

**Resident, Family, Friend and Responsible Party** **Newsletter – Feb. ‘19**

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

1. **Strathmere Lodge Ladies’ Auxiliary**

The Lodge is blessed to have a long-serving and dedicated Ladies’ Auxiliary that works tirelessly to bring additional comforts to the residents through volunteer work and fundraising efforts.

In 2018, Auxiliary members logged 6,850 hours of volunteer work, sponsoring and assisting with various resident activities (including teas, socials and dinners), holding bazaars/yard sales, and operating the Tuck Shop on the main floor.

Through its fundraising efforts and Memorial Donation Board, the Auxiliary has donated tens of thousands of dollars to resident-focused initiatives, helping to supplement resident equipment and resident entertainment programming, and making The Lodge “more like home” for the 160 residents who live at The Lodge.

1. **Recreation Calendar / Important Events**



Please pick up and check out our monthly Recreation calendar (given to every individual resident, in addition to being available in each Resident Home Area, and on our [web page](https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation) at: https://www.middlesex.ca/departments/long-term-care/recreation) for events that you may find of interest and would like to attend.

Our upcoming events for February (in the Rose Room, unless otherwise indicated):

1. Tuesday, Feb. 5th, 2:00pm – Mike & Paula entertain
2. Friday, Feb. 8th, 2:00pm – Music with Gary Boyle
3. Wednesday, Feb. 13th, 2:00pm – Entertainment by Gospel Express
4. Thursday, Feb. 14th, 2:00pm – Valentine’s Day Tea with Randy Grey
5. Friday, Feb. 22nd, 2:00pm – Happy Hour with Tony Nother
6. Wednesday, Feb. 27th, 2:00pm – UKE Girls perform
7. Wednesday, Feb. 27th, 6:30pm – Music with John & Christine

**3. Security Camera System**



Please be advised that the Lodge has completed the implementation of a security camera system, first started in our secure resident home area (Bear Creek).

Security cameras are now in all common areas, not in resident rooms or tub rooms. Specifically, security cameras are in the following areas:

1. Resident home area corridors in all five (5) resident home areas;
2. Resident dining room / sunroom areas;
3. Rose Room area (main floor);
4. Hair Salon area (second floor); and
5. Entrances/exits – main and rear.

The purpose of the security camera system is to protect the safety of residents, families and staff, and to promote a safe and secure environment.

The security camera system video footage will be used retrospectively to efficiently and effectively address such matters as incidents reportable to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care (or other authorized body).

Please let me know if you have any questions about the security camera system (bkerwin@middlesex.ca, or 519-245-2520, ext. 6222).

1. **Scent Sensitivity**



Increasingly, people exposed to airborne chemicals (e.g., in fragrances, sprays, mists, etc.) are becoming sensitized to them to the point that they can no longer tolerate any more exposure – they become “Scent Sensitive”. This can trigger breathing problems, headaches, sneezing, nausea, disorientation and, in extreme cases, they can go into shock similar to the reaction those with a peanut allergy might have.

Given the increasing problem of scent sensitivity, residents and families are being asked to refrain from the use of air freshners, including aroma diffusers.

1. **On-site Hairdressing Services - Fees**



After five (5) years of no fee changes, please be advised that there will be some price increases to on-site Hairdresser services effective February 1, 2019.

Price increases range from $2 (for a men’s cut) to $5 (for perms).

For more information about Hairdresser services, and/or for a price list of Hairdresser services, please contact Reception (519-245-2520, ext. 6221).

1. **Residents Who Smoke**

The Lodge has a handful of residents who smoke, which we care plan for in accordance with our Long Term Care Homes legislation.

So as to adhere to smoking care plans arrived at with individual residents and their family members, we are asking that you do not provide residents with smoking materials (lighter, cigarettes), or facilitate additional cigarette access, where a resident that you are not affiliated with may approach you for such.

For the health and safety of all residents, we want to ensure that we are able to accurately monitor cigarette consumption, and that we know who is in possession of what quantity of smoking materials.

1. **Oral Care for Residents**



As part of our requirement to promote good oral care, we have an arrangement with a dental services provider, who makes periodic visits to The Lodge to see residents who can no longer make trips to a dental provider in the community.

For interested residents/families, we coordinate an annual dental assessment for residents, including other preventive dental services. This is done on a fee-for-service basis.

If you are interested in this dental service, please contact the Administrative Support Nurse at The Lodge (519-245-2520, ext. 6232).

1. **Next Family Council Meeting**



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 is scheduled for Monday, March 4, 2019, at 6:30pm in the (second floor) Conference Room (note evening start time).

All family and friends of residents of Strathmere Lodge are welcome to attend. No pre-registration is necessary.

For more information, please contact Marcy Welch (519-245-2520, ext. 6226, or mwelch@middlesex.ca).

Minutes of the most recent Family Council meeting are posted on the family information board in the Rose Room (near the Chapel), and previous minutes are available for review at our Reception desk.

1. **Labelling of Residents’ Personal Items**



This is a reminder that new clothing needs to be labelled with the resident’s name before residents begin to wear it.

One of the ways clothing will go missing is if a resident wears new clothing before it gets labelled. In this case, if new clothing gets into our laundry system without a resident name on it, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to trace it back to its rightful owner.

It is also a good idea to label other personal effects brought in to The Lodge (e.g., photographs, books/magazines, watering cans), as there are occasions where personal effects find their way outside of a resident’s room, whereupon it becomes difficult to trace such items back to their rightful owner without an associated name.

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

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