



St. Patrick's Day, March 17th

On The Move

Vol. 2 No. 5
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UNIVERSITY of ALASKA
STATEWIDE





***Before (June 2001) and after**: The move that started "On The Move". Penny Ewalt, coordinator for Finance, is happy that the old Public Affairs space has finally been restored for our new assistant general counsel, Mike Hostina. It couldn't have happened to a nicer guy!*







We're Off To See the Wizard

Spotlight



The magic of Oz descended upon Butrovich last Friday as Mike Hostina moved from his old office in Labor Relations to his new office in General Counsel. Upon entering the second floor hallway, one could not help but notice the yellow brick road. A buzz permeated the air. When Hostina arrived for work, he entered his office to find it had been transformed into a prison cell. (Only the evening before, the entire HR department had put the finishing touches on a plan that had been hatched and developed over the previous two weeks.)

Mike Hostina General Counsel

This is where the road began. Instructed to put on an apron and carry a basket full of Toto, Mike (aka Dorothy) was escorted down the 360 ft. yellow brick road. The end of the road was the sign of a new beginning, as office 206F had been transformed into the Emerald City. A field of giant paper flowers, a rainbow of balloons, and breakfast goodies awaited Mike in his new office. Throwing off Dorothy's garb, Mike donned a gold-trimmed robe and stunning pair of ruby loafers to assume the personae of the Wizard of Oz. An elaborate farewell of food, fun and friends welcomed Hostina into his new position as Associate General Counsel.

Mike Hostina began in statewide in 1997 as Labor Coordinator. In 1998 he took over as Director of Labor Relations. The current move to General Counsel is "an opportunity to expand his scope of responsibility". This is a good example of moving within the University System to benefit the individuals professional goals and to stimulate employee growth and advancement.

The things Hostina will miss most are "the people I worked with, their good humor, creativity, and their insanity". Although Mike is only a few feet down the hall from HR, his leadership, kindness, and jovial nature will be missed in the HR department. The HR staff would like to extend their thanks to all who assisted with Mike's send-off. The names will be kept confidential to protect the guilty.

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To submit information for this newsletter, send via email to bob.miller@alaska.edu or call 474-7272

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Bowling for Kid's Sake

Eight Statewide staff members, representing Budget & Institutional Research, Human Resources, Financial Systems and Cost Accounting departments, participated in the Bowl for Kids' Sake Sunday, March 10th and raised $1043.80 for the Fairbanks Big Brother's Big Sisters chapter. Staff from the Cash Management and Institutional Research departments showed up to cheer everyone as they bowled. Besides having a fun afternoon, they won great door prizes and had the opportunity to get to know their colleagues.

Inspired by the success of this event and the benefits for Fairbanks' youth, these members would like to challenge other Statewide staff to form opposing teams and raise money next year for the Fairbanks Big Brother's Big Sisters chapter!



A celebration for Mike Hostina will be held on Friday, March 15 at 1:30pm in the Sherman Carter conference room, Butrovich Building. Stop by and wish Mike well.

Flown the Coop



Adela Jackson's stuffed blackbird which usually hangs out above her computer has flown the coop! She has been receiving emails and photos from the restless raven. If anyone has seen this wayward wander, please contact adela.batin@alaska.edu

Diabetes Treatment is Number One Reason Employees Seek Medical Care

Over the last several months the Statewide Benefits Department has been working with two other large Alaska employers to discuss strategies to insure continuation of excellent health care benefits. Working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska, the group has learned that treatment for diabetes is the number one reason our employees and their dependents over age 40 seek medical care. Additionally, although diabetes is not curable, its effects can be minimized through proper treatment and education.

To better understand possible educational opportunities and to help identify and support those with the disease, Statewide Benefits is working with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alaska and the two other employers to conduct a survey to help determine exactly what our employees know about this disease. The survey will be conducted on a randomly selected group of people. In March each participant will receive a letter asking them to participate in a voluntary phone survey. Members will be given the opportunity to call a toll-free number at their convenience. The survey takes about 6 minutes. All members' answers are kept confidential with the results used to develop educational tools and resources to help our employee and their dependents with diabetes management. We believe this can be a valuable tool in helping us provide excellent benefits and aid in promoting better health for members with diabetes. If you have additional questions please call Mike Humphrey, Director of Benefits (907) 474-7905.



Spring Break for Statewide employees is Friday, March 22nd.

Transitions...



Dr. Russell O'Hare (above) is the new Policy Analyst in Statewide Budget and Institutional Research. He accepted the position March 3. Most recently, Russ worked for the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and prior to that he was a comptroller in the military. Responsibilities of the Policy Analyst include the innovative integration of academic, financial, human resource, facilities, and external information in order to advise and assist the President and Executive Management in developing detailed strategic planning alternatives for the UA system.



Guess who? It's **Nile Mueller**, the new publications/web assistant in Public Affairs. Nile earned her BFA this past year from UAF, and she says this is her first real job! To see what Nile really looks like, check out our website at: alaska.edu/opa

For Sale or Trade

Send your items for sale or trade by e-mail to: bob.miller@alaska.edu

From Alesia Willey at 457-1699:
Suzuki GZ250 Street Bike $2,000 obo.

From Betty Studebaker at 479-4925: LARGE Knaack tool box, on wheels, front opening doors, with drawers. $250.00

From Margi Schwartz at 488-4107: Want to Borrow: Metal Detector to find survey pins.

From John Dickenson at 457-2824:
1997 GMC SLE 4x4 Pickup -Z71 Excellent inside and out, 34,000 miles, two-tone paint, CD, bed liner, bug screen, V8, auto, air, cruise, split bench seats, two sets of rims. $14,500 OBO.

From Kristen Clare, 337-3175:
Pentax 35m manual camera, includes regular and zoom lenses, flash and bag. $225.

From Jennifer Bowers at x6281:
Brand new medium size dog kennel/crate. Bought in Dec., barely used. 27"L x 20"W x 19"H with handle. Light tan in color, ideal for Beagles, Shelties, Min. Poodles, Cockers, Lhasa Apsos. Paid $39.99, asking $20.

From Thom & Torie Foote, 479-0908:
98' Dodge Grand Caravan LE, AWD, Loaded, remote start, studded tires and a summer set. Great condition. Bumper to bumper warranty. $16,000 obo.

From Robin Porter, 474-0777 (leave message):
1986 Jeep Laredo; $3,600 or best offer; MUST SEE. 146,000 miles; Approx. 15,000 mi. on rebuilt components: engine 2.8 liter 6cycl; transmission; carburetor; axles; etc. long list. Have all maintenance receipts. Fully loaded except power windows & locks.

On the Move is Online

Go to: www.alaska.edu/opa/onthemove. **Deadline** for the next issue is Monday, March 25th by the end of the day.