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Board Members:

Therese Sharp
 Scott Wilkes
 Ken Henry
 Georjean Seeliger
 Nelson Traverso
 Cindy Schumaker
 Buzzy Chiu
 Bart LeBon
 Charles Bettisworth
 Suzi Waugaman
 Gary Conatser
 Peter Beaver
 Frank Eagle

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

On December 21st countless friends and families came downtown for the Winter Solstice Celebration. The simple beauty of our little river-city was evident throughout the evening- the many delightfully decorated windows, the radiant snowflakes adorning the lamp posts, the luminaries shining like little diamonds in the rough.....all added to the festive holiday ambiance.

Eight live bands played everything from steel drums to cool jazz to traditional holiday tunes. People got pictures taken with Santa, said "Hi" to Mrs. Claus, enjoyed scrumptious cookies and cocoa, went on the Downtown Scavenger Hunt, did a little holiday shopping, and topped it all off with a wintry stroll over to the banks of the Chena for a spectacular fireworks display.



**Be a part of the
 excitement!
 Join the Downtown
 Association of
 Fairbanks today.**

410 Cushman Street
 Fairbanks, AK 99701
 Ph. 907-452-8671
 Fax. 907-457-8859
downtownfairbanks.com

MILESTONES OF LIGHT AND TIME

Winter Solstice heralds not only the longest night of the year, but also the return of the light, as our precious daylight hours start increasing on December 22nd. These dates may not resonate in the hearts and minds of those from the lower forty-eight, but for those of us in the sub-arctic, these milestones of light and time are significant. We mark these days with festive occasions, such as the Winter Solstice Celebration. We thank the many groups of family and friends that came to enjoy the festivities and indulge in the many holiday traditions a trip downtown affords.



Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers who made the Winter Solstice Celebration possible. Savannah Craft was one of Santa's elves at Sadler's.



Santa cheerfully awaits his next hopeful child. As is the downtown tradition, hundreds and hundreds of Santa photos were taken this year at Sadler's Home Furnishings.



Like little frozen bouquets of flowers, over forty colorful ice luminaries were placed throughout our downtown to add to the Winter Solstice festivities.

THE FUDGE POT

A Downtown Association Member Spotlight

Fudge~Soup~Sandwiches~Espresso
 LOCATED 515 1st Avenue PHONE 456-3834
 Across from the Court House

Holiday Hours		Regular Hours	
Mon-Fri	9AM-7PM	Mon-Fri	9AM-6PM
Saturday	9AM-6PM	Saturday	11AM-5PM
Sunday	12-5PM	Sunday	Closed

We make the BEST FUDGE in Alaska! Over 30 mouth watering flavors. Our specialties are blueberry & cranberry made with Alaskan berries with no artificial colors or flavors. Try our delicious holiday fudge flavors. Pumpkin, Divinity, Pistachio, Penuche, Candy Cane, Egg Nog & Rum Raisin. What a great gift idea!

Fudge Special

Buy one pound of Fudge & get a quarter pound FREE!
 Expires 12/24/09

Celebrate Winter Solstice Downtown!

December 19th

Snowshoe Race at Noon, Free Santa Photos, Window Decorating Contest, Quest Puppies, Movies and Live Music throughout Downtown, & Warm-up Treat at the Fudge Pot!

December 21st

Grand Finale 4-8 PM
 Fireworks over the Chena River at 7:45
 Mrs. Claus, Eight Live Bands, Free Santa Photos, Luminaries, the Golden Gala Ball and more!

DOWNTOWN ASSOCIATION FAIRBANKS
 Promoting, Preserving, Revitalizing Downtown
 www.downtownfairbanks.com
 907.452.8671

This Downtown Association of Fairbanks Member Spotlight ran in the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* on the second Sunday and the third Friday of December 2009.



The Golden Gala took place on December 21st, 2009, Winter Solstice. Its purpose? Celebrate fifty golden years of statehood and honor those who have been here since 1959 or before. A stylish throwback to the year 1959, complete with beautiful décor, 50's music, dinner and swing dancing, the Gala was truly a magnificent downtown event.

The Gala was organized by three young entrepreneurs, Isaiah Mangum, Sheri Olesen and Michael Casias who are all passionate about being involved in the revitalization of downtown Fairbanks. The idea behind the Golden Gala was to encourage downtown businesses to work together and sponsor an event that would attract people to our downtown and raise money for future events. Additionally, some of the proceeds went to a fund designated to bring art into our community.

Businesses that contributed include Bobby's Downtown, River City Café & Espresso, Lavelle's Bistro, If Only...a fine store, In My Element, Alaska House Art Gallery, Alaska Photo booth, Pro Music and the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center. Entertainment was provided by Barney McClure, Tundra Caravan, Lathrop High School Ballroom Dance Team and Ben & Carlton. Thank you downtown businesses for all your efforts and contributions.

Pictured above are Kara Nash and Amy Geiger of the Downtown Association of Fairbanks at the Golden Gala event.



*Soapy Smith's Pioneer Restaurant
Wins Window Decorating Contest*

Bill, the famous waiter at historic Soapy Smith's Pioneer Restaurant won the Downtown Window Decorating contest this year with his bright, colorful windows. Thanks to all the downtown businesses beautiful decorating efforts. Our town looked Great!

Winter Solstice Celebration

The Downtown Association of Fairbanks would like to express our gratitude to all the downtown businesses who made cookies, decorated windows, and took part in the Winter Solstice Celebration in some heartfelt way.

We wish one and all a fabulous new year!





May the wind always be at their backs

February 8th, 2010

I have a confession to make....a chill went down my spine and I felt like I was on the verge of tears at the start of the Yukon Quest. I guess it is the age-old feeling of embarking on a long and tremendous journey that tugged on my heartstrings and made me feel like I was bearing witness to something unusual; something larger than life. Something Great.

You know how in those spectacular turn of the century paintings (by the great Alaskan artists- Sydney Laurence, Theodore Lambert, Eustace Ziegler) where the people are so small and our fierce landscape overwhelms them? You know how this land, this land we love called Alaska, doesn't really care about us, our frailties, our complexities and how that makes us love Alaska even more? The Quest conjures up all of these powerful, primordial thoughts and emotions. The mushers and the dogs are those little figures in the big sub-arctic landscape....and their very

real frailties and strengths will be tested by an Alaska that doesn't even realize they exist.

The 1,000 mile, tough as nails, Yukon Quest International Sled Dog race began in Fairbanks on February 6th and is going strong. The weather and trail are looking good, a record pace is being set, and the number of front runners is huge compared to past years. Best of luck to all the heroic mushers and dogs that accept the challenge of the Yukon Quest....May the wind always be at their backs and the sun warm upon their faces.



Amy Reed Geiger 2-6-2010

And the winner is...Hans Gatt!

February 17th, 2010

Chills and tears or not, the 2010 Yukon Quest race turned out to be one, over-the-top, fantastic race. The first six mushers to arrive in Whitehorse (that's right the first SIX) beat Sebastian Schnuelle's 2009 Quest record of 9 days, 23 hours and 20 minutes. The winner, Hans Gatt, of the Yukon Territory, came in at a blazing hot 9 days and 23 minutes, almost a full day faster than the Schnuelle's time. Lance Mackey, was just an hour behind Gatt, and musher number six was none other than 60 year old Sonny Linder, the first musher to ever win the Yukon Quest- 26 years ago! Seventh place winner, 22 year old Joshua Cadzow of Fort Yukon, was crowned the "Rookie of the Year" for his excellent performance. All in all an amazing showing. Shattered records, happy, healthy dogs, great weather and one incredibly strong group of mushers made the 2010 Yukon Quest International Sled Dog race a truly momentous race.

BIG DADDY'S BAR-B-Q

A Downtown Association Member Spotlight



**Northernmost
Southern Bar-B-Q**

107 Wickersham Street
Fairbanks, Alaska
907-452-2501

Daily Specials

~ Mondays ~
St. Louis Spareribs, 4pm to Close
All you can eat Spareribs \$1.50 each

~ Tuesdays ~
Stimulus Pork Tuesdays, All day
Pulled Pork Sandwiches \$5.75 each

~ Wednesdays ~
Wild Wing Wednesday (WWW)
All you can eat full Wings \$ 0.75 each
(Specials are Dine-in only)

Hours of Operation

Monday-Thursday 11am-10pm
Friday-Saturday 11am-11pm
Sunday 4pm-9pm



**DOWNTOWN
ASSOCIATION**
FAIRBANKS
Promoting Professionalism, Encouraging Diversity,
Preserving, Protecting, Revitalizing, Rejuvenating
www.downtownfairbanks.com
907-452-2671

Downtown Fairbanks is home to over twenty restaurants—Thai, Greek, Hawaiian, Italian, Gourmet Bistros, Specialty Cafes, Traditional American & some National Award Winning, Mouth Watering Delicious, really SMOKIN' HOT BAR-B-Q! Capture the flavors & *Rediscover Downtown.*

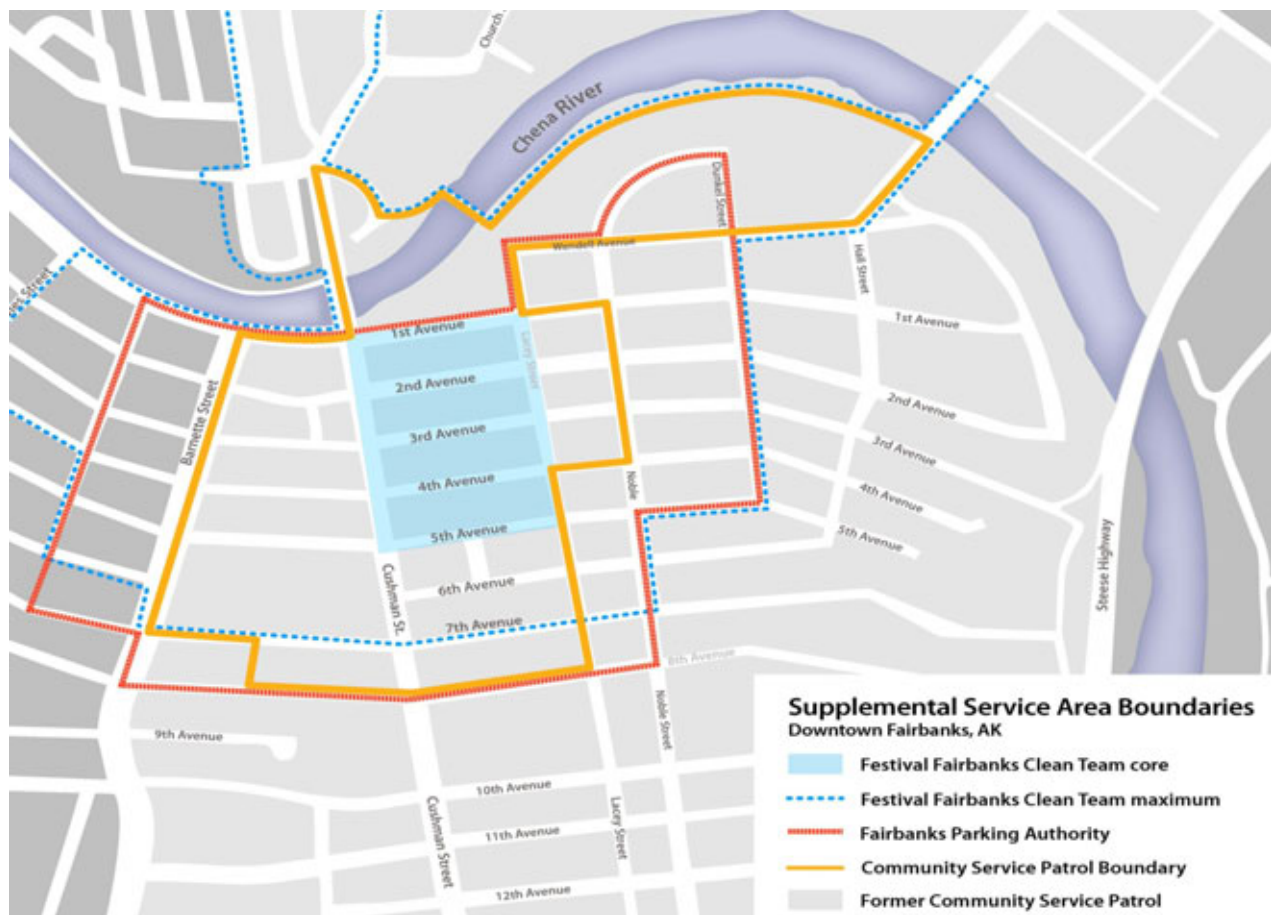
**This Downtown Association of Fairbanks Member
Spotlight ran in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner the
second Sunday of January 2010.**

CITY DESIGNATES \$50,000 FOR DOWNTOWN COMMUNITY SERVICE PATROL

On December 14th, the Fairbanks City Council voted unanimously to create a contingency fund to support the operations of the Community Service Patrol (CSP). The CSP improves the business climate downtown while looking after the welfare of chronically inebriated people who may also be homeless and suffer mental disorders. Terms of the money’s release have yet to be determined by the Council.

The contingency fund was created by re-allocating hotel/motel tax revenues that would have otherwise funded budgets of the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation and the Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau. In years past, the City has supported the CSP with in-kind maintenance of the patrol van, small grants and additional pass-through grants from the Fairbanks Parking Authority. Direct financial support is something of a departure for the City, but a necessary measure to bolster the City’s efforts to improve the business climate downtown, reduce cost- and duty-burden to essential police and emergency services, while meeting a social obligation for the welfare of those who cannot care for themselves.

Even with the City’s participation, the CSP program faces a shortfall of \$30,000 on a budget of \$187,000. To fill that gap, the Downtown Association has begun and will continue to raise money from downtown landowners whose properties benefit from the presence and activities of the CSP (see map). For more information, or to contribute, please call David at 452-8676.



New Downtown Businesses

We are pleased to announce the arrival of

S Salon

901 Cushman Street,
Phone 374-3181



and

Shear Heaven

542 Brd Avenue
Phone 455-4626

Two new, excellent places to get your hair cut and styled. Make a reservation today! Let's all give a warm welcome to the new downtown businesses.

The New

DOWNTOWNER ~

Check out our new email newsletter going out every two weeks to over a thousand happening people all interested in our very own downtown.

Join the crowd, sign up for The DOWNTOWNER

on our website @ downtownfairbanks.com or call us at 452-8671.



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

We at the Downtown Association of Fairbanks want to encourage all those folks living downtown or in the surrounding areas to

Stand Up & Be Counted!

Let's help our City government do its job and get the statistics necessary to allow us to get our fair share of funding and ensure proper representation.

Call 459-6809 for more information or go to fnsb.us/2010census

2010 Community Service Patrol Budget			
INCOME		EXPENSE	
City of Fairbanks	50,000	CSP Ambassadors	175,720
Fairbanks Memorial Hospital	45,000	Insurance	4,200
Alaska Mental Health Trust	31,300	Phone	1,740
Doyon, Ltd	15,000	Equipment	1,000
Downtown Association	15,000	Fuel	4,340
Downtown Rotary	750		
Anchorage Alumni	500		
Downtown Land Owners	30,000		
	<u>187,550</u>		<u>187,000</u>

Above is the Community Service Patrol Budget for 2010.

When Rivers Become Roads

Radar Run, Wired Iron, Jurassic Classic, Wet Iron...

What, might you ask, are all of these colorful words about?

None other than the 5th Annual Fairbanks Tired Iron!

The vintage snowmachine race is back.

Bigger, better than ever, and in a new location on the Chena River in the heart of downtown Fairbanks.



The Tired Iron celebrates the snowmachine (the older the better), recognizes the many different makes and models, and has come up with ingenious categories for these amazing, restored machines to compete in. On February 27th and 28th downtown will be filled with a wide variety of snowmachine competitions and activities. If you have a vintage machine you'd like to race, now is the time! Go to their new website at www.fairbankstirediron.org for entry forms, maps of the courses, sponsorship opportunities and more.

Snowmachines are an integral part of Alaska history. With such little infrastructure in our wild, sub-arctic climate, rivers become roads for snow machines during the winter months. These snowmachines and river roads have allowed people access to remote locations all across our great state. Dedicated to showcasing this history, the Tired Iron allows people to share their stories and then race their vintage snow machines on the "River Rally Race Track" on the Chena River.

However, this event is not without a sense of humor. The annual "Fun Run", featuring all shapes and sizes of snowmachines of yesteryear (with few exceptions the snowmachines have to pre date 1975), is less race and more red-green regatta. And this year's Tired Iron is also adding plenty of carnival like fun on Saturday February 27th, at the new "Downtown River Party" from Noon until 2 pm, with activities such as the Kid-a-Polt, Bunny Boot Golf Contest, and the Turkey Toss & Shot Put. Try your hand at these amusing, unusual contests and maybe you'll win big! All proceeds benefit the Presbyterian Hospitality House.

Come on Downtown February 27th and 28th, watch the races and play some games, or better yet, sign up and compete in one of the six different races!

www.fairbankstirediron.org

Midnight Sun Festival To be held Sunday, June 20, 2010



This year's festival is looking super sunny!
There are a few booth spaces left for the 2010 Festival, so if you are thinking about being a vendor give Kara Nash a ring at 452-8665, or go to our website at downtownfairbanks.com and peruse the festival map for open spaces.

Mark the date on your calendar & come downtown for this celestial event.

BEADS AND THINGS

A Downtown Association Member Spotlight



Open Hours

Monday - Friday: 11am-5pm
Saturday 11am-5:30pm
Closed Sunday

Celebrating 22 Years
of Business in the historic
Co-Op Plaza on 2nd Avenue

Buy Native Art

Straight from the Artist.

- We are celebrating First Fridays this year! Stop by and see traditional Native artists at work.
- Now offering beadwork classes. For more information please call or come by the shop.
- We welcome custom orders.
- See our huge collection of beads from around the world!

The place for Alaska Native
Beadwork. Suncatchers, Slippers,
Hair Barrettes, Hats, Mittens,
Gloves, Ivory Carvings & more.

Phone: 456-2323



**DOWNTOWN
ASSOCIATION
FAIRBANKS**

Association of Downtown Businesses
Promoting, Preserving, Revitalizing Downtown
www.downtownfairbanks.com
907.452.8671

Colorful, cool, authentic, sparkling,
unique, tough, natural, posh, home-spun,
warm, sweet, luxurious, perfect.

All words describing merchandise & merchants
in our downtown core.

Shop Downtown

This Downtown Association Member Spotlight ran in
the *Fairbanks Daily New-Miner* on the second
Sunday of February 2010.

What Fairbanks Wants

In developing the Vision Fairbanks Downtown Plan, Fairbanksans chose their top five attributes for our downtown: more retail catering to locals; make it clean and safe; create parks and trails; improve parking access and supply; improve bike/pedestrian circulation.

While the downtown has much to show in these areas, the premise is that downtown Fairbanks – the primary downtown in northern Alaska – can offer more to its residents and visitors alike. To move in that direction, the Vision Fairbanks implementation strategy calls for the development of new zone types and development standards for parcels in the downtown core. These new zone types and standards are expressed in Borough Ordinance 2010-09 introduced in January by Mayor Hopkins. The ordinance vividly describes the downtown that will offer more to residents and visitors by expressing desired ground floor uses and the design elements of new buildings built or remodeled downtown in the future.

The effort now is to simply adopt new zone types into Title 18 zoning code. Re-zoning the parcels would be a subsequent effort and a matter for downtown landowners to decide – is there opportunity of creating value in my property by becoming the new zone type?

The proposed Downtown Supporting Commercial District describes a downtown core that will – as it largely does now – provide for service uses (sale of services) and/or retail uses (sale of goods and restaurants) in the downtown area to meet the day-to-day needs of workers, residents and hotels that cater to business travelers and tourists. Within this zone would also be a smaller area called a Retail Hot Spot District intended to provide for the location of ground-floor retail uses in downtown core areas. This district encourages continuous, adjoining retail establishments that engage in the sale of merchandise and restaurants only in order to promote an active downtown.



The ordinance has been referred to the City Council and the Planning Commission. Please come and voice your support for these critical Vision Fairbanks components. See adjacent Vision Calendar for City Council and Borough Assembly meeting dates.

Vision Calendar

March 16 – work session on Vision Fairbanks ordinance 2010-09 at Borough Planning Commission. 6 PM in Borough Assembly chambers.

April 5 – public hearing on Vision Fairbanks ordinance 2010-09 and companion City Council resolution at City Council at City Hall. Meeting starts at 7 PM; public comment will be taken according to the agenda, sometime after 7 PM.

April 6 – public hearing on Vision Fairbanks ordinance 2010-09 at Planning Commission. 7 PM in Borough Assembly chambers.

RED, PURPLE AND YELLOW

Michelle Roberts of Festival Fairbanks has announced the flower planting colors for this summer. They are red, purple and yellow. Please keep these lovely colors in mind when making summer decorating choices.



65 YEARS.

65 years is a long time. The Open North American Sled Dog Race has been around for just that, 65 years.

Fairbanks has been home to sled dog racing since the turn of the century. A myriad of interesting races came, stayed for awhile, evolved into something new or expired altogether. The Open North American Sled Dog Race was born in the aftermath of World War II and is still going strong.

This year, 2010, on March 19th, 20th and 21st, the Open North American plans to bring back a lot of the exuberance of years past. The Downtown Association of Fairbanks, the Fairbanks Arts Association, Winter Carnival, Ice Alaska and the Alaska Dog Mushing Association are all working together to bring folks downtown to see the race and join in the excitement.

One way downtowners can help is by contributing prizes for us to give away during the Open North American Sled Dog Race weekend. Please consider making a prize contribution to this grand, 65 year old Fairbanks tradition. Contact Amy Geiger 452-8671. Stay tuned for more information.

2010 Membership Drive

The 2010 Membership Drive is underway! The Downtown Association had a very successful 2009 and would like you to join us in our efforts to promote and revitalize downtown Fairbanks in the coming year.

You can submit your Membership forms online.

Or call Amy Geiger at 452-8671 and she will mail or bring forms too you.

Join the Downtown Association of Fairbanks and enjoy the following benefits:

- **Free Listings:** on our Website, in our Quarterly Newsletter and in the Fairbanks Downtown Guide.
- **Advertising Opportunities:** promotional support for events held downtown, cooperative marketing opportunities, and a chance to be chosen for a Member Spotlight advertisement.
- **Event Invitations & Collaborations:** receive event invitations, participate in event planning, free listings on event posters, and discounts & early registration for the Midnight Sun Festival.



The Downtown Association of Fairbanks
410 Cushman Street
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

