

# ***STERLING COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER***

***August, 2013***



## **Sterling's New Community Center**

### **STERLING COMMUNITY CLUB NEWS**

Well July certainly was a busy month for all of us. The weather was out of this world, the fish were in abundance, the out of town company were everywhere, the traffic was insane, but we loved it all. We've been trying to slow things down a bit at the Community Center so all of our volunteers, as well as the Community Center Board, could enjoy some of this spectacular summer. We will reinstate some of the programs, as well as some new ones, this fall and winter when we need something to do inside. We are just taking a little time to stand back, look at where we are, where we've been and evaluate schedules and times for this winter. We do know we will have supervised gym & library time after school from 3:45 to 6:00 P.M. Monday – Friday for members kids (\$85.00 per year) or for \$5.00 per time. We also need to look at our financial position and set some priorities of what we need to do to finish the Center in regard to acoustics, basketball hoops, volleyball nets, counter tops, parking lot etc.

Early July, saw the Center doing many fun programs like; line dancing, tumbling, jujitsu, zumba, Nia, exercise programs and more. The general meeting was held on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Terry Buffo, our long time treasurer, resigned and Debbie Debnam was elected the new treasurer. Thank you Terry for your many years as treasurer to the Community Club and welcome Debbie! Debbie has a great background in accounting and computers. At the meeting there was discussion on the "Safety Walkway Plan", the community garage sale, and notice given that we have received a gaming permit so we can do raffles, bingo etc. now.

There was a "Neighborhood Watch" meeting held in July that was attended by over 30 people. Debbie Bass volunteered to purchase more "Neighbor Watch" signs that will be available at cost to be picked up at the Sterling Community Center. Thanks Debbie for your concern of our neighborhood!

Our new AmeriCorp member will start working for the Center as soon as she comes back from training in Los Angeles, this will be about August 10<sup>th</sup>. Her name is Debbie Harley, a local girl that we are very happy to have as a partner in running the Center. The Center will have regular open hours after a schedule is made for the fall and winter. Also, during regular hours the library, computer use and gym walking will be available to the public.

The next big event being held at the New Center is the **Miss. All Around Girl Contest**

We have 20 wonderful girls preparing for the Miss. All Around Contest that will be held **Saturday August 10th at 6:00 at the New Sterling Community Center.** The girls range in age 3 to 17 and will be judged in 4 categories. The 4 categories are talent, interview, poise and presentation, and the health and fitness routine. The girls had a bake sale on **Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> at the garage sale** to raise money for the program. They also volunteered at Heritage Place Nursing Home in July by entertaining the guests with their talents. Please show your support of these talented young ladies by coming to the event and purchasing tickets for \$5.00. Tickets can be purchased at the Sterling Community Center next to the Sterling Elementary or at the door.



**Coming in August: register now! This should be a fun event!!**

## **STERLING TRIATHLON** **August 17th, 2013**

RUN – CANOE - BIKE  
**\*TEAMS OF 2\***

1.7 mile RUN \* 1/2 mile CANOE \* 5.3 mile BIKE – ADULT  
1.7 mile RUN \* 1/8 mile CANOE \* 1.7 mile BIKE - KIDS  
\$25 PER PERSON / \$50 PER TEAM IF REGISTERED BY AUG. 10<sup>th</sup>  
\$30 PER PERSON / \$60 PER TEAM AFTER AUG. 10<sup>th</sup>  
Kids and adult divisions!! **Cash prizes!!!**

### **Free Chili feed!!**

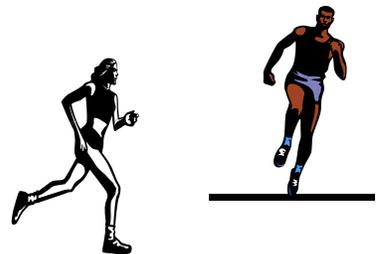
\*Sponsored by Sterling Community Club INC.\*

Registration forms can be emailed, faxed (907)262-7225) or picked up. Call Jennifer @ 740-8018 or email: [jenipenny123@yahoo.com](mailto:jenipenny123@yahoo.com)

\*ASK ABOUT CANOE RENTAL OPTION

Then we are planning a;  
**Sterling Community Craft - Vender & pre-Holiday Fair**

Located in the new Sterling Community Center next to the Sterling School, Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Space fees will be \$20 with your own table or \$30 if you want to rent our table.



Tentative vendors so far are... Blessings Unlimited, Greenwood Studios, Thirty-One, Watkins Products, Advocare, Scentsy, doTerra, Rock N Drool, Pink Zebra, It Works!, A Little Beaded Jewelry, Mary Kay, Origami Owl, Kath's Creations, PartyLite, Crafts by Vonnie, Jewelry by J.E.M, Alaskan Egg Carver, Tastefully Simple, & Sheridan Sheek Handbags & Accessories, Sterling Community Center will do the food concessions. We have room for at least another 20 vendors. Join us on face book at Sterling Community Craft - Vendor & Holiday Pre-view Fair, call or text #252-5909, or email [mlissa\\_daugherty@hotmail.com](mailto:mlissa_daugherty@hotmail.com) to reserve your spot.



**COMING SOON**

**Mom & Tots Time (this fall), Home school times (this fall), Men & High School Age Basketball (Steven Harshman) Thur. 6:00 – 8:00 pm starting soon (free for members or \$3 each time) Co-Ed volley-ball (need a volunteer in charge) Starting when stands are in (free for members or \$3 each time.) Ping Pong tournament (this fall.)**

*The DOT held mobile meetings for people to respond on their ideas on how to make the Sterling Highway safer between Sterling and Soldotna. Their motor home was parked at the Sterling Post Office and at the Sterling Community Center on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>. This is a note we received from Brooks & Associates.*

Hi;

Thanks for helping make this a successful trial run of mobile meetings! We had 66 people sign in and over 100 people stopped by to comment. In addition there were 66 comments responding to Facebook posts advertising the meetings and 31 comments on the interactive map on the website.

Comments were generally positive about increasing safety and several people asked if there was a way to expedite the process or at least some of the solutions because they felt so strongly about the severity of the safety issues. Several people also said that they have noticed that the road is considerably safer since the 1993 realignment. Common comments included frustration over speeding, dangerous passing on the right, the need for turn lanes or acceleration/deceleration lanes in specific places, common moose crossings, and difficulties of making a left turn onto the Sterling Highway during the summer.

We appreciate the part you or your employer played in making these meeting successful.



Sincerely, Camden Yehle  
 Brooks & Associates  
 1704 Bannister Road  
 Anchorage, AK 99508  
 E-mail: [camden@brooks-alaska.com](mailto:camden@brooks-alaska.com)  
 Tel: 907-272-1877  
 Toll Free: 866-535-1877

## From the Sterling Senior Center

During the month of July the Kenai Keys had their annual meeting here. We have quite a few members from that association on our roster. Great bunch of people. The Mason's had another excellent fish fry on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Two big events also happened in July. The Christmas in July Bazaar and the Third Annual Sterling Gun Show. Thanks to all the volunteers that make these fundraisers a success. The Bazaar, directed by Glenda Graham, was well attended and a lot of gifts were sold. The Gun Show was phenomenal. Bill Bailey and crew did an excellent job. The attendance, as well as the number of vendors, was full to capacity. That was a great weekend.

Our memorial garden looks fantastic. Thanks again to all the volunteers that made that happen. After that was finished we have had a donation from BP (thanks to John Hall) and an additional donation from the carving club. Since we have those donations we will be able to install a water line from the Senior Center to the garden area to make sure we have sufficient water to maintain the garden. Loren Graham and Jim Weiss are taking on that project.

Speaking of projects, the Storage/Maintenance building has rapidly been erected. We'll begin the purchases of storage and shelving units this month. Eric Arneson and Arneson Builders have done an excellent job and are great to work with. In addition, Valley View Gravel is doing the dirt work and restructuring our parking area, thanks to Danny Michael and his crew.

A **BIG** day for us will be on **August 18** when we will hold our annual barbeque and pie auction as well as announce the winners of the Salmon Classic and the Quilt raffle. The additional big news is this year marks the 25TH ANNIVERSARY of the Sterling Area Senior Citizens, Inc. On December 15, 1988 the State of Alaska Department of Commerce and Economic Development signed our Certificate as a Nonprofit Organization. Many people have come and gone from the Center in that time and many contributed their time, efforts, and donations to get the center to where it is today. Thanks to all of you past and present members, volunteers and donors who have made our programs possible. Lord willing, we'll continue to serve the community for many more years to come. We also had a call from Senator Peter Micciche who may be our Pie Auctioneer. We certainly hope he can make it. Join us for the celebration at the barbeque. We hope to see you there! Only \$15! Beer and Wine will be available for sale.

***Special note should be taken for a fundraiser on August 2<sup>nd</sup> to benefit the family of Linzi Shoemaker. Linzi has been diagnosed recently with a rare form of cancer (stage IV neuroblastoma) and the Sterling Elementary School personnel are holding the fundraiser at our Center. Please plan to attend. It's a spaghetti dinner starting at 5:30pm and it's \$12 for adults, \$8 for children, and \$40 for a whole family. There will also be a silent auction, carnival treats and games, and specialty products for order/purchase. Let's help them out.***

**The Mason's** will have their last summer fish fry on **August 24<sup>th</sup>**. They always do a great job on the food and are a beneficial organization. Come and support the fish fry and enjoy the meal. 4-6pm. \$15.

***From Abundant Life Church—Bonnie Smith***

Our children's program starts on Wednesday, August 21.

Children of Destiny

ages 3 yrs to 6th Grade

6:30-8 pm

Dinner will be provided.

AND

Youth Group 7th -12th Grade

6:30 – 8pm

Please call ALC for more information

262-7266

**Mobile Food Pantry**

**will be at ALC on August 29 the from 2pm-4pm**

**Johnson Lake Campground – West Loop Closure**

The west loop of the Johnson Lake State Recreation Area campground in Soldotna will be closed from July 15 to September 30, 2013. This closure is necessary to begin renovating the west half of the campground, which was built in the 1970's and is deteriorating.

The renovations involve rebuilding campsites, installing new picnic tables and fire rings, improving traffic circulation, and providing better walking trails in the west loop of this popular campground.

The west loop of the campground contains 18 camping sites and other facilities. The east loop, renovated in 2009, contains 20 camping sites with facilities and **will remain open during the renovation project, but due to safety concerns, the boat launch will be closed.** For more information, please contact the Kenai/Prince William Sound Area state park office at 907-262-5581.

**From Mitch Glover;**

The Sterling Pentecostal Church will host a Miracle Rally on Friday, August 9, at 7:00 p.m. Global evangelist Brian Norman will report on “extraordinary events manifest a supernatural work of God” from around the world. Please come and share in the great things God is doing. The church is located on Swanson River Road at Entrada. Call 262-7240 for more information.

**News from Sterling Elementary School;**

Krissy has informed me that the Sterling Elementary School will hold an “Open House” for parents and students on **August 19<sup>th</sup>**. This is an opportunity to meet your student’s teachers and see their rooms. The first day of school is August 20<sup>th</sup>. There is a new principal assigned to the Sterling El. School and her name is Sherry Hingley. She was previously the principal at the Seldovia school. Let’s give her a big welcome to Sterling!

**Tips from Citizens Corp;**

Encountering an Active Shooter (#5 of 6)

1. Use common sense. If you are hiding and flight is impossible, attempts to negotiate with the suspect may be successful;
2. Take action against the active shooter:

As a last resort, and only when your life is in imminent danger, attempt to disrupt and/or incapacitate the active shooter by:

- Acting as aggressively as possible against him/her
- Throwing items and improvising weapons
- Yelling
- Committing to your actions

3. Playing dead may also be a consideration

If you are absolutely sure that the shooter has exited your area and you are able to escape, leave the area immediately.

Do not touch anything in the area remember to be alert for responding police officers who may mistake you as the shooter. Keep your hands over your head or in plain sight.

***Please “Like” us On Face Book at Sterling Community Center and keep up to date on all the happenings at the New Center!! You can also email us at [sterlingcommunityclub@live.com](mailto:sterlingcommunityclub@live.com) or phone at 907-262-7224***



***From the Editor-Grace Merkes--***

*I hope you all enjoy reading the Sterling Newsletter and this information is helpful to you. Please remember that all your group, church, organization, individual or business news is always welcome and we will try to publish all the news from Sterling that we can. Birthday, weddings, graduations, specials at businesses anyone??merkes2@yahoo.com*

***HAPPY FALL!!***