



MEDIA RELEASE

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Beth Nordlund 350-9482

SUMMERPALOOZA AT CUDDY FAMILY MIDTOWN PARK

Youth Employment in Parks Teens Host Community Event

Teens in Anchorage are doing great things! On August 5th, from 1-5pm, high school students in the Youth Employment in Parks (YEP) Program are hosting a **free community event designed for the whole family**. The park will be bursting with food, carnival games, face painting, a live DJ, magician Eric Giliam, Zumba with the Alaska Club, Kayaking with REI, Bird Treatment and Learning Center, and lots of other fun, summer related activities for all ages.

The teens in the YEP program (between 16 and 18 years of age) have either been working on park improvement projects or on recreation activities this summer. The Parks crews have been working on a variety of park improvement projects, including stream restoration and trail improvement projects; and the Recreation side has been working at the city's free Park and Play programs at Goose Lake and Davis Parks. The Recreation side has also been busy planning events throughout the summer, culminating in this celebratory Summerpalooza event at Cuddy Family Midtown Park.

Beth Nordlund, Executive Director of the Anchorage Park Foundation says, *"The teens have done an amazing job working to restore our parks and trails this summer. Come celebrate their successes this Friday at Cuddy Family Park."*

YEP is a program of the Anchorage Park Foundation and the Anchorage Parks & Recreation Department. The goal of the YEP program is *to positively engage a new generation of diverse youth leaders with the environment and the Anchorage community through meaningful training, employment, and outdoor recreation.*

For more info on YEP go to <http://www.anchorageparkfoundation.org/projects/YEP.htm>

Summerpalooza Facebook event: <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=248184115200852>

Map Link to Cuddy Family Midtown Park: <http://goo.gl/sPozp>



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