

# The Centerline

## June 2026



**Know your Neighbor:** Chuck G Thornton

By: Barbara Waters

His voice is unmistakable. From his distinctive tenor with the Kenai Senior Center choir, to the noon time before lunch prayer, to his poetry recitations with the Senior Center Writers Group, we know who is speaking.

Chuck often makes us laugh with his writings. He always makes us think.

When I met with Chuck he handed me one of his books, formatted by his daughter. Titled "Mileposts – Steps and Stops in the Life of One of God's Children", it is fascinating. It looks back at his life and how his faith has led him through that life.

Chuck was born in Kaibara, Japan to missionary parents in 1933. He was bookended between older (twin) sisters and two younger (singles) sisters. Five more siblings were added to the family later in the US.

Chuck met the love of his life, Janice (Baer), while in college in Dayton, TN. After his stint in the Army the couple was married in Mansfield, Ohio in August 1956. "I'd better remember that date," he chuckled.

The couple knew Chuck's desire was to be a pastor so they sought a seminary that would allow a newly married couple to attend. Grace Theological Seminary in Winona Lake, IN accepted them. He settled into his studies and Janice settled into becoming a mother.

In keeping with family tradition of larger family groups, the couple raised six children. They have 15 grandchildren and 34 great grandchildren. Their "quiver is full."

The family moved around the country after Chuck's graduation from seminary serving as pastor in churches in Galion, Ohio; Buena Vista, VA; Washington DC/Latham, MD; Lansing, MI; Sunnyside, WA; Dallas Center, IA; Millersburg, OH; and ending in Soldotna, AK where he was Associate Pastor of a church pastored by his son, Dan.

Continued on page 7

### **Special Points of Interest**

- Movie Afternoon—Remarkably Bright Creatures—June 4
- No Host Dinner—Magpye's Pizzeria Restaurant —June 9
- BIRTHDAY Lunch—June 17
- Father's Day Luncheon—June 19

**City of Kenai**  
**Kenai Senior Center**  
361 Senior Ct.  
Kenai, Alaska 99611  
**907-283-4156**  
**senior@kenai.city**

# JUNE 2026

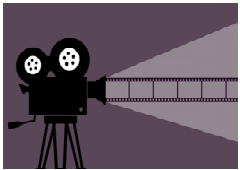
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Bell Ringers Noon—LUNCH 12:30p-4:30p—Bridge 1p—Choir 2p—Grief support Group for Widows/Widowers	<b>2</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 10a—Tai Chi 10a—TOPS Noon—LUNCH 12:30-1:30p—Bingo 12:30-4:30p Pinochle 1:30p—Wii Bowling	<b>3</b> <b>9a-Noon-Social Security</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Noon/Acoustic Jam Noon—LUNCH 1p—Karaoke 1p—Mexican Dominos 1p—Writers' Group 1p-3p—Quilting/Crafting 2-3:30p Stronger Together Support Group/ <b>Family Caregiver Support Group</b>	<b>4</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 9:00a—Pool 10a—Tai Chi 11a—Dance Exercise Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 1p—Card making with Kimberly 1-3p—Hand & Foot <b>3p—Movie Afternoon: Remarkably Bright Creatures</b>	<b>5</b> 9a—Growing Strong 9a—Blood Pressure Check <b>9:30a—Greenhouse Tour in Anchor Point</b> 9:30a-12p—Quilting 10a—Growing Strong Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 12:30-4:30p—Bridge
<b>8</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Bell Ringers Noon—LUNCH 12:30p-4:30p—Bridge 1p—Choir 2p—Grief support Group for Widows/Widowers	<b>9</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 10a—Tai Chi 10a—TOPS Noon—LUNCH 12:30-1:30p—Bingo 12:30-4:30p Pinochle 1:30p—Wii Bowling <b>5:00p—Dinner No Host—Magpye's Pizzeria</b>	<b>10</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Noon/Acoustic Jam Noon—LUNCH 1p—Karaoke 1p—Mexican Dominos 1p—Writers' Group 1p-3p—Quilting/Crafting/ 2-3:30p Stronger Together Support Group	<b>11</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 9:00a—Pool 10a—Tai Chi Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 1-3p—Hand & Foot 5p—Cribbage 6:00p—Acoustic Jam	<b>12</b> 9a—Growing Strong 9a—Blood Pressure Check <b>9:30a—Garage Saling with Patty</b> 9:30a-12p—Quilting 10a—Growing Strong Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 12:30-4:30p—Bridge
<b>15</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Bell Ringers Noon—LUNCH 12:30p-4:30p—Bridge 1p—Choir 2p—Grief support Group for Widows/Widowers	<b>16</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 10a—Tai Chi 10a—TOPS Noon—LUNCH 12:30-1:30p—Bingo 12:30-4:30p Pinochle 1:30p—Wii Bowling	<b>17</b> <b>9a-Noon-Social Security</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Noon/Acoustic Jam <b>Noon—LUNCH/Birthday Celebration</b> 12p—World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 1p—Karaoke 1p—Mexican Dominos 1p—Writers' Group 1p-3p—Quilting/Crafting 2-3:30p Stronger Together Support Group	<b>18</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 9:00a—Pool 10a—Tai Chi Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 1-3p—Hand & Foot <b>3p—Council on Aging</b> 5p—Cribbage 6:00p—Acoustic Jam	<b>19</b> 9a—Growing Strong 9a—Blood Pressure Check 9:30a-12p—Quilting 10a—Growing Strong <b>11:30a—LUNCH/ Father's Day Luncheon</b> 1p—Wii Bowling 12:30-4:30p—Bridge
<b>22</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Bell Ringers Noon—LUNCH 12:30p-4:30p—Bridge 1p—Choir 2p—Grief support Group for Widows/Widowers	<b>23</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 10a—Tai Chi 10a—TOPS Noon—LUNCH 12:30-1:30p—Bingo 12:30-4:30p Pinochle 1:30p—Wii Bowling	<b>24</b> 9a—Growing Strong <b>9:30a—Day Trip to Homer &amp; Hike on Wynn Nature Trail</b> 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Noon/Acoustic Jam Noon—LUNCH 1p—Karaoke 1p—Mexican Dominos 1p—Writers' Group 1p-3p—Quilting/Crafting 2-3:30p Stronger Together Support Group	<b>25</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 9:00a—Pool 10a—Tai Chi 11a—Alzheimer-Building Brain-Healthy Habits Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 1-3p—Hand & Foot 5p—Cribbage 6:00p—Acoustic Jam	<b>26</b> <b>8-10a Waffle Friday</b> 9a—Growing Strong 9a—Blood Pressure Check 9:30a-12p—Quilting <b>10a—Senior Conn.</b> 10a—Growing Strong Noon—LUNCH 1p—Wii Bowling 12:30-4:30p—Bridge
<b>29</b> 9a—Growing Strong 10a—Growing Strong 11a—Bell Ringers Noon—LUNCH 12:30p-4:30p—Bridge 1p—Choir 2p—Grief support Group for Widows/Widowers	<b>30</b> 9a— Chair Yoga 10a—Tai Chi 10a—TOPS Noon—LUNCH 12:30-1:30p—Bingo 12:30-4:30p Pinochle 1:30p—Wii Bowling <b>1:30p—Afternoon Drive</b>			



# Happy Birthday!



Day	Name	Day	Name	Day	Name
1	Dennis Gease	12	Dody Tachick	25	Margaret Goggia
3	Lois Duncan	14	Marilyn Bannock	25	Marge Mullen
3	Katie Pault	15	Julie Ware	25	Margaret Hodges
3	Wendy Butler	15	Evelyn Hamlin	25	Sieglinde Moore
3	Marinda Windley	16	Jackie Bock	26	Linda Barnes
7	Ronald Horvath	18	Velda Geller	26	Kathryn Gease
7	Lee Sparlin	19	Kathy Heus	26	James Dalluge
7	Dorothy Gray	20	Barbara Basas	26	Duane Olson
8	Tom Holland	22	Janet Hall	27	Jon Jackinsky
10	Connie Carlson	23	Blinn Dull	28	Willie Brendon
11	Barbara Christian	24	Michael Medcoff		



## Thursday Afternoon Movie June 4, 2026 at 3:00p.m.

**Now showing: Remarkably Bright  
Creatures**

Through unlikely bonds formed during night shifts at a local aquarium, Tova, an elderly widow, learns of a life-changing discovery that may bring her joy and wonder once again.

## NO-HOST DINNER

**Magpye's Pizzeria  
Tuesday, June 9, 2026**

Those leaving from the Senior Center parking lot will head out at 5:00p. Or, meet your friends at Magpye's Pizzeria in Sterling and after dinner we take a drive on Siklak Road..

There will be limited transportation available at a charge of **\$7.00**, so RSVP early. Sign up at the Reception Desk.

It is important to let us know if you will be attending the No-Host Dinner but driving separately. We let the restaurant know ahead of time for seating capability and if there is a change or cancellation, we can notify you. Remember to let the receptionist know if you plan to attend, whether you ride the Senior Center van or have your own ride.

# dates to remember

Wednesday, June 3	Social Security	9a–Noon
Thursday, June 4	Card Making with Kimberly	1:00 pm
	Movie Afternoon: Remarkably Bright Creatures	3:00 pm
Friday, June 5	Greenhouse Tour in Anchor Point	9:30 am
	Planting Flowers Day	10:00 am
Tuesday, June 9	“No Host” Dinner/Magpye’s Pizzeria	5:00 pm
Friday, June 12	Garage Saling with Patty	9:30 am
Wednesday, June 17	Social Security	9a—Noon
	Birthday Lunch	Noon
Friday, June 19	<a href="#">Father’s Day Luncheon—Please sign up to reserve your seat</a>	11:30 a m
Wednesday, June 24	Day to Homer/Hike Wynn Nature Trail	9:30 am
Friday, June 26	Waffle Friday	8-10 am
	Kenai Senior Connection, Inc. Meeting	10:00 am
Tuesday, June 30	Afternoon Drive	1:30 pm

## Kenai Senior Center Info

Monday—Friday, 8:00 am—5:00 pm

**Need to speak with someone in administration?**

**Director—Kathy Romain**

(907) 283-8213 or kromain@kenai.city

*Vintage Pointe Manor, Council on Aging,*

*Kenai Senior Connection, Inc.*

*Benefits Counseling*

**Administrative Assistant, Red Piersee**

(907) 283-8212 or apiersee@kenai.city

*Home Delivered Meals*

*Transporation*

*Benefits Counseling*

*Vintage Pointe Housing Rental*

**Activity/Volunteer Coordinator, Kayla Feltman**

(907) 283-8214 or kfeltman@kenai.city

*Activities*

*Volunteer Opportunities*

*Senior Center Facility Rentals*

Do you need a ride or know someone who could use some meals? Maybe you’d like to pick up a meal instead of dining inside?

We can help!

For Pick up Meals:

**Call the front desk by 10:30AM\*** (M-F) For pick-up at **11:30 AM. Meals must be picked up from the front desk before 1:00PM.**

For Transportation:

Call the front desk at least **24 hours** in advance to schedule a ride. We will do our best, but same day transportation is not guaranteed.

Dining Room Meals (Congregate)

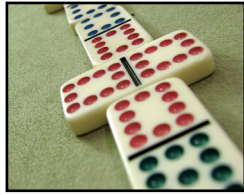
Monday-Friday 12pm-1pm

No reservations required

(Except for special events)



## Calling all Mexican Dominoes Players!



Interested in playing or learning about Mexican dominoes? Please join us every **Wednesdays** of the month at 1:00pm in the card room. It's so much fun and see you there!

## Stronger Together Support Group



### Wednesdays 2 –3:30 pm

Are you a caregiver who could use the support of others on a more regular basis? This may be for you!

## Nikiski Pool Transportation:

Morning pool service is on Thursdays. There is no transportation fee for this service but the individual is responsible for the \$2 admission fee to the pool. Van leaves the center at 9am.



## Waffle Bar!!

We offer waffles on the **Last Friday of the month** from 8-10:00 am. Come in for coffee, juice, and a hot waffle for just \$3. You may bring your own goodies to add to your waffle. No need to sign up. Just show up and enjoy this special treat.



## Greenhouse Tour in Anchor Point

Friday, June 5 at 9:30a



Let's take a morning drive to Anchor Point greenhouse and check out what's blooming this Spring. After the greenhouse tour, there will be a no-host lunch at Keen Kow Thai Food in Ninilchik. Please sign up at the front desk if you want to participate. The cost is \$10.00



## Card Making with Kim

Thursday, June 4 at 1:00pm Senior Center Dining Room. Please Sign up on the bulletin board.

## The Writers' Bloc

By: Virginia Walters



You have probably noticed the notebook on the table in the lounge area in the lunch room. The Writers Bloc! It contains individual writings from the members of the Senior Writers' Group, and is there for your entertainment and enjoyment.

We will add pieces each week from our meetings, and hope you enjoy sharing our endeavors. If you do, Leave a comment!

# Senior Farmer's Market Nutrition Program

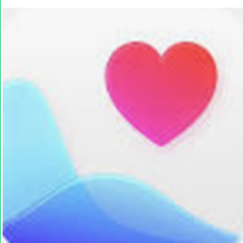


Will you be 60 years of age or older by September 30, 2026? Do you enjoy fresh fruits and vegetables, but find that purchasing them can be a little hard on your pocketbook?

If you answered yes to both questions, you'll be happy to hear that the Kenai Senior Center is once again a distribution site for Farmer's Market Benefits!

The benefit amount this year is \$55, and benefits will be available for use after June 1. Individuals may begin signing up starting May 1. **Walk-in assistance for applying for benefits will be available on Mondays and Fridays from 1:00–3:00 PM.**

Benefits are distributed electronically, and there is no paper application available. Individuals may apply on their own by accessing the Healthy Together App on their smartphone.



For more information about the program and to inquire as to whether you are eligible, please call Red at the Kenai Senior Center at

(907) 283-8212.

## Calling all Bridge Players!

Interested in playing bridge? Players are needed at all levels.

On Mondays-duplicate bridge for more experienced players where your score is compared with other pairs holding the same cards.

On Fridays-casual play or party bridge which includes all levels of players.

See Kayla to sign up for an upcoming Bridge games.



See you there!



## Senior Center Planting Day

**Friday, June 5th at 10:00 am**

Can you believe all of the wonderful selection of flowers growing throughout the Spring Season? We can thank Steve Latz and Charles Maier for their dedication and the expertise they share with us! We need YOU to help us plant. Bring your gloves and we will provide the rest.

Chuck and Janice moved into Vintage Pointe in 2014.

There is much more to their story. I encourage you to get to know Chuck and hear more about the twists and turns that shaped their lives.

Chuck has published his father's biography, *One in Seven Thousand*, and has been featured in the Peninsula Clarion's "*Minister's Message*".

As I close, Chuck wanted to share his Perspective on Ministry: (a portion of which is below taken from his book, page 172) Quote: *Some years ago I had occasion to read the life story of Samuel Shoemaker. In that book was included the following poem. Something of his personal passion to serve God well, seized me. It gripped my heart. It thrilled my soul. It expressed much better than I could the passion I long to live out as a servant.*

### **I Stand by the Door**

*By Sam Shoemaker*

I stand by the door

I neither go too far in, nor stay too far out.

The door is the most important door in the world –  
It is the door through which people walk when they  
find God.

There's no use my going way inside, and staying  
there,

When so many are still outside and they, as much  
as I,

Crave to know where the door is.

And all that so many ever find

Is only the wall where a door ought to be.

They creep along the wall like blind people,  
With outstretched, groping hands.

Feeling for a door, knowing there must be a door,  
Yet they never find it...

So I stand by the door.

The most tremendous thing in the world  
Is for people to find that door – the door to God.

The most important thing any person can do  
Is to take hold of one of those blind, groping hands,  
And put it on the latch – the latch that only clicks  
And opens to the person's own touch.

People die outside that door, as starving beggars  
die

On cold nights in cruel cities in the dead of winter –  
Die for want of what is within their grasp.

They live on the other side of it – live because they  
have not found it.

Nothing else matters compared to helping them  
find it,

And open it, and walk in, and find Him...

So I stand by the door.

Go in, great saints, go all the way in –

Go way down into the cavernous cellars,

And way up into the spacious attics –

Go in, great saints, go all the way in –

Go way down into the cavernous cellars,

And way up into the spacious attics –

It is a vast roomy house, this house where God is.

Go into the deepest of hidden casements,

Of withdrawal, of silence, of sainthood.

Some must inhabit those inner rooms

And know the depths and heights of God,

And call outside to the rest of us how wonderful it  
is.

Sometimes I take a deeper look in,

Sometimes venture in a little farther;

But my place seems closer to the opening...

So I stand by the door.

There is another reason why I stand there.

Some people get part way in and become afraid

Lest God and the zeal of His house devour them

For God is so great, and asks all of us.

And these people feel a cosmic claustrophobia,

And want to get out. "Let me out!" they cry,

And the people way inside only terrify them more.

Somebody must be by the door to tell them they  
are spoiled

For the old life, they have seen too much:

Once taste God, and nothing but God will do any  
more.

Somebody must be watching for the frightened

Who seek to sneak out just where they came in,

To tell them how much better it is inside.

The people too far in do not see how near these  
are

To leaving – preoccupied with the wonder of it all.

Somebody must watch for those who have entered  
the door

But would like to run away. So for them, too,

I stand by the door.

I admire the people who go way in.

But I wish they would not forget how it was

Before they got in. then they would be able to help

The people who have not yet even found the door,

Or the people who want to run away again from

God,

You can go in too deeply, and stay in too long,

And forget the people outside the door.

## The 17<sup>th</sup> annual March 4 Meals is in the books, and now it's time to say thanks.

The only issue is just how to do that. How do you thank hundreds of folks all at one time? Your Kenai Senior Connection, Inc. Board, Senior Connection members and the staff at the Kenai Senior Center and dozens of volunteers contributed thousands of hours of their time to assure that the evening was the awesome success that it was.

Looking at the paperwork revealed that over 80 local businesses combined with over a hundred individual donors contributed thousands of dollars (monetary contributions, products, services and food) to both make the evening a success and to make sure that no senior goes hungry. Thank you one and all!

*But the thank you's aren't finished yet. Below is a list of local businesses that so generously contributed to the cause. When you have occasion to need a service or product, consider choosing one from the list. And while you're there, be sure to thank them for supporting local seniors and the M4M program. A face-to-face, heart-felt sincere thank you means a lot to that business.*

We (the committee) gave ourselves a couple of weeks off, but now the planning for the 17<sup>th</sup> annual M4M event starts again. So be sure to watch for the 'save the date' information, where we will announce next year's date and theme. Meanwhile, get out there and support those businesses that support us!

Jerry Nassen, Vice President—Kenai Senior Connection, Inc.



Antiques & Things  
5150 Audio  
AIH  
Altman Rogers  
Kenai Peninsula Water  
Treatment  
AK Crazy Collector  
AK Pro Plumbing &  
Heating  
Alaska E-Line Services  
Alaska Railroad Corporation  
Alaska Scrap & Recycling  
Alaska West Air  
Alaska Wildgear  
Black River Fitness  
CC Nails  
Carmody Masonry  
Coldsmoke  
D & M Mechanical  
Dan's TV & Appliance  
Debbie's Bistro  
Doyle's Fuel Service  
Duke's Automotive  
Echo Lake Meats  
Eyewear Express  
Filigree & Hues  
Fireweed Greenhouse  
Forget-Me-Knot Quilting  
Fraternal Order of Eagles  
Froso's Family Dining  
Fly Boys  
GLM Energy Services

Grant Aviation  
Happy Buddha Imports  
Hot Dogs Ala-Carte  
JE Thornton General Contracting  
Jenwar Towing & Recovery  
JMJ Tax Relief  
Joe's Laundry  
K-Beach Auto  
Kaladi Brothers Coffee  
Kenai Lions Club  
Kendall Auto Group  
Law Office of Sonya Redmond  
Los Compadres  
M & J Plumbing  
Marathon Local Giving  
Martha's Cocina  
Mattress Ranch  
McDonalds/Kenai  
North Country Fair  
Outlaw Body & Paint  
Paws-Itively Pampered  
PCHS

Peninsula Bishops Attic  
Peninsula Memorial Chapel  
Peterkin Distributors  
Playa Azul  
Pro-Seal Services Group  
Promothean Cuisine  
RPM's  
Recycled Treasures  
Ridgeline Oilfield Services  
River City Dental  
Ron's Rent-it-Center  
River & Sea Marine Supply  
Rusty Ravin Plant Ranch  
SZQ Studios  
Salamatof Native Association  
Save U-More  
Spenard Builders Supply  
Shipping Zone  
Smoke Street Tobacco  
Koob Chiropractic  
Sweeney's Clothing  
The Goods  
The Hearth Eatery & Catering  
Too Good to be Used  
Walmart  
Walters & Associates Insurance  
Weaver Brothers  
Weavin'and Things  
Waterstreet Wellness  
Willow Ptarmigan

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MUSIC, BUBBLES, & MORE!  
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FOOD TRUCKS ON SITE!**

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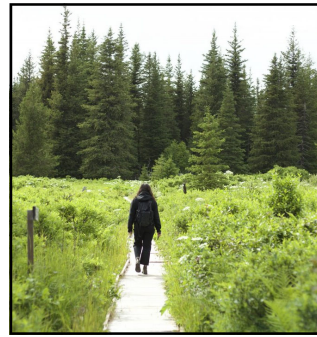
**SATURDAY JUNE 6, 2026 • 11 AM - 3 PM  
MILLENNIUM SQUARE PARK - KENAI**

Follow us:    
**@kenaiparksandrec**



**Friday, June 12  
At 9:30am Garage  
Saling w/ Patty**

We will be leaving the center with a van at 9:30am to hit some yard sales, garage sales, and maybe even moving sales. Don't forget to bring cash with you. We will be back before noon so you can have lunch at the center. Please sign up at the receptionist desk.



**Day Trip to  
Homer and hike  
Wynn Nature  
Trails**

**Wednesday, June  
24, 2026**

**9:30a-8:00p**

Homer here we come!!! Watch out Kenai Seniors are on our way!!! The van will leave the Center at 9:30 a.m., drive to Homer and hike Wynn Nature Trails and take in miles of hiking trails through protected landscapes. Wynn is managed as a preserve for Alaska's iconic wildlife—especially moose. With luck and a little patience, you may glimpse one of these iconic animals feeding in the willows or moving through the brush near the trail.

After the hike we will enjoy a no-host lunch at one of Homer's famous restaurants and maybe tour the Homer Spit before going home.

The cost of the hike tour/van ride is \$25.00. Prepay at the Receptionist Desk, fill out forms and reserve your spot. We must have a minimum of seven (7) people.

**Father's Day Lunch**

**Friday, June 19**

**11:30 a.m.**

This will be a special day with a salute to our fathers. Fathers will be going fishing for door prizes at lunch. Please join us to celebrate our fathers. Have a photo of your father you would like to share? Bring it along. We can all try to guess whose father is whose! Please sign up at the bulletin board.



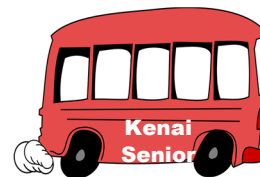
**LET'S TALK RHUBARB**

It's only a few short weeks before Kenai's July 4 Celebration and the Kenai Senior Connection, Inc. will be there with its "Biscuits n' Gravy and Strawberry/Rhubarb Pie Booth!!!

If you have rhubarb and would like to donate it to the strawberry/rhubarb pie effort, please bring it to the Center anytime after June 19. Or, if you are unable to reap your rhubarb, call (907) 283-4156 and make arrangements for someone to come gather it for you.



**Thank you  
for your  
generous  
support!!!**



**Afternoon Drive  
Tuesday, June 30  
at 1:30p**

Let's take an afternoon drive and see where our driver will take us this month? Plan for an ice cream stop and to have lots of FUN! Minimum of 5 people. The cost is \$5, so please sign up at the front desk if you want to participate.



# **WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY**

**JOIN ADULT PROTECTIVE  
SERVICES IN SPREADING  
AWARENESS ON ELDER ABUSE**

Meet with us this June 17, 2026  
during Lunch at the Kenai Senior  
Center at Noon. See you there!

## Veterans News by: Dave Thompson

Ah, June. Welcome to summertime. On the patriotic side, don't forget to display Old Glory on June 14<sup>th</sup>, Flag Day. The Stars and Stripes are the official emblem of our US flag, adopted on June 14, 1777 by the Second Continental Congress way back. Though we all try to wave our colors, Flag Day is not an official holiday.

When you're out and about or just want to take a drive you may want to stop at Soldotna Creek Park in Soldotna. Here is the home of Iron Mike military statute honoring all five branches of our military, which now has six branches, the Space Force. More on that later.

Iron Mike's founding father was none other than our very own Herb Stettler who lived right here at Vintage Point till his passing in Dec. 2019. I had the distinct honor as VFW Post Chaplain at the time in doing his funeral service with full honors in Feb 2020 during the early stages of Covid. Herb was very well known and even with Covid many attended his services.

Herb knew more about our US flag than anyone I have ever met. He did patriotic seminars at for the local high schools on Old Glory many times, since his being a Korean War Veteran. Herb envisioned Iron Mike back about 2014 or so. Iron Mike is a term originating from WW1 to honor Marines and service members who were inspiring, brave and tough. Mike's five foot stature is a replica of an Airborne Ranger from WW11 located at Fort Bragg, NC.

Soldotna city councilman Dave Carey, led the charge in raising funds for Iron Mike back in 2015. All donations were from private local individuals as Herb wanted ; all \$57,000. to cast and another \$10,000. to ship it to Soldotna. Around the base of Mike are the symbols of all five branches of our military.

Iron Mike was unveiled on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020 . Even during Covid about 100 spectators wearing masks watched the ceremony. State Senator Peter Micciche led the services paying true respects to Herb Stettler and the generosity of our community. So after five or six years Herb's dream finally came true but he never lived to see his dream. Note the picture of Iron Mike enclosed.

So take a ride and see Iron Mike and while there see the Purple Heart Memorial nearby. Then stay and have a good meal at Soldotna's many fine restaurants, hint hint , " The Catch" by the bridge. You'll be glad you did.



By the way: Homeless Veterans Resources, call 1-877-424-3838 for help.  
Always helping veterans

## Kenai Senior Connection, Inc. NEWS

By: Terry Turner, Board President and Jerry Nassen, Board Vice-President

The FUNdraising never stops for your Kenai Senior Connections Board. We were recently 'gifted' a quantity of fire-resistant clothing, but what to do with it? Word of mouth didn't garner any interest; ads didn't work either. Then one of the board members came up with an idea:



Why not utilize the new flea market being held on weekends at the old Brown's Electric building adjacent to Save U More on K-Beach?

Success! Thanks to several board members taking time to 'man' a table there, we were able to sell all the fire retardant clothing, with the proceeds going to the March for Meals fund. As an added bonus, the crew also sold raffle tickets for the gorgeous quilt made and donated by Jennie McGrady from Forget Me Not Quilting; the quilt is currently on display at the Center and tickets are on sale until the drawing on August 31<sup>st</sup>. This is yet another example of your Senior Connection providing for local seniors to assure that no senior goes hungry.

Speaking of the Senior Connection Board, we still have several vacancies that needs to be filled. If you're a member of Senior Connections (active member of the Five Dollar a Month Club) you are eligible for serving on the Board. See the front desk at the Center for an application.

## LIBRARY NEWS

by Kari Mohn

The Kenai Senior Center Library has received a number of new additions to the Alaska Section. Three of these titles are by Chuck Thornton. Chuck is a retired pastor and often offers the prayer before meals in the Kenai Senior Center dining room. Marilyn Wheeless is a life-long Alaskan whose books reflect Alaska. Her new books added to the collection are all autographed.

Other new to the collection Alaska books are Moonlight Madness: Tall Tales From the Copper River Valley by Samme Gallaher, Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer, Good Time Girls by Lael Morgan and Tales of Alaska's Bush Rat Governor by Jay Hammond. Alaska books tend to disappear.

Please, after you have read an Alaska book, return it so others might enjoy it.

The colored Post-its, indicating new books, will now be tucked behind the book cover facing up. They can still be seen when facing the shelves and the library will have a neater appearance. The Post-it color, indicating new books added in June, is Lavendar.





**Our \$5-A-Month Club is a voluntary membership to the Kenai Senior Center through the Kenai Senior Connection, Inc. and a valuable help!**

All funds are used to assist with the Senior Center budget and for special needs throughout the year. We thank everyone for your support as we continue to grow and serve the needs of our senior community. Donations may be made on a monthly or year-to-year basis. **We proudly post our \$5 Club members in the Centerline!**

**JUNE 2026 \$5 CLUB**

Marty Askin	Lorraine Heikkila	Mary Moeglein	Marcia Shea
Victoria Askin	Nancy Henning	Kari Mohn	Hal Smalley
Ken Ayers	Howard Hill	Twyla Mundy	Debbie Sonberg
Kris Ayers	Kit Hill	Wayne Mundy	Russell Sonberg
Willie Brenden	Donna Hoyt	Debbie Myers	Cheryl Spear
Arthur Brown	Roger Ihde	Jerry Nassen	Bill Starnes
Donna Brown	Bobbie Jedlicki	Bill Nelson	Sondra Starnes
Megan Burke	Ginger Kaona	Lois Nelson	Sheila Philips-Steiner
Barb Christian	Fran Kilfoyle	Susan Olson	Vivian Terry
Mike Christian	Leanne King	Katie Pault	June Truelove
June Coverstone	Ron King	Bill Perrigo	Terry Turner
Terri Cramer	Sandy King	Nanette Peter	Ray Verg-in
Jan Daniels	Anita Kwan	Bob Peters	Yen-ti Verg-in
Dorothy Diamond	William LaTocha	Robert Peterson	Beverly & Don Waldrop
Janet Nelson-Dormandy	Xiaopei LaTocha	Carol Prior	Frosty Walters
Pam Downing	Hoa Le	Biz Robbins	Virginia Walters
Carol Freas	Andy Long	Geraldine Roberson	Candace Ward
Velda Geller	Carol Louthan	Trish Roderick	Ozella Williams
Margaret Goggia	Mike Louthan	Gladys Routh	Bob Windsor
Jeffrey & Monica Griffin	Paula Maier	James Schwanke	Ruby Windsor
Phyllis Halstead	Leon Marcinkowski	Linda Schwanke	Emmett Young
June Harris	Lee Moeglein	Patty Segura	

Looking for something fun to do? Enjoy hanging out with others? The Kenai Senior Center is the place for you!

- **First Thursday of the Month:** Movie Afternoon 3 PM to 5 PM 
- **Thursday Fun Night:** happens every second, third, and fourth Thursday of the Month from **5 PM to 9 PM:** Join us for an Accoustic Jam, card games, cribbage, and more!

Beat the blues and make your Thursdays something to look forward to. We can't wait to see you there!



- Unless purchasing a large amount for transportation or lunch tickets, we cannot break a bill over \$20.
- You are welcome to take home leftovers from your meal, but please bring your own container.
- Coffee bar and bakery dollar donations are much appreciated. Thank you for your generosity. Items from the bread table are limited to just one per person daily.

**We appreciate your understanding.**

## Widows/Widowers



Meet Mondays at 2pm

Come share your grief with others

Its your story for you to share and we are here to support you

### Computer Lab Open Times

The Senior Center computer lab is open for your use on the following days/times:

**Monday—8-11 am & After 12:00 pm**

**Tuesday—After 11:30 am**

**\*Thursday—All Day**

**\*Friday—All Day**

\*There will be an occasional meeting in the Computer Lab where it will not be available to the general public.



Heart Healthy

# JUNE 2026 MENU

If you would like to order a meal for pick-up, please call 283-4156 by 10:30am for same-day pick up.

*\*Menu is subject to change\*  
\*Soup and Salad when available\**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 Baked Potato w/ all the fixings Broccoli Veggie Soup	2 Taco Salad Chip/Salsa	3 Chili Dogs Tater Puffs Broccoli Salad	4 Baked Ham Cheese Potatoes Baked Cabbage & Carrots	5 BBQ Beef Sandwich Steak Fries Cherry Tomato Salad
8 Fried Chicken Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Green Beans	9 Swedish Meatballs Egg Noodles Pickled Beets	10 Sweet & Sour Pork Stir Fry Veggies Egg Rolls	11 Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce Yellow Squash Garlic Bread	12 Sloppy Joes Steak Fries Broccoli Salad Ice Cream Bars
15 Blueberry French Toast Roasted Potatoes Sausage Links	 16 Zen Oriental Chicken Salad Fresh Fruit	17 Roast Turkey Mashed Potatoes w/ Gravy Buttered Corn <b>Birthday Cake</b>	18 Fiesta Shrimp Rice Bowl Cucumber Salad	19 BBQ Ribs Cowboy Beans Coleslaw Apple Pie w/ Whipped Cream
22 Ham & Bean Soup Hawaiian Pasta Salad Fruit Cup Corn Bread	 23 Citrus Chicken Salad Muffin Fruit Cup	24 Garlic Beef Egg Noodles Broccoli & Mushrooms Egg Roll	25 Beef Enchilada Mexi Corn Chips & Salsa	26 Turkey Tetrazzini Parmesan Cauliflower Garlic Bread
29 Soup Tuna on a Croissant Fresh Fruit	 30 Chef Salad Bran Muffin Fruit Salad	1 BBQ Chicken Legs Mac& Cheese Fresh Fruit	2 Beef Stew Peaches & Cottage Cheese Macaroni Salad Rustic Roll	3 4TH OF JULY HOLIDAY  <b>CENTER CLOSED</b>

# Kenai Senior Center 2026 Client Satisfaction Survey

Each year, the Kenai Senior Center (KSC) gathers input to improve services and meet funding requirements. Your responses help shape the Center's future programs. Please answer all questions to ensure accurate analysis. All responses are confidential.

What is your age or year you were born in:

## Programs & Participation

### 1. Which KSC programs/activities have you participated in this year?

*(Check all that apply)*

- Arts & Crafts
- Classes/Workshops
- Health & Fitness
- Congregate Meals
- Special Events & Entertainment
- Home-Delivered Meals
- Trips/Excursions
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Transportation Services
- Medicare Counseling
- Information & Assistance
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return your surveys to the box at the front desk of the Senior Center. They can also be given to your driver or mailed in to: Kenai Senior Center  
361 Senior Court,  
Kenai, AK 99611  
Surveys should be returned by  
June 15, 2026.**

### 2. Are you a registered member of the Kenai Senior Center?

- Yes
- No

### 3. Are you aware of all the programs and services KSC offers?

- Yes
- No

### 4. Are you interested in volunteering?

- Yes
- No
- I am already a volunteer

# Kenai Senior Center 2026 Client Satisfaction Survey

## Meals & Nutrition Services

**5. Do you eat lunch at the KSC, if so how often?**

- 4+ times per week
- 1-3 times per week
- Occasionally
- N/A

**6. Do you receive Home-Delivered Meals, if so how often?**

- 4+ times per week
- 1-3 times per week
- Occasionally
- N/A

**7. How would you rate the quality of meals you receive?**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

**8. What is your favorite meal served by the KSC?**

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## Transportation Services

**9. Do you use KSC Transportation Services? If so, how often?**

- 4+ times per week
- 1-3 times per week
- Occasionally
- Never

**10. Do you use transportation to access the community?**

(Including outings, trips, medical appointments, or the pool)

- Yes
- No

**11. Do you use transportation to access the senior center?**

- Yes
- No

# Kenai Senior Center 2026 Client Satisfaction Survey

## Safety & Overall Experience

**12. Do you feel KSC staff prioritize your safety?**

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time

**13. Do KSC services help maintain or improve your quality of life and ability to age in place?**

- All of the time
- Most of the time
- Some of the time
- None of the time

**14. How would you rate your overall experience with KSC services?**

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Poor



## Suggestions & Feedback

**14. What activities do you enjoy most at KSC?**

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**15. What new activities or programs would you like to see offered?**

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**16. Do you have any cost-saving ideas for KSC?**

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**17: Comments:**

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**Center Funders & Supporters**  
City of Kenai  
Alaska Commission on Aging  
Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Center Volunteers  
Kenai Senior Connection, Inc.  
Private Donations



**City of Kenai**  
**Kenai Senior Center**

**Kenai Senior Center**

**361 Senior Court**

**Kenai, Alaska 99611**

**Phone: 907-283-4156**

**Fax: 907-283-3200**

**E-mail: [senior@kenai.city](mailto:senior@kenai.city)**

**<https://www.facebook.com/kenaisenior/>**

**Find us on**  
**Facebook**



PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE