

HISTORY TIMES

Wasilla, Alaska

April, 2009



President's Message by LeRoi Heaven

How can it be spring already? I'm looking forward to an exciting summer; starting with our Yard Sale in the school house in the Old Wasilla Town Site on May 9 and 10.

Next it will be the Farmers' Market every Wednesday starting on June 3.

And be sure you come to the Knik Picnic and Social at the Knik Museum on July 19.

The inventory of the artifacts in the Knik Museum has begun. Don and Sherry Shiesl worked on it this winter, and should have it completed before long.

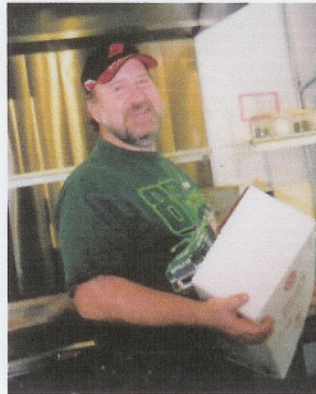
The land survey of the Knik Museum site is completed and turned in. A new agreement between the Borough, our historical society, Knikatnu Tribal Council, and the Knik Tribal Council will soon be signed and completed. This will enable us to start on the restoration of the Herning Warehouse located behind the Knik Museum

The fire marshal inspected the Herning-Teeland-Mead building in downtown Wasilla and told us there were just a few minor corrections to be made. They have been made.

Yard Sale
May 9-10

I want to welcome the new tenants in the HTM building, Bob and Tamara Suders, owners of the "Krazy Moose Subs and Salad Shop," who are doing very well. Be sure you stop in and taste their delicious fare.

And now I'm off to Denver to see our son. See you later in the spring.



Bob Suders carries food to the grill, getting ready for the daily crowd.



Kendal Suders, at the front desk, checks on supplies before opening time at Krazy Moose Subs, Wasilla.

KNIK NEWS DIGEST

Knik Museum and
Mushers' Hall of Fame
"Along the Iditarod Trail"
376-7755

A great place to see artifacts from Knik when it was a busy, bustling town; and to view items from early dog mushing days. Bring a picnic lunch, enjoy the yard and part of the Iditarod Trail.

2009 Opening Date June 1 1-6 PM
Summer Hours
Thursday – Saturday 1-6 PM
Sunday, 1-5 PM

Admission:

Single \$5.00 Family \$10.00
Seniors/Children (under 18) \$2.00

Diane Williams – Summer Volunteer
715-8565

Trails Day - June 6 help along the trail

Annual Knik Picnic and Social
July 19 Noon – 5 PM

Wasilla-Knik Historical Society Board Members

President – LeRoi Heaven376-5679
Vice-Pres – Dale Myers 382-4786
Secretary – Arlene Stephl373-5375
Treasurer – Erling Nelson 376-5627
Tiny DePriest 745-3927
Marilyn McGuire376-2379
Don Shiesl 376-1462
Barb Redington..... 376-6730
Scott Neel..... 357-0534

June Robinette Member Emeritus
Benoni Nelson - Knik Museum
Director Emeritus

Your all-volunteer Historical Society Board meets on the last Tuesday of each month at 7 PM at 300 N. Boundary, Wasilla, AK 99654
376-2005

email: wasillaknikhistoricalsociety
@yahoo.com

web: www.
geocities.com/wasillaknikhistoricalsociety/

New



NEWS

Wasilla Page Museum

by Bethany Buckingham
Museum Curator

The Dorothy G. Page Museum has been busy this winter.

The *Wasilla Community Holiday Celebration* was a success including our fourth annual Gingerbread House competition and our first annual 12x12 Days of Christmas art exhibit.

Look on our website for information about next year's holiday celebration.

In January, the Museum welcomed the *50th Statehood Quilt Exhibit*. We were the first venue to showcase the 8-foot panels which filled our front gallery. Visitors were invited to walk through the colorful quilt blocks and see quilters' views of Alaska and its history through fabric.

In February we kicked off Iditarod Days with our third annual Iditarod Art Exhibit. This year the exhibit hosted two Jon Van Zyle originals and more than 15 original pieces by local artists. We look forward to hosting this exhibit again next year.

Also in February the Wasilla Public Library and the Museum received a Rasmuson grant to create educational traveling trunks for local schools, home schools and educational organizations. The Wasilla Knik Historical Society has generously offered to purchase the "trunks" that will house all the books, videos and educational materials for students and teachers. Beginning in August the trunks will be available for check out. This coincides with our fall exhibit *New Harmonies: A Celebration of American Roots Music* opening Aug. 24. *New Harmonies*, produced by the Smithsonian and Museums on Main Street, follows the evolution of American music from spiritual and gospel to blues, jazz, country and rock 'n' roll. The Alaska Humanities Forum is paying for shipping costs of the exhibit. The Museum is one of four institutions in the state to host *New Harmonies* and is the only venue north of Homer to showcase the interactive educational exhibit. Mark your calendars now!

This summer is shaping up to be an exciting time as well. April 3, we opened *Alaska Positive 2008*. This juried photographic exhibit highlights the winners of the statewide competition from the Alaska State Museum. This is the third year the museum has hosted the exhibit and the photographs are on display through June 27.

In July we open *Instruments as Art*. This exhibit features instruments of various types and styles made by local artisans. This exhibit leads up to our blockbuster event in August, *New Harmonies: A Celebration of American Roots Music*.

Our education tours are piling up and we need volunteers. If you are interested in becoming an educational docent, please contact the museum at 373-9071.

We are gearing up for a great summer season and invite you to visit us online at www.cityofwasilla.com/museum. Our new website provides information about our events, exhibits and collections. If you are interested in receiving our newsletter, email updates or event invitations, please email us at museum@ci.wasilla.ak.us or call us at 373-9071 to be placed on our contact list.

The Museum is now open for summer hours. Stop by and visit us Mon. – Sat. from 9 am – 5 pm. Admission is charged, but Fridays are free for Mat-Su Borough residents with valid ID. Also, don't forget, you receive free admission to the Museum when you show your Wasilla Knik Historical Society membership card.

As always, we look forward to seeing you at the Museum.



**Alaska Statehood-
50 years and moving on**

There will be many historic events happening throughout the state this year; be sure you and your family take part in some of them!

A NEW BUSINESS AND A NEW LOOK

by Arlene Stephl

If you're looking for a good meal at yesterday's prices, try the Krazy Moose Subs restaurant in Wasilla.

Bob and Tamara Suders had a good thing going--many steady customers at their location near Fred Meyers in Wasilla, but the property was to be renovated and no longer available.

The Wasilla-Knik Historical Society was looking for a new tenant, the Suders were looking for a kitchen and dining area, centrally located, papers were signed and the Herning-Teeland-Mead building became home to one of the Valley's busiest establishments.

It was supposed to be a 'soft opening' when the restaurant opened Jan. 7. "I thought we'd be slow," said Tammy, but business was brisk; customers came in a steady stream.

The Suders are originally from Pennsylvania, where Bob worked on a dairy farm and Tammy in restaurants. Then they headed west in 1995, settling in Big Piney, Wyoming, population 1,000 and "100 miles from anything," Bob said. They opened a sit-down cafe, featuring subs. "Because we couldn't get a good one anywhere," he added.

It was a family-owned and operated business, with son Ethan and daughter Kendal working, too. Then the lure of Alaska beckoned. "It was everybody's dream," Bob said, "a place where people do something different." They arrived in Wasilla in 2005, and Krazy Moose Subs opened soon after. Their new location, on the corner of Boundary and Herning streets, is open from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., and there are five employees, including Kendal. The dining room seats 60 at custom-built wood tables featuring an Alaskan motif. Tammy bakes bread daily, and Bob's chores include getting everything ready for the grill. Kendal bakes the cookies and works out front.

There are many take-out customers, and the most sandwiches served at one time? 200.

The Krazy Moose also has a lively catering business, but sit-down customers are the majority of the clientele.

Although pastimes include four-wheeling, fishing and moose hunting, there is less time for that now. "We have much more space here than our other location," Bob said, "probably double the space, including a much bigger kitchen. And - we have many more customers."

The menu includes hot and cold sandwiches, soup, salads, dessert and beverages. And the most popular items are chicken bacon and Italian subs.

"The soups a good seller, too," Bob added. His sister e-mailed from Pennsylvania, "I read about your new business on the Internet. About the good food. You are famous!"

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WASILLA-KNIK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
300 N. Boundary, Wasilla, AK 99654-7128

As a member you will receive:

- Historical Society's newsletter
- Free entrance to Knik & Wasilla Museums
- Voting privileges at the Annual Meeting
- Invitations to Special Events

Your membership support is appreciated very much!

Name _____

Mail Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Cell _____

E-Mail _____

Please select type of membership: New Renewal

Individual \$15.00

Family \$25.00

_____ additional names

Corporate \$100.00

_____ corporate name

Lifetime \$250.00

Spring Yard Sale - Wasilla Town Site - behind museum and library

May 9, Saturday 9 - 4

May 10, Sunday 11 - 3

Start now to gather your things to donate. Call Erling 376-5627 or LeRoi 376-5679 for donation pick-up if you need a place to store the items until the sale. Your donations make this annual event a great success. Through your generous giving we are able to use the proceeds from the sale to fund many of our historic preservation projects throughout the year. If you would like to help with the sale, let a board member know.