



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**October 13, 2015**

## **Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board Awards Archival Certificates of Excellence**

JUNEAU – On October 2, 2015 the Alaska State Historical Records Advisory Board (ASHRAB) awarded Bruce Parham of Anchorage, and the joint team of the Petersburg Public Library/*Petersburg Pilot* archival Certificates of Excellence for 30 years of dedicated archival service and digitization of Petersburg’s historical newspapers.

Parham, who recently retired from the National Archives & Records Commission – Anchorage, was chosen for his nearly three decades of significant contributions to Alaska’s archival community. Parham was an archivist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska & Polar Regions Collections, Assistant Director and Director at the National Archives, and has served on the boards of the Alaska Historical and Cook Inlet Historical Societies. He has conducted pro-bono archival records management consulting for the ASHRAB and others; and, leads by example.

The ASHRAB also chose the Petersburg Public Library and *Petersburg Pilot* under its Milestone Projects criteria. This library and newspaper partnership digitized Petersburg historic newspapers dating back a century. A contractor scanned microfilm and converted the files into PDFs. These records were placed in an organized, keyword searchable database on the library’s website so that everyone can access Petersburg’s valuable community history. The Petersburg Public Library website is <http://petersburg.advantage-preservation.com/>

The ASHRAB, coordinated by the State Archivist, is a 9-member Governor-appointed state board. The ASHRAB believes that the collection and preservation of historical records – Alaska’s priceless legacy, are fundamental to understanding our past and guiding our future. This was the ASHRAB’s fifth year recognizing archival excellence among several worthy nominations.