

**Friday Review—4/2/21**

Good afternoon! It’s a little cold for Opening Day at Fenway, but baseball season is officially underway. Can summer be far behind?

**96% decline**—AHCA released a report this week that shows an amazing decline in COVID cases in nursing homes. <https://www.providermagazine.com/Breaking-News/Pages/COVID-Cases-in-Nursing-Homes-Down-96-Percent-Since-Vaccine-Rollout.aspx>

**Request for more funds**—Leading Age is asking Congress for a new $6 billion dollar provider relief fund to help nursing homes around the country. <https://www.mcknights.com/news/providers-look-to-pack-infrastructure-bills-with-medicaid-financing-workforce-supports/>

**Census—cautious optimism?**—A survey shows that more than 1/3 of nursing home operators interviewed expect occupancy to return to pre-COVID levels. <https://www.mcknights.com/news/more-than-one-third-of-operators-believe-occupancy-will-return-to-pre-pandemic-levels-in-2021-survey/>

**An opportunity**—Cooperation between doctors and nursing home staff improved dramatically during the pandemic. Long-term care doctors are hoping this will continue. <https://skillednursingnews.com/2021/03/collaboration-between-physicians-nursing-home-staff-should-not-end-with-the-covid-19-emergency/?euid=a3545010f7&utm_source=snn-newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=3f8200e3ed>

**Pain champions**—Training nursing home workers to be pain management champions aids in adopting evidence-based pain management guidelines. <https://www.mcknights.com/news/clinical-news/pain-champions-in-nursing-homes-spur-adoption-of-pain-guidelines-study/>

**Risk of falling**—Almost every adult over the age of 65 is taking at least one medication that increases the risk of a fall. <https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/drugs-that-increase-risk-of-falls/2021/03/25/1d875304-8d70-11eb-9423-04079921c915_story.html>

**“Virtual” improvement**—Virtual reality is being used by long-term care facilities as a way to combat loneliness and depression. <https://www.wsj.com/articles/virtual-reality-brings-joy-to-people-in-assisted-living-facilities-11616760002>

**Careers in Aging Week**—RIHCA would like to highlight one of our amazing caregivers each day during Careers in Aging Week, April 18-24th. Please submit your stories and a photo to Katie Norman by Thursday April 15th. You can reach Katie at knorman@rihca.com.

**Congratulations Pam!**—The winner of Channel 12’s Remarkable Women Contest is none other than Pam Bibeault! Pam was selected out of hundreds of entries. The contest honors women who have made an impact in our community. Pam’s selection was officially announced yesterday on The Rhode Show. You can see the announcement and the interview with Pam right here. Congratulations and well deserved! [Remarkable Women winner revealed | WPRI.com](https://www.wpri.com/remarkable-women/remarkable-women-winner-revealed-2/)

Well, as I am about to hit “send”, the Sox are down 2-0 to the Orioles. Since the game is not over, I can still officially say Boston remains undefeated on the season. Go Sox!

Happy Easter to all!

Have a great weekend!