



Year-end review

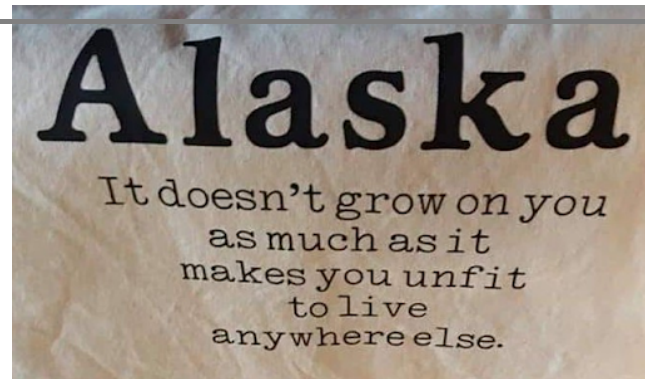
Description

Seeking Alaskan Truths in 2021



Living the Alaskan Lifestyle is by definition active. Sitting at a computer screen or looking at a phone are not active pursuits. So, having lived the Alaskan Lifestyle 60 years means I have mostly found my groove in dealing with demands of Alaskan Life—I've done enough Alaskan stuff and witnessed enough historic events first-hand—that I often wake up in the morning with a story on my mind. That story idea **MUST** be reduced to words on a screen. No matter how much snow has fallen overnight, shoveling the sidewalk out of the house will wait.

Coffee preparation first.



My obsession to tell the stories of what I have witnessed as Alaska evolved from being a poor new state to the richest state—*while Alaskans even now are emersed in the idealism of a child*—draws me to the screen. Over the past year I have pursued stories and written them in hopes that cherished readers might learn facts they didn't previously know about things they might not have cared about before, by looking at what I have written on a screen.

So I understand why Alaskans might delay the prospect of reading a story I have written and posted knowing they need to shovel the sidewalk. But here it is, the end of the year and in case you want to go back and read about something formerly of passing interest, I am providing an index by theme of the ideas and hard facts I have relayed on this blog over 2021.



Read *Sheldon Air Service* story here: <https://donnliston.net/2021/08/what-would-don-and-roberta-sheldon-have.html>

Themes:

1. ██████ Property Rights
2. Alaska Food Security
3. Alaska Elections
4. Eagle River/Chugiak Community
5. Wonder of the MatSu Valley
6. Alaska Education Challenges
7. Alaska Healthcare Realities



Alaskans cherish our land, and when we own a piece of it we are willing to fight to keep it. Since purchase of the Alaska Railroad from the federal government, the financially strapped Alaska Railroad Corporation has become a land baron instead a public convenience. Today many Alaskans are affronted by the arrogance of ARRC, and this has been my story with the most clicks in 2021:

1 Alaska Property Rights

The Alaska Railroad Deception, September 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/09/is-this-way-to-run-railroad.html>



Property Rights have been under assault in Alaska for many years. Our prolonged fight has been expensive--the opposition enabled by corrupt elected officials. Our case is scheduled to be heard January 18, 2022 at Nesbett Courthouse (3AN-19-05746).

Please contribute: <https://gogetfunding.com/protecting-property-rights-in-alaska>
Contact: steamboat_000@aol.com



To read this story: <https://donnliston.blogspot.com/2021/08/arrogance-of-entitlement.html>

Read this story: <https://donnliston.net/2021/12/alaskas-montessori-education-legacy.html>

Another Property Rights story with considerable interest was written before the AARC story and represents the classic Alaskan response to the threat of using government to diminish natural property ownership for those who have no economic interest in preserving value for privately owned land.

When the Flash Mob Wants your Land, August 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/08/arrogance-of-entitlement.html>



The largest Alaska USDA Meat Processing Plant went on the market after failed attempts to get the State of Alaska to consider commercial agriculture needs. Purchase of that plant by an Alaskan producer in November meant availability of the plant again for in-state processing. A variety of other stories explored Alaska Food Security from different perspectives.

2 Alaska Food Security

An Eagle River Institution, November 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/11/an-eagle-river-institution.html>

Steps To Food Security for Alaska, November, 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/11/steps-to-food-security.html>



Mike's Quality Meats

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Read about Mike's Quality Meats here: <https://donnliston.net/2021/11/an-eagle-river-institution.html>

Let's Talk about Fertilizer, May 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/05/lets-talk-about-fertilizer.html>

Are Alaska agriculture efforts working?, April 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/04/steps-to-food-security-for-alaska.html>

Kodiak Island Area Beef Production, March 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/03/kodiak-island-area-beef-production.html>

Addressing Alaska's Hierarchy of Needs:, February 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/02/alaska-has-food-security-options.html>



Alaska Lt Gov Kevin Meyer explained his commitment to Alaska Election Security during a meeting at the AK Roundtable. Concerns about how secure our elections are conducted were explored over the course of the year. Recently Lt Gov Meyer announced he would not be running for re-election so he can devote his energies to conducting the 2022 election.



*Join us on Thursdays at 11:30 a.m at Ray Kreig Conference Rm,
Boardwalk Office Suites, 201 Barrow St., Anchorage, RSVP to:*

Ric Davidge, founder/referee Ricdavidge1@gmail.com



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Read the Story Here: <https://donnliston.blogspot.com/2021/12/what-is-ak-roundtable.html>

Learn about the AK Roundtable here:

<https://donnliston.net/2021/12/what-is-ak-roundtable.html>

3 Alaska Elections

Election Reform Bait-And-Switch, November 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/11/we-have-options.html>

We Must do Better, October 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/10/alaska-election-challenges.html>

Alaska Redistricting options, October 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/10/alaska-redistricting-options.html>

Fighting for Alaska Election Integrity, May, 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/05/alaskans-have-much-to-lose.html>

**Are Honest Alaskans being Played for Fools?
March 2021**

<https://donnliston.net/2021/03/alaska-election-questions.html>



Photo By Waneta Liston

Wonderful businesses and community groups are part of the community of Eagle River/Chugiak. This area is distinct from the rest of the *Municipality of Anchorage* and some believe it should form its own municipality. Over this year I have written often about options and how detachment might work.



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of Eagle River!

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Read *Nail Time & Spa and Kim's Cuisine* Story Here: <https://donnliston.net/2021/12/another-local-business-pandemic-survivor.html>

4 Eagle River/Chugiak Community

Let Small Business Freedom Ring!, December 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/12/another-local-business-pandemic-survivor.html>

EagleExit: What Kind of Local Government DO we Want? August 2021

https://donnliston.net/2021/07/visions-of-eaglexit_28.html

Garcias Restaurant, July 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/07/garcias-restaurant.html>

How Eagle River Elks Contribute to our Community, June 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/06/quality-of-life-matters.html>

The "Cityhood Movement" Moves North, June 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/06/the-cityhood-movement-moves-north-2021.html>

Veteran-Owned Business, May 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/05/veteran-owned-business.html>

The Important Role of Local Government, May 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/05/eaglexit-challenges.html>

Bridging Businesses and Customers with New Payment Options, April 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/04/meeting-economic-challenges.html>

What kind of future do we want? April 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/04/a-vision-for-chugiak-eagle-river-2021.html>

MEA Serves Eagle River Well, March 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/03/please-vote-for-me.html>

Our Public Education Challenge, March 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/03/our-asd-public-education-challenge.html>

Challenges from Anchorage, March 2021

https://donnliston.net/2021/03/challenges-from-anchorage_20.html



Read *Alaska Chalet BNB* story here: <https://donnliston.net/2021/02/the-best-thing-about-being-in-anchorage.html>

What Happened to Anchorage Hospitality? February 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/02/the-best-thing-about-being-in-anchorage.html>

The Cozy Side of Eagle River, January 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/01/destiny-happens.html>



As the economic and political epicenter of Alaska, the MatSu Valley continues to appeal to Alaskans seeking opportunity to live with minimum government intrusions and mandates. Former Alaska Sen. **Edna DeVries** won election as Borough Mayor. Local residents celebrate the unique history of this area.

5 Wonder of the MatSu Valley



Because nobody should have to go hungry...

Read about MatSu Food Bank here: <https://donnliston.net/2021/07/feeding-alaskans-in-mat-su.html>

Quality of Life in the MatSu Valley, November 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/11/alaskas-economy-now.html>

Is Change Always Good? September 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/09/is-change-always-good.html>

Alaska's Denali Legacy, August 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/08/what-would-don-and-roberta-sheldon-have.html>

MatSu Food Bank Builds Community, July 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/07/feeding-alaskans-in-mat-su.html>

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Continued decline in academic outcomes in Alaska Government Schools has resulted in outrage by parents who discovered what was being taught in some schools. This challenge will require concerted effort as parents pull their kids and school boards continue to ask for more funding anyway.

6 Alaska Education Challenges

What is the AK Roundtable?

<https://donnliston.net/2021/12/what-is-ak-roundtable.html>

Alaska's Montessori Education Legacy, December 2021

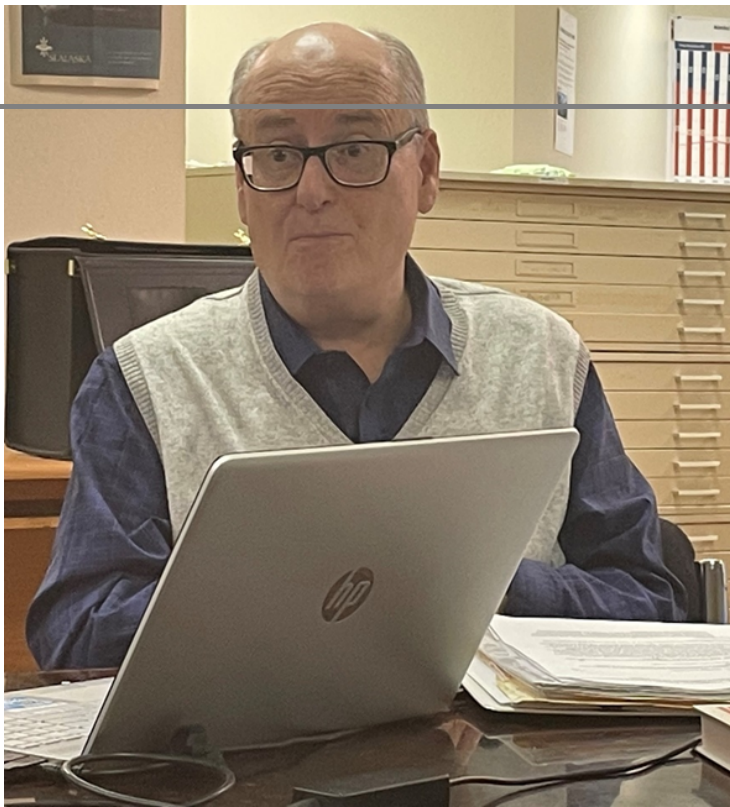
<https://donnliston.net/2021/12/alaskas-montessori-education-legacy.html>

Parents have Rights! August 2012

<https://donnliston.net/2021/08/parents-have-rights.html>

The Conspiracy against \$Alaska Public Education\$, June 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/06/what-parents-can-do.html>



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Out of control costs for healthcare have been exacerbated by a Covid Pandemic that provided more excuses for keeping healthcare contained by large providers. This is a complicated issue and it is primarily driven by financial interests over healthcare.

7 Alaska Healthcare Realities

The Certificate of Need Scam, October 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/10/the-certificate-of-need-scam.html>

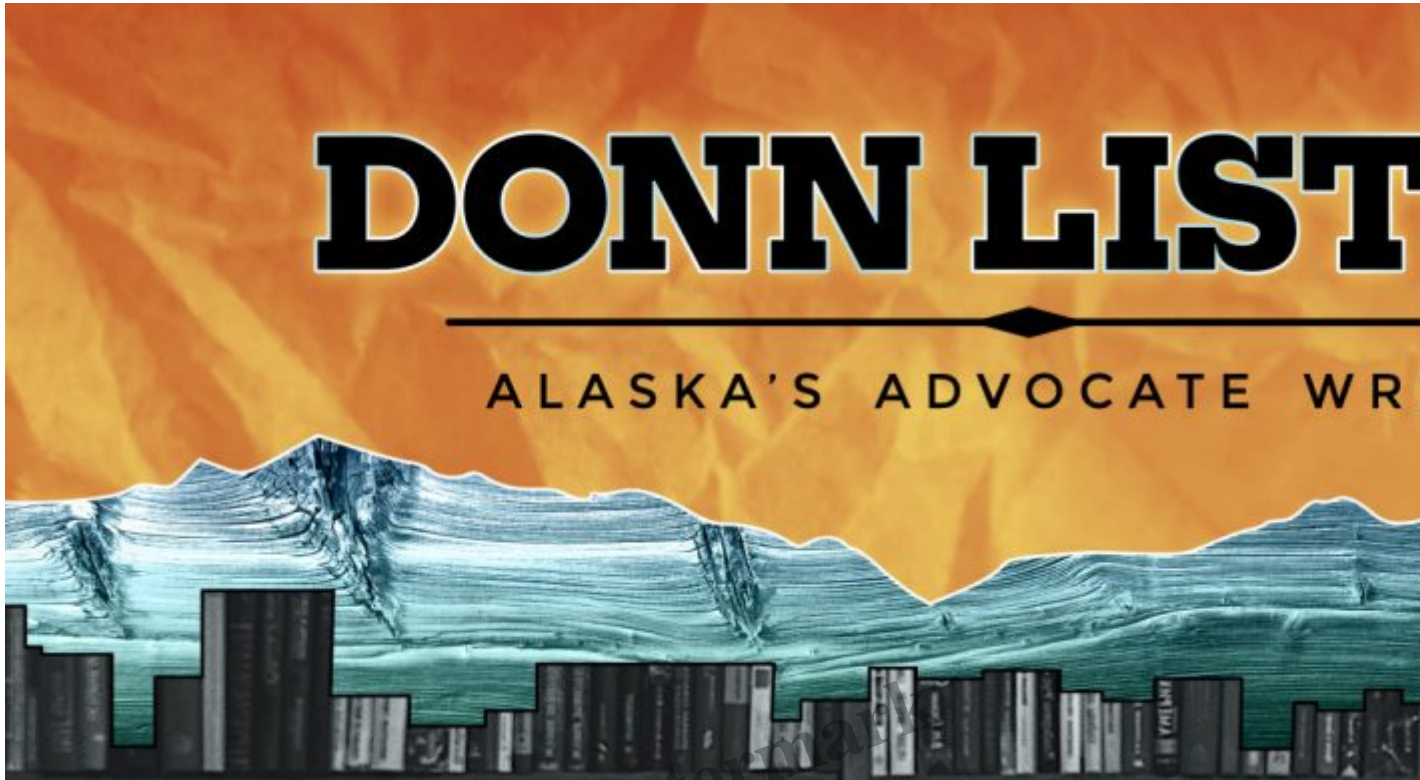
Who is Politicizing Alaska's Health Care Crisis? September 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/09/the-threat-of-competence.html>

Alaska's Pandemic Battle, February 2021

<https://donnliston.net/2021/02/ship-of-fools-fights-covid-19-at.html>

It was a productive year and I look forward to continuing to write about issues that matter to the future of Alaska. Thank you for reading and support.



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Category

1. Alaska Economy
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7. ALASKA! HEALTHCARE
8. ALASKA! PERMANENT FUND/PFD
9. ALASKA! PUBLIC EDUCATION
10. Eagle River/Chugiak Community
11. Wonder of the MatSu Valley

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Author

donn