The Dalton is four hundred miles long. To drive the road your spirit must be strong. This Quest will take you on the lower part ‘tween Coldfoot and the highway’s southern start. It matters not which way you do the Quest. Perhaps a round trip Quest will work the best. The waysigns at each stop have what you need: A number that will help you to succeed. Convert them into letters one by one By using the decoder ‘til you’re done. What you collect from all that you explore Will spell the secret phrase that’s your reward.

RIDDLE:
You will see me as you are questing. I journey far but am always resting. I have no money but hold great wealth. I get checkups but never worry about health. I provide jobs but am not a boss. I am warm but don’t thaw permafrost. What am I?

To solve the riddle, follow the directions after the clues to collect a secret number at each stop. Then write that number in the corresponding spot in the solution on page 2. Use the decoder to convert each number to a letter.

Riddle Answer: Trans Alaska Pipeline
**Milepost 1**

Pullout on East Side of Road

When crude oil was found in Prudhoe Bay People decided to create a way To move the oil from deep under ground To tankers down south in Prince William Sound.* They planned a pipeline and first built a road To haul equipment and important loads

Four hundred miles to Alaska’s North Slope And did it in five months—No, that’s no joke! Now truckers haul freight on the road year round.

In summer, visitors often abound.

*R* the southern end of the pipeline is on Prince William Sound in Valdez, Alaska.

**Riddle Number:** The Alaska Legislature gave the Dalton Highway its name in ___ 81.

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**Milepost 56**

Yukon River Contact Station

Now gaze around: What wonders do you see? A mighty river flowing to the sea! The Yukon River rends the state in two, From island mountains to the ocean blue. What tales abound from this vast riverway, From generations past and folks today?

Some Native tribes have long fished on its course, And miners panned to find gold at its source. Today, of course, the tourists will explore The waterway and mountain views galore!

**Riddle Number:** The day of the month that oil first entered the pipeline.

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**Milepost 98**

Finger Mountain

Along this stretch of highway you will see Some rocks that rise up higher than the trees. Geologists call these formations “tors.” They offer clues to how things looked before.

Some rocks that rise up higher than the trees.

A blob of magma slowly came to grow. Though glaciers turned some tors into debris, Exposing tors that stand here still today. Then elements wore softer stone away

Riddle Number: The number of birds on the “spring” interpretive sign.

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**Milepost 115**

Arctic Circle

Above the Arctic Circle you may see The summer sun that stays up endlessly. And in the winter this land also knows The nights that never end amidst the snows. When winter dark gives way to increased light, The rate of change is really quite a sight.

Each day may gain eight minutes at the peak. That adds an hour to the day each week!

**Riddle Number:** The number of birds on the “spring” interpretive sign.

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**Milepost 132**

Gobblers Knob

The North Slope’s crude is from a place remote: A spot not easily reached by truck or boat. To transport oil safely to the south Created problems hard to figure out. The builders used some engineering tricks: It zigs and zags to flex in an earthquake And sits up high for permafrost’s own sake. The caribou can walk beneath the line, So as to not disrupt migration time.

**Riddle Number:** Peaks in the Brooks Range can be over ___ 000 feet high.

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**Milepost 150**

Grayling Lake

Come stretch your legs and give yourself a break And view the calm and graceful Grayling Lake. And as you gaze upon the peaceful scene, Think back in time, right to the Pleistocene.* For people since that time have hunted here And used the hills to watch for game that’s near. From grizzly bear to tiny dusky shrew, And ungulates like moose and caribou. Hear stories of the crafty Arctic fox, And read about the tactics of musk ox, Who form a ring to fend off an attack

And by late June small chicks will start to hatch. Each spring brings in a flood of ducks and geese That come for space and food on which to feast. Those tornadoes of flight may now fly south To await the north’s next spring. What tales abound from this vast riverway, From inland mountains to the ocean blue. A landscape made of puddles, ponds, and lakes.

**Riddle Number:** The number of airplanes on the “Welcome to Finger Mountain” sign.

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**Milepost 175**

Arctic Interagency Visitor Center (AIVC)

This land is home to creatures big and small, So go inside to learn about them all, From grizzly bear to tiny dusky shrew, And ungulates like moose and caribou. Hear stories of the crafty Arctic fox, And read about the tactics of musk ox, Who form a ring to fend off an attack

And miners panned to find gold at its source. Today, of course, the tourists will explore The waterway and mountain views galore!

**Riddle Number:** The day of the month that oil first entered the pipeline.

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**Milepost 175**

Mining Wayside Panels

A century ago, in days of old, Some miners struck it rich with Coldfoot gold. When gold ran out, the boom became a bust. Most people left; the town began to rust. Though Coldfoot shrank, those left behind still thrived; With skills and friends, they found they could survive. Though Coldfoot shrank, those left behind still thrived; Outsiders came to find prosperity, Though Coldfoot shrank, those left behind still thrived; Outsiders came to find prosperity, But found their wealth was in community.

The signs share more of its rich history.

**Riddle Number:** On the Community Golden Hearts sign, what number is Martin Silisco on the list of Wiseman old timers?

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**Decoding the Riddle**

First fill in the numbers you collected in the number row below the corresponding Quest Stop. Then use the Decoder to find the letter each number represents. Note: Some numbers appear more than once in the riddle answer!

| Quest Stop Number | 2 | 3 | 4 | Freebie | 1 | 4 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 6 | Freebie | 9 |
| Decoded Letter    |   |   |   | N      |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

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**Decoder**

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z |

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**Quest Stop**

1. Pullout on East Side of Road
2. Yukon River Contact Station
3. Yukon Flats Overlook
4. Finger Mountain
5. Arctic Circle
6. Gobblers Knob
7. Grayling Lake
8. Arctic Interagency Visitor Center (AIVC)
9. Mining Wayside Panels

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**Dalton Highway Quest Stops**