

Help from the heart

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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Jerry Johnson recognized for service to others

Whether it's pushing folks in wheelchairs to potluck dinners or slicing up and taking cucumbers to neighbors, Jerry Johnson never quits.

"Whether it's carrying out someone's trash, collecting items for the recycle bins, hanging curtains, grilling for a special Hillcrest dinner or delivering fresh vegetables from the garden, you'll see Jerry with a smile on his face and a warm greeting for everyone he meets," said Anne Franzen, director of Gothenburg Housing Authority that oversees Hillcrest Apartments where Jerry lives.

Johnson's caring ways recently earned him the "Resident of the Year" award from more than 100 housing authority organizations across the state.

The prestigious recognition is by the Nebraska Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

Johnson said he was speechless when the award was announced in Kearney. He traveled to a fall conference banquet under the ruse he was accepting an award for Hillcrest.

