



# COMMUNITY

Alaska Railroad Corporation  
3rd Quarter 2013



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## REAL ESTATE INITIATIVES ENHANCE

### Railroad land, property plans boost community opportunities

The third quarter saw several community-enhancing real estate initiatives move forward.

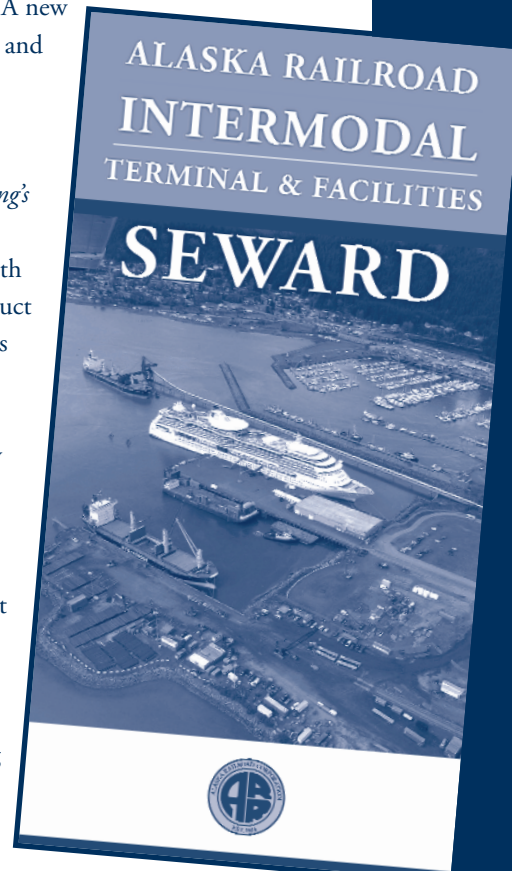
In Seward, ARRC plans were approved to buy the Yacht Club building, sell it, and arrange for it to be moved from the 7,400 sq-ft parcel of railroad leased waterfront land. ARRC will combine this parcel with adjacent land and re-plat to create a larger 27,000 sq-ft tract as another step toward preparing the Seward Harbor Waterfront area for redevelopment. The first step came earlier this year with removal of the old Coast Guard building.

The railroad also recently overhauled a Seward Master Plan, providing an updated conceptual outlook for dock / waterfront development, land available to lease for commercial and industrial development, and intermodal improvements. ARRC is coordinating with the City of Seward on land planning and on promoting intermodal opportunities. A new brochure (*pictured at right*) outlines the railroad's Seward dock facilities and associated services provided by Seward-based businesses.

In Anchorage, construction progressed on Municipality of Anchorage designs to improve access to the Ship Creek urban fishery. Dubbed *King's Landing*, the project's first phase includes a north bank walkway and staircase to access the creek, pedestrian safety improvements to the North C Street bridge, and an observation deck. The second phase will construct restrooms, a plaza, parking and other features that support public access and recreation. The project is all on railroad land.

In Wasilla, the railroad has purchased a 33,000 sq-ft building (formerly Kenai Supply) and 5 acres from the Alaska Dept. of Transportation & Public Facilities, as a first step toward establishing a new intermodal transit hub. With rail access in place, the 5-acre parcel can eventually accommodate bus traffic and future commuter rail service. In the short term, a portion of the building will house railroad track and signal maintenance crews and equipment. ARRC already owns an adjacent building that currently houses the Steam Engine 557 Restoration project. Once the historic locomotive is restored by 2015, this building can also support railroad operations and transit functions.

(see "Real Estate Round-up" on page 3)



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[www.AlaskaRailroad.com](http://www.AlaskaRailroad.com)

Take advantage of exclusive Alaska Resident discounts on great rail travel trips and vacation packages. Save 20% off regular prices just for being an Alaskan!

The winter passenger rail schedule runs mid-September to mid-May. Check out weekly service between Anchorage and Fairbanks, and the monthly flagstop between Anchorage, Wasilla, Talkeetna and Hurricane.

# 90 TRIPS MARK 90 YEARS

The Alaska Railroad celebrates its 90-year Anniversary by giving away 90 trips! Oct. 14 to Dec. 13, ARRC will host a weekly Facebook photo challenge, selecting 10 participants per week to win travel aboard the *Hurricane Turn* or *Aurora Winter* trains! To participate:

- “Like” the Alaska Railroad on Facebook (facebook.com /AlaskaRailroad)
- Check back weekly to see each week’s photo theme and upload a suitable photo.

Photos from randomly selected weekly winners will be posted to a Facebook photo album. ●



# RAILROAD RELEASES 2014 PRINT

## Charcoal drawing features *Iconic Alaskan* flagstop train

The Alaska Railroad will release its 2014 annual poster/print at three public sale-and-sign events featuring Anchorage artist Ray Gamradt. All three events are 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.:

- **ANCHORAGE:** Saturday, Nov. 30, Anchorage Historic Depot (411 W. 1st Ave)
- **TALKEETNA:** Thursday, Dec. 5, Northern Susitna Institute (22510 Talkeetna Spur Rd); held along with a *Hurricane Turn* 2-for-1 promotion.
- **FAIRBANKS:** Saturday, Dec. 7, Fairbanks Depot (1745 Johansen Exp)

Entitled *Iconic Alaskan*, the charcoal drawing depicts a bull moose and the Alaska Railroad’s summer *Hurricane Turn* train, which offers flag stop service between Talkeetna and Hurricane. “This place has a distinct personality so often defined by a sense of wildness and remoteness, and moose are one of my favorite emblems of that wildness,” said Gamradt, who made several trips on the *Hurricane Turn* train and camped along

the 66-mile route the past two summers. “While riding the train between the route’s looming ridges, the conductor informed me that this is one of the last surviving flagstop trains in North America, further contributing to an experience that is unmistakably Alaskan.”

The 2014 Alaska Railroad print (32” x 18.5”) costs \$55, posters (26” x 15.5”) cost \$30 and pins cost \$5. As part of the Alaska Railroad’s 90th Anniversary celebration, the 2014 artwork will also be offered in a third format to accommodate the discerning preferences of serious art collectors. A special limited edition (100 maximum) Giclée museum grade print on acid-free paper with archival inks will be available for \$390. The larger (36” x 20.5”) special edition print can be ordered from the Alaska Railroad Gift Shop, in person at the Anchorage Depot, or by calling 1-800-544-0552 outside Anchorage; (907) 265-2326; or email Giftshop@akrr.com.

Details at [www.AlaskaRailroad.com](http://www.AlaskaRailroad.com) > Community > Annual Print Contest. ●

This charcoal drawing is the basis for the 2014 ARRC print/poster.



# RAILROAD HONORS SHAKE LEGACY

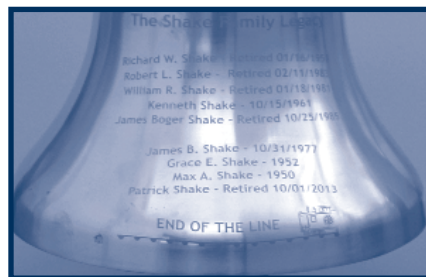
## Pat Shake is last in a line of 9 Shake family railroaders

Dozens of well-wishers gathered September 27 to bid farewell to retiring Vice President of Transportation & Mechanical Pat Shake, as well as to honor three generations of a family that has furthered the growth and success of the railroad. Pat is the last in a line of nine members of the Shake family who, collectively, have provided 154 years of service to the Alaska Railroad from 1947 to 2013.

As a lasting tribute to the remarkable Shake legacy, several railroaders restored an historic brass bell that originally equipped an Alaska Railroad 1800 Series, EMD GP7U Locomotive that was retired in 1998. The bell is

engraved with the names of Pat, his grandparents, father, uncles and cousin who were railroad employees. A brass plate that accompanies the bell graphically illustrates the family tree of Shake family railroaders.

The bell and plaque will be on display in the Anchorage Historic Depot. It will serve as an item of interest and education for people visiting the depot and traveling by train. ●



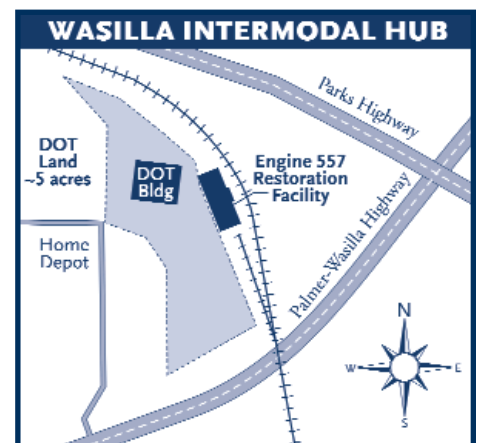
*Above: Retiring Pat Shake rings an historic locomotive bell that commemorates his family's contributions to the Alaska Railroad. Left: The locomotive bell is engraved with Shake employee names.*

# REAL ESTATE ROUND-UP ...

*(continued from page 1)*

In Fairbanks, the railroad approved a permit that enables final design to begin on a pedestrian-bike path project known as the *Chena River Walk Trail*. The permit allows the path to be constructed on railroad property along the river's north bank in the Chena Landings area. ARRC's Real Estate Department has worked extensively with the City of Fairbanks and local

non-profit entities on potential trail design and location. The proposed path segments can be connected by bridges and an existing path on the south bank. The railroad is open to use of additional railroad land for a north-bank connector in the future, when supporters have had time to identify the needed funding and resources. ●



*During its July 30 regular meeting the ARRC Board of Directors addressed these two key real estate items.*



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## RAILROAD FEATURED IN 6-PART DOCUMENTARY

**Discovery Channel production to air six weeks, beginning November 12, 2013**



As a production company commissioned by the Discovery Channel, Windfall Films recently wrapped up a documentary featuring the Alaska Railroad. Aptly named *Railroad Alaska*, the six-episode documentary showcases the railroad and the people who live “off the grid” in road-less areas along the tracks.

The first hour-long episode is scheduled to broadcast on the Destination America channel (one of several channels owned by Discovery) on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, and the series will continue six weeks with one episode showing each week.

Along with several colorful characters who reside along the rail route, the documentary includes appearances by a number of Alaska Railroaders who work on track maintenance and operate trains. Filming took place over a four-month period this spring and early summer.



*As the summer season ends and weekly winter passenger service begins, crews winterize a train at the Anchorage Historic Depot.*

Look for the *Railroad Alaska* series to be listed on the Destination America network, which translates to the following channels in Alaska:

- GCI Channel 105
- GCI high definition Channel 691
- Direct TV channel 286
- Dish Network channel 194 ●