

Kuskokwim Community College reaches 700

Kuskokwim Community College, from the start was given the mandate to serve the bilingual population of Southwestern Alaska. This area is the home of the Southwest Yupik speaking Eskimo people. The Yupik Eskimo make up the largest and

most language-dominant group in Alaska.

Of the 700 students enrolled at Kuskokwim Community College during the 1975-76 school year 90% are Yupik native to this region of Alaska. The first language of the majority of

these students is Yupik.

Kuskokwim Community College began a new educational effort in January 1976. With a grant funded under Title VII, Bilingual Education, to Kuskokwim Community College and Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bethel started a field based, four year, degree oriented, demonstration training program for Yupik Bilingual Teachers, presently involved in teaching a total Yupik curriculum in these schools. Kuskokwim Community College delivered college level education to numerous

village students who cannot attend, full-time, campus training. The training program is unique because college courses are taught right in the bilingual villages during the school year.

Each of the students is a member of the village community and has excellent rapport with parents as well as the children.

The two Kuskokwim Community College instructors traveling to deliver the college courses under the bilingual program are:

Cathy Collier, former BIA teacher who has a B.S. Degree in Education and a Master's Degree both from Utah State University. This is Ms. Collier's second year with the program.

Fred Bigim, Eskimo from Nome, former AMU Professor, who has a B.Ed from the University of Alaska and a Master's Degree in Education from Harvard University. Bigim has also attended law school and is now also the Academic Coordinator of the Bilingual Teacher Training Program.

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Temporary earth station intalled at Dillingham

RCA Alaska Communications Inc. announced today the turn-up of a transportable Earth Station in Dillingham to relieve a shortage of telephone circuits in the area.

The Earth Station is equipped with a 15-foot diameter antenna and will provide additional circuits to Dillingham until a permanent Earth Station is installed next year.

The turn-up of the temporary satellite facility gives Dillingham ten additional long distance channels. Dillingham was previously served by an overloaded VHF radio link to the White Alice Communications System site at King Salmon. Dillingham previously had only four long distance circuits.

The transportable Earth Station was cutover for service in conjunction with the new central office installed by Nushagak telephone cooperative. Equipped with 500 telephone lines, the central office switches all the local and long distance telephone calls generated from the area. The old switch in Dillingham was equipped with 100 lines.

Additional equipment was also installed by Nushagak to

give Dillingham the capability for automatic number identification (ANI) which ties in to the nationwide Direct Distance Dialing network. With station-to-station long distance telephone calls go through the local telephone switching equipment automatically without operator assistance. The long distance operator comes on the line only if the call is person-to-person, collect, credit card or billed to another number.

Dillingham previously had Operator Number Identification (ONI). The long distance operator had to ask for the number of the person calling, which was then keyed into the DDD system.

A permanent Earth Station, scheduled to serve Dillingham in 1977, is one of 21 such stations RCA Alascom plans to build over the next three years to replace outdated Tropospheric facilities of the White Alice System. With recent authorization from the Federal Communications Commission, RCA Alascom will begin construction of the foundation and building for Dillingham's permanent Earth Station in 1976. Specifications for the antenna are being determined.

Rampart reports

By Georgianna Lincoln
President

DiK Hotaneets Corporation (Rampart Corporation) held their first official meeting since the formation of the newly elected Board of Directors. The meeting was held on October 17, 1976, in the Rampart Community Hall. Those persons elected to the Board were: Georgianna Lincoln, President; Richard Evans, Vice-President; Linda Evans, Secretary; Don Evans, Treasurer; Ted Harwood, Director; Mary Jane Fate, Director; Elizabeth Newman, Director; Daniel Wiehl, Director.

The Board reviewed numerous investment proposals, one of which was for bulk fuel storage in the Village. The Board was most encouraged to learn of the willingness of other Villages to participate in joint venture contracting on larger investments.

The Village participation was excellent and always welcome, as are the remainder of our 173 stockholders enrolled to DiK Hotaneets Corporation.

Perhaps of interest to the stockholders of Rampart Corporation a 1975-76 audit report will be mailed to each stockholder along with the President's report by the end of 1976.

Goldbelt goal is final selections

Goldbelt, Incorporated, the local Juneau Corporation formed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, reported a successful third annual meeting of shareholders held in the Alaska Native Brotherhood Hall at Juneau, Alaska on Saturday, November 20, 1976.

Elected to the board of directors of Goldbelt, Incorporated for a three-year term were, Murlin G. Everson, Charles Gamble, and Raymond E. Paddock, Jr.

At a deferred organizational meeting held following the meeting of shareholders, Joseph G. Wilson was elected to the position of president and chairman of the board by a unanimous ballot. Other officers elected were, Joseph E. Kahklen, executive vice-president, Charles Gamble, treasurer, and Lawrence J. Jackson Sr., secretary.

It was agreed that the prime concern of Goldbelt, Incorporated at this time was finalization of the land selections guaranteed to the corporation under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

Other members on the nine-member board are Robert Loescher, Catalino Barril, Jr., and Percy Hope.



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