

Rural-CAP

ACTION REPORTS

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CAP Directors Set Meeting For Feb. 4-5

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Board of Directors, is scheduled to hold their next regular meeting, February 4-5, in Juneau.

Order of business includes the selection of a new executive director; acceptance of Program Year E Grant; acceptance of Legal Services contract; OEO Northwest Region X's evaluation of the Rural CAP agency; and board discussion on a proposed alcoholism proposal.

Seven Dillingham Area Villages Participate in Hot Breakfast Program

Child Development Policy Group to Meet

The Rural Alaska Community Action Program Child Development State Policy Advisory Com-

mittee is holding its meeting in Juneau February 3rd and 4th prior to the Rural CAP Board Meeting.

The State PAC is scheduled to discuss the grant application for Head Start, 1972-73; formulating the election of a new PAC; Leadership Development Program, Regional Workshops, and Program Evaluation for the year.

The PAC members are: Marge Frelin—Chairman, Anchorage; Marlene Johnson, Hoonah; Jenny Lindoff, Hoonah; Elmer Armstrong, Kotzebue; Philip Carlson, Kake; Moses Paukan, E. Mary's; Vera James, Fort Yukon; Margaret Wolf, Anchorage; Robert Newlin, Noorvik; and Norma Mills, Kotzebue.

Seven villages in the Dillingham area are currently participating in an area-wide hot breakfast program. Funding for this program came through a special grant from the Office of Economic Opportunity's Emergency Food and Medical Services Program, with Rural CAP as the grantee.

According to the terms of a contract signed by State Operated Schools and the Rural CAP agency, State Operated Schools provides the necessary U.S.D.A. foods, while Rural CAP is responsible for purchasing the needed supplemental foods.

In addition, Rural CAP pays the salaries of the cooks who are hired by the State and employs a Supervisor Coordinator who is stationed in Dillingham.

Mrs. Nina Nicholson who is the Supervisor Coordinator is responsible for working with the village cooks to ensure their knowledge of proper food preparation and cooking techniques.

According to Betsy Wakelee, Rural CAP Project Director,

"The worth of this program can be seen in already increased height and weight levels of those participating students."

"It is further evidenced that prior to the inception of this program, many children were observed to be suffering from various skin diseases and sores."

"However, after only a few months of receiving well-balanced breakfasts and lunches, these sores have noticeably disappeared."

Comments from teachers have been highly favorable to the school food program. One principal teacher was quoted as saying, "These food programs are possibly the two most important phases in the whole school program, including the classroom work."

Other teachers have noticed a big change in their students' attention spans in mental alertness since the inception of the school food programs.

This is the first year that an extensive program of this type has been implemented. The program began in September of 1970 and is funded through June of 1972.

It is hoped that the program may be extended next year by adding additional villages.

So says the VA...

KIWI
by Ken Montone

KIWI, DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN GET \$175 A MONTH FOR GOING TO SCHOOL IF YOU'RE A VET... THAT THE VA WILL GIVE YOU JOB ASSISTANCE... AND EVEN JOB COUNSELING... THAT YOU CAN GET A HOME LOAN... TRAINING... COMMERCIAL PILOT'S LICENSE... A TUTOR AT SCHOOL IF YOUR GRADES ARE LOW...?

GREAT SCOTT, TWIT... WHERE DID YOU LEARN ALL THIS ABOUT THE VA?

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Tells Staff Cuts Expected—

Mercer Addresses

Tom Mercer, Regional Director of the Office of Economic Opportunity's Northwest Region X, addressed the Rural CAP staff January 20th in Anchorage.

Highlights of the director's presentation included: an expected cut in OEO program funding, nation-wide, for next year; VISTA program being spun off to local, state governments; and the availability of research and demonstration monies.

In reply to a question regarding the phasing out of the Emergency Food and Medical programs, the director replied that the program as a whole will probably be phased out, however, previously earmarked funds for the Emergency Food and Medical programs would become versatile funds.

In concluding his remarks, Mercer stated that he was looking forward to having a good working relationship with Alaska's new State administration.

Mercer was in Anchorage to chair a two day meeting of all OEO grantees in Alaska, scheduled for January 21 and 22.

The purpose of this conference was to discuss coordination between the many varied and diverse programs in the State of Alaska.

Begich Says Parent Child Centers Funded

Announcement came from the office of Congressman Nick Begich that the Office of Child Development, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has approved a \$175,520 grant to Rural Alaska Community Action Program, Inc. to conduct two Parent Child Centers in Alaska.

The PCC's operating in Kotzebue and Hoonah began their third year November 1, 1970. The Kotzebue PCC Director is Becky Harria; and the Hoonah PCC Director is Ruth James.

SHARE IN AMERICA '71

Sergius-Whitestone Narrows—

Gravel Seeks to Correct Navigational Hazards

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senator Mike Gravel (D-Alaska) has urged President Nixon to release \$200,000 appropriated by Congress for preliminary work in correcting the navigational hazards in the Sergius-Whitestone Narrows.

In a letter to the President, Senator Gravel noted that the money authorized for the project has been set aside by the Administration as part of a budgetary reserve for new public works construction.

"Because of present conditions in the Narrows," the Senator said, "the City of Sitka, Alaska, continues to have limited ferry service due partly to the requirements of catching a tide

in the narrows.

"Their freight costs and insurance costs are adversely affected by the lengthening of the time necessary to navigate the area," he pointed out, "and commercial fishermen and tugboat

operators continue to face undue perils when moving to the inside waters."

"I therefore strongly urge you, on behalf of the people of the Sitka area, to make this money available to the Corps

of Engineers so this navigational hazard can be corrected. I should point out," the Senator concluded, "that except for air service, all transportation to and from this community must be by water."



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