



## Weekly Chamber Newsletter

September 1, 2025

### GPCC News

**We've upgraded our Membership Management System and Website just for you—log in and take a peek!**

We are thrilled to announce that on September 1st, we launched our brand-new membership management system and website! This exciting upgrade brings a more modern, user-friendly experience designed with our members in mind.

The new system will make it easier than ever to manage your membership, register for events, update your information, and explore many new features.

All members received an email with detailed instructions on how to log in to your new membership portal and take full advantage of the enhanced tools and resources.

We can't wait for you to see the improvements and experience how this new platform will better support our members and community!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### Colony Christmas Committee Meeting

- Monday, September 8
  - 5:30 PM
  - Palmer Chamber Office
- Only 101 days until Colony Christmas!

The lights are still twinkling in Palmer, and excitement is building. Let's come together to make this year's celebration the best and brightest Colony Christmas yet!

[Read](#)

## NEW MEMBERSHIP MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND WEBSITE



Website



### Bi-Weekly Luncheon - Sept. 10

Join us for our annual Hero's Luncheon, a tradition hosted by the Palmer Chamber to honor and remember the victims of September 11th while also recognizing the incredible service of our local heroes. This meaningful gathering brings our community together to reflect, give thanks, and show appreciation for those who protect and serve us every day.

Click here to  
Register

More



### Ribbon Cutting

This exciting event will celebrate the opening of Mat-Su Dermatology's new clinic in Palmer, offering an opportunity to welcome them to our local business community. Guests will enjoy refreshments, a photo booth, and a meet-and-greet with the doctors and staff. Your presence would be greatly appreciated as we officially cut the ribbon and show our support for this new addition to the Mat-Su Valley's medical community.

More  
Info



### Ribbon Cutting

This event is a celebration of Empower Physical Therapy's continued commitment to the Mat-Su Valley and an opportunity for the community to connect with their skilled team. Guests will be able to tour the clinic, enjoy light refreshments, and learn more about the

# Call for Keynote Speakers for our 2026 Luncheon Series

We're now accepting keynote speaker applications for our 2026 Bi-Weekly Luncheon Series — a premier gathering of business leaders, professionals, and engaged community members. Each luncheon brings together an audience eager for inspiration, fresh ideas, and real conversation. We're looking for speakers from all backgrounds and industries who can spark meaningful dialogue, offer fresh perspectives, and inspire action long after the luncheon ends.

We're looking for speakers who can:

- Share insights, stories, or research relevant to current or emerging trends
- Inspire action, leadership, or innovation in their field or community
- Engage audiences with authenticity and clarity
- Keynote speakers must be members of the Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce

Application

services they provide to support health and wellness in our region.

We would be honored to have you join us in recognizing Empower Physical Therapy's role in our business community and help to kick off an evening of festivities.

More  
Info



## Board Meeting

September Board Meeting  
Wednesday, September 11  
8:00 AM  
Palmer Chamber Board Room



# CANDIDATE FORUM

*Join us and meet the candidates running for Palmer Mayor and City Council, ask questions, and learn where they stand on the issues that matter to you.*



**WEDNESDAY  
24TH SEPTEMBER**  
*Bi-Weekly Luncheon*  
**DOORS OPEN AT 11:30AM**



**PALMER TRAIN DEPOT**



SCAN TO REGISTER



[Click to Register](#)

## Open Event Registrations





### **Something Spooky Is Coming to Downtown Palmer! ☐**

Halloween is creeping up fast, and registration for Trick or Treat Street is already underway! Businesses and organizations still have 7 weeks to sign up and secure their spot in this community-favorite celebration. This year promises to be our biggest Trick or Treat Street yet. We're bringing even more fun to Downtown Palmer with hayrides, food trucks, and the return of candy-filled storefronts. Plus, our brand-new Trick or Trunk zone in the Pavilion parking lot gives businesses without a downtown location the perfect way to join in the excitement. Decorate your vehicle, pack plenty of candy, and help us create a spooktacular night for families. Don't miss the chance to be part of the fun — costumes, community spirit, and plenty of sweet treats await. Let's make this Halloween one to remember!

[Register Here](#)

### **Fall is Here — and That Means Colony Christmas Is on the Horizon!**

The leaves are turning, the air is crisp, and we're already busy planning the magic of this year's Colony Christmas celebration.

Event Registration is Open  
Businesses are invited to register their events for Colony Christmas. Every event adds to the festive spirit in Downtown Palmer, and all registered activities will be featured in the official schedule and included in Colony Vendor Applications Now Open  
Vendors, this is your chance to be part of one of Palmer's most beloved traditions! The holiday markets bring thousands of visitors, and we can't wait to showcase local makers and businesses again this year.  
We're looking forward to celebrating the holiday season with you and making Colony Christmas 2025 the most magical one yet!

[Register Here](#)

A festive poster for the 8th Annual Shop Palmer 2025 event. The background is a light beige color with a pattern of white snowflakes and small pink and green stars. In the center, the text "8th Annual" is in a gold, sans-serif font, followed by "Shop Palmer" in a large, elegant red script font, and "2025" in a smaller gold script font. To the right of the text is a small illustration of a red bow. Below the main title, the text "Celebrate the Holidays - Shop Local and Win!" is in a bold, dark green sans-serif font. Underneath that, "Four Weekly Drawing of \$500 in gift cards & \$1000" is in a bold, dark green sans-serif font, followed by "Grand Prize from participating Shop Palmer businesses." in a bold, dark green sans-serif font. At the bottom, the dates "November 20, 2025 to December 18, 2025" are in a bold, gold sans-serif font, and "Grand Prize drawing on December 22, 2025" is in a bold, gold sans-serif font. In the bottom left corner is the logo for the Greater Palmer Chamber of Commerce, which features a blue circular emblem with the text "CHAMBER OF COMMERCE" around the top, "GREATER PALMER" in the center, and "Alaska At Its Best" at the bottom. A large, green, stylized Christmas tree is positioned on the right side of the poster, partially overlapping the text.

### **Registration is Now Open for Shop Palmer!**

It's almost time for another season of holiday shopping, community spirit, and big prizes! We're excited to invite businesses to enroll in this year's Shop Palmer event, running November 20 – December 18, 2025.

By registering, your business becomes part of one of Palmer's favorite holiday traditions

— encouraging our community to shop local while giving your customers the chance to win gift cards to participating businesses.

□ Prizes Include:

- Four Weekly Drawings: \$500 gift card prizes. Winners may select either 2 x \$250 gift cards to participating businesses or 1 x \$500 gift card.
- Grand Prize: \$1,000 in gift cards! The winner can choose to spend their prize at one business or split it between up to four locations in \$250 increments.


Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your business and be part of a holiday tradition that brings joy and shopping excitement to our community!

[Register Here](#)

## GPCC Month-At-A-Glance

# September

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 ASF	2	3	4	5 Mat-Su Dermatology Ribbon Cutting 3:30pm	6
7	8 Colony Christmas Committee Meeting	9 Empower Ribbon Cutting 4pm	10 Hero's Luncheon Train Depot 12pm	11 GPCC Board Mtg 8:00AM	12	13
14	15 PBAH 5:30 pm Revel Trex & Tours	16	17	18	19	20 NAMI Walks Alaska in the Valley 10:30am
21	22	23	24 Candidate Forum Train Depot 12pm	25	26 Veterans Rally to Support LINKS	27 Fall Harvest Festival 2025 11am
28 The Lakes Trail Fest	29	30 COP Council Mtg 6pm				ASF - Alaska State Fair COP = City of Palmer

# October

2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	ASF		1	2 GPCC Board Mtg 8:00AM	3	4
5	6	7	8 State of the Borough Train Depot 12pm	9	10	11 Death by a Mile Run
12	13 PBAH 5:30 pm Revel Trex & Tours	14 COP Council Mtg 6pm	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Mat-Su College Train Depot 12pm	23	24 Trick or Treat Street 4pm-7pm	25
26	27	28 COP Council Mtg 6pm	29	30	31	ASF - Alaska State Fair COP = City of Palmer

*The Turkey & The Fox*

# PRIVATE TURKISH RUG SHOWING

JOIN US IN-PERSON



Discover the beauty of handmade vintage rugs in person!

A curated selection of vintage, handmade Turkish rugs

A short discussion about rug traditions and regions

Cozy ambiance, Turkish tea, and sweets

09/27

BETWEEN 12PM TO 7PM  
231 E EAGLE AVE, PALMER, AK

(NO STREET PARKING)

LIMITED SPACE – PLEASE RSVP TO  
RESERVE YOUR SPOT!

907-416-9872

[WWW.THETURKEYANDTHEFOX.COM](http://WWW.THETURKEYANDTHEFOX.COM)



### Private Turkish Rug Showing with The Turkey & The Fox

We're excited to share that **The Turkey & The Fox**, a local small business specializing in handmade vintage rugs, is hosting an **Open House this September**.

Discover a curated collection of authentic rugs—primarily from Turkey, with a select few from nearby regions—while enjoying Turkish tea and sweets in a cozy, welcoming setting.



Spots are limited! Reserve yours:  
(907) 416-9872  
[info@theturkeyandthefox.com](mailto:info@theturkeyandthefox.com)  
<https://www.theturkeyandthefox.com/>

Experience the artistry, culture, and stories woven into these timeless pieces.

The poster features a festive design with a green pine branch and red berries at the top. The background is a light gray and white checkerboard pattern. The title "MAT-SU COLLEGE ART DEPARTMENT" is in large, bold, dark blue capital letters, with "Makers Market" in a red, cursive script below it. The dates and times are listed in the center: "December 5th, 3pm to 8pm" and "December 6th, 9am to 3pm", with the word "and" in red script between them. On the left, a bulleted list of activities is provided. On the right, there is a section for signing up to be a vendor, including a QR code and a deadline. The contact information and location are at the bottom, with the Mat-Su College logo on the right.

**MAT-SU COLLEGE  
ART DEPARTMENT**  
*Makers Market*

December 5th, 3pm to 8pm  
*and*  
December 6th, 9am to 3pm

- Handmade arts and crafts
- Silent Auction
- Gift wrapping table  
(for donations)
- Event is free to attend
- Food available for purchase

**SIGN UP TO  
BE A VENDOR**



Deadline: November 19th

Contact Michelle with questions @ [mlmishaan@alaska.edu](mailto:mlmishaan@alaska.edu)

*at Mat-Su College*   
8295 E College Drive Palmer AK, 99645

### Books and so much More At the Mat-Su College Library

With the school year starting, Mat-Su College wants you to know that the library at your hometown campus is open to the public and it has much more than just books for you to check out.



Before getting to the "More," the Alvin S. Okeson Library does have great books, and it is open to the community – not just students. Anyone can come in and borrow a book on their favorite topic or written by their favorite writer.

If you are a K-12 student and the library at your school does not have what you need for your project, come to the college. If the book you need is not on their shelves, staff can order it and have it sent from another library around the state, or beyond. Campus librarian Micha Muer says, "All you need is a library card, either from a local library or from us."

Now for the much more.

The library at the campus has thousands of academic and popular movies that can be checked out just like a book, for free!

If music is more your jam, there are also thousands of CDs and vinyl records for you to borrow.

The library also has computer workstations anyone can use. Muer says, "Those who come into the library can also use one of our computer lab stations to access all the databases subscribed to by the University of Alaska Anchorage. You can also use them to check your email or even update a resume."

The Alvin S. Okeson Library is open from 8 am to 7 pm Monday through Thursday, 9 am to 5 pm on Fridays, and 9 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. Muer says, "We're a great place to study, to read the paper, or work on a puzzle! Come on by, we're glad to help!"

For more information on the library at Mat-Su College, visit [matsu.alaska.edu/library/](https://matsu.alaska.edu/library/) or call 907-786-1871.

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### **The Alaska SBDC is offering the following three upcoming workshops in September.**

I would like to personally invite you to three exciting workshops that the Alaska SBDC is offering this September. These workshops are designed to help small business owners secure, design, and scale their space. Although we're focusing on restaurants and retail, the content will benefit any business interested in a physical location. Each session features a panel of industry experts and includes a guided tour of either the Market Project (aka, the Downtown Revitalization Project) or the Wild Birch Hotel.

Workshops:

- Wednesday, Sept. 10th, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm From Dream to Doorstep: Finding the Right Space for Your Business - Anchorage
- Wednesday, Sept. 17th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm From Lease to Launch: Designing and Developing Your Space - Anchorage
- Wednesday, Sept. 24th, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Scaling Up: What to Know Before You Expand - Anchorage

The workshops will be held in downtown Anchorage at the Alaska Experience Theater. These workshops are packed with value for current and aspiring business owners.

We hope to see you there!

**Best regards,**

MaryAnne LeMaitre

Learning & Development Manager

Alaska SBDC

W: [aksbdc.org](https://aksbdc.org) P: (907) 786-7278 E: [maryanne.lemaitre@aksbdc.org](mailto:maryanne.lemaitre@aksbdc.org)



Amvets Post 11—Never Forget, located in Wasilla, is more than just a gathering space—it's a place full of heart, generosity, and community spirit. The veterans who serve through Post 11 have some of the biggest hearts in the Mat-Su Valley, continually going above and beyond to support local organizations that work to strengthen and connect our community. Their latest effort? Hosting the LINKS Resource Center Night at Post 11—a fundraising rally for resources set for Friday, September 26th.

Known for their unwavering dedication to service, the veterans at Post 11 continually go above and beyond to support their community. Whether it's providing back-to-school supplies for local students, helping fellow veterans with home repairs, volunteering with Special Olympics Alaska Mat-Su, supporting The Rise Program at Meadow Lakes Elementary, or now partnering with LINKS Resource Center, their generosity shines through. They don't just offer their venue; they give their time, their hands, and their hearts to lift others up. Their dedication to service didn't end when they took off the uniform—it simply found new ways to shine.

LINKS Resource Center provides resources, advocacy, & connections to improve lives. This event will celebrate that mission, while raising funds to help ensure LINKS can continue to serve individuals and families in the Mat-Su area.

From 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., attendees can enjoy a hearty all-you-can-eat Chicken and Fish Fry featuring baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, and French fries for just \$20. Prefer not to eat? That's okay! There will be free fun and live music.

The evening will also feature a Silent Auction, a Live Dessert Auction, and live music from Soul Society of Alaska from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. It's shaping up to be a fun-filled, family-friendly night with something for everyone.

Whether you're a longtime supporter of LINKS, a proud veteran, a local resident, or someone looking to give back—this is a night to come together, celebrate, and rally for resources.

Please mark your calendars for Friday, September 26th and join us at Amvets Post 11, 951 South Hermon Road, Suite #1 Wasilla, for a night full of music, food, fun, and purpose. All ages are welcome—we can't wait to see you there!



When food starts disappearing from Nick's apartment fridge, he suspects his neighbor/best friend, Milo, an aspiring magician. Nick installs a surveillance camera to catch Milo in the act, but discovers an unlikely trespasser

**Come see VPA's hilarious  
season opener,  
ABOVEBOARD.**

Tickets are on sale now for ABOVEBOARD and all of VPA's Golden Season line-up. Call (907) 373- 0195 or go to [www.vpaalaska.org](http://www.vpaalaska.org) to purchase tickets today.

instead. Someone has been squatting in his apartment and stealing his food! What ensues is an amusing love triangle full of laughs and magic tricks. Watch the story unfold with hilarious twists and turns!

Follow Valley Performing Arts on Facebook to Meet the Cast of ABOVEBOARD!

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## Job Openings

Did you know you can submit your job openings to be added to our newsletter?

You can share it with the community! Simply email your job listing to [info@palmerchamber.org](mailto:info@palmerchamber.org), and we'll include it in our upcoming newsletter.





CCS Early Learning

# HIRING BONUSES

for classroom staff

## Available positions:

- Infant-Toddler Teacher
- Preschool Teacher
- Infant-Toddler Classroom Aide
- Preschool Classroom Aide

Positions available at our Palmer, Wasilla and Knik-Fairview locations

*Apply before Dec 31, 2025 to be eligible for a **\$1,500 sign-on bonus***

*Bonuses will be paid out at*

**\$300** after 30 days,

**\$300** after 90 days,

**\$400** after 180 days,

**and \$500** after 1 year of successful continued employment

## More Information:



907-373-7000

[ccsalaska.org/employment](https://ccsalaska.org/employment)

[humanresources@ccsalaska.org](mailto:humanresources@ccsalaska.org)



“We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated.”

- Maya Angelou

## PIONEER PARTNERS



## MATANUSKA PARTNERS



## ESHA PARTNERS



## HATCHER PARTNERS



832 South Colony Way, Suite A  
Palmer, AK 99645

[www.palmerchamber.org](http://www.palmerchamber.org)  
[info@palmerchamber.org](mailto:info@palmerchamber.org)

(907)745-2880



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