

Sven Haakanson Jr. Honored

A few short weeks ago, Sven "Fisherman" Haakanson Jr. received an early morning telephone call telling him that he had been selected as one of a handful of people to receive the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship award. Once he realized it wasn't someone playing a practical joke on him, Sven was elated and humbled he had been chosen to receive this incredible honor.

Fisherman is the son of our much-loved late board member, Sven Sr., and brother of current board member Phyllis Clough. If you could have seen Fisherman and a friend performing the Dance of the Seagulls at Sven Sr.'s memorial potlatch in Old Harbor a few years ago, you would understand why he is truly a MacArthur genius! Read more about Fisherman inside this month's Ruralite magazine.

Kivalina Tanks Moved

In a desperate race against Mother Nature, AVEC contractor STG Inc. moved 10 of AVEC's 13 fuel tanks from their precarious location a few feet from the Chukchi Sea to an area 1,000 feet southeast, between two other existing tank farms. This unprecedented action was the only option AVEC had to continue uninterrupted electric service to the community, while avoiding a multimillion dollar potential cleanup cost from losing one or more diesel tanks to the encroaching ocean.

The Northwest Arctic Borough and the city of Kivalina had both declared an ongoing emergency and are seeking assistance from the State of Alaska to cover this cost and significant other costs being incurred by both entities in protecting Kivalina from erosion.

Energy Assistance Now Available

October 1, 2007, marked the beginning of a new year for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance program, better known as LIHEAP. Read about it on page 29 of this month's Ruralite magazine.

Until next time,



Meera Kohler
President & CEO



Meera Kohler, President & CEO

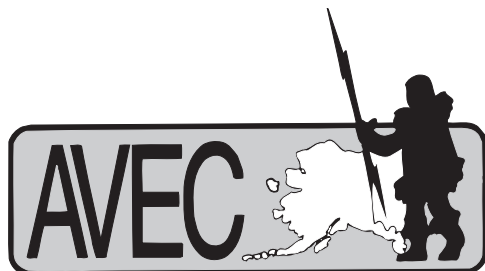
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