

# The Mountain View Villager

A Service of the Anchorage Community Land Trust

A NEWSLETTER CELEBRATING AND SPOTLIGHTING MOUNTAIN VIEW

## MOUNTAIN VIEW NEWS FEBRUARY

### New Leases at Glenn Square

Glenn Square mall is reporting new lease holders - Xalo's Mexican Grill, a restaurant, H and R Block, a nationwide tax services business, Eva's Cupcakery, a local cupcake shop, and Lime Solar, a renewable energy retailer. Glenn Square is owned by Kimco Realty, North America's largest owner and operator of neighborhood and community shopping centers, and has struggled to find tenants for the remaining 15(+) vacant spaces retail spaces (typically around 1,000 sq. ft. a piece). One already-built anchor space is still vacant at 30,000 sq. ft. and pads exist for a second phase of development - mostly restaurant spaces around 5,000 sq. ft. The spaces are being leased locally by Jack White.

### Mountain View Clean-Up

Rumor has it that the Mountain View Community Clean-Up will again take place this year. If you are interested in volunteering to help your community you can contact Scott Kohlhaas at 337.3171. All ages and physical abilities are welcome to volunteer. Dates, Times, and Location will be in our next issue.

### Community Gardens

The Anchorage Community Land Trust is working together with the Municipality of Anchorage to administer the garden plots at Bragaw and the Glenn Highway which were installed with the overpass. Hopes are high that plots will be open this summer.

### The Villager Jobs Section

The Villager would like to begin using this space for issues related to employment; Job searches, apprenticeships, Gov't programs helping to get folks back to work and other related opportunities. The Alaska Labor Exchange System, or ALEXSYS, is a keyword search system for job seekers through the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development. New users can register at [alexsys.labor.state.ak.us](http://alexsys.labor.state.ak.us); You can find a job, create a resume, view listed jobs and more.



## MOUNTAIN VIEW EVENTS CALENDAR

- February 11 - Anchorage Reads Book Discussion: Persepolis. Loussac Library, Level 3; 3 pm
- February 13 - Mountain View Community Council Meeting. Boys and Girls Club. 7-9 pm
- February 14 - Valentines Day Ski @ Russian Jack Park for a Sweetheart's Ski. 1-5 pm free hot cocoa!
- February 22 - Education Community Conversation. 1300 E. 19th Ave. 5:15 pm. Register Online.

## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD - ARLENE CHICO, CLARK M.S

### **A Teacher's Perspective: Finding Connections At Clark Middle School!**

The moment I first stepped in Clark Middle School nine years ago, I found connections with the students and the whole Clark community. I instantly felt at home. I was transitioning from being a Bilingual Tutor at William Tyson Elementary to becoming a Bilingual Teacher at Clark Middle School. I found tranquility knowing and feeling that I belong.

I had a great opportunity to teach at the old Clark for three years before it was rebuilt. Even then, I see myself among the vast majority of the diverse population of Clark Middle School. Through the years, I enjoy teaching the English Language Learners here at Clark. I see myself in them, being a bilingual and growing up, an English Language learner myself. I guess that's what makes me connected with my students. I learn like them, so I fully understand where they're coming from. We are similar in most sense. That is also where I get most of my teaching philosophies and teaching strategies. I use my own background skills and learning styles as Bilingual learner when teaching lessons. I always tap on their background knowledge and culture to find connection for the new concept (continued on page 2).

Arlene Chico is a 7th grade ELL teacher at Clark Middle School



You can now find the Mountain View Villager online and archives of our issues.  
[www.anchoragelandtrust.org](http://www.anchoragelandtrust.org)

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Please send us your resident spotlight recommendations!

I want my students to see me as an inspiration for success. I always remind them that it is not impossible if you strive harder, work harder and aim higher to reach your goal. If I can do it, they can do it too! My everyday joy is to see my students, speakers of another language, be at par with the other students, performing at their best and accepting that being Bilingual is a challenge but also a gift. English learners are gifted learners! Everyday, I have to drive across town to get to Clark Middle School. But in this minority section of Anchorage, is where I see my purpose.

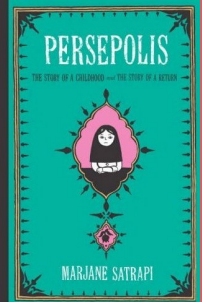
### Anchorage Education: Community Conversations

In February 2012, Phase II of the Mayor's Education Summit, will begin, with 6 Community Conversations around Anchorage. In these conversations citizens will be asked to review the preliminary scenarios that were identified by the participants in the November Summit. These scenarios identify ways to improve student performance. You can register online at [muni.org](http://muni.org) under the Mayor's page. The closest conversation to Mountain View is Wed., Feb. 22, 2012, Anchorage Senior and Activity Center, 1300 E. 19th Ave, 5:15 p.m. check-in. 5:45 p.m. start.

The Former APD Substation at 3401 Thompson has a Planning and Zoning variance from MOA. The MV Community Council has submitted comments to Planning and Zoning and you can too. The case is # 2012-024 re: legalization of a nonconforming lot and can be found at [muni.org](http://muni.org). Email comments to [sapaine@muni.org](mailto:sapaine@muni.org)

Credit Union 1 was awarded for the Mountain View Street Fair! CU1 took second place in the public and community service category at PRSA's Aurora Awards.

Anchorage Reads—Join One-Book Community Read: It's a city-wide book club! Pick up '*Persepolis*' by *Marjane Satrapi* today at your Mountain View Neighborhood Library for the Library's Anchorage Reads Celebration. Originally released to critical acclaim, *Persepolis* is a memoir of growing up in war torn Iran during the late nineteen seventies and early nineteen eighties. It's a graphic novel written in stark black and white comic strip images detailing the history of the author's family, the reasons behind the Islamic revolution, and the daily life of a young girl affected by these events.



## RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT— KELLY MCDONALD



Kelly McDonald is a long-time Mountain View resident who volunteers for his community by organizing and operating the AreaWide community Patrol in Mountain View, Fairview and beyond.

I came here in 1960. And, I went to Turnagain, Romig, and West, and then I worked on an oil rig for awhile and then I joined the Teamsters and I went to work on the Pipeline and the North Slope before I came back to town and I worked for ALaskCom, they were downsizing and I got forced out. I went in to a car selling career for a few years and then got back in to trucks and equipment for Teamsters. I've driven virtually every kind of bus and a wide variety of trucks, worked on plenty of construction projects, shipped freight—I worked at Merrill Field and worked for Muni Streets as well. I got injured in my apartment here in 2009 and I had half a steel ball put in my shoulder. I could still drive the trucks and run the equipment, but the things that you had to along with that made it hard to continue. Even with a good shoulder that was hard work, so I know I couldn't do it now. I moved in to Mountain View ten years ago this Spring. I wound up getting involved with the Community Patrol and Fred Schriener in 2006. And, I was managing an apartment on Hoyt. In most of my experiences with Community Patrol I am there to help APD come in to a bad situation. Officers have been appreciative of my efforts. I started doing Area-Wide Community Patrol and expanded it outside of Mt. View to Fairview, where my church was. I've called Anchorage home for 52 years, and if I ever left I would miss everything. Mountain View is turning out alright, I'd like to see only one liquor store. It has been a good home for me.