

FRIDAY BULLETIN

NEWS FROM THE ALASKA DIVISION OF LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & MUSEUMS

3/14/2014

This newsletter is available weekly and previous issues are available at <http://lam.alaska.gov/fridaybulletin>.

Submissions for the Friday Bulletin should be sent to linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov and may be edited for content and length if used.

Contents:

NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

ASHRAB AND OTHER REACTIONS TO NARA ANCHORAGE CLOSURE

KTVA FEATURES MUSEUM MOVE

ALASKA NEWSPAPER INDEXES –TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL OF DETAIL PAGE

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

LIVE FROM NORTH POLE, IT'S SATURDAY KNIGHT!

WHALE OF AN EXHIBIT OPENING IN GUSTAVUS

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE LINUX COURSE AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER

NEWS FROM THE DIVISION

ASHRAB AND OTHER REACTIONS TO NARA ANCHORAGE CLOSURE

This week we learned that the National Archives (NARA) [plans to close their facility in Anchorage](#). According to the Anchorage Facility's [web site](#), they hold:

More than 9,000 cubic feet of archival holdings, including textual documents, photographs, maps, and architectural drawings, dating from about 1867 to more modern material. As NARA is the repository for documents created by and about the federal government; we do not have state or local records.

Their finding aids list at <http://www.archives.gov/anchorage/finding-aids/> indicates a number of series important to Alaskans. Some of the finding aids are digitized but not all.

If implemented, the closure will be effective October 1, 2014. In response to this closure, a number of reactions have taken place. Here are the ones we were aware of at press time.

[Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board](#) (ASHRAB)

Dean Dawson, ASHRAB Coordinator and Alaska State Archivist, wrote a letter to David Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, asking him to reconsider. If the closure is carried though, the letter asked NARA to transfer the Territorial Court System records to the Alaska State Archives in Juneau. This letter had the full concurrence and support of all ASHRAB members. The letter and a roster of ASHRAB members may be viewed at <http://archives.alaska.gov/pdfs/ASHRABLettertoArchivistoftheUS.pdf>.

[Alaska Historical Society](#)

Anjuli Grantham, Vice President and Advocacy Chair, Alaska Historical Society has circulated an e-mail that has appeared on mailing lists for librarians, museum staff and archivists offering ways to advocate for the continued operation of the Anchorage NARA Facility. They are also collecting NARA stories for the AHS blog at <http://49history.blogspot.com/>. They hope to “highlight treasures, research projects, and connections inspired by NARA's collections so that our leaders will see that Alaska's records must stay accessible to Alaskans, in our own state.” If you have a story to share for the blog, send it to Katie Ringsmuth (katmaikate@aol.com).

[Senator Lisa Murkowski](#)

Senator Murkowski sent out a 3/11/2014 [press release](#) expressing displeasure with the closure and disclosing a letter she wrote to the Archivist of the United States. Her letter also covered possible digitization or transfer to other Alaskan agencies if the closure is not revoked.

As of press time, we found nothing on the web sites of Senator Begich or Representative Young indicating they have had a public reaction to this issue. We will note their statements in the *Bulletin* when we learn about them.

KTVA FEATURES MUSEUM MOVE

KTVA television aired a story on 3/10/2014, [Juneau museum prepares for new era](#) that featured a behind the scenes look at the packing going on to move objects from the Alaska State Museum into the vault section of the new State Library Archives Museum (SLAM) Building. If fully funded this year, the new building is scheduled to open to the public in Spring 2016. For more about the SLAM project, visit <http://lam.alaska.gov/slam>.

ALASKA NEWSPAPER INDEXES –TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL OF DETAIL PAGE

As you may know, the Alaska State Library has the Fairbanks Area and Juneau Empire Newspaper Indexes at <http://education.alaska.gov/lam/newspapers.cfm>. For those of you who don't know, this is a:

Searchable database of Juneau and Fairbanks newspapers. Fairbanks area indexing (compiled by Mr. Mike Brown of the Bureau of Land Management), coverage varies within 1901-1975 and Juneau Empire indexing (compiled by Capital City Libraries staff) covers December, 1992 to August, 1999.

Some of you have noticed that the search no longer allows you to see a specific record, just stopping at results list. Here's why:

On 2/28/2014, the State Security Office flagged a security flaw in our database application and directed that the entire index be taken offline. Further investigation revealed the security issue could be minimized by dropping access to the results page. So we asked our parent agency to make the change so that we could offer some data to you. We are currently looking at how we can make this search as useful as possible to you without compromising security concerns. We do not have a timetable for resolution at this point and apologize for any inconvenience you have been experiencing.

NEWS FROM L.A.M.S IN ALASKA

LIVE FROM NORTH POLE, IT'S SATURDAY KNIGHT!

The [Follett Challenge](#) is a student video contest that can win up to \$30,000 in Follett library products and services for winning school libraries. The North Pole Middle School is the only entrant we are aware of from Alaska and they could use your help in seeing their SNL themed video rise to the top.

Please watch and vote for the five minute [Saturday KNIGHT Library](#) video. You may vote once per day until April 4th.

WHALE OF AN EXHIBIT OPENING IN GUSTAVUS

Sylvia Martinez of the Gustavus recently told us that in February 2014, a 12 ft. juvenile killer whale skeleton was put on display in the Gustavus Public Library. See the skeleton and a 14 minute movie on the project at <http://www.nps.gov/glba/naturescience/killer-whale-articulation-project.htm>.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

FREE LINUX COURSE AVAILABLE THIS SUMMER

By [some accounts](#), more than three quarters of IT hiring managers are looking to hire people with Linux skills. This summer your patrons could join the ranks of those people by taking a [free course](#) from the Linux Foundation through [EdX.org](#), the online learning site.

For more background on this opportunity, read:

This summer, you can learn Linux free & online from Harvard & MIT. Barry Levine. *VentureBeat*, March 6, 2014. <http://venturebeat.com/2014/03/06/this-summer-you-can-learn-linux-free-online-from-harvard-mit/>

FRIDAY BULLETIN

Linda Thibodeau, State Librarian and Director

Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums - Alaska Department of Education and Early Development
PO 110571, Juneau, AK 99811-0571 - Tel: 465-2911 - Fax: 465-2151 - linda.thibodeau@alaska.gov