

**Senator Gray-Jackson's Notes
Turnagain Community Council
October 6, 2022**

October is Filipino American History Month! October marks the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the United States. It is thought that this event occurred on October 18th, 1587 when a Filipino man came to America via California. Filipino Heritage Month has been recognized since 2009. Use October and every other month to educate yourself about the various contributions of the Filipino American community.

October is also Domestic Violence Awareness Month. There are many resources in our community to help survivors with a variety of needs, and given that our state is in the top ten states with highest rates of DV against women, we should be vocal about these resources. Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC), Alaska Native Justice Center, and Standing Together Against Rape (STAR) are great resources to know if someone needs assistance.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is also in October. Breast Cancer will develop in 1 of 8 women in the United States. Although it is rare, men can get breast cancer too. It is important for people to get an annual mammograph starting around age 40. Providence Medical Center travels around the Southcentral communities so you can make a visit to their Mammography on the go bus. It takes about 20 minutes to screen and is private for each person.

Rogers Park Unveiling

On September 30, I was joined by various staff, students, and community members for an unveiling of a mural at Rogers Park Elementary School. The mural was made possible due to a grant awarded by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

Muni Drive

On September 7th, I was driven around my district by Municipality Worker Gary Jones. During this drive, I saw the needs within my Senate District. This ranged from residential roads needing upgrades in drainage systems, curb jacking – where the curb is higher up than the road, and other transportation improvement projects. I look forward to adding some of these projects to the Capital Budget.

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Kale Harvest

Each year at the Anchorage Legislative Information Office, we have a wonderful team who manages our flower beds. They plant everything from nasturtiums to artichokes to creeping bellflowers and manage it from the summer until the fall. Years past, my office has made an effort to harvest the pesticide-free produce to offer to a local charity. This year, my office has decided to keep the tradition alive. We harvested kale and donated it to Bean's Café.

Always representing your interests!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elvi Gray-Jackson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and "J".

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