



OUR COMMUNITY

ROTARY DONATIONS



COURTESY PHOTOS

The Glenwood Rotary Club recently presented \$1,000 checks to The Love Tree and Mills County Storehouse. At left, Rotarians Bill Magnuson (left), Erin Jones (second from right) and John Halbert (right) present a check to Love Tree coordinator Vicki Bird. At right, Magnuson (left), Halbert (second from left) and Jones present to Barbara Kaiman of the Mills County Storehouse Board of Directors. The donations were made from funds raised during the club's annual spaghetti dinner in November.



Norfolk Rotary Club supports the Zone Afterschool program



COURTESY PHOTO

► **What was contributed?** The Zone Afterschool Program received eight cameras and additional hard drive space for its security system.

► **When?** November 2017

► **How did the contribution come about?** The Norfolk Rotary Club applied for and received a district grant to put toward an expansion of the security system at the Zone Afterschool program. The \$3,000 grant included \$1,500 from the local club and \$1,500 from Rotary District 5650.

► **Who is pictured?** Sherri Prim (from left), president; John Schmitt, secretary; Stan Christensen, treasurer; Julee Pfeil, coordinator of the Zone; and Andy Labenz, membership chairman.



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Editor's note: Some regularly scheduled events may not occur this week due to the holiday.

TUESDAY

• **Lewis Township Trustees** — 7 p.m., Lewis Township Fire Hall, Cypress Avenue and Highway 92.

• **Missouri Valley Alzheimer's Support Group** — 10 a.m., Rand Community Center, 100 S. Fourth St., Missouri Valley. Call Cindy at 712-642-9264.

• **Overeaters Anonymous** — 6 to 7 p.m., Broadway Christian Church, 2658 Ave. A. Call Janie at 712-328-8482.

• **HIV Counseling and Testing** — 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Council Bluffs City Hall, 209 Pearl St. For an appointment, call 712-328-4666.

• **Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)** — 10 a.m. meeting with weigh-ins beginning at 9:30 a.m. First Church of the Nazarene, 2600 Ave. A. Call Bonnie at 402-850-1013 or Deborah at 402-208-1313.

• **Overeaters Anonymous** — 7 p.m., Unity Church, 3424 N. 90th St., Omaha. Call Marcy at 402-571-6843.

• **Fraternal Order of Eagles No. 104 Bingo** — 7 p.m., North 16th Street and Avenue F. Public welcome.

• **Alcoholics Anonymous** — 8:30 p.m., 410 S. 16th St.

WEDNESDAY

• **American Red Cross Blood-pressure Screening** — 10 to 11 a.m., Oard-Ross Drug

Store, 701 16th Ave.

• **Meal and a Message** — 6 p.m., Fifth Avenue United Methodist Church.

• **Bluffs Center Dance** — 7 to 10 p.m., The Center, 714 S. Main Street.

• **Rotary Centennial Club** — 7 a.m., Madison Avenue Hy-Vee by Mall of the Bluffs.

• **Breastfeeding Support Group** — 9:30 a.m., CHI Health Mercy Hospital Lactation Clinic in Mercy 2 Professional Center, Room 206. Call 712-328-5252.

• **Lewis & Clark Study Group** — 9 to 11 a.m., 2 Huron Circle, Salem United Methodist Manawa Center. Find out what happened to the explorers.

• **Midday Optimist Club** — Noon, Golden Corral, 3103 Dial Drive.

• **Carter Lake VFW No. 9661 Hamburger Night** — 5 to 7:30 p.m., 100 Locust St., Carter Lake. 712-347-6969.

• **Greater Communicators Toastmaster Club** — 6:30 p.m., The Center, 714 S. Main. Call Floyd at 712-326-9332.

• **Water Exercise Program** — 7 to 8 p.m., Lewis Central Pool.

• **Carter Lake Optimist Club** — 7 p.m., Carter Lake Senior Center, 626 Locust St.

• **Debtors Anonymous** — 7 p.m., Community of Christ Family Life Center, 150 W. Kanesville Blvd. Call 712-325-6788.

• **Gamblers 12-Step Program** — 8 p.m., 12-Step House 7306 Grant St., Omaha. For 24-hour hotline, call 402-978-7899.

• **Wednesday Night Live Al-Anon** — CHI Health Building, 622 S. Fourth St.

THURSDAY

• **Southwest Iowa Amateur Radio Club** — 7:30 p.m., American Red Cross, 16th Street and Avenue G. All amateur radio operators and anyone with an interest in amateur radio welcome. Call 712-328-0107.

• **Optimist Club of Council Bluffs** — 7 a.m., Madison Avenue Hy-Vee.

• **Al-Anon Family Group** — 10 a.m., The 500 Club, 410 S. 16th St.

• **Council Bluffs Rotary** — Noon, The Center, 714 S. Main St.

• **Tops Iowa 1263** — 5 to 6 p.m., Harmony Court. Use east door. Call Shirley at 712-642-3530 or Donna at 712-325-1783.

• **Council Bluffs MAD DADS** — 7 p.m., 133 W. Broadway. Call 712-328-0302.

• **Gamblers 12-Step Program** — 7 p.m., Pacific Hills Lutheran Church, 90th and Pacific Streets, Omaha. For 24-hour hotline, call 402-978-7899.

• **All Acoustic Music Jam** — 1 to 4 p.m., Western Historic Trails Center.

• **White Elephant Bingo** — 12:30 p.m., The Center.

• **Teen Gaming** — 3:30 to 7:30 p.m., Council Bluffs Public Library's Teen Central. Mix of board and video games for students in sixth through 12th grade. Call 712-323-7553.



Stuff the Cruiser drive successful

Sincere thanks for the outstanding coverage of our recent, annual Christmas toy drive, "Stuff the Cruiser." The campaign was a success partly because of your great coverage of this annual service project.

The real recognition and thanks however, must be extended to the many, many people who donated funds and gifts to the "Stuff the Cruiser" toy drive this year. Your donations are appreciated and we want you to know they are guarded and distributed in a fair and equitable manner for area children who might not experience gifts this Christmas because of difficult economic situations of their families.

The cooperation of the Seward Civic Center-Randy Sanley, local retail businesses, the Seward Independent and the many local residents who supported the annual program is appreciated by the Rotary Club, Seward Police Department

and especially by the many local children who each received toys this holiday season. As a result of the "Stuff the Cruiser" Campaign, many local children were able to visit Santa and receive their gifts in time for Christmas from Santa himself! Almost 100 area children each received a large gift sack of toys on behalf of the service project.

The Rotary Club is still collecting funds and toys and is also willing to present toys to area children that need assistance for them to experience a Christmas with gifts. Toys can be dropped off at the Seward Police Department. The Police Department is located at 159 S. First Street.

The toys are sorted, identified and bagged for the individual children by the sponsoring organizations—the Seward Rotary Club and the Seward Police Department. The toys are distributed to area children whose families may not be able to afford Christmas gifts this year.

To still nominate a child for a bag of gifts, contact

the "Stuff the Cruiser" hotline by contacting Police Chief Alan Baldwin at the Seward Police Station. Information needed includes parent's name, child's name, age and sex and a time that they can arrange a pick-up of the bag of toys. The program is for children that are newborn through age 12, and information is due by Dec. 20.

Any funds or donated toys remaining after the campaign will be kept in a separate account for next year's drive. Donations to assist in funding this annual toy/gift drive should be directed to the "Stuff the Cruiser" Toy Drive in care of Rotary Club, Shelly Nitz-Treasurer, Box 103, Seward, NE 68434.

Thank you Seward County Independent, and thank you Seward. Merry Christmas to all!

**Melanie Ayres, co-chair,
Stuff the Cruiser, Seward
Rotary Club;**

**Alan Baldwin, co-chair,
Stuff the Cruiser-Seward
Police Department;
Russ Sommerfeld, Seward
Rotary Club President**



St. John eighth graders sing at meetings



COURTESY PHOTO

Cantor Paul Soulek directs the St. John Lutheran School men's eighth grade choir at the Seward Rotary Club Pastors Appreciation luncheon Dec. 6. The choir also sang the same day for the GFWC Seward Woman's Club Christmas program/meeting.



Seward Rotary Club honors area pastors

The Seward Rotary Club honored the area pastors with the annual Pastor's Appreciation Day at the Jones National Bank and Trust Co. in Seward Dec. 13. The meeting was conducted by President Russ Sommerfeld, and a holiday luncheon preceded the program.

Sixteen area pastors were in attendance. The newest pastor, Scott Krohn of the Living Word Lutheran Church, was introduced as the "rookie" of the group, having just been ordained at Living Word Lutheran. The most seasoned pastor in the area present was Rotarian Lyle Schoen of the Milford United Methodist Church, serving for more than 41 years in the ministry.

Each of the pastors introduced themselves, the congregation they serve and their years of service. Each pastor was presented with a token of appre-



COURTESY PHOTO

"Rookie Pastor" Scott Krohn, newly ordained pastor of Living Word Lutheran, is advised by Rotary President Russ Sommerfeld, middle, a Lutheran pastor for more than 36 years, and Rotarian and Pastor Lyle Schoen, right, of Milford United Methodist Church, a pastor of 41 years.

ciation for their "Service above Self" — the Rotary motto.

The Christmas program featured the St. John Lutheran eighth grade choir:

The all-male chorus presented solos, various carols and hymns and had the audience join in the singing, led by director Paul Soulek of St. John, minister of

music.

The Rotary presented Christmas treats to the choir for its outstanding presentation.



SEWARD HIGH YOUTH ROTARIAN

Name: Makenna Perdue

Parents: Brad and Jill Perdue

Activities: Seward High Key Club, swing choir, show choir, musicals, concert choir, select choir, honor roll, Poetry Out Loud, Voice of Democracy, Junior Jays mentoring, Seward Youth and Community Club, Seward Recycling Center, godparent group, UMC choir, Vacation Bible School

Honors: P.R.I.D.E. awards, student of the month, 2017 Academic Achievement Award, SENCAP, Sophomore Pilgrimage

Work: Tasteful Indulgence, Dowding Municipal Pool, Memorial Health Care Systems

Church: Seward United Methodist Church

Service Above Self: SYCC activities and Key Club



Makenna Perdue is the December Youth Rotarian of the Month. She is pictured with Rotary President Russ Sommerfeld.

College plans: Kansas City Kansas Community College to study mortuary science



Seward County prepares for Christmas.



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Santa in Seward



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Two-year-old Zoey Reamer of Seward presents a candy cane to Mrs. Claus during the annual Breakfast with Santa Dec. 16. The Seward Rotary, assisted by the Seward High Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, hosted the event.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Megan Hillmann, 8, of Staplehurst picks a card for magician Andrew Malan during Breakfast With Santa Dec. 16.



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI

Four-year-old Ryder Hoadley of Lincoln has a cookie for Santa during the annual Breakfast with Santa Dec. 16.