

# December Birthdays

Ban Lee Y. Dec. 7 Kathleen H. Dec. 17  
Eileen B. Dec. 9 Betty W. Dec. 26  
Garry P. Dec. 16 Shirley C. Dec. 29

### Birthday Tea

Dec 10 - Magnolia  
3 pm with Alastair  
Dec 17 - Willow  
2:30 with Alastair



## T'WAS A MONTH BEFORE CHRISTMAS 2020

By: Shawna Hickling, Calgary, AB, Canada



T'was a month before Christmas,  
And all through the town,  
People wore masks,  
That covered their frown.

The frown had begun  
Way back in the Spring,  
When a global pandemic  
Changed everything.

They called it corona,  
But unlike the beer,  
It didn't bring good times,  
It didn't bring cheer.

Contagious and deadly,  
This virus spread fast,  
Like a wildfire that starts  
When fueled by gas.

Airplanes were grounded,  
Travel was banned.  
Borders were closed  
Across air, sea and land.

As the world entered lockdown  
To flatten the curve,  
The economy halted,  
And folks lost their verve.

From March to July  
We rode the first wave,  
People stayed home,  
They tried to behave.

When summer emerged  
The lockdown was lifted.  
But away from caution,  
Many folks drifted.

Now it's November  
And cases are spiking,  
Wave two has arrived,  
Much to our disliking.

Frontline workers,  
Doctors and nurses,  
Try to save people,  
From riding in hearses.

This virus is awful,  
This COVID-19.  
There isn't a cure.  
There is no vaccine.

It's true that this year  
Has had sadness a plenty,  
We'll never forget  
The year 2020.

And just 'round the corner -  
The holiday season,  
But why be merry?  
Is there even one reason?

To decorate the house  
And put up the tree,  
When no one will see it,  
No one but me.

## SOCIAL DISTANCE SANTA™



BUCHANAN LODGE



# Buchanan Buzz

NEWS FROM 409 BLAIR AVE. DECEMBER 2020

## Precious Memories



Michael and Janeene like being bubble buddies!



Doreen brings the fun factor wherever she goes!



Shirley teaches our staff some of her moves!



Kathleen's love of bowling keeps her young at 103!



The beat goes on for Bill in our rhythm section.



Doug stepped up to reach the top of our tree.

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## MIRACLE ON YOUR STREET

One of my favourite Christmas movie moments is from Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street. While some of us may no longer believe in Santa Claus, this classic scene still provokes a discussion about faith and common sense.

The movie ends with a lawyer successfully defending Kris Kringle as the real Santa Claus in a New York court. Unfortunately, little Susan, the child star of the story, still has trouble believing in him because her request for a house with a backyard swing set is left unanswered. The explanation given by her mom is that “faith is believing in things even when common sense tells you not to.” Susan begins to believe against all odds and, as in most Christmas movies, is rewarded for her simple faith.

Her mom’s advice about defying common sense may be true when you put your faith in a fictitious fat man who magically fits through chimneys, especially today when many fireplaces are electric or, at best, have a 7 inch direct vent. Billions of servings of milk and cookies wouldn’t help the situation.

Church people don’t always speak well of Santa, thinking of him as a distraction from the real Christmas story, diverting us from the true reason for the season. If you’ve been around a while, you might remember “the church lady,” Dana Carvey’s famous character on SNL, reminding us that if you rearrange the letters of Santa – “could it be...Satan?” I, however, have a less suspicious view of Santa.

Saint Nicholas, the real source behind the mythical Santa, was actually a great example of the spirit of giving. He tragically lost both his parents to an epidemic when he was a young boy (after this year, we can relate!). A committed Christian, Nicholas dedicated his inheritance to helping the poor, especially children. He would at times secretly drop bags of money down chimneys or put money in shoes left outside, and our mythical traditions developed from there.

It does defy logic to believe in the larger-than-life Santa; however, if we have faith in Jesus, like St. Nick did, then some common sense may be required. Belief in intelligent design seems more sensible than random chance. If there is a God, then it also makes sense that He had a reason for creating us. If He had a reason, He would no doubt reveal that purpose to us. The hard evidence for the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is overwhelmingly obvious to those who are open to the truth.

Whatever you believe will require faith, whether you put your trust in random chance, Santa Claus, or Jesus. Might I suggest that if you want a real miracle on your street this Christmas, use your common sense and put your faith in Jesus. ~ Chaplain Rob Buzza



Thought  
for  
December

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that if you want  
a real miracle  
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faith in Jesus.

## Gingerbread House Decorating

Magnolia - Dec. 11

@ 11:30 am

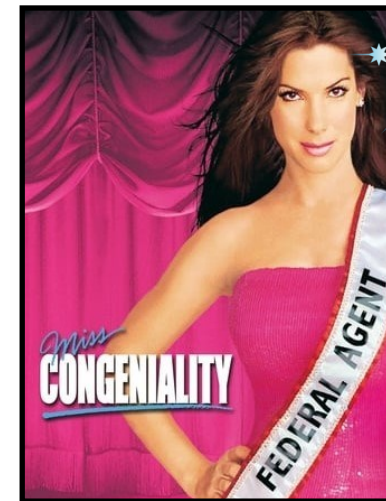
Camelia - Dec. 4

@ 2 pm

Rose - Dec. 18

@ 10:15 am

Willow - Dec. 18 @ 2 pm



**Sandra Bullock** wins our “Miss Congeniality” award after donating funds towards our Christmas gifts this year. Our residents who have been here two or more years will be receiving an incredibly creative gift, designed and produced by our good friend, **Jim Strathdee**. **Jim** also made and donated most of our protective face shields for our staff. **Thank you so much Sandra** (who has been here in Vancouver making her latest movie) and **Jim** (who was working on the same set) for your generosity and congeniality.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



CHOCOLATES



## HOUSE MUSIC FOR DECEMBER

- Rose - Dec. 8 with Bruce Tilden @ 2:30 pm  
Dec. 25 with Alastair McMurrey @ 2:30
- Willow - Dec. 25 TBA @ 2  
Dec. 31 with Alastair McMurrey @ 2:30
- Magnolia - Dec. 7 with Dave O'Malley @ 3  
Dec. 25 with Dave O'Malley @ 1:30
- Camelia - Dec. 14, 21 & 28 - Dave O'Malley @ 3  
Dec. 25 with Dave O'Malley @ 2:45

## CHRISTMAS DAY 2020

In past years Buchanan Lodge has supported families sharing a Christmas Meal with their loved ones. However, because of Covid-19, please accept our apologies this season as unfortunately that option is not possible.

Please know there will still be family visitations on Christmas day and your loved ones will still receive a traditional Christmas meal with all the trimmings!

Thank you very much for your continued understanding during this challenging time.

## Welcome Buchanan welcomes new staff members since March 2020

Amanda Weloy	Support	02-Mar-20
Yoshimi Onuki	Care Aide	03-Mar-20
Trevor Mael	Cook	09-Mar-20
Marilyn Mallari	RN Nurse	23-Mar-20
Farida Oren	Social Worker	01-Apr-20
Judy Burgon	Recreation	04-Apr-20
Gabriel Lacerda	Support	26-May-20
Nuan Mangmee-Dahinten	Support	28-May-20
Leticia Santiago	Support	01-Jun-20
Isabel Tarangco	Support	27-Aug-20
Iqbal Singh	Support	05-Sep-20
June Wells	Recreation	01-Oct-20
Itchel Ortiz- Salgado	Care Aide	05-Oct-20
Adelfo Cueto	Support	22-Oct-20
Jessica Tuomisto	Visitation	02-Nov-20
Georgina Adams	Visitation	06-Nov-20
Anna Almonte	Visitation	24-Nov-20
Sharon Collete	Food Service	24-Nov-20