Bethel's Yugtarvik Regional Museum presents three-week exhibit of crafts by Annie Nelson

BETHEL — The Yugtarvik Regional Museum in Bethel is presenting work by Annie Nelson for a threeweek exhibit in the Visitor Center through April 25.

Nelson learned her crafts by working at clothing, pretty much learning by herself. As she grew older, she learned to do other clothing, again learning by herself and once in awhile being shown by older women.

She grew up with her grandfather. "My father died when I was too young to remember. I was taken by his parents, while my real mother went back to her homeland," she said. Not long after, her grandmother died, leaving her and her grandfather alone. She sat beside him while he worked on fish traps, sleds and other

wood-working objects. She learned in the traditional style — by watching. When the modern-day crafts started showing up, Nelson put her work into dolls, face designs, kayaks, yoyos and other decorations and house displays.

The exhibit is sponsored by the Yugtarvik Regional Museum and the Alaska State Council on the Arts.