived shipment of fresh stuff.

Bill Urluss was in town last week on a trip to inspect the telephone line.

## ISOLATION

This has indeed been a dull week. Traffic suspended on the railroad, quarantine still declared at Kennecott, outlying placer camps closed for the winter, blizzard days, McCarthy wakes up to find itself thrown on its own resources and soon decides that this is a very dull world.

We cannot for a minute fool ourselves into thinking we can exist without our neighbors.

The resumption of traffic yesterday was greeted with joy.

We daily hope that quarantine restrictions will be withdrawn, forgetting that as a town we owe our freedom from the epidemic to the strict precaution taken by Kennecott and Cordova.

Even now we are eagerly looking forward to the spring when the travelers who had to spend the winter on the great outside will return to make another grub stake.

Most of all, we look forward to the general influx

which will surely come this way when the boys return from overseas.

(Dec. 7)

## NEWS ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ahrens are rejoicing over the arrival of a new daughter who came to their home last Saturday evening.

She weighed eleven and a half pounds and promises to be a skookum young Alaskan. Mrs. J. Hubrick is taking care of the patients, who are progressing well.

Charles Hurdning is a very busy man these days, so much so that a rumor started that he was missing for four days. On investigation it proved that he was working night and day on the new rigging for the city fire hose, and had not had time to go up town.

(Dec. 14)

## HEALTH PRECAUTIONS

The Board of Health, having in mind the spread of the Flu epidemic in coast towns, and the fact that it is now raging in Cordova, have placed a quarantine upon McCarthy.

Passengers who arrived on the last two trains have been isolated for a period of five days, and further travel is prohibited.

Arrangements have been made for the fumigation of all mail, and all Railroad employees and those who have business at the depot are required to wear the masks.

## CHISANA NEWS

The shelter cabins are now almost complete. The Woodmans, Johnson & Hoven were stormbound for a week, lost two dogs and were without food four days.

The cabins will require bracing to stand the storms off the Russell Glacier. The second cabin on the Fredericka will be finished in a few days.

Taylor, Brown and McGettigan have built cabins on Platinum Creek, the scene of the last gold strike. While they are noncommittal as to their findings, it is well known that an Indian got 2 ounces of coarse gold there last fall.

Grub is very low. This shortage was responsible for the small number of votes polled at the election. A number of men having been forced to go hunting.

(Dec. 21)

## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

A very happy Christmas was spent in our little city despite the quarantine.

The Mother Lode Co. served a fine Christmas dinner to their employees at all their camps & handsome presents were given by the management.

At the Barrett home, covers were laid for seven, Mrs. Refior, W. Longley, Al Doze, Frank Barrett, and the Barrett family.

Mrs. Tim Eckstrom entertained a large party including the Carlsons, Iversons, and Frye family.

Mrs. Aron Erickson had as dinner guests Sam Potts and Warren Nelson.

The Marshall's guests were Nels Tjosevig, W. Wilson, and John Pitcher.

The Power Plant shut down for 24 hours to enable the boys to celebrate Christmas.

Billy Bold's many friends will be glad to know he is in such good health, that he is taking a shift at the Power Plant.

Max Klopfer of Dan Creek spent Christmas in town.

Clifford Cayouette came down from the mines for the Christmas exercises.

(Dec. 28)

# King Floyd

## THE TALE OF A SMALL TIME DICTATOR

### Part five -- The power of the printed word

BY RANDY ELLIOTT

Safely inside the printer's shop, Floyd and Maureen sat near the barrel stove as the printer dug through his landfill bookkeeping system to find the advertisement pad and pencil.

"I was hoping to be computerized by now," he said sheepishly, selecting some soiled scarcely secured sloppy single-sided sheets setting somewhere slightly secret. "So what do you want me to print?"

Floyd produced his copy of the **ANTIC NUANCE INSTEAD of LEGAL CLAIMS ACT** and they pored over the much penciled-in pages he had book-marked. The printer started from time to time and finally exclaimed-- "They mean to replace us with animals so as to preserve our lifestyle!?"

"Exactly," Floyd said.

"But that's crazy!?"

"Exactly," Floyd repeated. "But I have a way out."

"You do?" and the printer followed his finger tracing its way through another forty pages of text. Finally Floyd concluded by writing a text of his own on the printer's pad. The printer whistled aloud.

"Can you say it just like that or do we need to obfuscate some?"

"Do what!?" Floyd wondered if the term was pornographic and he hoped Maureen hadn't heard.

"Obfuscate -- confuse, hide with subtle plays of words etc."

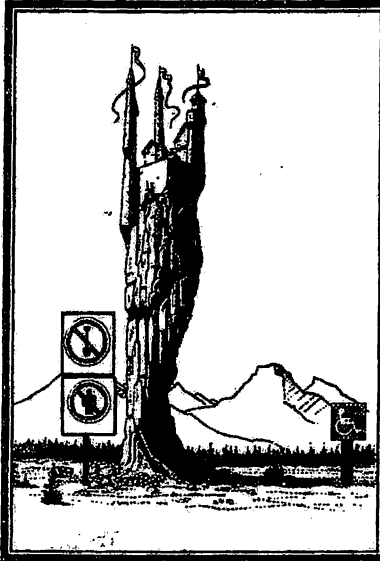
"I don't think that will be necessary. This isn't the Baron's work, after all," Floyd said indignantly.

"Yes, I see what you mean," said the printer, shaking his head gravely.

"In fact, it's such a departure from the

Baron's style, people might even read it."

Floyd grinned and Maureen clapped her hands together in delight



at the prospect. The ad ran the very next day, and pirated copies found their way quickly to Lord Fedgov's castle in Mooringtown.

"Here it is, Baron," Constant Whiner said soothingly. The Baron was not in good humor this morning, and Constant Whiner hadn't gotten this high in the system without knowing how to placate his irrational master.

"I hereby declare the independent kingdom and protectorate of Fine Creek," the Baron read aloud from the paper. "Signed, King Floyd."

The Baron snorted derisively and fixed Whiner with a baleful stare. "He can't do that, can he?"

"Well, not exactly quite that way," Whiner waffled. "The notice has to appear three times in ten days in the

same paper before its official, and I am not sure he can state the obvious so obviously even then."

"What!" thundered the Baron, and Whiner slid just out of cuffing distance. "I thought there was no way out for these verminous settlers." He glared apoplectically at the twitching aide.

"Oh there isn't, there isn't," crooned the little weasel. "This will just need a little adjustment of the regulations and we'll see who's King."

"Are we allowed to change the regulations?" the Baron said.

"NOT a change milord, a **CLARIFICATION!**" Whiner declared triumphantly. The Baron was not convinced this annoyance could be so easily solved, but he had no reason to box the little varmint's ears until he failed completely.

"That had better be true, Whiner, or else..." the Baron said evilly, and Constant felt his palms sweating.

Meanwhile, the new queen was washing the dishes and trying to understand this profound change in her life. "Floyd, can you really be a king?" she said skeptically.

"According to the **ANTIC NUANCE INSTEAD of LEGAL CLAIMS ACT** only sovereign nations may ignore the new law and there aren't any regulations against forming my own nation. Being a monarch is a lot less work than running a republic with all those messy meetings and votes, so that makes me king."

"I don't recall marrying a king, Floyd."

"Well, I married a queen!" Floyd gave her a royal hug. She blushed down to her tennis shoes but wondered if a queen's duties were going to interrupt her knitting much.

This story is purely fictional. Any resemblance to actual people, agencies, places, or events is coincidental.



"And now I shall make my first proclamation to the kingdom," said Floyd grandly as he flung open the fir door of his castle. Standing on the royal front porch, he yelled, "To all my loyal subjects and chattels: I hereby declare this the foundation feast day and all of you shall receive an extra portion of gruel or gasoline. Have a nice day. Your benevolent dictator, King Floyd." He turned and reentered the castle, closing the door behind him.

"And what's for lunch on this first holiday?"

"Moose meatballs," she said, for it was moose season now. Floyd sat on his royal throne log and sharpened his knife as the queen served a dinner fit for a king. He was almost finished when they heard a shout outside the door and the printer tumbled in, out of breath and soaking wet. The queen helped him remove his wet clothes and stood him near the stove as King Floyd tried to understand the man's frost garbled speech. Finally his lips thawed and they could decipher the basic words.

"The Baron of Distraction's rodential aide has outfoxed us."

"How so?" asked Floyd, maintaining a regal calm.

"He has changed the regulations to suspend all printing as of tonight at midnight."

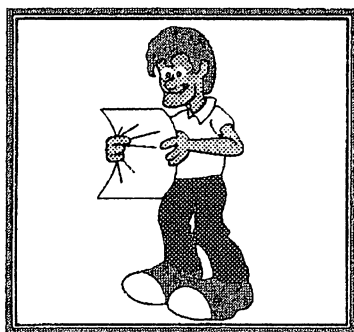
"Soooo...?" Floyd said, not seeing the point yet.

"So if I don't print your announcement two more times in the next eight days it doesn't count."

"Argh," said the queen. "I knew that awful Baron had something up his sleeve."

Manfully masticating marvelously marinated minced moose meat meatballs, making many millions more minute moose mushballs, Floyd puzzled over an answer.

"Ah ha!!" He shouted so suddenly the queen dropped a pot of water all over the stove and a cloud of steam enveloped the hapless, nearly naked printer. He emerged, a pink apparition dancing in fear of imagined skin



damage, with his shivers cured.

"What?" was all he could manage before the king interrupted by diving into his landfill to recover the malevolent manuscript of the master of deception. He thumbed rapidly through the fraying pages and, reading carefully, he beckoned the printer.

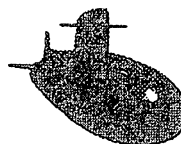
"Ah ha, ah ha, ah HA!" said the printer, and the queen dropped another pan. She gave up altogether now as the two men read aloud in unison.

"Unless and if for any reason paragraph 16 of the first part shall be superseded by any new or revised sections to clause 38 of the original legislation except in time of war or under express decree of the first secretary for evasive renewal of untried variations of section 13 d, et al then the doctrine of res originalis shall prevail."

"Hmmm," Floyd said as this sank into his mind like a submarine that had lost all power.

"Clearly, we could print the rest now and distribute each three days until the period is satisfied," said the printer, whose experience printing for the Fedgov machine gave him a slight advantage over the king in spontaneous understanding of official documents.

"Right!" said Floyd, as the submarine hit bottom.



Randy Elliott is one of the few remaining gold miners in the area. When he isn't busy picking gold nuggets from the sluice or sharing the beauty and rich history of the Dan Creek area with visitors, he can be found at the keyboard of his laptop computer. Don't miss part six in the next issue.

## Kenny Lake Mercantile

Propane-Hardware-Gas-Grocery-Auto Parts-Feed

Case lot & special orders 10% over cost

Make us your first, last, or only stop!

Phone 822-9863 Mile 7.5 Edgeron Hwy. Open 9 a.m. - 8 p.m. daily, 10-6 Sunday



# I remember...



- that our house was the last house on the left side of town going toward Mt. Blackburn.
- dark green window shades that we pulled down to keep out the midnight sun.
- taking my daddy his lunch at the flotation plant. Back then that seemed like such a long way from our house.
- playing with Pat Hooks, Jean McCavock and some other children and going into the bathhouse to warm up. It always smelled so good in there. Like Lava soap, I guess.
- crossing that "scary bridge" up behind the hospital when we would go to John Letenders place. I used to beg my daddy to let me out of the dogsled and "I could just crawl across" - My fear of heights continues to this day.
- ice skating on the playground at Blackburn School and even my Mama tried to do it. She would use a chair to hold onto - I was so afraid she would fall and hurt herself.
- taking a picnic to Long Lakes with lots of folks, including Pat Hooks and parents Charles and Olive Hooks.
- lovely wildflowers ALL OVER THE PLACE; and currants and other berries.
- skiing and having so much fun all by myself.
- visiting a man in the hospital who had his leg all elevated and bandaged from his toes to his hips. When I asked what had happened my parents told me that the man had been walking a rather long way in the snow and that when he pulled off his boot his big toe came off with it!!!
- my daddy riding the "bucket" up to the mines; and being a little bit sad that I could never do that.
- being in school one day (I think I was the only one in the 1st grade at Blackburn School) and I was humming. The teacher stopped his class for a moment and asked "who was humming?" I never owned up to it because I thought he would think it was one of the other 6 or so kids (the entire student body) in the room. So if you are reading this Mr. Busey - it was me.
- the Company Store - I remember stopping by there very early one morning because I was running away from home and I needed a box of Ritz crackers for my journey. I remember hiding under that "bridge" at the Dairy Building and I don't remember if the crackers ran out or they found me - but anyway the story had a happy ending.
- many times gazing in the window of that store at the cutest little doll I could ever imagine. She must have been six inches tall and I wanted her so badly for Christmas. I got her.
- going to the dump and finding pots and pans, dishes and silverware, old cars and lots of other nice things to "play house" with. My sister and I thought that the train that stayed parked in front of our house would be a perfect place especially since a couple of flatbed cars were so easy to climb unto. We had the prettiest playhouse, dolls and all - until one day we went out to play and the train had pulled out - how sad two little girls were.
- my daddy working so hard in the basement. I didn't know that he was building me a nice, big doll house for Christmas, and I wanted to go downstairs and keep him company. Boy, what a surprise I got when he didn't invite me in. Made me cry - but it was worth it because that was the most beautiful doll house I'd ever seen. (In July 1993 I was able to go inside our old house and I even went into the basement. I found no signs of my doll house.)
- walking home with my Mama from the store and noticing all the sparkles the moon made on the snow. The wind would be blowing so cold that I would walk behind her so she could shield some of that bitter wind off of me.
- picking berries and seeing a bear across the way - we didn't bother him; he didn't bother us.
- going to the Recreation Hall for a Christmas party for all the folks. Santa Claus was there and he gave me a big, beautiful package. It was a warm, snugly blanket. I was very proud.
- red tennis balls, so they could be easily found.
- my Dad built a box outside the kitchen window so we could put things in there and keep them frozen during the winter. Just raise the window and get out what you needed.
- the spectacular Northern Lights; all the beautiful mountains; wildflowers everywhere; friendly folks; my first pair of little skis; snowsuits; goggles; dog teams; and sometimes even taking a SUN BATH!
- WHAT WONDERFUL MEMORIES THEY ALL ARE - of a time of life lived long ago - in a beautiful place called Kennicott, Alaska.

Signed  
 Mary Jean Moore (then)  
 Jeanne Moore Elliott (now)  
 • P.S. I changed the spelling of Jean a long time ago, just because -

Here is a little history of my family - my father was James A. Moore and he worked at Kennecott for a time before the Mines sent him to Chile to work in their Mines down there. He met a lovely young lady named Mary; they were married and returned to Alaska where they had 3 children, Mary Jean (me) born in Kennicott in 1930, delivered by Dr. Turner - Nan born in Kennicott in 1932, delivered by Dr. Toohy - and Jimmy born

in McCarthy in 1934, home delivery by Dr. Harry. We lived in Kennicott until July 1, 1937 and came to Tennessee which was my Dad's hometown. My Dad died in 1963, but my Mother is still in good health and is able to help me some with my memories. And in some cases I am able to help her, too.

# Old Bruin

I was riding far to the Pecos Buttes  
From the spread of the Lazy C  
When a man from the hills  
Ash white to the gills  
Comes a-riding up to me.

"If your aiming to go by  
Buzzards Pass  
You and that little Cayuse  
I'm tellin' you fair  
Thar's a Grizzley Bair  
A roaming there on the loose."

"Now, Pard," I sez, "to some those words  
May full of meaning be  
But large or small  
They are nothing at all  
To a two-gun man like me."

So we bid farewell,  
And we rode away,  
As the sun set in the west  
Hoping to find a quiet place  
For a night of peaceful rest.

When my cayuse shied  
And her ears perked up  
And she shivered, from head to toe.  
I knew right there ere this day was  
o'er  
That Grizzley or I would go.

I jumped right off  
That little Cayuse  
And I gave her hide a clip  
And away she flies while I squint my eyes  
And figure to let lead rip.

I'm a-climbing around the Mesa Bend

In each good hand a gun  
When that Grizzley roars  
And on all fours  
Comes after me on the run.

One two, one two, my hardware  
barks  
As the hot lead waggles home,

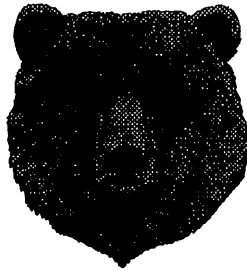
But to that brute  
The slugs I shoot  
Is so much honeycomb.

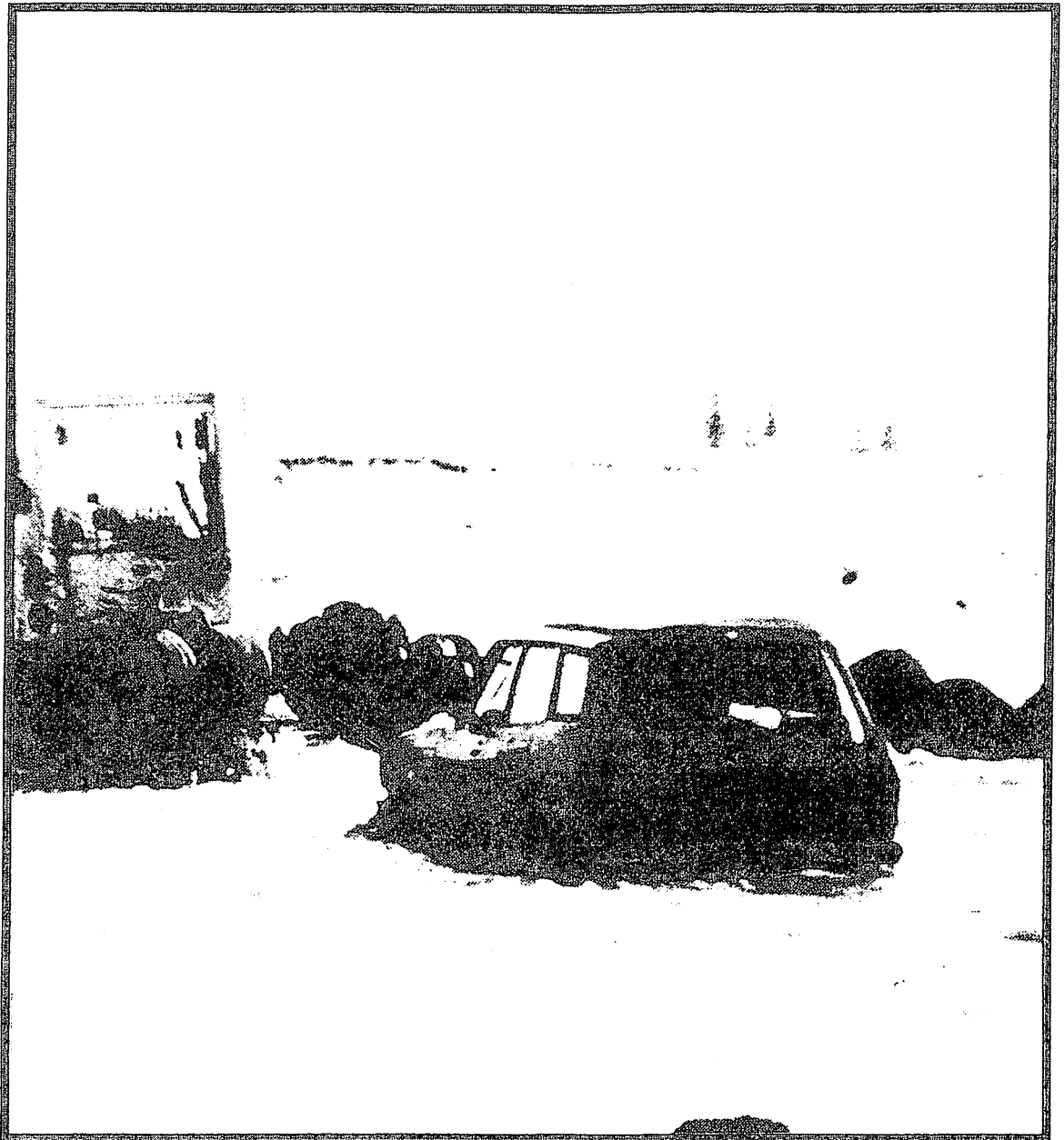
A rarin', tarin' on she comes  
Her eyes red-hot with death,  
But I stood right there  
And faced her square,  
Until I felt her breath.

A sidestep quick and I let her pass  
Full down the Coulee steep  
And I plug the lead  
Behind her head

As from her path I leaped.

She spins tailfirst and she flops  
down cold  
And I calls to my little Cayuse  
And we ride away  
Now we have had our say  
With a Grizzley on the loose.





WSEN staff photo

This is the way we ford the stream! Kurt Smith braves the icy waters of the Kennicott River with some assistance from a "dozer." Kurt is building over on the Nizina River, about 9 miles east of McCarthy. Although there are roads to the Nizina, there are no bridges yet. Several other families are building near Kurt, so we expect to see lots of freighting activity this winter.

# Outdoors in the Wrangells

BY BONNIE KENYON

I would like to announce the beginning of a new column. It will cover a variety of outdoor-related subjects such as birds and animal sightings in the Wrangells and information relating to hunting, fishing and trapping.

I invite others to join me in this venture. If it's a sighting you want to share, just jot down the kind of animal or date and any details you recall and submit them to me at the "News." (If you're a local, you can call me on the

CB). If you have an outdoor story to tell, the only prerequisite is that it be a TRUE account. I thought we could start out with a closer look at the various winter birds.

This year I determined to prepare early for my winter visitors. Two feeders are in place; a 35 gallon plastic garbage can is 2/3's full of black oil sunflower seeds and a supply of caribou fat is in the freezer. Early this summer I purposefully saved the small empty nylon mesh bags that my onion sets came in, so I could stuff them full of suet, tallow or whatever kind of fat I acquired. I feel I am ready now for the

birds that are brave enough to winter over in our southcentral location.

McCarthy isn't what you would call a bird watcher's paradise, but for people like me who enjoy bird watching from their own backyard or through their cabin window on those -40 degree days, it provides us with plenty of pleasure!

Be sure and join me next issue as we take an in depth look at the Black-Capped Chickadee.

## CLASSIFIED

Kitty Retreat -- \$50 a week for kitty vacation. No cars to worry about. Activities -- mousing, yarn balls included. Outings -- supervised wilderness kitty hikes in the park. Bird feeder viewing spot for kitty (6 different species) "This is a serious proposition; this is not a joke!" Your kitty host--Gary Hickling (907) 333-5402

# Wrangell St. Elias News



# FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE

For a view of "bush" living, subscribe today. Get the next 6 issues, delivered to your home for only \$8.50 postpaid.

Back issues available @ \$2.50 each

**Special! All 8 for \$14.50**

Wrangell St. Elias News McCarthy, PO Box MXY, Glennallen, AK 99588

# Winter Cooking

BY CARLY KRITCHEN

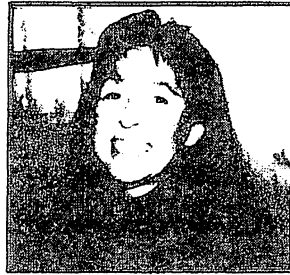
As the weather starts turning colder outside, I'm inspired to look through all the recipes I've been clipping out of magazines all summer and make up a batch of tasty stew. With the wood stove going all day, it's easy to start a pot in the morning, and with the addition of some kind of bread and maybe a salad, have a complete meal done by the time it gets dark. If you're lucky (or if you have a really big stew pot) it may even last for a couple of days! Here are a few recipes that are hopefully a little different from the stew and soup recipes that you already use. The bread and muffin recipes are a couple of my personal favorites.

## Borscht Stew

My grandmother was German, but from Russia, and we ate a lot of borscht when she lived with us. You can also use up some of those beets you grew this summer!

- 1 lb. stew meat - optional
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 4 cloves minced garlic
- 5 cups water
- 2 med. onions, chopped
- about 2 1/2 cups carrots, chopped
- 5 or 6 potatoes, cut into chunks
- 3 turnips, quartered and sliced
- 4 or 5 beets, chopped up
- 1/2 head cabbage, cut into wedges
- 1/2 cup tomato paste
- 3 Tbs. cider vinegar
- 1 Tbs. honey
- 1 Tbs. brown sugar
- 1 tsp. dried basil
- 1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper

If you delete the stew meat, skip this paragraph and delete the flour



also. Put the flour and the stew meat in a plastic bag and shake until the meat is coated with flour. Heat the oil in a large stew pot, and brown the meat for two to three minutes. Add the garlic and sauté for a minute or so. Add the water, and if you're making the meat version, simmer for about 30 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients and cook for about 30 minutes more. Add salt and pepper to taste. Serve this topped with sour cream or yogurt.

## Mary's Rolls

I'm not too sure who Mary was, but I think it was my Aunt Mary who was a pretty good cook. These are great to take to a pot-luck.

Combine and let stand 5 minutes:

- 1 package yeast
  - 1 cup lukewarm water
  - 1 tsp. sugar
- Make a mixture of:
- 1 cup scalded milk
  - 8 Tbs. sugar
  - 2 tsp. salt
  - 1/3 cup shortening
  - 1 beaten egg
  - 1 cup sifted flour

Add yeast mix and beat until it is smooth, then add milk mixture, then sifted flour; knead to a soft dough. Let rise until it doubles in size. Fold dough down and let it rise again. Shape into rolls, and let rise until fully doubled. Place in pan. Bake about 15 minutes at 400 degrees. Makes about 2 dozen rolls.

## Lentil Chili

This is a recipe I tried that I got out of "Mother Earth News." I thought it was pretty good, but I've never made a

regular pinto bean chili that was anything to rave about, and I LOVE lentils. You be the judge!

- 4 cloves minced garlic
- 2 medium onions, chopped
- 1 small jalapeno, minced
- 1 Tbs. olive oil
- 3 cups lentils
- 6 cups water
- 2 tsp. cumin
- 1 tsp. ground coriander
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. allspice
- 1/2 tsp. thyme
- 3/4 cup tomato paste
- 1 small can V-8 or tomato juice
- 2 Tbs. red wine vinegar
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 2 stalks celery, chopped

Sauté garlic, onion, and pepper in oil. Add lentils, water and spices. Simmer for about 25 minutes in a covered pot until the lentils are tender. Add tomato paste, juice, vinegar, sugar and celery. Add salt, pepper and additional water if needed. Simmer for another 20 minutes or so until the vegetables are tender. Top with grated cheddar cheese and chopped onions, or serve over rice or pasta.

## Cream Corn Muffins

These muffins are a recipe from Bill Bailey, who lives in Cordova. It's a real easy recipe that doesn't take much time, and kids especially seem to love them!

- 1 1/2 cups sifted flour
- 1 Tbs. sugar
- 4 tsp. baking powder
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 egg
- 1 cup cream style corn
- 1/4 cup milk
- 2 Tbs. butter, melted

Sift together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Beat the egg and blend in the corn, milk and the melted butter. Pour over the flour mixture. Stir until dry ingredients are just dampened. Half fill greased muffin cups. Bake in a hot oven, about 400 degrees, 20 minutes or until browned. Makes 12 muffins.



# CHITINA FUEL & GROCERY

P.O. Box 90, Chitina AK 99566

Phone 823-2211

WE HAVE JUST EXPANDED BOTH OUR FLOOR SPACE AND OUR INVENTORY.

WE ARE ALWAYS INCREASING OUR INVENTORY AND HAVE JUST COMPLETED ANOTHER PHASE OF PRICE REDUCTION. THE PRICES LISTED BELOW ARE EVERYDAY PRICES, THEY ARE NOT SALE PRICES.

BEST FOODS MAYONNAISE	64 oz.	4.89	WHOLE KERNEL CORN	17 oz.	.66 CAN
NALLEY MAYONNAISE	64 oz.	3.40	GREEN BEANS	17 oz.	.66 CAN
SWEETMEADOW FARMS			FRUIT COCKTAIL	16 oz.	.93 CAN
PURE MAPLE SYRUP	64 oz.	10.56	SLICED PEACHES	16 oz.	.95 CAN
BORDEN PANCAKE SYRUP	1 gal.	4.49	LITE PEACH HALVES	16 oz.	.89 CAN
SUGAR	25 lb.	9.59	PINEAPPLE SLICES	20 oz.	1.05
SUGAR	5 lb.	2.56	PINEAPPLE CHUNKS	20 oz.	1.05
SUGAR	10 lb.	4.09	PORK & BEANS	114 oz.	3.32
WHITE RICE	25 lb.	7.59	PORK & BEANS	16 oz.	.65
TORTILLA CHIPS	6 lb.	6.11	MILKMAN	40 qt.	17.64
OATMEAL	9 lb.	6.58	TIDE WITH BLEACH	150 oz.	12.93
TOMATO SAUCE	15 oz.	.59 CAN	CLOROX BLEACH	1.5 gal	3.06
WHOLE PEELED TOMATOES	14.5 oz.	.70 CAN	VELURE PAPER TOWELS	roll	.75
STEWED TOMATOES	14.5 oz.	.70 CAN	VIVA PAPER TOWELS	roll	1.10
ITALIAN STYLE STEWED			VELURE BATHROOM		
TOMATOES	14.5 oz.	.65 CAN	TISSUE	4 pack	1.18
SWEET PEAS	17 oz.	.66 CAN	DON'S DOG FOOD	50 lb.	12.00

WE SELL BULK ITEMS AS WELL AS INDIVIDUAL ITEMS. IN ADDITION TO GROCERY ITEMS WE HAVE MOVIE RENTALS, CLEANING SUPPLIES, AND LIMITED SUPPLIES OF HARDWARE, AUTO PARTS, SPORTING GOODS, OFFICE SUPPLIES, BUILDING MATERIALS, PLUMBING, ETC.

**We have meat, fruit and produce**

Look for our in-store specials!

**We do bush orders.**

WE RENT VIDEOS BY MAIL. CALL OR WRITE FOR FREE LIST OF VIDEOS.

# A look at the weather



BY GEORGE CEBULA

The Great Summer of 93 continued to produce warm dry sunny weather in the McCarthy area through late August. The last 70 degree reading was reported on August 28th. The high reached 61 degrees or higher on 28 days and the low was 32 or lower on 4 days. The highest temperature was 76 on the 9th and 10th and the lowest 28 on the 26th. The average temperature for August was 53.6 (50.9 in Aug. 92). Silver Lake was a bit warmer than McCarthy with a high of 78 on the 10th and a low of 32 on the 25th. The average temperature for August at Silver Lake was 55.0.

August continued rather dry until the 29th & 30th when just under 2 inches (1.88 ins.) of rain fell on the dry soil. The total rainfall for August at McCarthy was 2.97 inches (1.50 in

Aug. 92) and at Silver Lake 1.85 inches.

September saw the gradual end of one of the finest Alaskan summers in the past 20 years. Here at McCarthy the last September reading in the 60s was 64 on the 15th. The highest temperature reached in September at McCarthy was 65 on the 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th. The lowest was 17 on the 23rd. The average temperature for September at McCarthy was 44.8 (34.3 in Sept. 92). Silver Lake had a high of 66 on Sept. 2nd and 6th with a low of 19 on Sept. 18th. The September average at Silver Lake was 43.4.

The wet weather of late August continued through September with total rainfall of 4.04 (2.88 in Sept. 92). The first measurable snowfall occurred on Sept. 25th with 1.7 inches of wet snow. Silver Lake was somewhat dryer with only 2.72 inches of rainfall measured and 0.4 inches of snow on Sept. 25th.

Winter arrived in early October almost a month later than last year. After a warm 61 on the 1st, the snow began to fall the afternoon of the 3rd and by the time it finished the next morning 10.5 inches had been recorded and 8 inches was covering the ground. For the next 4 days McCarthy had the most snow cover of all Alaskan reporting stations. The temperature dropped to 11 on the morning of the 5th. The rain began again on the 8th and by the time I arrived the evening of the 10th, all the snow was gone. Temperatures should continue to cool as the sunlight decreases and the rain will soon be snow again. After a great summer what can we expect this winter?

George is the Regional Cooperative Program Manager for NOAA and a frequent visitor to the McCarthy area.

## That's incredible!

Wrangell-St. Elias National Park was not the only park that Congress established in 1980. Down in Atlanta, Georgia, the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historic Site was created in that same year. It consists of the house and street where King was born; Ebenezer Baptist Church, where he, his father, and his grandfather preached; and King's tomb, which adjoins the private Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Nonviolent Social Change.

According to an article in the September/October issue of the magazine *National Parks*, a building two doors down from King's birth home collapsed in 1990. "The roof fell in, and it was so far gone, the whole structure had to be demolished," said Rick McCollough of the park's planning staff. After the incident, Congress increased the park's 1992 budget. The Park Service used the money to restore more than half the houses on the block.

The article continues:

"Rapid growth in visitation to the park has proved another problem. From 350,000 in 1984, the number of visitors increased to 3.2 million in 1992. An estimated 80 to 90 tour buses and 1,500 carloads of people arrive on peak

"The approach of the 1996 Olympics, which will be held in Atlanta, gives the park's problems an extra degree of urgency. Major Olympic venues are being built nearby, and during the games the number of visitors is projected to skyrocket to 150,000 per

*"The park itself contains no public rest rooms. The more than 8,000 visitors on an average day must line up to use two stalls in the King Center and two in a nearby city community center."*

summer days. A parking lot some distance from the site has room for 35 cars. The rest roam the neighborhood's streets in search of parking spaces.

"The park itself contains no public rest rooms. The more than 8,000 visitors on an average day must line up to use two stalls in the King Center and two in a nearby city community center.

day."

So, what is the solution? Well, the City of Atlanta has agreed to turn over to the Park Service the adjoining community center. The Park Service says that they will renovate the community center and turn a vacant lot into parking space --if Congress will give them \$11.8 million for the project.



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

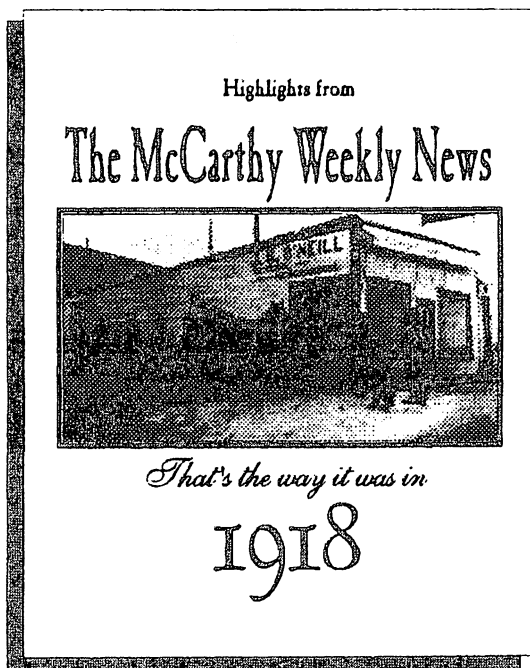
1918 - Flu epidemic in coast towns -- all mail coming into McCarthy fumigated.

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



If you like  
**OUR TOWN**  
then you'll love  
*That's the way it was in*  
**1918!**

Re-live the year of 1918 with the residents of  
Kennicott and McCarthy.

52 weeks of news in one big issue!

Send \$10 plus \$1.75 postage for each copy to:

Wrangell St. Elias News  
McCarthy, P.O. Box MXY  
Glennallen, AK 99588

# FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

In his many careers as printer, moralist, essayist, civic leader, scientist, inventor, statesman, diplomat, and philosopher, Benjamin Franklin became for later generations of Americans both a spokesman and a model for the national character.

He was born in Boston on Jan. 17, 1706, into a pious Puritan household. His father, Josiah, was a candlemaker and a skillful mechanic, but Benjamin said that his father's "great Excellence lay in a sound understanding, and solid Judgment." He described his mother, originally named Abiah Folger and born on the island of Nantucket, as "a discreet and virtuous Woman." His parents raised a family of 13 children.

Franklin spent some time in England, where he became a master printer, sowed some wild oats, astonished Londoners with his swimming feats, and lived among the aspiring writers of London. Returning to Philadelphia in 1726, he soon owned his own newspaper, the Pennsylvania Gazette, and began to print Poor Richard's Almanack (1732). His business expanded further when he contracted to do the public printing of the province, and established partnerships with printers in other colonies. In 1748, Franklin, aged 42, retired to live

comfortably off the income from his business, managed by others, for 20 years.

In the sayings of "Poor Richard" like "Early to bed and early to rise make a man healthy, wealthy, and wise" and in his scheme for moral virtue later set out in his famous Autobiography, Franklin summarized his view of how the poor man may improve himself by hard work, thrift, and honesty.

Franklin did not at first contemplate separation from Britain, which he regarded as having the freest, best government in the world. When he went to England in 1757 as agent of the Pennsylvania Assembly, he was alarmed to hear Lord Granville, president of the Privy Council, declare that for the colonies, the king's instructions were "the Law of the Land: for the King is the Legislator of the Colonies." After repeal of the Stamp Act, Franklin reaffirmed his love for the British Empire and his desire to see the union of mother country and colonies "secured and established," but he also warned that "the seeds of liberty are universally found and nothing can eradicate them." When the British Parliament passed the Tea Act (1773), which hurt the colonial merchants, Franklin protested in a series of finely honed political essays, including "An Edict by the King of Prussia" and "Rules by

Which a Great Empire May Be Reduced to a Small One." As these satires circulated in England, Franklin wrote his sister: "I have held up a Looking-Glass in which some of the Ministers may see their ugly faces, and the Nation its Injustice."

From April 1775 to October 1776, Franklin served on the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety and in the Continental Congress, submitted articles of confederation for the united colonies, proposed a new constitution for Pennsylvania, and helped draft the Declaration of Independence. He readily signed the declaration, thus becoming a revolutionist at the age of 70.

Franklin's final public pronouncements urged ratification of the Constitution and approved the inauguration of the new federal government under his admired friend George Washington. He wrote friends in France that "we are making Experiments in Politicks," but that American "affairs mend daily and are getting into good order very fast." Thus, cheerful and optimistic as always, Benjamin Franklin died in Philadelphia on Apr. 17, 1790.

Franklin said "There is much difference between imitating a good man and counterfeiting him." We could do worse than to imitate Ben Franklin.

- If you would know the value of money, go try to borrow some; for he that goes a-borrowing goes a-sorrowing.
- Constant complaint is the poorest sort of pay for all the comforts we enjoy.
- Rather go to bed supperless than rise in debt.
- Beware of little expenses; a small leak will sink a great ship.
- Let honesty and industry be thy constant companions, and spend one penny less than thy clear gains; then shall thy pocket begin to thrive; creditors will not insult, nor want oppress, nor hunger bite, nor nakedness freeze thee.
- Employ thy time well, if thou meanest to gain leisure.
- Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little temporary Safety, deserve neither Liberty nor Safety.
- God heals and the doctor takes the fee.
- The use of money is all the advantage there is in having it.
- Plough deep while sluggards sleep.
- Pride breakfasted with Plenty, dined with Poverty, supped with Infamy.
- Three may keep a secret if two of them are dead.
- Sin is not harmful because it is forbidden, but it is forbidden because it is hurtful.
- Dost thou love life? Then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.
- Little strokes fell great oaks.
- We must hang together or assuredly we shall hang separately.
- I conceive that the great part of the miseries of mankind are brought upon them by false estimates they have made of the value of things.

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

September 7, 1993  
Anchorage, AK

Dear Bonnie:

Thank you for the reminder and "yes" I want to continue the subscription. Your publication is very interesting and well done.

The response to our joint service with ELLIS AIR TAXI on flights from Anchorage to McCarthy and Chitina has been very good for just starting. It certainly beats driving and the business people and visitors have been able to spend more time in the area and not have to do a day of driving each way. Hopefully it will pick up to the point that Lynn and I can offer Monday service also. Let your readers know that if we can help them anyway in Anchorage to call. We would be glad to pick up packages at no charge or bring up items that are needed. They may also use our facility as a drop point for packages and messages. We also provide transportation to anyone flying in on our flights from McCarthy, Gulkana or Chitina.

Keep up the great publication!

Regards,  
R. Michael O'Neill  
Security Aviation, Inc.

September 19, 1993  
Fairbanks, AK

Editors:

Pleased to get all your back issues and the McCarthy newspaper. Wrangell's history has long fascinated me.

I first took the cable across the Copper River and walked into McCarthy in 1963. Had to walk up and across the moraine and back down into McCarthy. Great trip. First person we met was Tony Zak. We've stayed friends since.

Good luck.  
Bruce Haldeman

---

September 13, 1993  
Grapevine, Texas

Dear Rick and Bonnie,

Enclosed is payment for another one year subscription to the Wrangell St. Elias News. Also enclosed is payment for membership to the McCarthy Area Landowners Association. I could not find the mailing address for the MALA so I hope you can pass it on.

My wife Ann and I were sorry we did not get to meet you when we were up this last August. We bought some land last year from Ken Smith, and it is located down off the "J" road. We hope to build a log cabin on the property in the near future. We spent ten days this summer clearing a cabin site and road.

We first came to McCarthy three years ago and like the remoteness and the fact that the area was not commercialized. We hope McCarthy stays a small unique town at the end of the road, because it just about is the last town like it left. My wife works for American Airlines and I am in the Medical Construction Business. We grew up in Texas, both went to the University of Texas, and now live outside Fort Worth in a town called Grapevine. We have no children yet, so we will probably be bringing up our German Shepherd when we come each summer.

We should be back up this June and hope to meet more of our neighbors.

Regards,  
Craig and Ann Neill

---

October 1, 1993  
Valdez, AK

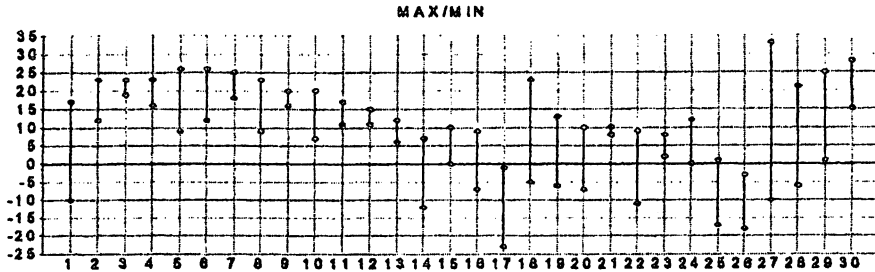
Dear Rick and Bonnie,

Hi! - Friends just introduced me to your paper and I think it's a wonderful publication. We're especially excited about it because my husband, Dick, and I purchased Jeff Gustafson's property on Long Lake this spring and are in the process of finishing the cabin (which now appears to be a 2 summer project to complete). Needless to say we are very interested in all that is happening around us, and in neighbors we hope to eventually meet.

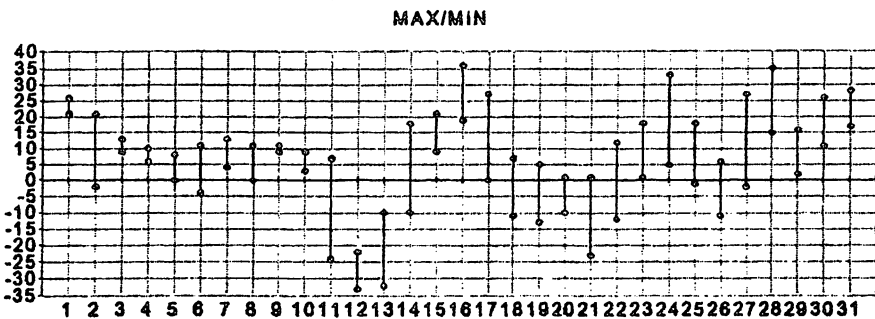
Sincerely,  
Bonnette Cooper

# Weather — What can we expect?

## November 1992



## December 1992



Wrangell St. Elias News  
 McCarthy  
 PO Box MXY  
 Glennallen, AK 99588-8998



### Service Oil & Gas

#### RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

- Heating Oil
- Gasoline and Diesel Fuel
- AvGas and Jet Fuel
- Chevron Lube Oils and Greases
- Fuel Tanks and Accessories

*Service sometimes means going more than the extra mile.*  
 "We appreciate all our BUSH CUSTOMERS!"

**For the First Name In Service, Call  
 SERVICE OIL & GAS**



**Chevron**

PHONE: 822-3375  
 Mile 188.5 Glenn Highway  
 Box 276  
 Glennallen, AK 99588