



Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

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



Since the last newsletter, the White House announced an initiative to increase vaccination rates that included mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations for long-term care workers in nursing homes. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) followed with an announcement of forthcoming regulation mandating vaccinations. CMS has indicated that the rule regarding vaccinations will come out in September. We are uncertain yet as to what the effective date will be. CMS could make the rule effectively immediately upon publishing or they could give a period of time before the rule is effective.

It is expected that there will be a phase in time for compliance. CMS defined what “staff” are included. Staff are all nursing home employees, licensed practitioners, students, trainees, volunteers and contracted personnel who provide treatment or services (such as therapy staff). We are uncertain as to whether there will be any exemptions such as medical exemptions or religious exemptions. We do not know if there will be a “test out” option. Currently federal employees who are unvaccinated are allowed to work if they test before working. Initially when the vaccine was first announced the speculation was that failure to comply with the rule would result in termination of CMS certification which would not allow us to provide services to residents who require skilled care. We do not have any further details currently. I will share those specifics as the information becomes available.

On August 25<sup>th</sup> an employee of the Baldwin Care Center tested positive for COVID-19. The employee worked in the Woodland Heights Neighborhood. As a result, visitation for residents of that neighborhood needed to be moved outdoors. We have not had a staff member test positive for several months.



**NATIONAL ASSISTED  
LIVING WEEK**  
SEPTEMBER 12-18, 2021

During the week of September 12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>, both Birchwood Apartments and Birch Haven Assisted Living will be celebrating Assisted Living Week. They have special events and special dress up days planned during that week. There will be an Open House on Friday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-11:30 a.m. The Open House will be held outdoors in the gazebo area between Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments. The Open House will highlight local vendors who will set up booths

including Live 2 B Healthy, Adoray Home Care and Hospice, Village Pharmacy, Nilssen’s Foods and the Birch Haven kitchen. Live 2 B Healthy will be beginning a senior fitness program soon for residents of Birchwood Apartments and Birch Haven Assisted Living. It sounds like a fun week! The residents of Birch Haven Assisted Living recently took a trip to Backroads Safari in Boyceville. Backroads Safari has a number of exotic animals. The residents had fun on their excursion.



On Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a campus wide car show. The car show will be held in the front parking lot of Birch Haven Assisted Living at 640 Elm Street from 1:30-3:30 p.m. We are encouraging staff, residents, tenants and family members to bring collectible cars that day. If you are interested in bringing a car, motorcycle, etc. that day, please contact Sheila Mikla, Baldwin Care Center Office Manager or me at 715-684-3231 to let us know what you will be bringing. Residents are really looking forward to this event.



There are several thank yous to pass along this time. Baldwin Care Center staff would like to thank the Doris Hansen Family for donuts from the new bakery in Baldwin. They were delicious! Sweet B's Bakery and Boutique also donated rolls, donuts and long johns to the staff and residents of the Birchwood Apartments, Birch Haven Assisted Living and Baldwin Care Center. Thank you so much for your generosity. They were enjoyed by all! The family of Mary Monson treated all of the staff of the Baldwin Care Center to muffins. They were amazing! Thank you so much.

I wanted to make everyone aware that I have a surgery upcoming on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>. It is an outpatient surgery. The surgeon indicated that the recovery time is generally one to two weeks. I am hopeful to be back to work during the work week beginning September 13<sup>th</sup>. If you need to contact me during that time you can certainly leave me a voice message or send me an email. If you need more immediate assistance, I am certain that one of the staff will be able to help you.

*Eileen LaFavor,  
Administrator*

# Birch Haven



## BACKROADS SAFARI



# BCC Horse Ranch Outing

