

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Apr. ‘20**

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

1. **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic**

Further to provincial direction, all long term care homes in the province, including The Lodge, have suspended all non-essential visits due to the Coronavirus pandemic. Visits are suspended until further notice. At this time, only people visiting residents who are very ill or requiring end-of-life care are permitted to enter a long term care home.

Such steps are regrettable, but necessary to protect the health of the residents.

We understand residents and families are missing their visits together. Designated family members are invited to call us for health status updates on their loved ones. As per our usual practice, we will advise designated family members of any resident health status changes.

To date, there are no active COVID-19 cases among Lodge residents, although there are long term care home cases provincially among the province’s 630 homes.

Lodge employees are actively screened daily for COVID-19 symptoms as per provincial direction. Employees are demonstrating a high level of

commitment to the residents by diligently reporting to work.

Also, note that we are doing enhanced cleaning and disinfection as per direction from Public Health Ontario.

We wish all family/friends well during these trying times. Please find appended, some provincial resources to help you stay healthy.

1. **Recreation Calendar / Important Events**



Please be advised that large group entertainment programming in the Rose Room has been temporarily suspended. The Recreation staff continue to work with the residents in smaller group programs in the five (5) resident homes areas, and to conduct 1:1 visits with residents as applicable. A formal Recreation Calendar will not been produced for the month of April.

The Recreation staff have been facilitating many “virtual visits” between residents and family members via “FaceTime” and the use of an Apple iPad. This has received very favourable reviews among residents and families. If you are interested in virtual visits, please contact Marcy Welch (519-245-2520, ext. 6226, or via email at: mwelch@middlesex.ca). Note that virtual visits will require an iPhone/Apple product on the family/friend end of a virtual visit, or for Android device users, the downloading of the “Google Duo” app.

1. **Strathmere Lodge Sunshine Video 2020**



In hopes that this brings all of you some joy and smiles in these trying times, the Strathmere Lodge Sunshine Video has been released in wide circulation (or, at least on YouTube and on our Lodge webpage).

The video can be viewed using the following link: <https://youtu.be/As-7B8XnJqg>

A big “Thank You” to all the residents, staff and volunteers for participating in the video, and for being so good-natured about their participation.

A Special Thank You to Kristie Oullette and Barb Thyssen, Adjuvants in our Recreation Department, for all their hard work in producing and editing the video, and for their commitment to Lodge residents.

1. **Annual Resident Care Conference Meetings**



Please note that we are proceeding with our annual resident care conference meetings as scheduled, and as required of our provincial legislation. These are the meetings held by our care team members in order to discuss individual resident care plans, and any other matters of importance to the resident and his/her substitute decision-maker/family.

Although family members cannot physically attend these meetings during the provincial visiting restrictions, we are encouraging family member participation via phone.

Questions regarding our annual care conference meetings can be addressed to Crystal Brooks, Director of Resident Care (519-245-2520, ext. 6228, or cbrooks@middlesex.ca).

1. **Provincial Co-payment Rate Reduction for Basic Resident Rooms**



Those who are receiving a co-payment rate reduction (i.e., residents in a shared room with a lower income as define by the province) must apply for the rate reduction annually. Please send us a copy of your 2019 Notice of Assessment (NOA) from Canada Revenue Agency as soon as possible in order to be re-assessed for continued rate reduction eligibility this year.

Those residents who have experienced an annual income reduction this year, but have previously paid the full monthly provincial co-payment rate on their basic room, may qualify for a co-payment rate reduction. If this sounds applicable to you, we can assess whether you qualify for a rate reduction if you submit your 2019 Notice of Assessment (NOA).

For clarification and/or additional information, please contact Augustine Caines, Office Supervisor (519-245-2520, ext. 6246, or via email at: acaines@middlesex.ca).

1. **Resident Trust Accounts**



Those residents/families who maintain a trust account with The Lodge, used to pay regular charges (e.g., hairdresser, pharmacy, Tuck Shop), are reminded to maintain/replenish account balances during this period of visitor restriction.

Trust account balances can be maintained/replenished via mail/Canada Post (cheque only).

1. **Labelling of Residents’ Clothing**



This is a reminder that new clothing needs to be labelled with the resident’s name before residents begin to wear it (this also includes items such as shoes and personal blankets/throws). Please use the Clothing Bin at the main entrance to deposit clothing requiring labelling (instructions are provided at the Clothing Bin).

Recently, the following items circumvented our clothing bin (if you believe anything belongs to you, please contact John Fournier, Environmental Services Manager, at 519-245-2520, ext. 6244, or via email at: jfournier@middlesex.ca):

|  | **Clothing Item Description** | **Applicable Resident Home Area** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Spring Coat (beige, size 36, Brand = Bahama) | Syndenham Meadows |
| 2 | Sweater (multi-coloured, size 16, Brand = V I Petites) | Syndenham Meadows |
| 3 | Pants (black, size XXL, Brand = Original) | Hickory Woods |
| 4 | Men’s Dress Shirt (black and white, size M) | Arbour Glen |
| 5 | Shirt (cream and white stripes, Cotton material, size L, Brand = Van Heusen) | Parkview Place |
| 6 | Shirt (navy blue, altered to fit by being split) | Parkview Place |
| 7 | Blanket (grey, Queen size) | Unidentifiable |
| 8 | Quilt Throw (purple with white ducks) | Unidentifiable |
| 9 | Men’s Shirt (light blue, size 2XL) | Unidentifiable |

1. **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. 6222, 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 [web page](http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care): http://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care

Electronic back copies of our newsletter can be found on our web page. 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

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