



Palmer Community Foundation

An Affiliate of The Alaska Community Foundation



The Palmer Community Foundation introduces the first issue of *ASPIRE*, a quarterly-newsletter designed to inform and inspire you.

Why a Community Foundation for Palmer? The concept of a community foundation is an ingenious one. It's a means to build, over time, an endowment fund for a community through contributions large and small. Palmer Community Foundation (PCF) is a vehicle for people of all means to make a lasting difference in our town. PCF can provide donors with flexible and efficient ways to ensure their giving achieves the greatest possible impact.

Because all contributions are endowed, they are never spent. Instead they are permanently invested to produce income. The income earned is then offered through grants to address the needs and opportunities for Palmer as they change over time. PCF does not conduct projects of its own, but rather it supports new and existing programs of local non-profits, agencies and citizens. This is philanthropy in its broadest sense.

Palmer Community Foundation is focused on long term solutions implemented by a locally controlled board. With the investment expertise of our parent organization, the Alaska Community Foundation (ACF), we can leverage our resources to provide grants that YOU deem most important. Palmer Community Foundation is a dynamic entity that can respond to the wide variety of ideas and interests of community members united in a common purpose – the bettering of Palmer for today and into the future! Join us.



Gale Force Wind Sends Pie Flying Remember that day at the State Fair this year when the wind blew twice the gale force it usually does and the rain came down in buckets? Well, that was the day that PCF had a one-day pop-up Fair booth. Thanks to many of our generous Palmer business owners, PCF offered an “All Things Palmer” Giveaway Basket valued at over \$500. We set the booth up early that day; an 8’ grid-wall backdrop, free standing Banner, giant “WIN ME” poster listing all the donors and items, and a huge shelf laden with the *incredible* variety of basket items: artwork, food, beverages, clothing, gift certificates and more. Things were going smoothly, people were signing up for the giveaway, there were engaging conversations about PCF and philanthropy, when suddenly things went terribly wrong. SPLASH!!! A torrent of water cascaded off the roof, pummeling the grid-wall. The wall began to teeter. Three of us jumped to our feet but were unable to

slow its demise. EVERYTHING – glass bottles, fragile artwork, even a freshly baked pie flew to the ground. Scrambling to gather up the beautiful donations before they became water logged, we realized that not a single thing had broken! Even the rhubarb pie had survived!

The basket items were artfully rearranged on the table and the rest of the day was uneventful. That evening the drawing was completed and Clifford A. Salisbury of Palmer was our lucky winner. Board member Jan Newman was fortunate to have the task of delivering the basket the next day. A longtime resident of Palmer, Mr. Salisbury raised a family here, taught at the local high schools and served in the Alaska Air National Guard. Locals who know him well say he always has a joke to tell. CONGRATULATIONS Mr. Salisbury – we hope you enjoyed your flying pie!

What Kinds of Grants Should PCF Give? What about a civic center in Palmer? Or can we improve our community by investing in trails that are surrounded by public art? Can we get together to support local foods? How might we increase programs for youth? These are all ideas that were generated by a group of non-profit leaders in the November 2017 meeting sponsored by the Palmer Community Foundation.

Organized into five categories: arts & history, environment, safety/security, health/wellness, and recreation, these projects may require years of planning and large amounts of money. Some might be achieved more easily. In any case, growing the endowment of the Palmer Community Foundation gives more flexibility in grant making and is a step toward building our future. Together we can make Palmer even better.



PCF's Advisory Board is comprised of local volunteers who live, work and play in Palmer.

ADVISORY BOARD

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Mike Liebing
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INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITY

\$100,000

Matching Grant

Right now, Palmer Community Foundation has an incredible opportunity to raise up to \$100,000 by receiving dollar-for-dollar matching funds from ACF and Rasmuson Foundation. Every dollar that is donated to PCF's endowment fund before the end of 2020 will be matched.

PCF supports the work of local nonprofits, and the community, through grants from permanent endowments. Your donation to an endowment at PCF is protected and grown, and the earnings are used in an ongoing, sustainable manner to support the causes you care most about in the Palmer area.



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