Bruce County
Long Term Care & Senior Services

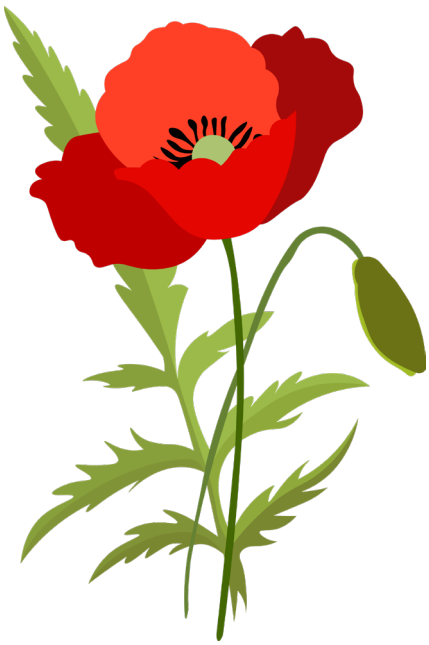
Brucelea Haven News

Together we *make* a difference! November 2026

Welcome, November



November is here, bringing crisp air, shorter days, and the comforting sights and sounds of late autumn. It is a wonderful time to slow down, enjoy a warm drink, share a favourite story, and appreciate the people who make each day special at Brucelea Haven. Throughout the month, residents can look forward to opportunities for music, games, creative activities, seasonal treats, and time spent with family and friends. We will also pause on Remembrance Day to honour the courage, service, and sacrifice of those who have served—and continue to serve—our country.



As the season changes, we remain grateful for the kindness, laughter, and companionship shared throughout our home. Thank you to our residents, families, volunteers, and team members for helping create such a caring community. We wish everyone a peaceful November filled with meaningful moments, warm connections, and plenty of reasons to smile.

A Car Show Worth Waiting For!



Our much-anticipated car show was originally planned for the summer, but wildfire smoke and reduced air quality meant we had to postpone the event to keep everyone safe. Although we were disappointed to wait, the rescheduled show turned out to be well worth it!



When October arrived, we were treated to a gorgeous fall day and a wonderful turnout of vehicles. The Brucelea Haven parking lot was filled with classic cars and special-interest vehicles for residents to admire and enjoy.





Residents enjoyed taking a closer look at the cars, sharing favourite memories, and chatting with the vehicle owners who helped make the afternoon so special.





Thank you to everyone who brought a vehicle, attended the show, or helped organize the event. After an unexpected delay, it was wonderful to finally gather together for a memorable October afternoon that was truly worth the wait!

October Highlights: From Thanksgiving Cheer to Halloween Fun!

October was filled with seasonal celebrations, delicious treats, and plenty of opportunities to spend time together. We began the month with a festive Thanksgiving weekend. Residents enjoyed the comforting flavours of fall as an apple cider cart made its rounds, followed by a special Thanksgiving tea featuring delicious apple fritters. Thanksgiving crafts added a creative touch to the celebrations and gave everyone a chance to share in the warmth and gratitude of the season.

As Thanksgiving came to a close, we quickly moved into spooky season! Residents enjoyed bobbing for apples, costume parades, and Halloween baking. Everyone's colourful costumes brought smiles and laughs throughout the home.

The Halloween fun continued all month long with pumpkin painting, Halloween crafts, spooky movies, and plenty of tasty treats. We wrapped up the celebrations with a lively Halloween party filled with festive fun and laughter. Thank you to everyone who helped make October such a memorable month for our residents!



Photo by Resident Mary











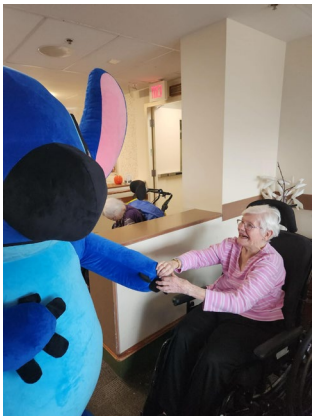














Upcoming Education Opportunities
We have received requests from families for additional educational opportunities. We are currently working to develop these sessions, so please stay tuned for more information in the coming months!

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 3-4pm 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.

Please RSVP to Maia or Lauren
BruceleaHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca
LKieswetter@brucecounty.on.ca

Resident's Council with Emily M
Our next Resident's Council meeting will take place on **November 18th at 2pm in the CAA**. Whether you have ideas to share, questions to ask, or feedback to provide, your opinions help us create the best possible living experience for everyone. These meetings are an opportunity for residents to help shape programs, services, and daily life in our home. We value your input and look forward to hearing your thoughts.

A Flower from Mary



Each month, our newsletter will feature the birth flower associated with that month's birthdays. Just like birthstones, birth flowers have special meanings and traditions that have been passed down through generations.

Thank you to resident Mary for inspiring and helping bring this feature to our newsletter!

November's Birth Flower - Chrysanthemum



With their full, layered petals and rich shades of gold, bronze, red, purple, and white, chrysanthemums bring beautiful colour to the late-autumn garden. Often called "mums," these hardy flowers continue to bloom as the weather cools, long after many other blooms have faded. Chrysanthemums symbolize joy, optimism, loyalty, friendship, and long life – wonderful qualities to celebrate those born in November.

Fun Fact: The name chrysanthemum comes from the Greek words for "golden flower," and in many parts of Asia the blooms are also steeped to make a soothing chrysanthemum tea!

Introducing Our Family Council

We are excited to announce the launch of the Brucelea Haven Family Council!

What is a Family Council?
A Family Council is a self-led group of family members and friends of residents in a long-term care home (LTC). These are people who care deeply about the wellbeing of residents and want to support one another — offering peer support, shared knowledge, and working together to enhance the experience for everyone living in care.
What began informally in the 1990s as families supporting each other has evolved into a structured, grassroots movement now supported by Family Councils Ontario (FCO). Today, hundreds of formal Family Councils operate in LTC homes across Ontario, with recognized authority under provincial law.

To get started, we will host an education session on what a Family Council is, what it does, and how families can get involved. Our virtual guest speaker, Natasha Dupuis from Family Councils Ontario, will join us to share information and answer your questions.

When: Thursday November 26th at 4:00pm
Where: Brucelea Haven CAA
RSVP: mjez@brucecounty.on.ca by Thursday November 19th


Join us for Brucelea's
Christmas
Vendor
Market
45.0°N 81.3°W
BRUCE
county
Date: November 27th, 2026
Time: 9am to 3pm
Location: 41 McGivern St W,
Walkerton ON

A Message from Jena
Infection Control & Staff Development Lead

Fall immunization clinics were held for residents on October 21st and 22nd, offering RSV, influenza, and COVID-19 booster vaccinations. To date, 71% of residents have received the RSV vaccine, 73% have received their COVID-19 booster, and 85% have received their influenza vaccine. These strong vaccination rates will help protect residents from severe respiratory illness and, we hope, reduce the number and impact of respiratory outbreaks within the home throughout the season.

Physio Update

We would like to provide families with an update regarding physiotherapy services at Brucelea Haven.
At this time, physiotherapy oversight and assessments will be provided virtually while Lifemark works to recruit and establish a permanent onsite Physiotherapist. Lifemark has advised that this arrangement is intended to ensure continuity of care while a longer-term solution is finalized.
Residents will continue to receive support for their physiotherapy needs. Our onsite Physiotherapy Assistants (PTAs) remain available in the home and will continue working with residents on their individualized physiotherapy programs, mobility goals, exercises, and treatment plans under the direction of the Physiotherapist.
We appreciate your understanding during this transition and will share further updates as they become available. If you have any questions regarding physiotherapy services, please feel free to contact us.

We warmly encourage families to come and join in our activities, volunteer, and spend time with us - not just at special events or programs. With lots of festive activities coming up, please feel free to join in the fun!

Special Events in November...

2nd – November Birthday Party with Helen Stewart at 2pm – CAA
6th – Remembrance Day Service with Royal Canadian Legion Branch 102, Walkerton at 10:15am - CAA
7th – 2S November Birthday Party with Cathy Kempert at 2pm – 2 South
10th – School Group Visit with Sacred Heart High School at 10:55am – 3 South
11th – Remembrance Tea at 2pm – All Floors
12th – Super Citizens Gospel Choir at 2pm – CAA
14th – Chocolate Pie Treat Cart at 2pm – All Floors
16th – Christmas Decorating Begins!
20th – Christmas Visit with EarlyOn Daycare Center at 10am – CAA
25th – Holstein Musical Belles Christmas Choir at 6:15pm – CAA
27th – Christmas Bazaar 9am-3pm – CAA
- **Christmas Wreath Delivery from Sacred Heart High School**

28th – Entertainment with Leavin Tracks at 2pm – 3 South
30th – Cocoa, Cookies & Conversation at 2pm - CAA