Jan and Judy Odhner have owned and operated Zudy’s Café in Seward, Alaska since 2014. This cozy restaurant features live music to go along with breakfast items, soups, salads, sandwiches, and desserts. It boasts “Cake with a View,” touting Judy’s delectable desserts and the spectacular view of Resurrection Bay. Zudy’s Café is especially unique because of its 100-year-old building, which is listed on the National Historic Registry. The Odhnners, who had been leasing the space, had the opportunity to purchase the building in 2018. With the help of an SBA 504 loan, they completed the purchase of the building and used the leftover funds to expand the property. The Café is located in both a rural and Labor Surplus Area.
Initially demonstrating an entrepreneurial spark while selling automotive lighting accessories from his truck bed, Spencer Richardson always showed a passion and interest for improving vehicles. In 2010, he formalized his enterprise when he opened “Distinctive Ride.”

The business initially focused on remote start systems, car audio, and lighting. Through Richardson’s commitment to customer experience, Distinctive Ride expanded over the years to include new services, such as window tinting, and products, such as aftermarket automotive accessories. With SBA 504 funding, Distinctive Ride was able to move from a leased space to brand new building.

This allowed Richardson to consolidate the business’s previously separate warehouses and benefit from increased efficiency. Distinctive Ride, which currently has five employees, continues to hire and thrive in his rural community of Wasilla, Alaska.