

Highlights of KNOM History

from *Our Sunday Visitor*.

July 1991: The staff considers it miraculous: KNOM has been given enough funds to replace the volunteer dormitory. The 50-year-old "temporary" Community House dorm is sliced in half and removed. The new volunteer dorm will be situated on its lot.

Next door, near where the "Crooked House" once sat, 12-inch H-beam pilings are sunk 50 feet into the ground to support a new 80-foot tower for the future studio's microwave dishes.

August 24, 1991: Builder Pat Hahn sets the first beams for a new volunteer dorm.

It has been named "The Luella Poole Community House" to honor Fr. Poole's mother.

August 1991: Contractor Rod Ewing stick-builds KNOM's new 80-foot tower, for the station's microwave dishes, remote broadcasting antennas, and eventually, the transmitting antenna for KNOM-FM.



Late December 1991: Volunteers Jim Lawhon and Dave Renner help Pat Hahn, Tom Busch and Timothy Cochran lift 72 sheets of dry wall up to the new dormitory's second story deck, dangerous work at -20°, with no railing and light snow making footing slippery. They haul another 128 heavy sheets through the front door.

The station has now been given \$265,000 toward

(Left) Rod Ewing assembles the new self-supporting studio tower. Visible are the 1970 tower's guy wires.

construction of a new studio, which is estimated to cost \$425,000.

January 15, 1992: The dorm's drywall is up, and the walls and ceilings are "taped and mudded" and ready for painting.

February 1992: Volunteer news director Cheri Collins flies 925 miles to the villages of Unalakleet, St. Marys, Stebbins, Hooper Bay, Chevak and Scammon Bay.

Among other items, she produces a touching news story on Hooper Bay Eskimo leader Dennis Lake, who had suffered years of alcoholism. Sober, he is the organizer of a sobriety movement in the village.

Cherie is fulfilling a lifelong dream of her parents. Twenty-three years ago, Jim and Ellie Collins were set to move to Alaska as Jesuit Volunteers when they learned they were expecting a child - Cherie.

KNOM Update News reports this month that the powers that be on Little Diomed Island judge that the village's water tank is



(Above) Radio volunteer Bridget Dietz is probably regretting that she offered to blow insulation into the ceiling of the new volunteer dormitory, January 1992.