

MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

Office of the Borough Manager

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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2022
TO: Mayor and Assembly

FROM: Michael Brown, Borough Manager

RE: Manager's Weekly Post

Property Tax Rebates: Areawide Tax Relief of \$11,948,300 has been applied to real property taxpayers' accounts. The allocation touched 71,433 accounts and was only allocated to accounts that were billed in calendar year 2022 areawide taxes on July 1, 2022. The maximum rebate was \$97,065.78 and the minimum rebate was \$0.10. The average taxpayer saw a rebate of \$167.48. Notification letters were sent on November 14, 2022 to all taxpayers receiving a rebate of \$50 or more. Mortgage companies will receive an updated tax file in January that reflects the relief and any taxpayer that has a credit balance of \$50.00 or more after all taxes were paid will receive a refund over the next several weeks, please allow time for processing. The relief amount will be shown on the "my property screen" on the website once the amount has been applied for all taxpayers.

<u>Swimming Lessons Summary</u>: From September 1 to date, the pools have had 1,599 signups with 1,332 students assigned. We have accommodated approximately 83% of those that applied for classes. We generally do have some remaining open slots in some classes, due primarily to students/parents schedules not being compatible with available time slots. During this latest round, we only had one available open slot.

We have steadily increased the number of class offerings as we hire and train new staff. We are still in the process of seeking the two new 40-hour positions. The positions were posted October 21, 2022. Among the new on-call hires, several are scheduled to attend and complete water safety instructor training in December. It is our plan to offer as many classes as possible once additional staff are trained. Currently, both swimming pools offer daytime classes for homeschool and preschool aged children, evening classes four nights per week, as well private swim classes.

We are also preparing to offer afterschool swimming lessons, a program that includes a bus ride from the school(s) to the pool(s). We will be able to accommodate 30 students per assigned

school time slot with capacity of four elementary schools per month. We are also currently reviewing a contract with the Office of Migrant Education to offer swim lessons for several hundred eligible students in that program.

Public Affairs Media Flyover:

Veterans Day

- Veterans and families honor those who served during Veterans Day 2022 ceremony
 Frontiersman
- Connections for veterans at first Veterans Resource Fair
 Frontiersman

State Economy

- Alaska's salmon worth \$720 million this year
 KTOO
- Alaska gas prices among highest in U.S., despite producing most of it in-sate
 KTOO

NTSB Investigation

 Wire across Matanuska River draws safety concern from pilots ADN

Thanksgiving

Food Bank of Alaska announces annual Thanksgiving Blessing events
 Frontiersman

MSB Election Unofficial Results

• Republican incumbents enjoy big day in Mat-Su state legislative races Frontiersman

Facebook Post

Veterans Day Ceremony Video – Public Affairs https://fb.watch/gPWFtDSqII/

Future Events:

Parks Highway Alternative Corridor Planning and Environmental Linkages (PEL) Study Public Open House #2. Thursday, December 8, 2022 from 4:30 - 6:30 PM at the Wasilla Public Library, Multi-Purpose Room, 500 N. Crusey Street. The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is hosting the event and will discuss PEL study progress, preliminary corridor alternatives, and alternative screening and evaluation process. This is the second of four open house meetings planned. For more, see the project website www.parkshighwayalternative.com.