

Partners for Progress  
with Alaska's Communities**RurAL-CAP****ACTION REPORTS**Partners for Progress  
with Alaska's Communities

Mailing Address: Drawer 412 ECB

Telephone 279-2441

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

**ADOPTS ALCOHOLISM PROBLEM PROPOSAL****CAP Board of Directors Holds First Regular Meet of the Year**

The Board of Directors of the Rural Alaska Community Action Program held their first regular meeting of the year in Juneau.

Board Chairman Elmer Armstrong called the two day meeting to order on February 4. Major actions taken by the Board included the hiring of John Shively as Executive Director; appointment of Nels A. Anderson, Jr., as Acting Deputy Director.

The Board unanimously adopted resolutions presented by the Kodiak Area Community Development Corporation which

concerned:

1) Request to the Alaska State Legislature to appropriate at least \$10,000 to each of the 9 regional development corporations of RurAL CAP for fiscal year 1971-1972. The request was based primarily on the corporations' need to obtain additional funding for the further development of social, economic, educational and village organizational activities of rural Alaskans.

2) Request that the state revenue sharing formula be changed to give consideration to unincorporated communities so that they may participate in being recipients of state revenue funds.

3) Request directed to the Kodiak area legislators to introduce a bill amending Alaska Statute 29.25.030. (a) (1), to enable the incorporation of villages within an organized borough.

On other matters, the Board voted to accept RurAL CAP's OEO approved grant package for Program Year E (1971-72).

A motion was passed requesting that funds from the State Economic Opportunity Office Citizens' Participation grant be used for funding a staff member for the Rural Alaska Develop-

ment Group to work on rural legislation during this legislative session.

The Board also voted that the RurAL CAP agency request the legislature to appropriate a sum of \$200,000 to the State Economic Opportunity Office to be used by RurAL CAP's regional development corporations for planning and/or implementation of economic development projects.

Also passed was a motion requesting the State Economic Opportunity Office to begin planning for use of Citizens' Participation money for the next program year around the Rural Alaska Development Group's unorganized borough concept.

New Board members who were seated at this meeting included: Mr. Caleb Pungowiyi, Representative for the Inupiat Development Corporation; Mr. Jim Wilson, Representative for the Koyukon Development Corporation; Dr. Fred McGinnis, Commissioner, State Department of Health & Welfare;

Mr. Don Perkins, Director, Rural Development Agency; Mr. Eben Hopson, Special Assistant to the Governor; and Mr. Robert Renshaw, Mayor of Nome.

**RurAL CAP to Assist In Attacking Problems Attributed to Alcoholism**

A proposal to solve problems directly related to alcoholism within rural communities was unanimously adopted by the RurAL CAP Board at their February 4-5 meeting in Juneau.

The proposed program will focus on providing technical assistance and referral to other agencies that will assist communities in defining and attempting to solve their problems attributed to alcoholism.

Non-professional alcoholism counselors will be selected from within their communities, based on their familiarity with alcoholism and who are also bi-lingual.

The counselors will undergo an intensive two-week training session in Anchorage and Seward under the direction of the University of Alaska and the Alaska Skill Center.

The training will emphasize alcohol information; counseling and case management techniques for use in the villages the counselors will serve; evaluations of the counselors' personal attitudes toward abusive drinking and alcoholism; familiarization with

the nature of resources available for effective community alcohol prevention, treatment and education programs; and the facts and fantasies concerning alcohol and its use.

Upon completion of their training, the counselors will return to their villages where they will conduct personal and family counseling and will make case referrals to the appropriate agencies.

They will also be responsible for coordinating the communities activities as they relate to alcoholism and will work with other concerned agencies to assist them in becoming aware of and responsive to the needs and attitudes of the people they are serving.

The counselors will assist in developing community resources which can more adequately and realistically cope with the problems of the alcoholic and his family.

In essence, the counselors will be community resource people and leaders in dealing with alcoholism.

**Head Start Career Slot Holds Meeting**

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program Head Start Career Development Committee is holding its quarterly meeting February 23 and 24 in Anchorage at Alaska Methodist University.

Committee representatives are: Martina Gallineaux of St. Michael, Anecia Ayojiak from Manokotat, Annie Beans from Mountain Village, Marie Stalker from Kotzebue, Irene Englishoe of Fort Yukon, Exenia Fitka from Fortuna Lodge and Justine Albert from Anchorage.

The committee met to discuss and develop a salary scale for village Head Start staff; to discuss summer training grants and the regional workshop presently being held.

The Alaska State Career Development Committee will meet on February 25 and 26. Its membership is comprised of RurAL CAP Career Development Committee members: Jeane Haines, Anchorage Head Start; Terry Leneer, Fairbanks Head Start; and Jan Lindeman, Chugiak Head Start.

**A Historical Event---****First Totem Pole to Be Erected at Kake in 50 Yrs.**

"A historical event will take place for the people of Kake, Alaska around the first part of March," reports Gordon Jackson, Executive Director for the Southeast Alaska Community Action Program.

"This is when the first totem pole in over fifty years will be erected amid festivities of song, dance and cheer."

A potlatch has been scheduled prior to, during and following the raising ceremony. Hundreds of visitors are expected from all communities in southeast Alaska to witness and take part in the event.

During the 1920's, the totem poles which stood proudly representing the peoples' culture and history, were ordered to be

burned by the missionaries because of their religious beliefs that the people were worshipping pagan gods.

Jackson commented, "The arrival of the totem pole could possibly mark the beginning of a rebirth of the dormant culture which was once destroyed."

Because of the significance of this occasion, the Southeast

Alaska Community Action Program plans to film a documentary on the arrival and ceremonies which take place and also depict the history of the totem.

"If the film is good and well researched, it will forever be a source of renewed pride and a storehouse of culture, especially for the people of Kake," stated Jackson.

**Part of the 'Good Neighbor' Policy--****Army Transports 1800 Pound Generator to Birch Creek**

The airlift of an 1800 pound generator to a State operated school at Birch Creek, 26 miles southwest of Fort Yukon is just the latest example of the army's "good neighbor" policy in Alaska.

It is supported wholeheartedly by Maj. General James F. Hollingsworth, commanding general of the U.S. Army Alaska.

The flight strip serving Birch Creek has been closed for weeks and is expected to be unusable for some time to come. Only a helicopter could deliver the big object in mid winter.

The 236th Aviation Company of USARAL's 19th Aviation Battalion plans a military mission to Fort Yukon in the near future.

Birch Creek is on their flight path, so the Army aviation will stop there to deliver the generator on their way to Fort Yukon.

During the past few months, the army has participated in many civic action programs.

In cooperation with PHS, the

army has given medical and dental assistance to native people in several villages since last summer, an action which may turn into a regular program.

In February, two medical specialists in ophthalmology and ear, nose and throat problems

assisted citizens at Kotzebue, on assignment from Bassett Army Hospital at Fort Wainwright. The Army doctors held a three day clinic at Kotzebue.

Last September, an Army doctor-dentist team held a medical clinic for residents in the

Kuskokwim River Valley while in the area in conjunction with inland waterways navigation training held by a Fort Richardson infantry unit.

A similar service was rendered in October at St. Lawrence Island and in January in Bethel.

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