

TRIP

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lower too and they were \$1.00 more per gallon than here!)

I can now say that I have had a McKinley Mac, which is the Anchorage McDonald's version of the Big Mac. It was all the same ingredients, just bigger. (Like I really NEEDED those extra calories!)

I also had reindeer sausage. It is supposed to be their version of a hot dog, but it resembled smoked sausage. I'll take the good old all-American hot dog any day.

My stay in Alaska was topped off by visiting the world's largest chocolate fountain at Alaska Wild Berry Products. Anyone who knows me fully understands how, next to being with my son, this was the highlight of my trip. This chocolate fountain is 20 ft tall and contains 3,400 pounds of real liquid chocolate which is donated by the Nestle foods and Guittard chocolate companies. I can only say that I thought I had died and gone to heaven when I walked in the door of the small local shop. The aroma was



fantastic and it was quite a sight to see all that chocolate in one place. I just wanted to scoop up a big cup of it and drink it, but I'm pretty sure I would have been escorted right out the door had I done that. So to satisfy my chocolate fix, I went to their chocolate shop and purchased \$75 worth of chocolate in record time. There was SO much to pick from. I wanted to buy more, but my suitcase would not hold that much. (No, I didn't eat it all. I brought some back to share).

The last night of my visit, my son and I were invited to a BBQ at a Sergeant and his family's home. I was treated to the biggest smoked T-bone steak I've ever seen. I didn't even have room for the banana dessert (which in itself is shocking). Sgt. 1st Class Walker and his wife were so hospitable. I felt like family by the time I left.

Although the time I spent in Alaska with my son Ryan was short, I have many wonderful memories and one more thing checked off my bucket list!

■ by Cathy Sudbeck,
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