

# Native emphasis committee seeking funds

By LINDA DE WITT  
Native Emphasis Week Planning Committee of Alaska Methodist University is asking for contributions for their 5th Annual Native Emphasis Week which is scheduled for March 22-26, 1976.

Native Emphasis Week is a production planned and carried out entirely by students at Alaska Methodist University with some help from AMU faculty and staff members as resource persons and advisors.

Planning for this event entails at least six months of work with weekly committee meetings to coordinate all planning efforts and to decide on methods of presentation.

The purpose of this event is to present Native Alaskan Culture to the AMU and Anchorage community in order that all may have a better understanding of Native culture and to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to identify with and to express themselves in Native Alaskan culture.

In order to reflect the cultural and psychological ideals of the six major tribes of Alaska: Aleut, Tlingit, Tsimpian, Athabascan, Haida and Eskimo peoples, a myriad of presentations will occur.

Included in this event will be: arts and crafts displays and demonstrations, Native games, guest speakers, traditional Native dancers and a Native foods dinner.

The arts and crafts display will consist of priceless artifacts and other display items on loan from the Anchorage Historical and Fine Arts Museum, and the Visual Arts Center of Anchorage.

## Anchorage federal office building complex

WASHINGTON—The General Services Administration received a green light to go ahead with construction of the Anchorage federal office building complex.

The House Public Works and Transportation Committee approved the revised prospectus for the building, which was scaled down to two units instead of three to stay within the original estimated cost of \$71.5 million.

Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, said he is pleased that work can now be resumed on the complex to provide much needed space for the federal court and federal agencies in Anchorage.

Gravel obtained the original authorization for the Anchorage facility in September of 1972. Since that time the cost of the complex, to provide 728,000 square feet of space, rose to over \$100 million.

The General Services Administration, which oversees construction projects for the federal government, was required to return to the two public work committees of Congress for reapproval of the Anchorage project because the cost exceeded the 10% allowance in the original authority.

In order to get reapproval of the project, GSA scaled down the size of the project to contain 515,000 square feet. The site has been acquired and most of it cleared and funds are now available to proceed with the construction.

The new building is planned for completion by November of 1978.

AMU students, members of the Anchorage community and individuals from dance groups which are invited to perform, will also display their work.

The arts and crafts demonstration will tie in directly with the displays. Demonstrators will explain and show the arts of their craft. The arts and crafts demonstration will give individuals and groups the opportunity to see how items are made and to ask questions about the process and product.

Throughout the week, guest speakers will be present in classes. All sessions will be open to the public. These guest speakers will cover topics related to all aspects of Alaska Native life. Most guest speakers will be local people to cut down on the costs. However, the dancers who have been invited to perform will also be used in this capacity.

Friday, March 26 is the "grand finale" night. All the dance groups will be performing following a dinner consisting of traditional Native foods.

Each year the AMU students attempt to bring in different

## Life at the orphanage

By LENA ANDREE  
(From BRISTOL BAY BYLINES)

My sister and I were placed in the orphanage in 1931, because the aunt that had been taking care of us died that year. When we went into the orphanage at Kakanak, we both had long hair. The first thing the orphanage did was to shave our heads and burn our clothes. This was standard procedure with all the new kids that came in. They did this to get rid of lice. It was really a shock to be bald-headed, though.

When I was there the boys lived in one dorm and the girls in another. We all ate together in the same dining room, though.

They had a dark room that they put the boys in to punish them, usually for stealing or fighting. Girls did not get put in there, though; I guess we acted pretty good.

(Taken from THE STORY KNIFE)

At the orphanage we were not allowed to speak our Native language. We were there to learn English and if we spoke our Native tongue, we were punished. Our language was secondary. It should have been first with English secondary. I was really scared to start to school because of the language problem, but I had to go and I had to speak English.

This collection of folk tales is on sale at the Choggiung Office for \$5.00 each. Mail orders should be addressed to Choggiung, Ltd., Box 247, Dillingham, Alaska 99576. Please add 50 cents per copy for postage and handling.

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dance groups to present more variety, since this is an annual event. This year the dancers to be invited will be the Bethel Regional High School, Nightmute Dancers, Hoonah High School, Barrow University and the Marks Trail Dancers.

To date, NEW has received \$100 from Alaska Native Foundation, \$300 from National Bank of Alaska, \$400 from the Associated Students of AMU and \$200 from AMU. The estimated cost of this year's NEW is around \$10,000.

Because the cost of transportation, meals and lodging are so expensive, contributions are needed to provide these fa-

cilities so a bigger variety of talent can be presented.

There will be an admission charge at the door for each night, Monday through Thursday: Adults will be \$2, children \$1. For Friday night, the "Grand Finale" night: adults \$6 and children \$3.

Advance tickets will be sold in the first two weeks of March for the entire Native Emphasis Week: adults \$12 and children \$9.

Advance tickets can be obtained by writing to Bob Angaiak, chairman or Linda De Witt, co-chairwoman, Native Emphasis Week Planning Committee, Box 36, AMU, Anchor-

age, Alaska 99504 or call them at 272-4401, ext. 320.

## Ak. license plate wins top award

Alaska's 1976 license plate has taken top honors in a nation-wide competition, according to Governor Jay Hammond. The State's new reflective red-on-white vehicle plate has been named as the Outstanding Bicentennial Plate of all the 50 states. Alaska was notified that its new license plate had received the number one award by the Detroit Automobile License Plate Collectors Association in early March.

A brown bear and Alaska's mountains highlight the State's 1976 plates.

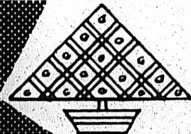
Hammond said, "We are very proud to have the Alaska bicentennial license plate receive this honor, and I am happy that it compares so favorably with the 1976 bicentennial plates from all other states."

The new license plate of reflective material was picked after the 1975 Legislature mandated that license plates would be reflectorized in the interest of promoting highway safety.

In his letter notifying the State of winning the award, Dr. M. K. Sherman, President of the Detroit Automobile License Plate Collectors Association said, "We are very proud of Alaska and I know you are too."

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