



Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

This weekly newsletter is being sent to family members listed as the primary contact for each resident. Please feel free to share this information with others. The newsletter is also posted on the website at www.baldwincarecenter.com if other family members would like to read it also. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email at elafavor@baldwincarecenter.com if you have questions or comments about the weekly information.

Last week I focused on discussing COVID-19 testing for staff and residents. I have some updates since last week's newsletter. Last week we were waiting for the results of the resident and staff test results for the Baldwin Care Center. When I left off at the end of last week, we had received approximately 40% of the test results. We ended up receiving 34 test results back. This was a combination of residents and staff test results. The good news is that all of those test results were negative. However the remaining 71 tests were not kept at the proper temperature at the lab and came back with a result that indicated they were "Unacceptable". This was not due to any error on the part of the Baldwin Care Center. We will have to order more test kits. We will be planning a re-test date for all residents and staff. Since this test is a particular snapshot in time, we would like to re-test everyone to see where we are facility-wide on a particular date. Please accept my sincere apologies for the inconvenience that this may cause, particularly for residents. Even though the test was the simple nasal swab, it was still a little bit troubling to some of the residents, particularly those who may have a dementia diagnosis. What is troubling to me is that the criteria for reopening nursing facilities in the future hinges on weekly testing. Facilities must continue to have negative test results for residents and staff for 28 days before we can even begin opening up somewhat. If we do have a positive result, we must start the process over with the time frame for reopening extended. I am not trying to sound pessimistic, I am merely reporting what the status is regarding testing. The processes at the lab need to be improved significantly so that more regular testing can become possible.

The staff and resident COVID-19 testing at Birch Haven Assisted Living and Birchwood Apartments was completed on Tuesday, May 26th. The courier picked up the tests on mid afternoon on Wednesday. They were then transported to the lab in Madison. The turnaround time for receiving test results is supposed to be 72 hours. This means we should have gotten results on Saturday or Sunday. None were received. I spent most of Monday morning on the phone with Exact Sciences Lab attempting to fix my electronic access to get all of the final results for the Baldwin Care Center. I was trying to access the results for Birch Haven also. I finally found out that the same site administrator cannot access results from two different buildings, even if they are on the same campus. This process has been incredibly frustrating thus far. I will keep you updated regarding the process and, of course, regarding the results. If any of the tests are positive for staff or residents, the facility will be contacting residents and responsible parties within 12 hours of when we are notified. The two staff members that tested positive for COVID-19 in Birch Haven Assisted Living are recovering at home quite quickly. We anticipate that they will be returning to work by the end of this week.



The Baldwin Care Center campus held graduation recognition ceremony for the eight seniors that work on the campus. The photos for the majority of the seniors appeared in last week's newsletter. The weather was a little cooler and it was windier than we would have preferred, but we made the best of it. Two area newspapers were here and covered the story, so hopefully there will be some photos in the local newspapers. We will be posting photos on our [Facebook](#) page and will include some in this newsletter. Pomp and Circumstance was played as the seniors took their position to receive their recognition awards and gift bag from the staff and residents of the Baldwin Care Center. The gift bag included some essentials for this pandemic time including some toilet paper and a mask, in addition to some monogrammed towels with the student's school colors on them, some useful items from Bath and Body Works and some cash. The residents held up personalized signs for all of the graduates while everyone cheered as their names were called! The students and family members who attended seemed very appreciative of the recognition. We topped the recognition off with some cake and refreshments after a brief graduation speech from the Administrator. This is a very uncertain time for everyone, especially for our graduates. We wish them the best in their

future endeavors. We know they will succeed. We see their caring, compassionate spirit through their work here with the seniors on the campus. These traits will take them far. Congratulations Graduates!

During the graduation recognition we had a car show also. Graduates could vote for their favorite car. The cars included: 1. 1972 Challenger owned by Bill & Sue Nawrocki 2. 1969 Super Bee owned by Bill & Sue Nawrocki 3. 1972 Rally Nova owned by Tim & Benita Gregg 4. 2014 Chevy Camaro owned by Butch and Joyce Wentlandt 5. Buick Riviera owned by Duane & Brenda Kado 6. 2007 Ford Mustang owned by Eileen LaFavor. The favorite car picked by the students was the 2007 Ford Mustang. We appreciate everyone who participated in the car show. Thank you to Joyce Wentlandt for donating a Coffee themed gift set for the favorite vehicle. Thanks also to Bernie Rock for the use of the sound equipment. Special thanks to Sheila Mikla, Office Manager, Kathryn Jacobson, Social Worker and Angela Tellijohn, Therapeutic Recreation Director who were directly involved in the planning and implementation of this special day. Thank you to all of the residents who helped to make this a special day for our graduates.



This week we would like to thank Mary Traxler and family for the donation of masks to Birch Haven Assisted Living. Thanks also to Doris Birkett and family who brought treats for residents and staff. A thank you goes to Sheila Mikla who purchased roses and placed them throughout the facility for everyone to enjoy.

This week I would like to leave you with some resources that are available during these difficult times. Attached you will find a list of resources available in St. Croix County. Also attached are some tips that to reduce COVID-19 stress. I hope you find these useful. Stay safe and have a great week.

*Eileen LaFavor
Administrator*

