# December Alaska Veterans and Ploneers





#### **Activities**

- December 4 @ 9:30 **Christmas Portraits**
- December 7 @ 6:00 pm Boy Scout s Pack #354 visit and **Carols**
- December 7, 8, & 9 Colony Christmas (check Activity Calendar for a list of events including the Parade of Lights.)
- December 9 @ 1:00 am American Legion Post #35 Veterans
- December 11 @ 6:00 pm Jack White R.E. Christmas Party w/ music by Adele Morgan.
- December 12 @ 9:45 pm Machetanz Elem. students visit
- December 13 @ 5:45 **Birchtree Elem Students visit**
- December 14 @ 6:00 pm Pioneer Peak Elem Students Program
- December 17 @11:30 Home wide Luncheon hosted by Eagle **River Lions Club**
- December 18 @ 10:15 **Academy Charter 2nd grade story** time and visits
- December 19 @ 1:30pm Josh's 6th Annual Cookie Contest
- December 19 @ 2:00 Am Vets Auxiliary Visit and gifts
- December 21 @ 3:00 Am. Legion Auxiliary Visit and gifts
- December 22 @ 2:30 7th Day Adventist Christmas Carols
- December 25 11:30 am **Christmas Day Lunch**
- December 31 @ 2:00pm Tom and Jerry Party w/ Elks Club

#### From our Administrator

Thanksgiving, Veterans and Pioneers

November gave us a lot to reflect on, while welcoming new elders to the home there was also a very moving memorial service for Ed Willis, longtime resident council president and former legislator. He was an amazing leader and advocate for the elders of AVPH. I am grateful and thankful for the years we all were able to call him neighbor and friend.

With the theme of thanksgiving last month I thank all of the staff members who have chosen to work here and the residents who have chosen to make this their home. What a great family! Also the Veterans Day event was also very well attended despite very icy conditions. I can't forget to also extend a happy Birthday to the United States Marine Corps -November 10<sup>th</sup>.

December is here and the calendar is full - but I want to highlight one of my favorite traditions. What will now be the **7th annual administrators Christmas cookie** contest Wednesday the 19th from 1:30 -2:30. Bring cookies, eat cookies, judge cookies, and maybe win a spatula! All are welcome to participate.



Throwback picture to our first contest in 2012





Ed Willis' Memorial Service

December is looking like it will be a very busy month. Here are a few of the highlights but be sure to check the Activity schedule for a full list of activities.





### Veterans Day Ceremony







The Veterans Day Ceremony was a moving ceremony honoring our Veterans and their service to our Country. Thank you Veterans!



#### A Distant Trumpet

Once more the distant trumpet sounds
We stand quietly upon this hallowed ground
Time to honor fallen heroes who gave their all

Warm smiles through tears stream across our faces
For those who died fighting in familiar and distant places
Remember their sacrifice so freely given
Protected behind their valor we were hidden

Dads and moms, sisters, brothers

Aunts and uncles and countless others

Paid the price so we could hear freedom ring

Courage, honor loyalty they were made of these finer things

So decorate the white crosses with flowers red and blue With pride remember the brave and the true Once more the distant trumpet sounds
It is that Unknown Soldier just making his rounds.

Robert Schafer 2016





We re blessed to have Al Willis, our very own bugler, living here at AVPH. It is such a pleasure to hear him play







Robert Schafer was the guest speaker at a Veteran's Day service at Job Corps in Palmer.

# **November Festive Meal and Thanksgiving**































We enjoyed turkey dinners for both the Festive Meal and Thanksgiving Day Lunch. At the November Festive Meal we were entertained by "Steve Willis and Friends" The music and food were wonderful.

In December there will not be a Festive Meal but on Christmas Day there will be a Special Lunch. There will also be a few special luncheons and parties in December so be sure to check the Activities calendar.





#### **Puppy Visit**









Residents were treated to another visit from a very adorable liter of puppies.

#### **Happy Hour**









Happy Hour is a wonderful time to relax and socialize with each other.



# Happy Birthday



# December Birthdays

#### **Residents**

12/06 James Olson

12/17 Ramona "Peg" Yost

12/29 Richard Brunelle

## New Resident



Walter Anderson

#### **Employees**

12/02 Pia Beckers

12/03 Mitch Flagg

12/04 Lori Perry

12/04 Mindy Petal

12/08 Millie Jewell

12/17 Justin Trammell

12/18 Lolita Hatch

12/19 Lori Brown

12/20 Clella Sheldon

#### Happy 102nd Birthday Hallie!













