

Date: Sunday, October 15, 2017
 Frequency: DAILY
 Circulation: 132455
 Clip Size: 31.92 sq. inches
 Ad Rate: \$202.00
 Page/Section: B 0004



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GOOD DEEDS

Fundraisers, benefits and other charitable efforts in the Midlands

Lawyers offer services:

Get free legal advice from volunteer lawyers and paralegals from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. Friday at Metropolitan Community College South Omaha Campus, 27th and Q Streets, in Connector Building Room 250. Lawyers and paralegals will meet with people on a first-come, first-served basis. Spanish-speaking volunteers will be available. The event is hosted by Creighton University School of Law, Justice for Our Neighbors Nebraska, Legal Aid Nebraska, Midlands Bar Association, Omaha Bar Association and the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Nebraska Bar Association. Lawyers can provide legal information on child custody, tenant rights and bankruptcy. Immigration counseling is available for the morning session only.

Habitat for Humanity:

Bid to Build, a Habitat for Humanity of Sarpy County fundraiser, will be at the Beardmore Event Center, 3730 Raynor Parkway in Bellevue, on Friday. The 6 to 10 p.m. event includes silent and live auctions and dinner. Tickets are \$45 and available

at eventbrite.com; search "Bid to Build."

Tri-City Food Pantry: First Lutheran Church, 420 N. Washington St., will host an Oktoberfest fundraiser for the Tri-City Food Pantry from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. Traditional German food will be available for purchase from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. There will be a craft sale, bake sale, live polka music and beer available for purchase. Admission is free.

Conservation Foundation:

Pottawattamie County's annual "Go Wild For Conservation" beer tasting and auction is at 6 p.m. Thursday. Try specialty brew and custom food pairings at the event at Mid-America Center in Council Bluffs. There will be silent and live auctions. Tickets, \$40, include beer tasting, a souvenir mug, non-alcoholic beverages, food and an auction bidder number. Money raised goes to land stewardship, environmental education and impact recreation activities. For tickets or more information, go to pottawattamie-conservationfoundation.com.

Operation School Bell: Assistance League of Omaha,

3569 Leavenworth St., provided new clothing for more than 4,000 metro-area students during its annual Operation School Bell effort this month. The program provides school clothes, shoes and coats for kindergarten through eighth-grade students when the family has a financial need.

Human trafficking battle:

Council Bluffs Noon Rotary Club will host a soup lunch fundraiser Thursday for Southwest Iowa Human Trafficking Coalition at Masonic Lodge, 130 S. 6th St. There will be soups, rolls, salad and desserts from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 per person, available at the door.

Completely KIDS: Lincoln Financial Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln Financial Group, recently awarded a \$12,000 grant to Completely KIDS for its after-school program, including materials, staffing, field trips and programming. Completely KIDS works with more than 2,000 local children on literacy and helps families break the cycle of poverty with support, education, mental health resources and referrals to other agencies.

Combat hunger donations:

Walmart Foundation recently gave three Nebraska nonprofit organizations a total of \$150,483 in grants. Saving Grace Perishable Food Rescue of Omaha received a \$68,000 grant to connect people in need with local food resources and nonprofits. Matt Talbot Kitchen and Outreach of Lincoln received a \$25,000 grant to provide daily meals for near-homeless and homeless people. Tabitha Inc of Lincoln received a \$57,483 grant to support its Meals on Wheels program, which delivers hot meals to individuals.

Southwest Iowa Nature Trails:

The Omaha Running Club on Saturday donated \$2,000 to Southwest Iowa Nature Trails in Council Bluffs. The trail group is a nonprofit organization that supports recreational activities and trail development on the Wabash Trace. Money was raised by the club from its Beat the Heat 5K in July.

Know about something we should include in our weekly listing? Email it to goodnews@owh.com.
 — Compiled by Kate Malott

Date: Friday, October 13, 2017
Frequency: WEEKLY
Circulation: 3757
Clip Size: 12.37 sq. inches
Ad Rate: \$14.15
Page/Section: A 0010



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Rotary Club to host 'date night'

BY HILLARY ROSECRANTS

features@enterprise.com

The Rotary Club of Blair is hosting a wine tasting and date night on Nov. 11 at the Heartland Tasting Room and Tap House, 1669 Washington St., Blair. The event will feature wine tasting and a four-course meal for participants.

Wine tasting begins at 6 p.m. Rotarian and event organizer Mikki Mullally said the event is the first of its kind for the club.

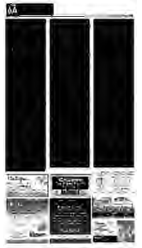
"We've been trying to come up with ideas that people haven't done in the past," she said. "So we

came up with this wine event to sort of do something out of the box of the normal fundraisers for us."

Money raised from the fundraiser will go toward scholarships for Blair High School students.

The dinner includes either a chicken pesto or a roast beef option for the main course. The event is limited to 100 tickets.

To purchase tickets, call Mikki Mullally at 402-533-9659 or visit Two Rivers Bank, 555 S. 19th St., Blair. Tickets are also available for purchase through any Rotarian.



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EVENTS

OCTOBER 11

Celebrate special days at senior center

The Seward Senior Center will celebrate October birthdays and anniversaries Wednesday, Oct. 11, at noon. At 1 p.m., Paul Siebert will present a concert.

Blood drive planned in Utica

Centennial High School will host a Nebraska Community Blood Bank blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 11, from noon to 5 p.m.

Women's club opens year

The GFWC Seward Women's Club will open its meeting year on Wednesday, Oct. 11, at 1:30 p.m. Meetings are in the west fireplace room at the Seward Civic Center.

OCTOBER 12

Driver safety course scheduled

The Seward Senior Center will host an AARP Drivers Safety Course Thursday, Oct. 12, starting at 9 a.m. The fee will be \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Those attending will review defensive driving strategies and the rules of the road. Call (402) 643-4466 to register. Lunch is available for \$4.

Grief support group to meet

Heartfelt Connections, a grief support group for parents who have lost children, will meet the second Thursday of each month. Contact Sharon Dickinson at (402) 643-8145 or Diane Krieser at (402) 588-2687 for more information or visit the website at seward-heartfeltconnections.org. The next meeting will be Thursday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Seward Civic Center.

OCTOBER 13

Breast health topic of workshop

3D Mammography and Breast Health, presented by Melissa Soester PA-C, will be the topic of the Fridays for You luncheon Friday, Oct. 13, at noon in the Seward Family Medical Center lower level Vahle Conference Room. A free light lunch will be served.

Bingo on schedule at center

The Utica Senior Center will host bingo at 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13. Carla from Heartland Senior Living will be the caller.

Hymn sing to end week

To end a week full of Reformation celebrations, there will be a Hymn Sing Along at Bottle Rocket Brewing Company in Seward from 7-9 p.m. Friday, Oct. 13. The entertainment will consist of polka music by the Firehouse Five and Andrew Schultz, assistant professor of music at Concordia University, and hymns by Martin Luther led by Paul Soulek, director of the seventh- and eighth-grade singers at St. John Lutheran School. The event is free and open to the public.

OCTOBER 14, 28

View scenery with Public Transit

Seward County Public Transit is planning scenic fall trips Saturdays, Oct. 14 and 28, starting at 3 p.m.

OCTOBER 15

Registration open for annual challenge

The fifth annual Firehawks 5K Challenge, hosted by St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School in Seward, will be Sunday, Oct. 15. Register at www.GetMeRegistered.com/Firehawks5KChallenge. The 10K run starts at 11:30 a.m., with the 5K and one mile walk/run to follow. For more information, email firehawks5kchallenge@gmail.com.

OCTOBER 17

Theraband class offered

A Theraband exercise class will be held Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 9 a.m. at the Seward Senior Center. No registration is needed.

Mark calendar for Empty Bowl luncheon

The 10th annual Empty Bowl soup luncheon will be Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harvest Hall on the Seward County Fairgrounds. Soups, rolls and desserts will be served. Meal tickets are \$25, and those attending will be able to take home a hand-made pottery bowl. A hand-made quilt will also be raffled off, with tickets at \$10 each. All proceeds go to the Seward Backpack Program. All tickets are available at Cattle National Bank and Trust Co., Jones National Bank and Trust Co. and Union Bank and Trust Co.

Genealogical Society to meet

The Seward County Genealogical Society will hold its monthly meeting Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 10:30 a.m. in its library at the Seward Civic Center. The society's library is open Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. for those wishing to search its resources for genealogical and family history.

Support group plans quarterly meeting

The Diabetic Support Group will meet Tuesday, Oct. 17, at 5:30 p.m. in the Seward Family Medical Center lower level Vahle Conference Room. A light supper will be served, followed by a program called "Bon Appetite with Beans." RSVPs are required and may be made by calling (402) 646-4667.

Ensemble plans fall concert

The University Symphonic Band of Concordia University will perform its fall concert at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 17, at St. John Lutheran Church in Seward. The Wind Ensemble and Symphonic Band will both play. The program includes three marches: "Barnum and Bailey's Favorite," "On the Mall" and "Circus Day." Also featured will be Carmen Dragon's arrangement of "America, the Beautiful," Samuel Hazo's "Ride" and "Pirates of the Caribbean."

OCTOBER 18, 26

Blood drives planned in Seward

Faith Lutheran Church, 1245 North Second St. in Seward, will host a Nebraska Community Blood Bank blood drive Wednesday, Oct. 18, from 1 to 5 p.m.

The Cattle National Bank and Trust Co. in Seward will host a Nebraska Community Blood Bank blood drive Thursday, Oct. 26, from 8 a.m. to noon.

OCTOBER 18

Flu shots, museum part of day

The Utica Senior Center will host flu shots Wednesday, Oct. 18, from 11 to 11:45 a.m. At 1 p.m., representatives from the Nebraska National Guard Museum will give a presentation on World War II.

Group to learn to search online

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2017
Frequency: WEEKLY
Circulation: 2900
Clip Size: 151.86 sq. inches
Ad Rate: \$11.34
Page/Section: A 0006

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The Brown Bag Genealogy meeting will be at noon on Wednesday, Oct. 18. Those interested in exploring the new digitized Seward County newspapers are invited to come into the technology lab at Seward Memorial Library. Leave your brown bag at home this month and keep your hands busy on the computer keys as you discover the wealth of genealogical information easily accessible online.

Mid-week movie planned

The community is invited to take an afternoon break and relax in front of the big screen in the lower level conference room at Seward Memorial Library. Bring your favorite snack and enjoy a new release feature film on Wednesday, Oct. 18, at 1:30 p.m. Contact the library at (402) 643-3318 for specific movie titles.

OCTOBER 19

Check blood pressure, eat breakfast

Visitors to the Seward Senior Center Thursday, Oct. 19, may have their blood pressures checked for free starting at 9 a.m. Breakfast will be served, with the menu including pancakes, sausage, eggs, fruit and drink.

OCTOBER 20

von Kampen plans Seward concert

Andrea von Kampen will perform Friday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. at the Olde Glory Theatre in Seward. Doors open for social hour at 6 p.m. Complimentary snacks will be provided, with a cash bar by Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at www.oldeglorysewardne.com or by calling (402) 304-5392.

Concert features Remedy Drive

The Christian rock group Remedy Drive in conjunction with Lutherans for Life will give a free concert at 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 20, with Concordia University student bands as the opening acts. The event is free and open to the public. St. John Lutheran Church's gymnasium doors open at 6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 21

Show destination for Public Transit

Seward County Public Transit will be going to the Fall Blessings Arts and Crafts Show Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Lancaster Event Center in Lincoln. The vehicle will leave Seward at 8:30 a.m. and return by 2 p.m., with lunch planned after visiting the show. The price is \$6, with lunch on your own. Call the office at (402) 643-4067 to reserve a seat.

OCTOBER 21-22

\$150 quilt show coming to Seward

The Blue Valley Quilt Guild and the Sesquicentennial Committee are hosting the \$150 Deep Roots, High Hopes Quilt Show Oct. 21-22 at the Ag Pavilion on the Seward County Fairgrounds. This is a non-competitive event and quilts new and old are welcome. Hours for the show will be Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

OCTOBER 22

Legion schedules breakfast

The Pleasant Dale American Legion will host breakfast Sunday, Oct. 22, from 8 a.m. to noon. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, French toast, biscuits and gravy, coffee and juice. A fee will be charged.

Potatoes help raise money

The Utica Senior Center will host a potato bake Sunday, Oct. 22, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A free-will offering will be collected. The menu includes baked potatoes, toppings, salads, desserts and beverages. Proceeds go to the operation and activities of the center.

Regular meeting set for society

The Seward County Historical Society will have its quarterly meeting Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m. at the museum in Goehner. Letters written by county residents during the

125th anniversary celebration in 1992 will be on display. The public is invited to read them and the writers are welcome to claim theirs. Board elections will also be held.

All Seward High reads Draper's "Panic"

Award-winning author Sharon Draper visited Seward during the Plum Creek Literacy Festival. Her book, "Panic," was selected as the 2017 All Seward High Reads title. On Sunday, Oct. 22, at 2 p.m., Seward Memorial Library will host a community discussion lead by Seward High School teacher Melissa Pohl on the fast-paced novel. Anyone who has read, wants to read or is interested in knowing more about the book is invited to attend. Seward Memorial Library has several copies available for check out.

OCTOBER 23

Blood drive planned in Malcolm

Malcolm High School will host a Nebraska Community Blood Bank blood drive Monday, Oct. 23, from 3 to 6 p.m.

Committee hosts family fun night

The St. John Disability Ministry Committee will host a Special Needs Family Fun Night Monday, Oct. 23, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Those attending will be able to eat and fellowship with other Seward-area families blessed with a loved one who has special needs. RSVP to the church office at (402) 643-2982 no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 16. For more information or special requests, contact Amanda Geidel at amanda.geidel@cune.edu.

OCTOBER 24

Come meet a comfort dog

Visitors to the Seward Senior Center will be able to learn about the Nicodemus Comfort Dog at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 24. The program is part of the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry. The Rock Lutheran Church in Seward has begun a comfort dog ministry.

OCTOBER 25

Bingo on schedule at center

The Utica Senior Center will host bingo at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 25. Brenda from Mahoney House in York will be the caller. October birthdays will be celebrated.

OCTOBER 26

Center to serve potatoes

The Seward Senior Center will hold its monthly potato bake Thursday, Oct. 26, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. A suggested donation will include a large potato, toppings, home-made dessert and coffee or tea.

Fall bazaar, soup supper planned

Brookdale Heartland Park in Seward will host a fall bazaar and soup supper Thursday, Oct. 26. The bazaar will go from 3 to 5:30 p.m., with soup served from 4:30 to 5:45 p.m. For more information, call Brookdale Heartland Park at (402) 641-6500.

Annual Halloween Costume Contest set

The annual Seward Rotary Halloween Costume Contest for Children is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 26, at 6 p.m. at the Seward Bandshell. The event is free and open to all children ages 0 through 12. The annual event will be emceed by the Seward Rotary project chairman, Dr. Ron Wallman, assisted by Seward Rotarians and their families. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the Seward Civic Center auditorium. Local members of the Seward Rotary Club will serve as hosts for the event, as well as judges. No preregistration is required - just be on time for the contest.

More crimes in Seward

Since speaking last year on "True Crimes in Early Seward County," Dr. Jerrald Pfabe uncovered more information about crimes which took place over 100 years ago in Seward County. While continuing to do research in the local newspapers, he has discovered fascinating stories about what was happening in the community and creating headlines. He will focus on the years between 1879 and 1909. Come and learn about our local history and what was keeping our courtroom busy. Spend the evening in the library and get the details on "More Crimes in Seward County" on Thursday, Oct. 26, at

6:30 p.m.

OCTOBER 27

Friday schedule changes slightly

The last Friday of the month is usually potluck and pitch at the Seward Senior Center. On Friday, Oct. 27, it will be pizza and pitch starting at 5 p.m. Those eating will be asked for \$4 to pay for pizza, salad and dessert. No reservations are needed.

OCTOBER 29

Church plans dinner, raffle

St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Utica will host a soup dinner and raffle Sunday, Oct. 29, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The menu includes chili, chicken noodle soup and clam chowder, cinnamon rolls, pies, salads and beverages. A free-will donation will be accepted.

Celebrate Halloween at museum

The second annual History and Halloween event will be Sunday, Oct. 29, from 1:30 to 4 p.m. at the Seward County Historical Society Museum in Goehner. Visitors are invited to wear Halloween costumes for the day, which includes trick-or-treating, train rides and Halloween activities.

Event welcomes kids of all ages

Residents and staff of the Greene Place will host a trunk or treat Sunday, Oct. 29, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Greene Place in Seward.

Fairgrounds site of Halloween fun

The annual Scare at the Fair will be Sunday, Oct. 29, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Seward County Ag Pavilion. The event is a benefit for Southeast Nebraska CASA.

OCTOBER 31

Party planned at senior center

The Seward Senior Center will host a Halloween party Tuesday, Oct. 31, at 1 p.m. Games, food and fun are planned, and costumes are encouraged.

Trick or treat at Brookdale

Brookdale Heartland Park in Seward will host trick or treating in its lobbies Tuesday, Oct. 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. Call (402) 641-6500 for more information.

NOVEMBER 17

Evening of One Acts to be Nov. 17

The 23rd Annual Evening of One Acts, presented by the Seward High Drama Department will be held on Friday, Nov. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Seward High Theater. Admission is \$5 per seat. Children not in school are free. There is no reserved seating for any of the shows. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Contact Clark Kolterman at clark.kolterman@seward-schools.org for more information or call the school office at (402) 643-2988.

WEDNESDAYS, SATURDAYS

Farmers Market open for season

The Seward Farmers Market is open Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to noon on the north side of the courthouse in Seward.



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Schmidt follows God's mission with volunteering

By GREG SCCELLIN
 Signal Editor

Geneva super volunteer Jill Schmidt was recently a featured speaker at the Rotary District 5650 District Conference in Omaha.

Schmidt gave the group assembled on the Creighton University campus a presentation on the WHALE (We Have A Little Emergency) project she has brought to Nebraska. After a serious accident involving her sister, Schmidt realized the importance of having special stickers attached to the back of a child seat with emergency information including the child's name, date of birth, medical information, guardian's names and phone numbers and other pertinent information. In some incidents, a child could be separated from a parent or the parents are critically injured or unable to talk. This information lets first responders

know particulars about a child when they immediately arrive at an accident scene

The District Rotary group was so impressed with the WHALE project that the group purchased 5,000 stickers to be distributed and placed on car seats in the Omaha, Lincoln and Council Bluffs metro areas. They plan on doing continuous fund-raising to provide more-and-more stickers to those requesting them in Nebraska.

The WHALE program is just one of the volunteer projects that keeps Schmidt busy. The 20-year Rotarian has served on her local Rotary community service board for nine years and also works of the Rotary Coat Drive and the Literacy in a Bag projects.

Other volunteer projects spearheaded by Schmidt include the local Christmas Store and child-safety car seat checks with Fillmore

**Schmidt Volunteers on page 2A*

Schmidt Volunteers

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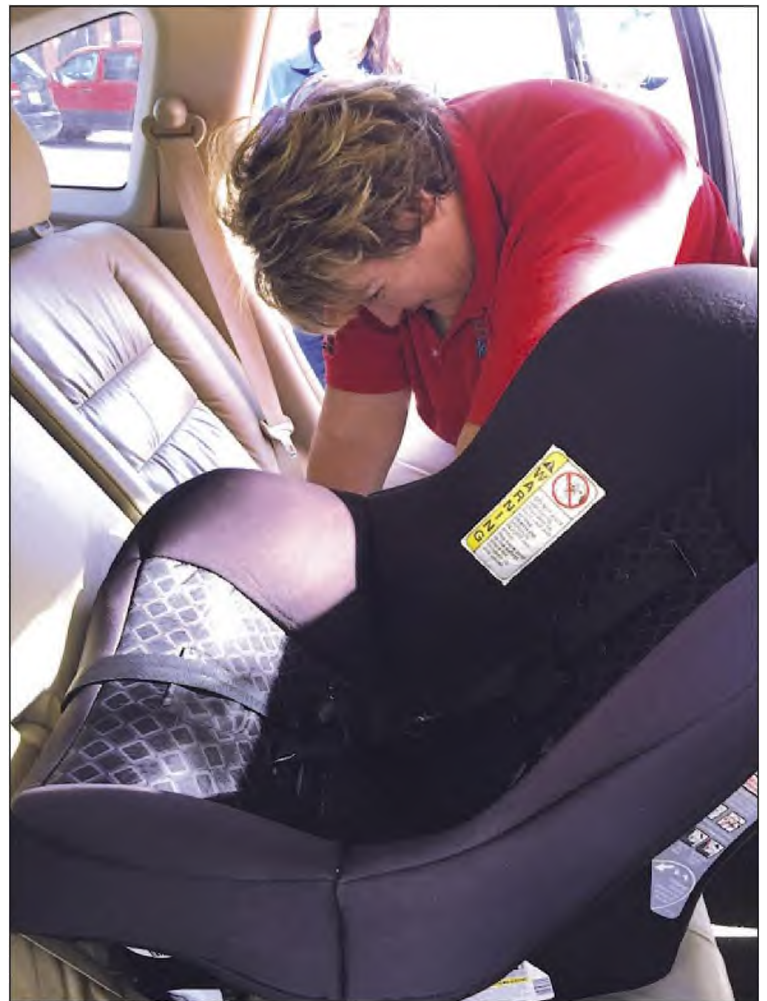
County Good Beginnings.

"I really think that God puts it in my heart to go out and do his mission work," Schmidt said. "I prefer working with youth, and seem to center my efforts with them. I am following his mission for me."

Currently, Schmidt is centering her attention on the Christmas Store, which is closest to her heart along with the WHALE project. The Rotary Coat Drive is also in full swing. Schmidt anticipates 240 kids being apart of the December 9 Christmas Store and 155 new coats being needed for the coat drive. Financial

contributions can be sent to 974 G Street, Geneva, NE 68361. Designate on your check which project you are contributing to. Volunteers and donations of gently-used toys are also appreciated. Schmidt also notes that she is more than willing to give any civic group or other gathering a presentation on these local charities.

Jill and her husband, Ron, have two daughters who attend Fillmore Central High School. She has owned and operated a cafe and catering business in Geneva for 24 years. Ron farms near Diller and they own businesses in Hebron.



Courtesy photo

Jill Schmidt properly installs a child car safety seat at an event co-sponsored by Farm Bureau Financial Services and Fillmore County Good Beginnings at Sowing Seeds Academy in Geneva. The two groups are co-sponsoring another safety-seat check this Wednesday.



Rotary Club donates dictionaries to LCC third graders

WAYNE — The Wayne Rotary Club has donated new dictionaries to third graders in area schools.

All the third graders in 12 area schools will get their own dictionaries through this program.

Area students receiving the dictionaries include the following schools: Laurel-Concord-Coleridge, Wayne, Wayne St. Mary's, Winside, Wisner-Pilger, Pender, Emerson-Hubbard, Wakefield, Allen, Walthill, Winnebago, and Omaha Nation.

The goal of this project is to assist students to complete the school year as good writers, active readers, and creative thinkers by having their own personal dictionary.

Third graders in Amber Boubin and Denise Kinkaid's classes all received the dictionaries.

Rotarians who assisted with distribution in this school were Darrell Miller (chair for this project) and Bob Ensz.

The Wayne Rotary Club has given away over 3,000 dictionaries since the project started in 2007.

The Rotary Dictionary Project is striving to give every third grade student in the U.S. their own dictionary. Over two million children received a dictionary in 2016.