Wash. State Area Alaska Natives Form AFN C

The Alaska Federation of Natives Washington Chapter in Seattle is now well established with a set of officers from an elected president of a board of directors. "it is our goal," said Jay Mal-

lott, temporary public information officer for the group, "to achieve recognition for the Alaska Natives now residing in the State of Washington by the AFN parent group and to gain communications with them toward the end, that a fair and equitable settlement be made for all Alaska natives including those not able to raise their families in their original villages."

Jay Mallott said that although their hearts are still in Alaska, it was found that for many of them to survive that relocation to cities outside of Alaska was a necessity. "We now find," Mallott stated,

"that because of this necessity that the bills S-3041 and S-1830 now before Congress excludes those of us now living in the South 49 from any benefits that (Continued on page 6)

Tundra

Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak

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Tlingit Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting HAIDA

Yaunk yawn sue Speak the absolute truth

Fairbanks, Alaska

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公公公公公 * * * * * ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ 公公公公公 $\triangle \triangle \triangle \triangle \triangle$ President Nixon Ups Social Security 15 Per Cent

Larry Peterson Off and Running From District 16

A Fort Yukon native who feels that he knows the problems of both urban and rural Alaska would like to help solve these problems as a representative in the State House.

Larry: Petersen, 30, last week filed as a candidate for state representative from the 16th District.

There are currently seven representatives from this district, all of whom are from Fairbanks except one who is from Fort Yukon. All of the terms expire this vear.

Petersen works with the White Alice system in Fort Yukon as an

electronic technician. A Democrat, he will be campaigning on issues concerning education, housing, and health as they relate to both Fairbanks and the villages. He said that he does not plan to focus on the controversial land claims issue.

Born and raised in Fort Yukon, he worked for two years in Fairbanks.

The soft-spoken bachelor is currently serving as president of (Continued on page 6)

Church Group Aims Resolution **Backing Natives**

(Special to the Tundra Times) By BETZI WOODMAN

A resolution supporting indigenous peoples in their efforts to protect their land and other rights will appear on the agenda of the annual assembly of the Unitarian-Universalist Association when that body meets in Seattle next June.

The resolution was formed by the continental association's business committee from proposals submitted by the Anchorage Unitarian-Universalist Association and the Community Church of New York City.

The resolution on Indian

rights reads:

"The thrust of continental policy is now, as it has been historically, the steady expropriation of Indian land and water resources for the benefit of whites in the United States. The practice has been to locate the Indians on the most arid and least

(Continued on page 6)



MISS BAHR TO WED—Former Miss Cook Inlet Native Association Carol Bahr will wed Jon R. Peterson of Anchorage on May 15. Carol is now employed by Rural Alaska Community Action Program as an administrative assistant. The young couple will make their home in Anchorage. See story on page 4.

-PHOTOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATES Photo

State Takes Action to Reduce Welfare Payments for Old Folks

By SUSAN TAYLOR

Staff Writer

Eighty-eight year old Ewan Naumoff is a "disgusted man" who has written to President Nixon for help. And many of Alaska's senior citizens might share his feeling when they receive their welfare checks in April.

The reason: On April 1 social security payments, as re-

cently authorized by Congress, will be raised 15 per cent. And, in many cases, while the federal government puts more money in one pocket, the state government will be taking money out of the other pocket.

According to one social worker, Ewan Naumoff will not be the only person in this situation. In Fairbanks alone, from 75 to 80 per cent of those on old age assistance will receive decreased welfare checks this month because of the social security in-

crease. The procedure goes something like this: Suppose that a person's monthly requirements are follows: shelter-\$100, fuel-\$40, basic needs-\$9, transportation-\$10, telephone-\$10, laundry-\$10, medicare premium-\$4, personal care-\$20. The total comes to \$285. From this amount, the state subtracts sources of income. Suppose that the person's only source of income is social security in the amount of \$85.

After this is subtracted, the person's total unmet needs come to \$200-which is the maximum that can be granted for old age assistance under current state law. So the person is granted \$200 a month from the state.

But with the 15 per cent raise in social security, his social security payments will increase about \$13 from \$85 to \$98. When the \$98 is subtracted from his total needs, his unmet needs and, consequently, his state welfare payment will decrease \$13 from \$200 to \$187. As a result, he is no better off than before.

The example may be extremely simplified, but as explained, by one state social worker, serves as an explanation of why many elderly persons will receive reduced welfare payments in Ap-

As in the example, all of the (Continued on page 6)

Kotzebue Beauty Is Miss Alaska

A 19-year-old beauty from Kotzebue was crowned Miss Alaska Friday night in Anchorage.

Miss Virginia Walker, a student at Alaska Methodist University, also received a special award for being the most talented contestant. She recited an original poem about Alaska entitled, "My Wonderland."

The raven haired, brown-eyed young woman will go on to compete against the other 49 state winners this summer in Atlantic City, N.J. for the title of Miss America and a possible \$10,000 scholarship.

Each of the 21 contestants in the Miss Alaska Contest will receive scholarship assistance ranging from \$1,000 for Miss Alaska to \$100 for each of the preliminary winners.

First runner-up was Miss Seward, Nancy Richie; second runner-up was Miss Kenai, Vicki Lee Wolfer; third runner-up was Miss Sitka, Cathy Lynn Carlson; and

(Continued on page 6)

AFN Board Elects Eben Hopson Executive Director in Reshuffle

The new executive director of the Alaska Federation of Natives said Saturday that he is quite excited about his new job with its "enormous" responsibilities.

On April 15, Eben Hopson will officially become the principal administrative officer of the statewide native association as the result of a three-day board meeting in Anchorage last week.

At the meeting the overall structure of the organization was revamped.

Hopson was elected following the resignation of the present director, Willie Hensley. As a representative from Kotzebue, much of Hensley's time was required in Juneau on legislative matters.

Also, the office of the president, now filled by Emil Notti, took on a new look. The adminis-

trative responsibilities previously held by Notti were turned over to the executive director. In addition, the president will no longer receive the \$18,000 a year previously allocated to him.

The present deputy director, Al Ketzler, who was appointed by Hensley, will be taken off the payroll May 1.

Hopson said that he will select a new deputy director when funds are available.

All of these changes came in the wake of the termination of the organization's public relations office by Ketzler the middle of March. At that time, Jim Thomas was relieved of his duties a public relations director.

Hopson, who currently lives in Barrow, will move to Anchorage by April 15.

In Barrow, he will give up the position of executive director of the Arctic Slope Native Association.

The small-built, middle-aged man said that he is not aware of any drastic changes to be made in the administration of the AFN.

"I will have to take a close look at the entire organization," he added, "and plan to make changes necessary to imporve it."

When asked about the public relations office, he said that he intends to reactivate it if the funds are available.

Thomas, he added, has accepted another job and, thus, will not be available. Thomas was hired as the public relations director of the National Congress of American Indians.

(Continued on page 6)