

Fall 2025 Neighborhood News



Pictured Darrell Lavender

A Message from Our CEO

Dear Residents and Families,

As autumn settles over Northern Michigan, I want to take a moment to introduce myself and share how grateful I am to be part of the Grand Traverse Pavilions community. My name is Darrell Lavender, and I recently joined the organization as your Chief Executive Officer. Having previously spent many years in healthcare leadership across Michigan and beyond, it is truly wonderful to be back in this special part of the state that I consider home.

Since arriving, I've been deeply impressed by the professionalism, compassion and remarkable dedication of the Pavilions' team. Every day, our staff demonstrates what it means to live our mission, providing trusted, quality care to our residents and enhancing the lives of those we serve. Their commitment is the heartbeat of this organization.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to David Hautamaki for his support during my transition and to recognize his new role as the Pavilions' Interim Administrator. David and I are working closely together to ensure Grand Traverse Pavilions remains on solid footing following recent leadership changes. Together, we are focused on strengthening our systems and relationships to ensure we continue delivering accessible, trusted, and compassionate care that enhances the quality of life for all who call the Pavilions home.



Pictured David Hautamaki

As we move into this beautiful season of change, I want to thank you, our residents and families, for the trust you place in us. We recognize that caring for your loved ones is both a great responsibility and an incredible privilege. Please know that we are dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of care, safety, and quality of life for every resident who calls the Pavilions home.

With warm regards and gratitude,

Darrell Lavender

Chief Executive Officer
Grand Traverse Pavilions

Contacts for Long-Term Care and Rehab



Aspen Main #

231-932-3100

ADON: Chrissy Wagatha
Social Services Designee: Ashley Walters

231-932-3102
231-932-3107

Birch Main #

231-932-3200

ADON: Melanie Farmer
Social Worker: Breanna Broering

231-932-3202
231-932-3207

Cherry Main #

231-932-3300

ADON: Chrissy Wagatha
Social Worker: Emily Tyrrell

231-932-3302
231-932-3307

Dogwood Main #

231-932-3400

ADON: Regina Kiogima
Social Services Designee: Ashley Walters

231-932-3402
231-932-3407

Elm Main #

231-932-3500

ADON: Naomi Rode
Social Worker: Emily Tyrrell

231-932-3502
231-932-3307

Maple Rehab Main #

231-932-3700

ADON: Shawna Barnes
Case Manager: Tyler VandenBosch
Case Manager: Susan Olsen
Social Services Designee: Liz Bravo

231-932-3702
231-932-3707
231-932-3717
231-932-3727



Main Lobby Business Hours

Monday - Friday

8:00 am - 6:00 pm

Weekends

10:00 am - 3:00pm

A friendly reminder: **the front door remains unlocked daily until 6:25pm.** If you arrive **outside business hours**, please use the phone in the vestibule to dial the Pavilion you wish to visit. A staff member will be happy to assist and open the door for you. **Please note:** The alarm system is active **before 8 am** and **after 6:25pm.** Attempting to open the door during these times will trigger the alarm.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Residential Services Contacts

Ann McMann

Residential Services Director

231-932-3045

Natalia Johnson

Residential Services Nurse

231-932-3641

Jeff Valentine

Residential Services Coordinator

231-932-3601

Sarah Backlund

Life Enrichment Coordinator

231-932-3621

Cottage Main Lines

Evergreen Cottage

231-932-3600

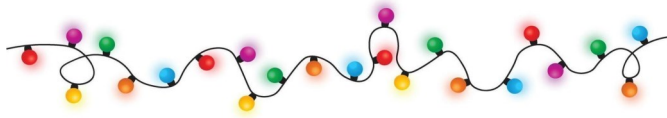
Hawthorn Cottage

231-932-3620

Willow Cottage

231-932-3640





Bringing Holiday Cheer to Our Home: Help Us Light Up the Season!

As the holiday season approaches, we're reminded of the joy and warmth that festive lights and decorations bring, not just to our surroundings, but to our hearts. At Grand Traverse Pavilions we strive to make this time of year as magical and meaningful as possible for our residents.

"Many of our residents have cherished memories of decorating their homes, gathering with loved ones, and enjoying the sparkle of the season. We want to help recreate that special feeling but we need your help to make it happen.

Our decorations have brought joy for many years, but they're now showing their age. This year, we're hoping to refresh our collection of Christmas lights and decorations to create a beautiful, cozy, and festive environment for everyone to enjoy.

With your support, we can replace worn-out lights with new, energy-efficient ones and add cheerful decorations to common areas and resident rooms. A financial contribution makes a difference. Most importantly, it shows our residents that they are loved and remembered, especially during the holidays.

How You Can Help:

- **Make a monetary donation** toward our holiday decor fund
- **Volunteer** to help us decorate in early December

If you'd like to contribute, please contact Clayton Wagatha at 231-932-3019 or cwagatha@gtpavilions.org. Contributions can also be dropped off at the front desk during visiting hours.

Thank you for helping us bring the magic of the season to our home. With your kindness, we can make this holiday one to remember, full of light, laughter, and love."



Longevity

Longevity Health- It's more than a health plan.

Grand Traverse Pavilions is proud to continue its partnership with Longevity Health Plan, a National Institutional Special Needs Plan (ISNP) dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for nursing homes residents.

It's more than a Medicare Advantage health plan - it's about connection, comfort, and care. Members enjoy 1:1 companion visits, access to a complimentary shopping catalog, beauty shop benefits, and ongoing personal support- all at no cost.

Longevity's on-site medical professionals provide a coordinated, personalized healthcare experience, managing care directly within the facility, collaborating with staff, and working to improve health outcomes while reducing hospital visits.

For more information, contact Tony Holstine at 989-821-8635.

Flu Season is Back!

October 1 is the official start date of the influenza ("flu") season. Most cases of influenza occur in January & February but can occur even as late as May. Symptoms of influenza include: fever, cough, sore throat, headache, chills, muscle aches, and fatigue. Influenza is highly contagious and coupled with potential COVID-19, it is important that everyone takes precautionary measures both at work and at home. These measures include: getting the vaccine(s), covering your mouth when you cough/sneeze, and frequent hand washing. By taking extra precautions during the "flu" season, you can help with the prevention of the transmission of the influenza virus. Our **annual resident flu/COVID-19 immunization clinic** will be held on **November 6, 2025**. The vaccinations will continue to be available after this date as well.

WIFI

The current password
is: pavilions254



Item Drop Offs

Families are welcome to leave items for loved ones on the drop-off table in the vestibule.

To ensure items reach the correct resident, **please label all items clearly.**

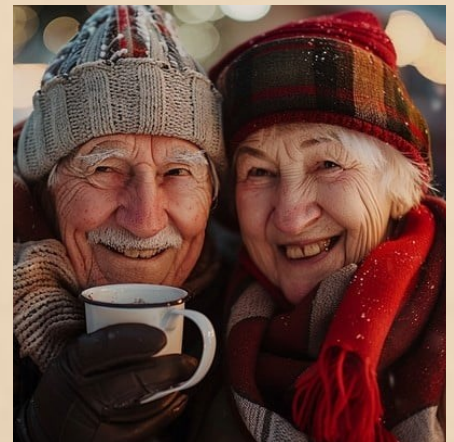
Thank you for your cooperation!



Leave of Absence Medication



If you are planning a Leave of Absence (LOA) for the holidays or at any time, please make your request for medications 72 hours in advance of the LOA. The nurses will be happy to package your medications and have them ready for pick up prior to your departure. If you have any questions please contact your Pavilions ADON or Cottage Nurse.



Get all Fall & Winter Clothes Labeled!

You may let the assigned CNA on your loved ones Pavilion know that you have brought in new clothing and the items will be placed in a clean bag. A form with their information will then be filled out with the resident's name, room number and clothing description. It will then get labeled by our Laundry Department and returned within 24 hours.

Announcements:

Holiday Decorations



A friendly reminder that we encourage decorations for the holiday seasons but no live trees or wreaths are allowed in any area of our buildings. All electronic decorations must be U.L. approved and inspected by the Environmental Services Dept. Due to the state fire code and our policies, we do not allow any extension cords, outlet adapters or heating devices in resident rooms. For personal electronics, one Hospital grade power strip may be used in resident rooms. If a hospital grade power strip is purchased, it must be inspected and installed by our Maintenance dept.

Financial Payments

There are many options for payment/communication options including:

Email, phone or the gold colored secure drop box to your right as you enter the main lobby area.

Don't worry about payments ever again! Set up recurring online payments by emailing Office Manager, Kathryn Holibaugh at kholibaugh@gtpavilions.org



Pavilion Windows

To help our heating and air conditioning system operate efficiently, please keep all windows closed. Our system works hard to maintain a comfortable temperature throughout the building. Your cooperation is appreciated.



Insurance Reminder

We are approaching another year end. It is a good idea to review your insurance policies. Place a call to your carrier and find out what they do and do not cover. If you find out that your policy does not pay for skilled nursing or has a high copay, it may be time to shop around for a new carrier.

We as a provider, do not know what your exact out-of-pocket cost is until we receive payment from the insurance company. Before we receive payment, an Explanation of Benefit (EOB) is sent by insurer to policy holder telling them a claim has been processed. This EOB will explain what they have paid and your potential out of pocket cost.

MEDICARE & YOU

Medicare Open Enrollment

Medicare's annual open enrollment is here! During this time, Medicare-eligible individuals can: review their Medicare coverage, choose or change their Medicare plan, switch from Original Medicare to a Medicare Advantage plan, or vice versa, switch between Medicare Advantage plans, and/or elect or switch between Medicare Part D prescription drug plans. Changes made during open enrollment take effect on January 1, 2026.

If you take the opportunity to change your health insurance, please be sure to notify our Financial Department.

For personalized help, contact 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or visit www.medicare.gov. You may also speak with the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MAPP) at 1-800-803-7174 for free, unbiased counseling.

Change of Address/Insurance

Please report any change of address, phone numbers, emails for responsible party or any emergency contact person, primary physician or insurance coverage to your Social Worker and the Financial Management Office.



Insurance & Coverage Updates

Medicaid Renewal Reminder for Nursing Facility Residents The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) has resumed **yearly Medicaid renewals**. If you or a loved one is in a nursing facility and receives Medicaid, this step is **required to keep coverage active**.

What You Need to Know:

- Renewal forms are sent by mail or through your **MI Bridges** account.
- These forms confirm if you still qualify for Medicaid.
- **Complete and return all paperwork by the deadline** in the notice to avoid losing coverage.

How to Stay Covered:

- Keep your **address and contact info** updated with MDHHS.
- Remind your **POA, guardian, or family** to check your mail and MI Bridges messages.
- **Respond quickly** to any renewal notices.

Need Help?

- Visit: www.Michigan.gov/MIbridges
- Call: **Medicaid Help Line** at 1-800-642-3195
- Or contact: **MMAP** at 1-800-803-7174 for general guidance



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LORD OF THE GOURDS
PUMPKIN CARVING
1:00PM – 3:00PM

OCT.
28



OCT.
30



TRICK OR TREATING
MAINSTREET
4:30PM



MUSIC WITH BOB &
TALLY
10:30AM

OCT.
31



OCT.
31



HALLOWEEN PARTY
2:00PM





HALLOWEEN DONATIONS



We're getting ready to celebrate Halloween and we need YOUR help to make it a fun and festive time for our residents!

Items Needed:

- Individually wrapped candy
- Halloween decorations (indoor & outdoor)
- Gently used or new costumes



Drop off at the front desk
1000 Pavilions Circle Dr, TC, MI 49684

For any questions contact Activities at
231-932-3053



Grand Traverse Pavilions
A COMMUNITY CARING FOR GENERATIONS

The background is dark purple with several stylized candy illustrations. In the top left is a red and orange striped candy. In the top center is a green and white candy. In the top right is a round orange and red candy. In the middle left is a green candy. In the middle right is a green candy. In the bottom left is a red, orange, and white candy. In the bottom right is a green and white candy. There are also small orange and green dots scattered around.

Trick or Treat

October 30th

4:30pm

**All are welcome. Families and
friends encouraged to attend.**

GTP Mainstreet

**Residents will be handing out
candy throughout mainstreet.**

Please join us for a

THANKS GIVING P A R T Y



25 NOVEMBER
2:00PM

Join us for Hors d'oeuvres &
dessert

FAMILY & FRIENDS ARE WELCOME!
LET'S BE THANKFUL TOGETHER!

Multi Purpose Room