



Photo of the Day

Please submit your photos to P.O. Box 279, York, NE, 68467, news@yorknewstimes.com or bring them to 327 Platte Ave. and have them scanned in.



Allison Tietjen, Miss Nebraska 2017, was the guest speaker at the York Rotary Club on Nov. 30. She detailed to the members her platform titled "United We Stand: Honoring Our Military." She wants to teach others the value of respecting our great nation. She has acted as a guardian on three honor flights of veterans to Washington D.C. She is giving this message all across Nebraska during our 150th anniversary. She was introduced by Gordon B. Fillman of York Rotary.



OUR COMMUNITY

Community Calendar

26 December

- 8:30 a.m., Montgomery County Supervisors, Courthouse.
- Noon, Rotary Club meeting, Red Coach Inn and Restaurant.
- Noon-5 p.m., Food Pantry, First Baptist Church, 406 N. 3rd St., 712-621-1644.
- 5:30-8 p.m., Southwest Iowa Free Medical Clinic, 406 N. 3rd St.
- 5:30-8 p.m., Pregnancy Center of Southwest Iowa, open, 101 E. Reed St.
- 5:30 p.m., Overeaters Anonymous, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. 8th St.
- 6-7 p.m., Moms Off Meth support group, Faith Community Church, 2701 N. 8th St.
- 6:30 p.m., Early-Bird Bingo, 7 p.m., Regular Bingo, Red Oak Eagles, 200 E. Washington.
- 6:30 p.m., Celebrate Recovery, Advent Christian Church, 300 S. 2nd Ave., Villisca.
- 6:30 p.m., Life Goes On cancer support group, MCMH Center for Oncology lobby.
- 7 p.m., Alcoholics Anonymous, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1101 Summit St.



SCHS STUDENTS RECOGNIZED



COURTESY PHOTO

The following Schuyler Central High School students were recently honored, from left, Rotary Student of the Week for Ag/Industrial Tech Mazayakene Kotalu, Sertoma Fine Arts Student of the Month Karen Ardon, Rotary Student of the Week for Ag/Industrial Tech Tyler Kohl and Rotary Student of the Week for Ag/Industrial Tech Walter Hernandez.



Local residents stuff the cruiser

The Seward Rotary Club and Seward Police Department annual Stuff the Cruiser Christmas Toy Drive is still collecting toys for local children. Toys and cash donations can be dropped off at the Seward Police Station through Saturday, Dec. 16, the distribution day for the toys.

The Seward Rotary Club, Police Department and members of the Concordia softball team collected toys this weekend at area outlets and are now in the process of sorting and gathering them for local distribution. On Dec. 16, the local families will be able to select the desired toys at the Seward Civic Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. by appointment. Walk-ins are welcome, but appointments encouraged. Call (402) 646-5755 to schedule one.

This annual program has been recognized by Rotary International as one of the top community service holi-



COURTESY PHOTO

From left, Kayden Wittstruck, 6, donates toys to the "Stuff the Cruiser" volunteers SPD Sergeant Michael Hammond, SPD Assistant Chief Brian Peters, Rotarian Shelly Nitz and Rotarian Ron Niemoth.

day programs in the Rotary District.

To answer questions,

contact any Seward Rotary Club member or the local Seward Police Department

or contact Melanie Ayres at Seward Lumber.



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Community takes part in Outdoor Lighting Contest

The annual Seward Rotary Home Holiday Outdoor Lighting Contest was judged Dec. 3, with the grand prize going to the David and Michelle Dam family.

The holiday outdoor lighting and decorated homes in the Greater Seward Area were judged by a group from the Seward Rotary Club and the Seward High Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).

"We really had a hard time trying to decide," project chairman Riley Nuttleman with the SHS FBLA said.

"There were so many great looking homes this year. We really feel the top three were a three-way tie and appreciate all the work everyone did to make Seward a real Christmas wonderland. Thanks Seward. Everyone wins and is a winner this year," Rotarian Ken Schmieding said.

The following homes and families are recognized for their outstanding efforts to create a festive atmosphere for the 2017 holidays. Winners were selected by nominations from phone-in calls or emails by family, neighbors and friends to the Seward Rotary Club and SHS FBLA and include:

- Grand Prize – Best Overall Award, the Judges' Choice – David and Michelle Dam family, 1511 Ridge Run
- Elf's Choice (People's Choice) Award – Tom Rief family, 105 Wildwood Road (Lights flash to the music.—91.7 FM)
- Santa's Choice Award, The Mayor's Award – Jerry and Tracy Rumery family, 1540 North First Street (Be sure to see both their front lights on First Street and their back lights on Columbia Avenue)
- Rotary Club President's Award – Tony and Karen Sabatka family, 212 Hickory
- Historic Victorian Award – Kurth and Jessica Brashear family, 111 Seward Street
- Christmas Comet Award – Mike Demuth family, 1640 Edgewood Lane
- Holiday's Finest Award – Ron Schultz family,

- 1442 North Columbia Avenue
 - Christmas Message Award, best homemade display – Jerry Krutsinger family, 154 Struthers Place
 - True Holiday Home Award – Teresa Dredge family, 1580 North First Street
 - Picture Perfect Award – Michael T. Goldsmith family, 1610 North Second Street
 - Worst Christmas Display – Phil Wurst family, 2065 North Columbia Avenue
 - Best Wreath Award – Tie: Greg Zabka family, Karol Kay Boulevard, and Brad Bowen family, 1269 Ridge Run
 - First Noel Award – Greg Austin family, 1747 Edgewood Lane
 - Christmas Spirit Award – Bill Sleight family, 2221 Hawthorne Avenue
 - Peace on Earth Award – Bob Urban family, 1717 Eastridge Avenue
 - Best Lighted Tree Award – Brian Friedrich family, Karol Kay Boulevard
 - The Blue Christmas Award, Outstanding Blue Spruce – Nancy Elwell family, Bek Avenue
 - Meaning of Christmas Display, Happy Birthday Jesus Award – Terry Kamprath family, 938 Cherry Lane
 - Christmas Joy Award – Sue Wickersham family, 906 North Third Street
 - A Real Victorian Christmas – Dean Roll family, 422 Hillcrest Avenue
 - Family Spirit Award – Jeff Bohning family, 1406 North Second Street
 - Snow Family Award – Kevin Fisher family, 232 North Fifth Street
 - Home for the Holidays Award – Dale Grimes family, 926 Cherry Lane
 - Snowflake Award – George Wignall family, 105 Struthers Place
 - Best Decorated Clubhouse Award – Abby Wignall and her family, 139 Cedar Avenue
 - Hanging of the Christmas Greens Award – Jim Placke family, 211 Struthers Place
 - Christmas Castle Award – Matt Stryson family, 1039 North Fifth Street
 - Christmas Cornhusker Award – Josh Fields family, East Pinewood Avenue, red and white lights only
 - Silver Christmas Award – Cory Mueller family, 238 South Second Street
 - It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas Award – Dennis Otte family, 1650 Meadow Lane
 - Candy Cane Porch Award – Brent Royuk family, 142 Seward Street
 - Best Decorated Deck Award – Joel Navis family, 1077 Ridge Run
 - Storybook Christmas Award – Marv Siefert family, 1466 Karol Kay Boulevard
 - Christmas Assortment (with music.) Award – Jeremy Borgmann family, 1752 Karol Kay Boulevard
 - Christmas Classic Award – Steve Steinauer family, 445 North Second Street
 - Country Christmas Award – Arnt family/Radiant Heating, 1067 280th, South Highway 15, south of Seward
 - I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas Award – Lilian Skolnik and April Hoffbauer families, 2612 East Seward Road
 - Holly Christmas Award – Jerry Kremer family, 2105 North First Street (check out the palm trees)
 - The Christmas Message – Elizabeth Kozisek family, 1750 Meadowlane
 - The Christmas Twinkle Award – Scott Bruick family, 1101 North Fifth Street
 - Home For Christmas Award – Chuck Matzke family, 15 Seward Street, on Matzke Corner
 - The Christmas is for the Family Award – Chuck Kotera family, 1812 North First Street
 - Best Charlie Brown Tree – John Moody family, 2040 Parkview Drive
 - Christmas is the Reason Award – Tie: Steve Borer family, 1955 Rainbow Avenue, and Courtney

- Meyer family, Edgewood Lane
 - Christmas Angel Award – Bob Daniels family, 141 East Roberts
 - Is It Christmas Yet? Award – Jim Wogahn family, 1449 Kolterman Street
 - Christmas WOW Award – John Owens family, 212 Goldenrod Lane.
 - Best Decorated/Lighted Half a House Award, Longest Icicles Award/Duplex – Nate Buss, 1717 Plainview Avenue
 - Best Happy in the Country Home Award – Robert and Becky Reisdorff family, 250 Goldenrod
 - Best Christmas Family Award – Keith Gardiner family, 214 East Roberts Street
 - Dancing Christmas Award – Gerald Homp family, 1210 Eastridge Drive
 - Christmas Silhouette Award – Craig Williams family, 455 East Star Street
 - Christmas Everywhere Award – Jon Marroquin family, 202 Knotty Pine
 - I Love Christmas Award – Rob Pelster family, 1686 Ridge Run
 - Beautiful Holiday Award – Jeff Boaz family, 917 Bradford Street
 - Christmas Tunnel Award – Jason Dillion family, 1320 River Street
 - Happy Holidays Award – James Sleight family, 1407 North First Street
 - Kids Christmas Award – Tom Matzke family, 116 South Columbia, Matzke Corner
 - Spirit of Christmas Award – Marc Nordmeyer family, 244 East Northern Heights
 - Christmas Mood Award – Cheryl Gerdes family, 1527 Eastridge
 - Christmas Fun Award – Culp Corner, Sharon and Jerry Culp, 132 North Third Street, and Stacy Stroll, 146 North Third Street
- Honorable mention awards were presented to homes including Ben Earnest family, 1710 Edgewood Lane; Jerry Meyer family, 1315 Eastridge Avenue; Pat Piskorski family, 1416 Eastridge Avenue; Van Vahle family, 700 Pinewood Avenue; Gil Daenzer family, 540 East Hillcrest Avenue; Alan Van Velson family, Eastridge Avenue; Rosie Westerhoff family, 1216 Sunrise Avenue; Jeff Volzke family, 1226 North First Street; Clark Koehler family, 1050 North Fifth Street; Don Kolterman family, 1059 Plainview Avenue; Duane Miner family, 2030 Rainbow Avenue; Gary Stutzman family, 414 South Third Street; Dan Janak family, 318 East Roberts Street; Charlie Haase family, 861 Bradford Street; Richard Novak family, 901 Bradford Street; Bill Pohlman family, 750 Bader Avenue; Gerry Eickmeyer family, 525 North Columbia Avenue; Jim Eitel family, 2005 Rainbow Avenue; Don Suhr family, 1431 Crestwood Drive; and Jim Wogahn family, 1449 Kolterman Street.

The contest was judged by members of the Seward Rotary Club and the SHS FBLA. Judges co-chair for the Rotary Club were Schmieding and Alan Baldwin, assisted by Clark Kolterman and Phil Bangert. Judges co-chairmen for the SHS FBLA were Nuttleman and Samantha Nelson. Questions can be directed to Baldwin or Nuttleman, project co-chairmen.

It was noted by the judges that because of the recent

beautiful weather, there were many beautiful home lighted displays and these names and addresses are only a few of the wonderful light displays in Seward that were nominated to the committee by families, friends and Rotarians.

While businesses were not judged, special recognition must be given to East Hill Inn and Suites, Blue River Jewelry, Merle's Flower Shop, Allure Fashions, Mueri Drug, Chapter's Books and Gifts, the Flower Mill, Blue Valley Community Action, Liberty House, Davisson Furniture, Smile Dental, Volzke Fu-

neral Home, Zabka Funeral Home, Concordia University (giant nativity scene), Red Path Gallery, CASA Office and Rumery Lawn Service for their holiday window displays and outdoor decorations.

Many of the local churches also have beautiful, life-size nativity scenes on their lawns. The downtown Seward business area is aglow with holiday lights and creates a festive atmosphere for all who see it. A must see is also the beautiful tree and decorations inside and out at the local Seward Civic Center. They have a large, beautiful tree at Sixth and Bradford Avenue.

Both the Seward Rotary Club and the SHS FBLA encourage families to drive throughout Seward and visit the area neighborhoods to see this wonderful volunteer effort, keeping the Christmas Spirit alive in Seward for the young and



COURTESY PHOTO

The Jerry Rumery family home on 1540 North First Street is a must-see. Both the front of the home on First Street and backyard on Columbia Avenue are decorated.



COURTESY PHOTO

One of the top Home Decorated Lighting winning displays this year is the David and Michelle Dam family home at 1511 Ridge Run Road.



COURTESY PHOTO

Another top Home Decorated Lighting winning display can be seen at the Tom Rief family's home at 105 Wildwood Road at Ridge Run. Their lights flash to music.