

# Gateway Haven News

Together we *make* a difference!

April 2026

## March Highlights

While spring is just beginning to tease its arrival and the snow has been reluctant to leave—residents still found plenty of warmth and joy through a wide variety of engaging experiences designed to bring people together and brighten the days in March.

A highlight of the month was our festive St. Patrick's Day celebrations, which brought a wonderful sense of energy and fun to Gateway.

We were delighted to welcome the musical group *Blue Sky Day*, whose lively Irish tunes had residents clapping along and tapping their toes in no time. We also enjoyed an Irish inspired social hour, residents enjoyed

green “near beer”, mocktails and lots of laughs while discovering their playful Irish alter egos—names like “Freckles McChevery” and “Rolly O’Hopscotch” brought smiles all around. Residents also embraced the spirit of the season through creative St. Patrick’s Day crafts, adding a touch of festive décor to their living spaces.



Intergenerational connections remained a cherished part of our monthly programming. Our weekly visits with local daycare children continue to be heartwarming highlights, bringing out smiles, laughter, and special moments that residents truly look forward to each week.

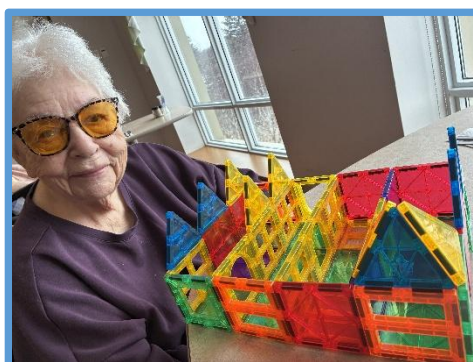
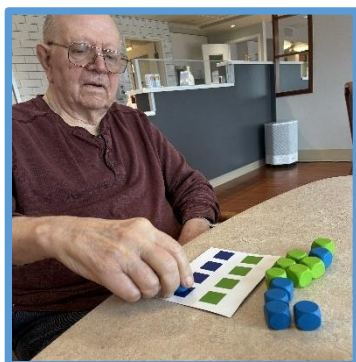
Another standout event was the “Order-In Lunch,” which returned by resident request and drew a full crowd to the café. This month’s choice was Chinese cuisine which was a tremendous success.

With generous portions and plenty of satisfied appetites, the room fell quiet as everyone savored their meals. The excitement is already building for next month's selection, with residents debating between pizza or another round of Chinese food! Families are always welcome to join their loved one for this special dining experience, simply connect with a member of our recreation team to make arrangements.

Residents also enjoyed a variety of enriching activities, including baking, crafts, household activities and a special visit from a local line dancing group. Their lively performance and country music were a delight to watch, and we are excited to welcome them back again in April.

With warmer weather on the horizon, we are especially looking forward to taking more of our activities outdoors. Fresh air and sunshine play an important role in overall wellness, and we can't wait to enjoy the season together in the weeks ahead.

It's been a joyful and fulfilling month, and we look forward to all that April will bring!



## Spring

As the warmer season approaches, residents have been busy tending to plants in preparation for their spring plant sale. With careful care and thanks to family contributions of succulents, the plants are flourishing and almost ready for new homes. Stay tuned for details in our upcoming newsletter!

Residents were also inspired to celebrate the season creatively by writing a group poem. Gathering together, they shared memories and reflections on spring, resulting in a lovely poem - take a read!

From gardening to poetry, these activities nurture creativity, connection, and joy. We can't wait to enjoy more moments of growth and inspiration as the outdoors finally begins to bloom around us.

Spring...  
 Welcome Friends  
 Spring will soon be here  
 That's a happy thought  
 Birds singing in the treetops  
 School will soon be over  
 Warmer weather and  
 Spring showers bring flowers  
 Sun is shining, snow melting  
 And the green grass is showing  
 Put the feeders out,  
 Cardinals and robins are back  
 Crocus and tulips are blooming  
 Lighthouses are lit again

## April Activity Highlights

2nd: Music with Amber

7th: Music with Lori

7th: Line Dancers

15th: Harp with Rosamund

17th: Food/Dietary Committee Meeting

20th: Music with Bruce

20th: Resident Council

27th: Bus Trip

29th: Social/Meet & Greet

For a full list of monthly activities please visit our [website at Gateway Haven](#). Monthly calendars can be accessed on the first day of the month.

## Volunteer Appreciation Month

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, a special time to recognize and celebrate the incredible individuals who give their time, energy, and compassion to enrich the lives of residents. We look forward to honouring our dedicated volunteers and showing our gratitude by hosting a volunteer luncheon in their honour.

Our volunteers play a vital role in our community—whether they are sharing their musical talents, leading activities like knitting or games, telling stories, supporting group outings, or simply spending one-on-one time socializing with residents. These meaningful connections make a lasting difference every day.

If you've ever considered volunteering, we would love to hear from you! Whether you can offer a special skill or simply your time and companionship, opportunities are available on a weekly, monthly, or even quarterly basis to fit your schedule.

Join us in making a difference. Reach out to Stacey Goldie, the Recreation and Leisure Manager at [sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca) to learn more about how you can become part of our wonderful volunteer community.

Volunteer  
 Appreciation

## Alzheimer's Walk

Based on resident feedback, we are proud to once again participate in the IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's, supporting individuals and families in our community affected by dementia. Thanks to your generosity, we nearly doubled our \$500 fundraising goal last year, and we're hopeful of building on that success as we plan to walk the afternoon of Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. Funds raised support the important work of the Alzheimer Society of Grey-Bruce, helping provide local programs and services.

If you would like to join us for the walk, please reach out to Stacey Goldie, the Recreation and Leisure Manager at [sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca), as this helps us with planning and coordination for the day. We also warmly encourage donations of any amount—every contribution makes a meaningful difference. If you're unable to attend, you are still very welcome to support the cause by donating through the following link [Walk For Alzheimer's - IG Wealth Management Walk for Alzheimer's](#)

Thank you for your continued support!

## Present With Residents Campaign

We are pleased to share the launch of our "Present with Residents" campaign, an initiative focused on supporting distraction-free, dignified care.

This campaign encourages staff to remain fully present and engaged during their time with residents by keeping personal devices, such as phones and earbuds, stored away while in resident areas. Personal device use is permitted during breaks in designated staff areas or when approved by a supervisor for work-related purposes.

By minimizing distractions, this approach helps enhance the quality of interactions, strengthen connections, and support a respectful and attentive care environment for all residents.

## Updates Around the Home

We are pleased to share a few exciting updates with our residents and families.

With valuable feedback from residents, our new outdoor courtyard furniture has been selected! The refreshed space will include a variety of comfortable seating, planters, and shade structures, with delivery expected this spring. To celebrate, residents have expressed interest in hosting a grand opening event this summer. We look forward to welcoming families to enjoy the rejuvenated courtyard together, with more details to come in an upcoming issue of the newsletter.

As part of our ongoing emergency preparations, the home will also be adding evacuation chairs. These specialized chairs are designed to assist with safe evacuation during an emergency, particularly in stairwells. They allow individuals to be securely seated and guided smoothly downstairs when needed.



In addition, our Special Event Room has been updated with a new meeting table and chairs that meet public health standards for infection prevention and control, with easy-to-clean surfaces. Families are welcome to reserve this space for small gatherings such as birthday celebrations, anniversaries, holiday events, or a quiet meal together. Bookings can be made through Visitor Services at [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca)

## Join Us for the Caregiver Support Group

Monthly meetings occur the last Monday of the month. The Caregiver Support Group is open to anyone who loves and cares for a resident at Gateway Haven, offering a space to connect with others who understand the challenges and rewards of caregiving.

The Caregiver Support Group is designed to reduce feelings of isolation, normalize grief and conflicting emotions, and offer peer support. It provides an opportunity to share experiences, gain coping skills and feel heard and validated in the caregiving journey.

We would love to have you join us, please RSVP to the Social Worker, Lauren, at [lkieswetter@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:lkieswetter@brucecounty.on.ca) or by emailing Reception services at [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca)

**When: Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 3-4 PM**

**Where: Gateway Haven Library**

## Dietary Updates



Residents have chosen some wonderful menu options to celebrate Easter weekend, including special selections like honey-glazed ham or roast turkey, choice of potatoe, vegetables, and pie for dessert on Sunday evening. A festive breakfast menu will also be enjoyed on Good Friday.

Families are always welcome to join their loved one for any meal by purchasing a meal ticket at a cost of \$10.00 through Visitor Reception Services at [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca). Please note that for Easter weekend specifically, a limited number of tickets are available, and reservations must be made by the end of the day on April 2nd.

We would also like to highlight the creativity of our dietary team in March. One of our cooks, Kim, added a festive touch to St. Patrick's Day with a themed Jell-O dessert that brought smiles to residents and made the celebration extra special.

We look forward to their fun creations throughout the year!

## Quality Improvement Plan

We are pleased to share that our Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) for 2026-27 has been submitted! The QIP is an annual plan required for all Ontario long-term care homes to guide improvements in resident care, safety, and well-being.

This year, our focus areas include:

- Reducing potentially avoidable emergency department visits
- Increasing staff training in Truth and Reconciliation
- Enhancing resident psychological safety
- Improving wound care and reducing pressure ulcers
- Decreasing the frequency of falls

To make this information easily accessible, we will be installing a Quality Information Board this month on the main level, down the hall from Reception Services. This new board will provide families and visitors with a quick, effortless way to view our quality initiatives and the details of our QIP throughout the year.

## Supporting Ongoing Education

Annually, all staff are required to complete mandatory training through our online learning platform, covering key areas such as resident care policies, ministry regulations, infection prevention and control, health, and safety and more. This helps support a knowledgeable team committed to safe, high-quality care.

We also promote ongoing learning through the CLRI (Centre for Learning, Research, and Innovation in Long Term Care) via the Personal Support Worker Education Fund for Long-Term Care. This is a Ministry-funded program that supports continuing education for all long-term care staff across Ontario. This initiative helps build skills, strengthen person-centred approaches, and supports a confident, capable workforce.

We are pleased to share that many of our staff have already completed various CLRI education modules, and recently, over a dozen team members participated in Grey County's "Better Together" Dementia Care Training Day on March 19. These opportunities reflect our continued commitment to learning and enhancing the care we provide every day.

## Nursing Care Updates

As a Best Practice Spotlight Organization, we are proud to share that the RNAO Nursing Advantage Clinical Pathways will go live in our home on May 5th.

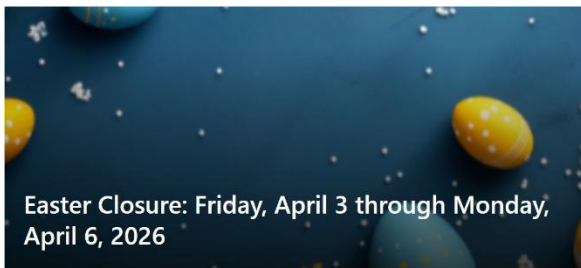
Clinical pathways are like checklists or "recipes" based on research and best practices, helping our team provide consistent, high-quality care for residents. Initially, we will be focusing on pathways for admission, delirium, and resident/family-centered care, ensuring that every resident receives care aligned with the latest evidence and best practices.

Our trained champions are ready to support these changes in the home, helping staff integrate the pathways into daily care. We're excited to see how these best practice guidelines positively impact clinical assessments and overall quality indicators for residents.



For more information visit  
[RNAO.ca/clinicalpathways](https://rnao.ca/clinicalpathways)

## Visitor Reception Services Updates



Please note that Visitor Reception Services will be closed on Friday, April 3 (Good Friday) and Monday, April 6 (Easter Monday). Regular hours will resume on Tuesday, April 7.

We are also pleased to share that April 20-24 is Administrative Professionals Appreciation Week. During this time, we will recognize the valuable contributions of our administrative team.

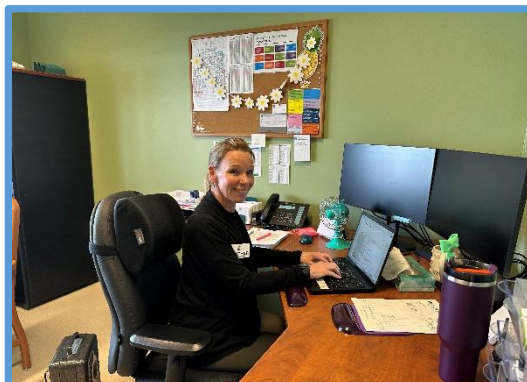
*Staff Recognition:* Lesley Prowse (Visitor Reception Services), Caitlin Vicente (Ward Clerk), Carrie Hayhurst (Administrative Assistant), Kathy Petrie and Kelsey Vanderlip (Central Scheduling Office).

Families are always welcome to share a kind word of appreciation if you have the opportunity!

Finally, we are happy to share that our two new team members introduced in our last newsletter are settling well into their new roles. We're happy to now put faces to their names and encourage you to reach out to them if support is needed.



Carrie Hayhurst - Admin Assistant



Heather Martin - Admin Supervisor

## Emergency Preparedness - Code Blue

Throughout April, staff will be reviewing Code Blue protocols to ensure continued readiness and a coordinated response in any emergency.

Code Blue is called in the event of a life-threatening medical emergency affecting anyone on the premises, such as cardiac arrest, respiratory distress, or choking. This alerts team members to respond promptly and follow our established Code Blue emergency procedures.

Our staff are trained to act quickly and appropriately in these situations. For residents, Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) status is confirmed before any interventions are initiated. The home is also equipped with an automated external defibrillator (AED) to support emergency response.

## Visitor Health & Hand Hygiene Reminder

As we approach the Easter season and welcome increased visitors into the home, we kindly remind families and guests to help us keep everyone safe.

If you are feeling unwell, please consider rescheduling your visit for another day to help protect residents and staff.

### Quick Tips on Using Hand Sanitizer:

1. Apply a dime-sized amount of sanitizer to the palm of one hand.
2. Rub hands together, covering all surfaces (palms, back of hands, between fingers, thumbs, and fingertips).
3. Continue rubbing until hands are completely dry (at least 15-20 seconds).
4. Do not wipe or rinse hands before they are dry.

Please remember to clean your hands upon arrival, before and after visits, and when leaving the home. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe environment.

## Family Council

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 25th, at 6:30 PM in the library or can be joined virtually. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to receive updates, share feedback and questions, and connect with others who are committed to enhancing life in the home.

For more information you are welcome to reach out to the Family Council President, Mandi, via email at [lamb114@uwindsor.ca](mailto:lamb114@uwindsor.ca) or Family Council Assistant, Stacey Goldie, at [sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca)

Meeting minutes are posted on the bulletin board beside the Visitor Reception Services desk for those who wish to review them.

## Dental Care - The Tooth Studio is Back!

We are delighted to announce that Taylor will be returning from her leave of absence in May! Her first clinic back is scheduled for May 11th. We know many of you have missed her friendly care and are thrilled to welcome her back to Gateway.

A heartfelt thank you to Saga, who stepped in during Taylor's absence to ensure residents continued receiving service.

If you are interested in having your loved one seen during the upcoming clinic, please contact Visitor Reception Services or email [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca) to make a reservation.

## Food Drive

Gateway Haven is supporting a Holiday Food Drive! All items collected supply our local food bank and help make a meaningful difference for individuals and families in our community. We welcome you to add to our collection.

Suggested Items: canned tomatoes, canned vegetables, canned meat, canned pasta, boxed cold cereal, jarred baby food, canned fruit, Kraft Dinner, toothpaste and toothbrushes, shampoo and body soap. Please ensure donations are non-expired and dropped off any time before noon on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!



## Community Events

There are some upcoming local events and activities happening in and around the area that you may want to enjoy with your loved one.

If you are aware of any additional community events, please feel free to share your suggestions with Stacey at [sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca) to be featured in future editions!


## Leadership Contact Information

You can reach Gateway Haven at 519-534-1113. Our phone system has prompts to connect you with the appropriate department, nurses' station, or leader.

Emmy Seeley  
 Administrator  
 Ext. 3105  
[eseeley@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:eseeley@brucecounty.on.ca)

**Legends Live on**

Best Dressed  
Sock Hop  
Show




WARTON  
PROPELLER CLUB

**Elvis Presley**

**Buddy Holly.**

**May 30th**

Admission \$25  
 Doors open at  
 6pm show at 6:30  
 575 Edward St, Warton, ON



**Sock Hop Show. Bring your poodle skirt.  
 And dress like a 50's greaser to Win  
 Best Dressed male and Female**

**Propeller Club 226-217 3704**

**JackZz 226-923-1948**

The Warton Propeller Club  
 Non-Profit Corporation  
 contact@wartonpropellerclub.ca  
 226-217-3702  
 575 Edward Street, Warton, ON  
 Your Data is Protected Under Law

Heather Martin  
 Administrative Supervisor  
 Ext. 3104  
[hmartin@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:hmartin@brucecounty.on.ca)

Lesley Prowse  
Visitor Services/Reception  
Ext. 3102  
lprowse@brucecounty.on.ca

Rachel Rowney  
Director of Nursing  
Ext. 3141  
rrowney@brucecounty.on.ca

Jodi Simonato  
Nurse Manager- 2nd Floor  
Ext. 3251  
JSimonato@brucecounty.on.ca

Robyn Wilson  
Nurse Manager -3rd Floor  
Ext. 3250  
rwilson@brucecounty.on.ca

Tashynna Nault  
Clinical Care Coordinator- 2nd Floor  
Ext.3543  
tnault@brucecounty.on.ca

Tina Beniuk  
Clinical Care Coordinator- 3rd Floor  
Ext. TBA

TBeniuk@brucecounty.on.ca

Stacey Goldie  
Recreation & Leisure Manager  
Ext. 3147  
sgoldie@brucecounty.on.ca

Ash Thapa  
Dietary Services Manager  
Ext. 3106  
AThapa@brucecounty.on.ca

Trevor McFadden  
Environmental Services Manager  
Ext. 3134  
tmcfadden@brucecounty.on.ca

Callie Jewell  
Infection Control and Staff Education Lead  
Ext. 3350  
cjewell@brucecounty.on.ca

Lauren Kieswetter  
Social Worker  
226-909-2308  
LKieswetter@brucecounty.on.ca