



## Mayor's Wall of Fame

The "Mayor's Wall of Fame" project began in the mid-1980s and was completed in the early 1990s. Of the 42 people who served the City of Seward as Mayor from 1876 to present day, we were fortunate to have received 32 of their pictures. From 1870 to 1876 several individuals also held the position of Chair at one time or another. Those individuals were: Dr. L. Walker, George Crumb, W. L. Tuttle, Orson Olmstead, G. W. Whiting, V. Daniels, and S. Stevenson. We do not have pictures of them.

The list below represents the names and terms for the Mayors from that time forward for which we do NOT have pictures. As you are reading this, if you know of anyone who might have a picture of the individuals named below, or the individuals listed above as "Chairs", please have them contact Administrator Assistant/Clerk-Treasurer Debra Schaefer at 402-643-2928 or [Deb.Schaefer@cityofsewardne.com](mailto:Deb.Schaefer@cityofsewardne.com).

P. A. Castle	1873
Thomas Graham	1874
Ed McIntyre	1875; 1877; 1886/87
Charles Barkley	1880
W. G. Whitcomb	1881/83
A. C. Reynolds	1885
W. B. Barrett	1888
C. E. Holland	1893/94
William Redford	1898/99
W. T. Sounders	1914

Some interesting facts:  
Mayor Roger E. Glawatz holds the title of longest serving Mayor with 15 years of service, narrowly beating out Mayor George Thomas who served the City a total of 14 years.

While serving as Mayor, G. A. Merriam was murdered by his ex-son-in-law in December of 1920.

In December of 1991, Mayor Fred Welsh passed away while he was

in office, and Council President, Roger E. Glawatz, was called to City Hall to be sworn into office.

The earliest "Board of Trustees" meetings were held at the office of Dr. S. Walker. Thereafter, they were held in the office of the Town Clerk, the Town Hall, or the Council Chambers.

At one time the City Council Chambers were located in the rooms above Moore's Funeral Parlor which was located at 626 Seward Street above what is now known as Merle's Flower Shop. Later on, City Hall was located in a building on the north 1/2 of Lot 8, Block 8, Seward Original Town Addition. This property is located on the west side of North 7th Street, in the lot between what is now Herpolsheimer's at 702 Seward Street, and Dr. Richard Rolfmeier's Dental Office at 137 North 7th Street.

From September of 1909 until March of 1988, City Council meetings were held upstairs in the City Hall Building at 537 Main Street. The City Council now meets at the Municipal Building which is located at 142 North 7th Street. This is where the "Mayor's Wall of Fame" is located.



## Green Thumb Volunteers Wanted

The City of Seward Public Properties Department is looking for volunteers to help maintain “The Garden” landscape area at the trailhead of Seward’s Plum Creek Trail.

“The Garden” was constructed in 2004 at the entrance to the Seward Sports Complex to provide a place for residents to relax and enjoy beautiful floral displays, shrubs, trees and water features.

Due to personnel cutbacks, the Public Properties Department will not have time to give proper care to the area so that it achieves its full beauty. Volunteers will be helping with spring and fall cleanup, planting annuals, watering, weeding, and deadheading flowers as well as picking up trash.

If you are interested in helping out, please call the Recreation Department at 643-3511 and ask about our Green Thumb Volunteer Program.



## Recreation Department

The summer programs for youth in Seward begin May 1. Baseball and softball games start the end of May and run through July. There are tournaments scheduled at Plum Creek Park nearly every weekend through July. The Seward Baseball Association will host the Class B, Area 4 American Legion Senior Baseball Tournament starting July 22. Come out to the ballpark for some fun, and cheer on your favorite team.

The Recreation Department’s tennis program will be in full swing this spring and again in the fall. Anyone

interested in playing should call the Recreation Office for more information. This was a program that started last year and was a “hit” with the participants. No matter what your skill level is, you can join in the fun. The Recreation Department will also offer a program for tennis lessons this year.

With the new sand volleyball court completed at Plum Creek Park the Recreation Department would like to start a summer/fall adult sand volleyball league. The court is lighted and is a great addition to an already amazing park.

## Seward’s Dowding Pool Opens Season in May

Dowding Municipal Pool will open on Memorial Day, which is Monday, May 31. Swimming lessons begin in June and there will be three different sessions. The pool is a great and inexpensive way to get some exercise or to just have a good time. If you have any questions about rules or regulations, please contact one of our qualified staff members or go online to [www.cityofsewardne.com](http://www.cityofsewardne.com). Information about hours, rules, swim lessons and the water exercise classes can be found on the website.

There will be a few changes at the pool this summer. The concession area will sport new vending machines, and there will be security cameras installed at the pool. Swimming lesson sign-up is set for Thursday, May 13 at the Seward Civic Center. Forms will be handed out at the Seward schools and will also be available at the Recreation Department Office.

## The Cattle Bank Athletic Training Facility

The Cattle National Bank held an open house in the new Athletic Training Facility on March 28. The facility has been in use since January 1. Presently there are 19 teams using the building for indoor practices. It is a great addition to Plum Creek Park and for the youth of the community. The new facility was funded almost entirely by private donations and volunteers.



The Recreation Department has a special GAME LINE phone number for rain-out or weather-related cancellations. The line is capable of fielding a number of calls at once. Call 643-9574 after 4:00 p.m. for rain-out information.

## City of Seward Contact Information

<b>City Hall</b>	537 Main St		Mon. – Fri.	7:00 am – 4:00 pm
Utilities		643-2927		
Mayor, Administrator, Clerk		643-2928		
<b>Building/Zoning Department</b>	537 Main St	643-4869	Mon. – Fri.	7:00 am – 4:00 pm
<b>Civic Center</b>	616 Bradford St	643-4470	Mon. – Fri.	8:00 am – 4:00 pm
<b>Dowding Municipal Pool</b>	14th and Seward St.	643-4674	<i>General Swim Hours</i>	
			Mon. – Sat.	Noon – 5:00 pm
			Mon. – Sat.	6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
			Sunday	1:00 pm – 6:00 pm
			<i>Adult Swim Hours</i>	
			Mon. – Sat.	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
			Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 9:30 am
<b>Electric Department</b>	1345 River St	643-3151	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
<b>Fire Department</b>	222 N 3rd St	643-3811		
<b>Library</b>	233 S 5th St	643-3318	<i>Summer Hours: May 1 – August 31</i>	
			Mon. – Wed.	9:00 am – 6:00 pm
			Thursday	9:00 am – 8:00 pm
			Friday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm
			Saturday	9:00 am – Noon
<b>Police Department (non-emergency)</b>		643-2579		
Office Hours	148 S 1st St		Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
<b>Public Works Department</b>			Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Public Properties Division				
Park Shop	142 N 7th St	643-3971		
Cemeteries	N Highway 15	643-2053		
Street Division	142 N 7th St	643-4000		
Burnsite	S Highway 15	643-4000		
			<i>April – November</i>	
			Each Saturday	8:00 am – Noon
			<i>December – March</i>	
			1st Saturday	8:00 am – Noon
Recycling Center	340 S 7th St	643-3003	Tuesday	10:00 am – 1:00 pm
			Thursday	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
			Saturday	9:30 am – 11:30 am
<b>Recreation Department</b>	537 Main St	643-3511	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm
Game Information Line		643-9574		
<b>Senior Center</b>	1010 Manor Dr W	643-4466	Mon. – Fri.	9:30 am – 3:30 pm
<b>Senior Shuttle</b>	1010 Manor Dr W	643-3177	Mon. – Fri.	9:30 am – 3:30 pm
<b>Water/Wastewater Department</b>	1040 S Columbia Ave	643-3433	Mon. – Fri.	7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Please visit the Seward City Website:

[www.cityofsewardne.com](http://www.cityofsewardne.com)

or send an email:

[info@cityofsewardne.com](mailto:info@cityofsewardne.com)

## Street Department Will be Repairing

This summer the Street Department has many concrete street repair projects. Most of the areas are large and may take some time to complete, so residents should be patient if work is being done in their neighborhood.

There will not be a tree trimming program this year. The entire city was completed last summer.

The Street Department will be purchasing a new tractor this summer to replace an old one. The one currently owned is used for mowing city rights-of-way along streets, city owned lots, and the flood levee.

## NPPD Sponsoring Refrigerator Recycling Program

Recycling your old refrigerator or freezer in working condition is easy. You'll get a \$35 incentive, and you'll save up to \$100 a year in lower energy costs.

JACO Environmental will haul your old unit away free of charge.  
For a pickup, call 1-866-444-9160  
or visit [www.jacoinc.net](http://www.jacoinc.net).



The City offers easy, efficient payment of your monthly utility bill. Billings are mailed around the 1st of each month, with automatic deduction from your bank account on the 15th. A bank deduction form is available on the City's website [www.cityofsewardne.com](http://www.cityofsewardne.com), under the City Hall & Utility Office link.

## A Summer Message From the Building Department

The spring season is finally here! As with every year, the spring season also means the start of home improvement projects. The City of Seward Building Department wants to remind everyone that we are here to help with all your home improvement project questions. No matter how big or how small the project is, we can help by providing information about the applicable building codes, zoning regulations, and whether or not a building permit is required.

With the use of our new Geographical Information System (GIS), the Building



Department can also provide instant information about zoning districts, flood zones, utility line locations and setback distances.

A building permit is required for most improvement projects with a valuation of \$500.00 or more. Some examples of improvement projects that require a building permit are: fences, accessory structures (sheds, garages), decks, re-roofing, basement finishes and window replacements.

Some examples of projects that do not need a building permit are: flat concrete work (sidewalks, driveways, patios), floor coverings (carpet, tile, wood), painting, wall paper, storm doors, storm windows and gutters.

If you are unsure if a permit is required or have a question, please call prior to commencement of construction.

The Seward City Council recently approved the adoption of the 2006 International Property Maintenance



Code (IPMC), which will assist City officials in addressing a wide range of issues such as: nuisance property conditions, abandoned properties, dilapidated or dangerous structures, maintenance of private utility systems, not having a visible address at a property and more.

The Seward Building Department is located at City Hall, 537 Main St. (2nd floor), and is open Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Staff can be reached at 643-4869 or 643-9059.

## Civic Center News

The Seward Civic Center has been very busy this year with numerous meetings. Quiz Bowls, recitals, art contests and other school activities were hosted as well as the regular meetings of organized groups such as Kiwanis, GFWC Seward Woman's Club, GFWC Seward Junior Woman's Club and Seward Area Chamber of Commerce. We are happy to have such a beautiful building like the Seward Civic Center where groups can meet with no fee. Many communities are not as fortunate, and do not have a building like the one in Seward.

This past year three new air conditioners were put in and other equipment was purchased for the building. The carpet will soon be replaced in the Audio Visual Room and in the hallways in the first building. The commission has also purchased new Power Point equipment. If there is a piece of equipment needed for your program presentation in the building, all you have to do is call and request this before your meeting.

Thanks goes to Wayne Clover and Gary Wolter, who keep the building and the lawns in great shape. Those using the building thank them for keeping the sidewalks and drives clear this past winter. This was a big job.

Remember to call and make an appointment ahead of time before coming to meet in the Seward Civic Center. To make appointments call 402-643-4470 on weekdays between 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The Seward Civic Center Commission meets the second Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. in Room 3.

## Waste Water Renovation 2010

On February 16, the City Council authorized the Water/Wastewater Department to go out for bids on the Wastewater Plant renovation. This project will be phase one of a three-phase project. It consists of replacing the bar screen, trickling filter arms and both primary clarifier drive mechanisms, working on some digester holding tank repairs and adding an ultraviolet disinfection system.

The bar screen is the first treatment process as the raw sewage enters the plant. It's basically a giant rake that combs through the incoming waters. It will also have a new feature that washes the debris removed. The washed debris looks like a giant tube of white toilet paper. The new bar screen will be an asset to the maintenance crew and won't attract as many pests.

The trickling filters consist of pivot arms dumping sewage over a bunch of rocks. On the rocks is a film of microorganisms called a zoogeal mass. This mass digests organics (aka sewage waters) using oxygen as part of their metabolic process. Another part of the plant digests organics using anaerobic (without oxygen) microorganisms. The new system will have automated arms that will more or less be self-cleaning. The domes over the

trickling filter will also be recoated to prevent deterioration.

The only new addition, as opposed to renovation/replacement of existing equipment, will be the UV (ultra violet) light system. It will be in operation from April 1 to September 30, the recreational season when the general public might be using the Blue River. This system will break down the RNA of all microorganisms being discharged from the Wastewater Plant.

Finally, the holding tank will be refurbished and modified. Among the changes will be some modifications to make the sludge thicker and some energy efficiency improvements. Thicker sludge means fewer tanker truck loads of sludge to be hauled off.

If bids come in low, additional scope of work may be added to monitoring and controlling the processes through an automated controls system called SCADA. The estimated completion date is set for December 2010 with all cleanup and landscaping set for spring 2011. The Water/Wastewater Department is excited about this much needed replacement that will keep Seward's rivers clean and provide reliable infrastructure to keep Seward's economy humming.



## Police Department Activities, Updates and Reminders

There were some staff changes in the Seward Police Department during 2009. Brian Peters was promoted to Lieutenant and Keith Sedlak was promoted to Sergeant. The Seward Police Department's 2009 activities include making 248 arrests, 2619 written violator contacts and working over 3,045 calls for service. Those numbers do not include verbal warnings, red tag warnings for parking violations and yellow tag warnings for animal or nuisance violations.

During this school year the Seward Police Department participated in City Government Day educating the Seward High School 11th graders in many areas. The students were participants in this educational process as they asked prepared questions.

The Seward Police Department also participated in a training exercise with the Civil Air Patrol. They tested their ability to communicate with officers in the air as well as on the ground while accomplishing training exercise tasks.

During the summer months alcohol violations, related crimes and incidents increase. When the Fourth of July is part of a weekend, it offers special challenges. Those challenges were experienced last year and will be present again this year. With the increase of summer activities comes the need for added caution.

Fireworks create a variety of experiences and challenges. The Seward Police Department reminds everyone that City Ordinances should be followed regarding the ignition of fireworks. Fireworks may be sold on June 28 through July 4. Fireworks may be discharged from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. On the Fourth of July they may be discharged until midnight. The discharging of fireworks is prohibited within one block of the parade route for the period of time commencing one hour before the start of the parade and ending one-half hour after the time the parade is finished. The discharging of fireworks is also prohibited in or into any park or onto any public property within the municipality for the period of time commencing two hours before and ending one-half hour after any public event such as, but not limited to, concerts and public fireworks displays. Fireworks safety should always be practiced. A list of fireworks related City Ordinances is available on the City of Seward web site under municipal codes chapter 6.

A final reminder from the Police Department addresses summer signage. Election signs and garage sale signs should not be placed on the city rights-of-way, other city property or utility poles.

The Seward Police Department hopes everyone who lives in or visits Seward during the summer and fall of 2010 has a safe experience.



*Seward chief of police, Alan Baldwin, poses with a Civil Air Patrol pilot.*

## Attention

The City Hall Utility Drop Box has been moved from its current location. It is still in the alley on the south side of City Hall, but it has been moved further west, a little past the first entrance to the library parking lot.



## Technology at the Senior Center

Seward's Lied Senior Center has made use of the City's website at [www.cityofsewardne.com](http://www.cityofsewardne.com) to post information concerning what's available to seniors through the Center. Each month, a calendar of activities and noon meals, available Monday through Friday, are updated on the web site.

In 2009, a Wii System was purchased for use by seniors at the Lied Senior Center, making a variety of activities available through the system.



## Seniors...Need Transportation?

The Seward Senior Shuttle provides transportation for senior citizens in Seward who are 60 years of age or older and are ambulatory. Transportation is provided within the city limits of Seward and two miles beyond. Hours of operation are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. When the Senior Center is closed because of bad weather, the shuttle does not run.

The headquarters for the Seward Senior Shuttle are at the Lied Senior Center located at 1010 Manor Drive West. Reservations may be made by calling 402-643-3177 between 9:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Sixteen volunteers are scheduled as drivers. Twelve senior volunteers are scheduled to provide the phone service for reservations.

The cost of transportation to seniors is \$1.00 each way and the same for each

stop. No tax money is involved in the Senior Shuttle operation.

A big “thank you” goes to Todd of Heyen’s Service for providing periodic shuttle maintenance, free of charge.

Seward’s Lied Senior Center is in need of volunteers. If you are available, please contact Bob or Nona at the Center, 402-643-4466.



*LeRoy Dittmar and Max Farney, volunteer drivers who usually drive twice a week, pose by the Senior Shuttle as volunteer driver Ben Chaffin peers from the window.*

## Load Management Information

Have you ever wondered what those little gray boxes are doing on central air conditioning units around your neighborhood?

As of June 1, 1996 load management control devices are installed on any new or replacement air conditioning systems. The City of Seward furnishes, installs, and maintains all of the equipment. So what is load management?

Load management reduces peak electric demand during the hottest afternoons of the summer when air conditioning load is the greatest. Load is the measure of demand placed by consumers on an electrical system at any given time. The Load Management Program is a tool used to balance electrical supply and demand. The goal is to keep the amount of electricity

used in balance with the amount of power generated. In the long run this saves both the utility and consumer money. So how does it work?

The load control switches (the little gray boxes) are separated into four addresses. During periods of peak electrical usage one address is selected and the compressor motor on those air conditioning unit turns off for seven minutes. Since each switch controls only the compressor, the circulating fan can continue to operate keeping your home cool and comfortable.

Currently there are over 1250 load control units installed in the Seward system. With Seward’s increasing population and housing, not only must these units be maintained, but the number of units installed annually

should increase. Load management control devices may not be disconnected without prior approval by the City of Seward. When installing a replacement central air conditioning unit a mechanical permit is required which can be acquired at the City of Seward’s Building Inspection/Zoning Office.



## Summer Will be a Splash at the Library

Because reading during the summer enriches young minds, Seward Memorial Library encourages the community to “Make a Splash – READ!” this summer. This is the theme for the 2010 children’s summer reading program during June and July. Registration for every program is required and will begin on Wednesday, May 19. Sign up by calling 643-3318, stopping by the library or visiting the website at: [www.sewardlibrary.org](http://www.sewardlibrary.org).

The popular Reading Club begins June 1 when participating children track their reading and earn rewards. Story Time for children ages 4-6 will be in the mornings during two weeks in June and also two weeks in July. Toddler Time for three year olds will be offered for three days in June and repeated in July. Children in grades K-4 may sign up for one-hour after-

noon sessions which begin at 1:30 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays during three weeks in June and three weeks in July. Children may pick and choose which dates they would like to attend. On Thursday mornings chess players in grades 1-8 are invited to participate in matches at 11:00 a.m. Movies for children in grades K-6 will be shown most Friday afternoons.

Seward Memorial Library will sponsor two special family events this summer. On Friday, June 25, Adam White will treat children to some summer magic at Seward High School. The annual summer reading program finale will be a “Pool Party” for all program participants and their families at Seward’s Dowding Municipal Pool on Sunday, July 25. The winner of the annual community promotion will be announced during the evening

along with recognizing the Reading Club achievements of the children. Everyone is sure to “Make a Splash” while enjoying the library this summer! Don’t miss out.

