



**Family, Friend and Responsible Party
Newsletter
August 2012**



Dear Strathmere Lodge resident's family member/friend/responsible party:

Changes - We have installed a retractable awning in the Bear Creek secure garden area, similar to the one located at the front of the building. This should provide much needed shade for residents and families on those hot and sunny summer days.

It has been noted that in the Rose Room Café residents and visitors do not always use tongs when selecting cookies for snacking. The tongs are provided for hygiene/sanitation reasons. Consideration is therefore being given to eliminating this benefit or offering individually packaged snacks on a limited basis. Beverages such as coffee, tea and juices will continue to be offered free of charge to visitors and families.

Michelle Langille, our new SSW, has set up her office on the 2nd floor, adjacent to the Health Club. She is sharing it with Lena Hodgins our Staff Educator.

Arbour Glen and Hickory Woods residents can now enjoy viewing the goldfish in our new fish tanks.

Family & Friends Council- This group of involved and caring friends and family members meets on a regular basis to share information and discuss common issues.

The next meeting of the Council is Thursday Sept. 20th at 1:30 pm in the Conference Room. Guest Speaker: Connie Milliken, Home at Last (HAL) Coordinator for the VON.

For more information or to check on the times and dates of future meetings please contact Recreation Manager Marcy Welch at ext. 226



Feeling unwell? - Please do not visit Strathmere Lodge if you or anyone in your home has a cold or symptoms of the "flu" [intestinal or respiratory].

While in the Home please be sure to use our waterless hand cleanser before and after visiting with your resident, upon entering, and as you are leaving our Home.

Front Doors – It appears that some visitors and residents may have become frustrated when attempting to key in the security code at the front entrance and have tried to force open the sliding door. This has knocked the door off its tracks and compromised security at the entrance. We have therefore posted the code in larger type to make it easier for those with poor vision.

Please take your time in keying in the code or ask for assistance from staff or other visitors if your attempts at unlocking the door are unsuccessful.

Air Conditioning/Tempering – Just a reminder that opening a window in a resident's room on a warm day defeats the purpose of air conditioning and causes the room temperature to escalate.



Monthly Caregiver Support Group – for family members of Strathmere Lodge residents living with Alzheimer's or related dementias.

They are held on the 4th Monday of each month [next meetings- Aug. 27 and Sept. 24] from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in our Conference room.

If interested, contact Diane at VON ACSP [Alzheimer Community Support Program] (519) 245-3170, or talk to our Recreation Manager, Marcy Welch at ext. 226.

First Link - This is a 4 week learning series for family members and friends of individuals with dementia. Sessions will be held on Sept. 12, 19, 26 and Oct. 2 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the VON office in Strathroy.

Registered Social Workers from the Alzheimer Society will provide an introduction to Alzheimer's disease and related dementia. Space is limited so please register by contacting Lesley or Diane at 519-245-3170 x231.

Activity Calendar – Don't forget to pick up and check out the monthly Activity calendars [available in each RHA [Resident Home Area]] for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend along with your resident friend/family member.

You are encouraged to join us at anytime, especially for whole home activities such as:

Friday, Aug 24th at 2:00pm – Genevieve Fisher entertains

Friday, Aug 31st – Happy Hour with Entertainment by Ross Ward

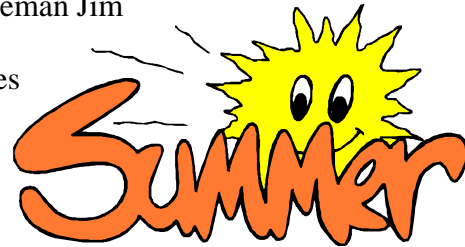
Sat, Sept 8th at 1:30pm – Randy Gray Entertains

Fri, Sept 14th at 2:00pm – Back to School Social with Gentleman Jim

Our **Annual Alzheimer Coffee Break** hosted by our Ladies Auxiliary will be taking place on Tuesday, Sept 25th from 9:00am-11:30am in the Rose Room.

Residents, family and friends are welcome to join us.

Refreshments will be provided by our Auxiliary and all donations will go the London & Middlesex Alzheimer Society



Feel free to contact me if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future editions:
torvidas@middlesex.ca , 519-245-2520 ext. 222

Please share a copy of this newsletter with other family members and friends or direct them to our website <http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care>.

Back copies of our most recent newsletters are available at reception and on our website.

Additional copies of this edition are located on our Public Information Board in the main lobby.

Tony Orvidas, Administrator

Distribution: Responsible Parties, Auxiliary, Info Board, RHA's, website, County Council, staff, other stakeholders.