

Gravel's Receptionist Flora to Vie in Cherry Blossum Festival

By GINGER ROGERS

WASHINGTON D.C.—Flora Bergman may be the only Athabaskan Indian in Washington D.C., but she loves it. Since October, she's been the receptionist for the office of Senator Mike Gravel.

"It's fantastic," she says, bubbling over, "I've met so many people—there's so much to learn; about politics, the country, everything."

Twenty-year-old Flora answers the phones, greets all the visitors. She's a favorite of the staffers, the local policemen and everyone else who comes within glimpse of her enthusiastic smile.

Just recently she was named the Cherry Blossum Princess of Alaska and will join in with other state princesses in Washington's annual Cherry Blossum Festival this spring.

As for her boss, Flora has no complaints.

"Senator Gravel is great . . . so easygoing . . . doesn't get frantic. He's very thoughtful and considerate."

One thing Flora does miss is Alaska's cold weather. While local Washingtonians shiver in the 20 above temperature, Flora says it's too hot. Around this time back home in Allakaket, it's 80 below . . . just about right.

In addition, while she loves the excitement of Washington, she misses the closeness of the folks back home. But she'll return home in April, to work on a nursing degree, and be back with her eleven brothers and sisters.

"Politics is interesting, but I really want to be a nurse," she says. "The nearest hospital to my home is over an hour away . . . we need that kind of help closer."

And besides, she adds with finality, "Alaska's my home."

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TO THE SUBSCRIBERS AND FUTURE SUBSCRIBERS OF THE TUNDRA TIMES:

The Board of Directors of the Tundra Times has established a new policy concerning the manner of subscribing to the newspaper. The policy was adopted after careful consideration by the Board members.

The new policy will require the subscriber, especially the prospective new subscriber, to pay for the subscription in advance, so to speak. That is: when a subscriber sends in a request that the Tundra Times be sent to him without that person sending in a check, money order or cash, the circulation department will send that person a complimentary copy of the newspaper along with an invoice if requested. The invoice will either amount to \$5.50 for six month's subscription or \$10 for a year's subscription. With the receipt of the check, money order or cash, the new subscriber will then begin to receive the Tundra Times by mail.

The new subscription policy is aimed to simplify the working procedures of the circulation department. It will enable the person in charge to better keep track of the subscriber. And, since Tundra Times has always operated on tight money, the new policy will save the paper considerable money in postage which has had to be spent to remind the prospective subscriber that he owes money for the subscription.

We hope our subscribers will agree with us on the new policy. It is a request for cooperation. It is also a request asking our readers to help us establish a better working procedure in our circulation department.

Thank you very much for your attention. With your kind cooperation, we can serve you with improved efficiency.

Yours faithfully always,

Howard Rock
Editor, Tundra Times and President of the
ESKIMO, INDIAN, ALEUT PUBLISHING Co.