

# A-67 Village To Employ NYC Native Youths

Thirty Neighborhood Youth Corps workers and many older Native people from all over the State are being hired to man the A-67 Native Village, reports State Representative John Sackett, the manager of the Village.

Sackett says the Village will be active at all times and will be "very, very authentic." The Native employees will demonstrate Eskimo and Indian arts and games, act as clerks in the arts and crafts store, and guide tourists on the site.

The A-67 Native Village will feature a smokehouse drying salmon, an Eskimo and Indian burial ground, Native houses and meeting halls around a central fireplace, and stickdance poles around

(Continued on Page 8)

# A-67 Village . . .

(Continued from Page 2)

that fireplace.

Activities on display at the Village will include a blanket toss, skin sewing, slipper making, kayak demonstrations, reindeer herding, umiak rides, carvers, dances, and story telling.

Sackett has made trips to both the North Coast and the Interior of Alaska to buy arts and crafts, reindeer, seal-skins, fish nets, dried slamon, arts and crafts, and other items to depict life in the rural areas of Alaska.

Many towns and individuals have loaned or donated items—Barrow donated thousands of pounds of whale bone, for instance. Several very old artifacts have been loaned for display, and A-67 is looking for more. These will be protected, and insured, while they are on display.

Sackett said the NYC workers will be given training in their fields. The tourist guides will not only be able to guide people around the site, but will be able to describe the attractions and transportation in their home areas of the State—to encourage tourists to get beyond Fairbanks.

Sales clerks will get training in elementary book-keeping and salesmanship. With over 200,000 tourists expected to be at the site, Sackett expects all the workers to pick up valuable experience for obtaining future jobs.

NYC workers might be hired for other parts of the site, if housing can be arranged for them. The pay for these jobs is not high enough for the workers to compete with tourists for housing, and the Fairbanks Native Association is having trouble obtaining housing for the initial 30 persons.