Karluk Manor Relocation Not Proceeding

Residents of Mountain View have come to the last two Mountain View Community Council meetings to give their opinions on the proposed relocation of Karluk Manor. Karluk Manor, a 46-unit housing facility for chronic inebriates, is currently located in Fairview, but faces the possibility of relocation to Mountain View.

At the February community council meeting, a representative from RurAL CAP, who operates Karluk Manor, was there to take questions and provide information. A member of the Fairview Business Association, who was involved in the selection of the Mountain View site, was also present at the meeting. Nearly 30 residents were present at the meeting to ask questions and voice their opinions. The majority of speakers were concerned about the impacts on local businesses and the safety concerns that the proximity to Clark Middle School would bring. A resolution was passed, and signed, that urged the legislation to withhold funding for the proposed relocation until more public participation is included in the relocation process.

At the March MVCC meeting, Clark Middle School's Law Studies class came to the meeting with a resolution opposing Karluk Manor's relocation, and presented their thoughts on why the relocation would harm their community. Other presenters at the meeting, and the community council itself, congratulated the students on their participation in the civic process. Following the meeting, Clark Middle School's resolution was sent to the Mayor's office and other relevant parties with an accompanying letter from the community council.

Our state Senator, and House Minority Leader, Johnny Ellis, then wrote a letter to RurAL CAP urging them to implement a more deliberate process that more fully involves the Mountain View community. The letter was also signed by our state Representative Geran Tarr.

The legislative session ended on April 14th, and in the budgets for the next year, funds for Karluk Manor to relocate to Mountain View were not allocated to RurAL CAP.

If you are interested in this issue, we urge you to attend the Mountain View Community Council meetings, which are held the second Monday of every month, or to contact your state legislators, Representative Geran Tarr and Senator Johnny Ellis.

The Faster Than a Falcon 5K was held on May 11th, and benefited the MV Boys and Girls’ Club.
Community Gardens are Opening!

The Gardens at Bragaw, located on Bragaw St. between 4th Ave. and the Glenn Highway, will be opening this spring! The four raised beds in the gardens were constructed by the state in 2010, and were leased to the Anchorage Community Land Trust (ACLT) by the Muni in 2012. This year, ACLT held two registration days for garden plots, and as of now, all of the 40 plots in the garden have been leased to residents of Mountain View, Russian Jack, Airport Heights, and the Northeast Community Council Districts. On April 12th, ACLT held an introductory gardening workshop and seed swap at the Alaska Museum of Science and Nature.

Hi, I’m Vaa Pedro. I am a junior at East High School. I play on both the varsity softball and basketball teams. I am currently playing softball for the Lady TBirds, so far we are undefeated. I stay busy playing sports, keeping up with school work, and doing some community service work here and there. I have one more summer until I start my senior year and I’m very excited to start planning for my future. I plan on going to college on an athletic scholarship. A softball or basketball scholarship will suffice for me, I’ll be extremely grateful either way. During my vacations in college and after I do plan on coming back to the Mountain View community to tell kids that they can make it to college and become whoever they want to be as long as they keep focused and strive to be the best they can be. I’d like to thank the community for supporting me through all of my decisions and achievements I’ve accomplished.

We hope to start gardening just as soon as the weather warms up.

ACLT will also be hosting a grand opening for the gardens in August, and gardeners will be planning smaller celebrations throughout the season. There are also plans to build a gazebo next to the gardens; a local high school student, Grant George, came up with the concept for, and designed, the gazebo.

Bring your family and friends and stop by the gardens soon!

Resident Spotlight—Vaa Pedro
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