



Our Vision
*To make Anchorage the first city
without prejudice as the first step
to eliminate racism in Alaska*

Bridge Builders Newsletter

March 2009

Greetings Members and Friends!

We're excited to invite you to our "Meet the World in Anchorage" event (Saturday, Feb. 28, 11am-4pm at the Anchorage Museum) and to the rest of Fur Rondy. Don't miss out on the uniquely Alaskan fun!

Hoping to see you Saturday,

Elsa Sargento, President

Paula Pawlowski, Director



Pick. Click. Give.

Bridge Builders is asking for your help for 2009. We do not receive funding from any city or state or federal programs. Your financial support is needed today. Now with "Pick.Click.Give" you can support Bridge Builders when you file for your PFD online in January 2009. Below is information about the program and how to give when you file. If you need more information please call: 277-1882 or go to www.pickclickgive.org.

About the Program

When you apply for your Permanent Fund Dividend, you will have a new opportunity to give to your favorite Alaska nonprofit organizations. The PFD Charitable Contributions Program begins with our 2009 dividend. It provides a safe and secure way to make a donation, and it's available to all Alaskans who file on-line. When you go on-line to sign up for your dividend, you will see the option called "The Gift of Giving." Click and follow the instructions to make a donation.

We are listed as: **Bridge Builders of Anchorage**

Meet the World in Anchorage!

11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 28, 2009

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center

*You are invited to attend this FREE event,
part of the Fur Rendezvous Festival!*



Cultural Events Calendar

Now available online at:

<http://www.bridgebuildersak.com/BridgeBuilders2009Calendar.pdf>

Please check back often for updates!

Upcoming Bridge Builders Events:

Meet the World:

Feb. 28, 2009

11:00am - 4:00pm

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center

March in the 4th of July Parade:

July 4, 2009

Anchorage Parkstrip

Interested in sponsoring and creating a parade float? Please call 277-1882.

Gala Banquet & Ball 2009

Honoring Excellence in
Community Service:

August 15, 2009

Captain Cook Hotel

If you would like to volunteer on a committee for Bridge Builders, please call: 277-1882

The Pledge of Mutual Respect:



Bridge Builders of Anchorage co-hosts Meet the World with the Museum and Wells Fargo to educate the public about the different cultures in Anchorage. Over 30 cultural booths are set up with displays from individual communities and staffed with cultural representatives to greet visitors and explain their customs, traditions, costumes and values. Many booths have activities such as calligraphy demonstrations, games, or origami (paper folding). Attendees are given a "passport" at the entrance that has an entry from each culture explaining customs and traditions; as visitors stop by each table, that culture's passport page is stamped with a symbol from that culture. Ethnic entertainment is featured throughout the day, offering music, dance and workshops while people get to know their neighbors. Fun for the whole family!

For more information, please go to www.bridgebuildersak.org, or call 277-1882.

There are many other fun and wonderful events in the 2009 Fur Rondy we wouldn't want you to

"We the people of Anchorage, Alaska, pledge to respect one another, celebrating the differences that make us unique: our customs, spiritual beliefs, cultures, colors, dreams and ancestral traditions. Standing together, hand in hand, young and old, we affirm that through mutual respect we can build a stronger more harmonious community, a more unified nation and a better, safer world."

Bridge Builders is membership-based and is a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization.

Great News! You will be able to make your donation by participating in the PFD checkoff! Go to www.pickclickgive.org for details.

Our 2008 Annual Report and membership forms can be found on our website: www.bridgebuildersak.org

Core Purpose:

To promote and celebrate harmony and respect among all cultures.

Core Values:

Dignity/Respect/ Personal Trust/Openness/ Personal Commitment/Activism

Join us and discover a whole new

miss, so please visit their website for details:
<http://www.furrondy.net/>

Anchorage Mayoral Candidates Forum

Friday, **March 6**, 5:00-7:00 p.m.
Fairview Community Recreation Center
1121 E. 10th Ave.

Bridge Builders of Anchorage and the Hispanic Affairs Council of Alaska invite the community to meet the candidates for Mayor of Anchorage.

Learn where the candidates stand on diversity, public safety, the economy and immigration, among other issues. Free and open to the general public.

If you have questions you would like the moderator to ask the candidates, please email them to Erick Cordero at [email Erick Cordero](mailto:erick.cordero@bridgebuildersak.org)

More information at:
www.bridgebuildersak.org or 277-1882
www.hacaonline.org or 982-0353

Limited Tickets Available Now!

Fundraiser Dinner

Hosted by Anchorage East Rotary

***and Free Poker
Tournament***

world!



2009 Bridge Builders
of Anchorage

Board of Directors
and Staff:

Elsa Malapit Sargento
Filipino American
President

Angelina Estrada-Burney
Mexican American
Vice President, Public Relations

Donna Stephens
Anglo American
Treasurer

Angela Jimenez
Dominican American
Secretary

Malcolm Roberts
Anglo-American
Immediate Past President

David Alexander
English German

Jim Bailey
English Irish Dutch
American Indian

Pastor Thomas Davis

by Alaska Poker Association
following fundraiser dinner at 5:45pm

* * *

Join us for an evening of games, food, music
and prizes at the Captain Cook Ballroom.

March 28th, 2009

Doors open - 4:00pm
Dinner - 4:30pm
Dinner tickets - \$250.00 per person

Grand Prize:

**1 Main Event Seat at the 2009 World Series of
Poker**

Additional Final Table Prizes:
One \$2,500 seat at a 2009 World Series of Poker event
One \$1,500 seat at a 2009 World Series of Poker event

*All proceeds equally divided in support of:
Bridge Builders of Anchorage, Friends of Alaska CASA,
Hospice of Anchorage, and Mary Magdalene Home
Alaska.*

For more information, call Bridge Builders at 277-
1882 or bridgebuilders@bridgebuildersak.org;
or contact Sharon Anderson: 229-6624

Leadership Anchorage Selects a Bridge Builders
Community Service Project:

Keep Me Safe

*Helping newcomers to Anchorage prepare for emergencies
despite language, cultural and experiential challenges.*

We need your input! Please tell us what you wish *you*
had known when you first arrived in Alaska, so we can
help current and future newcomers be better prepared for
an emergency in this great and challenging environment.

Email suggestions to bridgebuilders@bridgebuildersak.org

African American

Lusiana Hansen
Samoan American

SJ Klein
Jewish American

Jim LaBelle
Inupiaq

Gabrielle LeDoux
Eastern European

Modou E. Manneh
Gambian

Barbara Niziol
Polish American

Yohyon Pharr
Korean American

Mabel Pike
Tlingit

Melvin Williams
African American

Arthur Yang
Hmong

Paula Pawlowski
German Welsh
Director

Denée Dubeau Zah
Finnish Irish
French-Canadian
Administrative Assistant

or call 277-1882. Thank you!

*Leadership Anchorage is an Alaska Humanities Forum program.
For more information go to <http://www.akhf.org>*

"Did you know...?"

...Bridge Builders advocates for your children's education? This year begins our Education Focus. We will begin by connecting with many communities to collect your experiences and stories regarding education. Stay tuned for more details.

We hope you enjoy this new informative section containing tidbits of BB history and info.

Polynesian Tausala Night (Fashion Show)

Friday, **February 27**, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
Mountain View Boys & Girls Club

TICKETS: age 11& older: \$20
1 free kid per adult
extra kid (age 6-10) \$5

If you are a Polynesian youth in school and between the ages of 9 - 17, this is your moment to share your Polynesian culture and custom with Anchorage. Come out and share with us your island beauty and attire. The winners of this event will be honored during the Polynesian 2009 Flag Day Anchorage on June 27, 2009. Sponsored by the Polynesian Association of Alaska.

For more information & tickets, contact the Polynesian Association of Alaska at 229-7244 or 279-8455.

You are invited!

"Saluting our Veterans"

The Grand Finale of Black History Month

Saturday, February 28, 8pm - 2am

at the VFW in Mountain View, 3105 Mt. View Drive

Join Acting Mayor Matt Claman, Assembly member Elvi Gray Jackson, the Mayor's Office of Equal Opportunity, VFW #10252, Prince Hall Masons, NAACP, and other organizations as we recognize the contributions of our service men and women in celebration of African American History Month.

The **FREE** event includes presentations, live entertainment, food, door prizes and more. We will also showcase African American businesses and community organizations.

If you have questions, please call 343-4878. Thanks.

URGENT ASSISTANCE NEEDED

2 FAMILIES DISPLACED BY FIRE

2 large Sudanese families lost their homes last weekend when their duplex off Arctic & 19th burned, displacing twenty people altogether - the youngest child is 3 and the oldest is 20.

The Red Cross put them up at Extended Stay Suites on 8th and A Street for three nights and gave them some debit cards to help them with some expenses. Bob & I arranged for their dinner for a few nights and got them toothbrushes and a few clothes - but they need way more help than we can muster alone.

Mostly we need to find them a new place to live and all the furnishings that go with a house. The side-by side duplex that burned worked well for them in that they were able to support each other. The kids go to Northstar Elementary and West High - so in a perfect world we could find them housing in that school's attendance area. They were getting rent-assistance from AHFC and were paying \$1540/month

for each unit.

Please direct any assistance you can to Tor Gach 907-382-0321 or Qwet's families at 907-310-6902 or Nyaret 907-980-1473.

I'm glad to do whatever I can also. I truly appreciate your help!

Suzanne R. Little
2511 West 79th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99502
Home 907-245-2400
Cell 907-244-2417

The Alaska Native Heritage Center presents:

Raven's Radio Hour

An Official Fur Rondy Event

Alaska Center for Performing Arts ~ Sydney Lawrence Theatre

Friday, February 27 - 8 pm

Saturday, February 28 - 8 pm

Friday, March 6 - 8 pm

Saturday, March 7 - 8 pm

An entertaining evening weaving modern and traditional Native stories with song, dance and humor. Get an insider's look into the world of Alaska's indigenous people.

General Admission Seating

Adults: \$25, Youth & Seniors: \$22.50

Tickets at CenterTix.net and 263-ARTS

March 7 - Spring Celebration ~ Iditarod Day

Meet two amazing mushers- George Attla & Emmitt Peters. Enjoy an afternoon strolling through the village site homes, watch an Agutuk or "eskimo ice cream" making demonstration and try some for yourself, hear the drum beat of the Alaska Native Dancers!

See the movie Attla-Spirit of the Wind with book signing by George Attla Dancing by Kicaput and Naa Luudisk Gwii Yatx'i

March 21 - Multicultural Drumming and Dance Celebration

Drumming and dancing celebrating the drum and its central role in indigenous cultures.

For more details, please check website:

<http://www.alaskanative.net/>

Nominate Your Heroes!

Heroes of Healthcare nominations:

Deadline extended to March 1, 2009.

Nominate your Hero to be among the worthy candidates for 2009. If you know a Hero who should be honored, please submit your nomination to *Hospice of Anchorage*.

Link: [Heroes Nomination Form](#)

The Heroes of Healthcare Awards recognize individuals or groups in the Anchorage health care community who have made significant contributions through gifts of time and talent, to the local, national, and or global community. Nominations may include a single individual or a team working together to create and promote community goodwill.

Donna Stephens, RN, MEd, FT
Executive Director
Hospice of Anchorage
500 West International Airport Road, Suite C
Anchorage, Alaska 99518
Office: (907) 561-5322
donna@hospiceofanchorage.org
www.hospiceofanchorage.org
Hope, Dignity, Love...It must be Hospice

Events at the Anchorage Museum

Sunday Family Art: Night and Day

March 1: 1 - 3 p.m.

Children explore the art of collage, and create night and day scenes inspired by jazz music. Hands-on workshop for ages 12 and younger taught by artist/art educator Brenda Jaeger. Included with admission.

Lecture: When Crab was King

March 5: 7 to 9 p.m.

When Crab was King: A Personal and Historical Narrative of Crab Fishing in Alaska. Free lecture by Toby Sullivan, director of the Kodiak Maritime Museum.

First Friday

March 6: 6 - 8 p.m.

Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and live jazz with the Cat Coward Quintet.
Free.

AT&T Free Day: Maritime Day

March 8: 1 to 4 p.m.

Come aboard to experience the thrill of the sea with art and science activities, salty sea stories, a pirate treasure map and sea chanteys.

Community Program: Anchorage Spinners and Weavers

March 14

10 a.m., membership meeting

11 a.m., 2009 Challenge: Show and Tell

Talk by Barry Bergdoll

March 16: 7 p.m.

Talk by Barry Bergdoll, curator at MOMA in New York, presented by Alaska Design Forum.

Lecture - Angyaq: An Alutiiq Skin Boat Legacy

March 26: 7 to 9 p.m.

Free lecture on the traditional use of the skin-boat, ship construction and the boat's cultural legacy by Aron Crowell, director of the Arctic Studies Center's Alaska office.

More Info: www.anchoragemuseum.org

Contact Information: 907-343-4326

Anchorage Museum at Rasmuson Center

121 W. 7th Ave; Anchorage, AK 99501

Alaska World Affairs Council

March 6, 2009

No AWAC Event This Week because of the Iditarod

March 13, 2009

"Managing an Emergency: Behind the Scenes at Doctors Without Borders"

Speaker: Nick Lawson

Director of Field Human Resources, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)

March 20, 2009

"Future prospect for Tibet"

Speaker: Lobsang Nyandak

Representative of His Holiness the Dalai Lama to the Americas

March 27, 2009

"Petrostate: Putin, Power and the New Russia"

Speaker: Marshall I. Goldman
Professor Goldman is the Kathryn Wasserman Davis Professor of Russian Economics (Emeritus), Wellesley College
Senior Scholar, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University

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AWAC weekly luncheons location: Hilton Hotel
Doors open at 11:30 a.m. - Program begins at 12:00 p.m.
RSVP by telephone 276-8038 or by email to info@AlaskaWorldAffairs.org.
Lunch Program \$20 for Members - \$25 for Non-Members - \$6 for Coffee Only

For more information, go to <http://www.alaskaworldaffairs.org/>

Asian Alaskan Cultural Center
proudly presents Asian Culture Night 2009

Rimli Roy and Surati

for performing arts from India and the New York area

An Evening of Dance & Music

7:00 p.m. Friday, March 27th

Atwood Concert Hall

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets available at www.CenterTix.net or 263-ARTS (2787) or at the CenterTix box office

Major Sponsor: Neeser Construction, Inc.

Sponsored by: Alaska Arts & Culture Foundation, Alaska State Council on the Arts, Anchorage Arts Advisory Commission, Anchorage Daily News, Anchorage School District, Rasmuson Foundation, BP, Wells Fargo

Request for Qualifications for Neighborhood Stabilization Program

Alaska Housing Finance Corporation has just released its "Request for Qualifications" to participate in the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP).

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program "Request for Qualifications" (RFQ) has been posted to the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation website at <http://www.ahfc.state.ak.us/notices/sog.cfm>. The deadline for application for the first round of NSP funding is on Thursday, **March 5, 2009, 4:30 p.m.**

Resources to assist applicants in preparing their applications will be posted

directly to the NSP webpage as resources become available. Resources will include: LMMA and Estimated Foreclosure Abandonment Risk Scores By Census Tract/Block Groups, Income Limits, a link to HUD's NSP Information, and NSP Guidance on Program Income and Revenue Requirements. Fair Market Rents and Rent Payment Standard information can be accessed from the AHFC website by clicking "Reference Material." All potential applicants are encouraged to carefully review all of the resource information available and to periodically check the NSP webpage for updates on this program.

Contact Lona Hammer at hammer@ahfc.state.ak.us or 330-8211 with questions after reviewing the material.

FILIPINO MIXOLOGY: Dancing to our own Beat

The Alaskero Partnership Organization (APO) invites you to join us for an interactive seminar.

Each session will explore a sampling of key periods in Filipino history, Pinoy pop culture and activities to try and understand the contemporary remix that is "Filipino American Identity." Refreshments provided.

Saturdays from 1 pm - 3 pm

University of Alaska Anchorage
Consortium Library, Room 307, 3211 Providence Drive

Upcoming Seminar Series Dates:

March 7

Brown in the Beginning:
Pre-History and Colonial Mentality

March 28

Re-sampling History

April 11

The Floor Is Yours:
Make Your Own Mix

For more information:

guru@alaskero.com ~ www.alaskero.com

Dr. Gabriel Garcia: 907.786.6532

Department of Health Sciences

Office of Diversity & Compliance

AHAINA Student Programs

Funded by the Center for Community Engagement & Learning, University of Alaska Anchorage

Anchorage Public Library Events

Becoming the Author of Your Own Life

Tuesday, March 3, 4pm

Loussac, Wilda Marston Theater, level 1

By recounting his struggles to become a writer, author Ben Mikaelson empowers students to realize their own potential. Ben's goal is to motivate students to try reading and writing on their own. He finishes his talk with a slide show offering a humorous look into a day in the life of an author. For youth, ages 8 and older.

Meet John Smelcer, Author of "The Trap"

Loussac, Ann Stevens Room, level 3

Thursday, **March 5**, 7pm

Chugiak-Eagle River, Saturday, **March 7**, 11am

In *The Trap*, John Smelcer blends his life experience in Alaska with his cultural heritage to create a moving, award-winning story of a Native elder, trapped outside in winter and fighting to survive. Join us as Smelcer discusses writing and his creative process.

Anchorage Reads: Storms, Whales and Native Tales

Featuring *Storm Boy* by Paul Owen Lewis

Loussac, Tuesday, **March 10**, 2pm

Muldoon, Thursday, **March 12**, 2pm

Enjoy Native American tales & make a craft. Ages 5 & older.

Wildlife Wednesdays:

How Can People and Wildlife Adapt to a Changing Climate?

Wednesday, **March 11**, 7pm.

Loussac, Wilda Marston Theatre, level 1

Peter Larsen, Climate Change Program director with The Nature Conservancy in Alaska, talks about adaptations people and animals need to make as glaciers melt, permafrost thaws and oceans warm.

The library's online newsletter has details and more events:

http://lexicon.ci.anchorage.ak.us/events/calendar/2009/Current_Calendar.pdf

"Spring Fling Dinner" in support of Paint the Town March 21 Marriott Hotel

Cocktail hour 5-6pm
Buffet 6pm
Silent auction 5-8:30
Live auction 7:30-8:30

On March 21, 2009, NeighborWorks Anchorage will be hosting a "Spring Fling Dinner" at the Marriott Hotel in support of the Paint the Town Community event scheduled for June 6 -13, 2009. Join us in "Painting a Brighter Future" for our neighbors by attending the dinner; there will be a live auction, silent auction, food and music.

Paint the Town has become a great community project and we hope to see you there. You or your company can get involved and brighten the lives of 25 families in 2009 with a home adoption. Be on a Prep Team; be a Team Captain; refer a home in need of painting; or volunteer for the Celebration Picnic on June 12th.

Deadline to nominate a home: May 15. For a Nomination Form, see contact information below.

For additional information please contact Diana Kaplanis, Director of Resource Development, at NeighborWorks Anchorage, 907-677-8421, dkaplanis@nwanchorage.org.

HUD ALLOCATES MORE THAN \$10 BILLION OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDING ONE WEEK AFTER BILL SIGNING

Alaska Receives \$54.2 Million

As Nearly 75 percent of HUD Recovery funds allocated today

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) today allocated nearly 75 percent of its funding, or \$10.1 billion, made available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Jurisdictions in Alaska will receive a total of \$54,235,524 as a result of today's allocations.

The funding announced today is primarily formula-based, meaning that it is allocated using set program criteria that do not require grantees to apply for the funds, allowing them to be allocated very quickly. The remaining 25 percent of the funds, which will be competitively awarded later, will be used to build on the President's priorities to promote green jobs and mitigate the destabilizing effects of foreclosures on communities

"I am pleased to announce that we are moving swiftly to get these much-needed funds out to states and cities to create jobs and help stimulate our economy," said HUD Secretary Shaun Donovan. "Recovery Act investments in HUD programs will be not just swift, but also effective: they will generate tens of thousands of jobs, help the families and communities hardest hit by the economic crisis, and modernize homes to make them energy efficient."

Highlights:

Promoting Energy Efficiency and Creating Green Jobs

Public Housing Capital Fund Program - \$3 billion nationally; \$3,306,953 to Alaska. - For allocations to specific housing authorities, please visit link at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/phcfund.cfm>

Native American Housing Block Grant (IHBG) - \$255 million nationally; \$39,991,315 to 237 native villages and tribal organizations in Alaska. - For allocations to specific tribal organizations, please visit link at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/native-american-formula.cfm>

Supporting Shovel-Ready Projects and Assisted Housing Improvements

Tax Credit Assistance Program (TCAP) - \$2.25 billion nationally; \$5,490,631 to Alaska. - For more, please visit link at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/tax-credit.cfm>

Project-Based Rental Assistance - \$2 billion nationally; \$2,270,986 to 8 contracts in Alaska.

Promoting Stable Communities and Helping Families Hardest Hit by the Economic Crisis - Resources will be used to stabilize and revive local neighborhoods and housing markets with heavy concentrations of foreclosed properties. Funds will also assist the vulnerable families and individuals who are on the brink of homelessness or have recently become homeless.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) - \$1 billion nationally; \$1,255,184 to 3 grantees in Alaska. - For specific allocations to jurisdictions, please visit the link at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/cdblock.cfm>

Emergency Shelter Grant Program/Homelessness Prevention - \$1.5 billion; \$1,920,455 to 2 grantees in Alaska. - For specific allocations in Alaska, please visit the link at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery/homeless-prevention.cfm>

FHA Loan Limits - HUD will temporarily increase the loan limits of mortgages insured by the Federal Housing Administration (FHA) up to \$729,750.

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More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

Job Vacancies:

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Alaska

PT Enrollment and Matching Specialist, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

FT Enrollment and Matching Specialist, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

Match Support Specialist, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

Corporate Relations Manager, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

Development Director, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

Recruiter, (Anchorage)
Open effective immediately

For complete job descriptions, please go to the website:
www.BigBrothersBigSistersAlaska.org

SUMMER JOBS

Please review and share the information at the following links.

Jobs for **youths age 16-19** at Parks & Recreation:
Click on this link:
[Youth Employment in Parks 2009](#)

AYDC Upcoming Events and Opportunities:

Spirit of Youth Banquet

March 21, 6 pm at the Anchorage Hilton.

For more info go to spiritofyouth.org.

Opportunities for Youth:

Carrs Starbucks Recruitment: March 4, 1:30-3:30 pm at the Midtown Job Center. A new Starbucks location is opening up at the Eastgate Carrs, 5600 Debarr Road. Apply online at www.safeway.com prior to attending the recruitment session or apply at the hiring Carrs.

For more information: <http://www.aydc.org/>



BUILDING A NEW PARTNERSHIP TO BENEFIT ANCHORAGE AND OUR YOUTH

Exploring ideas for working together to provide culturally appropriate community service learning opportunities for youth who have committed a minor offense, a group recently held a meeting at McLaughlin Youth Center. Participants included Paula Pawlowski of Bridge Builders and representatives from the Making a Difference partnership - Anchorage Youth Court, Juvenile Intake Probation of the Alaska Health and Social Services Division of Juvenile Justice, and Volunteers of America in Alaska. As one goal of the meeting, youth volunteers from Anchorage Youth Court will be helping with Meet the World and other Bridge Builders functions.

We hope this initial volunteer collaboration will grow to provide additional partnerships with sponsors of specific ethnically sponsored local events. If your group will sponsor an event in the coming year and would like to learn more about providing a second chance for youth who have made a poor choice but want to be good citizens and abide by the law, please contact Paula at Bridge Builders at 277-1882 to make her aware that you are willing to help.

With these actions as a beginning, we look forward to continuing to work together.

2010 CENSUS

COUNT FOR SOMETHING IMPORTANT WITH THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU

The Census Bureau is recruiting NOW for the 2010 Census, and you can be a part of it. Data gathered during the census is essential to determining how federal monies are spent on the things that matter the most to you: Health Care, Education, Jobs, Home ownership, Community safety; Community services; Aid for children and seniors.

We are beginning operations throughout Alaska. The Census Bureau offers great pay, flexible hours, paid training and an amazing opportunity for you to further your career and improve your community!

Recruiting Assistants (\$19.00/hr)

We are looking for a diverse group of energetic team-players who are active within their communities.

For more information call 1-866-861-2010 NOW!

Census Job Posting Website:

www.census.gov/rosea/www/empty.html

4th Annual Fur Rendezvous

MultiTribal Gathering

Featuring NAMMY winning
Medicine Dream and
Ke Kia'i A O Hula Alaska
Hawaiian Dancers

Saturday, **February 28**, 12-7pm

Sunday, **March 1**, 12-5pm

Egan Convention Center

A Family & Youth Event! Free to the public! Featuring song, dance and visual art of Alaska Natives, Native Americans, Pacific Islanders and much more.

St. Francis **Homeless Donation Jugs** at your place of business:

SOLUTIONS FOR THE HOMELESS OF ANCHORAGE

The quest to end homelessness starts here!

Your donation benefits the **BROTHER FRANCIS**

SHELTER, CLARE HOUSE, AND ST. FRANCIS HOUSE. All funds go directly to the programs and are not used for administration or non-client purposes.

The donation Jug is located at the bar. When available we will have wooden nickels to give to you to give to the homeless for two days of food, clothing and shelter.

Since 2001 Brown Jug has collected over \$38,000. Imagine what can be done collectively? Sharing the food tokens is an alternate to giving cash to panhandlers. Before the panhandling begins they're being fed and clothed from generous City and State programs. Panhandlers receive a sufficient amount of cash in a very short time to fulfill their alcohol needs from motorist with misguided intentions, ending in a devastating result. In order to discourage money for panhandlers, St. Francis food tokens are available at the licensees place of business that have homeless donation jugs. Givers are asked to supplement the token with a snack food item for panhandlers.

Food pick-up at St. Francis House, 3710 East 20th Ave., is Mon, Tues, Thur. 12-3pm Wed 10-1pm, 4th Wed 4-7pm (bus #45).

Let's all join together in this effort. Please call and I will help get your business started. Thank you for your support.

Ed O'Neill Government - Community Relations
Brown Jug, Inc.
ARBRA-Anchorage Responsible Beverage Retailers Association, Inc.
4140 Old Seward Hwy. Anchorage, Alaska 99503
(907) 563-3815 x225 Cell (907) 240-1818 Fax (907) 562-3008
edoneill@brownjugalaska.com
"Drink Responsibly. Drive Responsibly. Live Responsibly."

Youth and Adult Training For Community Leadership

The 2009 Alaska Points of Light Youth Leadership Training for youth and adults has been announced.

The Adult Train The Trainer PYLI Seminar will be held:
March 4, 5 & 6 in Anchorage;

PYLI Youth Leadership Institutes for students ages 13-18 will be held:
March 9-13 in Anchorage,
June 1-5 in Palmer and
June 8-12 in Barrow.

Sponsored by Prudential, Points of Light & Hands On Network, Alaska Association of Secondary School Principals and other Alaska community service organizations, Alaska PYLI trains young people to

be community leaders through a state of the art creative leadership curriculum emphasizing volunteer service and personal development supporting the Prudential Spirit of Community Initiative.

To learn more go to www.pyli.org and call 561-6630 or email alaskayouthasresources@alaska.net for application information.

LOCAL CONTACT:

Beau Bassett, Ed.M., J.D.

Master PYLI Trainer

Points Of Light & Hands On Network

561-6630

alaskayouthasresources@alaska.net

**Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)
UPDATE**

We have 50 individuals who are slated to come to Alaska this year and we are expecting to be assigned up to 90. Twenty-three (23) are from Somalia and 20 are from Sudan. The rest are from Congo and a new group from Burma! We are also still hoping to be assigned refugees from Bhutan.

For February we are expecting 2 single men from Sudan. One man is 30 years old, speaks Arabic and we will be housing him in the Mt. View area. The other man is due the 23rd or 24th of February, also 30 years old, speaks Arabic and also will live in Mt. View area. Both men are Muslim.

For March we have our very first Burmese arrivals. We have a family of 2 (husband and wife ages 29 and 22 respectively) as well as a single man age 28. The couple speak Burmese but the single man speaks Chin as far as we can tell. I am excited to meet with some folks from the Burmese community this weekend, and now we have a very clear focus :) These new arrivals will be residing in apartments in the Muldoon area.

So for now no children arriving, for those of you who are involved with us on that end.

Other program news... we have a new staff member, Marol Deng. He is from Sudan and speaks Nuer, Amharic and Arabic. We are very excited to have him join the team.

Thank you in advance for your support of the program. We are looking forward to a very exciting year of refugee resettlement and partnership with all of you.

As always there are items we are looking for...

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
REFUGEE ASSISTANCE & IMMIGRATION SERVICES (RAIS)**

- Inexpensive alarm clocks
- Inexpensive am/fm radios
- Laundry baskets
- Hangers
- Pillows (new)
- Vacuum cleaners
- Irons
- Mops, buckets, brooms and dustpans
- Garbage cans -- for kitchens and bathrooms
- Small cutting boards for kitchens
- Dishes
- Silverware
- Pots and pans

Laundry detergent
Men's/ women's wallets
Papertowels, Toilet paper packages

Gift cards to Walmart and Fred Meyers to use for items we are short on.

Cash donations for our revolving loan fund (to use for security deposits or other micro-loans) -- if you give us this PLEASE put revolving loan on the memo line of the check and make check payable to CSS-RAIS.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Family Mentoring
English Language tutoring
Providing warm meals for new arrivals
Many other project based opportunities

Karen Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Director/ State Refugee Coordinator
Refugee Assistance & Immigration Services (RAIS)
Catholic Social Services
3710 E. 20th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 222-7376 phone, (907) 276-5539 fax
Kferguson@cssalaska.org
Providing Help/ Creating Hope

Ways to get involved

1. NEW! We are in desperate need of a volunteer to help adult clients learn to drive (they already have their learners' permits). This young man begins his first job in Anchorage very soon and will need his own transportation, which is why he wants to learn to drive. Please help him realize his dream of freedom and self-sufficiency in the U.S. and Alaska by giving him the gift of learning to drive.

2. NEW! Birthday Party Committee Members Wanted:
Beginning **March 13th**, we will begin to host birthday parties for our clients! Any client who has had a birthday in the past three months (along with their family) will be invited to the CSS Center to celebrate. Many of our clients have never celebrated a birthday and this is a great way teach them about American culture. This is a great opportunity for you to meet your new neighbors from around the world and learn how they celebrated birthdays in their home countries. Committee members are asked to help us plan a party, provide a cake, and decorate once every three months. All RAIS supporters are welcome - please bring a gift or a food treat to get in the door!

3. NEW! Want to help welcome refugees to Alaska? Sign up to be on the Warm Meal Provider list. This is an opportunity for you to welcome our new neighbors to Alaska through the gift of food. This commitment would be approximately 1/month, contingent on when we receive new arrivals. We would provide you with family information and ask you to deliver 1 warm meal to the family. We hope that the List could provide 2-3 meals/week for the first two weeks families arrive in Alaska.

4. NEW! For current family mentor volunteers, we will begin having monthly volunteer support meetings with a RAIS staff member; we will meet from 5-6:15 on the last Friday of each month. This is a great opportunity to ask our case managers specific questions, meet other volunteers, and generate/bounce ideas off of each other. Please RSVP to Melissa at mbartley@cssalaska.org.

5. World Refugee Day Steering Committee!
Even though the event is 5 months away we are beginning to hold meetings to plan World Refugee Day, which we are celebrating on Friday, June 19. We need help in all areas: developing an agenda, inviting speakers, creating activities for children, food donations, and music.

Please contact Melissa at 222-7344 or mbartley@cssalaska.org for more

information and/or to sign up for any of these opportunities.

Is there something happening in your community that you would like to see included here? Please email the details to us at bridgebuilders@bridgebuildersak.org.

Thank you for sending us information about your special event. We think this tool will help keep you informed and give you your options for activities of interest.

Contact Information

Paula Pawlowski, Director

phone: 277-1882 fax: 277-1883

email: bridgebuilders@bridgebuildersak.org

website: www.bridgebuildersak.org