

VOL. I - ISSUE XI | JULY 2022

# CITY OF HOMER

Monthly Newsletter from the office of the City Manager



## GREETINGS FROM CITY HALL

### Large Vessel Harbor Expansion Project Awarded Matching Funds in State's FY23 Capital Budget

The City is happy to report that the FY23 State capital budget includes \$750,000 for Homer's Large Vessel Harbor Expansion project. This State funding, combined with \$750,000 that City Council set aside in 2020, secures the \$1.5 million local match funds required to conduct a General Investigation study.

The Large Vessel Harbor Expansion project has been the top-ranked project in Homer's Capital Improvement Plan for the past several years. It proposes to build a new basin adjacent to the existing small boat harbor for large vessels to alleviate overcrowding and navigational safety concerns in the current Small Boat Harbor. The next step in the process is for the US Corps of Engineers to conduct a General Investigation into the project's engineering feasibility, economic justification and environmental acceptability. We are excited to have the local matching funds secured! State support allows the City to move forward with the Corps of Engineers to obtain authorization and \$1.5 million in Federal matching funds to get the study underway.

The three-year General Investigation will formulate and evaluate design alternatives to best meet navigational safety and moorage needs, including the economic and environmental impacts and other effects of each alternative plan, and select a recommended plan. The City looks forward to engaging the local and maritime community throughout the process about design proposals, including environmental and aesthetic features so that factors that affect the community are addressed during the planning process.

The City acknowledges our District 31 legislators for their support of the Homer Large Vessel Harbor Expansion throughout the State budget formulation process, and all those who advocated for the project during budget deliberations and the approval process. We look forward to moving on to the next step.

## WHAT'S NEW?

- Library News
- Community Corner
- Community Recreation
- Fire Department
- Public Safety Notes
- Planning Department
- Police Department
- Port & Harbor
- Public Works
- Meet the Staff
- City of Homer Roster
- 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 NEWS & EVENTS

## July is Sizzling with Fun!

- **July 4, 6:00-7:00:** Come see the bookmobile (and maybe get some free books) in the Independence Day parade!
- **July 7, 6:00-8:00:** Trivia and Crafts for Teens! Win a prize, make crafts and eat snacks.
- **July 12, 4:30-6:00:** Visit the library or zoom from home with the authors of *Chickaloonies*, a graphic novel which incorporates Native Alaskan stories. Registration required.
- **July 13/July 15, 10:30-11:15:** Toddler Storytime/Preschool Storytime on the end of the Spit. Meet at the Boathouse Pavilion.
- **July 21, 7:00-8:00:** Stories and S'mores at Bishop's Beach! S'mores fixings provided, weather permitting.
- **July 22-23:** Drop off your LEGO creations at the library, building on the theme of *Read Beyond the Beaten Path*. Winners will be judged by age group and prizes awarded at the end of the summer reading program on July 30.
- **July 26/July 27, 3:30-4:30:** Two book clubs for kids. Registration required; please participate in only one.
- **July 29, 5:00-7:00:** End of summer reading party! Hot dogs, ice cream, marimba music, prizes and the bookmobile!



See what else is coming up at the library

For more programs & events details:

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



## Community Corner

What's happening around the City of Homer



### Annual Peony Celebration July 8-30

Homer Parks Division has been busy getting flower beds cleaned up and ready for the peony celebration. Over 20 peony gardens around Homer are ready to be admired by visitors and locals strolling down the sidewalks of Pioneer Avenue, Lake Street and in Old Town. The Homer Chamber of Commerce is the official headquarters for garden tours and other activities happening throughout the area. For brochure and map of locations, visit:

<https://www.homerak.org/events/annual-events/homer-peony-celebration/>

### Main Street Sidewalk Construction Project Set to Begin Mid-July

The City has East Road Services on contract to construct a sidewalk on Main Street. The new sidewalk will run on the west side of Main Street from Bayview Avenue to Pioneer Avenue. This sidewalk is part of the Homer Non-Motorized Trails and Transportation plan, which can be found [here](#).

East Road Services plans to start mobilizing equipment onto the project site by Monday, July 11 and will begin actual construction by mid-July.

While the project is ongoing, one lane will be closed at times, but never both lanes at once. Flaggers can be expected to help direct traffic.

The project is scheduled to be concluded by mid-August although we aren't 100% certain of these dates because East Road Services is still waiting on materials necessary to start the project. The actual start dates may differ depending on when materials arrive in Homer.

The Main Street Sidewalk will provide a safe path for pedestrians and contribute to the overall Non-motorized Transportation plan.



# COMMUNITY RECREATION

The Parks Division is busy maintaining the many trails, flower beds, public parks and campgrounds for visitors this summer. Community Recreation offers terrific indoor programs at the HERC Gym and Activity Room, Homer High School and Homer Middle School. Bookmark <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec> and make plans to participate in the latest programs!



## HERC Activity Room Gets New Flooring

The Community Recreation karate program and their participants excitedly and eagerly volunteered to install the new temporary foam tiles in the activity room at the HERC. The group will assist with help keeping the floors clean and we will require a "no shoes" policy when entering the room.

What a world of difference! Thank you!

## Summer Activity Guide

Check out the great programs presented by Community Recreation for people of all ages. From flag football, to pick up soccer, pickleball to tai chi, dance cardio to the community kids program, there is something for everyone to stay active and have fun this summer.

Scan the QR code to see the Activity Guide or go to [cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec](https://cityofhomer-ak.gov/com-rec) to find out more and register for your favorite program.



**City of Homer**

### COMMUNITY RECREATION

#### Summer 2022 - Activity Guide

**WELCOME BACK!**

The City of Homer Community Recreation Department offers terrific indoor programs at the HERC Gym and Activity Room, Homer High School and Homer Middle School. Outdoor programs like football, soccer and ultimate frisbee are also available.

Here is a resource of great free or low-cost programs available to keep you and your family active and have some fun this spring and summer!

[cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation](https://cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation)

**RECREATION PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES**

- Flag Football
- Football Skills
- Community Kids Summer Program
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Morning Pick Up Basketball
- Pick Up Soccer
- Evening Pick Up Basketball
- Drop In Pickleball
- Karate & Tai Chi
- Zumba Kids
- Pick Up Volleyball
- Dance Cardio

**REGISTRATION**

- Check each listing for program fees.
- Pre-registration is required to reserve your spot.

**CONTACT**

Mike Hill - City Recreation Manager

- Office: 907-235-6999
- Email: [communityrecreation@cityofhomer-ak.gov](mailto:communityrecreation@cityofhomer-ak.gov)
- <https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/recreation>

**Find us on Facebook: [cityofhomerak](https://www.facebook.com/cityofhomerak)**

The deadline to be a part of the Fall/Winter catalog is August 15, 2022 for activities September - February. If you would like your program or business added or to become a contracted instructor through Homer Community Recreation, please call us today.



# Fire Department



## Old Town and Kachemak Drive Fires Strike at Once - Mutual Aid Called

In the early morning hours of June 4th, the Homer Volunteer Fire Department (HVFD) responded to a fully involved fire in the Old Town district of Homer on Bunnell Avenue. Six trained firefighters, including Chief Kirko, responded along with three EMTs from HVFD and seven additional emergency personnel from mutual-aid departments Kachemak Emergency Services (KESA) and Western Emergency Services (WES).

Three new EMT graduates were at the scene to run Rehab for the fire, aka EMS standby and back up assistance for the firefighters. They hauled equipment back and forth, did health checks and kept the crew hydrated during the fire. Their service was vital to the success of our efforts, which helped save the neighboring Compass building.

Later that morning, another call came in for a residential fire on Kachemak Drive. Thanks to all departments that pooled resources through our mutual-aid agreements with personnel and equipment to respond to these fires to save lives and property.

The Bunnell Avenue fire is still under investigation. Chief Kirko is working with the State Fire Marshal's office, Homer Police Department and other investigators to determine the cause.

## What is Mutual Aid?

The City of Homer, Kachemak City and Anchor Point have agreements in place to assist each other on emergency calls such as the recent one on Bunnell Avenue. Emergency service organizations throughout the Kenai Peninsula, Statewide, Region and beyond have mutual aid agreements they can call into action should an event arise that requires help beyond the capacity of individual departments or jurisdictions. These kinds of agreements give us all a level of peace-of-mind when larger or multiple emergency events occur or in times of natural disaster.

FEMA defines Mutual Aid as: Agreements establish the terms under which one party provides resources—personnel, teams, facilities, equipment, and supplies—to another party. Because most jurisdictions do not maintain sufficient resource levels to handle extreme events independently, mutual aid agreements provide a means for jurisdictions to augment their resources when needed for high-demand incidents. For more information, read the [FEMA National Incident Management System - Guideline for Mutual Aid](#)

## Emergency Response - Critical Needs

It is important to have the right equipment to be able to respond to emergencies. The HVFD fleet is aging out and the need for modern equipment is growing greater. A new Tanker Truck is on order to arrive in 2024, and a new ladder truck is needed to fight fires in larger buildings and to meet NFPA requirements.

It is also important to have personnel to run the equipment and respond to emergencies. Recruitment is ongoing and an ever-growing challenge peninsula-wide. Discussions are being held to create attractive programs to recruit candidates and positions to fit the schedule and demands of today's volunteer force.



Bunnell Avenue fire being suppressed by HVFD, KESA and WES.



Firefighter checking on smoke location.

## Firefighter Training Course Testing

Hard work and dedication starts here! The Firefighter Training Course started May 23 and these candidates have been working hard. Deputy Fire Chief, *Joe Kahles*, (pictured below in blue) instructs the group on fire hose apparatus and gets them ready to show their stuff for testing requirements. Three of our members tested for the Firefighter 1 class and two other members testing for the Firefighter 2 class! Congratulations to all for your hard work and dedication to the community!



**WE NEED YOU!**



Call [907-235-9811](tel:907-235-9811) to find out how **YOU** can become a Volunteer Firefighter with the HVFD! Reserve your spot for the next class now.

## Equine Rescued from Muddy Stream

We all need a little help from our friends now and then. This horse got stuck in a muddy stream and needed some help to get out. HVFD and HPD responded to the call to assist the owners and free their equine friend. Chief *Mark Kirko*, on tractor, with *Sergeant Poling* and *Officer Stock*, *Jaclyn Arndt* and *Emily Larson* assisting. *Jaclyn* (far left) helped keep the horse calm and covered to prevent shock while rescue tactics were engaged. Three hours later, the horse was up on its feet and back to grazing on green grass. Thanks everyone!



## Burn Permit Suspension Still in Effect & Fireworks



The Borough-wide burn permit suspension is still in effect and remember, fireworks are prohibited within City limits. Warming or cooking fires and barbeque grills are acceptable if they are under three feet in diameter and supervised with plenty of water on site to control and extinguish the fire completely when you are done.

A burn permit suspension prohibits all burning requiring a permit, both large and small scale. This includes the use of burn barrels, lawn burning, and burning of brush piles.

If you have questions, please contact the Homer Volunteer Fire Department at 907-235-3155 or call the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Soldotna Forestry office at 907-260-4200.



# PUBLIC SAFETY NOTES

Local positive COVID-19 case numbers are on the rise, so get information about testing, vaccines & treatment options that are available in Homer.

**COVID-19 Testing**  
Effective July 1:

Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm  
Drop-in (no appointment needed)  
Results on SPH Patient Portal

Insurance will be billed  
Or \$50 self-pay (can choose to pay at time of testing, or be billed later)

Please expect a 15-20 minute visit  
Call ahead to pre-register if you have not recently been seen at SPH: (907) 235-0235  
Bring photo ID

SPH COVID Testing & Vaccine Clinic - 4201 Bartlett Street

**FREE VACCINATION**  
by appointment,  
Thursdays & Fridays:  
(907) 235-0235  
or sphosp.org

South Peninsula Hospital  
sphosp.org

Testing info for weekends and off-hours:  
Order free home test kits at covidtests.gov

- Free home test kits are available at the hospital's main entrance and Homer Chamber of Commerce
- Clinic appointments are offered at Homer Medical Center and South Peninsula Family Care Clinic on Saturdays
- Home test kits are available for purchase at local retailers and covered by most insurances

Scan to open our website

## Stay Healthy this Summer!

Summer is when we spend more time outside, travel, and visit with friends and family. Don't let your guard down though. COVID-19 is still around and on the rise here on the peninsula. We hope you will continue to stay safe and healthy this summer and follow a few easy protective measures to stay strong.

- Wash your hands
- Maintain a 6 feet distance
- Wear a mask
- If you feel sick, isolate
- Get tested

## Planning Department



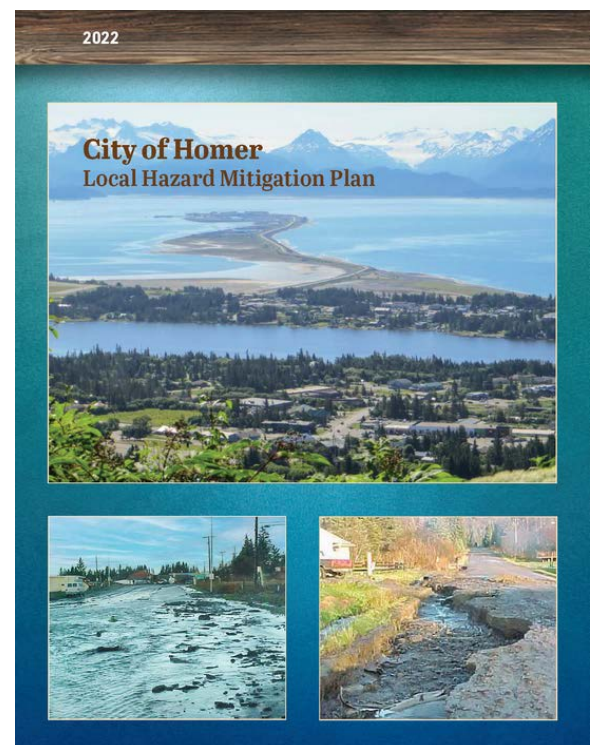
### 2022 Local Hazards Mitigation Plan Adopted

The 2022 City of Homer Local Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by City Council on June 13th. Hazards addressed in the plan include climate change, earthquake, erosion, flood, landslide, severe weather, tsunami, volcano and wildfire.

The Local Hazards Mitigation Plan is updated every five years with the community and allows us to assess risks posed by natural disasters, develop strategies to protect life and property from future events, and allows us to remain eligible to apply for federal funding projects supported in the plan.

The City Planning office gathered comments for the revision from local partners involved in disaster mitigation, participated jointly in the planning process with the Borough and other units of government, and held a hearing to solicit public comments. To see the complete 2022 Local Hazards Mitigation Plan, click here:

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/planning/2022-city-homer-local-hazard-mitigation-plan>



# Police Department



## HPD Holds Self-Defense Class for Local Women at Homer Middle School

More than seventy women came out to learn some self-defense moves from Homer's finest on the mats at Homer Middle School Saturday, June 25th. Five HPD officers and one Alaska State Trooper joined Chief Mark Robl and Lieutenant Ryan Browning to teach the group a few basic tactics they can use if confronted by an attacker and how to defend themselves in any situation.

Point Blank Firearms and Self Defense Training started the session with a presentation on situational awareness and general mindfulness. This knowledge is something the whole family can learn and use.

Moves taught ranged from how to use your voice, how to maintain your distance from your attacker and remove them from your space (right), how to break free from an arm grab (above right), and a few more advanced tactics to roll out of situations during an attack. The group left empowered with knowledge of a few basic moves that could help them if they are ever in a dangerous situation and eagerness to learn more.

Thanks to everyone who participated in this community event and to Story Real Estate and Alaska Peninsula & Mechanical for sponsoring lunch and refreshments for the group from the Green Can.



Lt. Browning (left) demonstrates maneuver to break free from an arm grab.



# Port & Harbor

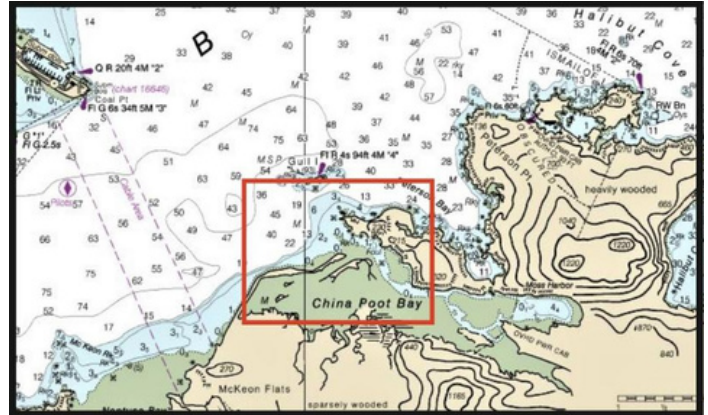


## China Poot Bay Rip Tide Awareness

Summer fishing season is in full swing. China Poot Bay, a popular salmon fishing spot on the south side of Kachemak Bay, is open to dipnetters and snagging starting July 1.

If you are planning to head over, be aware that the entrance to the bay can be dangerous in high winds. The combination of strong outgoing tide currents and southwest winds creates standing waves. This tide rip has capsized boats causing injury and fatalities.

- **BE PREPARED** - Familiarize yourself with nautical charts for the area. For charts, go to [www.charts.noaa.gov](http://www.charts.noaa.gov)
- **BE AWARE** - Check the current tide and wind conditions. Any time the wind is blowing southwest, approach with care.
- **BE SAFE** - Make sure ALL boaters have life jackets and safety equipment.



## Homer Fish Dock... Best Ice and Cranes in the Business!

For the past 35 years the Homer Fish Dock and Ice Plant have served a foundational role in the Commercial Fishing Industry and our Ice Plant guys are all about making and delivering a high quality ice product to our customers. Why is it the best ice? Our Flake Ice is colder than most plants produce and it's auger delivered not blown down a pipe so it ends up in the hold or the tote cold, loose and flaky making it perfect for icing fish bellies.

The Fish Dock Cranes play an essential role in Homer's support of the Commercial fishing industry because of one word Accessibility. The 8 cranes as well as the dock is owned, operated and maintained by the city and our employees take great pains to keep this equipment on line and available for use. Crane #4 was recently completely refurbished by a local firm and is now back in service. Crane 7 is next in line for an overhaul which we are looking to complete before start up in March of 2023. Access to the cranes is a three step process of an online training course, an in person practical test, and then contracting and proof of insurance with the Harbor office.

Ice Plant supervisor *Del Masterhan* knows how to keep the ice flowing and the Fish Dock customers happy. He recently took us on a tour of the ice plant, which included a lesson on how the equipment works to produce the Ice and what makes it the best ice around.

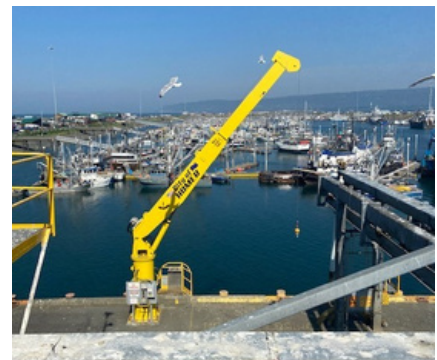
Although the Ice Plant has been well maintained and is currently fully operational, it is 35 years old and our goal as owners is to ask the questions, 'what about the next 35 years?' and, 'how can we do it better, i.e. more cost effectively?' In 2019 we contracted with Coffman Engineering to help evaluate the Ice plant for condition and potential energy saving upgrades. Del has been pouring over the study and consulting with the Coffman crew to focus on a plan of action to accomplish our goals for longevity and efficiency with a solid return on investment.



Ice customer filling blue bins with ice to process his catch later.



Del Masterhan explains diagram of how ice is produced at the Ice Plant.



Eight cranes at the Homer Port & Harbor Ice Dock.



# Public Works



## Ocean Drive Loop Seawall Gets Positive Review

The first season of winter storm activity is history for the new armor rock revetment seawall for property owners along Ocean Drive Loop. Public Works Director Jan Keiser received a nice note from resident Martin Renner and seawall photos, at right.

*I've walked the length of the wall a few times since April. There is great news: this winter, waves deposited a lot of material, rather than eroding this section of coastline. The new material may be up to 1.4 meters thick, covering up most, in a few cases all of the new riprap. This obviously makes for excellent protection for the time being. But what waves give, they can also take away again. It's conceivable that the riprap helped slow down wave action near the wall, dissipating rather than reflecting wave energy, and thereby contributing to this accumulation of sediment, but that's hard to know. We'll see what the next winter will bring. In any case, the raised beach has covered all of the exposed foot of the wall and should protect it very well from wave-driven erosion. Cheers, Martin*



## Sewer Main Cleaning

Sewer jetting is a method of cleaning sewer mains by using high-pressure water streams through specialized jetting nozzles to dislodge and clear obstructions, as well as perform regular maintenance to prevent sewage backups. There are a multitude of materials that can block and cause damage to sewer lines; fats, oils, grease, minerals, mud, sludge, dirt, and tree roots are all commonly found clogging sewers. A jetting nozzle has a forward jet or jets. The forward jet is designed to bore into the blockage, allowing the rear jets with more flow to remove the bulk of the blockage.



A high-pressure pump delivers water to a hose reel containing high-pressure jetting hose. Attached to the end of the jetting hose, the nozzle creates pressure within the system. Every nozzle is designed to direct high-pressure water streams back towards the entry point. This is to help propel the nozzle further down the line and pulling the jetting hose through the pipe.

Generally, 3,500 to 4000 PSI with a flow of at least 6 gallons per minute is capable of breaking through most of these blockages. On the other hand, flushing sand or other fine, loose debris from a sewer line is more effective with a flow of 40 to 60 gallons per minute and a pressure of approximately 1500 PSI to effectively push the sand to the catch basin. As all ways, be mindful of what you flush, please. The operator appreciate it!



Jet angle on a Lance Nozzle.

## Visioning Priority: Non-Motorized Trails and Transportation Opportunity Fund



Everyone enjoys the walking trails in Homer. We depend on these trails to keep our neighborhoods safely connected and allow us to easily travel and are accessible. The 2022 Non-Motorized Trails and Transportation Priority List identifies the highest priority opportunities to develop more routes and fill in the gaps between existing trails in the City's urban and rural neighborhoods. To kick things off, Resolution 22-053 approved task orders to Bishop Engineering, LLC to start work on three routes: the West Fairview Avenue Extension, Adams Drive Bike Path and the West Hill Road Connection.

City Council identified this topic as a priority in the 2022 Visioning Session earlier this spring. In May, they passed Ordinance 22-25 to establish a Non-Motorized Transportation Opportunity Fund, so we can be prepared for trail expansion opportunities. AK DOT has informed the City that increased funding will be available in the coming years. Further, private developers are planning new subdivisions every year, which often do not include provisions for non-motorized routes. Plans, surveys, designs and construction for these type projects will be paid for from the new Opportunity Fund, which is financed from the HART Road Fund and the HART Trails Fund. This Fund enables us to be in a stronger position to secure grant funding and negotiate with private developers as situations arise.

Other related news on this subject includes the Main Street Sidewalk and Ben Walters Way Sidewalk projects, which are scheduled to start being built between mid-July through mid-August. These projects are separate from the Opportunity Fund as they were included in the FY22 Capital Budget.

## Trail Work on Wright Street Easement by Homer Drawdown Volunteers

On June 14th, members of the Homer Drawdown met at the corner of Wright Street and Rangeview Avenue to clear a 190 foot long trail within the Wright Street easement that now connects Rangeview down to Soundview. There were a dozen volunteers coordinated by Parks Superintendent *Matt Steffy*, who trained the crew on safety, PPE, and equipment operation. The project was completed in a little over an hour and concluded with some pizza for all.

These local boots-on-the-ground projects will continue every other week throughout the season. Check in with [www.homerdrawdown.info](http://www.homerdrawdown.info) and register to stay in touch and receive notifications on upcoming projects and volunteer opportunities.



Photo credits: Bjorn Olson



Before



After

# Welcome Aboard



## New City Staff Members

- *Devin Fairbanks, ESS*
- *Kaleb Harvey, Part-time EMT1/FF1*
- *Marcus Lopez, Part-time EMT1/FF2*
- *Devan Wilson, Public Safety Dispatcher*
- *Joe Eshom, HPD, Police Officer III*
- *David Parker, Special Projects Coordinator*



## June Anniversaries

This month we recognize City staff members with April anniversaries. 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.

Melissa Jacobsen	Clerks	18 years
Mike Illg	Admin	16 years
Rachel Tussey	Clerks	11 years
Mike Szocinski	Public Works	10 years
Jessica Poling	Police	5 years
Bethany Christman	Public Works	3 years
Russell Anderson	Public Works	3 years
James Tingley	Public Works	2 years
Winifred Shigley	Police	2 years
James Young	Port	2 years

## Meet the Staff

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



### Jake Richter, HVFD

This firefighter attended the Department of Forestry Wildland Firefighter class in Soldotna followed by a two year residency program in Montana to obtain a FF-1 and Advanced Wildland Firefighter certification. Prior to this Jake Richter earned a scholarship in track and field at Homer High School where he held the fastest time as a sprinter. He attended University of



Alaska at Fairbanks for a short time and returned to his home town in 2017 to attend Kenai Peninsula College and worked for the Parks Service across the bay. During this time, he was on a waiting list at the HVFD for the EMT-1 course and gladly filled a spot when it became available. On his off days, he ran EMS and Fire calls for HVFD. In 2019, he made it official and joined the HVFD full time and we are glad to have him part of our team.

Jake likes to cook in his spare time and makes a delicious zucchini "meatball." He enjoys staying fit and loves Indian and Afghani foods.

## Interested in Running for Local Office?

If you're interested serving as Homer Mayor or as a City Council Member, the City Clerk's office is hosting a [Running for Local Office Open House](#) on Saturday, **July 23rd from 10 to 11 am** at City Hall in the Cowles Council Chambers. Clerk's Office staff will be on hand to answer questions and will have information available regarding these topics and more:

- List of important dates to remember for the annual election
- Declaration of Candidacy packet
- City Code sections pertaining to Elections and Financial Disclosure
- "About the City of Homer" handout
- Notice of Election and Vacancies
- City Council meeting schedule (current year)
- Current City Council roster
- City Boards and Commissions information

Candidacy filing for Mayor and two Council Members opens, Monday, August 1st and runs through Monday, August 15th at 4:30 p.m. The Mayor's seat is a two year term and Council Member seats are for three year terms each. Contact the Clerk's Office at 907-235-3130 or email [clerk@ci.homer.ak.us](mailto:clerk@ci.homer.ak.us) if you have questions.

# 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 and IT Director  
 Nick Poolos, Info. Technology Manager  
 Mike Illg, Community Recreation Manager  
 Julie Engbretsen, Economic Development 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, Art, Recreation and Culture Advisory Commission  
 Port and Harbor Advisory Commission

## Standing Committees

ADA Compliance Committee

# MUNICIPAL ART COLLECTION

Learn more about the municipal art collection at:

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/prac/city-homer-municipal-art-collection>



## Aleutian Artist, Thomas Stream, Aleut (*Sun'aq*), Artwork Added to the Collection

Thomas Stream is an Aleut artist from Kodiak. *Vermilion Flycatcher* was donated by Thelma Gower in May.

This work, part of his 1996 *Aleutian Painting* series called "We are still here," is a simple-yet poignant and powerful statement that sums up Stream's outlook on his heritage and his artwork.

Stream's vivacious animals wear traditional Aleutian hunting hats, which represent nobility and status within Aleut society. The hunting visor has a couple of important uses. While in their kayaks, Aleutian hunters would wear hats and visors that funnel sound over the water into the hunters' ears, enabling them to pinpoint an animal's location. Hunters would decorate special hats for regalia purposes, showing the prowess and wealth with trade beads, colorful designs, and sea lion whiskers (the longest of which could only be captured by the most skilled of hunters). This wonderful symbol of a peaceful people is one that Thomas now uses on animals from every continent. It is his statement of how our environment is so closely and directly affected by our actions, and shows the common global bond that we have with nature.

## STAY CONNECTED WITH CITY COUNCIL

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

**Upcoming City Council & Commission Meetings for July 2022**

July		
12	6:00pm	Economic Development Advisory Commission Regular Meeting - <b>Cancelled</b>
14	4:00pm	ADA Compliance Committee
20	5:30pm	Planning Commission Worksession
	6:30pm	Planning Commission Regular Meeting
25	5:00pm	City Council Committee of the Whole
	6:00pm	City Council Regular Meeting
27	6:00pm	Port & Harbor Advisory Commission 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](http://cityofhomerak.applicantpro.com/jobs)



## CURRENT JOB LISTINGS

- IT Support Specialist
- Public Safety Dispatcher I
- Temporary/Seasonal
  - Harbor Assistant I

## City of Homer

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

[www.cityofhomer-ak.gov](http://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov)

# 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION

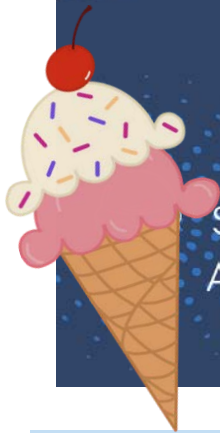


AT THE HOMER VOLUNTEER  
FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Fun for kids!**  
&  
**Truck Tours**

MONDAY- JULY 4TH  
2-5PM

SERVING YOU HOT DOGS  
AND ICE CREAM TO SHOW  
YOU OUR APPRECIATION



Have a  
Safe & Fun  
Holiday Weekend!

City Offices  
will be  
**CLOSED**  
Monday, July 4th  
and  
will reopen  
Tuesday, July 5th

## 4TH OF JULY PARADE THE FIRST 50 YEARS

CELEBRATING HOMER HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM 1940-1990



Homer, Alaska

  [homer.alaska.org](http://homer.alaska.org)



July 4th Parade along Pioneer Avenue from 6-7:30pm