

# Wrangell St. Elias News

*"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty"*

Volume Thirteen Issue Two

March & April 2004

Two Dollars

## Friends, neighbors step forward to pay fine

Slana resident Doug Frederick is the kind of man who likes to solve problems. So, when he and other area residents were faced with the possibility of losing access because of deteriorating trail conditions in Wrangell-St. Elias National park, he went to work.

Frederick, along with several friends, put down wooden pallets with planks fastened on top in three of the worst areas of a trail that had become impassible. It seemed like a sensible solution to a very real problem—a problem that has caused the environmental group National Parks and Conservation Association (NPCA) has named Wrangell St. Elias as one of the nations "ten most endangered parks." (See story on page 7)

The National Park Service (NPS) didn't see it that way. They issued

Frederick a citation for "erecting structures (bridging) in the park without a permit." Rather than pay a small fine, (\$250), he chose to fight the misdemeanor citation in federal court.

Frederick was not allowed a jury, and in due time U.S. District Magistrate John Roberts sided with the government and imposed a fine of \$500.

It became evident that a town meeting called by the NPS in 2002 to "brainstorm what to do about access," was really meant only to announce trail closures. "The point is that they don't want the trail, so they don't want to fix it because they don't want it," said Judge Roberts at the sentencing hearing.

Frederick's attorney, Wayne Anthony Ross, said they would appeal the verdict. "I am taking the appeal of this case pro



Photo courtesy ALRC

Judy and Doug Fredericks: "We were set up — lock, stock and barrel."

bono," said Ross. "...what the NPS has done is not correct, not credible, not honest."

Friends and neighbors quickly rallied to support Doug and his wife Judy, not only paying the fine for the Frederick's but also signing a petition which read, in part, "We protest the outrageous criminalizing by the National Park Service and

the federal courts of a public spirited man, Doug Frederick, of Slana, who was undertaking a volunteer trail improvement demonstration."

"The National Park Service claims to be a good neighbor but its actions abusing this family speak louder than words."

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## *A note from the publisher*

BY BONNIE KENYON

Today is Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup> and we are experiencing a heat wave in McCarthy. The temperature is in the mid-30's and the icicles hanging from the office eaves are shortening with each drip. Our 32 inches of snow may shrink an inch or two before the day is over.

We hope you like the new look of the *Wrangell St. Elias News*. Long time readers know that the WSEN is published and printed right here in our log cabin. In our last issue I talked about the new copyprinter that we brought from Florida. We had also purchased a new color laser printer, but the shipping company dropped it somewhere along the way and it was a total loss.

The replacement finally arrived and this issue is the first to benefit from not only sharper, crisper photographs, but also a small dab of color here and there.

That brings me to another subject: our subscription prices have increased. If I recall correctly, this is our first price increase since we

began this publication in 1992. You can imagine how much production costs have risen since then. Yearly subscriptions are now \$11 a year with our 2-year specials now \$19. The Canadian and foreign rates are listed in the masthead on this page.

I am sorry to report that the Weather Column by George Cebula is missing this issue (a one-time occurrence). George is presently on his way back to his McCarthy cabin after spending several months traveling in the lower 48. Rick and I had a critical deadline to meet this time, so we'll ask George to make up for lost time in the next issue! And to give you an update on his travels.

Subscribers Evonne Sullivan, and her husband Mike (a Kennicott Kid), wanted to do something special for Frank and Jeanne Morris in celebration of their 5<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary of February 6<sup>th</sup>. Evonne even wrote a poem for them (page 23). She also included a terrific picture of Frank and Jeanne on their wedding day superimposed over a shot of Kennicott. We add

our congratulations to this fine couple of Kennicott Kids.

On page 12 is the beginning of a series of articles written by Douglas Miller (of McCarthy Lodge fame). This and future articles will describe the life and times of our town between 1906 and 2006. Doug did a fine job this issue and it is certain to whet the appetites of our readers as we wait for the upcoming stories.

WSEN welcomes aboard the following subscribers: Paul and Rowena Barr, AK; Albert Trost, AK; Lucile Frederick, AK; Arnold Griese, AK; Heike Wilmoth, AK; Dave Williams and Marie Thorn, AK; Bill and Teresa Albaugh, AK; Ole and Linda Bates, AK; Paul Smith, AK; Leo Goch, CA; Wayne Ross, AK.



WSEN staff photo

Ricoh 3800C color laser printer & Ricoh Priport 5000, both hard at work printing this issue of the WSEN!

### ***Wrangell St. Elias News***

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## Items of Interest

BY BONNIE KENYON

**Jim and Audrey Edwards and friends:** "It's either feast or famine here," exclaimed Audrey, who was more than happy to report two of her guest cabins are now full. The caretaker cabin is occupied by Michelle Gressel and her son, Carl, and daughter Traci. Michelle and family are not new to us here in the area. In fact, Michelle worked as a waitress at McCarthy Lodge last summer season and we can expect to see her smiling face there again this year. Traci and Carl spent last summer sharing babysitting responsibilities for Kaylin Moffitt.

The cabin Edwards' (and neighbors) have dubbed "Shakey" has a new occupant by the name of Pete Mates, an airplane mechanic known by the majority of area pilots. Pete is moving in gradually, says Audrey, and is the owner of a terrific dog named Henrietta.

When Jim and Audrey aren't assisting their new boarders in getting settled in, they are staying busy with inside projects. Jim is framing out the windows in their sunroom and working on a variety of home repairs. Audrey is tinkering (I hope that means she is having fun!) with her new Dell computer and sewing on a new quilt.

I'm sure Jim will enjoy talking airplanes with Pete and Audrey is pleased to have a nearby lady friend to have tea with.

Congratulations on a full house, Jim and Audrey, and glad you are on the feasting side of things!

**David Williams and Marie Thorn:** When I think of Dave and Marie, I usually think of our super busy summer season. Dave and Marie do much to provide guests visiting the McCarthy/Kennicott area with fun things to do. Winter is much quieter than summer. One of



Photo courtesy Dave & Marie

Dave & Marie enjoying winter at Kennicott.

the most popular questions people ask me is: What do people do in the winter time? I decided to ask Marie and David that question. This was their answer.

We are residing in Kennicott where we are spending most of our spare time gathering wood and water, snowboarding on Porphyry Mountain and feeding our dogs. Marie has a long history in Kennicott rebuilding two of the Silk Stocking Row cabins with her family and friends in the early 90's and returning here for several summers. David has worked for Chris Richards and Kennicott Wilderness Guides since 1995. Exploring the mountains in the surrounding area has been a passion for us. This is our first winter in the neighborhood and we feel as if we have discovered a new place entirely! We wish to extend the invitation to come and go skiing or snowboarding on the mountain above Kennicott with us.

**Neil Darish and Doug Miller:** If you stop by the McCarthy Lodge these days you will find Doug diligently at work. Now that his winter break is over—a delightful trip to India—he isn't letting any grass grow under his feet. (Not that we can even "see" the grass under 32 inches of snow.) Neil is glad to have

Doug back. During the months of October and November, Neil pretty much had the town to himself. In fact, he claims that he has only had 6 days out of town in the past 2 ½ years and that is a good reason for any strange behavior on his part. He says he is making great strides on his residency status.

February's major project for Neil and Doug includes refinishing walls, ceiling and the floors of the McCarthy Lodge. "You can expect to

see more cohesive displays of artifact collections from the McCarthy and Kennicott area," says Neil, who is more-than-excited about this project.

Another point of much interest is the return of Sergio Perez, McCarthy Lodge's executive chef. "We are looking forward to the return of Sergio who is busy building his new menus for the restaurant and saloon" says Neil. To jump start the summer season, McCarthy Lodge will once again provide the "locals" a half-price special dinner. I can almost smell that Ecuadorian fare!

**The Pilgrim family and friends:** While on our trip south to visit our family in November, we purchased a new printer and had it shipped to Anchorage. It was badly damaged so Rick had it replaced. The new one came in this last week. When Rick got back from picking it up in Anchorage he needed a helping hand (or two). Getting it unloaded off our pick-up truck, onto a sled and then maneuver it through the office door (after shoveling open the path) was no small task.

The natural thing to do out here is call a neighbor, ask for their help. John Adams offered to come, and we knew a couple of the Pilgrim family members were in the imme-

diate area. John and Moses said they'd come over shortly.

Thinking Moses and one of his brothers would show up, we were quite surprised to see a snowmachine "train" pull up the driveway. What a crew! Not only did Moses bring brothers David and Job but sisters Jerusalem and Hosanna.

They must have had company at the time we called because Moses invited them, too! Twin brothers Carl and Dave Felts are not newcomers to the area but are always passing through when en route to their property at Spruce Point and Spruce Creek. I guess that's why Rick and I had never met them. I

Our thanks go out to such wonderful neighbors and new friends alike!

**Jack and Susan Smith:** This is the first time I've included Jack and Susan in "items" but I know it won't be the last. They live at Mile 26 of the McCarthy Road. Rick and I live 1 1/2 miles off the road at Mile 58 so we don't get to see Jack and Susan often. When we do, it is a highlight of our day!

Over the Christmas season Jack needed to travel Outside to spend time with his family. Sarah Roberts, Susan's 19 year old daughter, chose the perfect time to visit her mom. Not only would Susan greatly appre-



WSEN staff photo

Susan Smith and daughter Sarah.

of the 70 degrees temperatures Florida was experiencing to warm up McCarthy's -40 degrees.

Thanks for sharing Sarah with us, Susan, and welcome back to Jack who had a safe trip home.

**John and Andy Adams:** I'm sure John can truly identify with Susan's joy over Sarah's visit. He, too, was a delighted parent when son Andy returned from a tour of duty in Mosul, Iraq.

Once again Rick and I were honored with a visit; this time with John and Andy.

Watching, listening or reading the news of the war in Iraq doesn't always give us the real-life picture of what our troops are experiencing. I have to confess I plied Andy with questions and he patiently answered. He even brought along his laptop computer which contained a variety of pictures of where he lived and worked. How different a landscape from the McCarthy area!



WSEN staff photo

Our moving crew: Jerusalem, David, Carl, Moses, Hosanna, Job (in front) and Dave.

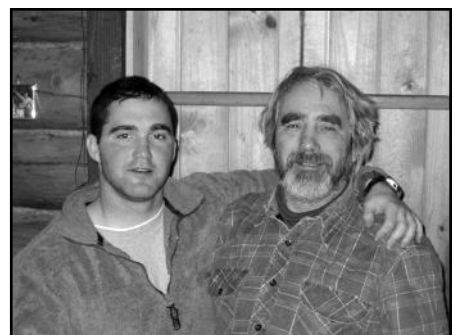
couldn't tell them apart but Job said he was finally able to do so.

The brothers live in New Jersey and have been visiting this area for 23-25 years now. This was their first winter visit, however, and an opportunity to do some serious snowmachining.

The moving project went smoothly as there were plenty of hands to lift, push and pull. Before long the printer was sitting in the comfort of its new home - our office.

ciate the company but having 2 weeks of quality time with Sarah made the holiday season a perfect gift.

Rick and I were honored to have these two ladies pay us a visit. Sarah is attending Tallahassee Community College and will soon graduate with a 2 year degree in business and accounting. She plans on continuing her studies at the college expanding on her business education. Susan tells me she taught Sarah how to make Sterling Silver jewelry while she was here. We all wished Sarah could have brought along a portion



WSEN staff photo

Andy and "Dad," John Adams.

Andy freely shared his love for the people of Iraq and his fulfillment in making their everyday life safer and easier. When he finishes further schooling here in the states, he said he would even like to return. He described a people who were so thankful and the tears they shed at his departure.

It is obvious this one young man made a lasting difference. Thanks, John, for bringing Andy by and, Andy, thank you for serving our country and the Iraqi people honorably!

#### **Don, Lynn and Rene Welty:**

While I was typing an "item" the phone rang and it was Lynn. She wanted to know how my day had gone. On the other hand, I was wanting to know what *she* and her family were doing. Don and neighbor John Adams had just left to harvest a few logs for a lumber-making project. Rene was over at Traci's house visiting and, as most of our readers know, daughter Sarah is engaged in studies in Wyoming.

The Weltys have been out and about the neighborhood. They paid the Ralph Lohse family a visit recently and while at Long Lake a time of target practice complete with Clay Pigeons took place. She didn't say who the best shot was but between the Lohse and Welty families, I'd say there was more than one sharpshooter that scored a pigeon or two.

The other night Don and Lynn partnered up with Keith and son Kaleb (Laurie was supposed to assist Kaleb but a phone call from me took her out of the game temporarily) to find a Scrabble connoisseur. According to Lynn, Kaleb won. I'm not sure if that was with Laurie's help or without it.

Lynn said she overheard the men talking outdoor activities so I imagine they are already gearing up for the annual ice fishing expedition in early spring. Rick will be glad about that!

**Neil O'Donnell, Margaret Stock and daughter Catherine:**

The morning of December 27<sup>th</sup> appeared with a vengeance with temperatures in the minus 30's, but there was a warm thought that brightened our day – Neil, Margaret and Catherine were coming for a visit. Decked in plenty of winter gear the three descended (via Lynn Ellis of Ellis Air Taxi) onto the frozen McCarthy airstrip. Donning their skis and sled for Catherine – when she decided to rest from her skiing excursion—they headed to the west side of the Kennicott where their log cabin is located.

They stopped here en route and while warming up, we began the process of "catching up." We resumed our visit during dinner at Neil and Margaret's cozy (and finally warmed-up) cabin a few nights later.

On New Year's Eve Rick and I decided to celebrate the warming trend (-20's) by attending a potluck being held at the McCarthy Lodge. We invited Neil, Margaret and Catherine to accompany us (actually we wanted to show off our friends). They bravely took the challenge of putting on all those heavy layers of winter garb again and venturing out to the big city on snowmobiles. We had a grand time. The lodge was warm, food was scrumptious and a variety of local folks in attendance made good company.

We were sorry to say goodbye to this special family but the time of their departure came on March 3. The temperature again dipped to the -30's as if it, too, was trying to put off their departure.

**Kurt, Peggy and Kelsey Smith:** Speaking of New Year's celebrations, I couldn't leave out the annual New Year's Day gathering at the Smith family home on the Nizina River. The evening before, the Welty and Lohse families snowmachined out the Nizina Road to the Smith's log home. Their plans included spending the night. Last year's event included a huge bon fire and outdoor eating. The Smiths' temporary living quarters wouldn't begin

to accommodate the group that showed up. This year, however, was a different story.

Rick and I arrived on New Year's Day and we certainly were in for a surprise. No bon fire was needed this year. Kurt, Peggy and Kelsey had really outdone themselves. Their new log house was not only built (the previous year we could only see the desired site) but they had already moved in (I'm confident Peggy was not about to be uprooted from her beautiful new home that Kurt had built!). What a view they have and what excellent workmanship, Kurt!

We had a wonderful time visiting over hot bowls of chili and homemade cake. What a grand way to begin a new year!

#### **McCarthy kids are tested:**

Eight McCarthy area kids, from a variety of grade levels, arrived at the McCarthy-Kennicott Community Church building on February 17<sup>th</sup> ready to get down to business. Four students from the Chugach School District took over the church basement while four students from the Galena City School District made use of the upstairs sanctuary.

Diane Milliard monitored the testing for Chugach students Rene Welty, Traci and Carl Gressel, and Tessa Bay and I had the privilege of overseeing Galena's Kaleb, David, Hannah and Daniel Rowland.

The testing was spread over 3 to 4 days depending on the particular student and test. The young people all arrived by snowmobiles (and snowboards or skis). Tessa was accompanied by her father Kelly who traveled 9 miles (one way) each day of the testing. She takes the prize for having to travel the farthest.

The students were well behaved (Diane and I are proud to report) and our congratulations to each young person for giving it their best. Each of you are very special!

## Neighbors pay fine

(Continued from cover)

The petition went on to say, "The community sends this message back to the NPS: What has been done is unjust, oppressive, not correct, not credible, and not honest. We have collected all of the fine money here tendered among us. We resolve that the Fredericks will pay none of it."

In July of 2002 the NPS held a meeting in Slana to discuss what to do about the poor conditions of the All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) trails in the area, and to announce their intent to close three of the trails—trails that led to Copper Lake, where Doug and his wife Judy had several small cabins and boats that they rented out in the summer.

"We were in attendance at the July meeting and also understood this was a demonstration of what the volunteers could do to improve the trail," said Vanessa Thompson. "As every suggestion was made, neither Gary or Marshall mentioned that a permit was needed for the volunteers to set up this 'model.'" Vanessa said, "Brian and I would have been there to help that day, had we not already had plans."

Some of those present, including former State Legislator Dick Shultz, saw the trail closures as a direct attack on Doug Frederick. In a letter to Representative Don Young, Shultz wrote, "During my ten years in the Alaska Legislature, I encountered many frustrating and belligerent actions by both State and the Federal Administrators, but none can compare to the recent actions by the National Park Service in eliminating a longstanding business on the Nabesna Road in Wrangell-St. Elias Park."

Originally the Fredericks used a small Super Cub airstrip for access

to the Copper Lake property, until the NPS disallowed maintenance on the strip. With that closure came a need for increased traffic on the traditional overland route by ATV.

Shortly after the July meeting in Slana, the NPS not only closed that route, the only access to the Frederick property, but they expanded the closed zone to 1,000 feet either side of the trail, effectively eliminating access to the lodge property.

"I have a caretaker over there and need to get supplies to him," said Frederick. "They told me if I tried to use the trail they would cite me."

Shultz pulled no punches in his letter to Young. "I have lived in this area long before Park Status...I have watched promise after promise be broken to the local users of fish and wildlife, and now this absolutely high-handed, devastating news to the Fredericks," he wrote.

Frederick and others volunteered to provide labor and partner with the NPS to provide solutions to the problem, not only of the trails that accessed the Copper Lake property but others in the area that were in need of repair. The park's assistant superintendent, Hunter Sharp, told the group that there was no money available for the project. (Although the park had applied for, and received, a \$30,000 grant from the NPS Scenic Rivers and Trails program to repair trails—which they promptly turned over to BLM for use on the Myers Lake trail—which is not in the park.)

What became evident at the sentencing hearing was that the NPS does not want to repair the trails. Apparently it was a surprise to Judge Roberts, who asked, "The

meeting, according to the evidence, was sort of a town meeting to brainstorm what to do about the access. What was the purpose of the meeting if the park service very simply doesn't want a trail. You could say 'we just don't want a trail there, period.'"

Joe Darnell, the NPS prosecutor responded, "... the goal of the meeting was essentially to provide people notice and to discuss the need to close that trail. Although, again, I want to emphasize to the court that the three bridges that are in question are not on the segment of the trail that had been noticed closed."

The question of the trails future remains unanswered. In fact, after learning of the NPS's intent to remove the bridge "structures" next summer, Roberts said, "I am as interested in the future as I am in what has happened in the past."

There is speculation as to how much influence environmental groups such as the National Parks & Conservation Association has had on the decision to prosecute Doug and Judy Frederick, as well as other recent decisions by WRST Superintendent Gary Candelaria that have resulted in curtailing access in the park.

A recent NPCA press release said, "To preserve the integrity of the park and the enjoyment of its visitors, the Park Service must actively enforce existing rules to prevent ATVs from harming park wildlife and wilderness." Stratton's group has been lobbying against motorized access in the parks for years, fighting not only ATV use but striving to keep RS2477 routes from being recognized by the park service as well.

# Is Wrangell-St. Elias National Park endangered?

## NPCA says Yes!

## The National Parks & Conservation Association says WRST is one of the nation's ten most endangered parks!

At more than 13 million acres, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve is the largest unit in the National Park System. The park contains the largest concentration of glaciers, the largest sub-polar ice cap, and nine of the continent's 16 highest mountains, including the second-highest in the United States—Mt. St. Elias, at 18,008 feet. Much of the park is covered by rock and ice, making the biologically rich lower elevations critical habitat for a variety of species, including Dall sheep, brown and black bear, moose, caribou, bison, wolf, and nesting trumpeter swans. The park was created, in part, to preserve the majestic scenic beauty and rich biological diversity of the area. It is one of the few national parks in Alaska connected to the state highway system.

Under a Civil War-era mining law revived in 2002 by the Bush administration, known as RS 2477, the State of Alaska has identified 1,702 miles of potential roads on 96 routes in Wrangell-St. Elias. These routes could endanger wildlife by bringing motorized trails into critical habitat causing habitat fragmen-

tation, increased poaching potential, and noise disruption. Increased motorized access could also threaten historical treasures including one-time gold mining sites and numerous prehistoric and historic Athabaskan Indian sites. The proposals represent half the total road mileage of all those identified in Alaska's national parks under RS 2477. Although efforts to exclude national parks and other public lands from any RS 2477 proposals received wide bi-partisan support in Congress last year, language protecting national parks was removed from final legislation.

Another threat is irresponsible use of all-terrain-vehicles (ATVs) on trails that criss-cross the park. Although the Park Service permits ATVs on 13 trails, many of which are also used for hiking, irresponsible ATV use is churning up fragile vegetation, and creating mud pits. In addition, ATV trails fragment wildlife habitat and run-off from these trails can impair water quality and degrade fish habitat. Through its lack of active management, the National Park Service is allowing this irresponsible ATV use to threaten the very scenic and biological

qualities the park was created in part to protect.

Any agreement between the State of Alaska and the Department of Interior about proposed RS 2477 road proposals must include the prohibition on pursuing road and highway proposals through national parks, refuges, and wilderness areas found in other state agreements. Furthermore, to preserve the integrity of the park and the enjoyment of its visitors, the Park Service must actively enforce existing rules to prevent ATVs from harming park wildlife and wilderness.

In addition, the Park Service must complete a park-wide assessment of ATV use and its impact on park resources and design appropriate management strategies and methods of repairing existing damage.

Tell your representative that unnecessary road construction threatens wildlife and endangers historical treasures and urge them to cosponsor Representative Mark Udall's (D-Colo.) bill, the Rights-of-Way Act of 2003, H.R. 1639.

## WRST endangered? ROW says No!

### The Residents of the Wrangells take a closer look

The National Parks & Conservation Association (NPCA) says that the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (WRST) is endangered because the Bush administration has revived the federal statute RS 2477, which is not exactly true. What is true is that the National Park Service, back in 1984, (Clinton administration), identified over a hundred of these potential routes in the park, then

promised to determine the validity of them on a case-by-case basis. Some were Indian trails, some cat trails to mines, others overland routes used by trappers and other adventures. Sadly, they have not carried out this mandate. Rather, they have chosen to ignore the intent of the federal statute, and force the state to pursue expensive legal battles to obtain title to each route—something the state can ill afford.

Most of these rights-of-way, probably the vast majority, have no potential to become roads or highways. Rather, they serve as important trails that give access to private property or natural resources such as firewood, berry patches or hunting and fishing areas. For the most part, their use is limited to Off Road Vehicles (ORVs), snowmachines and dog sleds.



NPCA cites threats to “historic treasures including one-time gold mining sites and numerous prehistoric and historic Athabaskan Indian sites.” But it was just these mines and Indian sites that were the reasons for the routes in the first place! Why is it threatening for Americans to be able to see and enjoy these treasures?

The Jake’s Bar Trail is a good example, as is the McCarthy-Green Butte Road. Both were part of the mining routes 80 years ago. Neither are accessible from the state’s highway system, nor are they likely to be in our lifetimes. Yet they both clearly qualify for acceptance under RS 2477. The first provides access to the back-country during winter months via snowmachine, dogsled and people traveling on skis. The second provides the only overland access to private property at the Mother Lode Mine, as well as access to beetle-killed trees and other natural resources.

Frankly, RS 2477 routes in WRST have the potential to make the park a much more friendly place not only for inholders and local residents, but also for visitors—to provide environment-friendly access to portions of the park that are now only accessible by the very rich. They are hardly a threat.

Because the NPS has chosen to pretend these routes do not qualify, many thousands of dollars of park funds have been used in needless litigation. And, not insignificantly, local residents have suffered being dragged into federal court or other intimidation. It would be to all American’s benefit to find a way to settle these claims instead of pretending they are a new “threat.”

NPCA also cites “irresponsible use of all-terrain-vehicles (ATVs) on trails that criss-cross the park” as a threat. Remember, this is the group that has been trying to stop all motorized recreational use of the

parks—ATVs, snowmachines and jet-skis.

Again, let’s look at the facts. In 1984, the Park Service published a list of some 335 ATV trails in the park. Most were listed as “current use” or “historic use.” They had a mandate to identify and designate trails and areas where ORVs would be permitted, and a mandate to allow “customary and traditional” use. Along with this they were to develop operating conditions, establish enforcement procedures, and publish and distribute ORV use information to the public.

Rather than fulfil their mandate, the NPS, encouraged by extreme anti-access groups such as NPCA, designated only 13 trails in the entire 13 million acre park as “authorized trails.” Since this left over 300 trails that had been in use as “unauthorized trails,” with little to no regulation or oversight, naturally there were conflicts and some ecological damage since the park service would not repair these trails, nor allow them to be repaired.

This has been dramatically brought to the public’s attention in the case of Doug Frederick at Slana. Rather than work with a native-born Alaskan to provide necessary access, the Park Service has attempted to frustrate this family at every turn, even to the extent of bringing federal charges when the Frederick’s attempted to alleviate ecological damage by bridging some of the worst spots on a trail.

If this park is endangered, it is because of the shameful way the park service has failed in its mandate to manage these lands, not because of “irresponsible ATV use,” or by RS 2477 routes suddenly turning into paved freeways.

“I feel the real endangerment to WRST is to the remote community culture and the long-term viability of the lifestyle that has developed inside America’s largest national park over the past 100 years,” says

Neil Darish, partner in McCarthy Ventures, one of the major service providers in the McCarthy-Kennecott area.

His concern is echoed by many area residents and business owners. While the Park Service on one hand says they are mandated to protect local cultures, some see their actions towards the Fredericks, the Pilgrim family and others as “speaking louder than words.”

“Most every American has dreamed of living in the wilderness, and today’s residents inside this park are in danger of having their way of life reduced to eventual elimination,” says Darish. “Endangerment of WRST in the form of restricting locals’ access, restricting service access, and preventing improvements for visitor access is denying Americans the base camp required in any national park unit.”

So, is WRST endangered? Ecologically speaking, not really. What little damage to trails could be easily alleviated by means of a working partnership between NPS and local residents. Instead of only working with those who already agree with their agenda of making the parks less accessible, NPS would do well to broaden their outreach to the park communities in general, rather than fighting those who may disagree with their policies.

America’s national parks were created to preserve natural, cultural and historic resources. But the human aspect often gets left out. That’s the opinion of John Debo, superintendent of the Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area in Ohio. Debo says some national parks surround towns, villages and farms. He says park service policy is to buy them out.

“I think some very important cultural assets — these communities, towns, villages, farmsteads, whatever - have been placed within park boundaries and then, of



course, subsequently eliminated. We have a name for these things; it's called inholders. It's really a pejorative term; it suggests that it's something that's there that shouldn't be there."

Debo says many of the homes bought by the Park Service have remained vacant and boarded up, creating eyesores. Debo says Cuyahoga Valley takes a different approach.

"We're essentially arriving at the decision that the highest and best use, from a park perspective, of these properties is private residential occupancy. That is what is historically authentic. I'm really not interested in turning these villages into museum landscapes."

Debo says rather than trying to eliminate or ignore inholder communities, the National Park Service should take an interest in their

well-being. He says many of them are centuries old and can be a historical asset to the national parks.

Neil Darish agrees: "My hope is that the NPS can become our hero and we as resident stewards can become the heroes of the NPS."

## NPS issues McCarthy Creek Access EA

The National Park Service (NPS) has issued a 126 page Environmental Assessment in response to the Pilgrim family's request for a permit to drive up the old road that leads to their property at the Mother Lode Mine.

The EA sets forth three scenarios:

Alternative A – No Action Alternative

Alternative B – Applicants' Proposal

Alternative C – Access on Frozen Ground and Mostly Frozen Water (NPS Preferred)

The Pilgrims have been trying to regain access to their home ever since the NPS posted the McCarthy-Green Butte Road closed last April 11. On June 20, the family made a verbal request to then regional director Rob Arnberger for a permit to drive up the road on their bulldozer, that being the only vehicle they had which would make the 14 mile trip.

After extensive exchanges between the Pilgrims and various representatives of the NPS, on January

23, 2004 the NPS released an environmental assessment (EA) which set two alternatives against the family's proposal.

The application was for access by the Pilgrim family and friends, guests and invitees to their home at the end of an existing road. The specific application consisted of two parts, first for an immediate nine round trips using a tracked vehicle hauling a trailer or sled laden with building materials and other supplies for their personal use. It was the view of the Pilgrims that these trips would be sufficient to afford them the opportunity to secure their needs before the onset of winter conditions in November 2003.

At the request of the NPS, the Pilgrims submitted NPS form SF 299 and answered such additional questions as the NPS generated over the space of the ensuing six months.

The main area of concern expressed in the EA seems to be Dolly Varden trout which have recently been found in the creek. After the Pilgrims initiated the permitting process, the NPS sent a helicopter up McCarthy Creek with fishery biologists and rangers using electric

stun guns to determine if there were any fish present. The stun guns cause any fish present to turn belly up so they can be counted, then hopefully revive. They apparently turned up a number of small trout and one adult fish.

To prevent damage to any spawning fish that may be present, the EA recommends that ice bridges be built over each river crossing. Use of any organic material in the ice bridges is prohibited.

The EA also includes 19 more stipulations in the recommended alternative. Local equipment operators have indicated that the stipulations make the act of traversing the road very dangerous if not impossible.

Comments were due by February 23.

Meanwhile the Pilgrims are waiting to hear from the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court where they have filed a motion for reconsideration to their emergency access request.

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*"Finish each day and be done with it. You have done what you could. Some blunders and absurdities no doubt crept in; forget them as soon as you can. Tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely and with too high a spirit to be cumbered with your old nonsense."* Ralph Waldo Emerson

## NPS says boat-only access to inholding is "adequate and feasible"

WSEN STAFF

In a recent letter, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (WRST) Superintendent Gary Candelaria said that the "traditional and established pattern of access" to an inholding that lies on the north side of Long Lake is by boat across Long Lake. He went on to state that this boat-only access was "adequate and feasible," thus satisfying the federal requirements of providing access to inholdings.

The letter was in response to an inquiry from a landowner who had contacted the National Park Service (NPS) about getting a permit to construct a two-mile road along an old Department of Transportation survey line on the north side of the lake.

When Congress passed the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) which created WRST, they said that inholders shall be given "such rights as may be necessary to assure adequate and feasible access for economic and other purposes to the concerned land."

Until recently, most people thought that meant a ground route to inholdings where one was feasible. But recent statements by the WRST superintendent suggest that the Park Service is shifting away from traditional ground access.

The Long Lake situation is particularly troubling to some people, who view access by boat across the deep, often ice-covered lake as something less than "adequate and feasible." In addition, the lake supports a unique red salmon population and is a critical spawning area. Surprisingly, the superintendent used that fact as a reason to oppose land access. "Construction of a road would pose threats to fish populations," states Candelaria. Given the need to haul fuel and other hazardous materials to homesites, some people see being forced to use small boats—with or without motors—as a greater risk to fish populations than using a land route, as well as being hazardous to human life.

In a similar case, Candelaria used the presence of fish in a river as a reason to oppose vehicular traffic. When the Pilgrim family applied for a permit to traverse the old McCarthy-Green Butte Road, the superintendent sent a helicopter up McCarthy Creek laden with park rangers, fishing nets and stun guns. They found some Dolly Varden trout, and the Park Service says they may be threatened by vehicles fording the river. Although the Department of Natural Resources says the river is not an "anadromous" river, rangers say they found one trout that "may have come from the sea."

The Long Lake landowner was further discouraged from proceeding with his plans by the superintendent. "Although we have not commenced our formal review of your application," wrote Candelaria, "I want to take this opportunity to advise you that an Environmental Assessment will be required prior to granting a right-of-way."

An Environmental Assessment, commonly called an "EA," can cost the landowner hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Park Service can waive the cost of the EA if it chooses to do so, as they did in the case of the Pilgrims.

But, even if the cost of an EA is waived, there are other obstacles to obtaining a permit from NPS.

"In addition, park staff have raised significant environmental concerns regarding your proposed access and it is highly unlikely that we could assess or authorize your access as proposed," continued Candelaria. "In order for us to fully conduct an environmental assessment of a road, we will require detailed engineering designs and plans."

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*"Exceeding the bounds of authority is no more a right in a great than in a petty officer, no more justifiable in a king than in a constable; but is so much the worse in him, in that he has more trust put in him, has already a much greater share than the rest of his brethren, and is supposed from the advantages of his education, employment, and counsellors, to be more knowing in the measures of right and wrong." — John Locke*

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*"Never give in. Never, never, never, never! Never yield in any way, great or small, except to convictions of honor and good sense. Never yield to force and the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy...." — Winston Churchill*

# Residents of the Wrangells meet at Slana

BY JENNIFER ROSENBAUM  
SECRETARY ROW

On January 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Residents of the Wrangells (ROW) officers and advisory board (along with a few other members of the McCarthy community) traveled to the “other side of the mountains” for a meeting at the Slana School. The turn-out was phenomenal, with almost 60 people in attendance.

Susan Smith, chairperson of ROW, began the meeting by introducing ROW’s mission statement and the group’s officers and advisory board. She related some problems that inholders in the McCarthy area have had with the National Park Service (NPS) and let everyone know about ROW’s recent efforts to compile testimonials of issues inholders have had with the NPS.

Susan then introduced Ray Kreig of the Kantishna Inholders Association. He spoke on past and present ANILCA and NPS issues. A question and answer period followed. It was soon apparent that a major concern of the community includes the NPS’s interpretation of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and “reasonable regulation.” Ray gave some insight into ANILCA regulations and internal workings of the government. Several also questioned the state’s obligation to pro-

tect our rights as guaranteed by ANILCA.

Doug Frederick, a resident of the Slana/Nabesna area who has had (and continues to have) extensive problems with the NPS regarding various issues (including access to inholdings), spoke about his situation. He also expressed sentiments of fear for the future of our communities in the shadow of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park (WRST). Many others expressed serious concerns over growing NPS tensions and fear of a negative future for inholders’ rights. Ray Kreig spoke about the possible future of WRST with first-hand information about the way the community of Kantishna was treated by the NPS and the final outcome of the situation there. He stressed that the communities of WRST would be a stronger force if we could all work together when dealing with NPS issues.

Other major concerns were trail closures in the Slana/Nabesna areas, threatened subsistence rights and impending snow-machine regulations. People gave accounts of NPS harassments (such as airplane flyovers) and expressed concern about the intimidation used to keep people from speaking out against NPS actions. It was again stressed that if we work as a group some of

these harassments and intimidations may subside.

Slana Alaskans Unite sponsored the meeting by reserving the school and providing refreshments. ROW would like to thank these wonderful folks for welcoming us into their community and for the chance to introduce ourselves.

Publications of interest: The NPS has recently published a book titled *Contested Ground: An Administrative History of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Park*. This book documents and explains in full detail many of the problems inholders have encountered with the NPS since the formation of WRST. Most of these stories include rangers’ accounts of issues as well as names, dates and photographs of inholders and their properties. Copies of this publication are available at no charge from its author, park historian Geoffrey Bleakley via email at [geoff\\_bleakley@nps.gov](mailto:geoff_bleakley@nps.gov).

Please feel free to contact ROW via mail or email:

Residents of the Wrangells  
PO Box MXY #63  
McCarthy, AK 99588  
[residentsofwrangells@yahoo.com](mailto:residentsofwrangells@yahoo.com)  
<http://mccarthy-kennicott.com/ROW/>

## Wilderness First Responder Re-certification and Wilderness First Aid Course

May 1st and 2nd 2004

Old Hardware Store in McCarthy, Alaska

Hosted by the Wrangell Mountain Center

Course cost is \$150.00 per person

This course teaches basic Wilderness First Aid and meets the requirements for updating your wilderness first responder certification.

To sign up please contact Rob Tewilliger at [wmc@alaska.net](mailto:wmc@alaska.net)

If you have questions regarding the course you can also contact Dorothy Adler in McCarthy at 554-4465 or [lifeinthewrangells@yahoo.com](mailto:lifeinthewrangells@yahoo.com)

## THE LIFE AND TIMES OF OUR TOWN 1906-2006



### CENTENNIAL PROJECT McCARTHY'S 100 YEARS in the WRANGELLS

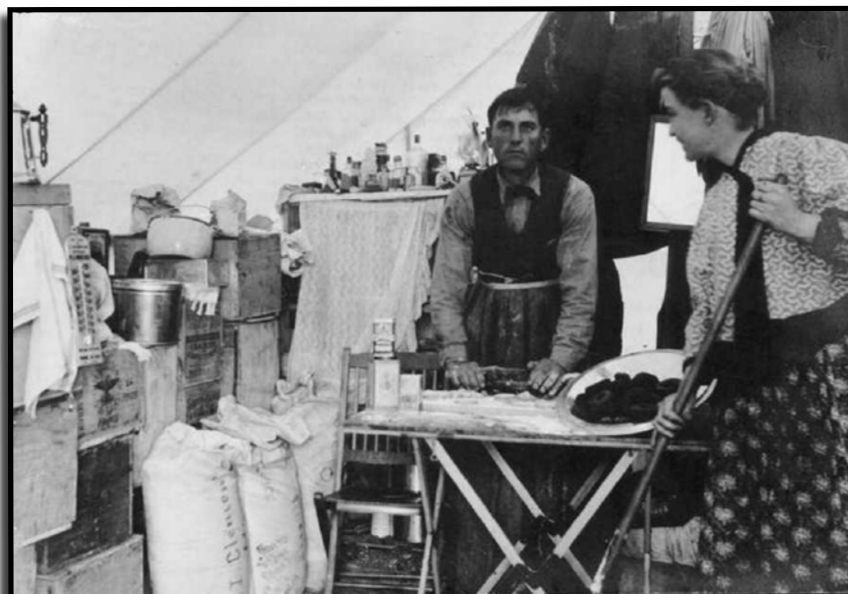
BY DOUGLAS MILLER

As our community nears its centennial we can look back on the founding citizens of this town with an array of views. Bewilderment, awe and envy are a few of the many feelings I've experienced as I have educated myself about the world of the founding families of McCarthy. To better understand these people I thought it worthwhile to present a short view of the world—an introduction to people's experiences at the turn of the century.

Over the last 98 years, since John Barrett had the foresight to stake his homestead on the narrow strip of land that the C.R. & N.W. Railroad would have to traverse on its route to the Kennicott ore site, many colorful characters have passed this way. Such people came to make their fortunes and retire elsewhere. Some amassed fortunes elsewhere and settled here with an eye to the future growth of this part of Alaska. Many came to love this land and endeavored to impart that great love to others through literature, photography and art. Some lie in the silence of our graveyards still. McCarthy to this day continues to draw people of strong character.

As we look back on the myths, and they are myths as so many of the stories have become mythic in their proportions and loose with the

Housekeeping in a tent



actual facts, I find myself in awe of the earliest settlers of our area. The hardships of the most mundane daily activities are beyond even our hardest residents today. Take a moment and consider life at our present temperature extremes (as I write this, -43F) without insulation, chainsaws, snowmobiles, compact generators, phone/internet and all the little things we take for granted. Horses, dogs, handsaws and kerosene lamps were the conveniences of the day. Conversation, dinner parties, socials, books and sports were the great entertainments through the dark months of winter. And the hardy bunch that made it through the long months of darkness togeth-

er naturally felt the closeness of a community developing within the first several years of its founding. McCarthy Station, Blackburn, Shushanna Junction and McCarthy are all names for essentially the same square mile.

There were many events occurring on the world's stage that fueled the spirits of those that ventured to the far north to seek their fortunes and eventually lay the foundations of the little outpost of McCarthy. From the end of the Civil War to the turn of the century it was a time of great change in the United States. The continental United States was no longer a wilderness frontier and

industrialization reduced demand for large numbers of skilled laborers. Between 1880 and 1910 over 18 million immigrants entered the country eagerly seeking work. The industrial laborer of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century endured long hours, hazardous working conditions and low wages fueling labor unrest. The fiscal policies of the Federal Government created periodic economic crisis, eroding industrial wages and producing high levels of unemployment. "Progressivism" was a reform movement against corrupt politicians and robber barons and dominated American politics and thought from the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century until the American entry into World War I in 1917. Progressivism was imparted to the people by all the notable figures of the times by philosophy, literature and gave American politics its own special character.

Seattle and San Francisco were the lifelines to the territory and Alaskans' closest link to the birthplace of her citizens. These cities were also the hotbed of radical labor movements and viewed with suspicion by big business and powerful money brokers. With the Bolshevik take-over of Russia by a small number of revolutionaries even the American populace were led to believe that their country was on the brink of a socialist takeover—another revolution.

Many of the outside world's events affected McCarthy's fortunes leading to the classic boom or bust cycle that Alaska faces to this day. Kennecott's rise and profitability was fueled by the conflicts in Europe, WWI and the high prices copper enjoyed on the world's industrial markets. The Kennicott syndicate enjoyed a virtual operating monopoly from the West Coast to our door steps. The immigrant filled the work rosters of the railroad and mines with the skilled labor necessary to accomplish the mammoth endeavors of the C.R. & N.W. Railroad and Kennicott Mines.

photo courtesy Eleanor Josevig.  
Farm cabbage patch at McCarthy



The organized labor unrest in Seattle and Everett frightened mining syndicates enough to initiate the supposed "lawful" search for I.W.W. labor organizers as far north as McCarthy/Kennicott.

The last gold rushes brought the individualist, the disillusioned, the occasional criminal, dreamers and romantics to the "Last Frontier." Long-time resident Al Gagnon once told me, "Alaska is still big enough to be as big as you want to be." If you see the double meaning you'll understand that many came to Alaska escaping the past. It was perhaps the last place to reinvent one's self. Perhaps with hard work success was possible in Alaska. The dream of striking it rich in Alaska

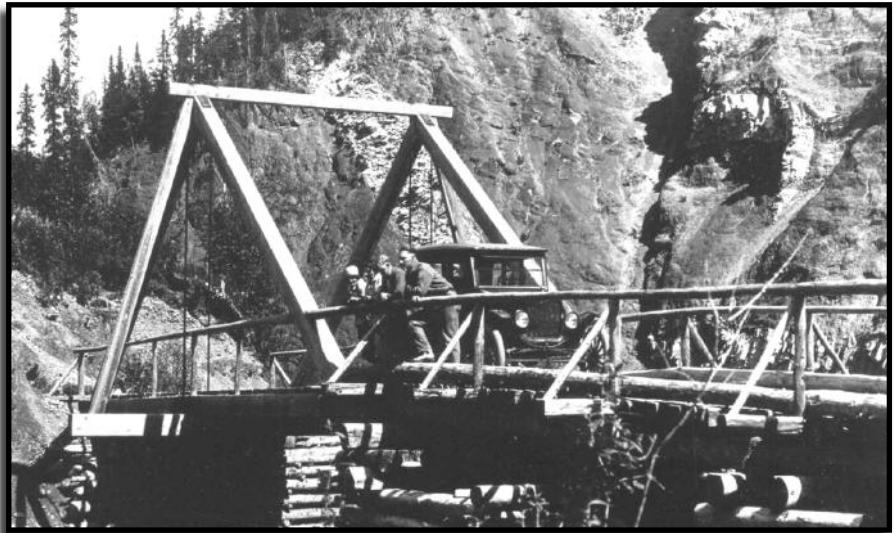
was fed by larger than life stories in the media of the day. The reality for independent miners was perhaps more depressing as in the case of the Nome strike in which the J.P. Morgan-Guggenheim Syndicate dominated the holdings within two years.

Our founding father, John Barrett was 34 years old when he ventured this way to stake a claim to these valleys. Kate Kennedy, a former Dawson "lady of the evening" was well known for her generosity and kindness and was a matron when she arrived to put down roots in McCarthy that lasted till near her death. "Cap" Hubrick, showman, big game guide and photographer was already 50 when he followed the



Shushanna Gold Rush into this country to eventually settle in the new town of McCarthy.

What these people accomplished can never be done again. They carved out of this wild landscape a community, one we still benefit from today. After all it's our colorful history; past and present, that entertains the many visitors. Romantic as it may be to compare ourselves to the founding members of our community, to believe we share the same goals and beliefs, we would be wrong. We are not as rugged and perhaps not as free. We are not as self reliant. Today we want to believe we are living a "bush" lifestyle, that we are the pioneers. Comparatively our lives are filled with a lot less adversity. Our lives would seem more foreign than the belief systems of the many immigrants who came seeking a new life. Our first residents' life experience was vastly different than ours. People did not travel with the ease we do today. In the world of 1900, most people did not venture far from their hometowns. Commercial radio broadcasts and rural electrification were yet to become widespread. Newspapers and tele-



Bridge across McCarthy Creek.

photo courtesy Eleanor Tjosevig.

graph were the only sources for reliable news.

The idea of Federal Parks did not come into being until 1917. Seventy-eight million acres of land passed from Federal control to the States from 1803-1912. Many States proceeded to sell off their lands to private citizens believing private ownership was the best way to manage lands. Since the United States was still in large part an agrarian economy, this is not too surprising. Today the Federal Government holds 650 million acres across the

breadth of our country and 67% (244,626.9 acres of a possible 365,039.4 - 1995 figures) of Alaska is under Federal control. McCarthy's settlers made assumptions that the community they were carving from this wilderness might go on to affluence, into the future. They had come a long way to settle here and for many years thought prosperity and stability were possible. Land ownership was foremost in their minds

to achieve this. In our present status of "World Heritage Site" and with today's politics and array of modern communications, special interest organizations from half a world away might facilitate the purchase of such sites as Kennicott Mine for its "historical significance" but could easily negatively impact a new mining enterprise with an arsenal of naive and uninformed arguments. Catch phrases such as "view sheds" and "scenic corridors" would not have been pertinent to our forefathers. Indeed, their forefathers had accomplished the settlement of a continent 3,000 miles wide. They would not have understood the concept of not utilizing mineral and renewable resources if it was possible profitably. And many ingenious means were employed to do this over the long mining history of the Kennecott and Nizina River valleys. This is not to say our residents were willing to rampage over the land; during the Shushanna Gold Rush game control wardens were solicited by the community to curb the stamper's proclivities.

Our ancestors were more connected with the raw materials they labored so industriously to obtain because they were connected to life in ways we are not today. Our forefathers manufactured and repaired many of their daily objects with ex-



photo courtesy Eleanor Tjosevig.

The population was enormously diverse.

pertise. We are disconnected from this way of life. We easily purchase what we need, with little thought as to how the elements of our needs come together (from) to make the things we desire. Most of us are children of the service industry. For us the everyday objects of our lives are disposable. People in the beginning of the last century were schooled in the manufacture of the necessities of life as a daily experience.

We are not as motivated as our forefathers to create lasting communities. We are a mobile society. People are living much longer lives than in 1900. Many of our "residents" who claim to "live" in McCarthy may be paying taxes elsewhere for up to 10 months a year, its common today to maintain more than one domicile. Early McCarthy was methodically building bridges, roads, farms and enterprises. They wanted a diversified economy. A post office and a school were established early on. They understood the dangers of dependence on monolithic employers and were distrustful of the "robber" barons who could pull the economic plug. Turn of the century politics held that "Government" should promote the welfare and stability of labor. McCarthy's merchants and miners believed that when citizen's efforts produced capital, those monies which flowed to government were to be expected to be reinvested in improved infrastructures of this area. The residents of McCarthy not only lobbied the Territory for improvements they were sophisticated enough to organize their lobbying efforts. While residents created all the roads in our area, the government improved them. Bridges across the Nizina, McCarthy Creek and many of the improvements on these roads, Kennicott included, came about through organized lobbying (after repeated loss of life). Improvements came as a result of importance and use and expenditures must then be solicited. Our

forefathers in McCarthy paid for many of the 'towns' improvements on their own, such as streets and fire protection; they were building for the future. They would not have understood or supported the results of the present style "public process" that exists today, (i.e. the foot-bridge or the lack of a bridge across McCarthy Creek). Access brought the possibility of enterprise, stability and family. They saw the farms on the west side of the Kennicott and towards the Nizina (now subdivisions) as part of the economy of McCarthy. They saw the mineral wealth of Dan Creek and the Chittitu (now cut off) as part of the economy of McCarthy. They eagerly promoted every ton of hay or cabbage and every dollar of precious metal.

Mining, mercantile, freighting and farming were in abundance. All these enterprises were built without subsidy from government. The mines on McCarthy Creek (from 1907) were intimate concerns to McCarthy's founding families. The politics of today, limiting and regulating growth and access to lands and resources would have been the antipathy of the prevalent thinking and desires of McCarthy's early days. While we may be independent thinkers like our forefathers, we do not share the regulatory freedom they had to pursue their dreams. Citizens and small businesses bear a financial burden today the early residents of Alaska did not.

Tolerance in McCarthy was generally widespread. While many disputes about bootlegging and prohibition remain the stuff of legend, the town at the time understood its place in the economy of the day. The occasional Ladies League feud erupted and accusations of fraud or corruption from various business and political elements were quickly settled. Politics were integral to McCarthy's survival as a commercial center and many businessmen and townspeople banded together in organized entities

such as the Commercial Club promoting McCarthy's bright future and the Red Cross and Armenian Relief for charitable causes, Arctic Brotherhood, Masons and other fraternities flourished for fellowship and charitable/social causes. Sports were often organized events. Religion flourished but oddly no church was ever established in the early days, though traveling ministers were common. Sheriffs, constables and judges were established. Prostitution was business in McCarthy and openly engaged in. Most of the women in the business were treated with respect if not considered respectable. Children were not often allowed to interact with such, though I am aware of at least two homes and merchants located too close to "THE ROW" not to have been within sight. Children were few and special, protected from the numerous dangers such as sled dog teams by having all such teams staked on the east side of town near Clear Creek today.

The population was enormously diverse. Chinese, Blacks and European immigrants were all present and the only derogatory language (to us in 2004) I have come across pertains to an amusing story of a Indian woman skinning a very valued brood of puppies, dyeing the skins and selling them to tourists as blue fox skins. She targeted the "cheechako" market. Native people had long suffered the American expansion. Athabascans too endured rather demeaning verbiage and charitable causes but on the whole little public animosity seems to have been expressed in McCarthy. Perhaps, because McCarthy was inhabited by few Athabascans there were fewer tensions. However, the rowdy mining crowd was an unending source of concern for townsfolk, but the merchants of McCarthy happily suffered through many a miner's paycheck. Grubstaking a prospector down on his funds was a common if not risky practice.



Over the next two years we would like to bring to you the lives of the founding members of our community. We are not like the men and women who helped open up this country but we have in common many things. We love the landscape. We wish to maintain the independence to seek our own destiny. And like our forefathers we are engaged in a struggle to bring stability, improvements to our community and maintain our own unique character into the future. As many of our newest residents begin their families they will find their lives and community changing. McCarthy is rapidly growing again, but what kind of community will we accept? The people of the past shared many similar issues. Young McCarthy found the heart to encompass everyone and we still pride ourselves today on our ability to do the same. I find the men and women who first built this town to be wonderful role models and invite any readers of WSEN with special knowledge of former residents of McCarthy and its environs to contact us in this special *Centennial Project — McCarthy 100 Years in the Wrangells*. July

4<sup>th</sup> festivities in 2006 will culminate our two-year effort. Please contact WSEN@starband.net or help@mccarthylodge.com with information, photos, histories and ideas. All materials will be respected and preserved for future generations right here in our town.

We will lead off our series with John Barrett, a man of superb character and many facets.

Sources of further study and interest:

*A History of the Chisana Mining District, Alaska, 1890-1990* by Geoffrey T. Bleakley 1996- United States Department of the Interior

*Historic McCarthy* (out of print)

*The Town That Copper Built* by M.J. Kirchhoff

*The Copper Spike - history of C.R. & N.W. Railroad* by Lone E. Janson

*Legacy of the Chief* - area history with Athabascan views by Ronald N. Simpson

*From Revolution to Reconstruction... and what happened afterwards*  
<http://odur.let.rug.nl/usanew/index.htm>

*The I.W.W. Labor Union and Seattle*

<http://www.tpl.lib.wa.us/v2/nwroom/unsetl.htm>

McCarthy's Newspapers

WSEN

*The Copper Bee*

*The Avalanche*

*The McCarthy Weekly News*

*Should Congress Transfer Federal Land to the States?*

<http://www.cato.org/pubs/pas/pa-276.html>

University of Alaska Archives

State of Alaska Historical Archive Sources

City of Tacoma Public Library Archives

City of Seattle Public Library Archives

University of Washington Archives

NARA - U. S. Government

## Spenard Builders Supply High School Scholarship

**A**NCHORAGE — Applications are now available for high school seniors to apply for the Spenard Builders Supply (SBS) scholarship. A \$2,000 to \$4,000 scholarship will be awarded to assist an Alaska high school senior in pursuing a vocational career for the benefit of Alaska's future. The SBS Scholarship Foundation works with VICA, an organization for students involved in trade, industrial, technical and health occupations.

"SBS realizes the importance of a well-educated work force," says Ed

Waite, SBS President. "Our hope is that this scholarship will assist an Alaska student in getting a good education that he or she can later apply to a career in a trade specialty."

High school seniors who are graduating from any Alaska Public Secondary School are eligible to apply for the scholarship. They must have at least a 2.6 grade-point-average, be currently enrolled in, or have completed vocational courses, and have well-defined vocational goals with realistic plans to achieve those goals.

The deadline for applying for the 2004 SBS Scholarship is April 15 and a recipient will be announced by no later than May 15. Applications can be obtained through scholarship advisors at Alaska's High Schools. Applications also can be picked up at all Spenard Builders Supply stores. For more information, call Pat Anderson at (907) 261-9150.

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### CLASSIFIED

**WANTED:** Five to sixty acres in McCarthy area. Contact Ron at (303)940-6539

**SUBSCRIBE:** Copper Valley Bi-Weekly \$15/yr. HC Box 229, Copper Center AK 99573 (907)822-3927

## McCarthy Creek

Travel a miner's winding trail by day,  
tonight a mountain cabin is our stay.  
The smell of sourdough and burning spruce,  
hungry I am, so quickly my laces I loose.  
Ready to relax, they tell of a real local pleasure,  
these mountains hold more than gold treasure.  
Outside in the snow, a huge tub of metal and weld,  
sleds full of glacial water heated to meld.  
Shaking in the wind, more than my soul I did bare,  
staring from the shadows were rabbits and hares.  
Listen!, warm as I lay. I hear music from near not far,  
'twas that of mandolin and strumming guitar.  
Many voices within, singing aloud,  
perfect harmony with the silence of a drifting cloud.  
In a Christian's robe I follow a snowy path,  
weary bones, sore muscles no more, the healing of a mountain bath.  
Nestled in comfort, blankets and quilts,  
a "happy cabin" the Pilgrims built.  
Never did I toss or turn, not restless as I slept,  
cradled in the Wrangell Mountains, God had us kept.  
While dreaming of big white rams, behind their hills the moon had sunk,  
a brother, my twin, same dream, next bunk.  
Although it was still dark, the dogs gave warning,  
someone was up, it was early morning.  
Startled, confused., from my bed I was leaven,  
one look from my window, I could see I was in "Hillbilly Heaven!"

*Carl & Dave Felts*

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"Some people, even in my own country, look at the riot of experiment that is the free market and see only waste. What of all the entrepreneurs that fail? Well, many do, particularly the successful ones; often several times. And if you ask them the secret of their success, they'll tell you it's all that they learned in their struggles along the way; yes, it's what they learned from failing. Like an athlete in competition or a scholar in pursuit of the truth, experience is the greatest teacher. And that's why it's so hard for government planners, no matter how sophisticated, to ever substitute for millions of individuals working night and day to make their dreams come true." — Ronald Reagan

# THE CHITINA LEADER

## March 1912 April

### CHITINA LOCAL NEWS

Tom Holland left for Slate Creek with several months' supplies and will spend the summer there.

John McCrary has purchased a lot here and is putting up a house and barn for his use on his regular trips to Chitina.

Word has been received that Charlie Schelly, known all over this country as a freighter, accidentally shot himself while out hunting. He was at Wortman's on the Valdez Trail with an outfit for the interior. Those who know him will be sorry to learn of his death.

Preparations are now under way for flooding the lake that the skaters may enjoy some sport before the spring weather breaks up the ice.

During the months of January and February the freight received at Chitina included 62 horses and mules, 625 cases of eggs, 37 tons of fresh meat, 94 half-barrels of beer, 100 cases of beer, 5 barrels of whiskey, 77 cases of whiskey.

Jimmy Dennis, tramway foreman, has a new system of ptarmigan hunting. Upon seeing a bunch of ptarmigan anywhere near the tramway, he carefully makes a detour to a

position from which he may frighten the birds into flying toward the tramline. Here the frightened birds fly with considerable force against some of the numerous cables and a number usually fall to the ground, stunned, to be picked up by this 20th century Nimrod. Occasionally the birds fly in the wrong direction, so this system isn't exactly infallible.

### ACTIVITY AT KENNECOTT MINE AND McCARTHY

McCARTHY, March 1,  
1912

Yesterday witnessed the closing of the banner month of the year at the great Bonanza Copper Mine. The product of the mine for the month of February, valuing copper at prices now quoted, has considerably exceeded one-half million dollars, a fact which must be very encouraging to the owners and which ought to make the cynics feel as cheap as "thirty cents." The beautiful weather we have been enjoying may have had a little something to do with rushing outside work, but the greatest factor, apart from the continuing richness of the ore, has been the splendid organization now so admirably perfected.

The genial superintendent, Mr. W. H. Seagrave, has his work well in hand and the visitor notes the uni-

form activity throughout the different departments. The number of men employed radiated in the neighborhood of 150, a good number of whom are employed at outside work.

The big crushing plant, it is expected, will be completed in less than ninety days and will be in charge of Mr. John Cox, a celebrated metallurgist, late of Ely, Nevada.

It is estimated that the donkey engine will reach the top of the mountain in about 30 days. For nearly four and a half months this machinery has been slowly moving up the mountain slopes, and is now past any dangers from snowslides. With the exception of hauling the machinery for the steamboat Chitina over from Valdez, a few years ago, this moving the donkey engine and accompanying machinery up Bonanza Mountain is perhaps the greatest piece of engineering accomplished in Alaska. The engine will be used in conjunction with a large scraper to load the cars at the big slide where untold millions await the rock crushers.

Two more of the claims owned by the company are to be opened up soon. They are the Jumbo, about a mile and a half from the Bonanza, and the Erie, which lays about five miles distant, and both of which are within the limits of the Bonanza zone.

Freight is now being rushed to these claims with double-enders sleds. A number of Fagenberg's teams are engaged in the work. The Jumbo already has a 60-foot shaft which is said to be in high grade ore, and the Erie, too, gives much promise.

Charley David, who superintends the company's logging camp down at the Lackina, will shortly have charge of the outside work around the property. He has already delivered half a million feet of logs at the railway track where a crew will be kept large enough to load the cars. The company was fortunate in securing some fine timber for their mill use this season.

Hundreds upon hundreds of ptarmigan flew down from the summits yesterday to the low timbered flats. This migration means (so old timers say) a big storm in the near future.

Fred Tracy, foreman for George Max Esterly, is busy getting stock and sleds ready for freighting in more hydraulic supplies.

Mr. Latin, the obliging station agent at McCarthy is getting a fine collection of ores typical of the district. Newcomers will be delighted and it will be an excellent advertisement.

KENNECOTT, Feb. 26,  
1912

Excellent progress is being made moving the heavy machinery from the lower camp to the mine. This has proved a large undertaking this winter and has kept a force of from eight to ten men busy for several months. Among the machinery being moved is a large-size donkey engine. In order to move this expeditiously over snow drifts 18 to 20 feet in depth, it was found necessary to construct a sled of three-eighths inch iron, eight feet wide by sixteen feet in length, with the front end turned up in the shape of a toboggan. The donkey engine rests on this and uses its own steam for hauling itself and the balance of the machinery up. The toboggan sled is very successful in supporting the weight of the engine over the deep snow.

The sawmill, under the capable supervision of H. J. Hunt, is running steadily. Friday broke all previous records for cutting, the tally sheets showing 9,500 feet for that day. The native spruce makes a good lumber, taking an excellent finish and the interior woodwork for buildings at Kennecott would prove a revelation to Puget Sound lumbermen.

Trail-breaking to the Jumbo Mine, a nearby property of the Kennecott Mines Company, is progressing rapidly and all indications point to a season of intense activity in the vicinity.

#### **FERRY ACROSS THE NIZINA**

B. B. Tibbs and Al Brimmer went up to McCarthy recently and from there they will go to the Nizina River, where they will put in a ferry a short distance above the old ford at Porphyry Point. The river is fairly well-con-

fined at this point, making it a practicable location for a ferry. It is on the direct route from McCarthy to Dan, Young and Chititu creeks, and the upper Nizina country. The many people who have occasion to cross the Nizina during the summer will be glad to know that it will be relieved of some of the discomfort and danger. If a bridge is possible at this point, which is on a direct route to the creeks, it would be a much preferable location to the one several miles down, to which a trail was cut last fall in the hope that the Alaska Road Commission would put a bridge in there this summer.

March 1

#### **CHITINA LOCAL NEWS**

Horses and rigs are plentiful in Chitina this spring, and can be obtained from \$75 to \$200.

It is estimated that there are 100 dogs in Chitina having a tractive power ranging from two to 99 pounds, or an average of about 35 pounds.

John McCrary contemplates bringing his sawmill down from Copper Center and cutting some native lumber which he will put on the market.

March 9

#### **INTERIOR NEWS**

#### **KENNECOTT, March 11**

Guy Cordimer is actively engaged in the organization of the Kennecott Rifle Club. He holds a dozen medals for marksmanship, won in tournaments in Minnesota and Washington and is an enthusiastic sportsman. As skiing and shooting are about the only winter amusements in this vicinity, it is expected that the rifle club will prove a great success.

March 16

#### **CRUSHED IN SNOWSLIDE**

#### **Kennecott, March 27**

Early Sunday morning Tim Erickson, on snowshoes, and Joe Swanson, on skis, left the Bonanza Mine for Kennecott. The morning was mild and threatened rain, making the narrow trail particularly dangerous from slides. All went well, however, until the men reached a point on the trail about a quarter of a mile above the tram line angle station. Here they were caught in a snow slide and both men were instantly swept off their feet and buried. After being carried several hundred feet by the force of the slide, Swanson succeeded in extricating himself, none the worse for his experience. Upon looking around for his companion, who was a hundred feet behind him when the slide occurred, he found him nowhere in sight, and had no idea in which direction the slide had carried him. The tragedy had been witnessed by the men stationed at the angle station, and word was immediately telephoned to both camps, with the result that between forty and fifty men were soon at work with rods and shovels endeavoring to locate the missing man. Owing to the large extent of the surface the slide had spread over, this was slow work, and the morning dragged by without finding him. Early in the afternoon one of the snowshoes belonging to the unfortunate man was located and several hours later on the opposite side of the slide, covered by barely three feet of snow and within a dozen feet of the edge of the path of the slide and safety, was found the body of Tim Erickson. The body was brought to Kenne-

cott and will be taken to Cordova by his brother, who arrived here the evening before the sad accident.

March 30

#### **HAPPENINGS AT CHITINA**

Fred M. Schaupp, the local hardware man, intends to have the city water works in operation soon. With this warm weather there is nothing to prevent its operation unless it is the exorbitant license required for supplying water for sale. At present the water is being carried by hand from the well dug by the railway company.

April 20

#### **CHITINA LOCAL NEWS**

Tim Eckstrom and John Corser are putting up mile posts and bridge signs on the Chitina branch. Tim has just returned to Chitina after being away nearly two years. He will be welcomed by the old-timers who all know him well.

#### **KENNECOTT NOTES**

#### **KENNECOTT, April 24.**

Miss Dora Keen, of Philadelphia, left here at 2 a.m. on Monday on a second attempt to scale Mount Blackburn. John Barrett, of McCarthy, is head guide, together with eight men and two strong dog teams, which comprise the whole party. Miss Keen is confident of success this year. She was the guest of Mrs. Seagrave during her two days stay here.

April 27

# When Biologists Stocked Alaska with Wolves

**T**he killing of wolves to boost moose and caribou populations in Alaska is making headlines all over the country. Back in 1960, a government program to stock an Alaska island with wolves received less attention.

Alaska had been a state for one year when its department of fish and game conducted a wolf-planting experiment on Coronation Island in southeast Alaska. At the time, the remote 45-square-mile island exposed to the open Pacific had a high density of blacktailed deer and no wolves. In 1960, biologists from Fish and Game released two pairs of wolves on the island.

The experiment was the only wolf-stocking effort undertaken in Alaska and probably the whole world at that time, said Dave Klein, a professor emeritus with the University of Alaska's Institute of Arctic Biology. Klein, who had studied deer on the island for his PhD thesis, helped the state make the decision to introduce wolves to Coronation Island.

"Alaska had just become a state and you had a brand new department of fish and game staffed with young biologists who wanted to do things based on biology rather than a mix of politics and science. It'd be much more difficult to do it now."

In 1960, Fish and Game biologists released two male and two female wolves at Egg Harbor on

Coronation Island. Before they left, the researchers shot five deer to provide food for the wolves.

Biologist Paul Garceau visited the island in May 1961 and found tracks, deer remains, and wolf seats containing deer hair and bones, showing that the wolves had adapted to life on the island. Two months later, a commercial fisherman shot the two adult female wolves, but Garceau saw tracks of wolf pups on the island when he returned later that summer. The females had given birth before they died, and the pups had survived.

In 1964, Alaska Department of Fish and Game biologist Harry Merriam explored the island for eight days and saw 11 adult wolves and the tracks of two pups. He estimated that at least 13 wolves lived on the island and three litters of young had been born since the first wolves arrived.

The following summer, in 1965, Merriam spent 10 days on the island, seeing wolf tracks on all the beaches. He saw no sign of deer on the north side of the island, but found deer tracks on the steep slopes of the island's south side, where rough terrain and dense brush may have provided the best chance to escape wolves.

In February 1966, Merriam saw only three wolves on the island, and their tracks suggested they were the only wolves left. He examined more than 100 wolf seats; six of those

contained wolf remains only, suggesting the animals had resorted to cannibalism. Deer remains in the seats were less than one half of the previous spring; fragments of birds, seals, sea creatures and small mammals constituted the rest.

In August of 1966, Merriam and his partners collected seven wolf seats, compared to 201 one year before. They found just three sets of fresh deer tracks. By 1968, one wolf remained on the island. Biologists who inventoried the island's animals in 1983 found no evidence of wolves, but the deer were once again plentiful.

Alaska's only wolf-stocking experiment taught biologists the importance of habitat size. They concluded that a 45-square mile island was too small for both deer and wolves. The study also showed that a lot of factors play into the dynamics of a wild animal population, which is a point Klein said many people miss in current arguments about wolf control.

"The relationship between wolves and their prey is very complex," he said. "Sometimes wolves are the key predators of caribou or moose, sometimes bears. Sometimes severe weather is the main factor, sometimes food availability."

"The main problem with these kinds of controversies is people are unwilling to look at the complexity of the ecosystems involved. Things are not simple in nature."

*This column is provided as a public service by the Geophysical Institute, University of Alaska Fairbanks, in cooperation with the UAF research community. Ned Rozell is a science writer at the institute. He can be reached by e-mail at [nrozell@gi.alaska.edu](mailto:nrozell@gi.alaska.edu).*

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**"Democratic governments are not immune from the forces of history that overthrew Soviet tyranny. All governments overreach and no government is permanent. So let us fear government but not exaggerate its powers. It can cause enormous damage and it must always be fought. But in this struggle, we are on the right side of history. The power of human choice, aided by the logic of economics and the laws that operate without any bureaucrat's permission, are our source of hope for the future." — Lew Rockwell**

# Book Review: Cades Cove:

**The Life and Death of a Southern Appalachian Community, 1818-1937  
by Durwood Dunn, University of Tennessee Press, 1988**

BY ERICH VEYHL

CONCORD, MA AND TRESCOTT, ME

I highly recommend *Cades Cove*, which I had just finished reading when I saw it cited in *Is There a Pattern?*, an editorial on the frightening history of abuse by the National Park Service, in the January 2004 *Wrangell St. Elias News*.

([WWW.MCCARTHY-KENNICOTT.COM/JF2004/PAGE5.HTML](http://WWW.MCCARTHY-KENNICOTT.COM/JF2004/PAGE5.HTML))

*Cades Cove* is extremely well written and interesting. It is objective and well-documented, including references to extensive private ancestral records and photos in the possession of the author, Durwood Dunn, Chair of the History Department at Tennessee Wesleyan College.

*Cades Cove* describes the once vibrant rural community of Cades Cove in eastern Tennessee: daily life, social values and customs, the economy, politics—and destruction by the National Park Service. It describes the entire lifespan of the community, from the first adventurous pioneer settlers in the early 1800's, to the trauma and atrocities of the Civil War (eastern Tennessee was forced to secede but was anti-slavery), to the progressive cultural and economic growth in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, to the forced relocations for a National Park takeover in the 1920's and 30's.

Dunn concludes with a full chapter on the atrocity of the forced displacement of about 600 people for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The account is unfortunately all too familiar to those who have studied (or lived through) the sordid politics of how National Parks are arrogantly created and run at the expense of local people

and private property rights from Alaska to the east coast up to the present day.

Dunn graphically describes the impact of the takeover on the people of Cades Cove, including their “dread and apprehension” and “pervasive feeling of helplessness in light of the coercive power of eminent domain.” He shows how they were lulled into submission by cynical, dishonest, wealthy “benefactors” and politicians who promised during the campaign for the park that the people would reap great benefits and would not be forced out.

For example, the *Knoxville Journal* reported on May 9, 1926, “Senator L. D. Tyson today issued a statement to allay the fears of those residing in the area to be included in the Great Smokies park that their homes may be taken from them. Nothing of the kind will happen, the senator said. The bill which has been introduced for this proposed park in the senate and house carries no authority whatever to move anyone, and there is no authority whatever for buying any land or of doing anything in regard to the land except to receive it as a donation. No person within the boundary limits so far as any authority is contained in this bill, is compelled to move or in any way to be disturbed, nor their land taken over under this bill. I do not understand how such a rumor could have gotten out.”

Governor Austin Peay told hundreds of frightened citizens at a meeting in 1926, “as long as I am a member of the Park Commission there will be no condemnation of their homes.” Such an eviction “for the pleasure and profit of the rest of

the state would be a blot upon the state that the barbarism of the Huns could not match.”

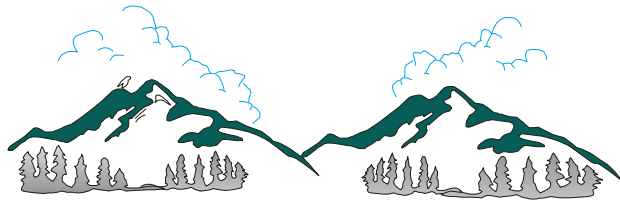
And it was. The Federal law did not include condemnation power for acquisition, but the state passed a law that did. No matter what they promise to divert attention from their goals, the park power seekers always leave themselves the authority to take over.

Dunn shows how and why the heroic attempts of the people to save themselves were too late, doomed to failure once the legal authority of the park was established. The Federal legislation allowed land to be accepted only by donation — a \$5,000,000 Rockefeller “donation” to the Park Campaign in 1928 and state condemnation power was used to take the community and the timber lands, with little going to the small home and farm owners.

Dunn writes:

“In December 1935 the twenty-one remaining families living in the cove received notice that they must vacate their property by January 1, 1936. Although some twelve families would eventually be allowed to continue living on a yearly lease in the cove, the departing families were bitter about the destruction of their community. One such leaseholder, Kermit Caughron, recalled in 1984 that the seizure of their land and homes ‘sent a lot of people in their 60’s and 70’s to their graves.’ The land remained, Caughron argued, but in the death of the community he ‘lost a way of life and much freedom.’”

“Strange, isn't it? While we spend men and money to fight for freedom in other lands, the courts and Congress continue to nibble away at it here at home.” — Lyn Nofziger



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There once was a place much like Camelot  
Where mines of copper gave it it's worth

But pure gold was in the hearts of those who dwelt  
In this bit of heaven on earth

A complete little company town-with buildings all red and white  
Where everyone lived as one—with no outside world in sight

Children were taught in the proper way—with education foremost  
With plenty of fun mixed in, and of mischievous pranks to boast

But in November '38 the sad word came—the mines were to close for good  
And those who dwelt scattered far & wide to new homes and livelihood

Time went on - the kids grew up, now with kids of their own  
But always remembered in a corner of their hearts—this dear little town

A reunion of those Kennecott Kids brought them back to relive once more  
The stories of times once spent of life some 60 years before

They walked again those same old streets - where once their young feet trod  
And the spirit of loved ones passed, was there—hallowed by God

These two little kids—whose lives were shared them - in play and fun  
In this place full of love—the spark was lit and a life together begun

Now they've come full circle with their twilight years to be spent  
Soul mates together again—with shared love & memories—they'll be content

So blessing on you, you dear little place - the one of their birth  
Where you taught us so well—a place full of love—a bit of heaven on earth

With your beauty of mountains and glacier so wide  
"I'm a Kennecott Kid" they say with pride



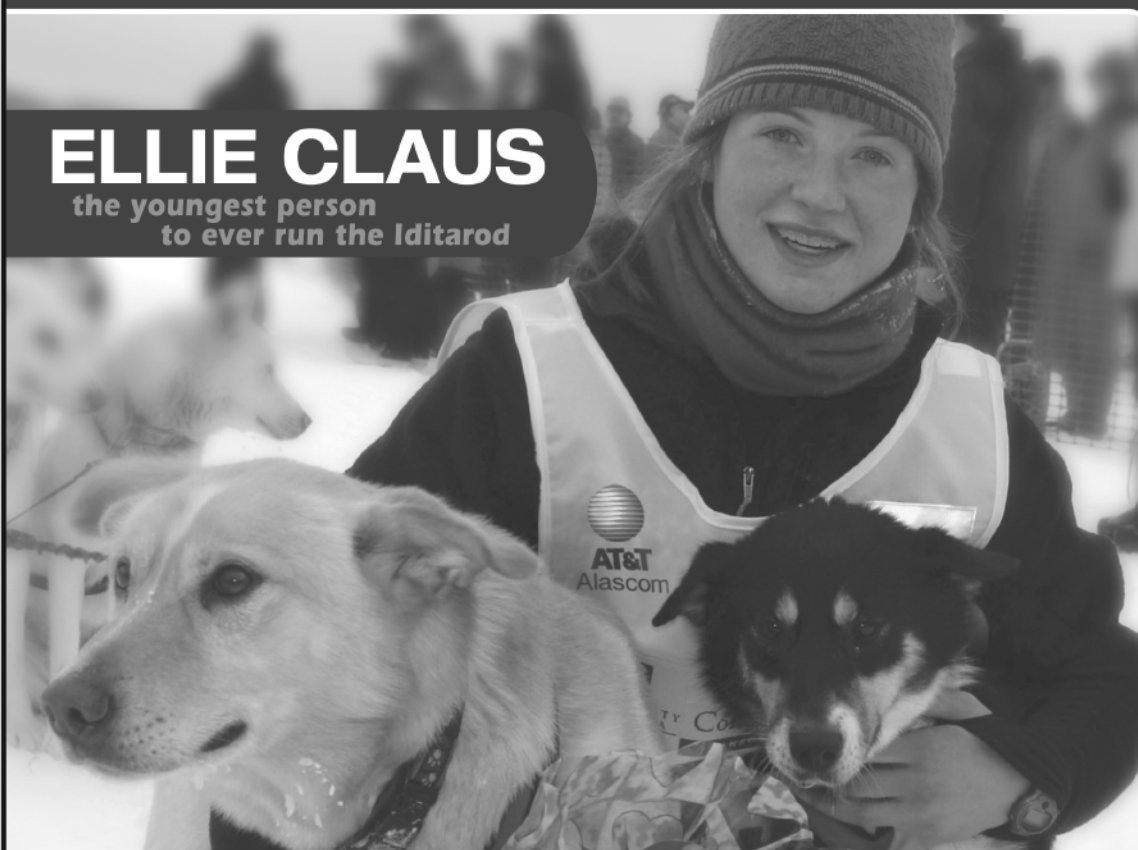
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**AT&T Alascom wishes this young musher the best of luck on her journey.**



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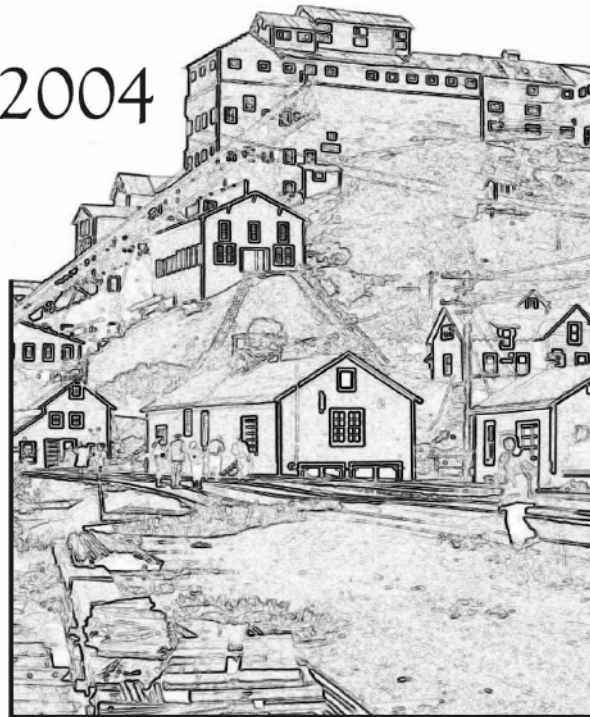
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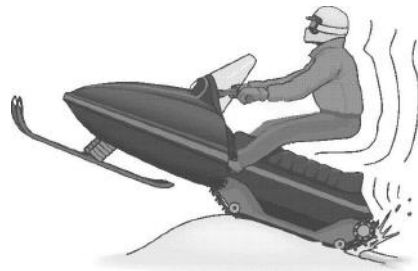
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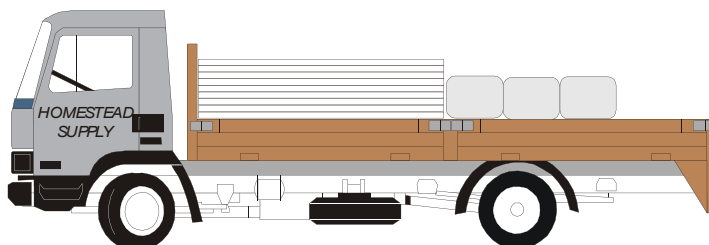
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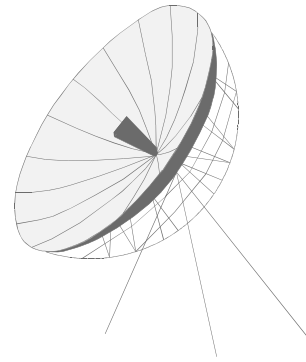


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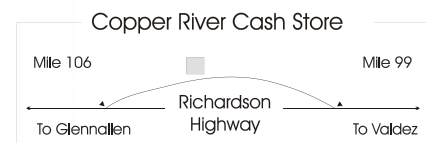
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# Cooking with Peggy

BY PEGGY GUNTIS

Jim and I had such a pleasant surprise a week or so ago. A woman called, identifying herself as Lynn Thomas from Silver Lake (mile 11 of the McCarthy Road), inviting Jim and I to an Alaskan potluck being held in Tucson. Another Silver Lake area resident, Pauline Johnson, having seen my name on the cooking page of *WSEN*, and reading that Jim and I spent part of the year in Tucson, had looked up my phone number and then passed on her information to Lynn (also a *WSEN* subscriber). We joined these folks and their 30 or 40 friends at their annual potluck and had a wonderful time! The food was great and we met people from Wasilla, North Pole, Fairbanks and so many other places.

Lynn and Tom can expect a Caribou Clatter from us this summer letting them know Jim and I are "dropping by." While chatting, Lynn and I discovered that we both love to read mysteries. Between cooking and reading, my summer flies by and I ALWAYS run out of books as I often run out of cooking ingredients. Which brings me to the subject of this month's cooking column — substitutions for those missing ingredients.

I've gathered these substitutions from various cookbooks but haven't had to try them all yet. Once Jim and I reach our McCarthy home, the nearest grocery store is 60 miles away over a road that could take us 3 hours to travel. Having this information at my finger tips is a must in this remote location. Of course, the original ingredient is always the best, but in a pinch, you can use as a substitute for:

1 tsp. Apple Pie Spice = ½ tsp. cinnamon and ¼ tsp. nutmeg, 1/8 tsp. allspice, and dash of cloves or ginger

1 tsp. Allspice = 1 tsp. cinnamon, ¼ tsp. nutmeg plus 1/8 tsp. cardamon

1 cup Bread Crumbs = ¾ cup cracker crumbs

1 cup Butter = 1 cup shortening plus 6 tsp. water and ¼ tsp. salt

1 tsp. Baking Powder = ¼ tsp. baking soda plus ½ tsp. cream of tartar

1 sq. Unsweetened Chocolate (1 oz.) = 3 or 4 Tablespoons (T) cocoa and ½ T. (1 ½ tsp.) fat. (Also found a source that said to add 1 T. of cooking oil or melted shortening to the cocoa.)

1 cup Dark Corn Syrup = ¾ cup light corn syrup plus ¼ cup molasses

1 cup Light Corn Syrup = 1 cup granulated sugar plus ¼ cup water

1 tablespoon Cornstarch (for thickening) = 2 tablespoons flour

1 tablespoon Cajun seasoning = ½ tsp. white pepper, ½ tsp. garlic powder, ½ tsp. onion powder, ½ tsp. ground red pepper, ½ tsp. paprika and ½ tsp. black pepper

1 cup Cake Flour = 1 cup minus 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour

1 cup Self-Rising Flour = 1 cup all-purpose plus 1 tsp. baking powder, ½ tsp. salt and ¼ tsp. baking soda

1 clove Garlic = 1/8 tsp. garlic powder

1 tsp. Garlic Salt = 1/8 tsp. garlic powder and 7/8 tsp. salt

1 tsp. Ginger (fresh grated) = ¼ ground ginger

1 cup Honey = 1 ¼ cup sugar plus ¼ cup water

1 tsp. Lemon Juice = ¼ tsp. cider vinegar

1 tsp. Lemon Peel = ½ tsp. lemon extract

1 (7 oz.) jar Marshmallow Cream = 1 (16 oz.) pkg. Marshmal-

lows melted plus 3 ½ tablespoons light corn syrup

1 cup Molasses = 1 cup honey

1 tsp. Dry Mustard = 1 tablespoon prepared mustard (in cooked mixtures)

1 tablespoon Prepared Mustard = ½ tsp. dry mustard plus 2 tsp. vinegar

1 cup Whole Milk = ½ cup unsweetened evaporated milk plus ½ cup water OR 4 tablespoons powdered milk plus 1 cup water

1 cup Heavy Cream (not for whipping) = ¾ cup whole milk plus 1/3 cup melted butter

1 cup Skim Milk = ½ cup evaporated skim milk plus ½ cup water

1 cup Light Cream or Half and Half = 1 tablespoon melted butter or margarine plus enough whole milk to make 1 cup

1 cup Buttermilk = 1 tsp. lemon juice or vinegar plus enough milk to measure 1 cup. Let it stand 5 minutes before using. You can also use 1 cup plain yogurt.

½ cup chopped Onion = 2 tablespoons dried minced onion or ½ tsp. onion powder

1 cup Pecans = 1 cup regular oats toasted (in baked projects)

1 tsp. Pumpkin Pie Spice = ½ tsp. cinnamon, ¼ tsp. ginger, 1/8 tsp. allspice plus 1/9 tsp. nutmeg

3 tablespoons chopped Sweet Red Pepper = 2 tablespoons chopped pimento

1 cup Granulated Sugar = 1 cup packed brown sugar OR 2 cups sifted powdered sugar OR 1 cup molasses OR honey plus ½ tsp. baking soda (reduce liquid by boiling to ¼ cup)

1 cup packed Brown Sugar = 1 cup granulated sugar plus 2 tablespoons molasses (some sources said only ½ tablespoon molasses so it's your guess!!)

3 tablespoons chopped Shallots  
= 2 tablespoons chopped onion plus  
1 tablespoon chopped garlic

1 cup Sour Cream = 1 cup yo-  
gurt plus 3 tablespoons melted but-  
ter OR 1 cup yogurt plus 1  
tablespoon cornstarch

1 cup Tomato Juice = ½ cup  
tomato sauce plus ½ cup water

2 cup Tomato Sauce = ¾ cup  
tomato paste plus 1 cup water

½ cup Balsamic Vinegar = ½  
cup red wine vinegar (slight flavor  
difference)

1 cup Red Wine (this is for  
cooking because there is NO substi-  
tute for it if you are drinking it!) =  
1 cup beef or chicken broth or cran-  
berry juice in desserts

1 cup White Wine = 1 cup  
chicken broth in savory recipes OR  
apple juice OR white grape juice in  
desserts

1 cup Plain Yogurt = 1 cup but-  
termilk

---

I am writing about the situation  
at "Sportsmens' Paradise" in Alaska.

I am a former outfitter, sports-  
man, lover of nature and environ-  
mental protector. I am a 69 year old  
Canadian, living in northern Sas-  
katchewan, an area of our shared  
continent that has some 100,000  
lakes of pristine beauty and the  
massive Churchill River chain that  
is one of our continent's remaining  
unpolluted source of fresh water.

I have witnessed the destruction  
of many fine "sportsmens'  
paradise(s)" here by industry, by  
mining, and, indeed, by park devel-  
opment that developed roads which  
ultimately led to roads to resources.  
If you look at a map of northern Sas-  
katchewan, you will see the Prince  
Albert National Park that now rises  
to some 30,000 people on a summer  
weekday. It has some 200 perma-  
nent employees there in winter.

Another 100 miles north, you  
will see Lac La Ronge, once a fish-  
ing paradise with 25-100 pound  
Lake Trout, 7 pound Walleye and  
20-30 pound Northerns. The paved  
road to that location was designed  
to provide for the lumber industry—

to cut the forest down for a 1000  
ton mill in Prince Albert.

You might look up the story of  
Grey Owl, an Englishman named  
Archie Delaney, who, in the 1930's  
lived in the National Park men-  
tioned, even before it was made a  
Park. He wrote extensively of the  
importance of being in tune with  
nature.

These fishing and hunting areas  
have been transformed and the ani-  
mals, the fish, the birds, the flora  
and the fauna---their existence is in  
severe jeopardy. This is called  
"progress!"

I read about the gross treat-  
ment of Doug and Judy Frederick in  
Alaska. I have every right to com-  
ment as we are all citizens of this  
continent, indeed this earth. I see  
the governments establishing parks  
without consideration to all the im-  
plications. Your government, for  
example, is talking of the massive  
development of oil resources, within  
and without your parks. When they  
are done with that, what will you do  
with the mess, the new Valdez?

The Outfitters like the Freder-  
icks, are the true conservationists  
and for the National Park Service to  
be initiating such aggressive action  
against them is not only inhumane,  
it is downright fraudulent—a means  
to hide their own agenda.

Wherever this situation may  
lead, the Parks people are surely  
confiscating the Frederick's liveli-  
hood. They cannot do this, surely,  
without compensation. This entire  
exercise smells of bureaucratic bun-  
gling, surely.

Not only are we looking at the  
rape of nature, we are witnessing  
the rape of ideology as practiced by  
the Fredericks.

Shame on the National Parks  
Service.

Rodney G. Thomson  
678-21st Street East  
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Phone 306 763-3350

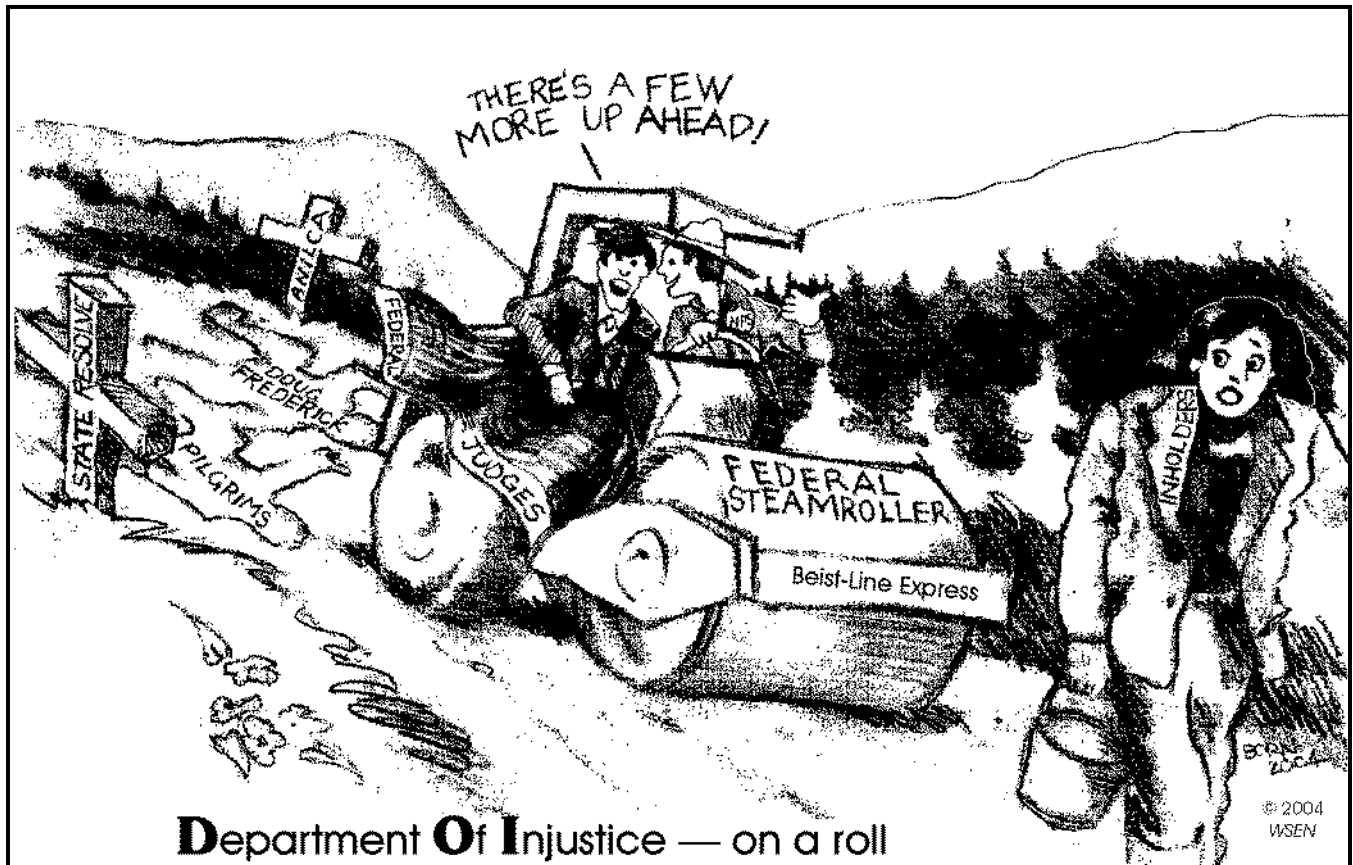
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*"Those who want to take our money and gain power over us have discovered the magic formula: Get us envious or angry at others and we will surrender, in installments, not only our money but our freedom. The most successful dictators of the 20th century — Hitler, Lenin, Stalin, Mao — all used this formula and now class warfare politicians here are doing the same." —Thomas Sowell*

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*"Understanding is the reward of faith. Therefore seek not to understand that you may believe, but believe that you may understand." --St. Augustine*

# FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION



tions of a trail, after attending a meeting wherein the National Park Service hid their intent to close down these trails under the pretext of finding a solution to repair the trail. The NPS said they had no funds to bring about the needed upkeep of these trails.

Doug provided a solution. But Doug was not the only person involved, yet he stands alone...solely accused. Why was he singled out?

More important, at what price Paradise? His family heritage is being ripped away from him and his wife. The costs for running the lodge, legal bills, traveling back and forth to Anchorage for any number of legal meetings and court proceedings, unjust fines leveled at him, the tragic loss of his daughter, the loss of business due to lack of access...at what price Paradise?

Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness...in one way or another, all of these have been stolen from Doug and Judy Fredrick, and I submit to all persons willing to take an honest look at the history of this case, as well as the glaring historic evidence of the NPS's acting out against innocent people...what is happening against Doug and Judy is not reasonable by any stretch of the imagination.

We are content to ignore the battles around us as long as they do not cross into our personal territories, our lives...we do not want to expend the effort to cry "FOUL!" when we are not the subjects. Nazi Germany had the same mind set... "oh, it is not I being brutalized and destroyed." The heartbreak of this significant repeated "time gone by" is that it is also today...

The truth, it is not I being brutalized and destroyed...but to whom will I turn when it is decided that "the group" I belong to is next? By then, it is quite possible you will all be gone...swallowed up by someone's twisted idea that they need more land in "their" National Park.

Some of you will say I am over dramatizing...to you I say, "If you call, I pray others will not do what you are doing...nothing."

So...at what price "Paradise?" Ask Doug and Judy.

A True Friend of the Land,  
P Dennis Newsom  
(continued on page 33)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR  
(continued from page 34)  
Editor:

# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WSEN:

Great reporting. Keep up the great work. Sign me up for two more years and keep the change. Honest reporting of facts is refreshing compared to the *Anchorage Daily News* articles regarding McCarthy.

You take first place!

Thanks,

Larry Dietrick

---

Reference: Wrangell-St. Elias Story: Park Service vs. Private Property

The *Washington Post* article on the standoff between the Pilgrim Family and the National Park Service was interesting and illustrates one example of the campaign tactics used by the National Park Service against private inholders. Since the establishment of the Wrangell-St. Elias Park (WRST) in 1980 under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), the NPS has been gradually implementing a long range campaign against inholders, and have taken their Congressional Charter to mean that the Park will be there forever, time is on their side, and they will outlast the transient resistance of inholders to their goal of total control.

In order to understand how wrong the NPS is in their efforts to disenfranchise the private inholders, one must understand that the inholdings were well established long before this area was declared a national park under ANILCA. Since the creation of WRST, the NPS has been waging a long-term, stealth war against private inholders with the goal of eliminating the possibility of resource development and private enterprise inside the park boundaries. Most small inholdings are mining claims established under

the Mining Law of 1870. The NPS has an annual program using high-priced third party consultants to invalidate these mining claims and confiscate the land.

A fraud on a grand scale has been perpetrated by the NPS on Ahtna, Inc., one of Alaska's Regional Native Corporations established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) in 1971. This corporation made land selections authorized under ANCSA prior to ANILCA. Most of their land selections were based on historical use areas within their region, and many were targeted toward known mineral resource occurrences which would provide future economic development opportunities to this very poor region.

ANILCA then created WRST in 1980, and enclosed about 1 million acres of Ahtna land selections, many of which whose title had already been conveyed to Ahtna. Since ANILCA, the NPS has systematically blocked access and stymied Ahtna's attempts to a access, assess, and develop their land which is within park boundaries. Although the NPS will state that there are rules for mining in the park, the hurdles to overcome are so great as to make it impossible for Ahtna to attract private mining company capital to invest inside park boundaries. The NPS has reached out in recent years to work with Ahtna in some minor ways such as contracting the building of the new park headquarters to an Ahtna subsidiary, but they did so in a non-generous manner so that Ahtna profited little, if at all, from the enterprise.

The entire experience of ANILCA has resulting in a "taking" of Ahtna's resources and economic opportunities by the actions of the National Park Service. In a similar way, but on a smaller scale, the NPS

has used its muscle to control and limit access and expropriate legitimate mining claims of private holders who had the misfortune of finding themselves within the ANILCA boundaries.

This is a scandal of the first order in what we call "the land of the free," and would justify Congressional action to right the wrongs perpetrated in the name of ANILCA by the NPS against private property owners.

Very truly yours,

Wesley P. Nason

Editor:

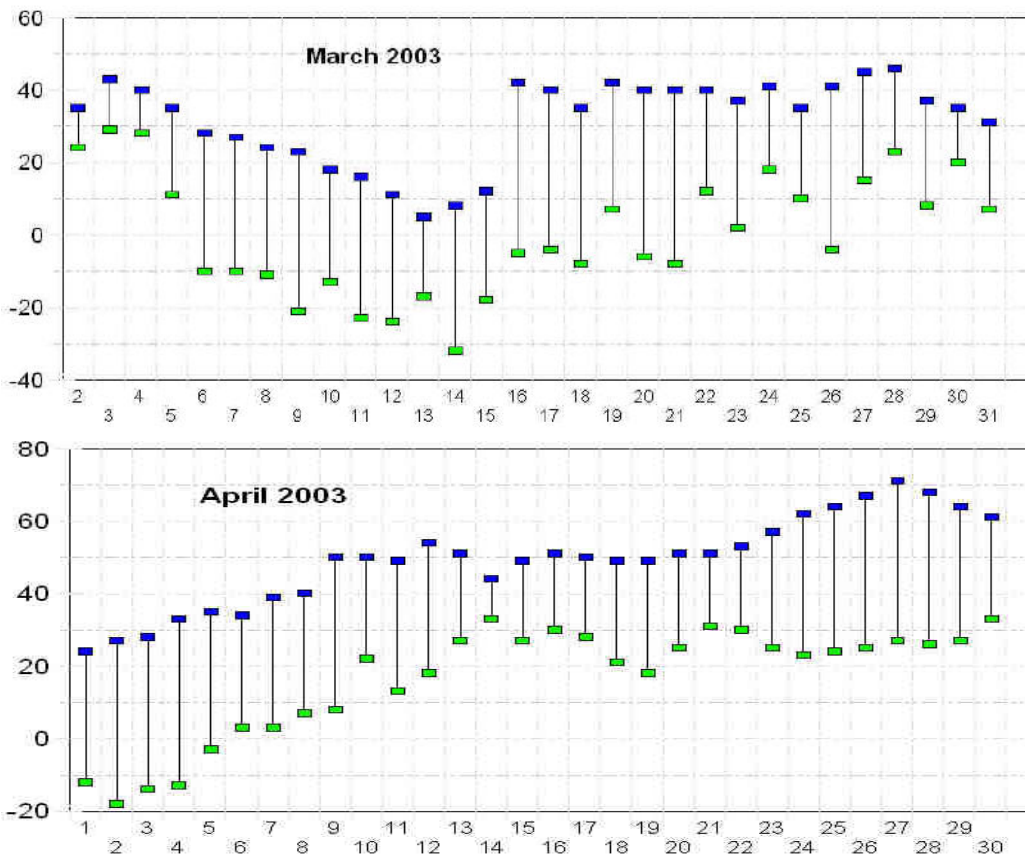
~~You don't see much in the popular press about Doug Fredrick, his wife Judy, or of the multiple tragedies they have been forced to endure over the past year.~~

Doug had the great misfortune to own a piece of property that later became surrounded by National Park Service, and had the audacity to want to enjoy access to his land. He owns Sportsman Paradise; a small fishing resort enjoyed by serious sports fisherman and not so serious cribbage players. The lodge basks in the Alaskan hospitality of the 50's and 60's - where a man's word stood on its own and where the land was fiercely guarded by lovers of the Great Outdoors, which Doug certainly is.

This fabulous Alaskan retreat is the home of both Doug and Judy. It was also home to his daughter, but the Fredrick family lost her when she was on her way back to "Paradise" in the family truck, in order for Doug to drive into Anchorage and answer a charge filed against him by the NPS, and the vehicle crashed...her boy friend was also killed. The charge? His placing wooden pallets over damaged por-

(continued on page 34)

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