



# 100 YEARS OLD AND NOT RETIRING

Businesswoman Kimi Takechi helped city's ties to Japan



Michael  
Kelly

COLUMNIST

Kimi Takechi of Omaha turns 100 today, with no plans to retire.

That's right. She shows up for work regularly at Takechi's Jewelers, which she opened 70 years ago with her late husband,

Kazuo Takechi.

"Hard work has never bothered me, and I haven't had any major illnesses," she said. "Our customers have become our friends, and I enjoy meeting people."

Yes, she knew the legendary Omaha businesswoman Rose Blumkin, who died in 1998. "Mrs. B" worked until she was 103 and lived to 104.

Quipped Kimi: "She was 'Mrs. B' of Nebraska Furniture Mart, and I'm 'Mrs. T' of downtown."

But Mrs. T isn't trying to set longevity records.

"I don't want to live just to be old," she said. "I want to enjoy a good life."

She certainly is doing so, and this month was honored at the Lauritzen Gardens conservatory for her longtime work with the Omaha Sister Cities Association.

Naoki Ito, Japan's consul-gen-

See Kelly: Page 2

# Kelly: Takechi has long promoted Japanese-American ties

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eral in Chicago, representing the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, paid tribute. With a smile, he also said that a gentleman normally doesn't call attention to a lady's age, but that her impending 100th birthday was a great milestone.

She received a bouquet of roses and applause from those attending — about 100, an appropriate number.

Turning 100, though uncommon, isn't a rarity. Nebraska has about 500 centenarians.

But to stay as active, healthy and alert as Kimi Takechi at 100 is plenty remarkable.

She was born in Pocatello, Idaho, the daughter of Japanese immigrants. Her father had worked in San Francisco, and his family in Japan thought he had perished in the 1906 earthquake.

But he made it to Idaho, and a matchmaker in Japan later paired him with a "picture bride" wife — they knew each other only from photos.

He worked a vegetable and russet-potato farm, delivering to grocery stores and a Union Pacific commissary. The couple had six children and lived through tough financial times.

Her father promised Kimi, the second-oldest, a newborn colt. But he later apologized, saying he needed to sell the horse to pay bills.

Her dad was accidentally run over by a car and died when Kimi was 13.

At high school graduation, she said, she had tied for the highest grades in her class and won a

scholarship to attend Drake University in Des Moines. But to help her family in the midst of the Great Depression, she stayed home.

Her father had been a friend of a missionary, her future husband's father. The son, Kazuo, was born in Japan and came to the United States at 16 to be educated.

Kimi Okamura and Kazuo Takechi married in 1936. The next year he received a job offer in Omaha from Harry Watanabe, founder of Oriental Trading Co., which still sells party and school supplies, toys, novelties and arts and crafts.

"Harry said he would pay Kaz's way to Omaha," Kimi recalled with a chuckle, "but if the job didn't work out, he'd have to pay his own way back to Idaho."

When Japan bombed Pearl Harbor in 1941, drawing America into World War II, Kaz was traveling for the company in Florida. Kimi feared for him.

"I thought I'd never see him again," she said. "He was still a Japanese national."

On the West Coast, many Japanese-Americans were soon sent to internment camps.

Fortunately, Kimi said, Kaz was able to ride back to the Midwest with a GI on leave. An FBI official in Des Moines wrote a letter that Kaz carried, allowing him to reach Omaha without incident.

The couple returned to Pocatello, where Kaz drove a truck for her family's farm, but they moved back to Omaha for good in 1943. Omahans, she said, never treated them badly.

Two years after the war, the couple opened their watch, gift

and jewelry store. It now sits at 17th and Harney Streets, amid the Douglas County Courthouse, the Woodmen Tower and the Orpheum Theater.

Kimi works there with her son, Stephan Takechi, 75. Her husband died at 87 in 2001.

Through the years, the couple contributed to the community, including through the Rotary Club. Their children attended Omaha Public Schools, and Kimi was active on committees and in the PTA, as well as with the Benson High Booster Club.

In the 1960s she and her husband met at the old Fontenelle Hotel downtown with a representative of Shizuoka, Japan. The Omaha Chamber of Commerce had been looking for a sister city, and a civic alliance was formed that, for 52 years, has seen many cultural and educational exchanges.

Though prominent businessmen are listed as 1965 founders of the Omaha Sister Cities Association, longtime member Larry Uebner said the Takechis were crucial.

"Kimi and Kaz are a wonderful story," said Uebner, a retired banker who sits on the board of Washington, D.C.-based Sister Cities International. "It was the Takechi link and Omaha's Midwest characteristics that attracted Shizuoka."

Shizuoka was the first, but Omaha now has six sister cities around the world.

The Takechis raised five children. Julie died in 2014, and Richard, a former Omaha city councilman and Douglas County register of deeds, in 2011. Celebrating with Kimi today will be son Steve and

daughters Jane Kawasaki and Jeri Endo.

The Takechi family has long promoted Japanese-American relations. In 2011, Japanese baseball players arriving to play a U.S. squad at TD Ameritrade Park received a culinary touch of their homeland — rice balls and pickled plums.

"They loved it," Steve Takechi said at the time. "These kids have been eating nothing but hamburgers on this trip."

Kimi, whose name in Japanese means "joyful beauty," has benefited from good genes. Her mother, the long-ago "picture bride," lived to 99 years, 9 months.

A brother of Kimi died at 94, but not from old age. He was trimming a tree and fell.

"Mrs. T of downtown," as she called herself, plans to keep working and living.

"People love Kimi because of her quiet, smiling and gracious nature that belies a strong work ethic," said Uebner of Sister Cities. "I have never seen her get mad."

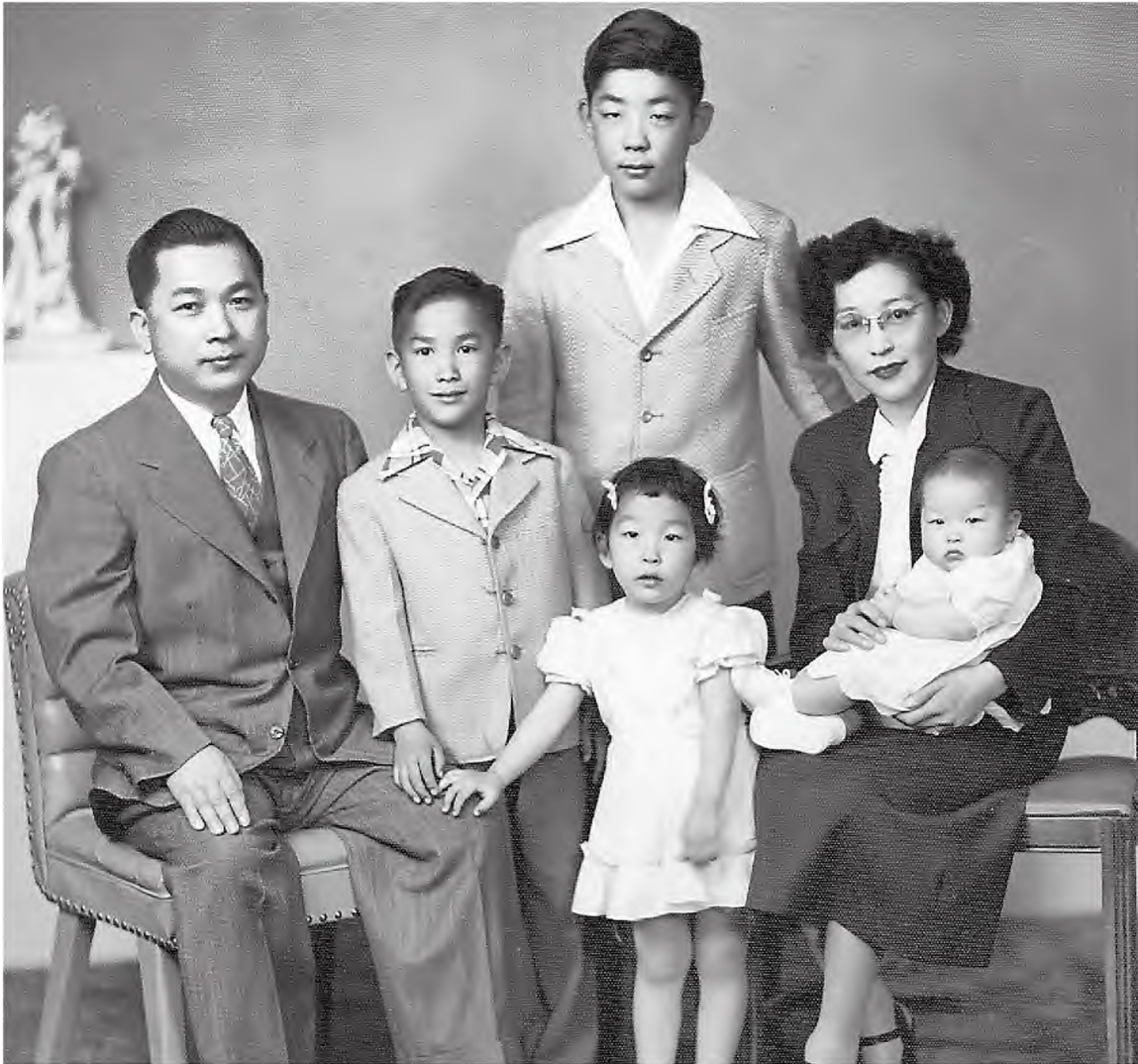
At an event where she was honored last year, he said, a reception line lasted more than two hours.

"As I watched her standing for so long," Uebner said, "I asked if she would like a chair. She replied that she was fine. She said, 'I stand at the store all day.'"

At 100, this long-standing businesswoman and outstanding Omaha remains standing — living not just to grow old, but rather to enjoy a good life.

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**The Takechi family in 1950: From left, Kazuo, Stephan, Richard, Jane and Kimi, with Julie on her lap. Daughter Jeri was not yet born. Below, Kimi Takechi and her late husband, Kazuo, are seen in a photo from their 60th wedding anniversary.**

“Kimi and Kaz are a wonderful story. It was the Takechi link and Omaha’s Midwest characteristics that attracted Shizuoka.”

*Larry Uebner, retired banker who sits on the board of Washington, D.C.-based Sister Cities International*



**Above, Kazuo and Kimi Takechi are seen at a 1968 German-American party at Field Club of Omaha. At top, Kimi Takechi is shown at work at Takechi Jewelry at 17th and Harney Streets. "Hard work has never bothered me," she said.**

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## CALENDAR

### TODAY

Cosmopolitan 100 Service Club, 7 a.m., Fremont Eagles Club.

Fremont Therapy & Wellness ribbon cutting, 9-10 a.m., 1445 N. Bell St., Fremont.

Al-Anon meeting, 9:30 a.m., Chapter 5 Club front room, 136 N. Main St., Fremont.

Community Closet, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Uniquely Yours Stability Support, 240 N. Main St., Fremont. The cost is \$5 to fill a bag. There is no limit of how many bags you can buy. For more information, call 402-727-8977.

Fremont Community Breastfeeding Support Group, 10-11 a.m., Three Rivers Health Department conference room, Fremont.

HomeStore, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., 701 E. Dodge St., Fremont. The HomeStore sells donated items at discounted prices. Proceeds support the mission of Fremont Area Habitat for Humanity.

Storytime, 10-10:30 a.m., Keene Memorial Library auditorium, 1030 N. Broad St., Fremont.

Baby and toddler time, 11 a.m. to noon, Keene Memorial Library auditorium.

Alcoholics Anonymous 12x12 study, noon, Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

Fremont Rotary Club, noon, Fremont Golf Club, N. Somers Ave.

Fremont Solar Farm ribbon cutting, 4 p.m., Fremont Solar Farm 1, 3002 E. First St., Fremont. The entrance to the solar farm is directly north of the power plant on the north side of First Street. Parking is available near the entrance. The public is invited to attend.

Trunk or Treat, 5-6:30 p.m., Premier Estates of Fremont, 2550 N. Nye Ave.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 5:15 p.m., Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

Dinner, 5:30-7 p.m., Fremont Eagles Club. Beef stroganoff, catfish, shrimp, chicken tenders, fries, baked potatoes, onion rings and salad will be served. Down Memory Lane will play from 7-11 p.m. Halloween costumes are optional.

Deadly Hollows Haunted Cemetery, 6:30-10 p.m., 351 S. Garfield St., Fremont. Admission is one can of non-perishable food item or an unwrapped child's gift per person. All proceeds go to Low Income Ministries and the Christmas Program.

Scary corn maze, 7-10 p.m., Camp Fontanelle. Attendees should bring a flashlight and extra batteries. The scary maze may not be appropriate for smaller children or those easily scared, though there will be "dark only" portion with no spooks this year. A free outdoor movie will be shown at dusk. Bring your own lawn chair and s'mores and sit around a campfire while watching the movie.

Zombie Prom, 7 p.m. to midnight, The Gathering Social Hall, 750 N. Clamar Ave., Fremont. Guests age 18 and over are invited to join the party in their Halloween costume and/or formal wear. There will be a cash bar, food, dancing, photo opportunities, prom king and queen contest and more. Pre-sale tickets are \$7 and may be picked up at 240 N. Main St. in downtown Fremont. Admission at the door will be \$10 per person, \$15 per couple, or \$8 per student with ID. Proceeds raised will go to Uniquely Yours Stability Support.

"Arsenic and Old Lace, 7:30 p.m., Fremont High School's Nell McPherson Theatre. Tickets are \$7 or \$5 with a canned food donation.

"Dracula," 7:30 p.m., Midland University's Kimmel Theatre, Fremont. The production is rated PG-13 for frightening images. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for seniors, students and Fremont-Midland Entertainment Series members.

Al-Anon meeting, 8-9 p.m., Chapter 5 Club back room, Fremont. This support group is for families and friends of alcoholics.

Narcotics Anonymous Point Of Freedom Group, 8 p.m., Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Education Building, west of the church, 1440 E. Military Ave., Fremont. Enter through the rear door.

Friday Night 805 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 8:05 p.m., Redeemer Lutheran Church, 601 E. Fulton St., Hooper.

Alcoholics Anonymous candlelight meeting, 10 p.m., Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

### SATURDAY

HomeStore, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., 701 E. Dodge St., Fremont. The HomeStore sells donated items at discounted prices. Proceeds support the mission of Fremont Area

Habitat for Humanity.

Fremont High School Key Club's Stuff the Bus, 9 a.m. to noon, Hy-Vee Food Store. Volunteers from the high school will be collecting non-perishable food items and monetary donations for the Fremont Salvation Army.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 10 a.m., Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

14th National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fremont Police Dept., 725 N. Park Ave. The take-back day provides a safe, convenient and responsible means to prescription drug disposal, while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Halloween Spooktacular, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Parkview Center and Park Place Plaza, East Military Avenue, Fremont. Kids are invited to trick-or-treat at the businesses and participate in a costume contest and games. LaRue's Little Horse Ranch will be providing pony rides.

Fremont Altrusa Holiday Luncheon & Boutique, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., First Lutheran Church, 3200 E. Military Ave. This year's theme will celebrate Nebraska's 150th birthday. Tickets will be available at the door.

Silent auction/bake sale, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Izaak Walton Park, Fremont. The fundraiser will raise money for a wheelchair accessible van for three individuals. Hot dogs, chips and a pop will be sold for \$5.

Storytime, 11-11:30 a.m., Keene Memorial Library auditorium, Fremont.

Alcoholics Anonymous women's heart to heart group, noon, Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

Camp Fontanelle Pumpkin Patch and Corn Maze, 1-7 p.m., Camp Fontanelle. Other activities include a petting barn, zipline rides, laser tag in the maze, hayrack rides, a children's barrel train and more. Entrance fees are free for 2 and under, \$5 for ages

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## Calendar

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3-11 and \$7 for ages 17 and up. There is an additional charge for zipline and laser tag. A full concession

stand also is available.

Trunk or Treat, 2-4 p.m., Izaak Walton's Fremont Chapter, 2560 W. Military Ave. The event also will include hayrack rides.

Boo Bash, 3-6 p.m., Cedar Bluffs Fire Hall. The free Halloween-themed carnival is organized by Cedar Bluffs' FBLA chapter. There also will be a small haunted house inside of the Cedar Bluffs Auditorium.

Fremont Monster Walk Carnival, 4-7 p.m., Fremont Mall. The 6th annual event will include a costume contest, games, raffle drawings and prizes. Non-perishable food items and money will be collected to support Low Income Ministry.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 5:15 p.m., Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.

Tailgate party, 5:30 p.m., Fremont Eagles Club. Everyone is welcome.

Deadly Hollows Haunted Cemetery, 6:30-10 p.m., 351 S. Garfield St., Fremont. Admission is one can of non-perishable food item or an unwrapped child's gift per person. All proceeds go to Low Income Ministries and the Christmas Program.

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Narcotics Anonymous open meeting, 7:30 p.m., United Faith Church, 218 W. Gardiner St., Valley.

Narcotics Anonymous Lie Is Dead Group, 8 p.m., Care Corps, 723 N. Broad St., Fremont.

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, 10:30 p.m., Chapter 5 Club, Fremont.





# Mullally recognized by mortgage association

Mikki Mullally, vice president (Mortgage Loans) with Two Rivers Bank, was recently recognized by the Nebraska Mortgage Association (NMA) as a qualifying member of the organization's Champions Circle. The award winners were honored at the NMA's Fall Conference held Sept. 21 in Omaha.

The NMA's Champions Circle recognizes and celebrates the service, dedication and hard work that leading mortgage professionals put into serving their clients during the home loan process. The Champions Circle consists of mortgage originators who meet certain criteria

set each year, based on the location/population of the originator. The qualification period for the award was from Aug. 1, 2016, through July 31.

Mullally was one of 84 individuals statewide to be recognized as a Champions Circle qualifier for the 2016-17 year.

Mullally has been with Two Rivers Bank for 10 years and has been in the banking industry for more than 15. Mullally serves as vice president of the Memorial Community Hospital Auxiliary Board and is special events coordinator for the Blair Rotary Club.



COURTESY JEN BARROW

**Mikki Mullally of Two Rivers Bank was recently recognized by the Nebraska Mortgage Association.**



# EVENTS

## THROUGH NOVEMBER 14

### Deadline approaching for kringle orders

The Seward P.E.O. Chapter CC is hosting a Danish kringle pastries fundraiser. Orders will be accepted through Tuesday, Nov. 14. The 22-ounce oval pastries will be shipped from Wisconsin to Seward on Thursday, Dec. 7. Twelve flavors are available, with the price at \$12 each. To order kringles, contact P.E.O. Chapter CC members or call (402) 641-1072.

## THROUGH DECEMBER 1

### Coat drive to benefit local families

The Seward County 4-H Junior Leaders are hosting a coat drive through Friday, Dec. 1. Gently used coats of all sizes, gloves, mittens and hats will be collected. The drop-off site is the Seward County Extension Office at 322 South 14th Street across from Pac 'N' Save. For more information, call (402) 643-2981 or email [seward-extension@unl.edu](mailto:seward-extension@unl.edu).

## 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.

### MHCS sets infant care class

Memorial Healthcare Systems will conduct an Infant Care Class, Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 7-9 p.m. in Seward Family Medical Center Lower Level Vahle Conference Room. A one-evening class is packed with great information to prepare you for the arrival of your new baby. To register for the class, contact Megan Burkey at (402) 646-4710 or email [Megan.Burkey@mhcs.us](mailto:Megan.Burkey@mhcs.us).

## OCTOBER 26, 30

### Blood drives planned in Seward

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.

A community blood drive will be held at 537 Main Street in Seward Monday, Oct. 30, from noon to 6 p.m. The drive is sponsored by the Red Cross.

## 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. 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. 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.

### Youth center plans fun night

The Seward Youth Center will host a Halloween-themed fun night Friday, Oct. 27, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the youth center. Halloween costumes are encouraged but not required. Admission is \$5 with snacks, drinks and pizza available for purchase.

## OCTOBER 28

### CU sets art classes

Area elementary and middle school students are invited to attend art classes taught by Concordia University's art department and education department from 9-11 a.m. Saturday mornings in the Brommer Art Center, room 123, on Concordia's campus starting Saturday, Oct. 28. The sessions are available to pre-kindergarten through eighth grade students. There are 25 seats available per session and each student is required to pay a fee of \$5 for registration and supplies. Children should wear clothes that can get messy. For more information, contact Kay Rohren at (402) 643-7202 or email [kay.rohren@cune.edu](mailto:kay.rohren@cune.edu). This is especially important if a child has allergies. Registration is available online at [go.cune.edu/saturdayart](http://go.cune.edu/saturdayart).

### Concordia to honor military at game

Concordia University will host Military Appreciation Day in conjunction with the home football game starting at 12:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 28. Area service men and women will be honored. In addition, a cannon and other military equipment from the Nebraska National Guard will be available for viewing. The cannon will go off at the end of the national anthem and after every touchdown scored by the Concordia Kick-off against Dakota Wesleyan is 1 p.m. Service members who present military identification will be admitted to the game free of charge.

### View scenery with Public Transit

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

## 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.

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## 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.

## Service, dinner planned to celebrate

Concordia University will celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with a worship service and dinner at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 29, in Walz Arena. The Rev. Dr. Timothy Saleska, professor of Hebrew and Old Testament exegetics at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will provide the sermon for this event. The worship service is free and open to the public. At 5 p.m. following

the worship service, there will be a German Fest dinner with entertainment. Limited tickets are still available for the dinner at [www.cune.edu/events/alumni-friends/german-fest-dinner-entertainment/](http://www.cune.edu/events/alumni-friends/german-fest-dinner-entertainment/)

## 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.

## Trick or treat on campus

Children of the Seward community and surrounding areas are invited to participate in the annual Project Pumpkin trick-or-treat event at Concordia University from 6-8 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 31, in David Hall on campus. Treats will be given out by the students to the children, and each area of the women's residence hall will be decorated according to a creative theme. David Hall is located on the corner of Lincoln Street and Locust Avenue.

NOVEMBER 2

## 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 Thursday, Nov. 2, at 1:30 p.m. Contact the library at (402) 643-3318 for specific movie titles.

## Moon, double star featured in show

The Moon and the double star Alberio will be viewed at a special open house from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 2, at the Osten Observatory on Concordia University's campus. There is no set program and visitors are urged to check the weather before they arrive as it can change quickly. If the sky is cloudy, or if it is very windy at the time the observatory is scheduled to open, the viewing will be cancelled for the night. The

observatory is located on the northeast corner of Concordia's campus on East Hillcrest Drive in Seward. Visitors should be prepared to walk across a short length of field as the path to the observatory is not paved. There is also a step up to be able to reach the telescope. There is no charge for admission.

NOVEMBER 3

## Canadian musicians to play at theatre

The Olde Glory Theatre in Seward will host the Steel City Rovers at 7 p.m. Friday, Nov. 3. The band, which is from Canada, plays Celtibilly music, a combination of Celtic and North American traditions. For tickets, call JoAnn Boshart at (402) 304-5392 or visit [www.oldeglorysewardne.com](http://www.oldeglorysewardne.com).

## Mary Poppins takes CU stage

Concordia University will present an evening of music, laughter and theatre in the production of the musical "Mary Poppins" at 7 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, Nov. 3, 4, 10 and 11; and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, Nov. 12, all in Weller Hall auditorium. Tickets for the performance are available in the Concordia bookstore in the lower level of the Janzow Campus Center on Concordia's campus. They can also be purchased at the door prior to the show. Tickets are \$10 for general admission and \$5 for Concordia faculty, staff and students. Admission for children ages 10 and under is also \$5.

NOVEMBER 4

## Clothing giveaway set

The Seward United Church of Christ will host a free clothing giveaway Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. to noon at the church, 1422 Kolterman Avenue. Free gently used clothing for all ages will be available.

NOVEMBER 5

## Honey Sunday fundraiser set

The ARC-Seward County will sponsor its annual Honey Sunday door-to-door fundraiser Sunday, Nov. 5. All proceeds remain in Seward County and will be used to support county programs for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. For more information, contact Louise Warnsholz at (402) 643-6263 or (402) 643-2237 or Donna Eiting at (402) 643-2154.

NOVEMBER 8

## Class to help siblings adjust to new baby

A New Baby and Me Class will be Wednesday, Nov. 8, at 6 p.m. in the Seward Family Medical Center Lower Level Vahle Conference Room. This class is a fun way for siblings to understand what a new baby will mean in their life. It is geared for 3-7 year olds. Each child receives a Big Brother/Big Sister t-shirt. To register for the class, contact Megan Burkey at (402) 646-4710 or email [Megan.Burkey@mhcs.us](mailto:Megan.Burkey@mhcs.us).

NOVEMBER 9

## Give blood at Concordia

Concordia University will host a Red Cross blood drive Thursday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Janzow Campus Center on the Concordia University campus.

## 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](http://seward-heartfeltconnections.org). The next meeting will be Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. at the Seward Civic Center.

## Preview holidays at library

Are you new to the Seward community? Are you aware of all of the special holiday activities which are scheduled during November and December? On Thursday, Nov. 9, at 6:30 p.m. Seward Memorial Library will host a preview of coming holiday events. Leaders of organizations, groups and businesses who are responsible for bringing holiday cheer to town will make short presentations. If you have questions or concerns, this is your chance to interact with the people who are sponsoring a variety of events.



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Besides gathering information you will have an opportunity to decide if you want to help support some of these holiday efforts which make Seward a small-town Christmas destination.

## NOVEMBER 11

### Church schedules annual bazaar

Shop for your holiday gift-giving at the Seward United Methodist Church's 65th annual Church Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 11. This fall shopping experience features hand-crafted and homemade items. The Coffee Shop opens at 8:30 a.m. The Gift Shop and Kountry Kitchen will be open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Shoppers are invited to bid on the 2017 silent auction queen-size quilt created by the SUMC Holy Scrappers.

### Theatre plans evening of dance

The Olde Glory Theatre will host a night of dancing and socializing at the theatre Saturday, Nov. 11, starting at 7 p.m. The Leo Lonnie Polka Due will play. Doors open at 6 p.m. with a social hour, cash bar and complimentary appetizers and desserts. Tickets are \$12 in advance or \$15 at the door. Visit [www.oldeglorysewardne.com](http://www.oldeglorysewardne.com) for tickets or call (402) 304-5392.

## NOVEMBER 12

### Waffleman to be in Seward

The Seward County 4-H Foundation will host the Waffleman from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 12, at Harvest Hall on the Seward County Fairgrounds. The menu includes Belgian waffles, flavored syrups and toppings, sausages and drinks. Funds raised will help support 4-H scholarships and programs. A fee will be charged. Tickets are available at the door.

### Reception to open new show

Concordia University's Marxhausen Gallery of Art will host the exhibit, "Harbinger of A Deeper Magic: Selections from Concordia's Permanent Collection" fully curated by Concordia art majors and is currently available for viewing at the Marxhausen Gallery of Art on Concordia's campus through Dec. 13. An opening reception will be held from 1 to 4 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 12, with a presentation at 2 p.m. in the Thom Leadership Education Center Auditorium. The exhibit is open to the public and free of charge. The Marxhausen Gallery is located in Jesse Hall and is open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday-Friday and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday while classes are in session.

## NOVEMBER 13

### Evening of One Acts to be Nov. 13

The 23rd Annual Evening of One Acts, presented by the Seward High Drama Depart-

ment will be held on Monday, Nov. 13, at 7 p.m. at the Seward High Theater. This is a change from the originally announced date. 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@sewardschools.org](mailto:clark.kolterman@sewardschools.org) for more information or call the school office at (402) 643-2988.

## NOVEMBER 14

### Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group to meet

The Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group will meet the second Tuesday of each month. The group is open to anyone who has a family member dealing with dementia. The meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. at Brookdale Heartland Park.

## NOVEMBER 17

### Exercise topic of luncheon

Fridays For You will be Friday, Nov. 17, at noon with "The Importance of Exercise as We Age," presented by Dr. Jacqueline Hobbs. The event will be in the Seward Family Medical Center lower level Vahle Conference Room. A free light lunch will be served. RSVP by Friday, Nov. 10, to (402) 646-4707 or email [shana.glover@mhcs.us](mailto:shana.glover@mhcs.us).

## TRUNK OR TREAT

Sunday  Oct. 29  
 2:00-4:00 p.m.

### Greene Place

Senior Living  
 600 Church St. • Seward, NE

• Cider & cookies available  
 for everyone

• More trunks welcome

• Call 402-643-9111

if you want to participate



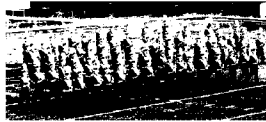
Bee VFD celebrates Halloween at open house. Page 2A.



# SEWARD • COUNTY INDEPENDENT

WEDNESDAY  
 October 25, 2017  
 VOL 121 NO. 43  
 Seward, Nebraska  
[sewardindependent.com](http://sewardindependent.com)

MARCHING  
 BAND  
 PAGES 1C-3C



MALCOLM  
 TAKES STATE  
 PAGE 1B



## #SPOOKYINSEWCO

Plan to attend some or all of these Halloween events in and around Seward. Then, post your photos on social media and tag them with #SpookyInSewCo. We might publish a few in our Nov. 8 edition.

### Thursday, Oct. 26 Rotary costume contest

The annual Seward Rotary Halloween Costume Contest for Children is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 26, at the Seward Bandshell. The event is free and open to all children ages 0 through 12. In case of inclement

weather, the event will be held in the Seward Civic Center auditorium. No preregistration is required – just be on time for the contest.

### Oct. 27, 28 and 31 Terror Compound

The Terror Compound Haunted House, hosted by Terrifying Creations, will be open from 7 to 11 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27, Saturday, Oct. 28, and Tuesday, Oct. 31. The compound is located at the corner of Seward and South Seventh streets, above Gold Star Martial Arts. Terrifying Creations works with Seward

High School to provide community service for graduating students and raises money for charitable organizations. The attraction has three scare levels: kid-friendly (no scare), full scare and full touch (where individuals must sign a waiver prior to entering). Visit [www.terrifyingcreations.com](http://www.terrifyingcreations.com) for more information.

### Friday, Oct. 27 Youth Center fun night

A Halloween-themed fun night is planned for all youth in fifth and sixth grades at the Seward Youth Center

from 7 to 9 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27. Halloween costumes are encouraged but not required. Admission fee includes snacks and drinks. Pizza will be available for purchase.

### Saturday, Oct. 28 Field of Dreams fun run

Malcolm will host one-mile and 5K fun runs beginning at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28. The one-mile run will be open to children age 12 and under and will be a trick or treat run through the community. Costumes are encouraged. Run-See Spooky, 3A

# Spooky

(continued from page 1A) ners will receive a goodie bag at the end of the race.

Following the children's race, a one-mile and a 5K race will be open to all ages, beginning at 9:15 a.m. Costumes are encouraged but not required. Prizes will be awarded to the fastest female and male runner in each age bracket for the 5K and the fastest female and male overall for the one-mile race (no age brackets).

Register at <http://runsignup.com/Race/NE/Malcolm/Malcolm-FieldofDreamsHalloween-FunRun>. Proceeds from the races will go toward building new community baseball and softball fields in Malcolm. A free-will donation breakfast will be served from 8 to 11 a.m. at the fire station.

## Sunday, Oct. 29

### Bee Fire open house

The Bee Volunteer Fire Department will host an open house and kids' costume Halloween party from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, at the fire hall. Wear a costume and meet local firefighters. Demonstrations, fire truck rides, kids games and free hamburgers, hot dogs and treats will

be available.

### History and Halloween

The Seward County Historical Society will host its second annual History and Halloween from 1:30 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29. Come dressed in Halloween digs for a free family trick or treat activity with train rides, Halloween fun and safe trick or treating for all ages.

### Greene Place trunk or treat

The residents and staff at Greene Place in Seward will offer a trunk or treat from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29. Kids of all ages are welcome.

### Scare at the Fair

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

## Tuesday, Oct. 31

### Senior Center plans party

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

### Treats at Brookdale

Brookdale Heartland Park in Seward will host

trick or treating in its lobbies from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Call

(402) 641-6500 for more information.

### UMC trunk or treat

Seward United Methodist Church will host a trunk or treat from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31, at 1400 N. Fifth Street in Seward. Trunks with candy, treats inside the church and a bounce house will be open. All ages are welcome.

### Project Pumpkin at CU

Children of the Seward community and surrounding areas are invited to participate in the Project Pumpkin trick or treat event at Concordia University from 6 to 8 p.m. on

Tuesday, Oct. 31, in David Hall. Treats will be given out by students, and each area of the women's residence hall will be decorated. David Hall is located on the corner of Lincoln Street and Locust Avenue.

### Trick or treat at Ridgewood

Trick or treat at Ridgewood Rehabilitation and Care Center starting at 6 p.m. on Halloween night, Oct. 31.

### Hillcrest trunk and treat

Hillcrest Evangelical Free Church will host its sixth annual Trunk and Treat from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31. Wear costumes, play carnival games and go from trunk to trunk collecting candy in a fun, safe, non-spooky environment. There will also be hot chocolate and face painting.





# Rotary continues fight against polio

Seward's Rotary Club members are among millions worldwide observing the Oct. 24 World Polio Day. The Seward club will recognize this special day at its Oct. 25 regular noon meeting at the Jones National Bank to raise awareness, funds and support to end polio – a vaccine preventable disease that still threatens children in parts of the world today.

Since Rotary and its partners launched the Global Polio Eradication Initiative nearly 30 years ago, the incidence of polio has plummeted by more than 99.9 percent, from about 350,000 cases a year to just 37 cases in 2016. To sustain this progress, and protect all children from polio, Rotary has committed to raising \$50 million per year over the next three years in support of global polio eradication efforts.

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation will match Rotary's commitment 2:1. Without full funding and political commitment, this paralyzing disease could return to previously polio-free countries, putting children

everywhere at risk. Millions have been immunized around the world due to Rotary's efforts. Rotary International is the only civic organization in the world that has a seat at the United Nations to address such worldwide health needs.

Rotary has contributed more than \$1.7 billion to ending polio since 1985, including funds contributed by the Rotary Club of Seward. The late Wayne Tanderup, polio survivor and committed Rotarian, championed Rotary's Global Polio Eradication Initiative in its beginnings. Not only did Tanderup energize the Seward Rotary Club with his enthusiasm and generosity, he also did so throughout the 43 Rotary Clubs of Rotary District 5650 from as far west as Aurora to Red Oak, Iowa, in the east; as far south as Falls City to Wayne in the north. Tanderup's efforts created an enduring commitment among Seward Rotary Club members and throughout the Rotary District to this day.

Visit [endpolio.org](http://endpolio.org) for more about Rotary and its efforts to eradicate polio.





## **Rotary district governor visits**



News-Register/Kurt Johnson

Dr. Thomas Cardwell, governor for Rotary District 5650, visited the Aurora Rotary Club last week, offering insight on the 2017-18 goals for the district as well as Rotary International. Cardwell presented a flag to Wade Regier, Aurora Rotary Club president.