



Rural-CAP

ACTION REPORTS



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3908

Telephone 279-2441

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

CAP protests Vista cuts

RuRAL CAP staffers honored

Twenty-four RuRAL CAP staff members are being honored with a Bicentennial certificate for their dedication and long service to Project Head Start.

The certificate, which originated in Washington, D.C., and was signed by the local program director Roger O. Mooney, is being awarded nationally to persons who have worked at least seven years with

Head Start.

According to the the national director of Project Head Start, James L. Robinson, the program has served five and a half million children and their families since it began in 1965.

Those persons who are scheduled to receive the certificates are Emily Andrews, Aggie Ayagarak, Annie Beans, Ina Berlin, Elmer Campbell,

Exenia Fitka, Vera Frankson, Marion Henniger, May Henry, Millie Jack, Shirley Jackson, Ambrose Kokrine and Patricia Koozaata.

Also being honored with the certificates are Winifred Smith, Eunice Long, Joe Meade, Laura Norton, Lena Skeek, Maria Snyder, Aileen Topkol, Willie Waska, Elena Whymn, Pavilla Whymn, and Walter Wongittlin.

\$100 million for roadwork in Alaska

WASHINGTON—The Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1975, which the President today signed into law, contains more than \$100 million for road work in Alaska.

Included in the law is a proposal authored by Sen. Mike Gravel, D-Alaska, that will establish a National Transportation Commission. The commission will study all forms of transportation: air, water, road, and rail. In addition to the study, the commission will make recommendations for an integrated national transportation system.

Establishment of the commission will mark the first attempt to formulate a national transportation policy. Under the terms of the law, Alaska will be studied as a separate and specific geographic area.

Gravel, who was at the White House for the signing today, said

he was pleased that the study has been mandated. "This commission will enable us to define the problem areas and begin to do something about them," Gravel said.

Also in the bill signed today is an amendment Gravel offered that calls for a study to

determine to what extent Alaska's highways have been damaged by heavy, pipeline related truck traffic.

The study will help to determine the cost of totally repairing Alaska's highway system once pipeline construction is finished.

Limit entry . . .

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fish because of limited entry. They will be no industry for younger fishermen to get into.

Our sport fishing and tourist industry will die if the law is repealed and the streams are closed to sport fishing due to overfishing.

Fellow Alaskans, we urge you to open your eyes to the matter before you. It is a serious one and can affect the lives of many Alaskans and the future of our children of Alaska.

We are not a political organization, nor do we receive funds to campaign on political matters. We are a group of Alaskan fishermen dedicated to preserve the economy and the heritage of a dying industry in Alaska.

Old Harbor Committee To Preserve Limited Entry
Ron Berntsen, Chairman
P. O. Box 109
Old Harbor, Alaska 99643

CINA boarding home . . .

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Department of Education to the people in rural Alaska.

"Cook Inlet Native Association agrees fully with the concept of decentralizing public education in the state of Alaska. We do, however, feel that much effort needs to go into making a smooth transition from the present system of bringing students to urban areas to whatever system is evolved for enabling rural students to obtain access to secondary education next year.

We recognize that one of the disadvantages to decentralizing the boarding home program functions is that it becomes more difficult to focus funds for a staff that can identify suitable homes, orient and counsel students, and pay foster parents on a regular basis.

We are very concerned that the parents of these students be informed at the earliest possible date that the state does not plan to operate the boarding home program next year. Also, we believe that special efforts need to be made to inform the new REEA boards of procedural and

financial considerations that they will be facing when trying to locate their secondary students in appropriate secondary schools.

The reason I feel that these are of vital importance is not because CINA is relinquishing the boarding home program contract, but because we feel that the individual students themselves should have a choice of attending high school in the location that will most benefit them.

My question, then, is, will enough funds be provided so the REEA's so that students can attend urban high schools next fall if they so desire?

Time is a crucial factor. It is very disturbing to contemplate the confusion that could occur this fall if information is not provided so that students and parents can deal with the major decisions that will have to be made regarding their individual educational futures.

Sincerely,
Jeanmarie Larson
President/Executive Director
Cook Inlet Native Association

Having recently been informed of the Action Agency's decision to reduce the total Alaska Vista program from 80 volunteers to 30, RuRAL CAP Executive Director, Phil Smith, strongly protested the decision in a letter to U.S. Senator Ted Stevens.

"It seems to me that ACTION is overlooking the real contributions of Vista Volunteers in Alaska," said Smith. "The problems of poverty in our State persist, and Vista's are a fine way to deal with them. The many men and women who have the energy and the commitment to serving while surviving at poverty-level incomes should not be denied the opportunity to continue their service."

The text of Smith's letter to Senator Stevens follows:

Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
411 Russell Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Stevens:

It has come as a real shock to learn that the ACTION Agency has decided to reduce Alaska's Vista Volunteer force from 80 to 30 and to entirely eliminate the Alaska Legal Services Corporation as a sponsor.

Senator, I believe there are essentially three issues involved with this decision, none of which are being adequately assessed by the ACTION hierarchy.

The first is the question of real need throughout the Nation to involve people in programs to assist our Nation's 25,000,000 poor. ACTION's decision to reduce the total Vista force is, in my opinion, irresponsible and contemptuous. It neither addresses the Congressional intent nor the real needs of America's poor (both of which the Administration must be responsive to).

Secondly, ACTION's decision to allocate National Pool Vista Volunteers according to the poverty population as a percentage of the total State population is (as it was last year at this time) totally irresponsible once more. As you are certainly aware of, the income guideline inequity which plagues Alaska, I won't belabor the point. Suffice it to say that Roger Mooney's visit with you last week has far-ranging ramifications, beyond the Head Start Program.

A sidelight on the ACTION allocation formula is basic inconsistencies within their own bureaucracy. As you may know, ACTION's own guidelines for eligible to participate in the Foster Grandparents Program to use the basic CSA figure, added on to which is each State's supplement to Federal SSI payments. This computation for Alaska established eligibility a full 31 per cent higher for a family of 3 (\$7,585 as opposed to the CSA guideline of \$5,760 for a family of the same size). I would suggest that ACTION either stabilize their policies or re-assess their decision-making

process.

Finally, the decision (administrative) to eliminate further Vista placements with Alaska Legal Services Corporation is ridiculous, if it is to be taken in the context of ACTION's efforts to serve the poor. As you know, almost 50 per cent of A.L.S.C.'s present professional staff are volunteers. Their contribution to the poor and disadvantaged in Alaska is immeasurable and yet are performed at a fraction of the cost of providing similar services through any other structure.

Senator, I know you are aware of these issues and we have certainly appreciated your active support in the past. Believe me, I look forward to the day when we can all work together to eliminate the needs that our programs represent, rather than engaging in a continuous struggle with Federal Agencies which, by virtue of their obtuse administration, create the problems.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
Philip J. Smith
Executive Director

Sherry Osier selected

Sherry Osier has been selected to fill the position of Rural Energy Director (which was vacated last month when Mary Stachelrodt took over as Deputy Director).

Sherry, a resident of Alaska for 14 years, has many years experience aiding in the administration of various "people-oriented" programs, including secretary to Elmendorf Air Force Base's Equal Opportunity Officer. Her previous position with RuRAL CAP was Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director.

Sherry has maintained an active interest in the Energy Department programs for many months and so comes to her new office acquainted with its problems and successes.

Jack Easterbrook has just begun his new job as RuRAL CAP's Planner. Jack came to Alaska as a Vista Volunteer, stationed in Bethel, where he worked on fuel shortage problems and rural Alaskan employment problems.

He spent last summer running a pipeline worker recruitment program for Yupik Bista Manpower in conjunction with AFN.

Transferred to Anchorage last winter to work on our Winterization program, Jack became Assistant Energy Coordinator in February.

Said, Executive Director Phil Smith of the personnel actions, "It is good to see so many of our staff moving up into new and challenging positions; bringing with them a dedication to RuRAL CAP's program goals, and the knowledge and potential to do an excellent job."

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
ASSEMBLY OF THE
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH
BARROW, ALASKA

FILE NUMBER: GA-20-76

PLACE OF HEARING:

New North Slope Borough Office Building, Barrow, Alaska.

DATE OF HEARING: June 15, 1976, 7:30 P.M.

SUBJECT OF HEARING:

Public Hearing on the following ordinances which have been introduced for consideration by the Assembly of the North Slope Borough.

ORDINANCE 76-14

AN ORDINANCE ACCEPTING THE TRANSFER OF THE POLICE AND JAIL FACILITIES FROM THE CITIES OF BARROW, ANAKTUVUK PASS, NUIQSUT, KAKTOVIK, POINT HOPE, AND WAINWRIGHT AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Ordinance 76-14 is a code ordinance which accepts the Police and Jail facilities power transferred by the cities of Barrow, Anaktuvuk Pass, Nuiqsut, Kaktovik, Point Hope, and Wainwright. The ordinance is effective July 1, 1976.

ORDINANCE 76-15

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Ordinance 76-15 is a code ordinance creating a Department of Public Safety, providing for a Director of Public Safety, appointed by the Borough Mayor and setting out the department. The effective date of the ordinance is July 1, 1976.

DATED: June 2, 1976.

LLOYD AHVAKANA, Clerk
NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH
Pub.: June 9, 1976.