

Coca Cola Grants

Mtn. Village \$500

Mountain Village 4-H Club has received a \$500.00 grant from the Coca-Cola Company to aid in their village beautification program reports Harlem D. Sandberg, State 4-H & Youth Program Leader, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Alaska.

The grant was one of 30 made to 4-H members' clubs or groups in the 50 states. Mountain Village was the only 4-H club receiving a grant in Alaska.

This grant is one of 70 awarded to youth organizations in the United States and its possessions. The grants ranged from \$50 to \$500 with a total of \$25,000.00 made available through 11 national youth groups.

The application for the grant was submitted by Miss Joanne Peterson, 17, vice-president of the Mountain Village club. The plans were submitted in June.

However, the club had already started a village cleanup campaign last fall, but the plans were made on the basis of completing an extensive community or village beautification program.

Last fall the 42 member 4-H club cleaned up the village cemetery. This spring a two day spring cleanup campaign was held.

4-H member, Elhrim Joe, was in charge of removing tops of 40 fifty-five gallon sized barrels. These were later painted silver and under direction of Martina Landlord stencils were made with the words "Help 4-H Keep Town Clean" which was painted in green on each barrel. The barrels were then distributed throughout the town.

Margaret Andrewyuk, a 4-H junior leader, spoke in her native Eskimo tongue during intermission at a Friday night movie explaining the purpose of the trash barrels. The barrels are being lined with disposable bags and the 4-H members will keep public trash containers emptied.

Other projects being done with the grant are the transplanting of 100 coniferous trees from a few miles up the Yukon River. The trees will be transported by boat to the village. Fencing material has been ordered from Anchorage which will be placed around each tree after it is planted.

Paint brushes have been manned by the 4-H members for painting the weather

beaten community recreation building. Also, some foundation work will be done on it.

Other improvements in the village will be done to bridges, walks and the building of a recreation area.

The youth beautification activities have stimulated adult participation and already several gardens, lawns, flowers and window boxes are beginning to improve the village. The church foundation has been straightened and the steeple and trim have been painted.

The grant was based on creativity, uniqueness, need and potential effectiveness. The degree of cooperative or stimulation the youth project provides the adult community towards conservation and community improvement was also considered by the judges.

Youth groups to which grants have been made and which sponsored the National Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation include 4-H, Boy Scouts, Boys' Clubs of America, Camp Fire Girls, Future Farmers of America, Future Homemakers of America, Girl Scouts, Girls Club of America, Red Cross Youth, YMCA and YWCA.