

CLERK'S OFFICE

APPROVED

Date:

6-8-10

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

AR NO. 2010-175

Submitted by: ASSEMBLY MEMBER DRUMMOND

Prepared by: Assembly Counsel's Office

For reading: June 8, 2010

1 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL ASSEMBLY HONORING**
2 **THELMA G. BUCHHOLDT AND REQUESTING A CITIZEN NAMING PANEL.**

3
4 WHEREAS, on November 5, 2007, Anchorage lost one of its finest residents with
5 the passing of Thelma G. Buchholdt, whose lifelong and distinguished career - from
6 author to public servant - is worthy of lasting recognition as an integral part of Alaskan
7 history; and

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9 WHEREAS, Thelma G. Buchholdt was born on August 1, 1934 in Claveria in the
10 northern Philippines, came to the United States in 1951 and later graduated from
11 Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles; and

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13 WHEREAS, while a graduate student at the University of Nevada Las Vegas,
14 Thelma G. Buchholdt met her husband of fifty years, Jon Buchholdt; and

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16 WHEREAS, Jon and Thelma Buchholdt moved their family to Anchorage in 1965;
17 and

18
19 WHEREAS, as a public servant and private citizen, Thelma G. Buchholdt worked
20 to increase the standard of living for all Alaskans through her participation in the March
21 of Dimes, the League of Women Voters, and as one of the founders of the Boys and
22 Girls Clubs of Alaska; and

23
24 WHEREAS, in 1973, Thelma G. Buchholdt was elected the first woman president
25 of the Filipino Community of Anchorage and served two consecutive terms; and

26
27 WHEREAS, in 1974, Thelma G. Buchholdt was elected to the Alaska House of
28 Representatives, becoming the first Filipino-American woman legislator in the United
29 States, and subsequently re-elected in 1976, 1978 and 1980; and

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31 WHEREAS, during her tenure, Representative Thelma G. Buchholdt served on
32 the House Finance Committee and championed funding for the Spenard Community
33 Recreation Center, the Dempsey-Anderson Ice Arena, the Asian-Alaskan Cultural
34 Center in Spenard, and the renovation of the Filipino Community Hall in Juneau, as well
35 as funding for local roads, trails and parks; and

36
37 WHEREAS, in 1980, Thelma G. Buchholdt was elected the first Asian-American
38 president of the National Order of Women Legislators; and

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40 WHEREAS, Thelma G. Buchholdt was appointed director of the State of Alaska
41 Office of Equal Employment Opportunity by Governor Tony Knowles; and
42

1 WHEREAS, passionate about history and the contribution of Filipinos in Alaska,
2 Thelma G. Buchholdt wrote a 200-page book, "Filipinos in Alaska: 1788-1958" and
3 produced a 30-minute documentary film chronicling the same, and served as Vice
4 President of the Filipino-American National Historical Society; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the fruits of Thelma G. Buchholdt's public service, her commitment
7 to the Filipino community, and her pioneering efforts in recording the history of Filipinos
8 in Alaska are legacies whereby all Alaskan communities are enriched; and

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10 WHEREAS, to honor Thelma G. Buchholdt by designating in her memory a
11 public area, internal fixture or feature as set out in AMC Chapter 3.97, will recognize this
12 exceptional citizen and remind us and future generations how we can build new
13 frontiers of opportunity for individuals and for our great state;


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15 NOW, THEREFORE, THE ANCHORAGE ASSEMBLY HEREBY RESOLVES:

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17 The Anchorage Assembly requests that a citizen naming panel be convened to
18 assist the Assembly and the community in naming a greenbelt or other appropriate
19 internal area, fixture or feature to honor and recognize Thelma G. Buchholdt's long and
20 distinguished career, from author to public servant, as follows:


- 21
22 1. Aurora Hovland, President of the Filipino National Historical Society, and
23 Quint Bagcal, President of the Filipino Community Anchorage, Inc., are
24 active in the Filipino community, sharing Thelma Buchholdt's passion
25 about history and the contribution of Filipinos in Alaska, and are selected
26 by the Assembly for service on this Naming Panel.
27
28 2. The Mayor's Office designees to this Naming Panel are two former Alaska
29 legislators and colleagues of Thelma Buchholdt, each of whom share
30 Thelma Buchholdt's community spirit and dedication to public service:
31 Cynthia Toohey and Arliss Sturgulewski.
32
33 3. If the naming action involves a park, or other asset of the Parks and
34 Recreation Department (park, building, trail, etc.), the issue shall be
35 referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for an advisory opinion.
36 If the asset is in the Chugiak/Eagle-River Parks District, then it is referred
37 to that service area board. The naming panel shall coordinate its efforts in
38 accordance with AMC Chapter 3.97.
39
40 4. Larry Baker is the Mayor's Office designee to assist in coordinating the
41 work of this citizen naming panel, assisting the panel in holding a public
42 meeting, facilitating deliberation, and presenting any park asset to the
43 appropriate authority for an advisory opinion, and preparing the panel's
44 recommendation for Assembly action.
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46 5. The naming panel's recommendation will come back to the Assembly for
47 public hearing and final action in accordance with AMC Chapter 3.97.

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PASSED AND APPROVED by the Anchorage Assembly this 8th day of June, 2010.



Chair

ATTEST:


Municipal Clerk