

Tundra Times

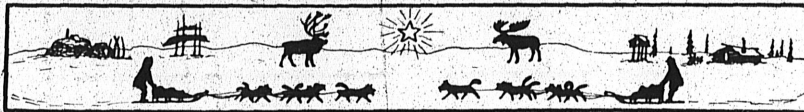
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Thingit
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henashi Our Land Speaks

Unanuq Tunuktuq The Aleuts Speak



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AFN/JOM PICKS DIRECTOR

Villages Form Alaska Tribal Association

By JEFF RICHARDSON
ANCHORAGE — What would you do if you had nearly 3.8 million acres of land coming to you, but no money to buy the maps to show where you want to select that land?

This is the plight of several Native groups who collectively represent 7,372 Native people, and are entitled to 3,789,892 acres of land under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. These groups got together last week and formed the Alaska Tribal Association to look after their common interest — money.

The association is composed of a rather oddly matched group of Native people. On the one hand are those villages who chose to keep land on reservations established before the land claims act instead of receiving regular land and monetary benefits.

On the other hand are Natives enrolled to the cities of Sitka, Juneau, Kenai, and Kodiak. The Native corporations for these cities are entitled to 23,040 acres of land, but no monetary benefits under the act.

Representatives from Elim, Savoonga, Gambell, Venetie, Arctic Village, Tetlin, and Klukwan, and the four cities, were brought to Anchorage by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to discuss the land claims act as it relates to their special problems. Representatives from the Bureau of Land Management were also present.

Out of this meeting came the Alaska Tribal Association. According to Mary Shields, executive (Continued on Page 6)

Nome Harbor Was Hard Hit

Nome's boat harbor was hard hit in the recent storm when an adjacent sand spit partially eroded under the force of waves and washed over the harbor revetments.

The entrance channel to the harbor was plugged with 50,000 to 75,000 cubic yards of shoaled material. As much of the material as possible must be removed before the rapidly approaching freezeup to shorten the time it will take to open the facility after breakup next spring.

The Alaska District, Corps of Engineers is letting emergency contracts to get front-loading trucks, bulldozers and dragline equipment to clear the harbor entrance. Some of the work has already begun and the effort should be fully operative by Saturday, November 23.

John Breckon, Nome Harbor Project Officer, is being aided by Billy Joe Adams, Dillingham Harbor Project Officer, in the survey of the Corps built and maintained harbor facility.

Four other members of the (continued on page 9)



SUBSISTENCE FISHING — Two women near the village of Ambler are netting under the ice for white fish following the ages old manner of subsistence. The activity is on Kobuk River in Northwestern Alaska. — National Park Service Photograph by ROBERT BELOUS.

Leave It Be— Subsistence Lifestyle

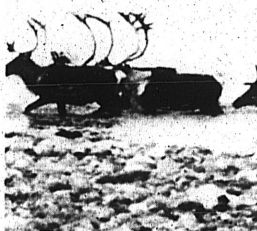
By DONN LISTON
Native subsistence lifestyles don't have to be thrown out of National Parks and Monuments, according to a spokesman for the U.S. Park Service who provided an inside view of the issue as it affects Alaska Natives.

Robert Belous showed a number of slides and spoke on the subject of Native subsistence during the Federal-State Land Use Planning Commission's regular meeting in Anchorage Thursday and explained a new position on the issue now being taken by his agency.

"I think the Native people, the Native culture, are important aspects of Alaskan life," Belous said at the conclusion of his presentation. "My job for the last eight years has been to represent their culture and needs. Hopefully it will insure that actions of the future reflect a new kind of recognition."

Belous said he did not think the Native Claims Act is felt by most Alaska Natives in the same way that it is being felt by Native corporation executives "in these board rooms with mahogany tables." He said in his travels throughout the state he has found there's a "grasping for roots" by Native persons attempting to realize their Native self.

The presentation began with pictures of a walrus hunt, with a walrus-skinned boat, in icy wa-



MIGRATING CARIBOU — Remnants of the Arctic caribou herd have just crossed the Noatak River in Northwestern Alaska heading toward Kobuk River villages during their annual fall migration. — National Park Service Photograph by ROBERT BELOUS

ters of the Chuckchi Sea. The pictures illustrated dramatically the subsistence needs for Alaska Natives who face the challenge of (Continued on Page 6)

Frank Berry Chosen to Fill Ralph Eluska Slot

By DONN LISTON
Alaska Native Foundation
ANCHORAGE — The Alaska Federation of Natives Johnson-O'Malley Review Committee met here last week to designate a new director for the statewide supplementary education funds for which AFN is the prime contractor.

Frank Berry was chosen to fill the shoes of Ralph Eluska, who resigned from the position Oct. 31 amid controversy regarding the philosophy by which the program is administered over the state. Other persons in final consideration for the position were Fred Wemark, JOM contract compliance officer and Donna Christie, consultant for the AFN Health Affairs division. Some 20 persons applied for the job.

Other business of the one-day meeting Nov. 21 included considering applications for fiscal year 1976 programs and administrative budget modifications for fiscal year 1975.

Because Alaska received its JOM funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs late this year, some \$401,000 has been surplused due to programs which could not start in time and could not apply the money, according to Bea Welsh, executive secretary for the program director.

Fred Fisher, BIA education specialist, when asked by the committee whether that money will have to go back to BIA, said that he saw no problem with other state supplementary education programs applying it if they could demonstrate need. The committee wants to avoid having to return the money to BIA because to do so might mean they wouldn't be able to receive the necessary amount

next year, according to Welsh. "The meeting was mostly dealing with immediate administration needs like hiring the new director and adjusting the budget for two positions which were never filled but required advertising, subcontractor needs, 1976 applications and contract compliance with '75 programs," she said.

When contacted regarding the new appointment, Gordon Jackson, AFN Human Resources director, said he felt the new JOM director and he would get along well.

"I think he was an excellent choice," Jackson said. "He'll provide the leadership necessary to make it a very effective program."

As far as subcontractor compliance issues discussed at the meeting, Welsh said some of the persons running programs in rural areas didn't seem to understand that they were working with cost-reimbursable contracts and were supposed to submit reimbursement requests.

"If the program starts in August, for instance, they get an advance to start with," she explained. "At the beginning of the next month they should submit a report for the last month saying what the program activities and financial costs were. They then get reimbursed so they can continue their program."

On Native Delinquents— MYC Needs Help

Alaska's only co-educational program for juvenile delinquents is looking for help with Native youths who go through the program and need a place to return "home" to.

McLaughlin Youth Center averages about 60% Native clientele in its treatment program, with about 40% of those youths from rural parts of the state.

But after getting in trouble with the law, and being assigned to MYC, it is particularly difficult to send the readjusted child back into an environment which may have contributed to the problem in the first place, according to Dawn Deyo, a Cherokee Indian working as a youth counselor for the center.

"We need people to become involved in these young people on a village or regional basis," Deyo said. "They need to pro-

vide a mechanism for helping these kids to their villages."

Deyo explained that MYC is "more than willing to set up ways to help the kids form relations with other people," but there aren't enough people interested in youths that have gotten into trouble.

Most young people end up at MYC after being adjudicated by the courts for criminal action. The program is oriented to counsel offenders in individual, group and family settings.

"When they get out, we naturally try to place these kids in the best possible setting," Deyo added. "Foster homes are always in short supply, there are not enough group homes, and we try to put them back into their own family if the environment is satisfactory. That usual (Continued on Page 6)