

# Solomon declares for District 21 House seat

Morgan Solomon of Barrow has announced his candidacy for the State House of Representatives, District 21. He is a member of the Barrow City Council and a newly-elected member of the Board of Directors of Arctic Slope Regional Corporation. He is a former member and Chairman of the Board of the U.S. Public Health Service in the Barrow service unit and a former investigator for the northern region of the State Human Rights Commission.

Soloman, a Democrat, issued this statement about his candidacy:

"While local capital improvements programs have provided many benefits to the residents of the North Slope Borough and NANA regions, the state should be funding more programs to meet the needs of the people in the outlying villages. Better health services, airport facilities and runways, water and sewage systems and telecommunications systems are still urgently needed. State loans for housing and home improvements are not readily available for those with low and middle incomes who live in rural areas. Urban and rural lawmakers must work together on decisions in order to provide facilities and ser-



MORGAN SOLOMON

vices for the general well being of the people in northern communities.

A cultural education is a stepping stone for our native children, since it is only through sound education that the Inupiat can truly have self-determination and be able to handle the dramatic changes in lifestyle that are experienced.

Legislative solutions on Alaska lands issues, in terms of both renewable and non-renewable resources, are income-making decisions which provide wealth for the State of Alaska. As a result, well

financed, long-range programs with provisions to develop human resources and employment should be available through these resources to meet the priorities of the people of the north.

The North Slope District's coastal management program is a major attempt to protect against the sudden growth of oil exploration off our north and west coasts, where there are no sound programs to protect the coastal environment from potential degradation. I endorse this program, since it was formulated to protect subsistence activities. Presently, the federal government wants to control the subsistence lifestyle of the people of Alaska. This should be the responsibility of the State of Alaska and its local governments.

It is of the utmost im-

portance to maintain the traditional way of life and yet give people every opportunity, through good education, to fill professional as well as para-

professional positions in our communities.

I am committed to bettering the lifestyle of the people of the northern region.