



Dear Residents, Family Members and Friends,

This newsletter is being sent to all responsible parties listed as the primary contact for residents of the Baldwin Care Center. The newsletter is also distributed to 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. Current and previous newsletters are posted there. Birch Haven Assisted Living is also sending the weekly newsletter to responsible parties. The Birchwood Apartment Manager distributes copies to the tenants. If there is any topic that you would like to have discussed in the newsletter, please contact me via email at elafavor@baldwincarecenter.com or by phone at 715-684 3231, Ext.103.



Last week I had reported that there had been an employee positive COVID-19 case in Birch Haven. I need to share the rest of the story with you. The employee initially tested positive with a rapid test. The employee was then tested at a hospital with a molecular test and the test result was negative. The employee continued with fairly severe symptoms and then received another molecular test from a local health care provider. That test too was negative. Unfortunately we needed to assume that the employee was positive based on the positive rapid test because she was symptomatic, even though the molecular test was negative. With every staff case that we have had on the campus, we are consulting with St. Croix County Public Health and following their recommendations. It is great to have them as a resource.

I would like to discuss the new guidance by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services regarding Safer Visitation Guidelines for Assisted Living. They are currently suggesting that visits may occur for assisted living residents. If there is not an outbreak, the facility may allow visitation. Birchwood Apartments developed a start date for visitations to begin December 1st. The same indoor visitation guidance that was in place previously, is in effect. The visitation guidance for Birchwood includes visiting in the vestibule of the apartments. Appointments need to be made with Birchwood Apartment staff. All visitors must be screened. All visitors must remain masked and socially distanced during the visit. Birch Haven Assisted Living will be starting indoor visitation the week beginning December 7th in the vestibule. Indoor visitation guidance in Birch Haven is similar to Birchwood Apartments. There is still concern about conducting visitations while the positivity rate in the state and county remains very high. We ask that you remain vigilant regarding hand hygiene, mask wearing and social distancing. There has not been any guidance released by the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services for residents of skilled nursing facilities regarding visitation.



The annual Circle of Love Lighting Ceremony will occur on Monday, December 7th. This year we have purchased an artificial tree. We are planning the lighting of the tree for 6:00 PM at the front of the Baldwin Care Center. Family members and other residents of the campus are invited to attend outdoors with masks and respecting social distancing. After the lighting ceremony, the tree will be moved inside of the Baldwin Care Center for residents to enjoy. Peace Lutheran Church members will be attending to provide some outdoor entertainment.

Recently, beautician services were halted on the campus due to the high positivity rate and because of positive COVID-19 staff. At this time we have determined that the beautician may return to the Birchwood Apartment setting and Birch Haven Assisted Living facility if there is not an outbreak. Currently no resident or staff member has COVID-19 in those settings. The Baldwin Care Center currently has a positive COVID-19 employee.

We continue to receive information regarding the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccines, but we still do not have a firm date as to when the vaccines will be getting here. We do know that the staff and residents will be in the first tier of people to get the vaccine. If any more specific information becomes available we will be in touch with you.



This week I have a number of Thank Yous to pass along. The Baldwin Botany Belles and Beaus teamed up with the Baldwin-Woodville Chamber of Commerce to help decorate the Baldwin Care Center. They brought beautiful porch pots to add to the beautiful lights and decorations. Thank you so much. We truly appreciate everything the community

has done for the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. You have brought great joy to the residents and staff! A BIG thank you to Doris Hansen family including Renee, Ken, Kaden, Kolin, Karter – The Dykhouse Family, and to Lance, Kate, Joey and Evy – The Jensen Family. They donated personalized gift bags for each resident that included socks, hand lotion and candy. Thank you so much for these lovely gifts! Thanks to Darla Peterson, friend of resident Martena Johnson, for the bags of candy for the Baldwin Care Center staff. Another Thank You to Dan and Tricia Van Brunt of the New Centerville United Methodist Church. They donated Christmas crayons and Christmas coloring books for the tenants of Birchwood Apartments, the residents of Birch Haven Assisted Living and the residents of the Baldwin Care Center. We thank you so much for bringing Christmas cheer to all of the residents of the campus!



*Eileen LaFavor,
Administrator*



Another thank you to the Baldwin-Woodville Chamber of Commerce for the addition of the large mailbox that is now in front of the Baldwin Care Center. If anyone would like to drop cards or mail for the residents that would be great. Restore and Restyle donated the mailbox to the Chamber. It has found a great home for this Christmas. Thank you for thinking of the residents this holiday season.

