

# Great Changes in the Year 2003 and I'll Be 50 Years Old...

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probably be living in Alaska. It was suggested that they might be living in skyscrapers, like Russia is developing Siberia to conserve space. They built up and not out. Living in high rise complexes would be cheaper and more convenient.

Inside would also be clinics and shopping centers. There would still be those hardy souls who like the wilderness and their privacy.

Those million people would be driving all those new roads or flying in supersonic transports or in monorails or snowmobiling, maybe even dogmushing.

Alaska will probably be industrialized. Living might be worth it! That is - cheaper

Some predict that there

won't be any more natives left any more. Some say that the native corporations might be controlled by non-natives or even non-Alaskans. But I didn't hear any natives say that.

These topics and others were tossed about in a panel discussion entitled "Alaska 2003" which was put on by the U of A's Geography Club. The impressive panel included Dr.'s Forbes, Brice, Wheaton and Moyer, from the University, Commissioner of Economics Irene Ryan, Cliff Burglin, Jerry Smetzer and Dave Hinkley - a land examiner from the BLM.

These are plans, visions, dreams to some and nightmares to others. Thinking about the future is fascinating but what worries me is that in 30 years I'll be 50.



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Alaska Native Arts and Crafts Identification Program, State of Alaska, Dept. of Economic Development.

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Alaska, being what it is, has attracted more than its share of outstanding artists and artisans, to join the talented Natives who expressed themselves through their arts and crafts. But Alaska, also being what it is, has often suffered lack of outside recognition of her artists. That's why Exxon USA initiated its highly successful Salon of Alaskan Artists. Scores of the state's most outstanding artists and craftsmen submitted entries for judging in the five basic categories of Crafts, Weaving and Basketry, Graphic Arts, Sculpture, and Block Printing. And the overall excellence of the entries made judging by noted authorities Dr. Donald L. Wyckoff, M.S. Kennedy and H. Downs Matthews, a difficult task indeed. First place awards went to Joellen Benjamin Fay, of Juneau; Melvin Olanna, of Shishmaref;

Ree Nancarrow, of McKinley Park; Keith Appel, of Anchorage; and Dale DeArmond, of Juneau. Runner-up awards were given to Joan Kimura, Norma Frick, Mary Sommer, Sophie Pletnikoff, Norma Sharma, Paula Dickey, Robert Wongittilin, Martha Parka, Arnold Gologergen, and Richard Seeganna. Now we're taking their combined work outside on tour. The Salon of Alaskan Artists will tour the nation for two years, thereby introducing Alaskan art and crafts to thousands of Americans. At Exxon USA it's our way of helping to open a window of Alaskan art to the outside world.

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