

# Gateway Haven News

Together we *make* a difference!

June 2026

## A Memorable May!

May was filled with laughter, fresh air, music, and many memorable moments for residents to enjoy together! With the warmer weather finally arriving, residents were happy to spend more time outdoors enjoying the sunshine, and beautiful seasonal scenery. One highlight of the month was a scenic bus trip to take in the colourful tulip fields, which made for a wonderful spring outing.

Residents also enjoyed a lovely Mother's Day Tea celebration featuring fancy macaroons, assorted teas, and special time spent together celebrating the occasion.

A festive Cinco de Mayo celebration brought opportunities to learn about Mexico and the significance of the holiday while creating colourful mini pinatas.

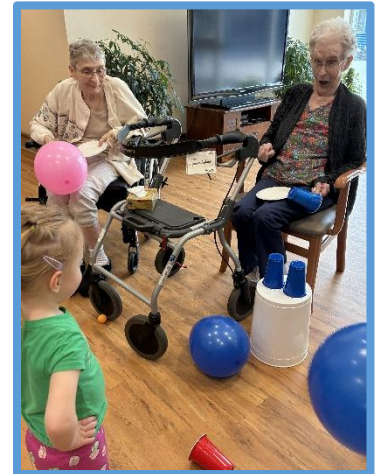
As always, activities with our day care friends brought lots of joy and energy to the home, and residents loved participating in intergenerational fun throughout the month.

Another meaningful highlight was participation in the Alzheimer's Walk. Residents were eager to take part, and with Mother Nature providing a beautiful day for a stroll outdoors, we enjoyed the opportunity to walk together in support of a worthy cause and socialize afterwards with some refreshing treats. Together, we proudly raised over \$350.00 dollars.

Our annual plant sale was also a wonderful success this month and helped raise funds in support of the Horticultural Therapy Program. Residents enjoyed helping care for the plants and seeing them find new homes. We are incredibly grateful for the generous plant donations received from family members. We would also like to extend a special thank you to a thoughtful family member who chose to make a kind donation directly to the Horticultural Therapy Program in support of resident programming!

Residents also participated in a fun spring and summer menu taste-testing event coordinated in partnership with our Dietary Department and Sysco representative. Residents had the opportunity to sample a variety of potential new menu items and provide honest feedback on their favourites. The clear crowd favourite? Lavender lemonade ice cream! This will certainly be added to the menu. The event was such a success that we hope to collaborate on an even larger tasting event this fall in support of the seasonal menu. Thanks for making May another fun month!





## June Activity Highlights

2: Music with Ferndale Flatts\* New  
 3: Bus Trip  
 4: Grandfriend Visits  
 11: Music with Amber  
 11: Resident's Council  
 15: Music with Bruce  
 18: Order in Lunch  
 18: Jersey Day

21: Father's Day  
 23: Music with Cathy  
 25: Resident Calendar Meeting  
 25: Bus Trip  
 26: Food Committee  
 29: Music with Kevin\* New  
 30: Social Hour/Meet & Greet

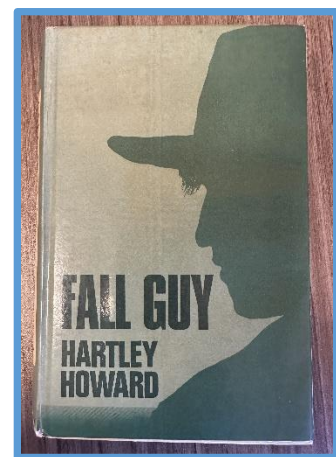
For a full list of monthly activities please visit our [website at Gateway Haven](#). Monthly calendars can be accessed on the first day of the month.

## Book of the Month

Our resident book recommendation continues this month with a pick from one of our avid readers. He described Fall Guy by Hartley Howard as an absolute five-star must read that was hard to put down and kept him eager to read more. He strongly recommended it to anyone who would enjoy a British crime thriller that offers unexpected twists in the pursuit of the truth. This one can be borrowed from our in-house Gateway Haven library at your convenience.

Books have also inspired a little fun around Resident Council! Meetings often begin with a joke shared by the Resident Council Assistant. Most of the jokes tend to be described by residents as "groaners," but they always get people talking and laughing. This month, one resident requested a joke book through the Bookmobile Program to help improve our odds of finding a few jokes that get more laughs than groans for future meetings.

Stay tuned for next month's newsletter - we are hopeful our new joke book will help us uncover a few gems worthy of sharing with our readers.



## Special Gatherings

We often receive inquiries about room reservations for family celebrations, milestone birthdays, anniversaries, and other special occasions. We recognize how meaningful these moments are for residents and their loved ones and are pleased to offer the Special Events Room and the Library space for private resident and family gatherings.

To keep shared resident spaces available and enjoyable for everyone, private bookings are limited to these designated rooms. Families with unique circumstances or special requests are encouraged to speak with Lesley at Reception Services.

When planning larger celebrations, some families find a come and go style approach works well, helping accommodate a larger number of guests within the available space. Please note, we are trying to explore additional options to accommodate larger gatherings in the near future.

For casual visits and small informal gatherings, families are welcome to enjoy our Café area, where residents and visitors often gather for coffee, conversation, cards, puzzles, and board games. During the warmer months, the outdoor courtyard offers another wonderful space to visit and spend time together.

If you are planning a special gathering and would like to reserve the Special Events Room or Library, please contact Visitor Reception Services at [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca)

## Courtyard Enhancement Project Update

The Courtyard project is nearing completion and is expected to be fully finished by mid-June, with the shade structure, planters, and seating all in place. Once everything is finalized, we will move ahead with a formal celebration in July. More details will be shared as plans are confirmed. We look forward to celebrating this beautiful new space!

## Check Before You Plug it in - Approved Items Only!

As a reminder to residents and families, any electrical items brought into the home must be CSA approved or approved by a similar accredited safety agency to help ensure they meet Canadian electrical safety standards.

This is especially important when purchasing items online. Before bringing electrical products into the home, such as lamps, fans, heating pads, kettles, chargers, diffusers, or other plug-in items, we kindly ask families to review the product packaging or online product description to ensure the item displays a recognized safety certification label.

These safety standards help reduce risks related to electrical hazards and are an important part of maintaining a safe environment for everyone in the home.

We appreciate your support and understanding in helping us keep our residents, staff, and home safe.



## Tenant Construction Continues



Renovation work continues in the daycare space located on the west side of the building. We do not expect any disruptions to resident care or services, but you may notice some occasional periods of noise as certain phases of the work are completed over the summer months. Last week the residents enjoyed watching the cement truck who completed some outdoor work in the children's daycare area.

We continue to appreciate your understanding and patience as the work is completed.

## Stakeholder/Quality Meeting

We are pleased to announce that our first Stakeholder Advisory Committee meeting of 2026 is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The meeting will be held in the main floor library and will also be available for attendance virtually. The virtual meeting link and additional details will be shared in an upcoming email.

This meeting is held twice per year and brings together stakeholders to support ongoing communication and improvement within the home.

We welcome you to participate and look forward to your input as we continue working together.

## Adaptive Clothing Updates

In last month's newsletter, we shared an update regarding adaptive clothing options and provided some links to Canadian made retailers following the retirement of our previous mobile clothing service.

Since then, we have received a call from our former provider, who has offered to return one last time for a final clearance of their remaining inventory. They will be coming on July 3<sup>rd</sup> from 11-3 in

the auditorium for a pop-up clearance sale. Items available will include adaptive clothing, foam tread footwear, socks, underwear, track suits, and other remaining stock. You are welcome to take advantage of the final clearance pricing.

## Join Us for the Caregiver Support Group

Monthly meetings occur on 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.

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, June 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Time: 3-4PM**  
**Gateway Haven Library**

## Dietary Updates

There are lots of exciting things happening in Dietary Services as we head into the summer months!

Our Dietary Team continues to welcome resident and family feedback and is always looking for ways to improve the dining experience. One recent suggestion involved improving meal presentation for residents enjoying puréed diets. New sectional plates have now been introduced to help keep foods separate and improve presentation at mealtimes – and the feedback so far has been very positive!

Residents continue to share their ideas and menu feedback during our monthly Food Committee meetings. In May we also arranged a small food tasting event where residents provided valuable feedback on their likes and dislikes to help inform future menu offerings. We love seeing residents involved and helping shape the dining experience in the home. Residents can also look forward to summer barbecues – always a summertime favourite!

The Dietary Team is excited to begin using MealSuite, a new paperless kitchen program designed specifically for long-term care homes. This system will help support menu planning, dietary needs, meal tracking, and overall meal service while helping the kitchen team work more efficiently behind the scenes. The hardware has been ordered and we hope to move forward with this project very soon! Stay tuned for updates. And finally...hydration carts are getting a fun summer upgrade! In addition to regular hydration options, residents will enjoy special rotating afternoon treats throughout the week:

- Monday – Popsicles
- Tuesday – Assorted Pop
- Wednesday – Non-Alcoholic Wine
- Thursday – Smoothies
- Friday – Near Beer

We're looking forward to a fun, flavourful, and refreshing summer ahead!



## Helpful Visitor Reminders

Visits from family and friends play a key role in the well-being of residents at Gateway. Please review the following reminders to help ensure visits remain pleasant, safe, and enjoyable for everyone.

- The privacy and dignity of all residents must be respected.
- All visitors must sign in and out using the visitor logbook in accordance with the Fixing Long-Term Care Act.
- Visitors are expected to be respectful toward all residents, staff, and other visitors at all times.
- Visitors are not permitted in non-resident areas including but not limited to the nursing stations, staff rooms, storage and utility rooms, laundry and receiving areas, kitchen, and serveries.
- Visitors may at times, when appropriate, be asked to step out of a resident's room while care is being provided to ensure resident privacy, dignity, and safety.
- Visitors should not physically assist with or interrupt care being provided by the staff unless specifically requested, approved and reflected in the plan of care by the nursing team. Interference during care may create safety risks for the resident, staff and visitor.
- Loud or disruptive conduct, verbal or physical abuse, threats, violence, or interference with resident care will not be tolerated.



Your cooperation and consideration are appreciated as we work together to make each visit a positive and meaningful experience!

## Nursing Updates



It has been a busy and exciting month for our Nursing Team! On May 5, we officially launched the RNAO Nursing Advantage Clinical Pathways following many months of planning, collaboration, and preparation. To celebrate this important milestone, staff enjoyed a special kickoff celebration complete with cake, treats, balloons, and lots of well-deserved recognition for all the hard work leading up to go-live day.

These evidence-based clinical pathways are designed specifically to support long-term care homes and help guide best practices in resident care while aligning with legislative requirements and inspection standards. The first three pathways implemented include

Admission, Delirium, and Resident & Family-Centred Care. Work is already underway as we prepare for the next phase focusing on Pain and Palliative Care.

May also provided wonderful opportunities to celebrate our incredible team members during Nurses Week and Personal Support Worker Week. Staff were recognized throughout the weeks with sweet treats, refreshments, surprises, and appreciation celebrations. We are so grateful for the compassion, dedication, clinical excellence, and personal connections our nurses and PSWs bring to resident care each day.



## Growing Our Expertise

Education and ongoing learning continue to be a strong focus within our home. We had two registered staff recently complete intensive skin and wound education to further enhance their knowledge, skills, and expertise in wound prevention and management. In addition, two PSWs completed training focused on early skin and wound recognition and intervention strategies to help support positive resident outcomes while sharing their knowledge with fellow team members. We are also proud to continue expanding our Gentle Persuasive Approaches (GPA) education throughout the home, with approximately eighty staff members now trained. GPA is an education program designed to help staff better understand and respond to residents living with dementia through respectful, compassionate, and supportive approaches that help enhance resident comfort and well-being.

We are proud of the ongoing commitment our staff continue to show toward education, teamwork, and providing quality resident-centred care.

## Visitor Reception Services Updates

We would like to remind families that if your loved one is currently living in basic accommodation to please provide a copy of their 2025 Notice of Assessment (NOA) to Visitor Reception Services. The NOA can be submitted either in-person or via email at [GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca](mailto:GatewayHavenReception@brucecounty.on.ca) and must be received by **Monday, June 22nd** to process for the upcoming rate reduction cycle. As a reminder, only residents living in basic accommodation are eligible for a rate reduction.



Please note that Visitor Reception Services will be closed Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> for Canada Day. There will be limited services available from July 2<sup>nd</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup> with regular business hours resuming Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

## Family Council

The Family Council will be taking a break over the summer months and will resume meetings in September.

We encourage family members to attend and participate in these important meetings. Your voice and perspective are valued and help support continuous improvement for residents and families. So please mark your calendars and join us on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Should you have any questions about Family Council or upcoming meetings, please 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)

We look forward to reconnecting in September. In the meantime, you are welcome to review the meeting minutes which are posted on the information board down the hall from Visitor Reception Services.

## Community Events

Do you know of a fun community event taking place in our community? We would love to hear about it and share it with our readers. 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!

## Dental Care - Upcoming June Clinic

Taylor from the Tooth Studio is returning for another dental clinic on Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>.

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.



## 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.

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