

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Volume 11, No. 5, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, April 25, 2018

Memorial Day services planned

Readlyn VFW Post 5661 and the Ladies Auxiliary will observe Memorial Day with graveside services at St. Matthew's Cemetery at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 28.

At 10:30 a.m. a parade will take place on Main Street beginning at the Historical Building, with the Wapsie Valley Marching Band, Post, Auxiliary, Boy and Girl Scouts marching to the Elementary School.

The program at the school will include

an address by Pastor Sean Rabary of St.

Matthews and Zion Lutheran Churches and comments by members of the Post and VFW Auxiliary.

The Wapsie Valley Band will be participating also.

Following the program there will be a "mock graveside service" at the school.

Everyone is then invited to a pot-luck dinner to be held at the Readlyn Public Library.

Readlyn Spring City-Wide Garage Sales - 2018

Friday, May 11, 4:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Saturday, May 12, 7:00 AM - 2 PM

The Readlyn Community Club is coordinating the city-wide garage sales and will be responsible for ads placed in the newspapers and online. Maps of the listings will be on readlyn.lib.ia.us, and can be picked up at the Kwik Star, Library and Bank at noon on Friday, May 11.

Please turn in your garage sale listing and money to the Library or Readlyn Savings Bank by Wednesday, May 9. If your sale will run different hours than those listed, please indicate. Different hours will be included in the sale listing if possible. The list will be on the library website by noon

on Friday: readlyn.lib.ia.us.

The Goodwill truck will be parked behind the Library from May 10-14. Goodwill accepts books, furniture, computers, clothing, shoes, baby clothes, small working appliances, vases, pots, toys, VHS & DVD movies, frames. Goodwill CANNOT ACCEPT: large appliances, TVs, hide-a-beds, beds & mattresses, construction materials, chemicals, tires and live plants.

Readlyn City Clean Up is scheduled for May 14, 15, and by 8 am on May 16. Please check with City Hall for more information.

Contributions still welcome for the Freedom Rock

The Freedom Rock for Bremer County was moved to its permanent home along V-49 in Readlyn. Anyone passing by just north of Kwik Star should see this rock resting along the bike trail in the Ball Diamond Park.

There are many expenses involved in preparing this rock for artist Ray "Bubba" Sorenson II to be able to complete the painting. The rock will be a visual tribute to men and women who have served, or are serving our country from Bremer

County.

All contributions for expenses are very much appreciated. Also, anyone donating to this historic event may enter a contest guessing the weight of the rock. Please, one entry per person. Your guess may not exceed the actual weight. The winner of the contest will be announced sometime during Readlyn Days, June 15-17. Contributions can be sent to Freedom Rock, P.O. Box 201, Readlyn, Iowa 50668 or in person at the Readlyn Savings Bank.



Can you guess the weight of the Freedom Rock? In January when the enormous rock was moved by Mark, Sam and Paul Smith (pictured) of Smith Excavating, it was weighed and the weight was kept a secret. Anyone making a donation of at least \$10.00 to this historic event may submit a guess of the rock's weight.

100 great Iowa nurses

We have all met at least one outstanding nurse whose courage, competence, and commitment to patients and the nursing profession stand out above all others. Each year, the 100 Great Iowa Nurses program asks for patients, coworkers, friends, and family members to nominate an outstanding nurse for recognition. After undergoing a two-part review process, 100 Great Iowa Nurses are honored each year at a ceremony created for the state of Iowa by nurse and community leaders.

The 100 Great Iowa Nurses award recognizes nurses that have made meaningful, lasting contributions to their patients, colleagues, and the nursing profession, and are viewed as mentors to other nursing professionals. Congratulations to Mike Tiedt as one of this year's honorees that exemplify all of the principles on which the 100 Great Iowa Nurses Celebration was founded.



Our 100 Great Nurses are honored at the beginning of National Nurses Week at an annual celebration in Des Moines, IA. Recipients from prior years are recognized, and new honorees bring family, friends, and colleagues to share in the recognition of their outstanding achievements. The 14th annual 100 Great Iowa Nurses Celebration is held on Sunday, May 6th, 2018 at 3:00 pm at the Iowa Events Center – Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center with a dessert reception following.

courage ~ competence ~ compassion



Leaf Burning



The City of Readlyn will permit burning of leaves. (NO building materials, or other household wastes)

Burning can take place through May 15, 2018

Reminder: No burning on paved streets or sidewalks.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS WHEN BURNING AND DO NOT BURN WET LEAVES.

Entry Form

My guess: _____ tons _____ lbs.

Donation enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to: Freedom Rock; P.O. Box 201, Readlyn, IA 50668

Mayor's Desk

By Dan Wedemeier



Hi Everyone

Are you wondering the same thing I am? Is winter ever going away? I hope this next predicted snow is the last one and we finally warm up. I'm ready for warmer weather!

FYI: You are able to burn leaves, from April 1-May 15. We do still have the temporary compost pile east of the new sewer plant. Please be aware that it can be muddy out there.

The City of Readlyn has been switched over to our new sewer treatment plant for the last couple weeks. Everything is going very well and we are very pleased with the new system.

Before our last council meeting the Council, Barney, Austin, myself and Chris, from Gridor Construction, toured the new sewer plant. There are several more pieces of the project that still need to be completed at the plant, before we can call it complete. One of these is converting the old treatment facility into sludge storage, and another is to convert the old office into a storage area and water treatment area for the new plant. Several of the representatives from the companies that have equipment at the plant have been inspecting their products. The City is planning to have an open house at the sewer plant later on, this summer.

Along with this project, the city installed two diesel-powered generators. One is at the lift station across from Larry's Service and the other is at the new sewer plant. They are both operational. This means that when the electricity goes out, they will automatically start up and the city doesn't have to worry about getting tractors and our PTO generators going.

I also wanted to mention that Readlyn is very fortunate to have the volunteers that we have for the Fire Department and First Responders.

As I mentioned last summer, we had 6 volunteers sign up for the First Responders. Jason Frank, Rocco Imbrogno and Casey Hesse dug in and passed their tests to be full fledged emergency responders. A BIG congratulations to them and a BIG THANKS to them and all of our dedicated volunteers. If you see them around town, please give them a pat on the back!

There are a lot of things going on around town. The Community Club is busy planning Grump Days and the summer activities group are busy planning activities.

The City of Readlyn continues to work with the SRF, DNR, and Engineers on a wetland project.

We also have plans for drainage along Malone Avenue, resurfacing 1st Street and repairing Main Street.

If you have questions or concerns please call me or City Hall.

Thanks!

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

Please send me the *Readlyn Chronicle* each month.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

The cost of this service is \$18.00 for 2018.

Send check and this coupon to:

**Ron Leistikow, 2218 Reed Ave.
Readlyn, IA 50668 • 319-279-3548**

Grump's Grumblings

By Louie Hartman



Hello, May! Please by nice. We all want to go outside. This long winter is getting on everyone's last nerve and there are lots of grumpy people. It is distracting from my distinct honor of "Grump."

April 7 was the Readlyn Community Club (RCC) membership drive/annual meeting/trivia night. Trivia created plenty of competition, hooting, and hollering. The game had ten rounds with balloons awarded to individual teams after every round. My small team of three with Lauri Phelan and Bonnie Wittenburg earned the 1st place balloons once but the "poop" balloons a couple of times. If there is interest, RCC can probably be talked into doing it again. New officers for RCC include Charlie Albrecht, president; we need a vice president; Dani Sauerbrei, treasurer; Jessica Buck, secretary; Bonnie Wittenburg, Sheila Boevers, Pat Wehr and Tanya Hagenow are directors. Please consider joining RCC or volunteering for our many wonderful town events. Readlyn really is the envy of many communities.

If you are a member of the RCC, you may go to the bank to vote for the Grump candidate of your choice until mid-May. (Hopefully you have asked their permission.) Writing this article seems to be the biggest deterrent for accepting the Grump position. As we discussed at the annual meeting, the article is NOT a requirement—you don't have to do it. I'll admit it has taken me out of my comfort zone, but the encouraging comments from readers has inspired me to forge ahead. Thank you, by the way.

As I compose this, it is April 12. Ben, Melanie, five grandchildren, and Sophie the dog are on their way to visit for the weekend. We bought a basketball hoop for the driveway and upgraded our grill in anticipation. The forecast is rain, wind, and snow through Sunday. Bring on Plan B, but I'm hoping we won't all be Grumps about it.

On the UNI campus, Hageman Hall closes for the year on May 8, we have hired student staff, and prepared for returning in August. When the young people commented about how fast the year went by I thought, "Ha, try being my age." My goal is to keep up my humor, patience, and technology skills one more year, my 23rd.

Garage sales are coming up Friday, May 11 from 4 to 8pm, and Saturday, May 12 from 7 to 2pm. You can stop in the library or bank to sign up with a \$5.00 donation. The Goodwill truck will again be behind the library. The Readlyn City Clean-Up Days will be all day May 14, 15 & by 8 am on the 16th. Please be aware of Goodwill and City guidelines for what you can put out and if there is a charge.

Your Grump,
Louie Hartman

Miss Readlyn Comments

By Erika Jeanes



The month of April has been full of family time, Easter celebrations, and FFA activities. This month, I had the pleasure of helping out with the Easter Egg Hunt at the Readlyn Fire Station. I loved seeing the kids' faces as they found their two eggs. I also enjoyed hiding the eggs for the little kiddos. Thank you to everyone who helped out to make this a successful event!

My family and I enjoyed the sunrise service at St. Paul's Church and then later headed to my grandparents' house for delicious food and family time. We always like to say it's like another "Thanksgiving meal" with all the food that my grandparents cook. We enjoyed some honey glazed ham, mashed potatoes, and all the other Easter food essentials. By around 2 o'clock everyone was ready for a nap! I am so thankful to be able to celebrate Jesus's resurrection and ascension this Easter Season with such an awesome family.

Not long after Easter, I had to head back to school after our week of spring break. Our FFA and Ag 4 class had many events the first week back which included a movie night and Buffalo Wild Wings Fundraiser. The kid's movie night at the high school took place April 6. The parents dropped their children off at 6:00 p.m. and we were the babysitters for the evening. We had approximately 80 kids in attendance ages prek-6th. Our Ag 4 class provided a meal for the kids, played games with them, and then we all watched the movie "Ferdinand" in the auditorium. This was a very successful event, and our Ag 4 class raised over \$700 for our trip to the Chicago Mercantile Exchange! Thank you to everyone who helped out at this event.

On Sunday, April 8, I worked at my last FFA Omelet Breakfast at the Readlyn Elementary. Our FFA Chapter served over 300 people, and even though we were unable to get renderworst, (because I know how much Readlyn people like their renderworst) it was still a great event. Everyone that I talked to said that their omelet was very good! All the money donated from the community will help to support the Wapsie Valley FFA program. A huge thank you to all!

Wishing everyone a safe spring, and let's all hope that May brings some spring-like weather!
Miss Readlyn Erika Jeanes

Community Calendar

- Mondays** - Novel Knitters at the library 6 pm
- Thursday mornings** Story time at the Library 9 am
- Tuesday, May 1** - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library, call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.
- Tuesday, May 1** - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.
- Tuesday, May 8** - V.F.W. Auxiliary meeting at the library, 7:30 pm
- Wednesday, May 9** - Warrior Way Community Day
- Wednesday, May 9** - Wapsie Valley Awards Night, 6:30 pm, Wapsie Valley School
- May 11 & 12** - City Wide Garage Sales
- May 14, 15 & by 8 am on May 16** - Readlyn City Clean-Up Days
- Tuesday, May 22** - Coloring at the library, 1-3 pm; school-agers welcome after school
- Wednesday, May 16** - Senior Citizens lunch and cards, 11:30 am at Inspired
- Thursday, May 17** - Deadline for the *Chronicle* 5 pm
- Monday, May 21** - Historical Society meeting 7 pm
- Wednesday, May 23** - Merry Elders at Inspired 11:30
- Friday, May 25** - Last Day of School
- Monday, May 28** - Memorial Day Post 5561 program beginning @ 9:00 a.m. at St. Matthew's Cemetery
- Thursday, May 31** - Book Talk, 7 pm at the library



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Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Readlyn Community Happenings

Senior Citizens gather Mar. 21 at Inspired for lunch, meeting

On March 21, 14 members attended the 11:30 meal at Inspired for the Senior Citizens Meeting. President Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer.

We enjoyed a great meal for lunch.

The Meeting:

The secretary's minutes from the February 21 meeting were read. A motion was made by Charlie Albrecht and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to accept the minutes as read. The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and approved as read.

We signed a get-well card for Jean Buenzow as she is now in the Waverly Hospital and will return to the Tripoli Nursing Home after her care and concerns are taken care of.

We all sang Happy Birthday to Don Billhorn as his birthday is March 29.

We all sang Happy Birthday to Sonja Bast as her birthday is March 3. We also held in our prayers the following people:

Jean Buenzow, Ernest Pooock, Oscar Heidemann and Jim Peters.

Old Business:

The repair to the Grump statue sitting

Pepper Tournaments conclude 'til Oct. 6

The last pepper tournament of the season was held at the Readlyn Community Event Center on Saturday, April 7. Sixteen players participated. The winners and their scores were:

1st Place: Roger and Connie Buhr - 215

2nd Place: Karan Boevers and Shirley Kuker - 202

3rd Place: Ron Brunscheon and Judy Henn - 201

4th Place: Matt Brunscheon and Joan Matthias - 189

Thanks to everyone who came and played. We will start up again October 6.
Shirley Kuker and Judy Henn

VFW Auxiliary meets April 10

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met April 10, 2018 at the Readlyn Library with six members present. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes and treasurer's reports were read and accepted. General orders and chairman reports were read by all. Volunteer hours were turned in for March. Legislative letters pertaining to veteran issues were handed out to be sent to a senator. A motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Darlene Peters to get the cancer insurance, carried.

Twelve letters for veterans' bills were sent to senators and two emails. The year-end reports were mailed in. The 3rd District meeting will be April 21, 2018 at Northwood.

A card and Kwik Star gift card was sent to Delores Sauerbrei after being hospitalized.

Election of officers was held with a motion by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Luann Happel to "unanimously retain officers," including: President Verdeen Pavelec; Sr. Vice President Delores Sauerbrei; Jr. Vice President Luann Happel; Secretary Marrillee Tiedt; Treasurer Ellen Thies; Chaplain Wilda Albrecht, carried. A motion was made by Marrillee Tiedt and second by Darlene Peters to adjourn. The meeting closed with a prayer. Hostess was Marrillee Tiedt.

Submitted by Verdeen Pavelec

on the park bench in the park by the Elementary School is still being worked on. It will be back in the park once necessary repairs and repainting are completed. The Grump plaque is done now and will list all the Grumps from Readlyn.

The Miss Readlyn plaque is done and will list all the Grump Queens. Both plaques will be at the Readlyn Historical Society for everyone's viewing pleasure.

April 7 will be the Annual Community Club meeting to sign up new members. There will be a meal, Trivia Game night and voting for the New Grump. Slogan for the Grump Days will be "Freedom Rocks." The school children from Readlyn will be designing the t-shirt for this year's Grump Days festivities.

New Business:

The Senior Citizens will be putting the minutes each month in the *Readlyn Chronicle* for everyone's reading pleasure. We

do hold a business meeting each month and discuss things going on in Readlyn. This will keep the town and rural areas updated on numerous discussions about events and projects going on in Readlyn.

GaryLee Thurm spoke for the Readlyn Historical Society Committee and discussed some options for making it more handicapped accessible for people to get into the Readlyn Historical Society building.

The next Readlyn Historical Society Committee Meeting will be March 26. The Readlyn Historical Society meets every other month on the last Monday of the month. They are always needing new members.

The County Freedom Rock Committee met at the Readlyn Public Library on March 15 with 10 members present. Funds will still be needed for the painting and sealing of the Rock, the bench by the

Rock, lighting and landscaping projects. It will be noted in the *Readlyn Chronicle* in the April Edition. All contributions are welcome!

The next meeting will be April 18 at 11:30 at Inspired.

Motion was made by Sonja Bast and seconded by Judy Leistikow to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

The meeting was followed by fellowship and card playing.

The Readlyn Senior Citizens are always looking for new members. Come join the fun!

Lois Thacher, Secretary

Wapsie Valley Awards Night
 Wednesday, May 9, 6:30 PM at
 Wapsie Valley School



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Readlyn Community Library

We put the READ in Readlyn

Barb Sowers
Nancy Lockard



The prize winning number for the Amazon gift cards belongs to:

- 1 - Amanda Eicke!
- 2 - Gary Buhr!

Congratulations!



you belong @ your library

In Loving Memory

Memorial Cash Donations

In Memory of Tami Kleitsch

Joe & Julie Regenold \$10.00

In Memory of Rita Schmitz

Barbara Meyer \$25.00

In Memory of Arlene Brunscheon

Barbara Meyer \$10.00

In Honor of the Library's 50th Anniversary and the Trustees that made it possible

Fred and Carol Sue Burns \$100.00

In Memory of Gary Stromer

Delbert & Lavonne Oltrogge \$10.00

In Memory of Ernest Pook

GaryLee & Bonnie Thurm \$10.00

John and Sherry Tiedt \$10.00

Ken & Barb Sowers \$10.00

RJ & Corlyn Freitag \$10.00

Memorial Book Donations

In Memory of Ralph Kane

"Steam Train Dream Train" by Sherri Duskey Rinker and Tom Lichtenheld from Dan & Connie Wedemeier

In Memory of Chad Erickson

"You!" by Sandra Magsamen from Dan & Connie Wedemeier

In Memory of Del Finder

"I am Peace" by Susan Verde from Dan and Connie Wedemeier

In Memory of Ernest Pook

"After the Fall" by Dan Santat from Dean & Lois Buhr

"This is the Nest that Robin Built" by Denise Fleming and "Everyday Wonder" by Matthew Swanson from Dan & Connie Wedemeier

"I Wish you More" by Amy Krouse Rosenthal from Jerry and Cindy Sauerbrei



Color Us Creative

JOIN US Tuesday, May 22

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

School-agers are welcome after school

309 Main St.
P.O. Box 249
Readlyn, IA 50668

Phone and Fax: 319-279-3432
Email: readlynlib@gmail.com
Website: www.readlyn.lib.ia.us

Hours
10-7 Monday 10-7 Thursday
10-5 Tuesday 10-5 Friday
10-5 Wednesday 9-12 Saturday

**The Library will be closed on Monday May 28th.
Have a safe and fun weekend!**



SYNC is a great way for teens to enjoy audio books over the summer.



SYNC is a free summer audiobook program for teens. SYNC will give away two complete audiobook downloads a week - pairs of high interest titles, based on weekly themes. Sign up for email or text alerts and be first to know when new titles are available to download at www.audiobooksync.com.

April 26 - May 2		
THE GREAT WAR By David Almond Read by a full cast		A STUDY IN CHARLOTTE By Elizabeth Strout Read by Elizabeth Strout
May 3 - May 9		
THE DEVIL'S HIGHWAY By Lisa Manno Read by the author		SOLO By Emma Carroll Read by the author
May 10 - May 16		
JOHNNY GEE YOUR GUN By John Gull Read by Jim Dawson		ON TWO FEET AND WINGS By Mike Kaminer Read by the author
May 17 - May 23		
BEING JAZZ By Scott Jurek Read by the author		SAVING MONTGOMERY SOLE By Monica Brown Read by Patricia Gannon



The Mountain Between Us
The Star
Daddy's Home
Coco

Murder on the Orient Express
Lady and the Tramp
Thor—Ragnarok
Percy Jackson; Sea of Monsters
The Ballad of Lefty Brown
Ferdinand
Jumanji; Welcome to the Jungle
Pitch Perfect 3
Star Wars; The Last Jedi
Mountain Top
I Believe
The Greatest Showman

Make tonight a movie night!!

Booktalk Readlyn Reads

The selection for May is "My Name is Lucy Barton" by Elizabeth Strout. "Lucy Barton is recovering slowly from what should have been a simple operation. Her mother, to whom she hasn't spoken for many years, comes to see her. Gentle gossip about people from Lucy's childhood in Amgash, Illinois, seems to reconnect them, but just below the surface lie the tension and longing that have formed every aspect of Lucy's life: her escape from her troubled family, her desire to become a writer, her marriage, her love for her two daughters. Knitting this powerful narrative together is the brilliant storytelling voice of Lucy herself: keenly observant, deeply human, and truly unforgettable." Pick up a copy and come join us at the library for discussion on Thursday May 31st at 7:00 pm.

Join us for Storytime at the Library



Thursday mornings @ 9:00 Through May 17th



A nurse from the Visiting Nurses Association comes to the library on the

first Tuesday of each month for basic nail care, health assessments, teaching and referrals for seniors who need assistance with foot care. For a \$20.00 co-pay. Call 319-235-6201 to schedule.



Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

From The Reformation To Readlyn

On October 30, 1517, 501 years ago, Martin Luther nailed 95 theses onto a church door in Wittenberg, Germany. He did this with no intention of breaking away from the Catholic Church, but to induce the Catholic Church to debate certain doctrines and practices. The Catholic Church was coupled with the Holy Roman Empire and was, at that time, a corrupt organization, badly in need of reform. Jon Hus earlier challenged the practices of the church and was condemned to death by the HRE and burned at the stake, a horrible death!

Luther penned many writings that questioned Catholic Church doctrine. Gutenberg had recently invented the printing press. Copies of Luther's writings were published and spread rapidly. Many of the thesis dealt with the Catholic Church involved in the sale of indulgences. The sale of indulgences was forbidden in Luther's Brandenburg Province, however, persons would travel to Magdeburg where they were available then show Luther the receipts that forgave their sins. Luther believed that through the grace of God we are saved, not by performing good works or through the purchase of indulgences. He also questioned the role of the Pope as the sole person to interpret The Bible. The Holy Roman Emperor, agitated by Luther's writings, summoned Luther to Worms. His trip from Wittenberg to Worms turned into a march of triumph, Luther was celebrated along the way as a hero. At Worms copies of Luther's writings were displayed. The Emperor demanded that Luther recant (disavow) these writings. Luther refused! Luther's friends, realizing his dire situation, whisked him out of Worms at night. On his return to Wittenberg friendly masked riders captured him and took him to Wartburg Castle near Eisenach. The Emperor had responded to Luther's decision by ruling that no person was to provide Luther with food or housing. Whoever killed Luther would not be punished.

At Wartburg Luther was given the alias of



Martin Luther

Junker Joerg (Squire George). It was here he translated the New Testament from Greek to German. He later went to Wittenberg to quell the rioting of his radical followers. He openly preached under his alias and continued his writing. After a period of time an agreement was reached whereupon the prince or ruler of a province could decide whether his subjects would remain Catholic or become Evangelical. The rulers of many principalities chose to follow Luther. The name Lutherans was given to the followers of Luther by his enemies. To this day Germany refers to protestant followers of Luther as Evangelish, not Lutheran.

Most Lutherans do not realize the great role that Martin Luther played in world history. Although there was already discontent with the Catholic Church the Martin Luther act of nailing the 95 theses on the door of the church was the act that drove the Reformation. Among his many accomplishments: Martin Luther wrote the Small Catechism, composed many hymns, the most famous, *Ein Feste Burg ist Unser Gott (A Mighty Fortress is Our God)*, he translated The Bible from Greek to German so the common person could read it. He also wrote the Lutheran Church liturgy. His legacy is the Lutheran Church is found throughout the entire world and protestants are on all five continents.

In the 1700s many Lutherans began migrating to America. A bishop was sent by The Lutheran Church in Germany to assist in organizing the many Lutherans clustered in Pennsylvania. America expanded westward and in 1846 Iowa entered the union. By that time many German Lutherans had settled in Iowa.

The first Lutheran Church in our area was St. John Church Maxfield, dedicated in 1856, affiliated with the Iowa Synod. The Maxfield Church became the Mother Church sponsoring many Lutheran Churches in the area. In addition to the Maxfield Church establishing area churches, the congregation played a role in other important matters. The congregation established a life insurance program for its members which eventually grew into the Lutheran Mutual Insurance Company in Waverly, now CUNA. This insurance program was counter to the beliefs of the church hierarchy whose belief was that a death was the will of God. Any action counteracting the Lord's Will was objectionable. There was another major accomplishment of the Maxfield Church. America was involved in the defeat of Germany in World War One (1914-1918). Shortly after the war, the State of Iowa passed a law forbidding the teaching of German and languages other than English in the elementary schools. The Maxfield congregation openly defied the law and challenged the State of

Iowa to enforce it. The State of Iowa fell into their trap and prosecuted. St. John Maxfield fought this law all the way to the Supreme Court of the United States where the law was ruled unconstitutional.

St. Matthew's congregation was organized in 1878, 27 years before Readlyn was incorporated, with the assistance of St. John, Maxfield. The church was built one mile directly north of Readlyn on the Red Ball Road. (Prior to being named Highway 3 the road was designated Highway 10, and early in the century was referred to as the Red Ball Road.)

In 1903 the Chicago Great Western Railroad located a station in Readlyn at the highest point between the Wapsi River and Crane Creek. This made Readlyn the commercial center of the surrounding area causing the town to grow. Readlyn was gaining many businesses but was without a church. Automobiles were almost nonexistent. To attend the closest church, St. Matthew's, the residents of Readlyn would have to hitch up their horses on a Sunday morning and ride in their buggies to services. The citizens found this inconvenient. They decided the growing town needed a church. A delegation was selected to meet with St. Matthew's. My grandfather Herman Thran, my other grandfather, F. L. Diekmann and his brother Charles Diekmann and August Wittenburg were among members of that group. At that meeting, St. Matthew's was asked to move their church to Readlyn. St. Matthew's simply said no. This upset the delegation and they soon approached the Missouri Lutheran Church in Klinger requesting they sponsor a mission congregation in Readlyn. The Emanuel Lutheran Church consented. Services were held in one of the wooden grade schools in Readlyn. In 1910, St. Paul Lutheran Church was dedicated. Both my grandfathers and Charles Diekmann became charter members of the St. Paul Church. Not all families in Readlyn or in the immediate area chose to join St. Paul's. For example, the Oltrogge and Hagenow families and the August Wittenburg family, among many others, remained with St. Matthew's, but later joined in the exodus to the Zion Lutheran Church.

The refusal to move the St. Matthew Church was one of the most important incidents in the history of Readlyn. Ponder this, had they moved the church building into Readlyn there would be no St. Paul or Zion congregation in town, only one huge St. Matthew Church. Why did they not consent to move their church? Logistically, there was no problem. The building itself was a smaller structure than the present building. Moving a building that size was not a major undertaking as several houses were moved from Knittle to Readlyn near that time. The distance was

not great, less than a mile. Every family in the rural St. Matthew congregation had the inconvenient task of hitching up their horses to attend church. Was that extra mile a problem? Many St. Matthew families living to the east and southeast of Readlyn would travel a shorter distance to attend church. Why not move? The main consideration for not moving could have been that St. Matthew's was a successful church along with a parsonage and cemetery and was already in existence for more than 24 years.

Many of the families in Readlyn and those to the east and southeast of Readlyn split from the St. Matthew's Church to establish Zion Lutheran Church. This was not an amicable split. Bitter feelings emerged! There is a case of a father in the St. Matthew congregation who was so incensed by the breakaway of the Zion Congregation that he warned his son that if he married a member of the Zion Congregation he would never again be welcomed in his home. The son did marry a member of Zion Lutheran. He never did return home. In searching for Readlyn history in the St. Matthew Cemetery I was amazed at the number of families who lived in Readlyn who continued their membership to St. Matthew's. Zion Lutheran, of the Iowa Lutheran Synod, began by conducting services in the home of Rudolph Tiedt. The church prospered and was dedicated in 1917. Readlyn now had two Lutheran churches and two Lutheran churches nearby.

I met with Virg Matthias and Elton Schutte to discuss the footprint of the Lutheran church in the Readlyn area. We found that at one time there were 15 Lutheran churches, not including churches in Waverly or Sumner, within 12 miles of Readlyn. In the 1950s, a period in which we were familiar, we estimated that within four or five miles of Readlyn the population was more than 97 percent Lutheran, with a yet higher percentage of residents having German ancestry. Although Readlyn and the area around Readlyn was not exclusively settled by German Lutherans, the land owned by families of other nationalities became occupied later by German Lutherans.

Comment: The German government spent millions on restoring the two magnificent churches in Wittenberg and on other projects throughout Germany in preparation for the yearlong 500th Anniversary of the Reformation held in 2016. The Catholic Church in Europe actively participated in the Reformation celebration. *Luther*, a book I had purchased in Wittenberg, was the source of much of the Reformation information. The relatives I visit in Germany live only a few miles from Wittenberg. I visited Luthertstadt Wittenberg often!

A
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God Bless!
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News from Community Lutheran School



CLS kindergarten, first, and second grades had a visit from the Bee Lady, Mary Wiltgen, from Fredericksburg! They learned all about bees, hives, and honey making.



Sylvie Sexton



Cadbury the bunny visited the three-year-old preschool class!



Three-year-old preschoolers form a circle of friends!



Arizona Franck



Layla Becker



Lucky the newborn goat pays a special visit to three-year-old preschool.



Students measure the concentration of vitamin C in different fruit flavored drinks.



Giving God the glory for all of our gifts at the Arts Festival Saturday, April 7! Sadie, Brooke, Bella, and Amy play the hand bells.



Amy proudly holds her blue ribbon artwork.



CLS kindergarten through second grades enjoying their prairie lunches in a tin can (above and below). They read *Little House on the Prairie* and had lots of discussions about past vs present.



Arizona holds her artwork.



Lydia holds her crafts.



Marta holds her artwork.



Kindergarten, first, and second graders celebrate the spring snow!



How do volcanoes change the land? The 5th-6th graders built volcanoes out of clay and then melted wax over them, representing three different eruptions. The wax then built up to show how the land changed.

Heat the Gym Dodgeball Tourney held March 17

Saturday, March 17, twelve teams tried their luck at The CLS 4th annual Heat the Gym Dodgeball Tournament! Thank you to all of the volunteers, teams, parents, spectators, and cheering squads who came out to support our entertaining fundraiser!



Dodgeballers - 1st place



Big Baller Brand - 2nd place



Dawson Schmit and Cannon Joerger



Taylor Sickles



Team Hogan's Heroes



John Schutte the dodgeball official



MC - A. Jay Behnke and Tournament Director - Megan Schutte



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News from **Wapsie Valley Jr./Sr. High**



Students attend Youth Summit

On Friday, April 6, four Wapsie Valley juniors attended the first annual Federal Judiciary Youth Summit at the Federal Courthouse in Cedar Rapids.

This event was hosted by U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley as he brought a first-hand learning experience to Iowa students and educators on the role of the Judicial Branch. His goal was to bring transparency to government and educate our youth.

Our students said, "It's one thing to hear about the Judicial Branch in class, and another to hear it first-hand from a U.S. Senator and two Federal Judges!"

They also mentioned that the experi-

ence was very beneficial to see different perspectives, and hear about the daily lives of people who work in the Judicial Branch.

Senator Grassley challenged all 120 students from 19 schools in the courtroom to take what they have learned and go talk to their peers and classrooms about it. He believes there is not enough emphasis put on the Judicial Branch and he is trying to bring more transparency and less cynicism to our government.

I know our students learned a lot and appreciated the opportunity to attend this first annual event.



Wapsie Valley National Honor Society — Front row, left to right: Cassidy Brunscheon, Julia LaRue, Hayley Kleinheksel, Erika Jeanes, Madison Landsgard, Carley Schmit, Sadie Harford; middle row: Lydia Martins, Britney Hershey, Erin Riordan, Brandi Marticoff, Maria Kayser, Aubrey Stacey, Ashley Gonzales; back row: Donny Schmit, Jacob Joerger, Ben Weepie, Jake Kuhlmann, Cameron O'Donnell, Tanner Sauerbrei, Carson Kerns, Jacob Risse, Nolan Rochford, Colin Schrader. Photo courtesy David Doese Photography

Wapsie Valley National Honor Society members inducted

Wapsie Valley High School held its 54th Annual National Honor Society Induction Ceremony on Monday, March 26 in the high school auditorium.

Fourteen returning NHS members conducted the formal ceremony, under the supervision of their adviser, Gina Wiersma. Cameron O'Donnell and Maria Kayser were the Masters of Ceremonies. Ben Weepie lit the candle representing scholarship and explained the meaning of the first pillar of membership.

Brandi Marticoff read a speech she had written about the importance of good academics. Madison Landsgard lit the candle and explained the pillar of service. Jacob Joerger followed with a speech he constructed about helping others. Jake Kuhlmann defined leadership and lit its symbolic candle. Erika Jeanes delivered her speech about her experiences in and the importance of leadership.

Carson Kerns lit the final candle and explained the last pillar of character. Ashley Gonzales delivered her speech about the significance of being a good person. All members and inductees recited the NHS Motto. Membership tokens and certificates were handed out by Britney Hershey, Donny Schmit, Colin Schrader, and Aubrey Stacey.

Taylor Anderson, the WVJH/HS principal, delivered final congratulatory comments to the new inductees before releasing the entire NHS membership to David Doese for photos. The evening ended with a reception with cakes, bars, cookies, and punch in the festively decorated WV Commons.

To be a member of the National Honor Society, students must meet the criteria of

four characteristics: scholarship, service, leadership, and character. Juniors and seniors holding a cumulative GPA of 3.5 and above are invited to apply for membership.

In the application, students are asked for evidence of the three remaining pillars. Not all students choose to apply. Teachers then read the applications and score all four qualities. Students who score at or above the criteria line are selected for induction to this esteemed society. Membership in the National Honor Society is one of the highest awards a student can receive at WVHS. It tells a lot about students when they apply for colleges, scholarships, and future jobs and internships. New members this year are: juniors, Cassidy Brunscheon, Sadie Harford, Hayley Kleinheksel, Julia LaRue, Lydia Martins, Erin Riordan, Jacob Risse, Nolan Rochford, Tanner Sauerbrei, and Carley Schmit.

The current group of NHS members have done some great things at Wapsie Valley. This year, students held a luncheon for area veterans on Veterans Day and helped organize and collect food and hygiene items for Christmas food baskets. These students also read to the elementary classrooms during Literacy Week. They have done some individual projects like childcare during P-T conferences, helping at banquets, mentoring, and teaching underclassmen organizational skills.

The group would still like to do one more service project and attend a cultural event of some sort before the end of the year. As one can imagine, finding an open date with an active and talented group like this is nearly impossible!



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Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America

Wapsie Valley FFA reaches new heights of excellence at District Convention

By: Erika Jeanes, Chapter President

The Northeast District Convention took place March 10 at Waukon High School. The Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter sent 30 members to the District Convention on Saturday. These 30 members participated in 14 different events. The members who participated in Career Development Events had a lot of success and many are advancing to state. The results are as follows.

- Conduct Team- 3rd gold Alternate to State: Ethan Oltrogge, Courtney Schmitz, Kaylee Kleitsch, Dallas Wittenburg, Tyler Ott, Sam Banger, Asa Kelley, and Adri Platte.

- Parliamentary Procedure Team- 2nd gold Advancing: Hannah Miller, Sloane Banger, Sam Schnor, Anna Richards,

Kennadi Neil, and Reily Richards.

- Program of Activities- 1st gold Advancing: Erika Jeanes, Jacob Joerger, Mitchell Bartels

- Public Speaking- 4th gold: Sidney Schnor

- Extemporaneous Speaking- 4th gold: Karissa Michael

- Ag Broadcasting- silver: Lydia Martins

- Job Interview- 3rd gold alternate: Jacob Risse

- Ag Sales-1st gold advancing: Grant Grober

- Experience the Action Team- 2nd gold advancing: Megan Lahman, Sean Banger, Julia LaRue, Trystan Lampe, Britney Hershey, Kyle Voy, Cole Neil,

- Secretary's book- 3rd gold alternate:

Julia LaRue

- Treasurer's book- 1st gold advancing: Jacob Joerger

- Reporter's book- 1st gold advancing: Lydia Martins

- Chapter Website- silver: Rylan Duffy

In Addition, Brandi Marticoff and Bryce Kleitsch served as delegates and Karissa Michael and Lydia Martins ran for the 2018-2019 Northeast District Officer Team. The following members also received an Academic Award for maintaining a 3.5 GPA or higher throughout High School: Sean Banger, Mitchel Bartels, Britney Hershey, Erika Jeanes, Jacob Joerger, Megan Lahmann, Madison Lansgard, and Brandi Marticoff.

In addition, 8 members applied for proficiency awards at the district level for their supervised agricultural experience and five advanced to the state competition.

The district results were as follows:

- Diversified Livestock Production- gold advancing: Lydia Martins

- Equine Entrepreneurship-Science- silver advancing: Megan Lahmann

- Veterinary Science-Placement- gold advancing: Julia LaRue

- Goat Production-Entrepreneurship- gold advancing: Britney Hershey

- Agriculture Education- bronze: Hannah Miller

- Beef Production-Entrepreneurship- silver: Cole Neil

- Diversified Crop Production Placement- silver: Kyle Voy

- Forestry Management Placement- gold advancing: Jacob Joerger

Congratulations to all members, they represented the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter very well.



Thirty Wapsie Valley FFA members attended the Northeast District FFA Convention on March 10.

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How large is a village? There is no finite number to describe it. When you've lived in a village for 47 years and adversity strikes, a whole lot of people let us know they were thinking of us. Wow would be the number here. When our walking group from our church here in California closed around us, the comfort of their caring was overwhelming. And when family came to Phoenix to help us say farewell to Chad they had come from across the country to support us. Saying "Thank You" to everyone doesn't really seem enough, but we'll go with that anyway.

Thank You.
Al and Bonnie

Thank you to my wonderful family for all of their help while I'm recovering from a fall down my icy steps and broke ribs and a vertebrae. Thank you to Pastor Jean Rabary for his visits and prayers. To everyone for prayers, visits, calls, cards, food, gifts and flowers. To the 4th floor nurses and Doctors. To the Readlyn First Responders and the Tripoli Ambulance crews.

God Bless Everyone.
Verdeen Pavelec

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Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America

Hard work earns W.V. FFA top rating

By Lydia Martins, Chapter Reporter

The Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter will earn a 1st Place Gold Rating as a Supreme National Chapter this spring at the State FFA Leadership Conference in Ames April 23-24. Wapsie Valley was ranked first out of all chapters in the state and also received first in two quality standard categories of Building Communities and

Strengthening Agriculture. FFA chapters in the state of Iowa were evaluated on their activities and their involvement towards the three student-led committee categories of Building Communities, Growing Leaders, and Strengthening Agriculture.

The chapter participates in many student-led activities throughout the entire year that were included in the application

to be chosen as a Supreme National Chapter. In the Building Communities category, the chapter focused on the community involvement and the correlation between the chapter and community support. Activities such as a pedal pull and grilling during Readlyn and Fairbank Days, pop tab drive, cake auction, staff grilling, Partners in Active Learning Support, Christmas service projects, and the newly renovated greenhouse were all included in the Building Communities committee category.

In the Growing Leaders committee activities, the chapter highlighted their efforts in implementing agricultural education as well as preparing students for the future with an asset of skills. Some activities included in the Growing Leaders division include a Leadership Day, Gift of Grain for seniors, recreational activities, a career and college fair, a merit trip, and the test plot. These activities range throughout the year and all members have the opportunity to participate.

In the final division of Strengthening Agriculture, students have the opportunity grow and learn through the commit-

tees and their activities. Various activities in this division include, Junior High Exploratory, PALS, greenhouse renovations, KWWL visit, National FFA Week, appreciation breakfast, service projects, and the Buckle Up or Eat Glass program are key activities implemented in this committee division.

The FFA is a national organization of more than 600,000 members preparing for leadership and careers in science, business and technology of agriculture. The Iowa FFA Association has over 230 local chapters with over 15,000 FFA members. Local, state and national programs provide opportunities for students to apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom. FFA's mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success through agricultural education. It remains the largest student-led organization in the country.

The Wapsie Valley FFA chapter would like to extend their thanks to the community, alumni, and all who put forth their efforts in making a successful organization.



The Career Fair is one of the chapter's biggest events with many college and career options presented to the entire student body.



The 2017-2018 Chapter Officers (left to right): President-Erika Jeanes, Vice President-Jacob Risse, Secretary-Julia LaRue, Treasurer-Jacob Joerger, Reporter-Lydia Martins, and Sentinel-Olivia Willey.



The FFA chose to visit a local nursing home to visit as a Christmas service project. The members served food and played games with the residents.

News from Wapsie Valley Elementary



Fairbank and Readlyn PTOs brought in the "Dinosaur Lady" who taught students about dinosaur history and had numerous models of different dinosaurs for students to explore.

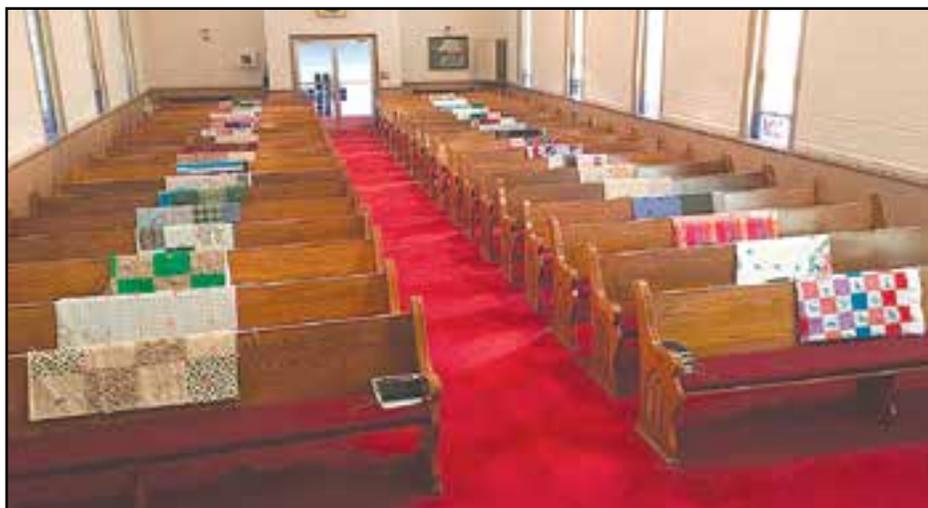


Ashley Happel, preschool teacher at Fairbank Elementary, was announced Teacher of the Week, shown with Kendal Crawford from 93.6 The Mix and Brian Jo from Upper Iowa University, Waterloo Campus. This is the first year of full-day preschool programming for Wapsie Valley. We are grateful for Mrs. Happel's and Mrs. Drenkow's work in providing quality classroom instruction that engages our youngest Warriors.

Readlyn Community Happenings



Bremer County Pork Producers Crown 2018 Royalty — On Friday, March 30, 2017 Bremer County Pork Queen Samantha Snyder of Waverly and Junior Pork Princess Hannah Busch of Tripoli crowned the 2018 Pork Royalty. Pictured from left to right are Princess Sydney Matthias, Queen Madelyn Nederhoff, and Princess Haidyn Snyder. Madelyn, a Junior at Sumner-Fredericksburg, is the daughter of John and Brenda Nederhoff of Sumner. Sydney, a seventh grader at Wapsie Valley, is the daughter of Aaron and Mischa Matthias of rural Fairbank. Haidyn Snyder, a seventh grader at Waverly-Shell Rock, is the daughter of Nate and Christy Snyder of Waverly. The girls will be educating 3rd graders throughout Bremer County about Iowa's Pork Industry before the end of the school year. They will also attend parades and promote pork throughout the county and at the Iowa State Fair.



Quilts for LWR — Forty quilts were displayed in the sanctuary of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Readlyn. These quilts were made with love from all kinds of pieces of fabric, different shapes and sizes and lots of different colors. These quilts were the work of many hands and are a patchwork of love that will reach many who are in need of warmth and shelter and comfort. The quilts were taken by John & Sherri Tiedt to the Fredsville Lutheran World Relief truck and loaded on April 14.

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The owners and partners are Chad and Amber VanDaele who love being a part of the Fairbank Community. Their lives are very busy trying to keep up with their very active daughters, Elsie and Ava. Chad and Amber are both licensed agents and can assist in all areas of insurance.

Tina Robinson has lived in the Oran/Fairbank area her entire life. She has been with VanDaele Insurance Company since 2012, and has many prior years of experience in the insurance field. As a licensed agent, Tina is very knowledgeable when it comes to auto and home insurance, as well as commercial and crop insurance. Tina is in the office every day except Thursday. Tina is a busy mom of two active daughters, Aubrey and Paige.

Amy Rechkemmer is originally from the Aplington area, and currently resides in Oelwein with her husband Jake. She has been with the VanDaele Insurance Company since 2011, as a licensed agent and has



worked in the insurance field since 2002. Amy's expertise is in healthcare insurance and she is very knowledgeable in providing clients with the best auto or home policy. Amy has three children, 14, 11 and 7 who keep her very busy. She is available Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays.

Peggy Schrader is part-time and assists where and when needed. Peggy is Amber's mother, and they very much enjoy working together. She was born and raised in Oelwein and has resided in Hazleton with her husband, Denny, for the past 42 years.

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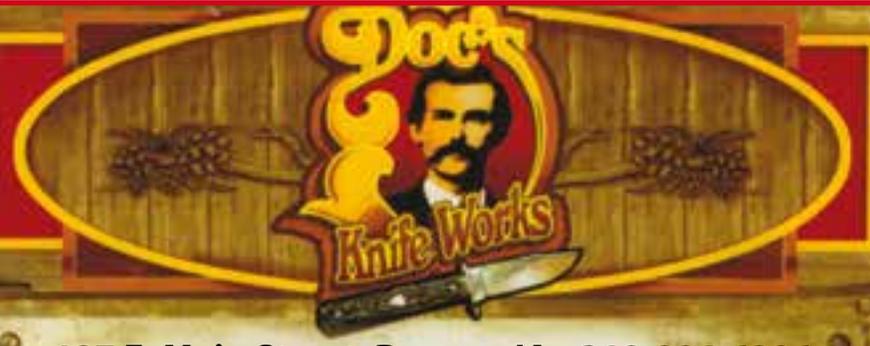
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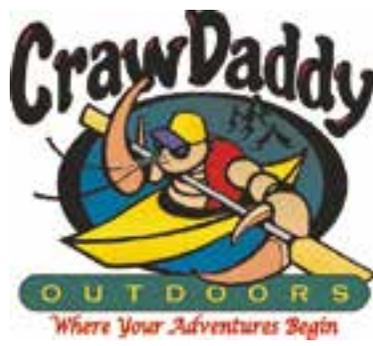
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Gary Moeller of Nashua visited the Readlyn Historical Museum with Ron Leistikow and GaryLee Thurm. Gary Moeller's dad, the late Robert Moeller, graduated from Readlyn High School in 1943. Gary's mother, Mary, who lives in Tripoli, donated \$1,000 to the Historical Society in memory of Robert. This money will be used for improvements and shelving in the building. We want to thank the Moeller family for their generous gift and also to let others know that we appreciate any memorials or gifts.

Donations made to Readlyn Historical Society are greatly appreciated

The Readlyn Historical Society would like to thank the Valentine Ball Committee for being a recipient of \$750 from the funds from the ball. This money will be used for improvements to the museum and items needed for the new building.

We would also like to thank the following for the memorial donations given to the society:

In memory of Jerry Oltrogge:
Vernon Clefisch - \$20.00

In memory of Berniece Schumacher:
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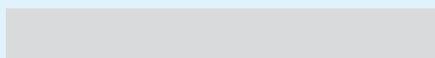
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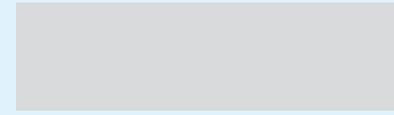
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Outdoors in the Cedar Valley *By Eric Johnston*

The "Snowbird"

The four a.m. wakeup call was not a very inviting sound as I lay there in bed listening to the wind howl outside the window. I thought to myself, "It's too windy and cold for the turkeys this morning, stay in bed." It sounded like a good idea for a minute or so.

But the Iowa Turkey season is only a certain number of precious mornings and you gotta go. I got up and was quickly snapped out of it by my Dad's and Uncle Marv's early-morning jokes about staying in bed. We had some coffee and loaded up the truck and were on our way. My Dad and I had hunted the entire day before with no success in the thirty mile per hour wind. If you could get one to gobble, it was too hard to tell which direction they were, let alone have them hear our calls. We were having a late spring this particular year and winter just seemed to not let go, even by mid-April.



As we headed to the timber it started to mist and looked like fog. This morning's hunt would be me hunting with my Uncle Marv, and my dad and cousin Colton hunting another section of the timber. "Great," I said as we rolled along, "now it will be wet and the turkeys won't even gobble for us." Oftentimes in the rain, turkeys go silent and it makes hunting even tougher because you can't hear their gobbles to reveal their location. Marv, as always, got my head straight quickly, saying, "Stop whining, we need to be out there!" Truer words had never been spoken.

By the time we arrived at the location to drop off Dad and Colton, the mist had turned into a steady rain. They got their gear ready and headed out into the dark. Marv and I then headed to where we would set up. Our setup that morning was a textbook area to shoot an early season gobbler, a small field in a valley surrounded by tall roosting trees along the hillsides. The birds were roosting along the hill and flying down to the field in the morning to strut and seek out hens. This was also a great spot that particular morning to be out of the wind.

We made our way across the field edge to where we would set up. Marv had scouted these birds and knew about where they would be roosting. This morning I would be trying to get a turkey with my new PSE bow. I was excited as I'd yet to shoot a gobbler with my bow. I had tried for a couple years prior, but had not had any success with closing the deal.

We worked our way quietly to within 100 yards or so of where the birds would be

roosted. I set up my Mossy Oak Ameristep blind and Marv put out a hen and Jake decoy in good visibility to where the birds were roosted. Once we settled in the blind I opened the windows facing the field and we sat in the dark waiting for daylight. As I sat there listening to the rain drip on the roof of the blind, I thought, "Dad and Colton have to be getting soaked." They were not in the comforts of a blind like we were and I only hoped they were under a canopy of a good tree to help them a little bit.

As daylight started to show it got very quiet, the rain was no longer dripping and it looked foggy. Marv looked at me and said, "It's snowing, you could have a rare chance at getting a bird in the snow." I couldn't believe it. It was April 16 and it was snowing hard.

As it got lighter, our decoys were useless as they now were completely covered in snow and we had yet to hear a gobble. We waited a long time and finally heard a gobble that made us both jump off our seats from being startled.

"He's right where I thought he was," said Marv. He then gave him a couple soft clicks on his Lynch Fool Proof call. I silently thought to myself, "I wonder just how many birds that old call has called in?" To be honest I couldn't even begin to guess, but I know that number was very substantial!

He gave two soft yelps and the big tom flew down from the roost and into the field. He came running on a string right to our setup! I couldn't believe how quickly he was coming.

"Get ready!" Marv said and I readied the PSE and got prepared for a shot. The tom came right into our snow-covered decoys, and I drew my bow. I settled my pin and let the arrow fly. I watched in amazement as my arrow flew ten yards over top of him.

"What happened? It's a fifteen-yard shot!" Marv said. I wondered the same thing. I had practiced that shot a thousand times in the back yard. We both sat there in disbelief as the big tom ran back across the field clucking the whole way.

"Game over," I said to Marv. I barely got the words out as another tom gobbled fifty yards away on the timber edge. Apparently the other gobbler's clucking

had fired this bird up. Marv let out a few yelps and this new bird came running. He stopped right in our decoys and went to full strut.

"Don't miss this time," Marv said as I went to full draw. I settled my pin and the arrow found its mark this time. The bird ran 15 yards and fell over! High fives and a half bear hug to celebrate!

"We got him, your first turkey bow kill and in the snow even!" Marv hooped. "And you wanted to stay home today?" I was so excited I had to sit and gather my thoughts for a moment.

"Now, what happened on that first shot?" Marv said. Upon examination, in my haste of setting up the blind I did not get the window all the way down and when I took the shot my arrow skipped off the window fabric. As we recovered the bird we celebrated with more high fives.

"Dad and Colton, they're still out in this snow!" I exclaimed. We quickly gathered up the gear and got moving. They were already at the road when we rolled up with the truck. They were soaking wet, but happy I had taken a bird with my bow.

We headed back to Marv's house and celebrated better once everyone had dried out and warmed up.

With early season turkeys a lot of the ways we went about this hunt you can use in your tactics. Oftentimes, toms will still be grouped up and roosting fairly close to one another. Pay attention to your entrance routes in the dark as, without the spring foliage growing yet, you will be very visible to birds on the roost. Don't try to get much closer than 100 yards or so. And soft, easy calls is all that's needed early as the birds haven't been pressured too hard yet and it's natural for hens to not be super aggressive yet.

Most importantly, you need to be out there to take a bird! Don't let foul weather deter you from hunting. Oftentimes, early season weather is not ideal, but the birds are still doing their thing.

I've had a lot of memorable turkey hunts with Uncle Marv, but this one was probably the most memorable. Get out there early in the season this spring with friends and family and make memories, that's what it's all about!

Until next time, Get Outdoors!!

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Warrior wrestling team posts record-setting season

The Warrior wrestling team posted another record-setting performance in the 2017-2018 season. The team came together to post an 18-5 record, despite having to make up for a few open weights. Many of the wrestlers were asked to step up and fill in for teammates dealing with illness or injury and others found themselves wrestling outside of their desired weight class to benefit the team. The team mentality fueled the athletes as they came out firing and working for bonus points in every match.

In addition to their dual wins, they were crowned team champions of the Starmont Tournament and, for the second time in as many years, the Chris Davis Invitational. The Warriors tallied 26 individual tournament champions, including five all-tournament team members at the Decorah Duals where the team ended the day in a three-way tie for first. Four individual wrestlers, Colin Schrader (Sr.), Kaleb Krall (Jr.), Jason Even (Sr.), and Ben Weepie (Sr.), earned their 100th win this season and Donny Schmit (Sr.) earned his spot in the 150 win club.

More individual records fell this season as Ben Weepie set the new standard for career reversals with 98 and Colin Schrader broke the career falls record with 87 pins. Donny Schmit made his mark on the record book with most wins as a senior (47), most team points scored by an individual in a season (319.5) and a career (1156), and he tied Aaron Destival for most all times wins (166).

Entering the postseason fresh off of illnesses and missing the electrifying left-handed headlocks of Senior Sean Banger, who endured a season-ending broken ankle, the Warriors charged ahead to prove that they are among the best. At the conclusion of the tough NICL conference meet, where the team took fourth place, five Warriors walked away with All-Conference honors: 126lb So. Reese Welcher (3rd), 132lb Sr. Donny Schmit (1st), 145lb Sr. Colin Schrader (1st), 152lb Jr. Nathan Hyde (2nd), 170lb Sr. Ben Weepie (3rd).

Wapsie Valley placed 2nd as a team at the Sectional Tournament in Sumner and earned the right to wrestle in the Regional Dual Tournament the following week. Seven Warriors placed in the top two and moved on to the District Tournament in Decorah (126lb So. Reese Welcher, 132lb

Sr. Donny Schmit, 145lb Sr. Colin Schrader, 152lb Jr. Kaleb Krall, 160lb Sr. Jason Even, 170lb Sr. Ben Weepie, and Hwt Jr. Rylan Duffy). After a day of hard-fought district matches, four of the seven (Welcher, Schmit, Schrader, and Krall) qualified for the Iowa State Tournament.

Sophomore Reese Welcher opened up the State Tournament for the Warriors at the 126 pound weight class. After a first round loss, Reese bounced back later that night to pin Marshall from Iowa Valley-Marengo in just over a minute. Welcher's run in his first trip to state ended one match short of placing rounds with a Saturday loss to the 7th ranked wrestler.

Senior Colin Schrader returned to Des Moines for the 3rd time after taking 5th as a freshmen to make another run at the podium. After dropping a nail-bitter in the first round, Colin tore up the backside of the 145lb bracket with two decisions, a major-decision, a tech-fall, and a fall. The major decision came in the consolation semi-final to avenge his first round loss. Schrader ended his high school wrestling career with an 8-5 decision over Thompson from Logan-Magnolia, which earned him a 3rd place medal.

Junior Kaleb Krall also made his 3rd trip to the state tournament coming off of his championship from a year ago. Krall moved his way through the front side of the bracket with a win against the 6th ranked wrestler from Lawton-Bronson, a quick pin in the second round, and a decision over Lisbon's Kilberg who was ranked 3rd. In a back-to-back trip to the finals, Kaleb came up short but finished as the state runner-up in the 152lb weight class.

Senior Donny Schmit made his third straight appearance at the finals at the State Tournament. The 10th, 2nd, 5th, and 8th ranked wrestlers lined up for Donny in the 132lb weight class and he made a clear statement as he dominated his opponent in each match. With one state championship under his belt, Donny entered the finals hungry for another. He pinned Henderson of North Linn in just under two minutes and put a cap on his high school career with his second state title and an 11-1 record at the State Tournament. Donny will continue his outstanding wrestling career with Upper Iowa next year.

The four qualifiers combined for a

thrilling weekend in Des Moines. Last season Schmit and Krall became the first duo from Wapsie Valley to make the finals together and this year they added to that record as the first duo to wrestle in the finals in back-to-back seasons. The team of qualifiers also earned the highest team placing in school history with a 4th place finish and tallied the highest point total with 66.5 team points. The team celebrated in Readlyn and Fairbank with fire truck parades and a social gathering. Congratulations to all of the Warrior wrestlers on a great season!

2018 IHSAA State Championships Results for Wapsie Valley

1A-126: Reese Welcher (35-12)
 Champ. Round 1 - Logan Heaberlin (Belmond-Klemme) 36-13 won by fall over Reese Welcher (WV) 35-12 (Fall 3:10)
 Cons. Round 1 - Reese Welcher (WV) 35-12 won by fall over Kayne Marshall (Iowa Valley, Marengo) 36-24 (Fall 1:01)
 Cons. Round 2 - Nolan Noonan (Cascade) 54-8 won by major decision over Reese Welcher (WV) 35-12 (MD 14-4)
 1A-132: Donny Schmit (47-2) State Champ
 Champ. Round 1 - Donny Schmit (WV) 47-2 won by major decision over Wyatt Appleseth (Panorama-Panora) 43-12 (MD 18-5)
 Quarterfinal - Donny Schmit (WV) 47-2 won by decision over Logan James (Underwood) 50-5 (Dec 6-4)

Semifinal - Donny Schmit (WV) 47-2 won by major decision over Samuel Loyd (New London) 43-6 (MD 15-7)

1st Place Match - Donny Schmit (WV) 47-2 won by fall over Brady Henderson (North Linn-Troy Mills) 33-5 (Fall 1:59)

1A-145: Colin Schrader (42-8) 3rd place
 Champ. Round 1 - Nicholas Martin (Moravia) 41-11 won by decision over Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 (Dec 7-5)

Cons. Round 1 - Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 won by decision over Kameron Black (Newman Catholic) 39-11 (Dec 13-7)

Cons. Round 2 - Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 won by tech fall over Chance Downs (Maquoketa Valley-Delhi) 41-13 (TF (18-3))

Cons. Round 3 - Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 won by fall over Ethan Elliot (Interstate 35, Truro) 42-10 (Fall 5:20)

Cons. Semi - Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 won by major decision over Nicholas Martin (Moravia) 41-11 (MD 12-3)

3rd Place Match - Colin Schrader (WV) 42-8 won by decision over Garret Thompson (Logan-Magnolia) 54-5 (Dec 8-5)

1A-152: Kaleb Krall (34-6) 2nd place
 Champ. Round 1 - Kaleb Krall (WV) 34-6 won by decision over Austin Eilers (Lawton-Bronson) 41-6 (Dec 7-5)

Quarterfinal - Kaleb Krall (WV) 34-6 won by fall over Keaton Baayen (Pekin) 46-6 (Fall 1:12)

Semifinal - Kaleb Krall (WV) 34-6 won by decision over Kaden Kilburg (Lisbon) 41-10 (Dec 3-0)

1st Place Match - Trey Brisker (Wilton) 52-1 won by decision over Kaleb Krall (WV) 34-6 (Dec 6-2)



Wrestlers that received team awards during this year's wrestling banquet are shown. Awards are voted on by their teammates. Front row (L to R) Cayle Huebner- Warrior Spirit, Donny Schmit- Outstanding Wrestler. Back row (L to R) Tylan Hirsch- Rookie of the Year, Jason Even-Hardest Worker, and Peyton Brown- Improved.

Valentine Ball another successful event!

The 9th Annual Valentine Ball on February 9, 2018 was another successful evening! The night was filled with friends, family, laughter, delicious food, great music, and generous givings. Thank you to all the wonderful and generous donors and auction bidders! With the success of this year's Valentine Ball \$16,950 will be donated back to numerous of our non-profit community organizations. By investing in our youth and our town programs we strengthen our future by empowering responsible and well-rounded citizens and future adults.

Thank you to the following who donated items for the Silent and Live Auction - IAS Oran, Readlyn Vet Services, Judy & Ron Leistikow, Titan IH Waverly, Scout Pack 3101, GaryLee Thurm, Community Lutheran School, Bob Moulds, balance, Wapsie Valley Archery, Wapsie Valley Music Boosters, Helping Hands Clothing Closet, Roger and Marlys Deterding, Wapsie 12u Baseball & WV Baseball Club, Spahn & Rose, Schuldt Repair, Mane Event, Bonnie Erickson, Phil Kaye

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Pearls of Wisdom

By Pastor Jean Rabary
 St. Matthew Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church

The Lord's Sense of Humor

A few years ago, Rick Warren's book "The Purpose Driven Life" took this nation by storm. Wherever I went, I ran into it in various forms: small groups, book club, Lenten program, water cooler talk. At the time, I was frequently asked, to my displeasure of course, if I have read it and what I thought of it. My answer came out as straight as an arrow, "I have not read it, and don't intend to. Its popularity would not get me jumping on the bandwagon." I thought that it was a slam dunk, case closed kind of a thing. But the Lord thought otherwise!

On the fifth day of March, 2004 A.D., somebody gave me a book for my birthday. And guess what book was inside the gift wrap, "The Purpose Driven Life." I still remember saying, with a smile, "Lord, you've gotta be kidding me." That God-incident made me realize that not only does our Lord have a sense of humor, but it also taught me to believe that he appoints the nature and timing of our spiritual nourishment.

That book was quite useful during the writing of my dissertation, and that was gratifying. But more than that, it led me to re-focus my pastoral thinking and outlook on God's purpose of fellowship to his creature in general, and to his church in particular.

For one thing, Rick Warren lifts up people's real hunger and thirst for meaningful life and purposeful existence. He writes with clarity and articulates with simplicity what we all long for, but, we have a hard time naming, "our thirst to connect with God." So Rick pens in the language of the 21st century what St. Augustine found out long ago that, "Our hearts are restless until we rest in Thee, O God."

The Lord is amazing in a practical sense that He masterfully works with people's various personalities, and pastors are no excep-

tion. Like other servants in the Lord's vineyard, the Spirit opens my awareness to see the depth of things and to sense people's real need behind the popularity of "The Purpose Driven Life." Sociologists may view it as a social phenomenon like many others that rise with people's interest and fall with the wear and tear of time. Yet, there is more to it in Rick Warren's book.

I do believe that the Holy Spirit inspired him to write it and make it relevant to people's ultimate quest for meaning through their relationship with God the Creator. We live in a society that promotes the individual and tends to think that everything revolves around "Me-I-and-Myself." But thank the Lord for Rick's book that gives us a dose of reality and a clear sense of the divine truth, "It's all about God and not about us."

After reading that book, there are some members who told me, "Pastor, I am not going to complain about worship style anymore. I am here to worship God. Praising God is my purpose and not just to sing the hymn I want. God invites me to hear his life-giving Word and not just to hear what I want to hear in a preaching." That kind of a testimony and many others of the same stripe give me goose bumps. Truly, the Lord is at work and the Spirit has been busy!

God is the Maker of the universe. He created us for a purpose, and that is to be in fellowship with him. Outside that, we are lost souls wandering in this vast wasteland just going through the biological cycle of birth, infancy, youth, middle and old age, and then death. There is more to life than that. God made us for himself and loved us through his Son Jesus Christ. Thank the Lord that he has a sense of humor. By the way, if you have one of those funny stories with Jesus, please share it with me at obriand.rabary@gmail.com.

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	<p>St. Matthew Lutheran Church Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street, Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Divine Service 8:30 a.m. Fellowship following Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tuesday of month</p>
	<p>St. Paul Lutheran Church 120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Vacancy Pastor: Pastor Ronnie Koch Worship 8:00 AM</p>
	<p>Zion Lutheran Church 240 Elmer Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3643 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor Sunday Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m. Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.</p>

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