

VOL. I - ISSUE III | NOVEMBER 2021

CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager



WHAT'S NEW?

Greetings from City Hall

New City Council Members Sworn In

Newly elected councilmembers **Shelly Erickson**, **Jason Davis** and re-elected **Donna Aderhold** were sworn in during the October 11th City Council meeting. Erickson and Aderhold filled the three-year posts while Davis was elected to the one-year position. Many thanks to outgoing council member, **Heath Smith**, for his many years of dedicated service and valuable contributions to the City of Homer.

The City Clerks did a terrific job assisting absentee in-person voters at the window and processing absentee by mail requests. Election day saw a steady stream of voters at all precincts. Homer also expanded its role in serving as the KPB Regional Hub for elections. We had great teams of precinct workers this year and we appreciate their service to the community. Anyone interested in serving as a poll worker in the future can contact the City Clerk's office for more information.

Homer Voted 'Best Small Town for Adventure'

In case we needed any more reason to love where we live, Homer was recently nominated 'Best Small Town for Adventure' by [USA Today 10 Best.com](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2021/11/01/best-small-town-for-adventure/2021-11-01/), a source that provides travelers with original, unbiased and experiential coverage of top things to see and do at destinations in the USA and around the world. Homer made the list and people voted. Contributor Eric Grossman wrote, "Homer's world-class fishing brings in anglers from around the planet, and the charming town provides ample, unlimited access to the kind of great outdoors only found in Alaska." We're not surprised. Homer offers a variety of abundant wildlife, hiking, mountain biking and ATV trails, kayaking and horseback riding. The more adventurous can even experience a once-in-a-lifetime helicopter tour over glaciers and vast expanses of untouched natural beauty.

- Library News
- Community Corner
- Public Safety Notes
- Message from HPD
- Parks & Community Recreation
- Public Works Department
- Todd's Watering Hole
- Port & Harbor
- Meet the Staff
- City of Homer Roster
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Municipal Art Collection

We hope you'll discover something new today as we share information and ways you can tap into what's going on at City Hall and in the Homer community.

Check us out on Facebook



City Hall - @cityofhomerak
Parks & Recreation - @homerparksandrec
Homer Public Library - @homerpubliclibrary
Homer Police - @homerpolice
Fire Department - @HomerVolFireDept.

Share this link with your friends, so they can get the newsletter too - <https://www.cityofhomer.ak.gov/citymanager/monthly-email-newsletter>

"where the land ends and the sea begins"

WORLD TSUNAMI AWARENESS 5 NOVEMBER DAY



Take some time on Friday, November 5th to learn more about Tsunamis

World Tsunami Awareness Day was started in Japan to help reduce the number of people affected when a tsunami strikes. Due to its repeated, tragic tsunami experiences, Japan has built up expertise in areas such as tsunami early warning, public action and building back better afterward to reduce future impacts.

The date for the annual celebration was chosen in honor of the Japanese story of “Inamura-no-hi,” meaning the “burning of the rice sheaves”. During an 1854 earthquake a farmer saw the tide receding, a sign of a looming tsunami. He set fire to his entire harvest to warn villagers, who fled to high ground. Afterwards, he built an embankment and planted trees as a buffer against future waves.

A quick, entertaining way to learn about tsunamis is to [watch the fast draw video](#) created by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association on how to prepare for and respond to a tsunami event. For a deeper dive into Homer's tsunami danger zones, evacuation routes and how to prepare a Go Kit, visit the [City of Homer's Emergency Preparedness website page](#).

All-Hazard Mitigation Plan

'Mitigation' is a term we've heard a lot lately with COVID. In general, mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening community and individual vulnerability to and the economic and emotional costs of hazards before they occur. Homer's All-Hazards Mitigation Plan provides the steps to take before a disaster that can help reduce impacts when a disaster occurs. Click [HERE](#) for the Plan.

The City, with support from FEMA, is updating the plan and will be reaching out to community members and local leaders to further understand risks from natural hazards and solicit ideas for long-term strategies to reduce the impacts of future events.

The Plan examines many hazards Homer would face, and includes an extensive Risk Analysis and Mitigation Goals and Actions to keep our community safe. The list below covers a variety of potential risks that have been identified in our area.

- Hazard Criteria
- Flood Profiles
- Wildland Fires
- Weather
- Landslides
- Coastal Erosion
- Earthquake
- Tsunamis
- Volcanos
- Man-Made/Technological Disasters



LIBRARY NEWS

Getting Groovy at HPL



Time to crank up the tunes in Study Room 5. Explore our new collection of vinyl LPs! You can listen to music on headphones onsite or check them out to play at home.

StoryWalk Trail Survey



We want to hear from you! Friends of the Homer Library are collecting baseline data about the StoryWalk Trail to help guide future stories and get a sense of overall use in the our community. Please take 30 seconds to fill out the four question survey online [HERE](#).

Art in the Library

The Fireplace Lounge's traveling exhibit, *Illustrating Alaska: Artists Making Children's Books*, highlights works of four prominent Alaskan illustrators: *Jim Fowler, Evon Zerbetz, Michaela Goade and Mitchell Watley*. This project curate by the Alaska State Museum and ExhibitAK will be in the library through the end of December. More information available at: <https://lam.alaska.gov/illustrating-alaska>.

Local artist *Megan Frost's* artwork is also on exhibit through the end of December.

Author Readings - November

Nov. 12 - Local author, Doug Dodd, *Hero Unaware*
Nov. 17 - Seth Kanter, *A Thousand Trails Home*

2nd Sunday Shakespeare

Online readings of plays by William Shakespeare thru January via Zoom at 1:00 p.m. Click [HERE](#) for schedule.



Walk-In Tech Help

1st & 3rd Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Get help with your complicated tech questions for some one-on-one assistance from City IT staff. Email questions to info@friendshomerlibrary.org.

Homer Public Library

500 Hazel Street

907-235-3180

circ@ci.homer.ak.us

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library

Community Corner

What's happening around the City of Homer



Touring Art Project for Kids Visits Homer

Homer Library enjoyed a visit from a touring art project October 10th. The Bunnell Arts Center has been hosting *Jimmy Riordan*, a touring artist who travels around Alaska in a converted bookmobile and conducts art projects for kids. The bookmobile comes originally from Pennsylvania, and we parked the Friends of the Library bookmobile beside it to compare and contrast!

AK Nonprofit Recovery Grant Program

The State of Alaska is making \$20 million in ARPA funds available to Alaskan nonprofits affected by COVID-19. The first round application period deadline is November 19.

For more information, visit the Alaska Community Foundation website at <https://alaskacf.org/blog/funds/arpa-a-nonprofit-recovery-fund/> or call 1-855-336-6701 .



10 Digit Dialing Mandated by the FCC for Alaska

As of October 24, all your local calls will need to include area code 907 along with the seven digit phone number. The FCC has mandated that all Alaska phone calls require the full 10 digit phone number. This change was needed so that Alaska can implement the **988** number to reach the **National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline** starting July 16, 2022.



There is no change to dial 911 for emergency calls

Homer Skate Park

New Half-Pipes Installed

Head over to the HERC and check out the latest addition to the Skate Park! The new half-pipes have been installed and are ready for action.

Recently, the Friends of the Homer Skate Park, a group founded to maintain and update the skate park, purchased supplies for two new half pipes. Public Works staff assembled and installed the new additions.

It was a group effort at Public Works to assemble the two half-pipes with both Public Works Equipment Operators and Parks staff involved. Now that assembly is complete, the plan is to have them installed in early November or maybe even before this issue is published. The skate park will remain open along with the newly added half-pipes for hours of fun.

The skate park at the HERC property has long been a key recreational facility for Homer residents - children and adults alike. Over the past few years, emphasis has been to focus on improving the quality of the experience at the skate park by upgrading ramps and ground surfacing. Making the structures portable was a key element too.



Since the future vision for the HERC campus is still being developed, it is important the new half pipes are portable. Two pads of compacted gravel in the lawn between the HERC buildings were created for the two half pipes. Because the plan was for the half pipes to be portable, no paved area will be made between them and they will function as stand-alone features.

If you want to roll into a kick turn up to an axle stall, drop in to the flat and head back up to a backside 5-0 or a front side rock & roll - you now have a new place to show off and try new tricks. So, head over to the Homer Skate Park and catch some air!



Get radical on the new half-pipe with a killer view.



These skaters are already copping some air!



Mike Gilbert and Jenna Luchacao attach a sideboard.



Darren Hill sweeps off the half-pipe getting it ready for action.



Half-pipe on new site with HERC 2, background.

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES



We're all in this together

Please do what you can to protect yourself and your neighbors from sickness.

Time to get your Annual Flu Shot!



COVID-19 Boosters Available

Scientists and medical experts have been watching closely for signs of waning immunity, how well the vaccines protect against new mutations of the virus, and how that data differs across age groups and risk factors. This data led the CDC to recommend booster doses to the following:

- Anyone who is at least six months after their two-dose series of the Pfizer or Moderna mRNA vaccine AND
 - 60 years and older
 - Age 18+ who live in Long Term Care settings
 - Age 50 years and older with underlying medical conditions
- Anyone who is at least two months after the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine.

Individuals may choose which vaccine they receive for their booster. Some people may prefer to stay with the vaccine type they originally received, while others may prefer to get a different booster. CDC recommendations now allow for this type of mix and match dosing for booster shots. Please talk to your healthcare provider about whether getting a booster is right for you. Learn more at covidvax.alaska.gov.

Where can I get my vaccine booster?

- Set an appointment with your primary care provider or visit your favorite local pharmacy.
- Attend a mass booster event on Saturday, **November 6** at Homer High School. Appointments are required - make yours online at: sphosp.org
- [Go to the](https://sphosp.org) COVID-19 Test & Vaccine Clinic at 4201 Bartlett Street. Hours are 9am-5pm daily; open late on Tuesdays until 7pm. Appointment is required for booster dose. Go to sphosp.org or call 907-235-0235. *Note: Pfizer and Moderna offered daily; Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) is offered only on Sundays & Tuesdays only.

All-Purpose Vehicles Prohibited on Homer Roads

The State of Alaska's Department of Public Safety recently announced that beginning January 1, 2022, all-purpose vehicles will be allowed on roads with speed limits of 45 miles per hour or less - *unless* a local government has restricted usage within their borders. In June of this year, Homer City Council proactively passed Ordinance 21-33, which expanded Homer City Code Chapter 7.20 Snowmachines to include all-purpose vehicles. As a result, all-purpose vehicles are, and will remain, expressly excluded from use on sidewalks, alleys, streets, and highways within the City of Homer limits.



MESSAGE FROM HPD

WARNING: Slick Roads Ahead

As the temperatures drop and the snow starts to fall, chances for black ice on roads increase. One place that sees a lot of action is the curve on Sterling Highway at Baycrest. This is a known hazard area when coming into town and has been cause of a lot of accidents. The best way to prevent slips and spins anywhere is to be alert, be cautious and slow down.

NO-SHAVE November

HPD will be participating in National No-Shave November to raise money for charity. Participants donate \$25 a week to not shave. Rules are beards have to be kept neat and well-groomed. At the end of the month beards are judged by all and the winner gets a trophy or prize yet to be determined.

All funds collected go to a charity voted on by the officers. Last year raised \$1,200 for the Kidney Cancer Research Alliance, so they have a nice goal to beat.



National Drug Take Back Day



The Homer Police Department participated in the DEA National Drug Take Back event on October 23rd. HPD has a bin in the lobby that anyone can come in and discard old prescriptions anytime not just during designated take-back events. Take advantage of this responsible way to remove expired or unused drugs and keep your home safe.

Japan-Alaska Sister Cities Photo + Essay Campaign

The Consular Office of Japan in Anchorage is conducting a 'Japan-Alaska Sister Cities Photo + Essay Campaign', and is now accepting photo and essay submissions on the topic of "*a Heartwarming Experience Achieved Through the Japan-Alaska Sister City Exchange.*" Residents of any age from all municipalities with formal Japan-Alaska sister city relationships are eligible to participate. Submission acceptance opened on October 12th and will close on February 4, 2022.



Find the application guidelines on the Consulate's website at:
https://www.anchorage.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/11_000001_00215.html.

"The Sister Cities program is an important resource to the negotiations of governments in letting the people themselves give expression of their common desire for friendship, goodwill and cooperation for a better world."

- President Dwight D. Eisenhower

WHAT IS A SISTER CITY?

A sister city relationship is a long-term partnership between two communities in different countries. By forming partnerships, countries develop understanding and appreciation for each other's unique cultures.

Sister city relationships are independently developed and maintained by volunteers with the support of local elected officials in their communities. Each sister city organization pursues activities important to both communities, including economic, educational, and cultural exchanges.

While the heads of both local authorities must sign an official sister city agreement, the nature of the sister city relationship is not determined or bound by law.

Homer has two sister cities:
Teshio, Hokkaido, Japan, established in 1984,
and Yelizovo, Kamchatka, Russia, established in 1995.

Parks & Community Recreation

Here is a summary of programs offered by Community Recreation. Visit <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation> for the complete list of great programs available daily at the HERC, Homer High School and Homer Middle School. *Schedule subject to change.



- **Morning Pick Up Basketball** - 6-7am - Monday, Wednesday & Friday - HERC Gym
- **ReAKtion Club** - 10am-12pm - Wednesday - HERC Gym/Outdoors
- **Pick Up Pickleball** - HERC Gym
3:45-5:45pm - Monday, Wednesday & Friday ; 9-11am Sunday
- **Cuong Nhu & Karate** - Monday, Wednesday & Friday - HERC Activity Room
4:30-5:30pm Youth Class & 5:45-6:45pm Adult Class
- **Pick Up Ultimate Frisbee** - 6:30-8pm - Monday & Thursday - HHS Turf
- **Pick Up Soccer** - 6:30-8pm - Wednesday & Friday; 6:30-8:30pm Sunday - HHS Turf
- **Indoor Youth Programming** - 2:45-5pm Thursdays - HERC Gym
- Pick Up Youth Boys Basketball - Monday & Wednesday 6-8pm - HERC Gym

New Drainage Pipe at the Library

You may have noticed, the Public Library has had a chronic problem of water pooling in the corner of the sidewalk to the right of the main entrance. During freeze/thaw events this causes ice to build up near the library's busiest and most heavily trafficked area.

Parks crew member *Phil Crump*, pictured below, recently installed a perforated drain pipe to carry the water down for a natural drainage slightly down hill from the entrance area. This correction will make the Library's entrance a safer threshold to Homer's favorite resource.



ARPA Awards Congratulations



The 2021 ARPA Conference, **Better Together: Building strong, healthy, and resilient communities**, was held in Soldotna October 5th-7th. Recreation professionals and volunteers gather from across the state of Alaska who design, maintain, and create community resources like recreational facilities, parks, playgrounds, and trails along with the programming and events we all enjoy.

This year, two of our own were recognized for their outstanding contributions and leadership to the profession. **Congratulations to Matt and Deb!**



Matt Steffy, Parks Superintendent, received the 'Professional Award,' which is the highest recognition ARPA can bestow upon a deserving candidate. Matt was carefully selected and demonstrated leadership in multiple areas of his profession.

Deb Lowney, Homer resident and PARCAC commissioner, received the 'Distinguished Service Award' in recognition of her time and effort over the years that has improved the quality and quantity of leisure opportunities through park, recreation, and conservation projects on the local, state, regional, and national levels.

Bartlett Restroom Gets Peony & Beachscape

Homer Parks staff teamed up with volunteers from Scenic View Peonies, led by *Beth Van Zant*, to overhaul the peony bed at the Bartlett restroom. All plants were donated and our crew made the remaining turf section into an attractive beachscape. We will be on the lookout for driftwood with a little more character to add to the mix in the seasons ahead.



Public Works Department

What is Ground Water Bluff Erosion?

It is well known that properties along the coastline have been suffering from tidal erosion, but did you know groundwater also plays a significant part in the erosion of coastal properties? Public Works has been working with Coble Geophysical Services to better understand Homer's groundwater. Groundwater is important to understand because subsurface water flows can cause erosion or shifting of land. This process is happening all over Homer, particularly where there are bluffs or hillsides.



Layer Cake

To understand how groundwater erosion works, we must first understand some basics about soil structure. A convenient analogy is a layer cake with its alternating layers of icing and sponge. The icing represents impermeable, hard layers of dense rock. The sponge represents looser soils which can hold a lot of water and through which water can flow freely; these are known as aquifers. Since water in the sponge layers cannot penetrate the icing layers, it will instead flow laterally wherever gravity takes it. This will often be towards the outside of the cake where it is cut, which, in our analogy, is a bluff. The water seeping out of the bluff erodes the bluff face as the water carries the sediment off the bluff with it.

You can identify bluff erosion caused by seepage by looking for certain signs. One is wet spots near the top of a bluff, a sign of ground water seepage. Another is overhanging sod or vegetation, either at the top of the bluff or further down the bluff face. When seepage erodes the bluff face, vegetation and the root structures holding the sod are left overhanging. If it overhangs too far, though, gravity will have its way and the sod clumps will break off and slough down the bluff face.

In the winter, this process work a bit differently. When the surface of the ground freezes, it becomes much less permeable or even impermeable to water. Going back to the cake analogy, this means that the outside of the cake is now iced. Therefore, during the winter, there is little to no seepage on bluff faces because the bluff faces are frozen. Instead, water collects in the aquifer just behind the bluff face. This collection of water builds pressure behind the bluff face and when the ground thaws in the spring, this water pressure is released, causing massive erosion.



Seepage can be seen flowing from the bluff face.

Having a better understanding of where the aquifers are and how ground water is flowing will allow the City to work with property owners to build drainage systems so that water can be shuttled to where it will cause the least damage.



TODD'S WATERING HOLE

Bottle vs Tap: Which one is better?

As mentioned last month, everyone's senses are different, so a simple taste test can be pretty subjective. We'll deal with the facts for now.

One of the main differences between bottled water and tap water are the standards the federal regulatory agency that sets for each. Bottle water is regulated by FDA (Food and Drug Administration) and City tap water is regulated by EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). EPA's regulations are more stringent. Technically, City water is treated to a higher standard. According to Green Harvard's web page, *"Bottled water generally is no cleaner, or safer, or healthier than tap water. In fact, the federal government requires far more rigorous and frequent safety testing and monitoring of municipal drinking water."*

Tap water is generally delivered to your home. Bottled water is purchased in some sort of container, usually plastic. "Facts" vary from website to website, but the stats that follow are found on a large majority of the websites on this subject.

The average plastic bottle of water costs \$1.29. The water itself accounts for less than \$0.00001 and the rest is a markup based on plastic bottle production, including packaging, marketing, and other factors to increase the price.

Plastics are made of oil, and it takes a significant amount of energy to turn oil into plastic as well as ship, store, and cool all of that bottled water. Making enough water bottles to satisfy the U.S. market requires 17 million barrels of oil, which could fuel up to 1.3 million cars a year. The energy to create these bottles could power 190,000 homes.

As much as 40% of bottled water is actually tap water. Over 20 years ago, the City of Sacramento, because of regulatory changes, needed to do major improvements to their treatment plant. They built a bottling plant and started selling the water they were already treating to fund the improvements needed. Some bottling companies buy water from municipalities to use in their bottling operation.

Each year, billions of bottles are produced from virgin plastic rather than recycled. According to the Container Recycling Institute, *"86 percent of plastic water bottles used in the United States become garbage or litter."*

The quality of bottled water as it relates to health can be affected by how long the water has been bottled and the temperature in which it has been stored. City of Homer operators do regular flushing of the distribution system to ensure our customers get the best quality water possible. Water quality parameters are checked daily at the water treatment plant and reported monthly the ADEC.

There is a ton of information on the web - some more one sided than others, but if you look at a variety of sites from both sides of the issue you should be able to get a good idea of the pros and cons of both tap water and bottled water.

- Todd Cook
Water Sewer Superintendent

Spring 2022 ~ UAA Semester-By-The-Bay

The City of Homer Public Works Department will host two college interns through the UAA Kachemak Bay Campus' Spring 2022 Semester-By-The-Bay to support the Department's environmental sustainability initiatives. One will serve as *Water Wizard*, collecting data on water quality and quantity in the City of Homer. The other will serve as *Climate Change Champion* to assist PW GIS Technician, *Aaron Yeaton*, with efforts to support the City's Climate Change Action Plan.

Thanks to Councilmember *Caroline Venutti* for bringing this opportunity to our attention.

- Jan Kieser
Public Works Director



Port & Harbor

Jack Up Rig Arrives in Kachemak Bay

The jack up drill rig *Randolph Yost* is being retired from work in the upper Cook Inlet. Like many retirees it is headed south. Two high horsepower tugs, *Michelle Foss* and *Anna T*, brought the *Randolph Yost* down Inlet to Kachemak Bay on October 1st. It's southern journey doesn't end here. On Monday, October 7th it was loaded onto the deck of a heavy-lift ship the 653-foot *Falcon* and was temporarily anchored while awaiting a good weather window to travel further south.

The *Falcon* is a strange looking ship with a low deck in the middle. Loading the drill rig onto the heavy lift ship is a slow and fascinating process, which involves ballasting the lift ship's deck so it sits 20 or 30 feet below the surface of the ocean and lower than the draft of the vessel being loaded. The tugs then carefully maneuver the floating rig into position, centering it over the lift ship's submerged deck. Once in place, the ballast is pumped out ever so slowly to lift the *Randolph Yost* out of the water to secure it on deck of the *Falcon* - a process called float on-float off. The *Falcon* has departed Cook Inlet for transport to India.

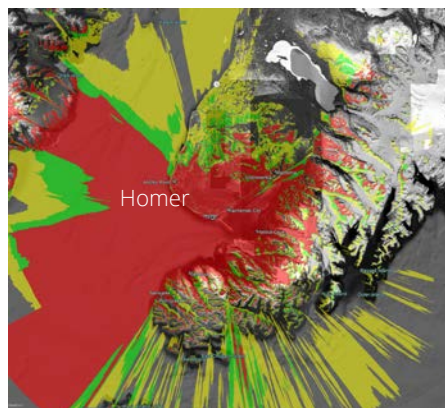
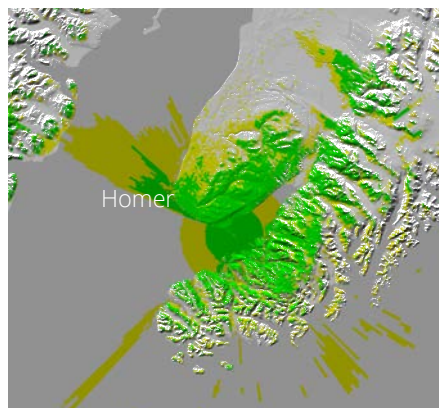
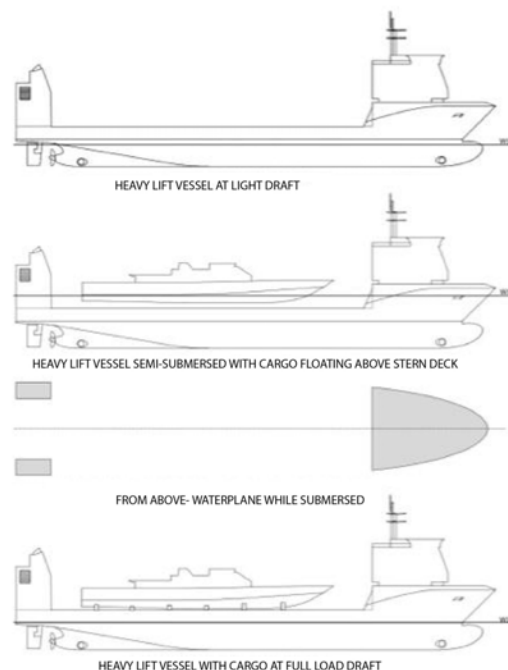
The Kachemak Bay anchorage is the only place this can be done safely in Cook Inlet and is why we were treated to the show over the course of the month. The tugs utilized the Port while they were in the area and although the Deep Water Dock had a reservation date for the *Randolph Yost* it was only as a backup plan in case a ship was delayed in arriving or for some other unforeseen development. We are happy to say it wasn't needed as the vessel load-out went off as planned.



Jack-up drill rig *Randolph Yost* with its 400' legs fully elevated.

Radio Upgrade Offers Expanded Range

The City recently completed the Port and Harbor radio upgrade project. The two radio propagation charts below show the range harbor officers were capable of reaching with our old system (below left), and the expanded range now that we have moved our base station to the Skyline tower (below right). The different color bands correspond to the approximate size of a receiving vessel. The larger the vessel, the higher the antenna is off the water and therefore the longer the range for our communications. Port & Harbor staff is still learning the system operationally but now that we have everything in place and tuned to optimal levels we are enjoying the expanded range and clarity of communications to serve a wider number of vessels transiting the area.



Look What's Happening at the Haul Out Boat Yard

If you've been down to the Homer Spit recently you were rewarded with the sight of a very busy haul out yard with ship crews working in various stages of vessel repairs and maintenance.

The 120' *Deception* completed her annual hull maintenance and will soon be returning to the harbor. Crew of the *Summer Bay* is in the middle of hull coatings (for added protection and better performance). They need to get the work done in a hurry because, as we've been told, the vessel has a date with the Bering Sea later this year.

However, probably the most interesting project in the boat yard this month is the demolition of the vessel *Hallo Bay*. This vessel is owned by Trident Seafoods and after a careful cost-to-benefit analysis they chose to hire crews to demolish the vessel rather than attempt to rebuild it. Fortune Sea Marine Services crews made short work of the task and the scrap steel is joining the recycling pile on the old chip pad. From there it will be loaded onto a southbound barge and sold as scrap metal. The derelict vessel *North Pacific* will also be demolished for scrap; work should be starting on that soon.

-Bryan Hawkins
Port Director & Harbormaster



Summer Bay - Hull coating



Scrapping the *Hallo Bay*



Deception - Hull maintenance



Deception - Haul out

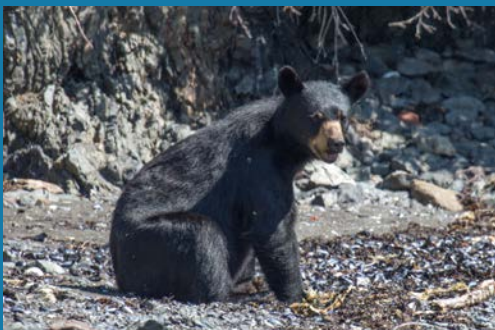
STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to City Clerk Melissa Jacobsen

Melissa recently earned the designation of Certified Public Manager (CPM) through the Arizona State University Certified Manager Program. The program is accredited by the National CPM Consortium and is designed to develop the effectiveness of municipal, county, state, tribal, and federal public managers.

Melissa's Certified Municipal Clerk's (CMC) designation fulfilled the pre-requisite component and qualified her to be accepted into the program that began in January and wrapped up earlier this month. The program required 240 hours of CPM specific content over a nine month period where she and 42 other participants engaged in five courses designed to develop competencies in personal and organizational integrity, managing work, developing self, leading people, system integration, change leadership, and public service focus.



Meet the Staff

This section is to highlight staff achievements, promotions, retirements, departures and new hires to the City's workforce.

PROMOTIONS, NEW HIRES & ANNIVERSARIES

David Welty was transferred from the Wastewater Works division to fill the Supervisor role in Building Maintenance. **Russell Anderson** was promoted from Building Maintenance Tech I to Tech II.

After several months of searching, we welcome new Youth Services Librarian **Cinda Nofziger** on November 1st. Cinda has worked in libraries for many years, most recently in Michigan, and has family ties to Homer.

Congratulations to **Paul Raymond**, Public Works, for eight years and **Charles Lee**, Police Department, for one year. We thank you for your dedication, commitment and service you have provided to the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years.



Karen Hornaday Park on an autumn day, *Matt Steffy*



City of Homer Roster

Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk
Andrea Browning, Personnel Director
Rick Abboud, City Planner
Mark Robl, Chief of Police
Mark Kirko, Fire Chief

Bryan Hawkins, Port Director/Harbormaster
Elizabeth Walton, Finance Director
Jan Keiser, Public Works Director
Dave Berry, Library Director
Nick Poolos, Info. Technology Manager
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager

Mayor - Ken Castner (2022)

City Council

Donna Aderhold (2024)
Jason Davis (2022)
Shelley Erickson (2024)
Storm P. Hansen-Cavasos (2022)
Rachel Lord (2023)
Caroline Venuti (2023)

Commissions & Boards

Planning Commission
Economic Development Advisory Commission
Library Advisory Board
Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

Standing Committees

ADA Compliance Committee

HOMER MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Harbormaster's Office

Next time you visit the Harbormaster's office be sure to look around. You'll discover some pretty interesting art pieces. The floor of the main lobby is home to **Compass Rose** (below), a 60 inch diameter mosaic tile design, created by *Joshua Nordstrom* of *Tierra Tiles* in 2015.



At the south end of the main desk is the **Sailing Ship with Paddle Wheel** made from stainless steel and flatware by *Don Henry*. The piece was gifted to the City in 2015 by the artist in memory of *Glenn Satterfield*.



On the north wall behind the main desk **Swans** by *Ed Tussey* resides. This numbered print was purchased by staff in 2012 in memory of *Bonnie Judge*.



[Click HERE](#) to learn more about the collection.

STAY CONNECTED WITH CITY COUNCIL

Go to: cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/stay-connected-city-council
Here you will find instructions on how to listen, provide testimony and participate in the meetings via Zoom.

Upcoming Meetings

November

- 2nd - 5:30 pm Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting
- 3rd - 5:30 pm Planning Commission Worksession
- 6:30 pm Planning Commission Regular Meeting
- 8th - 4:00 pm City Council Special Meeting
- 5:00 pm City Council Committee of the Whole
- 6:00 pm City Council Special Meeting
- 9th - 6:00 pm Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting
- 10th - 9:00 am ADA Compliance Committee



JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Homer has current Job Openings. Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- Accounting Tech. IV, Finance, Full time
- Deputy Fire Chief
- Community Jail Officer, Part-time

City of Homer

491 E. Pioneer Avenue
Homer, Alaska 99603
907-235-8121

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

Get ready for Ski Season!

CITY OF HOMER
COMMUNITY RECREATION
PRESENTS:



2021

Ski & Winter Gear Swap

**Wednesday, November 10th,
5:30-7:30pm**



Masks are required!

Barter, trade, sell or give away your winter and ski gear. **HHS Ski team** will be waxing skis as a fundraiser.

Ski you there!