



Zuma's
Paw Prints

SUMMER IN ALASKA - ANCHORAGE SATURDAY MARKET

August 1, 2006

Hi Boys & Girls,

I mentioned before that there were lots of things to do in Alaska in the summer time and I wanted to share a recent adventure I had visiting the *Saturday Market*. Actually it has been renamed, but you will learn more about that as I tell you about the history of this really neat event.

The Municipality of Anchorage Parking Authority established the Anchorage Downtown Saturday Market in 1992. The idea was to have a nice open-air market in a convenient place where humans, both local and visitors could shop or just look around. Over the years, the market has grown to where there are more than 300 booths this year. In addition to the vendors selling everything from fresh fruit and vegetables to jewelry, books, art works and handmade crafts, there is entertainment continuously throughout the day. You can stop to watch professional groups, magicians, clowns, dancers, musicians and much more. It really is a festival as well as a Market.

The market is located at 3rd Avenue and E Street in one of the Municipality parking lots. It opens in mid-May and continues through mid- September. In 2004, Anchorage Parking Authority board members voted to allow Anchorage Market & Festival to add a Sunday market to its summer downtown schedule.

My trip to the Anchorage Market was on a Sunday. The sun was shining and it was a wonderful day for a stroll through the three lanes of vendors. (For pictures of the market, go to <http://www.alaska.net/~fonte/dsm.html>.) I took Lois and her friend Peg, with me to the

market after they promised not to get carried away buying everything in sight. This was to be a reconnaissance trip only so we could decide what we would like to come back for.

We stopped to visit with Chad Carpenter, well known Alaskan cartoonist. Chad tells me that he is well known for his long-running newspaper strip **TUNDRA** and for his extensive moose dropping collection. In the twelve years Chad has been drawing **TUNDRA**, he has compiled nine books, dozens of T-shirts, calendars, mouse pads, note cards and "anything else I can make a buck on," all available at <http://www.tundracomics.com/>.



Peg bought his new book and some of the new 2007 *TUNDRA* calendars.

Strolling along, I spotted the Haggerty Creations booth. I stopped to look at necklaces. I like my collar, but I want something really classy when I do public appearances. I will be going back to get a handmade necklace for sure. The booth owner, Alice, offered me a nice cold drink of water. The vendors are so friendly.

I met several other dogs as we wandered around. The market is a great place to take your K-9 buddy to meet lots of humans.

My K-9 friends and I were really impressed with all there was to see and do at the Anchorage Market and Festival. I don't know why I haven't visited before. I certainly will be back!

Until next time,



Lots of Tail Wags,
Zuma

