State fair theme honors colonists

"Colony Jubilee" is the main theme for the 1985 Alaska State Fair in Palmer this year, celebrating the 50th anniversary of Matanuska Valley colonization.

The theme was selected to honor the colonists, "because they deserve the credit for everything the Valley is today," said Marcha Melton, state fair general manager.

One day of the Aug. 23-Sept. 1 fair will be designated to honor colonists and senior citizens in general. Special events and activities commemorating the hard work undertaken by the 362 colonists who settled the Valley in 1935 will be staged throughout the one-week fair.