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## Rally 'round the flag

BY STEPHANIE CROSTON scroston@sewardindependent.com

In 1862, the Nebraska National Guard saw its first action in the Civil War. The soldiers joined the Union troops at Fort Donelson, Tennessee, and helped turn the tide of the battle.

"That helped (Ulysses S.) Grant rise to national prominence," said Gerald "Jerry" Meyer, historian at the Nebraska National Guard Museum.

The Nebraska guardsmen joined soldiers from Illinois to face the Confederate army at the fort. Nebraska soldiers knelt, and the Illinois soldiers shot over them with grapeshot.

"It would be just chaos," Meyer said. "Nebraska was at a specific point, the apex of where the Confederates wanted to go."

Lew Wallace, author of *Ben-Hur*, said Nebraska soldiers stood the line like they were on a parade field. Nebraska only lost three soldiers killed and seven wounded.

Soldiers from Iowa charged the hill at Fort Donelson.

One commander reminded the soldiers "You volunteered to die. Now is your chance."

"There was no skulking here," Meyer said. "They (the Confederates) were on the road where they ran into us."

Gen. Henry Halleck was looking for an excuse to fire Grant, who was then a brigadier general. With Grant's success, however, he was raised to a major general.

The battle at Fort Donelson also gave Grant the nickname "Unconditional Surrender" Grant. He met with Confederate Gen. Simon Buckner to discuss terms of surrender and surprised Buckner by insisting "No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted."

The capture of the fort allowed the Union army to push further into Confederate territory. From Fort Donelson, the Union army advanced to Shiloh.

"Grant's star rose because he hit certain marks at the right time," Meyer said. "He kept his focus on getting to Lee's army."

The anniversary of the battle at Fort Donelson led to the selection of "Rally 'round the Flag" as this year's Fourth of July theme. The phrase is part of the song "Battle Cry of Freedom," which was sung by soldiers on both sides of the Civil War.

Union lyrics of the first verse are:

Oh we'll rally round the flag, boys, we'll rally once again, Shouting the battle cry of freedom, And we'll rally from the hillside, we'll gather from the plain, Shouting the battle cry of freedom.

#### (Chorus)

The Union forever, hurrah! boys, hurrah! Down with the traitors, up with the stars; While we rally round the flag, boys, we rally once again, Shouting the battle cry of freedom!

The Confederates sang:

Our flag is proudly floating on the land and on the main, Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom! Beneath it oft we've conquered, and we'll conquer oft again! Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

(Chorus)

Our Dixie forever! She's never at a loss! Down with the eagle and up with the cross While we rally 'round the Bonnie flag, we'll rally once again, Shout, shout the battle cry of Freedom!

# Matzkes honored for their loyal service to Seward community

BY MEAGHAN STOUT design@sewardindependent.com

Charles "Chuck" Matzke and his wife Jan Matzke were named this year's recipients of the Community Service Award by the July Fourth Committee during the Fourth of July Kickoff event.

The award was created in 1971, shortly after the Nebraskan's Friend Award. The Nebraskan's Friend Award was made to honor someone within the state during Seward's Fourth of July parade. The Community Service Award was created four years later to honor someone local, within the community.



STEPHANIE CROSTON

Chuck, right, and Jan Matzke of Seward were named the 2022 Community Service Award winners June 1 during the July 4 kickoff. Seward Mayor Josh Eickmeier presented the plaque.

(continued on page 5)



## Matzkes honored

#### (continued from page 4)

According to July 4 Committee Board Chairman Clark Kolterman, the Matzkes came to Seward in the 1970s.

"It was Seward's luckiest day. They have done nothing but contribute to the community ever since," Kolterman said.

Chuck was born in Seward and moved away in the third grade, according to Jan. The two moved back to Seward together in 1972. They will have lived in their house for 50 years as of July 1.

Those who have gotten to know the Matzkes know they are loyal and leaders throughout the community. Chuck was recently recognized as the Seward Rotary Club's longest serving member after 50 years of membership. He also serves on the Seward Tree Board. Jan currently serves on the Civic "They have a knack for showing people why they should invest in Seward."

#### Clark Kolterman Board Chairman July Fourth Committee

Center Commission.

"They are leaders," Clark said. "They've helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the community. They helped raise money to build the new clinic, the new hospital, they're leaders in the new library funding and have taken leadership roles in building and increasing the exhibits at the National Guard Museum."

The July 4 Committee takes nominations from all over the county for the Community Service Award. The Matzkes were selected from 31 candidates by the committee.

"Clark called and he said 'Can you come to our meeting this week? It's the kickoff for the Fourth of July,' and he said he needed me there because they were honoring the Civic Center. I asked if we could get someone else," Jan said.

The couple had friends coming to visit them from Colorado and weren't planning to attend the event at all. Clark finally revealed part of the secret to Jan to make sure the two attended the kickoff.

(continued on page 19)



## 55 years of Nebraskan's Friends

#### Doug Bereuter to receive Nebraskan's Friend Award for 2022

BY MEAGHAN STOUT design@sewardindependent.com

The Seward Fourth of July Celebration Committee announced that longtime U.S. Congressman and Seward County native Doug Bereuter has agreed to be the Grand Marshall and the recipient of the Nebraskan's Friend Award for 2022 at the annual Seward Fourth of July Celebration.

The Nebraskan's Friend Award is presented to the individual selected to be the Grand Marshall for the annual Fourth of July Celebration. The award has been presented since 1967.

The 2022 Theme of the Celebration is "Rally Round the Flag" and honors the Nebraskans who served in the Civil War. The Nebraska National Guard was instrumental in the Battle at Fort Donelson 160 years ago and will be highlighted at the Nebraska National Guard Museum during the July 4 weekend.

Bereuter graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Nebraska and has master's degrees from Harvard University in both city planning and public administration. Currently, he serves on the Visiting Committee for Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and was the first elected official to receive the Kennedy School's Outstanding Alumni Award.

He served as an infantry and intelligence officer in the U.S. Army, practiced and taught graduate courses in urban and regional planning, led various agencies and programs in Nebraska State Gov-



**Doug Bereuter** 

ernment, and served one four-year term as a Nebraska state senator before his election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1978.

For his work on European and NATO issues, he ihas received decorations from the governments of Bulgaria, Lithuania and Romania. His service also includes presidential appointment as a delegate to the United Nations 42nd General Assembly. He currently serves on the governing boards of the Council on Foundations, LMI and the National Arbor Day Foundation. He is also a member of the USAID's Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid (ACVFA), Council on Foreign Relations, the World Affairs Council of Northern California, the Pacific Council on International Policy and the International Advisory Board of the Graduate School of International Relations and Pacific Studies at University of California-San Diego.

During his congressional career, he was a leading member of the House International Relations Committee, where he served as vice chairman for six years, chaired the Asia-Pacific Subcommittee for the maximum limit of six years, chaired the Europe Subcommittee immediately before his departure, was ranking minority member of the Human Rights Subcommittee for six years, and had a long tenure on its Subcommittee on Economic Policy & Trade. Bereuter became the president of The Asia Foundation on Sept. 1, 2004, immediately upon his resignation from U.S. Congress after 26 years of service.

He also served on the House Financial Services Committee for 23 years, and for 16 years, chaired or served as ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on International Institutions, which has oversight jurisdiction for American participation in the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, other regional development banks, the U.S. Export-Import Bank, and the IMF.

Bereuter served nearly 10 years on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, retiring as its vice chairman. Additional congressional responsibilities include serving as the founding co-chairman of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, chairing the Speaker's Task Force

(continued on page 25)

#### "Seward deserves to be called the Fourth of July City."

Doug Bereuter Recipient of 2022 Nebraskan's Friend Award



#### JOIN US FOR THE GREATEST FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION EVER, IN SEWARD, JULY 4TH, 2025!

This program paid for by HOUSE OF DAVISSON, Seward, Nebraska.

You may think this "Program" was printed with a tongue-in-cheek attitude...you may be right. On the other hand, with the present inflation and age of advancement it may come to pass.

## Seward names annual July 4 royalty

The winners of the annual Seward Fourth of July student essay contest, sponsored by the Seward Rotary Club was announced at the annual Fourth of July Celebration Kick-off on June 1, 2022 at the Seward Civic Center lower level. The Rotary Club selection committee was chaired by Ben Spirk.

The winners will attend the Governor's Reception, ride in the annual Grand Parade, and read their essays at the bandshell after the parade. The students each receive a crown, bag of fireworks and trophy from the Seward Rotary Club. Their essays are also included on the Fourth of July website.

This program has been in force since 1967 and the list of all previous July 4 Royalty is on the Seward Fourth of July website at julyfourthseward.org

#### Mallory Miller Miss Independence

Fourth Grade, St. John Lutheran School, Montana Soflin, teacher; Parents: Karl and Rachel Miller

Do you love your town? I do because I live in Seward! I like to live in Seward because of the pool, St. John School, and



the 4th of July! One reason I like to live in Seward is the awesome pool. I like the pool because they have a fun water slide and diving boards. Last year, I learned how to do a frontflip and dive on the diving boards. I also like it because it is fun to relax and have fun. Another reason is because you get to interact with people.

Another reason I like to live in Seward is because of St. John Lutheran School. I like St. John because we get to learn about God. One way we learn about God is chapel. We have chapel every Wednesday. My favorite thing is they have fun activities in the summer like VBS and Summer

(continued on page 9)



## Royalty

(continued from page 8) Horizons. The last thing is we have the best teachers.

My last reason about why I like to live in Seward is the 4th of July! I love the fun parade! I like seeing all the people who help in Seward. My favorite part of the 4th of July is the fireworks! The colors are so cool to see! The last thing is the food. We love getting snowcones and funnel cakes. They are so good!

In conclusion, I like to live in Seward because of the fun pool, the awesome schools and the fun day of the 4th of July! I love these things because they are fun, and you get to see lots of people. That is why I like to live in Seward.

#### Annabelle Stellwagen Miss Independence, Runner-up

Fourth Grade, St. John Lutheran School, Montana Soflin, Teacher; Parents: Laurie and Ben Stellwagen

When I first moved to Seward, I wasn't so sure about it. But now I see that Seward is a great place to be in contact with friends and family. I have never lived in a better place than Seward, Nebraska, because of the library, the light show and the Fourth of July.

One reason I like to live in Seward is the library. I love reading chapter books. I really like The Vandderbekers on 141 Street. My Mom got me the first and second books, and I love



Annabelle Stellwagen

them both. I also love doing the library's Escape Room with my friends. I have done it almost every year. It is so fun discovering the clues, locks and opening the boxes. I have always escaped with my team.

Another reason I like to live in Seward is the light show at Christmas. We go in the car and listen to the incredible music! It is amazing how the lights connect to your radio. My favorite part is the shining Christmas trees. It all looks incredible and every year I love it all.

My favorite reason to live in Seward is the Fourth of July Parade. It's great to see all of our community helpers like the fireman and the police. Every year the floats are amazing. They are decorated in beautiful shades of red, white and blue. The make all the floats come alive.

In conclusion, Seward is the best place to live

in because of its library, light show and the Fourth of July Parade. These three things all have something in common. They're fun to go to, and I love them more every year. Seward, Nebraska, is the best.

#### Michael Kolterman Mr. Firecracker

Fourth Grade, St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School, Dorothy Marshall, Teacher; Parents: Dr. Lynn and Nathan Kolterman

When I think of living in Seward I think of FUN and that is what I want to let you know about today. It is FUN to live in Seward and that is why I like to live here. Now, I really live in the country near Seward, but I am in Seward all the time and kind of live here too. I like to live in Seward because it is FUN.

F – Seward has FAN-TASTIC schools and teachers. I have had a lot of teachers and they are all great. I know all the schools in Seward and they are just great. My school is just one of the many in Seward but they are all very good because of the fantastic students. I like to live in Seward because of the fantastic schools and teachers.

U – Seward has UN-BELIVEAVBLE stuff to do for kids. We have a movie theater, bowling alley, lots of gyms and a really unbelievable swimming pool. The Seward pool is so much fun-it is round and square at the



Michael Kolterman

end with great diving. We have an unbelievable library, great ball fields and so many great places to eat. I like to live in Seward because of the unbelievable stuff for kids.

N-Seward has really NICE people who live in there in Seward. Where ever you go, you find nice people. Some of these people are even related to me and some are not related to me but they are all nice. People I don't even know talk to me and say hi. Everyone in Seward likes kids and are nice to kids. There are a lot of nice people in Seward and that is why I like to live in Seward.

FUN is what it is all about when you live in Seward. Seward has FANTASTIC schools and teachers. Seward has UNBELIEVABLE stuff for kids to do. Seward has really NICE people. We all want to live where we have FUN and I am glad I live in FUN Seward. (continued on page 10) HAPPY INDEPENDENC

## Royalty

(continued from page 8)

#### Nathan Royuk Mr. Firecracker, Runner-up

Third Grade, St. John Lutheran School, Mrs. Gebhardt, Teacher; Parents: Kyle and Amy Royuk

Seward is a great place to live! There are lots of reasons that living in Seward is great, and I want to tell about some of my favorite things that make Seward so special.

One good thing about Seward is that there are lots of fun places to play. I love swimming at the pool and going down the waterslide. I also really like the new playground at the elementary school. The slides are fun to do down. I love to ride my bike on the bike trails too.

Also, Seward has lots of fun activities to join. In Seward, I get to play flag football, basketball and run in track club. The library has lots of fun programs like chess club, Pokemon Club and reading club.

Seward is full of friendly people! I love living in a place where people are kind and help each other. I like to help each other, too. It is fun to volunteer in our community.

One other thing that I love is celebrating the Fourth of July in Seward. I love the parade, the yummy food, the air shows, riding the trolley and watching the awesome fireworks show.

For lots of reasons, Seward is a wonderful place to live. I am very blessed to call Seward my home and I am thankful to live here.



Nathan Royuk



## Learn more about Ukraine crisis

**BY KEATON BURGESS** reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Civic Center AV room will host a lecture on July 4 featuring three different Ukrainian speakers.

The speakers will be: Olexiv Panfilov. director of Global Dealer Development at Valmont Industries Inc.; Olha Tytarenko, an associate professor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; and Vitaly Kravets with the Lincoln Police Department.

The lecture, Stay with the Ukraine. will focus on Ukrainian history, Ukraine's relations with

Russia, the current war in Ukraine, and other details about Ukraine.

The families said they were invited by friends to come speak and they would like to tell everyone about what's happening firsthand in Ukraine and answer any questions.

Ukraine has always been an area of interest for Russia, Tobin Beck, a professor at Concordia University, said. Its biggest export is steel, but its location on the Black Sea makes it important for Russia's natural gas and oil exports.

Many of Ukraine's neighbors are members of came in 2022.

NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and France and other NATO members have sent troops to help the Ukrainians in their current war with Russia.

"We're not prepared psychologically to go to war with Russia," Beck said.

Ukraine declared its independence from Russia in 1991, and since then, the two countries have had an uneasy relationship.

In 2014, Russia annexed the Crimean Peninsula and invaded eastern Ukraine. The most recent invasion

Russia invaded Ukraine on three sides with the goal to "pulverize them into submission," according to Beck.

Vladimir Putin, Russia's president, is determined to restore the Russian empire, which would include Ukraine and other states.

"NATO, however, is a threat to Putin's ego." Beck said.

He said Ukraine just marks the beginning of Putin's agenda.

"He wants to change the dynamic of the world in wavs we haven't seen since the end of World War II." Beck said. "He won't stop at Ukraine."

EBRASKA



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## **Grand Parade caps afternoon**



The Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard from Fort Riley, Kansas, fills the street during the 2021 July 4 parade. The parade starts at 4 p.m. on July 4 and goes through Seward on Seward Street.





Addie Hejl of Malcolm, Miss Nebraska Czech-Slovak Queen 2019-21, waves from her ride in

the July 4 parade.

FILE PHOTO

Soldiers from 1776 lead the way down the 2021 parade route July 4 in Seward.

\_\_\_\_

## A century of Marx

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN Seward County Independent

Reinhold Marxhausen would have turned 100 this year.

Marxhausen, who was a professor at Concordia College (now University), gained national recognition for his artwork, and the Seward Arts Council will feature a host of Marxhausen events and exhibits at the Fourth of July celebration this year.

Marxhausen was born in Minnesota in April of 1922 and found a love for art at an early age. After graduating high school, he spent time in the military and attended college at schools in Indiana, Chicago and California.

Concordia took notice of Marxhausen's artistic prowess and offered him a position as the university's first art department chair and as an art professor.

He began his work there in 1951 and retired after 40 years of teaching. During his time in Seward, he also got married to his wife, Dorrris, and had two children.

Marxhausen was best known for his pho-

(continued on page 14)



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### Marxhausen

(continued from page 13) tograhs, mosaics, paintings, sculptures, object-found art and sound art. Perhaps most famous were his sound sculptures, including "Cosmic Cube" and "Stardust," which he discussed on "Late Night with David Letterman." The sculptures make a beautiful noise when shaken or tapped.

His legacy also lives on in the Nebraska State Capitol. He created two murals for the building – "The Spirit of Nebraska" and "The Building of the Capitol." Both murals were installed in 1966.

Marxhausen had a deep passion for creating art for churches. His vision paved the way for the Center for Liturgical Art in Seward, which was established in 2003 and is one of the only liturgical art centers in the United States.

"[Reinhold and Dorris Marx-

hausen] rented a trailer house, and they spent the whole year going from church to church to church to tell them about Christian art," William Wolfram, a retired professor at Concordia University, said. "That's how he spent his sabbatical."

Wolfram taught alongside Marxhausen for 31 years.

"One of the things I appreciated about him is that, in the many years I taught with him, not once did we get into a negative conversation or argument. He was such a positive guy, and it didn't take much to get him excited about something," Wolfram said.

Wolfram said Marxhausen was an interesting man who liked to laugh and had many unique interests, including unicycling and searching for four-leaf clovers.

"I loved teaching with him," he

said.

Jeanne Wiemer, who is now the president of the Seward Arts Council, went to Marxhausen's house and bought a "Stardust" when she was in high school. She said Marxhausen's influence grew the prevalence of art in Seward at the time and helped inspire parts of her own journey with art.

Wiemer said Marxhausen created an atmosphere that opens up one's eyes to see art in everything. She has crafted multiple art collections of her own, and she said the concept of seeing art in all her surroundings is what inspired her to create a metal sculpture collection.

"The people that knew him have this unique perspective on life so that you can see the bigger picture," she said. "You see the beauty in all things- in the little things,

(continued on page 35)



### President, general, wives come to Seward

BY GERALD D. "JERRY" MEYER NENG Historian

President Abraham Lincoln and Gen. Ulysses S. Grant, along with First Ladies Mary Todd Lincoln and Julia Grant, will be guests of the Nebraska National Guard Museum this July.

They are part of the celebration of the 160th anniversary of the union victory at Fort Donelson, Tennessee, that propelled Grant to national prominence.

The First Nebraska Infantry (Nebraska National Guard) helped the union to victory in the battle in February, 1862.

Abraham Lincoln (played by Larry Elliot) is from the Hodgenville, Kentucky area where Lincoln was born. He is 6-4 (like Lincoln) and married a Mary and had four sons (like Lincoln). His great-great-great grandmother (Mary LaRue Enlow) was midwife who helped deliver Abraham Lincoln.

Mary Todd Lincoln (played by Mary Elliot) has played the former First Lady for years. She will help dispel myths about Mary Lincoln in some of her presentations.

Gen. U.S. Grant (played by Larry Clowers) is from Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. He is a veteran of the U.S. military and brings the former Civil War hero to life around the country. He usually performs in Gettysburg on their July 4 celebration and anniversary of the battle. He is a subject matter



Gen. Ulysses S. Grant (Larry Clowers) and Julia Grant (Constance Clowers) will appear in Seward over the Fourth of July weekend.



COURTESY PHOTO

President Abraham Lincoln (Larry Elliot) and Mary Todd Lincoln (Mary Elliot) will be in Seward over the Fourth of July weekend.

expert on Grant and the Battle of Fort Donelson.

Julia Grant (played by Constance Clowers) is a talented seamstress and actor. She will host a fashion show of the period highlighting the period outfits she has created.

The Lincolns are sponsored by Van and Becky Vahle of Seward. The Grants are sponsored by Berry Law Firm.

#### **Events**

- July 2, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.—Meet the Lincolns and the Grants in the Jones Bank Theater at the Nebraska National Guard Museum
- July 2, 7 p.m.—Presidential reception and concert at the NNGM, featuring music by Heidi and Kevin Chang; tickets are required for the free performance and may be picked up at the museum
- July 3, 2 p.m.—Civil War Leadership with Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses Grant, who will discuss their views on leadership during the Civil War; Jones Bank Theater, NNGM
- July 3, 2 p.m.—Meet Mary Todd Lincoln, Seward Civic Center basement
- July 3, 3 p.m.—1860 Fashion Show hosted by Julia Grant, Seward Civic Center basement
- July 3, 7 p.m.—Civil War musical revue, Seward High School
- July 4, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.—Meet and greet the Lincolns and Grants, NNGM

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### **Urwin takes over fireworks**

BY HANNA CHRISTENSEN Seward County Independent

This year marks Darin Urwin's first time as the fireworks chair for the Seward Fourth of July celebration. Leading up to this, he spent years helping the previous chairman, Curt Coddington, with the show.

Urwin is originally from Albion and moved to Seward in 2013. He lives with his wife, Sarah, and his 13-year-old son, Carter. He is an operations lead for Bayer Crop Science in Waco.

Urwin said one of the main reasons his family moved to Seward was to be near Hillcrest Evangelical Free Church. Coddington is a pastor at the church, and, after getting to know Urwin there, he asked him to help out with the firework show in 2017. So, Urwin got his fireworks operator's license and jumped on the opportunity to volunteer. "I always like to try to give back to the community in different ways," Urwin said.

Since then, Urwin has volunteered at every show. He said he has liked working with people in the community and being a part of something that so many people enjoy.

When Coddington announced he will be retiring in 2023 and moving east to be closer to his family in Indiana, he knew (continued on 18)



## Fireworks

(continued from 17) he needed someone to take over his position as fireworks chair. So, he asked Urwin, who has shown him consistency and friendship over the vears. Urwin said Coddington has spent the last couple of years teaching him the ins and outs of the position. which include duties such as finding volunteers, working with finances, planning for the show and attending meetings.

"Darin is a friend, so I know him quite well," Coddington said. "He's been a dream to work with. He has learned quickly, he has taken care, he comes up with new ideas and so I'm very excited and pleased to hand it off to him."

Similar to Urwin, Coddington was trained by the fireworks chair who came before him. He took over the position in 2007, and he said he has had a great experience getting to work with the fireworks, run the show and pass it on to someone else.

"I'm going to miss doing [the fireworks show]," Coddington said. "I'm on sabbatical this year, and I'm coming back [to do the show] anyhow just because I enjoy doing it. I want to be in charge and have the assurance that there's somebody there to back him up."

COVID-19-related issues and supply-chain



Darin Urwin

holdups have increased prices for many goods across the country, and fireworks are no exception. According to Coddington, fireworks prices have increased about 30% to 40%. However, the challenge of an expensive year has not stopped Urwin.

"Even as the prices go up, we're still staying the same size of show," Urwin said. "So, it should be just as good, if not better, as in the years past."

Urwin said one of his favorite parts about the Fourth of July show is that it is a community effort that draws people from all around.

"There are thousands of people that sit out there and watch," he said. "Hearing the end of the show and then hearing those cheers – that's pretty cool."



## Matzkes honored

(continued from page 5)

sure the two attended the kickoff.

"He said 'I didn't want to tell you this... don't tell Chuck, but he is being awarded,' and I said 'OK, I won't tell.""

Jan told Chuck about her accepting the award on behalf of the Civic Center, but not that he was being given the Community Service Award. When the award was called, though, they announced that Jan was being honored as well.

"We got there and they called me up for the Civic Center then when they announced it was me [the Community Service Award winner], I said 'No, that was Chuck!'," Jan said. "I was really surprised because I knew Chuck was getting it, not both of us. Chuck was even more surprised."

Despite knowing half of the secret, the committee still managed to surprise Jan with winning the award. Chuck, according to Jan, had an immediate response to being called up.

"Chuck joked and he said 'So nice to be recognized before we're dead,"" Jan said.

The couple have



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI/MT

Jan and Chuck Matzke hear themselves introduced at the 2022 July Fourth Kickoff event.

participated in dozens of committees and fundraisers throughout the community since coming to Seward. Even before moving back to Seward, they were involved in the community while living in Pawnee City. One of their most notable contributions was their work in starting a rural water district in Pawnee County.

Both Jan and Chuck have been involved with almost every group and committee in Seward.

"We just love Seward," Jan said. "Our grandkids are sixth generation Seward County boys." Since their return to Seward, the Matzkes have been nothing short of amazing. Now that they have been nominated and chosen as the 2022 recipients of the Community Service Award, it's clear that Seward loves the Matzkes as much as the Matzkes love Seward.

"We always look for a person or a couple who have contributed a great deal to the community over a long period of time. And that is the Matzkes," Recording Secretary of the July 4 Committee Jessica Kolterman said. "They're involved in a lot of aspects of the community, as they have been since they moved into town. We're very fortunate to have such great volunteers in them."

The Matzkes have proven their dedication to Seward and their fellow community members, time and time again, project after project.

"They have a knack for showing people why they should invest in Seward," Clark Kolterman said.

Names of all those honored with the award throughout the years can be found on a plaque in the Civic Center or online at www.julyfourthseward.com/seward-county-community-serviceaward.

"We always look for a couple who have contributed a great deal to the community over a long period of time... And that's the Matzkes. We're very fortunate to have such great volunteers in them."

> Jessica Kolterman Recording Secretary of July 4 Committee

## What to do all day

#### Saturday, July 2

7a ★ Self-guided Volkswalk: Sculptures in Seward – See www.julyfourthseward.com for details and maps.

8a ★ Open House: Nebraska National Guard Museum – Free. Gift shop will be open all day.

- 9a \* Antique Market opens Liberty House Bed and Breakfast, 5th and Moffitt
- **10a, 2p ★ Meet the Lincolns and Grants** Free, Jones Bank Theater at Nebraska National Guard Museum.
- 7p \* Presidential Reception and Concert at Museum Featuring music by Heidi and Kevin Cheng. Tickets required (free at the museum).

#### Sunday, July 3

#### Attend the church of your choice.

 
 11a
 ★ Open House: Red Path Gallery – Art shows featuring Pam Apley, Tonya Grosshans, Lois Smith and the late Professor Reinhold Marxhausen: 1–4 p.m.

★ Seward County Historical Society Museum open – 1–5 p.m. Goehner.

2p ★ Children's Pre-Fourth of July Parade – Ridgewood and area senior residences. Line up at Ridgewood east parking lot at 1:30 p.m. No pre-registration required.

 ★ Civil War Leadership with President Abraham Lincoln and General Ulysses S. Grant – Jones Bank Theater of Nebraska National Guard Museum. Discuss views on leadership during the Civil War.
 ★ Meet First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln – Seward Civic Center basement. Coffee/tea and light refreshments. Free.

- **3p \* 1860 Fashion Show Hosted by First Lady Julia Grant** Civic Center basement. Light refreshments. Free.
- 5p ★ Labyrinth Walk for Inspirational Global Change Inner Maker Art Village, 1693 224th Rd. Seward, NE. 5–9 p.m.
- 7p \* Civil War Musical Revue at Seward High Theater Music, enter-
- tainment of the Civil War featuring the Seward Municipal Band. Free.
   **\* Wissmann Family Singers and Friends** Bandshell. Free. In case of bad weather, at Civic Center auditorium.

#### Monday, July 4

7a **\* VFW Auxiliary Community Buffet Breakfast** – VFW Club. Serving 7–11 a.m.

★ Community Breakfast: French Toast and Sausage Feed – Civic Center basement. Serving 7-10 a.m.

★ 2 Mile & 10K Freedom Runs – 14th & Seward St., park entrance. Entry fee. Forms at www.julyfourthseward.com

★ Registration for July 4 Car Show – Entry fee. 7–10 a.m. Corner of 7th & Seward St. Enter from Hwy 34. Contact CJ Novak, 402-646-5214. See www.julyfourthseward.com for more details under events/car show.

★ Lincoln's Great Plains Bicycling Club's Family Day – Bicycle to Brainard/Dwight and back (or a shorter route). Register at Living Word Lutheran Church, 1200 West Hillcrest. Visit www.julyfourthseward.com for more details. Approved bike helmets required. Open to all. Free.

7:30a

- ★ Anvil Firing, Colonial Custom, Seward Volunteer Fire Dept. Zabka Park behind Bandshell, before and after prayer service.
   ★ Reveille (Historic cannon to shoot) and flag raising – Nebraska National Guard Museum.
- ★ Flag Raising Bandshell. Boy Scout USA Troop 256.

★ Community Prayer Service – Bandshell. Featuring Brant Taylor, pastor at Hillcrest Evangelical Free Church. ★ Worship Music – Featuring United Methodist Church praise band.

★ Free Juice & Donuts – Bandshell/Zabka-Perdue Funeral Home.
 ★ Self-guided Volkswalk: Sculptures in Seward, Highlight Sculptures of the Area – See www.julyfourthseward.com for details, maps.
 ★ Information Booth/Guest Register – Register in the guest book. northeast corner of Courthouse Square by Cattle Bank & Trust or in Civic Center.

★ MRC First Aid Station/Cooling for Participants and Pets – Next to the Information Booth on 5th & Seward St.

★ Exhibits open – Free. 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Civic Center.

★ *Marxhausen in the Military* – Photo exhibit of Reinhold Marxhausen's photos during his work as a soldier in the US Army. NE National Guard Museum in the Concordia University center.

★ Camp Creek Threshers and SYA Antique Tractors & Farm Machinery – Jackson Ave., in lot next to Alps Bark Park.

\* Rally 'Round the Flag Art Show – Vote for People's Choice award. Langworthy Gallery, Civic Center.

★ Marxhausen Art Corner – Langworthy Gallery, Seward Civic Center.

★ Open House: Nebraska National Guard Museum – See new exhibits added in 2021. 8 a.m.–5 p.m. 7th & 8th on Jackson Ave. Free. Displays at Nebraska National Guard Museum

- ★ 1776 Soldiers Encampment Front Lawn.
- \* First Nebraska Civil War Encampment Front Lawn.
- ★ Fort Riley Commanding General Mounted Color Guard (events), West Property and Parking Lot

★ Chimes Concert – Seward County Courthouse tower. Chimes 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

★ Family Rest Area – Seward Civic Center. Relax at the quiet and calming West Fireplace Room. Includes children's activities.

**8:30a ★ Best Decorated Bike/Trike Contest** – Bandshell. Ride your bike in the grand parade. Awards/prizes. All ages welcome. Free.

★ Shuttle Trolley Rides – 8:30 a.m.–3:15 p.m., 5–7 p.m. Free. See the map on www.julyfourthseward.com or get a map at the July 4th Information Booth downtown.

 ★ River City Carnival Opens – Seward Civic Center parking lot, 6th St.
 ★ Marxhausen Movies: A Time to See, Findings, and Timelines – To run continuously 9 a.m.–3 p.m., Civic Center Room 3

★ Bottle Rocket Cornhole Tourney – Register at Bottle Rocket Brewery, 230 S. 5th St. For details: 402-646-5847.

★ Book Talk: Nebraska's Bucks and Bulls – The Greatest Stories of Hunting, Dr. Joel Helmer – Bottle Rocket Brewery meeting room. 230 S. 5th Street.

★ Friends of Seward Library Book Sale – 9 a.m.–noon. Seward Memorial Library meeting room. Use west entrance.

★ Food Alley Opens – 5th St. between Seward & Jackson St. Food Booths.

- \* Craft Show: Crafts on the Square opens Courthouse Lawn.
- ★ Antique Market opens Liberty House, 5th & Moffitt St.

★ Miscellaneous Market opens – Along 5th St., between Seward & South Sts.

★ 31st Annual Street Pole Vault Competition – 5th St., in front of Bottle Rocket Brewing Co., between Main and South Sts. Contact Jason Berry, 402-641-4615.

★ Horseshoe Pitching, Herb Downing Memorial Tourney – Seward County Fairgrounds horseshoe pits. Entry fee.

★ Mr. Tobin: Young "Mr. Magic" – Magician. Free. Civic Center Auditorium.

★ Seward Volunteer Fire Department Water Fight – Jackson St. between 3rd & 4th St.

★ Pet Parade/Pet Contest – Bandshell. Free.

★ Historic Walk Around the Square with Jon Keller, author of *Around the Square* – Meet at July 4 Information Booth, 5th & Seward St. One hour.

★ Lecture: The Mildred Adaline Lindsey Story: Escaped Slave Living in Seward County, by Abigail Joers & Faith Riggle – Civic Center East Fireplace Room.

★ Mandela Washington Fellows with UNL Leadership Institute in Civic Engagement – 18 African countries represented. Civic Center AV room.

9:30a **\*** Red Path & Marxhausen Art Exhibit Opens – 9:30 a.m.–4 p.m.

★ LUXE Dance Academy of Lincoln – Dancers/Cloggers. Bandshell.
 ★ Mercy City Church serves free water and lemonade packets –

143 S. 5th St., 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

★ Children's Big Wheel/Hot Cycle Races – In front of Zabka-Perdue Funeral Home, Jackson Ave. & 4th St. No rubber wheels please. Bring your own Big Wheel/Hot Cycle.

★ Car Show Opens – Seward St. between 6th & 8th St.

★ Moolah's Giant 18 ft. Inflated Slide – Cattle Bank & Trust parking lot. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

10a

8a

9a

★ Lecture: Cliff Lowell, It All Started with Columbus – The Evolution of Comedy Through US History Up to the Civil War - Civic Center AV room ★ Hot Dog Feed: Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church – 6th & Bradford. Proceeds go to Blue Valley Community Action. \* Seward's Ukulele Band – Bring your ukulele and join in. Civic Center auditorium. ★ Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room Art Show ★ Cigar Box Guitar artist Stan Luebbe. 10 a.m.-1 p.m., in front of Red Path Gallery, 514 Seward St. ★ Lois Smith-Plein Art: Watch Lois paint in natural light 10 a.m.-1 p.m. ★ Dr. Brent Royuk, 142 Seward Street: Story of a House – Bottle Rocket Brewery, large event room. 230 S. 5th St. 1:30p \* Brewery Walking Tour – Bottle Rocket Distribution Facility, 211 S. 2:00p 4th St. All day starting at 10 a.m. Free. Sign up at Bottle Rocket Brewery. \* Quilt Talk: Fabulous Feedsack Era by Yvonne Hollenback of Clearfield, SD - Cattle Bank & Trust meeting room, 2nd floor (elevator available). ★ Lecture: Dr. Jerry Pfabe, Lutherans, Language and Loyalty in Seward County During World War I, 1917-1918 - Civic Center, East Fireplace Room. ★ Open House: Marxhausen Studio and Concordia Center for Liturgical Art - 10 a.m.-noon. North Columbia Ave. 10:30a \* Martin Albrecht in Concert: Beautiful Music – Violin. Civic Center auditorium \* Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room – Art shows featuring Ne-11a braska artists and the late Reinhold Marxhausen. ★ Meet and Greet with the Lincolns and Grants – Meet with, visit 2:30p with, ask questions of and take photos with the presenters. National Guard Museum 3:00p \* Travelogue: Adventures in the Mediterranean – Sue Imig, Civic **Center AV Room** \* Book Signing: Around the Square, by Jon Keller – Chapters Books and Gifts. 11 a.m.-noon. ★ Historical Talk: Dr. Jerry Pfabe, Lesser Known Crimes in Seward 3:45p County: 1909 to 1948 - Civic Center, East Fireplace Room. ★ Seward County High School Summer Chamber Choir directed 4p by Dr. Kurt Von Kampen – Civic Center auditorium. ★ Pie Festival – Homemade pie and ice cream, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. Civic Center Basement, west room. ★ Sloppy Joe/Yum Yum Feed – Civic Center lower level, serving 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 5p \* Pablo Cervantes Dancers – Bandshell. 11:30a ★ Bubble Gum/Apple Pie Eating Contest – Bandshell. Free. State Championships. No pre-registration. ★ Paul Soulek's Piano Presents A Bit of Patriotism – Civic Center auditorium бр ★ Pause for National Anthem – All over celebration grounds. 12p \* Marxhausen Centennial, Panel Discussion: I Remember Marx -Featuring friends and colleagues of Reinhold Marxhausen in honor of 7p his 100th birthday. Cattle Bank, upstairs meeting room. Surrounded by 8p the Marxhausen Elevator Watercolor collection. Free. ★ Apple Pie Making Demonstration Featuring Della's Famous Apple Pie Recipe - Kathy Hartmann and family. Seward Civic Center, room 2. Free. ★ Luxe Dance Academy of Lincoln – Dancers/Cloggers. Bandshell. ★ Free Movie: Lincoln – PG-13. 2 hours, 30 minutes. War/Drama. At 10p Rivoli Theatre. ★ Patriotic Piano Presentation: God Bless America The Beautiful by Dana Nottingham – Showcasing members of the Seward Kiwanis KiTones. Musical favorites & patriotic song fest. Civic Center auditorium. ★ Lecture: Sue McLain, A Century of Fashion – Civic Center, East Fireplace Room. Featuring clothes of each decade from 1870–1970. ★ Lecture: Stay with the Ukraine, Ukrainians Svitlana Lozova, Olexiy Panfilov, Nikita Panfilov, Olha Tytarenko, Orest Shestak, Alona Guletska and Vitality Guletskiy - Updates and change firstба hand. Civic Center AV room. ★ Quilt Talk: Fabulous Feedsack Era by Yvonne Hollenback of 1p Clearfield, SD - Cattle Bank & Trust meeting room, 2nd floor (elevator available).

\* Meet and Greet with the Lincolns and Grants - Meet with, visit with, ask guestions of and take photos with the presenters. National **Guard Museum** \* Concert: Folk on the Fourth featuring the Todd Family – Civic Center auditorium \* Nebraska Tradition in Family Folk Music by David Seay - Civic Center basement stage ★ Demonstration by Gold Star Martial Arts' Team Velocity – 5th & Seward Sts. \* Concert: Municipal Band, Salute to Sousa – Bandshell. ★ Book Talk: John Keller, 150 Years Around the Square and Photographers of Seward, Nebraska – Civic Center, East Fireplace Room. ★ Piano Concert: Sally Jost – Civic Center auditorium. ★ Time Capsule Trivia at The Pyramid, World's Largest Time Capsule - 3rd St. & Hillcrest Ave. Hosted by Trish Johnson. ★ Harmonica Presentation and Contest – Featuring Dennis Bowers of Malcolm. Prizes. Free to enter. Bring your harmonica. Civic Center basement stage. \* Wissmann Family Singers – Civic Center auditorium. ★ Lecture: Clifford Lowell, Kids Say and Do the Darndest Things – Civic Center AV room. \* Elements Dance Concept of Milford – Bandshell. ★ Book Discussion: Marx and Memory: A Multifaceted Relationship, a discussion of Weary Joy: The Caregiver's Journey by Kim Marxhausen - Civic Center East Fireplace Room. \* Marxhausen Sound Sculptures – With Paul Marxhausen. Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room. 2-3 p.m. ★ Governor's Community Reception Honoring July 4th Dignitaries - St. John Lutheran Church fellowship hall. \* Nebraska Pep Band in Concert: The Red Rooters - Downtown, north side of the square. ★ Book signing: Kim Marxhausen, Weary Joy: The Caregiver's Journey – Red Path Gallery. \* Mr. Tobin: Young "Mr. Magic" – Magician. Free. Bandshell. ★ Duck Dash – 7th & Seward Sts. at the car show area. Ages 12 and under. ★ GRAND PARADE – Begins at 1st St. & Bradford Ave. Goes west on Seward St. to City Park. Visit www.julyfourthseward.com. ★ The Lincolns and Grants will ride in the Grand Parade in horse drawn carriages escorted by the Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard from Fort Riley, Kansas. ★ Beef BBQ Meal/Buffet – Inside Olde Glory. Advance tickets at Seward banks. Tickets also available on site. CK Catering, Olde Glory volunteers ★ VFW Hamburger/Hot Dog Basket Feed – 5–8 p.m. VFW Post 4755, 243 S. 9th St ★ Mayor's Welcome: Crowning Miss Independence and Mr. Firecracker – Seward County Community Service Award. Nebraska's Friend Award. Bandshell. ★ Concert – Bandshell. \* Concert in the Park, feat. Columbus Jazz Orchestra – Plum Creek Park. Free. Stage by Daws Trucking. ★ Extra seating and parking for fireworks following the concert on Middle School grounds and Plum Creek soccer fields. ★ Parachute Jump – Plum Creek Park (weather permitting). Lincoln Sport and Parachute Club. ★ GIANT FIREWORKS SALUTE: A FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA - Plum Creek Park. Tune in to 104.9 MAX Country for music with fireworks. Fireworks lead volunteer/coordinator Darin Urwin, assisted by Curt Coddington & company. Bring a blanket and chair, walk into the park. In case of rain, fireworks will be July 5 at 10 p.m.

#### \*\*\* <u>NO PRIVATE FIREWORKS ALLOWED</u> \*\*\*

#### Tuesday, July 5

5a ★ Clean Up – City of Seward, Seward Scouts, SHS FFA, FBLA, Skills USA, FCCLA, Key Club, 4-H clubs, community volunteers. Meet on north side of the square. Citywide. Keep Seward Beautiful.

#### $\star$ Plan to Spend July 4, 2023, in SEWARD $\star$

## Nebraska's Bucks & Bulls

#### Helmer to share story of book on July 4

Dr. Joel Helmer, geography professor at Concordia University in Seward, will talk about his book, "Nebraska Bucks and Bulls: The Greatest Stories of Hunting Whitetail, Mule Deer and Elk in the Cornhusker State," at 9 a.m. July 4 at the Bottle Rocket Brewery.

Helmer arrived in Seward from Oklahoma in 2007 and he and his wife, Holly, have three children: Will, Harrison and Hannah.

The foreward was written by Randy Stutheit. The book is available at Chapter's Books and Gifts in Seward or contact Helmer.

Under the theme "The

story is as important as the hunt," Helmer will share some highlights from the 68-70 stories on big game in Nebraska featured in the book.

Helmer is a lifelong hunter and hunting goes hand in hand with the study of geography. This is his first book and he is working on another already.

He is a certified member and scorer for the Boon and Crockett Club working with Record Book and explaining how to score the big game in North America, using guns and/or archery. He explained the typical and atypical scoring process and how the big game are scored.



The book was a twoyear process, where he traveled the state meeting people and interviewing families as well as writing emails and making phone calls for stories. He said the book is more than a list of state and national records. It is a collection of hunting stories and more - ecology, history and geography.

Helmer said Nebraska's state awards began in 1962. He worked with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, as they allowed him office space to collect his information.

He said he felt a responsibility to the families once he knew the story, as they wanted their story recorded and included in the collection.

He is most proud of his daughter Hannah Helmer and her story of shooting one of the largest elk in Nebraska.

For more information on the book, email joel. helmer@cune.edu.





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Seward County Independent and The Milford Times



Nebraska's Bucks and Bulls: The Greatest Stories of Hunting with Dr. Joel Helmer, 9 a.m., Bottle Rocket Brewery

The Mildred Adaline Lindsey Story by Abigail Joers and Faith Riggle, 9 a.m., Civic Center East Fireplace Room

142 Seward Street: Story of a House, Dr. Brent Royuk, 10 a.m., Bottle Rocket Brewery

Lutherans, Language and Loyalty in Seward County During World War II, Dr. Jerry Pfabe, 10 a.m., Civic Center East Fireplace Room

Lesser Known Crimes of Seward County: 1909 to 1948, Dr. Jerry Pfabe, 11 a.m., Civic Center East Fireplace Room

Adventures in the Mediterranean, Sue Imig, 11 a.m., Civic Center AV Room

A Century of Fashion, Sue McLain of Humanities Nebraska, noon, Civic Center East Fireplace Room

Stay With the Ukraine, Olexiy Panfilov, Olha Tytarenko and Vitaly Kravets, noon, Civic Center AV Room

150 Years Around the Square and Photographers of Seward, Nebraska, Jon Keller, 1 p.m., Civic Center East Fireplace Room



Kids Say and Do the Darndest Things, Clifford Lowell, 2 p.m., Civic Center V Room

Marx and Memory: A Multifaceted Relationship, Kim Marxhausen, 2 p.m., Civic Center East Fireplace Room

#### Quilt talks Cattle Bank and Trust meeting room

The Fabulous Feed Sack Era, Yvonne Hollenback of Humanities Nebraska, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

#### **Before the Fourth**

Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln and Ulysses and Julia Grant, **July 2**, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Nebraska National Guard Museum

Civil War Leadership with Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses Grant, **July 3**, 2 p.m., Nebraska National Guard Museum

Mary Todd Lincoln, **July 3**, 2 p.m., Seward Civic Center basement

1860 Fashion Show hosted by Julia Grant, **July 3**, 3 p.m., Seward Civic Center basement



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Seward County Independent and The Milford Times

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### **55 years of Nebraskan's Friends** Doug Bereuter to receive Nebraskan's Friend Award for 2022

#### (continued from page 6)

to Monitor and Report on the Transition of Hong Kong (1996-2002), and chairing the House Delegation to the 40-country NATO Parliamentary Assembly, where he presided as its president for two years until November, 2004. His congressional service also included active leadership roles on congressional interparliamentary exchanges with the European Parliament, Japan, Korea, China and the United Kingdom.

Among notable legislative achievements in international affairs, Bereuter was co-author of the Bereuter-Levin Amendment, which made possible the passage of the act granting Permanent Normal Trading Relations for China. He is also responsible for starting the successful USAID Farmers-to-Farmers technical assistance program, which has taken thousands of American volunteers abroad.

In 2004, Congress formally added his name to the title of this program, as it did to two separate domestic programs for federal flood insurance reform and for a home loan guarantee program, which he successfully initiated.

Bereuter and his family have lived for generations in Seward County.

"I'm a native of Utica in Seward County," Bereuter said. "My ancestors came there in the early 1880s. We probably have five or six genera-



tions that have been there."

Bereuter grew up in Utica, visiting Seward often throughout childhood. He played tournaments throughout elementary school, visited the parks and learned how to swim in the Seward Municipal Pool.

"I have a lot of fun memories about Seward," Bereuter said.

Since childhood, Bereuter has made it a point to visit Seward on the Fourth of July.

Bereuter said this year will be his 30th time participating in the annual parade in Seward.

"I started riding in the parades in 1974 while running for state legislature," Bereuter said. "I've only missed one or two since."

During his time in Congress, Bereuter said he went to parades often, COURTESY PHOTO

"This will actually be my 30th time in the Seward Fourth parade. I started riding in the parades in 1974 while running for State Legislature. I've only missed one or two since."

#### Doug Bereuter Recipient of 2022 Nebraskan's Friend Award

though Seward's Fourth of July parade is still his favorite.

"I went to at least 16 parades a year while I was serving in Congress," Bereuter said. "The Fourth of July parade in Seward has always been my favorite. The crowds were nice and my parents were usually there, waving."

Bereuter remembered one Fourth of July in particular when he and someone else rented a plane to attend three different parades in one day, including Seward's.

Bereuter and his family now live in California with an apartment in Lincoln for return visits. He plans to drive out to Seward with his grandson from California for the celebration.

"I look forward to doing it. The crowd is always friendly... and huge," Bereuter said. "Seward deserves to be called the Fourth of July City."

### **Book looks at downtown Seward History**

A new book provides a unique look at the history of Seward's courthouse square. Jon Keller released his book "150 Years Around the Square: A Chronology of Businesses and People Around Seward's Courthouse Square," in 2021.

Keller's work is a historical deep dive and walking tour from Chapter's Books and Gifts clockwise around the square that digs into how the businesses have changed and evolved since the square was built in 1867.

"It's a history of the building, a list of businesses from most recent to past in that building and who operated and worked at the building going back as far as I can," Keller said. "The book takes a look at each side of the square and goes building by building. When I reach the end of the side, I include a section of chronological photographs that shows the evolution of that side of the square and then I move on to the next side."

The pages also offer a notes section for people to record their thoughts and recollections about a business or building.

To compile the lists and histories took nearly 15 months of digging through digital archives of newspapers through the Seward Memorial Library and historical books about Seward. Telephone books, archives at Cattle Bank and personal knowledge filled in some of the gaps.

The final product has very little missing, he said, but he knows there are more stories to be told.

"I think it's fairly good," he said. "I had 97% of the businesses represented but I need to get it out to people to look at it, talk about it and give me feedback to make it more accurate. I want to get it out to the public to get feedback on it and help make it better."

As a Seward native, Keller said he's always appreciated the historical significance of the courthouse square. Through conversations with Jay Cattle and Cattle's hand drawn map of the square with a list of businesses, Keller realized the project would be a valuable resource for curious citizens who had seen the square develop and younger community members who only know it as it sits today.

"A lot of the names I'm familiar with and I think a lot of people will be, too," he said. "It'll be cool for people to say 'I didn't know so and so owned this,' or 'hey, my grandfather owned that business.""

As Keller's book sits, he lists 460 businesses

(continued on page 34)



## World's Largest Time Capsule site of trivia

BY KEATON BURGESS reporter@sewardindependent.com

There will be time capsule trivia at the World's Largest Time Capsule hosted by Trish Johnson, daughter of Harold Davisson, at 2 p.m. on July 4.

Johnson said there would be a series of trivia questions about the time capsule and its history.

The purpose of the time capsule was to show people in 2025 what society was like in 1975.

"Dad was having health problems at the time and wanted his grandkids to be able to remember what he was like," Johnson said.

Johnson suggested people should bring a memory they have of the time capsule with them if they come to the event.

"It sometimes takes a memory to



KEATON BURGESS

The World's Largest Time Capsule will be hosting time capsule trivia on Hillcrest Avenue in Seward on July 4.

remember facts," Johnson said. Johnson said the event is open to anyone. show up for it and refresh their minds on what the time capsule is all about," Johnson said.







The Red Rooters performing in downtown Lincoln.

FILE PHOTO

## Nebraska Alumni Band to play at Seward Fourth of July Celebration

BY KEATON BURGESS reporter@sewardindependent.com

The Nebraska Red Rooters will play at 3 p.m. on the north side of the courthouse and will play through the parade at the Seward Fourth of July celebration.

The Red Rooters includes seven University of Nebraska-Lincoln alumni including Greg Olsen, Scott Spilker, Dave Kentopp, Scott Schlegelmilch, Nancy Schlegelmilch, Terry Ecklund and Mike Morris.

The alumni group usually plays before Husker games and for special events. They decided to play at the Fourth of July celebration once they got the invite.

The group has been playing for over 40 years together and mainly plays Husker fight songs, Dixieland, swing and pop arrangements.



Thank you to those who protect our freedom and preserve our independence! **Description Description Descriptio** 

### Reith's talks covered range of research

**BY EMILY HEMPHILL** emily@sewardindependent.com

The Seward Civic Center will be absent one familiar voice on July 4 this year.

Dr. Louis Reith, a Seward resident, lifelong scholar and long-time Independence Day lecturer, died May 27. He was 82.

Reith was scheduled to give a travelogue, "Discovering the Baltic Countries – Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania," as well as a book review on "Seward: Lincoln's Indispensable Man" by Walter Stahr, during this year's Fourth festivities.

"He was a scholar and for many of the projects

I worked with Louis, he added a sense of 'academics' to the panel or committee," said Clark Kolterman, chair of Seward's Fourth of July Celebration Committee, of which Reith also was a member. "He was so well-traveled, well-read, a good musician and most of all just a kind, nice guy."

Reith grew up in California, Missouri, and attended college in Fort Wayne, Indiana, graduating in 1961 and later earning multiple masters degrees – one in divinity from Concordia Seminary, a Master of Arts degree from Washington University and an M.A. in library science from



Dr. Louis Reith the University of Illinois. He also earned his doctorate in Renaissance/ Reformation History from Stanford University in 1974, completing his doctoral research at Eberhard Karls University of Tuebingen, Germany, from 1969 to 1974.

Reith's career and travels also took him to Greenville, North Carolina, Olean, New York, and Washington, D.C.

"I found him to be a profoundly interesting man who knew so much about so many things," said the Rev. Jo Ellen Axthelm of Seward United Methodist Church.

Axthelm serves as president of the Seward Kiwanis Club, of which Reith was an active member.

"He was always sharing about something he'd read or a recent (continued on page 30)



## Reith

(continued from page 29) trip where he saw or learned new things. I was looking forward to a program he was working on about a trip he took last summer. He'd shared some of the highlights with me but wanted to share the details and pictures with all of us soon," Axthelm said.

Reith's areas of scholarly research included the Lutheran Reformation in Germany and Central Europe, modern German intellectual and cultural history, and the history of Czechoslovak music and culture.

His interest in Czech history and culture led him to take Czech classes from the University of Nebraska in Lincoln.

He published articles and book reviews in several journals, including the American Historical Review, Church History and the Sixteenth Century Journal. He belonged to a variety of professional associations and served on the boards of several of them.

Reith was active in Lutheran churches wherever he lived, including St. John Lutheran Church in Seward. He also served as organist at many of them, most recently at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Seward.

After he retired, Reith participated in the St. John Lutheran Church choir, the Lincoln Lutheran Choir and the Seward Kiwanis KiTones. He also sang with the Lincoln Abendmusik chorus.

"Louis was a valued and appreciated member of the Seward Kiwanis at noon. He played the piano weekly as we are known as a Kiwanis group who sings each week," Axthelm said. "He regularly read for Head Start and helped with bingo at the local senior homes. I'm sure he's done much over the years for both the betterment of our club and the members."

Additionally, Reith was an active reader and judge for youth quiz bowls, speech competitions and essay contests.

"He was insightful

and loved to work with youth," Kolterman said, adding that Reith often helped interview students applying to Stanford University. "He volunteered to represent Seward at a host of conferences, such as the Keep Seward Beautiful Committee and the Nebraska State Travel Conference, but he also attended conferences worldwide on a host of topics of interest to him." Kolterman said.

Reith traveled to France with the Nebraska National Guard Museum, which led to him becoming a volunteer at the museum.

Another Seward resident, Sue Imig, will (continued on page 32)



<image><section-header>

### Museum open Sunday

The Seward County Historical Society museum in Goehner will be open for visitors Sunday, July 3, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Among the displays is this flag, created in 1868 for Seward's Fourth of July celebration. According to W.W. Cox, an early Seward County historian: "A flag staff was found in an adjoining grove, and our fair women hastily made a flag."

Martha Ann Hickman kept the flag and handed it down to her cousins, E.M. and Lizzie Hickman. Their daughter, Jenny Ramsey, inherited it and passed it on to her daughter, Elizabeth Ramsay Hicks. It came to Roland and Margaret Ramsey upon her death, and their daughter, Marian Ramsay Fosler, gave it to the museum.





### Committee puts celebration together



STEPHANIE CROSTON/SCI/MT

Members of the 2022 Fourth of July Committee include, from left: (first row) Angelina Stinson, Culleen Bauer, Sharon Hambek, Jessica Kolterman, Sarah Ehlers, Tonia Nantkes and Jill Kruse; (second row) Steve Hambek, Alan Bauer, Cliff Lowell, Lois Kimsey, Kristin Meredith, Riley Nuttleman, Darrel Zabrocki, Brian Peters and Clark Kolterman; and (third row) Gerald Homp, Darin Urwin, Kent Chrisp, William Kimsey, Cody Meredith, C.J. Novak and Jerry Meyer.

### Reith

(continued from page 32) fill the travelogue opening on the schedule at 11 a.m. in the Civic Center AV Room. She will speak about her adventures in

the Mediterranean. A different book talk is being planned for the 1 p.m. slot but is yet to be confirmed.

Though the lecture spots will be filled, Kolterman said Reith's affect on the Seward community and far beyond will be remembered for a long time to come.

"Louis will be missed," Kolterman said, "and his influence will be missed, too."



## Lindsey's journey to Seward

*Editors note: The Mildred Adaline Lindsey Story: Escaped Slave Living in Seward County lecture will be at the Civic Center East Fireplace Room, at 9 a.m.* 

#### **BY EMILY HEMPHILL**

emily@sewardindependent.com

Adaline Lindsey holds a prominent place in Seward's history, but few people in recent generations have heard her name.

Two Concordia University students are working to change that.

Abigail Joers and Faith Riggle are working with the Seward County League of Women Voters and CU's Student Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity to recognize Adaline's contributions to the Seward community.

Their goal is to raise awareness and enough money to give Adaline a marker at the site of her currently unmarked grave in Seward's north cemetery.

Joers and Riggle have researched Adaline's life through clippings of the Blue Valley Blade, Milford Nebraskan and Nebraska Reporter newspapers, as well as through a brief biography of Adaline Lindsey in W.W. Cox's 1888 book, "History of Seward County, Nebraska."

Adaline was born into slavery as Mildred A. Dorsey on Oct. 20, 1837, in Marion County, Missouri.

Between 1840 and 1860, she learned to read and write – though slaves were prohibited from doing so.

She eventually married Robert Taylor, but the two were separated in 1856. That same year, Adaline was beaten nearly to death, sustaining injuries from which she would never fully recover.

In 1862, Adaline and her 6-year-old son escaped, stealing their master's horse and saddle and riding 80 miles to safety in Hannibal, Missouri, until they could continue to Galesburg, Illinois.

In 1863, Adaline converted to the Methodist Episcopal church and worked extensively with the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Galesburg.

She married James A. Tate, then moved with him to Seward, where she became a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1884, Adaline married Baxter Lindsey.

She became a leading member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, which largely focused on maintaining the prohibition of alcohol, but also campaigned for labor laws, prison reform and suffrage – the right to vote.

Adaline died in her home on April 25, 1886, from excess fluid in her body tissue, a result of her weakened immune system from the injuries she sustained as a young woman.

Joers said throughout the research process, she and Riggle had trouble finding many resources that mentioned Adaline or other African American women.



COURTESY PHOTO

Mildred Adaline Lindsey is presumed to be buried in the original north section of the Seward Cemetery, but cemetery records are vague. Additional verification is needed before a grave marker can be placed to honor her contributions to the community.

"Many African American women were participating, but they were left out of the main process of suffrage and were used as a bargaining chip to get women the right to vote," Joers said.

Adaline's obituary, written by the pastor of her church, mentioned her extensive contributions and involvement in the organizations to which she belonged.

Adaline is believed to be buried in an unmarked grave in the Seward Cemetery.

Cemetery records show an "M. Lindsay," with a different spelling of the last name, but the birth and death dates are listed as unknown.

Joers and Riggle are working with a local funeral home to verify the exact location of her remains so that a grave marker may be placed at the site.

Concordia's Student Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity is helping with the fundraising to pay for the marker.

Those interested in making a donation may contact Prof. Tobin Beck at tobin.beck@cune.edu or call (402) 643-7343.

### 150 Years Around the Square

#### (continued from page 26)

and more than 600 employees and ownders. Keller said he had an idea of the magnitude of the project but realized it was more overwhelming than he coul've imagined.

"The most surprising thing for me was the sheer number of businesses in a certain location," he said. "When you're talking about buildings from the 1870s or 1880s up to the present, that could be a lot of businesses in one location."

But what that research showed was a resilient community with individuals who strived to make sure Seward was always thriving and growing.

"It takes a lot of people to make a good community and I think this illustrates how many people were involved making Seward what it is today," he said.

Though daunting at times, Keller said the book was an enjoyable walk down memory lane and an opportunity to better know a significant area for Seward.

"It was fun. It allowed me to make a few trips back to Seward to take pictures and talk to people and get feedback," he said. "It was enjoyable because it connected me to the community a little more closely than I had been in the past."



COURTESY PHOTO

Jon Keller pauses for a photo at Chapter's Books and Gifts during a signing on Dec. 2, 2021.



### Marxhausen

(continued from page 14) the big things and in between."

In 2000, The Marxhausen Gallery of Art at Concordia University was founded and named after Marxhausen. It is located in Jesse Hall and hosts artists, art professionals, screenings, exhibitions, performances and conversations. All of this is done with the aim of bringing the campus art community and local residents together, according to Concordia University.

Concordia also established the Reinhold P. Marxhausen archive, which is the permanent archive of art and other materials related to Marxhausen's life and career.

The events and exhibits the Seward Art Council is putting on

for the Fourth of July include his art from his time in the military, his sound sculptures, films, opportunities to speak with his loved ones and more. A complete list can be found below.

"He's one of the most famous of our artists from Seward, so I think it's really important that we honor his legacy here," Wiemer said.

#### Marxhausen events on the Fourth of July :

**8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**: Marxhausen in the Military - A photo exhibit of Marxhausen's photos of POWs, taken during his time as a soldier in the US army. The exhibit will also include video footage he took and his military uniform. Located at the Nebraska National Guard Museum in its Concordia University center.

Marxhausen Art Corner - An exhibit of some of Marxhausen's key art pieces. Located at the Langworthy Gallery, Seward Civic Center.

**9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**: Marxhausen Movies: "A Time to See," "Findings" and "Timelines" - The films run continuously. Located in room 3 of the Civic Center.

**9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.**: Red Path & Marxhausen Art Exhibit- Marxhausen art exhibit. Located at Red Path Gallery.

**10 a.m. - noon**: Open House: Marxhausen Studio and Concordia Liturgical Art Center. Located on North Columbia Avenue.

**11 a.m.**: Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room - Art shows featuring Nebraskan artists, including Reinhold Marxhausen.

**Noon**: Marxhausen Centennial, Panel Discussion: I Remember Marx - Discussion featuring friends and colleagues of Reinhold Marxhausen in honor of his 100th birthday. Located in the upstairs meeting room at Cattle Bank.

**2 p.m.**: Book Discussion: Marx and Memory: A Multifaceted Relationship - A discussion of the book "Weary Joy: The Caregiver's Journey" by Kim Marxhausen, who is Marxhausen's daughter-in-law. Located in the Civic Center East Fireplace Room.

Marxhausen Sound Sculptures - An exhibit of Marxhausen's sound sculptures and a chance to talk with Marxhausen's son, Paul. Located in the Red Path Gallery and Tasting Room.

**3 p.m.**: Book signing: Kim Marxhausen, "Weary Joy: The Caregiver's Journey." Located in the Red Path Gallery.



## Little ones Fourth of July parade



FILE PHOTO

Kids and parents came decked out in red, white and blue to walk in the childrens paradein 2021. This year's children's parade will be Sunday, July 3, at 2 p.m. Line up in the Ridgewood parking lot at 1:30 p.m. Preregistration is not required.



FILE PHOTO

The Children's Parade route walked by many different assisted living facilities.



FILE PHOTO

Many residents of the assisted living facilities watched and waved as the children walked by.



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## Rolling in style for Fourth of July





Children exit the stage following the trike and bike decorating contest and parade July 4.

### Sweet street rides



Bikes and trikes were adorned with red, white and blue for a contest at the bandshell July 4. Children were given awards for biggest and smallest bike, the most patriotic and the funniest.



Above: This entry in the 2021 car show demonstrated its owner's Husker pride. The 2022 car show registration is open at 7 a.m. Show begins at 10 a.m. Top left: A 1970 Chevelle owned by Scott Pullen of Omaha draws attention at the July 4 car show. Pullen earned second place in the 1970-73 modified division. The 2022 car show will open at 9:30 a.m.





# Stay active on July Fourth



Competitor Julius Dickmander wins the men's open class pole vault with a vault of 15-2. The 31st annual pole vault will be contested starting at 9 a.m. on Fifth Street in front of Bottle Rocket Brewery. Contact Jason Berry at (402) 641-4615 for more information.

FILE PHOTO Competitor Zach Bradford warming up before the 2021 pole





FILE PHOTO The 2 mile competitors are lined up and ready to run in the 2021 Freedom Run. The 2022 race starts July 4 at 7 a.m.



FILE PHOTO

The 10k racers are off and running in 2021. The 2022 10K Freedom Run will be July 4 at 7 a.m. starting by the Dowding Municipal Pool. Registration forms are available at www. julyfourthseward.com.

### **NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD MUSEUM**



## Schedule of Events

#### Saturday, July 2

- 10:00 a.m. Meet the Lincolns and Grants Chautauqua style presentations in the Jones Bank Theater. Sponsored by Van and Becky Vahle and Berry Law Firm.
- 2:00 p.m. Meet the Lincolns and Grants Chautauqua style presentations in the Jones Bank Theater. Sponsored by Van and Becky Vahle and Berry Law Firm.
- 7:00 p.m. Presidential Reception on the main floor of the Museum – President Abraham Lincoln and First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln. General Ulysses and Julia Grant. Ticketed event (FREE). Tickets available at the NENG Museum (limited seating). Music by Kevin and Heidi Cheng. Sponsored by Chuck and Jan Matzke.

#### Sunday, July 3

- 2:00 p.m. Civil War Leadership with President Lincoln and General Grant in the Jones Bank Theater. Limited Seating. Hosted by Greg and Dixie Zabka.
- 2:00 p.m. Meet First Lady Mary Todd Lincoln at the Seward Civic Center basement. Hosted by the GFWC Seward Woman's Club.
- 3:00 p.m. 1860 Fashion Show Hosted by First Lady Julia Grant in the Seward Civic Center basement. Hosted by the GFWC Seward Woman's Club.
- 7:00 p.m. Civil War Revue at the Seward High School Auditorium. Live talent and entertainment from the Civil War era (1860's). Featuring the Seward Municipal Band. Sponsored by the NENG Historical Society.

#### Monday, July 4

- 8:00 a.m. Encampments 1776 Revolutionary Soldiers, First Nebraska and Iowa Artillery Soldiers (Civil War) with horses.
- 11:00 a.m. Meet and Greet with the Lincolns and Grants on the main floor of the Museum. Chance for patrons to talk with the actors and get photographs. Sponsored by Van and Becky Vahle and Berry Law Firm.
- 1:00 p.m. Meet and Greet with the Lincolns and Grants on the main floor of the Museum. Chance for patrons to talk with the actors and get photographs. Sponsored by Van and Becky Vahle and Berry Law Firm.
- 4:00 p.m. GRAND PARADE entries: President and Mrs. Lincoln, General and Mrs. Grant, 1776 and Civil War Soldiers and horses, Vehicles: Jeeps and Half-Track.

#### www.nengm.org

Check us out on Facebook











#### Nebraska National Guard Museum 201 N. 8th Street • Seward, NE 402.309.8763

HOURS OF OPERATION: 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. weekdays Saturday: 10 am - 2 pm from May to September Closed on Sunday, federal and state holidays

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