

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



On Tuesday, January 26th the vaccinators from Walgreens came to vaccinate staff and residents of Birch Haven Assisted Living and staff and tenants of the Birchwood Apartments. All but one resident in Birch Haven received the vaccine. The numbers for Birchwood Apartment tenants were lower with 69% of tenants receiving the vaccine. The staff numbers in both Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments were much lower than the rates for the Baldwin Care Center staff. Baldwin Care Center had 65 total staff over the age of 18 who could receive the vaccine. 54% or 35 Baldwin Care Center staff received the vaccine. 22% or 14 staff had COVID-19. So 75% of the staff either have antibodies or were vaccinated. Colleagues in other facilities in the area are seeing 50% or a little higher for staff participation I know that some staff were waiting to see if there would be residents or staff members who had reactions. We did not really see residents or staff that had adverse reactions. I am somewhat disappointed with the number of staff in Birch Haven Assisted Living who did not sign up for the vaccine. In an effort to get more staff to receive the vaccine, we will be having a campus wide drawing for staff with gift cards from both Target and Wal-Mart as prizes. I am hopeful this might encourage more staff to receive the vaccine. Baldwin Care Center staff and residents are scheduled to receive the second dose of the vaccine on February 4th. The efficacy of the vaccine is supposed to be 95% after the second vaccine.

COVID-19



I would like to update you regarding current COVID cases on the campus. I am really excited to share that currently we have no staff or resident cases in the Baldwin Care Center. There are no staff or resident cases in Birch Haven Assisted Living either. Quarantine in Birchwood Apartments because of the positive tenant case ends 1-29. I am hopeful because of the decreased positivity rate in the county we will not see as many cases. The Baldwin Care Center continues to test staff

weekly with molecular PCR tests that are sent to a lab for processing. We will test both residents and staff weekly if we have a positive resident or staff member. If any of the facilities on the campus has a positive resident or employee they must test residents and staff until all test results are negative for two weeks. Birch Haven Assisted Living is currently testing the staff every other week with rapid antigen tests, so that all staff are tested every two weeks. Birchwood Apartments will do the same after they have completed the current outbreak testing next week. Because the Baldwin Care Center is a skilled nursing facility, they are required to test weekly with molecular tests. Any staff member or resident that exhibits any potential symptoms is tested with a rapid test immediately.

So it looks like all of the setting on the campus will be out of quarantine soon. The Birchwood Apartments will be able to begin socially distanced dining and activities beginning January 31st. The Baldwin Care Center will do the same on February 2nd. Birch Haven has been out of quarantine for a week. This means that Birchwood Apartments will begin to schedule vestibule visits. Please contact Birchwood Apartments staff to set up visits. Baldwin Care Center is beginning visiting booth visits again. The Medical Director feels this is a very safe visiting option since the visiting booth is enclosed. We did halt visits when we had a positive resident case until we felt we had the outbreak under control. We are hopeful that we will be able to continue visiting booth visits. I am trying to schedule visits for each resident at least every other week. I will be the one contacting Baldwin Care Center family members to schedule these visits.



Baldwin Care Center staff and residents are looking forward to Valentine's Day. We celebrate Valentine's Day by choosing a Valentine King and Queen. This tradition began as an anniversary celebration of the date that the original Baldwin Care Center opened in 1972. We recently came upon the special edition of the Baldwin Bulletin featuring the Open House for the facility. The article indicated that 1,500 people attended the Open House in 1972. That is a lot of people who turned out to see the new facility! The first resident admitted was Ruth Ramberg. She was admitted on February 14th, 1972. Long term care has certainly changed since then. In the 1970s nursing facilities were built with primarily double occupancy rooms. The original Baldwin Care Center even had three bed wards. It is great to see that the only two double occupancy rooms we have now are intended for a married couple. Most nursing facilities have become less institutional and more like home. It seems hard to believe that next year the Baldwin Care Center will be celebrating its 50th anniversary. I have been blessed to be able to work at the Baldwin Care Center since 1988. I hope to be able to continue to work here for the next couple of years until retirement.

*Eileen LaFavor,
Administrator*

BCC Visiting Booth



*BCC King & Queen 2020
Ron Kozeliski & Bev Medes*