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Hometown: Community Achievers

Posted: January 25, 2007 - 4:05 pm



Alaskans are amazing! They win awards for their work and their volunteer efforts in just about every arena imaginable, all while raising families and making their towns and their state a better place to live. So let us know about your awards and accomplishments! And remember to post a photo so we can see your proud smile.

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Local Architect Harley Hightower Receives AIA Fellowship Honor

Anchorage, Alaska (June 28, 2007) – AIA Alaska, a Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), is pleased to announce that Harley H. Hightower, FAIA, has been elevated to AIA's prestigious "College of Fellows", an honor awarded to select members who have made contributions of national significance to the profession. Mr. Hightower is the sixth AIA Alaska Architect to be accepted into the national-based College of Fellows. He joins Alaska Fellows: Ed Crittenden, FAIA; Tom Livingston, FAIA; Jeff Wilson, FAIA; Mike Mense, FAIA and Kenneth Maynard, FAIA.

The College of Fellows was founded in 1952 by the AIA to stimulate fellowship among architects, promote the purposes of the AIA, and advance the profession of architecture. To become a "Fellow," a candidate must excel in one of the following categories: Design, Education, Professional Organization Leadership, Government Service or Public Service.

Mr. Hightower has had a positive effect on the profession and society through his service in numerous professional organizations, agency boards and commissions. Since 1976, he has served on the advisory board of the Architectural and Engineering Technology Department at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). Mr. Hightower has taught the Roofing Design section for UAA's Northern Building Design course and co-authored the Northern Building Design manual published by the AIA Alaska Chapter. In addition to holding various other positions at the University, he assisted in creating an interest and continues in an effort to establish a School of Architecture at UAA. Within the AIA Alaska Chapter, Mr. Hightower has been largely responsible for laws that reduce construction litigation and liability insurance premiums; in addition to helping establish policies for qualifications-based A/E selection.

About The American Institute of Architects: For almost 150 years, members of the American Institute of Architects have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. The Alaska Chapter of the AIA was established in 1961.

coistad | June 29, 2007 - 9:21 am

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Anchorage firefighters to compete in Seattle, July 7

Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling of Alaska to compete in Seattle Firefighter Combat Challenge, 7/7

Anchorage, Ak. – Chuck Roberts, Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling of Alaska Owner, has announced that he will sponsor Anchorage Fire Department firefighters during the upcoming Firefighter Combat Challenge in Seattle, Wa. on July 7. Team Paul Davis of Alaska will compete in individual and tandem events at the Scott Firefighter Combat Challenge® Fire Festival 2007, beginning at 11 a.m. at South Washington & Occidental Ave. Team members include Clay Hamilton, Erich Patrawke, Dan Stevens and Kevin Woolsey. Visit the team's website for more information at www.akfirefighterchallenge.com .

According to Roberts, the team will compete at a variety of event locations throughout the U.S. during the 2007 season for the ultimate victory at Firefighter Combat Challenge World XVI to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada from Nov. 4 - 8. Roberts will fund the firefighters' registration, travel costs and logistics.

"Most recently, Clay Hamilton competed in the Carlsbad, New Mexico Firefighter Combat Challenge on June 2. He finished first in the overall individual competition," Roberts said.

"We look forward following our team's success this year, along with all Paul Davis sponsored contenders and other firefighters competing in this rigorous event."

Since 1991, Firefighter Combat Challenge events have been held for hundreds of U.S. and Canadian firefighters who compete at more than 25 locations in fitness events and demonstrate the profession's rigors to the public. The competition has been dubbed "The Toughest Two Minutes in Sports" by ESPN.

On Target Challenge is the owner of Firefighter Combat Challenge®. Challenge events are viewed live by millions of people worldwide during live competitions and local broadcasts. Wearing "full bunker gear" and the SCOTT Air-Pak breathing apparatus, pairs of competitors simulate the physical demands of real-life firefighting by performing a linked series of five tasks including climbing the 5-story tower, hoisting, chopping, dragging hoses and rescuing a life-sized, 175 lb. "victim" as they race against themselves, their opponent and the clock.

For more information, contact Chuck Roberts at 907.562.5650 or email croberts@pdr-usa.net .

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Since 2003, Paul Davis Restoration Inc. has served as a national sponsor of Firefighter Combat Challenge. The company has been a leader in residential and commercial loss mitigation, reconstruction, and restoration services since 1966. As a national full-service restoration expert, Paul Davis Restoration is celebrating its 40th year in business and has more than 220 Paul Davis locations throughout North America. For more information about Paul Davis Restoration, call Ken Sussex at 904.737.2779, ext. 212 or visit the website at www.pdrestoration.com .

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bhayflick | June 25, 2007 - 5:48am

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Soon to be Mrs. United States

Our best wishes go with Jeannine Jabaay, Mrs. Alaska United States 2007, as she competes in Las Vegas for the title of Mrs. United States on July 12th. Bring home the crown to Alaska, Jeannine!

mrsak | June 23, 2007 - 3:29pm

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New officers and directors for Special Olympics Alaska

The Special Olympics Alaska Board of Directors elected officers and new members at its first quarter meeting in January. Craig Gales, Vice President of Operations at Alaska Waste was elected as board chairman for 2007. "We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of board members," said Jim Balamaci, President and CEO of Special Olympics Alaska. "I'm looking forward to working with veteran and new board members as we expand opportunities for Alaskans with intellectual disabilities."

The 2007 Special Olympics Alaska Board of Directors includes:

Officers

Chairman, Craig Gales, Alaska Waste
Chairman Elect, Ken Privratsky, Horizon Lines
Secretary, John Walsh, J.M. Walsh Company, Inc.
Treasurer, Robert Warthen, Alaska USA Credit Union
Past Chairman, Charlie Kozak, KPMG

Directors

Mike Buller, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation
Diana Carlson, ICRC/Koniag
Jeff Evans, Tesoro Petroleum
Michael Flanigan*, New York Life
Sarah Foster, Fred Meyer (Special Olympics Alaska Athlete)
Gideon Garcia*, Holland America Tours/Gray Line of Alaska
Representative, John Harris*, Alaska Legislature, House of Representatives
Paul Landes, GCI
Michael Liebing, OTIS Elevator
Senator Lesil McGuire*, Alaska Legislature, Senate
Dr. Charles Michael*, Charles Michael, DDS
Daniel Mitchell*, KPMG
Mike Mulcahy, Safeway (Special Olympics Alaska Athlete)
John Murry, ConocoPhillips
Roberta Quintavell, ASRC
Gregory Razo*, CIRI
Kurtis Schmidt*, Wells Fargo
Terry Vrabec*, State of Alaska, Department of Public Safety

Ex-Officio Member

Colonel James Harrold*, 3rd Mission Support Group, Elmendorf Air Force Base

*These members joined the board in 2007.

Special Olympics Alaska is an accredited program of Special Olympics Inc., a global organization that has provided sports training and competition to people with intellectual disabilities since 1968. In Alaska, Special Olympics serves more than 1,500 athletes in 18 communities statewide through local community training programs.

kmacknicki | June 22, 2007 - 8:37am

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Mayor appoints Veteran's Memorial Design Task Force

Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich has appointed an eight-member task force to set guidelines and design improvements to the Anchorage Veteran's Memorial on the Delaney Park Strip. This diverse group reflects a variety of community interests in the park and the existing memorial.

During the April 2007 Municipal Election, voters approved a Parks and Recreation bond containing \$200,000 for improvements to the existing memorial. The task force will be charged with directing the use of the bond funds and defining the guidelines for any future changes to the memorial that would be paid for with private funds.

"We want to make sure that any improvements or expansion of the Veteran's Memorial are done in a deliberative, dignified way," Mayor Begich said. "There are many Veteran's groups in Anchorage and we want to make sure all voices are heard."

Over the course of its deliberations for a Delaney Park master plan, the Citizens' Advisory Group has identified a number of core values for the park, including maintaining its current emphasis on open, multi-use space and maintaining consistency in the acceptance and placement of public memorials in the limited space the park offers. The work of the Task Force will be consistent with these principals and be incorporated in the final park master plan.

While the memorial and Delaney Park master plan have been the subject of several public meetings to date, the Task Force will provide an opportunity for further public comment.

Members of the task force include:

Tim Benintendi, Vietnam Veteran
Tom Case, Dean, UAA School of Business