

## Readlyn Savings Bank uses firemen to remove property while enhancing their training

There has been much interest and inquiries regarding the Readlyn Savings Bank's use of the property at 139 W. 2nd St. The home has been removed with the intention of pouring a new parking lot and new side-walks.

We would like to thank the neighborhood for its patience with the demolition project. It did take a longer period of time than originally expected, however, that time allowed numerous valuable opportunities for the Readlyn Fire Department to train their volunteers. It was rewarding to watch the firemen use the house to offer training to our local Fire Department as well as those of Denver, Tripoli and Dunkerton.

It was Tripoli Fire Dept.'s year to host an annual "Firefighter 101" course and they utilized the property to train members from

all over who came to learn. When it came to burning down the house, our firemen did an extraordinary job!

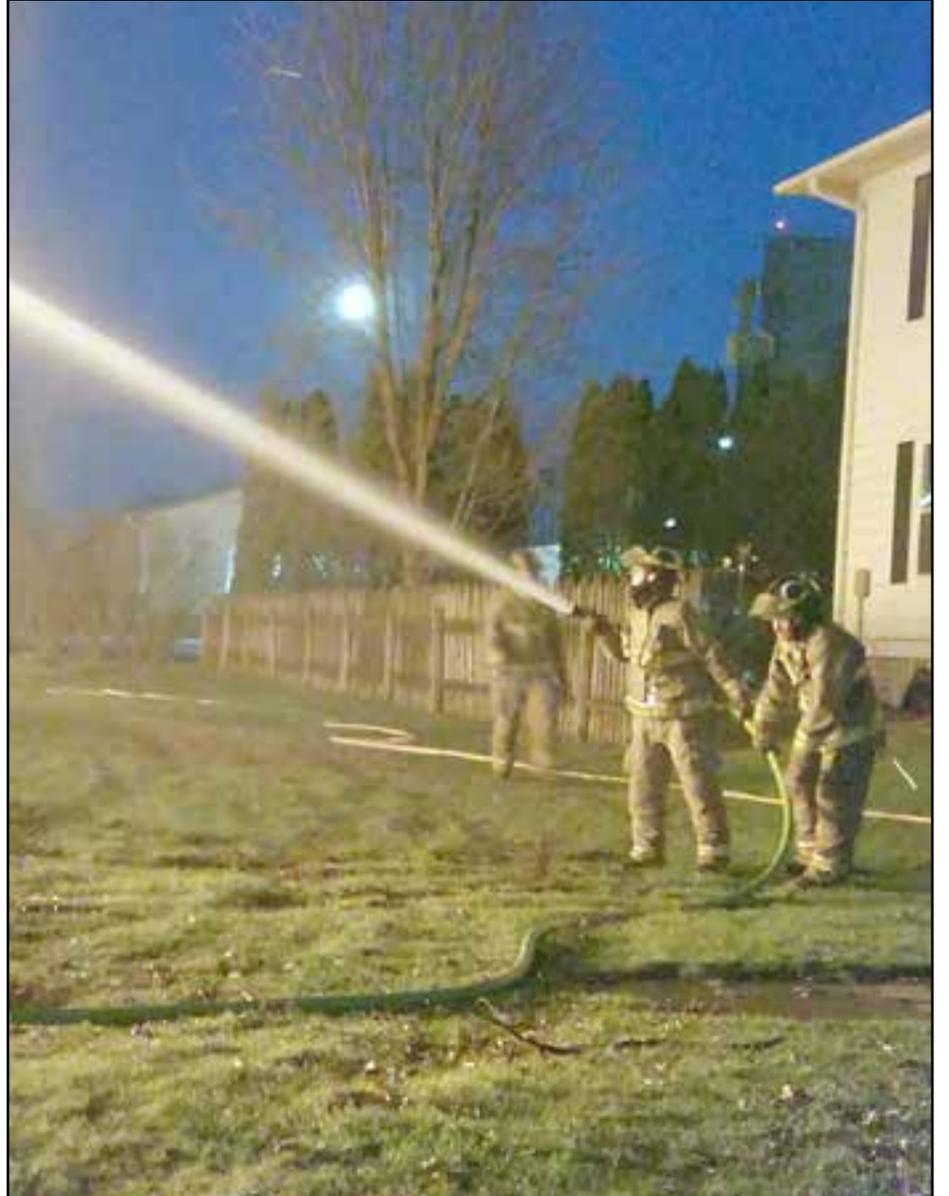
In appreciation of our firemen's assistance to our community, Readlyn Savings Bank has provided a donation of \$1,500 to the Readlyn Fire Department to use for continued improvement in their department.

In addition, we would like to give a big thank you to our city workers, Barney Wiersma and Austin Matthias, as well as the city council and Mayor Dan Wedemeier for their help and cooperation in making this project a success.

Bergman Bro. Excavation of Frederika made special coordination of their services to make the firemen's training possible and for that we are very grateful!



The firemen get prepared before the house is set on fire.



Firemen put out the blazing home.



The firemen take a well-deserved break as they continue to work into the night (above and below).



## Readlyn Community Club's Annual Golf Cart Ride is Saturday, Sept. 19

Once again, Readlyn Community Club (RCC) is sponsoring a leisurely golf cart ride on the bike trail Saturday, September 19, 1:30 to 4 PM. This tradition began eight years ago when Esther Wittenberg's wish for her 105th birthday was to ride on the bike trail in a golf cart. Like last year, Esther plans to once again join us on the ride from Readlyn to Killdeer, where a port-a-potty, water, and small treats will be available, and back. Please keep COVID-19 guidelines in mind.

Marge Macken has given us permission to gather in her lot behind Hartman's at 248 Clark Street. Please meet there by 1:15 PM. Private carts are welcome. For anyone needing a cart, RCC is paying the full amount for the cart rental from Rudy's in Denver. Like last year, Rudy's is providing two complimentary four seater golf carts for the Wittenberg family or friends and Miss Readlyn's family or friends.

To reserve a golf cart, please contact Pat Wehr: Cell 319-415-2001, Home 279-3001, or email [wehr@netins.net](mailto:wehr@netins.net) by Saturday, September 12. Please join us to help

celebrate Esther's 112th birthday and experience an enjoyable afternoon.



## Pie Day and Open House is Sept. 13 at the Poor Farm

Poor Farm Foundation will host a drive-through Pie Day & Open House from noon until 3:00 pm Sunday, September 13, 2020.

Drive through pies and sandwiches plus building tours will be available. Come and see all the collected memories of county towns and cities that have been put on display for your viewing.

### Calendar of Events

- Sunday, September 13:** Drive-Through Pie Day and Open House at Bremer County Poor Farm, 12 Noon - 3 PM
- Thursday, September 17:** Deadline for Sept. 30 *Chronicle*, 5 PM
- Saturday, September 19:** Readlyn Community Club (RCC) is sponsoring a leisurely golf cart ride on the bike trail, 1:30 to 4 PM.
- Thursday, September 24:** Readlyn Library Book Talk - *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*



# Miss Readlyn Comments Trending Now

By Grace Imbrogno

Hello Readlyn! My name is Grace Imbrogno, and, as of August 3, I was crowned Miss Readlyn 2020. I am so appreciative of the opportunity to represent our amazing town for the next year.

I was informed that I can write about whatever I want for the paper, so I decided to have a monthly theme. After some discussion with my parents and grandparents -thank God for family, right?- my monthly topics will be called "TRENDING NOW," and will cover anything from new slang, high school happenings, to community and world events; all from my perspective.

This month, I like to say that I've been living at the Fairbank Aquatic Center, my favorite place of employment (and the only place I've ever worked, but that is beside the point). I have completed my third year working there as a lifeguard, and my co-workers and I worked all summer to keep our pool as COVID-clean as possible. Our shift looked a lot different this year compared to other years because

we always had a person designated to sanitize, and we diligently reminded swimmers of safe COVID practices. If we are being completely honest, I don't think that we expected to stay open all summer, but we are so glad that we did without any health concerns.

The pool closed on August 21 to swimmers due to the start of school, but we had a doggy dip on August 22, and I was so happy to see all the doggos enjoying the water.

We are now transitioning into the beginning of the school year and learning how to get up early and go to school again amidst this pandemic. Next month, I will be writing about all the changes that have been going on at school; including rules, sports, and the updated gym and commons! Clearly, everybody has been working hard to adjust to our new normal.

Thank you for coming to my section of the paper!  
-Grace, Miss Readlyn 2020

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# POOR FARM FOUNDATION HOSTS...

## DRIVE-THROUGH PIE DAY & OPEN HOUSE

\$2.50 slice



\$12.00 whole pie

Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>  
Noon-3:00pm  
Bremer County Poor Farm

- Free building tours (many museum items)
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Location: 1951 Larrabee Ave. Waverly, IA

# Readlyn Savings Bank

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# Readlyn Community Happenings

## Jeffrey Arians and Hanna Wiersma exchange vows

Jeffrey Arians and Hanna Wiersma were united in marriage on Saturday, June 27, 2020 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church, in Readlyn, Iowa. Pastors Jean Rabary and Harlan Siri conducted the wedding ceremony.

Parents of the couple are Barney and Gina Wiersma of Readlyn and Harold and Lisa Arians of Clear Lake, Iowa. The bride's grandparents include Gary and Barb Buhr of Readlyn and Hanna Wiersma of Sibley, Iowa. The groom's grandparents are Jerry and Laura Heitland of Clear Lake.

The bride's sister, Hallee Wiersma, served as her maid of honor. Also attending the bride were the groom's sister, Lainey Milledge, and friends Briana Keune and Stephanie Gipper. Bailey Goodman and Kristin Hicok served as the bride's personal attendants. The bride's cousin, Marissa Pech, was the vocalist; Patty Spowart was the organist, and the bride's cousins, Elsa, Annika, and Errol Buhr attended the guest book.

The groom's brother, Christopher Arians, served as his best man. The groom was also attended by his brother-in-law, Tim Milledge, and friends Tyler VanDyke, and Kevin Currier. Adam Brinkman and Devin Gipper, friends of the couple, served as ushers.

A reception and dance at Electric Park Ballroom in Waterloo, Iowa followed the ceremony. Guests were assisted by host and hostesses, Shane Buhr, uncle of the bride; Chad and Dana Buhr, uncle and aunt of the bride; and Ron and Pam Pitkin, uncle and aunt of the groom. The 3-tier wedding cake was created by the bride's Grandma Barb, and it was cut and served by the bride's cousins, Tonya Phillips and Morgan Wallace. Wedding dance music was provided by Jason Heitland, uncle of the groom. Amanda Basteen Photography captured the couple's special moments, as

well as videographer, Stone Kane.

Hanna is a loan administrator at Readlyn Savings Bank, and Jeff is a CPA at

Gosling & Company in Waverly. The couple makes their home in Waverly, IA. A honeymoon will be taken at a later date.



Jeffrey and Hanna Arians

## Auxiliary meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W Auxiliary #5661, Readlyn met at the home of Darlene Peters with 5 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 with 61 hours reported in June. A motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Darlene Peters to accept the Audit report. Carried.

We got the bond for Auxiliary. Our Auxiliary is 100% in membership. Thank you to everyone who sent in their dues. We got National and Department books for programs.

September is our poppy-less poppy drive for anyone who wants to donate. September is Military Suicide Awareness month. Sixteen veterans commit suicide every day.

I sent clippings for May, June, July to 3rd District. Pow wow will be Oct. 22-25 in Des Moines. The 3rd District meeting will be August 22 in Marshalltown.

Darlene Peters made a motion and Wilda Albrecht seconded it to adjourn. Carried.

**Deadline for the September 30 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., Sept. 17 at 5 PM**

**Thank You**  
I want to thank all my family, friends, and neighbors for the many cards, phone calls, visits, flowers and gifts for my 90th Birthday. I enjoyed it very much.  
*With Love, Violet Schuldt*

**Thank You**  
A big thank you to everyone who made my 80th birthday so special! I thoroughly enjoyed all the cards, gifts, phone calls, texts, the dinner and Drive-By Cake Party my family planned for me! Everything was greatly appreciated!  
God Bless!  
**Judy Henn**

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# Readlyn Community Library

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Patrick Brodigan  
Miranda Wheeler  
Tina Ristau

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

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In Memory of Eldo Pries  
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In Memory of Eldo Pries  
Roger & Connie Buhr

In Memory of Beverly Klomp  
Roger & Connie Buhr

In Memory of David Schwarze  
Barbara Meyer

*Thank you for  
your generosity*



## Foot Clinics Are Back

The Bremer County Health Department holds foot clinics at the Readlyn Library on the 3rd Thursday of every month.



This year has started off with big changes on the way the library does business. Covid-19 necessitated safety precautions that were (and are) not fun for staff or patrons. More changes both expected and surprising continue.

Firstly, our planned and welcome change is the addition of Miranda Wheeler to our staff. Miranda lives in and is a native of Dunkerton. She joins our team a veteran of two libraries. She has hands on experience with all of our systems and has managed both program planning and social media advertising. We are very excited to see how her skills will help the library and our digital footprint grow. Please join us in welcoming her.

Secondly, we were struck with a bit of a surprise, that being the early retirement of Nancy Lockard. Nancy has been a mainstay at the Readlyn Library for 20 years. Her knowledge of the community and patrons is irreplaceable and will be sorely missed. Unfortunately, due to the addition of a new grandson Nancy has decided to step down to spend time with her family. She assures us that she will not be a stranger and will visit the library at every opportunity. We are excited for her to begin her position as fulltime grandma and wish her a heartfelt farewell.

## Flu Shots

14 October  
From  
11:00—12:00



## Baby's First Book

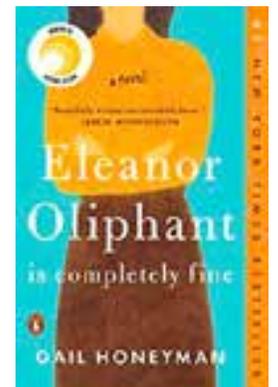
The Readlyn Library strives to promote a lifetime of reading. If you know anyone in the Readlyn area that is expecting, stop by the library and register them to receive a free book. Help us welcome new Readlyn's newest residents to the world and also to the world of reading!

### Hours:

Monday	10:00 - 5:00
Tuesday	10:00 - 5:00
Wednesday	10:00 - 5:00
Thursday	10:00 - 5:00
Friday	10:00 - 5:00
Saturday	9:00 - 12:00

## Readlyn Reads - Book Talk

Sep's title: Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine by Gail Honeyman  
Pick up a copy at the library and join us for discussion on **Sep 24th**.



Meet Eleanor Oliphant: She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she's thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy.

But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond, the bumbling and deeply unhygienic IT guy from her office. When she and Raymond together save Sammy, an elderly gentleman who has fallen on the sidewalk, the three become the kinds of friends who rescue one another from the lives of isolation they have each been living. And it is Raymond's big heart that will ultimately help Eleanor find the way to repair her own profoundly damaged one.

## Readlyn Community Scavenger Hunt Part 2!!

The next in our series of scavenger hunts is about to begin. Each one will focus on items around town for you to test how well you know our little town. Sheets will be available Friday September 7th, just in time for Labor Day Weekend. Work in teams or all by yourself. Whoever brings us a completed sheet first will get 10 free movie rentals. Good luck!!

\*\*\*\*\*



Compiled by Bob Thran

# Readlyn, Long Ago

## The streetcar through Denver

When I was younger, I can remember seeing an electric streetcar traveling through Denver. I am writing this month to satisfy my own curiosity about the unique transportation, a trolley car, which serviced the town of Denver. Readlyn had the Chicago Great Western Railway powered by steam and the passenger Dinky, powered by a gasoline engine. Denver had their own trolley.

A brief history of the Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Northern Railroad: Lewis S. Cass bought the Waterloo Streetcar System in 1895. In 1897, he built a line to Cedar Falls. In 1900, Cass converted the horse drawn streetcar line into an electric line. In 1901, the Waterloo, Cedar Falls & Northern Railway was completed to Denver, 14 miles. Denver was incorporated in 1896. Denver paid the WCF&N \$30,900 to assist in construction. In 1902, the line was extended north two miles to Denver Junction to connect with the Chicago Great Western Railway which ran between Oelwein and Waverly through Readlyn. This arrangement was soon rejected by the CGW. Cass then built the line from Den-

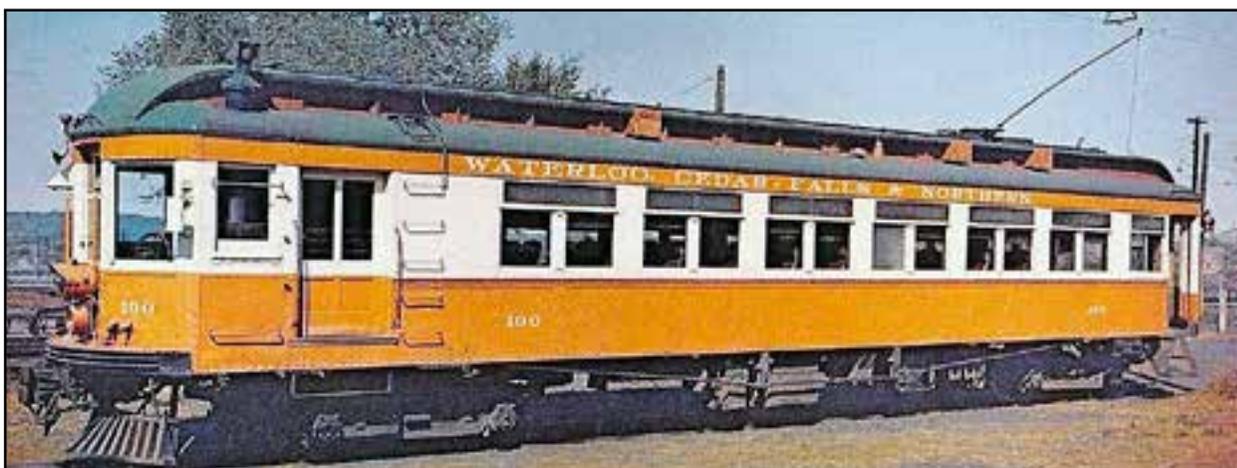
ver directly to Waverly. Tracks extended several blocks across the Cedar River on Bremer Avenue. After several years, the track in downtown Waverly was torn out and the depot, now a sub shop, near the court-house was used. Cass obtained trackage rights from the CGW to offer passenger service from Waverly to Sumner, 44 miles from Waterloo. Trains ran from Waverly through Bremer and Tripoli to Sumner using steam engines. This passenger service was discontinued after only a few years of operation. Sumner had a direct connection to Oelwein on the Chicago Great Western.

In 1910, construction was begun south to Cedar Rapids through Gilbertville, LaPorte City, Vinton, Urbana, Center Point and many more stops to Cedar Rapids. In 1914, the line was completed. Connections were available to Iowa City. In the peak years around 1915, eight passenger trains ran daily between Waterloo and Cedar Rapids and five passenger trains between Waterloo and Waverly.

The automobile's arrival on the scene caused ridership to diminish over the coming years. In 1952, passenger trains were down to one per day to Cedar Rapids. Buses took over. In 1954, passenger service from Waterloo to Waverly was discontinued.

Even though passenger service was discontinued, the WCF&N was a strong link for freight service between rail lines. It was purchased by the Rock Island RR and the Illinois Central RR in 1958. The name was changed to the Waterloo Railway.

Rock Island sold its portion to Illinois Central in 1958. From 1958 to 1986, Illinois Central abandoned almost all of the line from Waverly through Denver to Cedar Rapids. Most of the former rail line from Waterloo to Cedar Rapids has been converted into a bike path.



WATERLOO AND WAVERLY.			
No. 35	Mis.	October 26, 1949.	No. 36
7:30 A.M.	0	LEAVE Waterloo	9:35 A.M.
7:54	5.85	County	9:15
7:57	7.88	Farmer	9:10
8:08	13.32	Denver	8:57
8:17	18.43	Rust	8:45
8:30 A.M.	22.09	Waverly	8:35 A.M.
		ARRIVE	LEAVE



## The trolley during Prohibition 1929-33

Martin Matthias remembers listening to a discussion between his father, Arnold, and an uncle, Ed Hesse, about the happenings in Denver during the prohibition era. His recollection from their talks: Black Hawk County was dry, the sale of alcohol was forbidden by law and enforced. The same law applied to Denver, however it was not enforced. Beer was being sold openly in taverns. There were as high as seven places in Denver where beer was available. Trolley loads of riders would arrive, drink their beer and even take small kegs of beer back with them. Evidently, people who brought alcohol into Black Hawk County were not prosecuted. Trolleys leaving Denver were sometimes so full that people were hanging onto the

sides while holding a keg of beer. Denver at that time had a hotel, a two story wooden structure. Some would stay overnight.

Art Kurtt added that he heard people would come with empty suitcases to fill with beer to take back with them. Although Art, now 94, does not remember seeing the hotel in Denver, he said it was located at the corner of Main Street and State Street (old Highway 63). The Sweet Spot is there now.

**Bob's comment:** Denver was a wide open town. I can imagine trolley conductors having problems maintaining order on outbound trolleys. I am sure that occasionally some riders would drink to excess and become disorderly. The last trolley at night could be exciting.

## Riding the Denver Trolley

The town of Denver was ideally located on the WCF&N. The depot was located on the site of the present fire station. Its citizens had access to both downtown Waterloo and to downtown Waverly. In the early 1900s, when few families had automobiles and with multiple trolleys back and forth each day, it was an ideal situation for Denver. The other option was a horse and buggy. I visited with two Denver friends, Marv Schumacher and Art Kurtt, about their trolley experience.

Marv Schumacher said that when he was young he and some of his friends, among them Tony and Dick Gielau, Jim Gunther and several others, would ride the trolley from Denver to the end of the line in Waverly, get off and walk about a mile to the swimming pool. They would swim, walk back to the station located near the Bremer County Courthouse, hop back on the trolley and ride the six or seven miles back to Denver. Cost for their excursion was 30 cents; 20 cents for the round trip trolley and 10 cents at

the pool. When I was young in Readlyn we had the same excursion to the swimming pool in Waverly with one exception. We would stop at Roy's Place for two big 5 cent hamburgers and a 10 cent malt. Round trip on the Dinky was 27 cents. Our total cost was 57 cents.

Marv and his group of friends rode the trolley into Waterloo to the Waiting Station, located diagonally across the corner from KWVL on East Fourth Street. Marv said, "We would wander around Waterloo for a couple hours, then ride back to Denver. We did not do this as often as the trip to Waverly." Round trip was also 20 cents.

Art Kurtt remembers taking the trolley with his mother to shop in Waterloo. Two of the main stores in Waterloo were Blacks and the JC Penney store located by the river. He also rode the trolley to Waverly for dental work. Art's daughters and some of their friends rode the trolley to the swimming pool in Waverly.

## Trolley problems

Some weather conditions interrupted traffic on the WCF&N. An ice storm would cover the trolley wire leaving no electrical connection. Heavy winds sometimes caused the ice-covered trolley cable to break.

Flooding along the trolley line would halt service. Flooding occurred in Denver when the Denver Creek was far out

of its banks. Although snow plows were available, heavy snow along with blowing winds would close down the tracks. Heavy winds would also damage the overhead power lines.

When a stoppage occurred halting the trolley, it was difficult to pinpoint its location. Radios were not yet available.

### Denver/Readlyn Community Blood Drive

**September 4, 2020**  
**10:00 AM – 1:00 PM**

Denver Community Center  
100 Washington Street, Denver

then order these summer exclusive items in the online store for only 200 points!

**Set up your lifesaving appointment TODAY!**

**APPOINTMENTS ARE REQUIRED:**  
Text: LIFESERVE to 999-777 • Call: 800-287-4903 • Visit: [lifeservebloodcenter.org](http://lifeservebloodcenter.org)

# What's Cooking?

A recipe to share can be sent to [billhorn@netins.net](mailto:billhorn@netins.net)

**RECIPE Mrs. Ed Pavelec's Noodles**  
From the kitchen of Verdeen Pavelec



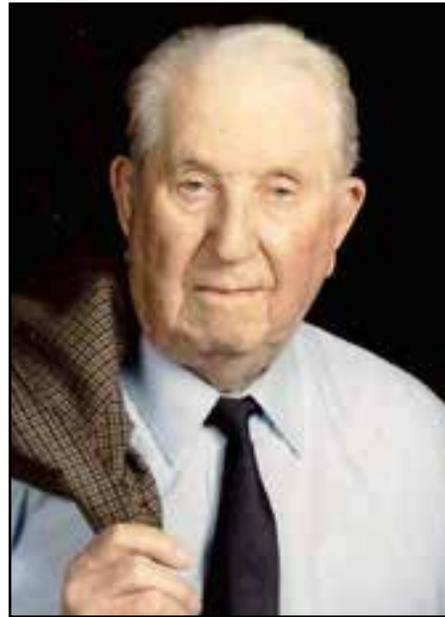
In 1954, Bunny and I were going together and I was at his folks' for a meal. We had homemade noodles soup with homemade bread. I said that I had never made homemade noodles. but I did bake bread. Bunny said Mom will show you how. So one Saturday his mom showed me. His mom beat 2 eggs and salt with a fork, added 1 cup of flour, and stirred it. Then she put flour on the counter, kneaded it, and rolled it out thin. Sprinkled flour over it, rolled it up tight. Starting on one end she cut slanting pieces off each side, and then shook the flour off. She put them in a rolling boil of chicken or beef broth and stirred. Many times beef or chicken noodle vegetable soup would be our supper on Friday nights when there were sports, and also homemade bread. The soup would be very thick, not watery.

**3 Cheese Snack Mix Recipe**  
From the kitchen of Hailey Broten

- 5 cups Crispix Cereal
- 5 cups white cheddar Cheez-It crackers
- 5 cups pretzels
- 1/3 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 4 tsp. dry spaghetti sauce mix
- 2 tsp. garlic powder
- 2 tsp. Italian seasoning.
- 1/4 cup vegetable oil

In a large bowl combine cereal, Cheez-It crackers & pretzels. Next add oil to coat the cereal mixture. In another bowl, combine parmesan cheese, dry spaghetti sauce mix, garlic powder and Italian seasoning. Pour entire seasoning mixture over cereal/crackers. Cover the mixture and gently toss until well coated.

# Obituary



**Wilbert Edward Huebner**

Wilbert Edward Huebner, 100, of Readlyn, Iowa, passed away on Sunday, August 2, 2020, at the Denver Sunset Home.

Wilbert was born April 17, 1920, in Readlyn, Iowa, the son of William and Martha (Meyerhoff) Huebner. He was baptized on May 9, 1920 and confirmed in 1934, both at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger. He attended Immanuel Lutheran School and graduated from Readlyn High School. Wilbert served in the United States Coast Guard during WWII where he received numerous medals. He was his honorably discharged in 1946. He was united in marriage to Irene Schroeder on October 26, 1947, at the United Church of Christ in Tripoli.

Wilbert was a lifelong farmer and worked as a rural mail carrier for over 28 years, retiring in 1986. He was a director of the Klinger Coop Creamery; held offices of the Rural Letter Carriers of Bremer

County; was a two-time commander of the Readlyn VFW Post #5661; served as trustee of Maxfield Township; was a director of the Senior Housing and a senior member of the Readlyn Historical Society. As a lifelong member of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Klinger he served as a deacon as well as other offices.

Wilbert was always inquisitive and wanting to learn more.

Wilbert is survived by three sons, Daniel (Bev) Huebner of Grinnell, Iowa; Bruce Huebner of Readlyn, Iowa; and Rick (Janet) Huebner of Readlyn; ten grandchildren, Jon Huebner, Cindy Huebner, Greg (Cathy) Huebner, Sarah Huebner, Tyler (Heather Driscoll) Huebner, Jason Huebner, Josh Huebner, Alex Huebner, Mara (Jordan Burk) Huebner, and Ben Huebner; five great-grandchildren, Stella, Zoe, Emma, Lila and Evan; and a sister-in-law, Velma Huebner of Clarence, Iowa. He was preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Irene; two brothers, Arnold (Helen) Huebner and Orval Huebner; two sisters, Elda (Maurice) Noltensmeier and Norma (Arnold) Otto; and two sisters-in-law, Florence (Leon) Carlson and Marcille (Kenny) Kent.

Funeral services were held on Friday, August 7, 2020 at 10:30 am at Immanuel Lutheran Church of Klinger with Pastor Phil Girardin officiating. The service was livestreamed on the Immanuel Lutheran Church of Klinger Facebook page. Visitation was an hour prior to services at the church. Burial was in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery and military rites at the grave were conducted by the Readlyn VFW Post #5661. Memorials may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church or to the Readlyn Historical Society. Online condolences may be left at [www.kaisercorson.com](http://www.kaisercorson.com)

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.

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Mr. & Miss Lil' Grumpsters: Landan Adams & Josie Ott.



Lil' Grumpster Candidates include (L to R): Ty Sauerbrei, Landry Schultz, Landan Adams, Ben Miller, Macie Hogan, Layla Broten, Josie Ott, Emersyn Powell, Ella Miller.

## Readlyn's Lil' Grumpsters are named for 2020; Grump will wait until 2021

On Sunday, August 2 at 7 pm, the 2020 Mr. and Miss Lil' Grumpster as well as the 2020 Miss Readlyn were crowned at the City Park. People were welcome to bring lawn chairs and watch the crowning.

There have been some questions as to why there was not a Grump chosen for 2020. It took several meetings that were open for anyone to attend. After much consideration, it was decided that we would not be crowning a Grump for 2020 and these following reasons helped come to this conclusion. First, the committee felt that without the full experience of celebrating Grump Days, the new Grump would have been shorted the excitement that come with the crowning of such an honorary title. The FULL experience includes Fri-

day night in the park with the excitement of being announced on stage, Saturday's events including riding in the Grump Days Parade, and most importantly, being surrounded by and enjoying the pure joy and positive energy of hundreds of people that are in town that weekend, including family and friends, to celebrate along with them. The only part of being Grump they could have fulfilled would have been writing an article in the *Chronicle* and attending the Historical Society's Ice Cream Social. There would be no parades to attend in any other community, and as far as we can tell, because of COVID-19, there won't be too many events this coming year the Grump could represent Readlyn at. Both candidates were contacted and were content

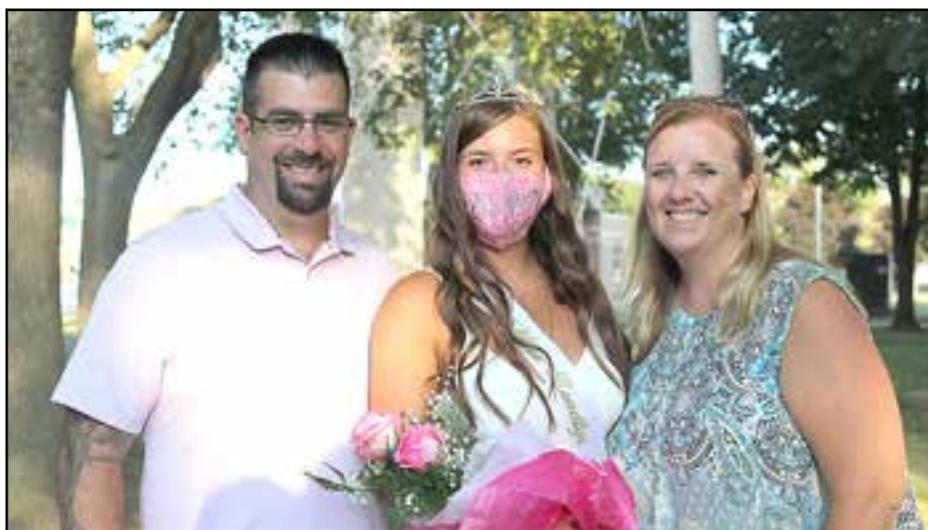
with the outcome of delaying the vote till Grump Days 2021.

Miss Readlyn and Lil' Grumpsters were chosen, however, as these positions are age-specific and the candidates have this one and only opportunity to run. Several considerations led the planning committee to make this decision. Each year we are only able to send one queen to Bremer County Fair. We thought about crowning two queens next year... but then we would be forced to choose which one of the two...and that would be unfair and difficult to choose. The crowned queen is always a female going into her senior year. We did not feel it would be fair for her to miss out on this opportunity or delay crowning as she may not remain in the area post-graduation. As for

Lil' Grumpsters, this is also age-based as candidates are any child entering 1st grade. The Grumpsters do not have any official job duties so by crowning them this year, it did not take away from any experience.

Both Miss Readlyn 2020 and Lil' Grumpsters 2020 will be able to participate in 2021 Grump Days with being announced on stage as well as ride in the 2021 parade as honorary entries.

Please understand this was an incredibly hard decision to make. 2020 has proven to be a challenging and unusual year in all aspects of life...and this year's Grump Days was no exception. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding as we continue to make decisions in these "unchartered waters" known as the year 2020.



A 'masked' Miss Readlyn (above) shows the sign of the times. An unmasked Miss Readlyn, Grace Imbrogno, is shown at right with her parents, Teresa and Rocco Imbrogno.

## Grace Imbrogno is Miss Readlyn

The 2020 Miss Readlyn has been announced. Congratulations to Grace Imbrogno, the daughter of Rocco and Teresa Imbrogno. She will be a senior at Wapsie Valley High School where she takes part in volleyball, choir, math team, and Student Ambassadors. Grace helps advertise and work the blood drive, and plan fundraisers, set up, and tear down school activities like Homecoming, Prom, and Graduation.

This summer Grace has been working at the Fairbank Aquatic Center, camping, and spending time with family and friends. Grace is a member at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church where she is active in the youth group. She helps decorate the church with monthly decorations, work church fall dinners, and decorates St. Matthew's with holiday decor. During Grump Days, she helps set up, work, and

tear down Kids in The Park, and after the Sunday service she helps the community tear down. Grace often helps at CLS throughout their school year. She helps decorate the school, make signs for the kids, and clean up classrooms. Her family is known for hosting a kickball tournament every Labor Day that many people throughout our whole community attends. It is a day filled with family, friends, food, competitive laughs, and fun!

After high school, Grace plans to attend Hawkeye Community College to get her general education credits while focusing on an undetermined type of business major. After she gets her associate's degree, she plans to attend the University of Northern Iowa to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree in the same business major.



Grace loves Readlyn because of its positive impact on her life. The welcoming smiles of all 857 friendly people are what she loves most about small-town Readlyn. Grace absolutely adores that in our

little town, people are so extremely kind, outgoing, and loving towards each other. This has taught her so many life lessons, but the biggest is that we all must be kind and friendly to everyone!



This garden features the pea plant on the right.



# September Yard of the Month

Modest Brenda Heineman was “Surprised to be a winner,” of Weeds on Fire’s September Yard of the Month.

The pictures tell the story. Gardens abundantly surround her residence and give evidence as to why her yard is a definite winner.

Only four yards could win this sum-

mer, but nearly fifteen yards were in the running. Thank you to all of the residents who take pride in their yards. Please continue to strive to keep your yard and Readlyn awesome.

2021 is around the corner, and four new yards will receive the distinguished award next year.



The whetstone in the middle of this picture was Brenda's grandfather's.



The tin can flowers seen in several of the other gardens, too, were created by Jerry Meyer.



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Many of the fish in her attractive pond are from Brenda's son Kyle's 2004 FFA project.

The lilies were from Brenda's son, Kory.



Brenda Heineman, 292 Clark, is the Yard of the Month winner for September.



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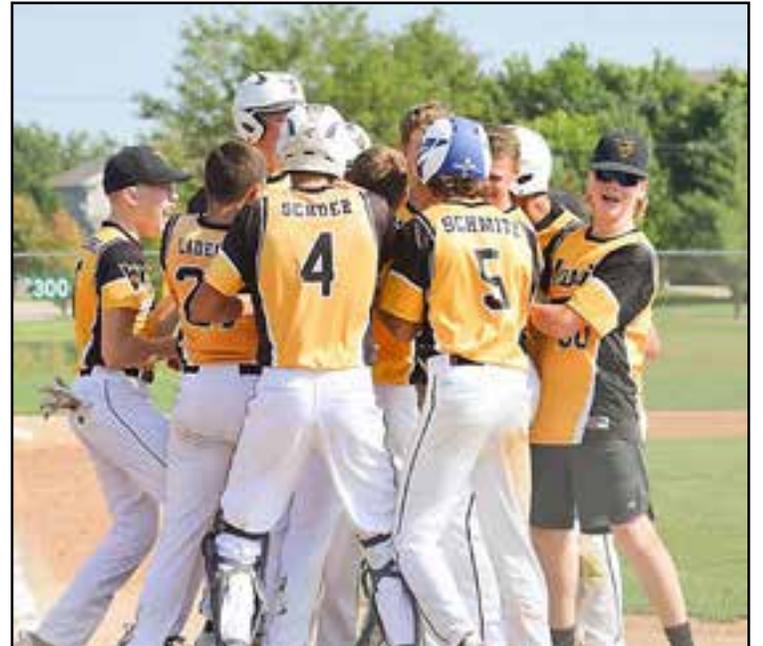


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## Wapsie 14U baseball finishes season with 5th place at State

By Amber Decker

**Will we play baseball this summer?** That was the question on each Wapsie 14U baseball player's mind as they sat by and watched COVID-19 halt so many other activities this year.

Their question was answered when the United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA) decided in May go on with the season, with plenty of special precautions for players and fans to abide by.

Most players on this year's team were from Fairbank or Readlyn and have been playing together in the USSSA AA league for the last three years. Coaching all three years were Brent Sauerbrei and Jim Schoer, with Taylan Sauerbrei stepping in to assist this year. The roster included seventh graders Chase Ackerman and Kanen Decker, and eighth graders Derek Hilsenbeck, Manny Huebner, Tucker Ladeburg,

Drew Sauerbrei, Traeton Sauerbrei, and Jacob Schoer. Also on the roster were Grant Henderson and Noah Henderson (Sumner), Joe Smeltzer (Denver), and Brayden Schmitz (Minneapolis, MN). While #WEAREFAMILY is a Wapsie motto, it really proved true on this team as 5 of the players and 2 coaches are related to each other!

Tournaments for the AA league Wapsie participated in were held in either Cedar Rapids or Des Moines each weekend between the beginning of June and the beginning of August. Wapsie is one of only a few teams that aren't considered super teams (where players have to try out and it costs to be on the team). They are very proud to be local, homegrown ball players! Teams travel from all over the state to play in these tournaments, with some of the competition coming from Dallas Center-Grimes, Davenport, Southeast Polk, and Iowa City. One of their competitors was all the way from Andover, MN.

Wapsie went 12-8 on the year, with three of their five losses coming from teams in the more advanced AAA and Major divisions. In their 12 wins, they outscored their opponents 9.8 to 3.9. They also took home the gold at two tournaments this summer. The team finished their season at the state tournament in Des Moines August 7-9, with 5th place in the Gold bracket of the Elite Division for AA teams.

The future of Wapsie baseball looks very bright if the performance of these boys is any indicator!

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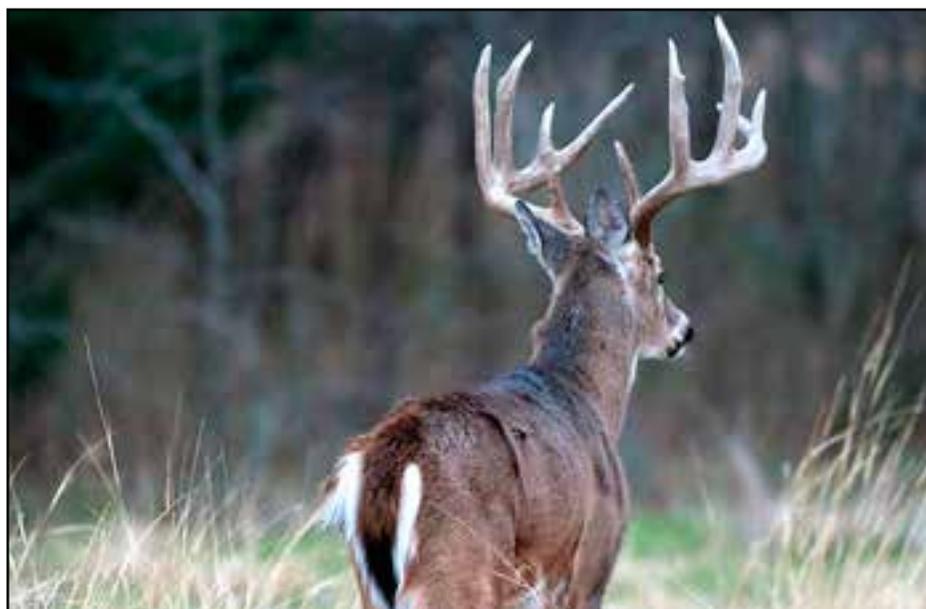
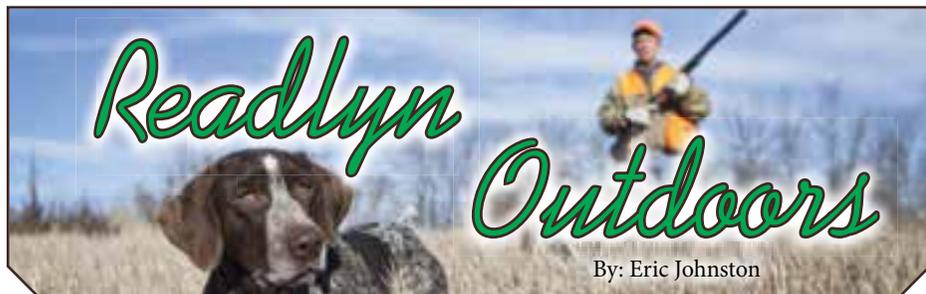
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- #3 Put cans and plastic bottles in plastic bags (do not double bag) - It's okay to put cans in boxes that they came in
- #4 Bring glass bottles in containers or boxes and put on shelves
- #5 Please no garbage



## Fall is Approaching

*ejohnston@mossyoakprostaff.com*

After a very weird spring and summer with our normal yearly routines of summer time youth baseball and softball being moved around and events being canceled, it's hard to believe we are knocking on fall's door. While this has me excited, I'm also not ready for summer to be over and a little anxious about not being prepared for the upcoming hunting seasons. If you're like me and the summer has slipped away from you, I'm here to tell you **THERE'S STILL TIME TO PREPARE AND THE TIME IS NOW!** This month I'll break down what I do to get ready for the fall ahead.

First off, I'll start with preparation for deer hunting. One area I haven't procrastinated in this summer is running my trail cameras for Whitetails. I've kept up a fairly regular routine doing this and as you read last month I have a lot of fun checking them and have some pictures of some fairly nice bucks this summer. So I feel good about the areas I'm hunting, but I've yet to put up a deer stand or check on some I leave up on private ground we hunt. Now is the time to start checking over your deer stands. This is a very big deal, a little maintenance can save your life. Look over everything on your stands, check bolts, cables, and straps for wear and replace anything that looks questionable. I can't stress this enough, as bolts and straps are

cheaper than the alternative of a tree stand failing and having a fall. Scouting can still be done this time of year as well. I did a lot of spring scouting and that gave me ideas of where the deer should be come fall, but right now it's a lot of fun driving around and watching bean and hayfields in the evening for deer. This is a scouting tactic we often do as a family which makes it even more fun. Also, now is the time to be picking up the bow, shotgun, or muzzle-loader and start getting some target practice in! Getting your weapon of choice dialed in now will make your hunt so much more enjoyable and efficient come game time.

Now is also the time to start scouting for your upcoming waterfowl seasons. Dove and teal open September 1 in Iowa and you don't want to be behind as these are our first seasons to get in the field. Dove is a fairly straightforward hunt, you need a box of shells, light camo and a stool to sit on. Preparing for dove season can be done quickly and your biggest concern here is finding a field to hunt. Each year on Iowa's public hunting ground the DNR plants sunflower plots. These sunflower plots are major dove attractors. While the DNR plants these, they do not post where they are and they move them around each year. So do a little back road driving and check public areas until you find a sunflower field. Teal hunting and all of the waterfowl



seasons take a fair amount of prep work. Now is the time to be pulling your decoys out and cleaning them up, fixing ropes and weights and charging the batteries on your motion decoys. Also, it's time to get your duck blinds ready, if you're a boat hunter get the boat out and check over wiring for loose connections and make sure all your safety features are in the boat, life jackets, throw cushion, fire extinguisher, etc. Make sure the motor is running well and batteries are charged. Also don't forget about the trailer, check bearings and trailer wiring. A little maintenance can keep you from having a bad trip. It's also time to get your blind installed and grassed in on the boat. If you're lucky enough to have access to a permanent blind, check it out to make sure spring floods haven't damaged it and get it brushed in. For field duck and goose hunters, check your layout blinds for loose bolts or torn fabric and also bent or broken rods. It's a lot easier to replace these things now than a couple nights before the season. Scouting is a constant process throughout the waterfowl season to be successful. I start out looking for shallow, out-of-the-way ponds for teal early then move along through the season looking for duck

concentrations in our marshes or the river bottom. Field hunting can change daily as farmers harvest and ducks and geese move from field to field. A little gas and legwork will put you on the waterfowl.

Upland bird hunters, I'm not forgetting about you! Now is a great time to get things ready such as make sure quarantine hasn't aided in your hunting pants not fitting correctly or torn garments from last season's barbed wire needing to be replaced. Go over your shotgun and make sure everything is in order and get out and shoot some clays to knock the rust off, that goes for you waterfowl hunters, too. As far as scouting, again, a little driving around can go a long way. You'll be able to see pheasants, quail and partridge along the roads and be able to check out what fields and sloughs look like. It's also a great time to talk to the farmers to gain access before the busy time of harvest starts. As I write this, I realize I'm further behind than I thought! I have all but a few of these on my to-do list! So, I better get busy, at least it's fun preparing and it will make your hunts more enjoyable and successful being prepared. Until next time, **GET OUTDOORS!!**



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**Wapsie Valley FFA Officers Attend COLT:** (Left to Right) Kaylee Kleitsch (Senior), Nick Grober (Junior), Courtney Schmitz (Senior), Ethan Oltrogge (Senior), Mary Bodensteiner (Junior), and Austin Hesse (Sophomore).

## Wapsie Valley FFA Officer Team attends COLT

*By Mary Bodensteiner, Chapter Reporter*  
 July 21, 2020- Each year district and Iowa FFA officers plan and facilitate Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) Conferences for FFA members in the Northeast district. Independence High School welcomed FFA chapters from all over the district on July 21, 2020.

While at Independence, district and state officers led four interactive workshops for FFA Chapter leaders for the annual COLT Conference. The workshops were focused in the areas of advocating for the agriculture industry, connecting with stakeholders, recruiting for the local chapter, and working as a cohesive team. FFA leaders also received training relative

to their specific officer duties within the local chapter.

The new 2020-21 Wapsie Valley officer team, consisting of Kaylee Kleitsch (President), Nick Grober (Vice President), Courtney Schmitz (Secretary), Ethan Oltrogge (Treasurer), Mary Bodensteiner (Reporter), and Austin Hesse (Sentinel), were privileged to attend and to have the opportunity to develop their leadership skills. They also learned about tools that will allow them to be successful in whatever they take part in throughout high school and beyond. All the officers walked away being better prepared to handle anything their new office requires of them in the upcoming school year.

## Wapsie Valley AG students fillet greenhouse fish

*By Mary Bodensteiner, Chapter Reporter*

This past school year, the greenhouse at the Wapsie Valley High School was home, once again, to roughly 15 tilapia. The Wapsie Valley FFA utilizes its aquaponic system to raise commercial fish while replenishing vegetable produce from the fish manure. The students and our AG teacher, Mr. Forsyth, raise and feed the fish throughout the year and collect tomatoes, strawberries, lettuce, and green beans for our students to eat. At the end of

the school year, with district permission, we were then able to have students and staff members come in one morning and harvest the fish by hand and collect fillets. These cuts from the tilapia will be fried fresh and enjoyed by our members. We are planning to purchase more fish this school year for the greenhouse. This hands-on opportunity for our students teaches them the many different purposes of fish including meat and nourishment for growing vegetables.



**AG students** being taught how to fillet: Tyce Hagenow (left) and Austin Hesse (right) being taught by Mike Duffy (middle).



**Austin Hesse** and Tyce Hagenow fillet their fish: Austin Hesse (left) and Tyce Hagenow (right).

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# Ice Cream Social was an overwhelming success!

On August 9 from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M., the Readlyn Historical Society held their annual Ice Cream Social.

Hightail Ice Cream was served in 6 oz. cups with an overwhelming number of people attending. One hundred and twenty people were served and the supply was gone with 30 people not served. A larger supply will be available next year.

The Historical Society only charged 25¢ per cup.

This ice cream is made by Natalie Eick, It is homemade and for sale in the area this summer. It is a very fine product available in several flavors. She plans to sell the product widespread after graduating from Iowa State University. Natalie is a graduate of neighboring Tripoli.



Grace Kuehne accepts donations from the Meyer children.



Steve Boevers and his granddaughters enjoy ice cream.



MaryLou and Don Billhorn, along with Ron Wolff, smile for the camera.



Former citizen Carrie Oltrogge brings a donation for the Readlyn Museum.



Jason Franck and family enjoy the perfect day at the ice cream social.

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# A Readlyn kindness rock travels to Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro

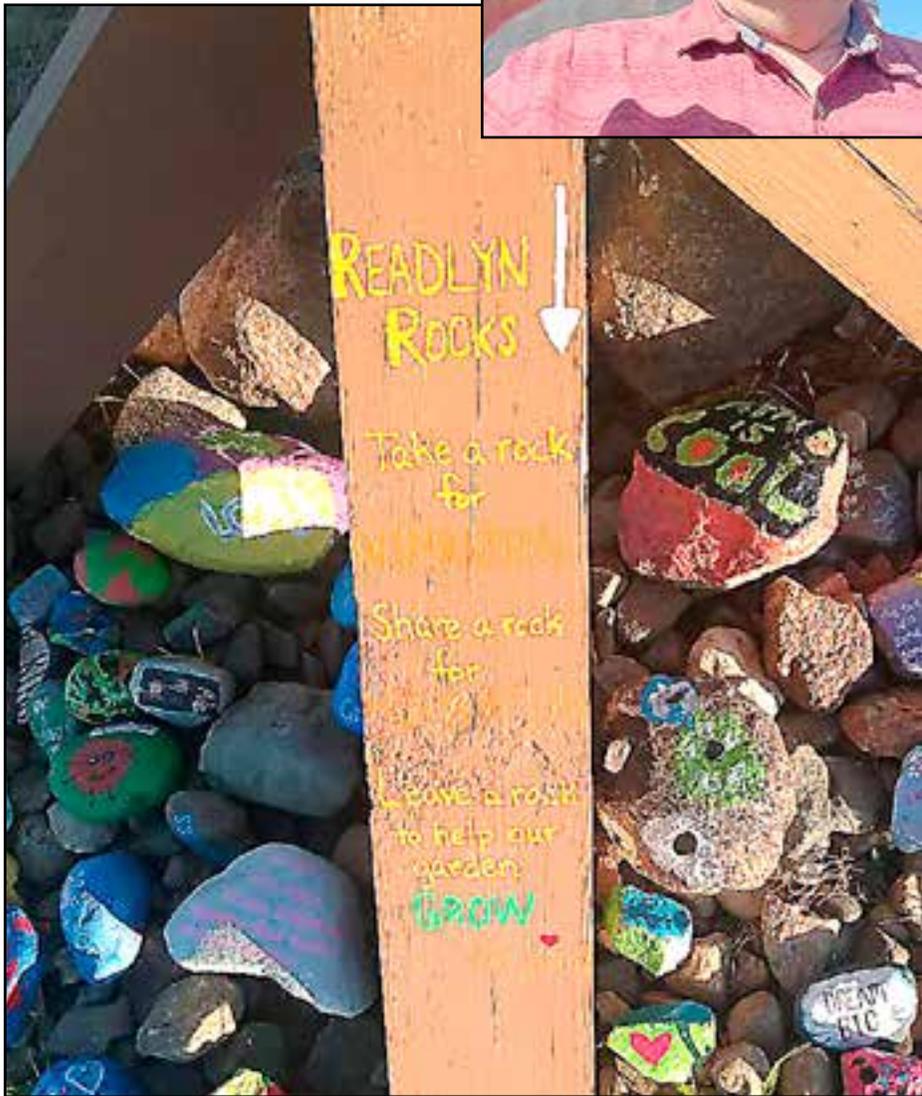
When Sherri Tiedt heard that Ron Leistikow was going on a farm tour to Brazil in early March, she gave him a Readlyn kindness rock to leave there.

The rocks are painted with messages by several Readlyn residents. The messages might say "One Smile Can Change Someone's Entire Day" or "Dream Big" or "The Sun Will Come Out Tomorrow," etc. The message is for inspiration and kindness. They can be re-hid by the person who received it or passed on.

These rocks are located near the bike trail near the corn crib gazebo being constructed.

Ron left his stone at Christ the Redeemer Church Statute in Rio de Janeiro. Wonder if anyone found it!

Thank you, Readlyn, for sharing your kindness.



**Wow!** Wilda Albrecht stands next to the 11 foot tall sunflower at her home in Readlyn.



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# Moeller donation adds comfort to the Historical Museum

The Readlyn Historical Society dedicated the new bench donated by the Robert Moeller family from Tripoli, in memory of him. Four generations of his family were present.

On behalf of the Readlyn Historical Society, we are honored to thank the

entire family of Robert Moeller for their generous donation of \$1,000.

Robert graduated from Readlyn High School in 1943. He served in Korea for 2 years, worked construction with his brother, worked at Nestles in Waverly and retired there.

Robert passed away in 2014.

The Society purchased this bench and placed it in front of the Historical Museum on Main Street in Readlyn for all to use. It is a very nice and useful addition to our building.

Thank you all for your great gen-

erosity! Thanks, also, to Charlie and Wilda Albrecht for photographing the ice cream social and dedication. Great job!

Ron Leistikow, Co Chairman RHS



The family of Robert Moeller takes a moment to relax on the bench that was donated in their loved one's honor and placed in front of the Readlyn Historical Museum. They are, front row, left to right, (all Moellers), Lilah, Kelly, Henry, Adam, Steve, and Mary; back row, standing: Matt and Gary.

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**Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family** 

	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> 2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Pastor Philip Giradin Sunday School 9 am Divine Service 10 a.m.</p>
	<p><b>St. Matthew Lutheran Church</b> Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Divine Parish Worship at St. Matthews, 9:00 a.m. Mid-week Service at Zion, Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM</p>
	<p><b>St. Paul Lutheran Church</b> 120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Pastor Philip Giradin Worship 8:30 AM</p>
	<p><b>Zion Lutheran Church</b> 240 Elmer Ave., Readlyn, IA 50668 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor (319) 279-3643 Sunday Parish Worship Service 9 a.m. at St. Matthew - No Sunday School Communion 1st &amp; 3rd Sundays Mid-week Parish Service at Zion Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m. Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.</p>

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