

Apatiki of Gambell Joins Up with 'Up With People'

"I started singing just because I like to sing, and I like to be with people." That was the start which culminated in an invitation for Edna Apatiki to join "Up With People."

"Up With People" is a group of young people who talk and sing about this great country. They travel nationally and internationally. They appeal to the younger generation; and, they "tell it like it is."

Edna is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Homer Apatiki from Gambell, St. Lawrence Island. She attended high school for two years at a BIA school in Oklahoma, and finished her last two years in Anchorage. She graduated from Diamond High School in Anchorage.

When the group was touring Alaska, one of the stops was in Anchorage, and it was there that Edna was interviewed for the international travel group. She sent an application to Washington, D.C. and sat back and waited.

After she moved to Fairbanks, she received word that she had been accepted on "a trial basis."

This gives the applicant a chance to try it, and decide whether or not they wish to continue with it.

If she decides to stay, Edna can remain with the group up to five years.

Edna is one of seven chosen in the Anchorage area. tertiary Education.

After completing college, Edna wants to return to Gambell to Teach. Why? "I just want to to help any way I can."

Edna is in Fairbanks for the summer, working at the Curriculum Service Center of the North Star Borough School District.

The young musician plays the flute also, and her interest in instrumental and vocal music is equally divided. She was a member of the Diamond High School Concert Choir.

Although her voice is in the alto range, she sang in the soprano section.

Miss Apatiki will have a chance to attend classes while with the touring group, but feels that she won't be able to take the time.

She plans to wait and attend Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage to major in Element-