

April 2024

The Homestead at Anoka



3000 4th Avenue, Anoka, MN 55303 | (763) 528-6500





Homestead Team

**Executive Director, RLC
Administrator**

Jeff Richardson 763-528-6404

Assisted Living Director

Tina Carey 763-528-6490

Medical Director

Dr. Lee

Director of Nursing

Brian Kniebel 763-528-6405

Director of Clinical Services

Sarah Korzendorfer

763-528-6491

Director of Social Services

Kristin Anttila 763-528-6449

Business Office Manager

Kathy Nordby 763-528-6451

Director of Culinary Services

Kris Trudeau 763-528-6410

Marketing Services

Susan Ekman 763-528-6406

Environmental Director

Jeremy Boyer 763-528-6485

Chaplain

Scott Hillestad 763-528-6461

Life Enrichment Director

Kara Reiser 763-528-6463



A Valentine Blessing and a Smile



Cupid Crew Volunteers Were Out in Full Force on Valentine's Day, Delivering Cards and Roses All Across The Homestead Campus.

Cupid Crew Wish of a Lifetime from AARP helps older adults feel connected and loved on Valentine's Day by sending a heartfelt card and a beautiful rose to hundreds of thousands of older Americans this year. On Valentine's Day, Cupid Crew volunteers delivered roses and cards to over 230,000 people. They received heartfelt cards and roses to let them know they are remembered and loved. There are so many seniors who felt connected on Valentine's Day—and every day. Thank you to the staff that delivered and prepared the roses and cards. It may seem simple, but the effect is extraordinary.

Their mission, Wish of A Lifetime from AARP is not limited to Valentine's Day! All year long, they grant life-changing wishes that empower older adults to age with hope and joy.

"You ARE making a difference. I heard that many residents shed tears over the roses!"





Residents Joining the Potato Head Project

Spreading Hope to Families of Micro-preemie Babies, One Potato at a Time.

Hi! Our names are Dylan and Hayden, and our Mommy started The Potato Head Project in 2013 after our super early birth, we were only 23 weeks gestation. We were born at 1 pound 3 ounces and 1 lb. 7 oz. We spent 119 days in NICU and our parents had countless sleepless nights. We took weekly photos with our Mrs. Potato heads so all of our friends & family could watch us grow and understand how truly small we were! We have since started handing them out to other families & friends who are going through the same type of journey.

This gives them something to look forward to and share with their own family and friends! Please help us make our Project a success. XOXO - Dylan & Hayden



Help Our Project by Making Hats, Blankets and Leg Warmers

A Potato Head, itself, is nothing more than a piece of plastic, a childhood toy. To someone who uses it as a symbol of their undying love and hope for a child that their body failed, it is so much more. By the grace of God, the prayers, and hope that in the coming years we can provide more, all we need is a ounce of faith, to know that there is hope, and to know that these little babies are nothing short of an absolute miracle. The Potato Head Project exists for everyone on some level. Please help us make it great.

XOXO - Kristin

We have/love volunteers to help make hats, blankets and tiny baby leg warmers. Our website has some information on ones we've done and some general information:

<https://www.thepotatoheadproject.org/sew-for-us>



Homestead Shows Support for Our Community



Thank you to the Campaign of Cheer Volunteers who give their creative art of blankets, quilts, walker and wheelchair bags! We so appreciate your talents of warmth year round.



The Homestead supported Compassion Coffee this past month - They empower people affected by homelessness while operating a traveling coffee cart!

Leap Year Fun! Only Happens Every 4 Years!



an extra day! Leap Day - Hence why we hopped into our Fun Frog Theme with Bingo Cards, Green Frog Parties and an Inflatable Frog hopping around campus (worn by Ximena our activity assistant!).



How Do You Explain Leap Year?

It makes sense that such a jam-packed year should get



Slam The Scam!

Help Us Slam The Scam!

Slam the Scam throughout the year, we give you the tools to recognize Social Security-related scams and stop scammers from stealing your money and personal information.

Help protect your loved ones and people in your community by:

Educating them about government imposter scams. Let them know they shouldn't be embarrassed to report if they shared personal information or suffered a financial loss. It is important to report the scam as quickly as possible. Sharing our *Scam Alert* fact sheet and helping educate others about how to protect themselves.

Report Social Security-related scams to the Social Security Office of the Inspector General (OIG).

Report a Scam

Visit www.ssa.gov/scam for more information and

follow SSA OIG on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn to stay up to date on the latest scam tactics. Repost #SlamtheScam information on social media to keep your friends and family safe.

Be Aware!

Stay Safe From IRS Scams

With federal taxes due soon, it's prime time for phony calls from people pretending to be IRS employees. Don't be alarmed if you receive an unexpected phone call, voicemail or email demanding that you pay money. If the IRS needs to contact you, it will always mail you a letter first. Additionally, the IRS will never ask for payment details over the phone, or pressure you to pay tax bills with a prepaid debit card or gift card.

Homestead Happenings in Our Community!



Admissions and Marketing Director, Susan Ekman, recently joined Anoka Area Chamber of Commerce President, Pete Turok, to talk about the campus and the various services we offer! Homestead at Anoka is a continuum care and senior living community providing crucial services to the seniors in our community. We are here if you need us.



We support the Anoka Chamber of Commerce Gala Dinner Fundraiser!



Employee Star of the Month!

Sue Spieker, Housekeeper



Congratulations, Employee Star of the Month!

Congratulations to Sue who has won the hearts of Residents, Family, Friends and her co-workers, as she was awarded for Employee Star of the Month of March!

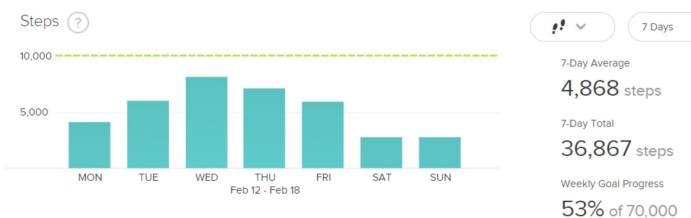
Sue brings joyfulness, smiles and spirit to residents and families. She goes above and beyond what is expected of her duties. Sue is an “awesome blossom” who contributes her caring and humorous personality wherever she goes!

Congratulations, Sue, for a job well done! Welcome to The Homestead Anoka All-Star Team!



Please show support for Employees by nominating them! The cards can be found at Reception Desk, by the Assisted & Independent living front entrances. Each month an Employee will be honored and awarded for their great work at The Homestead.

Let's Get Physical - Physical!



Bill out stepped all wearing his FitBit!





Chaplain's Corner

Encouragement

Everyone needs encouragement. As Mark Twain once said, *"One compliment can keep me going for a whole month."* The impact of encouragement can be profound. I've heard from a number of people how one line, from a coach or a teacher or a friend, had a life-long impact on them. I have a personal story along that line. For 36 years I was a land surveyor. Then, in 2011, I was let go from work due to the recession. An old high school friend, with whom I had played three sports over many years, happened to call. I wasn't home so my wife talked to him. After he heard what had happened to me, he said, *"Scott will bounce back. He always did."* I had never heard anyone say that about me. Through six years of schooling, and starting a new career at 64, that encouraging thought continued to motivate me.

To encourage someone is to help them gain courage they might otherwise not possess—courage to face the day, to do what's right, to take risks, to make a difference. At the heart of encouragement is communicating a person's value. When we help people feel valuable, we sometimes see their lives change forever.

Scripture is full of encouraging words, such as: *"Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand."* (Isaiah 41:10)

Someone once wrote these Five Most Encouraging Phrases:

I love you.

Dinner is served.

All is forgiven.

Keep the change.

I believe in you.

"So encourage each other and build each other up ..."

– 1 Thessalonians 5:11 Chaplain Scott



the celebration of
one life can touch
so many others.

Learn how honoring
a loved one's memory
can make a lasting
difference in
your community.



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Come visit *The Bistro Café*, where everyone is welcome to join us for great food, fun treats and good conversation. Located in the Independent Living Building (3111 5th Ave, Anoka, MN 55303), The Bistro is open daily during lunchtime, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m.