



Down Home Living

A Publication of Locust Grove Village

Spring 2021

Celebrating A Quarter Century Of Service

Locust Grove Village is blessed with many dedicated and devoted employees.

Two Rush County natives have made service to Locust Grove Village their passion for 25 years. For Tammy Proffitt, it all started in grade school at La Crosse with an adopt a grandparent program. “We would come every week to spend time with our adopted grandparent,” states Tammy. Having had her mother and brother work at Locust Grove Village (then Rush County Nursing Home) she was nudged in the direction of elder care and says that is how the

journey started.

Tammy began working as a certified nurse aide (CNA) while in high school. She left for a period and returned after receiving her licensed practical nursing (LPN) degree in 1994. “The residents are most definitely the best thing about working at LGV. We are just one big family,” Proffitt notes. “We take care of the residents like they were our own family. It is a privilege and an honor to be able to care for these wonderful people.”

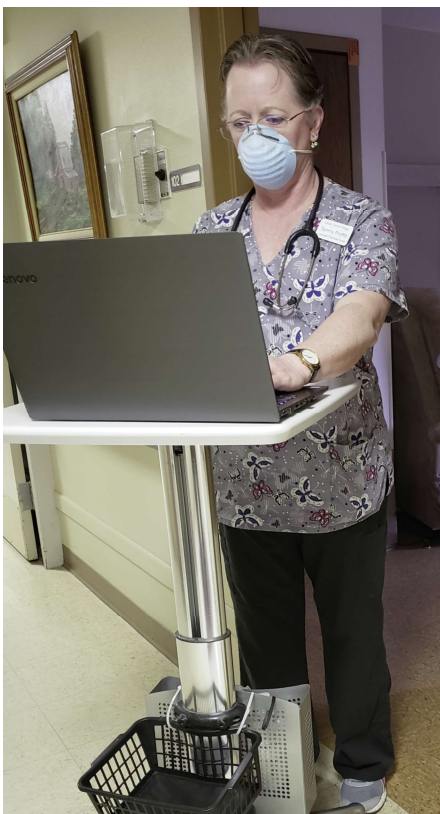
The journey in elder care started early for Anna Cheely as well, having joined the staff in 1995 as a bed maker while completing classes to become a certified nurse aide. Over the years, Anna has trained in other roles, including restorative aide, beautician, certified medication aide (CMA), safety coordinator and bus trainer. “I have taken classes with LGV support to broaden my opportunities and knowledge,” Anna comments. When the new assisted living was opened Anna again changed her focus and serves as team leader and activity coordinator in that area. She agrees with Tammy in stating, “I enjoy working here and I love our residents.”

Tammy enjoys mentoring others entering the field. LGV have student training

for CNA, CMA and LPN programs. “It is always an honor to work with new students training for this field. They are eager to learn, and it is a joy to share my knowledge”.

The ladies agree that staying 25 years at one workplace has surprised them, as almost in unison they state, “I’ve been working here half of my life.” Tammy says, “LGV is the best place to work. I have seen many changes in my journey. We have the support of the Board of Directors. We have an excellent leadership team. We strive for person centered care, meeting each resident’s individual needs and supporting the routine they had prior to living at LGV.”

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Commitment To The Future Campaign Gaining Momentum In Final Phase

Momentum is building with fundraising efforts in full swing on the final Phase of the Commitment to the Future Campaign. "We have been able to get out and make presentations again after the difficult and locked down COVID year", says Charlotte Rathke, LGV Administrator. "There has been some significant movement forward with donations from individuals and community partners across Rush County," Rathke noted. The final phase seeks to raise \$350,000 to update every resident room in the 1978 original nursing home building. "Since there are 32 resident rooms, there is a significant cost related to time and resources" Rathke stated.

Celebrate 2021: Communities of Strength

Locust Grove Village is set to celebrate elders! May is celebrated as Older American's Month and time to celebrate the strength of older adults with special emphasis on the power of connection and engagement in building strong communities.

There are many things we all can do to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive. Connecting with others is one of the most important—it plays a vital role in our health and

Commitment to the Future

If you would like to schedule an appointment to learn more about the project or for a presentation before an organization, call me at 785-222-2574 or crathke@locustgrovevillage.com.

25-Year Employees

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To balance their work lives both women enjoy spending time with family and friends. Tammy and husband, Joseph have two grown children and two grandsons. She also spends time gardening, reading and embroidering. Anna has two sons and is engaged to Jamie Herrman. She enjoys four-wheeling, going to the lake, crafting, and watching NFL football.

In summarizing their long careers in aging services and at



Locust Grove Village, Tammy reflects, "I tell people that want to work in aging services that it is very rewarding but also very challenging at times. It is not a job for the weak. This job challenges you mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually every day...but well worth the time. Locust Grove Village salutes these fine women for their dedication, passion, and commitment to serving the elders of Rush County for these past 25 years. Thank you Tammy and Anna!

well-being, and in that of our communities. From finding joy in small things and sharing our stories, to looking at the big picture and giving to others, join us in promoting the ways we are connected and strong.

For 58 years, Older Americans Month (OAM) has been a special time to recognize these contributions. For many years, Locust Grove Village has honored this special month with special events to celebrate and engage the elders within the campus and out into the community.

This May we look forward to special visits from the La Crosse High School SADD program and La Crosse Elementary 1st graders. We will have special meals including Cinco de Mayo and 50's Day. We look forward to gathering for a Outdoor Family Barbecue.

Locust Grove Village is proud to celebrate Older American's Month and the com-



COMMUNITIES OF STRENGTH: MAY 2021

Spring Clean Fling

MANY THANKS to all who supported the Locust Grove Village Spring Clean Fling. It was a great day of window washing and landscape work.

Thank you:

Brenda Robben, Sandy Herrman, Rhonda Karst, Eric Rathke, Richard Karst, Danny Carlino, Alan Kenyon, Jim Gipson, Becky Foos, Suzanne Sauer, Leo Herrman, Angel Fasulo, Vicki Herrman, Connie Stewart, Patrick Depperschmidt, Jennifer Stull, Amy Depperschmidt, Tayci Helm, Tonya Basgall, Tyler Whitten, Kevin Moeder, Diane Staples, Ruth Baalmann.

SPRING CLEAN FLING 2021





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Special Tax Benefits In 2021

In December 2020, another stimulus package was signed into law to help combat the far-reaching impacts of COVID-19. This bill extends the charitable tax incentives enacted by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act back in March 2020. It also provides a few additional provisions.

When Itemizing Deductions

The adjusted gross income (AGI) limit for cash contributions to qualifying public charities remains increased for individual donors. For cash contributions made in 2021, donors can elect to deduct up to 100% of their AGI

(formerly 60% prior to the CARES Act).

With No Itemizing

In 2020, the CARES Act allowed for an additional, “above-the-line” deduction for charitable gifts made in cash of up to \$300. This provision is extended into 2021 for taxpayers filing single/separately.

A new feature in 2021 is an additional “above-the-line” deduction for those married filing jointly. Joint filers (who aren’t itemizing) will be allowed to take an above-the-line deduction of up to \$600 in cash contributions to charity this year.

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)

Rules around the QCD were not changed by the CARES Act. The QCD, commonly referred to as an IRA Charitable Rollover, allows individuals over 70½ years old to donate up to \$100,000 in IRA assets directly to charity annually, without paying income taxes on the funds transferred.

For more information, please contact Charlotte Rathke by calling 785-222-2574 or by e-mail, crathke@locustgrovevillage.com.

This information is not legal, tax or financial advice. Please consult your professional advisors before making any financial decisions.