

August and September 2018

Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home



Activities

September 3 @ 11:30
Holiday! Labor Day
BBQ

September 6 @ 1:30
Scenic drive to Sutton

September 6 @ 6:00
Veterans Concert by
Richard Ware

September 8 @ 1:30
"The Century Project"
with Ladd

September 9
National Grandparents
Day

September 11
Patriots Day

September 11 @ 2:00
Quilts of Valor
Presentation

September 19 @ 5:00
Festive Meal and
Entertainment with
"Moccasin Stompers"

September 25 @ 1:30
Fall Pie Day

September 27 @ 1:15
Trip to the American
Legion

September 28 @ 5:45
Special Performance by
Hillary Saffran

From our Administrator



Joshua Shaver

You know it's late August in Alaska when:

Leaves start turning yellow way too early
Seemingly the whole State converges on our town
(and roads!) to go to the Alaska State fair
School bus's start showing up in the morning
Slugs wreak havoc on what's left of my vegetable garden
The homestead apple tree is full with delicious apples

The summer of 2018 was another great time at AVPH we have hit recent and all-time highs in occupancy and number of veterans, many memorable events such as the summer music festival, 4th of July halibut fry with the Palmer Lions, fishing trips, beautiful flowers provided and many others. We have said goodbye to some neighbors and staff, we've welcomed new neighbors and staff.

Resident Council:

Please plan on attending resident council this month, Monday September 10th at 1pm, as there will soon be a need to appoint some new officers and as many of the elders that can be involved the better. Remember this is your home and your opportunity to shape the direction and maintain the excellence of AVPH's history.

News of note:

This winter we are scheduled to have all remaining carpet in rooms and hallways replaced
Fire panel replacement is in the end stages of completion
This month's festive meal will be western themed
The Division has renewed our food service contract partnership with NANA and we will work together to ensure that high levels of satisfaction and excellence are maintained

I'll close with a slice of truth provided by a friend from the Anchorage Pioneer Home:

"You know how you can tell you're getting older?
You're kids start collecting social security." -Otis

Around the Home



July and August were very busy months here at AVPH. There were plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy. The Lion's club provided a halibut lunch on the 4th of July, both months had fun and tasty Festive Meals, there were several opportunities to enjoy s'mores in the pavilion, Happy Hour was well attended, there was a National Poet Special Presentation, AVPH employee, Ladd gave a drum presentation, and beside all our regular volunteers that come in to provide music and entertainment we held the 3rd Annual Outdoor Music Festival which was a huge success!

Out and About



There were several opportunities for the residents to get out and enjoy the beautiful weather. They went on a scenic drive to Hatcher's Pass, a fishing trip to Eklutna Tail Race and the Beach Lake Picnic with the Anchorage Pioneer Home.

Besides these scenic drives, there were several shopping trips, walks to Friday Fling and trips to the Alaska State Fair!

Winter on the Knik

**Winter glacial waters in the northern mountains, freeze
Rivulets no longer run to the river through the forest trees
The Knik's mighty torrent slows and gradually recedes
The salmon have come fulfilling nature's eternal needs**

**Man and Bear have harvested at the rivers sandy bank
Leaves of autumn turn yellow, winds blow cold and dank
Marsh birds now fully feathered, start the journey south
Their nests become homes to a fortunate squirrel or mouse**

**Wood fires burn in cozy homes that dot the rivers edge
A pair of eagles, prepare a loft high up on a rocky ledge
Moose at rut, torn velvet adorns the wildness of the bush
Huskies sense it is winter, anticipate the word to mush**

**Nearby porcupine scurry to build a comfortable den
The wild life will fatten up, soon the winter snows begin
Now the river ice is forming but, does not impede its flow
Its winter on our river, new beauty her banks to show**

**Schafer
2008**

**Here are a couple of poems
written by our very talented
resident Robert Schafer.**



Living in the Butte

**The breeze is always blowin' through the Matanuska
Like a fast movin' freight through the heart of Alaska
Down through the valley the arctic winds kick
Choppy waters form on the wild river Knik**

**To get to the Butte you take the Old Glen
That's cause it's the only way out and the only way in
See the majesty of the mountains and the Old Pioneer Peak
A delight to the eye, if it's beauty you seek**

**There is the Dragons' tongue that can spit icy death
When the avalanche roars smell its' acrid breath
Soon you'll cross a bridge and marvel at the view
There an eagle and a gull may have a friendly duel**

**In a mile or so you will find a flashing light
Take a left the Butte looms right into your sight
A monolith of earth and rock rises from the valley floor
All manner of folks come here to climb and explore**

**Did I mention that I live here, a place that I adore
Bet I forgot the reindeer farm and the little country store
Oh it's not for everyone but for me it seems to suit
I find quiet and comfort, living in the shadow of the Butte
Schafer
2008**

The State Fair Parade and Combat Veterans Visit



The Combat Veterans of Alaska came to visit our residents and even treated some of the residents to rides on their motorcycles! And once again the Alaska State Fair Parade went right by AVPH so the residents were able to enjoy it right out front.

New Employees



Linda Bonner-More
RN II



Nathan Binkley
CNA



Haley Herschman
CNA



Mindy Petal
CNA



Heather Olmstead
CNA



Debra Jeffery
Housekeeping



Beverly Lacasse
Housekeeping



Lolita Hatch
Kitchen



Melonna Mile
Activities



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



August Birthdays

Residents

- 08/02 Harold "Hoss" Peddie
- 08/03 Richard Schultz
- 08/08 Edwin "Ed" Askelin
- 08/13 Roy Hooper
- 08/15 Robert "Bob" Jobson
- 08/18 Clarence "Bill" Walker
- 08/27 Richard "Dick" Kasper
- 08/28 Walter "Doc" Cunningham
- 08/29 Larry Senseney
- 08/31 James "Jim" Miller

September Birthdays

Residents

- 09/05 Audra Forsgren
- 09/16 Horace Anderson
- 09/18 Patricia "Patty" Andrews
- 09/18 Marjorie Briggs
- 09/24 Joseph Southwell
- 09/25 Homer Morris
- 09/26 Sally "Cathy" Loyer

Happy
Belated
Birthday
to all those
with
August
Birthdays!

Employees

- 08/01 Adrianna Shipowick
- 08/07 Danielle LaCroix
- 08/08 Vickie Coomes
- 08/08 Juthamat Degagne
- 08/09 Brianna Garwick
- 08/09 Sharon Schober
- 08/22 DelRaye Staricha
- 08/27 Donna Carlson
- 08/28 Linda Allender
- 08/28 Richard Dortland

Employees

- 09/02 Helen Lamb
- 09/05 Corrinne Gaither
- 09/08 Joan McQueen
- 09/10 Toni Shearer
- 09/11 Myra Roehl
- 09/14 Ann-Marie Degagne
- 09/15 Amy Thomas
- 09/16 Riza Arenas
- 09/19 Ladd Holobinko
- 09/25 Sonya Maxwell
- 09/27 Theresa Andersen