



DeLena G. Johnson
Mayor

March 24, 2011

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Dear Business Owners and Concerned Citizens:

You are aware that on March 11, an 8.9 magnitude earthquake struck Japan, followed by a devastating tsunami that swept over the northeast Japanese coast. Officials are reporting a still-climbing death toll of over 16,000 people, with hundreds of thousands of Japanese people displaced from their homes. As Japan struggles with the rescue effort, it also faces the worst global nuclear emergency since Chernobyl.

Although Palmer's Sister City of Saroma did not suffer as much extensive physical damage as some areas from the earthquake or the subsequent tsunamis, all of Japan is deeply affected. Food, electric power and gasoline are being rationed and many refugees are anticipated in Saroma as displaced people are being relocated in communities throughout the country.

In the face of these multiple disasters, people in Palmer are asking, "What can we do to help?"

You are invited to join the City of Palmer and the Palmer Museum of History and Art in a joint fundraiser and cultural exhibit to commemorate 30 years of the Sister City relationship between our communities. The Saroma Festival and Disaster Relief Benefit on Sunday, April 3, 2011 will take place from 2- 6 p.m. at the Palmer Depot and at the Palmer Museum. All proceeds will be sent directly to Saroma; our Japanese friends and officials will know where to best apply this gift of friendship and concern to aid in national recovery.

We are asking for donations of items or services for the silent auction at the Depot during the event. Items donated for the auction can be dropped off at Palmer City Hall in the Mayor's office. Call Sandra Peterson at 907-761-1317 for more information.

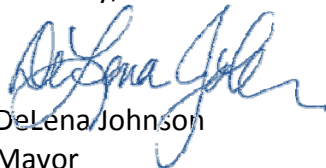
Money donations for disaster relief can be made by check, payable to The City of Palmer. Please write *Japanese Disaster Relief* in the memo area. Checks can be dropped off or sent to:

City of Palmer
231 W. Evergreen Avenue
Palmer, Alaska 99654
Attention: Japanese Disaster Relief

An official gift of these monies will be carried officially to the Mayor of Saroma by members of the Sister City Exchange Program.

Thank you in advance for your concern and generosity.

Sincerely,



DeLena Johnson
Mayor

City of Palmer