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# NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2018

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By Vanessa Juscak

Sometimes, when we look at the day to day of life, things don't seem to change much. But a new building here, an expansion there - and pretty soon, things have changed a lot!

Over the last year, Denali Borough has had new businesses open, expansion to existing business structures and their services, continued growth in our tourism industry - all of which leads to a prosperous financial environment for our government, businesses and residents alike.



Small business is described as a business with fewer than 500 employees. Nearly every business that operates in our borough meets that criteria. That means, the businesses of Denali, through their growth and operation, are:

- Returning to the economy \$68 out of every \$100 spent at their business.
- Contributing to the 65% of new jobs in the US Economy, since 1996, that are small business driven.
- Contributing to the 56.1 million Americans (50% of the US workforce) that are employed by a small business.



So, what does this mean to the average person? Perhaps more dining options, perhaps more convenience, perhaps a more competitive job market or increased infrastructure. But no matter how you look at it, small businesses benefit everyone. Join me in celebrating Denali businesses this week, by shopping local, encouraging visitation, saying thank you, and recognizing them publicly, for their contributions to the economy and community.



Recent Business Growth in the Borough Includes:



- 64 “River View” rooms opened at [Denali Bluffs Hotel](#).
- Healy's first pharmacy, [Alaska Family Pharmacy](#)
- [McKinley Creekside Cabins](#) added additional rooms.
- [McKinley Polaris](#) building a new showroom
- [McKinley Chalet Resort](#) 99 rooms opening summer of 2019
- Cantwell welcomed the opening of [JP's Coffee House](#).
- 2017 opening of [Denali's Cannabis Cache](#)
- [Denali Education Center](#) expanded their facility.
- [Denali Grizzly Bear Resort](#) added 27 new rooms
- [Three Bears Healy](#) was established as Healy's first full-service grocery store.
- [Totem Inn](#) is preparing to expand
- [49th State Brewing Company](#) preparing to expand their brewery
- The creation of a new “yet-to-be-named” restaurant on Coal Street, in Healy

