

Election '86: Bush Briefs

Tony Vaska, Democratic candidate for State Senate District M, has named Bob Aloysius of Aniak and Bethel as his campaign manager. Aloysius, employed by the Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corp., currently is serving on the Bethel City Council.

Other staff members for the campaign include coordinators Lincoln Tritt of Arctic Village and Fairbanks and Sharon Hodgins of Bethel. Tritt has extensive experience in rural villages in the Interior, and Hodgins is employed by Rural Alaska Community Action Program.

The Vaska for Senate Campaign Committee also will be establishing a coordinator in each of the 67 villages in the Senate District.

Vaska said he is running for the Senate because he feels that there are many issues in rural Alaska that need to be addressed and solved by rural Alaskans.

One of the most important issues, he said, is allowing villages to survive as villages and for each village to determine what form of local government it wants.

Democratic candidate for lieutenant governor Jane Angvik says the biggest challenge facing Native village corporations is "the challenge to survive."

Angvik raised her concern at a meeting earlier this summer of Koyitl'ots'ina Ltd. in Allakaket. She said a major issue for villages will be to "keep and manage the land."

Open communication with shareholders will help keep the corporations alive, Angvik said.

She attributed corporations' success to their ability to focus on shareholder unity and shareholder support for the goals of the corporation.

Angvik said that it is difficult enough to be a successful corporation when times are good. Today, however, she pointed out that many village corporations face declining resource markets and difficulties in implementing some provisions of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

"This is a time when the shareholders really need to stand with their corporations," she said.

The Petersburg Vessel Owners Association, representing one of the state's major large-boat fishing fleets, endorsed Gov. Bill Sheffield at a recent meeting.

The association is the oldest fishing group in Alaska.

Association President Sig Mathisen said the early endorsement reflects the strength of fishermen's support for Democrat Sheffield.

"He's been a very strong advocate for the fisheries. To name just two examples, the governor stood by the black cod longliners, and he's getting concessions from Japan on high-seas interception," Mathisen said.

A state crackdown on interceptors of Alaska-bound fish within federal waters off the state's coast, providing tax incentives and increased support for the Alaska Seafood Marketing Institute highlight a plan to promote jobs in Alaska's fisheries proposed by Republican gubernatorial candidate Joe Hayes.

In proposing a 12-point plan Hayes said, "Our goal must be to receive the maximum benefits possible from the catching, processing and marketing of Alaskan fish."

Hayes called for increased state enforcement within the 200-mile limit. Noting that the state manages wildlife on federal lands in Alaska, he suggested management by the state in federal waters.

"We cannot tolerate the interception of Alaskan-bound fish by foreigners on the high seas. To protect our fish, we should be allowed greater control within the 200-mile economic zone. As governor I will pursue obtaining that control from the federal government," he said.

The former speaker of the State House has visited fishing communities
