

modest home. Experts were retained and the bulk of the money was invested in various business enterprises. For example, the Tyoneks purchased control of the Braund Construction Company. They substantially expanded the operations of this company, and while the company is in business to earn a profit, it also contributes much to the improvement of Native life. At present Braund is constructing homes in Bethel (one of the poorer Native villages) under a program of the Department of Housing and Urban Affairs, and, as part of this project, it is utilizing Native labor and training Native people in skilled construction trades.

The Tyoneks have also gone into the real estate business in a large way. They bought both improved and unimproved property in Anchorage and constructed, among other things, one of the city's most attractive commercial developments, the two Kaloa Buildings. The tenants in these buildings include the Bureau of Indian Affairs, IBM and AFN.

Other enterprises of the Tyoneks include: the Anchorage Water and Sewer Company, which handles all water and sewer services in the area surrounding Anchorage; a major local title company; a charter airline; and local electricity generation and distribution facilities. All of the Tyonek undertakings have been financially successful.