



2-12-21

Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

This newsletter is being sent to responsible parties listed as the primary contact for the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. This newsletter is being distributed to the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. Responsible parties can direct other 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 sending newsletters to responsible parties. The Apartment Manager distributes copies to the tenants. If there is a topic that 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.



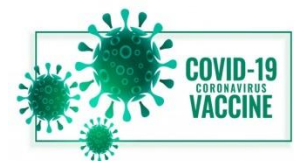
Unfortunately, on Thursday, February 11th we had an employee test positive for COVID-19 in the Baldwin Care Center. The Whispering Pines Neighborhood of the building will go back into quarantine. Residents on that side of the building and the Dietary staff will be rapid tested daily until we complete the PCR testing on Monday, February 15th for all staff and residents. The Birchwood Apartments and Birch Haven Assisted Living have remained free from COVID-19 for the past three weeks. Residents and tenants have resumed socially distanced dining and activities. Staff are still required to wear some personal protective equipment including a surgical mask and eye protection if they are in contact with a resident. Residents in all campus settings should wear masks if they are in the hallway on their way to an activity or to dine.

Visitor Information



All settings on the campus are scheduling visits. If you would like to visit a tenant in Birchwood Apartments or a resident in Birch Haven Assisted Living, please contact the Apartment Manager in Birchwood or one of the Nurse Managers in Birch Haven Assisted Living. Visits in both of those locations are in the front vestibule of those buildings. I continue to contact family members to schedule visits in the visiting booths located in each lounge area in the Baldwin Care Center. The visits in all settings have been going well. It is wonderful to be able to have residents and tenants see their family members. Compassionate care visits continue in all settings on a case-by-case basis. Compassionate care visits may be for end-of-life situations and other things such as a resident who has had a significant weight loss that would benefit from a family member assisting them with eating. The frequency and length of visits is determined by a team of staff from each facility with input from the Medical Director. The facilities on the campus continue to have guidelines that they must follow regarding safe visits. The COVID-19 positivity rate continues to remain at a moderate level. If this is the case facilities should be conducting safe visits. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, the guidance regarding visitation has not changed on either the national or state level, even though vaccinations are in progress. I will keep you informed as to when the visitation guidance changes.

Residents and a majority of staff at the Baldwin Care Center received their second dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. The residents did not seem to have too much of a reaction, but some of the staff saw more of a reaction from the second vaccine. Staff primarily experienced a sore arm and body aches. The pharmacist who was here giving vaccines explained that as we age our immune system changes. Older adults generally will not react the way that younger healthy adults do. The residents and staff of Birch Haven and the tenants and staff of Birchwood Apartments will receive their second vaccine towards the end of the month. The CDC has just released an update regarding guidance for quarantine for fully vaccinated persons. The guidance is now indicating that persons who are fully vaccinated no longer require quarantine after exposure. I do need to add that the CDC indicated an exception to that guidance are vaccinated inpatients and residents in healthcare settings, who should continue to quarantine after exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVI-19.



Regular COVID-19 testing is occurring across the campus. Since Baldwin Care Center has not had any staff or residents with COVID-19 for over two weeks, we are able to reduce testing for staff to once weekly. Staff are tested with a molecular test that is sent to a lab for processing. The residents no longer need to be regularly tested. We test residents if they are exhibiting any symptoms of COVID-19. If any other staff or resident cases occur, we will return to testing weekly for residents also. Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments continue to test half of the staff every other week, so all staff are tested bi-weekly. Assisted living staff are tested with rapid antigen tests. Residents are only tested if they are exhibiting any COVID like symptoms. Requirements for testing are based on the positivity rate for the county. Recently the positivity rate for St. Croix County has seen a downward trend. We hope that trend continues.



We have a lot of people to thank this week. The Baldwin Care Center had an anonymous donor who wanted to treat the staff. We decided to treat all staff to pizza to celebrate National Pizza Day. Staff really enjoyed the pizza. Thank you so much for thinking of us! We would also like to thank Iris Nadeau's daughter Mary Frey and her friend (and mine), Julie Herman for making a flower arrangement for each tenant/resident on the entire campus. The bouquets were a day brightener for everyone! Dan and Tricia Van Brunt from the New Centerville United Methodist Church made Valentine's Day cards for every tenant/resident of the campus. The residents appreciate everyone from the community who is remembering them here. Thank you all so much.

*Eileen LaFavor,
Administrator*

What is Your Marriage Advice?

