

Chamber of Commerce Signature Events

ANNUAL BEAUTIFICATION TEA 2017 Theme: A Very Vintage Tea

April 22, 2017 Chugiak-Eagle River Senior Center 11am – 1pm

The Annual Beautification Tea supports maintenance of Chief Alex Park and other beautification projects around Eagle River and the Business District. The tea invites participants to dress their tables, enjoy an elegant brunch and entertainment. Tables are judged for best thematic decorations and winners receive recognition and bragging rights for the remainder of the year.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

June 2, 2017 Settler's Bay Golf Resort 8am – 3pm

This annual project, held in early in June, is a networking opportunity with a lot of fun mixed in. Funds raised help support our Visitor and Community Information Center. This is a great event, whether or not you are a golfer! Includes prizes for golf participants, raffles and door prizes. Opportunity for participation, sponsorship, and volunteer service.

BEAR PAW FESTIVAL “SuperBear: Saving Eagle River, One Bear at a Time!”

July 12 – 16, 2017 Downtown Eagle River and Area

The 32nd Annual Bear Paw Festival includes: The Grand Parade, Running with Bears: A 300 Yard Fun Run, Teddy Bear Picnic, Human Foosball, Chopped Salmon Throwdown, Classic Car Show, Bear Paw's Got Talent, Slippery Salmon Olympics, Golden Wheel Carnival and many Food & Goods Vendors. Other activities by various organizations include a rodeo, 5K race, sales at businesses, and much more! Opportunity for vendors, participation in games, sponsorships, and volunteer service.

ANNUAL CHAMBER DINNER/AUCTION

September 23, 2017 6-9:30pm Eagle River Lions Club

The annual Dinner and Auction features wine and beer tasting, a delicious catered meal, silent auctions, blind wine purchases, raffles for prizes, and a live auction featuring dessert and large prizes. This signature event raises operational funding for the Chamber of Commerce to continue with the good work done year-round. Opportunity for sponsorships, group table purchases, auction donations, and volunteer service.

MERRY MERCHANT MUNCH

December 1-2, 2017 Eagle River

Merry Merchant Munch provides opportunity for local businesses to jumpstart the holiday shopping season and inviting customers to their open houses with treats, decoration and holiday spirit. Businesses gain recognition and prizes for various categories of décor, treats, and holiday spirit. Community participants may compete in a Gingerbread Contest and win prizes for visiting our local stores.

WINTER WONDERLAND & TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

December 1, 2017 Eagle River Business District 5:30-8:30pm

Held in conjunction with the Merry Merchant Munch, the Winter Wonderland is an evening event held in Town Square and features children's choirs, cookies and cocoa, a visit from Santa and his reindeer, and the lighting of the tree.

LUNCHEON FORUMS

Luncheon Forums are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month. These are open to the public and are designed to educate our members and community friends on a current topics and events. Speakers are scheduled with a variety of business or community-related topics of interest.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Business After Hours is held on a request basis. Call us for a date to showcase your business and network with members after business hours. Don't have a brick & mortar storefront? The Chamber can host you in the Chamber of Commerce Conference Room.

Chamber of Commerce Collaborative Events

Fun Runs or Races – Sponsored by Local Businesses

Boo at the Beach – Parks & Recreation (Muni)

Scholarships for Youth – Eagle River Sleeping Lady Mtn Lions Club, CER Foundation; Eagle River Area Rotary
Excellence in Education Awards – in participation with Eagle River Area Rotary and CER Foundation

Chamber of Commerce Services

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AMBASSADORS

The Chamber Ambassador Program is very successful with more than 20 members. The Ambassadors form the volunteer backbone for all Chamber events. All interested folks are encouraged to join. Examples of volunteer work include greeting attendees at Luncheon Forums, assistance at the Chamber's Signature Events.

CHIEF ALEX PARK, TOWN CLOCK, & DOWNTOWN BEAUTIFICATION

Chief Alex Park, a Chamber-funded project begun in 1983, is the gateway entrance to the Eagle River Business District. This one-acre park is supported with Chamber and community volunteers from the Cub Scouts, Alaska Military Youth Academy as well as Eagle River/Chugiak Parks & Recreation. Supported in part by capital fundraisers hosted by the Chamber of Commerce, the Park is for all the community to enjoy.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Chamber annually hosts workshops for professional development for Chamber members. Classes are generally held at convenient hours and short in duration and are designed for the busy manager/employer as well as employees to help keep abreast of current trends in law and business. Classes and workshops are offered in November, January, February and March.

EDUCATION

The Chamber has a strong working relationship with the Anchorage School District and the UAA/Chugiak-Eagle River campus. The Chamber brings the business perspective to the district by providing representatives to serve on a number of advisory committees. The community is home to 8 elementary schools (including the Charter School – Eagle Academy) two middle schools and two high schools. The Chamber continues to be a strong advocate for adequate college level/work force development facilities to meet the growing demand for programs at the UAA/Chugiak-Eagle River Campus.

GOVERNMENT

The Chamber works with our five State legislative delegates, Federal Congressional delegation and two Assembly members on a variety of issues impacting the community. Efforts are made to identify critical issues and develop public policy. Two Luncheon Forums each year are devoted to pre and post session legislative briefings. The Chamber's Legislative Committee will meet with elected officials in 'legislative breakfasts' to engage in discussions of relevant topics.

MARKETING & PUBLICATIONS

The Chamber of Commerce provides additional marketing and promotion for Chamber members via the web site, e-newsletter, social media, and with regard to specific events, may include radio or other media marketing and printed publications for those events (sponsorships).

MEMBER SERVICES

Current Membership provides support for business and industry partners, networking opportunities, advertising opportunities, information and referral services along with many other benefits. The Chamber's website includes a searchable data base of members to promote business and an interactive events calendar for the community.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Work continues with the Municipality to increase the presence of APD officers in this community. An APD substation is located in the CER Town Center but at this point is not manned. In the area of Homeland Security, the Chamber and Parks & Rec & Community Development are tied in with Anchorage EOC communications on issues of Homeland Security. Annually, our Chamber continues to be an outlet for the Anchorage Fire Department on wild-land fire mitigation information.

VISITOR CENTER

Operation of our staffed visitor and community information center is a year-round function of the Chamber. The Chamber provides state-wide community information as well as referrals out to our businesses and nonprofit community. In addition to working with our business community, the Chamber actively meets with many agencies and organizations to keep abreast and affect issues critical to our community.

The Chamber serves as a Visitor Center and provides recommendations of service/good providers as well as maps of the area and other visitor information, at no charge.

WEB PAGES & FACEBOOK

The Chamber has two websites: one for organizational information which showcases Chamber members, Chugiak and Eagle River communities, upcoming events and activities at of the Chamber. www.cer.org

The other website is specifically to showcase Bear Paw Festival. This site is dedicated to the schedules of events, vendor forms, applications and sponsorship opportunities. bearpawfestival.org

The Chamber hosts a Facebook pages as well: Chugiak-Eagle River Chamber and Bear Paw Festival.