

April 2020, Issue# 62



# Palmer CITY LINKS

## *Palmer Public Library- Virtual Storytime is Here!!*

From Beth Skow, Library Director

April saw a world of change at Palmer Public Library. As our doors continue to be closed to the public, library staff is dedicated to serving the community by virtual means. From the beginning of the month, PPL has recorded and uploaded 4 Storytime videos a week. These videos were created by patron request and we are more than thrilled to connect with our community in this way. Young children and their caretakers are welcome to join us for Baby Lap Sit, Storytime, a Storytime project, and Storytime in Motion. The feedback from participants are graciously enthusiastic which inspires us to do more. This warm and positive response has inspired us to do more, so stay tuned to see what's next in how our library reaches out to our community!!

Another service Palmer Public Library is proud to provide relates to COVID19 video tutorials. A staff member with a background in dental hygiene has been able to provide helpful information on handling PPE and how to keep from unintentionally spreading germs. These videos have been incredibly popular and highlight the many ways in which PPL endeavors to serve our community.

The Palmer Library website has an amazing selection of free online books for kids at [pplak.org/free](http://pplak.org/free)! Many businesses have released all or part of their digital collections for a limited time during the shutdown. This includes Tumblebook's Teen, Math, and audiobooks. Audible has a wonderful selection of audiobooks, and SLED contains more than 15,000 K-8 level eBooks. There are several more free resources for everyday use, as well. Sesame Street eBooks, the Ready to Read Resource Center, the Alaska Digital Library, Brain Pop & Brain Pop Jr learning games, Live Homework Help, and several easy to use foreign language learning portals.

### What we offer during our closure:

-Online services: By visiting our website, [pplak.org](http://pplak.org), patrons will find heaps of information on how to obtain a temporary library card (to access digital content). We have a great selection of free online resources, for all ages, available on our website at [pplak.org](http://pplak.org). Hover over the Resources, or eLibrary tabs to explore a whole new digital world! Access the Alaska Digital Library and other sources for free or low-cost eBooks and eAudiobooks. Tumblebooks, Amazon, and Audible have opened some of their digital book collections for free use for a limited time. Play mind-strengthening games, learn a foreign language, get Live Homework Help, small business information, car repair and driving practice tests, study for standardized tests, like the ACT and SAT, get career help and information, learn about avalanche safety, glacier guides, disaster preparedness, gardening, genealogy, or health and wellness. Now is a great time to learn new computer skills, or brush up on Excel, Power Point, Photoshop, Illustrator, etc. Spring cleaning? Take a few minutes to opt out of junk mail and calling lists too. The information on our website is updated as details unfold and has become a fantastic location for up-to-date resources.



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## *Hagen Park*

From Marilyn Bennett, Parks & Rec Board Member

The City of Palmer is excited about the "Adopt A Park" program. Palmer hopes to see every neighborhood park adopted by the people living in the neighborhood. If you enjoy walking through our pleasant little town and want a nice spot to relax, Hagen Park is the park for you. This little park is located at 201 E Dolphin Avenue but can also be accessed from East Eagle Avenue. This is a charming area with a nice picnic table to relax in the shade while watching the children enjoying the playground. This park was named after a former Mayor of Palmer, Al Hagen. He was an interesting fellow having moved to Alaska in 1939 to work in the Independence Mine. He had grown up working in theaters and soon became involved in the idea of creating a movie theater in Palmer. His theater opened in January of 1946 and was an instant success. I understand there were some furnace problems and it was cold inside the theater, but hardy Alaskans attended while huddled in their parkas. Al was also very involved in community affairs and later became the Mayor of Palmer. I am sure he would be pleased that the people in Palmer can now come to this pleasant little park to get away for a short time from the hustle of everyday life. In his time, getting away was going to the movies. Now that we are inundated with movies and entertainment, a quiet time of reflection in this park may be a better way of getting away. The "Adopt A Park" program was created to recognize volunteers and community members enjoying the park, as well as those who would like to become involved, please contact the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Representative at [cnall@palmerak.org](mailto:cnall@palmerak.org).



\*If you have historical information or special memories about any of the city parks, please contact me at: [marilynjbennett@yahoo.com](mailto:marilynjbennett@yahoo.com).

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# Palmer CITY LINKS

## *City Finance Services*

City services are continuing with Police on the street, Fire and Rescue responding, road crews clearing, and water/sewer flowing.

For such services to remain, the revenues must continue. The offices are closed, but you can still pay your bills in various ways.

### How to pay your City of Palmer Utility Bill

-Pay by check: mailed to 231 W. Evergreen Ave, Palmer AK 99645.

-Drop off: City Hall Drop Box located to the right of the City Hall front doors. We check it regularly.

-Pay by credit card: call 745-3271 between the hours of 8am and 5pm and we can take your information over the phone.

-Pay by credit card through our website:

[www.palmerak.org](http://www.palmerak.org) go to bottom of the page click on 'Online Bill Pay'. If you need help with this, please call our office at 745-3271.

If you would like to set up auto draft with a credit card that the City will charge the first business day of every month, please call 745-3271 and we will set it up for you.

### How to remit City Sales Tax

-Pay by check: mailed to 231 W. Evergreen Ave, Palmer AK 99645.

-Drop off in the City Hall Drop Box located to the right of the City Hall front doors. We check it regularly.

### Palmer Visitor Center and Museum

Although we are temporarily closed, we invite you to take a virtual tour of our latest exhibit Beyond the Classroom on our website! This exhibit features work from Valley high school art classrooms, showcasing the talent of an emerging generation of local artists. Go to [palmermuseum.org](http://palmermuseum.org) and check out our Exhibits page to see the full display. You can receive updates on this exhibit and more by following our Facebook page, Palmer Museum of History and Art!

### City Facility Closures

- Palmer Public Library (Limited services available online: [www.pplak.org](http://www.pplak.org).)
- Palmer Visitor Center and Museum
- Palmer Public Restrooms (Elmwood Ave)
- Palmer Community Center (Depot)
- Palmer MTA Event Center
- City Hall (Finance services available by phone: 745-3271, email: [financedepartment@palmerak.org](mailto:financedepartment@palmerak.org), and fax: 745-0930)
- Community Development Offices (services available by phone: 745-3709)
- Public Works Offices (services available by phone: 761-1358)
- Warren "Bud" Woods Palmer Municipal Airport (Services available by phone: 761-1334 or email: [fkelly@palmerak.org](mailto:fkelly@palmerak.org))

City of Palmer Webpage:  
[www.palmerak.org](http://www.palmerak.org)

# City of Palmer Spring Cleanup Week May 4 - 9 2020

## 2020 Schedule

Monday May 4 - Yard/green waste collection (West Side of Glenn Hwy)  
Tuesday May 5 - Yard/green waste collection (East Side of Glenn Hwy)  
Wednesday May 6 - Junk removal (no household trash or animal waste)  
Thursday May 7 - Furniture & Appliance Removal - by APPOINTMENT ONLY  
Friday May 8 - Junk removal (no household or animal waste)  
Saturday May 9 - Annual Community Cleanup Day @ 9:30 AM

For questions or more information, call Public Works @ 745-3400

## Cleanup Week Rules & Tips

- Brush will only be removed if it is bundled and in 4' or less segments. Brush must be 6" in diameter or less for removal.
- Large trees/stumps/cuttings over 6" will not be removed.
- Yard/green waste is leaves and/or grass from your lawn/yard. Please do not put rose bush trimmings in bags.
- The City will only make ONE stop at your residence. Bags will be counted and if a second trip is required due to volume, bags will be counted. Any bags added will NOT be removed.
- Ensure no garbage or feces is in with yard/green waste. It will not be removed if it's contaminated. Leave yard/green waste bags untied for easy removal/dumping.
- If you have a tarp, please lay it flat with 4 corners exposed and place yard/green waste on top. We will leave tarps secured with a rock after removal.
- Each residence is allowed 1 pickup for yard/green waste removal.
- Excess yard/green waste may be brought to downtown pavilion on Saturday for collection.
- No hazardous waste will be collected. Please contact the Mat-Su Borough for hazard waste collection.
- Furniture/junk/appliance pickup must be scheduled. If you do not call and make an appointment there is no guarantee your items will be removed.
- Households are limited to 5 items for furniture/appliance/junk removal.

