Sealaska sponsors profiles of Native leaders

JUNEAU — Sealaska Corp. this month began broadcast of eight 60-second profiles on historic Southeast Alaska Native leaders and institutions, according to Sealaska.

"The purpose of the spots is to acquaint and inform the public about the contributions of Alaska Natives to the development of Alaskan society," said Sealaska Corp. Chief Executive Officer Byron I. Mallott. The profiles are broadcast in cooperation with the Alaska Public Radio Network.

Those highlighted in the series include Elizabeth Peratrovich, Ivan Gamble, Mildred Sparks, Frank Peratrovich, Andrew Percy Hope, the Alaska Native Brotherhood, William Paul and Louis Shotridge.

The series began with Elizabeth

Peratrovich and will air for several weeks on public radio stations across the state. Peratrovich fought a two-year battle in the Alaska Territorial Legislature to get a bill to ban segregation and discrimination in public facilities.

"We want to educate listeners about important Alaska Native leaders, those Natives who had historical impact on the entire state," he said. "It is important to let people know about the contributions these people made to life in Alaska today."

Those interested in more information about the people profiled on the radio spots may contact Ross Soboleff, director of corporate communications for Sealaska, or Lynn Calderone, marketing assistant for APRN.