Anne Franzen started Oct. 5.

About a month after turning 60, Anne Franzen is facing new challenges.

Franzen celebrated her birthday on Aug. 14 and in mid September was hired as the new director of the Gothenburg Housing Authority.

“I believe you’ve got to keep learning and if I was going to make a change, this is the time to do it,” she said.

Franzen said she views the job as a new learning experience with new challenges.

“It’s also an opportunity to work with an organization that helps the community and meets one of the community’s biggest needs—housing.”

The former branch office supervisor for TierOne Bank started the new position Oct. 5.

Franzen replaces Jeanne Janssen who now works in Grand Island.

As director, she secures funding for housing improvements, oversees the authority’s housing units throughout the city and the authority office and listens to residents’ needs and wants.

Her management skills as a bank supervisor for 15 years is something she brings to the job.

“I’m also excited to be here,” Franzen said. “I have a desire to help the community and contribute something to it.”

The most difficult adjustment since she started, Franzen said, is learning federal housing guidelines and regulations.

Franzen is married to Dale Franzen and the couple has three grown children: Trevor, a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Troy who works with Dale at Franzen Underground; and Tabitha Carlson, a psychologist in Ft. Wayne, IN.

The couple also has two grandchildren—Austin, 12; and Zane, 2.

In her spare time, Franzen likes to spend time with family, crochet, read, watch movies, shop and socialize over coffee.