

Happy New Year!

Dear Resident, 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 also 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 also sending newsletters to responsible parties. The Birchwood Apartment Manager also distributes copies to 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.



The Baldwin Care Center has received a vaccination date for the COVID-19 vaccine. The test date for Walgreens to come and vaccinate staff and residents is January 7th. The Walgreens staff will be here from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The next vaccine date is scheduled for 2-4-21. And the last vaccine date is 3-4-21. The vaccine is a two step process. The second vaccine is to be given 4 weeks after the first vaccine. All residents and responsible parties were already contacted regarding verbal consent.

Specific information regarding the vaccine and a written consent form was sent to responsible parties. The majority of residents and family member decision makers chose to have the immunization. I have spoken to another facility in the area who already received the vaccine and they indicated that they were not seeing significant side effects. Most people were reporting a sore arm. Both the Birchwood Apartments and Birch Haven Assisted Living have been contacted by Walgreens, but we do not have a scheduled vaccine date yet. We continue to strongly encourage everyone to be immunized unless there is a contraindication. This is the beginning of the path to be able to return to some normalcy regarding visiting, etc. If you have questions about the vaccine, Dr. Findlay, our Medical Director is here on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning to answer any questions you may have.

The Baldwin Care Center currently has two COVID positive residents. Both seem to be doing quite well. Their quarantine period will be coming to an end as 2020 ends and 2021 begins. The Birchwood Apartments has one COVID positive tenant that continues to be in the quarantine period, but has been hospitalized. Birch Haven Assisted Living also has one tenant who was COVID positive and has also been hospitalized. As a result of having COVID positive residents in the Baldwin Care Center, we are creating a COVID unit in the facility. If residents in the facility test positive, we will be moving those residents to the designated COVID unit in the building temporarily. This area will be physically separated by a barrier and a separate door. We will also have an area designated for new admissions that come from the hospital that have tested negative for COVID-19. The staff here continues to do everything within its power to maintain the health and well-being of the residents and staff of the Baldwin Care Center.



The Baldwin Care Center plans to resume visits as soon as we can after the COVID cases are contained. The same is true for Birch Haven Assisted Living. Birchwood Apartments are currently allowing vestibule visits. The visits must be scheduled during the hours that Birchwood staff are on duty. As a reminder, those hours are Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. - 8 p.m., Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays from 7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. and 2:30 – 8:00 p.m. Please contact Birchwood Apartment staff to set up an appointment.



Recently I was notified by the Department of Health and Human Services that the Baldwin Care Center would be receiving some funding from a federal Quality Incentive Program which rewards nursing homes for keeping new COVID-19 infection and mortality rates among residents lower than the communities they serve. The Baldwin Care Center will be receiving funding for our performance during September and October 2020. The Baldwin Care Center has also just received some additional funding from the Cares Act. This provides some relief during this difficult time for all nursing facilities. Nursing facilities throughout the state and

country are struggling with decreased revenue due to decreased admissions. Facilities also have additional supply expenses related to COVID-19. Most facilities are struggling trying to staff their buildings. It is difficult for facilities to find qualified direct care staff. Skilled nursing facilities and assisted living facilities are paying bonuses and overtime to retain their current staff.



I have several thank yous to pass along this week. Thank you to Marley Coe, who is the great-granddaughter of Birch Haven resident Rozella Fern and the great -niece of Birchwood Apartment tenant Allan Fern. Marley made cards for all of the tenants in the Birchwood Apartments. Mary Frey, daughter of Baldwin Care Center resident Iris Nadeau brought homemade caramels for staff. The First Bank of Baldwin donated a basket full of pretzels, cookies and crackers for staff to enjoy. Thank you so much!

*Eileen LaFavor,
Administrator*

Visiting Santa



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