

February 22, 2007

TO: News Room: ATTN: Schools Section
Peninsula Clarion <safe:morris>

FROM: Suzie Kendrick
Kenai Peninsula College

RE: Weekly Schools Column (published Wednesday, February 28, 2007)

Wellness Fair at KPC's Kenai River Campus today

The KRC Student Health Clinic and Student Union have teamed up to sponsor a Wellness Fair from 12-6 p.m. today in the commons areas of the college. The event is free and open to the public.

There will be a variety of organizations and businesses represented at the event including the Kenai Peninsula Borough Office of Emergency Management, Karlene's Acupuncture and Day Spa, The Lee Shore Center, Curves, National Family Caregivers Support Program, WIC, Peninsula Smoke-free Partnership, Kenai Community Library, Central Peninsula Health Centers, Child Care Connections, KPC Paramedic Program, Hospice, Central Peninsula Counseling, National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease, and the Kenai Public Health Clinic.

For more information, contact KRC Student Services at 262-0330.

Unique *Periodic Table of the Elements Collection* travels to KRC

Kenai Peninsula College will be the first community campus in the University of Alaska Anchorage system to host a portable display of the periodic chart of elements. The display was donated to the University of Alaska by the American Chemical Society (ACS) Alaska Chapter on Valentine's Day 2007.

What makes this display unique is each element in the display is embedded inside a solid Lucite block. This presentation allows for the safe display of elemental samples that are potentially toxic, corrosive and reactive. The blocks are arranged in the familiar grid of the periodic table, but they can be arranged in more unusual ways for the purpose of instruction. Each element block provides the name, symbol and atomic number of the element in highly attractive illuminated lettering.

Dr. Hugh Hays, adjunct chemistry professor at KRC and member of the ACS, will be incorporating the display in the chemistry portion of his *Concepts and Processes* class.

“I am open to making the table and my knowledge of elements accessible to interested people within Kenai Peninsula College and the Kenai Peninsula Borough school district,” Hays said.

When not traveling or being used in the classroom, the periodic table will be on public display in the McLane Building commons until May.

For more information about the traveling display, contact Dr. Hays at 262-3908 or email hrhays@alaska.net.

KPC Showcase series offer variety of winter diversions

The KPC Showcase series continues to bring a variety of performers and lecturers to the central Peninsula. KPC Showcases are made possible in part by a generous grant from the Anna Fossett Goodrich humanities program of the Damon Memorial Fund.

The first event this month brings Steven Theno, P.E., on campus for a special, free presentation at 7:30 p.m., Thursday, March 8, in the commons at KRC. Theno’s presentation will center on the Amundsen-Scott South Pole Research Station located at the geographic South Pole in Antarctica.

Theno has been involved in the U.S. Antarctic Program since 1995 when his firm was selected by the National Science Foundation to provide engineering services for the design of the third generation U.S. station.

The public is invited to hear Theno share his impressions of one of the most inhospitable places on the planet. The average temperature ranges from a summer high of -20 degrees Fahrenheit (+7 the highest ever recorded) to -100 degrees in the winter. The station can only be reached during the 3-4 months of austral summer, using ski equipped C-130 aircraft. According to Theno, 35 people “winter over” at the station for about nine months of the year when the station is completely inaccessible.

The second Showcase of the month, in conjunction with the Peninsula Performing Arts Society, is an evening of jazz with the *Barney McClure Jazz Trio* at 7:30 p.m., Friday, March 9.

Barney McClure, director of jazz studies at UAF, has recorded several CDs including *Photographs*, *Not a Day Goes By*, *Tidings of Comfort and Jazz*, and *Among Friends*. According to his web site, McClure’s performances have taken him to Europe, Japan,

Australia, Mexico, Canada and the U.S. McClure is the author of the book, *There is No Such Thing as a Mistake*, a how-to book on jazz improvisation.

Digital camera donation program promoted by Soldotna Rotary Club

Are you ready to upgrade your digital camera? Consider donating your old one to the Soldotna Rotary Club. The Rotarians are accepting working digital cameras and photo printers to benefit the school district arts programs in local schools. This is an ongoing program to help schools build a cache of digital equipment. Donations can be dropped off at Sweeney's Clothing or Joe Kashi Law Offices in Soldotna.

The Soldotna Rotary is also sponsoring a raffle for a "high-end bicycle, road or mountain style" to benefit KPC's digital art program. Raffle tickets are on sale for \$5 through today at Sweeney's Clothing or Joe Kashi Law Offices in Soldotna.

For more information, call 398-0480.