



Monthly Newsletter

FACILITIES FORUM

05 September 2025



PHOTO BY TODD PARIS

CONVOCATION

Dear Facilities Services Team,

You're invited to join Interim Chancellor Mike Sfraga for Convocation 2025 on Tuesday, September 9, from 1–2 p.m. in the Davis Concert Hall.

Convocation is UAF's annual tradition to kick off the fall semester. It's a chance to welcome faculty, staff, and students back to campus, celebrate our accomplishments from the past year, and look ahead to what's next. It's always a positive, energizing event - and yes, there's usually some fun UAF swag for those who attend.

Please work with your supervisors on attending so coverage is maintained, and I encourage you to come if you can. It's a great way to connect with the broader university community and take pride in the role Facilities plays in making UAF shine.

Hope to see you there,
Kellie

In this newsletter you can expect:
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Alaska Nanooks Hockey 100 Year Documentary
UAF Benefits
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First Friday Tour at the Central Heat and Power Plant

Starvation Gulch

Once again, Nanook Traditions Kicks-Off the school year with Starvation Gulch. The bonfires have been a symbol of the passing of the torch of knowledge to our new students since 1923. We welcome back all our students and hope they all have a grand year. Enjoy the biggest bonfires you will ever see!

<https://www.uaf.edu/activities/traditions/starvation-gulch.php>



UAF Events

- SEPT 5 - UTILITIES FIRST FRIDAY TOUR 1:30 PM
- SEPT 6 LARS COMMUNITY EVENT 11:00 AM 3:00 PM
- SEPT 9 CONVOCATION 1:00 PM
- SEPT 11-13 STARVATION GULCH
- SEPT 19 ALASKA NANOOKS HOCKEY 100 YEAR DOCUMENTARY



Employee of the Month

By Kellie Fritze

Please join me in congratulating **Chris England** as our Employee of the Month!

Chris's leadership and his work driving the Preventive Maintenance (PM) program at Utilities have made a clear and positive impact. His dedication, energy, and constant improvements set a high standard for all of us. Please join me in congratulating Chris on this well-deserved recognition and thanking him for all he does!

Reasons for Nomination:

Achievements and Accomplishments:

Chris has led all maintenance projects since he took the position over a year ago. He has a positive, energetic personality and a drive for perfection rarely seen. His organizational skills are on display whenever one walks into the shop. He has a broad and authoritative understanding of the skills and tools needed to get any job done.

Positive Attitude and Behavior:

Chris is a dedicated leader. He figures out what needs to be done and how many hands it will take to get it done with such speed and finesse that one wonders if he is even aware that he's doing it, which is a clear marker of his higher intelligence.

Teamwork and Collaboration:

As I don't work on his team I can't tell you about those projects but I do spend a lot of time in his department and I see the changes he has made in terms of organization, morale and productivity.

Customer Service and Satisfaction:

Always a pleasure to speak to Chris, he's got a contagious personality and an attitude attuned to productivity.

Additional Comments:

His improvements are constant, but he needs more recognition. He clearly cares about how others perceive him as a family-oriented person yet here he's in a position where he may get overlooked.

Congrats to Chris!!

Congrats to Chris!! If you'd like to nominate a colleague for next month's Employee of the Month, you can do so [here](#).

LARS to Host Community Event SEPTEMBER 6, 11:00 AM - 3PM

The University of Alaska Fairbanks Large Animal Research Station will close out the summer tour season with a Locals Day event on Saturday, Sept. 6, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Visitors will have opportunities to see and learn about muskoxen and reindeer. They can take advantage of gift shop discounts, food trucks and a qiviut raffle. There is no set schedule for the day, and guests can enter at any time to walk through the property and learn from tour guides.



PHOTO BY UAF

The raffle, a new fundraiser for LARS, will include two knit items made from qiviut shed by the resident muskox herd. Tickets are limited and will only be sold at the event. Winners will be chosen at 3 p.m. and need not be present to win.

Admission, per person, is three nonperishable food items for donation to the Fairbanks Community Food Bank. Children ages 5 and under are admitted free.

Because parking is limited, visitors are encouraged to use a free shuttle service between the West Ridge campus and LARS. The shuttle will depart from the Akasofu Building every hour from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

More information is available on the Facebook event page.

ALASKA NANOOKS HOCKEY 100 YEAR DOCUMENTARY

VIEWING EVENT

ALASKA AIRLINES GYMNASIUM AT THE PATTY CENTER
FRIDAY, SEP. 19, 2025, 5:30 – 8 P.M.

You're invited to celebrate Nanooks Hockey's 100th anniversary with the FREE public viewing of the team's documentary, *In the Trenches: 100 Years of Alaska Hockey*.

This is your one time to see this documentary in person, meet with the 2025-26 team, and get a close-up preview of the FIVE brand NEW jerseys celebrating Hockey's 100 years of history. Whether you're a hockey fan or just want to know more about UAF, this is the event for you.

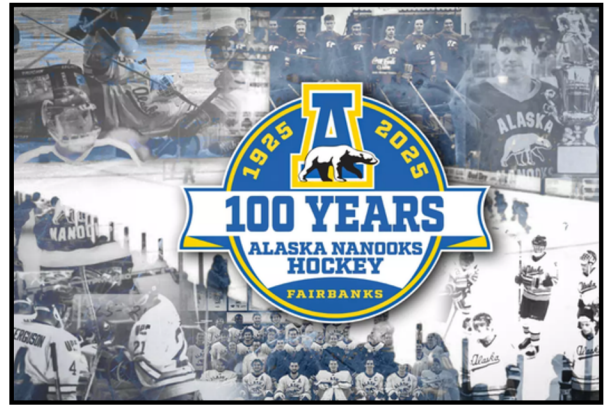


PHOTO BY UAF

TITLE IX TRAINING

Students, employees, and volunteers must complete Title IX training each year between July 1 and October 31. To complete your FY26 training:

1. Go to [UAF Canvas](#) and log in.
2. Select UA Safe Title IX Training – FY26 to enroll and complete the course.
3. Allow about one hour to finish.
- 4.

For details on training requirements, see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page.

Thank you for making time to complete this important requirement.

UAF Benefits

Contact the UA Benefits team
(907) 450-8242 | ua-benefits@alaska.edu
[Schedule one-on-one time](#)

Need personal benefits help?
[TouchCare](#) | 1-866-486-8242
assist@touchcare.com | [TouchCare's Website](#)

Current Recruitments

[Assistant Systems and
Database Manager](#)

[Facilities Services Student
Assistant - Shuttle Bus Driver](#)

[Temporary Shuttle Bus Driver](#)

First Friday Tour at the Central Heat and Power Plant

The Utilities Operations Division of Facilities Services offers monthly tours of the UAF Combined Heat and Power (CHP) Plant. Tours take place on the first Friday of each month at 1:30 p.m., meeting on the first floor of the CHP Turbine Building (north side entrance).

To help us plan for the appropriate number of tour guides, please email UAF-chptours@alaska.edu in advance to reserve your spot. If you have any questions or would like to arrange a special tour, please contact us at the same email address.

We look forward to seeing you!



TOUR STARTING SPOT

Thank you for reading!