



Kinsmen Lodge
Honouring Elders

June 2026
Newsletter

In Loving Memory

Abdul Al-Zaim

New Faces at Kinsmen

Hazel Latham, Reba Goertz,
Marie Levesque

Happy Birthday To You....

June Birthdays

Mary MacMillan	2 nd	Joyce Christopherson	10 th
Gian Singh	10 th	Karen Chwolles	10 th
Lynne Wood	11 th	Satwant Brar	14 th
Gerry Moffatt	14 th	Leona Schmitke	15 th
Greta Kubossek	16 th	Vernon Borne	16 th
Noor Ali	20 th	Joyce Siemens	21 st
Doris Peters	23 rd	Beverly Milliard	24 th
Michael Robbins	25 th	Marie Levesque	28 th
Sulochana Naidu	29 th	Lucia Russo	30 th

June 2026 Events

Bus Outings

11th- Country Drive

18th - Country Drive

25th - Country Drive

Special Events

Happy Hour Every Wednesday- Family are welcome

12th- Philippine Independence Day

Celebration - 2:00pm

21st - Father's Day Celebration- 2:00pm

A monthly calendar is available.

Just ask someone in the recreation department.

FRASER VALLEY MUSICAL THEATRE presents

RODGERS + HAMMERSTEIN'S

Cinderella

June 26 to July 5, 2026

Main Stage, Surrey Arts Centre

SENIOR OUTING OPPORTUNITY



Rodgers & Hammerstein's ***Cinderella*** is a much-loved Golden Age musical, originally written for television in 1957 and starring Julie Andrews. FVMT's production celebrates traditional musical theatre storytelling, with a talented cast of local performers. It's a feel-good show perfect for a group outing!

SENIOR FRIENDLY FEATURES:

- ✓ Matinees (2:30pm on Saturdays & Sundays)
- ✓ Fully accessible theatre building with wireless listening devices
- ✓ Seniors' Group Rates for 10+: \$29.00 (\$27.00 before March 31)
- ✓ Golden Age musical with familiar songs from Rodgers & Hammerstein

FRASER
VALLEY
MUSICAL
THEATRE



To book tickets: call Surrey Arts Centre box office at (604) 501-5580 or online at www.fvmt.org/shows/cinderella-2026



producer@fvmt.org



www.fvmt.org/shows/cinderella-2026/

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

NAME: Mercedes Dagala

BIRTHPLACE: Manila, Philippines on Sept 14, 1933 - I have 11 siblings!

FAVOURITE COLOUR: Green & Blue – I like green and blue clothes!

FAVOURITE FOOD: Rice and Chicken, KFC, and Chicken Adobo because they taste better than meat!

FAVOURITE MUSIC: I like Cha-Cha & Boogie dancing music! I like Elvis and the Lennon Sisters too!

FAVOURITE SCENT: My favorite is the scent of Roses because they smell so good!

FAVOURITE BOOKS: I like to read books in Tagalog, because it's better/easier than English!

FAVOURITE MOVIE: I like funny movies & musicals. E.g.: The Sound of Music & Singing in the Rain.

WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST: When the family all comes together—like for a big Brunch!

HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED AT KINSMEN LODGE?: I have lived at Kinsmen for 5 months.

WHAT PROGRAMS DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN AT KINSMEN?: I enjoy Happy Hour, Rosary Group, Active Games, and anything with singing & dancing!

SPECIAL MEMORIES: A great many memories of playing with my Grandbabies/Grandchildren – Jason, Laura, Stephanie, Stephen, Kyle, Olivia, Sarah, Joshua and William. I loved driving to Church with my husband. He drove me everywhere I wanted or needed to go. Another very special memory is of when we went on a Cruise together – it was beautiful!



Getting To Know Our Volunteers

For the month of June we would like to acknowledge our Sunday morning Java Music Club volunteer, Ayanika. She has been volunteering at Kinsmen for about a year now and is currently in Grade 11 at Johnston Heights Secondary School. After graduation she plans to go into Health Sciences at SFU. Ayanika enjoys volunteering because, "My grandpa lives at Kinsmen and it brings me closer to him and I get to meet new people." Some of her interests are reading, watching Netflix and Taekwondo. Her special memories are of when she traveled to Dubai and riding a camel, and of her sweet 16 birthday party!

Interesting Facts about Ayanika:

Favourite Music: "I like listening to The Weekend, he is my favourite artist."

Favourite Food: "Tiramisu", because I like eating anything with coffee flavor.

Favourite Color: "I like the color green."

Favourite Book: "Powerless", it was very engaging and after finishing I started the second book the day after.

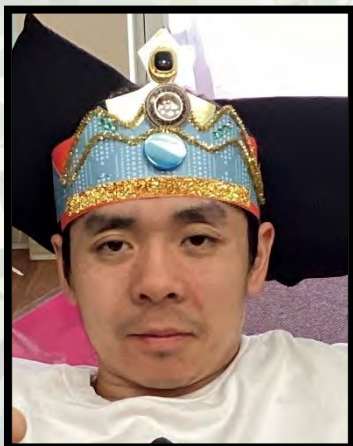
Favourite Scent: "I like the smell of vanilla because it gives me a warm feeling."

Favourite Movie: "A Cinderella Story", no matter how many times I've watched it, it never gets old.



Royal for a Day - Celebrating Victoria Day

Across the Victoria Day weekend we celebrated with crafting homemade crowns. Thanks everyone for getting into the royal spirit and coming up with some really great crown designs. It's always fun to wear costumes and the project made for some great photo opportunities! Plus it was a great way to use up some buttons and ribbons! Please keep the donations coming- we can use a variety of odds and ends in surprising ways.





Spring Flowers - A big thanks to Zenaida and Mercedes for bringing us the idea and the supplies to do this fun project! We made a collection of spring flowers using baking cups (for cupcakes and muffins). Everyone had a really fun afternoon, and as always it's neat to see how ideas spread and grow.

Also thank you Lisa and Don for getting so into this project!! (see bottom right) It's so nice having family involved with our community art programs!



Nicki's Notes

May gave us a wonderful opportunity to recognize and celebrate some very special people within the Kinsmen Lodge community.

We had the chance to honour our nursing team and the incredible work they do every day. Our nurses are such an important part of the care team and play a vital role in the lives of our residents and families. Their compassion, dedication, clinical knowledge, and advocacy help make Kinsmen Lodge the caring and nurturing home that it is. We truly appreciate everything that they do for both Kinsmen and our Elders.

On May 28th, we were fortunate to host a special event to celebrate our nurses. One of the nicest parts of the day was seeing the entire Kinsmen team come together – from leadership and administration, to care aides, recreation, dietary, housekeeping, maintenance, and support services — to recognize and thank our nurses for all that they do. It was a wonderful reminder that while everyone plays an important role in resident care, nursing remains a central part of supporting our Elders each day.



We also had another exciting reason to celebrate last month. One of our dedicated volunteers, Hiya Sharma, was recently recognized by the Surrey & White Rock Board of Trade as one of the Top 25 Under 25 award recipients for 2026. This award recognizes young leaders who are making a positive impact within their communities through leadership, innovation, and service.

Hiya founded the Youth Volunteer Team to support seniors living with dementia and has brought meaningful programs such as art therapy, storytelling, and cultural activities to seniors. Her passion for helping others and supporting Elders is truly inspiring.

What makes this recognition even more special for us at Kinsmen Lodge is that Hiya is also the daughter of our own recreation team member, Parvinder. We are incredibly proud to see the positive impact she is making within the community and grateful for the kindness, energy, and compassion she brings to our home.

Moments like these are such a wonderful reminder of the caring people who make up the Kinsmen Lodge community. Thank you to everyone: staff, volunteers, families, and community members. Each of you continue to make a difference in the lives of our Elders every day.



MUSIC THERAPY



Hello Kinsmen Lodge community,

Drum roll please... Sheila is returning from school! Now, she isn't completely done her Master's Degree yet, but she's done the main part of the program.

It feels like not long ago that I was writing to you my farewell from my internship back in April 2025, however, this time it's my farewell from working! I want to thank you for your unwavering trust and the many ways you supported me in the lodge. Your kindness and generosity are truly appreciated, and I am so grateful for each and every one of you.

xoxo,
Mackenzie, Music Therapist



In Memory



On April 17, 2026 we said goodbye to a very special Elder. Mel Robbins moved into Kinsmen Lodge in January of 1984! He lived at Kinmen for the longest of any Elder. For those blessed to know him, Mel was a kind man with a wealth of knowledge and a keeper of history. His absence is deeply felt by staff and Elders alike.

On May 28th we held a service to share stories and honor his memory. Thank you to those who were able to attend and share some stories about our beloved Mel.



Mary's Corner - May 2026

Hello again.

Have you noticed that, as we age, our memories seem to reflect the season? This past week, mine have drifted back to our treasured high school annuals and how we put them together each spring. During one wartime year, most of our student team was scattered across the country, learning to fly armed aircraft instead.

I was newly in Grade 8 and signed up to help as a Gestetner operator. To everyone's surprise, I was able to keep the old copy machine running smoothly. We kept the big machine busy with reprints and corrections before sending our final copy to the printer. In the new year, we were learning to use typewriters—the ping of the carriage returns barely audible over the low grumbled mutters of young men. Officers in uniform needed written and typed reports, so several Grade 12 boys practised whatever skills they might need while they waited to reach the age to enlist.

Lots of material had been gathering: pictures, class reports, poems, hockey scores, comments on world events, and, sadly, reports of losses. It was difficult to type up the lists when those names belonged to people who had worked beside us only a few months before. Yet there were also happy recollections of smiles at Christmas and graduation parties.

Looking back, I still recall the unusual friendships that grew within our group. You quickly learned to work in partnership with your fellow students when your printing deadline was only three weeks away. There was lots of overtime work for teachers that year, too. They couldn't trust six teenagers with the school's expensive equipment, yet the world was willing to send them up in million-dollar aircraft after only eight weeks of training. Difficult times!

We had already paid for most of the printing costs by graduation through special events such as car washes and garden work around town. However, that summer was a time to rethink our plans for work and study. Since it was going to be a short war—or so we were told—most of us under 26 stayed with our prearranged career plans. Some, however, took a year to volunteer in the local print shops of the PR Company, hoping for big-city jobs in the future.

I didn't want an alternate career plan, but I found a part-time summer job soliciting and writing business ads for the local newspaper. It was interesting, but it wasn't a career-maker. I did make several new friends and soon had invitations to meet them for shopping trips or movies in the city.

That summer reminds me again of how fortunate we are at [Home Name]. After only a month here, I was already looking forward to Happy Hour and any small gathering—perhaps I'd meet someone from "home." So now, I ask any resident who is new to me where they are from. It's an unexpected conversation starter.

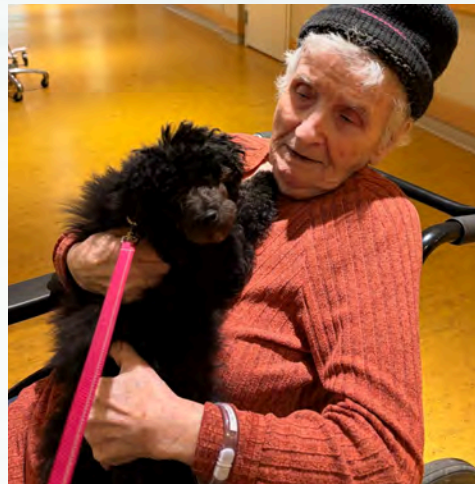
Here and now, spring has sprung, and the planting season is upon us. See you in the garden!

And one final question: where did you go to school?

Home Happenings



Pictured: Cinco de Mayo and happy hour festivities (top row and middle left)



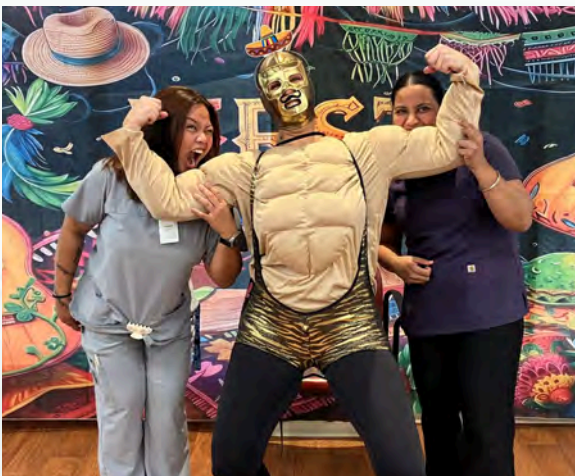
Pictured: Mother's Day Event (middle), Bus outing (above), Ruby visits (left), Shoppe visits (bottom left) and music with our Work Experience Student (below).



Home Happenings



Pictured:
Puzzling, limbo
and Ruby visits
(top row).
Baking and
Garden visits
(left and right)



Pictured:
Outing to 99
Nursery and
chair yoga (3rd
row). Nurses
Appreciation
Event (left and
right).





HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

Solve the following puzzle by finding all the hidden words!



HERO
BRAVE
BEST
FAMILY
GIFTS
SPECIAL

JOKES
HAPPY
RESPECT
PRESENT
FRIEND

VALUES
DADDY
LOVE
PARENT
GRANDPA

CELEBRATE
PROUD
STRONG
NURTURE
CARING

KINSMEN LODGE

HELPFUL INFO

CONTACT

604-588-0445
info@kinsmenlodge.ca
<https://kinsmenlodge.ca/>

VI'S SHOP

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK HOURS: 9:30-11:30 &
SAT/SUN 1:30-3:00
MARY SELLS COFFEE ON MONDAYS

HAIRDRESSER

Located on the first floor
Open Friday
Booked at reception

HAPPY HOUR

Located on the first floor with Live Music
Every Wednesday at 2PM

LEADERSHIP OFFICES

ON FIRST FLOOR
AVAILABLE
WEEKDAYS
ASK AT RECEPTION

BINGO

Located on the first floor
Big game is 50/50 split
Every Friday at 2:30 PM

CONFERENCE ROOM

The conference room can be
booked for parties. Ask Karen.

CHOIR

Located on the first floor. Most Fridays at 10:30 AM

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Available from Recreation

DID YOU KNOW

WE VALUE YOUR PARTICIPATION. FAMILY MEMBERS
ARE INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO COME AND TAKE
PART IN RECREATION ACTIVITIES LIKE HAPPY HOUR
AND EXERCISES.

WE ALSO HOST A WELCOME TEA EVERY MONTH FOR
OUR NEW ELDERS.