

# Schmitt Woodland Hills Brings You....

## *The* ***Family Ties*** *Newsletter*

April 1, 2024

The news from Schmitt Woodland Hills is positive and upbeat on this, the first Monday in April. No new positive test results have been recorded since we first went into “Outbreak Mode” on Wednesday March 20th. Our free day will be on Friday April 5th if the trend of negative test results continues.

Hospital masks will continue to be required for anyone working in Health Center 1. Should a resident test positive KN95 masks will be required in the affected area. Visitors are again being asked to wear masks when entering the building. As always, thank you for your cooperation!



*No New  
Positive  
Test Results*



### **Clean Sweep 2024**

Well, Spring is officially here and along with that comes warmer weather and of course, Spring Cleaning. We are inviting residents, their families, friends and loved ones to join us for “Clean Sweep 2024” which will run from Monday April 29<sup>th</sup> through Thursday May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm.

We will be encouraging residents to look through their closets and identify clothes that no longer fit or need to be updated. This would be a good time to check on the condition of shoes, slippers and under garments. Items that are no longer needed could be identified and either removed, donated, or disposed of. We will pick up unwanted items and dispose of them for you. Please identify what is in any bags, this will help us to properly dispose of the items.

This would also be a great time to identify any furniture needs that might help make your loved one more at home and more comfortable.

Although it is not necessary, it would be helpful to know who is coming and the date and time of your visit. If you should have questions or need more information, please contact Bobbi Stoltz CBRF and RCAC Manager at 608-647-8931.

**This is another entry from the 2023 “Caring People Make a Difference” Essay Contest. Lacey is an RN who works in the Health Center. She has been with us for almost 14 years and we are so happy she decided to share her thoughts with us.**



## **“Caring People Make a Difference”**

**By: Lacey Laage**

**Can one person really make a difference? I’ve worked in healthcare for 13 years, and while this may seem like a short time, I’ve experienced all the ups and downs that every healthcare worker has in that time, down to the good, the bad, and the ugly (covid). This question is one I know anyone else in my shoes has asked themselves. “Am I making a difference?” “Are we making a difference?” Whenever I start to see more challenges, this is often a question that pops into my head, the universe always seems to know when I’m wondering and when I’m in need of an answer, because I always seem to find one.**

**The question of making a difference started long before making my way into healthcare. I grew up in the country in Richland County, surrounded by family, family I was close to. Early on I started making the short walk up the road to my Great Grandpa Joe’s house where I always felt welcomed. I fondly recall the tractor rides and the Christmas trees he delivered and “helping” (I’m sure I was less than helpful) with all the animals on the farm. These experiences made a lasting impact on me, a feeling I wanted to duplicate for others I decided when he passed away when I was 11.**

**Years passed and in my late teens I struggled and was able to overcome some health issues of my own, during this time I witnessed compassion at a different level I hadn’t experienced before, from doctors, nurses, lab techs, right down to receptionists giving a kind smile or offering a word of reassurance. This just solidified the thoughts in my head directing me towards healthcare and how I could achieve my dreams of making a difference for people as so many people had done for me.**

**Fast forward to now and time and time again I’ve seen and had the honor to work alongside some of the most compassionate people in our community. I’ve seen the differences being made every single day. I’ve seen it personally and professionally. My late Grandpa Pat was admitted to our facility for rehabilitation for a short while, while he struggled being away from his home and his family everyone at Schmitt tried so hard to help replace that to the best of their abilities, offering a newspaper, a conversation, reminiscing, or a kind smile. I saw so many of our wonderful staff going the extra mile to help him feel at home during his stay, and this was no surprise to me, I’ve seen this time and time again over all my years working at Schmitt Woodland Hills, we treat your family like our own, all while giving excellent**

Anytime I start to hear that familiar question in my head “Am I making an impact here?” I always get my answer in the form of a resident letting me know that their CNA taking the time to rub their feet extra, made their day; it can be seen by the painted nails, or my dietary aid offering one of my folks their favorite treat, or even by that discharging resident being so grateful and thankful to the care they received. Compassion can be seen all over our organization, in our community, I know we’ve made a profound impact on so many people we’ve had the honor to care for over the years, whether it was to help rehabilitate, help make someone feel at home, or help at the final stages of their lives. I see compassion in the smiles, the hands held, the hugs given. In happy times and in sad, all can be evidenced by tears shed, tears of joy and tears of grieving (like my nursing instructor always said, it’s ok to cry, as long as you aren’t crying more than the family). So, if this is a question you are asking yourself, if you work at Schmitt Woodland Hills, or somewhere else in our community of wonderful healthcare workers, just know, we see it, we see the difference. I know the people we help, the community out there, they see it too.

### Schmitt Woodland Hills

#### Grand Cash Giveaway

**Winning Ticket Number Will Be Drawn on  
July 18, 2024 at the Viroqua Hills Golf Course.  
Get your tickets at Schmitt Woodland Hills!  
\$10 each only 1,500 tickets will be available.  
Maximum payout, if all tickets are sold, will  
be \$7,500.00!  
All proceeds will go to the resident’s air conditioner upgrade fund.**



*“Caregiving leaves its mark on us. No matter what we do to prepare ourselves, the hole left behind looms large.” ~ Dale L. Baker*

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