

Kenai Peninsula Borough
Alaska
Proclamation

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease, the most common form of dementia, is a progressive and degenerative brain disorder that causes memory loss and affects self-care, decision making, and behavior; and

WHEREAS, there are 8,500 Alaskans now living with Alzheimer's disease and current projections indicate this rate will increase to 11,000 individuals by 2025; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 33,000 unpaid caregivers providing 21 million hours of support to their loved ones with Alzheimer's disease each year valued at \$406 million annually; and

WHEREAS, dementia is a leading cause of death in Alaska and the only leading cause of death in the country with no known treatments to prevent, cure, or even delay the onset or slow the progression of the disease; and

WHEREAS, with early detection and diagnosis, individuals and families can gain access to medications and support services which promote quality of life, fully participate in planning for the future, and enroll in critical research trials; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Borough recognizes the efforts of the Alzheimer's Association to promote awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, and provide care and support to all those affected, thereby improving the quality of life for individuals living with dementia and their caregivers; and

WHEREAS, annually on the summer solstice, the Alzheimer's Association hosts The Longest Day, an event dedicated to shining a light on the darkness of Alzheimer's and dementia in which teams around the world come together to honor the strength, passion and endurance of people impacted by the disease; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize the stories, strengths, and efforts of the individuals, families, friends and caregivers impacted by dementia, as well as the tireless work of the researchers who are seeking a cause and cure.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Charlie Pierce, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2021 to be, in our Kenai Peninsula Borough:

The Longest Day

in the Kenai Peninsula Borough and encourage all residents to become aware of early detection, effective treatments and support services that are available for this disease.



Charlie Pierce
Mayor