

April 2026

Tuff Memorial Home

505 East 4th Street | Hill, Minnesota | 507-962-3275 |



Resident Birthdays

Harriet L. April 22nd
Anna Mae V. April 30th

Staff Birthdays

Yanisha P. April 1st
Ashton D. April 4th
Sandy B. April 5th
Yobita P. April 6th
Lora F. April 7th
Joanna S. April 10th
Anna M. April 11th
Emily B. April 12th
Avril S. April 15th
Olivia S. April 15th
Elyrose A. April 20th
Katie H. April 21st
Samantha K. April 27th
Gracie W. April 28th

Staff Anniversaries

Marie O. 1 year
Brooklyn H. 2 years
Abby H. 3 years
Mea D. 4 years
Jody D. 26 years

New Residents

Karen H.

We Remember

Employee Sheryl Bouwman

Spring Into Family Time

Spring is finally here, and we are so excited to welcome the new season with fresh energy, sunshine, and more opportunities to connect with loved ones. As the days grow warmer, we encourage families to make Sundays a special time for visiting and create meaningful moments with your loved ones. Whether it's sharing stories, laughter, or simply enjoying each other's presence, these visits make a lasting impact. To make your time here even more enjoyable, we invite you to gather in the dining room around 2:30 PM for our famous Tuff cookies and coffee. With the beautiful weather ahead, our courtyard will soon be open and ready to enjoy the fresh air. Your presence means so much to our residents, and these shared moments are what make our community feel like at home.

Tour Across America

The Life Enrichment Department is busy planning many special days during National Nursing Home Week in May. One day will be themed "Tour Across America." Our goal is to collect something that represents each of the 50 states or even something from a different country. If you have family or friends living in another state, we would love to have you reach out and ask if they could mail us a small item that represents that state. Examples could include something like a postcard, sticker or a small souvenir. These items will help residents travel across the USA and make it extra special. If your contact is willing to help, please have them mail to the address below. We would like to have items here by May 1st.

Tuff Memorial Home
Attn: Life Enrichment Department
505 East 4th Street
Hills, MN 56138

National Volunteer Week

Volunteers in a long-term care settings play an invaluable role in enhancing the daily lives of residents. They often form meaningful friendships by simply spending time talking, listening, and providing companionship, which can greatly reduce feelings of loneliness and isolation. Beyond conversation, volunteers assist with activities, helping residents stay engaged, active, and socially connected. They also lend a hand with practical tasks, such as escorting residents to meals or activities, ensuring everyone feels included and supported. Their kindness, patience, and genuine care create a warm, welcoming environment that enriches both the emotional and social well-being of those they serve. National Volunteer week is observed April 19th – 25th. A thank you to our volunteers who will be celebrated on April 21st. We would like to thank the Happy Hookers volunteers that meets twice a week with Marilyn N. and we would like to thank our newest volunteers Catherine S. and Bonnie L. Their commitment to our residents is deeply appreciated.



Tuff Time Travel

Residents were asked what their Easter traditions were.

- *“The night before Easter, we would make a nest out of our clothes we wore that day and set it on the floor next to our bed. In the morning we would find easter eggs and candy in the nest. We also dyed easter eggs with dye and crayons.” – Judy R.*
- *“My mom had a big meal with Ham on Easter Sunday. I colored eggs and had an Easter Basket.” -Bev D.*
- *“Easter is my favorite holiday. My grandma would give me fancy panties and socks. We would also collect eggs.” -Karen M.*
- *“My parents hid easter eggs outside, we had Easter baskets with candy and eggs, and dyed eggs with my sister. We would go visit my aunt and uncle in Howard, SD or they would visit us. We would have a big Easter dinner wearing our Easter hats and dress.” -Mary S.*

Highlighted Activities for April

- April 9th – HBC 5th Grade Activity with Residents
- April 15th – Paint & Sip
- April 22nd – Sow & Grow
- April 24th – Bake & Tate

Pastor's Page

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday, March 29th. Please join us as we gather outside and process into the sanctuary with our palms on this day. We will then enter into the story of the Passion and hear it read that day. Throughout those first few days of April we will complete our journey to the cross and on Easter we will gather to celebrate the resurrection.

A couple of things for Easter Sunday. If someone says to you: Christ is risen, the proper response is: He is risen indeed! Also, during children's moment we will open our treasure chest that we locked up at the end of Epiphany with all the Alleluias in it. When I open the box on Easter Sunday, I need all of you to yell Alleluia! Because we will have let them out of the locked box and now we share them with everyone. Thanks for those two little things to help make Easter more festive.

The Easter season coincides with the coming of spring, the hope for new life, the joy of the return of longer days and warmer weather. It is a time to celebrate new life, new things. We are offering a couple of new ideas in this newsletter for you to consider, one is to shepherd others in the congregation and the other is to reach out to the community. We are seeking people who have hearts for these kinds of things. Together we can build a stronger congregation, but we need to begin with one another and also our community. One person cannot do this alone, it takes all of us in ministry to make it happen. What ideas could you share? A community picnic? An event on the lawn in the summer? Blessing of pets? What could you help make happen? Who could you invite?

Spring is a busy time, but it is also a time to plan for the summer and what could be possible. If you have ideas, if you would like to help, we need you! Enjoy these warmer days of spring and join us as we celebrate in this month!

Easter Joys,

Pastor Lori

Tuff Family Council

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of every month at 5p.m. located in the Tuff Chapel.

Thursday, April 2nd

These meetings are designed for families to gather amongst themselves to discuss topics related to their loved ones in a safe space.



HILLS- BEAVER CREEK



Residents, staff and guests loved watching the HBC Boys Basketball Games that took place on March 26th, 27th and 28th. What an accomplishment to have won the championship game!

Employee of the Month is: *Gracie W.*

Employee of the month is Gracie W. She has worked as a CNA for almost 2 years. Her family consists of her parents and 6 older siblings. Her hobbies include shopping/thrift shopping, being active and spending time with family and friends. Her favorite thing about working at Tuff is getting to hear the residents' life stories and creating relationships with them. Her fun fact is that she drinks iced coffee every day!



Blue Stone Therapy Wellness Tip

*"The secret of getting ahead is getting started.
The secret of getting started is breaking down complex overwhelming tasks into small manageable tasks, and then starting on the first one."*

-Mark Twain

What is Occupational Therapy?

-Address Activities of Daily Living
bathing, dressing, grooming, med management, cooking, finances, self feeding, or hand writing.

-Focus on upper extremity from shoulder to hand strengthening and range of motion

-If speech therapy is not involved, cognition is addressed with focus on problem solving, dementia training, and safety awareness

We provide occupational therapy to residents and also provide outpatient services at Tuff.

Department Heads

Administrator- Katie Kendall
Executive Director- Jane Blank
Director of Nursing- Dana Huisman
Social Services Professional- Emily Baatz

Dietary Manager- Kelli Hellerud
Life Enrichment Director- Jocelyn Jacoby
Maintenance Supervisor- Ben Vander Poel
Laundry & Housekeeping Supervisor- Judy DeNoble

The Tuff Memorial Home is a Christian Home with a heart. In Christian Love, we provide heartfelt quality care to people in a way that contributes to their sense of dignity and self-worth.