



CHAMBER CHATTER

WHERE THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS LIVES YEAR ROUND

North Pole Community Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 55071 North Pole, AK 99705

August - September 2011

Chamber Board Report

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NEXT NPCCC BOARD MEETING

Tues. September 13
5:30 pm
Mt. McKinley Bank
North Pole



The North Pole Community Chamber of Commerce board meeting was held on Tuesday, August 9 at 5:30 pm at Mt. McKinley Bank in North Pole. Board members got together to collaborate and discuss upcoming fall and winter chamber events planned for North Pole. While this may seem a little early and no one wants to hear the fall and winter words these events will be here before you know. September is right around the corner and the focus will be on election campaigns and the North Pole Candidates Luncheon and Forum. This year NPCCC will hold the Candidates Luncheon and Forum at Hotel North Pole on Thursday, September 22. More detailed information will be provided in the September newsletter and through local advertising. Also on the agenda is Winterfest. This is always a lively and festive time in our town, so much hustle and buzzing about. It is rumored Santa is already fixing up his sled for the long Christmas ride. Make sure you've been good all year cause Santa knows who's been naughty or nice. Winterfest activities include the Fireworks Display, Candlelighting Ceremony at North Pole High School, the lighting of the Christmas Tree at Santa Land RV Park, the opening of the Christmas in Ice Park, and the North Pole Christmas Bazaar.

We've already had phone calls from vendors wanting information about the upcoming bazaar. This year the North Pole Christmas Bazaar will be the first Saturday in December, the 3rd to be exact, from 10 am to 5 pm in the North Pole Plaza Mall. The bazaar vendor application is available on our website: <http://www.northpolechamber.us/pdfs/2011-Bazaar-Application.pdf> A vendor map spot of the North Pole Plaza Mall is in the making and will be available soon. We are pleased to announce these forms can be filled out online.

As you can imagine there is much thought and planning that goes into these events. If you would like to help out with any of the activities please contact one of the North Pole Chamber Board Members. If you are interested in helping out with Christmas in Ice contact Keith or Marilyn Fye.

Board Meetings are open to the public. You do not have to be a Chamber Member to attend, although members are encouraged to attend. Come on out and support your local community! You can make the difference!

Announcements



2011 Board Members

President - Heather Heineken

V President - Marilyn Zrucky

Treasurer - Tricia Fogarty

Member - Tammy Randolph

Member - Phil Zastrow

Do you have an announcement, upcoming event, or feature story you would like printed in the newsletter?

This is free advertizing available to all North Pole Chamber of Commerce members and is viewed by community members throughout the entire state.

Simply submit by email or attach a small pdf or word file with the subject "newsletter item" to: info@northpolechamber.us

Newsletters are sent out the middle of each month.
Information is due by the 1st of the month.



NEW WEEKEND OPEN-AIR MARKET
NEXT TO SANTA CLAUS HOUSE

JUNE 4 - AUGUST 28, 2011

SATURDAYS 10 - 9

SUNDAYS 10 - 7

FEATURING A VARIETY OF HANDMADE AND MADE
IN ALASKA PRODUCTS, FOOD & BEVERAGES,
ARTS & CRAFTS, GIFTS & COLLECTIBLES . . .
AND MORE.

VENDOR APPLICATIONS STILL ACCEPTIED

VISIT [HTTP://WWW.CHRISTMASCREEKMARKET.COM](http://www.christmascreekmarket.com)



AUGUST 27 AT 6:30 PM
SANTA'S SENIORS CENTER

GIVE-IT-A-TRY BINGO
(\$12.00 PACKET)

DINNER (\$6.00) AT 5:30PM

SANTA'S SENIOR CENTER
101 EAST 5TH AVENUE
NORTH POLE

CALL 488-4663
MON - FRI, 11AM-3PM
FOR MORE INFORMATION

North Pole - In The News August Spotlight

NORTH POLE MIDDLE SCHOOL LIBRARIAN RETURNS FROM TRAINING IN WASHINGTON

Lyn Ballam, of North Pole and librarian at North Pole Middle School, was honored to be chosen as one of 25 selected educators from across the nation, taken from a pool of hundreds of applicants, to attend a summer teacher training program at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., in early August. She has recently returned from the five day program which focused on developing teaching strategies using primary sources. Lyn plans to pass along what she learned to other librarians in the district and use the methods toward teaching students this school year.



2011 - 2012 SCHOOL YEAR

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS
THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2011

VISIT THE FNSBSD WEBSITE FOR
YOUR SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST OR FOR
MORE INFORMATION:
[HTTP://WWW.K12NORTHSTAR.ORG/](http://www.k12northstar.org/)

OPEN HOUSE PLANNED FOR TANANA RIVER BRIDGE PROJECT



The Alaska Railroad will host an open house to field questions about the upcoming Tanana River bridge project.

The 3,300-foot bridge, part of a \$190 million first phase of a project that will eventually expand railroad operations to Delta Junction, will include a new span across the river and a related levee near Salcha. The project is expected to last three years, with groundbreaking planned next month.

A public open house is scheduled from 6-8 p.m. Aug. 23 at Salcha School, with a presentation on the project planned at 6:30 p.m. The presentation will offer a project update that will include construction phases, traffic control, community impacts and environmental mitigation measures. Those attending the meeting will be able to view displays and ask questions of project planners.

The Alaska Legislature contributed \$44 million last spring to complete financing of the bridge project. The railroad had previously secured \$144 million, most of it from Department of Defense and Federal Railroad Administration sources.

Nebraska-based Kiewit Corp. has signed a \$156.4 million deal to build the bridge, with the remaining project costs going toward administrative costs, environmental surveys and other expenses. The project is expected to create more than 200 construction jobs during the summer months, according to the railroad, and about two-dozen year-round positions.

A groundbreaking ceremony also has been scheduled at 2 p.m. Sept. 28 at the construction staging area in Salcha.

Information provided from the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. Contact the newsroom at 459-7572 for more information.



FREE WORKSHOP

U.S. CENSUS 2010

And the

NEW American FactFinder

Who: Hector Maldonado, Speaker
Partnership Specialist
US Census Bureau, Seattle

When: August 23, 2011; Tuesday
1:30-4:30 p.m.

Where: North Pole City Hall
125 Snowman Lane
North Pole, Alaska



OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Please R.S.V.P. (we need a count for the packets)

This Session will include:

- Newly released data from Summary File-1
- Overview of Census Geography & Data Sources
- Compare & Contrast Census 2000 and 2010 Census
- American Community Survey and how it works
- Quarterly Workforce Indicators (QWI) & Local Employment Dynamics (LED)
- Hands-on Data Access Examples
- Demonstration of the NEW American FactFinder Internet Access:
 - Find data for a specific community or neighborhood
 - Create profiles of the Alaska Native population
 - Create reference map



Need more information or for R.S.V.P. Contact Mayor Doug Isaacson, 488-2281



BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU SERVING ALASKA, OREGON AND WESTERN WASHINGTON IS WARNING BUSINESS OWNERS TO BEWARE OF SEVEN SCAMS TARGETING SMALL BUSINESSES YEAR-ROUND.

BE SMART WHEN DOWNLOADING PHONE APPS - ASK QUESTIONS TO PROTECT PRIVACY

With new smartphone applications hitting the digital marketplace everyday, it is becoming more difficult for consumers to discern between the entertaining and the dangerous. Once downloaded, risky apps can use spyware to track users' activities and steal contacts, text messages or photos saved on devices.

"Apps can be incredibly fun, useful and informative; consumers should protect phones from dangerous downloads, just as they would personal computers," commented Robert W.G. Andrew, CEO of BBB serving Alaska, Oregon and Western Washington.

Better Business Bureau recommends asking questions to avoid installing spyware or other dangerous apps:

What permissions does the app request? Downloading word games, for example, shouldn't require access to the phone's location, contacts, or SIM card. Read app permissions carefully and decide if conceding the information is worth it.

How do users rate the app? Read reviews from those who have used the app. Be wary of negative evaluations and reports of operating issues.

Who created the app? Before installing

apps, research the developer; find out what other apps they have created. Using well-known developers can decrease the risk of downloading malicious programs.

Download Dilemmas:

* Watch out for drastic drops in battery life. Malicious apps can drain battery life as programs run in the background.

* Beware of unknown charges on monthly cell phone bills. If unscrupulous developers can access phones through apps, they may be able to charge users' accounts without their knowledge.

FOR MORE TIPS, READ BBB'S ARTICLE: CELL PHONE USERS: BLOCK IDENTITY THEFT RISKS

<[HTTP://ALASKAOREGONWESTERNWASHINGTON.BBB.ORG/ARTICLE/CELL-PHONE-USERS-BLOCK-IDENTITY-THEFT-RISKS-22763](http://alaskaoregonwesternwashington.bbb.org/article/cell-phone-users-block-identity-theft-risks-22763)>

BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU JOB OPENING

LOCATION: ANCHORAGE, AK

POSITION: ALASKA PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

DUTIES:

- * Write and edit communications materials for specific programs, company collateral, presentations and media releases.
- * Coordinate public relations and media relations efforts, as well as planning and promoting events.
- * Coordinate and handle all outreach programs, including: speeches, program development and community education.

QUALIFICATIONS: APPLICANTS MUST POSSESS:

- * A Bachelor's Degree, preferably in Communications, Journalism or Public Relations.
- * One to three years of related work experience or training.
- * Proven experience researching, writing and editing press releases and other materials.
- * Excellent communication skills.
- * Ability to speak effectively in front of groups of employees and clients using various communication tools.

BBB SERVING ALASKA, OREGON AND WESTERN WASHINGTON IS AIMING TO FILL THIS POSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE SUBMIT COVER LETTERS AND RESUMES TO: HR@THEBBB.ORG<[MAILTO:HR@THEBBB.ORG](mailto:HR@THEBBB.ORG)>

THIS POSITION IS ALSO POSTED ONLINE: [ALASKA.BBB.ORG/BBB-JOBS](http://alaska.bbb.org/BBB-JOBS)<[HTTP://ALASKA.BBB.ORG/BBB-JOBS](http://alaska.bbb.org/BBB-JOBS)>