'On the Road' Personality Visits

By REBECCA WILSON CBS News Correspondent Charles Kuralt was a guest of KFRB Radio and KTVF, Channel 11, this weekend in Fairbanks, to help celebrate the station's 19th anniversary.

Kuralt is the host of "On the

Road" which is seen periodically on the CBS Evening News with Walter Cronkite. The program was designed to capture the unusual stories about unusual people and places. Kuralt prefers this type of reporting because of the freedom it gives him to travel and meet new people.

He and a crew of four travel to all parts of the country in search of the individuality of America. There is no specific format that is followed for the program. Kuralt writes his own script and the filming is, as he puts it, "A little here, a little there and hopefully it all comes together."

"On the Road" looks at a wide variety of people, places and events. In 1972, Kuralt covered the events of the Kennedy-Nixon Campaign for a special "On the Road" assignment.

Kuralt's journeys have taken him to such places as Cumby, Texas, where he learned the art of horse trading, Winston-Salem, N.C., watching bricks made by

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hand by a 92-year-old expert, and Taku Harbor, Alaska, where a wilderness philosopher told of his fears of losing his solitude in the midst of Alaska's tremendous population growth.

At the press conference held last Friday, a reporter tipped-off Kuralt to a singing dog named Herman at the Chatanika Lodge, where he hoped to investigate before leaving Alaska.

Kuralt would like to do a story on Alaska. "Not on the pipeline, or the capitol move," he said, "But on the people and the land."

He has visited several of the bush villages and even has film of Willie Hensley campaigning down the road and knocking on doors.

Kuralt's last trip to Alaska was in 1967 and he was amazed that the population has grown so considerably.

Whether for a news story or a vacation, Kuralt hopes to return

to Alaska soon.