



# Down Home Living

A Publication of Locust Grove Village

Fall, 2017

## “Giving Tuesday” Set For November 28

Giving Tuesday kicks off the charitable season, when many focus on their holiday and end-of-year giving.

The special day last year brought Locust Grove Village \$4,187.35 in donations.

“The generosity of our supporters is very much appreciated,” says Charlotte Rathke, administrator.

Giving Tuesday is scheduled from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at the following locations:

- Hoisington Chamber of Commerce, 123 N. Main St., Hoisington
- EZ Mart, 1409 Main St., La Crosse
- Larned Chamber of Commerce, 502 Broadway St., Larned
- Courthouse Annex, 210 E. 3rd St., St. John

The Golden Belt Community Foundation matches the funds raised, divided in proportion to the total amount raised on Giving Tuesday.

The maximum donation to qualify for a match per donor/per fund is \$2,500. (For any single gift greater than \$2,500, only the first \$2,500 will be considered for matching funds.)

Donations are irrevocable and may be made in person at any of the four county locations on Giving Tuesday, by mail, or online at [www.goldenbeltcf.org](http://www.goldenbeltcf.org). Please call to discuss gifts of grain, stock, IRA rollover and other

non-cash gifts prior to giving.

All donations are tax deductible. To accommodate donors from across the state or across the country, donations may be mailed directly to the GBCF beginning November 1. Please go to [www.goldenbeltcf.org](http://www.goldenbeltcf.org) and print the Giving Tuesday donation form and select Locust Grove Village. Checks should be made out to GBCF with **LOCUST GROVE VILLAGE** in the memo line. Mailed donation must be postmarked no later than November 30, 2017.

Locust Grove Village has participated with the Golden Belt Community Foundation as it joined the Giving Tuesday global giving movement three years ago.



Since that time over \$20,500 has been donated to the Locust Grove Village Endowment Fund.

“We have been richly blessed by the support of so many donors and friends,” commented Charlotte Rathke. “Thank you for believing in our mission of service to the elders of Ruth County with your support.”

For more information, contact Golden Belt Community Foundation at 620-792-3000 or Charlotte Rathke at 785-222-2574.

**“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”**

**— Winston S. Churchill**

## Long-Time Friends Reconnect At Locust Grove Village

One of life's greatest gifts is to reconnect years later with friends with whom one has lost contact, and immediately have the same camaraderie as before.

Such is the case with Darwin and Ruth Voss and their old friends Dick and Sandy Ochs.

Darwin worked his entire career at AT&T, where he developed a close friendship with his co-worker, Dick.

The couples used to do social things together. Over the last few years they saw much less of each other due to health and various issues, so they weren't spending time together like before.

Eventually, Dick and Sandy moved to Locust Grove Village, where they were able to stay together, Dick in the health care center and Sandy in assisted living.

Darwin and Ruth were living in Hays, where coincidentally Dick and Sandy's daughter Kenda Ochs was Darwin's VA nurse. When they needed more care, Kenda referred them to Locust Grove Village. She knew first-hand how pleased her

own parents were with the Village's continuum of care, which enabled them to remain together even as their care needs changed. Darwin and Ruth's daughter, Brenda Robben, was also instrumental in getting her folks to Locust Grove Village. Now Ruth lives in assisted living and Darwin in the health care center.

These two couples have rekindled their friendship, picking up exactly where they left off. They eat meals together, gather for social events, enjoy activities and host their families, all within the parameters of Locust Grove Village.

"It is an inspiration to be able to move in and have a friend whom you have worked with, hunted and fished with, and had family outings with," Darwin says. "We visit about all the history we have shared together. It definitely makes the transition easier."

"It's meant a lot to me," Dick adds. "It's nice to see them all again. When you have a friend here, you feel you're not alone. Our wives visit together in assisted living and they come visit us. It works out nicely."

"It's been nice having someone here you know," Ruth says.

"The decision to have mom and dad anywhere but in their own home was very difficult for all of us," Brenda says. "When both came down with a horrible flu, my siblings and I knew a change was imminent. Fortunately for us, Kenda happened to be over to check on dad and we began inquiring about where her parents were. She told us about Locust Grove and the great care they give the residents. I believe God had a hand in it and am so happy that it's been a fairly easy transition for them and I feel it is partly due to having friends there. Dad and Dick have breakfast together most mornings and visit about the good old days and who could out-fish the other. Mom and Sandy giggle like young girls and I really think it's brought back a lot of life to all of them! I know mom and dad are well taken care of. It's not just a job for the staff at Locust Grove Village; they treat everyone like family."



**The Voss and Ochs families enjoyed the recent celebration of Octoberfest.**

## Octoberfest Celebration

The health care and assisted living dining rooms were lit up with laughter and lively conversation as residents and families enjoyed the celebration of Octoberfest on October 26.

Everyone savored the pierogies, green bean dumpling soup and kolaches provided by Locust Grove Village, as well as the salads and desserts furnished by each family.

Following the wonderful meal, everyone enjoyed music and dancing to "The Hot Shots" band.

## The Store Provides A Notable Life Enrichment Experience

October 25 Locust Grove Village held its monthly "Store" day. The residents earn their treasured store dollars by attending activities, therapies, or simply engaging in a necessary task that may be difficult for them. Once a month they can redeem their dollars for real items they need or want.

"The Store has been very beneficial to my dad and to me," says Lois Hepp, daughter of Leonard Hepp. "It gives him something to do - earning bucks, being able to buy things without spending his real money. It has motivated my dad to reach a level of contentment which he did not have before."

The October event drew volunteers from the community as well as 11 college students from Fort Hays Sonography Department who came to help. They all become personal assistants to the residents, helping them shop.

"The program is a huge hit," says Charlotte Rathke, administrator. "It has brought numerous donations (monetarily and products) and kick started our volunteer program with many new folks."

All of us at Locust Grove Village are grateful for the support of so many groups and individuals.



**Octoberfest was celebrated Oct. 26.  
Below, the October Store was another hit.**



## Memorials and Donations

We express our sincere appreciation to those who have included Locust Grove Village in their memorials and charitable donations from the beginning of 2017 through Oct. 25, 2017:

IN MEMORY Of --

Rosanna Herrman  
Inez Manos  
Father Gilbert Herrman  
Leona Kaspar  
Urban Huddleston  
Robert Hanhardt

IN HONOR Of --

Berniece Landry's 94th Birthday

Gifts were received to support the following LGV programs and services:

"The Store"  
Resident Garden  
Smart TV for Activity Room  
Siding for the LGV apartment complex



701 W. 6th  
La Crosse, KS 67548  
[www.locustgrovevillage.com](http://www.locustgrovevillage.com)

PRSR STD  
ECRWS  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
EDDM Retail

Postal Patron

## Legacy Society Honors Donors

In 2012 Locust Grove Village created the Legacy Society to recognize and honor people who have included a gift to the Village in their estate plan.

These thoughtful gifts may come to Locust Grove Village in a number of ways, including bequests through wills or trusts, the naming of Locust Grove Village as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy, or through other types of charitable gift arrangements. Outright gifts of \$5,000 or more to the Village's endowment fund also qualify for membership.

This type of giving helps ensure that future funding will be available to finance the growing needs of Locust Grove Village, while providing

high quality health care and retirement living to the citizens of Rush County and the central plains.

If you have an interest in this type of giving and would like more information, please contact Charlotte Rathke at 785-222-2574 or [crathke@locustgrovevillage.com](mailto:crathke@locustgrovevillage.com).

“Gifts of love keep giving”

J. Stanford  
31 Mar 2014 8:18 am