Tundra Times Banquet-Hotel Reservations For Banquet Sought

Plans for the 7th annual Tundra Times banquet, to be held in Anchorage on October 4, are receiving added momentum.

At a special Tundra Times Board of Directors meeting Friday evening, the time for the banquet was announced to be at 8:00 p.m., October 4, in the Anchorage Westward Hotel. A cocktail hour will be held beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Depending on their availability, a block of 200 rooms will be reserved for those wishing to attend the banquet on a first come first served basis. Banquet invitations, to be sent out within the next two weeks, will include reservation forms to be mailed to the hotels.

The banquet will be held at the same time as the annual Alaska Federation of Natives Convention, scheduled for October 3 and 4. It is expected that nearly 300 native leaders from throughout the state will be in attendance.

Tundra Times Editor Howard Rock, with two members of the Board of Directors, will fly to Anchorage for a Saturday meeting with banquet planners.

The theme for the banquet will be "Cultural Contributions of the Native People of Alaska." A varied selection of exhibits will be displayed. A special publication is being prepared for the event by the Interior Department's Indian Arts & Crafts Board.

It is hoped that Vincent Price will be the keynote speaker. Price is noted as an art critic. Reportedly, his staff has made reservations in his name at the Anchorage Westward for the banquet.

Proposals for the banquet include presentations by Indian and Eskimo dance groups, the formation of a charter from Fairbanks, and the appearance of Miss World Eskimo Olympics at the event.

Efforts are underway to seek coordination of the AFN convention with House Interior Committee Hearings on Alaska Native Land Claims which, if proven feasible, could serve to enhance the occasion.