

Jennifer Norman

Jennifer Norman has been an Occupational Therapist for 15 years and employed at Homestead Rehabilitation Center for 10 years. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy and Psychology from Creighton University. Jennifer says that she knew that she wanted to work with seniors and help them live the best life possible. Occupational Therapy is the right fit for that goal.

Jennifer volunteers for the local Doberman Rescue to help dogs in need find "forever homes". When she isn't working with the dogs, she enjoys gardening and family time.

Former residents often mention Jennifer as one of the therapists who worked them hard, helped them to improve and return home safely.

Julie Obear



The American Discovery Trail which spans the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans is the choice of summer trip for Julie Obear and a friend this coming year. It is not unusual for them to go 3000 to 4000 miles during their extreme

backpacking and hiking adventures and they may be gone 6 or 7 months at a time. Julie also enjoys snow skiing and tennis.

She played field hockey and soft ball in college and spent a fair amount of time in the training room with injuries and working hard to rehabilitate. This is how her interest in becoming a physical therapist grew to fruition while obtaining a PT Masters Degree at The University of Nebraska Medical Center. Julie has been a therapist for 13 years and has worked at Homestead for 6 and 1/2 years.

Tanya LaPage

Working at Homestead is the only job that Tanya LaPage has ever had. She started working here in 1978 as a CNA on Station 4 for 18 years and has spent the past 15 years as a Rehabilitation Tech. She loves working with elderly people and making a difference in their lives.

Tanya and Kevin LaPage have 2 children, Sonny and Seth and 2 dogs, Healer and Wennie Dog. She enjoys going to the mountains and swimming.

Sarah Selle



Homestead Rehabilitation Center was Sarah Selle's first position as a Physical Therapist after graduating from UNMC as a Doctor of Physical Therapy. Her position includes the evaluation of new patients, providing interventions and treatments for them, plus she helps family

members and patients in planning for discharge. Sarah also supervises Physical Therapy Assistants as they work with residents in the therapy setting.

Sarah wanted to work in the medical field but not have to deal with needles or body fluids. Physical therapy satisfied this desire and she enjoys helping people to return to normal life capabilities and home, when possible.

Sarah and her husband, Kevin, have 2 dogs, Sadie & Maggie, and enjoy taking them to the dog park when they aren't working. Sarah also likes to knit and read and spend time with family and friends.

HOMESTEAD NEWS



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The Signs of the Season

Homestead encourages the decorating of resident's rooms to bring the joy of the holidays into their lives. Please keep in mind that all electrical items must have the UL Approved stamp or label attached. Items must be non-flammable and be marked fire retardant applied. If you have any questions about a decoration or are not sure if it can be used, please ask before bringing it to the facility. Our maintenance personnel are happy to check to make sure items are safe.

If you have questions about what is needed for your family member, the caregivers are full of ideas of items that would be useful or enjoyed. Please make sure that new clothing items are properly marked and that all new items are placed on the inventory list.

Common Threads of Therapists

There are several common threads that run through the therapy department of Homestead Rehabilitation Center. These folks are well educated; Bachelor, Masters and Doctor of Therapy. They became therapists because they enjoy working with elders and wanted to help restore them to their prior level of function.

They are creative and fun to be around and bring those traits to the therapy that they perform. Many have dogs and want to spend time with pets and family. They have hobbies, like to read, dance, ride bikes, garden, and contribute to improvement of the lives of those that are served at Homestead.



Back Row L to R: Sarah, Julie, Sandy, Jane, and Jordan
Front Row L to R: Billie, Allison, Tanya, Derek, and Kim
Not Pictured: Jennifer

Message from the Director

Matt Romshek



I want to express my appreciation to the many staff, visitors, and medical community who have extended themselves this past year. It is apparent that the success in taking care of our frail and elderly requires the constant interaction of several moving parts working together. Over 200 staff are

employed at Homestead and all of us in some form or fashion make our facility operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our doors are truly never shut!

Homestead had another strong showing during our 2011 State Survey. Each year the Department of Health and Human Services visits Skilled Nursing Facilities and compiles a "report" that is available to the general public. More specifics will be detailed in an upcoming letter but, we had another very positive survey this past November!!

May the blessings and prayers of Christmas be with all of you throughout the New Year!



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EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Josie Sexton



The recipe for success is a great smile, the ability to stay calm under pressure, showing initiative, positive attitude and a willingness to go above and beyond. Add to that dependability, responsibility and a desire to further her education, and they spell Josie Sexton, LPN. Josie has good attendance, attends in-services and leads by example. She started working at Homestead as a CNA in June of 2006, and is now an LPN and continues to further her education in nursing.

Can you picture Josie enjoying a day off while relaxing at the lake? She would most likely be hanging out with friends and eating her favorite food, beef jerky.

She would most like to go to the Bahamas in the future and loves the season of Summer.

The one person that she truly admires is her mother because she is such a great role model. She credits her mother with encouraging her to accomplish all that she has in her life. Josie finds her work most rewarding when she is able to give happiness to the residents and particularly likes it when the residents are in good health and the evenings are calm.

As the Homestead Employee of the Quarter, Josie has designated parking for the entire quarter and receives a \$150 bonus, an article in the newsletter, as well as, her name on the plaque kept on display in the main hallway. Congratulations, Josie Sexton, Employee of the Quarter!

Changes in Business Office



Take a walk down the main hallway of Homestead and you will be greeted by new scents, scenes and smiles. There has been a change in our business office personnel and it is a treat for the senses.

Holly Alm is our new Business Office Manager and comes to Homestead with a Masters and Bachelor Degrees in Healthcare Administration and a license in cosmetology. She is a Medicare, Medicaid and insurance billing specialist and will help to maintain our excellent reputation in collections and financial management.

Holly and Kevin have 4 children, Michaela (15), Makenzie (12), Kolton (9), and Kade (2). Holly enjoys bowling, crafts, cooking and reading. In her spare time, she coaches YMCA softball, soccer and basketball and has been a Girl Scout Leader for seven years.

Holly loves working with the elderly and being a part of the healthcare field. She also has been working on organizing and decorating the business office to make it a more customer friendly and pleasant place to visit.

Assisting with the changes is Tammy Dils, the business office assistant. She has been at Homestead for nearly a year and has over five years of billing experience. Tammy has two step-daughters, Shelby and Ashley, that she spends time with plus enjoys roller skating and mountain bike racing. This summer she and significant other, Wayne, took a motorcycle trip to Sturgis, South Dakota.

Tammy has an Associates Degree in Automotive Science Technology. She loves the challenge of working with the billing systems, census, and central supply. Tammy also likes to help people and you will find residents coming to her for assistance in many ways.

Derek Badousek

Derek Badousek recently completed a Bachelor Degree in Business Administration from Ashford University. He has been a Certified Nursing Assistant for twelve years and has spent the past seven years at Homestead Rehabilitation Center. When the opportunity came available to work in the rehabilitation department, he jumped on it. It is his pleasure to assist the therapists in any capacity that he can, plus he primarily does faxing, filing and scheduling as primary duties.

Derek has 2 children, a son Morgan and a daughter, Silver. He keeps busy reading, playing video games, camping, cycling, and participating in tabletop war games. His Chihuahua, Zeus, rounds out his busy life.

Billie Gabriel

Billie Gabriel attended Clarkson College and her position at Homestead Rehabilitation Center is her first since graduating as a Physical Therapy Assistant. She has been working here since January of 2011 and assists the therapists with increasing function and mobility. She chose this field so she could help individuals return to their prior living arrangements.

Billie is married to Kyle and they have 2 sons, Karter, age 4 and Kolton, 9 months. They also have 2 dogs, Autumn and Dana. Her time away from work is spent with family and friends.

Sandy Henggeler



Sandy Henggeler is the Manager of the Rehabilitation Department. She has a Master of Organizational Leadership and Bachelor of Science in Occupational

Therapy. She has been a therapist for ten years and has been at Homestead for 3 years. Sandy oversees the entire therapy department and assists the facility with Medicare Management. She also continues to treat patients. Sandy knew she wanted to work in therapy and occupational therapy allows for creativity, problem solving, and variety.

Sandy is engaged to Chris and enjoys playing softball and volleyball. She loves to read and farms. She commutes to Homestead daily from Omaha.

Jane Kerl

Jane Kerl loves to go walking with her 3 Golden Retrievers, Ruby, Cooper, and Murphy. She also enjoys working in her garden, knitting, reading and spending time with her family. She is married and has 2 kids in college.

Jane has been a physical therapist for 18 years and has worked at Homestead for nearly eight years. She evaluates new patients, develops a treatment plan and then works with the patients in order to help them meet their goals.

Jane attended Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon and earned a Masters in Physical Therapy. She loves working with elders and chose therapy so she could make a difference in people's lives.

Jordan Kimminau

Jordan Kimminau began working at Homestead in September and is attending Physical Therapy Assistant School. She also worked as a PTA at Grand Island Physical Therapy. She loves helping people get back to their full potential following an injury or illness and she finds it amazing to see and be a part of that progression.

She loves playing sports, especially volleyball, basketball and is working on tennis. When the weather is warm and sunny you will find Jordan participating in her favorite past times, boating, jet skiing, tubing and swimming. Jordan has 2 dogs, Roxy a Basset hound and Ali, a black lab and blue heeler mix breed.

Kimberly Mihulka

The College of Saint Mary is the alma mater of Kimberly Mihulka; she earned a Masters in Occupational Therapy Degree. Kimberly has been employed with Homestead for more than a year. Her duties include assisting individuals with re-gaining their skills in activities that they enjoy or conduct throughout their day. This allows them to become independent again and return to their normal living routine. Kimberly worked at UNMC in Omaha and various nursing facilities as a Rehabilitation Aide.

She decided to become a therapist in order to help individuals to be successful in the things they enjoy doing. Kimberly enjoys out door activities, biking, country dancing and is a Husker fan.

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