

August 2026

Tuff Memorial Home

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



Resident Birthdays

Marilyn Su.	Aug. 13 th
Pat L.	Aug. 14 th
Karen M.	Aug. 22 nd
Jean P.	Aug. 23 rd

Staff Birthdays

Vivian S.	Aug. 1 st
Tina S.	Aug. 3 rd
Nicole S.	Aug. 13 th
Eric V.	Aug. 19 th
Morgan K.	Aug 23 rd

Staff Anniversaries

Adriana M.	1 year
Betty S.	1 year
Gracie W.	2 years
Rachel M.	2 years
Yahitsha	2 years
Yanisha P.	2 years
Makynzie K.	3 years
Nicole S.	3 years
Jackie G.	5 years
Lydia H.	22 years
Cherlyn B.	32 years

New Residents

Jean P.

We Remember

Carol Hadler
Lorraine Olson

Celebrating Another Year of Memories

The Tuff Memorial Home will be observing their 66th anniversary August 1, 2026. Do you know the story behind the beginning of the Tuff Memorial Home? The story began with the reading of the will of Gilbert Tuff, who was born in a sod house on the Iowa line, four miles from Hills, and for 78 years made his home in the Hills community, until his death August 8, 1957. The will of Gilbert Tuff left properties and funds to the Evangelical Lutheran Church, to be used toward the building of a home for the aging in Hills. Gilbert Tuff, together with sister-in-law Mrs. Bernard (Alfrida) Tuff gave a full block of property, including their house as a building site. The properties, except for the building site, were sold and together with the cash gift given provided about \$160,000.00 in available cash. To this amount Alfrida added \$1,000.00 and the Women's Missionary Federation of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Hills added \$5,000.00 toward building, furnishing, and equipping a new home for the aging. The Evangelical Lutheran Church elected a board of directors, and the first meeting was held August 19, 1958. The board consisted of Victor Sandager, chairman, Pearl Hellie, secretary, Arthur Johnson, treasurer, Rev. O. G. Salvesson, Mrs. Bernard Tuff, Nels Opheim and Hans Nordby. Harold Spitznagel and Associates of Sioux Falls, South Dakota were engaged as architects for the nursing home December 7, 1958. The first resident Susan Menning entered the nursing home on August 1, 1960.

2026 Summer Splash Party!



Tuff Time Travel

Residents were asked what their favorite toy or game was as a child:

- “My dolly.” – Marilyn Sw.
- “My lil’ John Deere Pedal Tractor.” – Forrest S.
- “Playing in the big trees with my brother.” – Nancy A.
- “My doll from my mom.” – Lucy V.
- “I had several dolls, but one I liked was called Betty.” – Kathryn E.
- “Playing in the grove and with old machinery.” – Jim B.
- “Playing the game Annie, Annie Over.” – Joyce H.
- “Playing Monopoly with my family.” – Jim M.
- “My John Deere Tractors.” – Charles K.
- “Playing with my dog in the yard.” – Bev D.
- “Playing Hopscotch.” – Dar B.

Highlighted Activities for August

- August 6th – Journey Through Denmark
- August 10th – Sturgis Bingo
- August 14th – Popcorn & Snow Cone Social
- August 21st – Tuff Fair
- August 27th – Resident Talent Show

Pastor's Page

We spent July hearing Jesus' parables about the kingdom of God. The kingdom of God is like a sower and the seeds, the wheat and the weeds, like yeast, like a mustard seed, like treasure hidden, a pearl, a huge catch of fish. What do these things have in common?

These stories from Matthew 13 remind us that the kingdom of God is here and now and also in the future. We seek the kingdom, like the treasure, the pearl or a large catch of fish. The things like mustard seeds and yeast, seeds and weeds, are more common among us and we encounter them on a regular basis.

The kingdom is among us in the everyday things we see and do. The kingdom is remembering someone's name, it's being appreciative of the gifts people share, it's looking beyond our own stuff to see how God is at work in others. We are quick to point out other people's 'weeds' or faults, but maybe we should be looking in our own fields or lives, to see what 'weeds' we might have growing. No one is perfect, all of us have weeds, literally and figuratively. We all make mistakes, our job isn't to judge one another, but to encourage and see the best in each other. Judging is God's job, so let go of your own need to call out one another's faults, their way of doing things or the way they look, act, speak or how they live in the world. The kingdom of God calls us to be more gracious to one another and to ourselves. Every one of us could work on that trait. Try to understand that not everyone is exactly the same, not everyone sees the world as you do, not everyone is alike, but everyone is a child of God. Everyone is blessed, everyone will be judged by God, you don't need to apply for that job!

In these days of summer, take time to think about the gifts of the kingdom and how you might discover those gifts in our world today. Read the 13th chapter of Matthew again. What does it mean to discover the kingdom in a field, on a treasure hunt, in a loaf of bread? You might be surprised what God has in store for you in this piece of scripture.

*Summer blessings,
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, August 6th

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



Employee of the Month is: *Jenna B.*

Employee of the month is Jenna B. Jenna has worked as a CNA since..... Her family consists of her husband, Brandon, thirteen year old son, Boston, and family cat, Peppermint. Her favorite hobbies include reading, reading, and more reading! But also enjoys watching Grey's Anatomy with her husband and going swimming with Boston. Her favorite thing about working at Tuff is the residents and getting to know them. She also enjoys her awesome co-workers and how great they are to work with, as well as, enjoying the atmosphere when coming into work. Fun fact, she has more tattoos than she does friends.



Blue Stone Therapy Wellness Tip

"One out of 10 falls results in an injury that causes the older adult to restrict their activities for a day and sometimes more"

- CDC Center of Disease

How to Improve your Balance

IMPROVE YOUR ENVIRONMENT

Clear out any tripping hazards such as loose rugs, clutter on the floor, or any broken steps. Install more lighting could help improve vision.

EXERCISE

Performing exercises such as squats, step ups, lunges, or bridging can help strengthen muscles that help stabilize your body. Ankle stability can be improved while trying to write the alphabet with your foot. Other activities include standing on one leg for 20-30sec starting with support and decreasing support as able.

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

Consult with your doctor about the medications that you are on. Get an eye exam, some vision problems can effect your balance.

If you or someone you know that needs help to improve their balance, we provide outpatient physical therapy 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.