

VOL. II - ISSUE II | NOVEMBER 2022

CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager



Photo credit: Juxia Scarpitta

Greetings from City Hall

City Council Confirms Election

We have Council Members! The Homer City Council adopted Resolution 22-079 which certified the results of the City of Homer regular election held October 4 to confirm the election of Mayor Ken Castner for another two year term and two Council Members, Jason Davis and Storm Hansen-Cavasos, for three year terms each.

Congratulations to each of our City officials. We look forward to continuing to work together on goals and issues to serve the best interest of the citizens of Homer.

2022



Council Member Jason Davis is sworn in for a three year term.



Mayor Ken Castner takes oath of office for another two years.



City Clerk Melissa Jacobsen swears in Council Member Storm Hansen-Cavasos.

WHAT'S NEW?

- Library Events
- City Clerk's Office
- Community Corner
- Community Recreation
- Fire Department
- Planning Department
- Public Safety Notes
- Public Works
- Meet the Staff
- Municipal Art Collection
- Stay Connected with City Council
- Join Our Team

We hope you'll discover something new today as we share the latest 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"

LIBRARY EVENTS

Have you tried Kanopy yet?

Now you can live stream quality video entertainment on any device with your Homer Public Library Card!



VIRTUAL AUTHOR TALKS at Homer Public Library

- Nov. 2: Lisa Napoli, author of *The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR*
- Nov. 10: Bonnie Garmus, author of *Lessons in Chemistry*
- Nov. 15: Kwame Christian, author of *How to Have Difficult Conversations About Race*

Beekeeping in Alaska



Want to learn more about beekeeping in cold climates? Buzz on in for a lesson on bees with an intriguing lecture and discussion on **November 10 from 6:00 - 7:30pm.**

Annual Giving Tree

Once again, the library has partnered with Homer Bookstore on the Annual Giving Tree. The Christmas tree in HPL's lobby is decorated with ornaments with names of book titles we would like to acquire. If you're interested in donating a title or two to the collection, consider buying it through the Homer Bookstore and having it delivered to the library. Books are a gift to the whole community.



There is always something happening at the Library!

Homer Public Library
500 Hazel Street - (907) 235-3180
circ@ci.homer.ak.us
www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library

City Clerk's Office



Early Voting Open Through Monday, November 7

Early voting for the State and Federal General Election is open at the City Hall Cowles Council Chambers through November 7th, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Click here to learn more about [Early Voting](#).



State General Election Day is Tuesday, November 8



State General Election Day is November 8th. Polls will be open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information, visit the State of Alaska Division of Elections website at www.elections.alaska.gov.

FOR COMPLETE ELECTION INFORMATION, please visit the City Clerk's Office website at:



Lunch with a Councilmember

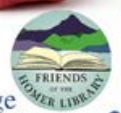
Bring your questions, ideas, and lunch for an informal conversation in the **Homer Public Library meeting room** or via **Zoom**.



Join
Caroline Venuti
Tuesday, Nov 15
12pm-1pm



For more information or the Zoom link, email: info@friendshomerlibrary.org or go to the Homer Public Library webpage





Community Corner

What's happening around the City of Homer

Ben Walters Park - Super Hero Event

For many years, the Rotary Club of Homer-Kachemak Bay has "adopted" Ben Walters Park. Over time, the dedicated Rotary volunteers have built picnic tables, cut brush, funded playground equipment and made other improvements to this popular park. Their efforts have transformed the park to keep it safe, tidy, more attractive and just plain fun! The Parks Arts Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission thanked the Rotarians with a BBQ on Thursday, October 20, with hotdogs, hamburgers and all the fixin's. Mayor Ken Castner presented a certificate of appreciate to Dave Brandt, a key parks-maintenance Rotarian, for his leadership on park improvement projects. If your group would like to Adopt-A-Park or donate service hours to City projects, [Click here for more information.](#)



City Manager Rob Dumouchel, Mayor Ken Castner, Rotary President Kim Zook and Rotarian Dave Brandt.

Halloween in Homer!

Ghosts, goblins, zombies, cats and witches were out in full force this year despite the bone chilling temperatures. Trick or Treating on Pioneer Avenue organized by the Homer Chamber of Commerce and 'Halloween One Way' in the Mountainview and Bayview neighborhoods were a HUGE success! As expected, hundreds of Homerites haunted the streets of downtown to gather sweet treats from businesses along Pioneer Avenue and tromped up the hill for more surprises from community residents. The City of Homer joined in the fun and handed out candy at City Hall.

This annual event is a community supported project that seems to grow every year. Donations of candy are dropped off and distributed to residents to hand out, the Homer Police Department manages traffic while the Homer Fire Department helps keep everyone safe. Lots of fun was had by all!

Meanwhile at City Hall, the Clerks "Office" staff embodied Dwight Schrute (Rachel Tussey) and Michael Scott (Melissa Jacobsen) for the day and Tomasz Sulczynski hand tooled the leather for his viking costume.



Christine Drais bundled up to hand out treats to kids on Pioneer Avenue with Julie Engebretsen.



Main Street Sidewalk is Complete!

We have pavement! The sidewalk and disturbed portions of Main Street were paved on October 20th thanks to East Road Services and the Homer Accelerated Roads and Trails (HART) road funds. A ribbon cutting ceremony is planned for Monday, November 7th at Noon near the corner of Main Street and Pioneer Avenue. Look for photos in the next newsletter.



Sister City Program: West Homer Elementary Japanese Class Visits City Council

The Japanese After School class from West Homer Elementary and instructor *Megumi Beams* visited Homer City Council on October 24. School Principal *Eric Waltenbaugh*, its teachers, staff and relatives who have supported the class and online exchange program with our Sister Cities in Teshio and Hyogo Japan also attended. The students shared a banner covered in artwork with phrases and words they have learned that was sewn together by the Homer Rotary Club. The students introduced themselves in Japanese and bowed to the audience in a gesture of courtesy and appreciation.

Ms. Beams teaches 47 students at West Homer and Paul Banks Elementary Schools in the Japanese After School Program. Along with learning Japanese language, students learn culture and some Japanese activities such as how to use chop sticks. She works with elementary through high school directors in our Sister Cities to establish an online exchange class session here. Students will soon have the opportunity to communicate with Japanese students in November where they can develop new friendships.

In 2020, *Megumi Beams* was invited by the Council to be the liaison between Homer and Teshio and became the interpreter of our Sister City program before COVID hit. Since then, she has been working with Deputy City Clerk *Rachel Tussey* with the Consular office of Japan in Anchorage to promote the Sister City relationship between the two countries through various community outreach activities.



Council Member Rachel Lord, left, chats with students at meeting.

Storytime with 'Belle' at the Library

Every Wednesday and Friday morning at 10:30am is Storytime in the Children's Library at Homer Public Library. This last week, Storytime was lead by library staff member *Regina Johanos*, who played Belle in the Pier One Theatre production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* this season in full character. How fun!



Community Recreation

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec>



MountainFilm & Gear Swap - Nov. 9

Wednesday, November 9 at Homer High School

Time to get geared up for winter activities, skiing and outdoor fun! Come out for an evening of fun at the Ski & Winter Gear Swap and Telluride MountainFilm on Tour for some rad winter sports action films to get you amped up for fun on the slopes and trails!

- **5:30 - 7:30pm:** Ski & Winter Gear Swap in the Commons
- **7:00pm:** MountainFilm in the Mariner Theater. Doors open at 4pm.
 - Tickets available at the door.



Youth Pickleball is a Big Hit!



The Homer Community Recreation is excited to offer a new Youth Pickleball program this Fall/Winter. Lead by instructor Jeanne Parker, many of our local youth are learning and playing this fun and popular game. With a long waitlist of interested participants, we had to expand the program to another day to help meet the demand. We envision this sport will continue to grow for participants of all ages.



CITY OF HOMER COMMUNITY RECREATION PRESENTS: **2022**

Ski & Winter Gear Swap

Wednesday, November 9th, 5:30-7:30pm
Homer High Commons &

MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR
HOMER

Wednesday, November 9th, 7pm
\$10/ticket Homer High Theater

Barter, trade, sell or give away your winter and ski gear. **HHS Ski team** will be waxing skis as a fundraiser. Stay and watch the **Telluride Mountainfilm** show at 7pm!



Film Playlist **HERE**

THE NORTH FACE PRESENTS

MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR

HOMER



NOVEMBER 9, 2022
HOMER HIGH SCHOOL - MARINER THEATER
DOORS AT 6:00 P.M. / SHOW AT 7:00 P.M.
TICKETS: \$10 - AVAILABLE AT THE DOOR

A SELECTION OF CULTURALLY RICH, ADVENTURE-PACKED & INCREDIBLY INSPIRING FILMS

Scan the QR Code below for the complete listing of classes.



Homer Coast Guard's Eight Bells Celebration of the Sea

The sequence of eight bells signals the relief of watch for Coast Guardsmen at the end of four-hour shift. While time is no longer kept by the ringing of bells, the tradition has been transformed into a time of sea service celebration. Every October, the Coast Guard holds the Eight Bells competition to celebrate the Coast Guard's nautical traditions. This year, the Homer unit service members from the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Naushon* and the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Hickory* gathered for some indoor training, skills, camaraderie and a little healthy competition at the HERC with the assistance of the City Community Recreation program.



Community Recreation provides opportunities for Coast Guard members to reserve the gym space for recreational opportunities. The City is expanding offerings to include possible additional future training events at the HERC in an effort of continuing and expanding city wide support and partnership with the Coast Guard.

The service members were grateful for the use of the city facility and expressed willingness to provide a platoon volunteers for any Community Recreation special events or projects so as long as they are in port.

Coast Guard City Application



November 30 is the deadline for applications to be considered for a Coast Guard City designation. *Christine Drais*, Assistant to the City Manager and Council Member *Caroline Venuti* have been hard at work gathering information for Homer's application. In March, the Homer City Council identified the goal to become the sixth Alaskan Coast Guard City. The relationship the Coast Guard and the community share is an integral part of Homer's culture and this designation will be testimony to the importance of it to everyone. "I've learned a lot about the history of the Coast Guard, and Homer for that matter, through our research over the last several months," Drais said.

Letters of support have been received from Governor Mike Dunleavy, Alaska State Senator Gary Stevens, Representative Sarah Vance, and the entire Alaska Delegation of US Senators Lisa Murkowski and Dan Sullivan, and Representative Mary Peltola. Local organizations and businesses have been invited to submit letters of support to be included in the application. The US Coast Guard Homer Unit fully supports the endeavor as well.

The application consists of letters of support and numerous examples of how the community has supported the Coast Guard and their families since 1969. Stories along with a limited number of photos depict examples of the symbiotic relationship Homer and the Coast Guard share and will continue to strengthen in years ahead.

Keep your fingers crossed for a successful outcome. If you have historic photos or a story you would like to share to be included in the project, please contact *Christine Drais* at cdrais@ci.homer.ak.us or call her at 907-435-3102.

Fire Department



Annual HVFD Banquet

Bringing the team together in one place to celebrate was great fun and a true highlight of the year for everyone. Lands End was the perfect venue to share stories, break bread and make new friends - all dressed up! Well-deserved awards were presented acknowledging years of service by department members as we look forward to many more ahead. Thank you to the HVFD staff and volunteers!



City Manager Rob Dumouchel, Jody and Chief Mark Kirko, Deputy Chief Joe Kahles and his wife Jenny.

K-9 Training with State Troopers

Homer is fortunate to have a great working relationship with local law enforcement agencies for work on 911 scenes. The Homer Volunteer Department recently enjoyed some vigorous training, so we may better understand and support local law enforcement with the K9 unit of the Anchor Point unit of the Alaska State Troopers. Trooper Sutton and K9 Lavi gave an eye-opening presentation on how to interact with a K9 unit on an emergency scene. K9 Lavi works to track and take down offenders, and uses a lot of nose work in the process. At three years old he's a bundle of exuberance and play when not engaged in duty. We found out fast that his version of play is pretty vigorous, as you can see from the photos.



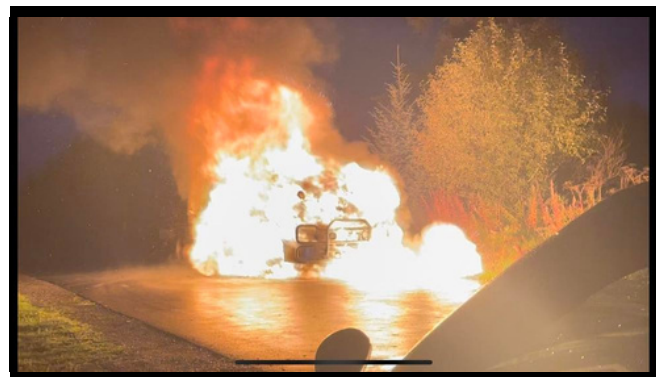
From an EMS and Fire stand point, we wanted to know what to expect from K9 Lavi and Trooper Sutton when they were actively working a scene, such as a car crash with a suspect fleeing the scene after an attempted arrest. It was also good to be reminded, for example, that our turnout gear looks just like what people wear when K9 Lavi gets to play one of his favorite games, 'Jump on the Big Guy'.



In addition to learning how to interact with K9 Lavi while he's in 'work mode', the training covered how to assist and treat K9 Lavi if he was injured during an incident. We all had concerns about how to handle an injured K9 unit dog. This training provided the critical knowledge needed to provide on-scene help for an injured K9 while transporting him safely to professional veterinary care. Plus, we got to play tug-of-war, although I think we lost a few times. Thanks, Lavi!

Klondike Truck Fire

At approximately 7:30am, Homer Police responded to a vehicle fire on Klondike Ave and Lucky Shot. A semi truck with trailer was backing into a driveway when the vehicle caught fire and was a total loss. Thanks to our amazing Homer Volunteer Fire Department for responding so quickly. Remedial actions were taken at the scene immediately to contain the fluids from the vehicle to prevent it from spreading, as is the protocol for this incident type.





HVFD Open House for National Fire Prevention Week

The Homer Volunteer Fire Department welcomed the public to tour the fire hall and learn from the best, our Chief Mark Kirko. In honor of National Fire Prevention Week, the HVFD gave two hour-long safety programs on kitchen safety and fire extinguisher safety as well as helpful information on how to be prepared in a disaster event.

And what HVFD event would be complete without a little hot cocoa, cookies and prize drawings? Fun was had by community members who attended the event as they learned more about good safety practices and about what the Fire Service does for them.



Photo credit: Lizzi Fogolini

Auroras Provide Dazzling Display Over Homer

The Aurora borealis have been active over the Southern Kenai Peninsula over the last few weeks and Fritz Creek resident *Lizzi Fogolini* was eager to capture the activity. This photo was taken October 25, 2022 from her front porch in the Fritz Creek area. The snow really makes the aurora glow over the lovely contrast of the dark trees. Wow!

The Geophysical Institute of University of Alaska Fairbanks says the best time to watch for aurora is the three to four hours around midnight, although they occur throughout the night when there are clear skies. It's rare to see them in our area, so this sighting is extra special. Thank you, Lizzi!

SHARE YOUR PHOTOS WITH US!

They might end up in our monthly Email Newsletter!

To submit your photos include the photographer's name, the photo location and a brief description to *Christine Drais* at cdrais@ci.homer.ak.us

TAKE the SURVEY

Scan

Want to learn more?

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
for Wednesday, November 9th

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
COMMUNITY OUTREACH EVENT
Kenai Peninsula College
533 E. Pioneer Avenue, Homer, AK

YOU can help the City update the Transportation Plan that will provide framework to improve roads, sidewalks and recreational trails for the next 20 years. Please take a few minutes to share with us how you travel in and around Homer.

We want your feedback!

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov

City of Homer Transportation Plan

Planning Department



Cities of Opportunity Program

Economic Development Manager *Julie Engebretsen* was nominated and accepted to participate in a statewide cohort for the Alaska Municipal League's new "Cities of Opportunity" program. The cohort will meet monthly over the next year, with an emphasis on economic development and healthy communities, in concert with Alaska Conference of Mayors. To evaluate community health and levels of economic development, factors such as physical, social, economic, and work and service environments will be examined. The cohort is made up of municipal leaders to share experiences and challenges, evaluate community data trends, identify potential local government roles, produce a road map for local action, and connect with strategic partners to discuss implementation.

At the first meeting Julie was able to share with other communities the success of Homer's Community Health Needs Assessments, and the partnerships created through MaPP (Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships: a community-driven strategic planning process for improving community health). Julie is looking forward to sharing our learned experiences with colleagues in other Alaskan communities, as well as to learn from their successes to bring back to Homer.

All Hazard Mitigation Plan: Erosion

Big winds and rough surf can have quite an impact on the Homer Spit and coastal landscape. Typically, land erosion occurs gradually through wind or water scour and in developed regions can undermine buildings and infrastructure. Elements like waves, currents and winds; surface and ground water flow; and freeze-thaw cycles may also play a role. Alaska is unique because of how permafrost thaw interacts with flooding and erosion to exacerbate the impacts of these hazards.

Coastal erosion can occur from rapid short-term daily, seasonal, or annual natural events such as waves, storm surge, wind, coastal storms, and flooding; or from human activities including boat wakes and dredging. The most dramatic erosion often occurs during big storms. The Homer Spit and the bluffs are most susceptible to erosion. Studies of erosion rates in Homer by the 2005 Kachemak Bay Research Reserve showed Homer's coastal bluffs have retreated on average 0.3 to 1.2 meters per year over the last 70 years. The Homer Spit is eroding approximately 10 feet every 3 years in some places.

To explore this topic further, you can read the [2022 Local Hazards Mitigation Plan](#).



Police Department



Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) Training for HPD and EMS Staff

Ever wonder how the 911 dispatchers know where you're located when you call in an emergency? Dispatchers and 911 operators use Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) systems to effectively deploy responder personnel to emergencies. A unified CAD system interfaces with multiple agencies to serve law enforcement, fire and EMS to provide communication across multiple agencies and jurisdictions in the region and state.

Alerts are routed directly to EMS and HPD staff in the field via their mobile data terminals (MDTs), radios, and cell phones.

CAD systems may also interface with a geographic information system (GIS), and other caller identification (ID) systems.

To operate the CAD system, operators must be trained and systems are often customized to fit unique needs of our region. Recently, HPD and EMS staff attended an intensive CAD training. The City's IT department is the system administrator and requires careful maintenance of the network, servers, databases and software.



HPD and HVFD staff in CAD training session.

Homeland Security Visit



An audit team from the State's Homeland Security office conducted an on-site evaluation of various equipment to ensure accuracy of our equipment inventory reports for grant years 2018-2021. Our financial files and inventory reports were found to be in very good order. The team complimented Homer for doing things the right way and submitting reports as needed and on time.



IT'S NO-SHAVE NOVEMBER

Chief Mark Robl gave the green light for the HPD 'No-Shave November' Challenge! That means, every week in November, participating HPD officers pay \$25. The final proceeds will be donated to the local Share the Spirit program while the winner with the most facial hair gets bragging rights for the year.

It's a Win-Win!

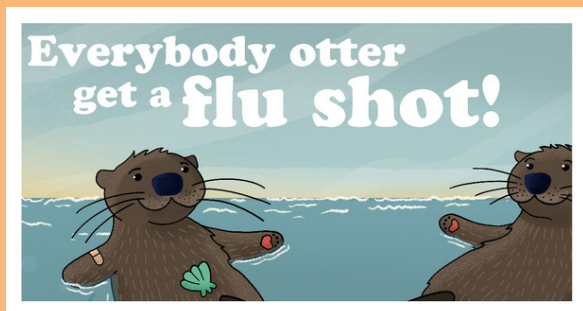


Officer *Tyler Jeffres*, Lt. *Ryan Browning* and our Homer Volunteer Fire Department got to spend some time with the Fireweed Academy this afternoon showing them the gadgets we use. Ya'll....that is a lot of energy! Thank you Fireweed for having us!

PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

Where do I find an at-home COVID test?

The Homer Public Library is stocked up with FREE At-Home COVID tests. Stop by and pick one up to have on hand during cold season, so you can safely test at home. CDC protocols should still be followed if you have symptoms. Remember to isolate, mask up and test. The SPH Clinic at 4211 Bartlett Street is open for tests, COVID vaccinations and Flu shots.



FREE Flu Shots at the Rotary Health Fair thru November 4

Make your appointment for your free flu shot or ask about discounted blood tests available for wellness checks at www.rotaryhealthfair.org

Public Works



Winter is Coming...

The Alaska DOT & PF wants your input on winter road maintenance. You can participate in their survey to let them know how you use the roads in our area. Check out the [Road Priority Map](#) to see how our roads are prioritized for service.

During extreme weather events, available staff or equipment, and the severity of each storm, impact DOT & PF's ability to restore our roads and highways to acceptable driving conditions. Knowing what our priorities are in real-world experience help them make timely decisions on where and how to apply snow and ice control resources during winter weather events. [Take the DOT&PF Survey here.](#)



The Right-of-Way is for

Plows Not Parking

Graders Not Gardens

Snow Storage Not SUVs



Watch Out for Jaywalking Moose

A general rule in Alaska is that pedestrians must observe traffic and traffic control signals, including cross walks and vehicles are required by law to yield the right-of-way to pedestrians at crosswalks. Well, we decided to give a pass to Mr. Moose. Although he was technically jaywalking he got close enough to the crosswalk for us.

I think it's safe to say that traffic would stop for him no matter where he turned up!



Jenna Luchaco directs the bucket crew to safely stack the sculpture from the ground.

Public Works Makes it Happen! Sculpture Installation at Bishop's Beach

In 2021, the City approved a gift of sculpture for Bishop's Beach Park from Bunnell Street Arts Center. The 12-foot tall sculpture, Tuyanitun: Tuggeht (pronounced too-yan-eee-toon: to-get), was conceived by Argent Kvasnikoff, a prominent artist and member of Nichilt'ana, Ninilchik Village Tribe. The sculpture features Dena'ina history, language and wayfinding techniques. Tuyanitun, developed through a partnership between the City, Ninilchik Village Tribe and the Bunnell Street Arts Center, broadens the process of learning about, and promoting, Indigenous land acknowledgment. The sculpture also demonstrates public art's role in the process of community engagement and learning.

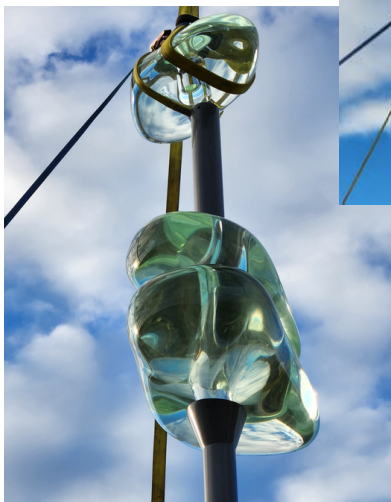


Paul Raymond and Mike Gilbert carefully placing the sculpture components. Look at the smile on Paul's face!

To fund the sculpture, Bunnell Arts received grants from the National Association of the Arts and the National Performance Network as well as the City of Homer's commitment for in-kind services and numerous private donations. The acrylic components of sculpture were fabricated in Scotland by Midton and carefully set in place last month by the City's Public Works Operators. A formal dedication will be held at a later date.

To learn more about the project, visit [Bunnell Arts Center](#).

What a
beautiful day
for an art
installation!



Welcome Aboard

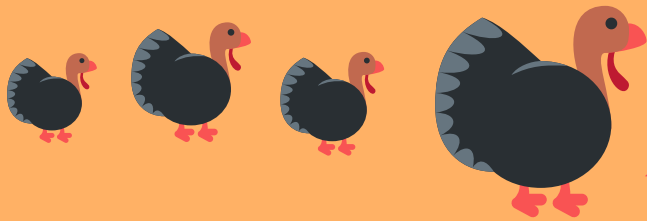
Jessica McGuire

The Finance Department welcomed a new team member Jessica McGuire in August to the Accounting Tech/Accounts Payable position. Jessica started the job shortly after moving here with her family. She is still getting settled in Homer and loves it here so far. Her background is in document control and project management. She enjoys the friendly atmosphere at City Hall and says Homer reminds her of where she grew up in California. When not working, Jessica spends time with her family, playing video games, hunting for mushrooms (though not confident enough to actually harvest yet!), and fishing.



Welcome to the Finance team!

good luck



October Anniversaries

We would like to recognize City staff members with anniversaries this month. Thank you for the dedication, commitment and service you've provided the City and taxpayers of Homer over the years. You all are an integral part of what makes the City of Homer a great place to work and the community.

Paul Raymond	Public Works	9	Years
Charles Lee	Police	2	Years
Emily Larson	Fire	1	Year

**The City of Homer
has current Job Openings!**

Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at:
cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs

Meet the Staff

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



Farewell to IT Manager Nick Poolos



After 11 years with the City of Homer, IT Manager Nick Poolos is moving on for a new opportunity in Washington. Nick has been a pillar in facilitating the technological infrastructure for effective communication between the departments of the City of Homer. From the Port & Harbor, Emergency Services of Police and Fire, the Library systems that serve the public, to City Hall and Public Works, Nick made everything run smoothly and effectively. We wish Nick the very best in his career endeavors and thank him for his years of service to the City of Homer.

CONGRATULATIONS

Drais Wins 2nd Place in Local Quilt Show



Christine Drais, Assistant to the City Manager, took home second place in the large bed quilt division of the 1st Annual Kachemak Bay Lions Club Quilt Show held October 22 and 23. Christine has been a quilter for over 15 years and enjoys the foundation paper piecing method used in her quilt called *Rocky Mountain Bear Claw*. The quilt show exhibited beautiful creations by beginner through advanced quilters from Homer and surrounding areas. The Lions Club did a great job organizing and marketing the event that welcomed visitors from all over the Kenai Peninsula to Homer for the weekend show.

City of Homer Roster

Rob Dumouchel, City Manager
Melissa Jacobsen, MMC, City Clerk/Deputy Director of Administration
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/City Engineer
Dave Berry, Library and IT Director
Nick Poolos, Info. Technology Manager
Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager
Julie Engebretsen, Economic Development Manager

Mayor - Ken Castner (2024)

City Council

Donna Aderhold (2024)
Jason Davis (2025)
Shelley Erickson (2024)
Storm P. Hansen-Cavasos (2025)
Rachel Lord (2023)
Caroline Venuti (2023)

Commissions & Boards

ADA Advisory Board
Economic Development Advisory Commission
Library Advisory Board
Parks, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission
Planning Commission
Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

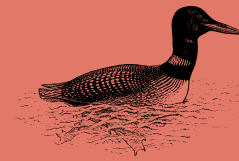
MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Learn more about the municipal art collection at:
<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection>

Bishops Beach Loon

The "Loon" stands guard over the east side of Bishops Beach on the grassy area on the east side of Bishops Beach. This anthropomorphic sculpture by Rachelle Dowdy of 2014 is an iconic image that has stood the test of time and weather. The Loon is made of ferrocement over carved styrofoam and wire mesh. The stainless steel tube and marine-grade windsock warn visitors of high winds and impending weather. The sculpture was funded from the Old Town renewal project in partnership with the Bunnell Art Gallery and the City of Homer.

The Loon, a towering 150 inches high and is 32 inches by 24 inches in diameter, is a prominent figure and symbol of Bishops Beach is adorned with its very own pair of Xtratuf boots.



STAY CONNECTED WITH CITY COUNCIL

Go to: [cityofhomer-ak.gov/cityclerk/stay-connected-city-council](https://www.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

- | | | |
|----|--------|--|
| 1 | 6:00pm | Economic Development Advisory Commission Special Meeting |
| 2 | 5:30pm | Planning Commission Worksession |
| | 6:30pm | Planning Commission Regular Meeting |
| 8 | 6:00pm | Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 10 | 5:00pm | ADA Compliance Committee |
| 15 | 5:30pm | Library Advisory Board Regular Meeting |
| 17 | 4:30pm | Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Worksession |
| | 5:30pm | Parks, Art, Recreation & Culture Advisory Commission Regular Meeting |
| 28 | 5:00pm | City Council Committee of the Whole |
| | 6:00pm | City Council Regular Meeting |

JOIN OUR TEAM

The City of Homer has current Job Openings. Sign up for Job Alerts or Apply Online at:

[cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs](https://www.cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs)

CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- Chief Technology Officer
- Firefighter/EMT-I or II, Basic or Temporary



City of Homer

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

www.cityofhomer-ak.gov