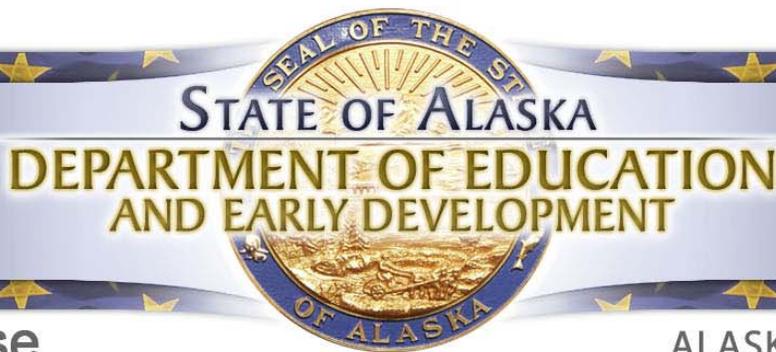


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Press Release

ALASKA STATE MUSEUM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 23, 2010

New Old-fashioned Housing Subject of Museum Talk

Bob Banghart, Chief Curator at the Alaska State Museums, will discuss “Sustainable Shelter” during a brown-bag lecture set for Wednesday, March 3, at noon at the Alaska State Museum. The illustrated talk will show how traditional and indigenous architectural concepts are influencing contemporary housing design. The one-hour talk is free to the public.

In June 2009 the first of a new style of affordable, green, partially earth-sheltered, single-family homes was constructed in the village of Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska. The program will explore the community-based collective design process used to develop these innovative structures, and how they align traditional knowledge with contemporary demands. Images of the new “soddy,” and examples of traditional earth-sheltered houses from around Alaska will be presented.

The lecture series takes place every Wednesday, from noon to 1 p.m., through March 31. It is sponsored by the Alaska Division of Libraries, Archives, and Museums. The series features recent research on the museum and library collections by staff and visiting scholars. In operation for over a century, the division houses a world-class collection of materials that is central to the study of Alaska history, Native cultures, and art.

Future brown bag lecture topics scheduled are:

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| March 10 | Daniel Cornwall, Information Services, Alaska State Library, “Exploring Alaska Statehood History” |
| March 17 | Mary Ellen Frank, doll artist, on Alaskan Art Dolls |
| March 24 | Anastasia Tarmann, Alaska State Library Historical Collections, discusses “The Men Behind the Masks: Letters of Alaska Native Mask Carvers from the Donald Burrus Collection” |
| March 31 | Ellen Carrlee, Conservator, Alaska State Museums, on “Fur, Fuzz, and Fibers: Materials ID at the Museum” |

Hours at the museum are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Discounted winter admission is \$3. Visitors 18 and under are admitted free of charge. An annual pass that allows unlimited visits to the Alaska State Museum and the Sheldon Jackson Museum in Sitka is available for \$15. Assistance is available for visitors with special needs. Please contact Visitor Services at 465-2901 before the visit.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Phone (907) 465-2901 Fax (907) 465-2976

www.museums.state.ak.us

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