

the ANCHOR AGE



Incorporated 1878

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The Honorable W. Thomas Hewitt
Mayor of Anchorage



January 2010

Announcing the First Anchorage Chili Cook-Off in Anchorage Town Center

January 31 - 4:30 Winter Walk on the Trail
5:00 Cook-Off begins, Town Center
6:00 Town Meeting, Shall We Dance Studio

Mayor's State of the City Address -Civic Organizations Announcements -Q & A Session, and
COOK-OFF RESULTS!



Chili Cook-Off Teams:

- Forestry Board and Commonwealth Bank at Commonwealth Bank (The Forestry Board was the first to commit, and the Bank makes the team a joint account. Everyone knows Diane McAllister can cook, but will she be available on Jan 31?)
- Historic Preservation, City Council, and Evergreen Real Estate at Commonwealth Bank (Bill Wetherton, Bill Wilkinson, Susan Mitchell, and Jay Foley formed a conspiratorial team!)
- Anchorage School and Marcum's Gallery at Marcum's Gallery (Anchorage School's Don Cravens sent a "red herring" recipe containing goat meat, crawdads and frogs legs. He's expecting to take the prize, but does Carla Deddens picture things differently?)
- Anchorage Trails and Gray Tower Flowers at Marcum's Gallery (Anchorage Trails and Gray Tower Flowers are having secret meetings to plan their recipe.)
- Police and Serenity Spa at Serenity Spa (Chief Winders and Officers put out an APB that teaming with Serenity Spa will put out the Firehouse's fire!)
- Fire and EMS at the Firehouse (Chief Lage and the Firefighters are looking forward to taking on their arch rivals Chief Winders and the police department. The words espionage and sabotage have already been overheard.)

All Anchorage residents are invited to come, sample chili, and cast your votes at the Town Meeting. Don your winter apparel, arrive early and join your friends and neighbors for a brisk walk on the Trail.

(If you aren't signed up for the Anchorage City email blasts do so now, so you won't miss out on the latest news!)

A LETTER FROM THE FIRE CHIEF

In the early morning hours of Christmas Day, a terrible, tragic fire occurred in Jefferson County. The deaths of two young boys have left a family broken-hearted. Like many of you, I am a parent and a grandparent. I cannot imagine the heartbreak and pain that family must endure.

As I thought of this tragedy, a few things came to mind: This fire occurred in an upscale neighborhood of eastern Jefferson County. The fire was in a large home that had a modern, monitored alarm system. The house was located on a quiet narrow street with limited access. And, I am reasonably certain that as they went to bed the night before, the possibility of the pending tragedy probably never entered their minds. Other than the geographical location, the same scenario could have just as easily been in our City.

We firefighters and emergency medical technicians at Anchorage Fire and EMS are here to serve you in times of emergency. We are proud to do so. We will do everything possible should you need us. But, the best protections from a fire and related injury in your home are preventative measures. Review the following measures in your home, and **MAKE THEM A PRIORITY**:

- Make certain your house address numbers are clearly marked and visibly located near the street entrance of your property.
- Install smoke detectors and test them monthly.
- If you have a fire alarm system, be certain it is properly tested, maintained and inspected.
- Have your chimney inspected, repaired, and cleaned by a professional.
- Have your heating system inspected annually
- Develop and practice a family escape plan
- Call 911 before attempting to extinguish a fire, and only try to extinguish a fire if it can be done safely. If in doubt, leave your house.
- Once you are out of your house, **STAY OUT**.
- Do not call the firehouse to report a fire, **CALL 911**. If calling from a cell phone, tell the 911 operator you live in Anchorage.
- If there is a fire hydrant on or near your property, help keep it unobstructed and visible.

As I stated, we are here for you. We will come to your home and conduct a fire and safety inspection at your request. Call the Anchorage Firehouse at 245-6755 to schedule an appointment.

Please be safe.

Respectfully, Walter J. Lage, Chief
Anchorage Fire and EMS

GET THE LATEST NEWS

Are you on the City's e-mail list? The City maintains an e-mail list used to send information to subscribers. If you're not on the list, you might be missing out on the latest information or announcements. Call City Hall, 245-4654, or e-mail at anchorage.alice@insightbb.com to sign up for City e-mails.

FORESTRY NEWS

Check out the new Tree Give-away Program introduced this Spring 2010 by the Anchorage Forestry Board! See enclosed cover letter for details and order form. **This giveaway presents a great opportunity for those residents who requested Tree Removal permits in 2009 to fulfill their obligation to replace (at no cost!) any trees removed, if you have not already done so.**



The Anchorage Forestry Board hopes everyone is enjoying the 2010 calendars delivered by Board members. Extra calendars are available at City Hall for \$5.00 each. The 2010 calendar, which some residents have said is the best Forestry Board calendar yet, makes a great gift.

If you purchased trees during the Spring 2009 Tree Program, and they did not survive, call City Hall and give your contact information and the species of the tree(s) that did not survive. **The contractor will replace dead trees at no cost as a one-time offer.**

THOUGHTS OF SPRING PLANTING

It might be January and cold, but it's a good time to think about the coming warm weather, flowering trees, and longer days. It's also a good time to begin thinking of spring planting projects. A fun project you might want to consider is a "rain garden." Rain gardens help capture stormwater runoff from rooftops, driveways, patios, or other hard surfaces on your property. They soak up the runoff, filter out pollutants, and improve the health of our local streams, springs, and creeks. The beautiful native plants are ideal for a rain garden with their deep roots, minimal maintenance requirements, and the ability to withstand droughts and weather extremes. Their flowers attract butterflies and birds for a delightful bonus. City Hall has rain garden "how-to" guides to help you get your rain garden planned and installed.

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS

January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010

Monica Westhusing	Tax Assessor
Orbin Greene	Tax Supervisor
Ann Petty	Tax Supervisor
Barbara Sweet	Tax Supervisor
Paul Bergmann	Zoning Compliance Officer
Tony Hilinski	City Engineer
Greg Smith	City Engineer
Tony Hilinski	Flood Safety Officer

Historic Preservation Commission

January 1, 2010 – December 31, 2010

Bill Wetheron, Chairperson

Forestry Board

January 1, 2010– December 31, 2010

Diane McAllister, Chairperson
Connie O'Connell
Ann Stivers
Jim Williams
Sally Wilson

Ambulance Board

January 1, 2010– December 31, 2010

Albert Entwistle
Rick Mitchell
Tom Tracy - Emeritus