



Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

This newsletter is being sent to all responsible parties listed as the primary contact for the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. This newsletter is also distributed to the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. Responsible parties can direct family members and friends to the Baldwin Care Center website at www.baldwincarecenter.com to read current and previous newsletters. Birch Haven Assisted Living is also sending the weekly newsletter to responsible parties. The Birchwood Apartment Manager distributes copies to tenants. If there is a topic you would like to have discussed in the newsletter, please contact me via email at elafavor@baldwincarecenter.com or by phone at 715-684-3231, Ext. 103.



I assume many of you have been hearing about the COVID-19 vaccine in the news. More information is becoming available regarding distribution of the vaccine. Long term care residents and staff are designated in the "1A" group which should be receiving the first round of vaccines. At this point, what I know is that we may be receiving the vaccine as early as December 28th.

Facility staff will be contacting responsible parties regarding consent to give the vaccine. Information regarding the vaccine will also be distributed. Our Medical Director, Kathleen Findlay is encouraging as many staff and residents as possible to get the vaccine. This is very exciting news for all of us. We are hopeful that it is the beginning to the end of COVID-19. It sounds like it may be a couple of months before the vaccine is available to the general public. Since all of this began in mid-March, I have only been able to visit my brother once for an outdoor visit at his facility. I know that all of us are looking forward to a time when we can visit loved ones.

This week we had a Birchwood Apartment employee test positive for COVID-19. As a result the Birchwood Apartments were placed in quarantine. There was also an employee who works in Birch Haven Assisted Living that tested positive. That employee has a very limited schedule and had not worked in the building for the two weeks prior to testing positive, so there is no need to quarantine residents. On 12-17 we had an employee who works in both Birch Haven and the Baldwin Care Center test positive with a rapid test. We anticipate that the results of the molecular test will be positive. As a result, both Birch Haven Assisted Living and Baldwin Care Center residents will be quarantined. We are very aware of the strain that quarantine places on residents and tenants. After the Birchwood employee tested positive, we tested all of the residents this week with rapid tests. All of the tests were negative. We will test tenants again this week with a rapid test, in addition to testing all staff and residents in Birch Haven Assisted Living and Baldwin Care Center.



I would like to provide some reminders regarding visitation for each campus setting. This past weekend, we had a family member from Birchwood Apartments come bursting through the front doors of the Baldwin Care Center. The Office staff was holding the front door open and assisting someone with items that were being dropped off. This week we had a family member from Birch Haven come through a side door that was open because the door was left open for a therapist to enter. Because of the quarantine that is in place for Birchwood Apartments, the therapists cannot

pass through Birchwood Apartments and must go outside to get from Baldwin Care Center to Birch Haven. I am not certain why a family member would even think to try the doors, as they have consistently been locked. I just need to reiterate that **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES** is a family member allowed to visit without being screened or without permission to enter. The therapy team now has keys to the doors and all doors on the campus will be locked. At this time unfortunately none of the settings on the campus are scheduling indoor visits due to positive staff members.



It is still dark as I am writing this newsletter. I am enjoying looking at the Christmas lights outside my office. The lighting project that the Baldwin-Woodville Chamber completed was no small undertaking. We are very blessed to live in a community that supports residents living in long term care. Last evening when I left there were Boy Scouts caroling outside the resident's windows. Yesterday afternoon I received a call from a retired teacher who lives in Hudson. She wanted to "adopt" some residents for Christmas by purchasing gifts for them. I was also contacted by Mrs. Schmoker, the instructor for Family and Consumer Sciences from the Baldwin Woodville High School. For several years the students in her class sold delicious holiday treats to raise funds to purchase gifts for both Baldwin Care Center and ParkView residents. Even though the students were unable to sell baked items, Baldwin Care Center residents will still be receiving gifts from the students. Again, we are so thankful that this community is so supportive of the Baldwin Care Center.



This week I have several thank yous to pass along from Birch Haven Assisted Living. Don Siler's wife Sandy donated Schwann's ice cream for the staff. Ole Ellefson and her daughter Jackie donated turtle chocolates. The Birkett family donated a party box of cheese curds. Pat Macho and her daughter Bonnie Deloy treated the staff to cookies and fruit. Thank you so much for thinking of us during the holiday season. It is greatly appreciated!

*Eileen LaFavor,
Administrator*

Wishing you a very **MERRY CHRISTMAS**

