

January 2026

# Newsletter

Golden Pond Retirement Community | 1270 N Ford St. | 303-271-0430



## Celebrating January

**Book Blitz Month**

**International Brain  
Teaser Month**

**New Year's Day**  
*January 1*

**Someday We'll Laugh  
About This Week**  
*January 2–8*

**Bobblehead Day**  
*January 7*

**Make Your Dream  
Come True Day**  
*January 13*

**Fresh Squeezed Juice Week**  
*January 18–24*

**Disc Jockey Day**  
*January 20*

**Belly Laugh Day**  
*January 24*

**Curmudgeons Day**  
*January 29*

## January 2026

Every January, as we turn the calendar to a new year, Alaskans mark another milestone: the anniversary of statehood. On January 3, 1959, Alaska officially became the 49th state of the United States, opening a new chapter in its history and symbolizing resilience, opportunity, and the promise of the future.

For many, the statehood anniversary pairs naturally with the season of resolutions and fresh beginnings. Just as individuals set goals for the year ahead, Alaska once set sights on growth, self-determination, and a stronger voice within the nation. That step forward, more than six decades ago, remains a reminder of what it means to embrace change and move with confidence into the unknown.

Alaska's motto, "North to the Future," captures this spirit. Chosen shortly after statehood, it reflects both the geographic identity of America's northernmost state and the sense of direction it offers. The words suggest not only exploration but also progress—ideas that fit well with the energy of January, when many people look ahead with renewed purpose.

Moose, a familiar sight to residents and visitors alike, can also serve as a fitting symbol for the season. Towering and powerful, yet able to withstand harsh conditions, the moose embodies strength and resilience. These qualities mirror the challenges Alaskans have faced—from extreme weather to geographic isolation—and the determination that helped them build thriving communities in the years since statehood.


Today, Alaska continues to look forward while honoring its past. Statehood Day isn't just a historical date; it's an annual reminder of endurance, adaptability, and possibility. Whether you live in Alaska or simply admire its story from afar, the anniversary offers inspiration for the start of a new year.


As we settle into January, Alaska's journey can encourage us to take our own steps toward renewal. Like the state that looked north and saw its future, we too can embrace new beginnings with strength, resilience, and hope for the year ahead.

## Special Events & Programs

Welcome to a brand-new year at Golden Pond! January brings fresh experiences, exciting outings, and plenty of opportunities to connect, learn, and have fun together. We look forward to starting 2026 with you!


### Women's Lunch

 January 8

 11:00 AM


Enjoy good food and great conversation with friends.

### Active Minds

 Subject: Morocco

Travel the world without leaving Golden Pond as we explore the culture, history, and traditions of Morocco.

### Creative & Grow with Kim

 Don't miss out on our Creative & Grow classes with Kim! Each month features a new experience, offering residents a chance to learn, create, and grow in fun and meaningful ways.


 New Outing This Month


### Breakfast Outing – Snooze, an A.M. Eatery

Start your day the delicious way with our brand-new breakfast outing. A perfect way to enjoy great food and morning company!

 Weekly Treats

### Ice Cream Treats

 Every Sunday

 2:00 PM

 Bistro

Join us each Sunday afternoon for sweet treats and smiles.

## Outings Schedule

### Monday Lunch Outings

Black Eyed Pea

Olive Garden

Heaven Dragon

Rib City

### Wednesday Shopping Outings

Trader Joe's

Hobby Lobby

Dollar Tree

Denver West


Please be sure to sign up in advance for all outings.

## Resident Council Meetings – Updated Schedule

Please note the new dates and times for January:


### Assisted Living Council Meeting

 January 19

 10:00 AM

### Independent Living Council Meeting

 January 29

 10:00 AM

Your voice matters! Everyone is encouraged to attend.



## Reflecting on 2025: A Year of Care, Connection, and Celebration

As we look back on 2025, our hearts are filled with gratitude, pride, and joy. This year was defined not just by events on a calendar, but by the compassion, dedication, and genuine connections that made our community feel like home.

First and foremost, a heartfelt thank you to our incredible staff. Your daily commitment to caring for our residents goes far beyond job descriptions. Whether offering a comforting smile, a listening ear, or unwavering support, you showed up with kindness and professionalism every single day. Our residents thrive because of you, and we are deeply thankful for the compassion you bring into their lives.

2025 also gave us many moments of fun and laughter—none more memorable than our Ugly Christmas Sweater Happy Hour, which was an absolute hit! From bold patterns to hilariously creative designs, the room was filled with laughter, holiday cheer, and plenty of festive spirit.



Big cheers to our Executive Director, Leigh, whose leadership, kindness, and genuine care shine through in everything she does. Leigh, thank you for being such a wonderful presence for both residents and

staff. Your dedication helps create the welcoming, supportive community we are proud to call home.

## January Birthday Fun Facts

January babies are known for being natural leaders—they often take charge and inspire others.

You share your birth month with New Year's celebrations, so your birthday kicks off the year with fresh starts and big hopes!

People born in January are often described as thoughtful, determined, and dependable.

January is named after Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and transitions—perfect for those who love looking ahead.

January birthdays tend to have calm confidence and strong sense of responsibility.

Famous January birthdays include Elvis Presley, Martin Luther King Jr., Betty White, and Dolly Parton.

Winter birthdays mean celebrating during the coziest time of year—think sweaters, hot cocoa, and warm gatherings.

January-born individuals are often great planners and goal-setters, making them excellent problem solvers.

Your birthstone is the garnet, symbolizing friendship, loyalty, and protection.

January birthdays may be chilly, but the people born this month bring plenty of warmth and joy wherever they go!

## January Birthdays

### Residents:

Willian Grote 01/01  
Andrew Biscan 01/02  
Dorothy Grigsby 01/02  
Helen Spars 01/07  
Joy Kaylor 01/09  
Michiko Olsen 01/15  
Rosemary Hoffman 01/16  
Susan Kacik 01/18  
Kathlee White 01/19  
Delia Bonner 01/20  
Natalie Costa 01/23  
Connie Pringle 01/25  
Bryan Russell 01/25  
Tony Holmes 01/25  
Ed Tomac 01/27  
Steve Nowak 01/27

### Staff:

Sarah Stevenson 01/11  
Chantler Newton 01/11

