



Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

As a reminder, this update is being sent to family members listed as the primary contact for each resident. Please share the information with family and friends. This newsletter is posted on the website at [www.baldwincarecenter.com](http://www.baldwincarecenter.com) if other family members would like to read it in its entirety. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email at [elafavor@baldwincarecenter.com](mailto:elafavor@baldwincarecenter.com) if you have questions or comments about the weekly information.

This week I would like to focus on discussing the staff and resident testing process for Baldwin Care Center, Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments. As I had mentioned in last week's newsletter we had received the test kits for all staff and residents of Baldwin Care Center. The testing was completed on Wednesday, May 20th for staff and residents. Dr. Kathleen Findlay and two nurses completed the testing. The test was a simple nasal swab, so it was not too troubling for staff or residents. A courier picked up the tests on Thursday and transported them to Exact Sciences Lab in Madison. We were told that the lab should be able to provide results within 48 hours. We started to receive results via FAX early Tuesday morning (approximately 2:00 a.m.) Initially we only received a handful of results. The next day we received some more test results in the early morning. As of this date (Thursday 5-28), we have received about 40% of the results. I am pleased to indicate that so far all of the results are negative. There have been multiple problems with getting the results. They have now changed the time frame to 72 hours for results. At this point we are passed that deadline and are still waiting for the rest of the results.

Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments residents and staff were tested on Tuesday, May 26th. Two nurses completed the testing in those locations. A courier picked up the tests on Wednesday. We are certainly hopeful that Exact Sciences Lab will improve their process so we can have results in a more timely fashion.

During the past week we did receive an indication that two staff who work in Birch Haven Assisted Living have tested positive for COVID-19. These staff are not direct care staff. St. Croix County is completing the contact tracing process to make certain we are taking the necessary precautions to ensure that we are continuing to keep our residents and staff safe. The employees are doing well and plan on returning to work after the isolation period is completed according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidance. Please feel free to contact me or Kayla Ridley, Nurse Manager or Kayla Kinney, Assistant to the Nurse Manager at Birch Haven if you have questions.

The Baldwin Care Center continues to participate in two webinars per week from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS). There is also a weekly webinar for assisted living facilities. During these webinars, they pass along pertinent information to facilities regarding COVID-19. DHS continues to reiterate that visiting guidance has not changed. DHS and CMS have been working on guidance for reopening of nursing facilities. The reopening of long term care settings hinges on the testing. Criteria included for potential reopening hinges upon continued testing. The recommendation is for weekly testing. It seems we are having a difficult time getting through the initial testing phase. It remains to be seen how weekly testing would work if results are unable to be turned around in a timely fashion. So unfortunately, I do not have any quick or easy answers regarding when long term care facilities will be able to reopen. Currently the facility is only able to allow end-of-life compassionate care visits by family.

We know and understand how difficult this continues to be for residents and their families. We continue to coordinate video conferencing visits and telephone visits. Family members may also come to "see" residents through a closed window by phone. We will continue to update you as this guidance changes.

Now I would like to concentrate on the good news for the week. First of all I would like to thank those who helped make the week here a little bit brighter. The family of Lucille Crosby brought treats for Baldwin Care Center staff. The family of Becky Semph brought cookies for the Baldwin Care Center staff. Mary Omann brought treats for the Birchwood Apartment tenants. Jenell Neidermyer brought corsages for all of the ladies of the Birchwood Apartments for Mother's Day. Dan and Tricia Van Brunt, members of the New Centerville Methodist Church brought an amazing variety of goodies for the entire staff of Baldwin Care Center, Birch Haven Assisted Living and the Birchwood Apartments including banana nut muffins, banana muffins, chocolate almond biscotti, Italian cheesecake brownies, snicker doodles, devil's food fudge cookies and fudge truffles. It was an amazing variety and so delicious.

Thank You

  
 Congratulations!

We are celebrating all of the senior high school graduates of the Baldwin Care Center this week. The celebration includes recognition of each of the eight high school students from several area high schools. There are personalized gifts for each graduate. Parents of the graduates will be part of the celebration. Some of the residents of the campus will also be cheering the graduates on. Of course, no graduation celebration is complete without cake and refreshments. As an organization, we felt it was important to recognize the accomplishments of our high school seniors, as they will not be able to participate in a physical graduation ceremony. We appreciate their dedication to the residents of the campus. We wish them every success in their future endeavors. The following students will be recognized: Ross Roemhild, Jadyn Huftel, Alyssa Frye, Nakeiya Ruoho and Kaelyn Olson from Baldwin/Woodville High School; Brandi Standaert from Glenwood City High School; Alyssa Hinzman from Spring Valley High School and Hailey Rutske from Southwestern High School. Congratulations to all of our graduates!

Class of 2020 



*Brandi Standaert*



*Kaelyn Olson*



*Alyssa Frye*



*Ross Roemhild*



*Nakeiya Ruoho*



*Hailey Rutske*