



Integrity, Pride in Heritage, Progress

**AFN, Inc.**

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Anchorage, Alaska 99503

## NEWSLETTER

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# This is the time to thank one another

## JOM hires two new Program managers

Two new employees have joined the AFN/Johnson-O'Malley staff in the capacity of Program Managers.

Jacqueline Bressers, who began work on December 22, will be handling projects in: Kodiak, Craig, Kake, Hydabury, Ketchikan, Yakutat, Northway,

Dot Lake, Holy Cross, Anvik, and Nulato.

Donald Peter, a former Rural CAP Regional Director for the Upper Yukon area, will be covering programs in Sand Point, Port Graham/English Bay, Cordova, Juneau, Petersburg, and Bethel.

## Rush on for Business grants

When the BIA announced early in December that they would be accepting business enterprise grant applications until the end of the year, a Christmas rush began for the staff of AFN's Alaskan Economic Development Office.

At mid-month the AEDO Director, Nick Landis, was travelling to Kotzebue and Dillingham, Sammy Lambull was in Fairbanks working with TCC's new credit officer, while Herb Cotton stayed in the Anchorage office finishing a number of loan packages.

Cooperating with AFN's Technical Assistance Division, AEDO anticipates that it will be involved in the preparation of 25 to 30 grant applications. The staff's travels this month have, in addition, resulted in a number of contacts concerning future business projects.

The Alaskan Economic Development Office is available to give technical assistance to minority-group individuals, partnerships, or corporations in establishing or expanding a business. AEDO's offices are at 4489 Business Park Boulevard in Anchorage.

## For contribution of Time for the past year

There is probably no time more appropriate than now to thank each and every organization and person who contributed their time and efforts to the many goals of the Alaska Federation of Natives during the past year. Due primarily to your cooperative efforts and willingness to assist, 1975 proved to be a memorable year.

Some of the activities that made 1975 a good year include the passage of the Omnibus Bill amending the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971.

Earlier this year, P.L. 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act was signed by President Ford enabling Indian Tribes and Tribal Organizations to contract for much of the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service activity.

During the past session of the Alaska Legislature Senate Bill 35 passed, bringing the educational delivery system closer to Native people.

Higher education received a real boost by the reorganization of the University of Alaska and the creation of the Vice President, Rural Educational Affairs.

On other fronts, our statistics indicate that due to the efforts of many people, approximately 5,000 Alaska Natives have been employed along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline.

We have begun to address two very important areas which affect Native people—justice in the Bush and the formation of an AFN Youth Council which will begin the involvement of our youth in Statewide

activities.

We were successful in securing three Health Systems Agencies when only one was possible under the National Health Planning and Resource Development Act. Johnson-O'Malley is now funding 100% supplementary and enrichment programs for Alaska Natives.

The Arctic Slope Regional Corporation rejoined the AFN making it a complete Statewide organization for the first time in four years. There have been many other factors contributing to this memorable year, but without your support and efforts it would not have been possible.

The Bicentennial and 10th anniversary of the Alaska Federation of Natives will occur in 1976. We anticipate continued activity of the AFN in the areas of land, education, health & social services, manpower, and justice.

In land matters we will be concerned with the issuance of conveyances; P.S. 93-638 will most likely require an amendment to the definition of "Indian Tribe"; we will continue our activity to insure a satisfactory number of Alaska Natives are employed along the Trans-Alaska Pipeline; the American Indian Policy Review Commission deserves much more attention; and the Vice President of Rural Educational Affairs for the University of Alaska will require our support.

We look forward to our 10th anniversary with much anticipation and confidence that by once again working together, 1976 will be an even better year.

## Bush justice prepares Grant for 2nd year

The Bush Justice Project is now preparing a grant proposal for a second year. The new Project is called the Village Law and Justice Training Project and will be sponsored by a Native community through the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

If the Project is funded the \$150,000 requested, it will provide training to the leadership of ten Native communities in the justice powers of local units of government.

The Project will also assist these ten communities in writing valid village ordinances which take into account local customs and values.

The grant application fills a long-felt need for justice education at the local government level. It will be submitted to the Governor's Commission on the Administration of Justice at its meeting in Anchorage on January 15, 1976.

It will then have to obtain the approval of the Federal Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Region X in Seattle. If the grant proposal clears these hurdles, the Village Law and Justice Training Project will begin in May, 1976.

The Bush Justice Implementation Committee is

continuing its plans for the January 10 and 11 meeting in Ft. Yukon. The staff has prepared a draft report of its visit to both Ft. Yukon and Dillingham.

It is expected those reports will be released to the public after the Committee meeting in Ft. Yukon. The next Committee hearings will be in Southeast Alaska during February and in Nome during March, 1976.

## Hire or higher education is for you

Been thinking about trying post-secondary education ("post-secondary" means after high school)? Well, if you are currently a high school student, a high school graduate—or even if you dropped out of high school, the Talent Search Program is looking for you.

What is Talent Search? It is one of three programs, which together form A.S.H.E.S. (Alaska Student Higher Education Services), and its purpose is to identify eligible students, then provide career, academic and personal counseling and advisement, in order to encourage these students to continue their higher education.

At the request of the counselors, principals or groups of students, Talent Search will provide all kinds of general, financial, and academic information about college courses and training programs within the State and "Outside" (if there is student interest).

How does Talent Search deliver these services? A staff of six (6) volunteers assist the Counselor/Coordinator by corresponding with students and high schools and by visiting local high schools.

Each of the six (6) counselors is also an upper classman—a student who has already completed 1 1/2 to 2 years of college work and who has a good idea of how the "system" operates.

These students participate in the University Year for Action program (U.Y.A.), earning approximately ten (10) college credits per semester for their work with the Talent Search program. College credits, a "stipend" to cover living expenses, and work experience comprise the "earnings" of the U.Y.A. Talent Search counselors.

They, in turn are expected to reach as many rural Alaska Native students as possible, to inform them about opportunities for finishing high school and enrolling in college.

In addition to college the Talent Search program

will help interested students obtain high school diplomas through adult education, G.E.D. examinations and High School Equivalency. They can help you learn about sources of funding for your education, filling out the required financial aids and application forms.

If you would like more information about going to college or being a U.Y.A. counselor for Talent Search, please fill in this form and send it in right away.

There is a program in post-secondary education to interest almost every student and there is also a need for U.Y.A. counselors to help Alaska Native students re-enroll.

ASHA is seeking seven (7) Alaska natives who are at least sophomores in college, for the second semester period.



Do not return unused cream from a pitcher to its original container. Store it separately or only pour out the amount to be used at once.



Fish can be caught in the Sahara Desert. By digging through the sand to underground streams fishermen can obtain fresh-water fish.



Legend has it that Roger Bacon owned a head of brass that could speak and prophesy.