

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Aug. ‘16**

Dear Strathmere Lodge residents, family members, friends/responsible parties:

1. **New Medical Director at Strathmere Lodge**

Further to Dr. Paul Ferner’s retirement/departure, I am pleased to announce that Dr. Philip Vandewalle will assume the role of Medical Director at Strathmere Lodge effective September 1, 2016, as approved by Middlesex County Council.

The Medical Director role is a provincial requirement for all long term care homes. The Medical Director serves as the “lead physician” among the attending physicians at Strathmere Lodge, and advises the Lodge on matters pertaining to medical care.

Dr. Vandewalle has been an attending physician at Strathmere Lodge for over 20 years. He is based locally in Strathroy, where he has a family practice, and hospital privileges at the nearby Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital Site. He is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario, where he maintains a current affiliation as Site Director for the Strathroy Family Medicine Residency Program.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Vandewalle on his Medical Director appointment.

1. **New Physicians at Strathmere Lodge**

Please note that two (2) new physicians will be starting at Strathmere Lodge effective September 1, 2016, assuming responsibility for medical care for the residents that have been cared for by Dr. Ferner.

Please join me in welcoming Drs. Joanne Parr and Julie Copeland to Strathmere Lodge. While Dr. Parr is on maternity leave currently, Dr. Lauren Kopechanski will be filling in.

With the addition of Drs. Copeland and Parr, there are now five (5) regular attending physicians providing medical care to the Lodge’s 159 residents.

1. **Photographs on Bear Creek Resident Home Area - Reminder**

To our family members of our Bear Creek resident home area …

Photographs that you may have brought in to adorn your loved one’s room can sometimes go astray due to the nature of the Bear Creek resident home area.

We have a collection of unlabeled photographs that we cannot trace back to the applicable individual resident. If you are missing any photographs, you can inquire with the Bear Creek Charge Nurse (the untraceable photographs are being maintained in the Bear Creek Therapy Room).

1. 

**4. Recreation Calendar**



Please pick up and check out our monthly Recreation calendar (available in each Resident Home Area, and also posted on our website) for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend.

Our upcoming Special Events for September:

1. Wednesday, September 7th at 2:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Music with Tony Nother
2. Saturday, September 10th at 1:30pm (in the Rose Room) – Gary Muxlow entertains
3. Wednesday, September 14th at 2:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Entertainment by ME-N-IM
4. Tuesday, September 20th at 2:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Uptown Dixieland Jazz Band entertains
5. Wednesday, September 21st at 3:30pm (in the Chapel) – Memorial Service (for departed residents)
6. Tuesday, September 27th @ 9:30am to 11:30am (in the Rose Room) – Alzheimer Coffee Break Day (proceeds to the Alzheimer Society)
7. Friday, September 30th at 2:00pm (in the Rose Room) – Happy Hour with Dan Skeltcher

Looking ahead …. Geri Fashions of London will be here on Wednesday, October 12th from 9am – 3pm, in the Rose Room. Geri Fashions sells regular and “adaptive clothing” – adaptive clothing is clothing designed for people with physical disabilities, the elderly, and the infirm who may experience difficulty dressing themselves due to an inability to manipulate closures, such as buttons and zippers, or due to a lack of a full range of motion required for self-dressing. Adaptive clothing may make it easier (less discomfort) to dress residents who suffer from contractures (shortening and hardening of muscles, tendons, or other tissue).

**5. Re-named Space**

The space previously occupied by the pool table on our second floor now is now being referred to as the “Rec Room”.

This area is used for resident Recreation programming, including the daily morning exercise program.

For those of you looking for the pool table, it has been refurbished and relocated to the first floor, in the Sydenham Meadows resident home area.

**6. Keeping Money in Resident Rooms**

This is a reminder to residents and families to minimize the amount of money kept in resident rooms.

Residents and families are encouraged to use “trust accounts” with the Lodge. Money can be accessed or deposited at Reception, at the main entrance.

For more information on trust accounts, please contact Reception (519-245-2520).

**7. In Conclusion ….**



Please let me know if you would like to see certain issues addressed in future newsletter editions (contact me at 519-245-2520, ext. 222, or via email at: bkerwin@middlesex.ca).

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>

Electronic back copies of our newsletter can be found on our website. Hard copies are compiled in binders at both our Reception desk and the staff lounge, and are available for your review.

You can find additional copies of this newsletter edition on our Public Information Board in the main lobby (near the Chapel).

**Brent Kerwin,**

Administrator

Distribution: Responsible Parties, Auxiliary, Information Board, Resident Home Areas (5), Website, County Council, Staff, Other Stakeholderst