

*April*  
2021

# Alaska Veterans and Pioneers Home

250 E. Fireweed Avenue, Palmer Alaska 99645



## From our Administrator

Josh Shaver



### Cautious Reopening

Greetings AVPH elders, family and friends

Here are the current guidelines for visitation:

- AVPH is open to all visitors, all ages, visitation unsupervised with no restrictions based on vaccination status
- Any visitors that are COVID positive, symptomatic, or exposed to a close contact positive COVID case are not allowed.
- Surgical, exam, or cloth facemasks are required along with social distancing
- Vaccinated elders may have private visits in their room without facemasks
- Any visitors eating with elders (removing masks to eat) must be sitting at a private table a minimum of 6 feet from other elders and staff.
- Visitors will self-screen, reading the restrictions posted at the entrance.
- Visiting hours are 8am-7pm
- Visitors must enter Front door which will be open from 8am – 7pm
- Elders are not restricted for leaving the building regardless of vaccination status, no quarantine required upon return.
- We will continue testing staff weekly, as our borough has the highest case counts in the State of Alaska

This news is a significant relief to the elders of the home and the staff who are very happy to welcome visitors back into the lives of the elders of AVPH. All the same, I need to sound a note of caution. For the protection of the elders the State and federal health authorities are encouraging all members of the public to become vaccinated. While over 90% of the elders chose to be vaccinated, less than 30% of staff have been willing to receive the vaccination and the Matanuska-Susitna Borough has had the highest per capita case counts in the State in the last month. Unfortunately, this means any outside visitor with an unknown COVID infection could potentially infect some of the elders and a great percentage of the unprotected workforce; leaving the AVPH in critical staff shortage. Please consider the vaccination for yourselves and be safe in the community.

Preventing outbreaks is the key for the AVPH to remain open and moving towards normal operations.

I look forward to seeing you all again.

# Activities Around the Home

Although it has been an extremely difficult year and family, friends and volunteers visiting has been missed more than words can say, life has gone on. To share a little of what's been happening, here are a few pictures from the past year .









# Happy Birthday

## March Birthdays

*Stan Coleman*

*Ida Stadler*

*John Hard*

*Fred Mane'*

*Ronald Verke*

*Ray Thatcher*

*Mary Anderson*

*Marilyn "Sis" Grasser*

*Teresa Burnett*

*Harry "Ted" Franco*



## April Birthdays

*Brian Antilla*

*Mike Case*

*Eugene Decamp*

## April Activities

*There is a monthly Activities Calendar available. You can pick one up at AVPH or contact Celia (Celia.Conrad@alaska.gov) if you would like to receive one by email.*

### Activities

April 1 & 15 1:00 Shopping trip to Walmart

April 4 Happy Easter!

April 8 & 22 1:30 Happy Hour

April 12 1:00 Resident Council

April 21 4:30 Festive Meal with entertainment by "Tucker Tunes"

April 29 1:00 Talent Show

Here are a few of the regular activities we have going on weekly. There are more so be sure to check the activities calendar

Mondays      9:30 Yoga

1:00 Piano with David Baker

Tuesdays    1:15 Bingo

Wednesdays 9:30 Social Groups with Donuts

1:00 Piano with Alice

Thursdays   9:30 Tai Chi with Lynn

Fridays      9:00 Mexican Train Dominoes

2:30 Ice Cream Social

Sundays      10:00-2:00 Hair Salon with Susie

6:00 Sunny Knik Chapel with Pastor Duane



*It is so wonderful to once again welcome family, friends and volunteers back to AVPH!*