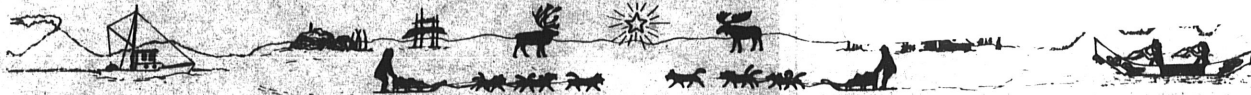


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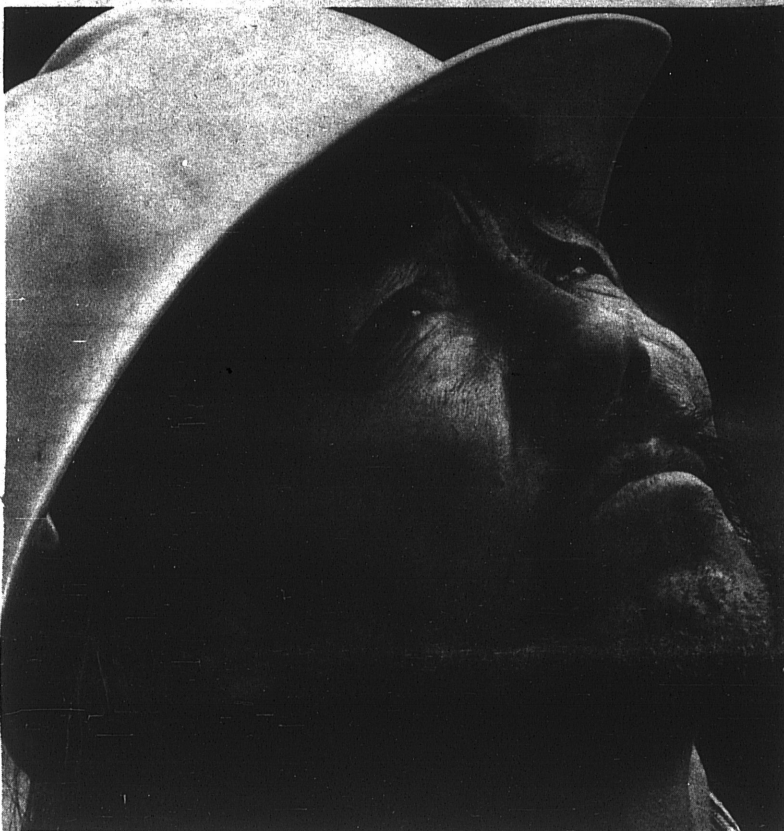


Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage — Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks — Unanguq Tunuktaug The Aleuts Speak — Ut Kah neek Informing and Reporting — Yupit Kanlautciat The Way Eskimos Talk

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LOCAL HIRE - How many jobs can rural residents, like the one above, expect in Alaska's oil industry? Not as many as they should get, according to a recent study by the Alaska Native Foundation

Local hire is study focus

Alaska's petroleum industry — both oil and natural gas — can be expected to generate many jobs in the future. Of increasing concern to Native groups and organizations is just how many of those jobs will be filled by Alaska Natives.

If the proposed Beaufort Sea lease sale goes through this December, as many as 1,800 persons will be employed at the peak of its development. If the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska is developed, between 1,500 and 5,000 jobs could be created depending upon the size of the field.

And, if the Northwest Alaska Gasline becomes a reality, over 5,000 jobs might be created at its peak construction phase.

These figures come from a recent report by the Alaska Native Foundation (ANF) done for and in conjunction with the North Slope Borough Planning Department. Borough officials wanted to know why with so many of the job opportunities occurring in their area, apparently so few of them were filled by local hire. Kay Koweluk was the principal investigator for the ANF.

Borough officials also wanted to know what could be done to increase the degree of local Native hire in light of the possibility of increased petroleum activity.

According to the report, about 5,770 Natives worked on the Trans-Alaska pipeline. That's about 16.6 percent of the total Native workforce. Of these, only about 253, or 7 percent of the Arctic Slope Regional Corporation enrollees were hired. About half the jobs held by Natives were trainee or journeymen positions, the most unskilled jobs available.

Mr. Nate Olemaun, the mayor of the City of Barrow and an outspoken advocate of local hiring by oil companies, noted that North Slope residents trained in specialized trades in carpentry and electronics, were placed as "roustabouts". The unskilled work and the under-utilization of local workers led to much job dissatisfaction;

(see **LOCAL HIRE**, page 4)

Ebona takes Tlingit-Haida post

By LAURY ROBERTS

A local Tlingit boy who made it to the national level in Indian politics has come home to Juneau to work with his own tribe.

"I needed to come home and work directly for my tribe and apply the knowledge I've gained," says Andy Ebona, the just-appointed managing director for the Tlingit-Haida Central Council. The organization serves the nation's third largest Indian tribe, made up of 16,000 Tlingits and Haidas from 21 communities, including Southeast Alaska, Anchorage, Seattle, and San Francisco.

His appointment was announced last Friday.

Ebona 35, spent seven years outside working in big jobs in big cities. He was most recently the executive director of the National Congress of American Indians in Washington, D.C. Prior to that he headed the United Indian

Planners Association, also in the capital.

He worked in the northwest regional office of the Economic Development section of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Ebona was the national director for community organization for Americans for Indian Opportunity and involved with the United Indians of All Tribes Foundation in Seattle.

"I couldn't stand Washington, D.C.," Says Ebona who wears a bear claw necklace around his button- and in aquaculture and citizens are the beneficiaries lly dormant?" he asked. federal offices to help us get involved."

Ebona is ready to dig in. He would like to establish a newsletter to provide better communication among the tribal members. He's also interested in establishing programs for the elderly (who play an important role in Tlingit life) and in aquaculture and

energy potential.

He would like to create closer ties between the council and the people it serves. "While the local community may have access to us, we have a problem being regionalized" Ebona told the TUNDRA TIMES. "Right now we just don't have the money to get out to other places and provide services."

"We're overshadowed by Sealaska (the state's largest regional Native corporation)," he admitted. "That meant acquisition of land and making money for the people here. But that doesn't diminish our role. While Sealaska is into development for profit, we're into social programs."

The central council, which has operated for nearly 45 years, is going through a reorganization in which Ebona will likely play a leadership role.

"Because of problems, such as duplication of ser-

(see **EBONA**, page 6)

Lang argues for subsistence

Lack of regional input into game management decisions and a reliance on crisis management instead of sound planning are two of the major problems standing in the way of sound wildlife management in Alaska, Roger Lang president of the Alaska Native Foundation said last week.

Lang made his remarks in an address July 25 to a gathering of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

"We don't like crash or crisis management," Lang said. "Look at what happened to the Northwest Arctic caribou herd. They

went from a 12 month season with no limits to a crisis."

Lang said that under the subsistence provisions contained in pending D-2 legislation regional representation will be included in game policy decisions by design. "Decisions are not made now with any kind of rationalization that we can determine," said Lang.

Lang pointed out that there are over 200 villages in Alaska whose primary purpose is to act as staging areas for the harvest of fish and game for sustenance. And he outlined Native efforts to introduce

(see **LANG**, page 5)