

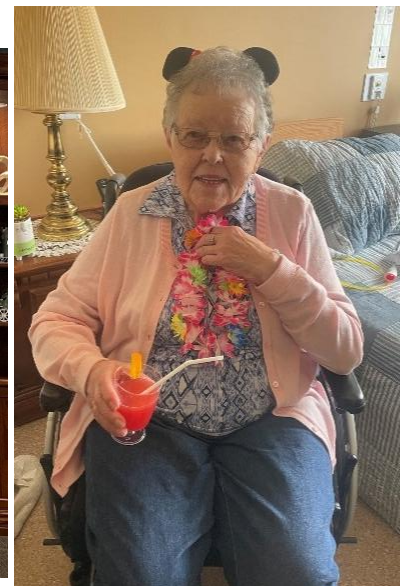
Brucelea Haven News

Together we *make* a difference!

May 2026

Disney Cruise Week 2026

Residents of Brucelea Haven set sail on the S.S Brucelea Maiden for a magical adventure during our Disney Cruise Week, where the home was transformed into a cheerful, seaside escape filled with fun and imagination. From themed décor to ‘port side’ experiences such as the Captain’s Luncheon, Karaoke, the Human Slot Machine, and Enchanted Spa, residents were invited to relive cherished memories and create new ones. Laughter and storytelling flowed as everyone embraced the spirit of Disney, complete with Mickey and Minnie ears, fostering connection, joy and a sense of wonder. This special week not only sparked creativity and imagination but also brought residents, staff and families together for a truly heartwarming voyage without ever leaving the comforts of home. A very special Thank You to Studio 410 for our Disney Princesses, and the Walkerton Kinettes for sharing decorations with us.





Bunny Visits

At the end of April, Ruth from Rabbit House Rescue in Port Elgin came to visit us with a group of cuddly bunnies! We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon cuddling these sweet bunnies. Their soft fur and calm nature encourages sensory stimulation, which can be especially meaningful for our seniors. Interacting with animals is proven to relieve stress, feelings of loneliness, while also promoting positive memories and sparking conversation. These visits promote emotional well-being and create a warm, engaging atmosphere.



Gardening

We have started our seeds for our summer garden. A huge thank you to our Social Service Worker, Jesse for his horticultural support with our planting programs!



Resident Council Elections

Our Resident Council is experiencing a new round of leaders! Following elections in April, residents would like to congratulate our new members:

- President: Sharon Sewers
- Vice President: Marion Last
- Treasurer: Terry Hearn

We look forward to a wonderful year leading with you!

Monthly Caregiver Support Group for Family & Friends of Brucelea Haven

Brucelea Haven is excited to host monthly caregiver support groups on the last Thursday of each month from 2-3pm in the Conference Room, with Lauren Kieswetter, MSW. You are welcome to attend this group if you are someone who loves and cares for a resident residing at Brucelea Haven.



A Message from IPAC Lead - Jena March

March Hand Hygiene Compliance: 90.2% out of 225 observations.

March PPE Compliance: 94.4% out of 354 observations

Hand hygiene compliance improved by 20.3% in Q1 2026 compared to Q1 2025, increasing to 87.1% with more than double the observation volume.

- Q1 2025 HH Compliance: 66.8% (202 observations)
- Q1 2026 HH Compliance: 87.1% (442 observations)

Resident Menu Committee Updates

We are looking forward to our new upcoming Spring/Summer Menu. If you have any menu suggestion items, please contact Jason Laplante at jlaplante@brucecounty.on.ca. Jason is also looking to host the next Food Committee meeting with a draft menu. Meeting date will be released soon. We have also started to enhance the items available on the snack time nourishment carts, such as Nutrigrain bars, fruit, assorted fruit cups and sauces.



Walk for Alzheimer's - May 27th at 2pm

Join us for our Brucelea Haven Walk for Alzheimer's on Wednesday, May 27th at 2pm. Hoping for a beautiful, sunny spring day, we will walk to the Heritage Water Garden and back again.

If you are able to help support a resident during the walk, please RSVP to Katrina at ktolton@brucecounty.on.ca or let a Recreation Team member know.

If you would like to make a donation towards our Team Walk, please visit https://support.alzheimer.ca/site/TR?pg=personal&px=1807442&fr_id=5569

Thank you for your constant support!

Happy Nurses Week: May 11-15th

This Year, for Nursing week (May 11-15th), we are extending our deepest gratitude and appreciation to the dedicated and compassionate nursing staff of Bruce County at both Gateway Haven and Brucelea Haven. Our sincere thanks go to the Registered Nurses, Registered Practical Nurses, and Nurse Practitioners who form the team that work everyday to meet the needs of those who live in our Homes.

Every day, Nurses bring not only expert care but also kindness and understanding to their roles, creating a nurturing environment for our residents and their families. Their commitment, especially in the past year, demonstrates a level of dedication that deserves recognition and celebration.

At both Gateway Haven and Brucelea Haven, Nurses are more than just caregivers; they are crucial supports of the Bruce County long-term care community and the backbone of our homes. The strength they show in your every action, the comfort you provide to our residents, and the meticulous attention to their wellbeing, embody the highest standards of care.

During Nursing Week, each home will reflect on the invaluable contributions of this team — from clinical excellence to the moments of personal connection that enhance the lives of our residents. Nurses have each shared something profoundly meaningful with those in their care, fostering an environment where dignity, respect, and wellbeing are prioritized above all.

Let's use this week to acknowledge the sacrifices you make, the care you provide, and the impact you have. You are truly appreciated, not just during Nursing Week, but every day.

At Brucelea Haven we plan to:

- Have activities that celebrate many attributes of those who make up our nursing team
- Helping each nurse to realize what we value most about their contributions.
- Provide several celebratory food and beverage events for our dedicated team of Nurses

Thank you, from all of us at Bruce County Long-Term Care and Senior Services.

Happy Personal Support Worker Week: May 18^h – 22nd

On May 18-22nd, we will celebrate a very special occasion - Personal Support Worker Week - and to honor the exceptional staff at both Gateway Haven and Brucelea Haven. Each of you have shown exceptional dedication and compassion in your roles, significantly impacting the lives of those within the Bruce County long-term care community.

Your tireless efforts are certainly well noticed. The personal attention, care, and support you offer daily meets the needs of those you look after, often exceeding expectations, offering comfort and companionship to those who depend on you most.

On behalf of everyone at Bruce County, Thank you for everything you do. You are pivotal team members of our home - you are heroes who improve the quality of life for every resident.

So on the week of May 18-22nd, we will celebrate you - our skilled, kind-hearted, and dedicated Personal Support Workers. Let this week serve as a reminder of how invaluable you are to our community and to each individual you touch with your work that provide support and warm smiles that brighten days.

This week allows for formal acknowledgment of the care that PSWs provide, the relationships that they foster and the impact they have.

In celebration, Brucelea Haven will be offering:

- Variety of food and beverage activities to celebrate the contributions of PSWs
- Interactive activities throughout the week for all to participate.
- Have activities that celebrate many attributes of those who make up our PSW team

Thank you from all of us at Bruce County Long-Term Care and Senior Services.

Happy Administrative Professionals Week

We are pleased to share that April 20th-24th, 2026 was Administrative Professionals Appreciation Week. During this time, we recognized the valuable contributions of our administrative team through an engaging team lunch. Staff Recognition: Maia Jez (Visitor Reception Services), Wanda Rands (Ward Clerk), Raelynn Aljoe (Administrative Assistant), Kathy Petrie and Kelsey Vanderlip (Central Scheduling Office). Thank you for all you do to make day-to-day operations of the home run smoothly!



JBS Clothing Shopping Event

Residents, families and friends of Brucelea Haven, join us on Thursday, May 14th from 11am-3pm on the main floor of BLH for a clothing shopping event with JBS Clothing. Chris will be onsite with racks of clearance sale clothing and will also be able to place clothing orders for anything she does not have in stock on site.



Clinical Pathways Update

Bruce County Long-Term Care homes are embracing a three-year initiative to implement the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario (RNAO)'s Clinical Pathways program, aimed at enhancing resident care and improving the team member experience through enhanced work-flows.

This innovative program offers a structured approach to care delivery in long-term care homes, that makes use of the RNAO's best practice guidelines. Through the careful integration of Clinical Pathway tools into electronic medical records, the homes aim to streamline documentation and ensure consistent, high-quality care for residents.

Training and preparation to date include gap analyses, policy and procedure development, and communication planning. The efforts culminate in initial phase roll out on May 5th 2026 including a new admission assessment, delirium assessment and resident and family-centered care. These initial assessments help to form the foundation for the phases that follow. This initial assessment will see the most significant impact on the Clinical Care Coordinators (with admission assessment), as well as the Social Worker (with the Resident and Family-Centered Care Assessment). Reference materials and tools have also been developed and to be available and updated as we go.

On May 5th we will also celebrate this milestone in the home with the support of the RNAO Team and leaders in the home to help provide further awareness of these efforts to the broader community in each home. This will also feature some opportunities to learn more, to enjoy light refreshments and treats as well as a sneak peek to those who may want to see the tools in action.

The next phases of the clinical pathways program will build on this initial phase and directly impact the work experience of even more of our clinical team on a daily basis with a shift to focus on falls, pain management, palliative care, and clinical guidelines. The implementation of these clinical pathways will also help lay the foundation for the home to be recognized as an RNAO Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO). Achieving this status helps to highlight the efforts and contributions that help deliver excellence in care.

A giant thank you to all the staff who have participated in one way or another to date. The help and feedback you have provided so far has been essential to get this project off the ground.

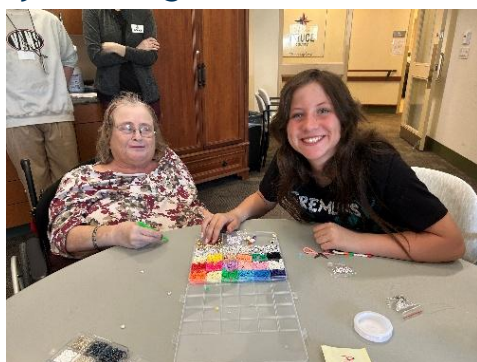
Upcoming Family Town Hall

Our next Family Town Hall meeting will be hosted on May 19 at 4pm in the CAA. During this meeting we will provide a review of our Quality plans for both a Stakeholder Meeting and Family Town Hall.

A large focus of 2026 is changing the language we use in LTC to Person-Centred Language. We invite everyone, family members as well, to take part in the e-course found through the CLRI to further enhance their own understanding of person-centred language. [Implementing Person-centred Language: An Overview for Long-Term Care Team Members - Ontario Centres for Learning, Research, and Innovation in Long-Term Care](#)

Grandfriends April Visit

Our Grade 8 Grandfriends from Mildmay-Carrick visits on April 27th. We made friendship bracelets and were able to enjoy some time outside in the courtyard. Some residents even took their buddy on a tour of our home. Intergenerational partnerships create meaningful connections between our residents and younger generations. These interactions boost mood, purpose, and overall well-being for our residents. For our students, these visits foster empathy, patience, storytelling and laughter, bringing a sense of community across generations.



Special Events in May...

5th – Entertainment by Leaving Tracks in the CAA

6th – May Resident Council Meeting at 2pm

8th – Early On Visit in the CAA at 10am

8th – Bus Trip to Walmart 1-3pm

9th – Saturday Bingo

10th – Happy Mother's Day

10th - Entertainment by Spencer Bristow in the CAA

11th – Grandfriends Mother's Day Visit

12th – 2 South May Birthday Party with Cathy Kempert

13th – Bus Trip to Pike Lake Golf Club for Lunch

14th – JBS Clothing Company Shopping Event 11am-3pm

15th – Music with Ray Richards on 3S

18th – Happy May Long Weekend!

19th – Family Town Hall Meeting 4-5pm

22nd – Music with the Ramblers in the CAA

26th – May Birthday Party with Dave & the Retros in the CAA

27th – Walk for Alzheimer's at 2pm

