

# Senator JOHNNY ELLIS Representative BERTA GARDNER

## *Midtown Neighborhoods Update*



We hope you are having a great Alaska summer. As the days get shorter and the air gets cooler, we wanted to take a moment to hear your thoughts, and give you some important information about community activities in our neighborhoods.

*Johnny Ellis*

*Berta*



### ***Back To School Alert***

The first day of school for grades 2-12 is August 19th, and Kindergarten and 1st Grade begin on August 25th. For more information please call the Anchorage School District at 742-4000, or visit their website at [www.asdk12.org/backtoschool](http://www.asdk12.org/backtoschool).



### ***Community Councils Need You!***

*One of the very best ways you can get involved and find out what is happening in your neighborhood is by attending your community council. You can make decisions about neighborhood improvements, give input to state and local officials, and hear about projects and events in your area. We look forward to seeing you there this fall. For more information you can contact us, call 277-1977 or visit [www.communitycouncils.org](http://www.communitycouncils.org).*

**Abbot Loop Community Council**—4th Thursday of each month at the Abbott Loop Christian Center (Abbott Loop and Lake Otis)

**Campbell Park Community Council**—2nd Thursday of each month at Tudor Elementary School (1666 Cache Dr.)

**Midtown Community Council**—2nd Wednesday of each month at Mt. Vernon Commons (500 W. 34th)

**Rogers Park Community Council**—2nd Monday of each month at Rogers Park Elementary School (1400 E. Northern Lights Blvd.)

**Taku-Campbell Community Council**—2nd Thursday of each month at the Dimond Center Hotel (700 E. Dimond Blvd.)

**Tudor Area Community Council**—1st Thursday of each month at Rogers Park Elementary School (1400 E. Northern Lights Blvd.)

**University Area Community Council**—1st Wednesday of each month at College Gate Elementary School (3101 Sunflower St.)

### ***Sign Up for Our Newsletters!***



If you want to learn more about things going on in your neighborhood or hear our thoughts on the big challenges facing our state, sign up for our regular email newsletters—we each write a brief update that will keep you in the loop.

Thank you for listening!

Summer 2009 Community Update

# Keeping in Touch!

Updates on Community Councils,  
Back-to-School nights, and more!  
*Plus,*  
Tell us what YOU think in the  
2009 CONSTITUENT SURVEY!

Representative  
Berta Gardner



Senator Johnny Ellis



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## Summer 2009 Legislative Activity Update

**Ellis Examines UA Budget**—As a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Ellis traveled to Fairbanks to meet with the regents and chancellors of the University system for a series of meetings to scrutinize the University budget. Among Sen. Ellis' priorities is ensuring that college is accessible and affordable for talented young Alaskans.



*Sen. Ellis and Rep. Gardner at the Geneva Woods Picnic in July. The summer provides a great opportunity to hear from constituents and get feedback on the issues that impact our neighborhoods.*

**Ellis Joins Powerful Rules Committee**—In June, Sen. Ellis added a seat on the Rules Committee to his duties as Majority Leader and member of the Senate Finance Committee. The Rules Committee schedules votes on bills and administers the legislature during the interim.

**Gardner Visits Illegal Camps**—This summer I have noticed that the illegal camps in our parks and neighborhood are becoming an increased problem. I have been meeting with members of the community, homeless shelters, and with APD to discuss the problem and help find a solution. Although the camps are municipal issues of zoning and code enforcement, I'm responding to neighbors and looking for ways the state can assist municipal efforts.

ing for ways the state can assist municipal efforts.

**Education Committee to meet in August**—Later this month, the joint House and Senate Education Committees will meet to explore education improvements for Alaskan students. The meeting will be open to the public so please call if you'd like to learn more.