



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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~ M E D I A O P P O R T U N I T Y ~

**MAYOR LUNDBERG TO JOIN SPRINGFIELD
ROTARY'S CELEBRATION
OF OLDEST LIVING SPRINGFIELD MAYOR**

Former Mayor Claude Gerlach served as Springfield Mayor from 1945-1948

Springfield Mayor Christine Lundberg, will join members of Springfield Rotary Club to celebrate the 100th birthday of Claude Gerlach. Mr. Gerlach is not only Springfield's oldest living mayor, but is the final living charter member of Springfield Rotary Club.

Mr. Gerlach moved to Springfield in 1937 and opened Gerlach's Drug Store located in the Main Street building currently occupied by Emerald Arts Center. At the beginning of Claude's tenure as mayor, the population was 3,800 people and the city limits extended to 19th Street. As mayor he supported the installation of sewers past 10th Street, supported the annexation of the area from 19th to 31st Streets, oversaw the adoption of the City Manager System and the formation of the Central Lane Planning Organization which brought the first land use planning to the region.

What: Claude Gerlach's 100th birthday

When: Thursday, April 4 at 9:45

Where: 483 River View Blvd., Springfield

Additional: The location of this event is at Mr. Gerlach's home. Media members are encouraged to attend - please do not broadcast Mr. Gerlach's home address. Thank you.