

Brucelea Haven News

Together we *make* a difference!

January 2026

Grandfriends Visit in December

We had to adjust the timing of our December Grandfriends visit, but it was well worth the wait! We exchanged thoughtful Christmas gifts, shared some treats and punch, and sang Christmas carols as Rick Lobsinger played piano for us. This is another magical year fostering connection with these students.



Christmas Day Visits from Santa

What a rewarding day! Spreading love and receiving smiles on Christmas morning through our staff-led Secret Santa Program! Each year, team members at Brucelea Haven sign up to purchase gifts for each of our residents to ensure everyone has a gift to open Christmas morning. Thank you to everyone for your participation this year! This initiative reminded everyone that even small acts of kindness can make a big difference during the holidays. You could sure feel the love in each gift.



Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling day is a fan favourite during our 12 Days of Christmas Activities! We enjoyed going home area to home area and singing festive holidays songs with everyone!



Door Decorating

Another 12 Days of Christmas Activity is our Door Decorating competition. Team members work together to decorate their doors and work spaces for the holidays. It is 'snow much fun' to see everyone's creativity shine! The way the residents are included in these displays really highlights the care within our home.

The residents have voted and congratulations to the following winners:

1. Physio Team with 'Snow Much Fun!'
2. 2 West Housekeeping with 'Winter Activities'
3. 2 South 'Chillin on 2nd Floor'



Thank you to everyone who participated!



A Message from Stacey Michiels - Administrator

Thank You for an Incredible Year!

As we close out 2025, I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to the incredible team at Brucelea Haven. Your hard work, compassion, and unwavering commitment to providing exceptional care have made a profound difference for our residents, their families, and one another. This year has been full of challenges, and you've met them with professionalism and empathy every step of the way.



We also want to extend our appreciation to the **families of our residents**. Your trust, partnership, and support are invaluable as we work together to provide the best possible care. Thank you for being part of this journey and for your understanding as we navigate changes and strive for excellence.

Looking ahead to 2026, we know change is on the horizon. The upcoming **Long Term Care Facilities (LTCF) assessment changes**, **Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO) clinical pathways**, and our journey as a **Best Practice Spotlight Organization** will bring exciting opportunities to strengthen our practices and improve outcomes. While change can feel daunting, I have every confidence in this team's ability to adapt and thrive.

Let's embrace these changes as a chance to lead the way in excellence and innovation. Together, we can turn challenges into achievements and make 2026 a year of growth, learning, and success. Your voice, your ideas, and your dedication will shape the future of care—let's make it extraordinary!

Thank you for everything you do—every day, in every interaction. Wishing you and the families we serve a joyful New Year filled with health, happiness, and success!

“The future depends on what we do in the present.” - Mahatma Gandhi

Warm wishes for 2026,
Stacey Michiels

Christmas Wreath Craft

An afternoon crafting Christmas wreaths for our doors! This is such a beautiful craft that residents can customize to suit their personal style.



Christmas Lights Drive

This December each floor took turns going out for an evening drive around Walkerton to see the Christmas Lights in our community. A huge thank you to George at Saugeen Mobility for always adding such a fun dynamic to each of our trips! We could not do it without George!



Family Christmas Cafes

Our Family Christmas Cafes were such a fun way to celebrate the holiday season with our friends and family.

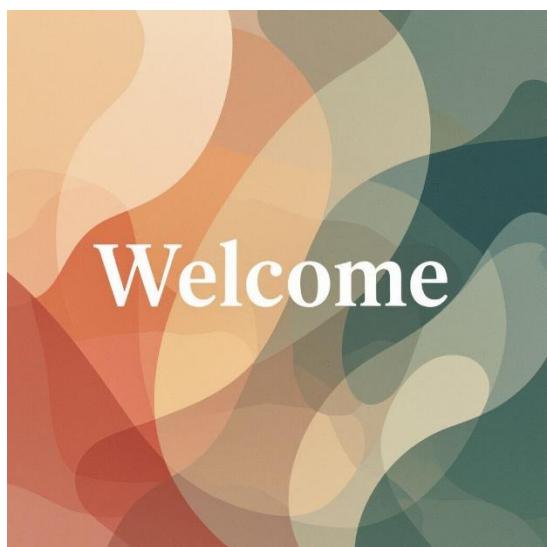


Team Christmas Meal

Celebrating our team with a Christmas meal is a heartfelt way to say thank you for the compassion, dedication and hard work they give every day. Sharing a warm meal together created a moment to slow down, connect and reflect on the impact each team member has on the lives of our residents and families. It's a meaningful way to show appreciation, build team spirit and spread some holiday cheer during a busy and demanding season.



Welcome Jesse - Social Serve Worker Student
Hello! My name is Jesse! I am a Social Service Worker student. I chose this program because I am interested in supporting people through advocacy, communication, and person-centered care! During my placement at Brucelea Haven, I hope to build my SSW skills, learn how to support residents in meaningful ways, and gain experience working as part of a team. I am grateful to my preceptors for their guidance and support during this placement. Fun Fact about me, I own a Maine Coon cat named Toby!



A Message from IPAC Lead - Jena March

At the end of November, our home experienced a home-wide Influenza A outbreak that lasted just over two weeks. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our team, the spread was contained to three units and resolved quickly. As a precaution, universal masking for staff and visitors will remain in place until further notice due to the current increase in respiratory illnesses across Grey-Bruce.

With respiratory illnesses on the rise, we kindly ask all visitors to practice respiratory etiquette during your time in the home:

- Wear a mask at all times while visiting.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow when coughing or sneezing.
- Dispose of tissues properly and perform hand hygiene immediately after.
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell or have symptoms of a cold, flu, or other respiratory illness.

Thank you for helping us protect our residents, staff, and community!



Christmas Gnomes
A fun Christmas craft to kick off our holiday season!



Special Events in January...

- 1st – Happy New Year! Welcome 2026!**
- 2nd – Brent Meidinger Entertains in the CAA at 10am**
- 6th – Music with Helen Stewart in the CAA**
- 7th – New Music with the Ramblers in the CAA**
- 8th – Deer Hunting in the CAA**
- 9th – January Resident Council Meeting at 2pm**
- 9th – Deer Hunting in 2 South at 2:15pm**
- 13th – 2 South Birthday Party with Cathy Kempert**
- 16th – Music with Ray Richards on 3 South**
- 21st – Morning Coffee & Chats with the Administrator on 4W**
- 21st – Anglican Church Service**
- 22nd – Homewide Physical Games afternoon in the CAA**
- 24th – January Birthday Party with James Skarnikat in the CAA**
- 30th – Entertainment with Leavin Tracks in the CAA**

