

JANUARY 2024



MAPLE OAK NEWS

A newsletter for residents and families of the German-Canadian Care Home

Winter 2024 - Happy New Year!

We would like to wish you a very happy, healthy, and prosperous new year. Wishing you blessings & many joyous moments in 2024. Thank you for all your support, your input, your suggestions, and your expressions of appreciation. We aim to provide the best possible care to residents and meet your expectations as much as possible.

Recent News

In November, we held a Christmasfest, a fundraiser for the care home. For the first time in four years, we were able to again invite our community to this event and welcome guests to the Atrium for some German food, Glühwein, Christmas baking and crafts. Together with the very popular online auction the event raised about \$15,000 for the care home.

In December, our recreation team organized several Christmas teas and one Christmas dinner for residents and families. Thank you to everyone who came and celebrated with us. A big thank you to our food services department who prepared the food.



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Upcoming Improvements

In January, we will be replacing the carpet in the East side lounge. The lounge will be closed off for about two days. The work will take place during the night to minimize disruptions to residents and staff.

In early February, we will be changing the meal delivery service for residents who prefer eating in their room. We purchased a SuzyQ food cart which will allow us to deliver the food to the resident and they can choose for themselves. This is for residents on the East side only.

Resident Services

Please be advised that as February 1, 2024, the minimum cost for basic foot care will increase to \$50.00. If you have any comments or questions, please contact the foot care nurse on her next visit or leave a message with the nurse.

Tax Season

Tax filing season will soon be upon us. Please make sure you file your resident's tax return to ensure an accurate assessment of the monthly user fee by the Ministry of Health. As many of you know, your monthly fee is determined by the Ministry of Health and is based on a resident's income. If income information is not available, the Ministry automatically sets the rate due at the maximum.



Thank you for your support!

Comfortzeit Torchbearer

Comfortzeit Torchbearers are employees who are recognized for going above and beyond their job responsibilities to help a resident. They are staff who take action in situations that really is "nobody's job" and do it because they see a way to bring immense joy into a resident's life. The employees are acknowledged at the General Staff Meeting, in the GCCH Insider (staff newsletter) and receive a 'flame' pin to wear on their ID.

So far 3 people have been recognized:

Sue Baines, Music Therapist
Kathy Jung, Occupational Therapist
Ewa Fraczyk, Clinical Coordinator

We would like to use the opportunity to nominate *Yan Li Wu*, a care aide on Berlin Haus for helping create a vibrant residents-staff-family members community on Bonn Haus,. She organized an orchid exhibition on Berlin Haus and brought her plants from home; educated staff and residents about the different varieties, brought joy and an opportunity for learning to the Haus. She also volunteered on her day off and organized an event in preparation of the Chinese New Year celebrations; taught staff and residents how to make Chinese lanterns, fish ornaments and how to write. This way she brought fun and understanding about the Chinese culture. *Yan Li* sketched a portrait of each staff member on the Haus and decorated the care center with them – helping residents get to know their caregivers.