

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Kuldip G.

Mila C.

Jaffer N.

Violet L.

Sohrab S.

April 2

April 3

April 3

April 8

April 13

Cleo H.

Ricardo G.

Amrit O.

Katherine F-H.

April 14

April 15

April 18

April 27

Welcome

Welcome to our new staff hired so far this year!

Mark De La Cruz	Maintenance	01/13/25
Prasher Pragati	HCA	01/20/25
Marisol Leandro	Recreation	01/27/25
Rodolfo Castro	HCA	02/06/25
Milly Nantumbwe	HCA	02/14/25
Shirley Kumar	Unit Clerk	02/14/25
Belinda Mina	HCA	02/24/25
Freda Yao	Recreation	03/25/25

DOG SHOW

The Recreation Team is once again planning a dog show for Friday May 23 at 10 am in the MPR. If you or someone you know would like to have their dog participate in our show or if you would like more info about how our dog show works, please email [patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca). In our last show in September we had 14 dogs bringing love and joy to our residents.

BONUS PRIZE BINGO

Looking for donations of stuffed animals for Bingo prizes. These can be dropped off with Visitation or brought to the Recreation Office in Magnolia.



Stay tuned in coming weeks for more on our pilot project: "Cozy Café". We want to have a self-serve café area across from the Chaplains office in the front lobby. For a few hours, 2-3 times a week, we would open this seating area to family members and their loved ones, with mellow music playing, and self-service coffee, tea, hot chocolate, flavoured coffee creams, and sweet treats available. We may also include pudding type snacks for those on specialized diets. This could be a donation café to help supplement our Recreation programs and events. We welcome your ideas and suggestions. Please drop by our office located in Magnolia house, or email [patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca)

COZY CAFE

Birthdays

Thursday, April 17  
10:30 am  
Camelia & Magnolia  
with Pete Campbell

RESPECT

Find out what it means to us

Resident Council MEETING

Resident Council Meeting - MPR  
Tuesday, April 29, 10 am

BUCHANAN LODGE



APRIL FOOL'S DAY

Mackenzie put a whoopie cushion on the teacher's chair. Makayla told the teacher that a bug was in her hair. Alyssa brought an apple with a purple gummy worm and gave it to the teacher just to see if she would squirm.

Elijah left a piece of plastic dog doo on the floor, and Vincent put some plastic vomit in the teacher's drawer. Amanda put a goldfish in the teacher's drinking glass. These April Fool's Day pranks are ones that you could use in class.

Before you go & try them, though, there's something I must mention: The teacher wasn't fooling when she put us in detention!

By Kenn Nesbitt  
From the book: REVENGE OF THE LUNCH LADIES

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Buchanan Buzz

NEWS FROM 409 BLAIR AVE.

APRIL 2025



Precious Memories



Camelia jumping for joy in honour of St. Patrick



Buchanan has discovered a safe way to play racquetball



Party time for Shadi - we're gonna miss you!



Eva & Jean are Bingo Masters



Magnolia "got their green on!"



Willow was mostly green



# Thought for April



Good Friday and Easter are next up on our calendar of annual events. Are they just another excuse to take some time off and bust open a bag of chocolate mini eggs (my personal favorite)? Or is there a deeper reason for the season?

The symbols of Easter speak of new life. The name “Easter” likely comes from the ancient word for spring and the Germanic goddess of spring and fertility, “Eastre” (the root of the word “estrogen”). Her earthly symbol was the rabbit, for obvious reasons. Other symbols like eggs, chicks, and flowers also remind us of new life.

Does the promise of new life, illustrated by the arrival of Spring and the Easter celebration, apply to our lives? I still remember an episode of the TV show, “The Good Wife,” which posed a similar question. Peter, the good wife’s unfaithful husband, sought spiritual help from a pastor for purely political reasons. But the pastor suddenly made it personal when he asked, “Do you believe Jesus died for your sins?” Peter answered honestly, “I don’t even know what that means!”

The truth is, it means everything. When Jesus died on the cross (Good Friday) and then came back to life (Easter), everything suddenly made sense. There is a God and He really did create life. You and I and all humanity are the reason for creation. Despite what others may say and what we may sometimes think, God really loves us and wants us to know Him personally. He explains all of that, the real meaning of life, in the Bible, His love letter to all of us. And at the very heart of that message is Jesus.

While others are trying to create ways to reach up to God (we call that religion) God has already reached down to us. It’s really not about what we can do to impress God – His standards are too high. Instead it’s all about what God has already done for us in sending Jesus. Jesus took upon Himself the spiritual and physical consequences for our failures. He died in our place and then came back to life so that we can experience “new life” too.

That’s what the pastor was trying to get Peter to understand. If he could begin there, there’s the potential for a fresh start as a loving husband, as a trustworthy father, and maybe even as a reputable governor. I know I’m talking about a TV show and the story unfolded differently, but what Jesus did for us is really true and it really works. He said, *I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe?* (John 11:25-26). Well - do you? ~ Chaplain Rob Buzza

*I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe?*  
JESUS



- April 5 - Saturday, Camelia, 10 am, Pete
- April 7 - Monday, Magnolia, 10 am, Alastair
- April 10 - Thursday, Camelia, 1:30 pm, Dave
- April 14 - Monday, Willow, 1:45 pm, Steve
- April 17 - Thursday, Magnolia, 10:30 am  
Birthday Tea, with Pete Campbell
- April 30 - Wednesday, Rose, 1:30 pm, Pete



## CHINESE FOOD

Wednesdays at noon  
April 9<sup>th</sup> - Rose & Willow  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Magnolia & Camelia



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

Friday, April 11 at 8 am  
Rose & Willow - MPR

Family and friends are always welcome to join their loved one for the special lunches. Please email [patricia.foley@salvationarmy](mailto:patricia.foley@salvationarmy) at least 1 day prior.



## Families Gardening Together

For any family members interested in planting in the garden this year - please contact Trish or the recreation staff to reserve a section in the garden.  
[patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca](mailto:patricia.foley@salvationarmy.ca)



## Bus Trips

We now work with a bus company to take the residents on outings. With the limited number of seat and wheelchair spaces, the rec team will keep records to ensure equal opportunity. Family is also welcome to join their loved one on these trips: May 5, June 17, and June 30, all 9:30 am -12 pm.

## Handi dart and Wheelchair Taxi

In case you didn't know, family can also book the handi dart or a wheelchair taxi to take your loved one out. Good places to go include New Westminster Quay, Royal City Mall, Queens Park, & Anvil Centre.



## ATTENTION FAMILIES

The Tover interactive game console will be set up in the MPR (MultiPurpose Room) April 1 & 2, as well as April 6, 7, & 8, so families can try it out with their loved one. Trish, our Rec Coordinator, will be available to show you how it works .

Please come to the recreation office or have reception call Trish and she will come to the MPR to demonstrate how to use this innovative piece of technology with your loved one.