

From: pl hamlett [plhamlett@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 04, 2011 7:21 PM
To: info@communitycouncils.org
Subject: FW: From the Desk of Senator Johnny Ellis: District Ride-Around

fwd to CPCC members

Thanks
PETER HAMLETT
CPCC Chair

From: Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us
To: Senator_Johnny_Ellis@legis.state.ak.us
Date: Thu, 4 Aug 2011 15:53:03 -0800
Subject: From the Desk of Senator Johnny Ellis: District Ride-Around



**SENATOR
JOHNNY ELLIS**
**Working hard
Solving problems
Getting things done**
716 W 4th Ave., Suite 500

August 4th, 2011

DISTRICT RIDE-AROUND, A YOUNG ALASKAN LEADER, AND A NEW ALASKA FILM

Friends and Neighbors,

Every summer, I like to take my staff on a ride through the neighborhoods of Downtown and Midtown Anchorage to check out potholes, road construction, area schools and any district issues that constituents have brought to my attention. We started at the south end of the district and worked our way back downtown. I was particularly interested in visiting community priorities that were recently vetoed by Governor Parnell, such as money for road and storm drainage reconstruction and the money for the purchase of Waldron Lake.

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Thousands of Alaskans use the Waldron Lake fields for soccer, dog training, and recreation. The money to purchase this land was vetoed by Governor Parnell.

This fall before heading to Juneau, we will survey the district again using priorities from our local community councils to identify roads and facilities in need of repair as well as safety improvements. Though all states are feeling the pinch economically, we must find a way to keep our roads and neighborhoods safe by investing in priority, publicly vetted capital projects.



Senator Ellis at Taku Elementary School

I will continue to represent my friends and neighbors in Senate District L on the Senate Finance Committee, and work to fund the projects most important to our district.



Senator Ellis in front of Fairview Elementary School.

As always, please feel free to contact my office if you have a specific neighborhood concern, and my staff and I will look into it.

An Outstanding Alaskan

I would like to take a moment to recognize a promising young Alaskan. Myat May is an outstanding student who recently graduated from Wendler Middle School and plans to attend East High School this fall. Her achievements both in and out of the classroom are truly commendable.

Myat's 4.0 GPA has earned her a spot in the [National Junior Honor Society](#), a membership in [Anchorage's Promise Youth Academy](#), and a position in [Rachel's Challenge](#) leadership team. Recently, Myat was crowned [Miss Alaska American Coed Junior Teen](#) and will travel to Orlando, Florida in November to compete on the national stage in the [Miss American Coed Pageant](#).



Myat May, recently crowned Miss Alaska American Coed Junior Teen 2011.

Myat May has expressed interest in Alaska politics and hopes to intern for an Alaskan congressional delegate following high school. Ultimately, Myat hopes to attend medical school and become a brain surgeon. I wish her all the best and look forward to hearing of her successes in the future.

On The Ice



Alaskans should be very proud of our own Andrew Okpeaha MacLean. His short film “Sikumi” premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival where it won the Jury Prize in Short Filmmaking. Andrew’s new feature film “On the Ice” is a powerful story told in Alaska, by Alaskans. UA students were involved in the production of the first feature-length fiction film made in Alaska by an Inupiaq writer/director with an entirely Inuit cast.

I hope you’ll take a few minutes and [check out the video](#) about Andrew and his team’s efforts to release “On the Ice” in theaters all over the U.S. It is Alaskan stories like this that will inspire a new generation of Alaska filmmakers.

Until Next Week,

Senator Johnny Ellis

P.S. [MyNeighborhood](#) provides citizens the ability to find information easily and conveniently about property, recreation, local services, plans, and important places within Anchorage-area neighborhoods. Check it out!