

# May You Have a Better Year than You Expected

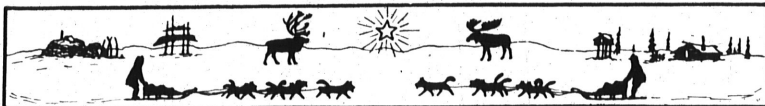
## Tundra Times

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Inupiat Paitot People's Heritage

Den Nena Henash Our Land Speaks

Unanguq Tunuktauq The Aleuts Speak



Tlingit  
Ut kah neek Informing and Reporting

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# PAROLE COUNSELING LACKING

## Native Volunteers Help to Solve Problems For Young Parolees

By MADELYN SHULMAN  
Staff Writer

During recent months, the Fairbanks State Department of Corrections officers have been trying to solve the problem of insufficient counseling for young people on parole.

"By law, a kid on probation is supposed to have proper counseling," said Ted Sutton—Department of Corrections coordinator for a volunteer program begun last summer.

"However, the probation officer caseload is high—as many as 50 or 60 kids. One kid might wait for an hour in an office for his 15 minutes counseling in a month."

To solve this problem, the department instituted a Volunteers in Probation program. The volunteer probation officer agrees to work with the person on probation one time per week for an hour or more. Volunteers work through Sutton and the Department of Corrections, which runs a thorough check on the person and conducts in depth interviews.

"We've had cases where the kid runs away and the first person he turns to is the volun-

teer," Sutton said.

The volunteer becomes a friend, not a cop, he said. For a young person from a poor family, or a broken home, he or she can become a trusted adult—someone to turn to for help and advice.

One urgent need in the volunteer program is for native volunteers. At present, there are 12 native volunteers.

"A child from a village is very shy. If he's gotten in trouble and placed on probation he rarely opens up to cautions. I have kids come into my office saying I can't talk to her and not knowing why."

The native volunteers the program has found, Sutton said, have been excellent. One volunteer went out searching for jobs

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I KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A SO-CALLED DEVIANT—Ted Sutton, coordinator of the Volunteers in Probation program in Fairbanks is seeking native volunteers to work with native young people on probation. Sutton

himself is a Tlingit Indian from Seattle and Vancouver who says he grew up as a "kid who got into trouble"—a background which he feels helps him in his work.

## Did You Have a Merry Christmas?

TUNDRA TIMES hopes you all had a MERRY CHRISTMAS.

We thought you might appreciate knowing about our Christmas—ours and some of the people we know—and know about.

Here in Fairbanks, there was lots of Christmas cheer—warm temperatures for the weekend. Last Wednesday, students from the University together with the Fairbanks Native Association and local civic groups sponsored a gala Christmas party at Alaska-land.

Then, Saturday afternoon, Christmas Day, our Native Community Center hosted a Christmas dinner. The volunteers who ran the affair estimate three or four hundred native people attended the dinner—demolishing almost unlimited quantities of turkeys, hams, moose, bear, salads fish and other goodies.

Of course, not everyone had a Merry Christmas. Tony Evans down in the Boarding Home Program office estimates there were 25 or 30 village high school students who couldn't raise the money to go home for the holidays.

With the rest of the 200 or more boarding students in the city busily hopping chartered planes, when flights and car pools, it may just have been a lonely Christmas for these young people.

Kiwanis Club in Fairbanks

collected money for weeks before Christmas to try to provide some holiday cheer for people in town who don't have much money. We don't know how successful they were.

Not very, reports Mrs. Josephine Van Reenan, an Aleut woman from King Cove and South Naknek who lives in Fair-

banks.

She reports that the Fairbanks Kiwanis Club had planned to bring about \$100 worth of presents to her neighborhood, but only brought about \$19 worth. Her children, she said, had a very bare Christmas.

So bare that she and some

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## Injuries at ASHA Housing--

### Injured Have Workmen's Compensation Rights?

During the summer of 1970, David Frankson of Point Hope broke his leg while working on his new ASHA house. Eight months later, he was still partially laid up. In Tooksook Bay last year, another native participant in an Alaska State Housing Authority self-help project was injured. He spent an extended time in the hospital.

If either of these men had been injured on a construction job for which they were paid, they would have been eligible for Workmen's Compensation.

This form of employee insurance provides medical benefits for injured workers, support payments for them and their families for as long as they are unable to work, compensation for their families if they should die as a result of the accident.

However, people working on their own ASHA homes do not receive any of these benefits—as David Frankson found out when he tried to file a claim last spring.

"Claimant is not an employee as no contract of employment existed," replied Continental Insurance Company via Department of Labor form ADL 150. "Claimant participant in mutual self-help program for natives wherein ASHA provides all material and instructions for home building. . . . Participants do the actual labor involved in the construction which gives them a 'sweat equity' in the homes when they are finished. If participant does not finish home, he receives nothing for his labor."

Why not Workmen's Compensation asked Don Dorsey of Ala-

ska Native Industries?

"A man's time has value to him and to his family. Sweat or no sweat. He cannot be gainfully employed if he MUST work on a mutual self help housing project to get a new house. In essence, he is employed."

An accident on an ASHA construction site, like any other accident, could conceivably incapacitate a man so that he could not work for the rest of his life. Yet, people are not aware that they will not be insured, Dorsey reported.

Also, according to the Department of Labor form, if a man does not finish the project he will not get his house.

It hasn't worked that way, replied Ken Gain, Deputy Exe-

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## Griffin of Rights Commission

North of the Alaskan Range, the State of Alaska Human Rights Commission Fairbanks Office is charged with the vast responsibility of investigating complaints of discrimination in jobs, housing and public accom-

modations.

The Fairbanks field representative is one of a tiny staff of three professional personnel responsible for the entire state. Human Rights Commission executive director Robert Willard and one investigator staff the Anchorage office.

In Fairbanks, Ernest Griffin, appointed November 9, 1971 by the Governor, staffs his office without even the benefit of

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ERNEST GRIFFIN