



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 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 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.



I would like to pass along a couple of reminders regarding visiting. Family and friends are still not allowed to eat with residents in the Baldwin Care Center. We also ask that family members not attend activities with residents in any setting on the campus. Visits should take place in the resident's room. A reminder that visiting hours in the Baldwin Care Center and Birch Haven Assisted Living are 9:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00-4:00 p.m. Visiting hours in

Birch Haven are 8:00 a.m. to noon and 2:30-6:00 p.m. Visitors should be wearing masks while in the hallways on their way to a resident's room.



This week the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Bureau of Assisted Living held a webinar for providers that highlighted some changes to the guidance for assisted living facilities. They discussed singing. The preferred location for singing is outdoors. If singing occurs indoors a mask should be worn by the person singing. If an overnight visit is necessary in the assisted living setting, the visitor should remain in the room or apartment during their stay. Visitors are able to dine with residents/tenants as long as they remain in their private space. Pets are allowed, but should not pass from room to room and should not linger in common areas. Assisted living facilities are considered communal housing; therefore we still have the responsibility to protect everyone from contracting COVID-19. While masks are not required in the community, masks are required in communal housing. The staff should continue to wear a mask at all time when interacting with residents, in halls and community spaces. COVID assessments for residents only need to be done once a day. COVID testing is once a month unless the county positivity rate increases. This guidance was for assisted living facilities. To my knowledge this guidance has NOT been issued for skilled nursing facilities.



I hope that everyone has a safe 4th of July holiday this year. While we are celebrating this occasion we should take a few minutes to remember the significance of this day. July 4th, 1776 was the date that the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, which declared independence from Great Britain and its king. Here are several fun facts about the 4th of July. Only John Hancock signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, 1776. All the others signed later. The Declaration of Independence was signed by 56 men from 13 colonies. The average age of the signers was 45. The youngest was Thomas Lynch (27) of South Carolina. The oldest delegate was Benjamin Franklin (70) of Pennsylvania. The lead author, Thomas Jefferson was 33. The only two signers of the Declaration of Independence that served as President were John Adams and Thomas Jefferson. The first Independence Day celebration took place in Philadelphia on July 8th, 1776. This was also the day that the declaration was first read in public after people were summoned by the ringing of the Liberty Bell. Every 4th of July the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is tapped (not actually rung) thirteen times in honor of the original 13 colonies. The stars on the original American flag were in a circle so all the colonies would appear equal. Fireworks are part of the tradition of celebrating this national holiday. While you are enjoying your fireworks displays, please remember those brave individuals who declared and fought for our independence. They laid the groundwork for the freedoms that we all enjoy today. Happy 4th of July!

I began writing this newsletter in April of 2020 to keep family members informed about what was going on. At that time the primary topic was COVID-19. Facilities were required to update family members at least weekly about COVID cases and other topics related to COVID-19. Guidance seemed to change very frequently at that time and it was important to keep everyone updated. Things have changed a great deal in the past 16 months. COVID cases have declined dramatically and visitation has opened up. It is no longer necessary to update family members weekly. I will still be continuing the newsletter, but the frequency will change to every other week. Some of you have indicated that they find the newsletter very informative. I truly enjoy writing the newsletter. I have passion for the English language and I am a stickler when it comes to spelling and grammar. As always, if there is anything that you would like me to discuss in the newsletter, I am happy to do that. I appreciate the support and understanding of family and friends during this difficult time that we have been through.



The Birchwood Apartments have taken on a community service project. They are collecting glasses and hearing aids for the Lion's Club. There is a donation box in the dining area of the Birchwood Apartments. There is also a donation drop box in the main entryway of the Birchwood Apartments. If you have questions, please contact Jenell Neidermyer, Apartment Manager at 715-684-3231, Ext.112.

This week I would like to thank Dixie Helder for bringing delicious cookies for the staff of the Baldwin Care Center. Also to JoAnn Hoffman for providing dilly bar ice cream treats for the residents for June Dairy Month.



Happy  
4<sup>th</sup> of July

Eileen LaFavor,  
Administrator

